

NUNEATON FOOTBALL HERITAGE HEROES

No. 5

Emmin Dunn



Emmin, of the twinkling feet, as he was dubbed, had been with Coventry City and Foleshill Great Heath before making his debut for Nuneaton Town on March 18, 1911. In season 1913-14 he was one of five players who left Nuneaton Town for Football League clubs. Emmin's destination was Wolverhampton Wanderers.

After his Wolves career had been interrupted by World War One, Emmin returned to Nuneaton for the 1919-20 season as the Town made their debut in the Birmingham League.

Skipper Emmin Dunn could play at right-half, but it was at inside-right that he shone at his best. Adept of strategy, the man with the "twinkling feet" was a goal scorer's ideal partner who would square the ball between the full-backs for his fellow forwards to finish off. One of the most popular players of his era, Dunn was christened "The Wizard" by Nuneaton's supporters and captained the Club until his departure for Hinckley United in 1923.

His departure was commented upon in the local press, when the correspondent wrote: "The signature of Emmin Dunn for Hinckley United is an event which calls for attention. Somehow or other it forms a definite break in Nuneaton Town's history. His services have been so loyal and valuable, his influence so remarkable that Dunn became almost a tradition.

"Without him Nuneaton never seemed the same team. I was one of those who hoped that Dunn would finish his football career with Nuneaton, and that when the arena knew him no more he would give the club the benefit of his knowledge by coaching the youngsters. I have reason to believe that Dunn had similar hopes and intentions.

"Dunn's departure leaves a place hard to fill. He had been a whole-hearted and conscientious servant, a master of strategy, and an inspiring force. I wonder if Nuneaton will see his like again?"

Emmin passed away in Coventry on September 29th, 1946, aged 56. Captain of the team in 1913-14 before his transfer to Wolverhampton Wanderers, he made 233 appearances and scored 62 goals.