

NUNEATON FOOTBALL HERITAGE HEROES

No. 12

Paul Culpin



Paul Culpin was born on February 8th, 1962, in Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire. He began his career at Leicester City, where he was the reserve team player-of-the-year and leading goal scorer in the 1981-82 season.

Paul was released at the end of the 1981-82 season and joined Nuneaton Borough in October 1982 after a season in the Finnish league. He netted 24 goals in 15 appearances in 1982-83 including a hat-trick against Bath City and a double hat-trick against Redditch United.

The following season saw Borough finish as runners-up behind champions Maidstone United, and Culpin scored 54 goals, which equalled Tony Richards' haul in 1966-67, and included 41 league goals. His total for that season included four hat-tricks and a five-timer (again v Redditch).

Paul made five appearances for England at semi-professional level, scoring a hat-trick against Holland in June 1985. In the same month he made a £50,000 move to Coventry City, scoring on his debut at Villa Park. Despite being a regular goal scorer for Coventry City Reserves, first-team chances were limited and Paul moved on to play for Northampton Town and Peterborough United. Following a short spell with Hereford United, Paul re-joined Nuneaton and in his second spell with the club scored 72 goals in 102 appearances, including 55 in the 1992-93 season, which broke the Nuneaton Borough goalscoring record. The record-breaking goal was from the penalty spot in the last game of the season against Evesham United.

Paul made 239 appearances for Nuneaton, plus 13 as substitute, and scored 203 goals.