



Clive Goodyear

Defender Clive Goodyear's career began with Luton Town, where he was given a Football League debut while still a teenager at the end of the 1979/80 campaign, but after five seasons with the Hatters he was transferred to Plymouth Argyle for £45,000. Despite helping the Pilgrims to a promotion from the Third Division in 1987, he was set for another move - to York City - until Wimbledon manager Bobby Gould stepped in to dangle the unexpected bait of top-flight football with the Dons and Clive became another of Gould's bargain buys as he set about rebuilding his back four following expensive departures.

Despite being relatively injuryfree in a nine-year career thus far. his £50.000 move to WFC was luckless in that respect and as early as the fifth minute of his Wimbledon debut at Derby County, a clumsy challenge from the Rams' Mike Forsyth damaged ankle ligaments which sidelined him for several months. Then, on his return to action against Tottenham, a Clive Allen tackle fractured his knee and tibia and he only just returned in time for the FA Cup Final in May 1988.

But disaster really struck in a pre-season friendly at Bristol Rovers, where - just a week before another Wembley appearance loomed in the Charity Shield he ripped a knee ligament in a collision and spent 14 months

out of the game. In his absence, Roger Joseph and Warren Barton contested his right-back position and in 1990, Goodyear was granted a free transfer to join Brentford. But after a short spell at Griffin Park and two years playing for Ernest Borrel FC in Hong Kong, he retired at the age of 32 and trained to be a physiotherapist, no doubt drawing on his own personal experiences of sporting injuries. He returned to Kenilworth Road in 1993 as physiotherapist and also performed similar duties at Cardiff City and Chester City, before opening his own practice in Bletchley in 2006 where as well as treating sports injuries he also visited companies such as Argos, Homebase and Abbey Bank providing his services to their staff.

So over to Clive Goodvear BSc (Hons) MCSP to complete the story. "I did find the 'Crazy Gang' humour a bit abrasive when I joined - but I soon got used to it and joined in, and somehow they never got round to initiating me. The FA Cup Final was a very special day all round and I can remember all of it. But for me. walking out of that tunnel at Wembley was amazing. As for the 'penalty' - it was a great tackle! At the time I couldn't believe that a penalty was given and I still can't to this day. After the knee injury at Bristol I never reached the level I was at before and became interested in the physiotherapy side. Obviously I know a bit more about AFC Wimbledon now than I did when that 'other mob' first moved up near me and I'm looking forward to my visit to Plough Lane today."

We're looking forward to seeing you too Clive – and we hope you enjoy your day with us.



