

WELCOME TO CHELSEA

UNDER the leadership of manager Tommy Docherty Chelsea always seem to be one-step ahead in the modern approach to soccer. Last season they were in the chase for the League title and the F.A. Cup right from the word go.

They finished up winning the Football League Cup, getting to the semi-final of the F.A. Cup and narrowly missing the championship in the last thrilling few weeks of the season.

In which was a most exciting season for them they also were invited to play against the German national side in Duisburg. And they didn't stop to weep over the honours that just eluded them.

As soon as the season was over they were off for a whistle-stop tour of Australia during which they played 11 matches. No sooner were they back in this country than they were off on July 27 for a breath-taking sweep around Europe playing eight matches. Their total summer mileage must have been near 50,000. That's some going.

Now the big question is can they take the First Division by storm this season. Certainly they are a mighty force to be reckoned with and we look forward with interest to having a first hand glimpse of their power this afternoon.

PETER BONETTI (goalkeeper): Signed professional in April 1959. Made League debut versus Manchester City in April 1960 and has been a regular first choice since. Has 12 England Under-23 caps and has made 190 League, ten F.A. Cup and ten Football League Cup appearances. Born Putney of Swiss parents and now lives at Sompting, near Worthing and is 23.

EDDIE McCREADIE (left back): Made tremendous progress last season when he gained his first full cap for Scotland against England at Wembley last April with further appearances versus Spain, Poland and Finland. Joined Chelsea from East Stirling in 1962 has now made 101 League (two goals), seven F.A. Cup and six Football League (one goal) appearances. Born Glasgow and is 25.

KEN SHELLITO (right back): Born East Ham. Signed professional in April 1957 and has now made 98 League (two goals), four F.A. Cup and one Football League Cup appearances. In the past two seasons has been limited to only 31 games owing to two cartilage operations. has one full England and one Under-23 cap.

JOHN BOYLE (wing half): 1965 proved a memorable season for John who signed professional forms in August 1964. Made his first team debut in the first leg of the League Cup Semi-Final versus Aston Villa at Villa Park in January and scored the winning goal. Last season made six League, two F.A. Cup and four Football League Cup appearances and gained a Scottish Youth cap. Born Motherwell and is 18.

RON HARRIS (left half): After joining the Club in 1960 signed professional in November 1961. Captained England's Youth team that won International Youth Tournament at Wembley in April 1963 and afterwards clinched a first team place in Chelsea's promotion side in Season 1962-63. Born Hackney and is 20.

JOHN HOLLINS (right half): Signed professional in July 1963. Established himself as a regular first team man last Season when he made 41 appearances (two goals), five F.A. Cup (one goal) and six Football League Cup

games. Is 19 and was born at Guildford.

MARVIN HINTON (centre half): Costliest player in the side, Marvin joined Chelsea in August 1963 from Charlton Athletic where he gained three Under-23 caps. Whilst with Charlton made 129 League appearances and has now made 61 League (two goals), eight F.A. Cup and six Football League Cup appearances for Chelsea. Born Croydon and is now 25.

BARRY BRIDGES (centre forward): Born Horsford, near Norwich in April 1941, Barry signed professional for Chelsea in May 1958. Gained many England Youth caps and won his first full cap against Scotland at Wembley in April. Has now made 147 League (71 goals), 11 F.A. Cup (seven goals) and five Football League Cup (three goals) appearances.

GEORGE GRAHAM (inside right): After spending four years at Aston Villa George joined Chelsea in June 1964. Was a Scottish Youth cap when he joined them and this was followed by two Under-23 caps last season against Wales and England. Appearances: 30 League (17 goals), five F.A. Cup and seven Football League Cup (four goals). 20 years old.

BERT MURRAY (outside right): Signed professional in May 1961. In successive seasons Bert has set up a post-war scoring record for a Chelsea winger, 12 goals in Season 1963-64 and 17 last season. Gained his first England Under-23 cap against Roumania last December. Born Shoreditch and is 23 next month.

BOB TAMBLING (outside left): Born Storrington, Sussex and joined Chelsea straight from school and signed professional in 1958. Holds two full England caps (Wales and France) and twelve Under-23 caps. Successfully switched from inside right to outside left last season.

TERRY VENABLES (inside left): After playing for England at Schoolboy, Youth and Amateur and Under-23 level, Terry gained his first full cap versus Belgium at Wembley last November and another versus Holland later that year. Was successfully switched from wing half to inside left two seasons ago and was appointed Club Captain in succession to Ken Shellito when he was injured.