

# PAGE FROM THE PAST: SEASON 1960-61

THE Chelsea story of twelve years ago revolved round one individual to an astonishing degree. Jimmy Greaves had burst on the soccer scene as an infant prodigy. His scoring feats as a junior became legendary, and in his four-season spell in the first team he scored 124 goals in 157 League games out of the 334 Chelsea totalled in that period. Year by year his hauls were 22, 32, 29 and 41.

Then, on April 29, 1961, he played his last game in the blue shirt of Chelsea before moving into Italian football with A.C. Milan, lured there by a salary then unmatched in Britain. Typically, in his last match for us, against Nottingham Forest at Stamford Bridge, he scored all four goals (one from the penalty spot) in a 4-3 victory.

A contemporary newspaper report described the scene at the end: "As a thousand fans hugged, slapped, and carried their Milan-bound hero to the tunnel in a wave of emotion, players of both sides formed an avenue and clapped him off. Before he disappeared little Jimmy broke down and cried."

Will Greaves's 41 goals that season—five of them in the 7-1 victory over West Bromwich which equalled our biggest First Division win—ever be beaten as the individual Chelsea scoring record? His hat-trick in the 6-3 home win against Manchester City in November made him the first player ever to reach a century of League goals before the age of 21.

A bleak last week of 1960 saw Manchester United and Wolves each taking six goals off Chelsea. As if this was not humiliation enough, one of the darkest days in Chelsea history immediately followed as we made our F.A. Cup exit in the third round by 2-1 against Fourth Division Crewe Alexandra at Stamford Bridge.

From such depths it was perhaps surprising that ultimately a position of twelfth was reached. Occasionally the team's performances suggested vastly better prospects. Newcastle United were thrashed

6-1 in March in front of their own supporters (that still equals our best away win in the First Division) thanks to another Greaves "foursome"; Cardiff City were sent home seven days later, beaten by a similar score. Life was certainly never dull, and for those who like to see the net bulging, the Chelsea records for goals for (98) and against (100) were both broken that season.

The Juniors added to their high reputation by taking the F.A. Youth Cup for the second successive season—Everton being beaten by a 5-3 aggregate in the Final—and winning the South-East Counties League yet again.

Changes behind the scenes included the retirement of Jack Oxberry from the post of first-team trainer after eight years. He was, of course, succeeded by Harry Medhurst. But of perhaps greatest significance was the appointment in February of Arsenal and Scotland half-back Tommy Docherty as coach. Welcoming him in the Club Programme, Manager Ted Drake wrote: "His dynamic and cheerful personality is already making itself felt." With the arrival of "Doc", one of the most spectacular phases in Chelsea history had begun.

## HOW THEY FINISHED IN 1960-61

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham H. ..	42	31	4	7	115	50	66
Sheffield W. ..	42	23	12	7	78	47	58
Wolverhampton W. ..	42	25	7	10	103	75	57
Burnley ..	42	22	7	13	102	77	51
Everton ..	42	22	6	14	87	69	50
Leicester C. ..	42	18	9	15	87	70	45
Manchester U. ..	42	18	9	15	88	76	45
Blackburn R. ..	42	15	13	14	77	76	43
Aston Villa ..	42	17	9	16	78	77	43
W.B.A. ..	42	18	5	19	67	62	41
Arsenal ..	42	15	11	16	77	85	41
<b>Chelsea ..</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>37</b>
Manchester C. ..	42	13	11	18	79	90	37
Nottingham F. ..	42	14	9	19	62	78	37
Cardiff C. . . .	42	13	11	18	60	85	37
West Ham U. ..	42	13	10	19	77	88	36
Fulham ..	42	14	8	20	72	95	36
Bolton W. ..	42	12	11	19	58	73	35
Birmingham C. ..	42	14	6	22	62	84	34
Blackpool ..	42	12	9	21	68	73	33
Newcastle U. ..	42	11	10	21	86	109	32
Preston N.E. ..	42	10	10	22	38	71	30