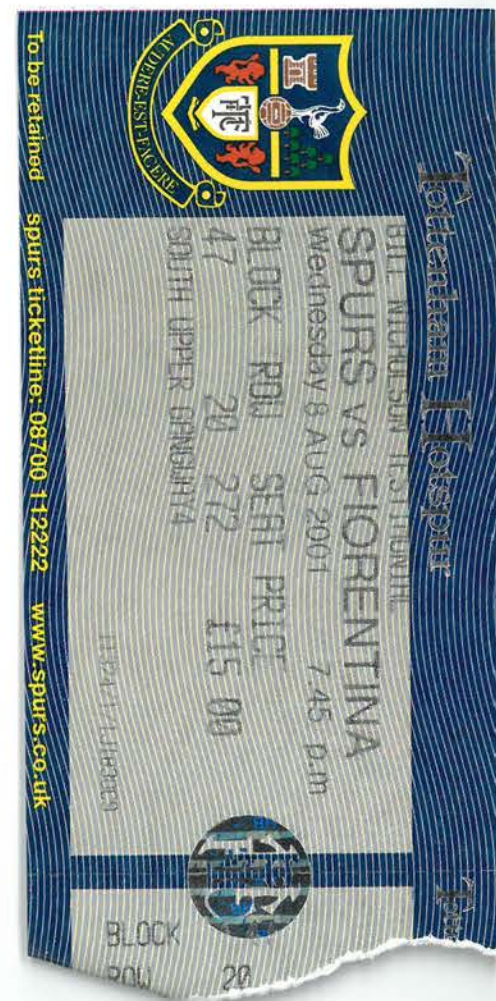


Bill Nicholson Testimonial Official Programme £3.00

Bill Nicholson Testimonial

Tottenham Hotspur v AC Fiorentina

August 8, 2001



Tottenham Hotspur v AC Fiorentina August 8, 2001 Kick-Off 7.45pm





Welcome by Bill Nicholson OBE



When my wife 'Darkie' and I were asked to attend a meeting at the ground a few weeks ago, we had no idea what to expect. New Chairman Daniel Levy greeted us both and then proceeded to tell us about the plans for tonight's match. It was all an unexpected, yet lovely surprise.

In thanking the new Tottenham Board for this tribute, not only for myself but for all my family who are here with me this evening, I would like to wish them a long and successful tenure at the helm of our great football club.

But this evening is not about me, it is about Spurs and this match will hopefully give everyone the opportunity to enjoy an entertaining game of football.

I would like to thank Glenn Hoddle and his team for their efforts this evening and wish them every success for the new season.

Congratulations to Glenn on his new signings, who I'm sure you will have the opportunity of seeing in action tonight. I hope the efforts and hard-work of the

coaching staff and players comes to fruition this term and helps put Tottenham Hotspur Football Club back on course to where we belong - at the top.

I would also like to extend a warm White Hart Lane welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Italian side Fiorentina, and thank them for providing tonight's high-class opposition.

I have some wonderful memories of the time I spent in Italy at the end of the war. I was sent to join the HQ of the Central Mediterranean Forces in Udini, as a member of the rehabilitation and physical training corp., when war ended. That experience as a PE instructor certainly proved invaluable to me when I returned to Tottenham and ultimately took over as manager.

Finally, but by no means least, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Spurs supporters, not only for showing their support this evening, but over many, many years. I am always overwhelmed by the response and kind gestures I continue to

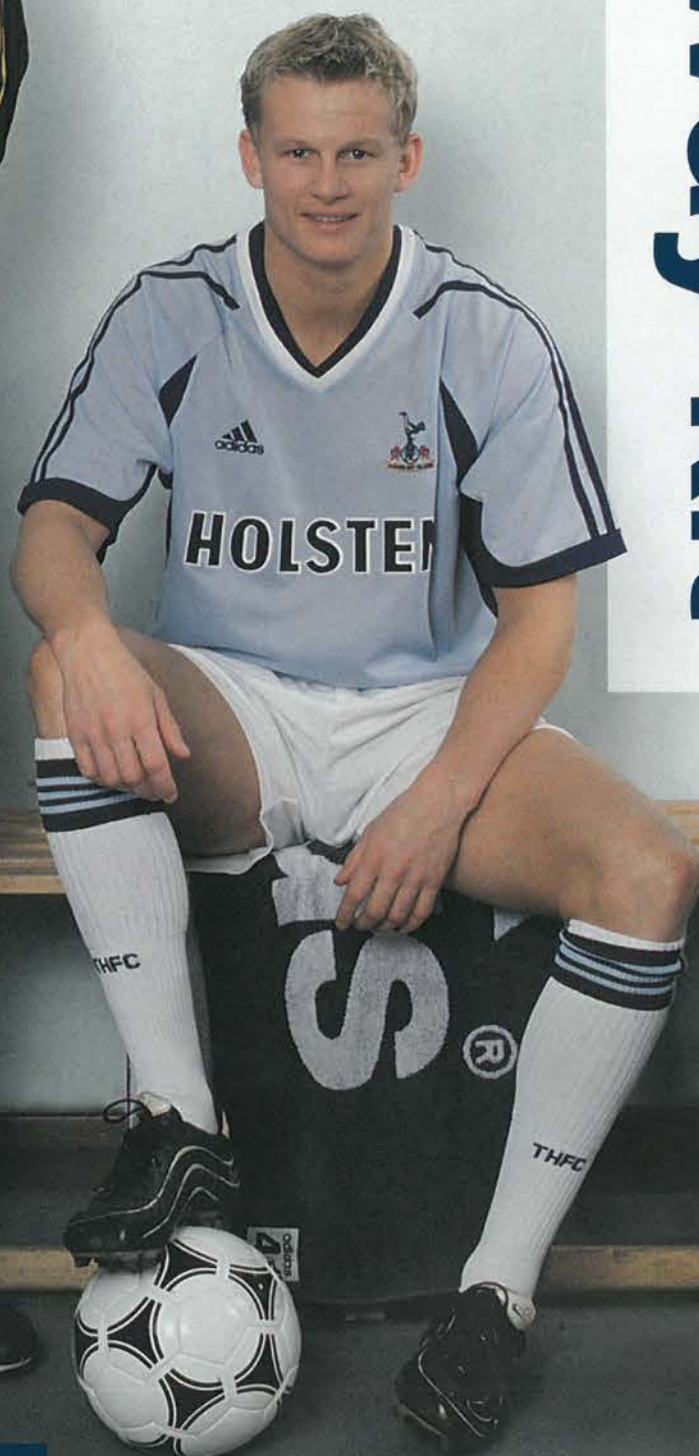
receive from so many fans wherever I go, and I would like to say a huge thank you to them all.

I hope that everyone involved in tonight's game, players, staff and supporters alike, enjoy what will surely be another great White Hart Lane football occasion.



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Tribute

When I took over as Chairman of Tottenham Hotspur, one of my earliest tasks was also one of the most enjoyable. It was to grant permission for tonight's testimonial match for the great Bill Nicholson.

Like so many of you, I grew up in an era when Bill Nick was the inspiration at White Hart Lane. Sadly, I was too young to enjoy the 'Double' days having made my first visit here in the late 1960s but each and every generation of Spurs fans knows chapter and verse about that team.

Bill Nicholson personifies Tottenham Hotspur. He is all about the good things in the game. His teams played with bravado, style, skill and grace. His

players performed with a flourish. And they entertained all along the way.

Bill's influence on this club can be seen by a look back at our history. Prior to his debut in 1938 we had never won the League title and had only won the FA Cup twice. As a player he helped us win the Championship for the first time in 1951 as part of our great 'Push and Run' side and when he took over as manager he really put us on the map.

In fact, Bill Nicholson placed Tottenham Hotspur firmly on the world stage. After winning the illustrious 'Double' in 1961 we played in the European Cup for the first time and he then went on to break so many records.

Daniel Levy

Chairman, THFC



By lifting the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1963 we became the first British club to win a European competition and after our UEFA Cup success in 1972 we later became the first English side to have played in three major European finals. We won the League Cup twice – again the first side to do so – and took our FA Cup winning record to five.

All was achieved with Bill at the helm during the most successful period in the club's history. And whenever a Spurs supporter of a certain age looks back on that era they do so with a smile.

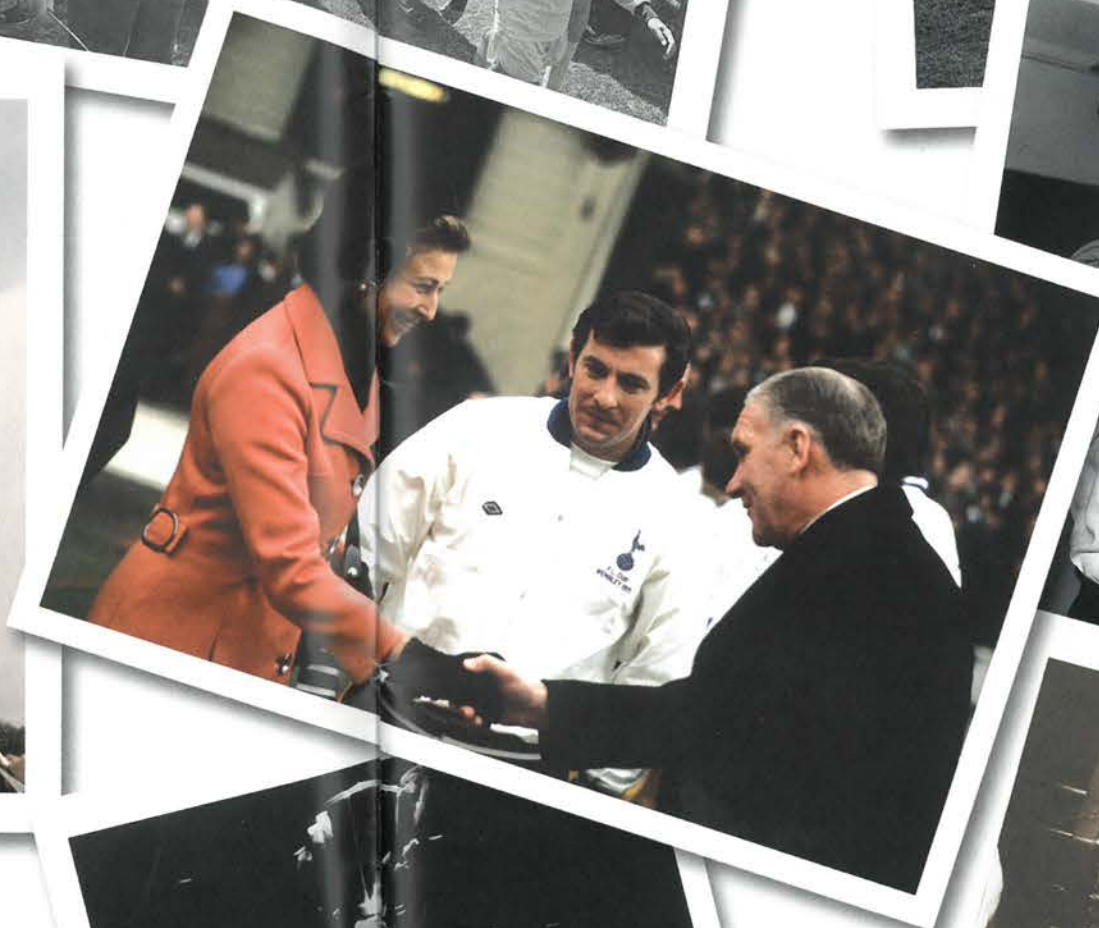
That team was very close to our fans. They supported and the players entertained. And, more importantly, they won. Bill scoured the country for talent as he sought that elusive blend of talented individuals that he could weld into a team. And, as they started to enjoy success, he refused to sit on his laurels but went on striving to improve the side.

Indeed, ask any current fan to name 20 Spurs stars of all time and the majority will come from that great epoch – Danny Blanchflower, Dave Mackay, John White, Cliff Jones...the list appears endless.

So Bill's legacy was to create a Tottenham way of doing things. He set the example himself and proved that winning could be achieved with style. He is the rock on which this club is built and remains as an inspiration to us all.



Bill's scrapbook



Tribute

To be a great manager you must have the respect of the players and Bill certainly had that.

What I admired most about him was the way he trusted players. When we were away he would never set any curfews, he just let the players do what they wanted and knew we would look after ourselves.

Mind you, that's not to say he never had a go at us - he once gave me a rollicking for scoring a goal at Ipswich. We had a particular move that ended with Cliff Jones arriving at the far post to score, but Cliff shouted at me to make the run because he was too tired and I ended up scoring. Bill had a right go at me for taking Cliff's place - then three weeks later he dropped me for not scoring enough!

But I never fell out with him, that sort of thing just geed me up. My favourite memory is scoring the first goal in the 1961 FA Cup final when we clinched the 'double'.

Back then there was a level playing field and winning was more of an achievement compared to today. You

Bobby Smith



didn't have one team spending a lot more money than the others, and the fact that Manchester United can now go out and spend £28m on just one player is ridiculous.

Bill got together some great players like Cliff Jones, Terry Dyson and Les Allen and we moulded perfectly. We could not have wished for a better team or a better manager.

Tribute

Obviously Bill was one of the most successful managers of all, and I worked closely with him for many years.

He is a typical Yorkshireman - not exactly cavalier in his ways, but players always knew where they stood with him.

One of Bill's great strengths was his organisational ability, being thorough and planning properly.

I still see him regularly because his daughter lives over the road from me and he visits her every week. Sometimes he pops in for a cup of tea, and I drive him to games if I'm going to the same one in my role as a scout for Ipswich.

It's great that the club are honouring Bill again.

Eddie Baily



Tribute

The 60s was the era of Matt Busby, Bill Shankly and Jock Stein, but for my money Bill was the best of the lot. None of the others did everything the way Bill did.

It wasn't just on the pitch, but around the club. We used to say if a lightbulb needed changing in the toilets, Bill would know about it!

The club was his life, and still is. He deserves a knighthood for what he has done for the club, the community and football in general.

He gave us real leadership and taught us about respect. He wouldn't have us arguing with refs. They might make mistakes, but not as many as you lot, he would say.

He taught us that the fans were the most important people, not the players, staff or

directors, and showed us how big a part the club played in people's lives. He ran the club the correct way in every respect, and didn't throw money around. I remember going in for a rise back in 1962, when I was really on top of my game. He asked me why I thought I deserved more money, and I said I thought I was the best winger in Europe, perhaps even the world at the time.

Bill simply said: 'That's a matter of opinion, now shut the door on your way out!'

But my respect and admiration for him just grew the more I saw of him. He knew more about the game than anyone I ever met, and knew how to convey it. He was the complete manager. I cannot speak highly enough of him.

Cliff Jones



Tribute



Bill was one of the best managers in the world. He was always good to us and we never had many arguments. We always knew what Bill wanted from us.

Bill never shouted at people and would take you to one side if he thought you were doing something wrong.

The whole team was a family and he was like a father to us. I can still remember the first time we travelled to Russia, the summer before we won the double, which was one of the first pre-season tours abroad by any English club.

He used to make tea for all the players in the morning and we felt like such a close unit. I believe that is where it all started and plus the ability of Bill to bring us all together as a team. I just used to watch from the back at times.

We still keep in contact a great deal and I often go up to visit him to sharpen up his

Ron Henry

lawnmower. He loves to come down and visit me as well, and I sometimes have to pinch myself that Bill is sitting underneath my umbrella in the garden.

Tottenham have a very good manager now in Glenn Hoddle, but it would take a lot to beat our double side. I'm sure he will take them close, though, in the next few years.

Bill thoroughly deserves this testimonial and I hope it is a fantastic night for all his friends and family. He certainly should have been recognised more for what he achieved as our manager.

Welcome to all Bill's former players who are here tonight.

Bill Nicholson Factfile

The Bill Nicholson story, from Scarborough to Spurs. Club Historian Andy Porter looks back on the life of a Legend of the Lane.



Born at Scarborough on January 26, 1919, William Edward Nicholson was the second youngest of nine children. He attended Scarborough Boys' High School, playing in the school team at centre-half.

On leaving school he worked as a laundry assistant for six months and played for the Young Liberals side in a local league. Recommended by his manager to our York based scout, he was invited for a trial by chief scout Ben Ives in a letter dated February 29, 1936.

The *Tottenham Weekly Herald* dated Friday, March 13 announced in a six line paragraph: "On Trial - Spurs are giving a month's trial to an amateur, Wm. E. Nicholson, an inside right of Scarborough Working Men's Club. He recently celebrated his 17th birthday. His height is 5ft 8ins and weight 10st 12lbs."

The Herald's first mention of Bill wearing the club colours was in a 3-5 defeat of our

'A' team at Guildford City on March 21. Assigned to the White Hart Lane groundstaff, Bill featured for Northfleet Amateurs during 1937 and it was about this time that he switched from playing at inside-forward to left-back.

He first featured for our London Combination reserve team over the Christmas/New Year period of 1937-38 and was given a professional contract with the senior nursery club Northfleet United. On April 18, 1938, he gained a Kent Senior Cup winners' medal in the final against Dover.

Bill signed professional forms for us in August, 1938, and made his Football League debut at Ewood Park in a 1-3 defeat by Blackburn Rovers on October 22. He picked up a thigh injury and spent the latter part of the match playing at outside-right.

At the time he was the tenth youngest player to have featured in our League team.

During the war Bill served with the Durham Light Infantry, rising to the rank of sergeant. He worked as an instructor in infantry training and physical education as well as playing plenty of Service football.

Extended spells as a guest player at Newcastle United and Darlington were supplemented by briefer stints with Hartlepool United, Middlesbrough, Sunderland and Fulham. After the war he served at the Central Mediterranean Forces HQ at Udini, Italy.

On returning to civvy street he attended FA coaching courses at Birmingham University and passed his Full Badge at the first attempt.

By 1948 Bill had settled in to the right-half berth and was a regular reserve for the England team. During December that year he scored the first of his six League goals - in 314 appearances for us - at Fulham, which was also the club's 2,000th in the Football League.

The 1949-50-51 'Push and Run' campaigns saw Bill miss just four games as we lifted the Second and First Division championships in consecutive seasons. In 1950 he travelled to the Brazil World Cup as a member of the England squad having played three times for the 'B' team and gained FA and Football League representative honours.

His only Full cap was gained at Goodison Park against Portugal on May 19, 1951. Bill scored within the first 30 seconds of a 5-2 victory. In all, he stood by as a reserve on 22 occasions.

Under invitation from the FA, Bill coached the Varsity and Pegasus teams during the early Fifties. When his playing career ended in 1954 he switched to a coaching role and assisted with the England Under-23 team. Appointed assistant manager at Tottenham

in 1955 he took over as manager on October 11, 1958, to enjoy a 16 year stint at the helm. The early years saw him continue a role helping with the England Full and Under-23 side.

The Double of 1961 saw him join the short list of men to have won the championship as both a player and manager, the FA Cup was retained in 1962 and the European Cup-Winners Cup won in 1963. Our fifth FA Cup triumph was secured in 1967, the Football League Cup in both 1971 and 1973 and the UEFA Cup of 1972.



These feats brought many firsts; the first Double of the 20th century was followed by the first European trophy win by a British club; the first British team to win two different European competitions and the first to win the League Cup twice.

Our playing record under Bill's management was:

Bill used 79 players in those matches, 37-year-old Danny Blanchflower being the eldest and Neil McNab, aged 16, the youngest.

Bill Dodge was the first of 57 players given their Spurs debut by Bill and Alfie Conn the last. Pat Jennings was selected more often than any other player, making 480 senior appearances.

Eight of the players selected by Bill had also played alongside him in our League team, namely Peter Baker, Johnny Brooks, Dave Dunmore, Tommy Harmer, Mel Hopkins, Tony Marchi, George Robb and Alfie Stokes.

Bill's playing career stats

Season	League		FA Cup		Wartime
	App	Gl's	App		App
1938-39	8				
1939-40					3
1942-43					1
1945-46					11
1946-47	39		2		
1947-48	38		5		
1948-49	41	2	1		
1949-50	39	2	3		
1950-51	41	1	1		
1951-52	37	1	2		
1952-53	31		7		
1953-54	30		6		
1954-55	10				
Total	314	6	27		15

Our playing record under Bill's management

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Football League	667	306	164	197	1208	922
FA Cup	67	39	15	13	160	72
Football League Cup	34	20	8	6	62	32
European competitions	55	36	8	11	141	60
Total	823	401	195	227	1571	1086

On August 31, 1974, Bill announced his retirement as manager. He remained in charge until September 13. Following a spell on the scouting staff at West Ham United he returned to serve us as a consultant and chief scout in July, 1976. His connection with our scouting department continued until his retirement in July, 1997. During July, 1991 he was appointed Club President.

Amongst his personal honours, Bill received an O.B.E. in 1975, the PFA merit award in 1984 and in September, 1970, was voted Bill's Scotch whisky manager of the month. Macmillan published his autobiography 'Glory, Glory, My Life With Spurs' in 1984.

In December, 1998 he received the Freedom of the Borough from Haringey Council and the road leading to the Club from Tottenham High Road was renamed 'Bill Nicholson Way'. The official unveiling of the newly named road took place in April, 1999 and is now incorporated into the club address.

On Sunday, August 21, 1983, we staged a testimonial match in his honour against West Ham. Alan Brazil equalised Dave Swindlehurst's opener in a 1-1 draw, before a crowd numbering 20,101.

Our line-up was: Clemence, Hughton (Mabbutt), Thomas, Roberts, Stevens, Perryman, Ardiles (Hazard), Brazil, Galvin (Archibald), Hoddle (Price), Falco.

The main match was preceded by an exhibition game of 20 minutes each way between teams of former players. Tony Parks and John Lacy 'guested' for the Blues who were beaten 3-0 through goals from Martin Chivers, Eddie Clayton and Phil Holder.

The two sides were:
Yellows: Jennings, Kinnear, Knowles, Bond, England, Holder, Neighbour, Dyson, Chivers, Peters, Clayton.
Blues: Parks, Naylor, Henry, Robertson, Lacy, Collins, Pratt, Greaves, Gilzean, Brooks, Jones.

He is quite simply the Master

by Alex Flynn



Today we celebrate the master. Bill Nicholson is, quite simply, unique. No-one in the entire history of the English game has played a starring role in two epoch-making sides: as a wing-half in Arthur Rowe's Push and Run team which won the second and first division titles in successive seasons, and as the manager of, arguably, the greatest English club team of modern times - the first to do the double in the 20th century and the first to win a European trophy. Football managers have been knighted for far less.

If he had never graduated to the manager's role, Bill Nick's playing record of nearly 350 appearances despite the loss of his prime years to the war, would have placed him in the pantheon of great Spurs men. But as a manager, he is on an altogether higher plane. The simplicity of Arthur Rowe's belief that "football is a lovely passing game," impressed itself on Bill Nicholson's mind but he enhanced and embellished that belief producing his own philosophy; entertaining, attacking football played by a team liberally sprinkled with stardust.

Those historic seasons set the yardstick by which all other claimants would be judged and found wanting. The Spurs Way was born. Success with glory. And, of course, much of the credit must go to Bill Nick.

Ask the master what are the qualities that a successful football manager needs and he will mention knowledge, hard work,

diplomacy, organisation, motivation, patience, discipline and common-sense. But the one quality he prioritised above all was that of honesty. It was so important to him that, as Dave Mackay recalled, "After we'd played and won against a very good team, but hadn't played particularly well, Bill Nick acted as if we'd lost the match. He'd be so disappointed in the way we played." His players respected him because they loved what they were doing



Darkie Nicholson looks on as Bill responds to another award

and how much they achieved under his guidance.

What were the Spurs directors thinking when, after 16 years as their manager, Bill Nicholson was allowed to depart, his recommendations on his successor ignored and an Arsenal man appointed instead? It took another honest football manager, Keith Burkinshaw, to bring him back to where he belonged, listen to his advice, restore the Spurs Way and give a new generation of fans a taste of glory.

As former chairman Irving Scholar memorably said, regarding Bill Nicholson and his double side, "Every time this ground is open, someone somewhere thinks about you." We will not see his like again. It has been far too long since those glory days but, perhaps the portents look propitious. With a favourite son at the helm once again maybe he can be inspired by the example of the father of the modern Tottenham Hotspur.

At the last AGM as Bill Nicholson entered the room, the shareholders spontaneously gave him a standing ovation. Arise Sir Bill, all Tottenham fans salute you.

- Writer Alex Flynn is a football analyst, adviser and author of a number of books on Spurs.

A man to respect

by Hunter Davies



I rather conned Bill Nicholson into letting me do *The Glory Game*, the book in which I followed the Spurs team during the 1971-72 season. Conned in the sense that I just hung around, till he and the team got used to seeing me, on the training pitch, in the dressing room. I never had a contract with him or the club. Such a situation



would be totally impossible today, with agents lurking in every corridor, behind every seat, under every sod.

What I didn't know, till I was doing the book, was that Bill himself didn't have a contract as a manager. He just did it, out of blind loyalty and devotion to the club he had joined aged 16 in 1935.

It was fascinating to watch him at work. He didn't really scream and shout. A glass did get broken in the dressing room at half time once, but it was an accident. He preferred to fume silently, go cold and grim.

Bill rarely gave much praise, always thinking every player could do better. But the players were in awe of him, for what he'd done, for what he was doing, for what he was. They knew that he lived and breathed the club, neglecting almost everything else in his life.

His wife Darkie told me how at the wedding of their daughter Linda she noticed a tear in his eye. An unusual sight, as Bill was never known for displaying

messy emotions. "I never saw her growing up," muttered Bill as Linda came down the aisle.

One of the most interesting things about Bill, as a manager, was that he never moulded teams in his own image. As a player, he was solid, safe and determined. As a person, he prided himself on being a dour Yorkshireman. But as a manager, he was interested only in lightness and brightness, for exciting, entertaining football.

I can't see Spurs, or football, ever having another manager like Bill Nicholson. That mould has been broken.

- Author and journalist Hunter Davies wrote *The Glory Game* in 1972.

- Above: A big smile from Bill as the road outside our main gates is dedicated in his name.

Tribute

Bill Nicholson was totally dedicated to this club. He was the first person to arrive in the morning and the last person to leave at night.

Because he had won Spurs the league and cup double as well as the European Cup Winners' Cup in the 1960s, I jumped at the chance to join Spurs from West Ham for a record transfer fee of £200,000.

It was as much about a respect for the man himself than anything else that made me join Spurs. He was the man who was winning things in football at the time. I played in four cup finals in five years at Spurs so it was a move that paid off.

He had a great knack of being able to find players who would fit into his side. He would encourage us to go out there and play the way we have been brought up to play, which was good for me because I was used to a similar style to Spurs while playing at West Ham.

After the 1967 FA Cup win there was a bit of a lull at the club, but Spurs are traditionally big spenders. Bill went out to build another good



team for the early 1970s which I was lucky to be part of.

We had some great players back then such as Joe Kinnear, Cyril Knowles, Mike England, Steve Perryman, Martin Chivers, Alan Mullery and others. It was very easy to fit into a side as good as that.

Martin Peters

People have been pushing to get a knighthood for Bill like Sir Alex Ferguson and Sir Matt Busby. Bill has been a major servant to English football and he deserves to be in the same category.

He's a fantastic man and it was an honour to serve under him.

Tribute



Bill Nicholson was the man who brought me to Tottenham, so I have a lot to thank him for.

My contract at Bristol Rovers was up in the summer of 1982 and I circulated my details to various clubs.

It was a World Cup year, and Keith Burkinshaw and Peter Shreeves were at the finals scouting for new players. Therefore it was Bill who picked up my name on the circular and got in touch with me.

He met me at White Hart Lane and persuaded me to sign for Spurs. That was the beginning of nearly 16 happy years at the club for me, and if it wasn't for Bill I doubt I would have signed.

I have the utmost respect for what Bill has achieved throughout his career, and for what he has done for Tottenham. He was responsible for bringing the glory, glory days to the club, and his Double-winning team of the 1960s is the one people always talk about, and the one the fans always want Tottenham teams to emulate.

Bill is quite simply a living legend and when you meet him he has that same incredible aura that

Gary Mabbutt

Bill Shankly and Matt Busby had. He is respected throughout the whole country not just for what he has achieved, but for the way he has done it.

Bill and his lovely wife Darkie have lived a very humble life, but it is a life which has revolved around Tottenham Hotspur Football Club. Nobody has got a bad word to say about him because he is a gentleman.

He still goes to all the games and has strong opinions, and if you ask him he will tell you exactly what he thinks of a player, and what needs to be done around the club.

When I won a lifetime achievement award at the PFA dinner last year it was Bill who presented it to me, and when I was the subject of This Is Your Life, Bill was the star guest at the end of the programme.

He has been a good friend to me over the years and I am proud to know him.

Nobody deserves this tribute more than Bill and I wish him well for this game and hope he has a fantastic night.

Tribute



When you think of Tottenham you think of Bill Nicholson - one of the legendary figures in football.

I remember my first meeting with Bill when I moved from Watford to Spurs in 1964 - it

was unbelievable. I was 18 or 19 and I'd seen him on the television and knew what a big name he was. I shook his hand and obviously referred to him as Mr Nicholson. But the first thing he said to me was forget about the Mr and just call me Bill.

Pat Jennings

In my first few months at the club I didn't really realise what was happening to me. I just went along with it - it was bliss. It was a real family club and there was always a warm welcome for your family and kids. It wasn't unusual for the family to end up in Bill's office for soft drinks and crisps.

In those days we were expected to be in the top two or three and always in the running to sign any top players that became available. Those were the standards that Bill had set and intended to maintain. He won the Double and the side I played in, and many since, were always being compared with the 1961 team.

I still see Bill at every opportunity, he was like a father figure to me and probably the biggest influence on my life.

I am delighted the club's directors have paid this tribute to him by giving him this testimonial. I am sure he wouldn't have asked for it so it is a lovely gesture.

Tribute

I had 12 years as a Tottenham player under Bill Nicholson and could not have wished to play for a better manager. I can still hear his wise words in my head when I am out on the training ground as a manager myself today.

I got on ever so well with Bill and it was because of him that my only dream was to be involved as a Tottenham coach or manager in the long term. Bill actually promised me a job on the coaching staff when I hung up my boots, but when my career finished at Spurs he had gone and I moved on.

I was brought up in a cultured arena at Tottenham with great players like Greavsie, Mackay, and the Mullerys, Peters' and Chivers' of this world. I was also brought up to train with the ball on the ground and I kept Wimbledon as a force in the Premiership using many of Bill's methods. I would have loved to have had a chance to do the same as the manager at The Lane. Believe it or not, I have never in my life asked a player to kick the ball long even in training

and I hope that some of Bill Nick's magic can somehow rub off on my lads at Luton. They won't go far wrong if they do things his way. I

remember playing in his last testimonial game and I will be here for what I am sure will be another great occasion.



They played for Bill

	Lge	Gls	Cup	Gls	Total	Gls
Les Allen	119	47	18	14	137	61
Peter Baker	217	2	40		257	2
Ken Barton	4				4	
Phil Beal	310	1	86		396	1
Danny Blanchflower	187	14	31	5	218	19
Dennis Bond	23	1	4		27	1
Johnny Brooks	26	5	3		29	5
Laurie Brown	62	3	3		65	3
Roy Brown	1				1	
Bill Brown	222		40		262	
Martin Chivers	221	102	82	53	303	155
Ray Clarke	1				1	
Eddie Clayton	79	15	11		90	15
Ralph Coates	106	7	47	10	153	17
Jimmy Collins	2				2	
John Collins	2				2	
Peter Collins	83	4	18	1	101	5
Alfie Conn			1		1	
Barry Daines	8		3		11	
Mike Dillon	24	1	5		29	1
Bill Dodge	6		4		10	
Dave Dunmore	22	8	3	2	25	10
Terry Dyson	156	36	22	14	178	50
Mike England	274	12	95	5	369	17
Ray Evans	121	2	45	2	166	4
Alan Gilzean	343	93	96	40	439	133
Jimmy Greaves	321	220	58	46	379	266
Ken Hancock	3		1		4	
Tommy Harmer	66	7	7	1	73	8
Ron Henry	227	1	40		267	1
John Hills	4		1		5	
Phil Holder	13	1	6	1	19	2
John Hollowbread	58		6		64	
Mel Hopkins	72		7		79	
Roger Hoy	10		2		12	
Jim Iley	23	1	4		27	1
Jeff Ireland	1				1	
David Jenkins	14	2	3		17	2
Pat Jennings	374		106		480	
Neil Johnson	34	5	4	1	38	6

	Lge	Gls	Cup	Gls	Total	Gls
Chris Jones	3				3	
Cliff Jones	308	134	60	24	368	158
Joe Kinnear	178	2	60		238	2
Cyril Knowles	360	10	101	2	461	12
Terry Lee	1				1	
Roy Low	8	1			8	1
Dave Mackay	268	42	50	9	318	51
Tony Marchi	101	5	16		117	5
Chris McGrath	30	5	9	5	39	10
Neil McNab	1				1	
Terry Medwin	111	32	14	4	125	36
Roger Morgan	68	8	12	4	80	12
Alan Mullery	312	25	61	5	373	30
Terry Naylor	69		33	1	102	1
Jimmy Neighbour	58	4	25	2	83	6
Maurice Norman	274	14	46	2	320	16
Keith Osgood	3		1		4	
Jimmy Pearce	141	21	52	14	193	35
Steve Perryman	190	9	76	6	266	15
Martin Peters	166	43	69	30	235	73
Ron Piper	1				1	
Steve Pitt	1				1	
Derek Possee	19	4			19	4
John Pratt	126	11	51	5	177	16
George Robb	2	1			2	1
Jimmy Robertson	157	25	24	6	181	31
John Ryden	6	1			6	1
Frank Saul	116	37	13	8	129	45
Fred Sharpe	1				1	
John Smith	21	1	3		24	1
Bobby Smith	169	106	35	26	204	132
Graeme Souness			1		1	
Alfie Stokes	9	6			9	6
Terry Venables	115	5	26	4	141	9
Tony Want	50		6		56	
Keith Weller	21	1			21	1
John White	183	40	36	7	219	47
Roy Woolcott	1				1	
Len Worley	1				1	
Own goals		25		4		29

Tribute

I am delighted that the club has honoured Bill with a second testimonial and I'm sure his family and close friends will share that view. To my mind, Bill is Mr Tottenham Hotspur and everything this club stands for emanates from Bill who, most certainly, installed the foundations.

Bill was the manager throughout this club's most successful period and I've always had the highest respect for him as a man and for what he achieved as Tottenham manager. I personally feel he should have been knighted by now.



Bill was always and remains totally dedicated to this club and, quite rightly in return, the club is treating him with the respect he deserves.

Bill had presence, he knew what he wanted, he knew how his team should and would function. He established the traditions of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club. He played for our 'Push and Run' side and then took it on himself to achieve all that he achieved. He is the cornerstone of the club.

I remember coming here as a schoolboy, training as an apprentice with the first team and having my first experiences with the senior side at 16, travelling to Red Star Belgrade, all when Bill was manager.

That was a bit daunting at the time but it was a wonderful experience. Unfortunately,

the handover as Bill left the club was just as I was breaking into the team, so I didn't really play under him as manager.

To be honest as a 15-16-year-old, it was a bit nerve-racking when Bill walked in. I still remember that when I used to be in the boot room and saw Bill coming through the other door, I would dread it because of the respect I had for him. I used to dive for cover to get out of the way! He would always have a remark or observation for you as well, like a comment about the state of your boots or tie ups plus other similar small instructions and little pieces of advice. No matter who you were, he never ignored you.

He was a thorough man, a delightful, strong man and a great, great manager. If I can come anywhere near what Bill Nicholson achieved for this club, if I can achieve 50 per cent of it, then I'll be a very, very happy man.

And Eddie Bailey deserves to be mentioned as well. They were a wonderful team, Eddie was an excellent coach and they were very well balanced, very different in their personalities and it worked.

As I say, it's my dream to follow in his footsteps and to get somewhere near him. Like Bill, I played for Spurs and now I'm lucky enough to manage the club. What I now have to do is the hardest part – trying to emulate him by striving to win as many

Glenn Hoddle



trophies as Bill did. I'm not saying that will be achieved but if hard work is the answer, then I'm ready for it.

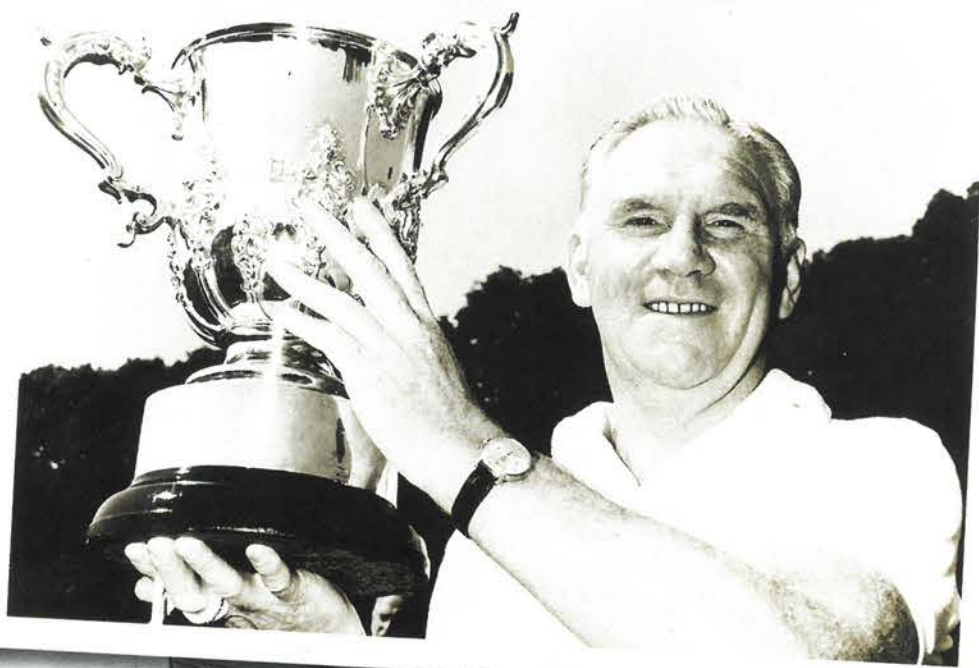
Unfortunately, it's not as easy as that. It takes so much more. And Bill had it all.

I'm sure it will be a fantastic night and let's hope it will be a full house.

Bill deserves no less.



Bill's scrapbook



Bill's first day at the office

by John Fennelly



It was a big day for Bill Nicholson. He awoke on the morning of October 11, 1958, with the knowledge that he was now the new Spurs manager with an official announcement due to be made before lunchtime.

At least Bill had the comfort of familiar surroundings having been a professional at White Hart Lane since 1938 and had been on the coaching staff here from his retirement as a player in 1955. He had moved up to first team coach when Jimmy Anderson took over the manager's role from Arthur Rowe and with his experience coaching Cambridge University and later England Under-23, Bill was the obvious choice as the new boss.

As he walked along White Hart Lane from his home to his new office, Bill reflected on many things, not least that afternoon's game with Everton. It wasn't the most attractive of fixtures as we had managed just nine points from our opening 11 games and sat a point clear of a bottom three that included Everton.

But for Spurs fans it was an afternoon that was to go down in history.

Anderson had picked the team before departing and had recalled that genius Tommy Harmer, a brilliant ball player and crowd favourite. And this was to be Harmer's day as we won 10-4 and he was clearly man-of-the-match.

As Tommy recalls in the club's official history book: "I was feeling miserable that

morning. I had been dropped for the previous four games and it was in the balance whether I'd get my place back."

We were ahead by the third minute when Alfie Stokes scored but Jimmy Harris equalised eight minutes later. Bobby Smith headed home from a Harmer cross on 15 minutes and George Robb then went through to make it 3-1.

Terry Dyson then set up goals for Smith and Stokes before making it 6-1 himself on the stroke of half-time with a shot that went in off a post.

Harris pulled back another seven minutes into the second-half but Danny Blanchflower then set up Smith for his hat-trick.



With the injured John Ryden having to move to the left-wing – no substitutes in those days – we lost some of our momentum for a spell but that was just the calm before the storm as the game ended with five goals in the last 10 minutes.

On 80 minutes Harmer himself found the net and what a cracker it was! He recalls: "The ball just bounced towards me and I hit it first time, on the half-volley from 20 yards, and it flew into the top corner of the net. I hardly ever scored from that range. It was just one of those days when everything goes in."

Harris then seized his hat-trick – an amazing feat in such a one-sided game, but in the 85th minute Smith scored again from a Stokes corner. Within another minute Bobby Collins made it 9-4 before the hobbling Ryden rounded off the scoring with our 10th.

As they walked off, Harmer told his new boss: "We don't score 10 every week you know."

But Bill was already plotting Monday morning's training session. "I've got to sort out that defence," he thought!

Spurs: Hollowbread, Baker, Hopkins, Blanchflower, Ryden, Iley, Medwin, Harmer, Smith, Stokes, Robb.

Everton: Dunlop, Sanders, Bramwell, King, Jones, Harris, B., Fielding, Harris, J., Hickson, Collins, O'Hara.
Referee: G.W. Pullin.
Attendance: 37,794.

Tribute

David Pleat

Director of Football, THFC



I remember very clearly the shock waves after Bill Nicholson OBE's first game in charge of Tottenham Hotspur. Spurs 10 Everton 4. In 1961 I had the privilege of seeing Tottenham play at Nottingham Forest in the 13th game of the double winning season. I have never been so thrilled with a team's passing and movement to create opportunities. It was an afternoon of poetry, which finished in the 12th victory for our Lillywhites, by four goals to nil. It left an indelible mark.

Many reams have been written regarding the statistical achievements of Bill's reign at

Spurs. He was down to earth, blunt, tough but fair; and an exceptionally hardworking and knowledgeable man who was able to run the football club before the tremendous changes that have evolved. His wonderful work and achievements for Tottenham will not be equalled. Indeed, no manager could survive 16 years in the existing political football arena.

Fortunately, Bill has a wonderfully caring wife, Darkie, who supported and encouraged her husband to achieve his mission. Darkie tended to the family allotment, looked after her children growing up and had the meals ready on the table. Meanwhile, Bill was scouring the country for recruits, coaching the senior players and being one hundred percent involved with everything that took place at the Club, from the Chairman to the youngest apprentice.

A few weeks' ago I had an enlightened afternoon in Bill's back garden, a stones throw from the Stadium, reminiscing with Bill and his wife. In the days of his management players were scouted thoroughly – no videos then. The manager would have to go and vet the player and find out through his network of friends and colleagues the little points, such as "what the player had for breakfast", whether he is of good character on and off the field etc. When he signed the late great John White from Scotland and had an initial doubt he

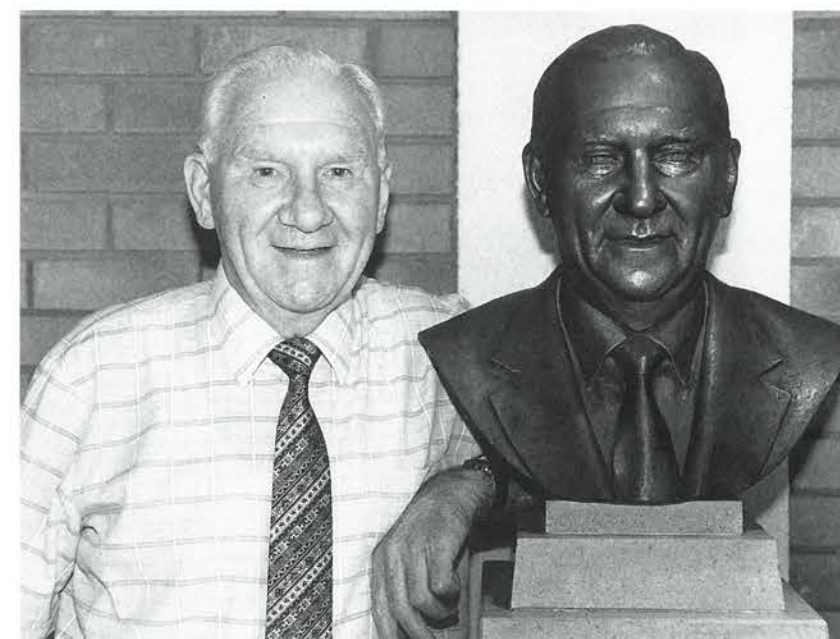
discussed with John's Army Officer, who confirmed that he was a regular cross country winner on checking his endurance capabilities. You can never have enough information when you are signing players. I believe the price was £14,000! He was ultra thorough.

In 1987 when I was manager here, I sent Bill in his capacity as Chief Scout to watch a player. He came back and was most scathing, "Whoever recommended that player," he shouted. I calmly told him we had had a couple of good reports. Bill replied, "Well, you should check your scouts because the player doesn't even 'prepare himself correctly to play the ball'." It was a small point succinctly made. Bill rarely gave fulsome praise as a manager. He expected the players to do the job they were paid for, to play with movement and style and with harmony. For 16 years that harmonious rhythm was the personification of Tottenham Hotspur. They set standards and Bill won great accolades for the way he conducted his outstanding orchestra. All Spurs people can name the 1961 double side (Brown, Baker, Henry, Blanchflower, Norman, Mackay, White, Dyson, Jones, Allen, Smith).

Recently, Bill accompanied me when I gave a short speech to record the LMA's respect for Graham Taylor's achievement of 1,000 League matches. Bill in the audience was the main attraction, winning thunderous applause when introduced. Every year he is the main guest at the London Coaches Association dinner. Again, the audience, many of them young coaches who did not have the opportunity to see his teams, revere his presence.

Tonight, Tottenham Hotspur pay tribute to a tough Yorkshireman from Scarborough who came to London with no airs and graces and set standards in the days when football was untouched by over exposure on television, avaricious agents, a frenzy of foreign players, a hyper-active Press and excessive player salaries. I think we can safely say that the man we honour tonight served and enjoyed his time "on the grass" when football, as portrayed by Tottenham, was a game to grace White Hart Lane and all other famous English and European arenas.

Well done Bill and Darkie his magnificent 'aide-de-camp'.



ONE CLUB, FOR LIFE

One Club. For Life.

This is our motto.

As it was yours too.

There is no other.

It's Tottenham Hotspur
or nothing.

As fans,
we have no choice.

But you did.

And yet, you never
played for
or managed any
other club.

Or wanted to.

It's something
that all
Spurs fans totally
understand.

And we're eternally grateful.

Mr Nicholson,
you've never forgotten us.

And as long as
there's a Spurs fan
drawing breath somewhere
in the world,
we will never forget you.

Ever.

TOTTENHAM
HOTSPUR
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Associazione Calcio Fiorentina



Founded: August 26, 1926 - after merger of local rivals Club Sportivo Firenze and Palestra Ginnastica Libertas.
Colours: Violet and white (since 1929; original colours red and white).
Cup-winners Cup: 1961
Italian chp: 1956, 1969
Italian cup: 1940, 1961, 1966, 1975, 1996, 2001
Stadium: Stadio Artemio Franchi (capacity 47,282)
Record league apps: Giancarlo Antognoni 341
Record league goals: Kurt Hamrin 151



Fiorentina have scaled the heights and plumbed the depths in the last three months. First they won the Italian Cup in June - the club's first major trophy in five years - but were then reported to be in financial trouble.

However the sale of Italy goalkeeper Francesco Toldo and Portugal playmaker Manuel Rui Costa has helped stave off the most dangerous consequences and Fiorentina are again looking to the future with confidence.

But owner and television magnate Vittorio Cecchi Gori has brought Fiorentina safely through a string of difficulties over the past decade and remains confident that this latest problem is already a thing of the past. Cecchi Gori once promised the fans that he would build "a legendary team," and that remains the aim.

Fiorentina have already had one legendary team - the side who won the 1955 Italian league championship losing only one game when the title was already theirs. Now they have both international and national ambitions after a lively campaign in the Champions League two seasons ago.

The Viola - so-called for their purple shirts - finished ninth in Serie A last season. Rui Costa and Italy striker Enrico Chiesa were their most consistently effective players. Chiesa scored 22 goals which placed him third in the overall goal-scoring charts behind Lazio's Hernan Crespo (26 goals) and Milan's Andriy Shevchenko (24).

Fiorentina finished in the top half despite a mixed-up spell in mid-season when Turkish coach Fatih Terim resigned - ahead of a move to Milan - and was succeeded by caretaker Roberto Mancini. The former Sampdoria, Lazio and - briefly - Leicester

City forward was rewarded for guiding Fiorentina to cup success with a contract extension.

The club have not sold all their big names. One of their most high-profile stars remains £5.5million Predrag Mijatovic who scored Real Madrid's winning goal against Juventus in the 1998 Champions League final.

Other, less spectacular signings, may be equally important to the Viola's progress. The veteran Juventus midfielder Angelo Di Livio may turn out to be one of the bargains of the last few seasons after costing a mere £1million.

Alessandro Pierini (£3.8million from Udinese) has made enormous progress in defence in partnership with the experienced Czech, Tomas Repka.

Fiorentina



The Coach

Roberto MANCINI. Aged 36 (born November 27, 1964). This is Mancini's first senior coaching appointment and came round sooner than anyone had expected. A former star forward with Bologna, Sampdoria, Lazio and - briefly last season - with Leicester City. Mancini retired a year ago to become assistant to Sven-Goran Eriksson at the Rome club. Was appointed caretaker at Fiorentina this past spring after Fatih Terim's sudden departure. Guided Fiorentina to cup success and earned a contract extension. Mancini began with Bologna and then became a symbol - along with Gianluca Vialli - of Sampdoria's golden era in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Scored four goals in 36 appearances for Italy between 1984 and 1993.

The Squad

Giuseppe TAGLIALATELA. Goalkeeper. Aged 32 (born January 2, 1969). Experienced keeper who joined Fiorentina after Napoli's relegation two years ago. Had spent eight seasons on and off with Napoli, going back to the club's great days of Diego Maradona in the late 1980s. Also played for Palermo, Avellino and Bari. Now has the chance at last, to step back out of the shadows following Toldo's departure.

Mattia PASSARINI. Goalkeeper. Aged 21 (born July 29, 1980). Signed two years ago from Chievo Verona.

Mario CASSANO. Goalkeeper. Aged 20 (born March 4, 1981). New signing from Vogera to compete with Passarini for the role as first deputy to Tagliatela.

Daniele ADANI. Defender. Aged 27 (born July 10, 1974). Previous clubs: Modena, Lazio and Brescia. Joined Fiorentina two years ago.

Alessandro PIERINI. Defender. Aged 28 (born March 22, 1973) with one cap (no goals) for Italy. Costly signing two years ago from Udinese who has established himself as one of the most reliable defenders in Serie A.



Tomas REPKA. Defender. Aged 27 (born January 2, 1974) with 44 caps (one goal) for the Czech Republic. One of the key players in the Czech Republic's progress to last year's European Championship finals where they were unlucky to be eliminated in the opening group. Made his name originally with Banik Ostrava from the

Pen Pix

mining town in the north of the Czech Republic then played for Sparta Prague for three seasons before joining Fiorentina in 1998. Repka missed out on Euro 96 - when the Czechs finished runners-up - because he was suspended for the first two games so coach Dusan Uhrin decided it was not worth him making the trip.



Paolo VANOLI. Defender. Aged 28 (born August 12, 1972). Born and brought up in Varese where he was discovered by the local club with whom he turned professional. Moved out of the third division into the second with Venezia then helped Verona up into Serie A in 1996. Spent two seasons as a versatile squad man with Parma and joined Fiorentina last year.

Andrea TAROZZI. Defender. Aged 27 (born October 17, 1973). Helped hometown club Bologna win promotion from third division to top in consecutive seasons from 1994-96 before joining Fiorentina four years ago. Struggled originally as a central defender before switching successfully to attacking wing-back.

Fiorentina



Moreno TORRICELLI. Defender. Aged 31 (born January 23, 1970), with 10 caps (no goals) for Italy. Rose to prominence with Juventus where he was initially considered a worthy successor to Italy sweeper Gaetano Scirea. Never quite made the grade in central defence and thus switched to attacking full-back or defensive midfield. In six seasons with Juve he won the league title three times as well as the Italian cup, supercup, European Champions Cup, European Supercup and World Club Cup. Joined Fiorentina in 1998.



Christian AMOROSO. Defender or midfielder. Aged 24 (born September 2,

1976). Fiorentina youth product. Spent one term out on loan to Empoli in 1996-97.

Emiliano MORETTI. Left-back. Aged 20 (born June 18, 1981). Newcomer to the senior squad last season. Signed in 1998 from third division Lodigiani.



Alessandro AGOSTINI. Defender. Aged 22 (born July 23, 1979). Born and brought up in the historic town of Vinci. Made his football name, however, with Ternana from whom Fiorentina have just signed him.

Sandro COIS. Midfielder. Aged 29 (born June 9, 1972) with three caps (no goals) for Italy. Fiorentina's midfield anchor man. Former Italy Under-21 international and Torino player. Joined Fiorentina in 1994 and has won the Italian cup with both his two professional clubs.

Fabio ROSSITTO. Midfielder. Aged 29 (born September 21, 1971). Experienced midfield worker whom Fiorentina signed from Napoli.

Angelo DI LIVIO. Midfielder. Aged 35 (born July 26, 1966), with 35 caps (no goals) for Italy. New arrival last year from Juventus with whom he won almost everything going despite never being considered one of the great superstars of the Turin club.

Played previously with Roma, Reggiana, Nocera, Perugia and Padova.

Mirko BENIN. Aged 23 (born June 6, 1978). Back at Fiorentina after three seasons out on loan with first Pistoiese and Ternana. Started with Varese.



Domenico MORFEO. Midfielder or forward. Aged 25 (born January 16, 1976). Former Under-21 international hoping to rebuild his reputation and prospects in his second spell with Fiorentina. Morfeo played 26 league games between 1997 and December 1998, came back and was then loaned out to Cagliari and Verona. Returned to HQ last year. Has also played for Atalanta and Milan.

LEANDRO Camara do Amaral. Forward. Aged 23 (born August 6, 1977). Brazilian youth international who joined Fiorentina last year from his only previous professional club, Portuguesa of Sao Paulo.



Fiorentina



Marco ROSSI. Midfielder. Aged 23 (born April 1, 1978). Joined Fiorentina last year from Salernitana. Played his first four seasons as a professional in Serie B with Lucchese. Has been a summer transfer target for promoted Torino.



Enrico CHIESA. Forward. Aged 30 (born December 29, 1970), with 17 caps (seven goals) for Italy. Made his name originally with Sampdoria and was considered one of Italy's outstanding new players when he

was promoted into the national squad for the controversial Euro 96 campaign. Later joined Parma, helping them win the UEFA Cup, before being lured away to Florence in 1999. Was third-highest league marksman last term with 22 goals. Totals 113 goals in 245 league games overall.

Ezequiel GONZALES. Midfielder or forward. Aged 21 (born July 10, 1980). New signing this summer from Argentine club Rosario Central.

Giorgios VAKOUFFIS. Forward. Aged 21 (born January 30, 1980). Greek youth international whom Fiorentina signed for next to nothing in 1998. Back after a spell on loan with Ravenna.



Predrag MIJATOVIC. Forward. Aged 32 (born January 19, 1969) with 43 caps (19 goals) for Yugoslavia. One of the outstanding attacking talents in European football. Mijatovic, sometimes called a "European Hugo Sanchez" made his name with Buducnost and Partizan but did not get the chance to play for his country until after transferring to Spain with Valencia in 1993. Johan Cruyff vetoed a proposed transfer to Barcelona so he joined Real Madrid instead and their judgment was

rewarded when he scored their winner in the 1998 Champions League Cup Final against Juventus in Amsterdam. Joined Fiorentina last year.



Nuno GOMES. Full name: Miguel Soares Pereira Ribeiro Gomes. Striker. Aged 25 (born July 5, 1976) with 22 caps (four goals) for Portugal. One of the major international revelations of the 2000 European Championship finals in Holland and Belgium. Nuno Gomes made his name with Boavista of Oporto and was bought by Benfica in 1997. In three seasons with the former European champions he scored 60 league goals and earned his place in the Euro 2000 squad. A surprise choice for Portugal's opening match against England in Eindhoven, he immediately justified his selection by scoring the winner in a 3-2 win. Nuno Gomes scored both Portugal's goals in their 2-0 quarter-final win over Turkey. He scored the opener in Portugal golden goal defeat by France in the semi-finals but was sent off - and subsequently banned for seven games - after the melee at the end.



Pen Pix

Bill created a grand footballing style

by David Buchler, Executive Vice - Chairman, THFC

That will be 2/6 said the taxi driver as I shared the cab from Manor House to White Hart Lane with three other people. Even though I was quite old - I would tell people I was 10 although I hadn't got into double figures yet - I felt I had made it at last. I was taking the taxi from Manor House to the ground instead of the bus, goodness knows where I had got the money from!

Match day was so full of excitement. As a little kid walking into the ground at the Park Lane end and enjoying the atmosphere build was what I dreamt of week in week out. Of course I always found my spot standing to the left of the goal in front of one of the barriers. I had learnt my lesson a long time ago not to stand behind the barrier, having been well and truly crushed when another goal was scored.

The players at the time were what made legends and their achievements were

superlative, but behind it all the name of one man stood out. The man that not only created, styled and guided the double winning team but the man that was at the helm of the Club during three different decades in the Club's history. He not only created that grand footballing style but was



primarily responsible for ensuring that the class and image with which the club is regarded even today, was the corner stone of his methodology and ideals.

These ideals which all true supporters relate to and which the Club somewhat lost during the last decade can be rekindled again in the decade to follow. In the meantime, this little kid would never have realised the importance of what was being created, he was only interested in the immediacy of the result. In hindsight however, the work of this man kindles the memories for our future and everybody associated with the club should be awed at the legacy that he has left for us in the past, present and also the future. This man of course is Bill Nicholson whose name is synonymous with the Club.

"No Comment" - Brian Scovell remembers!

In the early Sixties Fleet Street's finest loved press conferences with Bill Nic..... except that they started after 6 pm on a Saturday night and would go on for up to an hour outside in the car park!

There was no interview room in those days, unlike today's splendid lecture centre next to the plush Press working room. The hardest of journalists would still be pacing the car park, often in the rain, to wait for him. "You still here?" he used to say.

Someone asked a quick question and off he went. His opinions were brilliant and so honest. Too honest on occasions and we had to censure some of his more potent opinions. If he was asked a cheeky one like "are you going to buy Mel Charles?" he would reply: "No comment." He was the only manager I knew who said no comment. Too many of today's managers talk far too much.

Listening to him, we learned a great amount of footballing knowledge. He preached simplicity and he frowned on extravagance and show. He was a perfectionist which is why he nearly

produced a perfect team. He was ultra critical and he loved the beauty of the game. He could be scornful of those who fell short.

Ten years after his retirement Irving Scholar talked him into writing his life story "Glory, Glory, my life with Spurs" published by Macmillan in 1984.

Alan Samson, the publisher, asked Harry Harris and myself to write it. We spent many hours in his terraced house just around the corner in White Hart Lane, the house he first moved into before WW11. His wife Darkie used to bike to the nearby shop to bring in the sustenance to keep us going. I finished up writing most of the words and I would have liked to written more because he spoke so much sense.

It sold reasonably well and it should have been a best seller but he didn't go round the TV and radio studios to promote it. Nor did he want to attend signing sessions. I think he liked it but he never really said.

He was a man without any ego and his passion was classical football, not just

ordinary football. If it fell short, he soon made his views to his listeners.

His currency was heroes. He found them and treasured them and for a short space of time he made a football team which was the greatest of all time in these islands.

I still meet the Mackays, the Harmers and the Greaveses and they say the same thing, he was the best manager and the most honest person we ever met.

Every year I attend the London Coaches dinner at Highbury (ironically) and he is usually on the top table. He gets the biggest reception and I think it is time that my colleagues of the Football Writers Association should honour him by inviting him as the chief guest at their Ladies Night at the Savoy, along with that wonderful lady, Darkie. She made him what he is.

• Daily Mail journalist Brian Scovell co-wrote Bill's Book 'Glory, Glory, My Life with Spurs'.

Even a staff match mattered to Bill!

I once played in a side instantly described by Bill Nicholson as the worst he had ever seen in a Spurs kit! Indeed so ashamed was the great man that he half-threatened to leave the White Hart Lane dug out and go home!

Bill was well into his retirement at the time but had been persuaded by club secretary Peter Day to manage a motley crew of backroom staff for a friendly here at the Lane. On reflection, Bill's presence was really meant to be a cameo one and we didn't expect him to get too involved but he was never a man to do things by halves!

As we collapsed in the dressing room at half-time, Bill pointed out that we were useless. He had seen the famous white shirt worn at all ages and levels but never anything as pathetic as this.

"You can't play, you can't run and most of you can't even kick a ball," he muttered as he reflected on the fact that most of us had concentrated on just booting the ball out of play for a rest!

And then he actually set about devising a formula that might suit us! We thought he

was having a laugh but Bill was deadly serious. If you pull on a Spurs shirt, you do it with pride and you do it to win. That was his motto...as we quickly found out!

I was actually in the shower when Bill sent an envoy to find me. I had played the first half at centre-half, my regular position in my Sunday morning days, and had agreed beforehand to share a game with a colleague from the Ticket Office.

But Bill's scheme needed a big lad up front as we opted for the direct route. "Where's that big lump Scoop," he demanded. Back on the sidelines he told me to warm up and then laid into me as I did a few pathetic stretches. I'm cleaning up his shouted instructions to avoid the censor!

'Sprint to the corner flag, man' he bellowed at me as I faced up to a prospect that I often managed to avoid throughout an entire game! In addition I preferred to retain what little energy I had for the 90 minutes! However, I did set off for the corner, much to the merriment of the assembled wasters on the lower tier who couldn't even get into this side, and I stayed there out of Bill's way until summoned for my re-appearance.

In the end, we got stuffed - and Bill went home. I know that much of what had gone on before was tongue-in cheek and Bill was enjoying himself as he spluttered in mock amazement at some of our antics. But, at the back of it all, he had even wanted to win that game and that's the measure of the man. If you are going to do something in football, even at the lowest level, then do it properly and do it well.

And if it concerns Tottenham Hotspur, then it matters. It matters beyond belief. That is Bill's maxim and it has stood him in good stead over some of the best years this club has known.

We're all looking forward to a good evening tonight and Bill will be in the company of many familiar faces from his illustrious past. But he will also want his beloved Spurs to win. That inner driving force is as strong as ever.

God bless you Bill. And thanks.

• By John Fennelly, the club's Press Officer and editor.

Special tribute by the Tottenham Trust

This evening we pay tribute to the greatest figure in the history of the greatest football club on earth. We come to remember his extraordinary achievements and the glorious legacy that they have created.

No supporter of Tottenham Hotspur can forget the role that Bill Nicholson has played in making the club what it is. Through his wisdom, strength of mind and determination, a football philosophy was born. Even now the Tottenham Way is something which every Spurs supporter understands and looks for in how our teams play.

We know that there is a certain way of doing things at a football club, it was Bill Nick that taught us. It is not enough to win; it has to be done with style. At Spurs it is

about the glory game. Bill Nick understood this and even now we would not have it any other way.

Loyalty is no longer a concept that football seems to understand. It is a word used and abused on a daily basis. But for Bill Nick there is no other word. He loves the club and has stuck with us through thick and thin. For him it is Tottenham Hotspur above all else. That is why so many millions of Spurs fans around the world have such deep respect for him and such love.

Bill Nicholson OBE, for all that you have done for Tottenham Hotspur we thank you. We are privileged to call you one of our own.

COME ON YOU SPURS



Tribute

Dave Mackay

Bill was a marvellous manager - one of the top five in the game over the past 50 years, as far as I am concerned.

He was absolutely straightforward and when he said something he meant it - he would never go back on his word. He was 100 per cent genuine in that respect.

When he signed me in 1959, Spurs were struggling at the bottom of the table and in danger of relegation with eight games to go. He also signed players such as Bill Brown and John White, and we stayed up by not losing any of them, then finished in the top three the following season. The next year was history - the double, and all the glory that went with it.

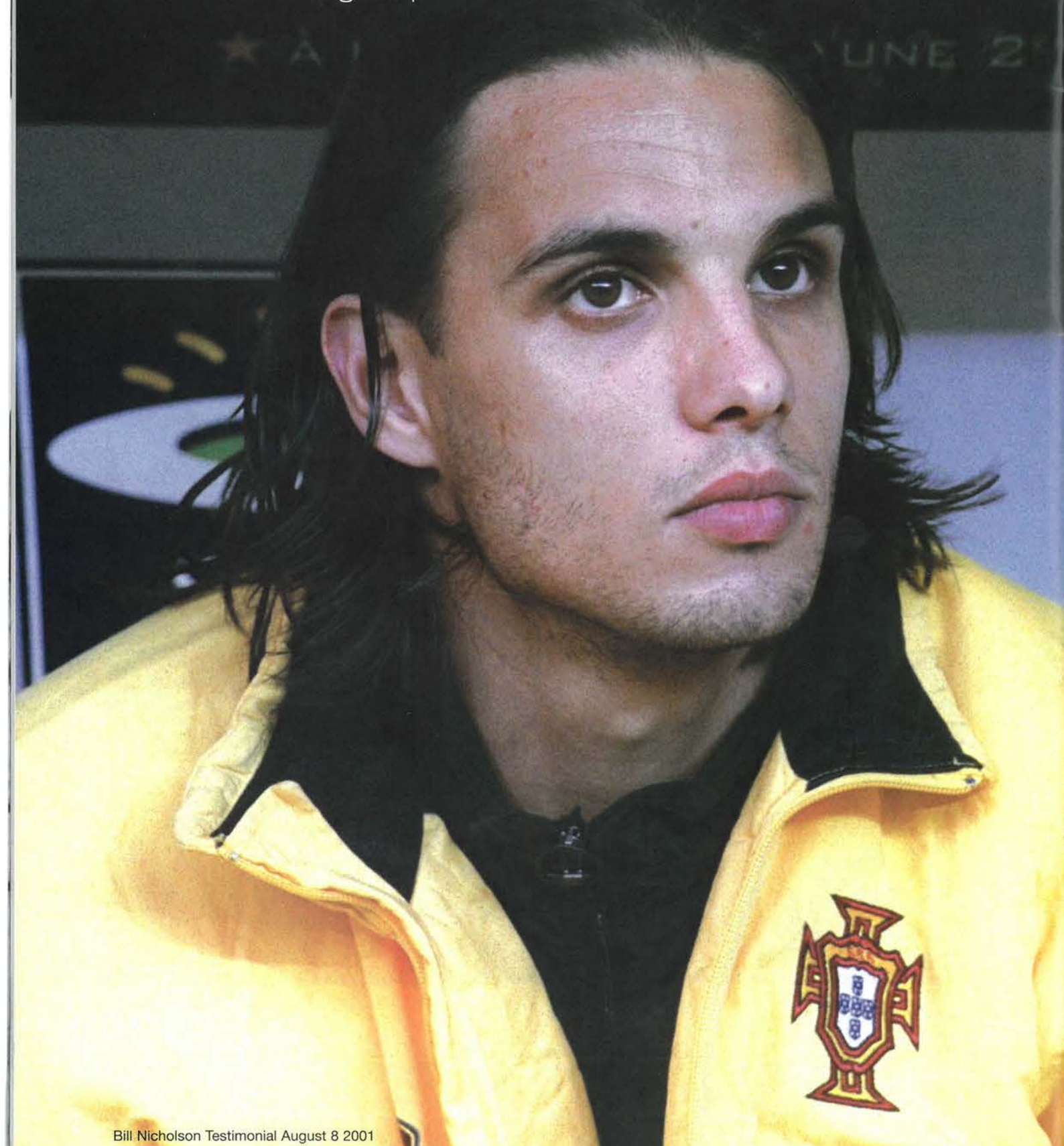
Bill made that team in a short space of time with a handful of shrewd signings. He was an excellent coach with great tactical knowledge.

But I didn't try to copy his style when I went into management - I took one or two things I learned under Bill, but you cannot copy the masters - Bill, Busby, Clough, Ferguson - they are inimitable.

I'm delighted Bill is getting this testimonial because he thoroughly deserves it.



It's kisses all the way for
Fiorentina star Nuno Gomes,
as Keir Radnedge reports.



Nuno Gomes

NUNO GOMES remains one of the key men at Fiorentina as the Italian giants build for the future.

His role with the club is even more important than it was when he was bought for £12million from Benfica of Lisbon a year ago, just after the European Championship finals.

from Luis Figo and Joao Pinto and how Nuno Gomes then outwitted Tony Adams and Sol Campbell to drive the second-half winner past David Seaman.

He nearly did not make the line-up. Coach Humberto Coelho had apparently been juggling, in his mind, between playing a second striker alongside Joao Pinto or

club, Fiorentina, since it meant he had all his time clear to concentrate on adjusting to the Italian league.

It was a tough struggle. Italian league defenders allowed Gomes none of the freedom of action to which he had been accustomed in Portugal. He tallied only nine goals but did, at least, manage the decisive away strike which earned Fiorentina their 2-1 aggregate victory over Parma in the Italian cup final.

One season, one trophy. A promising start. Nuno Gomes has promised to keep the average going.

The task of replacing Roma-bound Gabriel Batistuta was a major challenge for Gomes who had been born in the northern Portuguese city of Oporto on July 5, 1976.

A teenage star in the youth sections of Boavista, he graduated quickly to the national junior squad and even played and scored a goal at the 1996 Olympic Games finals in Atlanta.

Boavista knew they would not hold him long but they enjoyed his goals while they could. He proved an ideal partner in attack for Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink and it was while with Boavista that Nuno Gomes met and married wife Laura - starting the habit of kissing his wedding ring to celebrate each successive goal.

That is adding up to a lot of kisses.

In three seasons with Boavista Nuno Gomes scored 60 league goals and won the Portuguese cup. Inevitably the Big Three of Portuguese football - Benfica, Porto and Sporting - all came calling and he signed in due course for Benfica.

Another 60 goals followed in the next three seasons for the Eagles of Lisbon and secured a place for Gomes in the Portugal squad bound for Holland and Belgium and Euro 2000.

Portugal will remember their opening 3-2 win over England in Eindhoven for years. How they hit back from 2-0 with strikes

taking the more defensive and pragmatic option of strengthening midfield with Lazio's Flavio Conceicao. Humberto gambled on his old attacking instincts and was magnificently rewarded. Gomes struck two more goals in the quarter-final victory over Turkey then the opening strike in the dramatic semi-final defeat by France.

That was also the last the international game saw of Gomes for the rest of the year since he lost his temper after the award of the extra-time penalty which handed Zinedine Zidane the chance to fire France's golden goal winner. Gomes threw off the shackles of cramp to shove his way into a confrontation with the officials and thrust his shirt at referee Gunther Benko.

The result? Not merely tarnished defeat for Portugal but a red card and subsequent seven-game international ban. The only people who gained were officials of his new



1960-61

Club Historian Andy Porter looks back on Bill's greatest moment - the illustrious 'Double'.



Bill Nicholson managed our team to new heights during season 1960-61, breaking numerous records on the way. Here is how the campaign developed.

The run-up to the start of season 1960-61 saw several scribes doubt that Spurs could go all the way. It was pointed out that the previous year had seen 78 goals scored in the first 30 matches but only 28 in the last 16. Another, having viewed a private trial match, opined that their big weakness was that they couldn't shoot!

Terry Medwin and John White were welcomed back, the former after a bout of tonsillitis and the Scotsman following his National Service with the Army.

We opened the season with a 2-0 home win over Everton, courtesy of goals in the last five minutes from Les Allen and Bobby Smith and followed that up with a Monday night win at Blackpool. Terry Dyson put us one up, the home side squandered a penalty award, Terry Medwin added a

second before the break and Dyson notched his second soon after the interval. Jackie Mudie replied for the home side to give a 3-1 scoreline.

Across Lancashire to Blackburn on the second Saturday of the season and a resounding 4-1 scoreline. Three goals in 17 minutes through Smith (2) and Allen with Dyson adding our fourth early in the second half. Derek Dougan notched a last minute consolation for Rovers. We ended August with the return fixture against Blackpool, another 3-1 victory with Smith smashing in a hat-trick. His first goal, after four minutes, broke the club scoring record of 137 goals held by George Hunt since the Thirties.

September 3 saw Manchester United defeated 4-1 here with Allen and Smith sharing the honours with two apiece. Seventeen-year-old centre forward Frank Saul came in for Smith in the 2-1 win at Bolton. Billy McAdams gave the home side a third minute lead but goals in the last half

an hour from Allen and John White secured our sixth straight win. Saul netted in our 3-2 win at Highbury to become our youngest ever League goalscorer with Dyson and Allen also finding the net.

A disputed penalty in the return game with Bolton who again took an early lead. Smith levelled before the break and Danny Blanchflower slotted home the spot kick after Dyson had tumbled in the penalty area. Smith added his second of the evening for a 3-1 scoreline. We equalled Hull City's 1948 record of nine straight victories from the start of a season with a 2-1 win at Filbert Street, Smith netting both of our goals.

Resounding wins over Aston Villa and Wolves took our record start to 11 wins. Two early goals from White were supplemented by Smith and Dyson strikes before the break. Allen and Dave Mackay made it 6-2 in the second half. Two goals in each half secured a 4-0 win at Molineux. Jones and Blanchflower before the interval and Allen and Dyson after.

Eight players had taken part in all 11 games, namely Bill Brown, Peter Baker, Ron Henry, Blanchflower, Maurice Norman, White, Allen and Dyson. Each participant was presented with a silver salver to commemorate the record run.

The sequence came to an end with a 1-1 home draw against Manchester City on Monday, October 10, the match having been put back 48 hours to accommodate international call-ups. Newly capped Bobby Smith putting us ahead on 27 minutes only for Clive Colbridge to level matters three minutes into the second half.

Our unbeaten run continued with October victories at Nottingham Forest and Newcastle and November started with home wins against Cardiff and Fulham. Nearest challengers, Sheffield Wednesday,

were the first to lower our colours with a 2-1 win at Hillsborough on November 12 before we embarked on another impressive run to the end of the calendar year with seven wins and a draw. A 4-4 scoreline with Burnley on December 3 saw us drop our only home point to date.

The new year kicked off with FA Cup action against Charlton, seen off with a 3-2 scoreline. The Monday lunchtime draw for round four brought groans from Crewe at the 960-1 chance of meeting us again within a year of their 13-2 defeat here. League action saw a 0-2 reverse at Old Trafford and a 4-2 home win over Arsenal before the 5-1 cup win over luckless Crewe. A possible visit to Aston Villa in round five was reckoned to be the death knell for any hopes of the double, according to one writer, reminding all of our three semi final defeats there.

There was talk in the newspapers of how much extra income could be generated by domestic and European success. The League title was reportedly worth an additional £40,000, the FA Cup £30,000 and a successful European Cup campaign rated at £60,000.

Our form did stutter during February and March with Leicester becoming the first team to win at White Hart Lane on February 4. An event off the pitch aroused public interest a few days later when

Danny Blanchflower refused to appear on the television show This is Your Life. The BBC reckoned to have spent £1,000 on getting together his relatives plus a busy Bill Nicholson only for the Irishman to become the live programme's first refusal in almost six years on air.

Successive visits to Villa Park saw a 2-1 league win and 2-0 in the cup to set up a last eight meeting at Sunderland. A tough 1-1 draw at Roker Park was soon forgotten when the second division side were dispatched 5-0 here in the sixth round replay. The semi final versus Burnley, again at Villa Park, was staged on March 18, the 3-0 win giving a seven week break until the final.

Easter success against Chelsea, twice, and Preston put us back on track after just one win in five league outings. The league title was secured with a fifth successive win. A 2-1 midweek victory over Sheffield Wednesday on April 17, with three matches still remaining. Allen netted the decisive goal. After the final home game, against West Bromwich Albion on April 29, the League Championship trophy was presented to skipper Blanchflower by Football League president Joe Richards. A week later our first ever visit to Wembley Stadium resulted in a 2-0 win over Leicester to complete the first league and cup double of the 20th century. Both goals came in the final 20 minutes; Smith

thumping home after Allen and Dyson had created the opportunity; and seven minutes later Smith setting up Dyson to head home.

Records, at the time, set by Bill Nicholson's side during that momentous campaign include the following:

Watched by 2,054,306 during their 42 League games, and by 474,011 in the seven FA Cup ties, more than had ever watched any club

Equalled the League record of 66 points gained

Recorded 31 wins and 16 away wins, the most in First Division history

Equalled the First Division record of 33 away points gained

Used only 17 players, fewer than any previous League championship winning club

Equalled the record of any championship winning side by taking maximum points from 11 clubs

Most consecutive wins (11) from the start of a League season

Reached 50 points in 29 games, faster than any previous club

Scored most League goals in the Club's history (115)

First club to win the double in a 22 team league and entering FA Cup in last 64

League record							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Home	21	15	3	3	65	28	33
Away	21	16	1	4	50	27	33
Total	42	31	4	7	115	55	66

The 1960-61 squad League appearances (goals) followed by FA Cup details: Les Allen 42 (23), 7 (4), Peter Baker 41 (1), 7, Ken Barton 1, Danny Blanchflower 42 (6), 7, Bill Brown 41, 7, Terry Dyson 40 (12), 7 (5), Ron Henry 42, 7, John Hollowbread 1, Cliff Jones 29 (15), 6 (4), Dave Mackay 37 (4), 7 (2), Tony Marchi 6, Terry Medwin 14 (5), 1, Maurice Norman 41 (4), 7, Frank Saul 6 (3), John Smith 1, Bobby Smith 36 (28), 7 (5), John White 42 (13), 7, one own goal.



May's re-union at the 'Double Dinner'

A Knighthood for Bill Nicholson



Picture the scene if you will. The date is March 16, 1936, and a young man arrives at the gates of White Hart Lane, having received a letter of invitation from the club. He is given a month's trial, and is taken on as a ground staff boy. Nothing spectacular about that, I hear you say. Until you discover that this particular 16-year-old went by the name of William Edward Nicholson.

No one - particularly young Bill himself - could have known just what an impact he would have upon the club. How could he have known then that his name would become synonymous with the name Tottenham Hotspur? That he would lead the club to its most glorious successes? That he would become part of the very fabric of the club? That he would become a living legend? He couldn't, of course. No one could.

But that's what happened.

Bill's achievements are the stuff of legend at the Lane. He was a key member of Arthur Rowe's legendary "push and run" team that won the championship in 1951. He was the first manager to lead a team to the double in the modern era. The first manager to bring back a European trophy to this country. A trophy list almost as long as Tottenham High Road. All this was achieved with a modesty, dignity and humility that is alien to many managers of today.

Bill has now been at the Lane for over 65 years. Just stop and think about that for a

minute. Sixty-five years. That's a lifetime for some people. Bill has given his heart, his soul, his everything for the club he loves. No man has given more to Tottenham Hotspur Football Club. In fact, no man has given more to any football club on these shores. His service to British football - and Tottenham Hotspur in particular - has been immense. His brand of attractive, attacking football revolutionised the modern game.

Despite all his achievements, Mr Nicholson has not received the recognition he deserves from the nation. Many of his peers have received the honour of a knighthood, including Sir Stanley Matthews, Sir Tom Finney and Sir Bobby Charlton. They are all great men who fully deserve their honours. But frankly, it's a bit



of a mystery why Bill has not been similarly honoured.

The Knight Bill Nick campaign was started at the turn of the year with the express purpose of correcting this oversight. Our main weapon is a petition with the names of approximately 2,000 Tottenham fans, which will soon be handed over to the government. We are very grateful to the club, who have given the campaign their full support.

The Royal Family's official website states that in the modern era, the knighthood is 'a form of recognition for significant contributions to national life'. We think it's clear Mr Nicholson fits that criterion. And then some.

Have a great evening Bill. You're a legend.

Harry Hotspur
(Knight Bill Nick campaign)

Mascots

Tonight's mascots are:
Ryan Anderson (4), Shaunagh Anderson (10), Joe Clark (10), Ciara Dean (6), Kane Dean (5), Jamie Denning (7 on 8/8/01), Rhiannon Durban (10), Hannah Ellaway (3), Joshua Hall (9), Samuel Hunt (5), Robert Jones (6), Sam Jones (9), Jack Morris (10), Jaymey Nicholson (3), Callum O'Reilly (3), Daniel Pratt (12), Lewis Ryan (9), Sonny Ryan (6), Adam Smith (9), Corinne Standingford (13), Paige Standingford (9), Chris Sutton (8), Ben Varma (7) Frankie Ward (13).

Bill's scrapbook



Manager: Glenn Hoddle
White shirts, Navy shorts, Navy socks



Coach: Roberto Mancini
Purple shirts, Purple shorts, Purple socks



Neil Sullivan
Stephen Carr
Mauricio Taricco
Steffen Freund
Goran Bunjevcevic
Chris Perry
Darren Anderton
Tim Sherwood
Les Ferdinand
Teddy Sheringham
Sergei Rebrov
Gary Doherty
Gustavo Poyet
Willem Korsten
Steffen Iversen
Oyvind Leonhardsen
Ben Thatcher
Chris Armstrong
Christian Ziege
Stephen Clemence
Ledley King
Steven Ferguson
Matthew Etherington
Simon Davies
Anthony Gardner
Alton Thelwell
Gavin Kelly
Ciaran Toner
John Jackson
Yannick Kamanan
Ian Hillier
John Piercy
Maurizio Consorti

Giuseppe Tagliatela
Mattia Passarini
Mario Cassano
Daniele Adani
Alessandro Pierini
Tomas Repka
Paolo Vanoli
Andrea Tarozzi
Moreno Torricelli
Christian Amoroso
Emiliano Moretti
Alessandro Agostini
Sandro Cois
Fabio Rossitto
Angelo Di Livio
Mirko Benin
Domenico Morfeo
Marco Rossi
Ezequiel Gonzales
Giorgios Vakouftis
Enrico Chiesa
Predrag Mijatovic
Leandro
Nuno Gomes

Officials: Referee - Mr. P. Jones, Assistant Referees - Mr. T. Kettle (Yellow Flag), Mr. R. Gould (Quartered Flag), Fourth Official - Mr. P. Vosper

Programme compiled and edited by John Fennelly. Designed by Joel Nisbet (shoot the moon).
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PROG. BILL NICHOLSON T



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