

The Hull City Story

Already there is a solid record of achievement. In the normal course of events one would hardly expect a Third Division team to reach the sixth round of the Cup, yet Hull are here today, having beaten First Division Nottingham Forest, and Southampton, high in the Second, on the way.

In the "promotion stakes" they are well ahead of the third placed club, Queen's Park Rangers, and it will need a remarkable collapse for them not to be playing in Division II next August.

Their last 12 fixtures (League and Cup) have produced 11 wins. The exception was a 3-3 draw at Q.P.R. in the League.

Manager Cliff Britton went to Hull in 1961, after spells with Burnley, Everton and Preston North End. There were only ten professionals on the staff when he arrived.

How successfully he has met the challenge can be seen in the club's record. Of course, it helps in the Third Division if you have the money to buy the players you need.

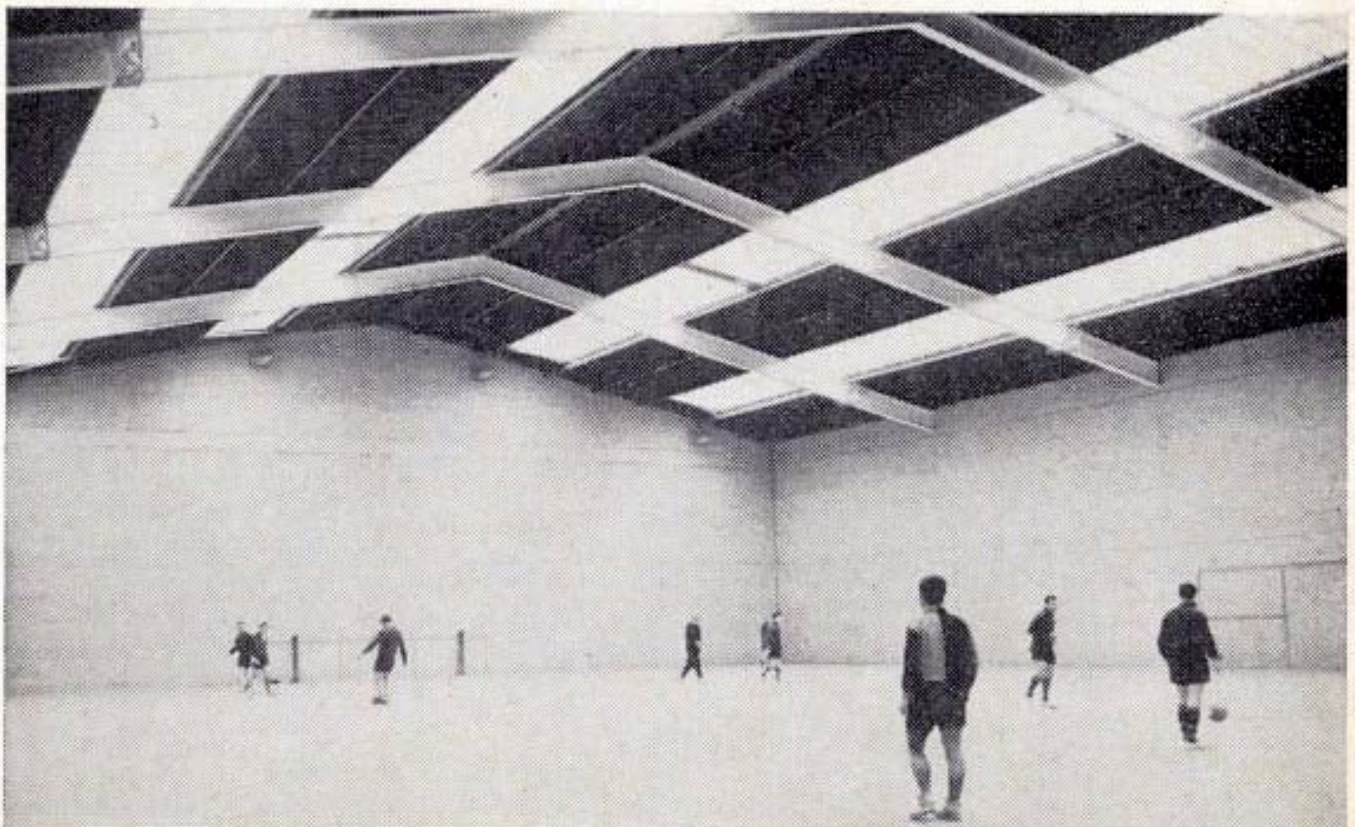
For one of the players he wanted, Mr. Britton came to Stamford Bridge in June 1963 and signed Dennis Butler, so it will be something of a "special mission" on which this young full-back returns here today.

Hull's other main buys, Wagstaff, Ian Butler and Houghton, have proved so successful that the club have scored more goals this season than any other in the Football League.

Hop on a Train

A lot of the money has gone into buying the best facilities, too. For instance, if you are in the town and want to see Hull City play, all you do is hop on a train, and alight at their own railway station. Turnstiles lead from the platform direct into the ground.

Inside, there is cover for 30,000 spectators, 10,000 of them seated. Hull's concern for the customer is evident from the fact that they used to be able to accommodate 50,000 fans, but with the structural improvements of recent years this has been reduced to 40,000.



Hard at practice in the magnificent indoor training arena.