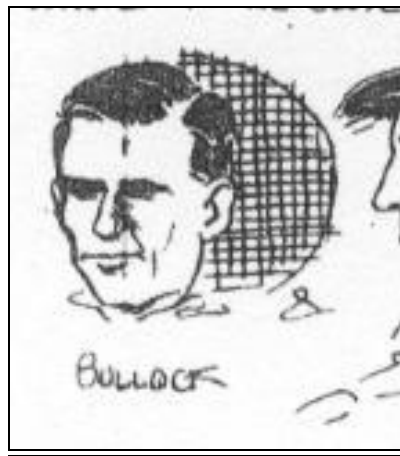


Runcorn FC

(“The Linnets”)

1924-6

From the Staffordshire Sentinel



Caricature from the Runcorn Weekly News 1925

Eli Bullock joined Runcorn FC from Macclesfield in the close season of 1924

Saturday October 4th 1924

Mossley 1 Runcorn 1

Saturday October 11th 1924

Ellesmere Port Town 1 Runcorn 0

...Bullock sent in a weak shot...Bullock's shot was intercepted...Talbot was compelled to go down on his knees to save from Bullock

Saturday October 18th 1924

Runcorn 3 Crewe Alex 0

Runcorn: Peet, Coleman, Kane, Strong, Spencer, Parkington, Farrington, Bullock, McGivney, Smith, Benyon

...McGivney netted in the opening minute...Bullock showed a clever turn of speed when he intercepted a centre from Farrington and banged in a shot which sailed just over the bar...McGivney and Bullock tried shots...

Saturday November 1st 1924

Crewe Alex 4 Runcorn 1

...Bullock and McGivney missed glorious chances of opening the score for the visitors...Bullock scored for Runcorn

Runcorn's achievement over Manchester North End has enabled them to raise themselves from the base of the table to 6th. The combination of the team is gradually perfecting itself, though there is much to be done in improving their shooting...Bullock, who hails from Stoke, was the pick of the home front rank

Saturday November 8th 1924

Runcorn 0 Port Vale 2

...Bullock tried a shot which Brown cleverly intercepted...At the end of the game the referee had to be escorted from the ground to his dressing room by the police...

The Canal Street spectators showed much displeasure at the ruling of the game on the occasion of the visit of Port Vale. The local club regarded this game as one of their most attractive fixtures... but early on the referee's decisions were the subject of much criticism by the onlookers...(second half)...dissension arose all round the arena and the referee, Mr H.Hulme of Farnworth, Bolton, was escorted to his rooms by officials and police... The Runcorn committee and Supporters' Club showed tact and discretion in handling a very delicate situation. The game developed into a fierce order...

(goals to date: McGivney 3, Bullock 3)

Saturday November 15th 1924

Runcorn 2 Tranmere 0

...Bullock proved to be the pick of the forwards and repeatedly troubled the defence...McGivney scored two in the second half

Saturday November 22nd 1924

Runcorn 5 Mossley 0

...Bullock scored for Runcorn and added a second a few minutes later... Bullock and McGivney showed a better understanding...

Saturday November 29th 1924

Runcorn 3 Congleton 0

...Runcorn at once attacked as Gee saved from a shot from Bullock...

Saturday December 6th 1924

Witton Albion 3 Runcorn 3

Saturday December 13th 1924

Runcorn 4 Whitchurch 1

...Bullock netted but was adjudged offside...McGivney, Bennion (sic) and Bullock scored in the second half... (they) are showing capable understanding... (goals: McGivney 11, Smith 7, Bullock 6)

Saturday December 20th 1924

Cheshire Senior Cup: **Runcorn 3 Hoylake 0**

...Hall cleared smartly from Bullock...

Friday December 26th 1924

Runcorn 4 Altrincham 0

Saturday January 3rd 1925

Runcorn picked up three points from their Christmas programme, drawing 2-2 at Ellesmere in a "sea of mud" and defeating Altrincham 4-0

Sat January 10th 1924 (illegible)

Saturday January 17th 1925

Runcorn 2 Ellesmere Port Cement 1

Saturday January 24th 1925

(Cheshire Senior Cup)

Runcorn 2 Lynotype 0

Saturday January 31st 1925

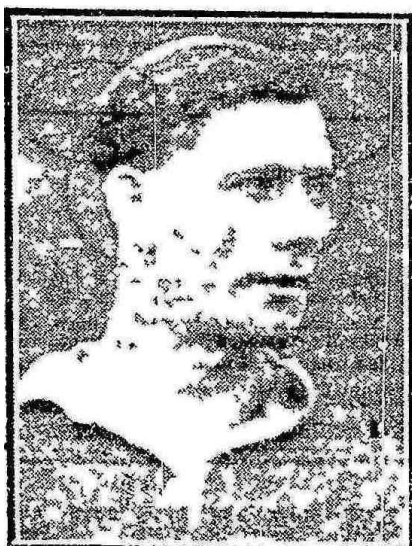
Runcorn defeated Nantwich 4-2... Bullock, who hails from Stoke, was a very clever forward, and the first goal was due to his initiative. He forced Nancollis to concede a corner, which resulted in Smith scoring...

Saturday February 7th 1925

...Runcorn's fall at Middlewich was a "stunner" to the local followers...The game was marred by a torrential downpour and was fought out on a waterlogged ground

Saturday February 14th 1925

...Runcorn, by their brilliant win over Stockport County, enter the semi final stages for the trophy (Cheshire Senior Cup)...Runcorn had not given confidence by their display at Middlewich the previous week...the turf was on the heavy side...Runcorn adapted themselves and ere the game was thirteen minutes old Bullock had registered a clever goal...Runcorn played superior football and were full value for their two goal victory, McGivney and Bullock again the scorers...Eli Bullock, who hails from Stoke, is playing brilliant football with the Runcorn Cheshire County League team. He formerly assisted Macclesfield and is now second in the list of goal scorers in cup and league games his total reaches ten. Last Saturday he had one of his best games with Runcorn. Bullock also played for Exeter City in the Third Division.



E BULLOCK (Runcorn)



Runcorn FC winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup 1925

(Feb 21st League Table Runcorn 14th of 22 teams)

Saturday February 21st 1925

Manchester North End 6 Runcorn 0

Saturday February 28th 1925

Lost to Sandbach Ramblers

Saturday March 7th 1925

Tranmere 4 Runcorn 0

Saturday March 14th 1925

Runcorn v Middlewich

...Towards the close of the first half the lead was secured through Bullock

March 14th ? 1925

Cheshire Senior Cup semi final v Sandbach, played at Witton

...Bullock has been chosen for the outside right berth and will have McGivney as inside man

REPORT:

Runcorn's success in the semi final... was well merited... For the occasion, the "Linnets" tried the experiment of playing Bullock at inside right and the venture proved to be a success (2-0)... Runcorn now play Crewe in the final... for this engagement, on the fourth of April, the "Linnets" are assured of a great following

Saturday March 28th 1925

Stalybridge were defeated by Runcorn... Bullock was not so good as Benyon, but the Stoke on Trent exponent is perfecting himself in his new station... Bullock has given satisfaction in his new place.

Staffordshire Sentinel Wednesday 8th April 1925 (early edition)

Cheshire Senior Cup Final Replay: Crewe Alexandra v Runcorn

There was a record attendance at Chester this afternoon when Crewe Alexandra met Runcorn in the replay of the Cheshire Senior Cup Final. While Crewe have already won this title well over a dozen times, this is the first appearance of Runcorn in the final and their supporters turned up in thousands. Long before the start the ground was filling, chiefly with Runcorn's supporters. Crewe were, however, strongly represented.



... The Runcorn AFC team which won the Cheshire Senior Cup in 1925 (for the first time) by defeating Crewe Alexandra Reserves by a goal to nil at Chester after a one all draw at Northwich ground.

Left to right (back) C. Bradbury, trainer, J. Berry, T. Coleman, J. Peet, R. Done, J. Kane, J. Bazley, secretary, A. Richardson, trainer. (front) J. Hanson, E. Bullock, J. McGivney, R. Spencer (capt), A. Smith, J. Benyon, The



CHESHIRE CUP FINAL.—AN INCIDENT IN THE PLAY AND A GROUP OF RUNCORN SUPPORTERS.

Runcorn supporters decked out with “cauliflower buttonholes” (green and white)

Crewe Alexandra: Occleshaw (goal); Carruthers and Wooton (backs), Steel, Jones, Hardy (half backs), Caulfield, Purcell, J.Jones, Owen and Edwards (forwards)

Runcorn: Peat (goal); Coleman and Evans (backs), Done, Spencer capt.), Cairn (half backs), Hanson, BULLOCK, McGivney, Vavasour and Smith (forwards)

From the kick off Runcorn took hold of the game and endeavoured to rush the Crewe backs. They at once launched an attack on goal and succeeded in finding themselves in the goalmouth, but the inside men missed a good chance, the ball going wide. They, however, persisted in their efforts although they were without method.

McGivney was prominent although his rushing lacked science. Crewe on the other hand were striving to play good football, but the harassing tactics of the Runcorn backs quite put them off their game. One of the best openings of this half was given to McGivney, a blunder on the part of one of the Crewe backs giving the Runcorn centre forward a clear passage into the goalmouth, but the ball was cleared.

Play veered from end to end but neither side was dangerous in front of goal. A goal was expected when BULLOCK, McGivney and Vavasour went away together, but the Crewe backs cleared smartly.

(HALF TIME Crewe 0 Runcorn 0 - Report ends here)

Saturday April 11th 1925

At the second time of asking, at Northwich, Runcorn managed in their ambition by annexing the Cheshire Senior Cup...they had the misfortune to lose Benyon at Chester...fine weather...record attendance...Bullock and McGivney have been versatile performers. On arrival from Chester, the train was given a warm reception by some hundreds of spectators who awaited their return

Saturday April 18th 1925

The glory of Runcorn's Cheshire Senior Cup success has been dimmed by their exhibition during the holidays. Runcorn on Friday failed at Chester and the following day against Winsford did little better...On Saturday there was a splendid gate...the

game ended 2-2, Bullock scored both home points. On Monday against Altrincham they lost 5-1
Sat April 25th lost v Ellesmere Port
Sat May 2nd and May 9th illegible



Eli Bullock won many trophies and medals in his career, including the Cheshire Senior Cup medal (above) – some solid gold – but they were pawned in the “hungry thirties” and never recovered. It is thought that they were bought by the Emery family of Stoke on Trent (Builders and Builders’ merchants of Cliffe Vale, Stoke on Trent)

1925-26 Season

Saturday September 12th 1925

Runcorn 1 Middlewich 0

...Latham was called upon to make saves from McGivney, Bullock and Smith...Bullock scored for Runcorn after a quarter of an hour...the artists of the front rank were Valentine and Bullock. The latter player, who hails from Stoke, was in a merry mood and netted twice (score must be wrong then!)

Saturday September 26th 1925

Tranmere Rovers v Runcorn

During the first half Runcorn had the misfortune to lose the services of Eli Bullock... Bullock was reported to have broken a leg. The player was transported to Birkenhead Hospital and there he was detained...as a result of the x-ray examination it was discovered that he was not so bad as first reported and that the bone was not broken, but had become displaced from an old fracture and that after a rest he would be alright again. Bullock, whose home is in Stoke, has had much experience of the game and has played with Exeter City and Macclesfield before joining Runcorn. He turned up at Runcorn during the progress of the Whitchurch game and has since declared himself fit. The committee has placed him in the team for today's match at Nantwich
Nantwich 3 Runcorn 0

Saturday October 3rd 1925

Whitchurch 2 Runcorn 0

...The surprise of Saturday's team was the appearance of Bullock who played sterling football

Saturday October 10th 1925

Winsford 5 Runcorn 2

...In raids by Runcorn Valentine and Bullock were prominent...Bullock does not seem to be suffering effects of his knock at Tranmere and he has played with satisfaction against Nantwich and Whitchurch...Bullock seemed to be out of place...

Saturday October 17th 1925

Nantwich 3 Runcorn 2

...Runcorn awakened and Bullock and Harrison scored in quick succession

Saturday October 24th 1925

Runcorn 3 Chester 1

...today at Chester, Bullock will have a trial at centre-half, and it is to be hoped that the long looked-for improvement will exhibit itself. The ex-Exeter City player, who resides in Stoke, is one of the "heady" members of the eleven and it is believed that this is all that is required to give the forwards the opportunity to shoot

Saturday October 31st 1925

Port Vale 5 Runcorn 0

...Bullock tried to score for Runcorn, but his shot went wide...the suggestion of playing Bullock at centre-half failed to materialise, for Smith was unable to play

Saturday November 7th 1925

Runcorn 0 Hurst 4

Saturday November 14th 1925

Runcorn 1 Crewe Alex. 0

...Scott saved from Bullock in great style from point blank range...Bullock has been stood down

Saturday November 21st 1925

Runcorn 3 Sandbach 1

Saturday November 28th 1925

Runcorn 2 Ashton 1

...after five minutes Bullock broke away and centred for Smith to score

Saturday December 5th 1925

Altrincham 8 Runcorn 2 (HT 7-1)

...Houghton and Bullock were prominent on the Runcorn right

Saturday December 12th 1925

Runcorn 2 Crewe Alex. 1

Sat Dec 26th 1925

Runcorn lost to Stalybridge Cheshire Senior Cup

Northwich 3 Runcorn 1

...Bullock put the ball behind...

Saturday January 2nd 1926

Runcorn 2 Port Vale 1

Runcorn: Peet, Done, Evans, Morris, Spencer, Kane, Bullock, Clarke, Bell, Smith, Young

...Runcorn...were the better team and Bullock was giving Clarke every opportunity

NOTES: The committee removed Bullock to his old position of centre-forward (v Manchester North End): Bullock crashed in a shot which struck the upright with the keeper beaten...the appearance of Bullock at centre-forward has improved the attack. Eli Bullock, who hails from Staffordshire, has played with Macclesfield and Third Division Clubs, took Houghton's place at outside right and was one of the most conspicuous forwards.

Saturday January 16th 1926

Congleton Town 4 Runcorn 0

Saturday January 23rd 1926

Runcorn 2 Northwich Victoria 0

...Bullock was drafted from inside- right to centre- forward

Saturday January 30th 1926

Middlewich 4 Runcorn 2

...Latham saved from Bullock...Bullock almost converted a centre from Newitt

Saturday February 6th 1925

Congleton Town 4 Runcorn 3 (EB not playing)

Saturday February 13th 1926

Chester 4 Runcorn 1 (att. 2,500)

Runcorn: Peet, Done, Kane, Morris, Spencer, Strong, Houghton, Bullock, Harrison, Smith, Young

...the skill of Bullock brought out more of Houghton's capabilities than Slater did the week before, but both are dropped...

Saturday February 27th 1926

Macclesfield 6 Runcorn 3 (EB not playing)

Saturday March 6th 1926

Runcorn 3 Manchester North End 1

...the home team took the lead through Smith who headed in from a corner by Bullock...

NOTES: Runcorn tried experiments with Bullock and Borrows, but the players both gave confidence in their new places and justified the confidence reposed in them. Bullock has practically played in all forward positions. Originally, he played centre-forward, then inside-right and against Manchester North End, outside right. **Some of his centres were masterpieces and the one which Smith converted was the work of an artist. Today he is dropped. (!)**

Saturday March 20th 1926

Altrincham 2 Runcorn 0

Saturday March 27th 1926

Mossley 5 Runcorn 3

...The club has made several changes...and has introduced Bullock and Clarke into the forward line...the return of Bullock ought to have the effect of strengthening the shooting ability

Saturday April 3rd 1926

Runcorn 4 Ellesmere Port 0

Saturday April 10th 1926

Stalybridge 2 Runcorn 0 (Cheshire Challenge Cup)

Saturday April 17th 1926

Sandbach 3 Runcorn 1

(thereafter Runcorn 3 Eccles 1 and a draw at Witton): League position 12th /22

From the Runcorn Weekly News

August 22nd 1924

Runcorn AFC – Season’s prospects

Wednesday’s trial match: Bullock, of Macclesfield, was not robust at centre forward, but he distributed the ball very tactfully and if only the wingmen will return the ball, then there is hope that Runcorn will find him a good and constant scorer. Prior to the game, the committee signed on the whole of the members of the “greens”: Coleman, Trevor Jones (Chester), Berry (Radcliffe), Spencer, Houghton, Rothwell (Radcliffe), Farrinton, Bullock, Railton (Bebington) and Riley.

Fixtures:

August 30 th Hurst	January 1 st Chester
September 3 rd Winsford Utd	January 3 rd Stalybridge
September 6 th Ashton National	January 10 th Ellesmere Port Cement
September 10 th Macclesfield	January 17 th Middlewich
September 13 th Congleton Town	January 24 th Nantwich
September 20 th Ashton National	January 31 st Port Vale
September 24 th Macclesfield	February 7 th Witton Albion
September 27 th Port Vale	February 14 th Manchester North End
October 4 th Mossley	February 21 st Sandbach
October 11 th Ellesmere Port Town	February 28 th Tranmere Rovers
October 18 th Ellesmere Port Cement	March 7 th Middlewich
October 25 th Manchester North End	March 14 th – ?
November 1 st Crewe Alexandra (a)	March 21 st Stalybridge
November 8 th Crewe Alexandra (h)	March 28 th Hurst
November 15 th Northwich Victoria	April 4 th Tranmere
November 22 nd Mossley	April 10 th Chester
November 29 th Congleton Town	April 11 th Winsford Utd
December 6 th Witton Albion	April 13 th Altrincham
December 13 th Whitchurch	April 18 th Sandbach
December 20 th Cheshire Cup	April 25 th Northwich Victoria
December 26 th Altrincham	May 2 nd Nantwich
December 27 th Whitchurch	May? Ellesmere Port Town

August 29th 1924

The “Linnets” strip is now “myrtle green”

There is interest in tomorrow’s team: Bullock, who, when playing for Macclesfield last season, had the distinction of being the highest scorer in the Cheshire League*, will play centre forward. Team: Nield, Collins, Trevor Jones, Coleman, Spencer, Strong, Rothwell, Farrington, Bullock, Harris, Riley

*not true!

At the final practice match last Saturday, there was a happy augury: Bullock kept his men well served with timely transfers. He was substituted at half time.

Friday September 5th 1924

Runcorn lose first match 1-0 – invincible Hurst

Bullock and Harris tried distance shots

Runcorn lost to Winsford

Friday September 12th 1924

Runcorn outplayed – another reverse at home

Runcorn 2 Ashton National 5

Runcorn’s men were undertrained – financial or other difficulties prevent all the players from practising together during the week. Influenza had laid low Coleman and Berry (Massey was brought in as half back.)

Runcorn were defeated (1-0) but not disgraced against Macclesfield on Wednesday. ...Bullock took the place of Wright...Bullock got possession from Firth and, showing speed, ran half the length of the field, only to be tackled in the goal area (HT 0-0)

Bullock, with a lovely screw shot, curled the ball just on the wrong side of the upright...the final shot was taken by Bullock who sent in a powerful, low shot, but the ball bounced off the ‘keeper’s left foot. Undoubtedly, Runcorn’s best game of the season.

Friday September 19th 1924

Runcorn swamped (6-0) at Congleton

Runcorn gave a “wretched” exhibition at Congleton on Saturday. Congleton scored after half a minute...Bullock had hard lines... Bullock attempted to score

Friday 26th September 1924

Runcorn lose again (2-0) to Ashton National

...there was pretty combination between Riley, Bullock and Grounds...Bullock’s hard drive was slightly wide...Bullock passed to Firth who shot wide...good work by Bullock...it appeared that Bullock would score, but the home custodian saved very smartly

Friday October 3rd 1924

Runcorn were defeated 6-1 by Port Vale, playing with only 10 men for most of the match (Spencer was kicked in the eye after 10 minutes). Just before the incident, Runcorn had taken the lead. Bullock and Grounds took the game to the other end... Bullock and Firth were going through again very nicely when the former was fouled. Bullock forced his way through, but was hemmed in by three of the opposition.

Friday October 10th 1924

A good performance by Runcorn to share the points at Mossley. The new man (McGivney) scored. Bullock and Evans made good openings.

Friday October 17th 1924

Runcorn 0 Ellesmere Port Town 2

There was clever work by Benyon and Bullock... Bullock had an open goal, but sent wide

Friday October 24th 1924

Runcorn 3 Crewe Alexandra 2

Runcorn deservedly won – how the mighty are fallen. Bullock headed into the net and McGivney scored the second...Bullock, with a good shot, skimmed the upperside of the crossbar...Bullock sent over...Bullock and McGivney enabled Smith to snap up a chance

Friday October 31st 1924

Runcorn 2 Manchester North End 1

Runcorn victorious – Manchester North End defeated in a stern game

McGivney could not reach the ball, but Bullock was at hand. He drove in with great force only for the leather to rebound from a Manchester foot...Bullock, McGivney and Smith raced along, only for the latter to send the ball wide...Bullock's shot was blocked

Team: Peet, Coleman, Kane, Strong, Spencer, Partington, Farrington, Bullock, McGivney, Smith, Benyon

Friday November 7th 1924

Crewe Alexandra 4 Runcorn1

(League: Macclesfield top, Runcorn 20th out of 22)

Runcorn were defeated at Crewe in wretched playing conditions...Bullock was badly fouled just outside the penalty area

Friday November 14th 1924

Runcorn 0 Port Vale 2

Runcorn beaten at home – a wild display

The referee had to be escorted off the ground and got out of town by taxi – he was woefully weak and the game was of a fierce and uncontrolled order – a free fight was not out of the realms of possibility.



Team for tomorrow's game against Tranmere: Peet, Done, Coleman, Strong, Spencer, Partington, Peach, Bullock, McGivney, Smith, Benyon

Friday November 21st 1924

Runcorn (2) win at home – Tranmere (0) humiliated.

Bullock broke away, but the chance of opening the scoring was lost when Benyon missed his pass...Bullock sent in a strong volley...the ball caught the upright...a long punch by Bullock put Benyon in possession. Bullock, McGivney and Smith all played a hard game.

Friday November 28th 1924

Runcorn 5 Mossley 0

A thrilling game...good work by Bullock... (a pass) which Bullock snapped up and gave Runcorn the lead. McGivney broke through and gave to Bullock who scored with great ease...Bullock showed good footwork before giving to McGivney

Friday December 5th 1924

Runcorn advancing – Congleton conquered

Runcorn's third consecutive win...Bullock cleverly headed in the right direction...Bullock got his head to the ball, but directed it offside...Bullock, McGivney and Smith gave the visitors an anxious time... Peach sent a slow pass to Bullock, but the ball was cleared before it could reach the Runcornian.

Friday December 12th 1924

Witton Albion 3 Runcorn 3

Bullock made an opening...the final pass to Bullock was a little too much ahead for him to reach it (HT R W1)

Friday December 19th 1924

Runcorn 4 Whitchurch 0

Runcorn still climbing; now 11th out of 22

It should have been 1-0 and the crowd resented the ruling – none regretted it more than the referee, Mr WT Henshall of Crewe – Bullock received the ball in front of goal, but while the ball was travelling into the net, the whistle was blown for offside. Mr Henshall realised that the player was well onside and could do nothing better than decide upon a throw up in the goal mouth from which nothing accrued. Mr A Grounds (Chairman of the local council) will give 4 shillings (he had offered a shilling for every goal scored by Runcorn)

Bullock missed the ball right in front of the visitors' goal... Bullock gave a quick pass to McGivney...Bullock scored Runcorn's third goal. In the next minute Bullock was badly fouled. Bullock took the penalty and made no mistake.

December 20th 1924 – Cheshire Senior Cup – Runcorn 3 Hoylake 2

Friday January 2nd 1925

Runcorn draw 2-2 at Ellesmere Port Town

They took 1,000 spectators there on Christmas Day...a gruelling game...Peach was drafted into the side in place of Bullock who had not put in an appearance

On Boxing Day Runcorn beat Altrincham 4-0. Bullock and McGivney rushed the ball through...Bullock nodded the ball over the bar...Bullock made no mistake with his shot after manoeuvring for a good position

Runcorn lose at Whitchurch

A water and mud bath...The Supporters' Club has donated £50 to the club

Friday January 9th 1925

Second half defeat (5-2) at Stalybridge

Runcorn v Lynotype (of Broadheath) Team: Peet, Coleman, Done, Berry, Spencer, Kane, Hanson, Bullock, McGivney, Smith, Benyon

The second team has given trials to Vavasor, a local schoolmaster, who has been playing with Crewe

Runcorn now 12th /22 in the league

Friday January 16th 1925

Runcorn beat Ellesmere Port Cement at home 2-1

Friday January 23rd 1925

Runcorn 2 ? 0

Runcorn's further successes – Hanson's extraordinary goal...one of the largest gates of the season...Bullock forced a corner and it was converted by Smith

Friday January 30th 1925

Runcorn still climbing – Nantwich defeated

Nantwich had only ten men as Charles Chorlton (full back) and a former captain of Crewe Alexandra first eleven had sent a telegram to the ground with no reserve. Bullock put in a good run, but finished weakly...Bullock got the better of a scramble and gave Runcorn their second goal... Pearson handled when trying to keep Bullock from scoring which resulted in Benyon converting a penalty...Bullock was slow in not scoring from a corner by Benyon

Runcorn 4 Nantwich 2

Friday February 6th 1925

Middlewich 4 Runcorn 0

Just before the interval McGivney and Bullock forced the ball through the defence...Bullock and Hanson combined cleverly

Friday February 13th 1925

Runcorn 2 Stockport County 0

EB played, but not mentioned

Friday February 20th 1925

Manchester North End overwhelmed Runcorn 6-0

The Linnets were not in a singing mood...Bullock in possession

Friday February 27th 1925

Runcorn disgraced at home – lost 0-1 to Sandbach Ramblers

McGivney and Bullock both failed to accept the opportunity...

Friday March 6th 1925

Tranmere 4 Runcorn 0 (there was no William “Dixie” Dean in the Tranmere side on this occasion, though he did play for Tranmere Reserves during the 1925 season) There were five changes in the Runcorn side... Hanson failed to appear at the ground...Vavasor’s transfer from Crewe was secured two days before...Vavasor, the local schoolmaster, played a great game (HT R0-T2)...Bullock broke through but was brought down...Bullock and ex-Evertonian McGivney tried to force the pace

Friday March 13th 1925

Runcorn's revenge – defeat Middlewich 4-0

Five players (not including EB) were missing with influenza or missed train connections

Bullock opened Runcorn's account with a stinging shot...Bullock tried again with a drive



Runcorn Forward 1924-26

Friday March 20th 1925



Runcorn – Cup Finalists!

Sandbach were vanquished in a hard fought game at Witton.

About a thousand Runcorn fans, adorned in green and white, many sporting cauliflower buttonholes, made the trip... Spencer passed to Bullock, which almost brought about the desired result... Just before the interval a shot from Bullock shook the side netting (HT 0-0)... Vavator scored... Runcorn 2 Sandbach 0

Friday March 27th 1925

Runcorn's improved defence – defeat Stalybridge at Canal Street

Vavator... had hard lines after brilliant work by Bullock

Friday April 3rd 1925

Runcorn's cup practice against Hurst (Hurst 3 Runcorn 0)

Bullock was prominent with a good run... (second half)... Bullock had a chance of making progress but the opening was spoiled by offside play

Runcorn's Cup Prospects (tomorrow's Cup Final against Crewe Alexandra at Northwich)

Runcorn ought to win, for the team is the best they have had together for quite a long time. Runcorn fear that Crewe will play Third Division (Football League) men. Peet (Runcorn goalkeeper) is one of the best custodians in the league. Vavator, at centre forward, will show Crewe what a good player they have lost. McGivney dribbles closely and uses every ounce of his weight. **Bullock, on the right wing, is still somewhat new to that position, but he has the advantage of experience. He is a rare schemer.** Two special trains will leave from Runcorn station and many others will find their way to the Drill Field at Northwich by charabanc, car and cycle.

Thursday April 9th 1925

Cheshire Cup Final – Runcorn's performance (1-1)

...a remarkable performance at Northwich...when Runcorn played with ten men for three quarters of the game...Crewe included five men from their senior team...Bob Spencer was Runcorn captain...Bullock took advantage of mis-kick by Carruthers (HT 0-0)...Bullock sent across the goalmouth...Kane scored for Runcorn

Runcorn's Cup Final – Runcorn victorious at Chester

Benyon was unable to turn out and was replaced by Hanson (HT 0-0)
After twenty five minutes, Vavator sent out to Hanson and he centred beautifully for Bullock. Instead of taking the kick, the latter deceived the backs by jumping over the ball and allowed McGivney to chip in and score.
There was a scene of wild jubilation when the final whistle sounded.



Eli Bullock second from right

Runcorn 1 Crewe Alexandra 0

Runcorn's Cup Final Pennington



HEARING THAT RUNCORN HAD PROVIDED A PEDESTAL TO PUT THE CUP ON I INTERVIEWED THEIR STOUTEST SUPPORTER BEFORE GOING TO NORTHWICH ON SATURDAY & HE ASSURED ME IT WAS TRUE THERE WAS A PEDESTAL & THAT RUNCORN WOULD WIN.



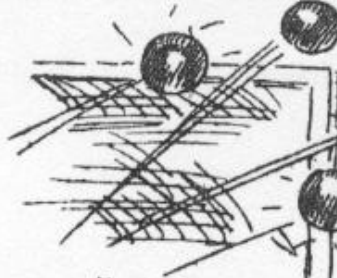
AT NORTHWICH THE SAME BELIEF PREVAILED BUT THE



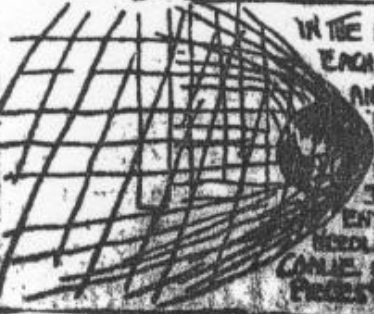
TRouble WAS BOTH SETS OF ENTHUSIASTS SAID THE SAME THING



IT LOOKED AS IF RUNCORN WERE GOING TO WIN IN THE FIRST HALF FOR PEET WAS ABLE TO SLEEP MOST OF THE TIME



& AT THE CREWE END THE FORWARDS PEPPERED THE GOALMOUTH

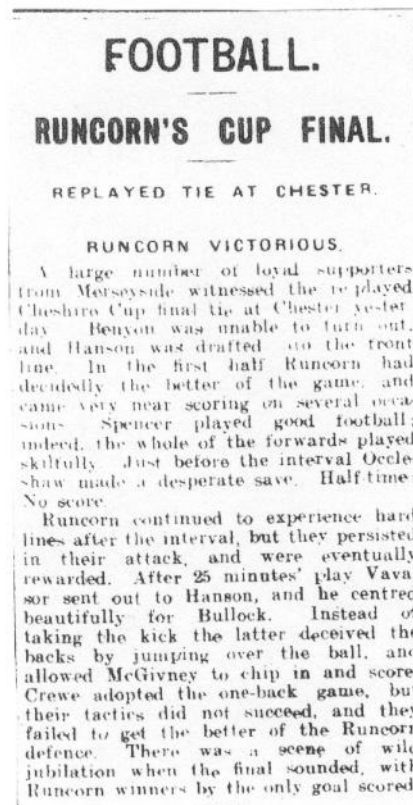


IN THE SECOND HALF EACH SIDE SCORED AN UNSATISFACTORY PENALTY. THIS IS JUST HOW THE BALL LOOKED FROM THE REAR AS IT ENTERED EACH NET. NEEDLESS TO SAY EACH GOALIE WAS BRAGGARTS.



THE RESULT IS THAT UP TO THE TIME OF COMPLETING THIS DRAWING, RUNCORN'S PEDESTAL IS UNADORNED.

THIS QUERY WAS PROBABLY ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY THE RESULT APPEARS ELSEWHERE



Friday April 23rd 1925

Runcorn's holiday games – one point in three matches

Chester 3 Runcorn 1

Runcorn 2 Winsford Utd 2

...Vavasor absent...Bullock finished good work by Kane and McGivney by opening the score...Bullock received a long shot from Hankinson and with a first time effort volleyed the ball into the net from thirty yards

Altrincham 5 Runcorn 1

(EB not playing)

Friday May 1st 1925

Runcorn defeat Northwich Victoria in an end of season display

Vavasor off form...McGivney poor

Friday May 8th 1925

Runcorn lose their last game 0-2 to Nantwich

Vavasor sent in a nice centre which Bullock failed to turn to account (Charlie Chorlton playing)

1925-6 season

Friday August 28th 1925

Prospects: Spencer reappointed captain. Team v Hurst: Peet, Coleman, Evans, Morris, Gartside, Kane, Valentine, Bullock, Harrison, Smith, Benyon (Spencer was suspended for one match after an incident v Crewe). Joe Benyon is rumoured to be leaving for a first division club.

Friday September 4th 1925 (EB's 30th birthday)

Runcorn start well – points shared (1-1) at Hurst

Bullock obtained the equaliser...Bullock looked like running through the defence, but he was sandwiched out.

On Wednesday Runcorn defeated Mossley 4-1 ...Bullock played well but was not quite so effective as he was at Hurst

Friday September 11th 1925

Runcorn were defeated 2-1 at Ellesmere Port

Bullock, Harrison and Smith worked well together

Friday September 18th 1925

Runcorn win well – Benyon turns out

Runcorn beat the Robins (Middlewich) 3-1

Bullock had little difficulty in finding the net after eleven minutes...Bullock added his second goal within minutes of the restart

Friday September 25th 1925

Marvellous Bullock!

At 6.30 pm on Thursday night of last week, Eli Bullock, the popular Runcorn forward, injured his foot in the game at Tranmere and after receiving first aid from the trainer and ambulance men, was carried from the field on a stretcher. A motor ambulance was waiting outside and the injured Bullock was promptly taken to the Tranmere Borough Hospital. Here he was detained, it being stated that he had broken his ankle. The news was received with great regret in Runcorn but there was considerable surprise and jubilation when the man with the broken ankle walked into Runcorn HQ on Saturday afternoon and declared that he was fit! However, the Runcorn committee had already decided to give a trial to a new man, Cherry, so Bullock was given a rest for that afternoon. The veteran will appear in the Runcorn team tomorrow.

Friday October 2nd 1925

Runcorn beat Whitchurch

Runcorn's big defeat against Nantwich...Bullock headed towards the net

Friday October 9th 1925

Runcorn lose again (2-0 to Whitchurch)

...there was some good play, notably by Bullock...Benyon's fall from form

Changes for the team for Winsford: Harrison's place is taken by Bullock

Friday October 16th 1925

Runcorn lose again (to Winsford Utd)

Smith, Bullock and Clarke looked dangerous...Bullock had hard lines

Friday October 23rd 1925

Lost to Nantwich...Bullock was a "hard worker"...Bullock headed into the net (Charlie Chorlton playing for Nantwich)

Friday October 30th 1925

Runcorn's triumph – Chester vanquished with ease

Bullock played a very good game...a terrific shot was tipped over the bar

Friday November 6th 1925

Runcorn overwhelmed 5-0 by Port Vale

Bullock, Clarke and Houghton did good, individual work...Bullock was bumped in the goalmouth when endeavouring to shoot...Bullock made progress...Bullock got possession and tried a stinging shot

Friday November 13th 1925

Runcorn disappoint – lost at home 0-4 to Hurst

Friday November 20th 1925

Wonderful Runcorn – beat leaders at Crewe

Clarke was unable to turn out and Bullock was brought in to play an excellent game...Harrison and Bullock worked their way through the Crewe team...Bullock dashed in to take advantage of an open goal but was ruled offside

Friday November 27th 1925

Runcorn beat Sandbach 3-1

...Bullock played a forceful game and was unlucky not to increase his aggregate of goals

Friday December 3rd 1925

Bullock showed dash when he took the ball through Ashton's defence...Bullock is in "good form"

Friday January 1st 1926

Runcorn's holiday misfortune

Drew 2-2 with Manchester North End – both goals scored by Bullock at centre forward

Lost 3-1 to Northwich

Friday January 15th 1926

Eccles (bottom club) 1 Runcorn 2

Referee, Mr Michelson of Birkenhead was surrounded by a hostile crowd as he was leaving the field...Bullock skimmed the top of the bar...all the forwards worked well together

Friday January 22nd 1926

Runcorn lose 0-4 to Congleton

Bullock moved to centre forward...Bullock was off the field for a time having sticking plaster applied to a wound over his right eye...Bullock, Clarke and Houghton gave trouble to the Congleton backs...Bullock tried a terrific shot which was luckily beaten down in the goalmouth

Friday January 29th 1926

Runcorn 2 – Northwich 0

Kenny saved as Bullock (at centre forward) dashed forward...Bullock was cheered for a good run which he terminated by skimming the wrong side of the upright...Bullock twice got in telling shots...Bullock made progress

Friday February 5th 1926

Runcorn lost to Middlewich (“gift goals”)

Bullock, Clarke and Smith transferred the action to the other end...Bullock had hard luck with a good attempt

Friday February 12th 1926

Runcorn disgraced: Lose 4-3 to Congleton (EB not playing)

Friday February 19th 1926

Runcorn defeated at Chester 4-1

...it was obvious that Bullock strengthened the forward line...Bullock forced a corner

Friday February 26th 1926

Runcorn romp home with five against Ashton National (EB not playing)

Friday March 5th 1926

Runcorn's misfortune – Macclesfield helped by half a gale

Bullock skimmed the wrong side of the upright...Bullock was badly fouled

Friday March 12th 1926

Runcorn 3 Manchester North End?

...a goal came from a corner kick taken by Bullock...Bullock essayed a great shot...Bullock, although on the slow side, was playing a hard game, and put in a beautiful centre which was tipped over the bar

Friday March 19th 1926

Runcorn beat Witton Albion at home (EB not playing)

Friday March 26th 1926

Runcorn lost 0-2 to Altrincham at home (EB not playing)

Friday April 2nd 1926

Runcorn were defeated 5-3 at Mossley

..Bullock gave a delightful pass to Bell

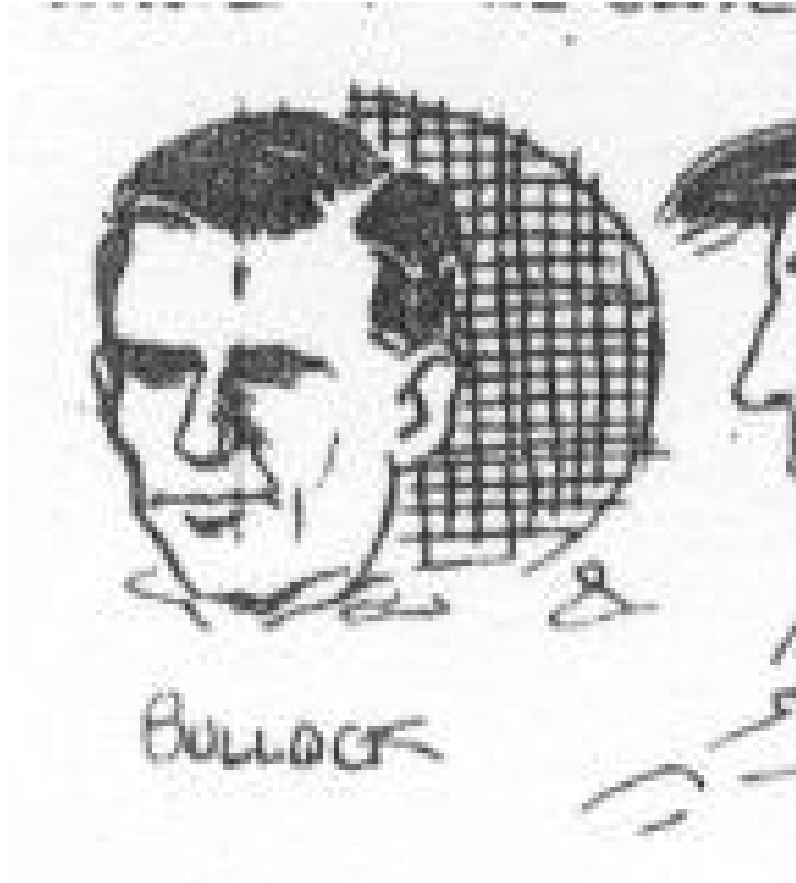
[This was his final game for Runcorn – did the National strike prevent him from getting to Runcorn from his home in Stoke on trent?)]

Other games

v Ellesmere Port (Team: Peet, Done Kane, Morris, Spencer, AN Other, Norton, Harrison, Bell, Smith, Young)

(Semi Final Cheshire Cup) Northwich 3 Runcorn 2

v Stalybridge/v Sandbach/v Macclesfield



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IT WAS a real match of the day for Newcastle pensioner Eli Bullock when he married his wife, Sally.

For the 86-year-old former professional footballer had to take a day off from training with Exeter City for the special licence wedding — then dash back for a mid-week game.

And the couple have just proved themselves champions in the marriage league, by celebrating 60 happy years together.

"In those days, professional footballers only got £3 10s. a week," said 82-year-old Mrs. Bullock at their home in St. Paul's-road, Poolfields.

"When we were married, we didn't have a Rolls-Royce — just a tuppenny return on the train to Stoke."

But the two found the "second half" of their wedding day even more memorable when they arrived at the Devon digs.

"The landlady told us they'd killed a stag for dinner and I

Match of the day!

was expecting to see something with antlers on the table," said Sally, a former hospital worker.

"I was so relieved when I found out they called cock chickens stags in that area," she laughed.

Now, the couple are enjoying their retirement together, with frequent visits from their son, daughter and two grandchildren.

And the secret of a happy marriage?

"Without a doubt, sharing and helping one another," they said. "It's the only way."