

## TONY CONNOLLY Menswear

44 Upper William Street, Limerick,  
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THE BEST FOR LESS IN MEN'S & BOYS' WEAR

# Limerick

WEDNESDAY

### SOCCER :

## Bud is alive and well and living in Luton

BY JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY

**WHEN THE** Republic of Ireland play England at Wembley on this Wednesday the game will revive memories of Ireland's historic victory over the "old enemy" at Goodison Park in 1949. The visitors recorded a shock 2-0 win, and thus became the first country to defeat England on home soil. And on that famous team was Limerickman Bud Aherne, from Thomondgate.

Bud, a member of a well-known soccer family, starred at full-back for Ireland.

Recently he was the subject of an article in The Irish Post.

Readers will be pleased to learn that Bud has not been forgotten in his adopted land.

In fact, he is very much part of Luton. He lives with his family in Stanmore Crescent and in the evenings, when he takes the dog for a stroll or goes down the road to visit his local club, people often stop him and talk about football — both then and now.

The youngsters in particular want to know to what extent the game has changed, how he would compare the present-day stars with the great names of the past. Bud, is, according to the Post, always happy to answer their questions.

#### BEGAN

The Limerick man is now a fresh 57. He began his football career with Limerick F.C. and played with them until the outbreak of the war. He then joined the Irish army and was soon selected to play for their team. In 1941, the army side played the League of Ireland. Having completed his army spell, Bud rejoined Limerick.

Immediately after the war he moved to Belfast Celtic and got his first international cap at the age of 27. It was on an All-Ireland team which travelled to

play Spain.

Said Bud: "That's some story. You see, in Northern Ireland football is played on Saturday, while in the Republic it is played on Sundays. In Spain, we played the game on a Sunday. The result was that, when we returned to the North, we were suspended for playing on a Sunday".

He played in the Northern Ireland League until 1949. At that point, Luton Town intervened and sought him. Bud himself doubted if, at the age of 30, he could stay the pace. But Luton insisted and he joined them.

"It was great. Here I was, an Irishman in Luton, with a great English club. And let's make no mistake about it. Luton were great in 1949/50," he said.

Shortly afterwards he was a member of that great Republic of Ireland team which beat England 2-0 at Everton.

He went on to collect 26 international caps.

#### FAVOURITE

Bud was a great favourite with the Luton football followers. Playing at left-back, he was a sportsman to his fingertips and reckons that his greatest moment was when Luton went into the first division.

Although it is now a quarter of a century later, Bud continues to be recognised with affection everywhere he goes in

Luton. He is remembered as one of the great ones who were with Sid Owens.

Incidentally, any of Bud's old friends who might care to re-new contact, can drop him a line at 59 Stanmore Crescent, Luton, Bedfordshire.

### Old Crescent RFC Notes:

## Weather plays havoc

Well, the weather is really playing havoc with our fixture list. The Under 20 League games, including our fixture with Bruff, which had been fixed for Wednesday night, have been called off by the North Munster Branch, due to ground conditions.

It is possible that our Charity Cup match against Young Munster on Sunday may also be affected. If this is so, it is likely, subject to weather conditions, that the first round Charity Cup matches may have to be played mid-week, starting at 6 p.m.

#### SEVENS

Arrangements are being made to hold the schools sevens early next month. This has always been a very successful competition, displaying a very high standard, and we look forward to it with pleasurable anticipation.

Regarding the training sessions, which continue each Tuesday and Thursday evening at Rathbane at 6.30, I can appreciate how tough it is on the coach and players. It is only natural that they are anxious for match play, but all the hard training will, D.V., reap its reward in the not too distant future.

The club social, for members and their friends, is being resumed on Saturday night, the 11th. A good attendance of members and their friends is anticipated — remember, it is your social — and it should be a most enjoyable night for all.

## Inter-Firm

Thursday, 9/9/'76:

E Cup final—P.O. Engineers v. Lana-Knit B, 6.30 p.m., Priory Park.

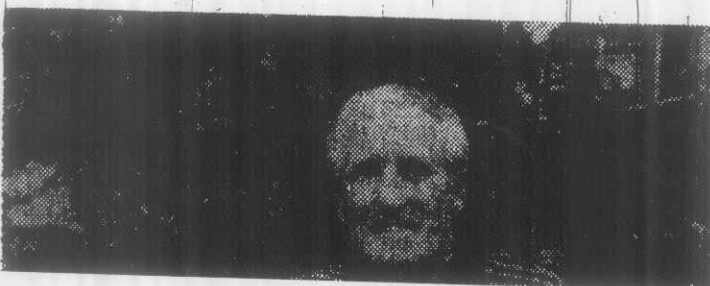
F Cup final—Postal Rangers v. Craig/Gardiner, 6.30 p.m.,



Pat McGarr  
Roscommon  
John O'Con

G.A.A.:

# Pat



PATRICK  
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