

100 GREATS

SHEFFIELD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

DENIS CLAREBROUGH

LEN BADGER
EDDY COLQUHOUN
TONY CURRIE
BRIAN DEANE
KEITH EDWARDS
JIMMY DUNNE
BILL FOULKE
BILLY GILLESPIE
JIMMY HAGAN
ALAN HODGKINSON
HARRY JOHNSON
ERNEST NEEDHAM
ALF RINGSTEAD
GRAHAM SHAW
JOE SHAW
JACK SMITH
PAUL STANCLIFFE
FRED TUNSTALL
GEORGE UTLEY
ALAN WOODWARD



Glyn Hodges

Midfielder, 1991-96



It is rare to read an article about Glyn Hodges, an attacking left-side midfielder who won 18 full Welsh caps (five of them with United), where he is not described as 'enigmatic'. Dave Bassett, who was his manager over so many years, noted that it was 'stupid for a player of his talent to have achieved so little'.

Glyn was born in Stratham in April 1961. He joined Walsley as a schoolboy and, a year after becoming an apprentice, he made his League debut in September 1980 in a Fourth Division game at Halifax. He took part in the rising campaign that saw the Dons rise from the Fourth to the First Division, winning a Fourth Division championship medal in 1983 and becoming Walsley's first international in 1984 when he came on as a substitute for Wales against Norway.

He was transferred to Newcastle United in July 1987 for £300,000, but after only eighty-nine days on Tyneside, Dave Bassett, his former Walsley manager, who had moved to Watford, signed him for the Hertfordshire club for £250,000. Bassett then became the manager of Sheffield United and tried to sign

	Appearances	Goals
League	147	19
FA Cup	16	3
FL Cup	7	0
Other	1	0
TOTAL	171	22

Hodges in the 1990 close season, but Glyn chose to stay in the London area, joining Crystal Palace.

Early in 1991, United, facing almost certain relegation from the First Division, took Hodges on loan and his fine play and vital goals helped preserve the club's place in the top flight and his permanent transfer was secured for £410,000 in mid-April. He continued to delight - and infuriate - the crowds at the Lane until he was given a free transfer by Howard Kendall in February 1996, when he joined Derby County and played a small part, mostly as a substitute, when they won promotion the season. He played for a while in Hong Kong and then returned to Britain and, after time with Nottingham Forest and Chesterfield, joined Hull City in August 1997. February 1998 saw him return to the City Ground and eleven months later, he played for Scarborough. He joined the coaching staff at the Lane in February 2000 and then moved to Oldham.

Hodges always was a player of moods. Mainly left-footed, his play could both delight and frustrate. Talented and stylish to a degree, but totally unpredictable, he often lacked 'application, concentration and tolerance', was 'his own worst enemy' and (yes) invariably 'enigmatic'.