

TRAINER, JAMES (1863 - 1915?), Association footballer (the 'prince of goalkeepers')

Name: James Trainer
Date of birth: 1863
Date of death: 1915?
Parent: Mary Ann Trainer
Parent: James Trainer
Gender: Male
Occupation: Association footballer (the 'prince of goalkeepers')
Area of activity: Sports and Leisure Pursuits
Author: George Geoffrey Lerry

Born 7 January 1863 at Brook Street, Wrexham, son of James Trainer, master baker, and his wife Mary Ann Trainer. He was a coach body maker by trade. He began to play football with school teams; joined Wrexham Grosvenor football club in 1878; when the Grosvenor club amalgamated with Wrexham club in 1879 Trainer played for the new club as centre-half, but he was persuaded to take up goalkeeping. He played for Wrexham when the club defeated the Druids in the Welsh Cup final in 1882-3. Later Trainer joined Bolton Great Lever Football Club, then Bolton Wanderers, and, later still, became a member of the famous Preston North End football club when this club won the Football Association Cup and League Championship in 1888-9. Trainer's first match for Preston was on 13 August 1887. He appeared in their opening League match on 8 September 1888 at Deepdale and was a regular member of the championship side. He could not play in the Football Association Cup final, and his place was taken by another Welshman, **R. H. Mills-Roberts**. Trainer played for Wales in international matches on twenty occasions (six against England, nine against Scotland, and five against Ireland).

Author

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