

= David Hamilton (footballer) =

David Hamilton (born 7 November 1960) is an English former professional association football player who played as a midfielder . He won caps for the England national under @-@ 19 football team . He is currently a scout for Championship side Ipswich Town , which he joined in February 2011 . He was born in South Shields and was one of three brothers to become a footballer . He also played amateur cricket .

During his playing career , Hamilton played for six different teams in the Football League , making a total of over 300 first @-@ team appearances , mostly with Blackburn Rovers and Wigan Athletic . He started his career with Sunderland , and was there for three seasons before moving to Blackburn in 1981 . He went on to score seven goals in 114 Football League appearances in five seasons for Blackburn , and he had a loan spell at Cardiff City in 1985 . He was signed by Wigan Athletic in 1986 and he played in over 100 league matches for them in just three seasons . After leaving Wigan in 1989 , he spent one season with Chester City , where he made 30 league appearances before joining Fourth Division side Burnley in 1990 . He played 15 matches in two years for Burnley before retiring at the end of the 1991 ? 92 season .

After his retirement from professional football , he had short spells with four non @-@ league clubs . He started to take his coaching qualifications at the age of 25 , and since ending his playing career he has held a variety of roles in coaching and behind the scenes , including spells as a coach at Accrington Stanley and Preston North End . He also held the positions of assistant manager and caretaker manager at Great Harwood Town and Rochdale , where he was also a youth coach . He has also worked as a scout for Derby County , Walsall and Wigan Athletic , where he was the club 's first ever full @-@ time chief scout .

= = Personal life = =

Hamilton was born on 7 November 1960 in the town of South Shields , Tyne and Wear in north @-@ east England , where his father grew leeks for a living . He is one of four children , and one of three to become a footballer . As of 2009 he lives in Blackburn , Lancashire , where he has resided since he signed for Blackburn Rovers in 1981 . He resides there with his wife of 25 years , Rita , and their children . His two sons , Kiel and Jordan , played for the Rochdale Centre of Excellence . In his spare time , he enjoys gardening and watching cricket , and until 2000 he played amateur cricket for Blackburn Northern . He has publicly spoken of his concerns about the increasing wages of Premier League footballers while " the average punter in the stands is struggling to pay his mortgage " .

= = Playing career = =

Hamilton was given his first professional contract in September 1978 by Jimmy Adamson , who was manager of Football League Second Division side Sunderland . While he was with the Black Cats , Hamilton captained the England youth team , which was coached at the time by Brian Clough and Peter Taylor , to the final of the 1978 UEFA European Under @-@ 19 Football Championship , where they lost to the USSR . He admitted to having a good working relationship with Clough while he was a part of the England youth side . Despite being selected by his country , he failed to play a single first @-@ team match for Sunderland and left to join fellow Second Division side Blackburn Rovers in January 1981 .

In his first half @-@ season with Rovers , Hamilton made only three substitute appearances as the team finished fourth in the division . Over the next three seasons , he became a more integral part of the Blackburn side , playing 70 matches and scoring five goals . In the 1984 ? 85 season , he found his first @-@ team opportunities limited , being given just three starts . He spent the last two months of the season out on loan at struggling Cardiff City , who were eventually relegated to the Football League Third Division in May 1985 after finishing second @-@ bottom of the Second Division . Upon return from his loan spell in south Wales , Hamilton stayed at Blackburn for one more season , making 33 league appearances and scoring three goals in 1985 ? 86 . After a total of 114 league

appearances and seven goals for Rovers , he left the club prior to the 1986 ? 87 season and joined Third Division club Wigan Athletic for a fee of £ 16 @,@ 000 . In his first season , he helped them to a fourth @-@ placed finish and a place in the play @-@ offs . After losing out to Swindon Town in the play @-@ offs , Hamilton stayed at Wigan for two more seasons , missing just one league game for the Latics in the 1987 ? 88 campaign . He played over 100 competitive appearances for Wigan before leaving to join Chester City in August 1989 .

He only spent one season with Chester , where he played 30 league matches without scoring , before Frank Casper signed him for Fourth Division club Burnley on a free transfer in August 1990 . He made his debut for the Clarets on the opening day of the 1990 ? 91 season , coming on as a substitute for Paul France in a 2 ? 2 draw with Lincoln City at Turf Moor . He played a further ten games that season , helping Burnley achieve a play @-@ off place . Injuries limited Hamilton to only five first @-@ team matches in 1991 ? 92 as Burnley won the Fourth Division , gaining promotion to the third tier . Hamilton 's final league appearance for the Lancashire club came in the 0 ? 2 defeat to Hereford United at Edgar Street on 14 September 1991 .

His professional career came to an end when he was released by Burnley in May 1992 , although he subsequently had spells in non @-@ league football with Chorley , Barrow and Great Harwood Town , while taking his coaching qualifications . Towards the end of the 1995 ? 96 season , he left Great Harwood and joined Northern Premier League outfit Mossley , where he made 23 league appearances before retiring in 1997 to take up a non @-@ playing position at Rochdale . He returned to Turf Moor on 7 May 2007 to play in a testimonial match for long @-@ serving Burnley player Graham Branch .

= = After playing = =

Hamilton 's first coaching job came in the 1994 ? 95 season , when Eric Whalley appointed him team coach at Accrington Stanley . In late January 1995 , he moved to become a coach at Preston North End . After leaving Preston , he was handed the role of player @-@ assistant manager at Great Harwood Town . However , he left in 1996 when the manager was sacked as the club struggled in the league . In 1997 , after a playing spell with Mossley , he was appointed youth team manager at Rochdale . He stayed at Rochdale for five years , during which time he was promoted to the position of assistant manager and had two spells as caretaker manager of the side ; in 1999 , following the departure of Graham Barrow , and in 2001 after Jamie Hoyland left . He managed Rochdale for eight matches in total , winning two matches , losing two and drawing four . While at Rochdale he uncovered Northern Ireland international Lee McEvilly , who was playing for Burscough part @-@ time while working at McDonald 's .

In 2002 , he returned to Wigan Athletic when then manager Paul Jewell , who he had played alongside for Wigan in the 1980s , appointed Hamilton as the club 's first ever full @-@ time chief scout . At Wigan he was united for the first time with Chris Hutchings , who was Jewell 's assistant manager . While scouting for the Latics , he recommended both Jimmy Bullard and Antonio Valencia to Jewell . He followed Jewell and Hutchings to Premier League side Derby County in 2007 following the sacking of Billy Davies . The club were relegated from the Premier League in that season and after a series of indifferent results in the Championship the following term , Jewell and Hutchings left the club in January 2009 , leaving Hamilton to work under Brian Clough 's son Nigel for a short spell . However , Clough brought his own coaching and scouting staff to Derby , and Hamilton was forced to leave the club in March 2009 .

On 5 June 2009 , he was given the role of chief scout at League One club Walsall , following the appointment of Chris Hutchings as manager of the team in January 2009 . This is the third club at which Hamilton and Hutchings have worked together . Hamilton was sacked by Walsall , along with Hutchings and assistant manager Martin O 'Connor , in January 2011 with the club at the bottom of League One as a result of three consecutive defeats . On 23 February 2011 , he was reunited with Paul Jewell after being hired as a scout for Championship side Ipswich Town .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Playing statistics = = =

Final career statistics .

= = = Managerial statistics = = =

As of 31 August 2009