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THE MAN TO KEEP UP WITH

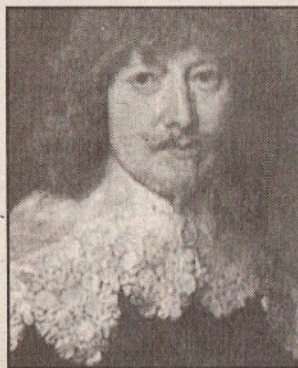
A cavalier attitude for United

NOW it can be told. The origin of Newcastle United's famous black-and-white colours has been traced to a 17th Century cavalier.

It all began with a soldier called William Cavendish who led the first Toon Army in the 1640s.

I bring you this world exclusive as a result of some inspired research by Tyneside local historian, Christopher Goulding. "My theory is totally original, and I believe it finally explains the true origin of Newcastle United's

THE CAVENDISH CONNECTION



WILLIAM Cavendish was also Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire and his wartime campaigns included a period of occupation on Humberside.

The only other long-established clubs to sport black-and-white stripes are Notts County and Grimsby Town. Could that be down to the Cavendish connection, too?

cavalier influence the choice of colours of a football team more than 200 years later?

Newcastle.

The black-and-white connection? The heraldic



■ All there in black and white: Local historian Christopher Goulding.

origin of Newcastle United's football colours," he said.

Christopher unveiled his theory yesterday during a lunchtime lecture at the Laing Art Gallery in Newcastle.

I reckon he has come up with a watertight case. He even has the evidence of Samuel Pepys who reported in his diary (Vol VIII, May 1667) that he had seen Cavendish's wife in the family coach.

Pepys observed "a large black coach, adorned with silver instead of gold, and so with curtains and everything black and white. . ."

So how did a 17th Century

more than 200 years later:

The Goulding theory dates back to one William Cavendish (1593-1676), soldier, master horseman, bawdy poet and landowner, who was born into a wealthy Midlands family with estates at Welbeck and Bolsover.

As a young man, he inherited, via his mother, the ancient Northumbrian barony of Ogle. During the civil war, his North-East connections prompted King Charles I to appoint him as his military governor of the North.

As a reward, Cavendish would be created Earl, Marquis, and then Duke of

connection: The heraldic arms of the Cavendish family include a shield of black (sable) with three silver (argent) stags' heads. In practice, the heraldic colour of argent is represented as white.

Those family colours were used extensively to mark his presence in the Newcastle area.

The Toon Army? While military governor in Newcastle during the civil war, Cavendish raised an army from the local populace. He was unable to obtain red coats, so he equipped them with coats of undyed white cloth.

His men became known as the Whitecoats or Newcastle's Lambs.

Christopher Goulding reports: "Along with their black leather boots, belts and pouches, they must indeed have looked like the very first Toon Army."

The dukedom of

Newcastle became extinct in the 18th Century and the estates passed to the Dukes of Portland and Devonshire who were related members of the Cavendish-Bentinck family.

The estate included parcels of land in Newcastle and the connection lives on in the street names: Cavendish Place, Devonshire Place and Portland Terrace (all

Jesmond), Welbeck Road (Walker) and Bentinck Road (Elswick).

When Newcastle United were admitted to the Football League in 1893, the team played a full season in the club colours of "red shirts and white knickers".

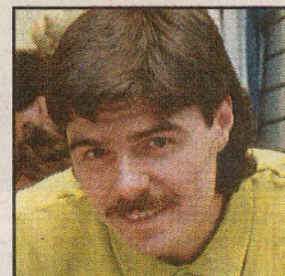
Those colours were taken from the heraldic colours of Newcastle's city shield (a red shield with white castles) but,

of course, the red-and-white favours clashed with their rivals at Sunderland.

No explanation is given in the club records for the historic decision taken by the club directors in August 1894 to change the colours to "black and white shirts (two inch stripe) and dark knickers".

Christopher Goulding reckons it must have been

Mick gives fans food for thought



■ Quinn: Pies of peace.

NEWS from the Milburn Stand. I hear that Mick Quinn, former Newcastle folk hero, was fiercely barracked by his old admirers when he showed his face at St James's Park on Monday night.

The heavyweight striker, a match summariser with BSkyB, was greeted with unkind chants of "Sumo, Sumo" and another variation which cast doubt on his parentage.

Mr Quinn returned to the scene later. He arrived with a tray of hot pies which he distributed among the same fans who then responded with a round of sentimental applause.

A peace offering from an old hero? Or were the pies originally intended for him?

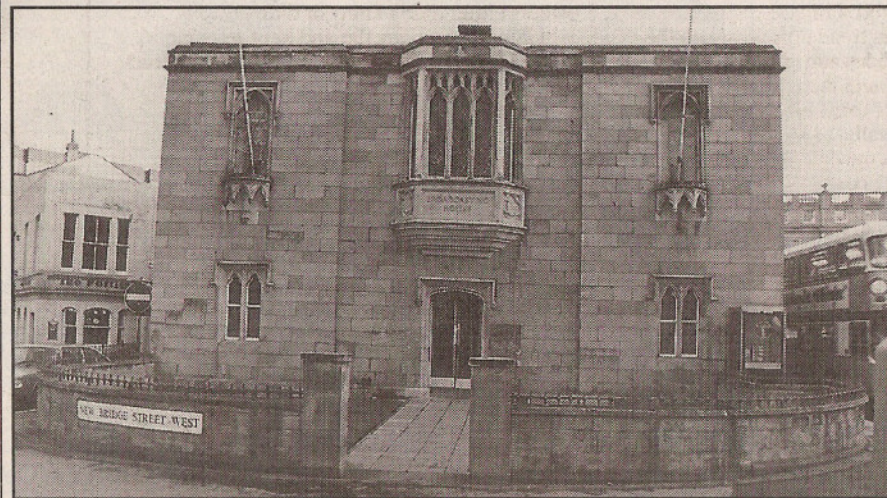
TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS



RUSS ABBOTT, TV actor and comedian, is 46 today.

Other birthdays: **Lauren Bacall**, film star, 69; **Peter Falk**, TV actor, 66; **Neville Southall**, goalkeeper, 35; **Mickey Stewart**, ex-England cricket manager, 61.

Roger rewinds to days before the Pink Palace



■ Auntie's place: The former BBC headquarters in Newcastle.

GONE, but not forgotten. The old BBC Television studios in Newcastle will be remembered in a commemorative booklet published next summer.

The author will be TV producer Roger Burgess who is working on the book that many colleagues have promised, but none have delivered.

The building was originally designed in 1824 by John Dobson as a lying-in hospital, then became a training hospital for nurses during the First World War.

The BBC arrived in 1922 and the building — modified, strengthened, but

increasingly cramped — served as regional headquarters until 1989 and the move to the Pink Palace in Fenham.

The abandoned building has since been gutted and will re-emerge next summer as the centrepiece of Newcastle Building Society's Portland Towers headquarters.

Roger Burgess tells me: "I am particularly interested in stories of the Victorian building itself and its somewhat inappropriate enclosure of the activities of a daily broadcasting organisation."

You can contact Roger on (091) 258-7905.