





Pressure on Government to 'rethink' plan as pensioner poverty rises

# LAST DITCH PLANT TO SAVE PENSION TRIPIE

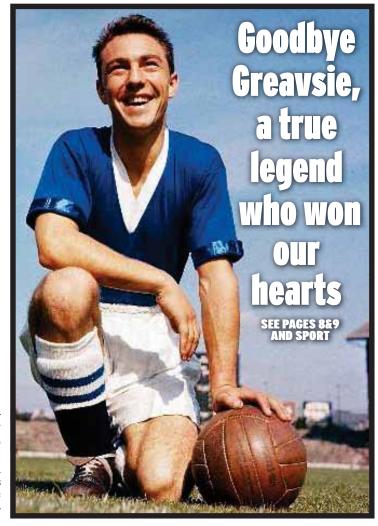
LOCK

By Sarah O'Grady and Jessica Sheldon

CAMPAIGNERS yesterday launched a last ditch bid to save the pension triple lock.

Pensioner groups have warned of retirement poverty for millions as ministers plan to suspend the

TURN TO PAGE 4





Boot-iful pairing...Jimmy and lan

# Memories of Saint & Greavsie

By Chris Riches

FOR many viewers, Jimmy Greaves is best remembered for his ITV partnership with lan St John, on the brilliant Saint And Greavsie show.

It treated a new generation to the striker's loveable personality, in which he even charmed heavyweight champ Mike Tyson.

In 1992, he talked to future US President Donald Trump as he made the draw for the Rumbelows Cup and gifted the bewildered millionaire a Saint and Greavsie mug.

Scotland international lan St John, who died aged 82 in March, made his name under Bill Shankly as Liverpool were transformed into one of the greatest sides in the land.

Their collaboration began when they both hosted round-up show On The Ball for ITV's World Of Sport, and their banter proved so popular that they got their own programme in 1985.

While the suited Saint stuck to the script, the colourful V-neck jumper-clad Greaves had free rein to improvise.

When the show was scrapped in 1992, the last edition ended with the pair singing The Last Time and riding off into the sunset.

JIMMY Greaves' family say they have been overwhelmed by the messages of love for the England and Tottenham Hotspur legend after he died yesterday, aged 81.

after he died yesterday, aged 81.

His son Danny said: "The love and support that has poured out for Dad has been incredible. It has been unbelievable, overwhelming."

The 56-year-old added that the

amily had imagined his reunion with England's World Cup-winning captain Bobby Moore, who died in 1993.

Danny said: "Dad will be upstairs now having a pint with Bobby Moore."

Jimmy began his career with Chelsea before spells at AC Milan, Spurs and West Ham.

He scored 44 goals in 57 games for England and was part of the 1966 World Cup-winning squad.

He holds the record for most goals in the English top flight with 357 and scored 266 in 379 matches for Tottenham, winning two FA Cups and one Cup Winners' Cup.



By Chris Riches

His 41 goals in 1960-61 remains a record in a season for Chelsea, and he also holds the Spurs record with 37 in 1962-63.

A Tottenham statement said: "We are extremely saddened to learn of the passing of the great Jimmy Greaves, not just Tottenham Hotspur's record goalscorer but the finest marksman this country has ever seen. Jimmy passed away at home in the early hours of this morning, aged 81."

### Addiction

The former player and popular TV pundit – one half of the Saint And Greavsie show with Ian St John – remains fourth on the list of all-time England goalscorers, behind Wayne Rooney (53), Sir Bobby Charlton (49) and Gary Lineker (48).

He struggled with alcoholism but beat his addiction and was still

working in 2015 when he suffered a huge stroke that robbed him of his ability to walk and talk.

Jimmy was awarded an MBE in 2021 after a long campaign to honour him. He leaves behind wife Irene, 81, four children Lynn, 61, Mitzi, 59, Danny and Andrew, 54, along with 10 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson tweeted yesterday: "Sad to hear the news about Jimmy Greaves. He will be remembered as a goalscoring legend and one of the greats of English football."

England captain Harry Kane, Spurs' second highest scorer behind Jimmy, said he was a "true legend".

England manager Gareth Southgate confirmed that the Three Lions will put on a special tribute in their October internationals. He said: "Jimmy Greaves was

someone who was admired by all who love football, regardless of club allegiances. I was privileged to meet Jimmy's family last year at Tottenham as the club marked his 80th birthday. Jimmy deserves inclusion in any list of England's best players. His place in our history will never be forgotten."

Sir Geoff Hurst paid tribute to his former team-mate, saying: "One of the truly great goalscorers, terrific guy with an absolutely brilliant sense of humour, the best."

Born in Newham, east London, Jimmy became a goalscoring phenomenon. He was called into Sir Alf Ramsey's 1966 World Cup squad and started the tournament but was injured in the group stages and lost his place to Sir Geoff who famously scored a hat-trick in the 4.2 final win over West Germany

4-2 final win over West Germany. Ex-Three Lions defender Rio Ferdinand posted: "First autobiography I ever read! Inspiration."

And former Arsenal star Ian Wright said: "The first footballer's name I heard from my teacher."

name I heard from my teacher." Ex-Spurs star and Match Of The Day presenter Gary Lineker called



club allegiances. I was privileged to The talisman...with Tottenham in 1968 - front row, third from left

Pictures: PA. GETTY, REUTERS, REX & MIRRORPIX

# Dad will be having a pi with Bob Moore now



Jimmy "possibly the greatest striker this country has produced". He added: "A truly magnificent footballer "' A truly magnificent footballer who was at home both in the box and on the box.

"A charismatic, knowledgeable,

witty and warm man."

To loud applause Jimmy's image was beamed on to giant screens at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium yesterday as they hosted Chelsea in a 3-0 Premier League defeat.

Jimmy and Irene were just 18 when they first got married in a small ceremony at a registry office in Romford, Essex, in March 1958.

They suffered tragedy when they lost their son Jimmy Jnr from pneumonia aged just five months.

The couple split at the height of his drinking in 1977 when at one point, Irene had to sell her jewel-

point, Irene had to sell her jewel-lery to keep the family home.

She said: "I just got fed up with him. I'd say, 'You'll drink yourself to death and you won't be here to see the kids grow up'." But 18 months later she took him back

wny most of us we prised – and perl little disappointed he only got the MI not a knighthood."

SPORT: BACK PAGE

and they remarried in 2017. Irene added: "We've always adored each other, without a doubt. I never wanted anyone else."

Star turn

England

Chelsea

.front row.

first left for

and record

Danny said: "We had the family me, my brother, two sisters and mum - with him all the time, and thankfully he went peacefully in his sleep and without any pain.

### Wonderful

"There's a lot of sadness, but the last six-and-a-bit years since Dad had his stroke have been tough. With all of us, there's relief that Dad is comfortable now and wherever he is, he's happy. He was just a wonderful, wonderful entertainer. That's why most of us were surprised - and perhaps a little disappointed – that he only got the MBE and not a knighthood."



Back together...Jimmy and Irene with sons Andrew and Danny in 1979

# Turbulent life of a football genius

**JAMES Peter Greaves MBE was** born on February 20, 1940, and went on to smash English goalscoring records.

The son of a London Underground train driver, Jimmy was scouted by Chelsea while still a schoolboy. He signed for the side as an

apprentice in 1955, making a goalscoring debut in 1957 aged 17 in a 1-1 draw against Spurs.

Four promising years at Stamford Bridge came to an end in 1961 when unrest over a £19-per-week wage cap led him to switch to AC Milan.

Despite nine goals in 12 games, he disliked the Italian strict training regimes and returned to London, signing for Tottenham for £99,999 in December 1961.

The unusual fee came about as manager Bill Nicholson wanted him to avoid the burdensome tag of being British football's first £100,000 player.

And his nine-year spell

– which would see him notch 266 goals in 379 matches at White Hart Lane began with a

hat-trick on his debut against Blackpool.

It saw an FA Cup win in his first season. Jimmy helped Spurs become the first English team to win a European trophy, lifting the Cup Winners' Cup.

His stardom was such that in 1964 John Lennon, stopped a Beatles concert at the London Palladium mid-set after spotting Jimmy in the crowd. John said: "We've got real By Chris Riches

royalty in here tonight!" The player's nine-year love affair with Tottenham ended in 1970 when manager Bill decided he was surplus to requirements, which the player later admitted was his biggest upset.
Jimmy switched to West Ham

and scored 13 goals in 40 games but soon started seeking more solace in alcohol than sport.

His son Danny, a professional footballer himself, said that when in a low mood swing his father would play Neil Diamond records and get drunk.

The death of his and wife Irene's second child Jimmy

Junior before his first birthday in 1960 was often cited as a

reason for his drinking. He later admitted: "Jimmy's death devastated us, it really drove us out of our minds.
"If ever there was a time I wanted to claw

back yesterday, it

the couple's was the day young Jimmy died. Our grief lay before us, our joy seemingly behind us."

Jimmy quit drinking in 1978.
He once admitted having "up to 20 pixts of boxs in the our recommendation." 20 pints of beer in the course

of a day, then drink a whole bottle of vodka".

He said: "There is no tried and tested way of surviving with alcoholism. You have to find your own path. It was not until I woke up one day in a mental hospital in Essex that I had the reality check I needed."

At a low point, he was living alone in a one-bed flat in east London.

But aged 77, he was welcomed back to White Hart Lane in 2017 with his family to be photographed by the pitch.



Young love...the couple's wedding in 1958



### FROM BACK PAGE

break those numbers would be incredible. I got to meet him back in 2017."

Former Tottenham captain Gary Mabbutt said: "Jimmy was a legend at Spurs but also a legend at Chelsea and as far as English football is concerned he's one of the greatest scorers of all time in the English game.

game.
"People talk about legends sometimes very loosely – with Jimmy, I think you can use that word consistently because he was that wherever he played. His sublime goalscoring ability, his finishing and the character that he was.

"It's a very, very sad day and it was quite poignant that Chelsea were playing Spurs."

Former Tottenham striker Gary Lineker tweeted: "Quite possibly the greatest striker this country has ever produced. A truly magnificent footballer who was at home both in the box. A charismatic, knowledgeable, witty and warm man. A giant of the sport."

Spurs winger Cliff Jones, who played alongside Greaves after he joined the club in 1961, posted: "Heartbroken today to hear this. Rest in peace Jim, the greatest goalscorer of all time

and a true friend."
Greaves scored 44
goals in 57 games for
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record for most goals in
the English top flight
with 357

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His 41 goals in
1960-61 remains a
record in a season for
Chelsea, and he also
holds the Spurs record
with 37 in 1962-63.

Another former Spurs team-mate Alan Mullery summed up his goal prowess by saying: "He was a wonderful, wonderful footballer, the best goalscorer to

ever play.

"He had to play [in an era] to stop people kicking lumps out of him, scored goals for fun, you'd be irritated that he'd not touched the ball and then bang, back of the net

back of the net.
"I just don't know
how much more I can
give than to say he was
the best goalscorer I
have ever seen."

Tributes were paid by all Greaves' clubs yesterday, as well as England – and there was even a sign up at Seven Sisters station, near the Spurs ground, in his honour.

## le Greaves after in his honour. THE MAKING OF A LEGEND

BORN: February 20, 1940, London

**CLUBS:** Chelsea (1957-61) 169 apps 132 goals

AC Milan (1961) 14 apps 9 goals

Tottenham (1961-70) 379 apps 266 goals

West Ham 1970-71) 40 apps 13 goals

INTERNATIONAL

ENGLAND (1959-67) 57 apps 44 goals

HONOURS

CLUB: FA Cup: 1962, 1967

European Cup Winners' Cup: 1963

Division One top scorer six times (a record) 37 league goals in 1962-63 (Tottenham record)

**INTERNATIONAL:** World Cup 1966



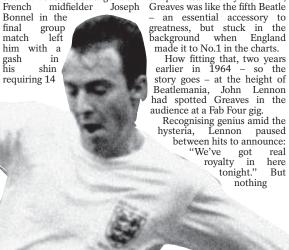
### By Mike Walters

JIMMY GREAVES was England's crown jewel who was left standing at the gates of glory when football came home.

As the final whistle sounded at the 1966 World Cup final, and they thought it was all over bar the Queen handing over the holy grail to Three Lions captain Bobby Moore, Greaves was the loneliest man at Wembley.

Amid the outpouring of jubilation on the England bench, the supreme goalscorer wore the look of a genius jilted by Jules Rimet.

Greaves had started the tournament as manager Sir Alf Ramsey's first-choice striker until a robust challenge from French midfielder Joseph



TOP FIVE TOP-FLIGHT SCORERS TOP FIVE TOTTENHAM POST WAR TO PRESENT DAY GOALSCORERS

STILL NUMBER ONE ON THE CLUB HIT PARADE

POST WAR TO PRESENT DAY		
	APP GOALS	
Jimmy Greaves	516	357
Alan Shearer	559	283
Nat Lofthouse	452	253
Ian Rush	514	233
David Hord	<i>A</i> 12	223

hat-trick in the final, still a

**Bobby Chariton** 

Jimmy Greaves

Gary Lineker

**Harry Kane** 

Tom Finney

Michael Owen

Nat Lofthouse

Frank Lampard

Vivian Woodward

Alan Shearer

unique feat 55 years

stitches. His replacement, Geoff would ever compensate Hurst, headed the winner in the crestfallen Greaves when Ramsey's Boys of '66 wore the brutal quarter-final against Argentina in which Ramsey crown and he missed out on the coronation. "I had missed out on the match of a lifetime, and denounced the South Americans as "animals", and retained his place. it hurt," he admitted later. As Hurst went on to score a

Although the wider world did not know it at the time, the cruelty of circumstance began his slide into alcoholism, an accomplice that wiped the 1970s from his memory like a computer hard

I missed

out on the

match of a

drive.

Jimmy Greaves,
who has died aged
81, was the greatest
goalscorer England

ever produced.

No disrespect to Wayne Rooney, Gary Lineker, Bobby Charlton or

Harry Kane, but Greaves scored 44 goals in 57 caps – and none of them were against San Marino, Andorra, Eskimos, Teletubbies or Smurfs. It will forever remain a stain

It will forever remain a stain on the game, and the archaic honours system, that he was never knighted.

And it even took 43
years for him to be
awarded a World
Cup winner's
medal
because

only the XI who conquered West Germany in the final were eligible to receive one in 1966.

He was finally presented with one at a Downing Street reception in 2009 after FIFA amended the rules.

Greaves may have sold his medal for £44,000 at a sports memorabilia auction later, but his aura as the ultimate finisher never deserted him.

In an era of heavy pitches and ferocious tackles, he would leave markers behind and skip round the goalkeeper as if they were all weighed down by hobnail boots and he was in dancing shoes. He scored six international hat-tricks, still an England record – one of them in the 9-3 humiliation of Scotland at Wembley in 1961, the year Tottenham won the Double.

The rout, which reduced Scottish keeper Frank

Haffey to the butt of comedians' wisecracks, coined a new phrase in the clock-watchers' lexicon. Q: "What's the time?" A: "Nine past Haffey."

Greaves, blessed with an Eastender's innate humour and

0.46

0.60

0.77

0.64

0.45

0.39

0.91

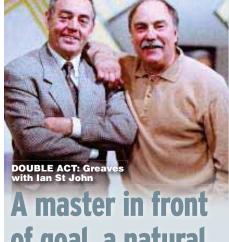
0.48

0.27

1.26

blissful comic timing, would become a sultan of punchlines himself, a perfect foil for chortling sidekick Ian St John on ITV's brilliant antidote to po-faced football punditry, Saint and Greavsie.

But above all, Jimmy Greaves was the genius who missed out when immortality came calling in 1966. And up there among the celestial constellations, somebody's going to have a bloody hard job marking the brightest star.



A master in front of goal, a natural on our TV screens

IWAS too young to see Jimmy Greaves play in the flesh. Not by much, mind, but sadly enough.

As they are for many, my memories of him as a player are mostly those flickering images of him ghosting past defenders and stroking, always stroking, the ball into the net.

There were the tales of his genius from older relatives who saw him in action, but what I really remember is the seismic shock of the sudden transfer from Tottenham to West Ham.

West Ham.
Then, from the point of view of a 12-year-old, he was only in the corner of the eye as his career declined and others – younger, flashier, more current, took

over.
After West
Ham there
were reports
of problems
with booze, and
then the
occasional, sad,
aborted comebacks at
places like Barnet and

Woodford Town.
And then, the master in front of goal was gone, seemingly.
A memory, like all

A memory, like all the other stars of the past.

Life moves on swiftly in that longgone teenage secondary modern world.

There was Martin Chivers and T Rex, Jimmy Pearce and Slade

And then, suddenly, he was back.

On the telly.
Coming from
London we first saw
him on On the Ball,
Saturday lunchtimes
with Ian St John, the
former Liverpool
forward (sadly also no
longer with us, having
passed away in March).

By **Tony Banks** 

And then they had their own show, same time same place, Saint and Greavsie. And he was a natural.

Jim was funny. Always ready to prick the bubble of pomposity of football with a laugh or a gag.

I remember for some reason someone once brought some exotic food into the studio.

St John, always the stiffer straight man, offered him some.

Jim said: "Well I used to drink anything, so I might as well eat anything..." Relaxed, naturally

witty, ever ready to take the mickey out of himself.

A master in front of goal, he was now a master in front

of the camera, paving that path that Gary Lineker, left, and others have followed.

In later years, working in newspapers, I worked with Jim briefly.

One time we took the World Cup to Hackney Marshes with him as a publicity stunt.

They were about to kick off all across that vast, windswept plain of pitches, but word got out.

Suddenly every game stopped, and everyone wandered over. Jim was surrounded, but chatting away to all the Sunday footballers, happily agreeing to have his picture taken with them.

In the end, it took hours. Who knows what happened to the Hackney and Leyton Sunday District League schedule that day!

A natural.



49

48

44

41

40

30

30

29

29

57

64

89

76

63

23

my Greaves Games 57 Minutes 5130 Goals 44 Mins/Goal 117 Won 30 Drew 13 Lost 14



express.co.uk/sport

### **BRIGHTON 2 LEICESTER**

POTTER VOWS TO KEEP SEAGULLS **GROUNDED AS SUPPORTERS START** TO DREAM OF EUROPE: PAGE 57

TOTTENHAM O CHELSEA 3 Agony for Alli as By **Tony Banks** DELE ALLI admitted it was his blunder that set Chelsea on the road to a crushing win over Tottenham.
Alli allowed Thiago Silva, left, the space to head home in the second half and said: "It was my man so I need to take responsibility." Wounded by the news that club legend Jimmy Greaves had

WEST HAM 1 MAN UTD 2 Solskjaer salutes heroic De Gea **Blues triumph** 

By Paul Brown

for both club and country

**OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJAER hailed** David De Gea's collector's-item penalty save in stoppage time for rescuing Manchester United.

De Gea, left with goalscorer Jesse Lingard, ended a run of 40 penalties without a save to deny Mark Noble. United manager Solskjaer said: "I've

TURN TO PAGE 59, COLUMN 4

### **GREAVES 1940-2021**

TURN TO PAGE 60, COLUMN 1

HE HAD
A BALL:
Greaves was
a goal-scoring
great and it
was fitting
two of his old
clubs - Spurs
and Chelsea
- could pay
tribute before
their game their game yesterday

### By Tony Banks

HARRY KANE led the tributes as football goodbye to the legendary Jimmy Greaves.

Greaves scored 266 goals for Tottenham in 379 games between 1961 and 1970 after starting his career at Chelsea.

The two sides met yesterday at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium just hours after the news of Greaves' death at the age of 81 was announced, Chelsea winning 3-0.

And Spurs striker Kane said: "First and foremost our condolences to Jimmy's family and close friends. It's a sad one.

"Jimmy was an incredible player and goalscorer and a legend for club and country. It's frightening really how good a player he was.

"For someone like me to look at his numbers and one day go on to

TURN TO PAGE 62. COLUMN 1

Kane praises a true legend

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