

Linda gets her man!

LINDA Redford, wife of Walton and Hersham manager Bill Redford, missed their Isthmian League match at Hornchurch last Saturday because she was signing a player.

She was at Hillingdon Borough where she completed the transfer of striker Tony Burge 20 minutes after the Southern League match against Minehead.

Walton thought they had signed Burge earlier in the week. But with a sudden about-turn, Hillingdon decided they needed him for the Minehead match.

Bill Redford said: "We needed an experienced player to strengthen our promotion challenge. Although we were disappointed at being unable to obtain him for last week's game, we see him as a worthwhile investment."

Redford also expects to clinch the signing of a midfield player later this week. With the talented Tommy James missing the last seven matches because of knee ligament trouble and possibly facing a further long spell out of the game, a replacement is badly needed.

Southall manager Geoff

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL NEWS

Taylor slammed the Isthmian League's decision to make them go ahead with last Saturday's match at Enfield. He had to call two players — Cliff Rapley and Duncan Clough — out of retirement and field five teenagers in order to field a team after his side had been ravaged by 'flu.

Taylor said: "Earlier in the season when Slough were hit by injury they received permission to call off their Monday evening match against us on the previous night. We got nowhere with our appeal. It seems there is one rule for the rich and one for the poor and we are definitely among the poor." Geoff forgot, however, that Slough have no reserve side.

This situation is certain to change next season thanks to the sponsorship of the Isthmian League Youth Cup by Berger Paints. Clubs are beginning to realise that there is more to going open than signing a first team squad of players on contracts and this sponsorship can only serve to strengthen the League in depth.

Already Leytonstone, who have cut out all players' expenses and bonuses, have taken two of the local boys clubs, Cawley and New Forest under their wing. Each of these clubs

run seven junior teams. Leytonstone also plan to spend about £15,000 on expanding their Cedars Clubhouse.

Slough also plan to tap the pool of local youth talent while Barking have adopted River Hawk, one of the top youth outfits in Newham and Hendon have linked up with Watling Boys.

Enfield, too, are having serious thoughts about this next season. "We didn't enter the Berger cup this season because our youngsters are only about 14 or 15 years old and this is an under 18 competition which meant they would have got hammered every week," said secretary Alan Diment. "But obviously we must consider this in the future."

Woking's Army player Michey Dolg is set to join Farnborough while Hillingdon Borough are keen to sign Dulwich Hamlet's transfer listed defender Danny Godwin. Hillingdon manager Jimmy Langley had a spell in charge at Champion Hill last year.

Letchworth defender Paul Bowgett so impressed Spurs manager Keith Burkinshaw in recent trials that he has been signed on contract. Ilford have

released former West Ham striker Alan Bond who is expected to join Dagenham and defender Russell Mumford has also left the club. Hitchin have released midfield player Kevin Mulhern — Enfield are interested.

Sutton have signed striker Peter Kemp from Maidstone. He had scored 15 goals in the Southern League this season. Another former Middlesex League player, striker Kevin Jackson from Yeading, will make his debut for Staines shortly. The last player to join them from this league was Peter Shaw, subsequently sold to Charlton for £10,000.

Kingstonian have signed the experienced Fred Pudney formerly with Hendon and Dulwich Hamlet. Finchley are looking for a new physiotherapist following the decision of Barry Palmer to move to Norfolk. Kingsbury have sacked manager Gordon Wilson who took over from Tommy Darling at the start of the season.

Moreton Town, the current Hellenic League champions, are withdrawing from the League to enter the West Midlands Combination because of the heavy travelling costs in the Hellenic competition, which covers five counties.