

A few weeks later, meanwhile, the Masters Tournament at Nottingham Arena saw a Forest 'old boys' team play similar teams from Notts, Derby and Leicester. Vintage shooting from Ian Woan and Peter Davenport saw Forest thrash Derby – although sadly they then got tonked by both Leicester and Notts...

5) Cloughie statue bid kicks off

This summer saw the Brian Clough Statue Fund finally declared officially open for donations. The initiative is backed by the club, Nottingham City Council and the Clough family and aims to raise £60,000 to pay for a lasting memorial of the Master Manager in Nottingham city centre. We're sure all *LTLF* readers will agree that this is a worthy cause.

The fund was launched with a mobile press conference in June on board Nottingham's Brian Clough tram. Guest of honour was Colin Tarrant – the actor who recently played Cloughie in the Nottingham Playhouse's excellent play *Old Big 'Ead: In the Spirit of the Man*.

Numerous events are being planned for the coming months to raise cash. In the meantime, limited edition badges in the style of Cloughie's green sweater are available to buy from the *LTLF* website, with all proceeds going directly to the fund.

You can also send donations towards to: Brian Clough Statue Fund, c/o Paul J. Ellis, PKF, Accountants & Business Advisers, Regent House, Clinton Avenue, Nottingham, NG5 1AZ. Please make cheques payable to 'Nottingham City Council – Brian Clough Statue Fund'.

6) New faces

It's sure been encouraging to see some decent signings arrive at the City Ground this summer – and *LTLF* hereby issues a hearty welcome to all the new boys.

What's more, seeing as a member of the *LTLF* team is mates with a Norwich fan, we decided to get them to give a quick verdict on Gary Holt.

He said: "He looks a bit like a ginger Lee Evans. He's okay – stays back a lot, but then with our defence most of the team had to! He'll run his tits off for you. He's nicknamed 'three lungs' because he's the fittest player you'll ever see. Also sadly known as 'Kabaddi', because he tends to run in circles a bit chasing the opposition! Good signing for this year and next year if you're back in the Championship, but don't expect many glorious 50-yard passes!"



Cloughie – looking a bit like the back of a bus

7) New away kit launched

No-one would ever seriously think of comparing Gareth Taylor with Romario or Paul Evans with Zico. But thanks to those crazy fools at Umbro, watching Forest at certain away games this season really will be 'just like watching Brazil'! Oh yes...

8) Adam Nowland's girlfriend!

"We name sexy Saskia's soccer lover", boasted the headline in the *Daily Mirror* – the Saskia in question being one of the desperadoes who'd just been unveiled as housemates for this year's series of *Big Brother*.

So who was this 'soccer lover'? Some Premiership big shot? No, far from it – it was none other than Forest's very own 'Mr Sicknote', Adam Nowland!

Hilariously, the report went on to describe Nowland as "the super-fit player". Surely proof above anything else that you shouldn't believe everything you read – least of all in the *Mirror*!

9) Champions!

Though last season was a catastrophe for Forest's lads, the same cannot be said for the club's women's team – the lady Reds ended up Midland Combination League Champions!

Well done to all involved. Next time the bloke behind you lays into Forest for playing like "a bunch of girls", the only retort from now on is surely, "If only they would..!"

10) Amusing headlines

At *LTLF*, we always love a carefully-

crafted headline. And painful as it was, the tail end of last season brought two corkers.

First of all, Eugenn Bopp's late goal against Gillingham after he came off the bench saw several papers go with the classy 'Gills sunk by German sub'.

But top prize surely goes to footie website *TeamTalk.com* – for a story based on an interview with Ross Gardner, in which he talked about how Forest may not find League One easy, they used the legend 'Gardner: uphill struggle ahead'. Inspired!

'Wicked Whispers'

1) Which Forest star risked injury this summer by appearing as a ringer for his mate's five-a-side team?

2) Which Reds player is known for using his prowess with the computer package *Photoshop* to amuse his team-mates? Our favourite piece of handywork from his 'portfolio' has Gregor Robertson's face super-imposed onto the famous Edward Munch painting *The Scream*, along with the caption: "Gregor's reaction when he heard the news of his new employment with Hucknall Town"!

3) Which former Forest defender's girlfriend used to regularly visit the *LTLF* website to find out what fans had been saying about her man?

4) Which fellow star of Italia '90 was recently spotted out on the town in Nottingham with Des Walker? Clue: catch him if you can, cos he's an England man!

5) Which East Midlands football manager, who has recently parted company with his club, is rumoured to have been made to leave because he was shagging... [*Oh dear, we seem to have run out of space. Such a pity! – LTLF libel lawyer*]