

A mixed bag...

With disappointing early results in the league and a humbling exit from the Carling Cup against Macclesfield, it's not been the barnstorming start to the season that most Forest fans were hoping for. But it's been interesting nonetheless. Here is what has grabbed our attention so far...

A winning start

In football, it seldom gets better than winning on the opening day of the season in blazing August sunshine. And the Reds' victory against Huddersfield was notable mainly for two substitutions – the dramatic return of David Johnson, and the hilarious late cameo of Wes Morgan as a striker!

But the most entertaining part of the day was actually a comment overheard after the game from a confused Huddersfield fan crossing Trent Bridge. Gazing over at the Riverside Festival which was in full swing on the embankment, the chap in question turned to his mate and asked, "Bloody hell, do they have a massive carnival here every time Forest win?"

You probably had to be there!

LTLF launches!

As well as Forest's win against Huddersfield, the opening day of the season was also notable for the launch of this very publication. And Reds fans clearly loved it, as they could be heard singing the magazine's title on several occasions during the game!

'You Reds' bid buoyed!

As those of you who read the first issue of *LTLF* may remember, we recently launched a campaign to try and get Forest to play 'You Reds' by Resistance 77 when the players run out of the tunnel on matchdays. Sadly, this doesn't quite seem to have taken off in quite the way we'd hoped, with just a feeble 19 signatures on

our online petition last time we checked! However, we did receive an email from Resistance 77 guitarist Kieron, offering us his blessing.

"Ta for suggesting 'You Reds' – we will certainly support your campaign and I will even rewrite the lyrics to be more up to date," the email read. "I still prefer 'Robin Hood', but I am a bit of a traditionalist!"

LTLF is now hoping to get Resistance 77 back in the studio to re-record 'You Reds' with the new lyrics – and possibly give away the recording as a free CD with the magazine! Watch this space...

F**king Walsall!

What is it with this team?!

Okay, the farcical penalty decision at the Bescot Stadium was probably as much proof as you'd ever need that it simply wasn't Forest's night. But even so – even if Jose Mourinho let us have his entire Chelsea team on loan, we'd probably still lose to Walsall!

Statue Fund success

Money continues to pour into the Brian Clough Statue Fund. One of the most impressive contributions towards the fund so far has been a chap paying £970 in an *eBay* auction for a banner hung in Nottingham's Market Square during the civic memorial service that took place shortly after Clough's death. The banner was one of a series that each featured a different Clough quote.

Meanwhile, for those of you who can't afford that sort of outlay but would like to own Clough's best quotes, a new

book came out recently featuring the all the words and wisdom of the great man. Titled *Grass in the Sky: Old Big 'Ead in His Own Words*, the pocket-sized tome is available for £5 from bookshops. *LTLF* has ten copies to give away this month to new subscribers. For more details, see page 18.

Gino clobbers Meggo!

In a start to the season that's been short on laughs (to say the least) Gino Padula careering off the pitch at Barnsley and accidentally flattening Gary Megson is surely the funniest moment of the campaign so far. But with rumours of changing-room bust-ups abundant, *LTLF* can't help wonder if it really was an accident...

In...

The Reds recently signed Eugene Dadi from Tranmere. Word from a Tranmere-supporting mate of one of the *LTLF* team hardly fills us with hope about this particular acquisition ("he's always fouling and moaning"). However, we were amused to discover that Dadi has his own fashion label, called Huge-N! Full details of Huge-N, including some priceless photos of Dadi modelling his own stuff, can be found on his website, www.huge-n.com.

Also arriving at the City Ground on loan recently was goalkeeper Russell Hoult, who of course used to play for Derby. During his time at Pride Park, we hear that Hoult was stepping out with a girl who did the dirty on him by selling a story to a tabloid newspaper. The story that appeared



featured the headline 'HIS FRIENDS CALLED HIM HOTDOG...AND WHEN HE TOOK HIS TROUSERS OFF, I COULD SEE WHY!' We are honestly not making this up!

...and out

Departing Forest, Neil Harris has gone on loan to Gillingham for the rest of the season – and managed on his debut to do what he failed to during his entire time at Forest by actually sticking the ball in the net!

Equally infuriatingly, Marlon King recently knocked in his 176th (or something) of the season for Watford. What is it with Forest and strikers?!

LDV Vans Trophy

If any fans were still in denial about Forest's fall from grace, then the news of the Reds being drawn against Woking in the LDV Vans Trophy will surely have dragged them screaming from their torpor!

Still, let's not get snooty about this competition – after all, was it not 'the Clough way' to go hell for leather for any meaningless trophy?

Return of the Jack

Along with Kris Commons' freak goal that sealed the win, the Reds' recent home game against Rotherham saw Jack Lester mark his long-awaited return from injury with a cracking performance and a goal, followed by a string of influential displays and two more goals.

Welcome back, Jack – nice to know you've still got the same knack of winning penalties as well!