



Hull City DSA Newsletter



Hello and welcome to the February edition of the newsletter!

Hello and welcome to February.

First of all, a huge thank you to everyone who has supported our recent raffle. Your generosity is very much appreciated, and the funds raised will be put to excellent use.

On the pitch, Sergej continues to mould an impressive and effective team, and promotion is starting to look like a very real possibility. Off the pitch, our coffee morning has resumed this month, and as always, everyone is welcome to come along for a chat and a cuppa.

I recently had the pleasure of speaking with Kick It Out. We discussed the diversity of the Hull City fanbase and the procedures in place for reporting incidents of racism, sexism, homophobia, ageism, and other forms of discrimination. It certainly gave me food for thought.

Are supporters' groups—and the club itself—doing enough to reach out to all parts of our community? For example, there is currently no Rainbow Tigers group, yet the LGBT+ community undoubtedly follows football in East Yorkshire. Sheffield has Rainbow Blades just down the road. Are we also effectively engaging with the diverse ethnic communities across our area?



Hull City Disabled Supporters Association



@HullCityDSA



HullCityDSA

SIGNED SHIRT RAFFLE

Ending on Sunday 15th
February, see social
media for details

COFFEE MORNINGS

Tuesday 3rd March
@ Tigers Trust Arena

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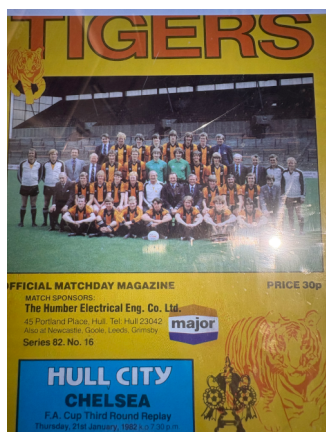
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If you do witness or hear anything, home or away, that you feel should be reported, you can contact Kick It Out directly via report@kickitout.org.



Finally, a bit of nostalgia for our older Tigers fans. Who remembers the 1982 FA Cup replay against Chelsea on a bitterly cold Thursday night? City had held Chelsea to a draw at Stamford Bridge on the Monday, and as I was still at school, I relied on Radio Humberside updates. Although Chelsea fans were officially banned from the replay, many still found their way into Boothferry Park, adding to an already electric atmosphere. With John Davies deputising for Tony Norman, City battered Chelsea but ultimately succumbed to two second-half goals. Let's hope 2026 brings a different outcome.

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Olly Harsley sums up the month of January for us.

Hull City began 2026 by hosting Stoke City at the MKM Stadium on New Year's Day. Sergej Jakirović's team looked to build on a very impressive festive period, but they sadly ended up losing to the Potters yet again on their own patch. Apart from Charlie Hughes and Kasey Palmer efforts that hit the bar, it was a tepid and disappointing performance by the City players as they failed to build on the momentum they previously built up.

Sadly, they didn't get the chance to atone for that display due to the very late postponement of their home game against Watford. It was a collective bit of incompetence by all involved and definitely wasn't a massive conspiracy despite what some of the Fox Mulder wannabe Hornets fans were saying on social media.

The Tigers returned to action in the FA Cup with a glamorous tie contested with fellow Championship side Blackburn Rovers. Not sure what's worse between being forced to watch Mrs Brown's Boys or the 120 minutes of this cup tie again as it was an absolute write-off with regards to its quality and entertainment value. At the end of the day, City got through on penalties with props to both Dillon Phillips and Dave Akintola for the respective parts they played in that.

Their attention turned back to the league as they made the trip to the South Coast to face Southampton at St Mary's. City had to contend with their ever-growing injury list with Jakirović still being unable to field his best team on paper. Despite that, his side had a two-goal lead at half-time. Kyle Joseph fired in his seventh league goal of the season before Hughes headed in from a corner to open his own account this campaign. Ross Stewart grabbed a goal back for the hosts, but the Tigers held on and put themselves back into the play-off spots.

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Olly Harsley sums up the month of January for us, continued:

City arguably put in their best display of the season thus far away at Preston North End where they strolled to a 3-0 win. Liam Millar bagged the first goal from a brilliant counter-attack which involved some fabulous Akintola pace.

Jakirović's team made it 2-0 through Akin Famewo's first goal for the club before Oli McBurnie grabbed his tenth goal of the season with a smart bicycle kick. McBurnie was assisted by debutant Yū Hirakawa who made a superb impression after coming off the bench.

In their penultimate match of the month, the Tigers welcomed Swansea City to the MKM. They went 2-0 up in the first half courtesy of a McBurnie penalty and a fantastic Regan Slater strike to bag the club's first goal outside of the penalty area this season so far. It got a bit nervy in the second half when Swansea pulled a goal back, but City held on to earn a third straight win. Special mention to Hirakawa for meeting and speaking to a young neurodivergent Tigers fan after the game as it was an amazing gesture and showed what a great gent he is.

Last up in January was an away game at struggling Blackburn. In truth, it was a "typical City" performance as there was hardly any quality on display and looked like the Tigers wouldn't score a goal against Rovers at all in the 2025/26 season. However, debutant Lewis Koumas

came off the bench and slotted home in the latter stages of the second half to secure a vital win. It left Jakirović's team in third place and just five points off both Coventry City and Middlesbrough with a game in hand.

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Anyone who receives Motability magazine will likely have spotted the recent feature on Wrexham AFC's Disability Liaison Officer, Kerry Evans.

The work Kerry has led at Wrexham is hugely impressive. While managing her own disabilities, including living with a stoma, she has been instrumental in making the stadium more inclusive and stoma-friendly for supporters.

Among her many achievements is the introduction of a 165-seat Quiet Zone for families — a significant step forward for inclusive matchday experiences. The area is supported by Makaton-trained stewards and offers a range of sensory aids, including weighted blankets and other calming resources.

Alongside continued improvements to disabled away travel, this represents a major commitment from Wrexham AFC, one that has been warmly welcomed and appreciated by their supporters.

The article is well worth a read ahead of City's trip to Wrexham in March, which promises to be another crucial promotion six-pointer.

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