

Christian Doidge delighted for strike partner's 'fantastic achievement'

Hibs' striker Christian Doidge has praised his team mates for the club's excellent start to the season which sees them sit at the top of the table, ahead of Rangers on goals scored.

The Welshman is particularly 'delighted' with strike-partner Kevin Nisbet who "hit the ground running" with a superb hat-trick against Livingston at the Tony Macaroni Arena on Saturday after arriving in the summer from Dunfermline, but he was also complimentary about others in the side.



PHOTO Alan Rennie

Nisbet opened the scoring midway through the first half then added a second before Doidge got on the scoresheet to give Jack Ross's men a 3-0 lead at the break. The Lions pulled one back from a controversial penalty before Nisbet completed his treble from the spot as Hibs grabbed all three points at a difficult venue.

Speaking after the final whistle Doidge said: "I think we performed well together and I'm really happy for Kevin to get that hat-trick. He'd been doing that kind of thing all week in training, looking really sharp. It's a fantastic achievement at any level, getting a hat-trick, and I'm so pleased for him.

"With Martin (Boyle) getting a couple last week, we've got plenty of threat and there are even more goals in the team, I

think. Joe (Newell) scores a lot of goals in training, Daryl (Horgan) is a real threat as well. I think we looked good against Livingston, even when we were up against it, with Boyle's pace – so we probably could have scored a lot more.

“It can be hard as a striker when you go to a new club and the goals won't come, that's why I'm so delighted for Kevin to hit the ground running in such style. Hopefully there are many more goals to come from him.”

Doidge also praised Cypriot midfield 'hard man' Alex Gogic who had already demonstrated why he so highly rated by fans for his committed performances.

He continted: “Gogic brings something we've been missing. He's a hard man, isn't he? He looks hard, with that big bald head. A lovely guy off the pitch, but he's what we need.

“He's not looking to go forward and create chances. He's there to help the defenders out and he's been a massive help.”

Hibs now travel to Tannadice tomorrow to face Dundee United.