



By Jamie Yates

Tricky Dickie Forshaw: From goal king to outlaw

A native of Widnes, Richard 'Dick' Forshaw was living in Gateshead in 1911 when he joined the Royal Garrison Artillery. After the First World War he played football for Middlesbrough, before joining Liverpool in 1919. Lean and athletic, he scored 123 goals in 288 appearances, winning two Football League titles at Anfield.

Come the spring of 1927, Forshaw was sold, suddenly...to Everton. *Liverpool Echo* reporter 'Stork' wrote that it wasn't only the Kopites who were stunned.

'(The) transfer to Goodison had its difficulties... Mrs Forshaw was an ardent supporter of the "Reds"... and said: 'I have never been an Everton supporter, and I don't know what I will do about it.'

The *Echo* also published a supporter's poem...

THE PASSING OF RICHARD FORSHAW

To the immortal memory of Richard Forshaw,
The famous Liverpool inside right.
He looked upon Everton playing see-saw
And planned an idea, bright.
A conference was held, a deal was done,
A good man lost, a good man won.
A Liverpool player, a son of a gun,
Out to find Everton a place in the sun.
W.J.B.

Forshaw's experience fortified a struggling Everton team. 'Stork', again: 'Strength was needed in the Everton attack... Forshaw was just the man to pull them out of their difficulties. He did... the 'drop' was prevented... Forshaw was a born footballer.'

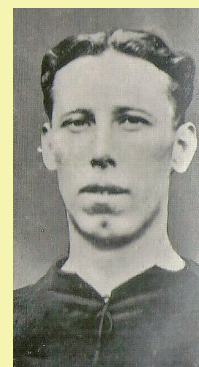
In 1927/28 Forshaw complemented 60-goal Dixie Dean exquisitely. Everton were champions and 92 years on, Dick Forshaw remains the only man to have won the League title playing for both Everton and Liverpool. Fleeting stops followed at Wolves, Waterford, Rhyl and Hednesford, before injury forced his retirement in 1930.

But that's not the end of Dick Forshaw's story... far from it!

Between 1932 and 1944, Forshaw would face multiple charges of embezzlement, theft and



R. FORSHAW, Liverpool.



deception in courts in London, Liverpool and Dublin, receiving sentences totalling 55 months' hard labour, plus at least two custodial terms.

In 1944, an Inspector Culshaw remarked in court: 'It has been said that (Forshaw) is a cunning, plausible and dangerous thief and liar. But I can say this for him – he has not been in trouble for fourteen months and has made some effort to lead an honest life. He has now obtained employment as a clerk.' Forshaw himself promised that 'if given a chance, never to trouble any court again'.

And there the trail runs cold, with records not showing what became of his life from there. Richard Forshaw died, in Brighton, on 26 August 1963.