

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
Wednesday, 16th March, 1977



Celtic v Motherwell

KICK-OFF 7.30 p.m.
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

DIXIE SCORES AGAINST HIS FORMER TEAM

TONIGHT'S Premier League game with Motherwell is the second meeting of the Lanarkshire team with Celtic this season — but they've still to play two other games at Fir Park.

Celtic should have made the trip to Motherwell on New Years Day but the frozen ground caused the game to be postponed and a new date for the fixture has still to be found.

In the only game of the season so far, on October 30, 1976, Celtic took both points with a fairly comfortable 2-0 victory. Kenny Dalglish scored both Celtic goals.

HIGH HOPES

In recent years matches between Celtic and Motherwell have been terrific encounters and have invariably produced a fair ration of goals.

Looking back to the two league meetings of the 1973-74 season we found that each club won on their home ground.

In October 6, 1973, Motherwell under the guidance of Ian St John, came to Celtic Park with high hopes of getting a result but left Celtic Park empty handed after the ninety minutes of action.

THE TEAMS

The teams on that occasion were:-

Celtic: Hunter; McGrain and Brogan; Murray, McNeill and Connelly; Johnstone and Dalglish; Deans; Callaghan and Wilson. Substitutes: V. Davidson and P. McCluskey.

Motherwell: McCrae; Miller and Wark; Watson, Muir and Goodwin; McCabe and Graham; Goldthorp; McClymont and Martin. Substitutes: Lawson and Muir. Referee: Mr R. Marshall.

Manager St John promised that Motherwell would have a go at winning the match and that the defend and hope for a draw tactics were out.

Motherwell did in fact make a real game of it and they fought Celtic all the way before going down finally by 2-0.

Paul Wilson and former Fir Park favourite Dixie Deans were the Celtic marksmen who put paid to Motherwell hopes of beating the league champions on their own ground.

When Celtic travelled to Fir Park a few months later for the second meeting, they were quickly into a two goal lead and looking set to collect another two points.

HIT THEM

Motherwell had other ideas however and Celtic didn't know what hit them as the home team fought back to equality and finally to notch the winner much to the delight of their support.

However this unexpected set back didn't stop Celtic going on to win the Scottish League title for the ninth successive year.

In last seasons four league meetings Celtic won one and lost one at Celtic Park and in the Fir Park games they collected three points with a win and a draw.

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Cup Draw is fine — but League still the priority



SO IT IS Dundee once again in the Scottish Cup. The fourth meeting in five years gives the impression of a permanent fixture in the tournament, though I'm not displeased with the draw considering our record against the Dens Park side.

It also throws up the possibility of an Old Firm final . . . a match that would give some drama to the event at the end of the season.

However, at the present moment we are just happy to be in the semi-final draw. The final is a long way off yet and while people keep talking about us completing the double there a lot of critical games yet to be faced.

The immediate priority is the Premier League. We're in a pretty good position here . . . but only so long as we keep winning. With tonight's game against Motherwell and Rangers at Ibrox on Saturday that's easier said than done.

PERFORMANCE

Motherwell are always difficult opponents. They went out of the Scottish Cup last week-end, and they'll want to bounce back against us tonight. As always we can expect them to "lift" their game and they have the players of skill and sharpness to win against the best.

The Parkhead players know what is wanted of them in this one and against Rangers at Ibrox . . . their best possible individual performance blended into the team pattern.

Given that our Premier League position on Saturday should still have us with a championship chance.

Injuries to Roddy McDonald and Andy Lynch have meant team changes recently, and at this point it is too early to say when they'll be into full action. We hope it'll be sooner rather than later.

The Scottish Cup tie with Queen of the South proved that there is a place for Sunday football . . . though not every Sunday. The attendance of 27,000 was gratifying and one must give due credit to Queens for their part in producing such an entertaining match.

They may have lost five goals, but they retained their dignity and poise as a team and Celtic fans will remember their performance. And watch their future progress.

JOCK STEIN

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John Stein, C.B.E.

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HONOURS:

League Champions (29 times)

1893, 1894, 1896,
1898, 1905, 1906,
1907, 1908, 1909,
1910, 1914, 1915,
1916, 1917, 1919,
1922, 1926, 1936,
1938, 1954, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970, 1971, 1972,
1973, 1974.

Cup Winners (24 times)

1892, 1899, 1900,
1904, 1907, 1908,
1911, 1912, 1914,
1923, 1925, 1927,
1931, 1933, 1937,
1951, 1954, 1965,
1967, 1969, 1971
1972, 1974, 1975.

League Cup Winners (8 times)

1957, 1958, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970, 1975.

Empire Exhibition Cup 1938

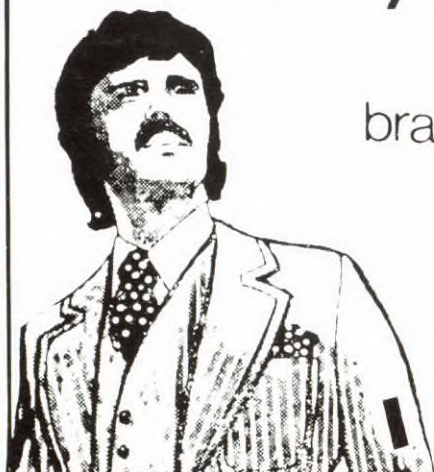
Coronation Cup 1953

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JOHNNY BEATS THE TACKLE



Celtic winger Johnny Doyle with a swift change of direction moves away from the tackle of Motherwell centre half McVie.

TODAY'S VISITORS

MOTHERWELL STICK TO ATTACKING FORMULA

MOTHERWELL, whose financial commitment, ambition and enterprise had them earmarked as a side to test the best in the Premier Division this season, come to Parkhead this evening third from the foot of the table!

It is not the situation that the experts would have predicted in August of last year. Not by a long way.

However, it is exaggerating the situation to suggest that Motherwell are now in a fight for Premier League survival. They've got games in hand and while these involve clubs like Celtic, Aberdeen and Dundee United the spectre of relegation is not likely to lay a chilling hand on the Fir Park squad. Not even in this rather topsy-turvy 10-club set-up.

Out of all domestic competitions and no hope of a European place via their league position, Motherwell are not moving into the final phase of the season with heads drooping.

They recognise they have a duty to their fans to provide football that is bright and entertaining. That has been the aim of their manager Willie McLean all through.

He held to that formula even when injuries prevented him fielding the same team week after week. And it will be a little time yet before the club can call on centre half Willie McVie who had a knee operation recently and will have to play himself back again via the reserves.

Motherwell's form droop in recent weeks has been disturbing and puzzling the Fir Park fans. The team is determined to fight its way through the poor

patch and sees no reason why fluency and scoring touch cannot be recovered tonight at Celtic Park.

This is hardly surprising for the attitude of the clubs to the playing of football has always been positive. Neither manager Willie McLean nor manager Jock Stein have ever fancied the deep defence idea.

They prefer to do their "defending" around the 18 yard line of the opposition on the basis that provides greater opportunity for scoring goals (the object of the whole exercise) and is much more likely to keep the customers happy.

Manager McLean may well use the present situation to introduce one or two of his youngsters to the Premier Division scene with a view to next season's campaign.

However, for a Parkhead test against a Celtic team that wants to maintain its current points lead in the championship, manager McLean will have his regular forces lined up.

Goalkeeper **STUART RENNIE** demonstrated his skills in the Scottish Cup tie with Rangers at the week-end. The back four of **WILLIE WATSON**, **COLIN McADAM**, **GREGOR STEVENS** and **JOE WARK** isn't likely to be disturbed, but **PETER MILLAR** could be recalled to the midline in which area **VIC DAVIDSON**, **IAN KENNEDY**, **STEWART McLAREN** are also available.

Up front there's goalscorer **WILLIE PETTIGREW** and playmaker **BOBBY GRAHAM** plus **JIM O'ROURKE**, **PETER MARINELLO** and **HARRY HOOD** all seasoned professionals able to play in the striking zone or midfield.

HELLO FROM EX-CELTS



Photo: C. R. McBain.

A cheerful line-up from Fir Park . . . of former Celts. The trio are (left to right) Alistair Hunter, Harry Hood and Vic Davidson.



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TONIGHT'S TEAM

CELTIC

(From)

- 1 PETER LATCHFORD
- 2 DANNY McGRAIN
- ~~ANDY LYNCH~~
- 3 TOMMY BURNS
- 4 PAT STANTON
- ~~RODDY McDONALD~~
- 5 JOHANNES EDVALDSSON
- 6 ROY AITKEN
- 7 JOHNNY DOYLE
- 8 RONNIE GLAVIN
- 9 JOE CRAIG
- 10 KENNY DALGLISH
- 11 ALFIE CONN
- 13 PAUL WILSON
- 12 GIBSON

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MILTON

NTROSE
ROATH

F SOUTH
KIRK

TH ROVERS
T FIFE

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particularly leaving the
d after the match.

MOTHERWELL (From)

- 1 STEWART RENNIE
- 2 WILLIE WATSON
- 3 JOE WARK
- 4 COLIN McADAM
- 5 STEWART McLAREN
- 6 GREGOR STEVENS
- ~~HARRY HOOD~~
- 8 WILLIE PETTIGREW
- 9 BOBBY GRAHAM
- 10 VIC DAVIDSON
- ~~IAN KENNEDY~~
- ~~PETER MARINELLO~~
- 11 JIM O'ROURKE
- 7 PETER MILLAR

12 P. MILLAR
14 DWIGILL

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SIDELINES

Glavin closes goals gap

RONNIE GLAVIN'S three goals in the Scottish Cup tie with Queen of the South on Sunday means he is just two behind Kenny Dalglish in the scoring chart at Parkhead.

Glavin is top scorer in the Premier League (14) and Scottish Cup (6) and with one goal in the League Cup has a total of 21. Kenny Dalglish has 23 goals . . . 11 in the League, 10 in the League Cup, one each in the Scottish and the UEFA Cup.

Other Celtic scorers: 16 — Joe Craig, 11 — Johnny Doyle, 8 Paul Wilson, 5 — Roddy McDonald, 4 — Johannes Edvaldsson, 2 — Roy Aitken, Andy Lynch, Bobby Lennox, 1 — Danny McGrain, Alfie Conn, Geo. McCluskey, Tom Callaghan.

Willie leads 'Well list

MOTHERWELL'S leading scorer is centre Willie Pettigrew. He had 18 goals going into tonight's match — 13 in the Premier Division, three in the Scottish Cup and two in the League Cup. Jim O'Rourke is in second place with ten goals.

Remember, Celtic fans . . .

. . . the kick off in the Ibrox match with Rangers on Saturday is ONE O'CLOCK.

Premier League

Celtic	24	17	3	4	58	27	38
Dundee Utd	25	13	5	7	44	28	33
Rangers	25	12	5	8	38	22	32
Aberdeen	24	11	5	8	39	23	30
Hibernian	25	6	5	14	24	24	26
Partick Th.	25	6	11	8	24	35	20
Hearts	25	5	11	9	35	44	19
Motherwell	21	6	9	6	32	37	18
Ayr Utd.	25	7	14	4	31	52	18
Kilmarnock	27	3	18	6	25	58	12



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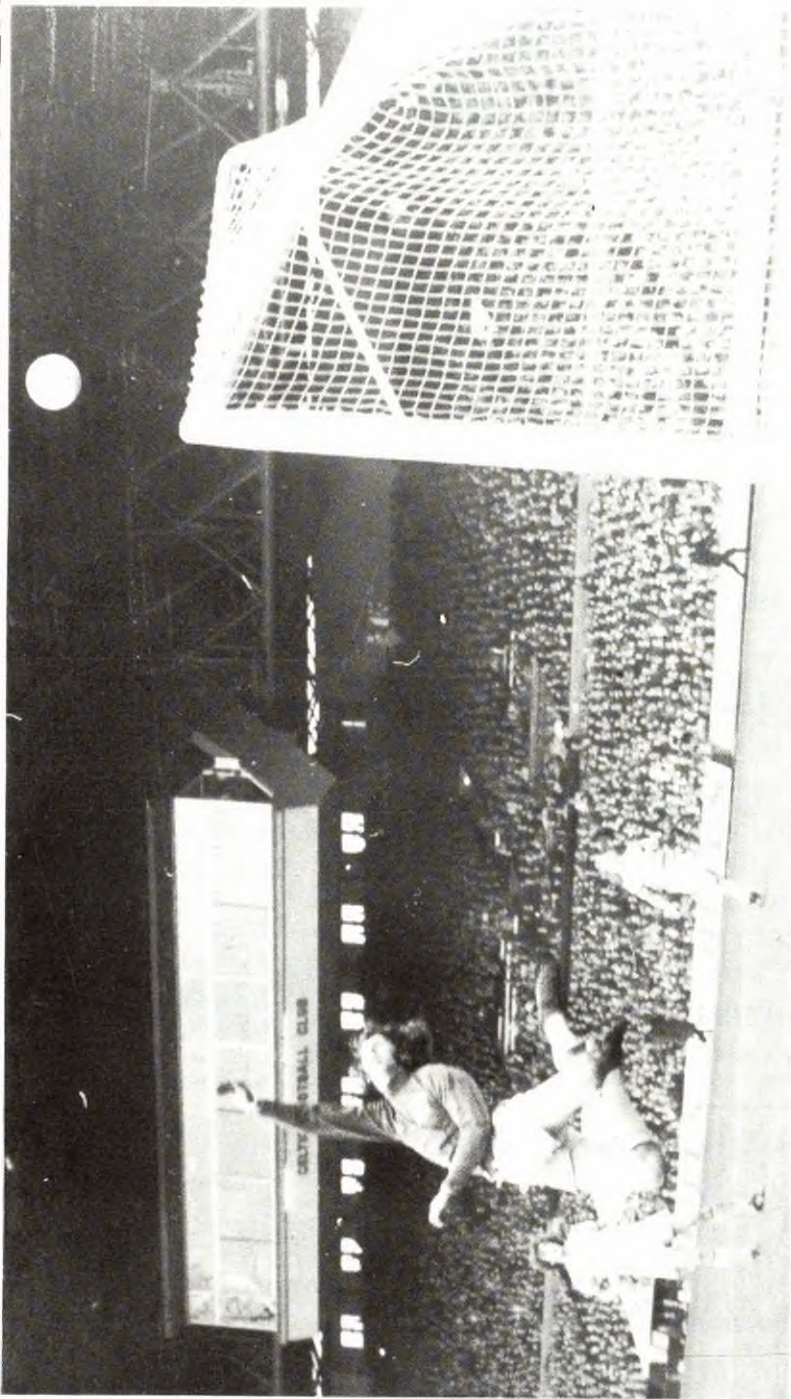
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AGILE RENNIE FOILS CELTIC SHARPSHOOTER



Motherwell goalkeeper Stuart Rennie demonstrates his swift reflexes and agility when steering this on-target Celtic shot high over the cross bar at Parkhead.

"PREMIER" SEASON FIXTURES

1976

JULY

30—Inverness Thistle (A) 6 2

AUGUST

2—Ross County (A) 4 0

7—PENAROL (H) 3 0

GLASGOW CUP (1975-76 final)

AUGUST

10—RANGERS (H) 1 3

CHALLENGE MATCH

NOVEMBER

14—IPSWICH TOWN (H) 1 2

LEAGUE CUP

AUGUST

14—Dundee United (A) 1 0

18—DUMBARTON (H) 3 0

21—Arbroath (A) 5 0

25—Dumbarton (A) 3 3

28—ARBROATH (H) 2 1

SEPTEMBER

1—DUNDEE UNITED (H) 1 1

22—Albion Rovers (Q-Final) .. (A) 1 0

OCTOBER

6—ALBION ROVERS (Q-F) ... (H) 5 0

25—HEARTS (Hampden, S-Final). 2 1

NOVEMBER

6—ABERDEEN (Hampden, Final) 1 2

UEFA CUP

SEPTEMBER

15—GKS WISLA KRAKOW ... (H) 2 2

29—GKS Wisla Krakow (A) 0 2

SCOTTISH CUP

Third Round

JANUARY

29—Airdrie (A) 1 1

FEBRUARY

2—AIRDRIE (replay) (H) 5 0

Fourth Round

27—AYR UNITED (H) 1 1

MARCH

2—Ayr United (Replay) (A) 3 1

Fifth Round

13—QUEEN OF SOUTH (H) 5 1

PREMIER LEAGUE

SEPTEMBER

4—RANGERS (H) 2 2

11—Dundee United (A) 0 1

18—HEARTS (H) 2 2

25—Kilmarnock (A) 4 0

OCTOBER

2—HIBERNIAN (H) 1 1

16—Ayr United (A) 2 0

20—DUNDEE UNITED (H) 5 1

23—Aberdeen (A) 1 2

30—MOTHERWELL (H) 2 0

NOVEMBER

20—Hearts (A) 4 3

24—Rangers (A) 1 0

27—KILMARNOCK (H) 2 0

DECEMBER

4—Hibernian (A) post.

18—AYR UNITED (H) 3 0

26—ABERDEEN (H) 2 2

1977

JANUARY

1—Motherwell (A) post.

3—RANGERS (H) 1 0

8—Dundee United (A) 2 1

22—Kilmarnock (A) 3 1

FEBRUARY

5—HIBERNIAN (H) 4 2

7—HEARTS (H) 5 1

12—PARTICK THISTLE (H) 2 0

19—Ayr United (A) 4 2

22—Partick Thistle (A) 4 2

MARCH

5—Aberdeen (A) 0 2

9—PARTICK THISTLE (H) 2 1

19—Rangers (A)

26—DUNDEE UNITED (H)

APRIL

2—Hearts (A)

9—KILMARNOCK (H)

13—Motherwell (A)

16—Hibernian (A)

20—ABERDEEN (H)

23—Partick Thistle (A)

30—AYR UNITED (H)



RESERVES by JOHN CLARK

Jim Casey's Hard Work Gets Pay-off

OUR match with Ayr United was postponed last week because Somerset Park was unplayable. So one more game was added to the backlog of fixtures we are now in the process of clearing up.

It means plenty of play and nobody is complaining about that. It means, too, that with several games a week we can give a chance to some of our provisional signings and assess their progress.

Jim Casey was one member of the staff who didn't have a "holiday" at the week-end. He was called into the first team pool for the Scottish Cup tie with Queen of the South . . . and delighted to be "working". He got the nod to leave the substitutes' bench during the second half and played his part in the win.

It was good to see Jim get this chance for he was hurt early in the season and worked hard to get back to full fitness again. The outing against Queen of the South was a reward for his efforts and will boost his confidence and improve his game I'm sure.

John McCluskey is now out of hospital and doing quite well at home. However, he is still under medical care and it'll be a little time before he can return to Parkhead.

His brother, George, who had a knee injury, is with us again and resumed full training this week.

In the matter of prize-winning it hasn't been a great season for the team. However, the reason for having a reserve group is to meet the needs of the first team when called upon to do so. It is also the area in which regular players recovering from injury find match sharpness again.

Gathering in Cups and League Championship flags is a nice bonus and with the experience of this season behind them they could well be earning the "extras" next term.

HALF-TIME QUIZ

1. Which golf championship did Sam Torrance (Largs) take part in this week?
2. Name the ex-Celt who has just joined Ayr United.
3. Who is Motherwell's longest serving player?
4. How many ex-Celts are on Motherwell's playing staff?
5. What double honour did Andy Gray (Aston Villa) win this week?

- ANSWERS
1. Kenya Open.
 2. Jim Brogan.
 3. Joe Wark.
 4. Three — Vic Davidson, Harry Hood, Alastair Hunter.
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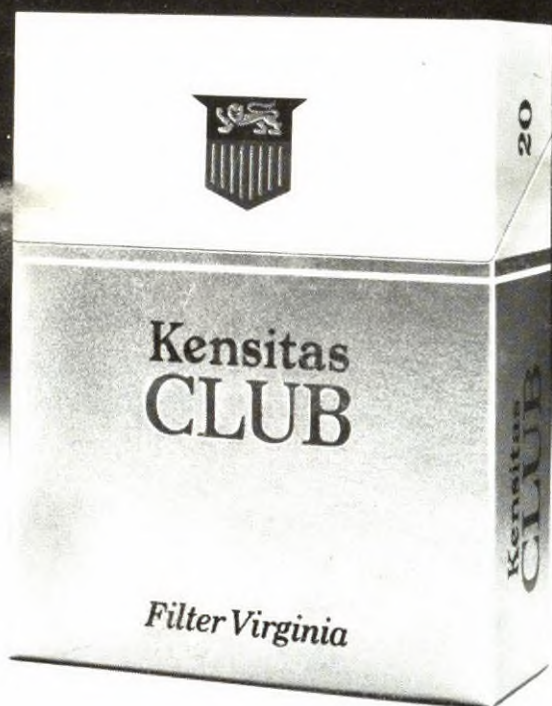
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