

JIMMY JOHNSTONE & BOBBY LENNOX TESTIMONIAL GAME

CELTIC PARK
GLASGOW

MONDAY 17th
MAY 1976 at 8 p.m.

OFFICIAL SOUVENIR
PROGRAMME 25p

CELTIC MANCHESTER UNITED



List of honours

Jimmy

*League
international caps*

- v. English League (1964, 1966, 1968)
- v. League of Ireland (1971)

*Scottish
international caps*

- v. Austria (1969)
- v. Belgium (1972)
- v. Denmark (1971)
- v. England (1966, 1970, 1974)
- v. Finland (1965)
- v. Holland (1972)
- v. Northern Ireland (1972)
- v. Portugal (1972)
- v. Russia (1967)
- v. Spain (1975)
- v. Wales (1965, 1967, 1968, 1974)

European Cup– 1967

Scottish League Championship– 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971,
1972, 1973, 1974.

Scottish Cup– 4 times

Scottish League Cup– 5 times



Bobby

*League
international caps*

- v. English League (1968)
- v. League of Ireland (1967, 1969)

*Scottish
international caps*

- v. Austria (1969)
- v. England (1967, 1968)
- v. West Germany (1969)
- v. Northern Ireland (1967)
- v. Russia (1967)
- v. Wales (1968)

European Cup– 1967

Scottish League Championship– 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971,
1972, 1973, 1974.

Scottish Cup– 7 times

Scottish League Cup– 5 times



Jimmy Johnstone and Bobby Lennox Testimonial Committee

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photographs in this brochure are used by courtesy of the Daily Record, Mr. H. Birt, official Celtic photographer and Mr. Raymond Beltrami whose assistance is much appreciated.

Front cover photograph by courtesy of George Ashton.

Thanks to Mitre for the football.

I am privileged to have the opportunity of writing this brief tribute to Jimmy (Jinky) Johnstone and Bobby Lennox—two famous Lisbon Lions—on the occasion of their Testimonial. While Jimmy is now away from Celtic, playing for Sheffield United, both players have given long and dedicated service to Celtic Football Club and their country over many years. There are countless spectators, not just in Glasgow but wherever Celtic have played in recent years, who have been delighted by the artistry and enthusiasm of these two great players. They have been able to entertain football fans with skills that are alas too rarely seen in 1976. It is all the more appropriate then that Celtic's opponents today are Manchester United, who have enjoyed happy relations with Celtic over the years and who have brought back to the English scene a dimension of entertaining and skilful football seldom seen today.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank all of you for your support tonight and would also wish to acknowledge all those who have donated so generously to the Fund, the Chairmen, Directors, Managers and players of both Manchester United F.C. and Celtic F.C. for co-operating with the Committee to render this exciting evening possible.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in wishing Jimmy and Bobby every possible success for the future and continued association with the game which both so clearly and dearly relish.

Joseph Beltrami

*BEST WISHES TO
JIMMY AND BOBBY*

FROM

**J. Walsh
Reunion Bar
1051 Gallowgate**

AND

**The Possil Bar
342 Possil Road**



my Tribute

by Jock Stein, Manager, Celtic F.C.

It's amazing how often players make their name in football because they are part of a partnership, solid full-backs, dependable half-backs... or dazzling wingers.

And the partnership of Jimmy Johnstone and Bobby Lennox will surely be remembered because they made such a vivid contrast.

On the right-wing there was the mercurial little red-head Johnstone taking the ball up to defenders, wiggling his way past, and generally making the build-up for his attacking mates.

On the left-wing there was the more direct Lennox, in that "Lisbon Lions" side galloping on to the perfect passes put to him by Bobby Murdoch and Bertie Auld.

Fashions change in football, and for too long in my opinion wingers have been discarded.

That's why I am delighted that Manchester United, the team I rate as the most exciting in British football this season, are the opposition tonight.

For, with Gordon Hill and Steve Coppell, they have shown the way back to football, the way to wingers.

Certainly Celtic's best spells during my time as manager have always been when we had wingers.

And one aspect which is sometimes unnoticed. If a team plays with wingers they are not defensive, for unlike midfield men they do not shuttle back to clutter up at the back.

Jimmy Johnstone was one of the all-time great entertainers of football, I suppose there have been few players who won so completely the affection of the fans.

If I was asked to name his greatest-ever game I think I would pick his display against Red Star of Belgrade in the European Cup.

He was promised if we had a big enough lead he would not have to make the return trip to Yugoslavia, because of his dislike of flying... and we won 5-0.

So he didn't go, and the Slavs, then bossed by Real Madrid manager Miljan Miljanic, could not believe we had allowed him to stay at home after his marvellous game in Glasgow.

Bobby Lennox was a forward I consider who suffered all during his career from something that affects few players... he was too quick really for the human eye.

It meant he got caught out repeatedly in hair-line offside decisions, and in these situations linesmen usually give the benefit to defenders.

How many more goals he would have scored if so many of his darting runs had not been stopped by the waving flag of a linesman.

It is a great tribute to Lennox that he has survived to hold the proud title of the last "Lisbon Lion" on the Parkhead staff.

Jimmy and Bobby were two of the greatest pals off the field. They had a different attitude to the game, just as they were opposites in style on the field.

So tonight in what is surely a fitting end to a season's football we pay tribute to two players who contributed so much to Celtic, and the enjoyment of football fans not just in Scotland but all over Europe.

They are two wee men who played a giant part in our success... I salute them!

Jimmy Johnstone

It will be quite an experience for me tonight walking through the main door at Celtic Park and for the last time donning the famous green and white strip.

Needless to say, many memories will come flooding back—triumphs and disappointments, joys and sorrows of an unforgettable, if sometimes controversial, career with the club.

Tonight I'll remember walking through the front doors for the first time in my early teens to become a ball-boy at Celtic Park.

By a strange coincidence Manchester United, the club who are so kindly providing the opposition for tonight's Testimonial match, was the first senior club to show an interest in me as a footballer.

However, to play with Celtic was my burning ambition and when I was invited to join them they didn't have to ask me twice.

The fact that I was just over 5 feet tall and weighed not much over the 6 stone mark caused a lot of doubts to be expressed about me at Parkhead.

I can honestly say that I worked very hard at proving myself and during my farmed-out spell with Blantyre Celtic I won a cap for Junior Scotland.

When I finally arrived at Celtic Park as a professional footballer in 1961 I met another football aspirant in the shape of Bobby Lennox and we struck up a friendship which has never been broken.

Mind you, although the "Saltcoats Flyer" got into the first team for an odd game before me in that first season, I became a regular before he did. In fact, after three seasons I had scored nine goals to his solitary goal in a league game.

The fact that he went on to score a "few" goals more than me in the years that were to follow was because I made them for him.

Kidding aside—if controversy hung over me like a shadow during my years at Celtic Park—trouble and Bobby Lennox never mixed.

He has always been a perfect professional and the sort of fellow that youngsters should model themselves upon.



Getting back to my own career, I've had a lot of thrills and made myself a comfortable living since the days when I started out as an apprentice welder before finally becoming a full-time player at Celtic Park.

In many ways I was lucky in the time I arrived at Celtic Park. Those were the days of the "Kelly Kids" and from the arrival of Jock Stein in 1965 and our Cup final win against Dunfermline soon thereafter, we really became a force in the world of football.

Everyone at Celtic Park, directors, management and staff gave me a lot of help, encouragement and guidance during my career for which I'll always be grateful.

But what I shall remember above all else is the really great bunch of players, on and off the park, with whom I had the pleasure of sharing so many Celtic triumphs.

Another thing that pleases me is getting an opportunity to renew my acquaintanceship with the Celtic support.

If I single out the past and present fans who frequented the "jungle" I hope all other supporters will forgive me. It's just that I seemed to be inspired to my best performances when playing at the Janefield Street side of the park.

Finally I want to express my thanks to everyone who has done anything to help in the arrangements for tonight's match and particularly the Testimonial Committee, the Celtic and Manchester clubs and everyone who turns out for the game tonight to pay tribute, if that's the right word, to Bobby and myself. I thank them one and all.

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