

The Official Celtic Football Club Matchday Magazine 2009/10



hoops

celtic vs
arsenal
Tuesday,
18th August 2009
Kick off: 7.45pm
£4



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manager: **tony mowbray**

GOOD evening everybody and welcome back to Celtic Park for our second European tie of this season. Welcome too to Arsene Wenger and his Arsenal team, as well as all their supporters who have made the trip to Glasgow for tonight's match.

It almost goes without saying that this is a game that everyone here is looking forward to, ever since the draw was made for the UEFA Champions League play-off. To have two of the best teams from Scotland and England up against each other always generates much interest and excitement, and this has certainly been the case for our clash with Arsenal.

In a way, it could be looked upon as our reward for getting past the difficult hurdle that was Dinamo Moscow in the previous round. Despite the 1-0 defeat here in the first leg, I thought we played well and, with a bit more luck, could have won that game. We saw enough that night, however, to go to Russia with confidence and that wasn't misplaced as the players produced an excellent performance to win 2-0 on the night and ensure we remained in the competition.

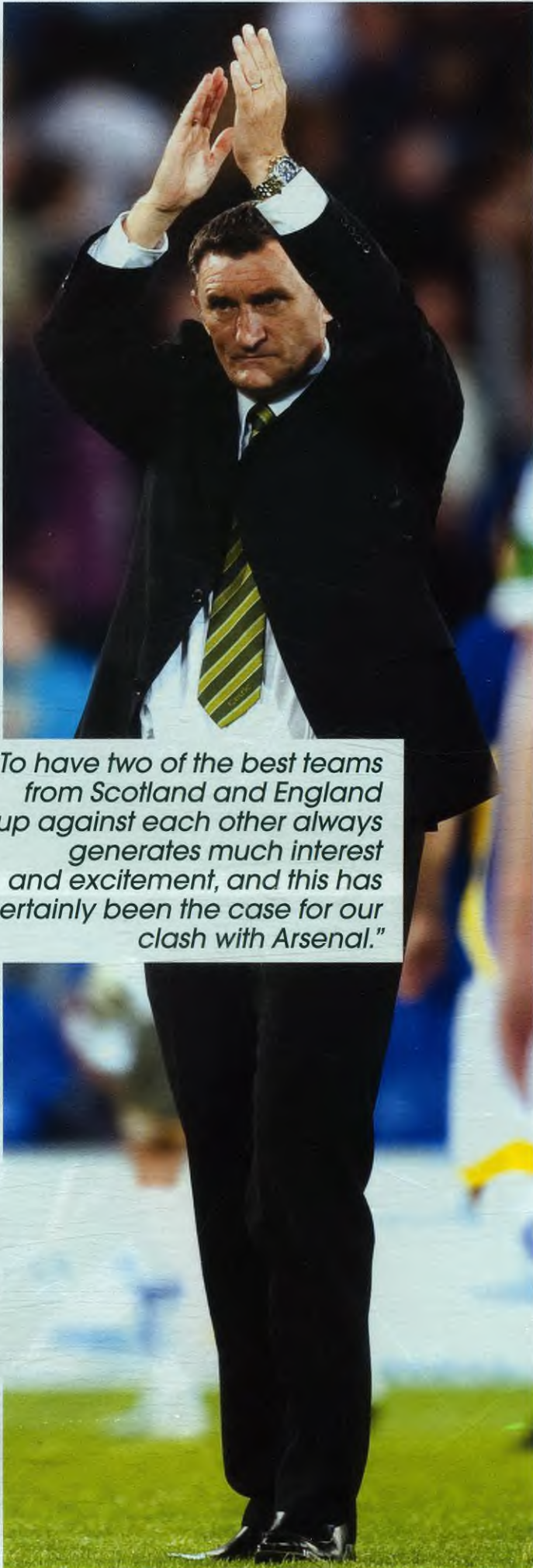
Of course, the real reward for ourselves and Arsenal would be a place in the group stages of this tournament and that is the objective we will be both hoping to achieve.

While we are looking forward to this tie and the prospect of another great European night here at Celtic Park, I think everyone is aware of just how difficult our task is. We are facing a team who consistently finish in the top four in the English Premier League, while the football they are capable of producing can be, and is, a joy to watch.

For our part, we have to be very disciplined and organised, and understand that when we have the ball we have to try and give them problems. Our aim is to get a good result tonight that we can take to the Emirates next week.

As ever, our supporters can play a vital role for us, not only in offering the excellent backing that we're accustomed to receiving whenever and wherever we play, but in also remaining patient during those times in the game when the opposition might be enjoying possession.

The players will certainly be giving everything they can to achieve a good result and, with your support, hopefully we will have a good result to celebrate. Enjoy the game.



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