



# Celtic

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## SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

### Introduction

Celtic Football Club is legendary and as with most legends as much myth as fact surrounds its history and what the Club stands for today. The Social Mission Statement aims to simply define what the Club stands for and seeks to promote within society.

### History

Celtic Football Club was founded in 1888. Its principal founder was a Marist Brother named Walfrid. The Club had two principal aims: The first aim was to raise funds to provide food for the poor of the East End of Glasgow, an area of the City that was greatly impoverished and had a high rate of infant mortality. Within the East End was a large Irish community and friction was growing between the native Glaswegians and the new influx of Irish. Brother Walfrid saw the need for social integration and his vision was a football club that Scottish and Irish, Protestants and Catholics alike could support. A new football club would be a vehicle to bring the communities together and this was the second aim. The Marist brother sought for the Club to have both a Scottish and Irish identity and hence, the Club's name "Celtic" came about, representing a bridge of cultures across the Irish Sea.

### Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

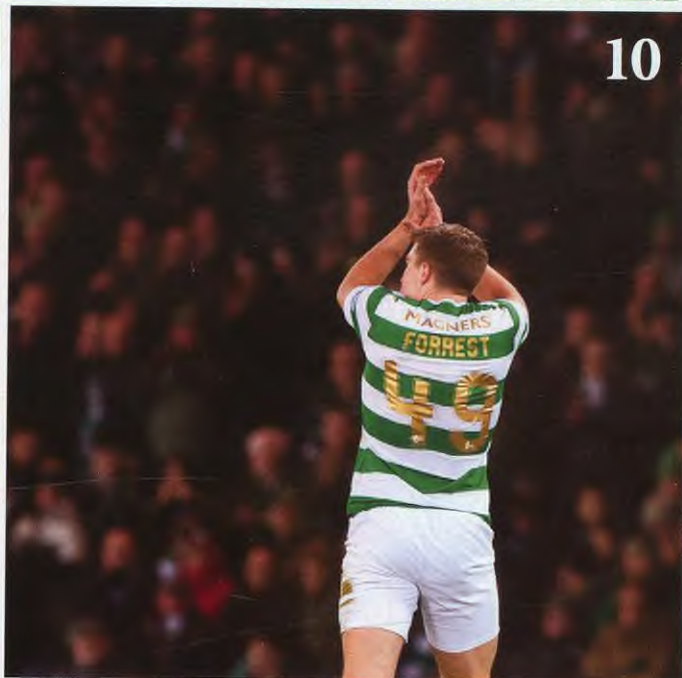
Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting health, well-being and social integration.

### Who is Celtic Football Club for?

Celtic Football Club is for people who want to support a football club that strives for excellence in Scotland and in Europe, is proud of its history, supportive of its local community and seeks to support the following aims: "To maximise all opportunities to disassociate the Club from sectarianism and bigotry of any kind. To promote Celtic as a Club for all people, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or ability."

### Summary

Celtic is a club for everyone who believes in football as a medium for healthy pleasure, entertainment and social integration. The Club always has been and always will simply aim to be the team of the people.



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Manager's Notes...

# BRENDAN RODGERS







# We're anticipating another tough match in Paradise against familiar opponents

**GOOD** afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park for our game against Motherwell. Given that we didn't have a game here in the month of November, it's good to be back home and playing in front of a packed Paradise.

We face familiar opponents today in the shape of Motherwell, with our third game against Stephen Robinson's side in a week, and like the two previous contests, we're anticipating another tough match here at Celtic Park.

Last weekend, we enjoyed another successful visit to Hampden, winning 2-0 to retain the League Cup. It was a great day for the club, and our supporters celebrated the well-deserved victory.

We set various targets for the season, and to have achieved another of those in winning this competition was very pleasing.

On Wednesday night, we were at Fir Park, and once again, the players showed tremendous character and determination to keep our unbeaten run going.

Even after we conceded a goal in the second-half, they retained their calmness and composure, and we got the goal that our efforts deserved. Indeed, if it hadn't been for an excellent performance from Motherwell goalkeeper, Trevor Carson, we could have taken all three points.

Today's game is the first of nine fixtures in the month of December, and similar to last season, it will be a demanding time for the squad. However, this group of players have shown over the past 18 months that they rise to every challenge put in front of them and I'm sure that will be the case between now and the end of the year.

There are a number of big games



*'We set various targets for the season, and to have achieved another of those in winning this competition was very pleasing'*

looming on the horizon but, as always, our focus is solely on our immediate challenge, and that is today's game against Motherwell this afternoon.

Your support, as always, will play a vital role in these games. Our supporters have travelled in considerable numbers to cheer on the team at the various grounds we've played in during November, both in Scotland and in Europe.

That backing is always appreciated by

us all, as will the tremendous support we get here at Celtic Park. Let's hope we can enjoy another good afternoon in Paradise.

**Brendan Rodgers**  
*Without Fear*



FURON  
flare



**UN**MISSABLE

  
new balance

ALWAYS  
IN MOTION





A word with our captain...

**SCOTT BROWN**

# It was great to see the supporters enjoying another winning day out at Hampden in a cup final



**A WARM welcome to you all for today's game against Motherwell as we meet them for the third time this week at a third different venue.**

Of course, we started the trio of games with last Sunday's League Cup final at Hampden and I'm delighted that we successfully defended the first of the trophies we won last season and we were all over the moon with the 2-0 win.

It was great to see the supporters enjoying another winning day out at Hampden on a cup final day and the whole team can thank them for their backing on the day.

That took us to Wednesday night's league visit to Fir Park for our second game against Motherwell. We knew that

they would present a tough test for us following the League Cup final and, of course, that thrilling 4-3 game the last time we played there.

The midweek game may not have had the excitement of that seven-goal game but, in the end, it proved to be even tighter as Motherwell held us to a 1-1 draw. However, we did maintain our unbeaten domestic run which now stands at 66 games and we will be doing our utmost to take that to 67 today with another win.

However, we only need look back to Wednesday night to realise how tough Motherwell will make this game for us, but it is all about what we do and how we approach the game.

We will go into this game intent on gaining another three points to strengthen our position at the top of the league and with your help in the stands we know we can do that.

Your support has been fantastic this season and with your backing we will be doing our best to make sure that the League Cup won last week is not the last trophy we win this season.

Enjoy the game and I hope we are all celebrating another three points at the final whistle.





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## Capital gain for Celtic FC Foundation

### Supporters sleep out in London to support Christmas Appeal

**CELTIC FC Foundation's very first Celtic Sleep-Out, London event took place at St Anne's Primary School in Whitechapel just over a week ago and the participants have already raised a magnificent total of over £10,000, with efforts ongoing.**

St Anne's Primary School holds huge emotional and historical significance for the Celtic Family.

In 1892, five years after his leading role in the formation of Celtic Football Club, the Marist Order moved Brother Walfrid from Glasgow to the Whitechapel area of London's East End.

Over the next 15 years, as Head Teacher at St Anne's Primary, Brother Walfrid transformed the school and also established local boys' clubs and a project to provide meals to the poor in the local community.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to both St Anne's Primary School and St Anne's Church who allowed us to use the facilities completely free of charge. We couldn't have delivered this event without them.

A magnificent seven CSCs were represented on the night – Maidenhead,

Underground, Martin O'Neill Reading, Luton, Hayes Bhoys, Wimbledon and St Pat's Greenford - and also individual supporters who took on the challenge alongside their fellow Celts.

Celtic FC Foundation Chief Executive, Tony Hamilton, welcomed the group and provided a vote of thanks for their support and outstanding efforts.

At 10.00pm – in honour of our founding father - the participants took their places in the playground for the long and cold night ahead, perhaps a little apprehensive of what the next eight hours would bring. Camaraderie, compassion, pride and determination endured throughout the event, despite the conditions.

At 6.00am, spirits remained high as our inaugural Celtic Sleep Out, London drew to a close with a team Huddle and a rendition of 'Let's all do the Huddle'.

All funds raised will support our 2017 Christmas Appeal. Beneficiaries confirmed so far include two based in London – St Anne's Primary School and the Cardinal Hume Centre.

Founded by Cardinal Basil Hume in 1986, the centre offers people access

to the skills and support needed to overcome poverty and homelessness. It gives homeless young people, families in need and local people the support they need to realise their full potential.

Any donation received will go towards providing Christmas presents, food, parties and outings for local families, including refugees and those experiencing homelessness in the community.

There is also an opportunity to support the Cardinal Hume Centre's 'Turning Lives Around' programme which offers regular digital learning sessions, providing homeless young people with the opportunity to learn vital IT skills required to move forward in life.

In addition, we are offering supporters the chance to assist the Cardinal Hume Centre directly through their Christmas wish list which includes essential items such as sleeping bags, warm and wet weather clothing, food staples and Christmas treats.

**Thank you for helping us Share the Spirit of Celtic this Christmas to support those who need it most.**