

# Celtic

v PARTICK THISTLE

Scottish Premier League  
Sunday 17th November 2002 k.o. 3.00pm

DOUGLAS  
20



ntl



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PHOENIX HONDA

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Celtic 



“We knew that we were capable of acquitting ourselves in a much more positive fashion and I was delighted that the players showed exactly what they can do”

**THE players were absolutely magnificent on Thursday evening when they outplayed Premiership Blackburn Rovers in the UEFA Cup at Ewood Park.**

Spurred on by an incredible vocal support from the Celtic fans (and some adverse criticism from the first leg at Celtic Park) they scored two brilliant goals through Henrik Larsson and Chris Sutton to storm through to a mouth-watering tie against the Spanish side, Celta Vigo.

We knew that we were capable of acquitting ourselves in a much more positive fashion and I was delighted that the players showed exactly what they can do.

Henrik's goal was superb, its timing calmed us down and allowed us to settle, and Chris Sutton's superb second sealed what was a great evening for the football club.

It was a team performance and there were many heroes on a night in which we enjoyed such a comprehensive win. We

now have a third round tie against Celta Vigo to look forward to at the end of this month at Celtic Park and no doubt that will be another formidable test for us.

The Spaniards are currently sitting in fourth spot in La Liga and we know from our experiences against Valencia last season that we can expect another formidable test.

However, we will approach the tie with confidence because on our day we know that we are a match for anyone, and there's no question that we want to stay in the competition for as long as we possibly can.

Meanwhile, this afternoon we turn our attention back to the SPL with a game against Partick Thistle.

The excitement of the CIS Insurance game is still fresh in our minds and no-one here will need reminding of just how tricky our previous encounters against John Lambie's side have been so far this season.

We won by the narrowest of

margins at Firhill earlier on when a late Henrik Larsson goal gave us the points and, of course, we had to rely on the lottery of spot kicks 10 days ago when we eventually managed to secure our passage into the semi-finals of the CIS Insurance Cup.

The Thistle players will be well up for this afternoon's game, but so will we, and as always whoever goes onto the pitch will be looking to give 100% and get the points that we require.

Once more, I thank you for your continued support, especially as this is the latest in a series of Sunday meetings. The support at Blackburn was phenomenal and anything like that this afternoon would certainly gee the players up for today's game.



# Celtic FC Factfile

**Formed:** 1888

**Stadium:** Celtic Park  
(capacity 60,506)

**Home strip:** Green/white hooped shirts,  
white shorts, white socks

**Away strip:** Gold shirts, green  
shorts, gold socks

**Third strip:** White shirts, black shorts and socks

**Record attendance:** 92,000 (v Rangers, 1938)

**Record victory:** 11-0 (v Dundee, 1895)

**Record defeat:** 0-8 (v Motherwell, 1937)

**Most league goals (1 season):** 50, Jimmy McGrory,  
1935/36

**Most Premier/SPL goals (1 season):** 35, Brian McClair  
1986/87, Henrik Larsson 2000/01

**Website:** www.celticfc.net

## Honours

### Scottish League (38)

1892/93, 1893/94, 1895/96, 1897/98, 1904/05, 1905/06,

1906/07, 1907/08, 1908/09, 1909/10, 1913/14, 1914/15,  
1915/16, 1916/17, 1918/19, 1921/22, 1925/26, 1935/36,  
1937/38, 1953/54, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69,  
1969/70, 1970/71, 1971/72, 1972/73, 1973/74, 1976/77,  
1978/79, 1980/81, 1981/82, 1985/86, 1987/88, 1997/98,  
2000/2001, 2001/2002

### Scottish Cup (31)

1892, 1899, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1914,  
1923, 1925, 1927, 1931, 1933, 1937, 1951, 1954, 1965,  
1967, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1985,  
1988, 1989, 1995, 2001

### League Cup (12)

1956/57, 1957/58, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68 1968/69,  
1969/70, 1974/75, 1982/83, 1997/98,  
1999/2000, 2000/2001

### European Cup (1)

1967

### Coronation Cup (1)

1953

## CELTIC FACTS

1. On November 16, 1957, John Divers scored twice on his debut against St Mirren at Celtic Park. Divers' father had been a star in the Empire Exhibition trophy-winning team of 1938 and the pressure was on John to match his achievements. He scored 102 goals in 232 matches playing inside-forward. John played for the club from 1957 to 1966.

2. Jimmy McGrory grabbed the most-goals-in-one-game record for any Celtic player when he scored eight against Dunfermline in 1928. On Nov 17, 1973, though, he must have been worried about his record when Dixie Deans went on the rampage against the Jags. After 56 minutes, Dixie had four to his name and ended the game with six.

3. Jimmy Quinn died on Nov 20, 1945 in Croy at the age of 67. In the same way as Henrik Larsson has become the talisman for the current Celtic team, Jimmy had the same stature between 1900 and 1915. In an era of physical football, the 'Iron Man' scored 216 goals in 331 matches.

## THISTLE FACTS

1. Partick Thistle has always been an unusual club. Nicknamed 'the Jags' after the waspish colours of the strip. In the last 50 years Thistle have had some great players including Peter 'Ma Ba' McKenna, Tommy Ledgerwood, Denis McQuade and of course Chic Charnley.

2. In the early 1970s, manager Davie McParland put together a side which achieved immortality in the League Cup final of 1971, when Thistle beat Celtic 4-1. By half-time, they were four-up, thanks to goals by Alex Rae, Bobby Lawrie, Denis McQuade and Jimmy Bone, and although Celtic came back into the match in the second half, the Jags defence held out for an astonishing victory.

3. Thanks to that win, Thistle made a rare excursion into Europe the following season. The club's first venture into that arena had been in 1963/64, when they beat Glentoran 7-1 in the first round before losing 6-3 to Spartak Brno of Czechoslovakia in round two. In September 1973, Honved of Hungary also proved too strong for the Scots, who lost 1-0 away and 3-0 at Firhill.

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# TODAY'S SQUADS

TODAY'S VISITORS **PARTICK THISTLE**



SEASON 2002/03

## CURRENT LEAGUE POSITIONS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
8. Kilmarnock	14	4	4	6	14	27	16
9. Livingston	14	4	3	7	21	21	15
10. PARTICK THISTLE	14	2	6	6	11	22	12
11. Dundee Utd	14	2	4	8	11	25	10
12. Motherwell	14	2	3	9	14	27	9

TEAM SPONSOR: D.H.MORRIS

 <b>MANAGER</b> JOHN LAMBIE	<b>STADIUM</b> FIR HILL	<b>CAPACITY</b> 13,300	<b>PREVIOUS RESULT</b> PARTICK 1 v CELTIC 1 <small>(Goal by Peter 2, 4 and 10 minutes)</small>
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### CELTIC

JONATHAN GOULD	1	1
TOM BOYD	2	2
MOMO SYLLA	3	3
JACKIE McNAMARA	4	4
JOOS VALGAEREN	5	5
BOBO BALDE	6	6
HENRIK LARSSON	7	7
ALAN THOMPSON	8	8
CHRIS SUTTON	9	9
JOHN HARTSON	10	10
DAVID FERNANDEZ	12	11
PAUL LAMBERT	14	12
BOBBY PETTA	15	13
ULRIK LAURSEN	16	14
DIDIER AGATHE	17	15
NEIL LENNON	18	16
STILIAN PETROV	19	17
ROBERT DOUGLAS	20	18
MAGNUS HEDMAN	21	19
COLIN HEALY	24	20
PAUL SHIELDS	26	21
JON PAUL McGOVERN	27	22
SHAUN MALONEY	29	
STEVE GUPPY	30	
SIMON LYNCH	32	
MARK FOTHERINGHAM	34	
JOHAN MJALLBY	35	
JAMIE SMITH	39	
STEPHEN CRAINEY	40	
JOHN KENNEDY	41	
LIAM MILLER	43	

### PARTICK THISTLE

KEVIN BUDINAUCKAS
JAMES McKINSTRY
ALAN ARCHIBALD
STEPHEN CRAIGAN
SCOTT PATERSON
KENNETH MILNE
JAMIE MITCHELL
DANIEL LENNON
SCOTT McLEAN
MARTIN HARDIE
ALEX BURNS
KENNY ARTHUR
PAUL WALKER
JAMES DOLAN
MARTIN BUCHAN
DAVID LILLEY
DEREK FLEMING
GERRY BRITTON
DEREK WHYTE
ANDY GIBSON
BARRY ELLIOT
CHIC CHARNLEY

### CLUB SPONSORS



### RECENT FORM

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 10 NOVEMBER, 2002  
DUNDEE UTD 0 v **CELTIC 2** (Hartson, Sutton)

CIS CUP 4th ROUND 6 NOVEMBER, 2002  
**CELTIC 1** v PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Lambert)  
(CELTIC WON 5-4 ON PENALTIES)

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 3 NOVEMBER, 2002  
**CELTIC 7** v ABERDEEN 0 (Hartson 4, Larsson, Balde, Maloney)

UEFA CUP 2nd ROUND 1st LEG 31 OCTOBER, 2002  
**CELTIC 1** v BLACKBURN ROVERS 0 (Larsson)

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 27 OCTOBER, 2002  
DUNFERMLINE 1 v **CELTIC 4** (Larsson, Thompson, Sutton, Petrov)

CIS CUP 3rd ROUND 23 OCTOBER, 2002  
**CELTIC 4** v INVERNESS CT 2 (Maloney, Hartson 2, Thompson)

### FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE  
LIVINGSTON v **CELTIC** SUN 24 NOVEMBER 2002

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE  
**CELTIC** v MOTHERWELL SAT 30 NOVEMBER 2002

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE  
HIBERNIAN v **CELTIC** WED 4 DECEMBER 2002

### TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: KEVIN TONER  
ASSISTANT REFEREES: JIM LYON  
BRIAN McDUFFIE  
FOURTH OFFICIAL: DAVID SOMERS



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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE** Ian McLeod **MANAGER** Martin O'Neill **ASSISTANT MANAGER** John Robertson **COACH** Steve Walford

**PLAYER DEVELOPMENT OFFICER** Tommy Burns **HEAD YOUTH COACH** Willie McStay **UNDER-21 COACH** Kenny McDowall

**PHYSIOTHERAPIST** Brian Scott **CLUB DOCTOR** Roddy Macdonald **KIT CONTROLLER** John Clark

# Keeping up appearances

The obituaries for Rab Douglas' Celtic career had already been written by the time he departed Celtic Park six weeks ago.

At fault for two, perhaps even three, of Rangers' goals in the season's first Old Firm derby, there were no words or gestures of sympathy which could bring comfort to a man who, by his own admission, had been broken.

Would this error-strewn performance sound death knell for his Celtic career? In hushed tones suited more to expressing sympathy at a wake, most pundits answered in the affirmative.

Yet reports of Douglas' demise have subsequently proved to have been greatly exaggerated.

Having, in his own words, 'pieced himself back together', the amiable big keeper has gone on to re-affirm teammates' claims that he possesses a heart to match his huge frame by

## RAB'S NOT ROVER YET:

Douglas bounced back to top form against Blackburn, ready for today's tie



## Goalie ignores critics to secure his spot as Celts' number one

turning in some magnificent performances, most notably against Blackburn and today's visitors, Partick Thistle.

The latter showing even included a starring role in one of the more dramatic penalty shoot-outs in recent memory, and thwarting John Lambie's Jags, Douglas admits, played a major part in rehabilitating him from his Old Firm heartbreak.

"The Thistle match was a big one for me, but then they've all been big since the Rangers game," he said. "To be honest, it's just been a case of piecing everything back together since then. But that match is in the past now. I was absolutely gutted at the time, but I went away with Scotland, kept a clean sheet, and just built from there.

"You can't afford to look back too much. The memories of that day are still with me, but looking back on them would just make me



### HANDS UP:

Douglas admits he blundered against Rangers but he's put all the pain behind him

feel sorry for myself. And I don't want to do that. I just want to be positive and hopefully help the boys out with a few more saves in the time ahead. It's a team game after all, and if I can play my part in Celtic's success, I'll be delighted."

It's often said that it's only in adversity that you distinguish between friends of the faithful and fairweather variety, and this sentiment certainly has Douglas nodding his head in agreement. A select few were confided in and, in dodging verbal and written assaults which rained in from all sides, the Hoops keeper admitted he needed the staunch support of those close to him.

He said: "One thing that's been emphasised to me by all this is that, as a goalie, you're always just one mistake away from being a dud. After the Old Firm game, people were saying that was me: I was finished. It was tough to read



some of the things that were written, and I only hope I can still prove a few people wrong.

"99 per cent of the pressure on me then, was media-generated. The way the papers were painting it, you really would have thought I'd murdered someone. I wasn't happy with it at the time, and it's not been forgotten.

"At that stage, there were about four people I spoke to, one of whom was Terry Gennoe. Since then, I've been doing a bit more training with him and also a bit of extra work with Stevie Guppy, Stephen Crainey and Jamie Smith. It's not a big deal, only an extra half-hour at Barrowfield, but if that can make just a little difference, it'll be more than worth it.

"Gupps is always keen to practice his crosses, as is Jamie, and if I can work with them on that, hopefully we'll both end up benefiting. The same goes for the likes of Henrik, Thommo and Shaun with free-kicks, and the boys know I'll be more than happy to stay behind if we can help each other out. You can always learn something because, in football, every day is a school day."

And Douglas' role isn't always confined to that of a mere pupil.

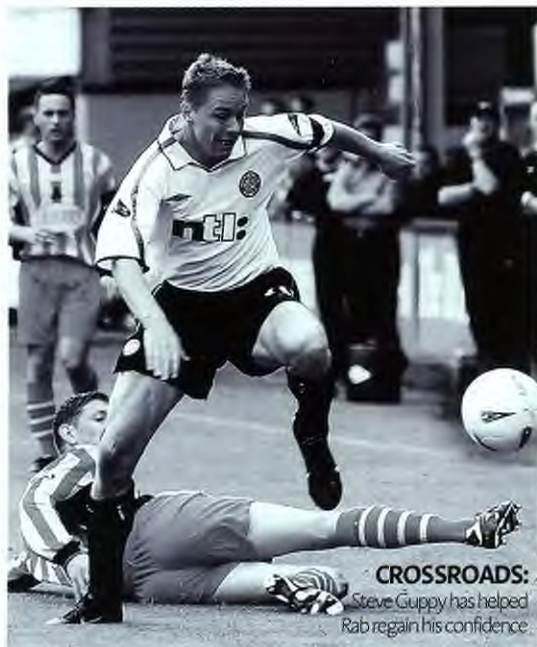
**"Henrik, Alan and Shaun know I'm more than happy to stay behind if we can all help each other out"**

Often, he has been the recipient of warm praise from Terry Gennoe for the manner in which he assists the club's younger keepers, and this is an area of his work he admits to taking great pride in.

"I do really enjoy working with the younger lads," he said. "Sometimes we'll have the under-15 and under-16 goalies in working with us and, while I don't know if my tips are of any use to them, hopefully I'll be able to pass on at least one thing that will help.

"I was a late starter, so it's great for me to see the likes of David Marshall, who's a great prospect, progressing at such a young age. The encouraging thing about Marsh is that he's a great lad with a terrific attitude, and I'm sure he has a massive future ahead of him at this club. I'm obviously hoping he'll hang off in pushing for a place for a few years yet, but I've no doubts about his ability. He's been very consistent whenever he's been called upon to come in with us, and he's a lad who just gets on with his job. That's the kind of person you want to see coming through."

If the highly rated Marshall goes on to display even a fraction of Douglas' strength of character and ability to bounce back from adversity, Celtic should indeed be in safe hands for the foreseeable future.



**CROSSROADS:** Stevie Guppy has helped Rab regain his confidence.

RAB DOUGLAS

