

# Motherwell Football Club

versus

## Celtic

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L.I.T.H.O

Bank of Scotland SPL  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2001  
Kick off 5:35 pm

Official  
Programme  
2001 / 2002

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# MOTOROLA

Lived it at **Fir Park**

Taped it at **home**

Listened to the **phone-in**

Post-mortem in the **pub**

Caught the **highlights**

Still can't believe the **result?**

**Daily**  
**Record**

**THE**  
**WINNER**

BECAUSE THERE'S MORE TO FOOTBALL THAN 90 MINUTES

# Team Talk

After last week's break due to the International the players have worked very hard in training and are looking forward to today's game against Celtic. They are going into the match full of confidence after a spirited fight back against St Johnstone to claim the full three points.

Although we were behind twice during the match it was encouraging and pleasing that the players showed the right attitude to come back and win the game. I was particularly pleased for Stephen Nicholas who came on as a sub and scored two great goals which sealed our win.

Although we won the three points at Perth I think in today's game we will have to maintain 100% concentration and effort for the full ninety minutes to match today's opponents Celtic who are the League leaders.

I would just like to extend a warm welcome to Martin O'Neill and his team and hope that today's game will be similar to recent games which have seen plenty of exciting football and good goals. We also wish them every success in their European campaign as they fly the flag for Scotland.

Enjoy the game today and get behind the team!

SOFTY



Strathclyde  
Skips



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www.motherwellfc.co.uk  
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01698 333333  
01698 338025  
01698 338008/9  
01698 338001  
John Boyle (Chairman)  
Alisdair F Barron Fiona Boyle  
William H Dickie R.I.B.A, A.R.I.A.S  
Andrew Lapping John Swinburne  
James McMahon  
Pat Nevin  
Miodrag Krivokapic  
John Philliben  
Mickey Weir  
John Porteous  
Alan MacFarland

Director of Football  
Coach  
Coach  
Youth Coach  
Physiotherapist  
Kit Controller  
Youth Development Manager  
Club Doctor  
Club Secretary  
Commercial Manager  
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Hospitality Controller  
Hospitality Assistants  
Administrative Assistants

Robert Liddle  
A F Barron  
Karen Paterson  
Russell Rodger Yvonne Hinds  
Amanda Gwynne  
Wendy McFarlane  
Linda Duddy Arlene McGuigan  
Lynne McKay Suzanne Mitchell  
Betty Pryde Deborah Drummond  
Colin McKinnon  
Grant Murdoch John Hinds  
Cathy Hinds Jean Tyrrie  
Graham Barnstaple Andrew Paterson

SFA Community Coach  
Ground Staff

Programme Team

## Honours

Scottish League Champions: 1931/32  
Runners-up: 1926/27, 1929/30, 1932/33, 1933/34,  
1994/95  
Scottish Cup Winners: 1952, 1991  
Runners-up: 1931, 1933, 1939, 1951  
Scottish 1st Division Champions: 1981/82, 1984/85  
Scottish 2nd Division Champions: 1953/54, 1968/69  
Runners-up: 1894/95, 1902/03  
Scottish League Cup Winners: 1950  
Runners-up: 1954  
Scottish Summer Cup Winners: 1944, 1965  
Scottish Second XI Cup winners: 1949, 1951, 1957  
Scottish Reserve League Cup Winners: 1988  
Scottish Southern League Cup Runners-up: 1945  
UEFA Participation:  
European Cup Winners' Cup: 1991-92  
UEFA Cup: 1994-95, 1995-96

44

# visitors

## a look at today's

# Celtic



I'm sure when writing for you this time last year I said the same thing, but it has to be repeated - what a time to be a Celtic fan!

It has been a momentous last twelve or so months for Celtic. Everyone connected to the club from the most ardent season ticket-holder to the elderly armchair fan have been honoured to watch the current crop of players in the green and white hoops.

When I wrote for the Motherwell programme last term, I was bursting with enthusiasm about how well the season had started and how we now finally had someone who could steady the ship after the traumatic year under the command of Barnes and Dalglish. Steady the ship? Talk about an understatement -



what Mr O'Neill and his players have achieved is the stuff of legends that Celtic fans will talk about for years.

For starters, when O'Neill took over, few if anyone gave Celtic a chance of re-claiming the league title from what seemed to be a really impressive Rangers team. While O'Neill pondered his prospective signings from his modest kitty, across the city the 'Bank of Ibrox' was dispensing from an endless pot of money that got bigger and bigger with every signing, rather than smaller and smaller. But one man and his team had the belief and courage to achieve every Celtic fan's dream, and achieve they certainly did.

As the games rolled by, the Celtic team that only twelve months earlier had been totally lacking in confidence, not only started to look like a highly impressive team in the Scottish Premier League, but one that given time and money could be a force in Europe too. A massive turning point was the first Old Firm game of the season. This is one scoreline my fellow Celts and I will never tire of hearing - it was of course Celtic 6 Rangers 2. To beat the then Champions Rangers so early on and so convincingly was truly great and made Celtic supporters believe anything was possible.

After that the winning mentality instilled in every player seemed

to go into overdrive. When Celtic won the first trophy of the season to lift the CIS League Cup there was a buzz around Parkhead that had been missing for sometime. This time the Cup win wasn't a consolation prize while Rangers took the title, this time it was Celtic who was firing out a warning to their old rivals that the days of Rangers domestic dominance were quickly coming to an end.

The next and perhaps most fulfilling achievement soon followed in the shape of the Premier League title. The League Cup was nice but this was the one that Celtic fans had their hearts set on and to win it with so many games left was incredible, especially given the gap between first and second the previous year.

It was a tremendous time to be a Celtic fan, the double in the bag with the mouth-watering prospect of securing the treble in the Scottish Cup Final only days away. As if you didn't know, it was duly wrapped up in some style by beating Alex McLeish's Hibs three-nil on a hot summer's day at Hampden. The atmosphere after the final whistle was something to behold and I'm proud to have been a part of it.

Turning our attentions to this season and things have just got better and better. What a chilling thought that must be for other teams in the Premier

Let kids breathe clean air



# to Fir Park

# 5

League as the Champions widen the gap even further.

Martin O'Neill has again used the money at his disposal wisely to bring more quality players to the club. Signed in the summer was 6ft 3in Bobo Balde, who has been a great player since getting over the injury that sidelined him early in the season. It has been a highlight to watch hapless opponents bounce off the Frenchman like they've been hit by a truck! Joining Bobo in time for the European challenge was £6 million striker John Hartson who will I'm sure over the course of the season prove why Coventry were so reluctant to give him up. Added to those two were the signings of experienced left wing-back Steve Guppy from Leicester and Momo Sylla from St Johnstone to strengthen the squad further.

During pre-season we had the pleasure of watching Celtic toy with the might of Manchester Utd and win the game 4-3, with the scoreline flattering the English Champions. It proved to be perfect preparation for a season that has brought Champions League football to Parkhead for the very first time.

Celtic have played well in several fixtures so far this season, not least in the qualifying stages of the Champions League when Celtic produced one of the finest away performances by a Scottish side in Europe for years. Drawn against the mighty Ajax, Celtic went to Holland full of confidence and despite being up against some really great players renowned throughout Europe, we outplayed them in every department and won the game

three-one. Ajax won 1-0 at Parkhead in the second leg but that was good enough to take us through.

The Champions League draw was perhaps unkind but Celtic fans really couldn't have asked for any more from their heroes in the games so far. The Juventus game has been well documented for the unjust manner in which we lost, but result aside - what a display. It will take some performance to have Juve on the ropes as Celtic had them that rainy Turin night, that's for sure.

The next Champions League match against Porto at home proved yet again how strong and resilient this Celtic team are. Without being overconfident, if the team continue

to show the same desire and attitude then with the talent we have, I think there is every chance that we will progress into the next round of the Champions League.

And that about brings our tremendous year up to date since our last visit to Lanarkshire twelve months ago. It would of course be remiss of me not to mention our last domestic fixture, which of course ended in a 2-0 win over Rangers at Ibrox.

It will as always be a tough fixture here at Fir Park this evening, but if Celtic can keep their unbeaten domestic record intact it will be another step along the road to what is turning into another sensational season for Martin O'Neill's side.

*John Forbes, Celtic season-ticket holder*



*Main Picture: Adams heads towards goal in recent match against Celtic.  
Inset: Hammell in action with Larsson.*



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# Inside write

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## Best Foot Forward



It goes without saying that if ever there was a time for our team to put their best foot forward, today is the day.

Celtic go from strength to strength and are certainly making the running in Scottish football and are clearly hoping for great things in Europe. Motherwell conversely have started the season very poorly, losing games even when we were playing well. However, we have taken six points out of six from our last two games and bounced back from the bottom of the League.

Our performance against Hearts was extremely impressive and, even although at our game against St Johnstone we didn't produce the same amount of football fluency, coming back twice from behind to win the game in the last minute shows remarkable team spirit and strength of character. I very much hope that we can display the same characteristics in what will be the toughest of matches today.

To add extra spice to the occasion, today's match is televised live on Sky and both teams will hope to give the audience all around the United Kingdom and further afield the best possible advertisement for Scottish football.

At the time of writing, myself, Pat Nevin and the rest of your Board are deeply involved in deciding upon a new Manager. This is such a crucial appointment that we want to take our time evaluating all the contenders and make a considered and correct choice. This is a most difficult decision and I would ask all our supporters for their patience and understanding whilst we make our selection.

Regards

*John Boyle.*

John Boyle, Chairman.

# PENALTY

If you are paying the penalty for drug use, you can get help, advice and information from National Drugs Helpline

**0800 77 66 00 calls are free**

Information about local services available on

**01236 437736**

Office hours  
9 am - 5 pm

## PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

	Pld	W	D	L	F-A	GD	Pts
Celtic	9	8	1	0	21-2	19	25
Rangers	9	5	3	1	22-8	14	18
Livingston	9	4	4	1	9-5	4	16
Hibernian	9	4	2	3	20-13	7	14
Kilmarnock	9	4	2	3	11-9	2	14
Aberdeen	9	4	1	4	13-13	0	13
Dundee United	9	3	2	4	10-17	-7	11
Dundee	9	3	2	4	9-17	-8	11
Hearts	9	3	1	5	9-12	-3	10
MOTHERWELL	9	2	3	4	12-19	-7	9
Dunfermline	9	2	0	7	13-22	-9	6
St. Johnstone	9	0	3	6	7-19	-12	3

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(12 noon - 12 midnight)

**NHS**  
  
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# Dressing Room

## Banter

# SCOTT LEITCH



It's good to come into this match with two victories under our belt. We had a good home win against Hearts and also a very hard fought win against St Johnstone, which has given everyone a lift at the club. It was also pleasing to see Stevie Nicholas scoring two well-taken goals.

Everyone in the dressing room was pleased that Steven Hammell and Mark Brown were selected for the Scotland U/21 team and Stuart Elliott for the Northern Ireland squad.

We are all looking forward to the game today against a very strong Celtic side which is always a pleasure to take part in. There is nothing better than playing against the "Old Firm" and with Sky Television here the boys are all looking to putting in a good performance. Get behind the players and enjoy the game!

LEITCHY  
Captain

# Lucozade

## SPORT



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