

# Motherwell Football Club

versus

Celtic

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Bank of Scotland SPL  
Tuesday 19th March 2002  
Kick off 7:45 pm

Official  
Programme

2001 / 2002

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# Team Talk

With Eric Black

Tonight offers the players a great opportunity to perform against the leaders in the S.P.L. in front of a full house and a very large viewing audience.

For players and managers of the provincial clubs it is a fantastic challenge to pit your wits against some of the best players in Scotland and we all relish this prospect.

Our first away win in several months at Perth, backed by a very vociferous away support, gave the players a real confidence boost.

The players deserve enormous credit for the victory, which required a strong mentality against a St. Johnstone team fighting for their S.P.L. survival.

Keep up the good support!

Enjoy the game.



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Aldair F Barron Fiona Boyle  
William H Dickie R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S  
Andrew Lapping John Swinburne  
James McMahon  
Pat Nevin  
Eric Black  
Terry Butcher  
Chris McCard  
George Adams  
John Porteous  
Alan MacDonald  
Dr Robert Liddell  
A F Barron  
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Karen Paterson  
Russell Rodger Yvonne Hinds  
LeeAnn Montgomery  
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Arlene McGuigan Suzanne Mitchell  
Betty Pryde  
Colin McKinnon  
Bill McGill Grant Murdoch  
John Hinds Cathy Hinds Jean Tyrre  
Graham Barnstaple Andrew Paterson

Director of Football  
First Team Coach  
Assistant First Team Coach  
U18 Coach  
Youth Development Manager  
Physiotherapist  
Kit Controller  
Club Doctor  
Club Secretary/General Manager  
PA to General Manager  
Commercial Manager  
Commercial Assistants

Hospitality Co-Ordinator  
Hospitality Assistants  
Administrative Assistants

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





# a look at today's visitors

## Celtic

**BANK OF SCOTLAND SPL**



Answering our 'Fir Park Terracing Ten' for this evening is Celtic season-ticket holder Michael Watson. Over to you Michael...

**1. How do you feel about the news that Celtic will have to play 2 qualifiers in the Champions League next season?**

It says pretty much everything about the standing of our game in Europe when a club like Celtic, and champions of our domestic league, has to play two qualifiers. This will only change by better performances from all our clubs in Europe.

It's obviously disappointing that a long season is going to start so early, especially with key players like Larsson and Mjalby being involved in the World Cup. However after the way we played in the majority of our games in Europe this season, you would have to feel quietly confident about making the Champions League.

**2. Were you pleased when Tommy**

**Burns knocked back the opportunity to return to management with Kilmarnock?**

Pleasantly surprised is a better way to describe it. Like everybody else I thought he would jump at the chance to get back into management, especially the opportunity with Killie. I think Celtic should place a lot of importance in their youth set-up and I'm glad Tommy is going to be involved in that. I thought he was unlucky as the Celtic manager but his teams played excellent football. Hopefully he's teaching young players at the club to play the game in a similar fashion, as well as developing the other skills and attributes they'll need. We've already got players like Crainey, Maloney and Smith pushing for first team places.

**3. Having enjoyed a relatively successful season in Europe would you say that is now the priority for Celtic or will winning the league title always take precedence?**

I think the league will always be the priority but competing well in Europe is important. The Champions League was a great experience for everybody at Celtic. Even though we competed well in European games this season, I think we were a short of the standard required to progress (the teams that qualified from our group aren't doing very well in Phase Two). But, under Martin O'Neill, we're definitely moving in the right direction. Remaining the dominant force in Scotland is something that will always please the supporters but you don't build a stadium like Celtic Park to dominate Scottish football - it deserves the kind of nights we had against Juve on a regular basis.

**4. Lubo Moravcik has dug Celtic out of a hole or numerous occasions over the past couple of years, how do you think Martin O'Neill will go about trying to replace him?**

It's becoming a bit of a cliché, but I would have loved to have had this guy playing for us 8-10 years ago. He really has been a joy to watch and I'm glad that he's been involved in the recent success that we've enjoyed. As for replacing him, if that's possible, I would like to see O'Neill go for the Georgian Nemsadze at Dundee, if he recovers from his current injury. Any time I've seen this guy play against us or on TV he has been really impressive and has the skills to sit in between the midfield and forwards and make things happen, something Celtic will badly need when Moravcik leaves. If the so called experts in the media are to be believed we'll need to spend millions to replace Lubo, but Dundee are a selling club and I don't think it would take much to get him.

**5. Celtic have often been criticised in the past that their standard of training facilities do not befit the size of the club they are. Are there any plans to come up with a 'Murray Park' style development in the near future?**

As I understand it, the club is waiting on a decision about the site at Belvedere Hospital as well as putting down a new surface at Barrowfield in the mean time. It is sad that a club like Celtic takes this long to get around to something this important. I think it was a misconception that to compete with other big European clubs you had to spend big in the transfer market, whereas, long term, some





# to Fir Park

# 5

of those millions would have been better spent on this sort of venture, in particular producing players.

**6. Hopeful of finishing off the season with another Scottish Cup success?**

It looks like an Old Firm final and you can never tell what's going to happen in those games. We've a pretty good record against Rangers under Martin O'Neill and most Celtic supporters go into these games fairly confident. Finishing the season with the League and Cup Double would be excellent, but I think if you asked most Celtic supporters at the beginning of the season what they would have realistically wanted, it would have been retaining the Championship and getting to the Champions League. Not many would have talked of the Treble or Double, so we've achieved the main objectives. But finishing with a Scottish Cup victory would be nice!

**7. Are we witnessing the last few weeks in the career of our old skipper Tom Boyd or does he have other things in mind when his contract expires?**

You would like to think that a player of his experience would have something to offer the game when he stops playing. I don't know if he has started to get any coaching badges yet but I would like to see him staying at the club, maybe working with Tommy Burns. He has been a good player for Celtic and probably appreciates the recent success more than other players after being at the club through some lean years.

**8. Have Celtic finally accepted that the club's future lies in Scotland or are there still faint hopes that the Premiership will accept the Old Firm at some point in the future?**

Realistically, I don't think they were ever going to join the Premiership. If they ever leave I think it will be to a new league brought about by TV money. Despite all the noise the governing bodies in the game make, if the TV people putting money in the game want it, chances are they'll get it e.g. 5:35pm kick-offs on a Saturday evening. Personally I would like to see Celtic compete well and regularly in the

Champions League and try to become a bigger force in Europe.

**9. How did you see the two previous matches between the sides?**

I think both games went as you would expect. In the game at Fir Park, Celtic had to work very hard but probably deserved to win. It's said that these things even themselves out so if it was a soft decision it makes up for the one Don Goodman got last season to clinch a three-all draw. The game at Parkhead was predictable with Motherwell frustrating Celtic and trying to play on the break. Even though Celtic didn't play well we probably merited the win.

**10. Finally then what's your prediction for this evening's game?**

Like most visits to Fir Park, Motherwell will be up for the game and we'll have to work hard if we want the win. But with the finishing line in sight I think we'll have enough to take 3 points - a 2-1 victory for Celtic.



Action from  
previous match  
against  
CELTIC.



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# Inside write

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First a warm welcome to everyone from Celtic Football Club for tonight's final fixture before the league split. Once more it looks like being a successful season for the green side of Glasgow and they should be congratulated for that.

We, of course, are more interested in our progress over the season. After a wobbly start, Eric and his team came in to help pull us towards safety from relegation. There were even moments when we thought there might be a slim chance of squeezing in to the top six, but it really was a tall order considering the ground that had to be made up.

The positive sides of the teams improvements were well in evidence against St. Johnstone ten days ago when we secured an all important away win, while playing some splendid football. The same again tonight and we could be in for an entertaining evening.

Tonight we we also welcome the Sky cameras to Fir Park again. They haven't been frequent visitors to this part of Lanarkshire of late, and this I must say, has surprised us. Generally the games they have covered here have been fine spectacles. From the 2-1 win against Hearts a couple of years back to the most recent titanic struggle against Celtic earlier in this campaign. Some would argue that the 3-3 draw against Celtic here was as good as it gets, we will see tonight if the two teams can top that for entertainment.

Much has been said and written about who will be televising our games next season. If this is to be be our last time with Sky. Motherwell FC would like to say how impressed we have been with their professionalism over the years. Hopefully they will feel they have had good times and entertaining times covering us.

Enjoy the game tonight and to all the Well fans here, let's get behind the team and show the nation what kind of fans we really are.

Regards

John Boyle, Chairman.



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## PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

	Pld	W	D	L	F-A	GD	Pts
Celtic	31	27	3	1	73-15	58	84
Rangers	32	22	8	2	70-23	47	74
Livingston	31	13	8	10	39-34	5	47
Aberdeen	31	14	5	12	45-43	2	47
Kilmarnock	31	11	8	12	36-40	-4	41
Dunfermline	31	11	7	13	37-51	-14	40
Hearts	31	11	6	14	41-42	-1	39
Dundee United	31	9	8	14	31-53	-22	35
Dundee	31	9	7	15	33-48	-15	34
MOTHERWELL	31	9	6	16	42-55	-13	33
Hibernian	31	7	10	14	40-48	-8	31
St. Johnstone	32	4	4	24	20-55	-35	16

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# Dressing Room Room Banter

## SCOTT LEITCH



Going back to our match against St Johnstone it was a very impressive performance and it was also very pleasing to take all three points considering our away form has let us down during the season. This win has helped us move up the table.

At the time of writing this the squad are looking forward to our next away game at Dundee and hopefully we can take all three points.

Tonight we welcome Celtic Football Club to Fir Park which is always a very exciting game for both players and fans. I, like everyone at the club hope to get all three points so get behind the players and give your best support.

LEITCHY

# LUCOZADE

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