

TESTIMONIAL YEAR 1999-2000

RONNIE

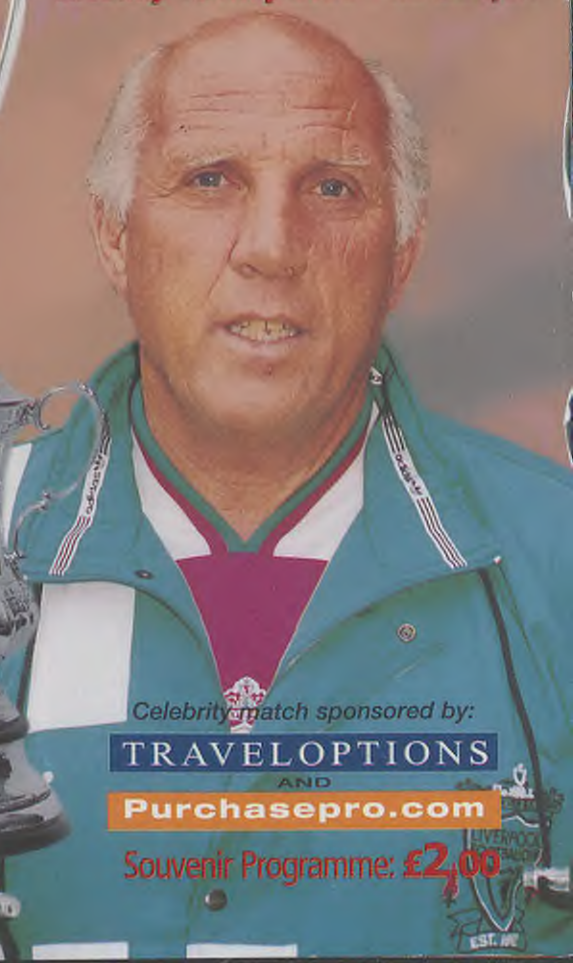
# MORAN

50 YEARS OF LOYALTY and GLORY

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Liverpool  
v  
Celtic

Tuesday 16 May 2000 • ko 8.00pm



Celebrity match sponsored by:

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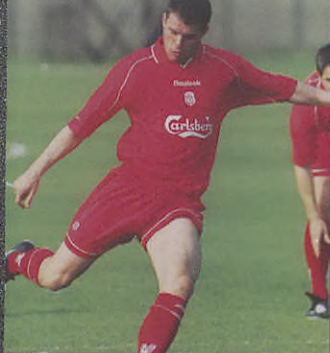
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I NEVER WALK ALONE

## A Message

from

# RONNIE MORAN

Patrons:  
Stan Boardman  
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Ken Dodd OBE  
Roy Evans  
Robbie Fowler  
Bruce Grobbelaar  
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Dave Hickson

Roger Hunt  
Ian St John  
Joey Jones  
Kevin Keegan  
Billy Liddell  
Michael Owen  
Ian Rush MBE  
Tommy Smith MBE  
Jimmy Tarbuck OBE  
Phil Thompson.

IT'S been my great privilege to have been a part of the success of Liverpool Football Club over the last fifty years.

I would like to start by thanking my good friends, Chairman David Moores and Vice-Chairman Peter Robinson and all the Directors for granting me this testimonial game and a chance to say my final goodbyes to everybody.

Fifty years is a long time to look back on and remember the great manager's and great players I have worked with. I could fill this programme with friends from the past who made Liverpool Football Club into what it is today. Some were quite special – Bill Shankly and Bob Paisley, Joe Fagan and my old mate Roy Evans. On the playing side were Billy Liddell, Ron Yeats, Kevin Keegan, Rushy, Kenny Dalglish and Robbie Fowler, to name a few.

I would also like to give a big warm Liverpool welcome to the Directors, players and all of the fans of the world famous Celtic Football Club – the Bhoys! Thank you all for coming down to play a part in my big night.

Over the last twelve months my Testimonial Committee have worked extremely hard to give me a great year to remember. I will always be grateful to them.

My thanks also to you, all the Liverpool supporters for getting behind the team and creating the great atmospheres in some of the most memorable nights British football have ever seen!

But by far the biggest thanks goes to my wife, Joyce and all of my family for being so supportive all the years I've been with this great Club.

I hope you all enjoy the night

*Ronnie Moran*





## *Tribute from* **Chairman David Moores**

*Chairman David Moores, right, with Vice-Chairman Peter Robinson outside Liverpool's Academy which was created out of the success of the Club due to people like Ronnie Moran.*



ON behalf of everyone connected with Liverpool Football Club, I'd like to wish Ronnie Moran all the very best on the occasion of this special testimonial match against Celtic.

Tonight, the directors, players and supporters will have the opportunity to pay a very public tribute to the contribution that Ronnie made to Liverpool during nearly half a century of dedicated service both as a

player and then later as a central figure among the backroom staff.

Having played under three managers and having worked with six on the backroom staff, Ronnie's contribution to the Liverpool success story will never be forgotten.

He may not have courted the limelight, but his role in all of the club's glorious victories should never be underestimated.

It is also a pleasure to welcome our old friends from Glasgow to Anfield this evening because if our previous meetings are any indication then the atmosphere inside the ground will be a very special one indeed.

My thanks again then to Ronnie for everything that he has done for this great club and my best wishes to him and his family for a long and happy retirement.

## *... and a word from* **Vice-Chairman Peter Robinson**

I HAVE known Ronnie Moran for 35 years since joining the club as Secretary in June 1965 when Ronnie was the newly appointed youth team trainer.

Even a cursory glance at the history books confirms the enormous contribution that he made to the club over almost five decades of service as first a player

and then a hugely influential figure amongst the backroom team.

Throughout the time that we worked together, I was always impressed by Ronnie's enthusiasm and complete dedication to the wellbeing of the club and his constant desire to keep learning. He gave outstanding service to Liverpool

Football Club and was greatly respected by the managers and players he was associated with over the years. If anyone deserves a testimonial then that person is Ronnie Moran and I hope that he and his family enjoy tonight's game against Celtic and that his retirement is both a long and happy one.



## and from **Chief Executive Rick Parry**

*TO pay tribute to Ronnie Moran is one of the more pleasant tasks I have been asked to perform, but it is by no means the easiest.*

*It is hard to find words that haven't been used a thousand times before.*

*It's enough to count the trophies Liverpool won during his time and to recognise the immense contribution he made,*

*and to note his unceasing loyalty and humility – human qualities not always associated with the modern game.*

*Sadly, I arrived at the Club very late in Ronnie's career, but I was here long enough to learn that everything I believed about him was true.*

*I hope that your big night, Ronnie, is a tremendous success, you deserve it.*



## Tribute from **Alan Brown**

*Chairman of the ISC*



I HAVE known Ronnie for many years and have always found him to be a smashing bloke with a great sense of humour.

His whole life revolved around Liverpool and he was totally committed to the success of the Club.

Since my appointment as Chairman of the ISC, he has spoken at our meetings and he has a whole volume of great stories of the glory years – my big problem is getting him to finish once he has started!

The fans love him and he is a great ambassador for the Club.

He truly deserves this testimonial and I hope he gets a full house.

Best Wishes to you Ronnie on your retirement.

IT is a great pleasure and honour to be Chairman of Ronnie's Testimonial Committee and to have been involved in all the events that culminate in tonight's match.

In my role as Director of Tourism, I know that we should never underestimate the impact that Liverpool's success in the 70s and 80s has had on the fact that now, the cities hotels are always full for every home game with large numbers of different foreign nationalities.

Speak to them and they will tell you that it was watching Ronnie and Liverpool collecting those four European Cups that influenced them and their families to follow Liverpool FC, so not only has Ronnie been a great

contributor to the Club, but also to the cities economic growth.

He deserves a great night and I am sure that is what he will have.



## **Chris Brown**

*Chairman of the Testimonial Committee*

*The Committee:*

*Treasurer: Simon A Lopian FCA*

*Secretary: Richard Green LLB*

*Mark Manley LLB, Alan Brown.*

*Events Organiser: Mike Berry, MB Publicity Ltd.*



## *Tribute* from **Gérard Houllier**

**ALTHOUGH I never had the opportunity to work with Ronnie Moran, I am well aware of the outstanding service that he gave to Liverpool Football Club over a period of nearly 50 years.**

**His total dedication as a player and later member of the backroom team had drawn richly deserved praise from all those who recognise his key role in the successes achieved by the club over the years.**

**Ronnie, of course, is still a regular visitor to the first team base at Melwood and we have all**

**grown accustomed to seeing him, together with Tom Saunders and John Bennisson, as they take their morning stroll around the training ground.**

**I'm delighted that tonight's testimonial against Celtic will give all of us the opportunity to pay tribute to the tremendous contribution he had made throughout his life to Liverpool and I would like to wish Ronnie all the best for a long and happy retirement.**

**Gérard Houllier  
Team Manager,  
Liverpool Football Club**



## *and* from **Phil Thompson**

THERE have been some great influences on my career, such as the 'Messiah' Shanks and the canny Bob Paisley, but most of my thanks are saved for Ronnie Moran.

Ronnie has been my guide and mentor, not only throughout my playing career, but also during the time I have spent in coaching.

He taught me the art and showed me the discipline it takes to reach the top.

When I first broke into the first team I thought that this aggressive, bald-headed man disliked me as a person and as a player. It was only as the years passed by and we became good friends, that he wanted to help me and to see if I could handle the pressure.

Ronnie was also there when I had problems with injury or loss of form, and years later to give me help in coaching the Reserves.

Of course, I am speaking here only of my own personal experience of Ronnie, but you have to remember that he gave every player the necessary help to become a better player.

Ronnie Moran had only one thing in his mind when handling players and that was to get as much out of them as possible for the success of Liverpool Football Club. Ronnie deserves the thanks of every Liverpool fan worldwide for the incredible years he put in to make us the greatest football club in the world.

To Ronnie and Joyce and his family I send my warmest regards.



I hope Ronnie enjoys the testimonial game against Celtic and I hope he has a long and happy retirement he thoroughly deserves.  
Phil Thompson



## Tribute from Roy Evans

*FIFTY years at one club. Not just any club, but Liverpool Football Club, one of the most successful clubs in the world.*

*I doubt if it will ever be repeated again and that is what makes Ronnie Moran most deserving of his testimonial year.*

*It has given the fans and his colleagues alike the chance to pay tribute to the man, who after a long playing career, became the backbone of Liverpool coaching staff throughout their most successful period.*

*Great managers and a never ending list of top class players owe him a huge debt... his support and encouragement, aggression and a wide knowledge of the game has helped many over the years.*

*Certainly when Ronnie spoke about football it was always worth listening to.*

*A fantastic servant to Liverpool, Football Club but also his services to football in general deserved to be honoured.*

*I personally would like to thank Ronnie for his great*

*support over the years while I was manager and for the friendship, he and his lovely wife Joyce and all of their family have shown to me.*

*I'm proud to have worked with him. Good Luck Ronnie in everything you do in the future and a happy retirement.*



## and Jamie Redknapp

WHEN I first signed for Liverpool as a 17-year old I was probably used to quiet coaches and I can always remember the first time that Ronnie Moran shouted at me!

I'd only been here one day and I was trying to dribble with the ball in training but lost it instead. "Pass the ball son" was all he said, but he's got this incredible voice and I thought to myself "Oh my God who's this fella? I'd better pass it now before he gets on my case."

I'd heard all about him being a great player and you could see what a character he was and I've got to say that he's been one of the biggest influences on me during my career.

When you're 16 or 17 you're open so much to different influences and because I worked day in and day out with Ronnie and he took such an interest in me, he made sure that I did things right.

Ronnie Whelan once said to me that the day that he doesn't have a go at you is the day you've got to start worrying and I realise now just how much I learned from him.

On behalf of all the lads I want to wish Ronnie and his family all the best for the future and help make tonight's game a fitting tribute to such a great club servant.

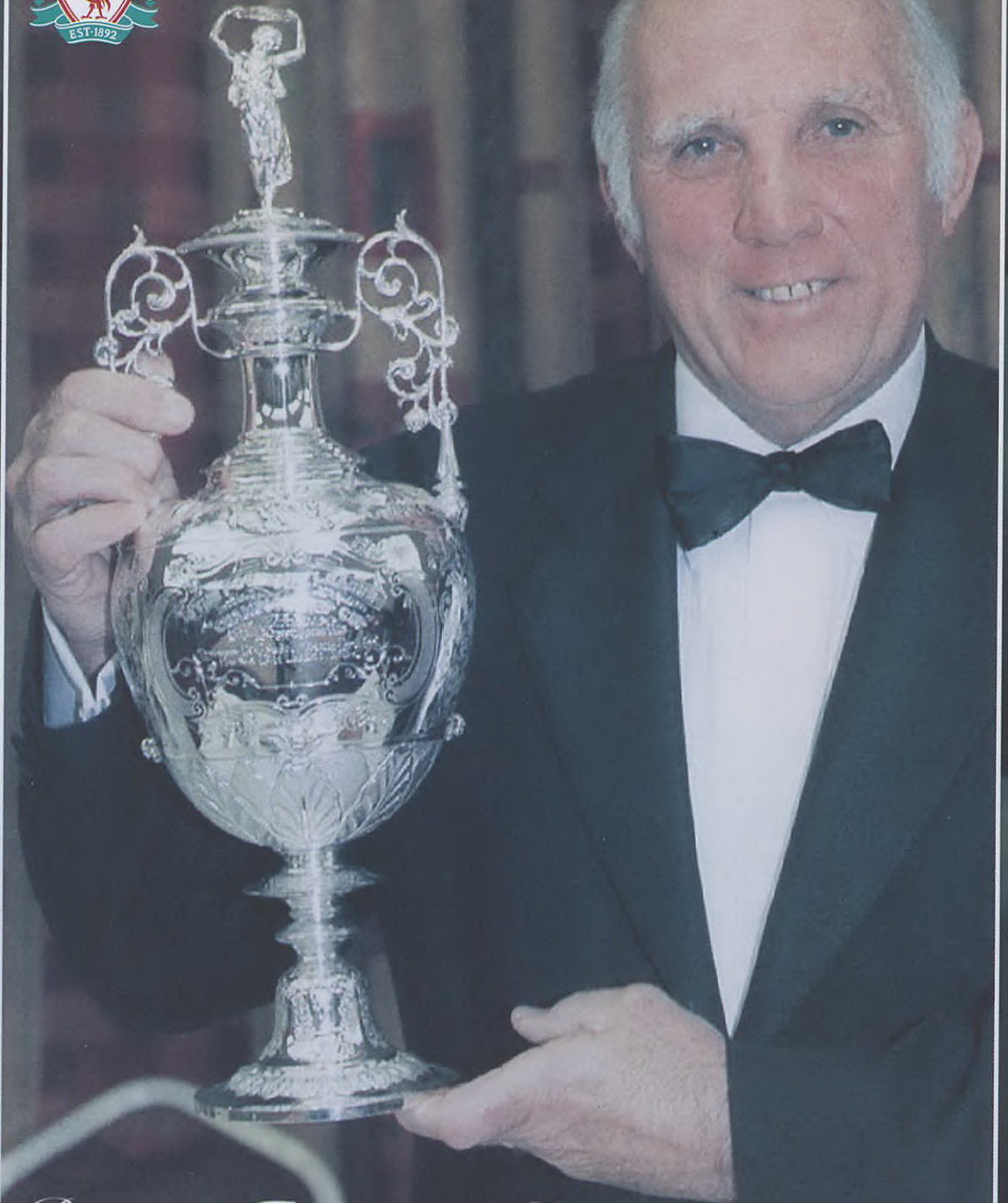
Jamie Redknapp  
Captain,  
Liverpool Football Club







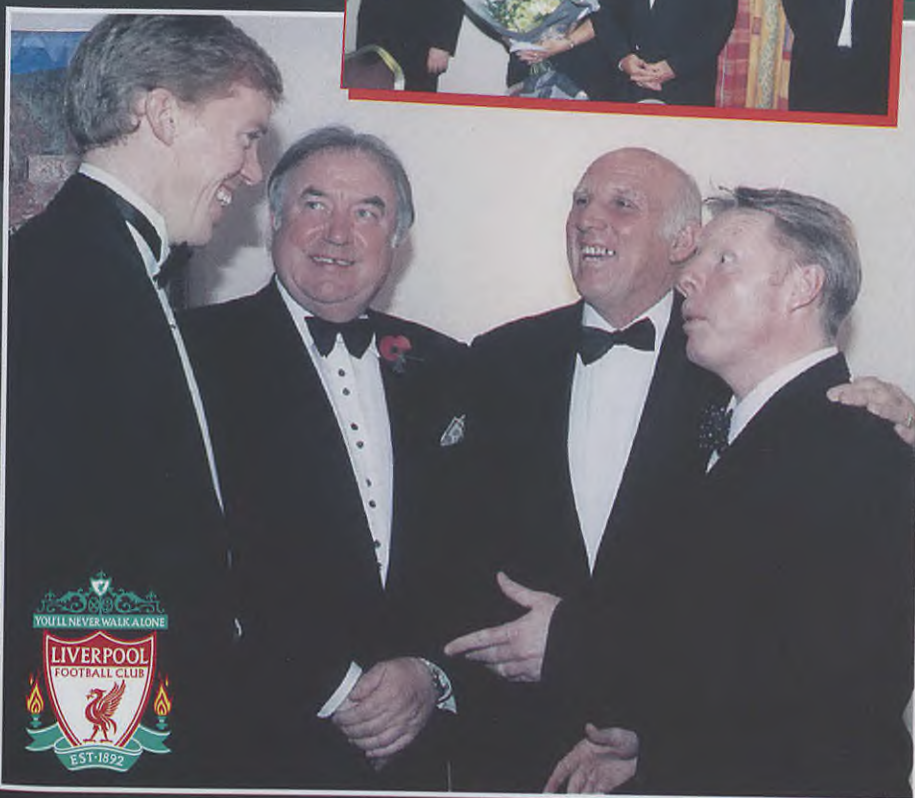
*50 Glorious Years*



*Ronnie's Testimonial Dinner*

*Crowne Plaza Hotel, Liverpool. Friday 12th November 1999*





● Opposite, Ronnie holding the League Championship trophy and above, he looks on at the replicas of four glorious European Cups and two UEFA Cups won by Liverpool while he was on the coaching staff and left, surrounded by some of the guests that night, Steve Staunton, special guest Jimmy Tarbuck OBE, Ronnie and Sammy Lee. Inset: Ronnie and Joyce with Jimmy Tarbuck and Alan Hansen.

