

# Celtic

PREMIER  
DIVISION  
SATURDAY,  
16 SEPTEMBER  
KICK OFF 3PM



MOTHERWELL

PROGRAMME NO. 2

**PHIL O'DONNELL POSTER**  
MATCH SPONSORED BY CANADA LIFE  
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £1





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# TOMMY BURNS



**D**UE to printing schedules I'm writing this before we play Dinamo Batumi in the Cup Winners' Cup and obviously we are all hoping that the boys take to the field today on the back of a win.

So with that in mind we extend a warm welcome to Alex McLeish and his Motherwell side for today's Premier Division meeting at Celtic Park.

This of course is our first league match to be played in front of the new North Stand so I know the supporters will be in full voice for this game against a team who were well up in the challenge for honours last season.

And hopefully we can convert the backing from the stands into another three points by re-creating some of the exciting and positive play witnessed at Pittodrie last Sunday.

What can I say about that match except that I haven't enjoyed a game of football so much in years!

We looked really up against it when we fell two goals behind after only 10 minutes but the concentration and desire for the full three points exemplified the positive streak that is running through the team at the moment.

Not only did they show a real passion for the game but they pulled back the two-goal deficit with some style and held on to the 3-2 lead under very difficult circumstances after John Hughes was red-carded.

Those two bookable offences of course mean that Big Yogi will miss today's match through suspension but, as was shown at Pittodrie, there is cover available at the back with the players all willing to work for each other.

And just to add to the pleasure of winning such a fantastic game it's a great bonus for us knowing the game was transmitted live on SKY TV.

Not only did supporters who couldn't get tickets for Pittodrie get a chance to see the match but it was great that the game was broadcast all over Britain.

And it was appropriate that we played in that manner 10 years to the day since the great Jock Stein passed away.

I can't think of a better tribute we could have paid to the man.

**‘ We showed real passion to come back from two goals down to Aberdeen ’**

So hopefully we can carry on from where we left off in our previous league game by adopting the same attitude against Motherwell today and maintain our challenge at the top of the league.

A win today would also set us up nicely for the Coca-Cola Cup meeting here with Rangers on Tuesday but Old Firm matches take care of themselves in any case.



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**TOM BOYD**



**TOSH MCKINLAY**



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**MALKY MACKAY**



**PETER GRANT**



**SIMON DONNELLY**



**PHIL O'DONNELL**



**ANDY WALKER**



**ANDREAS THOM**



**JOHN COLLINS**



**BRIAN McLAUGHLIN**



**STUART GRAY**



**Referee:**  
W S G YOUNG  
Glasgow



**Linesman:**  
G A EVANS  
Bishopbriggs



**Linesman:**  
F W Y SMITH  
Kinglassie

**STAND-BYS:**  
Celtic: Paul McStay, Mark McNally  
Motherwell: Shaun McSkimming  
Lee McCulloch

**MASCOT**  
Mark Cowan  
West Lothian  
Aged 5

**SCOTT HOWIE**



**EDDIE MAY**



**INNES RITCHIE**



**BRIAN MARTIN**



**CHRIS McCART**



**JOHN PHILLIBEN**



**BILLY DAVIES**



**PAUL LAMBERT**



**ANDY RODDIE**



**TOMMY COYNE**



**JOHN HENDRY**



**DOUGIE ARNOTT**



**JAMIE DOLAN**



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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## + TODAY'S VISITORS +



Motherwell, by their own recent high standards, have had an indifferent start to the season. Dumped out of Europe by Finnish side MyPa 47, they have started their league campaign with two draws. Under the stewardship of Alex McLeish the Fir Park side finished runners-up to Rangers last season in the Premier Division.

### SCOTT HOWIE (Goalkeeper)

Born: 4.1.72

Bought from Norwich a year ago for £250,000 and has recently taken over from Steve Woods as the No.1 'keeper. He started his career with Clyde and has won Under-21 honours.

### EDDIE MAY (Defender)

Born: 30.8.67

Another astute Alex McLeish buy last season in the deal that took Paul McGrillen and Steve Kirk move to Falkirk. He started his career with Hibs before sampling soccer in England with Brentford. A versatile player at home in defence and midfield.

### INNES RITCHIE (Defender)

Born: 24.8.73

A youngster who has been tipped for great things. He figured briefly in the first team plans last season and has come in as cover for Rob McKinnon and Rab Shannon, who moved to Dundee United in the summer.

### BRIAN MARTIN (Defender)

Born: 24.2.63

Solid no-nonsense central defender who has attracted the attention of Scotland coach Craig Brown. Started his career with Albion Rovers and has settled in well in the middle of the rearguard.

### CHRIS McCART (Defender)

Born: 17.4.67

Stylish defender, a perfect foil for the rugged Martin. Started his career with Celtic Boys' Club before being picked up by the Fir Park team. Tremendous power in the air and very dangerous at set-pieces.

### JOHN PHILLIBEN (Defender)

Born: 14.03.64

Former Stirling Albion defender who was signed from Doncaster Rovers nine years ago. Another determined back four performer who possesses a ferocious shot.

### BILLY DAVIES (Midfielder)

Born: 31.5.64

Glasgow-born player who was signed from Dunfermline a year ago. Links well with the defence and attack and snatches vital goals. Kicked off his career with Rangers.

### PAUL LAMBERT (Midfielder)

Born: 7.8.69

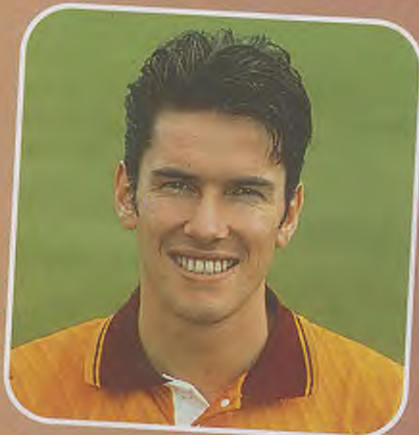
Former St. Mirren player, signed two



**WELL PLAYED...**  
Tommy Coyne scores another goal - a feeling the ex-Celt got used to with all his previous clubs

## + TODAY'S VISITORS +

# Fir Parkers looking to bounce back



**MEN OF STEEL.**  
Dogie Arnott (top) and Chris McCart

years ago, who is another Motherwell man with an appetite for hard work. He is always busy in midfield and was tipped for stardom after his initial breakthrough at Love Street.

### ANDY RODDIE (Midfielder)

Born: 4.11.71

A former Aberdeen team-mate of boss Alex McLeish. Another hard-working player who does a lot of good work on the flanks.

### JAMIE DOLAN (Midfielder)

Born: 22.2.69

An explosive player who is the product of the Motherwell Boys' Club outfit. Another in the mighty atom category who gets up and down the pitch, putting in a full 90 minutes.

### ALEX BURNS (Forward)

Born: 4.8.73

A wily striker signed from Junior outfit Shotts Bon Accord. Came in last season for Tommy Coyne and scored two goals in a Scottish Cup-tie against Falkirk. Good striker who makes excellent forward runs.

### DOUGIE ARNOTT (Forward)

Born: 5.8.61

One of the bravest strikers in the Premier League who has the habit of scoring valuable goals against Celtic! A bargain buy from Pollok Juniors nine years ago by former manager Tommy McLean.

### TOMMY COYNE (Forward)

Born: 14.11.62

Top scorer in the Premier League last season with 18 goals. The ex-Celt netted two superb efforts against Gordon Marshall at Hampden last term.

Has scored goals wherever he has gone on his football travels with Clydebank, Dundee, Dundee United, Celtic, Tranmere and Motherwell.

### SHAUN McSKIMMING (Forward)

Born: 29.5.70

Bought last season from Kilmarnock for £200,000 to replace Phil O'Donnell after his £1.75 million move to Celtic. Possessor of a wonderful long-range shot.

### LEE McCULLOCH (Forward)

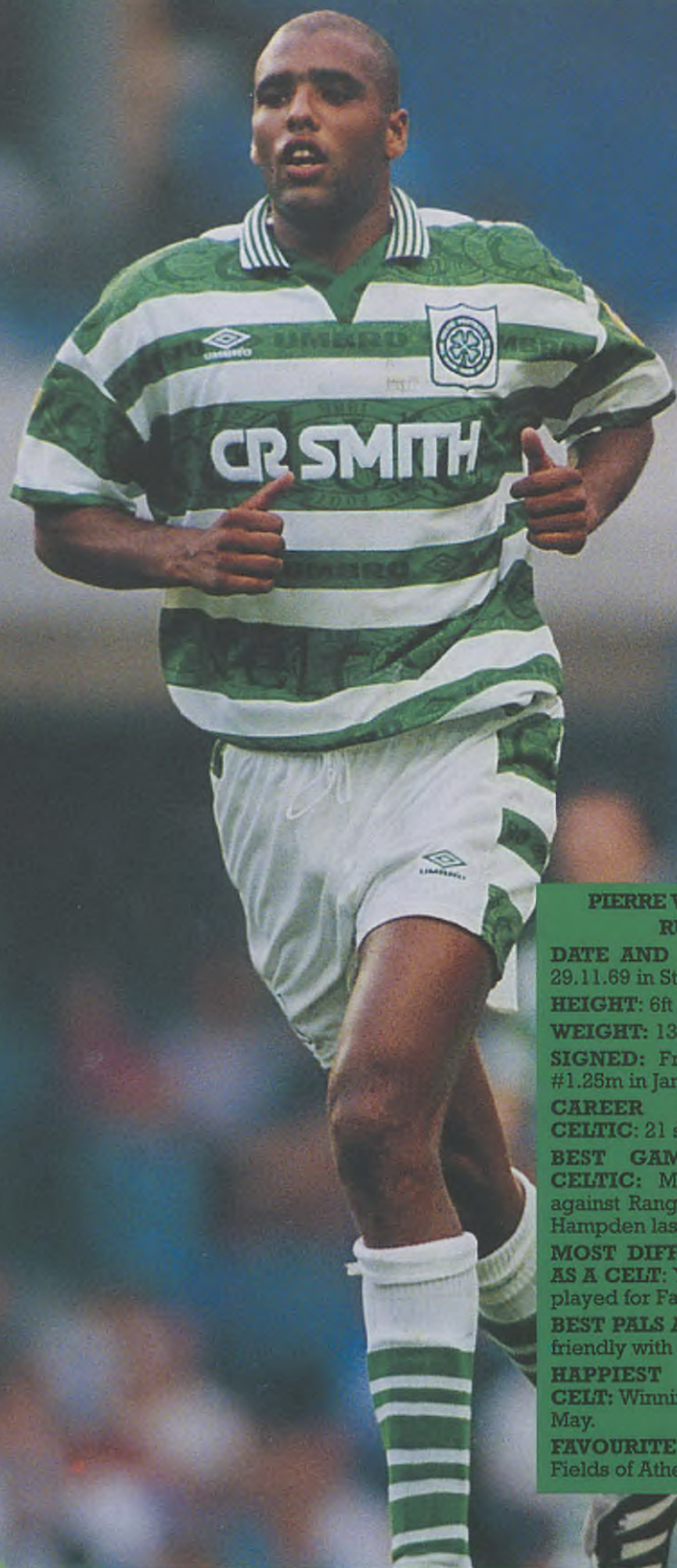
Born: 14.5.78

Came so close to rescuing Motherwell in Europe this season after their storming comeback against Finland's My-Pa 47. Trailing 3-1 from the first leg, Motherwell were winning 2-0 in Finland when substitute McCulloch grazed the post in the dying minutes. One for the future.

### JOHN HENDRY (Forward)

Born: 6.1.70

Bought from Spurs in the summer for £200,000. Good, tricky, direct forward who is still settling into life in the Premier League.



**PIERRE VAN HOOIJDONK  
RUNDOWN**

**DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:** 29.11.69 in Steenberg

**HEIGHT:** 6ft 3in.

**WEIGHT:** 13st 12lbs.

**SIGNED:** From Breda NAC for #1.25m in January 1995

**CAREER RECORD WITH CELTIC:** 21 starts and 11 goals.

**BEST GAME PLAYED FOR CELTIC:** My Old Firm debut against Rangers in the 3-0 win at Hampden last May.

**MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT AS A CELT:** Yogi Hughes when he played for Falkirk!

**BEST PALS AT PARKHEAD:** I am friendly with everyone at the club!

**HAPPIEST MOMENT AS A CELT:** Winning the Scottish Cup in May.

**FAVOURITE CELTIC SONG:** The Fields of Atherny.



# Euro heartache for Pierre

## CELT in the SPOTLIGHT

### PIERRE VAN HOOIJDONK

CELTIC striker Pierre van Hooijdonk sat at home on Thursday knowing he should have been playing his first European game in Georgia.

The big Dutchman was devastated to miss out on his Celtic Euro debut after picking up an injury in Celts thrilling 3-2 win against Aberdeen last weekend.

And the moment his team-mates left for Batumi on Tuesday the parkhead goal-grabber was straight into the gym in a bid to be fit for today's Motherwell clash.

Pierre pulled a hamstring in the Pittodrie match but he knows it's more important he's fully fit for the crucial

games coming up for the Parkhead side.

He said: "Obviously I was very disappointed at missing out as the Batumi game was a big one, European football is the big stage and every player wants to play there.

"And for me it would have been the first time I had done so as well, but I have to look on the bright side and remember that there are two more important games coming up, the league clash with Motherwell and the Rangers Coca-Cola Cup tie, and I want to be fit to play in both of those.

"And looking further ahead there is still the second leg of the Batumi game, so I am really just postponing my European debut for a few weeks.

"I could have gone out to Batumi and played but I would have been struggling and then I may have missed the next two games and there is no pint in that.

"When I am fully fit I want to play in every game I can, but when I do not feel 100 per cent, it makes no sense at all to try and play.

"Perhaps you would risk it if it was the Cup final at the very end of the term, but only then."

Pierre was enjoying every minute of the Aberdeen match as Celtic put in one of their best performances in years to come back from a two goal deficit, and he admits that made it worse for him when he had to go off.

He explained: "We played really well that day as a team and when you are 3-2 ahead, as a striker you always feel you are going to get a few more chances to try and take because your confidence is high.

I could have gone out to Batumi and played but I would have struggled

#### Interview: MERLE BROWN

"But I couldn't carry on, I passed the ball then ran forward a bit and just felt my hamstring go tight for a moment.

"It was disappointing because I would have liked to have scored as I have done in the other three matches this term, against Ayr United and the two against Raith.

"But the most important thing was that we won. We have made a great start to the league campaign, with two away wins against Raith and Aberdeen and we have to keep that going.

"It was so important that we started that way, because if we had had a bad start we would have been behind, looking up to teams and having to catch up and you don't want that early on.

"You end up putting pressure on yourself and you lose a bit of confidence, but the way we have started means that we have given ourselves a confidence boost, by taking six points from the two away matches."

Celtic take on Motherwell today in the first home league clash of the season and Pierre reckons the Parkhead side's form on their own patch should be a lot better than it was last year when they had to play their home matches at Hampden.

And he knows it's vital they translate their good away form into good displays at Parkhead.

He said: "I think it will be a lot easier for us this season in our

home games. The pitch is so big at Celtic Park that it will suit our style of play and we should really benefit from that.

"And also the fans are a lot more alive at Celtic Park than they were at Hampden. The atmosphere for the Raith cup match was amazing and hopefully it will always be like that.

"That match is a good example of how we played better on the big park. In the league game against them at Stark's Park we struggled a bit because the pitch was so small, but in the cup game, especially in the first half we played really well."

Celtic will have been back in the country for less than 24 hours before they take on Motherwell today, and tiredness is bound to affect some of the players.

But Pierre believes they should be fit enough to handle it and get the three points from the game.

He said: "It's difficult to say whether the tiredness from the travelling will affect the players, but I think they will be fit enough to handle this sort of schedule.

"It won't be an easy game. We didn't beat Motherwell last season and they are a good side, they finished second in the league and that is proof of how good they are.

"But they haven't had a good start this term, and didn't have a good pre-season either, so hopefully they still won't have found their form when they visit us for this game.

"We have to go out there believing we can beat them and take another three points as our aim this term is to win the championship."

