

CELTIC



v **KILMARNOCK**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2014
CELTIC PARK, GLASGOW
KICK-OFF 1PM


OFFICIAL PROGRAMME • €3



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PUBLISHED BY Sport Media. PRINTED BY Stephens and George.



SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction

Celtic Football Club is legendary and as with most legends as much myth as fact surrounds its history and what the Club stands for today. The Social Mission Statement aims to simply define what the Club stands for and seeks to promote within society.

History

Celtic Football Club was founded in 1888. Its principal founder was a Marist Brother named Walfrid. The Club had two principal aims: The first aim was to raise funds to provide food for the poor of the East End of Glasgow, an area of the City that was greatly impoverished and had a high rate of infant mortality. Within the East End was a large Irish community and friction was growing between the native Glaswegians and the new influx of Irish. Brother Walfrid saw the need for social integration and his vision was a football club that Scottish and Irish, Protestants and Catholics alike could support. A new football club would be a vehicle to bring the communities together and this was the second aim. The Marist brother sought for the Club to have both a Scottish and Irish identity and hence, the Club's name "Celtic" came about, representing a bridge of cultures across the Irish Sea.

Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

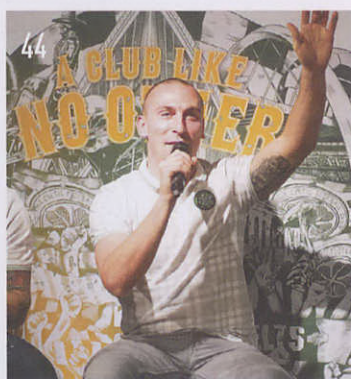
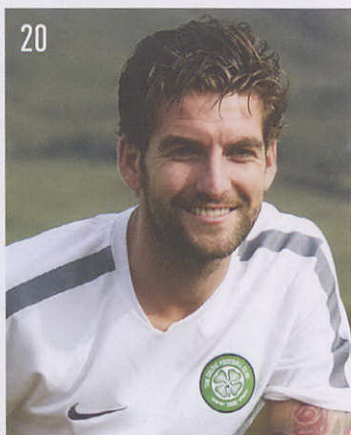
Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting health, well-being and social integration.

Who is Celtic Football Club for?

Celtic Football Club is for people who want to support a football club that strives for excellence in Scotland and in Europe, is proud of its history, supportive of its local community and seeks to support the following aims: "To maximise all opportunities to disassociate the Club from sectarianism and bigotry of any kind. To promote Celtic as a Club for all people, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or ability."

Summary

Celtic is a club for everyone who believes in football as a medium for healthy pleasure, entertainment and social integration. The Club always has been and always will simply aim to be the team of the people.





RONNY DEILA

Celtic Manager

WE AIM TO TAKE LAST WEEK'S LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE INTO TODAY'S GAME

A WARM welcome to Celtic Park this afternoon for the visit of Kilmarnock in what is the second of our four-game run of home matches in a 10-day period, and in three different competitions.

Following today's game, we await the visit of Partick Thistle in the League Cup this midweek before facing Inverness Caley Thistle in the SPFL next Saturday.

However, the games are so close together that, once more, printing deadlines mean that these programme notes have had to be

written before our meeting with FC Astra in the UEFA Europa League on Thursday night.

It goes with saying that I hope we are taking to the field this afternoon on the back of a good result against the Romanian side, but we know we will have to be ready for Kilmarnock in any case on the back of their fine 2-1 win away at St Johnstone last weekend.

We did well ourselves last Saturday and it's our aim to carry on that attitude and level of performance we showed in the

5-0 win up at Ross County into today's game against Kilmarnock.

I was delighted with the display in the Highlands, and the fact that the five goals were spread out between four players only added to the all-round feel-good factor on the day.

We had good movement throughout the game and we aim to show that again today and, like last Saturday, be 100 per cent ready for this and every game and do everything in the right way with the quality we have.

Hopefully we can take that same confidence into the game today and enjoy the afternoon's experience as much as we enjoyed last Saturday in Dingwall.

We go into every match aiming to win as that's the mentality of this club, and I know that the supporters are proud of that aspect of the club as well.

The support can drive us on to victory and you can play a massive part in what we achieve today as we aim to continue climbing up the SPFL table to be at the top where we belong.

With your support this afternoon we will hopefully be celebrating another three points towards that aim.

Enjoy the game





'We go into every match aiming to win as that's the mentality of this club, and I know that the supporters are proud of that'

CLUB HONOURS



SCOTTISH LEAGUE WINNERS (45 Times)

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,
2000/01, 2001/02, 2003/04,
2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08,
2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14

SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS (36 Times)

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, 2004,
2005, 2007, 2011, 2013

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS (14 Times)

1956/57, 1957/58, 1965/66,
1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69,
1969/70, 1974/75, 1982/83,
1997/98, 1999/00, 2000/01,
2005/06, 2008/09

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS 1967

CORONATION CUP WINNERS 1953

CREATE

ATTACK

MAGISTA



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SCOTT BROWN

Celtic Captain



WE FACE A TOUGH CHALLENGE TODAY BUT THREE POINTS IS THE AIM



THIS is certainly a busy period for us, both players and supporters, with four games inside 10 days here at Celtic Park and today's game against Kilmarnock will see us reach the halfway stage of the run.

Once more I'm writing these programme notes ahead of our UEFA Europa League match against FC Astra, the first match of the four-game run, and I hope we are going into this afternoon's meeting on the back of another European win for us.

The one thing we're sure of is that we aim to carry on our league form from last Saturday when we beat Ross County 5-0 in Dingwall as that is the level of performance and goal-scoring we want to reach in every game.

But we know we face a tough challenge from a Kilmarnock side who are having a good season with a run of good results and they kept that up last week with an away win against St Johnstone.

We will have to be wary of them but I'm sure that if we play as we know we can then we will have every

chance of pulling in another three points in our climb back to the top of the table.

Hopefully we can keep up our goalscoring form to help us reach those three points as we are aiming for more consistency in our performances and we know that the supporters will help us in achieving that.

Your support has been fantastic this season, especially now with having four home games so close together at this time of year and we want to thank you for your backing.

We know that you will get behind the team today as we will be doing everything we can to deliver another league win here at Celtic Park.

Enjoy the game,

CLUB DIRECTORY AND RECORDS

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB
Celtic Park, Glasgow, G40 3RE

CELTIC CALL CENTRE

Tel: 0871 226 1888
(calls cost up to 10p per minute, telecoms provider dependent. Mobile and other provider charges may vary)

WEBSITE: www.celticfc.net

FORMED: 1888

STADIUM: Celtic Park

CAPACITY: 60,506

HOME STRIP COLOUR

Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts and socks

AWAY STRIP COLOUR

Dark green shirts with green/gold trim, dark green 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

IN ONE SEASON
50 - Jimmy McGrory, 1935/36

MOST PREMIER/SPL GOALS

IN ONE SEASON
35 - Brian McClair, 1986/87
35 - Henrik Larsson, 2000/01

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STADIUM REGULATIONS



ALL supporters are reminded that the Ground Regulations insist that spectators remain seated during the match.

Please remain seated throughout the match in the interests of your own safety and that of your fellow supporters.

Superintendent George Clelland of Strathclyde

Police 'B' Division, said: "Strathclyde Police do not wish to in any way prevent spectators from fully enjoying football matches.

"However, the safety of those attending must be paramount at all times. We fully support Celtic FC in this matter and we fully endorse their message to supporters."

UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT AT CELTIC PARK AND AWAY FOOTBALL STADIA

NEW rules have been introduced by the SFA and SPFL in connection with "Unacceptable Conduct" at football stadia. The new rules form part of our Stadium Regulations. It is a condition of entry to stadia that the Stadium Regulations, including these new rules, are followed.

A summary of the new rules is set out below. Full details are available on the Celtic website at www.celticfc.net or by contacting the Customer Service Manager on 0871 226 1888*.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB WILL NOT TOLERATE UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT AT CELTIC PARK OR AT AWAY FOOTBALL STADIA

- Unacceptable conduct is conduct which is violent or disorderly
- Violent conduct includes any actual, attempted or threatened physical violence against any person, or intentional damage to property

- Disorderly conduct includes conduct which stirs up or sustains, or is likely or is designed to stir up or sustain, hatred or ill will against or towards individuals or groups of people because of:
 - Gender
 - Colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origin
 - Membership or presumed membership, of a religious group or of a social or cultural group with perceived religious affiliation
 - Sexual orientation
 - Transgender identity
 - Disability
 - Using threatening, abusive or insulting words or conduct
 - Displaying writing or any other thing which is threatening, abusive or insulting

This list is not exhaustive and must be read in conjunction with the Stadium Regulations.

ANY PERSON ENGAGING IN UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT MAY BE SUBJECT TO ANY, OR A COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Removal from the stadium
- Suspension from attending official matches involving Celtic Football Club
- Indefinite ban from attending official matches involving Celtic Football Club
- Report to the police and possible criminal proceedings

Celtic Football Club was established in 1888 as a Club open to all.

Further information on the Club's origins and Celtic's Social Mission Statement can be found on page 3.

**Calls cost up to 10p per minute, telecoms provider dependant. Mobile and other provider charges may vary.*

KILMARNOCK:



The story so far...



Comp	Date	Result
SPFL	09 Aug	Dundee 1-1 Kilmarnock
SPFL	13 Aug	Kilmarnock 0-2 Aberdeen
SPFL	16 Aug	Ross County 1-2 Kilmarnock
SPFL	23 Aug	Kilmarnock 2-0 Motherwell
League Cup	26 Aug	Kilmarnock 1-0 Ayr United
SPFL	30 Aug	Inverness CT 2-0 Kilmarnock
SPFL	13 Sep	Kilmarnock 2-1 St Mirren
SPFL	20 Sep	Hamilton Accies 0-0 Kilmarnock
League Cup	23 Sep	Kilmarnock 0-1 St Johnstone
SPFL	27 Sep	Kilmarnock 3-0 Partick Thistle
SPFL	03 Oct	Kilmarnock 2-0 Dundee United
SPFL	18 Oct	St Johnstone 1-2 Kilmarnock





KILMARNOCK



1



ONES TO WATCH

KILMARNOCK have started the 2014/15 season strongly and have gone on a four-game winning streak at home as well as adding an away win at St Johnstone last weekend.

Scalps lifted during that run include former league leaders Dundee United and the Ayrshire side's performances are in stark contrast to their form last season.

Now sitting in fourth place, Killie spent the better part of last term fighting off relegation but managed to survive the play-off position by four points. This campaign has seen Allan Johnston strengthen his side with a string of youth players and some shrewd transfers in the summer window. Here, we examine who may pose the greatest threat to Celtic today.

Alexei Eremenko

He may not be among the goals this season yet, but most strikes from Kilmarnock are the result of Alexei Eremenko's creativity. The Finnish midfielder is enjoying his second spell at the Ayrshire side and has inspired his team to four straight home league wins as well as a number of impressive victories on the road this year. The playmaker had a successful loan spell at Rugby Park in the 2010/11 season but moved to Kairat Almaty in Kazakhstan that same year. He returned to Killie in January 2014 and made 13 appearances in the league as they battled to stay in the top flight. Capped 59 times for Finland with 14 international goals to his name, Eremenko has also played for a number of top sides across Europe including Celtic's former Champions League opponents HJK Helsinki, Lecce, Metalist Kharkiv and Rubin Kazan. Eremenko's performances this season have been central to Kilmarnock's renaissance of form and his creativity has helped them reach the top end of the table before the second international break. He missed last week's win over St Johnstone due to injury but should be back in the running today.



2



Tope Obadeyi

Playing for 11 teams in six years has given Tope Obadeyi a wealth of experience which is beginning to show at Kilmarnock. The former England U21 attacker has bagged four goals for Killie so far this season after moving from Plymouth on a free transfer in July this year. Obadeyi offers Kilmarnock a distinct alternative to the common 'big target man' tactic. Comfortable on the right or left in a supporting role for a main striker, the Englishman has pace, trickery and skill at his disposal and looks calm in front of goal. His recent strike against Dundee United saw him control a bobbling pass well, nut-meg an on-rushing defender and slot low past Radoslaw Cierznia in the United goal to give his side a vital lead. He links up well with Eremenko and Josh McGennis to form a potent attacking three for Kilmarnock and will be one to watch for the Hoops today.

3



Chris Johnston

A product of the youth system at Kilmarnock, Chris Johnston has graduated from youth player to first-team star in the space of two years. The winger, who is already building a reputation for his trickery and vision, won the U20 league Player of the Year award in the 2012/13 season and broke through to the first team that same year, making 11 appearances and scoring four goals. He played 22 times for Killie last term and recently signed a new deal that will keep him at Rugby Park until 2016. Johnston is also part of a clutch of young Scottish players who have impressed in recent years at U19 and U21 level for Scotland. Another good season at Kilmarnock could push the youngster further up the pecking order and possibly into Gordon Strachan's plans as we have already seen with players like Callum McGregor at Celtic and Gary Mackay-Steven at Dundee United.



KILMARNOCK



Robbie Muirhead 4

Another graduate from the Killie youth system now playing as a first-team player is Robbie Muirhead. The 18-year-old has made nine appearances this season so far, most of which from the bench, and has two goals to his name. He made his senior debut for Killie in May 2013 as a substitute against St Mirren and scored the opener against the Saints in their recent clash with the Ayrshire side. Muirhead made 21 appearances in his maiden senior season and bagged two goals during that time - one against St Johnstone and another in a 1-1 draw with Partick Thistle. Like several of Kilmarnock's blossoming talents, the teenager has represented Scotland at most levels up to U19 and can play as a front-man or second striker for Allan Johnston's side.



Mark Connolly 5

Strong and powerful in the air and good with the ball at his feet, Mark Connolly is an important part of the Kilmarnock backline and a goal-threat at set-pieces. Irishman Connolly started his career at Wolves where his performances attracted the attention of Bolton Wanderers, who signed the defender on a permanent deal aged 17. While working his way up through the ranks at Bolton, Connolly enjoyed a loan spell at St Johnstone in 2010 before heading back to England. He captained the reserve side at the Reebok Stadium but found game time with the first team limited and went on loan to Macclesfield town in 2012. He left Bolton later that year and went on to join Crawley Town where he made 80 appearances in two seasons. Connolly joined Kilmarnock this summer and has proved to be pivotal in defence as well as a target man for free-kicks up front with two goals to his name this season.



6

Josh Magennis

After Kilmarnock went behind to an early Murray Davidson goal in last week's visit to St Johnstone, it took two almost identical headed goals from Magennis before the break to yield full points for the visitors. He started out as a goalkeeper in his native Bangor, County Down, and almost took up rugby before switching to a striking role in 2008, just before he turned pro in 2009 while at Cardiff City. He had earlier played with Distillery and Glentoran as a youth player before moving to Wales and while at Cardiff he had a loan period with Grimsby Town before former Celt, Mark McGhee took him to Aberdeen. Magennis made over a hundred appearances with the Pittodrie club before spending the second half of last season on loan with St Mirren prior to setting up a permanent move to Rugby Park during the 2014 summer break.

THE OPPOSITION



THE TEAM

GOALKEEPERS

Craig Samson
Conor Brennan
Devlin Mackay

DEFENDERS

Dean Hawkshaw
Adam Hodge
Ross Barbour
Mark Connolly
Lee Ashcroft
Darryl Westlake

MIDFIELDERS

Jamie Hamill
Sammy Clingan
Paul Cairney
Craig Slater
Aleksel Eremenko
Chris Chantler
Ross Davidson
Mark O'Hara
Manuel Pascali

STRIKERS

Dylan Pooler
Mark Thomson
Rory McKenzie
Lee Miller
Chris Johnston
Tope Obadeyi
Michael Ngoo
Josh Magennis
Robbie Muirhead

THE MANAGER

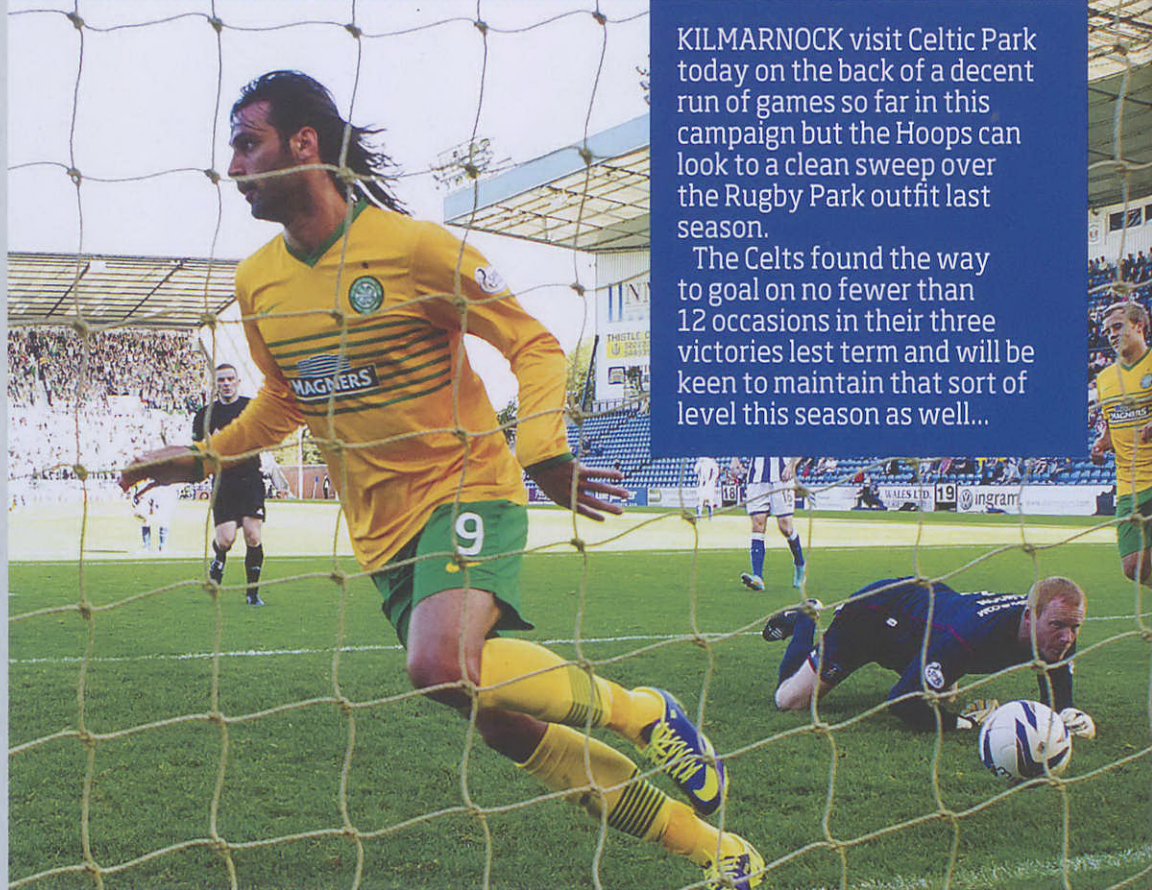
Allan Johnston



LAST SEASON v KILMARNOCK

KILMARNOCK visit Celtic Park today on the back of a decent run of games so far in this campaign but the Hoops can look to a clean sweep over the Rugby Park outfit last season.

The Celts found the way to goal on no fewer than 12 occasions in their three victories last term and will be keen to maintain that sort of level this season as well...



SPFL RUGBY PARK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

KILMARNOCK 2-5 CELTIC

(COMMONS, SAMARAS 3, BALDE)

A GEORGIOS Samaras hat-trick set Celtic on their way to a resounding 5-2 victory over Kilmarnock in their first meeting last season. The Greek striker dazzled in the sunshine at Rugby Park and his goals, which came after Kris Commons' volleyed opener, were among some of the best the big man scored in green and white. His first was a precise, curling half-volley from the left of the box and his second, a six-yard tap-in, capped off a fine move between Commons and the former Celtic hit-man. Kilmarnock gave the Bhoys a fright with a rally before half-time with goals from Sean Clohessy and Sammy Clingan but Samaras' second-half header and Amido Balde's driving run and low shot at the end were enough to give the Champions the win.





SPFL CELTIC PARK

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2014

CELTIC 4-0 KILMARNOCK

(LEDLEY, ASHCROFT OG, MULGREW, BALDE)

A RAMPANT James Forrest helped Celtic cruise to a 4-0 victory at Paradise as the teams met on a cold and dark night in January. Forrest's pace and trickery created the opening goal when he cut in from the left and fed Joe Ledley who powered home past Craig Samson in the Killie goal from a tight angle. The Scotland internationalist then ran Jeroen Tesselaar ragged before firing a low cross into the Kilmarnock box which Lee Ashcroft diverted into his own net. Charlie Mulgrew added a third when he ghosted into the Killie box, turned and slotted low past the keeper before Amido Balde scored on another trade-mark substitute appearance when he received the ball on the left of the box, cut inside and shot past Samson, with the keeper's aid.



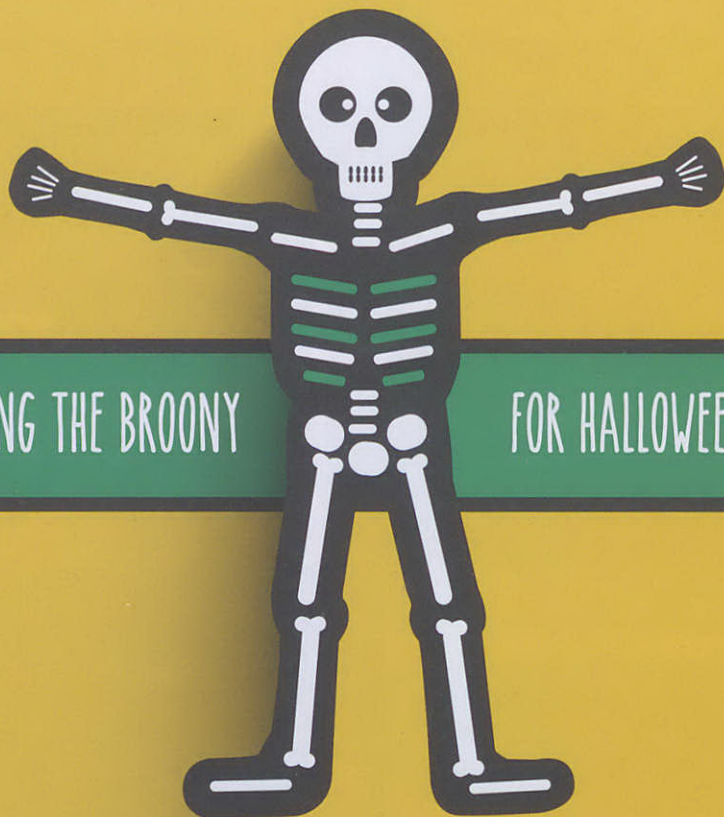
SPFL RUGBY PARK

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014

KILMARNOCK 0-3 CELTIC

(COMMONS 3)

KRIS Commons' third hat-trick in his Celtic career put Killie to the sword for the final time last season when the sides met in mid-March. The Bhoys were on the home-straight for a third consecutive Premier League title and the soon-to-be named Player of the Year got them off to a flier after finishing a clever one-two with Leigh Griffiths and slotting low past Craig Samson with his left in the box. Commons scored his second with a similar pass and move between him and Adam Matthews before smashing in a third from long range. It was a game typical of Celtic's dominance throughout the campaign and helped to highlight Commons as the stand out player in the league.



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CELTIC

VS

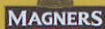
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Magners donate £18,300 to Foundation and ask fans to allocate the funds

MAGNERS have donated an impressive £18,300 to Celtic FC Foundation thanks to their Goals for Charity initiative.

Magners, main sponsor of Celtic, threw their backing behind the charitable arm of the club by vowing to donate £150 for every competitive goal that Celtic scored during the 2013/14 season.

A total of £18,300 was raised as a result of the Hoops notching 122 competitive goals during the title-winning campaign and the Foundation received a further boost with Magners confirming they are continuing the initiative for the 2014/15 Season.

Magners are now calling on Celtic fans to help determine how last season's figure will be used to benefit the good causes supported by Celtic FC Foundation.

The charity provides assistance to those who face daily challenges within four key priority areas; Health, Equality, Learning and Poverty.

Fans can vote on Twitter for the area they feel should benefit from the money with the votes received translating into how the donation from Magners will be allocated across each area.

To vote, simply tweet @MagnersUK with a supporting hashtag for one of the priority areas; #Health, #Equality, #Learning or #Poverty.

Voting will close at midnight on Friday, November 7 with all votes cast determining how the £18,300 raised will be allocated.

Paul Condon, Marketing Director for Magners, said: "Our sponsorship commitment to the club involves working together in a number of areas - from support of the team and fans to the good work of Celtic FC Foundation.

"We're delighted to confirm that last season's goal-scoring form has allowed us to donate £18,300 to Celtic FC Foundation.

"Now we'd like to allow fans to determine how the money is distributed across the key areas that benefit from the Foundation's support - Health, Equality, Learning and Poverty.

"By voting, fans are taking an active role in channelling the money raised by the team's goal scoring efforts to the good causes the Celtic FC Foundation supports so we'd encourage everyone to get involved.

"We also hope our decision to extend the initiative into the 2014/15 season will see on field success continue to benefit the Foundation as much as possible."

Tony Hamilton, CEO of Celtic FC Foundation, added: "The



recognition of Celtic's principles and the generosity displayed by Magners through their Goals for Charity initiative is highly commendable.

"The work Celtic FC Foundation is doing in the local community and further afield will benefit greatly from the £18,300 raised from last season's goal-scoring exploits.

"It's also great to see Magners engage the Celtic supporters by giving them a voice in deciding how this money should be spent.

"The fact that all of our priority areas are likely to benefit is most pleasing and it's a huge boost to know the Goals for Charity initiative will be supporting us again for the 2014/15 season.

"Celtic FC Foundation provides assistance to those who face daily challenges within four key priority areas - Health, Equality, Learning and Poverty.

"In addition, the charity offers support in the form of delivery and/or partnership to external charities and other organisations who offer value in the community and whose principles fit within these key priority areas."



TOP SPOT THE TARGET

Charlie Mulgrew is glad to be back playing his part in the first team, and he says the Hoops are now looking to go on a good run and climb up the Premiership table

Exclusive interview: Martin Dalziel

CELTIC head into today's league game against Kilmarnock in the middle of a run of four home games in 10 days. Those fixtures span across three different competitions, all of which the Bhoys want to win.

Kilmarnock and Inverness Caley Thistle will both visit Paradise on league duty in the space of a week, while Celtic hosted FC Astra in the UEFA Europa League on Thursday night, and face Partick Thistle in the League Cup quarter-final this coming Wednesday.

It is a tough schedule but one that Celtic midfielder Charlie Mulgrew is confident the Scottish champions can come through successfully.

That confidence comes from a single-minded approach to the game which he uses every day - 'It's not about our opponents, it's about what we do.'

The Scotland internationalist will employ that mantra today against a confident Kilmarnock who have enjoyed a fine run of from this season under Allan Johnston, which the Hoops star hopes Celtic can bring to an end.

Speaking to the official matchday programme, Mulgrew said: "That's what it's all about when you play for Celtic and we want to be in all those competitions come the end of next week, so we will do all we can to remain involved in them.

"We're going to need to give everything and it will be difficult but we all have a strong belief that we can be in all competitions and challenge strongly in them after next week.

"It's not up to us what other teams are thinking when they play against us. If they want to try to play football at Celtic Park, then that's up to them. We just concentrate on what we want to do and we know what our game-plan is.

"We showed that in long spells against Ross County and there have been other games this year, like against Dundee United, where we have done the same. So we know what we have to do and everyone is working hard towards that."

The Bhoys returned from the recent international break last weekend rejuvenated, rested and ready for action against Ross County.

At first, the two-week break seemed like it was coming at the wrong time. It arrived days after Celtic were stunned by the 1-0 defeat to Hamilton at Celtic Park but the team's efforts on the pitch in the Highlands last weekend showed that the time off had been used to great effect.

Ronny Deila's side demolished Ross County with four first-half goals and a fine Anthony Stokes strike in the second-half to return to Glasgow 5-0 winners.

It was Mulgrew's first game back in almost six weeks and he was delighted to return to the side and make a positive impact on proceedings. The aim now is to carry the momentum gained from Saturday's win into today's game against Kilmarnock.

"It was good to be back," he admitted. "It was a long time out. It's the longest I've had out in a few years. It was something like six weeks since the last time I'd played so it was great to be back and get involved



» straight away. It was a good result as well, which is the most important thing.

"It's frustrating watching when things aren't going well but the boys did get a few good results in that time, especially in the Europa League, so it was good to get back and help the team. I'd like to think I did that on Saturday against Ross County.

"It was a good result, everyone played well and it was good to come back. The most important thing was to get the win, which is pleasing. We want to take that momentum into the match against Kilmarnock. We look to win every game and this will be no different, especially at Celtic Park.

"It will be a difficult game and Kilmarnock have shown they are in good form this year. They've definitely improved from last year so we need to be up for that challenge and be prepared to win the battle first and then let our football come and talk."

Mulgrew returned to the side on Saturday, playing in a defensive midfield role which allowed Scott Brown and Stefan Johansen in particular, licence to push forward. The results were devastating.

"Stefan played a bit further forward alongside Broony, with me sitting a wee bit deeper but we can all play in that position and if I go forward then someone else can stay in behind," Mulgrew said.

"It showed the game-intelligence that Stefan and Broony have. We saw on Saturday that one can go and one can sit and it worked well. Stefan set up some goals and some chances really well so it was a great result for us and it worked so it's up to us to continue that."

While the win against Ross County last week has certainly

'Nobody is looking at the league table. It's far too early... It's up to us to go on a run'



CHARLIE MULGREW



buoyed confidence within the Celtic squad, Mulgrew knows that there is still much to do.

The climb up the table continues today and although Kilmarnock sit above the Hoops in the league, Mulgrew said he has paid no attention to where the teams are in the league because in his mind, once again, "It's not about our opponents, it's about what we do."

He said: "Nobody is looking at the league table just now. It's far too early in the season. Right now we're just looking to win as many games as we can. There have been a couple of disappointing results in the league so it's up to us to go on a run."

"We had a good result last week against Ross County so it's up to us to push on this week and look to get the same result again."

"We all know how to do it and we all know what to do so it's up to us to approach the game with the right attitude, match Kilmarnock and then hopefully our football will come and talk for us and we can get the result."



BHOYS RETURN TO BOOST SQUAD

WHEN Charlie Mulgrew took to the pitch in the Highlands last week he was one of a clutch of key Celtic players to make their return from injury.

Midfielder Mulgrew slotted into the side after a six-week lay-off and was accompanied by Mikael Lustig at right-back, who has not featured for Celtic since the Champions League qualifier against Maribor at home.

An injury to Emilio Izaguirre during the match also afforded Adam Matthews to make an appearance, his first since the away game against Dundee at the end of August.

Mulgrew believes the return of those players will be a major boost to the Hoops as they enter a hectic part of the season, which includes today's game against Kilmarnock.

He said: "To have all or most of the squad fit is always great. We have some quality players with the likes of Mikael and James Forrest coming back now, and Adam Matthews as well so it can only help the squad and we're all delighted about that."

"With the run we've got just now we have two games a week for the next month or so, so it's important that we have everybody fit because all the squad will be needed and everyone has to be fit and ready to step up."



HOOPS HOPING FOR HOME COMFORTS



PLAYING four games in 10 days is never an easy feat but there are a number of factors that can assist in conquering that challenge.

One is to have a fully fit squad, a feature which Celtic are close to obtaining. Two is to be playing those games at home.

Today's game against Kilmarnock is the second of four matches to be played at Paradise in 10 days and Charlie Mulgrew said that the familiarity of Celtic Park and the backing of the home support could go a long way to helping the Bhoys emerge better-off at the end of the coming run.

"It's a benefit for us to have these games at home," he said. "Everyone wants to play at home."

"That's where our fans are, that's where we are used to playing so if we had that choice we would prefer to have games at home."

"We're delighted that the next few games are at Celtic Park and we have to take advantage of that. But everyone needs to be up for it and be ready for the challenge of being the home team and having the pressure on us to take the game to the other teams."

DREAM TEAM

Words:
Mark Henderson

MY BEST

XI



Andreas Hinkel's dream XI is packed with stars past and present

FORMER Celtic defender Andreas Hinkel went head-to-head with some of the greatest players of the modern era during a distinguished career for club and country.

The reliable full-back spent three-and-a-half years in Paradise, making 103 appearances. He won one league championship, one League Cup and starred in the Champions League, before his departure in the summer of 2011. Hinkel also enjoyed silverware success and experienced European competition during spells at VfB Stuttgart, Sevilla and SC Freiburg.

Impressively, he played 21 times for his national side, handing him a further opportunity to test his talents against the biggest stars of the beautiful game.

Hinkel now passes on this vast experience to Stuttgart's Under-17 side, having hung up his boots two years ago to concentrate on coaching.

When asked who the Best XI he faced as player, it was something the 32-year-old had to carefully consider. His final selection would send a shiver down the spine of any opposing team.



GOALKEEPER:**1:** Oliver Khan**DEFENDERS:**

- 2:** Lilian Thuram
5: Mats Hummels
4: Sergio Ramos
3: Roberto Carlos

MIDFIELD:

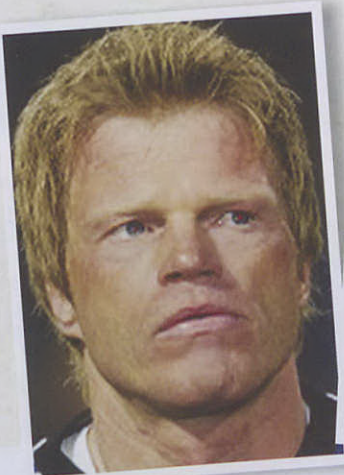
- 8:** Zinedine Zidane
6: Bastian Schweinsteiger
7: Ronaldinho

FORWARDS:

- 10:** Cristiano Ronaldo
9: Ronaldo
11: Ryan Giggs

OLIVER KHAN

I played with and against him in the Bundesliga. When I came into the national team, I realised how good he was. He was unbelievable and was at different level to any other goalkeeper at this time. It was so difficult to score against him when we practiced our shooting. It was the same in the league as well when we played against Bayern Munich, he made their defence so strong. You could see in the games, he was very focused and wanted success. He wasn't a naturally talented player when he started, but he worked so hard and was very strong mentally and that was his great strength.

**LILIAN THURAM**

He was actually my favourite player when I was young. I played defensive midfielder and right-back when I was a youth player. All the other players at my age-group had midfielders and strikers as their favourite players, so I was looking for someone who played right-back. Cafu was good, but at the World Cup in 1998 Thuram was great and he played the way I wanted to be in the role. He was strong in defence and was really good going forward as well, scoring twice in the semi-final against Croatia. I had the honour to play against my favourite player once and I have his shirt from the game. We played against France and Kevin Kuranyi changed shirts with him, while I changed with a striker. After the game I asked Kevin if we could switch the shirts, so I got Thuram's.

**MATS HUMMELS**

I like how he can play the ball out from the back, passing the ball through the lines, opening up the game and starting attacks from this area. He is also a very good defender and I had a chance to play against him at Freiburg. I chose him as he is so strong defensively but he has a very good offensive game as well.

**SERGIO RAMOS**

He was so strong and consistent over the years. I played against him in the Spanish league when I played for Seville. He was actually from Seville, who were also his first club, so he had a connection there. Mentally, he is such a strong player and you could see that in the Champions League last season when he scored goals and pushed his team forward all the time. He is a strong

defender and always gives 100 per cent. When his team concedes a goal, he takes it personally and because of all these qualities I picked him as one of my centre backs.

**ROBERTO CARLOS**

I had two players for this position – Lizarazu and Roberto Carlos. Both were very good players. I played against Roberto Carlos for the national team and he was great at left-back. He could go forward and his free-kicks were really good. But the decision wasn't easy as Lizarazu was also excellent in this position when I played against him for Bayern Munich. They were two really good players but I will go for Carlos, a full-back who is very good going attacking as well.



DREAM TEAM

ZINEDINE ZIDANE

I came up against Zidane for the national team when we played against France in the game I mentioned earlier. What can I say about Zidane? He was one of the greatest technical players. He may not have had the pace of Ronaldinho, but he saw everything. Even if he didn't have the pace, he could use his body really effectively and make great passes, while his finishing with his left and right foot were fantastic. He was just a wonderful player.



BASTIAN SCHWEINSTEIGER

I played with him for the national team and against him at Bayern Munich. From the centre of the pitch he can see everything around him, he knows when to play quicker and he controls a game. He can also score from distance. I remember he scored an important goal against Man United in the Champions League. He is a very good midfielder player and that's why I picked him. When I was in the national team, he wasn't the leader that he is now as he was a young player but he was a quality player already.



RONALDINHO

He was outstanding, along with the Brazilian Ronaldo. When they were at their peak they were incredible. If you want to compare the best players in the world, you have to compare the best periods in their career, like Diego Maradona – you don't measure how good he was by looking at him at the end of his career. Ronaldinho is the same. He was a quality player. You can see the difference between these players and what Brazil have now when they have a lack of quality in attack.

CRISTIANO RONALDO

I played against Ronaldo at Celtic and Stuttgart in the Champions League. He was a really good player but I have a positive statistic against him, as Stuttgart beat Manchester United 2-1 and Celtic drew 1-1 with them at home. You have to be focused against him. When he gets the ball, you have to be there, as if he has space to run into, it's difficult to defend against him. He is one of the best players in the world but in those two games, though, I felt I played well against him.



RONALDO

He was unbelievable. I think he was better than Cristiano Ronaldo during his best years at Barcelona, Inter Milan and Real Madrid. When you watch YouTube videos of him when he was younger, he was so quick with the ball at his feet and could score. He was just amazing. I faced him when I played for Germany in the game where we drew 2-2 with Brazil.



RYAN GIGGS

This was difficult as I played against so many good players. Thierry Henry was a great player who I was thinking about putting in, but I chose Ryan Giggs because of his career. He played for Wales and never got to play in any major tournaments but he was such a consistent player over the years for Manchester United and won so many trophies there. Even at an older age, he was still important for them and to play against a player like that was a pleasure and an honour. As he got older, he changed his style of play. Early in his career, he was quick winger and towards the end he was able to operate in a more central midfield role as he was comfortable on the ball and didn't lose possession.



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Model shown: Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,460 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Civic registered from 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Civic Black Special Edition Honda Aspirations (PCP): Example shown based on Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,460 total cash price (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £0 (0%) deposit, £408.29 monthly payment, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £7,761.73 annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 6p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Incentives may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc, 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. Honda Finance Europe Plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. The 5 Year Care Package includes: Servicing: All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicle's service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. Warranty: In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. Roadside Assist: In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary HondaCare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. The 5 Year Care Package: The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £555 including VAT (usual value £1,845 including VAT, resulting in a £1,290 saving for the customer) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.

Beach Bhoys'

PARADISE



THIS season's *Celtic View* is taking the players to a desert island – an imaginary one, of course, to see how they would survive, who and what they would like to accompany them, and what they would miss.

Here's a taster of what you can find every week in the *Celtic View*, the Voice of the Champions, with **Eoghan O'Connell** taking up the Beach Bhoys' challenge...

What would be the first thing you would do?

I would try and find food as that would be important and then I would find shelter so I would have somewhere to sleep.

What team-mate would be useful on a desert island?

I would say Hendo or Callum McGregor as I get on well with both of them and there would be a bit of good chat there and no awkwardness. They are also positive characters as well.

Who in the dressing room would be the worst companion?

Stuart Findlay as he's an eejit! He would be good in some ways as he's positive and good to chat to, but to be stranded alone with him when he's picking his nose and things wouldn't be the best!

If you could have a prized possession, what would it be?

My phone, so I could keep in contact with people and have a chat with someone if I get bored with Cal or Hendo. I could also use to phone to get rescued.

What film would you take with you?

I would probably take *Step Brothers* as it's funny to watch if you are feeling bored. It's not what you want if you are feeling in the mood for a romcom or something but I will go for *Step Brothers*.

And one album you could salvage?

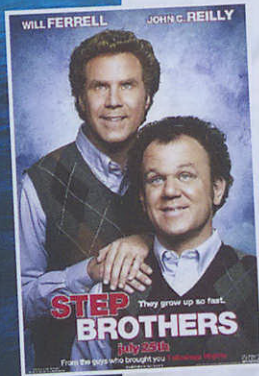
Westlife: Greatest Hits, no doubt about that. You have a mix of everything in there and *Flying Without Wings* is the best song I have ever heard. I have seen them live about four or five times.

What meal would you manage to conjure up?

Whatever I could get a hold of. Fish would probably be the easiest thing to



Help!





get but I can work with anything really as I'm such a good chef. I like to keep things simple but it's the quality that's important. I like a good chicken pasta with a few beans and broccoli - Bob's your uncle.

Your best survival skill?

I reckon I would be a good man to go and seek out safety. I wouldn't stop running and would just keep going. I am quite resourceful.

And what part of your personality might get you into trouble?

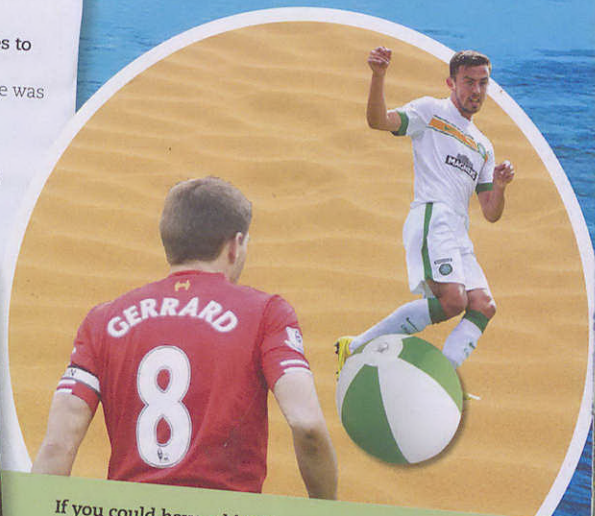
If I don't get my sleep, I can be quite cranky and not a nice person to be around, and you would probably struggle to sleep on a desert island.

A ship carrying celebrities runs aground and one manages to make it ashore to your island - who would like it to be?

I watched a film a few weeks ago called *Safe Haven* and there was a girl in it called Julianne Hough, so I would choose her.

What would you miss the most?

My family, girlfriend and friends. However, I'm used to being away from my family and friends at the moment so it wouldn't be as bad.



If you could have a kickabout on the beach with one footballer past or present, who would it be?

Steven Gerrard as he is an absolute legend - it's that simple. I like Keano (Roy Keane) as well but it's got to be Stevie G as I'm a Liverpool fan.





Castleknock Celtic join growing number of Irish club partnerships



THE Celtic Soccer Academy has welcomed another new Irish club into the Celtic Family as part of our International Partnership programme.

Castleknock Celtic from Dublin are now the 18th Irish club to become a partner with Celtic, which will see them benefit from activities such as team tour opportunities, overseas coaching camps and access for Castleknock Celtic coaches to attend our renowned International Coaches Convention.

The official announcement of the partnership was made last month in Castleknock at an event attended by over 200 people including, coaches, players, parents and members of the Irish parliament.

Castleknock Celtic is one of the largest clubs in Ireland and boasts an impressive membership of over 1,000 people and their hard work and dedication within the community was a

major factor in the Celtic Soccer Academy choosing them as their newest club partner.

Lisa Fallon, Director of Football at Castleknock Celtic said: "This partnership is an exciting development in the history of Castleknock Celtic FC.

"Having already grown from a two-team club back in 1987 to approximately 1,000 members across 45 teams in 2014, this is another significant and progressive step for us as a strong community club.

"We are very much looking forward to building a strong working relationship between our two clubs over the coming years as we grow the Celtic Family."

Celtic Soccer Academy Manager Willie McNab added: "We are delighted to add Castleknock Celtic to our Club Partnership Programme and it again emphasises our commitment to building our relationships in Ireland, which of course is a part of the world hugely connected with Celtic's very foundations.

"Castleknock Celtic is a very ambitious and progressive club and we are looking forward to a long and prosperous partnership with them."

For more information on our International activity - which includes the International Partnership Programme, Overseas Camps, Team Tours and the International Coaches' Convention - then please visit www.celticfc.net or contact Celtic Soccer Academy Manager Willie McNab on wmcnab@celticfc.co.uk

Celtic now on *Pinterest*

CELTIC have joined Pinterest, the world's fastest growing social media site. Pinterest is an online pinboard where you can post collections of things you love, and 'follow' other people's collections for inspiration. Pinterest currently has over 70million registered users.

After the success of Celtic's other social media channels including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and most recently Google+, the club are excited to launch this new social media presence and want to encourage supporters to get involved.

Supporters can follow Celtic's boards as well as upload their own photographs and pin images from

all over the web to their own online pinboards.

Pinterest is an image-based website, therefore we'll be using it to share exclusive Celtic images, past and present as well as giving an insight into the club with striking photography.

We're keen to get our followers involved therefore we want you to send us your images via Twitter and we'll pin them to our fan boards. We want to see what inspires you so we can share it with our followers.

The many themed boards on our page include: Celtic First Team 2014/15, Celtic View Covers, team sheets, Celtic Park, Celtic cakes and Celts at Home.

To check out and follow Celtic FC on Pinterest, simply visit www.celticfc.net





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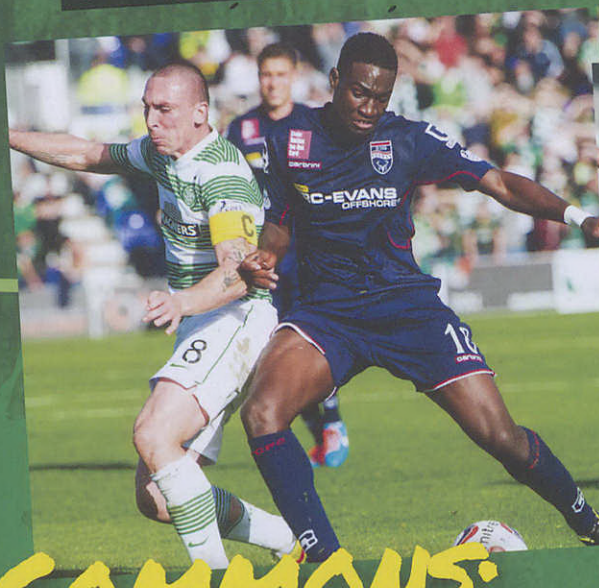
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YOUNG HOOPS CLUB

BRAIN-BUSTERS

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 5 changes in the pic?

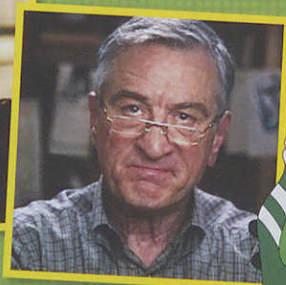


COMMONS: MY FAVOURITE ACTOR



Kris Commons says...

I would have to pick Robert De Niro. He's the best actor I have ever seen. I love all his movies and he's outstanding at what he does. Not only is he a serious actor, he has a good comedy aspect to him as well, with films like *Meet the Parents* which is quality. My favourite film of his is *Goodfellas*. He is immense in that. *Heat* is another classic and *Casino* is another of his top films.

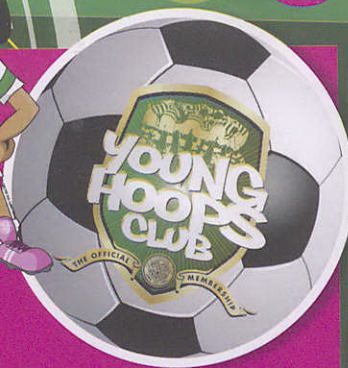


THIS COULD BE YOU

IT'S a never-to-be-forgotten day for anyone who experiences it and YOU could have the chance to be a Celtic matchday mascot simply by being a member of the Young Hoops Club.

There are plenty of other benefits included in the membership but there is no bigger thrill for a young supporter than leading the Celts out of the tunnel with the club captain on to the hallowed turf of Paradise.

See the panel on the right to find out just how easy it is to join the Young Hoops Club and, you never know, it could be YOU!

YOUNG HOOPS CLUB
OPEN FOR THE
2014/15 SEASON

OUR Young Hoops Club is looking ahead to a successful 2014/15, with membership now open.

The Young Hoops Club provides each of our members with a number of excellent and exclusive benefits over the course of the season, as we aim to engage with some of our youngest fans during the early stages of their journey as supporters.

Among the benefits included in the membership – available for young supporters aged 0-3 and 4-14 years – is a Celtic goody bag worth £20, 10% discount at club stores, a discount on stadium tours, exclusive competitions, and a 'kids eat free' offer in our Number 7 Restaurant here at Celtic Park.

Members in the 4-14 years old category also have a chance to be an official mascot for a game here, or to be a ball Bhoys/Ghirl for a day.

A further key benefit of Young Hoops Club membership is the opportunity to attend various exclusive club events throughout the season, including seasonal parties, and special coaching and open events.

This season we'll also be featuring some special Young Hoops Club content in the pages of the Celtic View, and in our matchday programmes, with members encouraged to send in any pictures of themselves in their colours at Celtic Park, any club events or even at home, which we'll then feature. Members and their parents/guardians are advised to email images to us at marketing@celticfc.co.uk

Priced at just £15 for 0-3 years membership, and £18 for 4-14 year olds, youngsters can be signed up for 2014/15 Young Hoops Club membership at any of our Celtic stores across the country, or online at www.celticfc.net/pages/younghoops

We look forward to welcoming you and your Bhoys and Ghirls back for the season ahead.

GETTING SHIRTY?

Guess the player...

Can you re-arrange the jumbled letters to see which current squad member this is?



TOP FIVE KIDS' QUIZ

QUIZZY RASCAL

1. Which Celt scored twice against Ross County last weekend?
2. What number does Mubarak Wakaso wear?
3. Which Celtic player scored for Scotland against Nigeria at the end of last season?
4. Which team did Kilmarnock play last week?
5. Who are Scotland's next opponents in the European Championships?



Smiles all round at Young Hoops Club coaching day



RECENTLY, Celtic Football Club hosted the first Young Hoops Club event of the season, as over 300 youngsters took part in a number of specially-organised coaching sessions at our Barrowfield training ground.

Taking place over three different sessions on the day, our Celtic Soccer Academy coaches put the youngsters through their paces with a number of fun training drills aimed to improve their shooting, passing and dribbling skills.

The sessions provided a taste of the skills and techniques which are coached in our Academy at Lennoxton as we develop our young footballers and teach them

how to play 'The Celtic Way'.

Each attendee was presented with a medal at the end of their session, with the youngsters also treated to a visit from fans' favourite Hoopy on another successful day for the Young Hoops Club.

Our Young Hoops Club provides members with a whole host of exclusive benefits and rewards with their membership, including the unique chance to be an official club mascot for a home fixture here at Celtic Park* as well as the chance to attend events such as the Coaching Day.

Among the other benefits included in the membership is a Celtic goody bag worth £20, 10% discount at club stores, a discount

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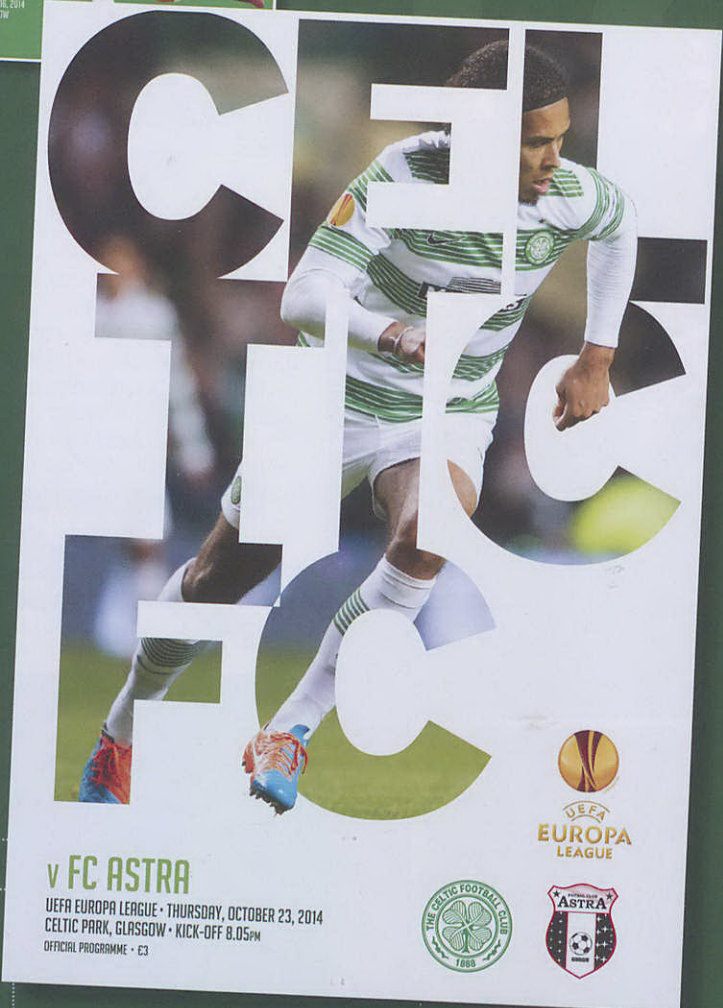
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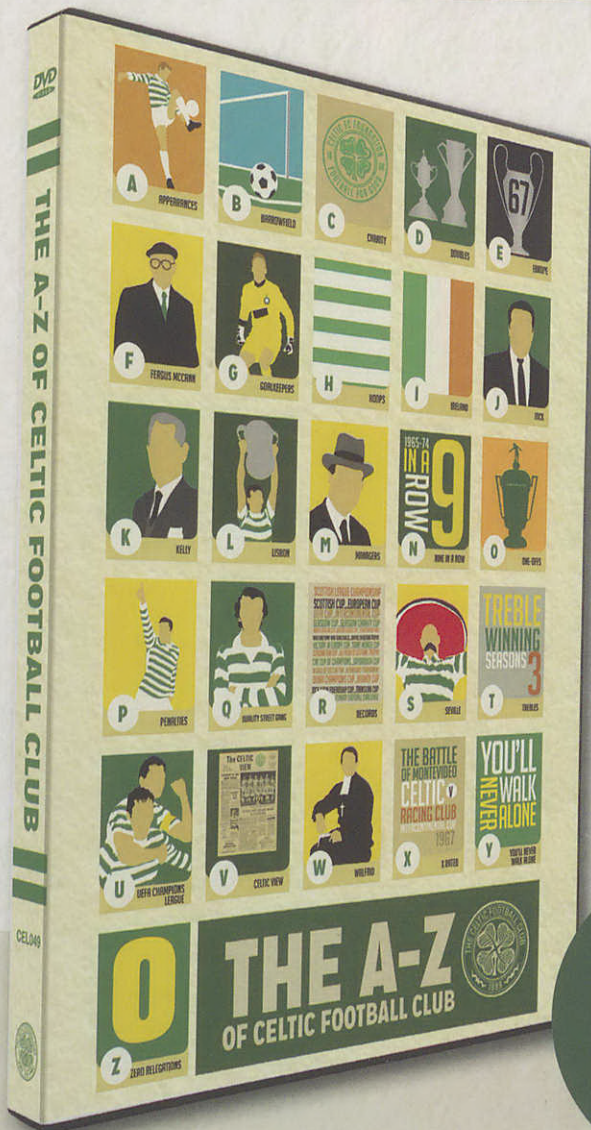
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Celtic players are open to question at Nike Store



AROUND 100 Celtic supporters enjoyed a special event at the Nike Store in Glasgow last Thursday in the company of a number of Celtic players.

The fans enjoyed an entertaining Q&A session with Scott Brown, Kris Commons, Virgil van Dijk, Craig Gordon, John Guidetti, along with Julie Fleeting and Kylla Sjoman from the Celtic Women's team.

And they put the players on the spot with a host of questions, ranging from the players' favourite goal to who has the worst dress sense in the Celtic first-team dressing room.

The event, at the Nike Store in Buchanan Street, Glasgow, was hosted by Sky Sports presenter, Olivia Godfrey and Gerry McCulloch. And it was Celtic captain, Scott Brown, who got the night underway with a few words of welcome to the fans.

Kris Commons was then put on the spot and asked which game from Celtic's history would he have loved to play in.

"Obviously it has to be the European Cup final in Lisbon," Commons said straight away, although he found it tougher to pick his favourite goal for Celtic. "That would either be my dink against Rangers, or the goal I scored against Shakhter Karagandy."



Commons also admitted he was 'too old' to play video games. 'I'm 31 and have three kids, so I've got no time for video games,' he said. However, he did reveal that he's the matchday DJ in the Celtic dressing room.

Scott Brown was asked if there was added pressure in being captain of Celtic and Scotland. 'It's easy really,' he said. 'It's a team effort and the boys make my job quite easy.'

And there was praise for his captaincy from Kris Commons. 'The biggest compliment I can give Scott is, when he's not there, he is missed.'

John Guidetti added his own praise, saying: 'I get fined a lot by him but as long as you give 100 per cent he stands with you.'

And Virgil van Dijk said: 'I love him. He's a great guy who always gives everything.'

However, despite the praise for his leadership qualities, the Celtic captain admitted that he also gets mocked more than anyone else in the dressing-room for being the worst-dressed.

Julie Fleeting is a legendary figure in

the women's game, and the Celtic striker knows a thing or two about scoring and celebrating goals. She picked 'Broony' as having the best celebration in the Celtic first-team.

And asked what is the best thing about being a Celtic player is, Fleeting said: 'Just to wear the famous jersey and be part of such a famous club.'

Asked the same question, Scott Brown said: 'Celtic Park on a Champions League night, with the stadium full of 60,000 fans. It becomes a living body.'

And Kris Commons added: 'The fans. They are what make the club so special.'

Virgil van Dijk has only scored a handful of goals for the Hoops, and his favourite in the solo effort he scored against St Johnstone at McDiarmid Park on Boxing Day last year. Unlike Kris Commons, he is a fan of video games, and when asked if he ever picks himself, he admitted: 'I did, but just the once. I played myself as a striker!'

Craig Gordon has been in outstanding form for Celtic since joining in the summer, and the goalkeeper was asked

if he ever thought he would come back after such a long lay-off.

'I always thought there was a chance,' he said. 'I had big boots to fill here and I think I've shown in my time here I am proving it.'

And after the Q&A session, the Hoops keeper admitted: 'It was a terrific night, and it was great to meet the fans up close and personal. I had a great time although I might get fined by Scott Brown tomorrow at training!'

John Guidetti added: 'It is great to do something like this, and getting to meet some of the fans for the first time.'

As well as meeting the Celtic players, who also signed autographs, posed for photos and chatted to fans at the end of the session, all those attending also received a complimentary t-shirt

Antoni McGall, who won the chance to attend through Celtic's Facebook page, came along with his dad. And he was impressed by the event.

'It was a fantastic night,' Antoni said. 'I was delighted to meet Scott Brown, who is my favourite player, and I managed to get a few autographs as well.'



HIGHS AND LOWS

Eoghan O'Connell scored his first goal for Celtic last week, but he was still disappointed that the Development Squad lost the game and with it, their unbeaten start to the season

Exclusive Interview: Mark Henderson

EOGHAN O'Connell scored his first-ever goal for Celtic earlier this week but his joy was tempered in the fact it wasn't enough to help the Development Side earn a positive result against Aberdeen.

The Irish youngster, deployed in the more unfamiliar right-back position, raced on to Paul McMullan's pass early in the second-half before clinically finding the far corner.

It was a fine finish, not one you would associate with someone who hadn't scored in over three years at the club, and it drew the young Hoops level after Fiacre Kelleher's unfortunate own goal handed the hosts the initiative in the first-half.

Both sides spurned chances to take the lead, before Nicky Low's long-range effort sealed the spoils for the Dons, meaning O'Connell's strike counted for nothing tangible as Stevie Frail's side fell to their first defeat of the campaign.

While that was a disappointing outcome for the defender and his team-mates, O'Connell didn't believe they should be too downhearted.

"It was always going to be a difficult game away to Aberdeen as they are a good team," he said. "We played better than we did the previous week against Hamilton but at times we could have made better decisions on the ball and we put ourselves under pressure when we didn't need to. It was a better display than the previous week but a poor result.

"There is not too much to be down about. Obviously it's our first defeat of the season but if you look at the performance, it was much better than the Hamilton game even though we won that one. There are some positives from the game to build on. It was just disappointing that we never got the result.

"I am happy to play anywhere and getting the goal was good but it would have been great to get a result go along with it.

"I just played it inside and Calvin Miller stayed wide, so I just ran inside him and bent my run. The winger never tracked me and Paul saw me and just played it in, and I side-footed it past the keeper. It's the first time I've scored since joining Celtic over three years ago.

"I can't score headers from corners - so it was going to

'I am happy to play anywhere and getting the goal was good'

O'Connell starred in the UEFA Youth League last season and he's excited about taking part in another European tournament.

"To have a European competition to look forward to is brilliant for all the lads," he said. "It gives you the chance to test yourself against the best players around at our age so everyone is looking forward to that. It's a long way away so we have a bit of time to work on how we are going to play."

"I played in the UEFA Youth League last year and it was quite a different style of play. We were playing against teams like Barcelona and AC Milan who play a lot of football."

"There is a lot more organisation and tactics in games like that, whereas Scottish football tends to be a bit more rough and tumble, about putting your body on the line."

"We will have to be mindful of that. Everton and Sunderland are two of the teams in the group and they will be similar to us, but it's a great thing to look forward to and a great thing to take part in."

"Last year, playing in those games in the Youth League broke it up and you knew you had big games coming round the corner and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to them."

Along with the Toffees, the youths will go head-to-head with Sunderland and Villarreal for a place in the knockout stages. O'Connell knows they will provide a difficult test but he's determined to help the Hoops progress from their group, something they failed to do last year in UEFA's event.

"We played against Sunderland recently, and two English Premier League teams and a team from La Liga speak for themselves," he said.

"The games will be very tough but these are the ones you want to play in, testing yourself against the best teams. Going down there and playing those games will be a great experience for everyone and hopefully we can do well."

"Last year we played quite well but a couple of things let us down. I had a chance against Barcelona to put us 2-1 up, and we missed opportunities in games that could have changed the final result. Things didn't really seem to go our way but hopefully we can change that this year."

take something like that! It was good to get my first goal and I wish the result could have been better but hopefully there are a few more goals to come."

Liam Henderson hit the bar twice for the Bhoys in the second half, the second of these coming from close-range just before Aberdeen's winner. Had either of those gone in the result could have been different.

"In tight games like that it's all about taking your chances and we didn't do that," said O'Connell. "Hendo hit the bar from 25 yards and I know the one that came across the goal was close, but it was a difficult chance as it flashed across and he did well to keep it down as much as he did. It was just one of those things."

A number of U17 players featured for the young Celts against the Dons, including Ciaran McKenna, who started in central midfield.

"It was the first time I have seen Ciaran play and I felt he did very well in midfield," said O'Connell. "He kept the ball well for us and broke it up well. It was good as everyone has been there at that age-group and it's great to see people getting a chance and they took it."

Frail's side will have a chance to return to winning ways in the league on Monday when they host Hearts.

"Hearts is always a difficult game so we will look to regroup and go for that one," said O'Connell. "We will just work hard in training as the performance wasn't that bad that anything drastic needs to happen. We will just look forward to that and work as hard as we can."

Away from the domestic scene, next month the Bhoys will kick off the inaugural Premier League International Cup against Everton. Celtic are one of eight teams from across Europe who have been invited to participate in the Under-21 event alongside an equivalent number of top academy sides from England.

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DONS END YOUNG CELTS UNBEATEN RUN

**SFPL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE
GLEBE PARK, BRECHIN**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014

ABERDEEN 2 CELTIC 1

(KELLEHER 66, 21, LOW 67); (O'CONNELL 53)

NICKY Low's powerful drive from distance consigned Celtic's Development Side to their first defeat of the campaign in an engrossing encounter at Glebe Park.

The Aberdeen midfielder found the net from 25 yards midway through the second half after Eoghan O'Connell had cancelled out Fiacre Kelleher's unfortunate own goal.

Liam Henderson hit the woodwork twice before Low's winner but, despite their best attempts, the Bhoys couldn't fashion a late leveller on a frustrating evening in Brechin.

Stevie Frail made a number of changes to the team who defeated Hamilton in the previous game, with Under-17 players Ciaran McKenna and Calvin Miller among those handed a starting berth.

On the back of four successive victories, the young Hoops made a promising start, with Henderson, Paul McMullan and Calvin Miller all prominent in the early exchanges.

Miller had a couple of efforts, while McMullan drew a comfortable save from Bryce Billington after a swift Celtic breakaway.

On the quarter-hour mark, the home side burst into life as Lawrence Shankland saw a shot blocked and Low stung Jordan Hart's palms with a powerful drive.

A jinking run from Aberdeen's Scott Wright then earned him a free-kick. The wall did its job from Low's effort, before Wright fired over from distance.

After Stuart Findlay had been robbed of possession, the Dons broke forward again but Hart came to the rescue, saving Shankland's effort with his legs.

Around 60 seconds later, however, the keeper was picking the ball out of the net after the young Celts were struck by a huge slice of misfortune.

As Hart went to meet Fiacre Kelleher's pass-back, he slipped and could only watch as the ball agonisingly rolled into the net.

Naturally, that goal lifted the hosts and the Bhoys had to work hard to regain the ascendancy. A moment of magic from McMullan almost conjured up a leveller, the forward controlling a long pass, stepping away from his marker and curling inches wide from distance.

Determined to maintain their unbeaten run, the Bhoys made a bright start to the second half, moving the ball around with pace and purpose.

But the first shot on target fell to the Dons as Cem Felek wriggled clear in the box but Hart was equal to his effort.

Moments after Henderson had crashed a shot off the bar, the leveller arrived through an unlikely source. After a fine passing move, O'Connell burst into the box from right back and clinically finished into the far corner.

And in the 64th minute, they spurned a golden chance to turn the game around. Twardzik robbed Kieran Gibbons of possession and his cutback found its way to Henderson at the back post. But from just two yards out, he could only find the underside of the bar. It was to prove a costly miss.

A superb stop from Hart denied Shankland shortly after, but the keeper was left helpless when Low's swerving, dipping drive flew into the net from 25 yards.



The match now swung from end-to-end as the young Hoops pressed desperately for a second equaliser and the home side replied on the counter.

McMullan came closest, forcing Billington into a save from an acute angle, but the Bhoys were unable to salvage anything from the contest.

CELTIC (4-2-3-1) Hart; O'Connell, Kelleher, Findlay, Waters; Lindsay, McKenna; Miller (George 74) Henderson, Twardzik; McMullan (Quinn 83). **Not Used:** Hazard, McCart, Higgins.

HISTORY

with Stephen Murray



HIS GREATEST GAME

**George McCluskey v St Mirren
August 22, 1981**

CELTIC travelled to Paisley on a warm summer's day in 1981 hoping to revenge a 3-1 home defeat to St Mirren only a couple of weeks previously.

That result had helped St Mirren to the top of a four-team League Cup section, with Hibernian and St Johnstone being the other teams in the group, and Celtic were required to win this match to have any remaining chance of qualification to the quarter-finals.

At 18-years-old, defender Davie Moyes was starting only his second full game for Celtic and it was his rash challenge on Lex Richardson which led to the penalty which allowed Billy Stark to give St Mirren an early lead.

After that the Saints' goal led a charmed life as

Celtic attacked constantly before Murdo MacLeod equalised with a stunningly powerful low shot. Celtic were now in the groove and George McCluskey exploded on to the scene with a great finish when he was clear on goal, to give Celtic a much-deserved 2-1 half-time lead.

In the second half the Celts had gone on to give a wonder-performance with McCluskey very much to the fore with his clever play and intelligent movement in attack.

In the 55th minute he took a Davie Provan pass before blasting an unsaveable high shot past keeper Billy Thomson from the edge of the area. Celtic were now on top form and McCluskey rounded off his afternoon by scoring his hat-trick by sending in a powerful header from a perfect Provan cross.



However, the main memory of George McCluskey that afternoon is not any of any of his three goals but an audacious piece of skill from the Celtic striker in the second half when he just failed to score.

A Frank McGarvey pass sent the striker through on goal and he managed to knock the ball past

Thomson and retrieve the ball on the bye line before it went out of play. He then pirouetted to beat John Young on the touchline before smashing the ball off the face of the crossbar from the tightest of angles.

Let there be no doubt, had that ball gone in, this would have been one of the greatest goals in Celtic's history.

Murdo MacLeod rounded the scoring off before the end with a fifth goal and for the remainder of the game Celtic were happy to play possession football as their fans roared each player's touch.

George McCluskey must have enjoyed the Paisley air as he scored a fair number of goals on St Mirren's old Love Street pitch during his Celtic career.

This was a fine Celtic team and on the day Danny McGrain, Davie Provan and Murdo MacLeod were stand-outs in what had been a magnificent performance, so much so that the Sunday Mail had described their display as 'an experience which was a delight to those who preach attacking football.'

However it is George McCluskey's performance, goals and dazzling pieces of skill that day which will long remain in the memory.



ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 26

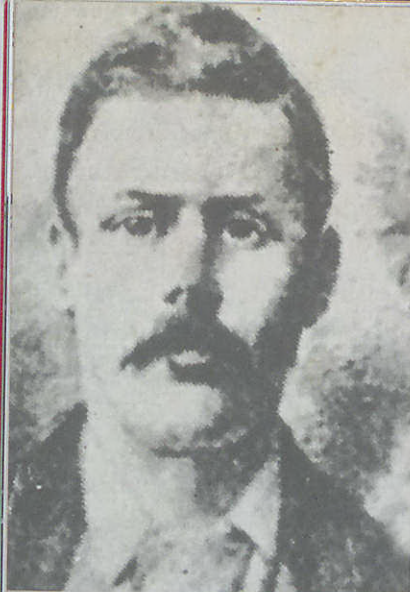
Words: Martin Dalziel

1895 Celtic recorded the club's biggest every win with an emphatic 11-0 home victory over Dundee. This top of the table clash was billed as a game which could determine the eventual title winners. Dundee had put in strong performances against Hearts and Rangers but in front of 11,000 fans, Celtic destroyed the visitors and found themselves 6-0 up at half-time. Dundee came into the match missing some first-team regulars but the match reports all show that Celtic's dominance would have conquered almost any team in the opening 45 minutes. In the second half Dundee lost another two men to injury, bringing their numbers to nine, and helping the Celts to reach 11 goals. The record of the scorers, although incomplete, included James Blessington, Johnny Madden, Allan Martin, Sandy McMahon, Willie Maley, Barney Battles, Peter Meehan, William Ferguson and Daniel Doyle. It was a great day in the club's illustrious history and is a scoreline that has yet to be matched, or beaten!

1907 The Bhoys triumphed 2-1 over their rivals Rangers in a thrilling Glasgow Cup final replay at Hampden. It was the third time the sides had met in a bid to determine the winners of the trophy after the first match ended 2-2 and the replay was goal-less. Willie Maley's team took the initiative and finished the first half 2-0 up thanks to goals from Davie McLean and Peter Somers. Rangers came back into the tie in the second-half but it was too little too late and the Celts lifted the famous trophy in front of 65,000 fans at the third attempt. This was also the year where Celtic became the first Scottish club to win the double of the league and Scottish Cup.

1913 Just more than 100 years ago on this day Celtic legend Malky MacDonald was born. Born in South Uist but raised in Glasgow, Malky signed for the Bhoys in March 1932 from junior side St Anthony's and scored a double on his debut against Partick Thistle. MacDonald displayed a versatility which made him a useful player on defence and attack. He had a knack for sniffing out threats from the opponents with his battling attitude and was comfortable and skilful on the ball which made him an asset going forward. Injury hampered his early Celtic career but he eventually overcame his cartilage problems to play a pivotal role in the Celts' victory in the Empire Exhibition trophy. He eventually left Celtic for Kilmarnock in 1945 after racking up 335 appearances and 55 goals which included many wartime appearances. He went on to briefly manage the Ayrshire side before also having a stint as Scotland caretaker manager in 1966. He died in 1999 and but will always be remembered fondly by the Celtic support.

1963 On this day in 1963, Celtic beat Airdrie 9-0 thanks, in part, to hat-tricks from John Hughes and John Divers. Airdrie had been in poor form in the build-up to the match with only one draw and one win in a run of eight games. The Hoops sensed blood from the off and scored through Charlie Gallagher after Roddy McKenzie in the Airdrie goal parried a Hughes shot. Hughes nodded the Bhoys



two-up and Bobby Murdoch scored the third after a great pass from Divers. Shots rained down on the Airdrie goal and the Celts soon had more through Hughes, Divers and Stevie Chalmers before the end of the first-half. Divers then bagged a second-half brace before Hughes scored his third. And it could have been 10 when goalkeeper Frank Haffey was given the chance to take a late penalty after Hughes had been fouled but his spot kick was saved by McKenzie.

1968

A 1-1 draw with Morton turned out to be Joe McBride's last Celtic game. Celtic were actually scheduled to play Hibernian in the League Cup final but the match was postponed due to a fire in a stand at Hampden and was re-scheduled for April 5 the following year. McBride scored shortly before half-time in front of 23,000 fans and was just one of his 86 goals in 94 appearances for Celtic.

1974

Celtic won their seventh League Cup following a 6-3 victory over Hibernian at Hampden. The victory featured two hat-tricks, with Dixie Deans and Joe Harper both netting three goals for either side. Jimmy Johnstone, Steve Murray and Paul Wilson scored the Hoops' other goals to seal victory in a classic encounter. (See page 54 for more details)

1991

The Hoops thrashed St Mirren 5-0 in Paisley with captain Paul McStay opening the scoring for the Bhoys on the half-hour mark before Tommy Coyne bagged a brace in the second-half. Gerry Creaney added a fourth late on Brian O'Neil netted the last just before the final whistle.

1993

Lou Macari was announced as the club's new manager on this day in 1993. Macari had a fruitful career as a player under Jock Stein but he took over the reins at the club during a barren spell. He had overseen several lower-league clubs in England before taking the manager's job at Celtic and his first match went in his favour with a 2-1 victory over Rangers. However, Macari left in 1994 after eight months at the helm and later went on to manage Stoke City (again) and Huddersfield Town.

2000

Celtic scored a vital away goal through Henrik Larsson in the first leg of their second round UEFA Cup match against Bordeaux. The super Swede almost put the Bhoys in front inside the first minute but his looping header from close range went over the bar. Paul Lambert then went close with a volley before Bordeaux won their first corner of the night, which was headed in by Christophe Dugarry. Larsson drew the Hoops level, however, when he was fouled after nicking in front of a defender to steal the ball in the box and draw a poor challenge. He stepped up with trademark calmness and sent the keeper the wrong way. Lubo Moravcik went close to taking a win back to Glasgow with an ambitious chip late in the game but his shot went over the bar.

AND ANOTHER THING...

The 'Man who puts bass in yer face', Bootsy Collins, was born on this day in 1951 in Cincinnati. Born, William Earl Collins, he played with James Brown before becoming one of the key elements of Parliament/Funkadelic.



HISTORY

Words: Paul Cuddihy



HAT'S OFF TO DIXIE!

Celtic won the Battle of the Greens at Hampden on October 26, 1974 when the sides met in the League Cup final, when two players both managed to net hat-tricks

IT was on this day 40 years ago that one of the most memorable Celtic appearances at Hampden took place.

It was the League Cup final of October 26, 1974 when Celtic took on Hibernian in the showpiece meeting.

Back then, there were more games in the competition, with sectional matches in August, and it finished much quicker, with the final often taking place before the clocks went back.

And since we're wallowing in nostalgia, when the teams met in 1974 they both wore their first-choice strip, hence the famous 'Battle of the Greens' moniker whenever this fixture came up in the calendar; what could be better than a stadium packed full of supporters, all wearing green and white?

To mark the anniversary of that League Cup final,

we've decided to take a trip back to 1974, when flares were in fashion, sideburns were all the rage and no-one seemed colour blind when watching a team in green and white Hoops playing a team in green with white sleeves. Simpler times indeed...

SETTING THE SCENE

Celtic had started season 1974/75 in fairly impressive form, give or take a couple of hiccups, including a home defeat in the league to Rangers. Jock Stein's side were aiming for a world record 10 consecutive league titles, having secured a famous nine-in-a-row the previous season, but that would ultimately prove to be a step too far. In the League Cup, Celtic reached their **ELEVENTH** consecutive final, having progressed from their section, and then knocked out Hamilton Accies and Airdrie. Hibernian, meanwhile, were hoping to build on the previous season, when

they'd finished second to the Hoops. The Edinburgh side were drawn in a League Cup section that included Rangers, and they emerged triumphant from that, subsequently taking on and beating Kilmarnock and Falkirk to reach the final.

BATTLE OF THE GREENS: PART I

A week before the Hampden showdown, Celtic and Hibernian met on league duty at Celtic Park. A crowd of 39,000 witnessed an impressive performance by the Hoops, who won the match 5-0. The home side raced into a 3-0 first half-lead, with a Stevie Murray penalty getting the scoring underway. Jimmy Johnstone and Dixie Deans also netted, while Deans would score two more after the break for a hat-trick. It was a tremendous boost for the Celts going in to the final, while Deans' treble was a portent of what was to come.

BATTLE OF THE GREENS: PART II

Celtic lifted the League Cup for the eighth time with a 6-3 victory over Hibernian at Hampden. Jimmy Johnstone, Paul Wilson and Stevie Murray all scored, while the hat-trick hero of the day was once again Dixie Deans. His treble overshadowed an equally impressive hat-trick from Joe Harper in the Hibs side. And not only did Deans score three goals, but his second that day was also a significant milestone in that it was his 100th goal for Celtic. He would score a total of 123 goals in 184 appearances for the Hoops. Celtic lifted both domestic cups that season, beating Airdrie 3-1 in the Scottish Cup final, in what would be Billy McNeill's last game as a Celtic player, but they relinquished the league trophy, finishing third behind Rangers and Hibernian following a disappointing second half to the season.

DÉJÀ VU DIXIE

In his five years at Celtic, Deans had a knack of scoring goals in important games and Hibernian could testify to that as Deans scored hat-tricks in two cup finals against them. The first was in the 1971/72 Scottish Cup final, when Deans became the first Celt since Jimmy Quinn in 1904 to score a Scottish Cup final hat-trick. Deans took his goals with typical panache, the first a bullet header from a Bobby Murdoch cross. The second was even better. He took the ball down the byeline and skipped past John Brownlie before cutting inside and belting an unstoppable shot into the net. And his third was a composed finish past Hibs keeper Jim Herriot as Celtic ran out 6-1 winners.

DID YOU KNOW?

Dixie Deans once scored **SIX** goals in a single game. This feat came against an unfortunate Partick Thistle side in 1973. Only the legendary Jimmy McGrory has scored more goals for Celtic in a single game - **EIGHT** against Dunfermline way back in 1928. Years later, Deans would say that during the game he had some banter with the Partick Thistle goalkeeper Rough while waiting for a corner to be delivered. Rough asked him if it was four or five he had put past him, knowing fine well he had scored five, Dixie didn't answer, instead concentrating on the corner before pouncing and scoring a header then shouting 'Six!' to the bemused keeper.



CELTIC'S ROAD TO THE FINAL

SECTIONAL MATCHES

Celtic 2-1 Motherwell

(Dalglish, Wilson)

Ayr United 3-2 Celtic

(Murray, Connelly)

Celtic 1-0 Dundee

United

(McNamara)

Celtic 5-2 Ayr United

(Johnstone 2, Wilson 2, Lennox)

Dundee United

0-1 Celtic

(Wilson)

Motherwell 2-2 Celtic

(Dalglish 2)

QUARTER-FINAL

Celtic 2-0 Hamilton

Accies

(Hood 2)

Hamilton Accies

2-4 Celtic

(Deans, Callaghan, McNamara, Lennox)

SEMI-FINAL

Celtic 1-0 Airdrie

(Murray)

LEAGUE CUP FINAL

October 26, 1974

Hampden

Celtic 6-3 Hibernian

(Deans 3, Johnstone, Wilson, Murray)





PLAYING FOR KEEPS

Ally Hunter knew he was in the right place at the right time as a goalie with both Kilmarnock and Celtic

Exclusive interview **Mark Henderson**

ALLY Hunter believes he couldn't have had a better grounding as a goalkeeper than at Kilmarnock in the 1960s - and he insists any of his contemporaries would agree with this assessment.

The evidence is persuasive. For, in his era, being a shot-stopper at Rugby Park seemed to guarantee stardom and international recognition.

An array of top-class keepers preceded him between the sticks at the Ayrshire outfit including the likes of Jimmy Brown, Campbell Forsyth and Bobby Ferguson. While Brown didn't receive what was deemed full Scotland honours, despite playing four matches for the national side in a tour of North America, the other two were awarded caps.

Hunter was next off this remarkably successful assembly line, establishing himself in the Killie side during the late '60s and becoming a full Scottish internationalist in 1972. His peerless performances earned him a move to Celtic, where silverware soon arrived along with further caps.

Competition for the No.1 jersey was fierce in Paradise at that time as Hunter vied for a starting spot with Evan

Williams, Denis Connaghan and Peter Latchford. But he wasn't daunted by this challenge.

Hunter departed Paradise for Motherwell in 1976, having been part of two title triumphs and one League Cup win and with many memories to savour.

And ahead of today's clash between Celtic and Kilmarnock, the matchday programme caught up with the 65-year-old to reflect on some of his highlights at both clubs.

Kilmarnock enjoyed great success in the 1960s, particularly the early part of the decade. What was it like to be a player at Rugby Park during this era?

To be a goalkeeper at Kilmarnock in those days was a top thing, as they were always famous for their goalkeepers back then such as Bobby Ferguson, Jimmy Brown and Campbell Forsyth. The previous five or six goalkeepers at Kilmarnock had all played for Scotland. So that's where you wanted to go as a goalkeeper. They were a good side as well and were always third or fourth in the league. It was a great place to play and it was a great stadium for a goalkeeper to play at. Some parks were

EX- PLAYER

Ally Hunter



> difficult to play on for a keeper but Rugby Park was always good. Technically speaking, it had a bit of a bevel in the middle of the park, and the goalkeeper was always on the high ground, so it was a nice park to play in. There were a good few internationalists in the team - Jackie McGrory, Billy Dickson and both Jim and Tommy McLean were there - so they had a few top players. They did pretty well.

Why were they so successful in bringing through top-class goalkeepers?

Walter McCrae, who was the coach there for a number of years was a goalkeeper and the assistant in the reserve team was a goalkeeper, so whether they could identify people better than others, that might have been part of it. You quite often find that success breeds success. In those times, if you had asked a goalkeeper what team he would like to go to, even including Celtic and Rangers, they would go for Kilmarnock as they were always famous for goalkeepers. Jim Stewart, the current Scotland goalkeeper coach, followed on after me when I left to go to Celtic.

What was your highlight of your time in Ayrshire?

Losing 3-1 to Celtic in the semi-final of the Scottish Cup! Actually, I had a really good game that night and that was what got me the transfer to Celtic. So from bad things, good things come sometimes. But it was things like the first jaunts into Europe and simply joining a professional club and getting your first game. You are playing professional football for a good side and getting into the first team. The general excitement about that is the biggest thing. You get your progression, your first cap for Scotland. All these small steps are great. Each individual part - signing for the club, the first match in the first team, the honour of playing for Scotland for the first time. These are the memories I have of Kilmarnock.

What goalkeepers did you admire growing up?

I supported Clyde as a boy so Tommy McCulloch was someone I used to go and watch. I really liked Gordon Banks for England. He was really the one who made it happen for me. I liked his style and the way he played. And obviously Ronnie Simpson as well for his longevity and how he fitted into a great Celtic side in his later years.

How much of a change was it moving from Kilmarnock to Celtic, a team regularly challenging for honours at home and in Europe?

What a fabulous team it was when I joined Celtic - Billy McNeill, Bobby Murdoch, George Connelly, Jimmy Johnstone - every single player in that team was a household name. Moving into a club like Celtic where winning was in the genes is what players notice when they arrive and leave. It's the general attitude to matches - you are expected to win and everything is programmed towards that. Other teams try to do their best to win, but at Celtic your whole programme is about winning games and winning games well.

Were there any games in the Hoops that you will always hold in special significance?

Funnily enough it's the small things that stick out. When I went to Celtic, the second game I played was against Kilmarnock. It was a Wednesday night, it was snowing and that particular night I had a great game and we won the match. It settled me into playing for Celtic. I proved myself that night and went on to have a great end to that season. I went through a spell where I couldn't do much wrong. That game settled me as it was a horrible night for goalkeeping and it was against the club I had just left a couple of weeks before. You still

wanted to prove yourself to your new team and after that, things started to happen.

How difficult was it to be a goalkeeper at Celtic when there were was such fierce competition for a place between the sticks?

That's the way of the game. There is never any ill feeling between goalkeepers in that situation. You are always going to have it. Someone always wants your job and it keeps you on your toes. There is nothing personal in it at all. Footballers in general, we are all in the same boat as players can always be taken out the team and moved on. It focuses you on your game and keeps you doing well. If there are two or three goalkeepers playing well then it's good for the team.

Celtic have had some great goalkeepers in recent years, including the latest incumbent Craig Gordon, who has been outstanding since his arrival in the summer. How highly do you rate him?

I have always been impressed by Craig Gordon since the early days. When he was younger, I hadn't actually seen him play but I managed to catch him in a good few games. He is as good a goalkeeper I have seen for a long time. He could be up there with the top British goalkeepers. When it comes to the crunch, he delivers. I really like his style. He is not a lazy goalkeeper and goes about his job very professionally and he has a positive attitude. He has been a great signing.

And more impressively, his performances in the Hoops have come after losing two years of his career through injury.

This guy has obviously worked hard and stuck in. To be out for so long, how do you get that match fitness back? But you can't argue with that now. He has been a great asset to the team. Obviously we are in a period now with a new manager and there are going to be ups and downs while he sorts things out. But if you have someone at the back who can settle the team and get them through the hard patches, then that will help a lot.

As someone who starred for their country, you must be pleased to see Scotland thriving again under Gordon Strachan?

It's been so long. There again, as well as being lucky to get into a great Celtic side, I was lucky to get into a great Scottish side with folk like Denis Law, Billy Bremner, Joe Jordan and players like that. I always feel you need someone with a bit of presence to run the Scottish team and obviously Gordon Strachan has that and the personality to get the spirit of the team - if they have a good spirit amongst them, then they can take on anybody.

How did you think today's game will go in Paradise, and do you manage along to any matches involving your former clubs?

I very rarely get to games because I seem to be working all the time. I was 65 last weekend and I'm thinking of easing down a bit after Christmas and having a bit more time to do leisure stuff. After working five days a week, by the time it comes to the weekend, it's hard to drag yourself out of the house. Hopefully, once I cut down the hours a bit, I can get back to watching a bit more football as when I do go I enjoy it - getting out of the front door is the difficult bit. It could be a tight one today and I think there will be just one goal in it.



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Cheer on the Bhoys in Glasgow derby

CELTIC take on Glasgow rivals Partick Thistle in the last eight of the Scottish League Cup at Celtic Park this Wednesday, October 29, with tickets on general sale to supporters.

Season Ticket holders were given priority on buying seats for this match from October 3, and tickets will now be available to all supporters at the same reduced rate of £15 for adults, £10 for concessions and £5 for under-13s.

The upper tier will be closed for this match, with tickets sold on a first come, first served basis.

The Hoops overcame a strong Hearts side 3-0 last month to set up a Glasgow derby with the Jags, and will be hoping to make home advantage count as they target a place in the semi-finals of the League Cup, and a step closer to the first silverware of the season. Back the Bhoys at Celtic Park in this month's quarter-final tie.

Tickets are available online at www.celticfc.net on 0871 2261888* or at the Ticket Office at Celtic Park.



*Calls cost up to 10p per minute, telecoms provider dependent. Mobile and other provider charges may vary.

Magnificent seven Celts ready for Scotland's Victory Shield defence

A GROUP of young Celtic stars have been selected to represent Scotland in the upcoming Victory Shield match against Northern Ireland.

The prestigious youth competition pits the best Under-16 players from Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales against each other in a series of games, which will kick-off later this month.

Celtic players Aidan McAdams, Lewis Bell, Daniel McAllister, Kristi Marku, Jack Aitchison have all been named in the Scotland squad to face Northern Ireland in their opening game at St Mirren Park, while Christian Antoniazzi and Reis Peggie are on stand-by.

The Scots won the competition last year after a dramatic 1-0 victory over England in their final match.

Celtic Development Squad striker Calvin Miller scored the winner in the game and dazzled throughout the tournament to help Scotland claim the trophy for the first time since 1998.

International Youth Team coach for Scotland, Scot Gemmill, will be looking to the Celtic players included in this year's squad, and their team-mates, for a similar performance in a bid to retain the trophy this year.

Six Celtic Girls' Academy players in Scotland squad for Germany games



NO fewer than six Celtic Girls' Academy players have been named in the Scotland Women's

Under-15 squad to play Germany in two challenge matches in Glasgow this week.

The players selected, who have all been two or three seasons with Celtic, are Abby Callaghan, Nicole Cameron, Kiera Gibson, Kaela McDonald, Shannon Nagle (*above*) and Jamie-Lee Napier.

This group is the latest in a long line of Girls' Academy players who have recently been selected for their country.

Currently, there are six Celtic girls in the Scotland U19 squad, and Ellis Dalglish and Laura Hamilton were in Croatia recently with the Scottish U17 squad taking part in the UEFA U17 European Championship qualifiers.

First-team manager, David Haley, relies strongly on the conveyor belt of talent from the Academy. Recently he included 10 Academy graduates in his squad for the game against Hibernian with two further first-team regulars on the sidelines injured.

Haley said: "Once again, Celtic players have been recognised by their country at this level and it shows how productive our girls' programme is

"This has been the case for a number of years now, with the likes of Chloe Arthur, Abi Harrison and Hayley Sinclair all regularly playing at first-team level, having come through the Girls' Academy at various stages.

"Having witnessed some of these players first-hand, this is another talented group who, I'm sure, will go on to follow in the footsteps of the players previously mentioned.

"The Academy continues to produce talented players and we are well known for giving young players their chance at Celtic. I'm confident some of these players will soon represent the club at first-team level."

The games are:

Tuesday, October 28

Scotland U15 v Germany U15
Toryglan Regional Football centre
Kick-Off 2pm

Thursday, October 30

Scotland U15 v Germany U15
Toryglan Regional Football centre
Kick-Off 11am

CELTIC:

The story so far.



Comp	Date	Result
UCL	15 July	KR Reykjavik 0-1 Celtic
UCL	22 July	Celtic 4-0 KR Reykjavik
UCL	30 July	Legia Warsaw 4-1 Celtic
UCL	06 Aug	Celtic 0-2 Legia Warsaw
SPFL	13 Aug	St Johnstone 0-3 Celtic
SPFL	16 Aug	Celtic 6-1 Dundee Utd
UCL	20 Aug	NK Maribor 1-1 Celtic
SPFL	23 Aug	Inverness CT 1-0 Celtic
UCL	26 Aug	Celtic 0-1 NK Maribor
SPFL	31 Aug	Dundee 1-1 Celtic
SPFL	13 Sep	Celtic 2-1 Aberdeen
UEL	18 Sep	FC Salzburg 2-2 Celtic
SPFL	21 Sep	Celtic 1-1 Motherwell
SLC	24 Sep	Celtic 3-0 Hearts
SPFL	27 Sep	St Mirren 1-2 Celtic
UEL	02 Oct	Celtic 1-0 Dinamo Zagreb
SPFL	05 Oct	Celtic 0-1 Hamilton
SPFL	18 Oct	Ross County 0-5 Celtic



CELTIC FC FIXTURES & RESULTS



Key

- 1** Number of Goals scored
- Booked
- Sent Off
- Home games in **bold**
- 1st 2nd 3rd Sub
- SPFL - The Premiership
- UCL - Champions League
- UEL - Europa League
- SC - Scottish Cup
- SLC - League Cup

Stats correct up to and including 22/10/2014



Comp	Date	Opposition	Result	Starting 11
July				
UCL	15 Jul	KR Reykjavik	1-0	Forster Lustig Ambrose van Dijk Izaguirre
UCL	22 Jul	KR Reykjavik	4-0	Forster Lustig Ambrose van Dijk 2 Izaguirre
UCL	30 Jul	Legia Warsaw	1-4	Forster Lustig Ambrose van Dijk Matthews
August				
UCL	6 Aug	Legia Warsaw	3-0*	Forster Matthews Lustig van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	13 Aug	St Johnstone	3-0	Gordon Matthews Lustig van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	16 Aug	Dundee United	6-1	Gordon Ambrose Denayer 1 van Dijk Izaguirre
UCL	20 Aug	NK Maribor	1-1	Gordon Lustig van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	23 Aug	Inverness CT	0-1	Zaluska Ambrose O'Connell Mulgrew Twardzik
UCL	26 Aug	NK Maribor	0-1	Gordon Ambrose Lustig van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	31 Aug	Dundee	1-1	Gordon Matthews Ambrose Denayer Izaguirre
September				
SPFL	13 Sep	Aberdeen	2-1	Gordon Ambrose Denayer 1 van Dijk Izaguirre
UEL	18 Sep	FC Salzburg	2-2	Gordon Ambrose Denayer van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	21 Sep	Motherwell	1-1	Zaluska Ambrose Denayer van Dijk Izaguirre
SLC	24 Sep	Hearts	3-0*	Gordon Ambrose Denayer van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	27 Sep	St Mirren	2-1	Gordon O'Connell Ambrose van Dijk Izaguirre
October				
UEL	02 Oct	Dinamo Zagreb	1-0	Gordon Ambrose Denayer van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	05 Oct	Hamilton	0-1	Gordon Ambrose Denayer van Dijk Izaguirre
SPFL	18 Oct	Ross County	5-0	Gordon Lustig Denayer 1 van Dijk Izaguirre
UEL	23 Oct	FC Astra		
SPFL	26 Oct	Kilmarnock (1pm)		
SLC	29 Oct	Partick Thistle (Round 4, 7.45pm)		
November				
SPFL	01 Nov	Inverness CT		
UEL	06 Nov	FC Astra (6pm)		
SPFL	09 Nov	Aberdeen (12.30pm)		
SPFL	22 Nov	Dundee		
UEL	27 Nov	FC Salzburg (8.05pm)		
SC	29 Nov	Scottish Cup R4		
December				
SPFL	06 Dec	Motherwell		
UEL	11 Dec	Dinamo Zagreb (6pm)		
SPFL	14 Dec	St Mirren		
SPFL	20 Dec	Dundee United		
SPFL	27 Dec	Ross County		
January				
SPFL	01 Jan	Partick Thistle		
SPFL	04 Jan	Kilmarnock		
SPFL	10 Jan	St Johnstone		
SPFL	17 Jan	Hamilton		
SPFL	21 Jan	Motherwell		
SPFL	24 Jan	Ross County		
SPFL	31 Jan	Kilmarnock		
SLC	31 Jan/1 Feb	Scottish League Cup SF		
February				
SC	07 Feb	Scottish Cup R5		
SPFL	14 Feb	St Johnstone		
UEL	19 Feb	UEL R32 L1		
SPFL	21 Feb	Hamilton		
UEL	26 Feb	UEL R32 L2		
SPFL	28 Feb	Aberdeen		
March				
SC	07 Mar	Scottish Cup R6		
UEL	12 Mar	UEL R16 L1		
SPFL	14 Mar	Dundee		
SLC	15 Mar	Scottish League Cup Final		
UEL	19 Mar	UEL R16 L2		
SPFL	21 Mar	Dundee United		
April				
SPFL	04 Apr	St Mirren		
SPFL	08 Apr	Partick Thistle		
SPFL	11 Apr	Inverness CT		
UEL	16 Apr	UEL QF L1		
SC	18/19 Apr	Scottish Cup Semi Final		
UEL	23 Apr	UEL QF L2		
SPFL	25 Apr	TBC		
May				
SPFL	02 May	TBC		
UEL	07 May	UEL Semi-Final L1		
SPFL	09 May	TBC		
UEL	14 May	UEL Semi-Final L2		
SPFL	16 May	TBC		
SPFL	23 May	TBC		
UEL	27 May	UEL Final (Warsaw)		
SC	30 May	Scottish Cup Final		
TBC				
SPFL		Partick Thistle		

Domestic games kick off at 3pm unless stated, European matches at 7.45pm. Celtic score shown first. All fixtures subject to change. *Legia Warsaw forfeit the match - Celtic awarded 3-0 win. *Own goal v Hearts (Eckersley)

Substitutes

Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor 1	Commons	Griffiths	Stokes	Zaluska	Matthews	O'Connell	Kayal	Henderson	Boerrigter	Pukki
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor	Commons	Griffiths	Pukki 2	Zaluska	Matthews	Bitton	Kayal	Henderson	Boerrigter	Watt
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor 1	Commons	Berget	Pukki	Zaluska	Izaguirre	Bitton	Kayal	Boerrigter	Stokes	Griffiths
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor	Commons	Bitton	Stokes	Zaluska	Berget	Kayal	Henderson	Forrest	Pukki	Griffiths
Johansen	Bitton 1	McGregor 1	Commons	Forrest	Stokes 1	Zaluska	Ambrose	Denayer	Kayal	Boerrigter	Berget	Pukki
Johansen 1	Mulgrew	McGregor	Commons 1	Berget 2	Stokes 1	Zaluska	Kayal	Bitton	Forrest	Boerrigter	Griffiths	-
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor 1	Kayal	Berget	Stokes	Zaluska	Ambrose	Bitton	Henderson	Commons	Griffiths	Pukki
Henderson	Bitton	McGeouch	Commons	Griffiths	Pukki	Fasan	Denayer	Kayal	Johansen	McGregor	Berget	Stokes
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor	Kayal	Berget	Stokes	Zaluska	Matthews	Denayer	Bitton	Boerrigter	Commons	Griffiths
Johansen	Kayal	McGregor	Commons	Berget	Stokes	Zaluska	O'Connell	Bitton	Henderson	Wakaso	Griffiths 1	Pukki
Johansen	Brown	McGregor	Commons 1	Tonev	Scepovic	Zaluska	O'Connell	Bitton	Kayal	Wakaso	Guidetti	Stokes
Johansen	Brown 1	McGregor	Commons	Wakaso 1	Scepovic	Zaluska	O'Connell	Bitton	Kayal	Tonev	Berget	Stokes
Kayal	Bitton	McGregor	Stokes	Tonev	Guidetti	Gordon	O'Connell	Brown	Henderson	Commons 1	Berget	Scepovic
Johansen	Brown	McGregor	Commons 1	Guidetti 1	Stokes	Zaluska	O'Connell	Bitton	Kayal	Tonev	Griffiths	Scepovic
Johansen	Brown	McGregor	Wakaso	Guidetti 2	Stokes	Zaluska	Fisher	Bitton	Kayal	Tonev	Berget	Scepovic
Johansen	Brown	Wakaso	Tonev	Commons 1	Stokes	Zaluska	Fisher	O'Connell	Kayal	Henderson	Berget	Griffiths
Johansen	Brown	Wakaso	Commons	Guidetti	Stokes	Zaluska	O'Connell	Kayal	Tonev	Scepovic	Berget	Griffiths
Johansen	Brown	McGregor 1	Mulgrew	Guidetti 1	Stokes 2	Zaluska	Matthews	Ambrose	Bitton	Wakaso	Griffiths	Scepovic



QUIZ

1 Who in the last decade is the only Celt to score a hat-trick in the league against Kilmarnock?

2 Which three clubs other than Celtic did the legendary Jock Stein manage in his career?

3 Who captained Kilmarnock when they defeated Celtic 1-0 to win the 2011/12 League Cup final?

4 Which side will Scotland be playing for the first time in their qualification matches for Euro 2016?

5 Who was the top scorer for Celtic during their European Cup winning campaign of 1966/67?

6 Who in the last five decades is the only Kilmarnock manager to win a league match at Celtic Park?

7 Which three clubs has goalkeeper Artur Boruc played for since leaving Celtic in 2010?

8 Which two current Celts have also played for Stoke City?

9 Which Kilmarnock player since the war has won most international caps for Scotland?

10 Which former Celtic and Kilmarnock player has this season played in the group stages of the Champions League?

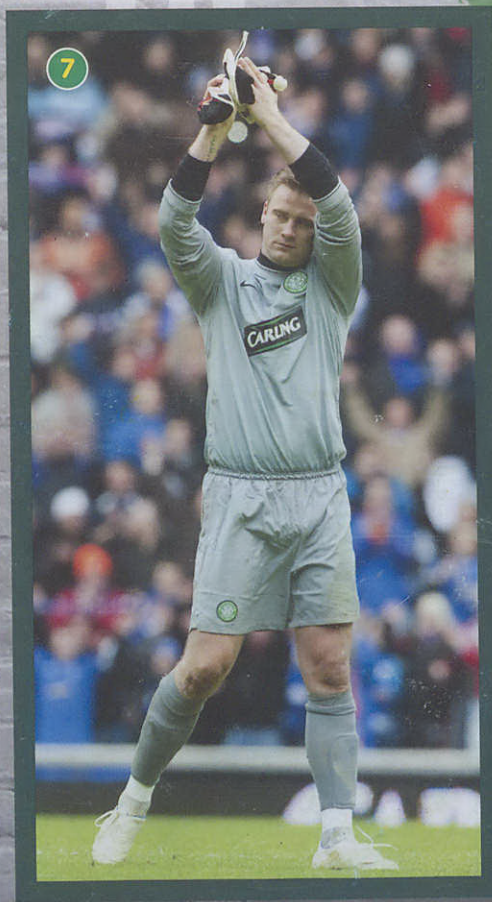
11 Who in February 2013 was the last Kilmarnock player to net a hat-trick for the club?

12 On how many occasions since the war have Celtic clinched the league title against Kilmarnock?

13 Who this season was the first Scot to score a goal in the English Premier League?

14 Which two teams this season have missed penalties in competitive matches against Celtic?

15 Which player who starred for Celtic and Leeds United also played for Kilmarnock?



ANSWERS

1. Kris Commons (2013/14).
2. Dunfermline, Hibernian and Leeds United.
3. James Fowler.
4. Gibraltar.
5. Steve Chalmers, five goals.
6. Kenny Shiels (2012/13) Celtic 0 Kilmarnock 2.
7. Fiorentina, Southampton and Bournemouth.
8. John Guidetti and Kris Commons.
9. Ian Durrant (nine caps).
10. Cillian Sheridan (Apoel, Nicosia).
11. Paul Heffernan (Hearts 0 Kilmarnock 3).
12. Four times: 1968/69, 2003/04, 2006/07 and 2011/12.
13. Scott Arfield for Burnley v Chelsea.
14. Legia Warsaw (Champions League), Hearts (League Cup).
15. George McCuskey.

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL AT CELTIC PARK



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SCOTLAND v ENGLAND
TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2014 | KICK-OFF 8.00PM



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MANAGER: **RONNY DEILA**



MANAGER: **ALLAN JOHNSTON**

ADAM MATTHEWS	2	○	○	1	CRAIG SAMSON
EMILIO IZAGUIRRE	3	○	○	2	ROSS BARBOUR
EFE AMBROSE	4	○	○	4	JAMIE HAMILL
VIRGIL VAN DIJK	5	○	○	6	MARK CONNOLLY
NIR BITTON	6	○	○	7	RORY MCKENZIE
THERESA McGRATH*	7	○	○	8	SAMMY CLINGAN
SCOTT BROWN	8	○	○	9	LEE MILLER
JOHN GUIDETTI	9	○	○	10	CHRIS JOHNSTON
ANTHONY STOKES	10	○	○	11	PAUL CAIRNEY
DERK BOERRIGTER	11	○	○	13	CONOR BRENNAN
STEFAN SCEPOVIC	12	○	○	16	TOPE OBADEYI
KRIS COMMONS	15	○	○	18	LEE ASHCROFT
JO INGE BERGET	16	○	○	19	CRAIG SLATER
CHARLIE MULGREW	21	○	○	20	ALEKSEI EREMENKO
JASON DENAYER	22	○	○	21	MICHAEL NGOO
MIKAEL LUSTIG	23	○	○	22	DARRYL WESTLAKE
LUKASZ ZALUSKA	24	○	○	23	CHRIS CHANTLER
STEFAN JOHANSEN	25	○	○	24	ROSS DAVIDSON
CRAIG GORDON	26	○	○	26	MARK O'HARA
ALEKSANDAR TONEV	27	○	○	28	JOSH MAGENNIS
LEIGH GRIFFITHS	28	○	○	29	MANUEL PASCALI
JOHN HERRON	31	○	○	31	DEVLIN MACKAY
MUBARAK WAKASO	32	○	○	33	ROBBIE MUIRHEAD
BERAM KAYAL	33	○	○	38	DEAN HAWKSHAW
EOGHAN O'CONNELL	34	○	○	34	MARK THOMSON
LEO FASAN	38	○	○	35	ADAM HODGE
DARNELL FISHER	41	○	○	40	DYLAN POOLER
CALLUM MCGREGOR	42	○			
JAMES FORREST	49	○			
LIAM HENDERSON	53	○			
FILIP TWARDZIK	56	○			

*Magners #7 winner

26.10.2014

RESULT: H/T F/T SCORERS:
 Celtic
 Kilmarnock

NEXT GAME:

v Partick Thistle
Wednesday, October 29, 2014
Scottish League Cup, Fourth Round
Celtic Park, 7.45pm

TODAY'S OFFICIALS:

Referee: William Collum
Assistant 1: Stephen Mitchell
Assistant 2: Ross Haswell
Fourth Official: Barry Cook