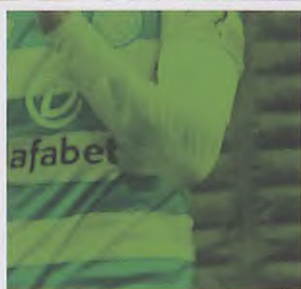
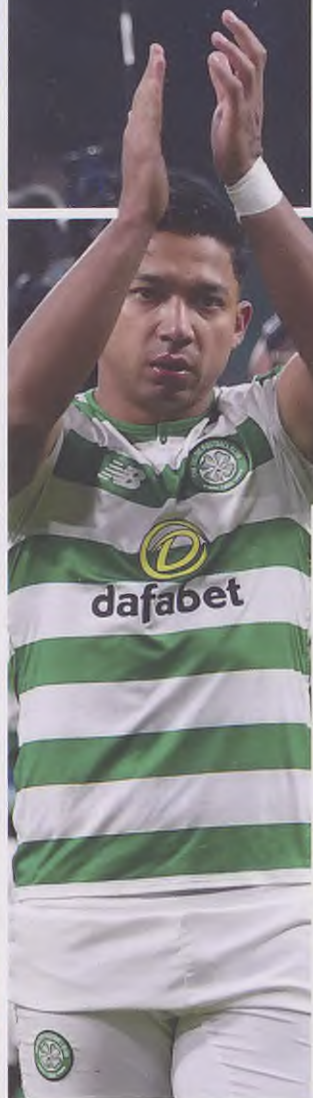


CELTIC V ST JOHNSTONE

William HILL
SCOTTISH CUP



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



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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.

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'We have enjoyed great success in this competition in the past two seasons and we're focused on delivering a positive result this afternoon'



GOOD afternoon and welcome for Celtic Park for our Scottish Cup fifth round tie against St Johnstone.

It's a break from league action and it's a match that we're looking forward to.

This is our third meeting against St Johnstone in quick succession, and while we enjoyed positive results in the two previous games, we won't be taking anything for granted today.

Tommy's side showed, in those two matches that they are a very well-organised and competitive side, and that will be the same again this afternoon.

We have enjoyed great success in this competition in the past two seasons, and it's a tournament that we all enjoy, particularly with the final being the showpiece occasion to end the season.

A lot of hard work is required in order to get to that stage, and our approach has always been to focus on each tie as and when it comes around.

So this afternoon, all thoughts are solely on this fifth round match and our aim is to ensure that we are in the draw for the quarter-finals.

That will be the same attitude of our opponents, so we're looking forward to a good contest.

We produced a controlled performance on Wednesday night to beat Hibernian 2-0 and maintain our six-point lead at the top of the Premiership table. We also had to contend with further injuries, but every member of the squad is ready and willing to play their part as and when required.

That was the case in midweek, with the likes of Jeremy Toljan enjoying

his first experience of playing at Celtic Park, and it will be the same this afternoon for whoever is selected to play.

In much the same as the players will all play their part in the months ahead, so, too, will our supporters.

They have always given us tremendous backing and that will be needed again this afternoon.

We're focused on delivering a positive Scottish Cup result this afternoon, and with your support, hopefully we can do just that. Enjoy the game.

Brendan Rodgers
Without Fear


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AUDAZO

#RUNTHEGAME





A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN



Our winning sequence is all down to the group effort shown by the players right through the team

THE games just keep on coming here at Celtic and we're in action once more this afternoon against a side we've played quite a lot recently, but this time it's in the Scottish Cup.

It's a trophy that we've won for the past two seasons and, obviously, we are keen to retain our hold on the cup, and that requires a winning performance today against St Johnstone.

In the past 12 days we've recorded 2-0 wins over St Johnstone both home and away in the league, and we know from that very recent experience that the visitors will put up a strong challenge to stop us from making it three wins in a row over them.

For us, though, it's all about how we

approach the game and we showed in our 2-0 win over Hibernian on Wednesday night, that, even despite a rising injury list amid game after game, we still had the resilience and battling qualities to win the game.

That made it six wins out of six since the turn of the year with 16 goals scored and none lost, so that is a sequence we are keen to maintain and build on today. That run is all down to the team effort shown by the players – from the keeper at the back, through the defence and midfield to the forwards.

Our main aim today is to make sure we finish this afternoon looking forward to finding out who we are playing the quarter-finals of the Scottish Cup and be another step towards more silverware this season.

St Johnstone will have similar thoughts, though, and will have their own aims going into today's game, as well as also being keen to bounce back from their midweek defeat to Hamilton Accies. So we have to be ready for that and go into this game as we do for every other match – intent on winning.

You, the supporters have played your part in our winning run as well, both home and away, and we are looking forward to you backing the side again today as only you can.



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Plan ahead for upcoming fixtures



WITH just a few home games remaining before the league split, you can plan ahead and secure your place at Paradise to show your support for the Bhoys as we move further into the second half of the season.

Celtic currently sit six-points clear of the competition at the top of the Premiership table, and your support will be crucial as the Bhoys battle to stay on top.

Tickets are already selling fast for the upcoming fixtures here at Celtic Park, and with the majority of the Hoops' previous home games so far this season having sold out, it's the perfect time to plan ahead to ensure you don't miss out on the excitement!

Beat the matchday queues and buy online* to print your tickets at home. Visit eticketing.co.uk/celtic

Plan ahead today and secure your

place at Paradise for the upcoming fixtures:

- Celtic v Motherwell - Sunday, February 24 (KO: 3pm)
- Celtic v Aberdeen - Saturday, March 9 (KO: 3pm)**
- Celtic v Livingston - Saturday, April 6 (KO: 3pm)

Tickets are available to buy online, by calling 0871 226 1888* (option 2) or direct from the Ticket Office, open from 9:30am until 5pm, Monday to Friday and 9am until kick-off at 1:30pm on Sunday (February 10).

**Calls cost 13p per minute, plus your phone company's access charge. Booking fees apply online and via the sales line.*

***Please note - should Celtic progress in the UEFA Europa League, the date and time of this fixture will be subject to change.*

BOYLE BROTHERS LEAD OUT THE HOOPS

THE two matchday mascots for the visit of Hibernian in midweek were brothers who made their way in from Bellshill for the match.

The youngsters were 10-year-old Rian Boyle and five-year-old Rudi Boyle who helped skipper, Scott Brown lead out the Celts for the game.

After that, the Bhoys took part in the pre-match preliminaries before taking their seats in the stand to watch the Hoops maintain their six-point lead at the top of the table with a 2-0 win over the Edinburgh side.



TEN GRAND OLD TEAM TO SUPPORT

HOOPS fan, Raymond Peacock was certainly glad that seven-year-old Angus Buchannan made the journey all the way down from Uist for Wednesday's match with Hibernian.

For the youngster made the Paradise Windfall draw at half-time and drew Raymond's Y1336 ticket out of the tombola meaning the winner went home to Cathcart **TEN THOUSAND POUNDS** richer.

The other winning tickets in the Paradise Windfall, which is sponsored by Laurie Ross, were F2307, A3658, T3600 and H3201.