

Celtic



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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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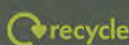


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'The players responded magnificently at Motherwell, so soon after returning from Romania, and tonight we'll look to take another step closer to the group stage'



GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's UEFA Champions League qualifying match against CFR Cluj. I also want to extend that welcome to our visitors from Romania.

Last week's first leg was a tough match, and we were pleased to score an away goal and come away with a 1-1 draw.

However, we saw throughout that game just how difficult Cluj are as a team, and I'm sure that will be the case again tonight. Both sides know that a place in the play-off round is at stake, so it is a massive game and it's one that we're looking forward to.

We go into the match full of confidence following Saturday's victory over Motherwell. It's always tough to come back to domestic

action following an away European tie, and the fact that we were playing at midday after arriving back in the early hours of Thursday morning made it even more challenging.

However, I thought the players responded magnificently and, after a tough start when Motherwell made it difficult for us, we really dominated and scored five goals. It was very enjoyable to watch, and it has continued our good start to the Premiership season.

Since then, of course, we have focused on tonight and preparing to take on a Cluj side who also enjoyed a good league result at the weekend.

We're playing at home, which is always a very positive thing, and with our support behind us, we'll go

out determined to get a good result.

I know it's been said many times in the past, and will no doubt be said again in the future, but there are few better places than Celtic Park on a European night.

We've all enjoyed some great nights here, when the supporters have created an incredible atmosphere for the players to perform in. We'll need that backing again tonight as we look to take a step closer in this tournament to where we all want to be. Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon



CELTIC FC ▼



2019/20



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'We know that we are not alone in our aims, as thousands of you packed in here tonight will be driving us on from the stands'

WELCOME back to Celtic Park this evening for another European night under the lights and we're delighted to come back from Romania with an away goal and a 1-1 draw with CFR Cluj from last Wednesday.

Tonight the Celtic support have another massive opportunity to play their part in what will hopefully be another historic European win here in Paradise and that's an experience we will never tire of.

We know that it's going to be difficult on the pitch, as Cluj showed what they are made of last week, but the nose from the stands here at Celtic Park is famous for inspiring the Hoops on the pitch and unnerving the visitors.

It was a tough game last week in Romania, but that was exactly what we were expecting. When Cluj

scored, the boys buckled down and James Forrest showed precisely what he is capable of by scoring a great equaliser.

Tonight we plan to take that a stage further by progressing to the play-off stage of the UEFA Champions League and we know that we are not alone in our aims, as thousands of you packed in here tonight will be driving us on from the stands.

We followed up the draw in Romania with another test just a few days later as we took on Motherwell at Fir Park in the league on Saturday at lunchtime and I'm delighted that we recorded a 5-2 win to add to our 7-0 SPFL opener against St Johnstone.

That's 12 goals in the first two games on the league front and we're confident that we can take some

of that scoring form into tonight's game against Cluj, although we go into the game knowing that just one goal could be vital to our hopes for tonight's result.

One of the many good points about our games so far, is that the goals have been spread about the team. That shows our hunger for goals and that we are not limited to just one route to the goal, so congratulations go to the scorers so far and there are a few of us waiting to join you in the club's scoring charts.

Hopefully we'll all be cheering more goals tonight, enjoy the game and turn up the volume.



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THE LIONS' VIEW SENSORY ROOM LOOKS TO BE A SUCCESS

FOR young Celtic supporters, a first trip to Paradise represents an important milestone in their life, regardless of their background, challenges or circumstances.

In light of this, earlier this year Celtic FC Foundation unveiled The Lions' View Sensory Room - a safe space for children and young people living with auditory, visual or sensory disorders, including autism and similar conditions.

Planned in extensive consultation with leading industry experts and service users, The Lions' View Sensory Room allows children and young people to learn and develop in real-world scenarios, such as those typically encountered in a footballing environment, while accounting for their needs and any sensitivities.

This initiative is a product of the Foundation's #LionsLegacy project series, following a range of fundraising events across six incredible days in May 2017, honouring the 50th anniversary of Celtic's 1967 European Cup victory.

Since launching in April, The Lion's View Sensory Room has already given around 50 young supporters with autism, or related sensory conditions, an opportunity to experience a live match in an appropriate, safe and calm environment.

It is already changing lives for young children and their families, offering those living with sensory needs an opportunity to attend Celtic home matches with comfort and assurance, and is the first time many have ever been able to attend Paradise and cheer on their team.

People like Kevin McLaughlin, who took his son Aaron to his first-ever Celtic game against Kilmarnock in April. Reflecting on his experience,



Kevin said: "For me, it represented a day that I never thought would be possible.

"I had just accepted that I would never be able to take Aaron to Celtic Park. On that day, Aaron's life got that bit bigger, he loved the whole experience of going to his first Celtic game with his Dad - just like any other young boy."

More recently, Nicola Martin took her daughter Kacey to the SPFL curtain-raiser against St Johnstone. Nicola said: "Kacey would have never been able to have had such an enjoyable, peaceful day at Celtic Park without all the hard work and consideration the club and Foundation has given to supporting autism and other disabilities.

"It was great to see and lovely to enjoy the day with her. Thank you again for having us it was Kacey's 'best day ever'."

Celtic FC Foundation Chief Executive, Tony Hamilton, added: "Everyone at Celtic FC Foundation is delighted with the success of the Sensory Room so far. It's important to recognise the part the club's supporters played in making this and other initiatives possible.

"We are keen to develop our work in this area and our aim is to ensure the Sensory Room is used by as many people as possible."

With over 80 supporters looking to utilise the room, Celtic FC Foundation has created a waiting list to mitigate growing demand. Please register your interest early to ensure we are able to accommodate any requests to use the facility.

Supporters interested in accessing The Lions' View Sensory Room on a matchday, or learning more about the facility, should contact cfcfoundation@celticfc.co.uk