

# v ABERDEEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2014  
CELTIC PARK, GLASGOW  
KICK-OFF 12.45PM


OFFICIAL PROGRAMME • €3



# Berry DELICIOUS



*NOW is a GOOD TIME to try* **ORCHARD BERRIES**

 /MagnersCider

# CONTENTS



## 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 with/irf 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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**RONNY DEILA**  
Celtic Manager



# EVERYONE MUST PLAY THEIR PART AS WE LOOK TO RETURN TO WINNING WAYS

**GOOD afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park for today's match against Aberdeen. It's a return to domestic action after the international games, and it's a match we're all looking forward to.**

Our previous home league game here was a great result and performance, beating Dundee United 6-1, and we'd clearly like another good display and victory.

However, Aberdeen will be very difficult opponents. I know that they were the only team to beat us in the league last season, and they also had a very good result here in the Scottish Cup, so

everyone is aware of the danger they pose. Our aim, of course, is to win every game that we play in, and at home our supporters will be looking for us to take the game to our opponents. That's what we intend to do, while remaining resolute defensively.

Our squad has been boosted by some new faces who arrived at the club during the recent transfer window. Stefan Scepovic and John Guidetti will provide further competition in the team and I'm sure they'll both play their parts in what will be a long but, hopefully, very successful campaign.

We're also looking forward to

having the likes of Scott Brown, James Forrest and Aleksandar Tonev available over the coming weeks and months, which will give us more options and variation in our play.

After the international break, we've got a lot of fixtures on the horizon, with our first Europa League tie this Thursday against FC Salzburg in Austria, followed by another league game next weekend against Motherwell and then a League Cup tie at home to Hearts.

And every member of the squad will be expected to play their part, both in these fixtures and throughout the season as we look to bring more success to the club.

We're also determined to get back to winning in the league after a couple of disappointing results, and what better way to start that than with a victory this afternoon against Aberdeen. We know that won't be easy, but we're determined to do just that and, with your support, hopefully we can enjoy another good day here at Celtic Park.

**Enjoy the game**



'Our aim, of course, is to win every game that we play in, and at home our supporters will be looking for us to take the game to our opponents. That's what we intend to do

## 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



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# SCOTT BROWN

Celtic Captain



## I'D LOVE TO BE INVOLVED TODAY - THE BOYS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO IT

**CELTIC versus Aberdeen games are always ones that everyone looks forward to. They're always a difficult team to beat, and we know from last season that we have to be at our best if we want to take all three points. There's also a big travelling support that follows Aberdeen which I'm sure will only add to the atmosphere today.**

It's important that we get back to winning ways after a couple of disappointing results in the league against Inverness Caley Thistle and Dundee, and it's also good to be back home after being on the road for those fixtures.

Our own support is always so important to us, and that will be the case today against Derek McInnes' side.

I was also disappointed to see Scotland lost to Germany last weekend. Obviously I would have loved to have been out there on the pitch in Dortmund, but I thought the boys were magnificent, and I felt we deserved at least a point from the game.

It's a sign of their quality that they've got players who can punish you, but the confidence remains really high in the squad for the European Championship campaign, and after running the world champions so close, we're looking forward to the rest of the fixtures. Our target is to qualify for Euro 2016 in France, and I believe that we are capable of achieving that.

Before the next round of international games, however, there are a lot of important games coming up for Celtic, both here in Scotland and in Europe, starting with this



afternoon's game against Aberdeen.

I know the boys are looking forward to the game and are determined to do everything they can to get the victory.

**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

### DIRECTORS/STAFF

**CELTIC PLC DIRECTORS**  
Ian Bankier, Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, Dermot Desmond, Tom Allison, Brian Wilson, Ian Livingston

**CFAC DIRECTORS**  
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**MANAGER**  
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# STADIUM REGULATIONS



In the event of a stadium evacuation please follow the directions of the Police and stewards

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](http://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.*



# ABERDEEN:



The story so far...



Comp	Date	Result
Europa League	03 July	Aberdeen 5-0 Daugava Riga
Europa League	10 July	Daugava Riga 0-3 Aberdeen
Europa League	17 July	Aberdeen 0-0 FC Groningen
Europa League	24 July	FC Groningen 1-2 Aberdeen
Europa League	31 July	Real Sociedad 2-0 Aberdeen
Europa League	07 Aug	Aberdeen 2-3 Real Sociedad
SPFL	Aug 10	Aberdeen 0-3 Dundee United
SPFL	Aug 13	Kilmarnock 0-2 Aberdeen
SPFL	Aug 23	St Johnstone 1-0 Aberdeen
SPFL	Aug 30	Aberdeen 2-0 Partick Thistle

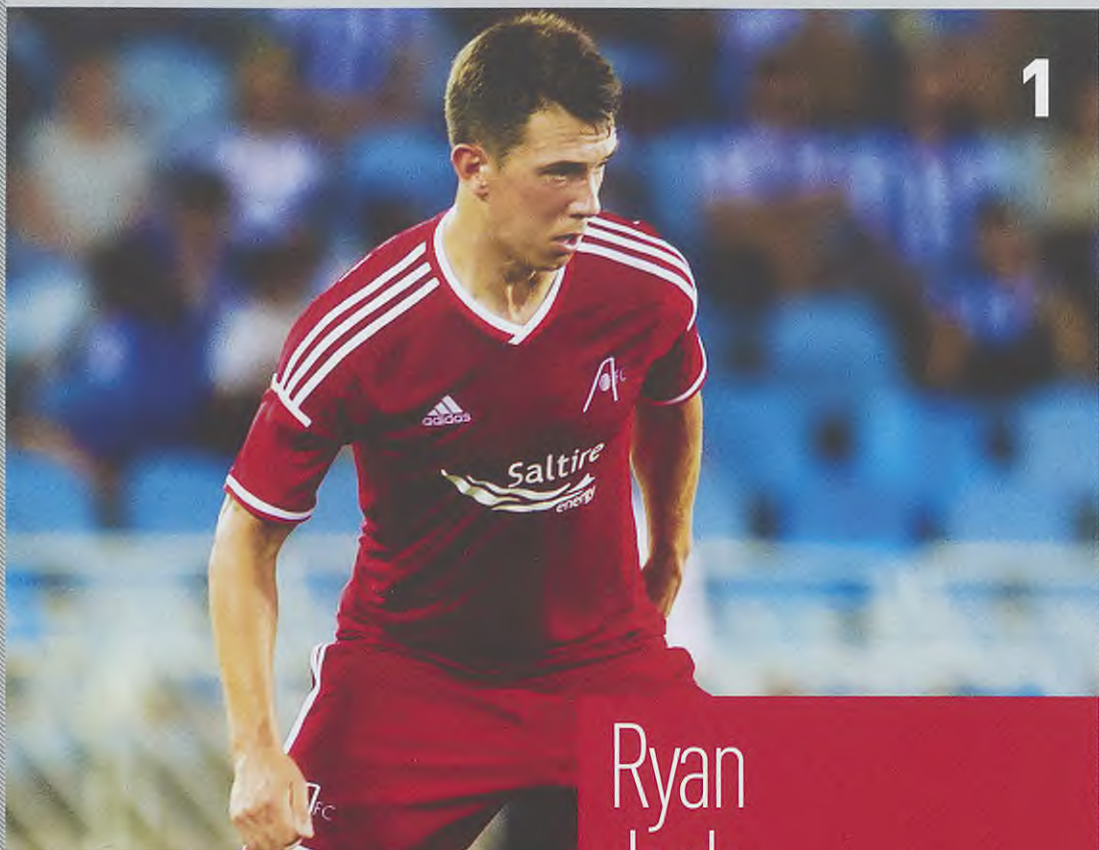




# ABERDEEN



Words: Martin Dalziel



## ONES TO WATCH

## Ryan Jack

**ABERDEEN** arrive at Celtic Park today as the only team to have beaten the Hoops, domestically, home and away last season.

The Dons knocked Celtic out of the Scottish Cup with a 2-1 victory at Celtic Park then went on to end the Bhoys' unbeaten league record with an identical scoreline at Pittodrie, thanks to goals from Jonny Hayes and Adam Rooney.

The highlight of last season, however, was their League Cup triumph over Inverness Caley Thistle at Celtic Park.

Ahead of today's game, we take a look at some of the players who helped achieve that success and the ones to watch this afternoon.

Recently described by Derek McInnes as possessing all the attributes of a modern midfielder, the 22-year-old is a key member of the Aberdeen side and made a significant contribution to the success they enjoyed last term. A former regular for Scotland Under-21s, his claim for full international honours has long been championed by those at Pittodrie and he has been on an upward trajectory since joining the club. He scored his first goal for the Dons in the 2010/11 campaign, which was named goal of the season for his team that season, and he signed a further three-year deal at the club in 2013. Jack was a key member of Aberdeen's squad last year, making more than 40 appearances in total and helping his side lift the League Cup. The central midfielder has started every game for the Dons this season so far and scored against Kilmarnock in a 2-0 win.



2

## Barry Robson

A familiar and popular figure with the Celtic support for his contribution to the Hoops, Barry Robson has become a prominent feature of Derek McInnes' side since he joined in 2013. The versatile midfielder scored the first of his side's four penalties in the shoot-out against Inverness in the League Cup final and he signed a new one-year contract with the club in May. Robson has been deployed in a number of positions across the middle of the park and thrives in either central midfield or on the wing. His passing ability helps to create chances for his team-mates and his skill from free-kicks and power from penalties makes him a constant threat to defences. At 35-years-old, Robson is a veteran of the Aberdeen side but he leads by experience from the middle of the pitch. And, despite starting mostly from the bench this season, the Scotland internationalist is still capable of changing games.



## Niall McGinn

Another familiar face to the Celtic support is Aberdeen's Niall McGinn. Pace, trickery and accuracy are all assets within McGinn's locker and it was those skills which won him his move to Celtic in 2008. He signed for Aberdeen in 2012 and has gone on to become an integral part of the team's set up. The Irishman scored 22 goals for the Dons in his first season but is also a creator of chances for his team. He scored two goals in Aberdeen's Europa League qualifying matches and got his first domestic goal of this season in a 2-0 win over Partick Thistle. Celtic should be aware of his talents following his three-and-a-half year spell at the Scottish champions but must be on their toes today as McGinn will be expected to be the main creative force for the Dons this afternoon.



## Mark Reynolds

Two impressive loan spells to the north from Sheffield Wednesday won Mark Reynolds his permanent move to Aberdeen at the end of 2012. He has formed a solid partnership with Russell Anderson at the heart of the Dons' defence, cultivating comparison to Aberdeen greats Willie Miller and Alex McLeish, and was integral to maintaining his side's clean sheet in the League Cup final. Reynolds, formerly of Motherwell, scored his first goal for the Dons against the Steelmen and was recently appointed vice-captain of Aberdeen. The 27-year-old was also recently drafted into Gordon Strachan's Scotland squad for the 2016 European Championship qualifier against Germany and made the bench for the match, which ended 2-1 to the world champions. He will play an important role for the away side today as the Celts head into the match looking for a win.



## Adam Rooney

This has been a bumper year for Adam Rooney. The Irishman joined the Dons in January of this year and already has a number of decisive goals to his name. The striker netted the winning penalty for his side in their historic League Cup win and also brought Celtic's unbeaten record in the league to an end after scoring the winner against the Hoops at Pittodrie. Rooney is no stranger to Scottish football, having played for Inverness Caley Thistle, and his versatility and ability to shoot from distance makes him a potent goal threat. He kicked off the 2014/15 season with five goals in the Don's two games against Daugava Riga in the Europa League qualifiers before also netting against FC Groningen away from home. He is yet to net in the SPFL this season, however, and Celtic fans will be hoping his developing habit of scoring against the Hoops is not continued today.



## Willo Flood

Irishman Willo Flood is part of a trio of former Celts who now ply their trade at Aberdeen. He started his career as a trainee with Manchester City before moving to Cardiff City in 2006. Flood impressed with Dundee United on two loan spells and soon won a move to Celtic in 2009, where he made nine appearances. The 29-year-old then moved to Middlesbrough but returned to Scotland with another spell in Tayside, this time on a permanent deal at Tannadice, before he signed for the Dons in July 2013. He scored on his Aberdeen debut and went on to fire in three goals in total the 2013/14 campaign. The midfielder was key to Aberdeen's success last season which culminated in his first senior honour with the League Cup win.

## THE OPPOSITION



### THE TEAM

#### GOALKEEPERS

Jamie Langfield  
Scott Brown  
Danny Rogers

#### DEFENDERS

Russell Anderson  
Andrew Considine  
Shaleum Logan  
Scott McKenna  
Mark Reynolds  
Clark Robertson  
Michael Rose  
Joe Shaughnessy  
Ashton Taylor

#### MIDFIELDERS

Willo Flood  
Jonny Hayes  
Ryan Jack  
Nicky Low  
Jamie Masson  
Niall McGinn  
Jeffrey Monakana  
Craig Murray  
Peter Pawlett  
Barry Robson  
Craig Storie

#### STRIKERS

David Goodwillie  
Declan McManus  
Adam Rooney  
Lawrence Shankland  
Cameron Smith  
Scott Wright

### THE MANAGER

Derek McInnes



# LAST SEASON v ABERDEEN

**SPFL**

**PITTDORIE STADIUM**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2013

**ABERDEEN 0-2 CELTIC**

(COMMONS PEN; FORREST)

The first meeting between the sides last season saw Celtic emerge with a 2-0 victory at Pittodrie. They took the lead from the penalty spot just before half-time through Kris Commons, who had been brought down by Jamie Langfield. And the Aberdeen goalkeeper was given a red card for the challenge. Celtic's second goal didn't come until three minutes from the end of the game when James Forrest netted to make the points secure.



**SPFL**

**CELTIC PARK**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2013

**CELTIC 3-1 ABERDEEN**

(COMMONS 2; BOERRIGTER), (MCGINN)

There was late drama at Celtic Park as the Hoops beat Aberdeen 3-1 in November last year. Kris Commons gave the home side the lead before it was cancelled out on the stroke of half-time by former Celt, Niall McGinn. And the game appeared to be heading for a draw before Celtic scored twice in the dying seconds of the game. Commons scored his second of the afternoon before Derk Boerrigter netted his first goal for the Hoops, who ran out dramatic winners.





**SPFL  
PITODRIE STADIUM**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2014

**ABERDEEN 2-1 CELTIC**

(HAYES; ROONEY), (FORREST)

Since Niall McGinn's goal on November 23, 2013, Fraser Forster hadn't conceded a league goal, and it was another Aberdeen player in the shape of Jonny Hayes who broke the impressive new Scottish league clean-sheet record four minutes before the break at Pittodrie. The Irishman's wonder strike gave the home side the lead, and Adam Rooney doubled the lead on the stroke of half-time. James Forrest reduced the deficit for a Celtic side forced to play nearly 80 minutes of the match with 10 men after Virgil van Dijk was red-carded, but the 2-1 defeat would prove to be Celtic's only league loss in the entire campaign.



**SPFL  
CELTIC PARK**

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014

**CELTIC 5-2 ABERDEEN**

(BROWN 2; COMMONS 2; STOKES), (MCGINN; LOGAN)

The last league meeting between the sides was a seven-goal thriller at Celtic Park, with Celtic scoring five of those goals. Scott Brown scored twice, as did Kris Commons, while Anthony Stokes also got on the scoresheet. Niall McGinn scored again at Celtic Park against the Hoops, while Shaleum Logan also scored with an impressive strike from just outside the box. It was Celtic's third-last league fixture of what had been another impressive title-winning season.





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# Celtic Park Fan Technology Scoops Prestigious Award



**CELTIC'S innovative approach to enhancing the fans' matchday experience at Celtic Park has achieved further recognition from the European Club Association (ECA).**

The club secured a prestigious award for its Full Stadium WiFi Connectivity of Celtic Park, recognised through the presentation of the ECA's Best Achievement in Marketing Award.

Celtic Chief Executive Peter Lawwell was in attendance at the ECA General Assembly to pick up the award on behalf of Celtic and the club's partners, Sports Revolution.

He said: "We are delighted to accept this award from the European Club Association. Celtic is one of Europe's leading football clubs and we are proud of the efforts we have made in this area.

"We are committed to delivering the best matchday experience possible for our supporters and that commitment requires to stay at the forefront of technological advances.

"Our partnership with Sports Revolution, coupled with other developments progressing around Celtic Park, means that matchday experience will be second to none."

CelticLIVE was developed in partnership with Sports Revolution in response to direct feedback from Celtic fans. Supporter surveys showed that fans were frustrated that they could not communicate with their

friends and their favourite brands via smartphone and tablet devices on a matchday.

In response, the aim was to produce a best-in-class example of stadia connectivity and fan engagement. Not only would this mean Celtic Park would become one of the first stadiums in Europe to have a full stadium WiFi network, but 12 months ago Paradise became the first stadium to operate WiFi in conjunction with a dedicated matchday app, CelticLive, to deliver a wide range of content directly to fans with compatible devices.

This recognition, at the annual gathering of Europe's elite clubs, comes with Celtic landing the coveted ECA award ahead of a host of the biggest names in European club football. And is testament to the hard work and dedication of the teams at Sports Revolution and Celtic who deliver the service to Celtic fans.

Supporters who have downloaded CelticLive to their phones have benefitted from live by-the-minute stats during games, photo and video content, commentary and the ability to vote for the man-of-the-match.

This latest award is the second Celtic and Sports Revolution have secured for CelticLive since its launch 12 months ago, having previously won the Sports Technology Award for Best Support Technology for Fans.

Celtic Supporters on IOS and Android Devices can download the CelticLive app now at the Apple App Store or Google Play.

# IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

The Gordons are gathering at Celtic Park today to witness the latest instalment in the comeback of the Hoops keeper

Exclusive interview: Kenny McKay

**FOR Craig Gordon this afternoon's game against Aberdeen will be a family affair. While the 31-year-old goalie has remained calm and collected during a frantic and successful start to life at Celtic, he's been holding back when it comes to bringing together his personal and professional worlds.**

In the stands this afternoon, joining the thousands who'll arrive to support the Hoops and their new No.1, will be Gordon's eldest daughter, four-year-old Freya, who will be alongside his wife Jennifer and one-year-old daughter Emma.

Gordon says returning to full-time football is extra-sweet knowing that his family will have the chance to see him perform between the sticks once again.

The Scotland internationalist has spoken at length about the support that his family provided during the darkest days of his injury battles and now he finally has the chance to show them how their help has pushed him back to his best.

He said: "My oldest daughter is coming to the game against Aberdeen so I better play well."

"The two games she came to see me at Sunderland, we lost, although thankfully she can't really remember too much about it."

"So now it's extra important that we win today otherwise maybe she won't be coming again!"

After his long and troublesome route to the Celtic

first XI, few would begrudge Gordon the chance to indulge in a laugh about football, particularly when he has had little to smile about during two years away from the game.

His slow recuperation process from a potentially career-ending knee injury has been well documented and is a time that he has happily consigned to the past.

Yet, having overcome this considerable hurdle, the shot-stopper believes the experience of the last two years have made him appreciate his second chance at the top.

"For me, I wanted to make sure I'd given everything to my career that was possible," he said. "There were still things that I felt I hadn't tried and while they were out there, I wanted to give myself the best opportunity to get back playing."

"I was getting treatment in Barcelona, going out there every couple of weeks to get my injections then coming back and starting some very basic exercises over a period of six months until the turn of the year. I slowly built things up from there to the point where I could get outside and work."

"Any exercise I could do without causing any pain I would, or if they did cause pain I'd do them in the pool and build them up over a period of time."

"It was the right way to go for me. There are many different theories on the way you should go about treating that kind of injury and that stripped-back



approach was something different. I hadn't tried it before but I'm thankful it worked over time.

"I'd accepted the fact that I could fail and that it might not work and while I had accepted that as a possibility, I wanted to give myself every chance of recovering from the injury. I wouldn't look back and think what could have been. I'd tried everything. If it hadn't worked, I could have walked away with my head held high knowing that I did everything that I could."

He added: "Because I had almost nothing to lose, in a way, it made me feel settled here. Now that I am back, I have the ambition, the hunger to go out there and do it again. And I think perhaps overcoming the injury has probably relaxed me in a way because all this is almost like a bonus. It is a part of my career that at times I thought might never happen."

"Joining Celtic was a great opportunity to get back into football at the highest level. It was the potential to play football in European games and try and win trophies, which is something I've not done in my career too often up until now."

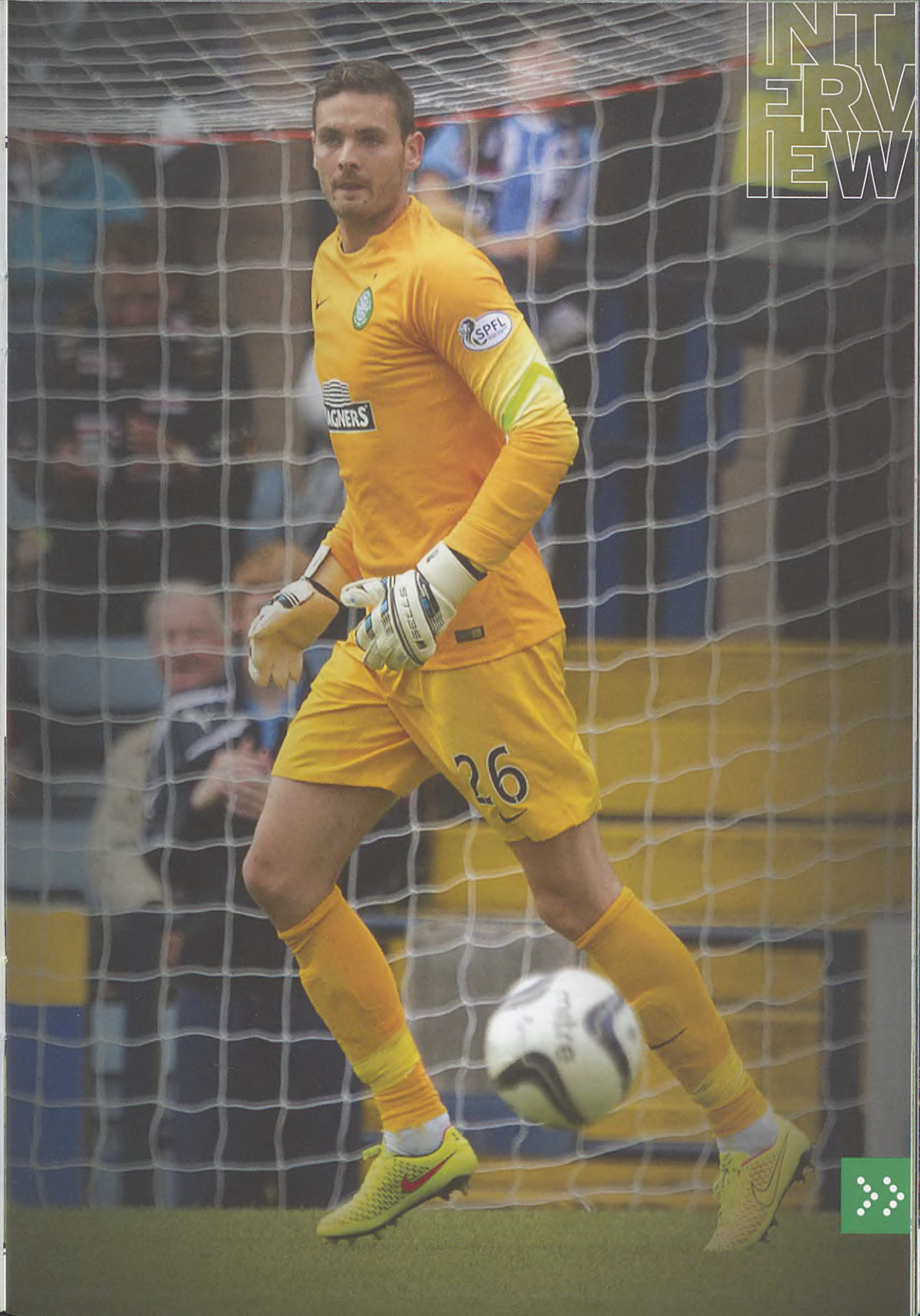
"That's ultimately what you look back on. How many trophies did you win? How many international caps did you win? How many games did you play? These are the questions that I'll ask myself when I retire and I want to be able to answer them."

"I'm determined to enjoy this part because that's what the games are and should be - enjoyable. All the hard work to get back to here has been worth it."

His return to full-time football has also been met with an unexpected return to the Scottish national side.

While it was always an ambition to return to the national fold at some point, Gordon admits he could not have predicted

Now that I am back,  
I have the ambition,  
the hunger to go  
out there and do it  
again... it is a part  
of my career that  
I thought might  
never happen



» being called into Gordon Strachan's squad to face the world champions Germany.

It would seem with each passing month, a new goal is reached, meaning Gordon would have to readjust his targets for the year ahead. However, this is something the big 'keeper does not accept.

Instead, he insists that working hard on the training field is his greatest concern and how he can translate that into consistent performances for Celtic.

He said: "It was good to be back in the international fold, firstly though it was good to get in the team here.

"Fraser leaving opened up an opportunity and I managed to get a few games under my belt which helped me get picked for the Scotland squad. At this early stage, it was a little unexpected.

"I knew the situation with Fraser was that he could leave and likewise, there was the situation that he might stay and I wouldn't get too many games. But at the same time I felt that, with the amount of games that Celtic play in a season I might get a chance to play every now and then. I didn't set a target but I wanted to play as many as possible and that's still the aim.

"I came here to give myself a chance to get back into football and to see what level I could get to and what would happen. I was prepared to work as hard as I possibly could to make that happen and that hasn't changed."

And so, as he looks ahead to a busy few weeks with Celtic both in Europe and domestically, Gordon is welcoming of the pressure that comes with it.

With everyone at the club fully focused on Aberdeen this afternoon, a side that knocked Celtic out of the Scottish Cup last season and ended their unbeaten league run, the manager has set the Bhoys most recent home league performance against Dundee United as a benchmark for how to dispose of the Dons.

However, Gordon has also allowed himself to look a little further ahead to a game that he believes was bound to arrive sooner or later, as Celtic face his boyhood club Hearts in the League Cup.

He said: "Right now, we're still striving to get that finished performance. Some extra work is needed on the away performances and we need a different kind of game plan when we are away from home. When it has come off, like it did at home against Dundee United, it's worked very well but we need to learn to grind out a few results as well and try and be a wee bit more solid and not give as many chances away.

"Aberdeen are a good strong squad who are experienced at this level and they acquitted themselves very well in their European games to show what they can do. They don't lose a lot of goals and I think they will be one of the main challengers this season.

"I don't think Aberdeen will come and play the same way that Dundee United did, they are going to pose a different challenge that way. However, the same scoreline would be nice but I'm predicting a really tight game, really tough but hopefully we can get the three points.

"At the moment, we know the European games are



coming up and it's a busy schedule for the next few months. We've not looked at them in depth but we know that they are there and we are working on our performances with them in mind so that we're ready to take on those games when they arise.

"Europe is one thing, but the Hearts game will be interesting. I would have probably liked to have avoided it to be honest but I'm expecting a good game. We've got to try and win everything we've entered and that means trying to win both cups so I'll need to treat it like any other game. Hopefully I'll get a nice reception, although I think it would be a first in a Celtic v Hearts match."



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# Maestro's praise for Celtic fans

**Paul McStay made a welcome return to Paradise last weekend and he was delighted to be back wearing the Hoops**

**PAUL McStay has praised the supporters who turned up in great numbers in Paradise to make the Maestro charity match such a resounding success.**

The Celtic legend travelled from the other side of the world to captain a team of former Hoops players and famous names from the world entertainment - the Maestros - against Rio Ferdinand's all-stars.

Donning the Hoops again were the likes of Lubo Moravcik, Jackie McNamara, Tom Boyd, Stilyan Petrov and John Hartson. Screen stars such as James McAvoy, Martin Compston, Ross McCall and Greg McHugh starred alongside them.

Rio's side, meanwhile, could count on a number of his former Manchester United team-mates - Paul Scholes, Dwight Yorke, Andy Cole and Phil Neville.

There was also a celebrity presence in their midst, most notably, One Direction star Louis Tomlinson, much to the delight of many of the youngsters in attendance.

Both sides produced an entertaining spectacle, with the Maestros edging the match 3-2 thanks to three second-half goals from Frank McAvennie, McAvoy and Hartson.

Significantly, all the proceeds of the game will be split between Celtic FC Foundation and the Rio Ferdinand





Foundation, raising cash for a range of charities at home and abroad.

And McStay enthused that he had been delighted by the occasion and to see the club continuing their charitable ethos.

"The whole weekend has been fantastic," he said. "The dinner on Saturday night was great fun, and we raised a lot of money there as well. The players from both sides and all the guys from the entertainment world had a good time and mixed with the fans."

"It just carried on at Celtic Park. It was a wonderful occasion and the players put on a decent game and scored a few goals. The fans were fantastic, and those who turned up engaged in the game and made it really fun as well."

"Sometimes you get charity games where there isn't an atmosphere but the fans were really up for it, probably because there was a bit of quality and fun on the park as well."

"When the place is full on European nights, that's what football is all about, but the other side to the club is Celtic FC Foundation which is going from strength to strength and raising money for a lot of good causes."

"Making the substitution in getting me off made the difference in the game," he laughed. "But to see Frank and big John score was great for some of the younger fans who may have never seen them play."

"And in the middle, Lubo and Stan were strutting their stuff. All in all, it was a great occasion for the Celtic fans."

"There were some stars in Rio's team like Paul Scholes and Zola and it was great for the fans to see them. I know it's not an intense match but they still showed some flashes of brilliance."

The biggest cheer of the afternoon was reserved for the Maestro, who remains a revered figure amongst the Celtic support for being one of the greatest-ever players to represent the club.

And there was a special moment towards the end of the game when four members of the McStay clan were on the field at the same time - Paul, Willie, Raymond and Paul's nephew, John.

"It was lovely and nice to be back. It brought back a lot of fond memories and I really appreciated it," said the Hoops legend.

"The players enjoyed being part of it here and the fans did as well. I'm delighted I came over as it was a very worthwhile trip."



# MAESTRO Marvels

The day the stars came out for charity in Paradise

*season-ticket holder here. He's passed away, but if he had seen me on that pitch, he would have been joyous. The whole thing was joyous. Everyone was lovely, the crowd were phenomenal, there was a really friendly atmosphere. Not only was it surreal being on the pitch but when I was getting food upstairs before the game, Gianfranco Zola was behind me in the queue. Then I was sat opposite Paul Scholes having beans on toast! On the pitch, it was like being in another world as these are guys who I have grown up watching and they are legends. Obviously Paul McStay was someone who I grew up watching and when you see someone like that and you are right beside them, it really is amazing."*

**GIANFRANCO ZOLA**

"I did enjoy it but my calf didn't enjoy it as much as me! It was my first time at Celtic Park. I had never played this stadium before and it was great. There was a great atmosphere and I can only imagine what it could be like when it's full at a competitive match. It must be very exciting. It's a beautiful stadium."

**GREG McHUGH**

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience and a boyhood dream to play at Celtic Park. My Granddad was a

**JAMES McAVOY**

"It was a stonewall penalty all the way. I was quite bemused after I scored to be honest! I turned around and my pal Martin Compston was running at me and then jumped on me. I sort of did an impression of someone celebrating a goal as it didn't feel like it happened. It was nuts! When Lubo got the penalty I turned around and



someone said, 'Do you want to take it James?'. I didn't get nervous and just kept my head down. The big man Kuszczak said to me, 'if you dink me, I'll get you!' So I was trying to dink him on purpose but I went a bit too hard but it was good fun, brilliant. When Paul put me up front

when I went on for the second time I got to chase Phil Neville and Louis Tomlinson about a wee bit and got the chance to try and take the ball off Paul Scholes - which never happened."

**PETER GRANT**

"People like Rio Ferdinand want to be involved with a club like Celtic because of its charitable nature and the quality of people around it, which are the supporters. There is no Celtic without the supporters. That's always been the case and long may that continue. I was looking at a few signings there! A few of the actors did well and I was delighted to see James McAvoy get his goal as I know how much it means for a Celtic supporter to score here. You could be in all the big films in the world but there is nothing like playing at Celtic Park, and they always say that to me. It was a fantastic feeling for these guys to play here, as it was for us to pull on the jersey."

**LOUIS TOMLINSON**

"It's great to be here, it's a lovely club and everyone is so nice when I come here. It was incredible, I just got this text saying 'do you want to play? Here's the line-up' and I was like, 'Yeah, of course, that sounds incredible let's do it'. I think it's imperative that people get behind the two beneficiaries of the charity match. I think if you can give anything, it's better than nothing and it's very fulfilling as a person to know that you are giving something back."





**ROSS McCALL**

*"It's magic. It's every Bhoys dream. The crowd were awesome. There's everything about it, coming here, in the dressing room, going down the tunnel. I'm speechless. I've been telling everyone this week that I play for Celtic. I can blame the jet lag, that's why I was playing right-back in the second half. It's so hard to play there. I came on and played right midfield and loved it, but right-back is horrible. As far as supporters showing up, they're Celtic fans and that's what they do. We beat all the big boys here. When you talk about war-torn countries and the kids involved, you realise that we are very lucky, we're blessed."*

**TOM CULLEN**

*"It was amazing, completely surreal. You can't explain it when you walk out there and it's so big. My nine-year-old self is losing his mind right now, I played right-back and I got eaten alive. My girlfriend watched it in Canada and she watched me getting nutmegged, it was embarrassing. The atmosphere was amazing although I think two-thirds was for Louis Tomlinson. I was talking to Rio earlier and he was saying that Celtic Park is the best away ground he's ever played at. He told me that when they kicked off against Celtic in a UEFA Champions League game, the biggest roar went around the stadium and he, Darren Fletcher and Michael Carrick all looked at each other. They lost 1-0."*

**RIO FERDINAND**

*"This is going to help a lot of people, and it's kids as well who benefit from these types of games as the proceeds go to them. My foundation is really there to give empowerment to the young kids, give them a platform for education, for employment and get them on that first step of the ladder to having a positive aspect in their lives. All the charities involved are all close to my heart and I'm passionate about them so a big thanks to everyone that came. Paul McStay is such a humble guy. A really cool guy. Someone who I looked up to as a kid and he inspired me. So to have him out here to have*



*pulled together such a strong band of names was great so he played his part as well."*

**LUBO MORAVCIK**

*"It was just fantastic. We also had a fantastic evening at the Maestro dinner and the match was a fantastic game. Everything was absolutely perfect and Celtic FC Foundation is so important for all the people who didn't have the chances that we had. We played football and that is something that we love and now it is time to give something back. I saw John Hartson there and I tried to put the ball to him but sometimes in football you get a bit of luck. But the result is not so important, it was a nice game and it finished without injury which is important for us and our age. I enjoyed being here and I hope to come back next year if I get the chance."*

**JACK WHITEHALL**

*"It was amazing, it was a great atmosphere, the game was incredible and it was good to play against some Celtic legends. I believe Mr Boyd did, what it is known in the trade as putting one on me, which is a forthright tackle that I got to the knee. What I probably should have done then was jugged it off and stayed on the pitch but like a girl's blouse I collapsed to the floor and had to get subbed back off, had some ice*



*put on it and then came back on again. But I think the major injury I sustained was a cut to my fingers which I received before I got on to the pitch. I was trying to find my hair gel in my bag and I nicked it on my razor, which I carry although I don't even shave. I'm sure Greg McHugh's already talking about taking the ball off Zola, he also took it off Andy Cole and sprayed a 30-yard pass. I think Greg had a better performance of the two comedians, he was only on for a short period and he went very red, very quickly but it was nice to play against one of my friends."*

**MARTIN COMPSTON**

*"I'm on cloud nine, the lap of honour around the park at the end is something that will live with me for the rest of my life. It was amazing, the whole atmosphere the whole day, just being on the pitch with actual legends.*

*The likes of Gianfranco Zola and Paul Scholes are some of the greatest players to have ever played. I missed a sitter and I can't get my head around it. You play it in your head so much, you imagine scoring a goal and when Simon Donnelly put me through I had too much time and I panicked. I had already scored it in my head and I can't believe I missed it. James McAvoy scored a penalty so I'll never hear the end of it."*





## Chernobyl children visit Celtic Park

**CELTIC had some very welcome visitors recently when a group of 10 kids from Ukraine were in Scotland as guests of the Forth Valley Link of the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline.**

The area is still feeling the devastating effects of the nuclear reactor disaster almost 30 years ago and the charity has been set up to help those who are yet suffering the consequences.

Gail MacDonald from the Forth Valley Link of the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline said: "We bring children here to Scotland on a health recuperation holiday for four weeks - four weeks being the ultimate time for the cesium levels in their bodies to be reduced.

"The Chernobyl disaster happened in 1986 when the nuclear reactor exploded and at that point the radiation spread as far as Scotland.

"At that time, a sarcophagus of cement was set over the reactor and that was deemed to be enough, Chernobyl being in the USSR at the time, there was very little media coverage on the disaster and they were left to get on with it on their own.

"So a lack of information and lack of education allowed that to happen and now, 27 years on from the disaster, radiation levels are still as high and it's within the food chain, the earth, and the atmosphere so children are still ingesting radiation as we speak.

"It's thought that there are only five per cent of babies born in Ukraine and Belarus who don't end up with a birth defect or a cancer or a thyroid problem.

"The idea is that they come here for four weeks and the cesium levels are reduced enough to extend their life by two years.

"They go home with raised immune systems and that allows them to move through puberty with lower levels of cesium in their body and, therefore, extend their lifespan."

The kids were all presented with Celtic shirts by the club and Gail explained that hosting the children makes all the hard work in organising it worth it.

She said: "That is wonderful, that is the fun part of the job. The not so fun part is that we have to raise the funds to bring the children here. So from the minute this group go home until this time next year we will be fundraising to allow us to have enough money in the pot to pay for the fares and expenses that the children need while they're here.

"Every host family has two visiting children with them for that period of time and it's great fun as they are lovely children."

Gail said: "We have bingo nights, sponsored events, a cabaret night - any way in which we can bring money into the charity.

"And so far, this group have been to Snowzone at Xscape and Blair Drummond as well as Celtic Park. We try to make a lot of the activities physical-type activities because that again boosts the immune system.

"Opticians and dentists also give us their time and expertise free of charge so every child has been to both and some of them needed lots of work done.

"Some of them have had new glasses and things like that so it had been a boost to the link to enable the children to go back healthier and happier."

She added: "When they get off the plane they are like rabbits stuck in headlights, because they don't know where they're coming to, they've been put on a plane with one teacher who they may not know but by the time they go home, there's lots of tears because they have really made good links with the host families

"They are all extremely excited to be here at Celtic Park, it's been a fantastic tour of the park and we're delighted that Celtic have given us this offer."

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# BRAIN-BUSTERS

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 5 changes in the pic?



## KAYAL: MY FOOTBALL IDOL



**Beram Kayal says...** Ronaldo – the real Ronaldo. When I was younger, he was everything for me. Every t-shirt I had was Ronaldo, my first boots were the Nike ones that Ronaldo wore. When he signed for a team, I started supporting that team. I actually like Real Madrid so when he went there, it was like 'Wow' for me as Ronaldo was playing for my team. He's always been the big star for me. He was a big talent, a great scorer and the best striker ever. He was so quick, so talented and scored a lot of goals, and he won everything. He's great. If I could ask him any question I would just say that I was happy to see him and that every time he played football he made me interested in the game, and I couldn't wait from Saturday to Saturday to watch him play. He was a hero to me.



## MASCOTS ON THE EUROPEAN STAGE



THERE were 22 delighted Young Hoops Club members at Paradise for the recent European tie against NK Maribor, because they were all selected to be mascots for the game.

The 11 players who started the match for Celtic and Maribor were each accompanied by a mascot, with the Celtic mascots wearing Maribor kits, and the Maribor mascots wearing the Hoops. And despite the disappointing result on the night, it was still a memorable occasion for all of these Young Hoops Club members.



## YOUNG HOOPS CLUB OPEN FOR THE NEW 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](mailto: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](http://www.celticfc.net/pages/younghoops)

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

## TOP FIVE KIDS' QUIZ

### QUIZZY RASCAL

1. Who will Celtic play in the League Cup next week?
2. What number will new Bhoys, John Guidetti wear?
3. Which club has Danny Welbeck signed for?
4. Who did Aberdeen beat to win the League Cup last season?
5. What country does new Celtic striker Stefan Scepovic play for?



## DEVELOPING NICELY

**Paul McMullan** and his team-mates were delighted to pick up their first full points of the term after two draws

Words: Martin Dalziel

**W**HILE the collective gaze of the football world drifted to the international scene this week, Celtic's Development Squad kept their eyes firmly on the prize.

The Hoops registered their first win of the season with a 2-1 victory over Dundee at Cappielow and Paul McMullan was central to securing the three points.

The talented 18-year-old attacker set up the opener for Kieran Tierney in the first half then sealed the points from the spot in the second half after his enterprising run into the Dundee box was halted by Iain Davidson.

It was a well-deserved but hard-fought victory for Stevie Frai's Bhoys and McMullan told the official matchday programme that he hopes to take the positives of the game forward with him throughout the rest of the season.

"It was a tough game," said McMullan. "They were a lot more experienced than us but we were told at the start that it doesn't really matter and then with the way we played, we deserved to win."

"It's different for me playing more centrally. I have played there before so it's not something I'm not used to.

I'll just do anything to help the team, though.

"The strikers that would normally be playing have gone out on loan, so I found myself leading the line.

"We knew it was going to be tough. They are experienced and we knew they would make it hard for us, which they did, but when we went 2-0 up it gave us a cushion which allowed us to relax a bit, but when we lost the goal we had to defend, which we were expecting.

"You could see how much it meant to everyone, having been 2-0 up. We were just desperate to get our first three points of the season."

He added: "Playing against experienced players helps you learn the game because they're not going to give you anything for free, so you have to work hard for everything. When you get a result you know you have done something right so we now need to keep doing that week in, week out.

"For us to beat them gives us the confidence to go on and do the same in the next game and hopefully get another three points on the board.

"The two points we got before weren't bad points but it's frustrating, especially in the last game with us being



2-0 up and then dropping the points, so to be 2-0 up and to hold on was important for us.

"We always felt confident and their goal was a good goal but I had faith in the guys behind me that we were always going to hold on."

It was a mazy run from McMullan which led to the penalty that eventually secured the win for the Hoops.

He had no problem taking responsibility for the kick and converted with confidence – an attribute which will be important in his development as he aspires to make it to the Celtic first team.

McMullan also hopes that playing in different positions and against more experienced players like those in Dundee's squad will help push him forward and hopefully into Ronny Deila's future plans.

He added: "I was pleased with my performance. A few of the lads were saying they needed an out ball and I feel I provided that for them.

"I'm trying to learn the game as well but you just try and pass on any knowledge you have to try and help the guys out by just telling them anything that could benefit them and help us get over the line with the three points.

"Playing in that central role might help me. Even though a few have gone out on loan, there are still a few bodies there but all I can do is keep working hard and hopefully catch someone's eye. You always want to impress the manager and hopefully I did that.

"You have to take each game as it comes. If I can play well and maybe get a bit of training with the first team then I can see where it goes from there."

## TARTAN TRAVEL CLUB

PAUL McMullan enjoyed a best-of-both-worlds experience recently with the Scotland Under-19 training camp.

The country's youths met up at the start of the international break and took on the Czech Republic in a challenge match.

The game ended 2-2 but playing the tie at Cappielow and working in a 4-3-3 formation, similar to the Celtic Development Side, gave McMullan a head start going into the fixture.

He said: "I was away with Scotland and we played a few games at Cappielow. It's different playing international football from club football but I enjoy it because of that.

"It was good to play there as you're used to the surroundings and the surface so it made it a bit easier to play.

"We played the Czech Republic and it was a good game. We made a lot of changes, which affected the flow of the game but the way we played for the first half on to 60 minutes was really good.

"Ricky Sbragia is a really good coach. He sets us up well and knows exactly what we need. It's very similar to Celtic in the set-up, playing 4-3-3, which helps with the transition.

"We have the European qualifiers next and if I'm lucky enough to be selected we'll be off to Lithuania. Hopefully we can qualify and see where it takes us."

## ON THE SPOT

**TAKING** the responsibility of a penalty is a daunting task for a player, especially when it can drastically change the outcome of a game.

However, spot kicks are no problem for Paul McMullan, who said he doesn't think twice about the pressure situations.

His cool finish against Dundee sealed the points for his side but it was all in a day's work for the youngster.

He said: "I knocked it past Davidson and I saw he wasn't turning as quickly so I thought I'd get myself across him and just as I went to shoot I felt him nudge me on the back. I had confidence I was going to tuck it away.

"We drew the first two games, which weren't bad points but we were eager to get the first win so to get that win was important."



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# Six Celtic Youth Academy Bhoys earn Scotland call-up

**THE Celtic Youth Academy will supply six players for Scotland Under-17s as they head to Ireland later this month for three UEFA European Championship qualifiers.**

Ross Doohan, Blair Kidd, Mark Hill, Regan Hendry (*right*), Calvin Miller and Theo Archibald have all been selected in Scott Gemmill's squad for the games against the Republic of Ireland, the Faroe Islands and Gibraltar.

Last season, the young Scots, helped by a number of Hoops youngsters, memorably reached the semi-finals of the competition, and they will be aiming to emulate that achievement again over the coming campaign.

Scotland will kick off the three-match series against the Faroe Islands on September 22, at Galway's Eamon Deacy Park. Kick off 3pm. Their remaining two fixtures will be held in Longford.



## Celtic Women supply six players for Scotland Under-19 internationals

**THE Scottish FA announced the Scotland U19 squad which will begin the qualifying campaign for the 2014/15 UEFA Women's Under-19 Championships.**

No fewer than six Celtic players have been included in the 18-strong squad. They are Abi Harrison, Chloe Logan, Rachael O'Neill, Emily McKerlie, Hayley Sinclair (*right*) and Georgie Rafferty.

These players have all progressed through the Celtic Girls' Academy and all now have experience of playing for the Celtic first team in the Scottish Women's Premier League.

Head of the Girls' Academy, Paul Brownlie was thrilled

to hear the news. He said: "This is wonderful news and it speaks volumes for the strength and quality of our Academy.

"I'm delighted for the players who have all worked so hard over the years they've been with us. The experience of playing in such a tournament will be of great benefit to their continuing development, and of course Celtic will also benefit from their involvement."

Celtic also provide the Scotland squad with their goalkeeping coach, Ross Brand, who is head of goalkeeping in Celtic's Women's and Girls' Programme.

The first-phase group games, to be played in Albania are:

*Saturday, September 13*  
**Scotland v Albania**  
Flamurtari Stadium, Vlora  
Kick-off 3pm

*Monday, September 15*  
**Poland v Scotland**  
Loni Papucia Stadium, Fier  
Kick-off 12noon

*Thursday, September 18*  
**Scotland v Norway**  
Loni Papucia Stadium, Fier  
Kick-off 3pm

**Kick-off times confirmed for trips north**

**CELTIC'S game against Ross County in Dingwall on Saturday, October 18 will kick off at 12:45pm.**

The game against Aberdeen on Sunday, November 9 will have a 12:30pm kick-off time.

Any further fixture alterations will be announced.





## MAESTRIO match shirts up for auction

**THE MAESTRIO match last Sunday marked the return of Celtic legend Paul McStay to paradise as McStay's Maestros ran out 3-2 winners against Rio Ferdinand's All-Stars.**

Alongside the Maestro were a host of other footballing stars including Paul Scholes, Lubo Moravcik and Gianfranco Zola as well as celebrities such as James McAvoy and Louis Tomlinson.

Now Celtic FC Foundation are giving supporters the chance to bid to win one of the signed match issue shirts and own a priceless piece of football memorabilia.

All funds raised from this auction will go towards UNICEF and War Child UK - the two main beneficiaries of the MAESTRIO match - and their efforts in combating humanitarian crises across the Middle East.

Signed match issue shirts from the entire squad list of McStay's Maestros and Rio's All-Stars are available until Monday, September 15.

Celtic FC Foundation would like to thank you all for your continued generosity and support.

The auction is now open and will close on Monday, September 15. Check out the auction site on <http://tinyurl.com/MAESTRIO>

## Sun shines in Fife for the Cardenden cyclists

A **SUNNY** Saturday morning was the order of the day to welcome 28 cyclists to Celtic Park, ready to take on their 64-mile charity cycle route to Cardenden in Fife, home of legendary Hoops goalkeeper, John Thomson.

Our charity cyclists, including our first female cyclist, set off down The Celtic Way before making their way to the halfway point at the Falkirk Wheel where they were able to stop for a quick break before continuing towards their penultimate challenge, the upwards and leg-tiring incline through Rosyth, on to their final destination.

Unlike the torrential downpour and side wind they encountered in 2013, the weather did nothing to dampen their spirits and with the sun and cool breeze at their backs, all 28 cyclists made their way to Cardenden.

On arrival at their final destination, the cyclists were welcome with a bowl of soup and stovies, thanks to Tam, Brian and Gayle and his team at the Auld Hoose Pub.

Following a few refreshments and a much-needed freshen up, the triumphant cyclists made their way to the graveside of John Thomson to pay their respects and lay a wreath.

The strength and determination of these cyclists was



again inspiring on the day. A 64-mile charity cycle met head on with smile on every face at the end. So far these amazing fundraisers have raised over £3,000 with more sponsorship coming in. A truly inspiring day.

Celtic FC Foundation would like to take this opportunity to thank our Supporters' Committee for organising this event and to all of our cyclists for such a magnificent achievement! And let's not forget the amazing support drivers, bike mechanics and First Aiders who without them we could not have had such a successful day. Thank you!



# Celtic Charity Cup 2014

**THE eighth year of the Celtic Charity Cup five-a-side tournament proved to be a tremendous success as 10 teams fought it out to lift the trophy.**

And when the final whistle blew, it was the Bhoys from Pulse8 who once again emerged triumphant, receiving their trophy from Celtic legend Danny McGrain.

For the fourth year running, the event was held at Celtic's prestigious training complex in Lennoxton and gave fans the chance to take part and raise money for Celtic FC Foundation.

The tournament was organised into two groups of five with the top four teams advancing to the quarter final stages.

The final was contested by Preemo and Pulse8 - captained by Eddie Lench and Tony Zonfrillo respectively. In a hard-fought encounter, Pulse8 managed to claim a 1-0 victory to successfully defend their 2013 Celtic Charity Cup title.

Celtic legend Danny McGrain said: "I am delighted to present the trophy to the winners of the Celtic Charity Cup. All the competing players have had an enjoyable day and it's fantastic that all the monies raised are going to Celtic FC Foundation and the great projects that they deliver."

The trophy will now be engraved with the winning team's name and displayed in the boardroom at Celtic Park until the 2015 tournament.

As winners, Pulse8 have been invited to take part in a 10-second challenge at half-time in the Celtic v Hamilton Accies match on October 5.

In addition, the club have donated 10 pairs of tickets - five each for the Inverness CT and Dundee games in November. They were won by players of Kenny's Bhoys, Pulse8, Irvine Bhoys Langloan Bhoys, Preemo, Govan Emerald, Walfrid's Wanderers and Borussia Teeth

Invaluable assistance was provided by Kevin Murphy at East Dunbartonshire Leisure & Culture Trust and by Angus Johnston who took photos on the day.

The tournament also received phenomenal support on the day from the staff at Celtic's training centre at Lennoxton and special thanks must also go to our coaching staff for their wonderful assistance in delivering the event.

To register your interest for the 2015 Celtic Charity Cup, please contact Thomas Buchanan on 0141 551 4291 or e-mail [tbuchanan@celticfc.co.uk](mailto:tbuchanan@celticfc.co.uk)

## CELTIC CHARITY CUP 2014

Borussia Teeth, Coventry Celtic FC, The Dusseldorf Seagulls, Govan Emerald, Irvine Bhoys, Kenny's Bhoys, Langloan Bhoys, Preemo, Pulse8 and Walfrid's Wanderers.

## QUARTER-FINALS

Pulse8 1-0 The Dusseldorf Seagulls  
Coventry Celtic FC 2-0 Irvine Bhoys  
Govan Emerald 1-0 Borussia Teeth  
Preemo 0-0 Langloan Bhoys  
(Preemo won 3-1 on penalties)

## SEMI-FINALS

Pulse8 2-0 Govan Emerald  
Coventry City Celtic 1-2 Preemo

## FINAL

Pulse8 1-0 Preemo

## WINNERS

Pulse8

# The First Game With My Father

*A story of love, loss, football & family*



MICHAEL TIERNEY

# FATHERS AND SONS

Michael Tierney's Dad, John, has played a central role in his life, and his book, *The First Game With My Father*, is a moving story of family, faith and football

Exclusive interview: Paul Cuddihy

**THERE are two Celtic games which form a 30-year arc in the lives of Michael Tierney and his father, John. They are bookends to a story of family, faith and football, of laughter and joy, of tears and heartache. These are the real ingredients of life, every life, while Celtic has remained a constant throughout it all, "like wallpaper, the background of all our lives. Celtic is constantly changing but it's always there," explained Michael.**

The first of those games was against Sporting Lisbon in November 1983. That night, watching Celtic overturn a 2-0 first leg deficit with an emphatic and exhilarating 5-0 victory on the night, was a 15-year-old Michael Tierney who, along with one of his brothers, Iain, was attending his first Celtic game with his father.

That it would be November 2013 before the three of them returned to Celtic Park, when the Hoops played Dundee United, is a story told in Michael's book, *The First Game With My Father*.

John Tierney has always been a Celtic fan but, as a father of nine children, his life was taken up with work, or a never-ending list of odd jobs around the house, or activities with his children. Celtic were "the wallpaper" to his life. It was the reason why, by the age of 15 Michael Tierney had never been to Paradise.

So that game against Sporting Lisbon, memorable enough as a magnificent Celtic victory, had added significance because it was his first game. The demands on his Dad didn't diminish after that game, however, and so the two never attended another game together for 30 years.

Twelve years ago, life changed irrevocably for the Tierney family when John suffered a stroke. It left him unable to walk or talk.

It led, over the years, to a sense of introspection on Michael's part, reflecting on his relationship with his Dad, and his memories of growing up with his Dad always a central figure in his life.

Michael's book originally evolved from a feature remembering that first Celtic game he went to with his Dad, and from that came a longer story, of not just a game but a life.

*The First Game With My Father* is an utterly compelling and moving story of a family - his family - and of the importance that a sense of identity can be, whether through nationality, religion or even football allegiance.

More than that, however, it is a story of a father, told lovingly but truthfully, and how that relationship between a father and son evolves over the year, so that when the son becomes a father himself, he realises that he is, to a great extent, what his father made him.

"My Dad was searching for something because he lost his Dad in the war," he said. "His father was a soldier in the British Army who had died in the Second World War. So he lost his father, and was always looking for his father, and the way for him to do that was by looking at where he came from, and all his family came from Ireland. So that informed his identity which, in turn, formed our identity.

"I was trying to explore the idea of memory and false memory. Things are passed on to you, but they're not necessarily true. And what's interesting to me is at what point do you accept that they're true, because once you accept the myth you start making it true yourself.

"I believed that my grandfather was Irish, even though he was born in Maryhill, because my Dad never really told

us that, so I believed that the family was part of this real Irishness."

Celtic has remained "the wallpaper" of Michael Tierney's life, constantly changing but always there.

"I love Celtic," he said. "When I see the green and white, I love it because I've bought into it, the romantic idea of it. I've got two sons and a daughter. Now they've been to Celtic games, but the boys in particular could take or leave football. They're Celtic fans, but they have so many other interests. I think my daughter is more aware of and interested in Celtic than the boys, which is great too."

And as for the book, Michael's family have been supportive from day one.

"I had a talk with my Mum about the book beforehand," he said. "She'd read pieces I'd written before about my Dad and his stroke and she was happy with them and a couple of football pieces I'd written.

"And my brothers and sisters were all supportive. But what I didn't do was go round and ask them all questions or get their stories because it was part of that memory thing. I wanted it to be how I remembered it. Some of them might be wrong, but they're my memories and my recollections of what happened.

"The book was a great journey, to look into who my Dad was, and also to look at who I was.

"My Dad was always a great reader and loved books so for there to be a book in shops now, about him is, for me, fantastic. It was a really proud moment when I saw it on the shelves. I think he would love it, if he could read it."

*The First Game With My Father* by Michael Tierney is published by Doubleday and is on sale now.



# STARK'S SILVER LINING

A successful player with Aberdeen, **Billy Stark** moved to Celtic and helped the club secure a memorable centenary double

Exclusive interview: **Mark Henderson**



**BILLY Stark's contribution to Aberdeen's success in the 1980s saw him win two league titles, two Scottish Cups and a League Cup. He joined a side still basking in their Gothenburg glory, having beaten Real Madrid to win the European Cup-Winners' Cup in May 1983, and managed by a boss who demanded his side adopt the same attitude of their main Glasgow rivals - win every game.**

He coped well with those demands, having previously worked under Alex Ferguson at St Mirren, and with years of experience at Love Street under his belt.

Yet, for all those personal milestones and successes, impressive though they are, season 1987/88 remains his favourite ever campaign.

Signed by Billy McNeill for Celtic in the summer of 1987, Stark helped to galvanise a Hoops squad still reeling from the departure of key personnel, and the club celebrated their Centenary with an unforgettable league and cup double, with the midfielder playing an integral role in that success.

It's something that Celtic fans have never forgotten, although Stark is also in the enviable position of also being held in the highest regard by Aberdeen fans for the four years of service between 1983-87.

So a meeting between two of his former clubs, a fixture that was also the biggest in Scottish football back in the early '80s when Stark wore the red of Aberdeen, is always one that he pays particular attention to.

"I had turned 30 and I had said to Ian Porterfield, who had taken over from Alex Ferguson, that I was looking to leave at the end of the 1986/87 season," he told the official matchday programme. "I spoke long and hard with Hearts in the early part of the close season and a couple of other clubs too.

"So it looked as though I might be going there but then I got a call from Billy McNeill. Celtic had lost a few players that summer - the likes of Brian McClair, Maurice Johnston, Alan McNally and Murdo MacLeod - so Billy was looking to bring in some experienced players.

"And it took about a minute of negotiations! It was a fantastic bonus for me to be joining Celtic.

"I knew from day one the significance of the season for Celtic, and even if I hadn't, Big Billy made sure that everyone knew just how important it was. So it was a special season.

"The times at Aberdeen were great, particularly in terms of personal milestones, but the Centenary season with Celtic was far and away the most memorable season I took part in."

Billy McNeill had returned to Celtic in the summer of 1987 for his second spell in charge, taking over as manager from Davie Hay. And the squad he assembled delivered success to the club, unexpected though it might have appeared during the close season.

"Graeme Souness had gone to Rangers and they had won the league, bringing in England internationalists," Stark said, "so Billy came back to Celtic in 1987, and the



Billy Stark



## PITTDORIE PREPARATION FOR PARADISE

**THE** experience that Billy Stark gained at Pittodrie held him in good stead when he moved to Paradise. And he was fortunate enough to play alongside some top-class players in the red of Aberdeen.

Put on the spot, he named Willie Miller and Gordon Strachan as the best of the best, but rhyming off a list of other team-mates is an indication of just how difficult that choice was.

Aberdeen, under Alex Ferguson, won three league titles, four Scottish Cups, the League Cup and, of course, the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

And it was the team from the North-East of Scotland who were Celtic's closest challengers for honours in the first half of the 1980s.

"They were a very strong group of players - Gordon Strachan, Mark McGhee, Willie Miller, Alex McLeish, Stewart Kennedy," said Billy Stark.

"It was a very strong dressing room, but I don't remember any problems at all settling in. They were very good in that respect. Obviously I'd played against them for many years before that, so they knew all about me.

"I joined Aberdeen about a week after they won the

> club had lost some well-established players and had to bring in new players in the summer, so I don't know if anyone anticipated the season we ended up having.

"We didn't get off to a great start. I remember we played Arsenal in pre-season and lost 5-1, but in some ways that maybe helped us. We started the league campaign at Cappielow with a 4-0 victory, and just went from strength to strength that season.

"I was a seasoned player who had won trophies so there was confidence from that. There was experience in dealing with the pressures being put on you to win every week.

"There was the added pressure of it being Celtic, and the Centenary season. We were all desperate to do well.

"During the season, Billy was so big on the players representing the club and how important the fans were. We were out at supporters' club events just about every weekend, which was memorable as well, so it was a really special time.

"Everyone comes and goes - players and managers - and some of them manage to achieve legendary status, but the one thing that makes the club special is the supporters - and you're careful when you say that because you don't want to sound patronising, but it's the truth.

"The fans support the club through thick and thin. They'll vent their feelings, but they don't disappear. They're supporters of the club and you feel that backing behind you.

"That's what made it memorable - the whole rollercoaster which swept us along that season."

European Cup-Winners' Cup so I was joining a team that was very successfully, both domestically and in Europe. So I was going in to a really strong squad, and the first thoughts were that it was going to be a battle to get into the team.

"When I went to Aberdeen I saw, both individually and collectively, the winning mentality there. And even Alex Ferguson had stepped on in terms of his managerial ability.

"He always gave you confidence that you'd go out and win the game but at Aberdeen it was the same demands put on the players as there would be at Celtic - you had to go into every game and must win in it."

And the side that Stark played in at Pittodrie was laced with Scotland internationals.

"I only had the first year with Gordon Strachan," he said, "but when you train with players and you see the standards and the level of performance they have every day at training, then that's what separates the really great players from the good players. It was the same when I came to Celtic and saw the value of Paul McStay.

"So from my time at Aberdeen, I'd probably go for Willie Miller defensively as the best player I played alongside, and Gordon Strachan in an attacking-sense."

## THE NIGHT CADETE CREATED RADIO SILENCE

IT'S the stuff of recent Celtic folklore – the night Jorge Cadete scored a goal and Radio Five Live were knocked off air.

When Billy Stark was assistant manager to Tommy Burns, the date April 1, 1996 saw the Portuguese make his long-anticipated, and long-delayed debut for the Hoops in a game against Aberdeen, coming on as a substitute.

Within minutes, he'd put the ball in the back of the net, and the noise from the celebrating Celtic supporters was enough to disrupt the live radio broadcast.

## THE FUTURE'S IN GOOD HANDS

BILLY Stark enjoys his role as Scotland Under-21 coach, and as another batch of promising young players move on, he's looking forward to working with the country's next crop of talented youngsters.

A few of the players who have been part of the U21 set-up will be on show today, and Stark is delighted to see that, not only are they getting first-team recognition at their respective clubs, but that there is a pathway into Scotland's full senior side.

"Ryan Jack, who just captained us during the midweek games against Luxembourg and Slovakia, has been with us for a while now," said the Scotland coach.

"He's a terrific player – so comfortable and composed

"That was a really exciting time," said Stark. "We didn't get to where we wanted to go in terms of winning the league but some of the players Tommy brought in like Pierre van Hooijdonk, Jorge Cadete, Andy Thom and, of course, Paolo di Canio, and then really solid signings like Jackie McNamara and Phil O'Donnell, made it a great time to be involved at Celtic.

"We managed to get the team playing good football and the season where we only lost one game and still didn't win the league was hard to take, but that's football."

on the ball, and he's become a major player for Aberdeen, even at such a young age, and he'll be a threat to Celtic.

"Peter Pawlett is another player who's been with us, and he's caused Celtic problems in the past.

"And obviously there's Callum McGregor at Celtic, who we just lost to Gordon's squad there. He's been an important player for me at Under-19 and Under-21 level, and it's absolutely fantastic to see him getting his opportunity.

"Full marks to Ronny Deila for recognising his ability and giving him a run of games, and I think Callum has more than repaid him."



# ON THIS DAY

## SEPTEMBER 13

### 1890

Celtic's first action on this day came in 1890 in the first ever Scottish League season, and the 2-1 defeat away to Third Lanark was also Celtic's first ever league defeat, the team having won their first two fixtures against Hearts (5-0) and Cambuslang (5-2). A crowd of 10,000 saw the now defunct side beat the Bhoys, with Peter Dowds scoring Celtic's consolation. Dowds had already netted four goals in the opening two league matches of the season, including a hat-trick in the 5-2 victory over Cambuslang. He would go on to score 17 goals that season, including two in the Scottish Cup. Sadly Peter Dowds died in 1895 from consumption. He was only in his mid-twenties.

### 1902

Johnny Campbell scored twice, including one from the penalty spot, as Celtic beat Queen's Park 2-1 in a Glasgow Cup tie. The previous week, the sides had met on league duty when Campbell scored another penalty in a 1-1 draw at Celtic Park. Campbell, playing the last season of his second spell at the club, was an impressive goalscorer, with 117 scored from 215 appearances, and his partnership with Sandy McMahon was one that most defences found difficult to deal with. McMahon's scoring record was even more impressive, with 177 goals in 217 appearances.

### 1924

Celtic hit five past St Mirren without reply on this day in 1924, with five different Celts on the scoresheet. Alec Thomson, Patsy Gallacher, Jimmy McGrory, Adam McLean and Willie McStay from the penalty spot secured the victory for the Hoops. McGrory was enjoying his first full season at the club and, not surprisingly, ended up as top goalscorer, netting a total of 28 goals in all competitions, including 11 in the Scottish Cup as Celtic lifted the trophy with a 2-1 victory over Dundee in the final. That game is known as the 'Patsy Gallacher Final', thanks to his spectacular somersault goal, although it was McGrory who scored the winning goal.

### 1958

Celtic secured a 4-1 victory over Kilmarnock at Rugby Park in their third league fixture of the season, although it would prove to be a trophyless season for the Hoops, who finished a lowly sixth in the league table, while they exited both domestic trophies at the semi-final stage. The goals against Kilmarnock came from Eric Smith, Bertie Auld and John Colrain, who scored a double. The match was also the second league appearance for Billy McNeill, who would go on to make 790 appearances for his beloved green and white Hoops - none of them as a substitute. No player has made more appearances for the club.



# 1967

On their way to retaining the League Cup, Celtic beat Ayr United in the quarter-final of the competition. The first leg at Celtic Park saw the Hoops win 6-2 on this day in 1967, with Bobby Lennox and Jimmy Johnstone both scoring doubles, while Bobby Murdoch and Pat McMahon also got on the scoresheet. Jock Stein's side would also retain the league title for a third consecutive season, and it was also the third year in a row that they scored over 100 league goals. However, their defence of the European Cup, won so majestically the previous season, crumbled at the first hurdle, as Dynamo Kyiv knocked them out in the first round.

# 1972

With Celtic Park undergoing rebuilding work at the time, the Hoops played their European Cup first round, first leg tie against Norwegian champions, Rosenborg, at Hampden. Celtic won 2-1 on the night, with Lou Macari and Dixie Deans scoring, while in the return leg, it was a more comfortable 3-1 victory to set up a second round clash with Hungarian side, Ujpest Dozsa. The Hungarians made amends for being knocked out by Celtic at the quarter-final stage the previous season by winning 4-2 on aggregate to progress to the next round of the competition.

# 2006

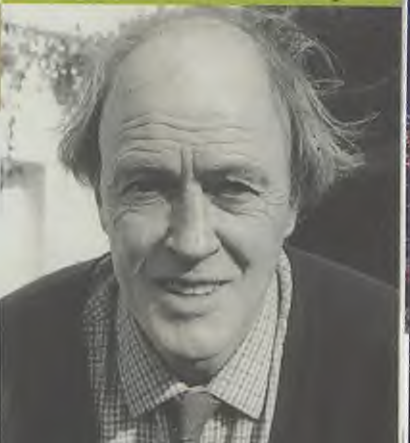
Celtic produced an impressive performance on this day in 2006 when they travelled south to take on Manchester United at Old Trafford in the group stages of the UEFA Champions League. It was the first competitive meeting between the sides and Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink gave the Hoops the lead on 21 minutes. Two goals from Louis Saha put the home side in front before Shunsuke Nakamura equalised with a stunning free-kick just before half-time. Ole Gunner Solskjaer's goal two minutes after the break proved to be the winner. In the corresponding fixture at Celtic Park, however, it was a Nakamura free-kick on 81 minutes which gave Celtic a 1-0 victory and a place in the last 16 of the competition for the first time in the club's history.

# 2008

Celtic's last action on this day came six years ago when they made the short journey to Fir Park to take on Motherwell. A stunning first-half performance saw the Hoops take a 4-0 lead thanks to goals from Shaun Maloney, Scott McDonald and a double from Georgios Samaras. After the break, Motherwell rallied and managed to reduce the deficit with goals from John Sutton and David Clarkson, although there was never any danger of the Hoops leaving Fir Park with anything other than three points.

## AND ANOTHER THING...

It was on this day in 1916 that Roald Dahl was born. He would go on to be a best-selling author, famous for his magical children's books, including classics such as *James and the Giant Peach*, *Fantastic Mister Fox* and *Charlie And the Chocolate Factory*. He passed away in November 1990, though his stories remain popular with each new generation of young readers.





## HIS GREATEST GAME

**Ronnie Glavin v Dundee United  
October 20, 1976**

**IN November 1974 Ronnie Glavin became Celtic's most expensive signing when he arrived from Partick Thistle for a considerable fee of £80,000.**

Media reports at the time stated that Ronnie had declined the advances of Tommy Docherty's Manchester United to join Celtic, although it should be noted that the Old Trafford outfit were a Second Division side at that time.

Although Ronnie won a Scottish Cup final within months of his arrival, things did not go smoothly and he struggled for a considerable period to find his best form in the Celtic midfield. By the summer of 1976 there were doubts about his Celtic future as Jock Stein returned to the helm as manager after a year's absence while recovering from a serious car crash.

Stein's masterstroke was to sign the experienced Hibernian captain, Pat Stanton, which allowed him to push the eager, young, Roy Aitken into midfield.

This move gave Ronnie Glavin a free reign as an

attacking midfielder in the knowledge that Aitken would then look after any defensive responsibilities in that area.

On Wednesday, October 20, 1976, Dundee United proudly arrived at Celtic Park, unbeaten and as league leaders. Jim McLean was in the process of moulding a fine young team and his developing players, David Narey, Paul Sturrock and Graeme Payne were earning admiring glances from Britain's major clubs.

Although this was a top-of-the-table clash, the main media focus on the night was on the big two Edinburgh clubs who were Scotland's two



remaining competitors in European competition.

Hearts went down bravely by 4-2 to the eventual winners SV Hamburg in the European Cup-Winners' Cup in West Germany, while Hibernian defeated the Swedes of Oesters Vaexjoe in the UEFA Cup at Easter Road.

Back in the East End of Glasgow, Ronnie Glavin was about to blaze on to the scene. Only one minute was on the clock when he ran on to a loose ball outside the area to send a glorious volley crashing past Hamish McAlpine to give Celtic the lead.

United were not to play badly on the night but they lacked Celtic's cutting edge, and in the second half the Celts ran riot.

Firstly, the peerless Kenny Dalglish sent through a typically perfect through ball for Joe Craig to score Celtic's second before Glavin was to hit peak form.

In 75 minutes David Narey lost possession to Glavin outside the area and the Celt then advanced on goal to beat the United keeper with a delightful chip into the net.

As the Celtic fans roared on with approval, Glavin clinched his hat-trick five minutes after that when Roy Aitken set him up to score with a powerful shot on the turn.

Veteran striker Bobby Lennox rounded off Celtic's scoring before United's Paul Sturrock scored a late consolation goal to leave the final result 5-1 in Celtic's favour.

However, there was no doubt that this had been Ronnie Glavin's night with a stunning hat-trick as he gave an attacking midfield performance that drew comparisons with the great Bobby Murdoch at his peak, and it was said that Celtic Park had not witnessed such a devastating display of power shooting since the days of Tommy Gemmell, which was praise indeed.

Any doubts about the merits of Ronnie Glavin's ability were banished that night and the Celtic fans in The Jungle chanted his name loudly at the final whistle.

This game had been a turning point and he continued this rich vein of good form throughout the season and was instrumental in Celtic's success of winning the League and Scottish cup double. Many observers believed that he was desperately unlucky not to be named as Scottish Player of the Year, narrowly losing out to fellow Celt, Danny McGrain, in the end.

This game was the turning point in Celtic's season and Ronnie Glavin had provided the inspiration by giving what was arguably his greatest performance as a Celt.



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# FIRST WIN FOR DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

## SPFL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE

### CAPPIELLOW, GREENOCK

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

### CELTIC 2 DUNDEE 1

(TIERNEY 43, McMULLAN 64, (WIGHTON)75)

**GOALS in either half from Kieran Tierney and Paul McMullan saw Celtic's Development Side seal their first win of the season after a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Dundee at Cappielow.**

Tierney struck as half-time approached, turning in McMullan's chip through a ruck of players, before McMullan gave the Bhoys breathing space in the 64th minute, converting from the spot after he had been felled in the box by Iain Davidson.

Craig Wighton pulled a goal back for the visitors to set up at tense finish, but Stevie Frail's young guns showed admirable resolve to hold firm and get their league campaign up and running after starting it with successive draws.

With many established players on international duty, the home team took on a more youthful composition.

A host of 17-year-olds featured from the start, including Aidan McIluff, Jamie McCart, Jack Breslin, Kieran Tierney and Joe Thomson, while 16-year-old Calvin Miller was deployed on the right wing.

After a frenetic opening, the first meaningful attack was by the Bhoys in the eighth minute. Thomson flicked a long ball on for Tierney and his low cross had no takers.

After Calvin Colquhoun had a shot blocked for the visitors by captain Marcus Fraser, Tierney threatened again, bursting beyond Andrew Black and crossing for Paul McMullan, who fired over.

Leo Fasan was called into action for the first time just before the midway point of the half as Cameron Kerr tried from distance. But the Italian shot-stopper, who signed a new deal with the club last month, was right behind the drive.

Former Scotland internationalist, David Clarkson, one of several experienced faces to line up for the Dens Park side, shot over from 20 yards, before Miller saw a header saved by Bain as the game continued to swing from end to end.

McMullan's pace and movement continued to pose a threat, and after another penetrative burst into the box, he lofted a cross towards the far post. It dropped for Fraser but the defender was unable to keep the half-volley down.

As the game remained in the balance, Wighton spurned a good chance for the Dees, dragging a shot wide after Martin Boyle had picked him out from the byline.

That proved a costly miss as the Bhoys made the breakthrough three minutes before the break. McMullan made progress into the area and his dinked ball across goal was bundled in by Tierney.

Colquhoun's instant reply for the visitors fizzed wide, but they continued to hunt for the equaliser after the interval, applying some heavy pressure on the hosts.

The speedy Boyle was becoming a more prominent presence, cutting in from the right, and he volleyed wide after Wighton had danced away from two players and picked him out.

The young Hoops then had a lucky escape when Boyle's dipping shot crashed a shot off the inside of the post and bounced to safety.

Matty Allan headed wide and Clarkson had a shot blocked by Waters as the visitors maintained the momentum.

But a swift breakaway saw Frail's side double their advantage. McMullan's acceleration took him beyond Iain Davidson, who



sent him tumbling to the ground as he bore down on goal. The referee pointed to the spot and McMullan picked himself up before confidently stroking the ball into the corner.

That set-back took the wind out of Dundee's sails for a short period but they began to regain the ascendancy as the game entered its closing stages.

And just minutes after Wighton drilled wide from Boyle's pass, the forward reduced the deficit, heading into the far corner from Dylan Carrier's cross.

After that, the Dens Park outfit piled forward in search of a late leveller, but the young Celts were determined to prevail and withstood some intense pressure to claim the spoils.

**CELTIC (4-3-3)** Fasan; Waters, Fraser, McCart (Kelleher 87), McIluff; Thomson, Breslin, Lindsay; Miller (Ralston 84), McMullan, Tierney (Hendry 69).  
**Not Used:** Hart, Higgins, Currie.

## COUNTRY CALL

STEFAN Scepovic believes starring at a club the size of Celtic can help boost his international prospects.

Capped eight times by Serbia, the striker has already bagged a goal for his country, scoring in a handsome victory over Macedonia 11 months ago.

the Scottish champions, the answer was unequivocal.

"He told me about great things about Celtic," said the striker. "He said it was a very big club and I needed to take this opportunity.

"It's a great feeling for me to be here. Celtic are a very big club and I hope we can do a lot this season. I know a lot about the club as it's one with a big history and great fans and a lot of good players have played here."

The Serbian internationalist heeded this advice and joined the Hoops last week from Sporting Gijon on transfer deadline day, penning a four-year deal.

And now he's relishing the prospect of following in his father's footsteps and experiencing a big European night at Celtic Park - but this time he'll be looking to bring joy to the home support.

"Partizan have good fans as well but I saw a lot of videos on YouTube and the atmosphere looks fantastic in the stadium and hopefully we can make the fans happy," he said.

"We need to do everything on the pitch, but when we have the supporters behind us, it will be even better.

"We need to think positively, take things game-by-game and see what we can do in the Europa League."

My Dad told me great things about Celtic, that I needed to take this opportunity

And proud to represent his homeland, the 24-year-old is desperate to notch up further appearances for the national side.

"When you are at a big club like Celtic it will help me with the Serbian national team," he said. "When you play for the national team it is something special, representing all the people in your country, and now we have the opportunity to go to European Championships, and we must take it."

It has been a long road to Paradise for the striker. Having started his career at OFK Beograd, he left his homeland as a teenager and drifted between a host of clubs across the continent.

After plying his trade in countries such as Italy, Belgium and Israel, he came back to Serbia and signed on at Partizan and soon he was back among the goals.

His next permanent transfer saw him head to Gijon where he hit the ground running, becoming one of the most feared front-men in the Spanish second tier, which earned him full international honours.

It may have taken him slightly longer to reach the highest level but Scepovic believes his travels have moulded him into a better player and more mature person.

"I have learned a lot and it was a very big experience for me," he explained. "I went too early from my country and I had to take the long route but now I am on the right path and am very happy I am here.

"It has taken me a long way to come back, but I am here now and I have good experience from playing in many countries."

The hit-man boasts an impressive scoring ratio and the manager reckons he will offer a different dimension to Celtic's attack.

While Scepovic was reticent to discuss his own striking strengths, he is looking forward to playing in a side committed to attacking, high-intensity football.

"When they asked me in Spain, I said the same thing - it's on the pitch where you need to speak and it will be the same here," he said.

"I don't like to speak about myself, but I will try to bring something different and we will see what happens on the pitch.

"Of course, I like the football when you attack and Celtic play like this and hopefully I can score a lot of goals this season."





# HERE COMES THE SON

He's hoping to emulate his Dad, by scoring on a European night at Celtic Park - but **Stefan Scepovic** aims to score plenty FOR the Hoops

Interview: Mark Henderson

**STEFAN Scepovic wasn't born when his Dad scored the dramatic last-gasp goal for Partizan Belgrade that left Celtic heartbroken in one of the most epic European encounters that Paradise has witnessed.**

With the Hoops leading 5-3 on the night and 6-5 on aggregate, they were on the verge of progressing to the European Cup-Winners' Cup second round when Sladan Scepovic struck, heading in from close-range as the clock ticked down.

Celtic Park was stunned into silence, and there would be no way back for Billy McNeill's men as the visitors prevailed in this titanic tussle.

Despite the agonising conclusion, winning 5-4 on the night but drawing 6-6 on aggregate and going out on away goals, the rollercoaster of emotions experienced by the 60,000 supporters in attendance mean it's still an event talked about to this day. It had everything.

Little did they know, 25 years on, the son of Partizan's last-action hero, the one who left them feeling so devastated, would be donning the Hoops. The irony isn't lost on Celtic's new Bhoys, who is well aware of his Dad's previous in Paradise.

"I wasn't born when the game was played but we talked about it, and when I saw some videos of the game it was amazing," he said on his arrival at the club. "Celtic just needed one goal but they scored five but Partizan scored four!

"My Dad said it was an amazing atmosphere all around the stadium, but when he scored the fourth goal, it all went quiet, which was normal as it was the last minute and everyone wanted Celtic to go through to the next round."

Now coaching in Partizan's youth set-up, Scepovic Snr has naturally been a major influence on his son's career. And when the 24-year-old sought advice from him on moving to

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Ronny Deila's latest acquisition was relaxing in a coffee house in his home country while preparing for the vital U21 game against Greece when he got the news that his deal had been approved.

The young striker hit the roof with delight and went on to score the opening goal of the fixture, setting his team up for a comfortable 3-0 win.

His addition to the Celtic squad now means there are four strikers, including other new signing Stefan Scepcovic, vying for the main attacking roles.

However, Guidetti plans to take life at his new club one step at a time with an aim of establishing himself in the first team in the long-run.

"It's really nice to be part of Celtic," he said. "I was standing in a coffee house when I got the news and I was actually dancing because I was so happy. I really was buzzing.

"Everybody knows what a great football club this is, especially in Sweden when Henrik Larsson was playing there. It's also a very well-known club because of the fans who are so passionate and brilliant.

"Even the people at Manchester City told me about the European nights at Celtic Park. They said it's the best atmosphere in the world and people just don't say that without a good reason. It must be true because I've heard it from so many places.

"In terms of the future, let's see how it goes at the moment. There are four good strikers now in the squad and a lot of games.

"You have to perform to get into the team and my thoughts right now are on that and on the Under-21s with Sweden and trying to get us to the European Championships.

"I'm going to work hard to get into the first eleven and

then after that I will take every game as it is because if you think too far ahead you lose focus on what's important right now."

Guidetti will join up with his new team-mates this week following the U21 Euro qualifiers and the Swede knows he has a big task on his hands to replicate the performances of his famous compatriots - a list which includes Larsson, Johan Mijallby and Mikael Lustig, but he hopes to do that one game at a time.

He added: "I know Johan Mjallby very well and Henrik Larsson's son well and I spoke to Henrik a couple of times. I know what the fans are expecting but Henrik was an amazing striker and

they are very big shoes to fill but I promise will do my very best to do even a little bit of what he did.

"It's a lot to live up to and I'm going to do my best. They just told me what a great club it is and it's why Henrik stayed for so many years.

"He was wanted in Europe - we all know that, because later he went to Barcelona and Manchester United but he stayed here because it was an amazing club to play for and that tells you all you need to know about Celtic."

And on the year ahead, he told the Celtic fans: "I hope we can achieve big things. Football without fans is nothing - it's not worth it for me. I think the fans make football amazing."

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# SWEDE DREAMS ARE MADE OF THIS

**John Guidetti** was relieved, and delighted, to have his move to Celtic confirmed, and now the striker is desperate to pull on the green and white Hoops

Interview: Martin Dalziel

**THE road to Paradise isn't always straight but the destination is always worth the journey. John Guidetti found that out last week when his deal to join Celtic on loan was eventually ratified several nervous days after he first signed it on transfer deadline day, but he knows that his arrival at Celtic Park will be worth the wait.**

The Manchester City striker has joined the Hoops on loan until the end of the season and comes to the Scottish champions with a lot of experience.

He won his move to Manchester City in 2008 but was soon loaned out for first-team experience. He enjoyed a productive year in The Netherlands with Feyenoord in 2011/12 where he scored 20 goals in 23 games and then spent last year on loan at Stoke City.

Guidetti is also a key part of the Sweden Under-21 set-up and his stunning free-kick against Greece in a qualifier for the 2016 Euro Championships last week saw him celebrate his move to the Hoops in style. Now the striker is eager to give his all to his new club.

The Hoops' No.9 said: "I know so much about Celtic. I saw I was linked with a few clubs but as soon as Celtic came for me I knew straight away, Celtic is the one for me and that's where I want to go.

"I actually thought that it was over at one point. I thought it wasn't going to happen but as I left the stadium that night and the fans were on the street I thought there was about one per cent chance but I'm so grateful for UEFA and FIFA and everyone at Celtic Football Club because it means so much to me to get the move.

"In terms of the qualities I have, I think the Celtic players and fans will have to see for themselves but all I can promise is that I will give 100 per cent.

"I spoke to the manager and I felt a good connection with him and that Celtic was a club that knew about me and were genuine about what they liked, which is so important. With a good manager and good fans and players, you can never go wrong.

"I'm just going to work my socks off to try to do my absolute very best in every game because that's what the fans deserve.

"I'm very passionate and there's one thing I hate more than anything is losing. I can't stand it. It doesn't matter whether it's table-tennis or football. Mostly it's football but for 90 minutes I am always giving everything and trying to do my absolute very best for the whole game."



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Substitutes

Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor 1	Commons	Griffiths	Stokes	Zaluska	Matthews	O'Connell	Kayal	Henderson	Boerigter	Pukki
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor	Commons	Griffiths	Pukki 2	Zaluska	Matthews	Bitton	Kayal	Henderson	Boerigter	Watt
Johansen	Mulgrew	McGregor 1	Commons	Berget	Pukki	Zaluska	Izaguirre	Bitton	Kayal	Boerigter	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	Kayal	Boerigter	Berget
Johansen 1	Mulgrew	McGregor	Commons 1	Berget 2	Stokes 1	Zaluska	Kayal	Bitton	Forrest	Boerigter	Griffiths	Pukki
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	Boerigter	Commons	Griffiths
Johansen	Kayal	McGregor	Commons	Berget	Stokes	Zaluska	O'Connell	Bitton	Henderson	Wakaso	Griffiths 1	Pukki



# 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 12/09/2014



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 Denayer 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		
UEL	18 Sep	FC Salzburg		
SPFL	20 Sep	Motherwell		
SLC	24 Sep	Hearns (Third Round, 7.15pm)		
SPFL	27 Sep	St Mirren		
October				
UEL	02 Oct	Dinamo Zagreb (8.05pm)		
SPFL	04 Oct	Hamilton		
SPFL	18 Oct	Ross County (12.45pm)		
UEL	23 Oct	FC Astra (8.05pm)		
SPFL	25 Oct	Kilmarnock		
SLC	28/29 Oct	Scottish League Cup R4		
November				
SPFL	01 Nov	Inverness CT		
UEL	06 Nov	FC Astra		
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		
SPFL	13 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		

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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.

# QUIZ

celticfc.net

1 Who was the first player to score a league goal for Celtic under the management of Ronny Deila?

2. For which country did Mubarak Wasako play against Germany in the 2014 World Cup finals in Brazil?

3. Who netted the winning penalty for Aberdeen when they defeated Inverness Caledonian Thistle in the 2014 League Cup final?

4. Who in August became the most expensive player to sign for a British club?

5. Which club did Callum McGregor play for last season on loan in England, netting 12 goals?

6. Since the Millennium, which Scottish player has netted most league goals for Celtic?

7. Which two goalkeepers since the war have made over 500 appearances for Aberdeen?

8. In what stadium will Celtic kick off their UEFA Europa League campaign next Thursday?

9. Who was the last winner of an English Premier League medal to play for Celtic?

10. Which three clubs this season did Aberdeen play in the UEFA Europa League tournament?

11. Who remains the most expensive non-British player to sign for Celtic?

12. Who netted the winning goal in Brazil when Germany defeated Argentina to win the World Cup?

13. Which three clubs did Craig Gordon play for before joining Celtic in July?

14. Who is the only man to have the distinction of managing both Celtic and Aberdeen in his career?

15. Which two players this season have netted on their competitive debuts for Celtic?



5

ANSWERS

1. Anthony Stokes v St Johnstone.
2. Ghana.
3. Adam Rooney.
4. Angel Di Maria (Real Madrid to Manchester United) £59m.
5. Notts County.
6. Shaun Maloney (39 goals).
7. Bobby Clark (£95), Jim Leighton (£35).
8. Salzburg Arena, Salzburg, Austria.
9. Freddie Ljungberg.
10. Daugava Riga, FC Groningen & Real Sociedad.
11. Eval Berkovic (£5.75m) West Ham to Celtic 1999/2000.
12. Mario Gotze.
13. Hearts, Cowdenbeath and Sunderland.
14. Billy McNeill.
15. Callum McGregor v KR Reykjavik.
- Jason Denayer v Dundee United.



# CELTIC



FC SALZBURG



DINAMO ZAGREB



FC ASTRA

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3 MATCH PACKAGE

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\*Calls cost up to 10p per minute, telecoms provider dependent. Mobile and other provider charges may vary. †Concessions 65+/13-15.



MANAGER: **RONNY DEILA**



MANAGER: **DEREK McINNES**

ADAM MATTHEWS	2	○	○	1	JAMIE LANGFIELD
EMILIO IZAGUIRRE	3	○	○	2	SHALEUM LOGAN
EFE AMBROSE	4	○	○	3	ANDREW CONSIDINE
VIRGIL VAN DIJK	5	○	○	4	RUSSELL ANDERSON
NIR BITTON	6	○	○	5	ASH TAYLOR
DANIEL MAGEEAN*	7	○	○	6	MARK REYNOLDS
SCOTT BROWN	8	○	○	7	JEFFREY MONAKANA
JOHN GUIDETTI	9	○	○	8	WILLO FLOOD
ANTHONY STOKES	10	○	○	9	ADAM ROONEY
DERK BOERRIGTER	11	○	○	10	NIALL McGINN
STEFAN SCEPOVIC	12	○	○	11	JONNY HAYES
KRIS COMMONS	15	○	○	14	CAMERON SMITH
JO INGE BERGET	16	○	○	15	BARRY ROBSON
CHARLIE MULGREW	21	○	○	16	PETER PAWLETT
JASON DENAYER	22	○	○	17	DAVID GOODWILLIE
MIKAEL LUSTIG	23	○	○	18	NICKY LOW
LUKASZ ZALUSKA	24	○	○	19	CLARK ROBERTSON
STEFAN JOHANSEN	25	○	○	20	SCOTT BROWN
CRAIG GORDON	26	○	○	22	RYAN JACK
ALEKSANDAR TONEV	27	○	○	23	JAMIE MASSON
LEIGH GRIFFITHS	28	○	○	25	LAWRENCE SHANKLAND
JOHN HERRON	31	○	○	26	CRAIG STORIE
MUBARAK WAKASO	32	○	○	27	CRAIG MURRAY
BERAM KAYAL	33	○	○	31	MICHAEL ROSE
EOGHAN O'CONNELL	34	○	○	32	KIERAN GIBBONS
LEO FASAN	38	○	○	33	MARCUS CAMPANILE
DARNELL FISHER	41	○	○	34	KALVIN ORSI
CALLUM McGREGOR	42	○	○	35	MICHAEL KELLY
MARCUS FRASER	44	○	○	39	SCOTT WRIGHT
JAMES FORREST	49	○	○	44	MICHAEL JONES
LIAM HENDERSON	53	○	○	46	SCOTT McKENNA
FILIP TWARDZIK	56	○	○		

\*Magners #7 winner

13.09.2014

RESULT: Celtic Aberdeen

H/T	F/T	SCORERS:
0-0	0-0	

NEXT GAME:

v FC Salzburg  
 Thursday, September 18, 2014  
 UEFA Europa League Group Stage  
 Salzburg Arena, 6.00pm

TODAY'S OFFICIALS:

Referee: Bobby Madden  
 Assistant 1: Graham Chambers  
 Assistant 2: Stuart Stevenson  
 Fourth Official: Crawford Allan