

Celtic



V

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SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

21/12/2019 • CELTIC PARK • KO 3PM



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SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction

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

History

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

Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

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

Who is Celtic Football Club for?

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

Summary

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

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Ryan

CHRISTIE



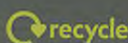
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EXECUTIVE ART EDITOR Rick Cooke **SENIOR EDITOR** Paul Dove
PROGRAMME EDITOR Paul Cuddihy **DEPUTY EDITOR** Joe Sullivan
REPORTERS Tony Connelly and Joe Donnelly
DESIGN Lee Ashun **PRODUCTION** Nick Moreton
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER Claire Brown
PHOTOGRAPHY PA, Photos, SNS Group
PUBLISHED BY Reach Sport **PRINTED BY** Bell & Bain Ltd.

Reach Sport
www.reachsport.com



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'We know we can make it tough for any side who plays against us, so that's what we aim to do this afternoon'



A VERY warm welcome to you all here today at Celtic Park for our last game before the big day, so I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from myself and everyone else here at Celtic Football Club.

That greeting also extends to everyone here from Aberdeen and we know that Derek's side will come here intent on taking something from the game, so we have to be wary of that and go into this match with the same attitude that we have shown in every other game over the past few months both home and away.

Thanks to another great performance on Wednesday night at Tynecastle in the 2-0 win over Hearts, we go into today's meeting at the top of the table and that's where we still intend to be at the end of the day.

It won't be easy against a side who are at the top of the chasing pack, but if we go into the game playing as we

know we can do, we know we can make it tough for any side who plays against us, so that's what we aim to do this afternoon.

I was delighted with the all-round performance of the team in the midweek game in Edinburgh and, apart from maybe scoring another couple of goals, which we were very unlucky not to do, I couldn't ask for any more from the men on the pitch.

There were outstanding spells of quality and intensity in our play at Tynecastle, and we'll be looking for more of the same today against Aberdeen as well as having our game-by-game aim of keeping another clean sheet.

We will approach today's game in the same manner as we did at Tynecastle as we know that Aberdeen will be up for this game and we will be prepared for that in what has been a very busy December schedule for us.

We've won all five of our domestic

matches so far this month and today is the first of another three matches to be played before the New Year and our traditional winter break, so we are determined to keep that winning run up.

Those wins mean we are in a good place, approaching Christmas with the first trophy of the season already in the bag and we're at the top of the league, so I'd like to thank the supporters for their part in that success as they have helped us give them back the perfect Christmas present.

So, once more, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we aim to deliver another win for you in time for the big day. Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon



CELTIC FC ▼



ON TO VICTORY



2019/20



NEW BALANCE ▲

HOME KIT



S . 5 . 8 4 9 7 . N , 4 . 2 0 5 5 . W



'We have to approach the game with our usual attitude and in the manner with which we head into every game'

WE'RE fast approaching the end of the year but we still have three very important games to play before New Year and that starts today with the visit of Aberdeen here at Celtic Park.

The next of those games is on Boxing Day in midweek, and that means I get the chance today to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and thank you all for helping with another magnificent year for the club.

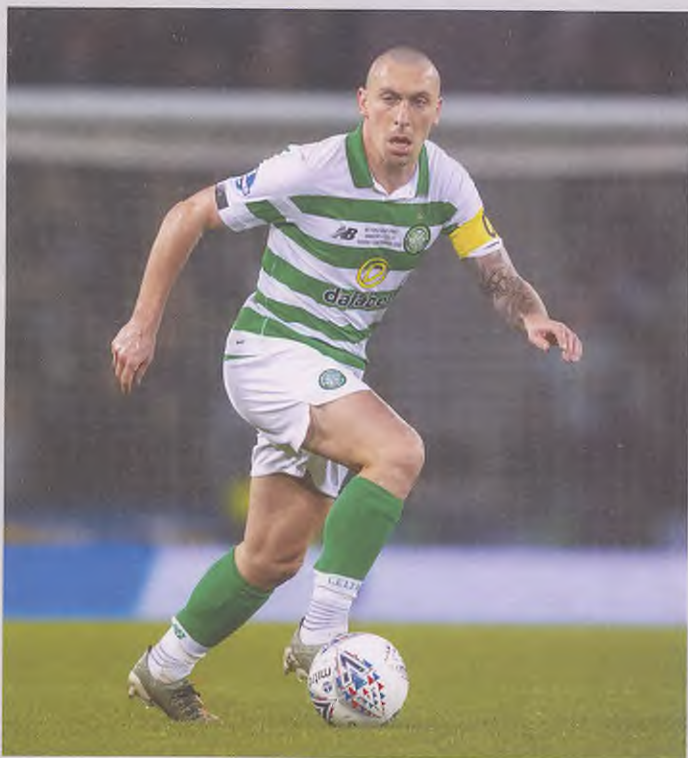
After today's game, it will be all systems for us over the festive period as we will be in training as usual in what has been another very hectic period for us.

It's something we are used to, though, and we know that success breeds these very busy fixture lists at this time of the year, so we wouldn't have it any other way.

Since last Sunday, we've beaten both Edinburgh sides 2-0, Hibernian here at Celtic Park and Hearts through in Tynecastle, and we had to fight hard for both wins against sides who posed difficult tests for us and we expect no different against Aberdeen today.

Their standing in the table shows the threat they can present to us this afternoon and it's a challenge we have prepared for well since our midweek win through at Tynecastle.

Aberdeen are always up for the challenge and they will be keen to shorten the gap between themselves and the front two, so that's something we have to be ready for, but it's a challenge we have become well used to in the this current run of success.



We have to approach the game with our usual attitude and in the manner with which we head into every game, as that has stood us well, not just this season, but in seasons past.

It's that approach that has delivered us the success over the past few years and it has all been done on a game-by-game basis, and we will take that method once more into today's game against Aberdeen.

You have played your part in that, though, and we know you will do the

same by urging us on today from the first whistle 'til the last and we hope to produce another win for you.

Again, Merry Christmas from everyone at the club and we hope to see you at the next home game.

YOUR NEW CRUSH

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IN this year's special Christmas *View* there are sackfuls of competition prizes up for grabs thanks to our club sponsors, and YOU and friends could be experiencing top Paradise hospitality at one of no fewer than **THREE** home games in the early part of 2020.

We also have copies of the James Forrest book and Scott Brown DVD to win as well as PS4 copies of the Celtic FC Edition eFootball Pess 2020 to give away.

There is also a bumper **GIANT** 10-in-a-row A2 poster depicting each of Celtic's magnificent run of successive silverware wins **AND** a *Celtic View* 2020 Wall Planner all contained in the *Celtic View* Christmas package.

Also in the *Celtic View* Christmas Special, we have...

- For our traditional festive mix-tape, Ryan Christie is on the

decks this year, so find out what music he chooses.

- Callum McGregor answers questions from Celtic supporters in our Q&A - find out if your question was answered by Calmac.

- *Line of Duty* and *This Is England* star, Vicky McClure is also in the Christmas *Celtic View*.

- Irish boxer, Michael Conlan talks of his love for the Hoops.

- Dublin actor, Johnny Ward, star of *Love/Hate* and the Irish *Dancing With The Stars*, talks about his lifetime of supporting Celtic.

- There's a fantastic selection of photos from this year's first-team visit to Glasgow's Hospital for Sick Children.

- Back on the football front, we have an exclusive interview with manager, Neil Lennon and his 2020 vision for Celtic.

- And looking at the game that gave us 10-in-a-row, the League



The *Celtic View* is the official magazine of the Treble Treble winners and it's on sale now.

Cup final win over Rangers, we have Fraser Forster, Christopher Jullien, Jeremie Frimpong, James Forrest, Ryan Christie and Lewis Morgan all looking back at the history-making action.

- Plus we have a superb Christopher Jullien centre-spread pull-out poster from that very game.

All this and much more, only in this week's Christmas Special *Celtic View*. On sale now (Price: £4.99).