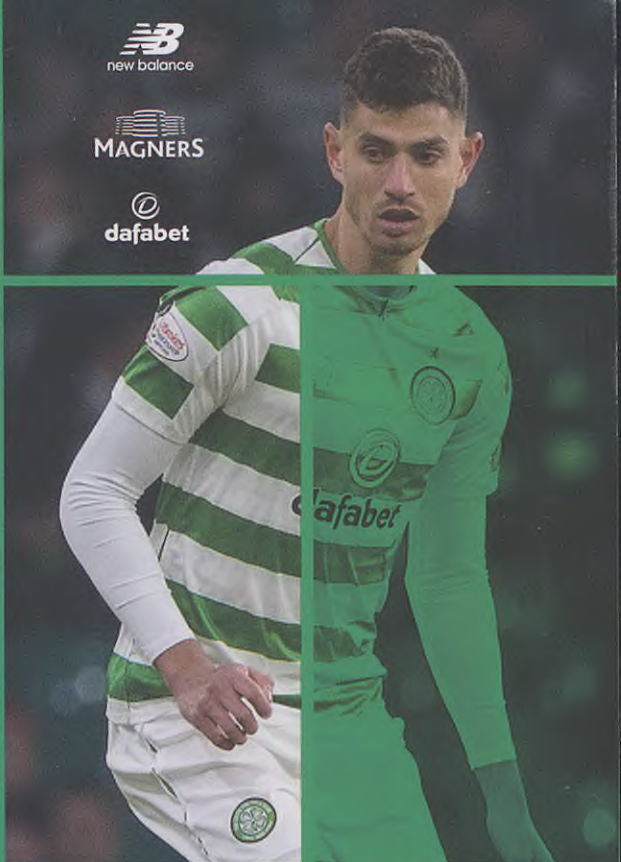




new balance

MAGNERS

dafabet



CELTIC v ST MIRREN

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP • WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019
CELTIC PARK • KO 7.45PM • PRICE £3.50



Ladbrokes
PREMIERSHIP

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



PROUD MAIN CLUB SPONSOR
OF THE CHAMPIONS



GET UP TO A **£30 FREE BET** IF YOUR FIRST BET LOSES*

*T&C's apply. New Customers Only. Min Stake £/€5. Min odds 1.50. Max Free Bet £/€30.



VISIT **DAFABET.COM** NOW!

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.

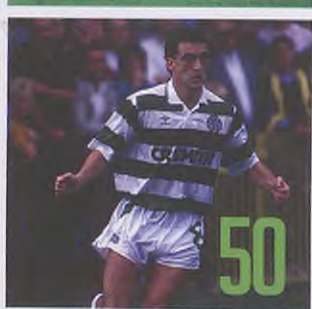
Who is Celtic Football Club for?

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.

CONTENTS



- 04 Brendan Rodgers
- 07 Scott Brown
- 10 Nir Bitton
- 18 Away Days
- 20 The Opposition
- 30 Blast From The Past
- 40 Billy Stark
- 50 Paul McStay
- 55 On This Day
- 56 Celtic Superstars
- 66 Quiz

MANAGING DIRECTOR Steve Hanrahan
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 Sport Media. PRINTED BY Bell & Bain Ltd.

Trinity Mirror Sport Media

recycle



The FSC logo identifies products that contain wood from well managed forests certified in accordance with rules of the Forest Stewardship Council.



‘We will have to be at our best if we want to enjoy a good 90 minutes, but our focus will be on maintaining our position at the top of the table’



GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's game against St Mirren.

It's our first Premiership match of 2019, and it's one we're looking forward to.

We go into the second half of the campaign on top of the table and with a game in hand, and our focus will be on maintaining that position in the weeks and months ahead.

We go into tonight's match on the back on a good Scottish Cup win over Airdrieonians at the weekend. Although we started the game a little bit slowly, after that opening 15/20 minutes we were much better.

We got our goals, had a penalty saved, a goal ruled out and missed other chances. This was our first game back after the break so it was nice to create lots of opportunities. We played with lots of quality in the

game and kept a clean sheet, which was great.

It was also good for Oliver Burke and Timothy Weah to make their debuts in the game. It's always an important moment for every player, and Timothy also scored a goal to mark the occasion, so it was a great occasion for him.

We were also delighted to see Nir Bitton back in action. He's been out for a long time, but has shown great patience and dedication in working hard to get back to full fitness, so I'm sure it was a special moment for him to get back on the Celtic Park pitch.

Tonight's opponents also come into the game on the back of a positive Scottish Cup result. Oran's side showed great character and quality to come back from losing 2-0 and going down to 10 men to win the game.

That victory will have given them a confidence boost ahead of tonight's game, so we will have to be at our best if we want to enjoy a good 90 minutes.

This is the second of four consecutive home games for us, and your support in all of them is so important. Saturday's lightshow ahead of kick-off set the scene for the game, and I'm sure it will be the same again.

We're looking forward to the match and the players will be focused on delivering a positive result. Enjoy the game.

Brendan Rodgers
Without Fear



new balance

AUDAZO

#RUNTHEGAME



A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN



St Mirren will be tough opponents so we'll have to be at our best to secure all three points

WE'RE back home again tonight for the second of four consecutive games at Celtic Park, and we're aiming for another positive result.

It was good to get the first competitive game of 2019 under our belts, and the lads did well in beating Airdrie 3-0 to progress to the next round of the Scottish Cup.

Once we got into the rhythm of the game, we played well and dominated the match. It was good for Scott Sinclair to get a couple of goals – he was unlucky not to have gone home with the match ball after his third goal was disallowed – while Timo Weah made a dream debut, scoring our third goal.

And it was good to see Oliver Burke

also making his first start for the club, and I thought he did well too.

I'm always wanting to be out on the pitch, but I was pleased that, when I came off, it was Nir Bitton who replaced me. He's had a really tough time over the past year with injury, but he's shown a great attitude behind the scenes, working hard to get back to fitness, and all the lads are delighted to have him back.

Tonight, we're back in league action and looking to maintain our place at the top of the table. Last time we played St Mirren, it was a tough game in Paisley which finished 0-0, so we know they'll be tough opponents again this time around.

They also got a good cup result at

the weekend, so they'll come here full of confidence, and we'll have to be at our best to ensure all the points stay here at Celtic Park.

Thanks, as always, for your brilliant support. It's something all the lads appreciate, and it's also something the new players are already enjoying. Here's hoping we can enjoy another good 90 minutes tonight.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Scott Brown' with a stylized flourish at the end.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB 1888

SIDE-BY-SIDE...



WITH THE
BHOYS
IN GREEN

THINK 100% IRISH
LOOK ON THE SUNNY SIDE


MAGNERS
IRISH CIDER



drinkaware.co.uk
for the facts

French fan cycling from Brittany to Paradise for Celtic Foundation

BORN in Brittany, France, Malo Camus may not have always been a Celtic supporter, but his love for the club now is very much evident.

So much so, that he has decided to take on the enormous challenge of cycling around 800 miles, from his hometown in Brittany to Celtic Park, this March, all to raise money for Celtic FC Foundation.

Brittany, in the Northwest of France, is one of six territories considered as the Celtic nations. As a big football fan with Celtic roots, Malo has had a keen interest in Celtic Football Club from a young age.

Malo said: "As a Celt myself, I was instantly interested in Celtic and I was absolutely amazed by the passion around the club.

"In 2017, through my university studies, I was given the opportunity to study for a term in another country on the Erasmus programme, and I was delighted to do this at the University of the West



of Scotland. Their Sports Development programme is excellent, but studying there also gave me the chance to be closer to Celtic."

While in Scotland, Malo became familiar with the work of Celtic FC Foundation. Having recognised the importance of the club's charitable traditions, he was keen to offer his support.

He added: "When I lived in Scotland, I really enjoyed riding my bicycle and I regret that I didn't cycle more often, to allow me to discover the fantastic landscapes of the country. Having seen what others have

done to raise funds for Celtic FC Foundation, the idea came to me that I could cycle from my home town of Quimper in Brittany, to Celtic Park."

Malo plans to set off on his journey on Wednesday, March 20 with the aim of arriving in Glasgow in time for Celtic's SPFL clash with Rangers on Sunday, March 31.

Proud of his Celtic roots, Malo has planned his cycle route to allow him to explore as many of the Celtic nations as possible. This will see him cycle through Brittany, Cornwall, Wales, Ireland and Scotland.

MICHAEL'S WINDFALL DELIGHT

CELTIC'S first game of 2019 also saw the first half-time Paradise Windfall draw of the new year.

And Michael Browne was the lucky winner, who scooped the **TEN THOUSAND POUNDS** first prize.

The Hoops supporter from Edinburgh was delighted to pick up his cheque after Cole Munro (age 10) from Uddingston drew out his winning ticket of K3590.

The other numbers drawn were: T1700, F3263, M1178, A2140. The Paradise Windfall draw is sponsored by Laurie Ross.

