

Celtic



V
RANGERS

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

29/12/2019 • CELTIC PARK • KO 12:30PM



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SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction

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

History

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

Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

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

Who is Celtic Football Club for?

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

Summary

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

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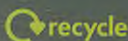
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'It's been a busy month, but the players have been superb and the aim today is to deliver another win'



GOOD afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park for today's match against Rangers. It's not only our last game of 2019 but also our last match of the decade, and it's one that we're all looking forward to.

It's been a busy month for us, and this is our ninth match in December. The players have been superb, given the demands at this period of the season, and the aim today is to deliver another win as we head into the new year and the winter break.

Due to the programme deadlines, I've had to write these notes ahead of our Boxing Day game at St Mirren, but I hope that we go into today's match on the back of a positive result in Paisley.

This is the third derby of the season, and like the other two matches, we know this will be a very tough game. Both sides, as always, will be giving everything to win the match,

and I'm sure it will be a tremendous atmosphere here at Celtic Park.

We have enjoyed two wins in the two previous clashes with Rangers this season – a 2-0 win at Ibrox and the 1-0 victory at Hampden a few weeks ago to retain the League Cup – and we want to continue that good run with a victory here at our own stadium.

However, we know how difficult our opponents will be and we will have to be at our best in order to enjoy a successful afternoon.

As I mentioned already, this is the last game of 2019 and it has been another memorable year for the club, having won the treble for the third consecutive season and lifted the first domestic trophy of this campaign.

We've also enjoyed a very impressive Europa League campaign and have a last 32 tie with FC Copenhagen to look forward to next year.

On a personal level, it has been a very eventful and enjoyable year. Coming back to Celtic as manager has been an obvious highlight, and to work every day with the excellent coaching staff and hugely talented players here is a real privilege.

I also want to thank all of you for the backing that you have given the team throughout the year. That support is absolutely vital to what we do here and for what we want to achieve, and will continue to be so, today and into 2020.

I hope that, when it comes, you all have a Happy New Year, and hopefully we can all celebrate a positive result today. Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon



CELTIC FC ▼



2019/20



NEW BALANCE ▲

ON TO VICTORY



HOME KIT



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'These derby games are always special and it is our aim to come out on top again to sign off 2019 in a positive manner'

I KNOW that all our supporters always look forward to a Glasgow derby, and all the lads are the same. It's our ninth game in December and we're looking for the win to sign off 2019 in a positive manner.

These games are always special, and we've come out on top in the two previous matches against Rangers this season. That will be our aim again today, but we know that our opponents will be just as determined to get the points, so we'll have to be fully focused on ensuring we're at our best.

We know that, if we are, then we are a very difficult side to beat. We've had

a good December, and I'm hoping that we're going into this afternoon's match on the back of a victory away to St Mirren in Paisley on Boxing Day.

Our home form in the league this season has been very good and it's something we want to maintain today. Our last game here was the victory over Aberdeen, and it's a game where the scoreline didn't reflect our dominance.

We created plenty of chances and, on another day, it would have been a much bigger margin of victory. However, the lads showed great character and determination, and a lot of quality to take all three points.

We'll need to show the same character, determination and also quality if we want to enjoy a victory this afternoon.

And from the whole squad here, we want to wish all our supporters a Happy New Year when it comes and thanks for the brilliant support you always give us.

YOUR NEW CRUSH

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IRISH CIDER

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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 the Christmas Special *Celtic View*. On sale now (Price: £4.99).