

# CELTIC



**v ROSS COUNTY**  
**SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP**

Saturday,  
29th March, 2014

Kick-off 3.00pm



**CHAMPIONS**  
**2013/14**  
Picture special inside

**NOW** *is a*  
**GOOD TIME**



for the facts [drinkaware.co.uk](http://drinkaware.co.uk)

# CONTENTS

- 05 NEIL LENNON
- 06 CHAMPIONS SPECIAL
- 18 MANAGER Q&A
- 22 EMILIO IZAGUIRRE
- 28 RETRO PROGRAMME
- 38 THE OPPOSITION
- 50 DENNY JOHNSTONE
- 52 PAUL McSTAY
- 58 PETER SCARFF
- 60 ON THIS DAY
- 64 FIXTURES
- 66 QUIZ

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



MANAGING DIRECTOR Ken Rogers PUBLISHING DIRECTOR Steve Hanrahan  
EXECUTIVE ART EDITOR Rick Cooke SENIOR EDITOR Paul Dove  
PROGRAMME EDITOR Paul Cuddihy DEPUTY EDITOR Joe Sullivan  
SUB EDITOR Michael McGuinness  
REPORTERS Mark Henderson, Kenny McKay  
DESIGNERS Lee Ashun, Graeme Helliwell, Michael Perry  
SALES & MARKETING Elizabeth Morgan, Claire Brown  
PHOTOGRAPHY: PA Photos, SNS Pix  
PUBLISHED BY Sport Media. PRINTED BY Stephens and George.



Today's retro programme cover is a throwback to the 1984 original above. Read about it in our feature on page 28



## 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.



THE LIGHTEST TOUCH





# Manager's Notes

NEIL LENNON



## A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO ALL INVOLVED IN HELPING US TO THREE-IN-A-ROW

**GOOD** afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park, the home of the Scottish Premiership champions. I'm sure today is going to be a carnival atmosphere after we clinched the title on Wednesday night, and it's something that everyone deserves to celebrate, players and supporters.

Our top priority at the start of every season is to win the championship. Not only does that confirm us as the best team in Scotland, but it also provides a gateway to the UEFA Champions League, and for us to have now won three league titles in a row is a tremendous achievement.

That hasn't happened too many times in the club's history, which tells you just how difficult it is to do, so this group of players deserve enormous credit for what they've done these past three years.

At the beginning of the campaign, we asked for a greater consistency in the league and we have been given that in abundance.

We've already passed our points total for last season, and there are still seven games to go, while we have only suffered one league defeat in the campaign.

We have scored 79 goals and conceded just 15, and every player in the squad has contributed to these impressive statistics.



We confirmed our status as champions with a 5-1 victory over Partick Thistle at Firhill, and it was fitting that we did so with a performance that was characteristically stylish and exciting.

It was a great night for the players and, of course, for our supporters. Your support for the team throughout this season, home and away, has been brilliant, and I would like to thank you all on behalf of the squad for that tremendous backing.

I would also like to thank my backroom staff for their work and support, as well as all the people behind the scenes at the club who ensure that we are an outstanding club, on and off the field.

We may be champions, but we still have seven games remaining, and we want to win them all. To do

so would set a new points record for the club, and that is a target we're now looking to achieve.

Ross County, as always, will prove to be tough opponents. It took a late goal to beat them 2-1 here on the opening day of the season, and Derek Adams' side will make it difficult for us again today.

They got a very good result against Aberdeen in midweek, and will be looking to build on that this afternoon.

Our focus will be on another three points and continuing our winning run as Champions of Scotland. Enjoy the game.



# FIVE-STAR CELTIC SEAL THIRD SUCCESSIVE TITLE

Words: Mark Henderson



Scottish Premiership  
Firhill, Glasgow  
Wednesday, March 26, 2014

## PARTICK THISTLE 1

(Elliot 85)

## CELTIC 5

(Stokes 3, 90+1, Henderson 49,  
Johansen 53, Commons 90+3)

CELTIC were crowned Scottish champions for a third successive season on Wednesday night with a fantastic five-star showing at Firhill.

Anthony Stokes capped off a magnificent Man-of-the-Match performance with a deadly double, while Liam Henderson also continued his meteoric rise with his first goal for the club. Stefan Johansen and Kris Commons were also on target as the Hoops turned on the style in the second half after a hotly-contested opening 45 minutes.

It was a moment to savour for Neil Lennon, who becomes just the fourth Celtic manager to guide the club to three-in-a-row following Willie Maley, Jock Stein and Gordon Strachan.

And it was a memorable way for the Irishman to mark the fourth anniversary of taking the reins in Paradise, a milestone he had reached the previous day.



Backed by a boisterous travelling support, the Bhoys made a brisk start, breaking the deadlock inside the first three minutes. Emilio Izaguirre cut in from the left and sent a deep cross towards the back post and Stokes was there with acres of space to thump a header beyond Paul Gallacher.

The home side, to their credit, didn't wilt in the first-half, but it was different story after the break.

The manager made a switch at half-time, with Henderson replacing the injured Adam Matthews and the 17-year-old made an instant impact.

Just four minutes after the interval, both Commons and Griffiths dummied a cross from the left into young midfielder's path and he kept his cool to drill a low shot into the far corner.

Celtic had rediscovered their earlier fluency and they quickly added a third as Johansen strode purposefully into the box before rifling under Gallacher.

With five minutes left, the Jags reduced the arrears through Christie Elliot but that couldn't dampen the mood of carnival atmosphere among the Celtic support.

And they had further cause for celebration as Stokes found the top corner with a superb strike and Commons fired home with practically the last kick of the game.

CELTIC (4-3-1-2): Forster; Matthews (Henderson 46), Ambrose, van Dijk, Izaguirre; Brown, Mulgrew (Kayal 71), Johansen; Commons; Stokes, Griffiths (Samaras 77). Not Used: Zaluska, Balde, Pukki, O'Connell

PARTICK THISTLE (4-5-1): Gallacher; O'Donnell, Mair, Piccolo, Taylor-Sindair; Erskine, Bannigan, Fraser, Bauben, Higginbotham (Lawless 70); Erskine (Elliot 63); Taylor (Doolan 78). Not Used: Fox, Craigen, McMillan, Moncur.

A Celtic football player is the central focus of the image. He is wearing a white jersey with green horizontal stripes, a white Nike swoosh, the Celtic crest, and a 'MAGNERS' sponsor patch. He has long brown hair and a beard, and is captured in a dynamic running pose on a football pitch. The background is a blurred stadium filled with spectators.

**SUBSCRIBE TO**  
**YOUTUBE.COM / SPFL**  
**IT'S FREE!**

**FOR MATCH HIGHLIGHTS, EXCLUSIVE CONTENT AND  
BEHIND THE SCENES ACTION FROM CELTIC PARK**



# FIVE FOR THREE-IN-A-ROW

