

# Celtic



V

**HAMILTON**

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

04/12/2019 • CELTIC PARK • KO 7:45PM



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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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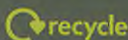
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# 'We're pleased to be top of the table going into this busy period and it's a position we're determined to maintain'



**GOOD evening and welcome to tonight's Premiership game against Hamilton Accies. It's the second of nine fixtures in a busy December schedule, and we're looking forward to the match.**

We're in a good run of form at the minute, having now won our last 10 games, and that's something we're determined to continue tonight.

Off the back of our Europa League win over Rennes, we headed up to the Highlands to take on Ross County at the weekend, and the team produced an excellent performance to win 4-1 and maintain our position at the top of the table.

It's always a tough test to return to domestic duties just days after the challenges of European football, but the players again showed a tremendous attitude and focus to ensure we returned home with all three points.

Tonight we're delighted, as always, to be back home and our aim is to deliver a successful 90 minutes for our supporters.

I've spoken many times about the backing we get from our fans, and that was evident again on Sunday when so many made that long journey up to Dingwall to support the team. It's something I spoke to the players about ahead of the game, and it's something that we really do appreciate.

We face a Hamilton Accies side who made it difficult for us the last time the sides met, back in September. Brian's team will be well-organised, competitive and just as determined to get something from this match.

We've prepared well for this game over the past couple of days and our focus has solely been on the 90 minutes ahead. As is always the case, it's only when the final whistle sounds in one match can we then turn our attentions to the next game on the horizon. It's an approach which has served us well up to now and it's one that we will continue to have.

I also want to pay tribute to the players for their performances in our Europa League campaign. To be the

first Celtic team to win a European group is a great achievement, and with the most points gathered in a campaign, so we're proud of what we've done in the competition.

It gives everyone something to look forward to in 2020, and when the time comes around, our aim will be to do everything we can to be successful in that competition.

We have many demands across various tournaments, and tonight the focus is on the Premiership. We are pleased to be top of the table going into this busy period of games and it's a position we're determined to maintain, starting with three points tonight. With your backing, hopefully we can enjoy another good 90 minutes here at Celtic Park.

Neil Lennon



CELTIC FC ▼



**new balance**

2019/20



NEW BALANCE ▲

# ON TO VICTORY

HOME KIT



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# 'With your backing from the sidelines, we have the ability and desire to lift another three points tonight'

**A WARM** welcome back to Celtic Park and the games are coming thick and fast now as we enter a really crucial and busy part of the season.

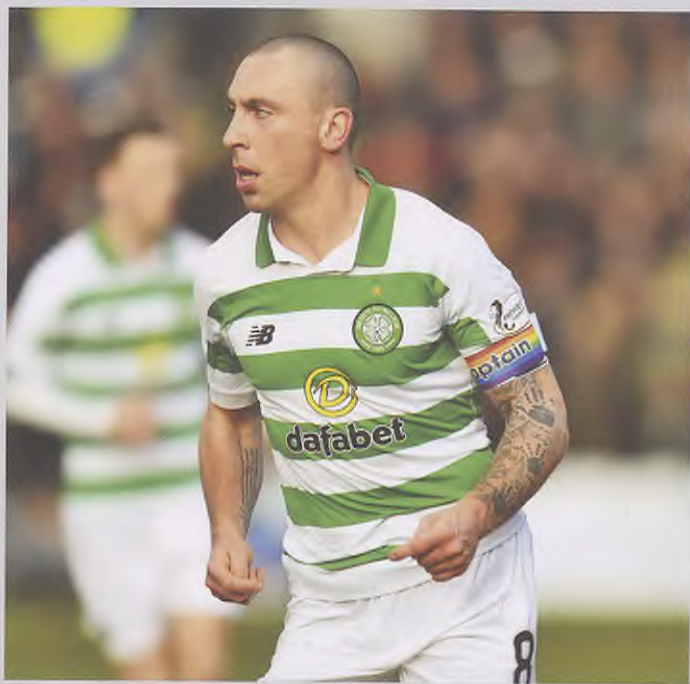
It's something we've been used to over the past few Decembers, and we wouldn't have it any other way as it means we are still involved in two cup competitions and are at the top of the league, and that was always our target for December at the start of the season.

Of course, our last game here at Celtic Park just seven days ago took place in November. However, that fired us up for this run of games and I'm delighted that our memorable and historic 3-1 win over Rennes in the Europa League set us up nicely for Sunday's visit to Dingwall, and that 4-1 win over Ross County to get December off with a bang.

That took us to 10 successive victories in three different competitions since early October and this is a run we are more than keen to maintain tonight with the visit of Hamilton Accies. However, we know the visitors will have other plans and won't intend on making things easy for us.

We had a tight 1-0 win in our most recent meeting out at their place earlier this season, so we know that Hamilton will come with a game-plan to try to limit our attempts on their goal, but we have to be ready for that and concentrate on our own ways of breaking them down.

Hamilton do have it in them to cause shock scores here and there, but we



go into this game as we go into every single other game – looking for a win, and that's our target once more for tonight.

This Celtic side know, that with your backing from the sidelines, we have the ability and desire to lift another three points tonight, not only to maintain our winning run, but also to stay at the top of the table as we enter this busy period.

Your backing has been magnificent as usual over the past few games and really spurred us on, particularly against Rennes last Thursday when we made sure of topping the table

and secured at least 13 points in a European group for the first time ever.

It goes without saying how much the fans play a part in such victories, but I'll say it anyway – you have been fantastic and we will be looking for more of the same tonight to drive us on to more goals and the three points up for grabs.

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## CHRISTMAS WITH THE CELTIC VIEW



IT'S the most wonderful time of the year, when you all look forward to the Christmas issue of the *Celtic View*... and you don't have too much longer to wait, because it hits the shelves next Friday, December 13.

And, as always, it's packed full of festive features, brilliant prizes and a few Celtic celebrities too...

The Christmas issue of the *Celtic View* includes:

- \* A special fans' Q&A with midfielder, Callum McGregor. Check out @CelticView on Twitter for how you can send your question in for Callum.

- \* Ryan Christie is in the musical hot-seat this year, choosing his favourite songs and tells us why he likes them, as well as revealing his



top Christmas tune and his No.1 Celtic song.

- \* Irish featherweight boxer, Michael Conlan, tells us why he loves the Celtic.

- \* Line of Duty star, Vicky McClure talks Celtic, Notts County and an inspiring musical project helping people with dementia.



- \* There are lots of goodies up for grabs including a stunning prize courtesy of our shirt sponsor, Dafabet.

- \* We've also got a 2020 Year Planner AND a giant A2 poster.

The Christmas issue of the *Celtic View* is on sale from next Friday, December 13 (£4.99). Make sure you pick up your copy.