

CELTIC

v RB LEIPZIG



UEFA
**EUROPA
LEAGUE**

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE

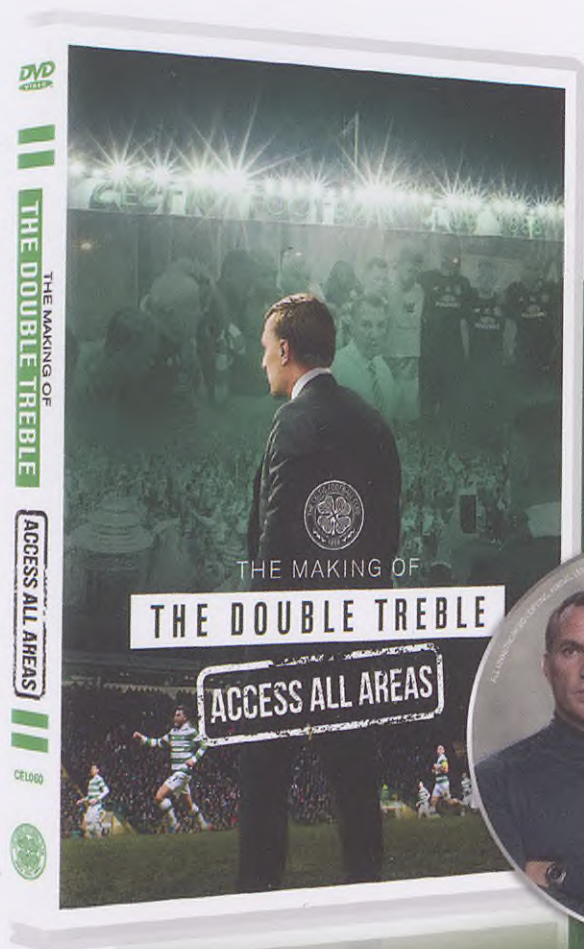
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SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

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 dissociate 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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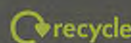


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Manager's Notes...

BRENDAN RODGERS

'We go into tonight's game full of confidence after our run of good performances, most recently the 5-0 win over Hearts'



GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's UEFA Europa League group-stage match against RB Leipzig. I would also like to extend that welcome to our visitors from Germany – the management, players and supporters of Leipzig who have made the journey here for tonight's game.

I know that we were all made to feel very welcome when we visited Germany a couple of weeks ago, and that welcome will be reciprocated tonight, both by the club and our supporters.

Of course, the 90 minutes of football will be as competitive and keenly-contested as it was in the Red Bull Arena, although we are obviously aiming for a different outcome this time around.

It's important in this competition to try and take maximum points from our home ties, and having won our previous group-stage game here against Rosenborg, we want to follow

that up with a win over RB Leipzig tonight.

We go into tonight's game full of confidence after our run of good performances, most recently the 5-0 win over Hearts at the weekend, which meant that we have scored 23 goals in our last five domestic games, conceding just two.

Our aim is to take that form into tonight's match, and while we are well aware of how tough a test it will be, our focus since the weekend has been on preparing for the game against RB Leipzig and our determination to take all three points.

We face a very strong opponent, however, who are also enjoying a good run of domestic form. Ralf's side is full of quality, and they had a very impressive 3-0 win away to Hertha Berlin at the weekend, so they will also come here to Celtic Park in confident mood.

We know from our previous meeting that they have strength in depth throughout their squad, so

regardless of who is selected to play in their starting XI, we will have to be at our best tonight in order to enjoy a successful match.

The Celtic Park atmosphere can also play a part, as it has done on many European occasions in the past. It is a stadium that is renowned throughout football and while I'm sure that the RB Leipzig players will be looking forward to experiencing it tonight, we hope that the incredible backing our fans give us on these occasions ensures that it is also a difficult night for them over the course of the 90 minutes. Enjoy the game.

Brendan Rodgers
Without Fear

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A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN

We're playing really well and there's a real confidence we can have a successful night



A EUROPEAN night at Celtic Park is always a special occasion, and I'm sure that tonight's match against RB Leipzig will be just the same.

It's an important game for us, and we want to do everything we can to win tonight to ensure that, with two matches remaining in the group, we're still in with a chance of qualifying for the knockout stages of the competition.

We had a tough game against RB Leipzig a couple of weeks ago in Germany and, naturally, we were very disappointed to lose that game. We want to make amends for that tonight by taking all three points.

They are a top-quality side, however, so we know it will be tough, but the lads are playing really well and there's real confidence in the squad that we can have a successful night.

Saturday's victory over Hearts was a great one for us. We scored five goals, kept a clean sheet and played some great football over the 90 minutes, and we want to try and replicate that tonight.

I'm sure that the atmosphere will be incredible and it's something that the team has thrived on in many previous occasions. Our fans always have an important part to play on these nights, and I know that you'll give the team the

sort of backing that most other teams could only dream of.

As always, I'd love to be out there with the lads and playing my part in trying to get the victory, but I'll be cheering them on as much as every other supporter and I hope that, come the end of the game, we'll be celebrating another great European win.



CELTIC DONATES £10,000 TO MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE THROUGH FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS APPEAL



It was this week, 131 years ago, that Celtic Football Club was formally constituted in St Mary's Church Hall in East Rose Street, Calton.

As we mark the anniversary of the formation of our club, Celtic FC Foundation is delighted to launch its 2018 Christmas Appeal.

The appeal lies at the very heart of why our club was formed and honours the founding principles which were set out that day in 1887, as we aim to continue to help those in our community who are most in need.

Once again, the club has provided fantastic backing to the appeal by kicking it off with a wonderful donation of £10,000.

Through the appeal, we want to help hundreds of local families who are facing poverty. We want to give them the kind of Christmas that we all take for granted. With lots of food on the table and gifts for the kids. Making sure Santa pays a visit on Christmas Eve is a massive priority for all of us.

We are also looking to support

a number of local pensioners, by lending a hand at a difficult time of year, as well as a host of other local charities that support children, the homeless, women and children living in refuge, refugees and those facing other challenges.

The Celtic Family is renowned for its generosity and compassion and we are requesting your support once again, to get behind this year's Christmas Appeal and help us to provide comfort to those in our communities.

As well as encouraging donations, Celtic FC Foundation will also be repeating a host of fundraising events and initiatives, as part of the appeal. These include:

- Founding Fathers' Fast which took place on Tuesday, November 6.
- Celtic Sleep Out, Glasgow, on Saturday, November 17 and the Celtic Sleep Out, London, on Friday, November 23.
- Ghirls for Good festive extravaganza on Saturday, December 1.
- Our annual Christmas Appeal matchday bucket collection at the SPFL



Kilmarnock match on Saturday, December 8.

- Light Up the Clover event at the FC Salzburg UEFA Europa League match on Thursday, December 13.

This year's Appeal will also see the introduction of a brand new initiative, with our 'Celtic FC Foundation Letter from Santa', as supporters have the opportunity to receive a colourful, customised letter for their child - look out for further details coming soon, all the way from the North Pole!

Finally, we will be hosting another eBay Christmas Appeal charity auction in December, and full details will be provided shortly.

Celtic Chief Executive, Peter Lawwell said: "Celtic is delighted to kick-off this year's Christmas Appeal with a £10,000 donation. The club and Foundation are totally committed to helping people in real need and at a difficult time of the year for so many, we hope that through our work we can bring some Christmas cheer to those who really need and deserve our support.

"Our Christmas Appeal will again have a huge impact across a wide spectrum of families and fantastic community groups, and we know it will make such a positive difference to the lives of thousands of people, once again honouring the charitable ambitions of the club's great founders."

Celtic FC Foundation Chief Executive, Tony Hamilton, added: "Through our Christmas Appeal we aim to follow in the footsteps of our Founding Fathers, by providing support to those who need it most. For many people, the struggle today is just as real as it was in 1887.

"Thanks to the generosity of the Celtic support, last year's appeal allowed us to help more people than ever, as we were able to provide support not only to families and charities in Glasgow, but also other parts of the UK and Ireland, as well as overseas.

"We hope to achieve this once again through this year's appeal and Celtic supporters across the world and those who are simply drawn to the Celtic story play an integral role in helping us to achieve this.

"There are a number of ways in which people can get involved and I would to thank everyone in advance who is able to help, for your valuable contributions. These will make a huge difference, to so many people's lives."

So together, we can make dreams come true this Christmas. To get behind the Christmas Appeal 2018, you can:

1. Donate by Text - text 'CELTO7' followed by '£1', '£5' or '£10' to 70070
2. Donate Online - www.celticfcfoundation.com

3. Donate via Paypal - www.celticfcfoundation.com

4. Donate in Cash - there are collection boxes located in all Celtic Stores

5. Donate by Cheque - payable to 'Celtic FC Foundation' and sent to Celtic FC Foundation, Celtic Park, Glasgow, G40 3RE.

6. Give as you Live via your Christmas Shopping - www.celticfcfoundation.com

7. Sign up for the Celtic Sleep Out, Glasgow on Saturday, November 17 - call 0141 551 4204 or email cfcfoundation@celticfc.co.uk

8. Sign up for the Celtic Sleep Out, London on Friday, November 23 - call 0141 551 4204 or email cfcfoundation@celticfc.co.uk

9. Come along to the Ghirls for Good on Saturday, December 1 - call 0141 551 4204 or email cfcfoundation@celticfc.co.uk

10. Support our match-day bucket collection on Saturday, December 8 - to register as a volunteer collector, call 0141 551 4204 or email cfcfoundation@celticfc.co.uk

11. Contribute via our Christmas Appeal eBay Auction, of which all proceeds will be donated to the Appeal - further details to follow.

12. Take part in our Light up the Clover event on Thursday, December 13 - further details to follow.

13. Make a donation to receive your 'Celtic FC Foundation Letter from Santa' - further details to follow.

