

# The TON

The Official Match Programme of Morton Football Club

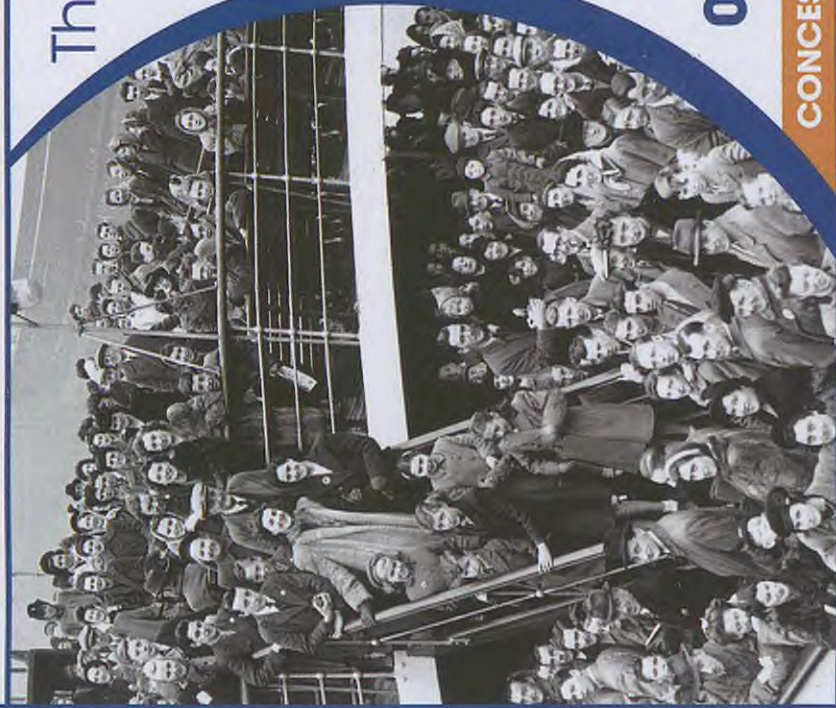


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## CLUB DIRECTORY

Cappielow Park, 2 Sinclair Street,  
Greenock PA15 2TY  
**Tel: 01475 723 571**

### Club Officials

- Chairman:** Douglas Rae  
**Directors:** Stuart Duncan  
Crawford Rae, Alistair Donald  
**Stadium Director:** Crawford Rae  
**Honorary Vice Presidents:** Arthur Montford  
Iain D. Brown CA  
**Chief Executive:** Gillian Donaldson  
**Company Secretary:** Mary Davidson  
**Manager:** James Grady  
**Assistant Manager:** Allan McManus  
**Kit Manager:** Andrew Bryan  
**Physiotherapists:** Paul Kelly BSc SRP  
John Tierney  
**Club Doctors:** Dr. R. Craig Speirs MB., ChB  
Dr Fraser Gray MB., ChB  
**Groundsman:** Mark Farrell  
**Commercial Manager and  
Programme Editor:** Susan Gregory  
**Lottery Manager:** Heather Arthur  
**Office Administrator:** Tony Cowden  
**Photography:** John Parker,  
www.tontastic.com, James McFadden, David Bell  
**Club Chaplain:** Reverend Dave Hall

### Honours

- Scottish Cup:** Winners 1921-22  
**Runners Up:** 1947-48  
**Scottish League Cup:** Finalists 1963-64  
**Great War Shield:** Winners 1914  
**Renfrewshire Cup:** Winners 51 times  
**Scottish First Division:** Winners 3 times  
**Scottish Second Division:** Winners 5 times  
**Scottish Third Division:** Winners 02/03

Programme Produced by:



Tel: 0141 445 5360

# THE MANAGER: JAMES GRADY



Good evening and welcome to Cappielow.

The weather conditions over the last few weeks have caused us no end of problems not only with lack of games, but trying to find suitable training facilities has been a nightmare! We have been training at Toryglen which has been fantastic but not being able to train on grass for so long has been difficult for players.

As you will be aware, David Van Zanten has now left us to

join Hamilton and we all wish him the very best. David was very ambitious and always made it clear to me that he wanted to be back playing in the SPL sooner rather than later and unfortunately for Morton he got the chance.

Michael Tidser has joined us on a 18 month contract and I am delighted to get him as there was a few clubs trying to get his signature. Michael is a very talented footballer who always looks to get on the ball and influence games and will bring some creativity to the team.

Since our last home game we have had two defeats at Dundee and Thistle. In both games I feel that we had enough chances to gain some points, but what is proving to be our achilles heel right now is that we do not take chances when we are on top in games. This is our downfall but let me reassure you that we are working hard to rectify this.

Tonight we welcome Tony Mowbray and his coaching staff to Cappielow for this long awaited Scottish Cup match. This is a great opportunity for our players to go out and prove that they can play against one of the top sides in Scotland.

Enjoy the game.

James Grady



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# FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

## IT'S THE BIGGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR!

It's true, tonight is a very big night for our Club. To have a visit from any Premier League team is a great boost for our team as it allows them to measure their ability against the team from the higher division. The last time fate was good to us was when the draw brought Kilmarnock to our ground and we managed to beat them 3-1 in an enthralling match which people still speak of to this day. To have drawn Celtic at home brought real joy to everyone in our camp, a draw that we often dreamt about but never achieved. The atmosphere tonight will be electric with a full house which always creates a special sense of excitement, and possibly hope in the hearts of our support, that somehow our lads might rise to the occasion and give the Celtic team a real fight to see who goes into the next round against the team who lost 7-1 yet is still in the Competition, resulting from Dunfermline being disqualified for fielding a suspended player in their match against Stenhousemuir and also breaching other rules of the Competition.

We warmly welcome the entire contingent from Celtic Park this evening, Chairman, Directors, Manager, backroom staff, players and supporters. We hope that the match will be exciting and worthy of the long wait that we have had to get the match played.

We were very disappointed when we lost the Saturday game due to our pitch being frozen hard. Despite having covers they only work up to minus 4° Celsius and with the night frost reaching minus 9° on a couple of nights, it gave little hope that our pitch would survive the inspection. Hopefully our pitch will be excellent for the game tonight. We won the award for the best First Division pitch of 2009, a well merited award for all the hard work expended by our head Groundsman, Mark Farrell. Mark will be anxious that the playing surface tonight will enable the better players to express themselves.

Supporters are saying to us that Celtic are not playing well at present so our chances of success are enhanced. We are not deluded by the comments about Celtic not being at their best as they have the quality of player who can 'move up a gear' when a game demands it. We

are pleased however, that Scott MacDonald will not be playing as he is always a thorn in the side of even the best defenders.

## RANGERS & CELTIC TEAMS

Speaking with a couple of Premier Division clubs recently, I was told that neither Club was functioning to the standard expected by the supporters of these Clubs. Rangers appear to have an embargo placed upon them that they cannot buy or take on any new players while Celtic are in a state of transition. Manager Tony Mowbray appears to like a particular type of player so that the team's playing style will be entertaining, skilful and as near to 'total football' as is possible for a team to achieve. To achieve that level takes time, a lot of time, but unfortunately supporters no longer appear willing to give a Manager the time that is needed for change to pay dividends. Nowadays supporters want instant and ongoing success, which is not always possible; winning, however, is what is demanded most by supporters. I have often stated that if there was a European League with the best 10 teams within it, one team would end up being in bottom position even if they are one of the best teams in Europe. I know results are of paramount importance but to see entertaining football is also of great importance as fans like to be entertained. That's why I hope that tonight we will have a glimpse of some positive and exciting football.

## PETER WEATHERSON

I am delighted to announce that Peter Weatherson has signed a 2 year contract extension. Peter was being chased by several Clubs who tried to entice him to pastures new but, happily for our Club, Peter has decided that "east, west, home's best"! Although Peter is a Geordie he is now a local lad and expects to marry and settle down with his attractive fiancée, Lesley Anne.

## TRANSFER WINDOW

We are now in the middle of January and already half the month has passed with relatively little transfer movement. There is some wheeling and dealing going on amongst the SFL, as with little money about few Clubs are in the market to buy players at this time. I

suppose that that comment also is appropriate to the majority of the Premier Division Clubs too. In Scotland, attendances have suffered badly during the past year when we have been living in "crunch" times. If one compares the effect of the credit crunch between Scotland and England we note that England has suffered little and attendances in the South have been maintained at their incredibly high figures. Even if one looks at the Conference League the attendances which used to be counted in hundreds are now in the thousands. It is now very difficult indeed, nigh impossible, for Clubs in the SFL to be full-time and not be losing money year on year. I can foresee many First Division Clubs becoming part-time within the next year or so as balancing the books now is impossible unless one has a benefactor who is willing to pick up the tab every year.

## MORTON SUPPORTERS' TRUST

Although Greenock Morton Football Club does not operate Morton Supporters' Trust we were still very, very disappointed to read of the present problem which has beset that organisation. It is particularly disappointing when the function which was organised to raise funds for the Morton Youth Academy is at the centre of Police investigation.

## DAVID VAN ZANTEN

We were very disappointed to lose the services of David van Zanten. David was expected to sign an 18 month extension to his Contract but the lure of Premier Football with Hamilton won the day. David indicated that he did not move for more money, instead wanting to play at the highest level which is understandable. David is a talented full-back and left our Club with our best wishes for a lengthy 'run' in the Premier League.

## NOTE TO SUPPORTERS

Let's get right behind our teams tonight with lots of noise, singing etc. and hopefully a lot of good humoured banter between both sets of supporters.

Have a great night!

Yours aye,  
**Douglas Rae** Chairman

# TONIGHT'S VISITORS - CELTIC



ARTUR BORUC

## ARTUR BORUC

When Gordon Strachan arrived at Celtic in 2005, he made the colourful Pole one of his priority signings. Artur has become a fans' favourite. He lifted the SPL title in three successive seasons, won the League Cup in 2006 and 2009, and has one Scottish Cup medal. A Polish internationalist, he shone at the 2008 European Championships.

## LUKASZ ZALUSKA

Lukasz started his career with his local club and then went professional with Stomil Olsztyn. A brief spell at Legia Warsaw saw him team up with Boruc and he then followed his compatriot to Scotland when he moved to Dundee United in 2007. After two impressive seasons, he signed a pre-contract deal to join the Hoops and has impressed when given a chance.

## MARK WILSON

The ever-dependable full-back captained Scotland at every level up to Under-21s and has been a solid player for Celtic since signing from Dundee United in 2006. Mark penned a contract extension in

2008 and is an integral member of the squad. Comfortable in either full-back position.

## PAUL CADDIS

The current Scotland Under-21 captain has been tipped for the top ever since arriving at Celtic as a youngster and made his first-team debut in early 2008. With pace to burn, Paul can play at full-back or in midfield and is mounting a real challenge for a regular place. Paul spent the second half of the 2008/09 season on loan at Dundee United.

## ANDREAS HINKEL

A German internationalist, Andreas shot to fame with VfB Stuttgart after a string of powerful performances. An efficient right-back, he joined Celtic from Sevilla in January 2008. Now fully settled in Glasgow, Andreas is going from strength to strength at Celtic. The German is at his best going forward.

## GLENN LOOVENS

A product of the Feyenoord youth system, Glenn was part of the squad that won the UEFA Cup in 2002. After a three-year spell with Cardiff City, Glenn joined Celtic last summer and is battling with Stephen McManus and Gary Caldwell for a regular place in the side. Powerful in the air, the defender is a real goal threat.

## STEPHEN McMANUS

Known to the football world as 'Mick', central defender Stephen was appointed Celtic captain in the summer of 2007 and capped his first season as skipper with a league title. A Celtic youth academy product, Stephen is the Scotland vice-captain and is one of the most respected figures in the game. He has won six major honours for Celtic.

## DARREN O'DEA

Darren made his Celtic debut on a pre-season tour in 2004 but had to

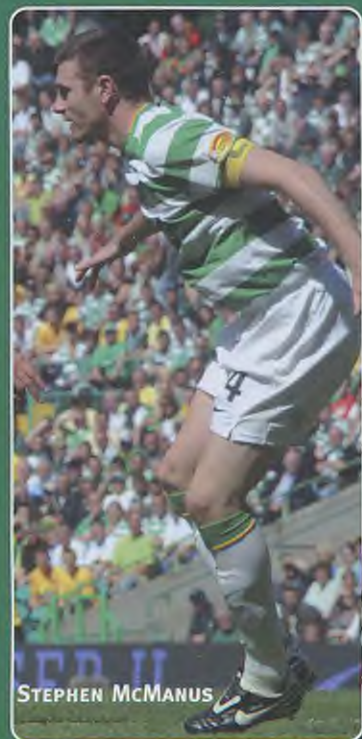
wait a few years for his competitive breakthrough. Darren has become an important member of the Celtic squad and has featured in some massive European games over the last three years. Darren recently returned from a loan spell at Reading.

## DANNY FOX

A Scotland internationalist, Danny started his career with Everton before moving to Walsall. He then made his name at Coventry before signing for Celtic at the start of this season. Danny takes most of Celtic's set-pieces and has settled well at the club.

## LEE NAYLOR

An experienced left-back, Lee joined Celtic in 2006 after 10 years with Wolverhampton Wanderers. He capped his first season with a Player of the Year nomination and remains a regular for Celtic. Lee has won two SPL titles and one Scottish Cup for the Hoops.



STEPHEN McMANUS



AIDEN MCGEADY

**AIDEN MCGEADY**

Scotland's Player of the Year in 2007/08, Aiden was given his first-team debut by Martin O'Neill in 2004 and has made over 200 appearances for the club. A Republic of Ireland internationalist, Aiden can play on either wing or through the middle. He is regarded as one of the most gifted players in the country.

**KOKI MIZUNO**

The popular Japanese winger joined Celtic from JEF United in January 2008 and spent several months in the reserves as he looked to acclimatise to Scottish football. Blessed with great skill and energy, Koki is a fans' favourite and scored on his full first-team debut against Falkirk in December 2008.

**MARC CROSAS**

Marc grew up watching Barcelona and fulfilled his dream of playing for the Catalan giants after graduating

from their youth system. A classy, composed midfielder, Marc has impressed since signing for Celtic in 2008 and looks set to play a key role in the coming years. He won the club's Young Player of the Year award last season.

**SHAUN MALONEY**

A product of the Celtic youth system, Shaun is an attacking midfielder. He made his debut against Rangers in 2001 and played in the 2003 UEFA Cup final. Shaun was a massive influence in Gordon Strachan's first season at Celtic, when he scored in the 2006 League Cup semi-final and final. After a brief spell with Aston Villa, Shaun returned to Celtic in 2008 and is a key member of the squad.



SHAUN MALONEY

**PADDY McCOURT**

The gifted Irishman can do special things with the ball and is looking to get a sustained run in the team after suffering from injury in December. He scored two wonderful solo goals against Falkirk and St Mirren earlier this season and is a fans' favourite.

**ZHENG ZHI**

The Chinese captain, versatile midfielder ZZ played in the Premiership with West Brom and caught the eye of Tony Mowbray with his classy performances. He joined Celtic on a free transfer in the summer and made his debut against Rangers.

**KI SUNG-YUENG**

The reigning Young Asian Player of the Year, South Korean Ki joined Celtic in January from FC Seoul. He will play at this summer's World Cup and is tipped for the very top. He prefers to play central midfield



LEE NAYLOR



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and speaks fluent English after living in Australia as a teenager.

### **NIALL MCGINN**

One of the success stories of this season, Niall is a talented winger blessed with blistering pace. A full Northern Ireland internationalist, he joined Celtic from Derry City and is pushing hard for a regular place in the side.

### **GEORGIOS SAMARAS**

The Greek striker arrived at Celtic on loan from Manchester City in January 2008 and immediately fell in love with the club. His goals helped the Hoops win the SPL title and he made a permanent move soon after. Georgios started his career with Heerenveen in Holland and could have played for Australia at international level due to his family background.



Scottish parents, Scott always wanted to play for Celtic and got his wish in the summer of 2007, when he moved from Motherwell. His impact was immediate as Scott's 31 goals helped the club to the SPL title in season 2007/08. The Australian internationalist has now scored over 60 competitive goals for the club.

### **SCOTT McDONALD**

Born and bred in Melbourne to



### **MARC-ANTOINE FORTUNE**

Signed from AS Nancy in the summer, Fortune played under Tony Mowbray at West Brom and has shown his talent in recent weeks. The powerful striker suffered a lengthy knee injury at the start of the season, but has scored a few goals since returning to the side.



### **MORTON**

KEVIN FINLAYSON  
CARLO MONTI  
STEWART GREACEN  
JAMES GRADY  
JIM McALISTER  
PETER WEATHERSON  
RYAN McGUFFIE  
ERIK PAARTALU  
BRIAN WAKE  
ALLAN McMANUS  
ALAN REID  
DAVID MacGREGOR  
RYAN McWILLIAMS  
JAMIE DOCHERTY  
NATHAN SHEPHERD  
CHRIS GORDON  
RYAN KANE  
COLIN STEWART  
BRIAN GRAHAM  
MICHAEL TIDSER



### **CELTIC**

ARTUR BORUC  
ANDREAS HINKEL  
LEE NAYLOR  
STEPHEN McMANUS  
LANDRY NGUEMO  
SCOTT McDONALD  
SCOTT BROWN  
GEORGIOS SAMARAS  
MARC-ANTOINE FORTUNE  
DANNY FOX  
MARK WILSON  
SHAUN MALONEY  
NIALL MCGINN  
MILAN MISUN  
MARC CROSAS  
PATRICK McCOURT  
GLENN LOOVENS  
LUKASZ ZALUSKA  
ZHENG ZHI  
KOKI MIZUNO  
AIDEN MCGEADY  
PAUL CADDIS  
RYAN CONROY

### **Match Officials**

Referee: Craig Thomson  
Asst Ref: Willie Conquer  
Asst Ref: John Gilmour  
4th Official: Steven Nicholls