

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRICE 40p



# ST. MIRREN

v CELTIC  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19th, 1983  
PREMIER LEAGUE



# ST. MIRREN F.C.



**ST MIRREN PARK, LOVE STREET, PAISLEY**  
**Telephone 041-889-2558 or 041-840-1337**

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**GROUNDSMAN:**  
D. McVEY

## **FACT FILE:**

FOUNDED 1877 :: FIRST MATCH 6th OCTOBER, 1877

### **Grounds:**

SHORTROODS (1877-1879), THISTLE PARK, GREENHILL (1879-1883),  
WESTMARCH (1883-1894), ST MIRREN PARK (Love Street) (1894-present)

### **Honours:**

SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS 1926 and 1959 :: RUNNERS-UP 1908, 1934 and 1962  
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP RUNNERS-UP 1955/56  
SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CHAMPIONS 1976/77  
SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION TWO CHAMPIONS 1967/68  
SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION TWO RUNNERS-UP 1935/36  
VICTORY CUP WINNERS 1919  
SCOTTISH SUMMER CUP WINNERS 1943  
ANGLO-SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS 1979/80

### **Record Victory:**

15-0 VERSUS GLASGOW UNIVERSITY, Scottish Cup 1st Round, 1960/61

### **Record Defeat:**

0-9 VERSUS RANGERS, Scottish League Division One, 1897/98

### **Record Attendance:**

47,438 VERSUS CELTIC, Scottish League Cup, 1949/50

### **Most League Points:**

62 POINTS in Division Two, 1967/68

### **Most League Goals In A Season (Individual):**

DUNKY WALKER, 45 GOALS in 1921/22

### **Most Capped Player:**

IAN MUNRO, 7 Full Scottish Caps

# ST. MIRREN F.C.



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# A. M. REPORT

## IMPROVEMENT

Today we meet the other half of the "Old Firm" and we must look for a similar result to our two previous home matches. In these matches we have scored 5 goals and only conceded one – this is an encouraging trend. Against Rangers and Hibs we fell out of the game for spells and we have been working at improving our concentration for the full ninety minutes.

Celtic are a team who will test our resolve and concentration. Davie Hay has got together a very good side who place the emphasis on moving forward. This was highlighted in their match against Sporting Lisbon when they overran the Portuguese side. I was at that match and felt that Celtic achieved an excellent victory on the night. At Love Street we recognise that matches against Celtic are difficult but are aware if we fight hard for ninety minutes then we can pick up the points. Whatever the result today, I am looking for signs that the general improvement that has come about recently is continuing.

## A RUN-GOING

Our 2-1 win over Hibs means that we have a wee-run going at present and the five points out of six is good going. I felt that we played well in last Saturday's match and made more chances than we have done of late. We did not take all our chances and gradually Hibs came back into the game – but it would have been an injustice if we had lost.

I would like to say that I thought Frank McAvennie had a brilliant game and showed us all what potential he has. The defence was solid against the Hibs forwards and our own forwards worked hard throughout the afternoon to give us a good team win.

Another pleasing result was the 3-2 victory by the reserves against Hibs reserves. The lads kept fighting away and showed a lot of commitment to win a very hard game. Their attitude was good and this made it a very pleasing result.

## ATMOSPHERE

Last Saturday we again gained extra fans and I would encourage you to keep it up. The atmosphere was both good and bad during the ninety minutes. It was good to hear your encouragement and this lifted the players. I would ask that we hear no more sectarian songs – WE DON'T WANT THESE SONGS. I hope my message is clear because the aim at Love Street is to create a family atmosphere where you can all enjoy watching football.

## NEW FACE

Derek Hamilton has joined the Club from Aberdeen and, although he is still not fully fit, he will boost the squad at Love Street. He did quite well in his first game for the Club and I would welcome him to Paisley.



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**TOP:** Ian Scanlon leaves Alan Sneddon stranded as he gets in his shot. Brazil, of Hibs, and Saints' Drew Jarvie look on.

**RIGHT:** Alan Rough shows his class, as he punches clear a Scanlon cross.

**BELOW:** Frank McAvennie is beaten to the ball by Alan Sneddon.



# IN THE PAST By JOHN BYRNE

## HEAVY DEFEAT

It was Celtic who inflicted on St Mirren the heaviest defeat they have so far sustained in the Premier League in a match played at Celtic Park on 14th March, 1981. First-half goals from Roy Aitken, Charlie Nicholas and Frank McGarvey gave the Glasgow side a comfortable half-time lead. After the interval, the 18,000 spectators were treated to some splendid football from Celtic as McGarvey and George McCluskey each scored twice to give them an emphatic 7-0 victory.

**Celtic:** Bonnar, McGrain, Reid, Sullivan, McAdam, Aitken, Provan, Conroy (McLeod), McGarvey, Burns, Nicholas (McCluskey).

**St Mirren:** Thomson, Beckett (McAveety), McCormack, Young, Fulton, Abercrombie, McDougall (Logan), Stark, Bone, Spiers, Weir.

If St Mirren supporters have unhappy memories of that match, they can look back with considerable satisfaction on the League matches between the sides in 1977-78, the season in which Saints made their debut in the Premier League. Indeed, it could be argued that the Paisley side's performances against the Parkhead team kept them in the top league for they finished their programme with 30 points, six ahead of relegated Ayr United and seven precious points were acquired in their four meetings with Celtic.

## SAINTS VICTORY

The first of these meetings, at Celtic Park on 15th October, 1977, was one which St Mirren could not have approached with very much confidence since they had been pretty comprehensively defeated at Love Street on the previous Saturday by Aberdeen who had rattled in four goals without reply. On the other hand, Celtic had made a depressing start to the season, losing five of the eight League matches they had so far played. They had just brought Frank Munro back from Wolves on loan and he was set to make his first appearance against St Mirren.



ST MIRREN v CELTIC AT LOVE STREET, 1970/71

A crowd of 29,000 saw a hard-fought first half in which neither side was able to score. In the second half, however, tragedy struck for Munro when the ex-Wolves man put the ball past his own keeper to give St Mirren the lead. Although Tom McAdam equalised, Billy Stark scored a fine goal to give Saints both points.

**Celtic:** Latchford, Kay, Burns, Edvaldsson, McDonald, Munro, Wilson, McAdam, Glavin, Aitken, Conn.

**St Mirren:** D. Hunter, Young, Beckett, Fitzpatrick, Reid, Copland, Abercrombie, Stark, McGarvey, Richardson, Docherty (Sharp).

Both sides had made several team changes by the time the return meeting at Love Street on 17th December came around, Ian Munro being a notable addition on the Paisley side. Unfortunately, the game was marred by the controversial ordering-off of Jackie Copland who was alleged to have punched Edvaldsson. That apart, the 17,800 spectators saw a highly entertaining match with the sides sharing six goals. After going one goal behind to a Tom McAdam effort, St Mirren came back strongly with goals from Stark, McGarvey and Munro and looked to be heading for a comfortable victory. Then Celtic were awarded a penalty kick which Andy Lynch converted to set up an exciting finale. With just two minutes remaining, a Joe Craig goal put Celtic on level terms.

The third match, at Parkhead on 25th February, 1978, before an attendance of 22,000, saw ex-Celtic, Partick Thistle and Norwich favourite Jimmy Bone playing his second League match for Saints and scoring his first goal. McGarvey added a second and Celtic managed only one in reply through George McCluskey.

## CHANGED SIDES

For the fourth encounter, the final League match of the season, there were 13,000 spectators at Love Street on 29th April, 1978. The teams went in level at the interval, Fitzpatrick having scored for St Mirren and Glavin with a penalty kick for Celtic. Second-half goals from McGarvey and substitute Doug Bell gave St Mirren a 3-1 win to end their first Premier League season on a happy note.

It makes interesting reading to compare the teams in this match with those which had played in the first League game.

**St Mirren:** McCulloch, Beckett, Munro, Fitzpatrick, Dunlop, Copland, McGettrick, Stark, Bone, Richardson (Bell), McGarvey.

**Celtic:** Latchford, Sneddon, Lynch (Craig), Edvaldsson, McDonald, Aitken, Glavin, Mackie, McAdam, Conroy, McCluskey.

# 'PAISLEY PAST' Sponsored by Cowans Manshops

The draw for the first round of the Scottish Cup in 1906-7 season was awaited with great interest in Paisley and district since no fewer than six Renfrewshire clubs were involved, Arthurlie, Abercorn and Johnstone, having all fought their way successfully through the qualifying competition to join St Mirren, Morton and Port Glasgow Athletic in the first round proper. Excitement mounted further when the draw paired Saints with Arthurlie, for the Barrhead club was having a fine run in the Second Division of the League (they were to end the season in third place).

The Paisley side had been having a poor run around the turn of the year, five consecutive League matches in December and January lost before the rot was stopped with a 3-2 home victory over Third Lanark on 5th January. Both of the remaining League matches before the Cup-tie was due ended in draws, but a good deal of encouragement was derived from an excellent debut by outside-right Clements at Easter Road on 19th January and a 2-2 draw in Edinburgh was reckoned to be a pretty useful result. Clements had just been acquired from West Bromwich Albion for a fee of £80.

Cup-tie day (26th January) brought with it some very wintry weather and St Mirren's Cup-tie had to be postponed. Up in Aberdeen, however, Johnstone were making the headlines by holding the Dons to a goalless draw.

On the following Saturday every available tramcar (and various other forms of conveyance) was pressed into service to transport the Paisley supporters to Dunterlie Park. Although it was still very frosty and the home club's officials wanted another postponement, the referee ruled the pitch playable. Saints were rocked in the first half when Miller put Arthurlie into the lead and half-time arrived with the score unchanged. In the second half, St Mirren were awarded a penalty kick but international back Tom Jackson missed. When another spot kick was given later, the task of taking it was entrusted to club captain David Crawford, who levelled the scores. Before the end, Wylie scored the vital winning goal to put Saints into the next round.

A week later, Johnstone put Aberdeen out of the Cup with a 2-1 win, and were drawn to meet Hibernian at Easter Road. After astonishing the football world by holding Hibs to a 1-1 draw, their bubble burst in the replay which they lost 5-0.

Saints' opponents in the second round were Renfrewshire First Division rivals Port Glasgow Athletic who were expected to put up stern resistance. The Paisley side, however, were in splendid form, scoring four goals without reply, the marksmen being Wylie, Anderson (2) and Gray.

The next round, unfortunately, saw St Mirren's Cup run come to an end, although it took three games, the decider taking place at barely neutral Tynecastle, before Hibs got through with two extra-time goals from Fitzpatrick and Callaghan.

Supporters wanting to drown their sorrows could have bought a bottle of Old Highland Whisky for 2/3d, while gents' overcoats were selling at 25/6d and a shop on Wellmeadow was offering a practically new piano for £28.

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## QUIZ PAGE (Compiled by Alex Bell)

### FOR SAINTS FANS

1. Who scored Saints' goal in last season's 1-1 draw at Parkhead?
2. St Mirren lost to Celtic in both games played at Love Street last season. True or false?
3. The record attendance at Love Street is 47,428 v Celtic in a Scottish Cup tie. In which year was this tie played?
4. Stevie Clark and former Saint Jack Copland both played for the same Junior Club. Name the club.
5. Has St Mirren ever finished in a higher Premier League position than Celtic?

### ANSWERS

1 - Mark Fulton. 2 - True. 1-2 and 0-1. 3 - 1925. 4 - Dalgligh, Edvaldsson, Craig, Wilson and Conn. 5 - John Fallon.

### FOR CELTIC FANS

1. Name the player Celtic signed from St Mirren in the fifties who scored one of the goals in the memorable 7-1 League Cup final over Rangers in season '57-'58.
2. How many times has Celtic won the Premier League?
3. Name the Lisbon Lions who **did not** play in the final against Feyenoord three years ago.
4. Celtic beat Rangers 1-0 in the '76-'77 Scottish Cup final (Andy Lynch scored with a penalty). Can you name Celtic's forward line that day? (You are a true fan if you get this one)
5. In 1969 a Celtic goalkeeper won a Scottish Cup medal but did not play in either of the European Cup finals of '67 or '70. Can you name him?

### ANSWERS

1 - Sammy Wilson. 2 - Four. 3 - Simpson, Craig, Clark and Chalmers. 4 - Dalgligh, Edvaldsson, Craig, Wilson and Conn. 5 - John Fallon.

### FOR THE YOUNGER FANS

1. Which team plays at Shawfield Stadium?
2. What is Partick Thistle's ground called?
3. Which club is nicknamed "The Spiders"?
4. Celtic manager David Hay played for Chelsea. In which English city do they play?
5. Did Clydebank ever play in the Premier League?

### ANSWERS

1 - Clyde. 2 - Firhill. 3 - Queens Park. 4 - London. 5 - Yes, in season '77-'78.

## THE HISTORY MAKERS

For Celtic supporters, the date 25th May, 1967 signifies one of the greatest days in the club's history.

The Celts lined up: Simpson, Craig and Gemmell, Murdoch, McNeill and Clark, Johnstone, Wallace, Chalmers, Auld and Lennox. It was in Portugal's National Stadium that Glasgow Celtic became history makers.

Celtic became Scotland's first side to win the European Cup, beating Inter-Milan 2-1. Initially 1-0 down, Celtic pulled themselves back into the game when Tommy Gemmell let fly with one of his thunderbolts to level the scores. Diminutive Stevie Chalmers coolly slotted the ball past Inter's Sarti, to give the Celtic the European Cup.

Celtic's victory was no fluke and on the final whistle the team were mobbed by ecstatic supporters, who, later, went on to have a joyous night out on the town.

On arriving back in Glasgow, the Celts were welcomed by 60,000 fans at Parkhead, as the team did a lap of honour.

The programme for this game is, and always has been, sought after — not only by Celtic fans but by others who recognise this victory as a great day for Scottish football. For any of the Celtic supporters who were in Lisbon on that day there is no price high enough for the programme, mainly because you cannot buy memories. However, the copies that do come on the market usually sell for around the £7 mark and are quickly snapped up.

Right — the programme from the European Cup final.



## WERE YOU THERE?

In season 1960/61 St Mirren travelled to Dundee to play a Scottish Cup tie against Dundee United at Tannadice. Saints won the match 1-0, but what was unusual about this match was the fact that Saints took to the field wearing not their usual black and white kit but the colours of Dundee F.C.

The tale unfolds — that because both sides wore black and white as their colours, the Scottish Cup rules stated at the time, "that both clubs had to change their strips."

Saints were under the impression that it was only the home club that was required to change in the event of a colour clash. On finding out that this was not the case, Saints went to Dens Park and borrowed a set of Dundee strips and, of course, went on to win the match.

There is no record of which club was left to clean the borrowed strips.

## BIRTHDAYS

Only one Saint player celebrates his birthday this week. FRANK McAVENNIE is 24 on the 22nd of November and after his sparkling performance last Saturday — we are looking for the same again today. Have a good day on the 22nd, Frank.

Celtic's captain, ROY AITKEN has his 25th birthday two days after Franks's, on the 24th of November. Roy received an early present when it was announced that he would be centre half in the Scotland Under '21 squad last Wednesday.

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

. . . that Celtic finished runners-up in the Premier League Championship last season with 55 points. The highest points total ever amassed by any club in the Premier League is 56 (just one single point more!)

Celtic won the Championship in '79-'80 with a points tally of 48.

. . . that St Mirren's highest points tally in the Premier League was 44 in season '80-'81 when they finished in fourth position.

A.B.

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# SPONSOR A SAINT



# SAINTS CENTENARY

THIS WEEK WE LOOK AT SAINTS CUP VICTORY OVER CELTIC IN 1926

## HAMPDEN HEROES

Here is a poem:

Bradford; Findlay and Newbigging;  
Morrison, Summers and McDonald;  
Morgan and Gebbie; McCrae, Howieson  
and Thomson.

They were the Saints who won the Cup  
in 1926. Their victory was total. It was also  
quick. Effectively, they had Celtic beaten  
in three minutes.

That made them instant heroes. It also  
created many local legends. For Paisley  
had possibly the worst view of the early  
advance of Jock Bradford's men than any  
place in Scotland. They not only beat  
Celtic to the ball. They beat several  
thousand Buddies as well.

100

The 1926 final was the biggest there  
had been until then. A full 100,000  
packed Hampden. It was more like an  
English Cup scene. Fans had travelled  
from all over Scotland. There were Border  
accents and many from the Highlands.  
Only the Paisley male voice choir was  
understrength.

Around 10,000 Buddies had left the  
town by train. Many never made it for the  
kick-off, although it had been delayed for  
several minutes. Some of the trains were  
snarled up on the Cathcart Circle.

Paisley's army leaned from carriage  
windows in helpless fury. "If you can't get  
us there, at least tell us the score," they  
shouted at the railway workers.

So they came over the rim of the  
terracing to the news it was 1-0. Dave  
McCrae had done it already.

Saints had started the game on a  
charge that stopped at the edge of the  
penalty box when McCrae was fouled.  
Jimmy Howieson's free kick was  
deflected for a corner. Over it came from  
Morrison straight to the head of McCrae.

Nobody could know it at the time, but  
that was it. Celtic were out.

100

After 25 minutes, Howieson made  
entirely sure. McCrae, Thomson and  
Morgan shared a move of mesmerising  
speed. The ball came to Howieson. He hit  
it first time. No bother.

After half time, it was also virtually  
no contest.

Jimmy Howieson sustained his early  
brilliance. McCrae and Morgan roared  
about with tireless energy. That  
marvellous half-back line of Morrison,  
Summers and McDonald grew taller as the  
game progressed. (A referee of the time  
liked to say that you had only to throw the  
Big Three a bag of salt and they would eat  
any opposition.) Andrew (Tarzan) Findlay  
and Willie Newbiggin remained swift and  
sure in their tackles.

Paisley's victory roar started two  
minutes from time . . .

100

It had been building up from the start of  
the season. In the early Saturdays of the  
League, Saints had looked good to  
challenge Celtic for the Championship.  
Partly because of injury, that form had  
tapered. But it kept rekindling into full  
flame during the Cup.

It was a stalwart match to Hampden,  
scoring twelve goals, conceding only one.  
First Mid Annandale fell. Then Arbroath,  
Partick Thistle and Airdrieonians. That left  
Rangers in the semi-final.

Before 60,000 at Parkhead a goal by  
Jimmy Thomson, the only survivor of the  
Victory Cup team, was enough to make  
Saints finalists again, and seek revenge  
against the Celts for the terrible mauling  
of 1908.

While the team retreated to Seamill  
for a week, Paisley began firmly to rejoice.

"Abercorn", the football writer of the  
"*Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette*," was  
fearless in his forecasting:

"I have every confidence that against the  
date, season 1925-26, on the Cup the  
name of St Mirren will this year fall to be  
inscribed."

This was in the minds of most of the St  
Mirren followers as, with beaming  
countenances, they made their way home  
to town after witnessing the tie which  
landed Saints in the concluding stage of  
the trophy.

"Abercorn" (a name from the not-too-  
distant-past) told the future well, and  
more than countenances were changed.

On the Monday after the final, Willie  
Summers was beamed into the Scotland  
team. So, for a bonus, was Andy Reid, the  
trainer.

100

First, however, right after the final,  
Paisley went en fete. A crowd of 50,000  
lined the streets in from Hawkhead Road.  
The town band led the choir. Women  
threw flowers to their Hampden heroes.

From 7 p.m., La Scala, in the High  
Street, started screening a film of the  
triumph.

By modern standards Jock Bradford's  
XI had, perhaps, not won so much. They  
had started the game in new stockings.  
The semi final victory had won them each  
a suit of clothes.

Money windfall for victory was £8 a  
man. At that time the lowest wages for an  
ordinary match went down to £4. For the  
likes of Willie Summers, who earned  
double what most of his mates did, the  
triumph of 1926 brought in an extra  
week's pay.

But one kindly, excited benefactor  
found a bottle of whisky for every man.  
Davie McCrae vowed he wouldn't touch a  
drop till Saints again took the trophy.

He was to wait thirty-three years for  
a taste of his prize.

Before the Match have a drink in

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