

# HOOPS





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# WHAT'S INSIDE



## 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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# ANGE POSTECOGLOU

**WELCOME to this afternoon's match against Ross County, and after a run of no fewer than five home games in a row inside two weeks last month, it seems like an age since we were last here at Celtic Park.**

Though it has to be said a lot has happened since our 6-0 win over St Mirren in our last home game three weeks ago.

Not least being qualifying for the group stages of the UEFA Champions League and the closure of the summer transfer window that saw more new faces coming in to the squad, while a few other players moved in the opposite direction.

Qualifying for the upcoming Europa League games is very exciting for everyone at the club – players, backroom staff and supporters alike and I'm sure we're all looking forward to the games after getting through against a very good AZ Alkmaar side.

Looking at the calibre of the teams we're going to be up against in the shape of Bayer Leverkusen, Real Betis and Ferencvaros in Group G, I'm super excited, as I know we're going to have some fantastic nights, particularly here at Celtic Park.

Nights like those coming up are why we're all involved in the game, to test ourselves against the best on the continent and that's also why we can attract the quality players we added as the transfer window came to a close.

Everyone at the club worked hard on making really good progress during the window and I am really pleased with the depth of quality we managed to bring to the club.

I feel the squad is in good shape for the challenges ahead and I look forward to get working as a unit with the whole squad together, as one, following the international break just past.

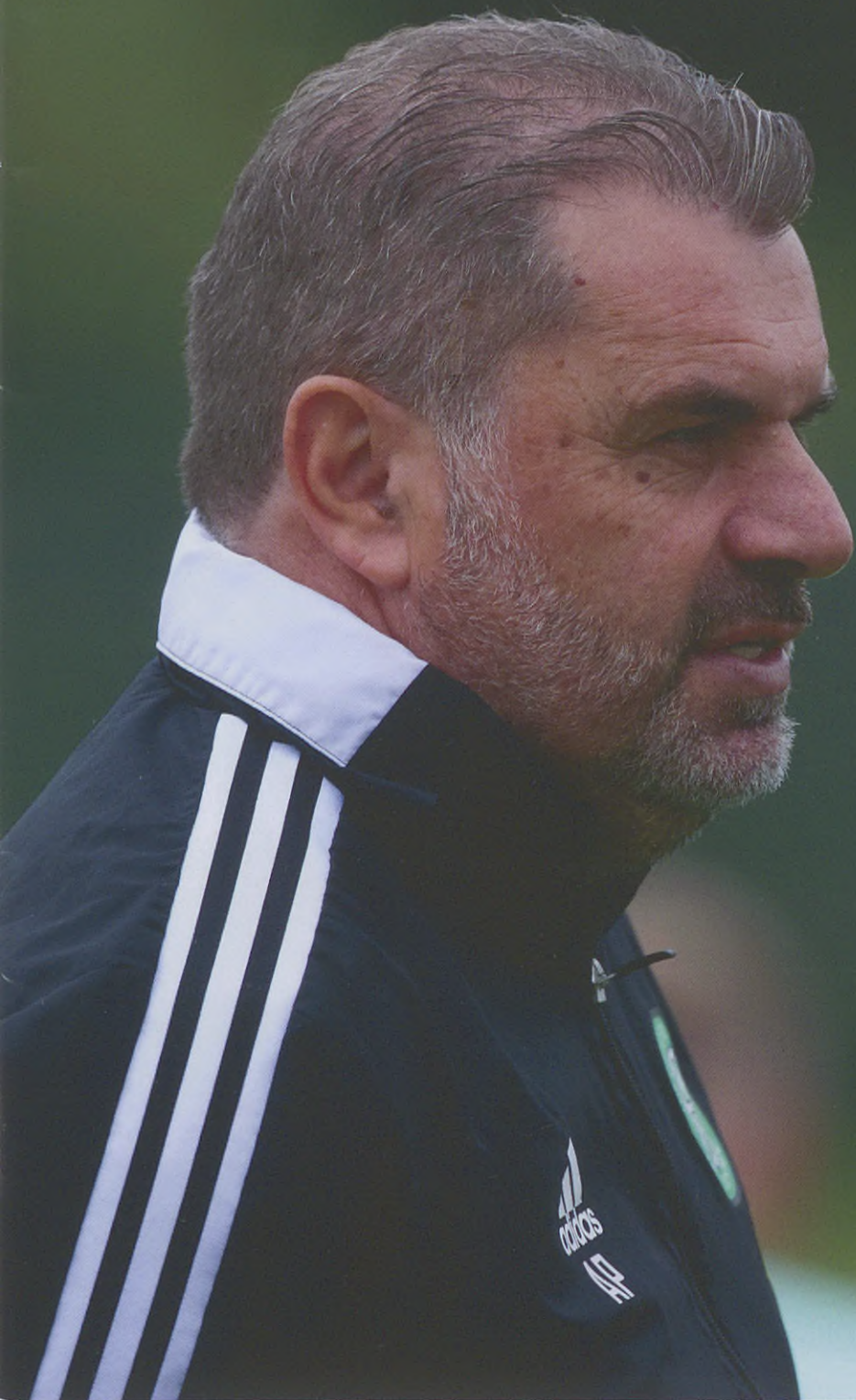
That international break was, of course, another facet of the past three weeks and that's part of being a successful club – the bulk of your players are chosen for international duty.

As I'm writing these notes, before everyone returns, I hope that all of our players come back with a clean bill of health following their games.

Our visitors today are Ross County and in their last outing, they were minutes away from a win at Aberdeen until the home side equalised as the game came to a close.

So, we know we will be in for a tough test, but we also know that with your support from the stands, we will have added impetus to maintain our winning home record.

**EVERYONE AT THE CLUB WORKED HARD ON MAKING REALLY GOOD PROGRESS DURING THE WINDOW AND I AM REALLY PLEASED WITH THE DEPTH OF QUALITY WE MANAGED TO BRING TO THE CLUB.**



»» THE MANAGER



adidas



SPEEDFLOW



# THE CAPTAIN CALLUM MCGREGOR

07

**WE'RE back at Celtic Park today after a couple of away games and the international break, and I have to say it's great to be back on home turf, and I'm sure you all enjoy getting back here for a Saturday 3pm kick-off.**

Speaking of the international break, I'm writing these programme notes prior to all of our international boys in the squad returning to Lennoxtown, so I hope nobody is nursing any nasty knocks following their travels as we all want a full pool of players to choose from for this afternoon's visit of Ross County.

The visitors gave us a couple of tough games last season and we well know what they

are capable of, so we have to be at it right away if we want carry on with our home record, and I have to say, we've all really been enjoying our football here at Celtic Park now that the crowds are back, and long may that be the case.

Apart from the obvious, another reason for wanting a full squad of players for the manager to select from, is that we have the new lads who joined at the tail end of the transfer window and I want to take this chance welcome them to Celtic Football Club.

Along with the other guys who joined earlier in the summer, they are great additions to the squad and I'm sure you are dying to see them in action just as much as they

are desperate to play in front of the Celtic Park crowd.

These are exciting times for the club, both on and off the park, with the Celtic support streaming back to the stands, and the team eager to please the fans with good performance and results.

We hope we can produce both of those this afternoon and we know that with you all behind us on the sidelines, we have a more than better chance of doing just that. Enjoy the game.



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HIS NAME IS

# McNAMARA

» EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: JOE DONNELLY

09

**IN 10 trophy-laden years at Paradise between 1995 and 2005, Jackie McNamara wore the green and white Hoops of Celtic with pride – latterly as club captain.**

This week, the ex-Celt launched his first book titled, 'His Name is McNamara: The Autobiography of Jackie McNamara', which charts his prolific career in football – at Celtic and beyond – and explores how the brain aneurism he suffered last year impacted his life and his family.

"The book is about my life and my career, and while I've been asked to do it a number of times over the years, I've always been reluctant to do it, especially when I was still playing and managing," said McNamara in an exclusive interview with Celtic TV.

"What happened to me last year and the experience of that made me think it was right to do one then, to put it out there and if someone else is going through what I did last year, then maybe this can help them come to terms with it and maybe deal with it when they're up against it."

In the book, McNamara discusses how he coped with short-term memory loss, and learning to walk and talk again on his road to recovery.

"But it's amazing how the body can recover," he added, "and hopefully when people read my book, it can maybe help other people deal with things. It can take time to get better, but it is achievable."

McNamara also hailed current Hoops captain Callum McGregor – specifically praising the maturity the 28-year-old has shown in acquiring the armband.

"Callum has handled the transition excellently and I think he's leading by example," McNamara told Celtic TV. "Some people might have doubted him because he's not a screamer or a shouter, but I think of myself as captain and I was similar to him."

The ex-Celtic skipper added: "There are a lot of leaders in the team, he has a lot of new players coming in and I think he's a big part in accepting them in and helping them embed into the club."

"He's a fantastic footballer, first and foremost, he'll take everything head-on, he demands the ball and never hides from it and I think so far, so good in terms of how he's handled all of that. I'm sure the manager will be delighted by the ways he's helped him in the dressing room as well."

His Name is McNamara: The Autobiography of Jackie McNamara is on sale now in the Celtic Superstore.





# SWISS ROLE

11

ALBIAN AJETI IS FIT, READY  
AND PREPARED TO SEIZE  
HIS OPPORTUNITY IN ANGE  
POSTECOGLU'S CELTIC

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: JOE DONNELLY





“ AS A TEAM, WE’RE ALL VERY CONFIDENT IN THE WAY WE TRAIN AND PLAY NOW.”

**WITH 83 minutes played and his prolific Celtic side five goals to the good against a 10-man St Mirren at Paradise, Ange Postecoglou scans the subs bench. He’s already introduced Tom Rogic and Ismaila Soro – for Callum McGregor and Kyogo Furuhashi respectively – and now his likely choices are Nir Bitton, Adam Montgomery and Albion Ajeti.**

On the pitch, Liel Abada has netted twice, as has David Turnbull, with the Hoops’ other goal coming from Odsonne Edouard just over the hour. With seven minutes left on the clock, and with the French striker looking a little leggy, it’s Ajeti who gets the nod in the closing stages.

One minute later, Turnbull has his hat-trick, Rogic has an assist, and the Swiss forward has played a massive part in the sixth and final goal of the afternoon. After winning possession near the touchline, Ajeti strode forward down the inside-left channel before slipping the

ball into the path of Rogic, who in turn fed the ball on to the overlapping Turnbull.

The midfielder poked the ball home and Celtic Park erupted. Game, set and match.

“That’s what the manager wants,” explained Ajeti in an exclusive interview with the official matchday programme. “He’s mentioned it a lot – that it’s not just about the starting XI, the substitutes need to be ready to affect the game as soon as they enter the pitch, and I think that’s what we’ve tried to do since the manager came in.

“In that game against St Mirren, I was happy to be able to come into the game and help the team not long after entering play. That felt good, the manager was pleased with us as a group and that gave us, and continues to give us, a lot of confidence.”

Ajeti said confidence is high behind the scenes under Ange Postecoglou, describing the feeling at Lennoxton as “renewed” and “very positive”.

Having signed at Paradise in the summer of 2020, not long after the start of the global pandemic, and thus, the enforced lockdowns and restrictions which have disrupted world football over the last 18 months, the Swiss forward is only now getting to experience Paradise in full voice.

Going from zero fans to 60,000-odd of late has been a strange experience for Ajeti – one he’s still happily adjusting to.

He added: “I came to Celtic at a very difficult time, not just for the club for the whole of the world. With COVID, a global pandemic, it was not easy to move to a different country and to play football at a time with so many restrictions on the game. Things have been different.

“I take it as how it is, but now with fans back into the stadiums, I can say that I personally am feeling a lot more confident, and I think the same applies to the team as a whole. As a team, we’re all very confident in the way we train and play now.”



"I must be honest – I'm still getting used to having fans back in the stadium! It's just different. I've also played in the Premier League in England, which also has good atmospheres, but nothing can ever compare to Celtic Park and the noise the fans generate here. I'm still getting used to the noise they make, but it's fantastic.

"It's really unbelievable and I'm really pleased I've had the chance to play in front of the fans and experience the atmosphere, especially given the fact I had to wait so long for that to happen. It's an honour and a pleasure to play in this famous stadium."

Injury hindered Ajeti's progress for spells during last season, however the striker returned for the Hoops' pre-season training camp down in England and Wales leaner, fitter and more confident than ever. He's been delighted with the coaching style Ange Postecoglou has brought to the club, and believes the Australian's all-out attacking philosophy is tailor-made for out-and-out forwards like himself.

"Speaking more generally," the striker continued, "things are good, I had a good pre-season, so did the team, we have a new manager, a new team spirit and I'm feeling happy. I'm feeling great, actually. I worked really hard during the close season, during pre-season and, even now, into the new season to get the best fitness I've ever had. I think I'm in the best condition I've ever been and I want to keep that going.

"The new manager's style of play is great, it's positive, attacking and it's non-stop, on and off the ball. That's the way we love to play and certainly the way I love to play.

"It's the way that suits me, being presented with the ball in the box, and I think that's reflected by the hundreds of chances we've created over the last few games. That's great for us as a team and particularly for the strikers, and it's a way of football that suits me perfectly."

With another international break now behind us, Celtic's

busy fixture schedule resumes in earnest – with the Hoops staring down league, domestic cup and UEFA Europa League competition every few days between now and the next international intermission.

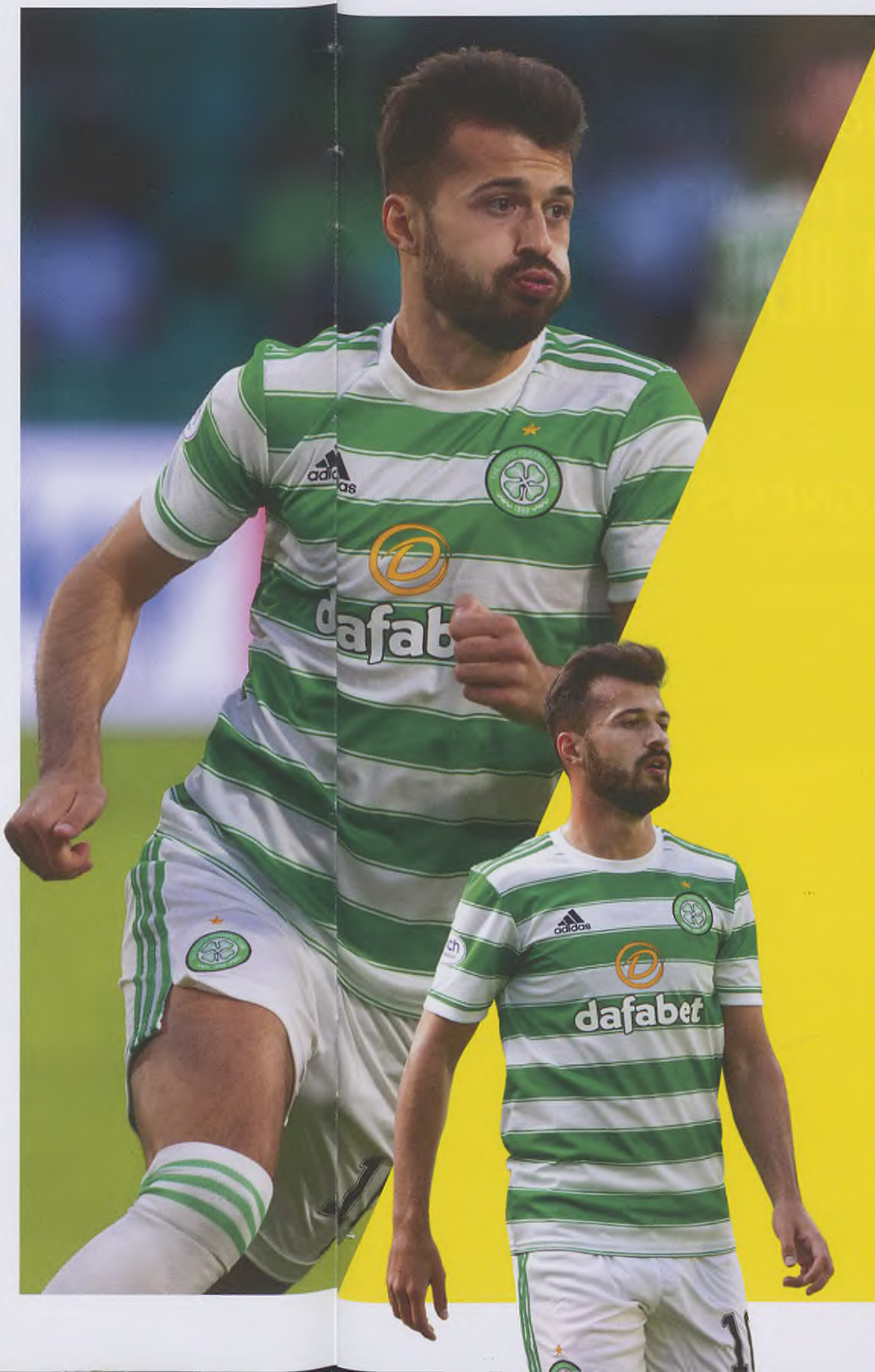
That starts with today's Scottish Premiership encounter against Ross County, with Real Betis away from home the following Thursday, a trip to Livingston's Almondvale three days after that, and a home League Cup tie against Raith Rovers just a few days after that again.

Ajeti says he prefers the gruelling schedule, and believes Celtic have the strength in depth to utilise the entire squad in order to be successful during this busy period. Moreover, the striker is certain the Paradise faithful – on-song, at full capacity, and cheering on the players on the pitch – will provide that extra boost to raise the players' game to the next level.

He added: "I didn't get on against Alkmaar at home, but I was on the bench and the noise in the stadium was incredible! And while that was only a qualifier for European football, I couldn't believe how good the atmosphere was, it was really unbelievable.

"I'd never experienced anything like that before, and it was great. I'm so pleased that we managed to qualify for the group stages of the Europa League again, and the thought of playing amid that level of noise makes me look forward to these games in Europe even more than before, and I'm even more determined to perform. The manager has said that we want to go into the competition with confidence, we want to go there and do damage, and we want to do as well as we can.

"Between times, we have to focus on the league and the cups, and that's exactly what we'll do. When teams come to Celtic Park, like Ross County, it doesn't matter how they set up to play – we must focus on our game and do everything we can to win and keep our confidence going."



## » MR MOTIVATED

THE summer transfer window of 2021 saw Celtic welcome 12 new players to the club in all areas of the pitch. Outgoings included Ryan Christie (to Bournemouth) Odsonne Edouard (to Crystal Palace) and Leigh Griffiths (on loan to Dundee), and Albion Ajeti wishes them well.

With three attackers leaving the club, the Swiss forward is determined to step up – but said this is always his plan, regardless of how many players are competing for spots in the manager's starting XI.

"I always wish any of the boys leaving the team all the best, and, no matter their position, I don't think anyone leaving gives you extra motivation because you're always motivated," said the striker. "Whether we have two or three or six strikers, I will always give my all and do whatever I can to earn my place. Then it's up to the manager who starts.

"As players, it's our job to make that decision more difficult for him – and that's the way we want it, and, I think, the way he wants it too. I will always give my best, I will always work hard, and I will always be motivated."

## » OUT FOR THE COUNTY

WITH the games now coming thick and fast, Celtic prepare for league, domestic cup and European football in the month of September alone, and Albion Ajeti can't wait to play his part in the Hoops' success.

Ange Postecoglou has impressed a style of play which is fast-flowing, fluid and all-out attacking since joining the club at the beginning of the summer, and Ajeti is confident Celtic can handle whatever comes their way by sticking to the manager's plan and vision.

Ajeti said: "We always want to play our style of football, our way of football, whether that's in Europe or whether that's in domestic competition – in the cups or in the league.

"This is what makes us strong and confident, and we know that when teams come to Celtic Park, they do everything they can to upset that and make it difficult for us.

"Ross County will do the same this afternoon, but if we can play our normal game with attacking football, then I'm confident we can take all three points from the match."

EVERYTHING'S BEEN  
LEADING TO THIS.

HERE'S TO THE MOMENT  
WHEN TIME BEARS FRUIT



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



# CELTIC FC WOMEN COMPLETE SUMMER OF WORLDWIDE SIGNINGS

» WORDS: LOUISE GOULD

**BY the time the transfer deadline was reached on the last day of August, Celtic FC Women had concluded a busy summer searching all corners of the globe, with seven signings arriving during the 2021 summer transfer window.**

The seven new arrivals to Fran Alonso's squad hail from China, New Zealand, Canada, Iceland, US, England and Ireland. All bar one of the new players made their debuts for the Hoops on the continent, having featured in the squad for Celtic Women's debut in the UEFA Women's Champions League.

Latest recruit and deadline day signing Clarissa Larisey joined the Hoops from newly crowned Icelandic champions Valur. The 22-year-old Canadian striker, who previously netted 34 times in 73 appearances for the University of Memphis, will add more fire power to Alonso's squad and she made her debut last weekend in the 4-2 away win over Aberdeen.

New Celt and Chinese internationalist Shen Mengyu made history by becoming the first ever Chinese woman player in the UK. The dynamic midfielder made the move from Shanghai Shengli for the 2021/22 season. The 19-year-old narrowly missed out on selection for the delayed 2020 Tokyo Olympics having been involved in the initial squad of 26.

Celtic have however added an Olympian to the mix, with the arrival of New Zealand internationalist Olivia Chance. The 27-year-old spent the summer in Tokyo with the Football Ferns, before making her Celtic debut in Norway against FC Minsk in the UWCL.

American centre-back Cheyenne Shorts made her way to Paradise after the Covid-19 pandemic forced her out of playing action at Orlando Pride and Saint Etienne.

Irish teenager Tyler Toland has already made her mark in the squad featuring heavily in the team's pre-season matches, as well as in the UWCL.

Icelandic winger Maria Olafsdottir Gros arrived at Celtic Park from Thor KA - achieving her dream of playing professional football.

English striker Charlie Wellings made the move north of the border to join the Hoops earlier in the summer. The 23-year-old signed from Bristol City in July, having scored in the 2017 FA Women's Cup final at Wembley Stadium while playing for Birmingham City.

All seven of the new players featured in last weekend's SWPL1 win up at Aberdeen with Wellings getting on the scoresheet with a double in the 4-2 win as the Ghirls picked up the first available three points of the new campaign.







## »»» THE STAGGIES

**STADIUM:** VICTORIA PARK  
**CAPACITY:** 6,541  
**MANAGER:** MALKY MACKAY

# ROSS COUNTY

### WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT VICTORIA PARK

Malky Mackay was appointed Ross County manager in June, marking his first full-time managerial role since being sacked by Wigan Athletic six years ago. The former Watford and Cardiff boss most recently served as the Scottish FA performance director for four years until November last year. Ross County brought Malky Mackay in to replace John Hughes who helped steer the club out of automatic relegation and the Premiership play-offs by securing 10th place in the league. Ross County

have endured a rocky start to the new season after they were forced to forfeit their League Cup opener against Forfar Athletic on July 10 amid a Covid-19 outbreak. They received a 3-0 defeat in a group that also included Dundee, Montrose and Brora Rangers. Former Hamilton Accies striker Ross Callachan became Malky Mackay's first signing as manager. The 27-year-old scored 10 goals in 37 games and took advantage of a release clause in his contract when the Accies were relegated. Fellow striker Dominic Samuel followed shortly afterwards as Ross

County's second signing of the summer, while David Cancola joined from Slovan Liberec. The 27-year-old left Gillingham after one season and was at Blackburn Rovers for three years prior to that. Malky Mackay made two loan signings with 19-year-old Southampton left-back Jake Vokins moving up to Dingwall for a year. Manchester City's Alexander Robertson was next. The 18-year-old midfielder agreed a one-year loan stint with the club. Other loan signings to come in have been Harry Clarke from Arsenal, Jack Burroughs from Coventry and Joseph Hungbo from Watford.

### LAST SEASON v CELTIC

Celtic got the better of Ross County in two of their three league meetings last season. The first time the two sides faced off ended in a heavy defeat for the Highland outfit who suffered a 5-0 loss at home. Odsonne Edouard scored early on from the penalty spot before Albion Ajeti doubled the lead. Shane Duffy marked his debut in the Hoops with a goal in the second half before Kristoffer Ajer and Patryk Klimala increased the visitors' advantage. The second game came one month after the Staggies knocked Celtic

an important player for Malky Mackay throughout the season. The 19-year-old managed only five first-team appearances while on loan at Sunderland last season due to injury and a bout of Covid, and will be keen to impress his parent club with the loan move. Alexander Robertson's time at Manchester City brings plenty of promise and could shine on loan in the Ross County team. The 18-year-old has already made a senior appearance with City and helped his club win the Under-23 Premier League last season. He has shown an ability to score goals with both feet and will offer lots of energy in the heart of the Ross County midfield.



JAKE VOKINS

out of the League Cup and the Hoops exacted some revenge with a 2-0 win at Celtic Park two days before Christmas. David Turnbull turned in Jeremy Frimpong's cutback from the byline midway through the first half and Leigh Griffiths made it 2-0 with a header just after the hour mark. Ross County claimed a narrow win over Celtic in their final meeting of the season on February 21. Jordan White's header in the 71 minute lifted his side to 10th place and out of the relegation zone.

### PLAYERS TO WATCH

Jake Vokins is a big capture for the Staggies and could be

### AND ANOTHER THING...

Ross County's League Cup win in 2016 is the highest honour the club has ever achieved and the only piece of major domestic silverware. The accomplishment is something of a fairy tale journey for the club who progressed from the Highland League all the way to Hampden glory within the space of 22 years. Jim McIntyre managed the team to the trophy over the course of five games. The Staggies defeated Ayr United in the second round before thrashing Falkirk 7-0 in the next round to book a Highland derby against Inverness. Ross County came

out on top 2-1 winners in that game and managed to cause an upset in the semi-final with a 3-1 defeat over Celtic. They met Hibernian in the final which ended in dramatic fashion. Michael Gardyne put Ross County in front midway through the first half but Liam Fontaine cancelled out the goal just before the break. The game looked to be heading for extra-time but Alex Schalk wrote his name into the club's history books when he slotted home the winner in the 90th minute.



IN THE AWAY  
DRESSING ROOM TODAY >>>

# ROSS COUNTY

**IT was two wins a-piece in four encounters between today's teams last season, with the Hoops winning once in Dingwall and once here at Paradise.**

The former victory saw Celtic triumph 5-0 in league action in the Highlands – with goals from Odsonne Edouard, Albion Ajeti, Shane Duffy, Kris Ajer and Patryk Klimala – whereas the latter saw David Turnbull and Leigh Griffiths help the Hoops overcome the Staggies 2-0 in Glasgow.

The first of Ross County's triumphs, on the other hand, came during a 2-0 League Cup win last November, while the second saw them win 1-0 in the Premiership in February.

All of which sets up today's match nicely – here are some of the players Celtic might face this afternoon.



## #1 GOALKEEPER - ROSS LAIDLAW

Laidlaw joined Ross County in summer 2019 as the club prepared for return to the top flight. The 6'4" stopper started his career with Raith Rovers where he came up through the academy system before making 39 first-team appearances. He joined Hibernian in 2016 and went on to make 19 appearances for the Easter Road club. The 29-year-old's debut for The Staggies came in a 4-1 win over Montrose in the League Cup in July 2019 and he kept a clean sheet in his league debut that season in helping Ross County to a 3-0 win over Hamilton Accies in their league opener. At the end of his debut season in Dingwall, Laidlaw made 22 appearances between the sticks, returning five shut-outs – against Hearts (twice), Kilmarnock (twice), and Livingston. Last campaign, the goalkeeper made 40 appearances for the Staggies and returned eight shut-outs – against Motherwell and Hamilton in the first two weeks of the Scottish Premiership, St Johnstone, Hibs, Celtic in the league and League Cup, Dundee United and Stirling Albion.



## #2 DEFENDER - CONNOR RANDALL

Right-back Connor Randall was born in the Merseyside town of Kirkby and climbed the ranks of Liverpool's youth academy set-up. While playing for the Reds' Under-21 side, the defender spent a short term on loan at Shrewsbury Town before returning to Anfield in early 2015 and graduating to the Liverpool first-team. Between 2015 and 2019, the full-back made eight appearances under Brendan Rodgers and Jurgen Klopp, having also spent spells on loan at Hearts and Rochdale during that time. In the summer of 2019, Randall was released from Liverpool and spent a season at top-tier Bulgarian outfit PFC Arda Kardzhali. In the summer of last year, Randall returned to Scottish football with a move to Ross County and was an integral part of then manager Stewart Kettlewell's plans before a back injury thwarted his progress in Dingwall. Still, the defender was solid in his 17 appearances in league and cup competition, and has returned from injury as a key player under County boss Malky Mackay.



## #25 DEFENDER - COLL DONALDSON

Donaldson joined Ross County from rivals Inverness in January, 2020. The 26-year-old defender came up through Livingston's academy and made his debut for the club in March 2013 in a 2-2 draw with Dunfermline. He went on to make a total of 29 appearances for the club before Queens Park Rangers signed him in January, 2014. Donaldson spent a year-and-a-half at Loftus Road but only made one appearance. Dundee United brought the Edinburgh-born defender back to Scotland ahead of the 2015/16 season, where he went on to make 44 appearances for the club before signing for Inverness in the summer of 2017. After two seasons and 104 appearances with ICT, Donaldson made the move to Ross County and has been a mainstay of the defence since. In his first full season at Dingwall, Donaldson made 34 appearances for the Staggies and chipped in with a goal and an assist – the former scored in a 2-1 away defeat to Dundee United, the latter provided in a 1-0 away win over Hamilton Accies.



## #22 MIDFIELDER - JORDAN TILLSON

Born in Bath, 28-year-old defensive midfielder Jordan Tillson progressed from Bristol Rovers' Under-18s to sign for Exeter City in the summer of 2012. Between 2012 and 2019, Tillson's time at the Grecians was broken up with short loans at Gloucester, Weston-Super-Mare and Cheltenham, however the midfielder nevertheless made 137 appearances for the St James Park side, during which time he netted five goals and captained the side on several occasions. In January, 2020, Tillson swapped Exeter for Ross County on a permanent basis and is now closing in on a half-century of appearances. No fewer than 36 of those came during the 2020/21 trail, when the Englishman also chipped in with two assists for his peers.



## #10 FORWARD - DOMINIC SAMUEL

Southwark-born Dominic Samuel started his football career at Reading, moving from their Under-18s to their first team in the summer of 2012. While featuring sporadically in his five years at the Madejski Stadium – scoring twice in 16 appearances – Samuel spent time at loan a series of English clubs, including Colchester United, Dagenham and Redbridge, Coventry, Gillingham and Ipswich. In the summer of 2017, the forward moved to Blackburn Rovers on a permanent basis where he'd make 59 appearances in three years, scoring 10 goals in that time. During the summer transfer window of 2020, Samuel returned to Gillingham, this time on a permanent deal, and hit six goals – three in the English League One and three in the FA Cup. This summer, Samuel travelled north to sign for Ross County under Malky Mackay.

LAST TIME AT HOME AGAINST COUNTY...

CELTIC 2

(TURNBULL 24, GRIFFITHS 62)

ROSS COUNTY 0

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2020 // CELTIC PARK, GLASGOW

IN season 2020/21, the Hoops and Ross County clashed three times in the league with a 5-0 away win for Celtic and a 1-0 win at the same venue for County sandwiching a 2-0 win for the Hoops at Celtic Park. Here we look at that 2-0 win.



**CELTIC followed up on their Quadruple Treble from four days previously with a dominant 2-0 win over Ross County in the league. The Hoops put on a strong performance and were unfortunate not to have scored more with the chances created.**

David Turnbull opened the scoring from close range midway through the first half and Leigh Griffiths netted just after the hour mark with a header.

Celtic made their intent clear from kick-off as they pilled the pressure on Ross County and tried to prevent the visitors settling into the game.

Callum McGregor helped create Celtic's goal when he picked out Jeremie Frimpong's run down the right flank with an excellent diagonal long ball. Frimpong darted into the box, turned Josh Reid and

picked out Turnbull inside a packed box with a neat cutback. Turnbull steered the ball into the bottom corner to net his second goal in the Hoops and his first in the Premiership for Celtic.

More opportunities followed throughout the first half. Frimpong got the better of Reid again out on the right and found Edouard inside the penalty area. The Frenchman turned away from his marker but couldn't get enough on his shot. He had another go on the edge of the area, holding off a challenge before dragging his shot wide of the post.

Ross Laidlaw made a good save to deny Griffiths from close range on the hour mark but the Celtic striker seized his chance one minute later to make it 2-0. Ryan Christie chipped a pass into the box and Griffiths gave the keeper no chance with an excellent header back across goal.

Celtic looked hungry for a third goal and appeared to grow in confidence as they continued to open up the Ross County defence with some slick passing in the final third.

Some nice combination play created a good chance for Odsonne Edouard but he couldn't finish Turnbull's cutback. McGregor followed up with a rebound but his attempt was blocked.

Substitutes Mikey Johnston and Olivier Ntcham almost increased Celtic's advantage late on. Johnston played a good one-two with McGregor before cutting a pass back from the byline for Ntcham but the midfielder couldn't generate enough power with his shot to trouble the keeper and the final whistle spared the visitors any further tournament from a determined Celtic side.

**CELTIC:** Hazard; Jullien, Griffiths (Ajeti 81), Soro, Turnbull (Ntcham 72), Christie (Rogic 72), Edouard (Johnston 72), Frimpong, Ajer, McGregor, Laxalt.

Subs: Barkas, Taylor, Bitton, Klimala, Elyounoussi.

**ROSS COUNTY:** Laidlaw, Watson, Iacovitti, Morris, Reid, Draper (Tillson 76), Vigurs (McKay 76), Gardyne (Hylton 45), Paton, Kelly, Stewart (Shaw 34).

Subs: Tremarco, Donaldson, Wright, Williamson, Munro.





# FACTS 'N' STATS

# CELTIC V

# ROSS COUNTY

## LEAGUE MEETINGS (All point tallies based on three points for a win)

CELTIC PARK*	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Celtic	13	10	3	0	32	3	+29	33
Ross County	13	0	3	10	3	32	-29	3

VICTORIA PARK*	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Celtic	13	8	3	2	34	11	+23	27
Ross County	13	2	3	8	11	34	-23	9

TOTAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Celtic	26	18	6	2	66	14	+52	60
Ross County	26	2	6	17	14	66	-52	12

\*denotes all home venues

## CUP CLASHES

SCOTTISH CUP	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD
Celtic	2	1	0	1	2	2	0
Ross County	2	1	0	1	2	2	0

THE CLUBS HAVEN'T MET IN ANY LEAGUE CUP FINALS

THE CLUBS HAVE MET IN

# ONE

LEAGUE CUP SEMI-FINAL

WHERE IT ALL

# BEGAN

JANUARY 10, 2004 (SCOTTISH CUP)



2 0



GOOD NEWS

# AND BAD

**BIGGEST ROSS COUNTY WIN**  
 JANUARY 3, 2016 (LEAGUE CUP)  
 ROSS COUNTY 3-1 CELTIC CELTIC

**BIGGEST CELTIC WIN**  
 OCTOBER 19, 2019 (LEAGUE)  
 CELTIC 6-0 ROSS COUNTY

OTHER

# MEETINGS

FRIENDLIES

August 31, 1970 **Ross County 0-3 Celtic**  
 August 2, 1976 **Ross County 0-4 Celtic**  
 August 1, 1984 **Ross County 2-2 Celtic**  
 October 27, 1997 **Ross County 0-4 Celtic**  
 July 25, 2000 **Ross County 2-1 Celtic**



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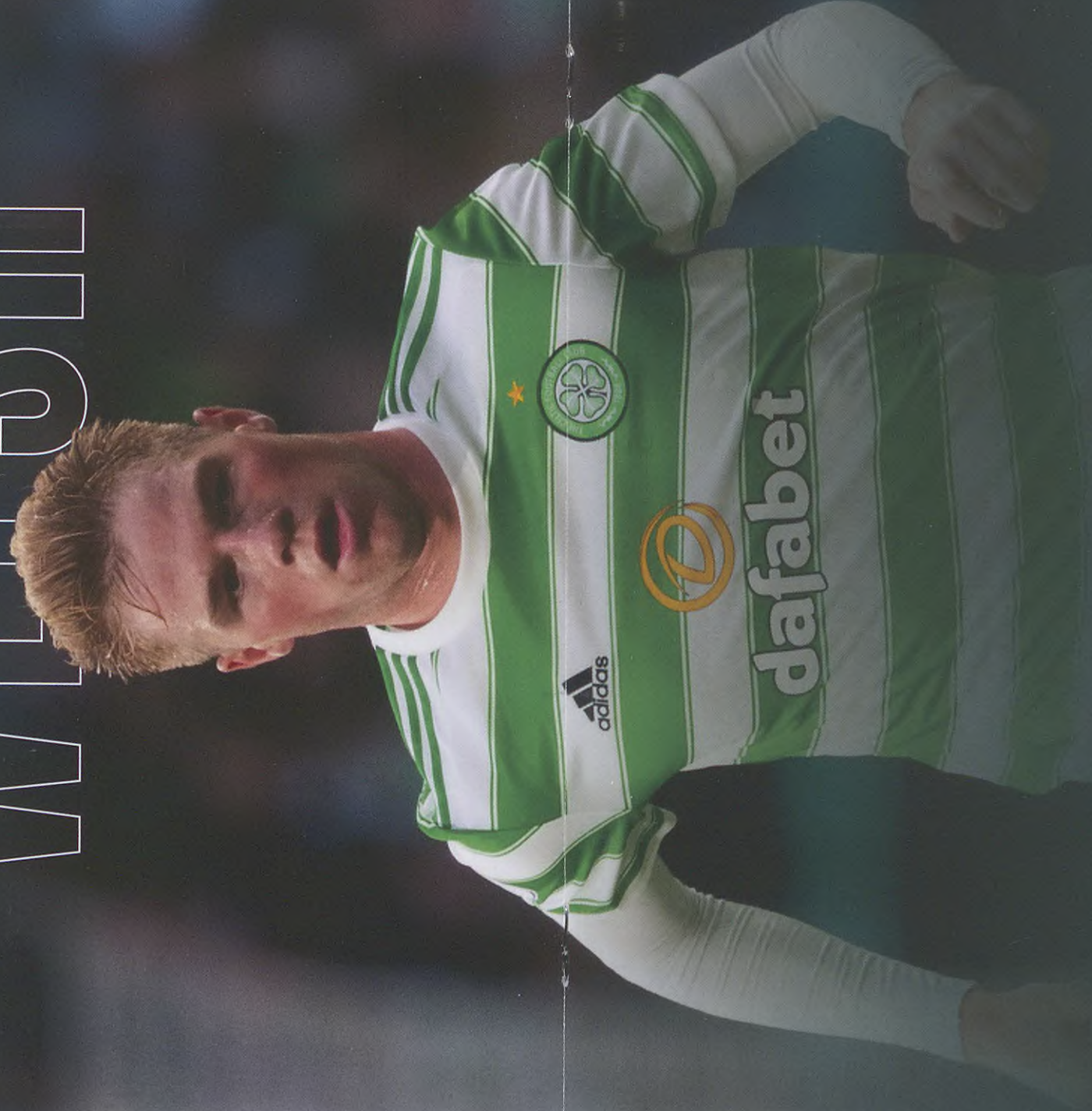
  
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# STEPHEN WELSH



»» **DEFENDER Stephen Welsh became a mainstay for the development and reserve sides after moving up from the Under-17s in the summer of 2017.**

"Every young kid who's a Celtic fan, it's their dream to play for Celtic. Only a few lucky ones get to do it, and it's such a privilege for me to be living it."

The defender steadily progressed through the ranks at the Celtic Academy and was building up his first-team experience in a season-long loan spell at Morton during the 2019/20 campaign before being recalled in January 2020.

Stephen then went on to make his first-team debut in a 4-1 win over Hamilton Accies in February 2020 as the Celts came from a

goal behind and eventually took the lead late in the game with a flurry of goals to secure three points in a vital match towards securing nine-in-a-row.

Following a handful of appearances over the course of three seasons, he really came to the fore as the midpoint of season 2020/21 approached and he played in 21 games over the course of the rest of the term.

Among those games, he also registered his first Celtic goal when he opened the scoring after only two minutes in a 2-1 win over Motherwell in February.

As a lifelong Celtic fan, the youngster admits he's living the dream and said he'll do everything he can, on and off the pitch, to keep himself in the manager's plans.

**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**SQUAD NUMBER:** 57

**D.O.B:** 19/01/2000

**BORN:** COATBRIDGE, SCOTLAND

**HEIGHT:** 5'9"

**SIGNED:** 01/07/18

**DEBUT:** V HAMILTON ACCIES

**(A) 4-1, (SPFL) 02/02/20**

**PREVIOUS CLUBS:** CELTIC YOUTH (ON LOAN AT MORTON WHILE WITH CELTIC)





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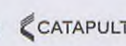
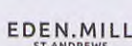
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CLASSIC CLASH...

CELTIC **6**

(ELYOUNOUSSI 3 & 71, EDOUARD 46 & 50, MCGREGOR 48, FORREST 55)

ROSS COUNTY **0**

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019 // CELTIC PARK, GLASGOW

**HERE we revisit a high-scoring meeting from season 2019/20 when the Celts turned in a six-goal performance with no reply from the visitors.**

It was only 1-0 at half-time though – until a post-break scoring spree from the Hoops change the complexion of the game.



**CELTIC produced a scintillating display of football as they returned to winning ways with an emphatic 6-0 home win over Ross County.**

Mohamed Elyounoussi started and finished the scoring, while there was also a double for Man of the Match, Odsonne Edouard and goals from Callum McGregor and James Forrest.

And while the Highland side were disappointed with the result, there was some measure of relief too, because, given Celtic's dominance from start to finish, the scoreline could have been even greater.

At half-time, the scoreline read 1-0 in Celtic's favour, which was remarkable in itself due to the number of chances the home side created.

Elyounoussi already had fashioned once chance before

he opened the scoring after just three minutes. Jeremie Frimpong glided past Michael Gardyne and slotted the ball inside to Edouard who immediately flicked it on to McGregor.

His first-time pass found the Norwegian forward, and after he cut inside, he curled a right-foot shot into the corner of the net beyond Ross Laidlaw for his second Celtic goal following his strike against CFR Cluj.

Within five minutes of the restart, it was 4-0 as the Hoops produced a blistering display of attacking football and finishing.

Edouard capitalised on a defensive blunder by Keith Watson to slide the ball home within 60 seconds, and two minutes later, the French striker turned provider for McGregor to finish. And on 50 minutes, a rare header from

Edouard found its way into the back of the net.

Fraser Forster made one save with his foot to deny Ross Stewart, but it was an otherwise quiet afternoon for the English goalkeeper.

Celtic looked like scoring every time they attacked, and on 55 minutes, James Forrest made it 5-0 with a first-time shot high into the net following superb work down the right flank from Frimpong.

Bayo replaced Edouard on 65 minutes, and just six minutes later he was involved in the move that ended with another Elyounoussi goal. The Ivorian found Boli Bolingoli inside the area and his shot was knocked into the net by the Norwegian to make it 6-0.

**CELTIC:** Forster, Frimpong, Jullien, Ajer, Bolingoli; Brown, Rogic, McGregor (Bitton 75) Forrest (Shved 75), Edouard (Bayo 65), Elyounoussi.

Subs: Gordon, Bauer, Hayes, Elhamed

**ROSS COUNTY:** Laidlaw, Fraser, Fontaine, Draper, Gardyne (Spence), Mullin (Graham), Watson, Foster, Spittal (Paton), Chalmers, Stewart.

Subs: Ruddy, McKay, Grivostl, Power





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1915/16, 1916/17, 1918/19,  
1921/22, 1925/26, 1935/36,  
1937/38, 1953/54, 1965/66,  
1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69,  
1969/70, 1970/71, 1971/72,  
1972/73, 1973/74, 1976/77,  
1978/79, 1980/81, 1981/82,  
1985/86, 1987/88, 1997/98,  
2000/01, 2001/02, 2003/04,  
2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08,  
2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14,  
2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17,  
2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20



## SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS (40 TIMES)

1892, 1899, 1900, 1904,  
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1914, 1923, 1925, 1927,  
1931, 1933, 1937, 1951,  
1954, 1965, 1967, 1969,  
1971, 1972, 1974, 1975,  
1977, 1980, 1985, 1988,  
1989, 1995, 2001, 2004,  
2005, 2007, 2011, 2013,  
2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

## LEAGUE CUP WINNERS (19 TIMES)

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1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69,  
1969/70, 1974/75, 1982/83,  
1997/98, 1999/00, 2000/01,  
2005/06, 2008/09, 2014/15,  
2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19,  
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# CELTIC B FIXTURES/RESULTS 2021/22

Home games in **bold**. Celtic scores are shown first.

DATE	TIME	COMP	H/A	OPPONENT	RES
<b>JULY 2021</b>					
Sat 17	15.00	SLFL	A	Bonnyrigg Rose Ath	1-2
<b>Sat 24</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>East Kilbride</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Wed 28	19.45	SLFL	A	University of Stirling	5-1
<b>TBC</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Rangers B</b>	
<b>AUGUST</b>					
<b>Wed 4</b>	<b>19.45</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Berwick Rangers</b>	<b>2-0</b>
Sat 7	15.00	SLFL	A	Bo'ness United	2-0
<b>Wed 11</b>	<b>19.45</b>	<b>TT</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Annan Athletic</b>	<b>2-0</b>
Sat 14	15.00	SLFL	A	Vale of Leithen	10-0
Tue 17	19.45	SLFL	A	Civil Service Strollers	1-1
<b>Sat 21</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Dalbeattie Star</b>	<b>1-0</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
Sat 04	15.00	TT	A	Greenock Morton	1-3
<b>Wed 08</b>	<b>19.45</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Gala Fairydean Rovers</b>	
Fri 24	15.00	SLFL	A	Cumbernauld Colts	
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
<b>Sun 03</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>East Stirling</b>	
<b>Wed 06</b>	<b>19.45</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Spartans</b>	
<b>Sat 09</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Gretna 2008</b>	
<b>Sat 30</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Cumbernauld Colts</b>	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
Sat 6	15.00	SLFL	A	Berwick Rangers	
Tue 09	19.45	SLFL	A	Spartans	
<b>Sat 13</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Broomhill</b>	
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
<b>Sat 4</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Edinburgh University</b>	
Fri 10	19.45	SLFL	A	East Stirling	
<b>Sat 18</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Bo'ness United</b>	
Sun 26	15.00	SLFL	A	East Kilbride	
<b>JANUARY</b>					
Sat 01	15.00	SLFL	A	Rangers	
<b>Sun 09</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Caledonian Braves</b>	
Sat 15	15.00	SLFL	A	Gretna 2008	
<b>Sat 29</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Bonnyrigg Rose Ath</b>	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
<b>Sat 12</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Vale of Leithen</b>	
Sat 19	15.00	SLFL	A	Gala Fairydean Rovers	
<b>Sun 27</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>University of Stirling</b>	
<b>APRIL</b>					
Sat 2	15.00	SLFL	A	Dalbeattie Star	
<b>Sat 9</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>SLFL</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Civil Service Strollers</b>	
Sat 16	15.00	SLFL	A	Broomhill	



SLFL Scottish Lowland Football League, TT Trust Trophy  
All fixtures subject to change.





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# CELTIC VIEW

## IS BACK!

**THE official club magazine is back for the 2021/22 season, and it's now a 100-page quarterly magazine.**

And we've got a number of exclusive interviews lined up in the first edition, which is out now.

- Celtic Chief Executive Dom McKay
- Manager Ange Postecoglou
- Captain Callum McGregor
- New Bhoys Kyogo Furuhashi, James McCarthy, Joe Hart, Carl Starfelt
- Celtic B team manager, Tommy McIntyre
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- Some of Celtic's top attendances
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KENNY DALGLISH 1971

38

ON THIS DAY IN  
**HISTORY**

SEPTEMBER 11

»» WORDS: JOE SULLIVAN



BERTIE AULD

## 1929

On this day 92 years ago Celtic defeated Clyde 6-0 in a Glasgow Cup tie following a 1-1 draw between the teams four days earlier. Peter McGonagle got the goal in the tie at Shawfield in front of a crowd of 24,000 but it was the 14,000 at Celtic Park that really got their money's worth. Peter Scarff was the star of the show as he netted a hat-trick which included a penalty but Celtic legend and all-time top scorer Jimmy McGrory also scored a double. Alec Thomson was the other scorer of the game and the Hoops were to go on and contest the final for the sixth time in a row.

## 1957

On this day 64 years ago Celtic played against Third Lanark in a League Cup quarter-final and they didn't disappoint as they comfortably defeated the Southside club to go through to the next round. Celtic defeated the Hi-Hi 6-1 as goals from



BOBBY LENNOX

Bobby Collins and John McPhail who scored two each, Sammy Wilson and Bertie Auld left the Hoops victorious. However, this wasn't the only one-sided result for the Bhoys in the League Cup that season. Celtic went on to lift the trophy that year with an emphatic 7-1 victory over Rangers in the final. Sammy Wilson, Neil Mochan, Billy McPhail with a hat-trick and Willie Fernie scored the goals that gave the Hoops the fantastic victory that is still a record victory in a British final.

## 1968

In another League Cup quarter-final first-leg Celtic defeated Hamilton Accies 10-0 to progress further in the competition. The Hoops won the game thanks to an amazing five goals apiece from Bobby Lennox and Stevie Chalmers. The team would make it all the way to the final and lifted the cup thanks to another fantastic win against Hibernian with a 6-2 victory thanks to goals from Jim Craig, Willie Wallace, Bertie Auld and a Bobby Lennox hat-trick. This would cap off a fine season that saw Celtic win the treble that year picking up the League, Scottish Cup and the League Cup all in the month of April. Perhaps just as importantly, that 10-0 win gave Jock Stein the opportunity to try out a couple of new faces in the return leg and a youngster named Kenny Dalglish made his debut in the 4-2 win.



LOU MACARI

## 1971

For the third time in three weeks, the Hoops visited Ibrox and for the third time they returned to the East End with the spoils. Scores of 3-0 and 2-0 had been recorded in the League Cup sectional games (both played at Ibrox because of building work at Celtic Park) and the first league derby, although tighter score-wise, was also to go the way of the Hoops. Goals from Kenny Dalglish, who had managed to score three goals in successive games against Rangers, Lou Macari and Jimmy Johnstone gave Celtic a 3-2 victory. It was a hard-fought match with plenty of hard tackles with every single player was committed to the cause. Celtic would go on to dominate for the rest of the season and finished up top of the league by 10 points ahead of Aberdeen, the Hoops also won the Scottish Cup that term to cap off another fantastic season for the team.



UEFA  
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**LEAGUE™**



**3 MATCH PACKAGE**

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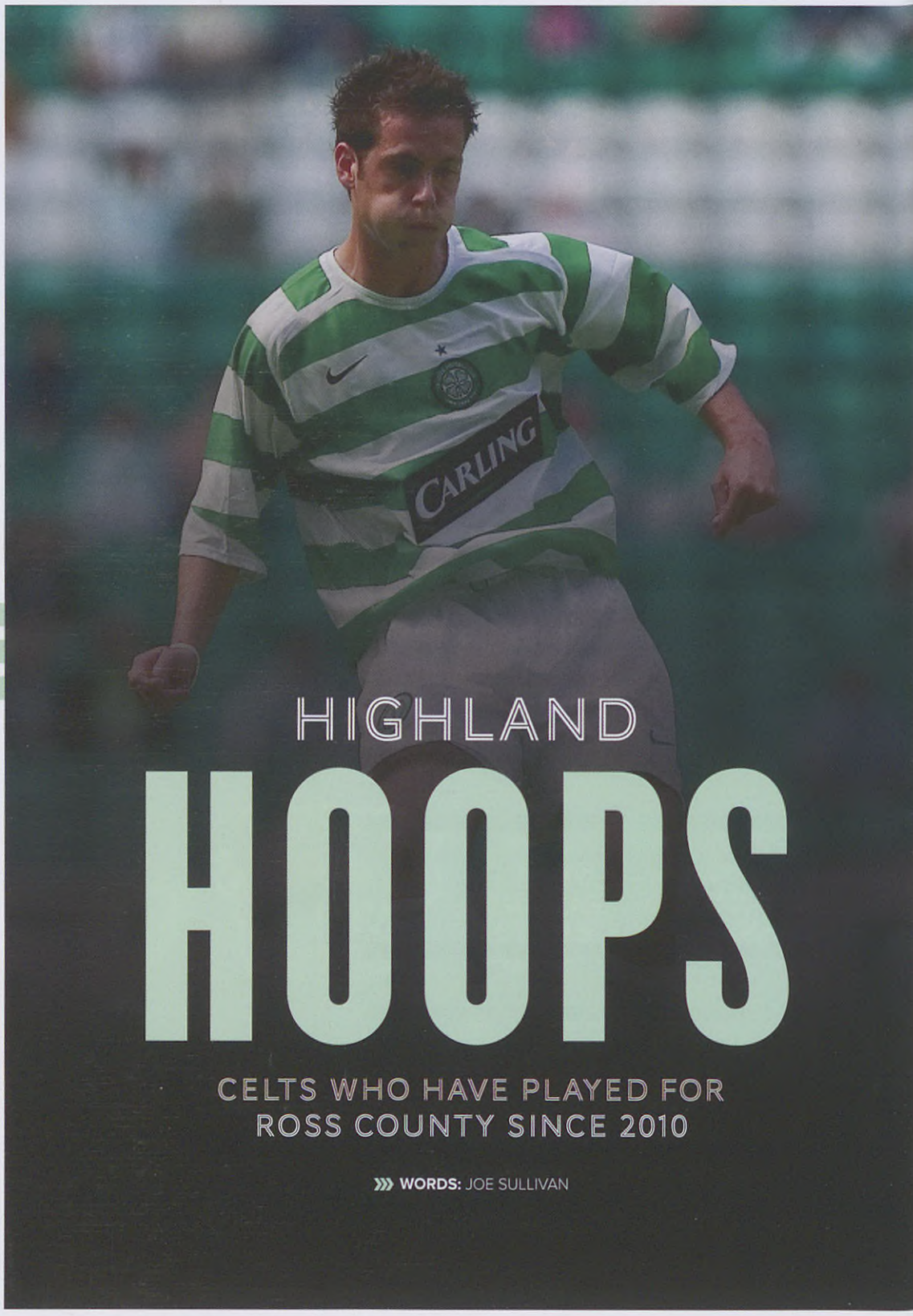


# CELTIC FC FIXTURES/RESULTS 2021/22

Home games in **bold**. Celtic scores are shown first. **SP** League, **UCL** Champions League, **LC** League Cup, **SC** Scottish Cup, **UEL** Europa League.

DATE	TIME	COMP	H/A	OPPONENT	RES
<b>AUGUST 2021</b>					
Wed 7	15.00	Friendly	A	Sheffield Wednesday	3-1
Sat 10	15.00	Friendly	A	Charlton Athletic	2-1
Wed 14	19.45	Friendly	A	Bristol City	0-0
Sat 17	17.30	Friendly	H	Preston North End	0-1
Tue 20	19.45	UCL	H	FC Midtjylland	1-1
Sat 24	15.00	Friendly	H	West Ham United	2-6
Wed 28	18.45	UCL	A	FC Midtjylland	1-2
Sat 31	20.00	SP	A	Hearts	1-2
<b>AUGUST</b>					
Thu 5	16.45	UEL	A	FK Jablonec	4-2
Sun 8	15.00	SP	H	Dundee	6-0
Thu 12	19.45	UEL	H	FK Jablonec	3-0
Sun 15	15.00	LC	H	Hearts	3-2
Wed 18	19.45	UEL	H	AZ Alkmaar	2-0
Sat 21	15.00	SP	H	St Mirren	6-0
Thu 26	19.15	UEL	A	AZ Alkmaar	1-2
Sun 29	12.00	SP	A	Rangers	0-1
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
Sat 11	15.00	SP	H	Ross County	
Thu 16	17.45	UEL	A	Real Betis	
Sun 19	15.00	SP	A	Livingston	
Thu 23	19.45	LC	H	Raith Rovers	
Sun 26	15.00	SP	H	Dundee United	
Thu 30	20.00	UEL	H	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
Sun 3	12.00	SP	A	Aberdeen	
Sat 16	15.00	SP	A	Motherwell	
Tue 19	15.30	UEL	H	Ferencvárosi TC	
Sat 23	15.00	SP	H	St Johnstone	
Wed 27	19.45	SP	A	Hibernian	
Sat 30	15.00	SP	H	Livingston	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
Thu 4	20.00	UEL	H	Ferencvárosi TC	
Sun 7	15.00	SP	A	Dundee	
Sat 20	15.00	SP	A	Ross County	
Thu 25	17.45	UEL	A	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	
Sun 28	15.00	SP	H	Aberdeen	
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
Wed 1	19.45	SP	H	Hearts	
Sat 4	15.00	SP	A	Dundee United	
Thu 9	20.00	UEL	H	Real Betis	
Sun 12	15.00	SP	H	Motherwell	
Sat 18	15.00	SP	A	St Mirren	
Sun 26	15.00	SP	A	St Johnstone	
Wed 29	19.45	SP	H	Hibernian	
<b>JANUARY</b>					
Sun 2	15.00	SP	H	Rangers	
Wed 26	19.45	SP	A	Hearts	
Sat 29	15.00	SP	H	Dundee United	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
Sat 5	15.00	SP	A	Motherwell	
Wed 9	19.45	SP	A	Aberdeen	
Sat 19	15.00	SP	H	Dundee	
Sat 26	15.00	SP	A	Hibernian	
<b>MARCH</b>					
Wed 2	19.45	SP	H	St Mirren	
Sat 5	15.00	SP	A	Livingston	
Sat 19	15.00	SP	H	Ross County	
<b>APRIL</b>					
Sat 2	15.00	SP	A	Rangers	
Sat 9	15.00	SP	H	St Johnstone	
<b>Post-split dates</b>					
Sat 23		SP			
Sat 30		SP			
<b>MAY</b>					
Sat 7		SP			
Wed 11		SP			
Sat 14		SP			





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# HIGHLAND HOOPS

CELTIS WHO HAVE PLAYED FOR  
ROSS COUNTY SINCE 2010

»» WORDS: JOE SULLIVAN

**SINCE** the start of the previous decade, three former Celts have managed Ross County – Willie McStay, John Hughes and current Staggies manager, Malky Mackay, while no fewer than 15 players have featured for both of today's clubs over the same period.

All but one of the 15 came through the Celtic Academy and many have also played with a variety of clubs throughout their careers.

Here we take a look at the Celts who have also turned out for the Staggies.

### PAUL LAWSON

Aberdonian, Paul Lawson, played four games, three of them from the bench, for the Hoops after moving up from the Academy in 2004 and captaining the reserve side. The midfielder had loan spells at St Johnstone and St Mirren before moving to Ross County in 2007 and playing the bulk of his career there over the next six years. He also played for Motherwell for two years before moving to Formartine United in the Highland League, and he became player/manager there in 2017.



### MICHAEL MCGOVERN

The Enniskillen-born keeper has won 32 Northern Irish caps and won two Scottish Cup medals (as an unused sub in 2004 and 2007) despite never playing a first-team game behind the Hoops. Michael McGovern was on the bench in Barcelona in 2004 and had loan spells at Stranraer and St Johnstone before moving to Dundee United. In 2009, though, at Ross County, he became first choice keeper and won his first international cap that season. The keeper was Falkirk-bound in 2011 and got in to treble figures there before also starring at Hamilton Accies from 2014 to 2016. He then moved down south to Norwich City in 2016.



### MARK FOTHERINGHAM

Another Celtic Academy prospect, the Hoops and County are just two of a host of clubs played for by the Dundee-born Mark Fotheringham. The midfielder played three games for the Hoops in 2003 before two stints at Dundee, almost a decade apart, sandwiched spells at SC Freiburg (Germany), FC Aarau (Switzerland), Norwich City, Dundee United, Anorthosis Famagusta (Cyprus) and Livingston before he joined Ross County in 2012. In 2013, Fotheringham moved to Notts County where he teamed up with on-loan Callum McGregor, and he also played with Fulham, Livingston again and Cowdenbeath before finally hanging up his boots and taking up coaching there. He quit Central Park in 2019 and moved back to Germany.

### MICHAEL TIDSER

Now at Keltly Hearts, the 31-year-old Glaswegian was captain of the Celtic Under-19 side before moving to Sweden and signing for Ostersunds on a short-term contract. From there, the midfielder returned to Scotland for three years at Morton before moving south to Rotherham United. It was during his spell across the border that he moved to Ross County on loan in 2014 and played 16 league games for the Staggies. Another loan spell, this time at Oldham Athletic, followed before he returned to Greenock and reached triple figures again with Morton, this time over a four-year spell. Tidser moved to Falkirk in 2019 before joining up with Keltly Hearts the following year.

### LEWIS TOSHNEY

Another Dundee-born Celtic Academy prospect, Lewis Toshney replaced Scott Brown in a 3-0 victory over Aberdeen in 2011 for

his only Hoops appearance. The right-back also had loan spells at Kilmarnock and Dundee where he garnered first-team experience before spending around half-a-season in 2014/15 at Dingwall when he joined Ross County. Since then, he has also played for Cowdenbeath, Raith Rovers and Dundee United. While at Tannadice, Toshney also went on loan to Arbroath and Brechin City before teaming up with Michael Tidser at Falkirk in 2019 and had a spell with Inverness CT before joining Edinburgh City.

### MARK BROWN

The Motherwell-born keeper is the only player from the 15 featured on these pages not to have come through the Celtic Academy. Indeed, Mark Brown started his youth career across the city at Rangers in 1997 and played four league games for the Ibrox side before joining his hometown team at Fir Park. He played the bulk of his career games with Inverness CT between 2002 and 2007 before joining Celtic as back-up to Artur Boruc and he played 14 games behind the Hoops before a loan spell at Kilmarnock preceded a move to Hibernian. It was from Easter Road that Brown joined Ross County in 2012 and he had three years at Dingwall (including a spell as goalkeeping coach), before joining Dumbarton, and retiring from the game in 2017.

### ROCCO QUINN

The Hamilton-born attacking midfielder as another Academy hopeful whose first-team experience was gained while out





on loan – this time at Kilmarnock, St Johnstone and Livingston between 2007 and 2009 before Rocco Quinn joined his hometown club. There were sparse outings for Hamilton Accies, though, before Quinn spent two years at Queen of the South that won him the move to Ross County in 2011 and he spent five years in Dingwall as the club moved up to the top division for the first time. After 111 league games, during which he scored 11 goals, Quinn was on the move to St Mirren where he played for a year-and-a-half until August 2017.

### JACKSON IRVINE

Now with St Pauli, the 28-year-old joined the Celtic Academy in 2010 after impressing in his native Melbourne. Jackson Irvine made his one and only Hoops appearance when he came on for the second half of a 2-2 draw with Hibernian in 2012, but also gained first-team experience on loan at Kilmarnock. That was followed up by another loan outing, this time at Ross County in 2014, and, a year later, he signed on fully with the Highland club. After another year, though, Irvine was on his way south to Burton Albion and he was on his way yet another 12 months later, this time to Hull City for three years. He returned north to join Hibernian in January of this year but made the move to Germany in July. Irvine is an international teammate of Tom Rogic, having won 37 Australian caps.

### SCOTT FOX

Bellshill-born Scott Fox came through the Celtic Academy and was loaned out to East Fife in 2007/08. Queen of the South were next on the keeper's CV – just one of three clubs he played for during the calendar year of 2010 – with a stint at Dundee and his first spell at Partick Thistle also in the diary that year. Fox had five years and 135 games at Firhill before making the move north to Ross County in 2015. The keeper had four fruitful years at Dingwall with nigh-on 150 games for the Staggies before. He returned to Maryhill in 2019 before joining

Motherwell the following year and was on an emergency loan at Morton for their successful Scottish Championship play-offs with Airdrie.

### JAMIE LINDSAY

The 25-year-old joined the Celtic youth ranks from the same level at Motherwell in season 2014/15 and gained first-team experience on three loan spells while with the Hoops. Jamie Lindsay spent seasons at both Dumbarton and Morton before doing likewise with Ross County in season 2017/18. That move became permanent when the midfielder signed with the Dingwall club, making just short of 50 appearances, and his nine goals caught the eye of Rotherham United who signed Lindsay in 2019 and he has been a regular for the side since joining.

### EWAN HENDERSON

Current Celt, and the younger brother of former Hoops player, Liam Henderson, 21-year-old Ewan made his Celtic debut in season 2017/18 against Kilmarnock, and made five appearances the following term before joining the Staggies on loan during 2019/20 and made 10 appearances for the Highland side. There was a further loan period at Dunfermline Athletic last season where he played another 10 games, scoring a last-minute goal against Queen of the South to complete a 3-1 win for the Pars.

### MICHAEL GARDYNE

Yet another Dundee-born Celtic Youth Academy graduate who has made his way to Ross County, Michael Gardyne first moved to Dingwall on loan in 2006/07, but signed with Morton in 2007 before moving to Victoria Park on a permanent deal in 2008. He was one of County's top performers over the next four years before moving to Dundee United. From his hometown, he went on loan to Kilmarnock, and then Ross County once more in 2014. That spell led to another permanent deal, and the 33-year-old signed his fourth

contract with the Dingwall club in 2015. Prior to leaving this year to join Inverness CT, Gardyne scored 67 goals in 404 appearances for the Staggies.

### MARCUS FRASER

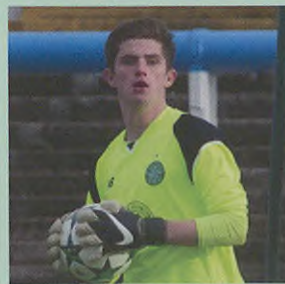
He joined Celtic as an eight-year-old and made his way through the ranks right up to first team, making two appearances – as a sub in the Europa league against Rennes and then against Inverness Caley Thistle. As a 20-year-old, Marcus Fraser made 13 appearances on loan at Cowdenbeath in 2014/15, but, at the start of the next season, he was a fully-fledged Ross County player – and between then and season 2020/21, he became Ross County captain and played 198 games, scoring twice. On leaving Dingwall, the defender moved to Paisley and St Mirren, and featured for the Saints in Celtic's most recent home league match, the 6-0 win from three weeks ago.

### JOE CHALMERS

The Glasgow-born player came through the ranks at the Celtic Academy and made three first-team appearances for the Hoops, making his only start in a 1-1 draw with Arbroath in the Scottish Cup. All of his appearances came in season 2012/13 and his first and last games were both against Inverness CT. After a loan spell at Falkirk, Chalmers moved to Motherwell and then Inverness CT before taking the road across the bridge to Ross County in 2019 where he played 19 times before moving to Ayr United in 2020.

### ROSS DOOHAN

The 23-year-old Clydebank-born Celtic keeper is currently on loan at Tranmere Rovers and had a similar loan spell at Ross County in season 2020/21 where he played five times. Prior to that, the Celtic stopper had been on loan at Cumbernauld Colts and Morton, while he also kept goal 80 times for Ayr United in his most fruitful loan spell. Between the loans at Ross County and Tranmere, he also played a couple of times for Dundee United.



## WELLINGS AND CRAIG DOUBLES CLAIM OPENING-DAY VICTORY

» MATCH REPORT: COLETTE CARR

# ABERDEEN 2

(CLARK OG 22, SHORE 86)

# CELTIC 4

(WELLINGS 14 & 80, CRAIG 24 & 92 PEN)

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE 1  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 // BALMORAL STADIUM



**CELTIC claimed the first three points up for grabs of the season with an impressive 4-2 victory in a tricky opening-day trip up to Aberdeen.**

Manager Fran Alonso handed four of his summer signings their full SWPL1 debuts with Charlie Wellings, Cheyenne Shorts, Liv Chance and Maria Olafsdottir Gros all finding a spot in the starting XI, as doubles



from Wellings and Chloe Craig sealed the victory as the league campaign finally got underway.

It was a breathless first half with the visitors pressing from the off with Wellings testing the keeper early on before Tegan Bowie was denied in a one-on-one.

With just 14 minutes on the clock Wellings opened her SWPL1 account in typical fashion, running on to a well-timed long ball from Shorts to drive at the keeper and hit it through her at her near post.

The Celts faced a spot of misfortune though on the 22nd minute, when Kelly Clark's headed clearance from the corner crept into her own net and gave the hosts an early lifeline, but it took the Hoops only two minutes to regain their advantage as Craig scored with a deft touch from an acute angle from a cross to restore the lead.

Fran Alonso's side continued to pile the pressure on the league newcomers with Wellings and Kathleen McGovern proving a constant thorn in their side despite going in just one ahead at the break.

Their attacking intent spilled into the second period with an early chance within the opening minute dashed only by the raised flag of the assistant referee, before Wellings and Sarah Teegarden clocked up more chances for the Hoops, with Wellings watching on as her hit on the turn was held,

before Teegarden's low drilled shot through bodies just missed the mark.

Despite numerous opportunities Celtic had to bide their time and wait until the 80th minute for their third, with Wellings controlling Clarissa Larisey's cross with complete ease to bring it down and nearly burst the net in top corner from inside the box.

Celtic were punished for a lapse in judgement though just six minutes later as Eilidh Shore looped a high header over Rachael Johnstone at the near post on the break.

And the late show continued deep into the additional time with Larisey being brought down by the onrushing Gilmour leaving the referee with no option but to point to the spot, with Craig dispatching with ease to secure her brace for the evening and rubber-stamp all three points in the hard-fought league opener.

**ABERDEEN:** Gilmour, Campbell, Penman, Broadrick, Paterson, Collins, Shore, Thomson, Gordon, Ogilvie, Gover, Subs: Doig, Bruce, Fraser, Innes, Soppel, Strath, Brown

**CELTIC:** Johnstone, Craig, Clark, Shorts (Hayes 84), Bowie (Warrington 84), Chance, Teegarden (Toland 87), Olafsdottir Gros (Shen 84), Atkinson, Welling, McGovern (Larisey 73). Subs: Logan, Bartle.



# CELTIC FC WOMEN

## FIXTURES/RESULTS 2021/22

Home games in **bold**. Celtic scores are shown first.

DATE	TIME	COMP	H/A	OPPONENT	RES
<b>AUGUST 2021</b>					
Sun 08	14.00	SWPLC	A	Partick Thistle	3-1
<b>Sun 15</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPLC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Hearts</b>	<b>2-0</b>
Wed 18	17.00	UWCL	A	Levante	1-2
Sat 21	11.00	UWCL	A	FC Minsk	2-3
<b>Sun 29</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPLC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>St Johnstone</b>	<b>3-0</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
Sun 05	16.10	SWPL1	A	Aberdeen	4-2
<b>Sun 12</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Glasgow City</b>	
Sun 19	14.00	SWPL1	A	Motherwell	
<b>Sun 26</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Hibernian</b>	
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
<b>Sun 03</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Forfar Farmington</b>	
Sun 10	14.00	SWPL1	A	Hamilton Accies	
<b>Sun 17</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Spartans</b>	
Sun 24	14.00	SWPL1	A	Hearts	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
<b>Sun 07</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Rangers</b>	
<b>Sun 21</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b>	
Sun 28	14.00	SWPL1	A	Glasgow City	
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
<b>Sun 12</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Motherwell</b>	
<b>JANUARY</b>					
Sun 16	14.00	SWPL1	A	Hibernian	
Sun 23	14.00	SWPL1	A	Forfar Farmington	
<b>Sun 30</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Hamilton Accies</b>	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
Sun 06	14.00	SWPL1	A	Spartans	
<b>Sun 20</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Hearts</b>	
Sun 27	14.00	SWPL1	A	Rangers	
<b>MARCH</b>					
Sun 06	14.00	SWPL1	A	Aberdeen	
Sun 13	14.00	SWPL1	A	Glasgow City	
<b>Sun 20</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Motherwell</b>	
<b>Sun 27</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Hibernian</b>	
<b>APRIL</b>					
Sun 17	14.00	SWPL1	A	Forfar Farmington	
Sun 24	14.00	SWPL1	A	Hamilton Accies	
<b>MAY</b>					
Sun 08	14.00	SWPL1	A	Spartans	
<b>Wed 11</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Hearts</b>	
<b>Sun 15</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>SWPL1</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Rangers</b>	



UWCL UEFA Women's Champions League, SWPL1 Scottish Women's Premier League 1, SWPLC Scottish Women's Premier League Cup  
All fixtures subject to change.



# PIECES OF EIGHT

**IT was this week, 48 years ago on September 8, 1973, that Celtic took to the field against Clyde for the first league game of the season with each of the Celts wearing No.8 on their shorts.**

The reason was to celebrate winning eight-in-a-row the previous season, and the 5-0 win over the Shawfield side collected the first two points on the way to winning nine-in-a-row.

Here's how the build-up and the final day of the eight-in-a-row season unfolded.

»» WORDS: JOE SULLIVAN



**THIS one went right to the wire with the title still up for grabs on the very last afternoon of league action.**

Celtic made the demanding trip to Easter Road to play third-placed Hibernian who had lost only two games in Leith all season, to Rangers and Motherwell, and had already beaten the Hoops in two cup finals while Celtic had to come from behind to draw 1-1 at home in the previous league encounter on December 23.

Rangers, meanwhile, were at home to ninth-place East Fife who they had beaten 4-0 at Methil on the same day that the Hoops drew 1-1 with Hibs, and who had won only three away games all season, all of them in the first half of the term.

It was odds on that the Ibrox side would win their game while Celtic faced an altogether more difficult prospect as things came to a head in the final 90 minutes of a long, hard season of which, it could be said, was won and lost amid the machinations of the previous 33 games.

While Celtic were beating Kilmarnock 6-2 on the opening day of the term, Rangers lost 2-1 at Ayr United and although their first six games featured two wins and a draw at home, the three away games had been lost with Celtic and Kilmarnock joining Ayr United as victors.

As you may imagine, the Celtic victory was the most telling of these with the 'home' game being played at Hampden where goals from Kenny Dalglish in the second minute, Jimmy Johnstone in the 17th and Lou Macari in the 49th had the Hoops coasting.

When John Greig pulled one back for the Ibrox side in the 90th minute, the cheers came from the

Celtic End and not the emptied and silent Mount Florida end of the stadium.

That result put Rangers 13th in the table and they would remain there for four weeks until a 2-0 win at Motherwell nudged them up.

Over the next nine games, six wins, two draws and a defeat took them up until the Christmas schedule and that began with the aforementioned 4-0 win at East Fife – a game that kick-started a 16-game winning run, a tally that could have been 18 had it not been for a draw at Aberdeen on the second-last day of the term.

Four games into that run, they beat Celtic 2-1 at Ibrox, a win that allowed them to leapfrog Celtic into second place while Hibernian sat at the top – the following week, Hibs lost 1-0 to Dundee United while Rangers beat Falkirk 4-2 at Brockville.

The Ibrox side moved top and it was a position they would hold until, apart from a brief blip in March, the second-last game of the season.

However, while Rangers were clinching top spot in those January exchanges, it has to be said that nothing much had gone wrong with Celtic's season so far. There had been a loss at Dens Park, a draw with Airdrie and that aforementioned 1-1 tie with Hibs.

Indeed, that game on December 23 had been Celtic's last before the derby meeting on January 6 and it did give a somewhat lopsided view of the Ibrox side's tilt to the top for on the week they moved there, they had played 21 games to Celtic's 18.

Rangers had 31 points from those 21 games while Hibs on 20 games and Celtic on those 18 matches both had 30 points.

While Rangers were busy on that winning run, Celtic had lost to Airdrie at Broomfield and drawn with Partick Thistle, East Fife and

Dundee United but by the time they came to play Motherwell on Tuesday, April 3, they were in line to have played the same amount of games as the Ibrox team.

Goals from Dalglish and Dixie Deans gave Celtic a 2-0 win and had both Glasgow sides playing 30 games with 49 points each – but Celtic bettered their goal difference by 11.

Both teams carried on winning until April 21 when both were on 53 points from 32 games played, with the Hoops 16 goals better off in the goals difference column.

There were still 'only' seven championship flags flying above The Jungle when Celtic beat Arbroath 4-0 on that day, but the likelihood of them being joined by an eighth increased when the news came through that only a late Alfie Conn goal had salvaged a point for Rangers at Pittodrie.

That put Celtic one point and 22 goals ahead and gave us the final-day drama of Rangers entertaining East Fife while the Hoops visited Easter Road.

Rangers' only hope was a win for them and a defeat for Celtic, which wasn't outwith the realms of possibility given the Hoops' record against Hibs that season.

At Ibrox, the home side took the lead in the 21st minute through Quinton Young, but those tuned in with transistors at Easter Road would have been immediately buoyed when Dixie Deans scored a minute later against Hibs.

Conn put Rangers 2-0 ahead in the 32nd minute but there was no more scoring in either game until the 71st minute when Dalglish made it 2-0 to Celtic.

The nerves were settled and eased even further when Deans made it 3-0 just 10 minutes from the end – that eighth championship flag would indeed be flying above The Jungle the next time the Hoops played at Celtic Park.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Celtic	34	26	5	3	93	28	65	57
Rangers	34	26	4	4	74	30	44	56

# CELTIC QUIZ

SEE HOW  
YOU GET ON  
WITH OUR  
TEASERS FOR  
THE VISIT OF  
ROSS COUNTY  
TODAY.

1. After managing Ross County, former Celt, Willie McStay went on to manage which club?

- A Ujpest FC
- B Celtic Nation
- C Celtic Reserves
- D Sydney FC



2. Which young Celt was on loan at Ross County last season?

- A Kerr McInroy
- B Lee O'Connor
- C Ross Doohan
- D Dane Murray

3. Which two clubs has former Celt and ex-Ross County manager, John Hughes played for AND managed?

- A Berwick Rangers and Ross County
- B Falkirk and Berwick Rangers
- C Falkirk and Hibernian
- D Berwick Rangers and Hibernian

4. What was Ross County's original name?

- A Ross and Cromarty FC
- B Dingwall Town
- C Dingwall Victoria United
- D Ross-shire FC

5. How many games did Ewan Henderson play for Ross County while on loan for part of season 2019/20?

- A 5
- B 0
- C 23
- D 10

6. Against which side did Mikey Johnston score his first Celtic goal?

- A Dundee
- B Kilmarnock
- C Motherwell
- D Partick Thistle

7. Lisbon Lion Tommy Gemmill joined which club on leaving Celtic?

- A Dundee
- B Nottingham Forest
- C Middlesbrough
- D Crystal Palace

8. Celtic's first away trip for competitive European football was to which country?

- A France
- B Spain
- C Switzerland
- D The Netherlands

9. What was Willie Maley's job title prior to taking over solely as Celtic first manager?

- A Player-manager
- B Player-secretary
- C Coach
- D Secretary-manager

10. Which side did Danny McGrain manage in the early 1990s?

- A Forfar
- B Brechin
- C Arbroath
- D Hamilton Accies

11. How many different managers did Celtic have in the 1990s?

- A Six
- B Four
- C Five
- D Seven

12. Davie Hay managed which Norwegian side?

- A Stromsgodset
- B Lillestrom
- C Stabaek
- D Sarpsborg 08



Answers:

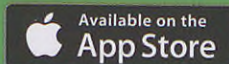
1 Celtic Nation, 2 Ross Doohan, 3 Falkirk and Hibernian, 4 Dingwall Victoria United, 5 10, 6 Motherwell, 7 Nottingham Forest, 8 Spain, 9 Secretary-manager, 10 Arbroath, 11 Seven, 12 Lillestrom.

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# CELTIC v ROSS COUNTY

**MANAGER:** ANGE POSTECOGLOU

**MANAGER:** MALKY MACKAY

VASILIS <b>BARKAS</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>01</b>	ROSS <b>LAIDLAW</b>
CHRISTOPHER <b>JULLIEN</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>02</b>	CONNOR <b>RANDALL</b>
GREG <b>TAYLOR</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>03</b>	JAKE <b>VOKINS</b>
CARL <b>STARFELT</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>04</b>	DAVID <b>CANCOLA</b>
LIAM <b>SCALES</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>05</b>	JACK <b>BALDWIN</b>
NIR <b>BITTON</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>06</b>	HARRY <b>PATON</b>
GIORGOS <b>GIAKOUMAKIS</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>07</b>	BLAIR <b>SPITTAL</b>
KYOGO <b>FURUHASHI</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>08</b>	ROSS <b>CALLACHAN</b>
ALBIAN <b>AJETI</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>09</b>	ALEX <b>SAMUEL</b>
LIEL <b>ABADA</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	DOMINIC <b>SAMUEL</b>
ISMAILA <b>SORO</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	ALEXANDER <b>ROBERTSON</b>
DAVID <b>TURNBULL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	KEITH <b>WATSON</b>
JOE <b>HART</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	ALEX <b>IACOVITTI</b>
JAMES <b>McCARTHY</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	REGAN <b>CHARLES-COOK</b>
JOTA	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	JACK <b>BURROUGHS</b>
TOM <b>ROGIC</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	HARRY <b>CLARKE</b>
MIKEY <b>JOHNSTON</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	ROSS <b>MUNRO</b>
CAMERON <b>CARTER-VICKERS</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	JORDAN <b>TILLSON</b>
BOLI <b>BOLINGOLI</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	JOSEPH <b>HUNGBO</b>
OSAZE <b>URHOGHIDE</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>	BEN <b>PATON</b>
SCOTT <b>BAIN</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>	COLL <b>DONALDSON</b>
LIAM <b>SHAW</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	JORDAN <b>WHITE</b>
CALLUM <b>McGREGOR</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	ASHLEY <b>MAYNARD-BREWER</b>
DANE <b>MURRAY</b>	<b>47</b>		
JAMES <b>FORREST</b>	<b>49</b>		
EWAN <b>HENDERSON</b>	<b>52</b>		
ADAM <b>MONTGOMERY</b>	<b>54</b>		
ANTHONY <b>RALSTON</b>	<b>56</b>		
STEPHEN <b>WELSH</b>	<b>57</b>		
CONOR <b>HAZARD</b>	<b>65</b>		
JOSIP <b>JURANOVIC</b>	<b>88</b>		



**REFEREE**  
DON ROBERTSON

**ASSISTANT 1**  
DAVID DOIG

**ASSISTANT 2**  
JOHN MCCROSSAN

**FOURTH OFFICIAL**  
PETER STUART