



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Nnewsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

A Keane Piece of Business ?



Well who (apart from your super soaraway Nnewsletter) could've predicted that one, eh? Welcome Robert David Keane to (another) club you've always wanted to play for.

However before we all get carried away on this current transfer tsunami, a few cautionary words about the future, or more particularly the people who we've entrusted to control our future.

Over the past eighteen months we've been subjected to some dire stuff on the park first from WGS (who, if rumours are to be believed had tendered his resignation the Xmas before he left). Whether Gordy left because he'd been told there'd be no money for transfers or there were no transfers last Jan because he left, will probably never be known.

Then BTM arrived. Now to be fair to BTM, he has changed how we play but we lose more games these days. Better fitba, less points on the board. Paradox, eh?

So who's been most at fault for this situation we've be in? What's that? Blame the manager? Shame on yeez for going the easy option. Let's look at the Board, shall we?

Until about eighteen months ago, it would be reasonable to state that the board were doing a pretty fair job of manouvering a "business" (and let's face it, there isn't really a generic business model when it comes to fitba clubs) through difficult times. Then, come the summer of Kanaus they got it wrong, so wrong. They underestimated the Hun collapse - Bigtime.

Instead of giving WGS the where withall to ram the hose pipe doon their drooin throats they turned the tap off - BIG mistake.



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Newsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

Taxi for Strachan. Enter BTM. A man who in Boardspeak, ticked all the right boxes - budget orientated boxes that is.

What followed was a procession of some good, plenty mediocre and some downright awful performances which saw attendances falling (further), the natives getting (more) restless and a general questioning of BTM's ability

So now BANG! The Jan transfer window slams shut (with something like just under a 2M nett spend) and the board have had the Haw Maws to wake up and smell the coffee and are hoping that those eighteen festering months become a mere memory. In just four.

But what about the bold signing of RK on (alleged) wages of 65k per week (which is about a 1M spend to the season end) we hear you ask? If Robbie does half of what we hope he does, he'll put, at least another 5,000 on our gate for the final seven (or eight) home games of the season, plus the inevitable rush of shirt sales. Go on do the sums (or math, if you're reading in the US). Not such a bold risk by the Board is it?

BTM has now 4 months and a target of 45 points out of a possible 51 to win this league back (which we think is highly doo-able). Oh and win the Scottish Cup.

It's going to be a roller coaster time ahead. So strap yersels in and enjoy the ride.

PS. For the more observant amongst you, today, Feb 2nd is officially Groundhog Day.

.....and now back to the fitba.....

Paschendale (without the Passion)

Hamilton Accs 0 Celtic 1

The Match

On a pitch that looked something like a cross between Paschendale and a skating rink, it was never going to be a day for fast, flowing football. However, the team displayed grit and a new found solidity in defence to grind out a deserved one nil win. There'll be other days when we'll be impressed by the fluidity and motion of the team, today it was all about getting points on the board. Which we did. Thank feck!!

Due to bairns wi shitey nappies and sair teeth, this reporter missed the first half but was reliably informed (by the Fergus McCann Young Team) that over the ninety minutes the three best players were N'Guemo, Hinkel and Thompson.

N'Guemo displayed the strengths and weaknesses we've begun to associate with him - industrious, good on the tackle and winning the ball. However, his passing can be weak and he often launches hopeful punts upfield. Did far more right than wrong, though.

Hinkel had another steady defensive performance at RB against a strong physical forward line, proving that he can 'mix it up' when required.

Meanwhile, Josh Thompson impressed with yet another calm, unruffled, impeccable performance from him.

Hooiveld had a really good game and it's beginning to look like we're leaning towards the 'clear it first, ask questions later' route when it comes to defenders. Maybe no bad thing. Let's see.

Also on a bright note, Rasmussen had a near perfect debut. He did as advertised by himself at his press conference - scored a penalty box goal. Not only that, but he looks useful in possession. Pity about his Richard Jobson (who else remembers the Skids ?) hair doo though.



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Nhewsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

On a final note with Crosas missing in midfield today. We wonder if BTM maybe considering a 3-5-2 to accomodate Ki, Crosas and NGuemo?

Goal

Goal 1 – Ki bursts into the box running through the Hamilton defence. A loose ball/pass slips forward to Rasumssen who's back to the goal. Ra pivots and slots it away from the edge of the penalty box. Then gets booked for celebrating. Welcome to Scotland Big Fella!

Panty wetting potential – For us, moist relief. Looked like deluge quality for Ra Ra though.

Anyway, marks for the game:-

BORUC5 Not much to do but again showed that "concentration" (or lack of it moment) when he spilled a low cross for a corner. If I was Zaluska I'd be champing at the bit. Maybe he is?

HINKEL.....6 Had a better game than in recent weeks. Still looks jaded, though.

HOOIVELT..... .6 Steady debut. Looked solid and dealt with everything that came to him

THOMPSON6 Growing in stature with each game. Another steady showing from the 19yr old

O'DEA.....6 A better performance today from the man who recently has become known as O' Dear. Hopefully, though, this is just a temporary position at LB.

McGEADY5 Sometimes you look at Aiden and see all the showboating but little else and then think "*..does this boy's HAVE a fitba brain??* Today was one of these days. Rightly hooked (or should that be – right hooked ?) after failing to play a simple thru ball to McGinn which would've sealed things.

ZHI.5 What's Chinese for "No at the races" ?

KI.....7 Naka comparisons will haunt this boy for sometime, we fear. However he's no Naka he's different and may, eventually, be better. Some fine crossfield passing and thru balls. Still got a lot to learn about the more (ahem) physical aspects of the Scottish game.

N'GUEMO.....6 Good to see the Cameroonian Lennon back. Was harshly booked for a fine tackle late on. Still would like to see more attacking runs from him.

SAMARAS.....5 Just not your day son was it?

FORTUNE.....6 Huffed and puffed all day and joins that ever increasing band of players who can't score from the spot. (Actually we thought his pen was no that bad, Cervi just guessed right)

Subs

McGINN (on for Zhi)..... 6 A better display today from McGinn. Still, never did enough to justify a starting position.

RASMUSSEN (on for Samaras)..... 8 MOTM The perfect debut (almost). Why didn't he get to take the penalty, he's Brondy's regular taker?

CADDIS (on for McGeady).... 4 Mr Versatility and all in one so young.



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Nhewsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

2. THE RFMCSC / TIP

Maybe it was a bit of a hangover from the midweek display but a small turnout for this game. However, hats off the Fergie McCann Young Team for flying the flag (well at least until Fidel dragged his sorry ass along to the game and boosted the average age by 40 years).

Another sterling broadcast, too, in glorious Fla-vision. Pity the TIP TV head producer was more worried about the onset of various dodgy sexual practices by the Banda de Ipanema in his toilets, though.

- John Bradley - Why does a rake o' Friday night Tequila slammers get him outta bed early on a Saturday?
- Simon - Frankie McGuinness now denying all knowledge that this man is any relation to him.
- Fidel - More long distance running ability than a busload of Kenyans.
- Padraig - You want to do WHA in me toilets?? Yeez can all just FECK RIGHT OFF!!!!
- Drew - This must be the best "no-sho" excuse ever - was away buying a new bra (gen up).
- Brucinho - Why does a rake o' Friday night Tequila slammers prevent him from getting outta bed early on a Saturday?
- Flavio / Mariana - Like all mega famous couples do sometimes - The Flarianas were getting away from it all at their exclusive beach retreat (and we know where it is)
- Rhainmann - Doing cooler time in the Stalag Niteroi gaol?
- Sam the NonDenominational - Apparently it's got bigoted undertones if we call him Sam the Prod.
- Visitors - Three Swedish Spurs supporters who were mortified to hear THAT Keane rumour (again).

3. RFMCSC EVENTS

1) Next Game

Two games this week.

First off we'll be playing our game in hand against the Killie tomorrow 17:45 TIP time.

Then it's another (relatively) early kick off, 10:15 Sun morning for our Scottish Cup tie against Dunfermline. Come along and watch Frankie McGuinness rant and rage at this one!

So don't forget:-

Tues 02 nd Feb,	17:45	Kilmarnock (away)
Sun 07 th Feb,	10:15	Dunfermline A. (away)

Sunday's also the Scotland v France Six Nations game (plus Chelski v Arse, plus the Superbowl) so the probability of an extended party is on.



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Newsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

4. FUNDRAISING

1) General

With the return of the rugby this week marks the return of the Golden Square – remember that?

5. OTHER NEWS

5.1 Transfer News

Some of you (most of you ?) will already know what the new faces look like but in case you don't here they are. Oh and thanks for Celtic FC for letting us have permission, loaning, nick the fotaes:-



The Latest LB Messiah



The Third Kamara



Ra Ra



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Nnewsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012



the Latest Thon No.5



Remember the Last Jos?

5.2 Squad Review

After yesterdays excitement the situation now looks something like:-

The Current Squad

GK: Boruc 29 (6' 4") Zaluska 27 (6' 4") Cervi 23 (6' 6")

RB: Hinkel 26 (6' 0") Caddis 21 (5' 7") Wilson 25 (5' 11")

CB: Hooiveld 26 (6' 3") Thomson 18 (6' 4") Rogne 19 (6' 3")

CB: Loovens 26 (5' 10") O'Dea 22 (6' 1")

LB: Braafheid 26 (5' 9") Misun 19 (6' 1") Naylor 29 (5' 10")

RM: Maloney 27 (5' 7") McCourt 26 (5' 11½")

CM: N'Guemo 24 (5' 6") Crosas 22 (5' 8")

CM: Ki 21 (6' 2") Brown 24 (5' 10") Zhi 29 (5' 11")

LM: McGeady 23 (5' 10") McGinn 22 (6' 0") Mizuno 24 (5' 8")

CF: Fortune 28 (6' 0") Kamara 29 (6' 1") Samaras 24 (6' 6")

CF: Rasmussen 25 (6' 1") Keane 29 (5' 8"), McGowan 22 (5' 7"),

They also served.....and let's not forget. Some we'll remember fonder than others

Gary Caldwell 27 (5' 11")

Steven McManus 27 (6' 2")

Barry Robson 31 (5' 11")

Willo Flood 24 (5' 7")

Kris Killen 24 (6' 0")

Danny Fox 23 (6' 0")



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Newsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

Scott McDonald 26 (5' 8")

Cillian Sheridan 20 (6' 5")

Ryan Conroy 22 (5' 10")

Graham Carey 20 (6' 0")

Ben Hutchinson 22 (5' 11")

Mark Brown 28 (6' 1")

5.3 Meanwhile over at Snake Mountain (1)

This time last year we were all sitting around watching the tumbleweeds of transfer deadline day blow through the halls of Celtic Park (well not counting the signing of Willo Flood, that is).

And who else remembers all those agonizing MON years with his eleventh hour, fifty ninth minute dealings in the transfer window?

Even more agonizing were all those dismal years in the nineties when all we could do was sit and watch in awe and silent reticence as the big names went to the Southside of Glasgow.

Funny how time changes.

Just yesterday morning, we managed to get this snap of Wattie the Cardigan out negotiating a few deals for the Dark Side.



5.4 St Pauli Centennial Friendly, 18 May 2010

Thanks to Eileen at the Lowland Lions CSC for this wee snippet...more info can be found at <http://www.fcstpauli100.com/>



Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Nnewsletter Season 2009/10 No. 012

5.5 Meanwhile over at Snake Mountain (2)

Word also has reached us that over at Snake Mountain (or Montanha da Cobras, if you're local) the team have been asked to vote for who they think will make the best sponsor for next season. Apparently there's only been one entry so far.....



So that's it until another fun packed issue.

Remember, Bhoys n' Ghirls – the revolution starts here!