



## **Rio Fergus McCann Celtic Supporters Club Nnewsletter Season 2009/10 No. 014**

### **Welcome to the Slow Lane**

Well we've been away for awhile and it seems like have got just about as bad as they can get in our absence. Or have they? Lost the League, said goodbye to Tony "the New Romantic" Mowbray, out of the League Cup and finally THAT result against Ross County. It's probably about as bad as it gets. Not quite, yet (but more of that later). Anyway, whilst we wallow in self pity, hands up who remembers the above quote?

### **Celtic 4 Motherwell 0**

A poor turnout at Paradise (just over 24,000) and the TIP (2 men and a baby) saw a reasonable first half which gave no hint of what was to come in the second, when Celtic finally came alive (albeit eight months too late) and played some good football. Highlight of the day being a rare classic appearance from Sami, Broonie playing like a 4m midfielder and a cracking debut goal from young James Forrest. So now it's on to that important midweek game. You know the one, against FC Bankrupt.

### **Meanwhile in TIPLand**

Air conditioning, ice, uninterrupted TV feeds – all that's lacking are people so get yer erse doon there for the last two games of the season – you know it makes sense!

Where else would you have the pleasure of watching An Taoiseach single handedly juggle multimedia communications, pouring beer, organizing ice, rewiring the coffee perculator, whilst taking a booking for 12 dodgy Russians and their lycra clad (ahem) tour guide for a karaoke session. You just can't make entertainment like that up!

Anyway, Saturday we were graced with a man who in the words of Shane McGowan "*You don't meet everyday*". Take a bow, Estadio – were you really Mr McGowan's muse? Those of you familiar with some of the Celtic websites will probably recognize the name, Estadio, a man who's writing stands on the shoulders of Celtic supporting giants. It's just a pity there wasnae more of us there to enjoy the man's company and insightful view on the world Celtica – as it currently stands.

### **Next Games**

Tomorrow (that's Tuesday, 04 May) at 15:45 (TIP time) we're at home to FC Bankrupt and then it's the last game of the season away to Hertz at 09:30, Sunday, 09 May. BE THERE!!

One wee word about the game tomorrow night (OK, a few words about it all). A quick glance of the League table tell us that we're currently eleven points behind the team in first place, with six points to play for. Although a very remote possibility, the team in first place (or more accurately, Lloyds Bank) may decide to take the hit and go into administration and accept a ten point deduction penalty from the SPL.

Whilst, for a multitude of reasons, we don't think this is likely it is a **slight** possibility. Too many times already these past years we've contrived to let our rivals off the hook when it seemed easier just to ram the hosepipe down their drooin' gobs. So make no mistake tomorrow night is a **VERY** important game.

### **Fundraising**

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!

Adam Reid and all concerned with the British Community have revitalized the world famous Rio Quiz Night for 11 June (the eve of the England v USA) game. Adam has promised that a charitable donation will be made by the BCS to the Rio Bhoys FC so come along and support the night (see flyer attached at the end of this).



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### **The Next Manager**

So who will it be?

**Neil Lennon?** Much though we like the man. Having a heart like a drum and veins that pump green blood does not cover up the fact that Lenny's not got a wealth of managerial experience. Now is not the time for Lenny and we'd rather he serves his time at the managerial coalface (probably elsewhere) before being pitched in at the deep end of a club struggling to meet the expectations of it's worldwide fanbase.

**Steve McLaren?** We have to thank the English tabloids for making SMC's return to the EPL look doubtful (at the moment). However, do not forget, tabloid press perceptions aside, this is a man who turned around a mediocre Middlesborough and took them to a UEFA Cup final and has just taken FC Twente Enschede to their first ever Eerdivisie title, so his pedigree is good. Do not let the "Wally with the Brolly" tag and comedy Dutch accent fool you about this man.

**Davie Moyes?** Realistically, what can Everton do to break the big four hegemony? Probably not a lot. Moyes has been passed over several times already when key jobs have become open (eg the three Chelsea appointments) but will he be interested in a move back to Glasgow? Especially with Swallex making noises about retiring next year.

**Craig Levein?** Please no!

**Ronald Koemans?** Now we're just being silly.

**Martin O' Neill?** Rumours abound of the Blessed MON being approached about a "position" back at Paradise. Shurely never!

**Stale Solbakken?** Who? Remember where you read it first.

Whoever it is, the managerial appointment (which we think will be before the World Cup kicks off) will reflect the intent of the current board with respects to how slow the slow lane will be these coming years.

Over to you, Mr Lawell.

### **Bare Trophyroom v Full Balancesheet**

Much as we'd like to think otherwise the destiny of Celtic Football club currently rests in the hands of four key men – Dermott Desmond, Sir John Reid, Peter Lawell and Eric Riley (Director of Finance). The credentials of this Gang of Four as "captains of industry" is beyond question and even (in some cases) as Celtic supporters is also beyond doubt. However, has their backgrounds led to our club being treated too much as a business and too little as a football club?

Rumours abound about DD being bitterly deflated with Celtic's failure to get acceptance into the English league system. This fact maybe reflected in his current sporadic attendance at matchdays and AGMs. With that in mind, and the current lack of Champions League monies, what other big draw has Celtic got?

When (as we noted previously) the opportunity to bury our city rivals arose - we didn't. Choosing instead to let them off the hook. A more suspicious mind would say that they'd chosen to keep FC Bankrupt afloat in the best interests of the balance sheet.

So if the balance sheet is king, would that explain Mr Mowbrays appointment? Possibly? Maybe? What will be more telling (especially with the current attendance figures) will be where the Board takes us next. Will it be a "Hollywood" managerial appointment with a mass change of playing staff over the summer season? Or will it be another "mustn't grumble" financially safe appointment with the return of a dreefil of Willo Flood type appointments. We know what we want. Do you Mr Desmond?



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### **Hatches, Matches and TIP Dispatches**

It's been a while since our last Nnewsletter and quite a lot has happened since then,

Firstly, recently we received the sad news about the passing of Martin Rigsby after a recent illness. Many of you will know Martin better as the man who used to give those insightful player ratings which we sometimes "borrowed" to put on here. Martin, we'll miss you.

Next up, welcome young Davi McRae Howe to the Celtic supporting world. Apparently, he can't wait to take his Dad to their first game.

And finally, a first for the RFMCSC – an engagement. No, not Fidel and Big Drew - the future Mr and Mrs Gary Higgins came all the way to Rio for their romantic betrothal. Don't think the future Mrs Higgins had counted on spending the day in the TIP with us!!



### **Two of these people just got engaged – but which two?**

So that's it until another fun packed issue.

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

Oh yes, the "Welcome to the Slow Lane" quote. A certain Martin O' Neill said that as part of his leaving speech. Wonder what he could've possibly meant??



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The BCS Proudly Presents  
**RIO QUIZ NIGHT**  
(WORLD CUP SPECIAL)

Friday 11th June. 19:30hrs  
Jubilee Hall, Rua Real Grandeza 99, Botafogo

**FREE TO ENTER!**

They thought it was all over...

...BUT THE BCS HAVE BROUGHT RQN BACK FOR A ONE-OFF WORLD CUP SPECIAL. ON THE EVE OF ENGLAND V USA IN SOUTH AFRICA, IS THERE A BETTER WAY TO GET IN THE MOOD?

Although we celebrate the World Cup, the Quiz will have its familiar rounds on:

- 1) Science & Nature,
- 2) Art Film & Literature,
- 3) History & Geography, 4) Music, 5) Sport & Games

**As you can see... this is NOT a football quiz!**

1. **HIBS FC ARE MAGIC** ARE CURRENTLY HOLD THE **CHRIS WALLACE TROPHY** AND WE'RE SURE THEY'LL BE BACK TO DEFEND IT. AS EVER THERE ARE BIG PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS OF EACH ROUND.

**2. FORMAT**

Teams are six- a- side. Teams have a minute to confer as each question is called and answer sheets are handed to the referees at the end of each round. **This is NOT a football quiz!**

**3. WHAT'S NEW**

Stalwarts may notice that General Knowledge has been dropped. This will allow for substitutes yet avoid extra time! All will be revealed at kick off. **Needless to say, this is NOT a football quiz!**

**4. FREE TO ENTER**

The good news is that the RQN World Cup Special won't cost you anything to enter. We would like to kick off at 19.30 sharp so aim to get here for **19:00** to pick up your kit.

**5. FOOD AND DRINK**

The BCS are setting up the bar and you will be able to get pizza delivered to your table!

**6. HOW TO REGISTER**

Rio Quiz Night is free, but please register your team in advance to reserve the best available table and avoid queues. If you don't have a team, just come along and we'll find you one!

Get your team together and contact **Keith or Adam:**

[keith@prepona.com](mailto:keith@prepona.com) - 2507 5219 (com) 2527 6716 (res) or  
[adam@newstart.com.br](mailto:adam@newstart.com.br) - 2508 6917 (com), 2551 1968 (res)

**...and by the way... this is NOT a football quiz.**