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What's the News in AUGUST

The Media Effect: What Scotland's Known For Over A Century

With every paper in the country having their say on scum journalism (not me Guv) and the dodgy law enforcement agencies and government spin aficionados embroiled with them, the Bhoys newsletter wasn't going to let this chance past. The News of the Screws might have been conveniently sacrificed on the altar of damnation, but there's still Liverpool supporters hoping the Sun and its evil sister, the Scottish Hun follows, allowing the souls of the Hillsborough victims to rest in peace, after the lies and deceit that so called "newspaper" published following the tragedy. Sadly, for those of us of the Celtic family who have lived in Scotland, these revelations bring no new sense of outrage as the media in Scotland has long had its evil hands over our society. Empty slogans like "Scotland, one nation many cultures" are at the crux of the "media effect" representing while ignoring the basic facts or truth to fit their own agenda. Headlines like the big lie - "Sectarianism is the fault of separate Catholic schools" move the blame away from those the media wants to protect and serve - their own vested interests within Masonic walls. Only in Scotland does "Freedom of Speech" mean allowing the Orange order to parade outside catholic churches, harassing people going about their business. Only in Scotland can the job application question "What school did you attend" have such a bearing on who gets the job or not. And in football, it's no different. God knows how Celtic has survived its 123 year history and managed to face so much press oppression. But that answer lies with those who have played, managed and supported this heroic club with steel and determination - Malley, Quinn, Gallagher, McGrory, Tully, Stein, McNeill, Johnstone and Lennon to name a few. You only have to look at this latest pre-season to understand the 'media effect'. Rangers have played three games in basically the Bundespub League (one fourth division side, one second division and a token Bundesliga team) and lost the lot. Super Sally's stats read - played 3, lost 3, F 0, A 6. But even in a transfer season so dull that Fletcher missing training at Man U because of a virus could be a headlining story, the media didn't even registered it happened. Bury it within headlines such as ""Rangers need new recruits quickly" says McGregor" (obviously the big man's added scouting to his never ending "talents") or better still the tenth rant of the week about Lennon making an off the cuff remark about a plane in Australia. Paranoid? You bet your sweet ass baby! And please note that's not a quote from Mr McGregor.

Play It Again Sam

There we were vowing this season, we'd lay off Sammy, when along came a story we couldn't resist. Lewis Andrews of up and coming Scottish band Kassidy has reportedly been plagued by "Old Firm fans" who think he's Sammy. (Presumably that's Celtic fans giving him pelters and Gers fans offering to buy him a drink.) Having seen a picture of the boy he does have more than a passing resemblance to Georgie, though he looks to be better acquainted with the old "Head and Shoulders" than our Sam. In honour of this strange coincidence, people have been flocking to join a new "The Guy From Kassidy that Looks like Samaras" Facebook page. Though, poor Lewis confesses to know nothing about football (another similarity there then) and had no idea what people were on about when they started shouting "Samaras" at him in the street. A friend of his explained that the band has no football affiliations and added "if you asked him what ground Rangers played in he wouldn't be able to tell you." Whereas Sammy's fine with Ibrox, it's all the other SPL grounds he has trouble turning up to.

Now Taking 2011/12 Memberships

Just can't get enough. Well, fees agreed at the AGM remain at last season's prices - £30 Season Book, £15 Club Member and £25 Club Family Membership. There's a great new Members' badge and we're now taking bookings for the seasonbooks for our two adult tickets. (We no longer have the kid's ticket.) So everyone gets a chance initially we're taking one slot request per seasonbook member. All members can also take up any tickets which have not been requested two weeks before kick off. Slot requests can be submitted via the website or contact Tam Burke VP and ticket convener. Membership application forms are also available on our site or in the Club room.

Shameless Plug

One of the most satisfying things last season was that we made a small profit from our raffles and merchandise, which the AGM agreed to donate to the Kano Foundation a charity which takes disadvantaged kids on days out at Celtic Park. Thirty-eight kids will be seeing the Bhoys thanks to you. This season we'd like to be able to raise enough to give to another worthy cause. So, we hope you won't mind if we remind you we have a new club badge on general sale and are now taking orders (just £12 in all sizes including kids) for a new Bhoys' T-Shirt, celebrating "The Broony", "Just Can't Get Enough" and "Walk On", for details and orders speak to John Sweeney.

MATCH DAYS & BHIRTHDAYS

3 August Friendly v Swansea City - 19.00 (TBC)
7 August Aberdeen v Celtic (SPL) - 12.15 am (SKY)
9 August Celtic Vets v ManU Legends in aid of the African famine - 19.45 (ITV4)
13 August Celtic v Dundee (SPL) - 15.00 (No Telly)
18 August Europa Playoff - 19.45 (TBC)
21 August Celtic v St Johns (SPL)-15.00 (No Telly)
25 August Europa Playoff - 19.45 (TBC)
30 August St Mirren v Celtic (SPL) - 12.45 - (SKY)

Happy birthday to Tam

Hail, Hail

P.S. We're looking for photies of members sporting the hoops or one of our shirts for our facebook gallery which has just had a makeover. So if you have a good one from your hols send it in via Twitter, email, the site or facebook.