

# What's the News in SEPTEMBER



## London (Road)'s Burning

There I was on hols - kicking back watching "Hamilton TV" - no the Accies haven't gone all commercial and sold their souls to Sky Sports - this was the local news channel of a Canadian Town with all the excitement of Livingstone and the scenic qualities of Bellshill. Up until then the day's top story had been some new sorts of lunchboxes on sale at the mall (am I being unfair to Livi). So you can imagine my shock when suddenly pictures of our beloved Broad Green Tavern surrounded by flames flashed across the screens. Our planned August Committee meeting scheduled for that night was postponed as things got a little hot - and I had a wee laugh at the email I came back to from Aidan, sent that morning saying he'd heard from a friend something might be going to happen but it was probably nothing. We also had to cancel the Man U Legends v Celtic Vets match showing, where we'd hoped to do some fundraising of our own for famine relief. (But anyway the 5-1 score line must have put a smile on most of your faces, as well as leaving you wondering whether we'd have been better sending the old bhoys out in Europe.) If you haven't been down, large chunks of Broad Green have been demolished and the buses are on diversion. Support and best wishes came in on our Twitter site, from Celts all over and we were happy to confirm thankfully our club and the Broad Green Tavern is still standing, staff and regulars were unscathed - and there remains a little part of Croydon which will forever be the East End of Glasgow. Our thoughts, however go out to our neighbours who have lost their homes and businesses and we've posted our support to the I Love Croydon campaign. (Thanks to those who posed for Photos next to the devastation on Sunday.)

## Roll Up the Map of Europe

In the words of Pitt the Wee Yin it's "Roll up the map of Europe, we will not be needing it for a long time" - unless you're planning on hols in Andorra or San Marino in June that is. That's right - the coefficient is now so low we're on a par with countries that are smaller than Falkirk. I consider myself a hardened Celtic Supporter. I'm certainly old enough to have witnessed epic highs and lows but this new phase of football depression is perhaps the most worrying of all for us in the Celtic Family. No knee jerk reactions from me, the Celtic Websites are in meltdown enough with comments that require medication for bipolar conditions throughout. What I will say is glaring obvious, this current team is very, very ordinary, so ordinary, I'm expecting the call to come in from Wenger any day now. The media? Loving this, BBC quote Lenny after the Sion debacle "I can't fault the players, they were brilliant. They played for 87 minutes with 10 men and played excellently". Oh dear, oh dear, just when we get back in it at

2-1 down, a time to bring on fresh legs, what does the manager do? Feck all! Ki who had a nightmare game, knackered gives away the ball and it's goodnight Vienna, Sion, Braga, Utrecht (or any number of teams in this 30 away day nightmare.) Poor management coupled with a Board which would give Ebenezer Scrooge a run for his money - still we're very healthy financially, so healthy we've managed three runners up spots to the Huns, who despite being on the brink of financial meltdown have beaten us to the last three SPL titles. Not good, not clever but no concern to the board as they take our hard earned cash on season books and merchandise. And the prediction for this season - very ordinary, with maybe a cup but we're staring down TFOD going 5 in a row - HM Customs permitting. Three calls in just over a week of "Bring on Paddy McCourt" - the Gaelic for "Feck, two minutes to go and I've run out of ideas". So now it's the turn of our number 12 - McBride - as Celtic has formerly written to the governing bodies about Sion's signing six players while on a transfer embargo. We'll hear the outcome some time before the next Europa matches on 15 September. But with Athletic Madrid, Udinese and Stade Rennais in that draw only those selling anti-depressants look set to be getting much out of that lot.

## You what?

But before you slash your wrists here's a wee laugh for you - Broonie has a personal shopper! That's right the Bhoys from Beith who has only ever been spotted kitted out in "Rupert the Bear" troose, Ronnie Corbett jumpers and the type of T-shirts you used to get in "What She Wants" in the Bridges - has a stylist. Well, whoever he or she is - they must have had the type of careers adviser who'd have told Big Dan he'd be good in the 100 metres, Lenny he had a chance as a diplomat and Super Ally that he was a football manager.

## New Season Badges Now Out

The 2011/12 Season badges are now available and will be handed out to paid up members at the next televised game - versus the Huns. Season book members getting their subs in on that day will also be eligible for the first Gers match home draw.

## Hail, Hail

P.S. Gorgeous George (Galloway not Samaras) has published a new book "Open Season" on the hate campaign against Lenny and sectarianism in Scotland. For information check out "George-Galloway-MP/8534485796" on Facebook. Ever the proud Tim, Georgie asked Record Readers to send in their own experiences when researching this so it could be interesting.

## MATCH DAYS & BIRTHDAYS

Three SPL games, Ross County in the Communities Cup and maybe a Europa tie, here's the fixtures... God help us.

10 Sep Celtic v Motherwell (SPL) - 15.00 (No Telly, tickets taken)

18 Sep TFOD v Celtic - 12.30 (Sky)

20/21 Sep Ross Co v Celtic (TBC)

24 Sep Celtic v ICT (SPL) - 15.00 - (No Telly), 1 ticket remaining

Happy birthday to Owen & Conal