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FM, DAB, ONLINE AND VIA THE RADIO CLYDE APP

Foreword by Hugh Keevins, Radio Clyde



On the morning of May 26, 1967, while acting in my capacity as the Vice-Captain of St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School in Jordanhill, I was assigned a task by the teaching staff. More a case of *"Your*

Mission, should you

choose to accept it" kind of thing, if I'm being honest.

It was the start of the school day that followed Celtic's historic win over Inter Milan in Lisbon's Estadio Nacional the night before.

That is to say the European Cup final win which made Celtic the first British side in the history of the competition to lift the trophy, an epochmaking moment which had visibly stirred the emotions of a school register and inspired counter revolutionary urges amongst some of them.

It was revolutionary to think football daft schoolboys would have the same thirst for education that they had the day before, given the circumstances, and the need to show that was the case provoked a subversive reaction.

The task I had been set was to persuade the occupants of the playground to come to order and realise that while they were in an exciteable state the day was best served by attending to the curriculum while letting brows become less fevered in the process.

Persuading boys who were still inspired by the deeds of the players they had watched on television the evening before to fall into line rather than stop re-enacting the moment Tommy Gemmell had scored Celtic's equalising goal against the Italian side, or Stevie Chalmers had snatched the belated winner, involved a contest between belligerence and perseverance.

It also involved, little did I know at the time, an occasionally robust exchange of views which would, in later life, prepare me for the verbal jousts which can sometimes characterise an evening's work on the radio while analysing the football events of the day with telephone callers who have been known to reach a state of high agitation.

But on the job training for the future while trying to be the perfect prefect isn't the moral to this particular story.

Scottish football and school playgrounds have always been indivisible from each other.

The Lisbon Lions, as they would become known to successive generations, were the product of their environment in that respect.

The primary and secondary schools of Glasgow and Lanarkshire had originally nurtured their talent through the first form of organised football they would have known.

It was schools football that had taught them the game's disciplines and gave them the basic grounding that would stand them in good stead when they eventually entered the world of professional football.

It is therefore fitting that The Glasgow Schools' Football Association should observe the fiftieth anniversary of Celtic's momentous achievement in Lisbon by staging a tournament which invites the teams under their umbrella to exhibit their worth and ultimately their suitability for the winners' rostrum.

The unique nature of Celtic's triumph in Portugal is remarkable to think about now because it was simply taken for granted half a century ago.

A team that re-wrote the history books so far as the European Cup was concerned was drawn from a thirty-mile radius and was exclusively made up of the products of the schools football system in this country.

It would be too easy, and completely unnecessary, to say if only it were that simple where the game is concerned in the present day.

Better to celebrate what was achieved and to strive towards creating a repeat one day in the future.

Let the matches commence, may the best team win, and can everyone sit back and revel in watching some of those who will, without fear of contradiction, form the backbone of our national sport in the years to come.



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Hugh MacDonald, Chief Sports Writer, The Herald



LISBON, the fitba', school. It is the half-back line that informed and illuminated my life.

They all came together 50 years ago, of course, when St. Joe's Primary in Clarkston opened its doors on a holiday of

obligation to allow the school team to watch the European Cup final. As captain of the team - whose glorious achievements in 1967 were cruelly overshadowed by the Bhoys from the East - I took my seat (perched on a bench that was one of those instruments of torture that was a staple of the sixties gym) and watched the greatest game I have ever seen.

Its allure was such that it took my attention from a clutch of stitches inserted in my chin, the result of a close encounter with my psychopathic brother followed by a closer encounter with an ash surface.

It was a fitting memento of the day. Ash and fitba then was as common as ash and cigarettes.

Schools football ruled in those days and its court was routinely laced with red blaes or black ash. These surfaces were so unforgiving that they would have reduced a battalion of charging Scots Guards to a whimper but nothing - not even iodine and a wire brush applied to an outer thigh stripped of skin could deter the player in the school team.

A half a century on, I can recall vividly the joy of accepting my St. Joe's shirt for the game in the afternoon. It was blue with gold piping, crisp white shorts and gold socks. It smelled of washing powder and prospective glory.

This was the school team. This was the chance to star as your mates played alongside you or watched from the sidelines. There were nerves, joy and ultimately fatigue. We played on lush grass up on the hill at Busby but travelled to grounds where ash was the least of it. I seem to remember a pitch at Netherlee that surely formed the setting for *A River Runs Through It*.

I recall, too, a morning on the south side when red ash was spiked and sharpened to stiletto by frost and the match resembled in its awful gory the first reel of **Saving Private Ryan**. These scars remain on my body and in my psyche to this day.

But so does the undying brilliance of schools football. I went on from St. Joe's to play for secondary school teams and the satisfaction of pulling on a shirt never diminished. Schools football taught me how 11-a-side was played. It showed me how to adapt from street or patch of a grass on to a full-length park.

The jannie, too, was the first and greatest coach: never pass across the park, if in doubt put it out, pass and move, win your personal battle, support your team mate, never, ever give up. The rivalries were genuine, too. Those games could be played at such a tempo that they deserved to be accompanied by the chase music from Benny Hill.

Both the lessons and the memories endure. It is impossible for me to look back on those days with anything other than deep affection. It was when football moved from the playground to become thrillingly real and grown-up.

It was when playing in the school team carried such kudos that the jannie would open the school doors and let you watch your heroes on the big screen.

May 25, 1967, was the day in the sun for the Lisbon Lions. But it was also the first glimpse for me of what football meant and could signify. A half-century has passed. Football still remains in my heart and soul. I am grateful to the great players of 1967 for that.

But I also acknowledge a sincere debt to schools football. May it run and run.





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Owen Coyle, Former English Premier League and MLS Manager



Brendan Rodgers, Manager of Celtic F.C.



I would like to wish everyone involved in the Lisbon Lions Trophy the very best of success. I am sure the Tournament will be a tremendous event and one where young players will have a great opportunity to shine.

While I am sure the teams who reach the semi finals and final will enjoy the experience of playing at Lennoxtown, all young players should embrace the opportunity to be involved in the Tournament from the outset.

It is great that the Tournament has been established as a tribute to Celtic's Greatest ever team. They are a group of men who'll forever be heroes and legends and a team with the attributes we should all strive for.

We look at the Lions' legacy with great pride and respect. My team will always go out to entertain and follow their traditions. These are Celtic's traditions. We have always been an attacking club and it is this philosophy, this identity which we need to honour.

The achievements of the Lions were quite simply incredible, when a team of young guys from in and around Glasgow reached such heights and became the best team in Europe. It shows exactly what can be achieved through hard work and determination. They committed themselves completely to their task and dedicated themselves to the game.

The Lions all started playing football at school. I am sure that their early football will have played a major role in their success and that is why schools football is so important. It gives young players the chance to develop, to learn the technical aspects of football and the importance of team work. Schools football has set so many great players on the road to success at the highest level.

We just need to look at the Lions to realise what can be achieved.

I hope you all enjoy the great experience of taking part in the Lisbon Lions Trophy.



Best of Luck and Best Wishes



The Organisers would like to thank a couple of additional supporters of School's Football, namely Youth Football Scotland and Lord Haughey from City Refrigeration.



John Clark, Lisbon Lion and Kieran Tierney, Celtic F.C.

Message from Lisbon Lion John Clark

I hope everyone involved in the Lisbon Lions Trophy really enjoys the Tournament. It is very humbling that the Tournament has been established as a Tribute to the Lions and on behalf of us all I would like to congratulate Paul Downie and the GSFA for all their work and organisation.

Schools football was very important to me and I know to all my team mates too. It was crucial that we had an opportunity to learn the game and schools football was the avenue which we all had at an early age. From there, it gave us the platform to go on and develop further and ultimately reach the level.

Hard work and dedication is everything in football but making sure that you enjoy the sport and have fun at the same time. If you can do this, then anything can happen.

Good Luck from us all.

Message from Kieran Tierney

I hope all the young players taking part in the Lisbon Lions Trophy enjoy this great experience

It is a great idea to organise the event to mark this important 50th Anniversary year and honour such a great team.



John Clark centre with Callum McGregor, Scott Brown, Tom Rogic and representatives from participating Schools

The Lisbon Lions are the example to us all as young players. From a young age, they gave everything they had to reach the very top, through to lifting the biggest prize of all in Lisbon.

They dedicated themselves to football, but they enjoyed the game too and that is very important to remember. While they put so much work into their football and gave it their total focus, they went out to entertain and play attacking football with freedom.

It is great that the Tournament will finish at our Training Ground at Lennoxtown and the teams who progress will visit the place where we train everyday. I have been fortunate enough to come through the ranks at Celtic to be part of a great Celtic team and it is a real honour for me to go to work there every morning.

You always need a bit of luck along the way but if you ask any of our team they will tell you the same thing that hard work, commitment and passion for football is everything.

Enjoy the Tournament and Good Luck!

GSFA Lisbon Lions Trophy



Group 1

Group 3

Lourdes Secondary School



Kirkintilloch High School



St. Roch's Secondary School



St. Matthew's Academy, Saltcoats

Hyndland Secondary School



King's Park Secondary School



Bearsden Academy



Group 2

Holyrood Secondary School

Our Lady's High School, Motherwell

St. Peter the Apostle High School

St. Ninian's High School, Kirkintilloch



St. Andrew's Secondary School



St. Mungo's Academy



Jordanhill School

St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School

May 25th Pitch 1		Pitch 2	Pitch 3	
10.00am	St. Andrew's v Jordanhill	Holyrood v St. Peter	Bearsden v Hyndland	
10.35am	John Paul v Lourdes	Kirkintilloch v St. Roch's	St. Ninian's v Our Lady's	
11.10am	St. Matthew's v King's Park	Jordanhill v St. Mungo's	St. Andrew's v St. Thomas	
11.45am	Holyrood v St. Ninian's	Lourdes v St. Roch's	St. Peter v Our Lady's	
12.15pm	Tournament Photocall inside Pitch			
12.30pm	Bearsden v St. Matthew's	John Paul v Kirkintilloch	St. Thomas v St. Mungo's	
1.05pm	St. Peter v St. Ninian's	Hyndland v King's Park	Holyrood v Our Lady's	
1.40pm	John Paul v St. Roch's	St. Andrew's v St. Mungo's	Lourdes v Kirkintilloch	
2.15pm	Bearsden v King's Park	Hyndland v St. Matthew's	Jordanhill v St. Thomas	
June 5th Semi-Fi		nal 1 S	emi-Final 2	
	Win (1) v V	Vin (2) W	in (3) v Win (4)	
3rd /4th Play-Off				
Loser (S		SF1) v	Loser (SF2)	
Final				
Win (Sl		F1) v	Win (SF2)	
Presentation				

Hyndland Secondary School



Football at Hyndland: Passing the Torch

Last month was my first visit to my former school in almost 5 years. The resurgence of football at Hyndland Secondary has been well advertised in the community. The players in my school years were enthusiastic, but lacked the opportunity to take their passion to the next level of competition, which was a far cry away from Hyndland's glory days - when they were Glasgow schools champions in 1944.

So to see my school benefitting from dedicated coaching, local sponsorship, and initiatives from premier league clubs brings me a huge surge of hope and pride.

The Hyndland Foxes have rapidly progressed in the course of 18 months. There are now three competitive teams, each one made up of two year groups. The S1/S2 team has had a very impressive 2017, with 4 wins from 5 games. Apart from the great enthusiasm shown by the kids, and their coach, local business have made generous financial contributions for top range playing kit, and even the gift of a minibus from Arnold Clark.

Hyndland has become the first school in Scotland to receive the SSFA Schools Quality Award, and will also be a host for the historic Lisbon Lions Trophy tournament, to honour the 50th anniversary of Celtic's European triumph.

This is grassroots sport at its finest, and I can only hope these young people take full advantage of this rare opportunity.

Jack Mallon - Former Pupil Hyndland Secondary School (2006 - 2012)

"We are extremely honoured to have worked closely with both Celtic Football Club and GSFA to bring all the schools participating in today's trophy together to celebrate the legacy of the Lisbon Lions - 11 local boys who became European Champions. It's not all about today, but how our young players grow tomorrow and develop both on and off the pitch. It's about what their Lisbon will be."



Paul Downie, Hyndland Secondary School pictured with The European Cup and two school team members



"Congratulations to Hyndland Secondary School on becoming the first school in the country to receive the Schools Quality Award. I have fond memories of playing schools football and the rivalries helped me to improve, while the friendships with team-mates have lasted a lifetime. It provides an invaluable step towards realising your ambitions and I urge all of the players to continue to work hard, challenge yourselves to improve every day and that commitment will serve you well in football and in life."

Gordon Strachan, Scotland Manager



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I am delighted to be able to support this fabulous unique opportunity for Glasgow schools from across the city to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the success of the Lisbon Lions. Sport is a huge part of the success of our schools and how exciting for the young people to get the chance to play at Celtic's training ground! I would like to thank all those who have worked so hard to make this a reality.

Maureen McKenna Executive Director of Education Glasgow City Council



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GSFA Season Review



St. Peter The Apostle under 14 Team 2017 winners of The League

Season 2016/17 has shown a completed compared to previous format from non-competitive before Christmas has obviously been very were completed and some qualifiers



Holyrood under 14 Team 2017 winners of The Crookston Cup

marked improvement in Games years. The change in the league Christmas to very competitive after successful. Most league games were not known until the final few

games of the season. The play offs and semi-finals of both Cups and Leagues during April proved very exciting and left us with mouth-watering finals at all age groups. Thanks must go to Celtic FC for holding the Cameronian Cup Final; Queens Park FC for Holding the under 18 Shield Final; Rangers FC for holding both under 15 Finals and the James Crawford Cup; St. Mungo's Amateurs (Loretto) for holding the other 6 Finals. We are also indebted to all the GSFA committee, made up of both working and retired teachers, who give up their time and energy to make sure the season runs like clockwork. Our sponsors should not be forgotten:

TWS, Kelvin Books and Mitre Footballs.

Maurice Shields

GSFA League / Cup Coordinator

Cups

under 13	OLSP 1 v Lourdes 2	Castle Cup
under 14	Holyrood 4 v Jordanhill 1	Crookston Cup
under 15	All Saints' 2 v St. Peter 4	Glasgow Cup
under 16	Knightswood 2 v St. Thomas Aq 0	RS McColl Cup
under 18	St. Andrew's v Bishopbriggs	Cameronian Cup

Leagues

under 13	Lourdes 1 v Holyrood 2	Shield
under 14	JPA 2 v St. Peter 2 (pens)	Shield
under 15	All Saints' 0 v St. Peter 6	Shield
under 16	Knightswood 1 v St. Peter 0	Shield
under 18	Bearsden v Lourdes Sec	Shield

Under 14 Glasgow Squad

In May, the annual Glasgow Schools' v Salford Schools' Select Squads play each other to try to win the Rocca Trophy. The competition is held alternate years in both Manchester and Glasgow and is a showpiece of what footballing talent exists in both cities. Fortunately, Glasgow has won the trophy on the last 3 occasions. In anticipation of this, 3 trials were held in February, April and May of this year. The high standard of footballing talent meant that an extra trial in May had to be held. The boys selected will represent Glasgow on Saturday, May 20th, 2.00pm kick-off, Glasgow Green. They will be following in the footsteps of many professional and international footballers who had the opportunity to represent Glasgow Schools, whilst serving as ambassadors for their own schools in this competition.

In total, a squad of 20 boys have been selected - from an initial trial of 50. A match-day squad of 17 players, with 3 boys on stand-by. Each player will be presented with a Glasgow Schools' Select tie and will continue to wear the tie on each occasion that they have the opportunity to represent Glasgow Schools' in National Competitions in the coming years.

Squad: Jay Patterson *(St. Andrew's Sec)*, Junior Garscadden *(St. Andrew's Sec)*, Magnus MacMillan *(Hyndland)*, Matthew Melvin *(Hyndland)*, Max Kerr *(Holyrood)*, Lucas Chalmers *(Holyrood)*, Devan McColl *(Holyrood)*, Daniel Reid *(Holyrood)*, Kyle King *(OLSP)*, Connor Nicolson *(OLSP)*, Sean Keegan *(St. Peter)*, Leeroy Shannon *(St. Peter)*, Billy Owens *(John Paul)*, Gospel Ocholi *(John Paul)*, Corey O'Donnell *(Knightswood)*, Gregor Nicol *(Jordanhill)*, David Lynn *(Bearsden)*

Stand-by: Ryan Todd (St. Roch's), Luke Kenny (St. Mungo's), Ross McQueen (Eastbank)





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