MEMBERS of Glasgow’s Irish community have given their support to calls for a memorial to celebrate the influence of the Great Hunger on the city and Scotland as a whole.

With over a century and a half of immigration following the Great Hunger, the Irish community stands today as a vibrant part of Scottish society, but memorials to its contribution are few and far between.

Their influence was felt in all areas and their contribution to health, education, industry, politics, culture and sport played a vital part in building a modern Scotland.

Those making the calls for a memorial seek to recognise this colossal impact throughout the generations and provide a focal point for celebrating the Irish community in Scotland.

It has been suggested that to truly represent the Irish community’s contribution to Scotland that Irish immigration must be understood as more than just the desperate action of a starving people in a few short years.

Immigration continued long after the Great Hunger and waves of migration to Scotland ensured a steady flow from Ireland to these shores that lasts up to the present day, and there has been disquiet about existing proposals for a ‘Famine memorial,’ which only seeks to understand the experience of the Irish in Scotland only through the Great Hunger.

Proposals
The Glasgow Irish Heritage Group works to represent the Irish community in Glasgow, and they welcomed the early proposals from within the Irish community for a monument in Scotland’s biggest city.

“The idea of a monument to mark the contribution of the Irish to Scottish society is one that we in the GHG welcome,” Pat McAleer of the GHG said. “This is a truly fitting way to salute the past generations and is most inclusive as it would mark every generation. This idea is from the grass roots of our community and I feel we have a proposal here we can all get behind.”

The approval from one of the most influential Irish groups in Scotland reinforces the broad base of support from within the community that is emerging for a monument that will honour all the Irish immigrants, and their descendants, made and continue to make to Scottish society.

While there are proposals for a ‘Famine memorial’ led by Glasgow City Council already in place, the announcement of the planning drew criticism from ordinary members of the Irish community as well as caution from high profile academics such as Professor Tom Devine.

After initially welcoming the proposals, which were made by Councillor Fergal Dalton, himself an Irishman, many in the Irish community subsequently expressed their surprise and unease that among those involved in the planning of such a monument would be the Rangers Supporters Assembly, who consistently defended the notorious ‘Famine song,’ a mocking and racist chant that calls on Scotland’s Irish to ‘go home.’

In addition to the fears that the history of the Irish in Scotland is becoming a political football, concerns have also been expressed that a false picture of events is being established, and both played a part in the calls for an alternative memorial for the Irish community which celebrates the whole story of Irish immigration.

Truthful narrative
Frustration also emerged when Mr Devine spoke out to caution those charged with creating the council-led memorial against creating a comforting narrative which neglects the true story of the Great Hunger.

Earlier this year he warned against the memorial in Glasgow being ‘founded on comfortable myth,’ leading many to wonder if those involved were giving proper consideration to the facts behind the history.

In contrast to the suggestion that the welcome the migrants received should be commemorated, Mr Devine spoke of the anti-Catholic and anti-Irish sentiment that engulfed the country, and pointed out that 50,000 Irish people were actually sent home from Scotland.

“If a historical event of such magnitude and long-term importance is to be justly commemorated it must be done on a foundation of intellectual honesty and integrity,” he said. “To allow any commemoration to be founded on comforting myth and unproven beliefs would be to dishonour the victims of the past horrors.”

He continued: “The population surged as never before, the pressure on the primitive and undeveloped systems of health care and sanitation almost drove the city to breaking point.

‘Yet, miraculously, this vast army of stricken impoverished people and their descendants eventually contributed hugely in a myriad of positive ways to the development of Glasgow’s economy, culture and values.’

Excitement
While the Irish community will watch closely to see how the ‘Famine memorial’ progresses, there has been excitement about the early discussions for a memorial which the Irish community can call its own, which are quickly gaining support.

With high profile members of the community, both in Glasgow and elsewhere, lending their support to calls for a memorial to the great contribution that all generations of Irish immigrants, and their descendants, made and continue to make to Scottish society, it is hoped that plans will soon be formalised allowing a serious proposal to be put forward.

[Image]
Glasgow girl is Mary From Dungloe 2013

DAN MIGNET

The Glaswegian Mary was chosen as the 46th Mary from Dungloe, County Donegal. Her family marked a historic first in the competition.

Grace Sweeney from Glasgow’s south side walked off with the top prize despite sustaining a broken foot before the competition, and watched on in amazement as her niece and nephew won both the girls and boys competition, the first time a family has had such success at the festival.

Miss Sweeney (right with niece), whose parents hail from nearby, attended the festival in Dungloe for many years, but even when she was chosen as Glasgow’s Mary she never believed she would join the list of winning Marys.

“I knew about the competition from visiting the area for years,” she said. “I thought about winning it when I was a wee girl, but as I got older I stopped. I never thought I would actually do it. It was just a great experience and I had so much fun for the whole week.

“It was great representing Glasgow and I had brilliant support from the Irish community here. Anni from the Victoria Bar, Maurice Friel, Dom Sweeney and Minus Brennan all sponsored me as Glasgow’s Mary, and in Dungloe there were Glaswegian in bars all around the town. There was even a group of young Glasgow guys singing ‘there’s only around the town. There was even a group of Friel, Dom Sweeney and Manus Brennan all ty here. Annie from the Victoria Bar, Maurice whole week.

“We are the Marys. We were doing the judging for the Little Miss Mary and the Little Mr Escort, and I couldn’t believe it when they both won. I went to tell them they were sister and brother when I heard that they’d both been chosen, but they didn’t mind. There’s a first time for everything I suppose!

In another first for the contest, Miss Sweeney won with a broken foot, which she explained. “I took off my shoes and gave them a few steps and I thought I had sprained my ankle. It was only later I realised I had actually broken my foot.

“It was painful, but I just thought ‘I’m not going to let it hold me back.’ I was standing all week for photoshoots, but it was good. I had a lot of fun taking part in it all, and I even learned to surf with a broken foot!”

“At my cousin’s wedding I was asked to do a bit of dancing,” Miss Sweeney explained. “I took off my shoes and gave them a few steps and I thought I had sprained my ankle. It was only later I realised I had actually broken my foot.

“It was painful, but I just thought ‘I’m not going to let it hold me back.’ I was standing all week for photoshoots, but it was good. I had a lot of fun taking part in it all, and I even learned to surf with a broken foot!”

“The tour was great,” Paul Shirdan explained. “We recorded it at 45-a-side studios in Glasgow and there are 11 songs on total on it. We have touched on aspects such as the divided city of Glasgow, the dangers of far right politicians, boxing hero Benny Lynch, the pioneers of the gold rush, social issues and much more.

“We also included the song John Maclean’s March on the album along with Pink Bag Soldiers. We thought that the line we used for the album title, which was taken from the former of those two songs, provided a good balance between the Irish aspect of our music and the left, socialist aspect of it as well.

“Overall we think that this is our best work, in terms of songwriting and musical arrangement.”

The album was officially launched on August 17, at Broadcast in Glasgow’s Sauchichall St, but those lucky enough to have seen the band on tour in Germany will have had a preview of some of the songs. The band was delighted to be back playing in front of crowds in a country in which they always receive a warm welcome.

“The tour was great,” Paul said. “We played in some new places and the songs were very well-received. People came to see us who had heard our stuff online or who had bought older albums, so it was nice to meet them. There were also many people there who hadn’t heard of us at the gigs, so all in all it was really good.

“We would hope to tour the album in both Scotland and Ireland as the year goes on and we would like to be able to do a sustained UK tour soon.”

The band also took time to express support for The Irish Voice before preparing for the album launch.

“The launch of the newspaper is great news and we wish it the best for its launch and beyond,” Paul said. “It will be another for Fingers (Chris) to add to his paper round.”

GLASGOW Irish folk and roll band The Wakes released their third album, The Red and The Green this month, a recording that the band have described as their ‘best work.’

The band, which was formed in 2006 and consists of broth-
THE sister of Barry Doherty has thanked the people of Paisley for their support in the aftermath of the Donegal man’s tragic death.

Mr Doherty (right), a native of Carndonagh in Donegal, was found dead in Thornley Dam in Paisley after his disappearance sparked a frantic search effort led by his family and friends, many of whom had travelled to Paisley from Ireland and other parts of Scotland.

The alarm was raised after he failed to contact family on his 25th birthday, and the atmosphere of celebration for his family quickly turned to one of panic as they began to suspect something was wrong and took the first steps in the search to track him down.

Tragically, the search was called off after a body was found in the water of Thornley Dam, and following a positive identification by Mr Doherty’s father the sad news of his disappearance and his tragic death was broken to those who had been raising awareness of his disappearance and helping with the search.

“I am heartbroken that I am letting you all know that our Barry has passed away,” Cathie Doherty, Barry’s sister, said. “He was found on Wednesday and Dad positively identified him. Táim chroíbhriste [I am heartbroken].”

Speaking to those who knew him across the world his sister said: “To everyone who knew Barry, I wish there had been a different outcome. Join together, wherever you are in the world and be a comfort for one another.”

Mr Doherty’s remains were taken home to Ireland for his funeral Mass, celebrated in the Church of the Sacred Heart in his home town of Carndonagh, where his friends and family gathered for their last farewell.

A FAMILIAR personality from the Coatbridge St Patrick’s Day Festival has been honoured for his bravery.

Liam Hackett is well known to the thousands who attend the festival in the Lanarkshire town each year as he takes his position at the head of the parade before the festival is officially opened. A keen bagpiper, Mr Hackett (above) has played at the festival for a number of years, as well as carrying the tricolour at the head of the honoured guests.

The Blairhill man becomes the first recipient of the Life Saving Member of the Order of St John medal in Scotland, in recognition for his bravery in coming to the aid of a man in distress over 20 years ago.

While serving with the London Fire Brigade in 1989, Mr Hackett climbed a live electricity pylon, carrying 250,000 volts, to help rescue a hospital patient who had left his ward.

Following a successful rescue, his selfless action and bravery did not go unnoticed and was recognised with his newly-awarded medal.
Independence would not affect relations

DAN McGINTY

THE importance of Scotland’s links to Ireland will not be undermined after the ‘yes’ vote in the referendum next September.

Aileen McLeod MSP is the latest Scottish politician to have spoken out, outlining her confidence that the good relationships between two countries would continue in the aftermath of a vote in favour of Scottish independence.

Dr McLeod, an SNP MSP for South Scotland, made her comments in the aftermath of an address by Scotland’s First Minister Alex Salmond, in which he claimed that Scotland’s relationships with Ireland and England would remain stable in the event of a successful referendum on Scottish independence.

Mr Salmond’s words included a reassurance that five of Scotland’s six unions would remain intact: the European Union, the defence union through NATO, the currency union, the union of the crowns and, of particular interest to Scotland’s Irish community, the social union which exists between those in Scotland, England, Wales, and Ireland.

“The First Minister’s address set out what independence will mean for ordinary Scots,” Dr McLeod said. “The reality is that the UK will remain intact; the European Union, which is separate to the Union, will still be able to watch the BBC; and we’ll continue to use the pound.

“Scots,” Dr McLeod said. “The reality is that independence will mean for ordinary individuals that five of Scotland’s six unions will remain intact; the European Union, where the Irish community is one of the largest in the world, will remain stable; and we’ll continue to use the pound.

“Current travel between Scotland and Ireland is governed by the Common Travel Area agreement between the UK and the Republic of Ireland, in contrast to the rest of the EU, which subscribes to the Schengen Convention, an agreement to allow free travel between EU countries, and the SNP plans to continue this arrangement should its campaign for an independent Scotland prove successful.”

Dr McLeod’s comments came as another SNP MSP, Dr Aileen McLeod (above), and Clare Adamson, a Church of Scotland minister, echoed the SNP’s hope for a successful campaign for an independent Scotland.

Mr Salmond’s speech was made in the aftermath of a vote in favour of Scottish independence by 51.8% of Scots.

The proposed facility in the waters off Fife could be ready as early as 2016 and would be expected to create hundreds of direct and indirect jobs during its anticipated operating life of 25 years.

A sign of Mainstream Renewable Power’s ongoing success, the new project, called Neart na Gaoithe (meaning ‘strength of the wind’ in Gaelic), is one of the reasons that the company has attracted recent investment of €100m from Japanese giant Marubeni.

Speaking about what the investment means for the company and for its plans, including the 65 square mile proposed energy site in Scotland, Eddie O’Conner, chief executive, said: “This investment is a game-changer for Mainstream, allowing us to focus on accelerating our project portfolio across a range of markets as well as entering into new strategic jurisdictions which present strong value opportunities for our business.

“Having grown our company in the midst of the global financial crises, this type of long-term strategic investment is true testament to the strength and experience of our team as well as the quality and spread of our global project portfolio.”

Irish company set to capitalise on Scottish winds of change

AN IRISH company is at the heart of plans for a new Scottish wind farm.

The Dublin-based Mainstream Renewable Power has launched plans for a 250 turbine wind farm off the Fife coast which could power 325,000 homes.

The £1.4 billion development came on the back of plans to link the Scottish and Irish power grids at a meeting of the British-Irish Council in Derry last month, a scheme which has been backed with £1.3 million of EU money.

With some of the richest offshore green energy sources in the world, the energy sectors in Scotland and Ireland are booming and the latest projects will keep the two countries at the forefront of offshore energy projects across the world.

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Irish President calls for an end to division during historic visit to Iona

LIAM DUFFY

ATTEMPTS to combat sectarianism in Scotland have continued in the aftermath of a call from the Irish President for an end to the “abuse of myth and history,” which he says promotes division.

President Michael D Higgins (right) made the comments during his historic visit to Iona as part of the celebrations that marked the 1450th anniversary of St Columba’s arrival in Scotland.

Speaking at an address entitled ‘Of Migrants and Migration,’ President Higgins said he was under the potential of Scotland’s relationship with Ireland, spoke of the many “fine and good lessons” of the past, but warned against a misrepresentation and stereotypes which allow hatred and hostilities.

He also identified prejudice as ‘a symptom of [people] feeling themselves ignored, rejected by those in power or under threat from wider socio-economic pressures.’

His commitment to eradication of division in Scottish society, where the Irish community often remains the victim of outward-lived prejudices, was echoed in the efforts of the Scottish Government’s Independent Advisory Group on Combating Sectarianism under a recent panel discussion in St John’s Church in Edinburgh.

The panel included five members of the group established by Roseanna Cunningham MSP, and Rev Ian Galloway, a Church of Scotland minister, echoed the calls of the Irish President.

“It is time for change,” Rev Galloway said. “There may be a way to go, but I believe we can achieve it, and I am amazed at the shift in attitudes and behaviour I have already seen over the years.

“The message is to stop being scared and start acting as neighbours to build the kind of Scotland we want.”

Dublin comic stands up for the Hibs with special Easter Rd performance

HIBERNIAN FC brought a taste of the Edinburgh Fringe to Easter Road with Irish comedian and Hibs supporter Andrew Maxwell who put on a special pre-match show before their home game against Dundee Utd.

The Irishman, a fixture at the Fringe for many years, makes his name and has even incorporated tales from his visits to Easter Road into his stand-up routine.

The visit was a homecoming of sorts for the comic, a native of Kilbarrack, Dublin, who was joined by fellow comedian and Hibs fan Ian Eric Davison. His attendance at the match was welcomed by the Hibs fans who have enjoyed his comic offerings on Hibs, the Fringe and all things Leith throughout his career at the festival.

With Irish first team players such as Tim Clancy, James Collins and Alan Maybury and two Scottish Cup Finals in two seasons under the leadership of Pat Fenlon, the performance by Maxwell shows that the Irish links at Hibernian are still very much alive.
St Margaret of Scotland Hospice

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Promoters: John A McIntock & Clare Murphy, St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, East Barns Street, Clydebank, G81 1EB.
JEANETTE FINDLAY says that since a climate has been created where many feel it is considered a crime to express their Irishness, court judges interpretation of the law. I do not say they were wrong, in fact I think they interpreted the law exactly as the Scottish Government—I don’t say parliament since no MSP of any other party or none voted for this act—intended it to be interpreted. My view on this is for another time and place, but Mr Cairns was sent back to Dingwall for his trial to be resumed. I am very happy to say that Sheriff Gilchrist in July of this year cleared him again, this time saying he was not convinced by the police evidence—the fourth time that doubt about police evidence from the political FOCuS unit of the Police Service of Scotland has been raised by Sheriffs in OB Act cases.

This take on the Celtic family and its role within the Irish community here in Scotland is one that has to be questioned—for all our sakes. Calling any part of the expression of our Irishness—politically charged as that is even in modern Scotland—sectarian or criminal is an affront to all of us in the end, whether we like ‘garrison games’ or not. It cannot be acceptable that a song sung at a football match can be criminal while the same song sung at a GAA function would not be. That, my friends, is the situation. Good luck to The Irish Voice in its first issue and thanks for giving me space to make these few points.

http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/opinions/2013HCJAC73.html

Jeanette Findlay is an academic and a member of Friends Against Criminalisation

I AM not sure to what extent younger people, or families more recently arrived from Ireland, still feel this, but certainly when I was growing up in Easterehouse in the 1960s and 1970s, I was very clear from a young age that there were aspects of who we were, our religion, our connection to Ireland and our football team that were not entirely accepted and had to be kept quiet in certain circumstances.

Singing Irish Republican songs in the house was quite normal—to such an extent that I don’t think my parents ever gave it a thought that they were passing on an ethnic identity or a particular political view—it was just the songs that they knew. What they did clearly convey—particularly I think as we moved through the 1970s and for obvious reasons—was that this was something that we might get abuse for outside, and at certain house parties where the company was ‘mixed’ we were told not to sing ‘party songs’, which was the euphemism of the time for anything Irish Republican or Celtic related. Added to this were the jokes on Ash Wednesday about not getting a ‘start’ that day or people being careful about identifying which school they went to in job applications and you get the impression of a people with a clear sense that they were a minority; they were not accepted and they were in a vulnerable position in the labour market and socially.

However, in all of this, for me, for my family and for many people I know, Celtic Park was a place where it was safe to be Irish and safe to be a Catholic, even though you don’t have to be either to be welcome there. I have often thought that those parts of the Irish community in Scotland that are more closely tied in with traditional Irish culture—music and dance—often don’t get this and are more closely tied in with traditional Irish culture and background of Celtic FC are inextricably linked to these factors and will remain so regardless of what anyone else says. The freedom to express those views is one that should be defended and the choice to stop singing those songs should be one that can only be taken by our community of its own free will. That very freedom of expression, however, has been threatened progressively over time: first by the sectarianisation of all things Irish and more recently, and more seriously, by the introduction of the Offensive Behaviour Act.

I t is an undeniable fact and one which was made clear by every other part of civil society, which gave evidence to the Justice Committee in the run-up to the introduction of the Offensive Behaviour at Football threatening Communication Act 2012 (OB Act); that all of the problematic behaviours which the act sought to outlaw were already outlawed but the one they did name—the expression of support for a united Ireland either in song or by the flying of any banner or flag. That is the ‘gap’ in the legislation that the OB Act was intended to fill.

Those of us who gave evidence and who have campaigned against it since its inception knew it; Christine Grahame the convener of the Justice Committee knew it when she talked about Celtic fans not being convicted under existing legislation for what they sang; the police were very clear about it and they never sang a song which remembered a group of men who, whatever your views on the justice of their cause, were brave and self-sacrificing. He also sang a song that remembered those very days of the Old Brigade whom the queen also commemorated on her visit to Ireland and in front of whose memorial she laid a wreath last year. He was found not guilty by a Sheriff at Dingwall Sheriff Court. The relief for him and his family that the ordeal was over was cruelly snatched away when he was informed that the Crown Office had lodged an appeal. I am reliably informed that there are only two or three appeals a year by the Crown Office in Scotland and these are usually in cases of rape or murder. Yet here they were, at great public expense, instigating an appeal against what would be about the level of a Breach of the Peace charge. The Appeal Court judges upheld the appeal and their judgement can be found via a link at the end of this comment article. I challenge you to read this relatively short document and not be astonished at the three appeal

Do you have a comment to make on the issues raised by JEANETTE FINDLAY? If so, contact us by writing to: Letters, The Irish Voice, Arcadia Business Centre, Miller Lane, Clydebank, Scotland, G81 1UJ or by e-mail: info@theirisvoice.com

The views expressed in our comment section come from informed individuals and/or groups to foster debate and are not necessarily those of The Irish Voice
A warm welcome for The Irish Voice

GROUPS and prominent individuals from across Scotland have welcomed the launch of The Irish Voice and recognised the positive impact that it can have on Scotland’s biggest ethnic minority.

Among those leading the supportive comments was Archbishop Philip Tartaglia (top right). With such close links between the Catholic community and the Irish community in Scotland, Archbishop Tartaglia’s flock contains huge numbers of people of Irish heritage, and he welcomed the arrival of a new source of news, information and comment for them.

“It is good to welcome The Irish Voice as a new title in the Scottish media,” he said.

“The distinctiveness of Irish culture and the many expressions of Irish life, especially in and around the Archdiocese of Glasgow will fill the pages of the new publication with good news I am sure.

“I have stated before, and I am happy to do so again, that the contribution of the Irish community to the life and development of the Catholic Church in Scotland has been incalculable. I refer not only to the generations of generous Irish priests who helped found and grow so many of our parishes, but of the huge numbers of Irish families who have roots—most often in Donegal—but who flourish here in another ‘dear green place.’

“May that flourishing continue and be assisted by this new publication. To all who will read and enjoy The Irish Voice, I extend my very best wishes.”

The support from Glasgow continued with the words of Lord Provost of Glasgow, Sadie Docherty (bottom right), who herself has a great insight into the Irish community in Scotland given her strong Donegal links.

“I warmly welcome the launch of The Irish Voice in Scotland,” she said. “As Lord Provost of Glasgow, I am naturally a proud Glaswegian, and yes, I am equally proud of my Irish heritage.

“I know that The Irish Voice is keenly anticipated and will be a source of great pleasure to the many folk, like me, of Irish descent who live in Scotland.

“I know how important it is to all Irish descendants to celebrate their culture and way of life. The arrival of The Irish Voice to these shores can only strengthen that pride, featuring news and articles from Scotland’s Irish community as well as folk back in Ireland.”

“Scotland and Ireland are bound together by history. Their Celtic connections run deep. I am proud of that bond. I have had the privilege as Lord Provost to welcome the World Irish Dancing Championships to Glasgow as well as our annual Celtic Connections music festival.

“I know that the Irish Diaspora in Scotland Association will warmly welcome this development. It represents all Irish groups in Scotland with a mission statement to ‘preserve, esteem, promote and celebrate the past and ongoing history and culture of Irish migrants and their offspring in Scotland.’ I know that The Irish Voice in Scotland can only help achieve that aim.”

As Mrs Docherty’s comments suggested, the Irish Diaspora in Scotland Association was one of the first to welcome the launch of The Irish Voice. Since its launch, IDSA has galvanised Irish groups in Scotland and is well placed to recognise the positive impact The Irish Voice can make on the community in Scotland.

In a statement the association said: “The Irish Diaspora in Scotland Association, reflecting numerous voices of Irish traditions, history, culture, language, music and sport, sends The Irish Voice very best wishes in its new venture. It is a much-needed initiative, and the association hopes that all those who esteem their Irish in Scotland identities get behind this newspaper and make it a worthwhile success.”

Contact one of our team with your news stories/features

DAN McGINTY
dan@theirishvoice.com

GERARD GOUGH
gerard@theirishvoice.com

MARY McGINTY
mary@theirishvoice.com

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**GLASGOW, LONDON, DUSHUNDERAIAH, BANGALORE, and some areas as far away as New York, Pennsylvania and Prague. One of the places that first Cecil said, Villa Maddalena was instrumental in finding the location of a famous football player when he was captured and played for the Celtic family for a long time, because while it was difficult to make the memories of those associated with the club, it was possible to ensure that the importance of giving recognition to their families is one of the club's primary goals.

"Funerals" were not the first (and possibly not the last) that the club has held for its members. "It's incredible to think that from a meeting in this parish in 1888, the club's first manager was, inadvertently, the second aim was to bring pride and focus to the Irish parishes of the Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Michael's," said Brendan. "The second aim was to bring pride and focus to the Irish parishes of the Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Michael's," said Brendan. "The second aim was to bring pride and focus to the Irish parishes of the Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Michael's," said Brendan. "The second aim was to bring pride and focus to the Irish parishes of the Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Michael's," said Brendan. "The second aim was to bring pride and focus to the Irish parishes of the Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Michael's," said Brendan. "The second aim was to bring pride and focus to the Irish parishes of the Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Michael's," said Brendan.

The club's core principles.

Support the newspaper headline announcing 'Celtic winger after being electrocuted in his own home and I still remember."

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Moving ceremonies

Two events held for former Celtic players, both boasting the

Brendan continued: "On October 27, we marked on the 150th anniversary of the passing of former Celtic player, manager and British footballing legend Jimmy McGhee..."
HEROES LIVE ON IN FANS’ HEARTS

GERARD COUGH gives an insight into the work of the Celtic Graves Society, who endeavour to ensure that Celtic’s legacies and legends live on.

Celtic Graves Society

The maintenance of the Poor Children’s Dinner Table had been the watchword of the Saint Agnes Mother Mary of Nazareth. Professor McCreadie gives an account of the sister’s name, which was so familiar a name to Celtic fans.

Celtic: The 125th Anniversary

The club’s formal constitution, which was attended by Marist Brother Walfrid in St Mary’s Church Hall in the 19th century, was marked by the Celtic Graves Society to mark the 125th anniversary of the club.

The ‘men of vision’ who formed the Celtic Graves Society two summers ago had similarly noble intentions, and their story begins on that Sunday afternoon in St Mary’s Church Hall. And that story is one of the events we have organised, part of the ceremonies.

The society completed its aim of marking the graves of the first ever Celtic team as there is no better way of showing the support that Celtic has for free. The support we got for that event too shows that Celtic really does have a heart.

The story of Neil McCallum, Celtic’s first ever goalscorer, was a story too. For me that ceremony was one of the most personal stories I have ever attended in my capacity as a Celtic supporter, and that is because Peter Lawwell who was there to represent Celtic, Brother Walfrid, is one of my heroes. I was only 14 when he died tragically in 1999, but he was a huge influence on me.

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The society proved that they don’t ‘walk alone,’ as a number of other organisations were involved and the support was there. The support of the newspaper headline announcing ‘Celtic winger Dan Doyle is dead,’ so to be standing at his graveside with his family and friends was something special.

The event marked a significant milestone not only in the history of Celtic, but also in the history of the society, which, since its inception in 2010, has endeavoured to ensure that Celtic’s graves are not forgotten.

The magnitude of the commemoration and the humble beginnings of the club were not lost on the Celtic supporters. In football parlance, it was a ‘sell out.’

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Unearthing the humble beginnings of education

ANN BOYLE takes a trip through the ages to provide an insight into hedge schools and the lives their of pupils and masters

RECENT swing on the family tree produced the possibility that a far-off grandfather had been a hedge school master in Ballyshannon, County Donegal, during Penal Times. This set me off on a journey of discovery which was as incredible as it was mind-blowing in its unfolding of life in the hedge school.

Not all such schools were conducted, literally, in the hedgerows, but many were, and even when they moved into mud huts, caves and abandoned outhouses the facilities were pretty primitive.

Not so, however, the learning that took place there. The ‘master’ or domestic could have assembled in his one-roomed mud academy pupils as young as 7 and as old as 24, who moved freely round him and shared their learning with each other. They were happy places. Passers-by remarked on hearing pupils ‘happily singing their lessons.’

The modern comprehensive school claims to be the working model of all things to all pupils but the hedge schools were well ahead of them, both in what they taught and how they taught it. Included in their curriculum could be: history (well Ireland’s rich in it, isn’t she?) religion (Catholic or Presbyterian, definitely not Anglicanism), the religion of the invader), surveying and land measurement (what has caused more wars in Ireland than land disputes) and geography and astronomy (vital to those who would spend their lives on the ocean). And the most sought after of all? Arithmetic and book-keeping. Masters were excelled and sought after for their skills in these. A good master excelled in arithmetic.

I can see the pragmatic and practical value of all of these. Modern educational theorists would refer to them as ‘vocational skills.’ However, sitting nicely in beside them were the ‘humanities’ of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, English, Irish and, wait for it, dancing. No wonder the Anglo Irish poet Oliver Goldsmith in his famous poem, The Deserted Village, reflecting on the village master and his many attributes fondly: “They gazed and gazed and still the wonder grew, that one small head could carry all he knew.”

So who did my old great, great, great grandad figure in all of this? I am not exactly sure, but in the time that he lived in the 1800s, the Penal Laws were in place. Under these it was forbidden for a Catholic child to be taught by anyone other than the National School or for a Catholic teacher to teach. Catholics had to subscribe to Anglicanism in order to receive an approved kind of education. The response to this was to found the hedge schools. In today’s language it was guerilla warfare, a response to oppression. In the USA, people fought the ban on alcohol with bootlegging and fast fortunes. Ireland resisted oppression with a unique system of education which was to equip them for entry to university and public life. But above all, it preserved a rich heritage of culture in its unfolding of life in the hedge school.

Hedge schools were hidden away from the eyes of the law in Ireland during Penal Times and although this form of education was held in relatively primitive surroundings, they were crucial in charting path to a better life for their children. As they moved from school to school, pupils aimed to go to France—many like Daniel O’Connell went to Douai or St Omer—and on return be prepared for life in business and trade, the Church, service in foreign armies and negotiation for trade on the continent. Added to this, the master had a very high and respected status in the community, ranking second only to the clergy. Records tell us that: “He was MC at wakes and funerals, settled land disputes and if he had a long, low thatched house, it could be commandeered for a wake, a Mass, or a jig or dancing evening.”

The master, while he had no recourse to any appeal tribunal, he could build up a ‘portfolio’ of all the masters with good reputations thanks to what they learned in the hedge schools. Riverdance take a bow!

I like to think of grandad being in this high-earning bracket but it is also just possible that in Ballyshannon he was amongst many poor people who could not pay and much of his salary came as ‘flitches of bacon, dishes of eggs, poitín (no kidding!) and crate of turf’ as the records of the time relate. Given that they were in farming communities, at certain times of the year, the children were needed on the farm, but education continued in the evenings. An Irish person, who sadly did not get the benefit of even a hedge school education, would never say: “I cannot read or write.” Instead, with the Irish gift for euphemism, he or she would comment: “For myself, well I never carried the ‘od.”

As the children arrived, at least two look-outs were posted on the hillside to warn of any suspicious looking character who might be snooping this because the master had a price on his head. John O’Hagan in his poem about these people—men as well as women—reflects: “Still crouching neath the sheltering hedge or stretched on mountain fern, the teacher and the pupils met feliciously to learn.”

The dedication of these people was matched by the determination of parents to have their children educated. Times were hard and money was scarce but they still managed to scrape together enough to pay the master. In the early stages parents paid 1’d a week to have the child educated—this in the light of a full day’s wage for a farm labourer being 12d. In the later stages payment was by the subject. For literature, it was 20 pennies per quarter; writing 33 pennies, reading 24 pennies and so on to rose to maths up to 7s 0d (84p), Latin and Greek at 11 shillings. The story is told of negotiation for a cow in the high hills of Kerry being carried on in Greek!

For more information call: 0141-882-2254 or e-mail: FatimaScotland@aol.com

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Ann Boyle has written for a number of national and international publications and is the author of several books. She is a Saturday Evening Post’s “People of the Week” award winner and has a weekly UK radio programme on The Irish Voice. She is the Managing Director of Aberfoyle Satellite Co Ltd. and is a regular contributor to “The Irish Voice.”
Bars, Blarney and history by the barrel load

DAN McGINTY explains how a visit to the city of Cork offers the visitor a unique experience in terms of hospitality and history.

S trange as it may seem, Cork and Venice started off life in much the same way. Around the Venetian lagoon, those fleeing fifth century invaders reclaimed the land and miraculously built a city on water, beginning, according to legend, at the stroke of noon on March 25, 451AD with the dedication of a church to San Giacomo. In sixth century Cork, meanwhile, the elevated lands in the marsh around the River Lee were chosen by St Finbarr as the site of his monastery, with the city of Cork gradually forming on the islands in and around the river. But Venice went one way and Cork went another, with one perching itself forevermore on the famous lagoon with its canals and bridges and cobble lanes and great basilica to its patron St Mark, while Cork responded in kind with the inspiring St Fin Barr’s Cathedral and became home, instead, to postcard perfect waterways or crooning gonzo, with one perching itself forevermore on the famous lagoon with its canals and bridges and cobble lanes and great basilica to its patron St Mark, while Cork responded in kind with the inspiring St Fin Barr’s Cathedral and became home, instead, to postcard perfect waterways or crooning gonzo.

A city for all
Cork may not be that important in universal terms, but it is a lovely little city; big enough for the visitor to get easily to grips with the geography of the place and make their way on foot. The second city of the Republic and the third biggest concentration of people on the whole island of Ireland, Cork could have been forgiven for getting ideas above its station as a ‘second Dublin,’ a cliché that happily seems to extend no further beyond the pages of certain newspapers and is nowhere evident among its inhabitants. Instead Cork offers a relaxing taste of urban Ireland, with scores of attractions and a steady flow of events taking place across the city, but plenty of quiet quarters and diverting attractions where refuge can be sought.

A unique bar
Many of these diverting attractions are the celebrated Corkonian pubs, and none is more diverting than the dubious jewel in the crown of Cork public houses, the Hi-B Bar. Located on the first floor of a tenement on Oliver Plunkett Street, it is one part pub to two parts living room, boasting a cantankerous landlord and toilets from the 1920s, reached by a blind stagger down a back close where you follow your nose and hope for the best, which in turn, transpires to be the worst—a forgotten corner of Cork where drinkers come to relieve themselves and no-one comes to clean. But still, the bar upstairs has what can euphemistically be called ‘atmosphere’ and is well worth a pint or two. With a blanket ban on mobile phones and a promise that every Thursday, a mysterious man called Dick will drop in to play the piano in the corner, the Hi-B offers a drinking experience like no other. Unfortunately a night in to Hi-B also comes with a warning, with countless stories of previous patrons falling foul of the landlord for the slightest transgression, including one hapless customer barred for having a laugh that displeased his host and another who looked up from his pint to see a hand reaching over the bar holding scissors with which to snip his tie in two after he unwittingly asked for a drink while wearing an item of clothing that wasn’t to the owner’s taste.

If nothing else it keeps you on your toes and gives you a story to tell, and it’s always a pleasure to come across somewhere genuinely unique, even if it means walking the tightrope that is an octogenarian barkeeper’s world view on etiquette.

Strolling through history
Away from the sheebens, though, Cork has a lot to recommend it to the tourist. The centre is a very pleasant place to stroll around, with shops galore and restaurants and cafes dispersed at intervals which are most agreeable to any weary legged pedestrian. Any meander through the city should take you past the City Hall, on the banks of the Lee, and the covered English Market, still selling fresh fruit, vegetables, fish and meat and which remains one of the must-see attractions in the city. A wander down Patrick Street, meanwhile, invokes the memory of Fr Theobald Mathew, a 19th century temperance reformer who is immortalised there in statue, and retains an affection and popularity, which is surprising, to say the least, for a man who tried to turn Cork dry.

For a taste of Cork’s history, there is the venerable Cork City Gaol, clinging to a hill overlooking the city and its river, just a pleasant, but in parts, taxing, walk from the centre. The gaol’s imposing grey edifice still holds a certain air of malice, but within lies an unmistakable taste of the city’s past, from the forgotten days before the Great Hunger, through those desperate times of starvation, up to the foundation of the State with the War of Independence and brutal and tragic Civil War.

The stories are told through scenes in each cell—a sick prisoner, a mother with her baby, a child being flogged, wardens playing cards—bringing to life the tragic history of the gaol and offering the chance, if you are quick, to vault the ropes and pose for a quick picture of yourself trying to restrain the angry warden with the whip or taking the guards’ money with a straight flush.

For excursions from the city there is only really one choice. Blarney Castle, located in the village of Blarney, some four miles from Cork, is where eagar visitors go to kiss the iconic Stone of Eloquence at the top of the castle’s tower, in the hope that they will come away with the gift of the gab and never be lost for words again. If you feel you already have it, of course, you can skip the kissing and stay in the Hi-B Bar and try to get a smile out of the proprietor, but you could probably settle down with the stone and have a happy family together before he would give your patter the nod.
If you plan to meet anyone in Waxy O’Connor’s Bar in Glasgow then don’t, because you’d be making a potentially comic mistake. Not because the establishment is in any way unpleasant, quite the opposite in fact, but because the building, upon entry, presents you with a maze-like structure that would render any such encounter tricky to say the least. So meet them outside, just to be certain that you’ll have a drinking buddy to call on.

Waxy’s, located on West George St, in close proximity to Queen Street Station, has a Tardis-like quality to it, in that its interior is much grander than perhaps you might think when you’re standing outside, waiting on your aforementioned friend. The pub has three floors, six bars and nine different areas to choose from and its décor—think either a large Church with trees growing inside it or a super-sized hobbit’s tavern—is fairly unique.

Like most Irish bars, Waxy’s prides itself on its pints of Guinness, and they do serve a nice pint, even if, at £3.80 it’s a little on the expensive side. The bar also boasts Caffrey’s on tap, while those looking for a curer or a night off the sauce can enjoy a different taste of Ireland can plump for a bottle of Club Orange or red lemondade.

However, food is just as much of a forte as drink in Waxy’s and they offer a menu full of ‘the finest local produce delivered fresh, including the best Scottish oysters and meats.’ In particular, the hearty scrapple cheddar on offer is testament to that.

Food is served from midday to 8.45pm daily, with a breakfast menu available from 10am Saturday and 11am Sunday. A Sunday Roast menu also proves popular among those preparing themselves for an afternoon of watching top class sports on the one of the many big screens throughout the venue.

Waxy’s shows both Gaelic football and hurling and while it quickly fills up for championship games, it also shows league games too. The only gripe that some of the dedicated GAA followers might have is that there’s no definitive, agreed section set aside to watch the matches and a busy Church Bar doesn’t always make for the greatest viewing.

On the plus side though, if your county does emerge triumphant in the All-Ireland then you can book an area of the bar for you and your friends to celebrate as Waxy’s offers customers the opportunuity to reserve sections for private functions, with the added bonus of a 1am licence.

The Irish cultural palette is given due attention too, with traditional music being performed at weekends, while Conradh na Gaeilge’s Irish language conversation group meet in the bar every second and fourth Tuesday to hone their skills.

So whether you’re drinking, dining, devouring sports on the big screen or delighting in traditional music and the Irish language, Waxy O’Connor’s cavernous interior will cater to your every need.
The Gaeltacht Association is a cultural and social center in the heart of Glasgow. It provides opportunities for people to engage with the Irish language and traditional culture. The association offers various activities such as

- Classes: Beginners (2 to 4pm), Intermediate (Lower and Higher), and Advanced (9am to 12pm) are held. Advanced classes start on August 28.
- Conversations groups: Monday, 7-9pm; Wednesday, 1-2pm; and Thursdays, 7-9pm.
- Singers' groups: First and third Tuesdays, 7-9pm.
- Dance: Fridays, 7-9pm.
- A Trinity dance takes place on August 30.
- A ceilidh is held on September 9.

The association is open to all, regardless of age or language ability. They encourage regular attendance and provide a welcoming environment for all Irish language enthusiasts.
The sideline ball

A monthly column on Gaelic football and hurling from our tough-tackling Tipperaryman

In contrast, the football championship seemed wide open with numerous teams capable of challenging for the Sam Maguire Cup. Since 2008, there has been five different winners—Tyre, Kerry, Cork, Dublin, Donegal—highlighting an open and competitive championship which has been great for the game. Dublin won the league and were looking a serious attacking force under new manager Jim Gavin. Early Eamonn Fitzmaurice was in his first year as Kerry manager and despite an uncharacteristic shaky opening in the league, once key players returned, they looked to be back to their irresistible best. Donegal were defending All-Ireland champions and had taken the game to new levels in terms of tactics, physicality and aggression under the innovative tutelage of Jim McGuinness. These three were the leading favourites with Cork, Tyrone, Mayo and Kildare expected to challenge strongly.

Dublin and Limerick hurlers defeated Kilkenny and Tipperary respectively sending them both to a knockout qualifier meeting in early July which sent shockwaves throughout the hurling world. This set the tone for one of the most exciting and unpredictable hurling championships in memory. Limerick ended up winning their first Munster title since 1996 while Dublin ended a 52-year wait for an Ulster title by dethroning Donegal with a superb performance. Mayo and Dublin strolled to victories while Kerry overcame Cork despite a resurgent comeback from the rebels. However, the knockout stages have been much more exciting with Mayo’s destruction of Donegal the undoubted performance of the year.

The issue of cynical fouling has been the hot topic with Joe Brolly’s recent rant on Conor McManus’ rugby tackle on Conor McGregor capturing all the headlines. I agree with his comments on what is a very insufficient, but if McManus had managed to bring Brolly and the other pundits who had lambasted the Tyrone defence for not doing more, it was basically why he wasn’t taken out earlier? It’s a grey area morally, but that’s just the reality of Gaelic football at this level when so much is at stake!
Coatbridge Davitts are feeling just champion

PLAYERS and coaches from Coatbridge Davitts Gaelic Football Club celebrated all the way back to London as they travelled north from the All-Britain Competition with two British Championship trophies.

The high spirits of the 52-strong Davitts panel (above) were the result of the many years of hard work in youth football in the area, which are now paying off in fine fashion with young players from Coatbridge not only challenging the traditional forces of Scottish Gaelic football, but actually starting a power-shift north of the border.

Davitts have lifted three British Championships at girls under-12 and under-14 level in the last two years, and squads at other grades in both the boys and girls competitions are knocking firmly at the door in their own quest for silverware.

Davitts made their first appearance at the All-Britain Competition only last year, with the under-12 and under-14 boys securing a top three finish in their competitions and the under-14 girls lifting the first major honour for the club with a resounding win in their championship final.

With such pedigree it was with some degree of confidence that Davitts made the long bus journey south to Tir Chonaill GAA Grounds in Greenford, North-West London, and they were not to be disappointed.

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For Coatbridge not only the first silverware of the event but also the third major honour for the club with a resounding win in their championship final.

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With the chance to rest overnight before the final they would have surely made good on their threat to bring home the trophy and will use that as motivation for their next assault on the championship in a year’s time, when all of this year’s squad will still be aged for the same grade.

The Davitts girls were the true heroes of the championship for Coatbridge, though, and after imperious performances on the first day, they returned to play three finals, at under-12, under-14 and under-16 level on the Sunday.

With the under-12 British Championship claimed after an emphatic final victory and the under-14 trophy safely retained, all eyes turned to the under-16 final with the hope of a clean-sweep for the Coatbridge girls.

Their hopes were dashed though, when a strong Panellis squad—playing at the familiar grounds of their local rivals and pushing the physically drained Davitts to the limit—ensured that the trophy would only be making a short journey along the road instead of joining the impressive haul heading north.

“It’s a measure of where Gaelic Football now stands in the community that local kids can not just participate but compete at and win some of the most prestigious under age competitions in the sport,” a club spokesperson said. “This success is a result of kids and youngsters playing in school and beyond in the evenings and at weekends. The numbers involved in a still growing sport and the success that these kids have brought to not only Coatbridge and its surrounding areas but also to North Lanarkshire and Scotland has been outstanding. In addition, the health, self-confidence and community benefits are there for all to witness on the part of these youngsters.”

The panel of players that travelled to London comprised youngsters from local schools: St Ambrose and St Andrew’s High Schools and St Augustine’s, St Bartholomew’s, St Patrick’s, Greenhill, Langloan, St Mary’s, St Stephen’s and St Timothy’s Primary Schools.

The girls from the victorious squads (above) were:


Gaelic Football training takes place on Monday evenings at Dunbarth Park, Coatbridge at 6pm and on Tuesdays at St Ambrose HS Coatbridge playing fields at 5pm. All welcome:

dan@theirishvoice.com

Young Edinburgh footballers make history in London

DUNEDIN Og Gaelic Football Club made history for Scotland’s most successful club as they became the first underage side from the capital to take part in the All-Britain Competition.

Hoping to match the tremendous record of their senior side, Dunedin Connollys, which has seen them dominate Scottish GAA for the last decade, Dunedin Og was formed only a year ago, with the hope that the many young Gaelic footballers receiving coaching at primary schools throughout the area could continue their development at club level.

With a newly inaugurated Schools’ Gaelic Football League in Edinburgh, a steady stream of eager young foot-

ballers have caught the Gaelic bug and are steadily filling the ranks of Dunedin Og.

The surge in involvement was evident as the Edinburgh side has grown in strength, and it was enough to secure them a spot at the All-Britain Competition, newcomers and they will be able to draw on that experience as they continue to improve and meet more chances to bring honours to Dunedin Og.

As they made the journey back to the capital, the intrepid youngsters could look back on their trip to London with pride, and with several of the city’s schools opening up to Gaelic football for the 2013/14 academic year and Dunedin Og’s first appearance at Britain GAA’s premier competition under their belt, the future looks bright for youth Gaelic football in the capital.
CELTIC are guaranteed top flight European football for another season after a hard fought 1-0 aggregate victory over Elfsborg of Sweden. A Kris Commons goal at Celtic Park was enough to see the hoops through to the Champions League play-offs where they will face the Champions of Kazakhstan, FC Shakhtar Karagandy.

The third qualifying round matches pitted Celtic’s on-loan striker Mo Bangura against his former club Norwich. Manager Neil Lennon was pleased to have his move to Nottingham Forest—the club’s third high profile exit after Victor Wanyama left for Southampton and Gary Hooper’s opted to move to Norwich.

Manager Neil Lennon was pleased to have come through the difficult encounter and praised Wilson for playing his part in the victory. “It was a huge result,” the Celtic manager said. “It was a tough night. We showed great character. It was a tough game and you have to give credit to Elfsborg—they gave it everything.”

An Irish eye on Scottish football

GERARD GOUGH

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The third qualifying round matches pitted Celtic’s on-loan striker Mo Bangura against his parent club, while the second leg in Sweden proved to be Kelvin Wilson’s final match before his move to Nottingham Forest—the club’s third high profile exit after Victor Wanyama left for Southampton and Gary Hooper’s opted to move to Norwich.

Manager Neil Lennon was pleased to have come through the difficult encounter and praised Wilson for playing his part in the victory. “It was a huge result,” the Celtic manager said. “It was a tough night. We showed great character. It was a tough game and you have to give credit to Elfsborg—they gave it everything.”

Kelvin was fantastic for us and he will be a huge miss. We怅ted him to him beforehand—he was in the right frame of mind and didn’t want to let the team down and he certainly didn’t. I thought he was tremendous.

Lennon had mixed feelings on hearing that Celtic had been paired with Shakhtar Karagandy, admitting that in a football sense the draw had been kind, but in logistical terms it would prove a bit of a headache. “The draw is a bit of an unknown one for us,” Lennon said. “Logistically it will be a nightmare in terms of travelling. It could have been kinder but it could have been tougher as well.”

Celtic will play away from home first on Tuesday, August 20, before welcoming their opponents to Glasgow on Wednesday, August 28. The away leg will be played in Astana however, not Karaganda.

On the domestic front, Celtic began the defence of their title with a 2-1 win over Ross County courtesy of a hat-trick from Anthony Stokes. The club’s second league match — which was scheduled to be played away to St Mirren— was postponed as the club took on Liverpool in a friendly match in Dublin, which was won 1-0 thanks to a goal by the recently acquired Portuguese striker Amido Balde.

Hibernian manager Pat Fenlon has found himself under serious pressure even at this early stage of the season after the club crashed out of Europe and lost their first two league matches.

The losses have included a 9-0 aggregate defeat to Malmo in the European League second qualifying —which included a humiliating 7-0 loss at Easter Rd— a 1-0 defeat at home to Motherwell on the first day of the season and a 1-0 derby defeat at Tynecastle to their cash-strapped city rivals Hearts.

The Irishman could do little else but apologise for the European defeat, which took place in front of a crowd of 10,000, many of whom were hoping to mark the passing of Hibs legend Lawrie Reilly with a victory that would better the 2-0 win that Malmo had managed to change or else the club suffered their worst individual result in European competition.

“We were just well beaten by a better side,” the Hibs manager said. “But I apologise to the supporters. I don’t want to put them through that. They’re a good side, there’s no doubt about that, their technique was very, very good. But there are no excuses for that. It was a poor performance, as simple as that. Like I said, I can’t defend that and I’m not going to stand here and try to defend that.”

Hibs have brought in strikers James Collins from Swindon and Rowan Vine from St Johnstone to try and fill the attacking void left by one of last season’s best players Leigh Griffiths and Eoin Doyle, the former of whom returned to Wolves in the summer and the latter signed for Chesterfield. However, neither Collins nor Vine, nor indeed any other Hibs player, has managed to find the net in the first two league matches.

Despite creating goalscoring chances in both the match against Motherwell and the match against Ross County, the team have been punished for not taking them, with Heni Anser scoring a 94th minute winner for Motherwell and Callum Paterson scoring the derby winning goal for Hearts— their one clear cut chance of the game.

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Despite David Goodwillie returning to the club from Blackburn Rovers, the Arabs have found goals similarly difficult to come by, opening their campaign with a 0-9 draw away to Patrick Thistle, before suffering a 1-0 defeat at home to Inverness Caledonian Thistle.

 Dundee United boss Jackie McNamara has refused to push the panic button just yet, although he has called for his players to take more responsibility. “We were sloppy in a lot of our play and the players need to be brave,” McNamara said after the loss at Tannadice to the Highlanders. “That was the most disappointing thing about the performance. “They need to take responsibility more because in the times we did that we passed the ball around and caused them problems. But there was not enough of it which was frustrating for everyone.”

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