

March 2025

ICTFC30

ICT MONTHLY



MARCH EDITION

SCOTT KELLACHER

THE LATEST FROM OUR HEAD COACH

Firstly, I'm delighted it has been a positive response to the first newsletter. It has been very well received by the fans and they've got behind it. It's important the fans can understand what is happening behind the scenes.

On the pitch, since the last newsletter came out, we've played six games – winning three, drawing two and losing one. We've gone from being five points behind Annan Athletic, to now three points ahead of them with a better goal difference.

The last two games have been disappointing in terms of results, the performances haven't changed but we're just lacking that bit of luck in front of goal. We have been frustrated because we've created enough chances to win numerous games.

You could clearly see that it was a good performance against Stenhousemuir, we took all our chances, and it was four different goal scorers which we were really pleased with.

We'll keep doing what we're doing by working hard and we'll get more work on the training ground into the boys, in terms of, trying to take those chances when they come along because we've had plenty of them.

I thought the performances have been good, the boys have been excellent but we're now starting to pick up quite a few injuries and suspensions. It is important that we use the whole squad and we need to try and get through these next six games as best we can.

Our main focus is staying in the league, like I've said all along, and it is really important that the fans get behind the players and help them. The fans could be the extra man that we need on a Saturday, so I'd ask them to really support the boys, encourage them and try to be positive with everything we're trying to do. The fans have been terrific both home and away. So if we can just keep pulling together, that togetherness is massive for us going forward.

We know we won't be great each week, we know there will be games where we might not create chances but one thing we will give, and I hope the fans appreciate, is everything we've got. That is from the players, the staff and everyone at the football club.

We're away to Queen of the South on Saturday, it is a huge game like all of the last six are going to be. Every game is going to be like a cup final. Queen of the South are a very good side and when we last played them at Palmerston it was an entertaining game but we came out second best. We'll be trying our best to make sure we come out on top this time.

Then we are on the road again, as we face Cove Rangers so it is a hard couple of away games coming up, then we'll return home to face Kelty Hearts. So it is really important if the fans can back us, when we're on the road or at home. Your support is appreciated by everyone at the club.

Scott Kellacher
ICTFC Head Coach



FOCUS ON: DANNY DEVINE

BECOMING CAPTAIN

Danny Devine stepped up as club captain when Billy Mckay made the step from the role to Player-Coach as the club entered administration. Danny was serving as the vice-captain at the time and became the club's captain.

The centre-back said: "At the time when Billy joined the coaching staff, I was told right away that I would be stepping up to the captain's role. I was the vice-captain for a couple of years under Billy and he did a great job as captain. It was a no brainer for me to step into that role being one of the few experienced ones in the team. It was a real privilege to take on the role, I was absolutely delighted to do it and I think I've done a half-decent job so far!"

TOGETHERNESS IN THE CAMP

As part of his responsibilities as the captain, Danny is the leader of the dressing room and he has been impressed with the team's togetherness this season given the younger age of the squad.

He said: "All the boys have stepped up, the younger ones and the ones that have come in to help have blended in well. It is a young changing room, but I think everyone has taken on the responsibility of stepping up, the real situation of needing to win games and have understood the severity of the situation that we're in."

"When we got the 15-point deduction and we could only sign players that were under 20, I think everyone has come together within the changing room. It's something that really needed to happen for us to even think about overturning that deficit. We all really need to back each other through thick and thin, and I think we've done that really well so far."

OPEN COMMUNICATION WITH COACHES

As well as maintaining key relationships in the dressing room, Danny is the main link between the coaches and the players and his relationships with both Head Coach Scott Kellacher and Player-Coach Billy Mckay in particular, are proving effective.

Danny said: "The openness with the coaches has been great. It makes it a little bit easier that I've known Scott and Billy for the best part of ten years. I think it's a good thing and they know what I'm about and trust my judgment. I've spent a lot of time with Billy in the changing room and I know the work he puts in so I can imagine that transition to becoming a coach."



FOCUS ON: DANNY DEVINE



“I’ve also known Scott a long time, I’ve always seen the work he has put in. I’ve seen his coaching, him being about the lads, creating a positive environment and I think that is something he’s done when he stepped into the manager role too. I think all the coaches have done brilliant to get the club and the team into this position we are in now. I think it makes my job as captain that bit easier that I can go and speak to them with a little bit of ease.”

THE FINAL PUSH

Now looking to the final six matches of the season, starting with Saturday’s trip to face Queen of the South, Devine has said the squad should treat these final matches just like each game has been treated this season.

He said: “It’s a massive last six games of the season but, it’s funny, because we’re thinking these last six games are massive but I think every game this season has been massive. We’ve had to constantly claw back the points that we were deducted so every game has been really important and these last six are no different.”

“I think we need to approach these last six games just the way we’ve approached every other game. I think if you think about it too much then you can let the severity of the situation get on top of you and that can effect your performance.”

“The boys have done a good job of blocking that out while still understanding the job at hand and that we still need to win games. I think the team has done a really good job of not letting that get in the way of their performance and hopefully we can continue to do that in the next six games.”



CHARLIE'S CHAT

THE LATEST FROM OUR INTERIM CEO

I think that every ICT supporter and shareholder would agree that the most significant piece of news to come out of the club lately was the meeting of several of the club's largest shareholders late in March.

The potential stumbling blocks to attracting a potential buyer to the club have been well documented and it was really pleasing to see this group- all of whom have significantly supported the club over time - sit down with the aim of trying to resolve these matters and attempt to agree a way forward for the club.

There is still significant work to be done, and the devil is often in the detail but let's hope this meeting can prove to be the catalyst to a bit more clarity for any potential purchaser.

It is now over to administrators BDO to find that purchaser.

Alternatively, it may be a consortium of individuals/businesses who see the potential in the club and who would look to restructure with the short-term aim of gaining promotion to the Scottish Championship, which should certainly be a realistic goal.

Our recent two home matches were a stark reminder that possession counts for little in football if you can't achieve the most important aspect of the game - putting the ball in the net.

31 efforts on goal, 14 of these on target have produced just one goal and seen us drop five very important points. During both matches we produced periods of good play but that crucial bit of quality in the final third wasn't quite there as often as hoped.

The Alloa match was particularly frustrating given our excellent start and terrific opening goal. We had opportunities to add to that but as the game progressed you could see Alloa grow in belief, and we didn't have the same grip on the match in that second half which was frustrating.

It now sees us head on our travels for the next two weeks and Scott, Billy, Ross and Gordy will need to put their heads together to find a formula to get something from these matches.

We are currently short on options and injuries to pivotal players such as Luis Longstaff and Alfie Bavidge has not helped but we always knew this might come and if ever there was a time for the squad to show that resilience that has been a cornerstone of ICT it is now.

Recently, I have heard talk of us potentially making the top four but let nobody be in any doubt - securing our place in League One has always been the goal after administration.

Let's hope that by then we are also further forward with new ownership and that the recent meeting of the power brokers has produced the desired results for our club.

Charlie Christie
Interim CEO



SCOTT YOUNG - 30TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

On Saturday 15th February, nearly 270 people attended the Club's 30th Anniversary Dinner at the Kingsmills Hotel in Inverness. We were treated to a wonderful 3-course meal with wine followed by some dancing to the music and rhythm of the Anne Dixon Band. Our compere for the night, Ian Thain, kept things moving along smoothly as fans, local businesses and past/current players mingled on and off the dance floor.

The evening started with a game of "goal or no goal." Players had been filmed the week before taking penalties against current goalkeeper Musa Dibaga and the Club's first goalkeeper Mark McRitchie. Guests, just had to decide if they were going to score or not and those getting it right carried on until we were left with a winner, who won a night stay at the Kingsmills Hotel.

A fantastic Q&A midway through the evening saw Ian interviewing a few past players and legends - Mark McRitchie, Steve "Pele" Paterson, Barry Wilson and Gary Warren. Great to get some insights and funny stories from the past 30 years, just a pity we didn't get them up for longer!

There was a very successful auction and raffle with a huge selection of prizes, most of which were donated by local business and fans, so thank you all. We had rounds of golf, football memorabilia, and even an apartment in Tenerife!

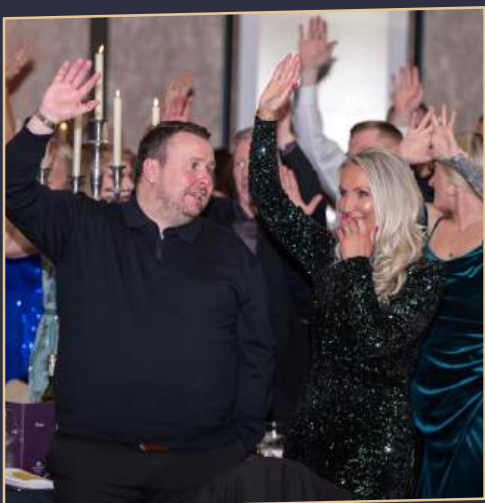
A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the night a success, the working group tasked with bringing everything together, the Kingsmills Hotel for all their assistance and generosity on the night, all those that donated, Ian for keeping everything together but most of all to everyone who attended on the night and supported the event and the Club. We managed to raise nearly £35,000 on the night so a great effort.

Here's to a successful next 30 years!

Scott Young
Interim Chairman



30TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER - PHOTOS BY TREVOR MARTIN



STAFF INSIGHT WITH DALE STEPHEN

TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR BACKGROUND

I am a father of two girls, have two dogs, and I live in Forres. I also like to run marathons in my spare time.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO BEING A GROUNDSMAN?

I started in groundsmanhip after word was out that Tommy Cumming needed a replacement following the sad passing of Matthew Armitage. I got in touch with him and after a lengthy phone call with him he decided I was the right choice. I had an interview which lasted quite a while too and after that the rest is history.

BEST MEMORY WORKING FOR ICTFC?

I have so many highlights in my time here, from coming so close in the Premiership play offs against St Johnstone. To trips to Hampden for Scottish Cup semi finals and the final in 2023 although we didn't win, it was a great cup run and something I'm glad I was a part of.

WHAT IS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF THE JOB?

Without doubt the weather is the most challenging part. We are in the Highlands of Scotland and face some pretty harsh winters so it makes the job a real struggle at times.



WHAT IS THE MOST SATISFYING PART OF THE JOB?

The most satisfying part of the job is when it all comes together and the team get a win out on the pitch. I have to do my job to the best of my ability as we all do here, but when the boys get three points it really makes things worthwhile.

WHAT IS A COMMON MISCONCEPTION ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The most common misconception about my job is that all Groundsman are grumpy and it's just simply not true. I'm really easy going when it comes to the pitch! Just ask my colleagues.



LOAN WATCH - SAM NIXON

HOW HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE BEEN WITH FORRES MECHANICS SO FAR?

I have really enjoyed the last two seasons at Forres, it's a great group of boys. I've learnt a lot from the coaches and the players and I feel I've really developed as a player because of that.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART ABOUT PLAYING FOR FORRES MECHANICS?

I'd say probably just getting game time every week playing with good players. I've played 90 minutes in every game that I have been fit as well as training every day with the boys here which I've really enjoyed. The gaffer and Billy have also come to watch some of my games this season so it's been good to get feedback from them as well.

WHAT AREAS OF YOUR GAME GET TESTED MOST ON A SATURDAY?

Definitely the physical side of the game. I'm playing against men every week and playing against different teams with different styles of play. It's also different to youth football as it's more results driven so it means a lot more to win games as there's always something to play for.

WHAT ARE THE TEAMS ASPIRATIONS FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON?

We have had a much improved season from last year with some good results against the top teams in the league, such as Brechin, Buckie and Banks O' Dee. We just want to finish the season strongly getting as many points and wins on the board as we can.



FUTURE CALEY JAGS

JOURNEYS OF THE ACADEMY

Late last month the Academy had one of its more gruelling annual traditions...the 400 mile round trip Ayr United away.

In the 'Club Academy Scotland' setup in which our youth teams play (U11s, U12s, U14s on a Saturday / U13s and U16s on a Sunday) we are required once a season for each group to make the trip down to Ayr.

Much like the first team and our fans, our Academy squads are used to travelling down the A9, but the Ayr trips are always a challenge for the young players.

Considering the challenges of the day, all the teams who travelled down competed admirably and did the badge proud.



TOGETHERNESS

When young U11 GK, Angus Walker, broke his elbow during a recent match vs Ross County. The First Team stepped up, providing a signed team shirt and a get well soon card!



GREAT TO SEE BEN GARDINER AND SAM THOMPSON ON THE BENCH VS ANNAN ATHLETIC

THE TEAM THAT COVERS THE HIGHLANDS

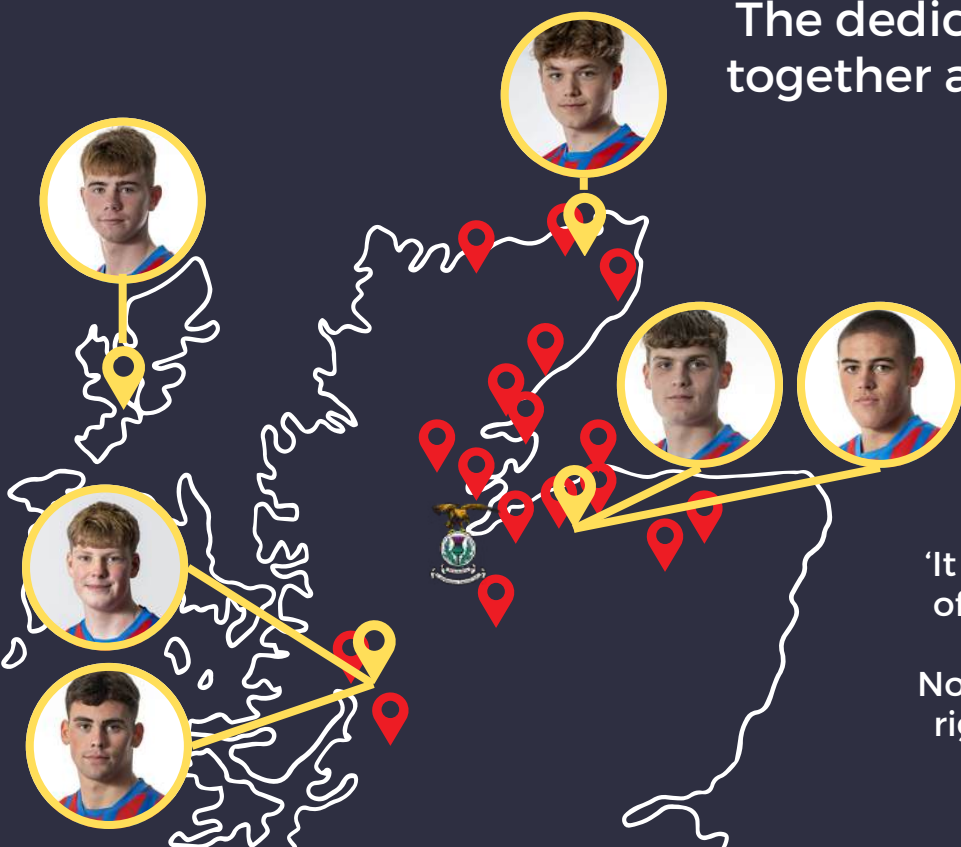
With ICT representing the 'Pride of the Highlands', our Academy follows suit. Our current Academy setup has players from across the Highlands, covering over 3,691 square miles!

Check the  to see where players currently travel from.

The dedicated effort from parents and families to come together and organise lift shares, provides such a special opportunity to the young players.

A perfect example of the continuous effort is ICT First Team graduate, Ethan Cairns, who travelled 3 times a week from Fort William for almost a decade for training and games.

'It all becomes a bit of a blur looking back at all of the long nights of travelling, I do remember having to study for my Nat 5s with a teammate after school as we travelled. None of this would have happened and I would not be where I am right now, without my mum's dedication every week, every year. So I have to say Thank you Mum'



ICTWFC ROUND UP BY KAREN MASON

The SWF Championship is proving to be one of the most exciting leagues with the top 6 and bottom six all but confirmed after last weekend's matches. East Fife are leading the way now 12 points clear and there is currently only 3 points between 2nd place and 6th place who are all now fighting for that one play off spot.

At the start of the month we hosted East Fife and we undoubtedly played some of the best football that we have played all season and unfortunately at the end of the 90 minutes we had nothing to show for it with errors at both ends of the pitch proving costly, allowing East Fife to take the 2-1 win and the 3 points back to Leven.

We then travelled to Falkirk where we once again struggled for consistency in our squad and also in our level of performance which saw us suffer another heavy defeat with countless errors on the road, losing 5-1.

The weekend after we then hosted Forfar where we were back to winning ways which kept us in contention for the top 6, Julia Scott bagging another hat-trick on the way to a 4-2 win.

This then led us to our final game before the split heading to 2nd place Glasgow Women. We knew that a win would guarantee us a place but anything less we would have to rely on other results going our way. The game ended 1-1 where Helen Urquhart scored her first ever senior goal and a contender for the goal of the season with a spectacular 25 yard curling effort. Jen Horrocks then pulled off a sensational penalty save in the closing stages of the game to earn us a valuable point. With Stenhousemuir losing and Stirling drawing this then secured us a spot in the top 6. With a couple of catch up games needed from other teams we should know our split fixtures at the start of April. Our next match will now be on Sunday 6th April.



BARCLAYS SCOTTISH WOMEN'S FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP		TABLE ROUND TWENTY TWO					
	CLUB	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	EAST FIFE	21	17	2	2	74	53
2	FALKIRK	21	12	5	4	48	41
3	GLASGOW GWFC	22	12	5	5	47	41
4	STIRLING UNIVERSITY	21	12	3	6	35	39
5	INVERNESS C T	22	12	3	7	15	39
6	RENFREW LADIES	21	12	2	7	37	38
7	STENHOUSEMUIR	22	11	3	8	21	36
8	DRYBURGH ATHLETIC	21	10	5	6	5	35
9	FORFAR FARMINGTON	22	9	1	12	11	28
10	MORTON	22	4	2	16	-30	14
11	WESTDYKE	21	2	1	18	-85	7
12	HUTCHISON VALE	22	0	0	22	-178	0

MEET THE PLAYER

ALFIE BAVIDGE

Where were you born?

Aberdeen

Favourite Moment in an ICT shirt?

Scoring against Dumbarton in the last minute

Best player you have played against?

Simone Pafundi for Italy

Best player you have played with?

Bojan Miovski

One rule you would change in football?

Whoever wins the penalty should have to take it

Favourite Movie?

American Sniper

Proudest moment in football?

Making my debut for Aberdeen

Biggest Fear?

Spiders

Favourite meal the night before a game?

Macaroni cheese





COMMUNITY COLUMN



**LEWIS NICOLSON
READING TO CENTRAL
PRIMARY SCHOOL AT
WORLD BOOK DAY.**



**EVE GRANT RECEIVING
HER SFA MCDONALDS
AWARD FOR
VOLUNTEERING**

COMMUNITY HUB 2025

Just over 3 years ago the ICT Community Development team embarked upon an ambitious project to develop a much-needed community hub to enable to extend delivery of their programme of activities ensuring a wider reach to our target demographic. Our wider plan for the site will also include local side Inverness Athletic and the ICTWFC who will both play games from the venue.



Phase 1 of the project focuses on renovating the 10-acre grass area next to Inverness Royal Academy, which has been largely unusable due to historic flooding. With a 25-year lease from the Highland Council, we have installed a comprehensive drainage system to restore usability. This space can accommodate four full-size pitches, addressing Inverness's shortage of such facilities



Phase 2 of the project will restore existing toilet facilities and create a new building on the site which we have secured planning permission for. The building will provide changing rooms, teaching/learning space and office space.

[Click here to learn more about the project](#)



LATEST FROM THE SUPPORTERS TRUST



It has been a busy few weeks for the Board Members. As well as our regular Board Meeting and matchday activities, we held a Fans Meeting on 1 March, carried out media activity following the announcement from the Administrator, BDO, on 17 March, and our chair, George Moodie, represented the Supporters Trust at the meeting of key shareholders on 19 March.

We have attempted to keep our members updated throughout this time, issuing four updates during the last few weeks. We have shared each of these on our social media platforms and on CaleyThistleOnline so all fans have hopefully been able to read them.

If you have not seen them, they are all available in the News Section of our website:

At the Board Meeting we welcomed Keith Abernethy, who has been co-opted to join the Board. Keith brings skills that complement our other Board Members.

[News | ICT Supporters Trust](#)

FANS MEETING

It was great to see so many fans at the meeting and it was good to hear from Charlie Christie and Scott Young, and to welcome Andrew Benjamin to his first meeting since he became Commercial Director. Members of the Trust Board have a meeting scheduled with Andrew, and we continue to engage regularly with Charlie, Scott and other key personnel at the club. It was great to hear both Charlie and Scott commenting positively on the work of the Trust in engaging fans and making the significant improvements to Bar 94.

[Duncan MacAuley also spoke at the Fans Meeting about his role as Manager of the Scottish Transplant Football Team, and Duncan and the team featured recently in The Sun: click here to read](#)



LATEST FROM THE SUPPORTERS TRUST

BAR 94

We continue to receive positive feedback about Bar 94 and see an increasing number of fans using it before and after games, enjoying the products supplied by our partners, Dog Falls. Fans tell us that they really appreciate Scott Kellacher and the players coming into the bar after matches to chat and have photographs taken with them and to participate in the Player of the Match presentations.

We are grateful to all our volunteers who have worked in the bar or been involved in the improvements that have been made over the last few months: a big thank you to all of you! All the improvements in Bar 94 have either been carried out by Trust volunteers or funded by the Supporters Trust.

Work continues to enhance Bar 94, and the materials for the much needed refurbishment of the Ladies' Toilets have been delivered. Work is underway and should be completed shortly.

We have also acquired 62 matching seats which are much more comfortable than those they replaced and, along with the benches we acquired recently, provide a much increased volume of seating in the bar area.

Our partnership with Stagecoach goes from strength to strength, and they are delighted at the number of fans using the enhanced matchday bus service. As well as the new journeys, patronage has increased on the traditional journeys.

For games kicking off at 1500 on Saturdays, buses leave the Bus Station at 1300 and 1415, returning from the Stadium 10 minutes after the full time whistle and at 1800. All Concessionary passes are valid, with a single fare of £2.40 for non concessionary passengers.

As we advised in our Member Updates and at the Fans Meeting, we are looking to hold events in Bar 94.

CALUM JONES

We are delighted to be able to confirm that at 1800 on Saturday 12 April, ICT Supporters Trust presents live music from Calum Jones, with a unique mix of rock, folk and blues. Full details are in the image attached, with entry by donation at the door. To help us gauge numbers, it will be helpful if you can register interest by clicking on the "I'll be there!" button at:

[CALUM JONES Live Music | ICT Supporters Trust](#)

We are grateful to all our members for their ongoing support, and if anyone feels they can assist the work of the Trust, please do not be shy! Just drop us an e-mail at info@ictsupporterstrust.org.

If you are not yet a member of the Trust, joining is easy (and only £5 or £1 for under 16s) at:

[Join Us | ICT Supporters Trust](#)



CALUM JONES
LIVE MUSIC
DONATIONS WELCOME AT THE DOOR
12 APRIL 25
ictst
Hailing from the Scottish Highlands
A UNIQUE MIX OF ROCK, FOLK AND BLUES
Heartfelt lyrics, soaring melodies, and powerful guitar-driven arrangements

DATE & TIME: 12 APRIL 2025 6pm until 8pm
VENUE: Bar 94, Caledonian Stadium, Stadium Rd, Inverness IV1 1FF, UK
PLEASE REGISTER: www.ictsupporterstrust.org/events

THE ICT SUPPORTERS TRUST PRESENTS

THE MONTH AHEAD...

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

Sat 29th Mar, Queen of the South (A), 3pm

Sat 5th Apr, Cove Rangers (A), 3pm

Sat 12th Apr, Kelty Hearts (H), 3pm

Sat 19th Apr, Stenhousemuir (A), 3pm

ICTWFC FIXTURES

Post-Split Fixtures from Sun 6th Apr



NEXT EDITION: ON OR AROUND 25TH APRIL

ANY SUGGESTIONS/FEEDBACK? EMAIL ADMIN@ICTFC.CO.UK

£45 FAMILY TICKET OFFER



SATURDAY 12TH APRIL, 3PM KICK-OFF
TWO ADULTS AND TWO UNDER 16S FOR £45

AVAILABLE ONLINE AND THROUGH THE CLUB SHOP
AVAILABLE UNTIL 1PM ON MATCHDAY
ETICKETING.CO.UK/ICTFC

UPCOMING HOSPITALITY PACKAGES



AVAILABLE FOR KELTY HEARTS (12/04)
& ARBROATH (26/04)

£90 PLUS VAT PER PERSON

CALL: 01463 222880 OR EMAIL: INFO@ICTFC.CO.UK TO BOOK
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