

ESTABLISHED 1876

EveningTimesNOBODY KNOWS
GLASGOW BETTER

IN OUR OPINION

City's 'Greek'
gem must be
rescued

UNION STREET - P4,5

FOR more than thirty years the derelict Egyptian Halls has been an eyesore that should be a treasure.

The £18m hotel plan is the closest anyone has come to securing the future of this 'Greek' Thomson masterpiece and put it back into good use.

There are still hurdles to overcome, especially financial, but this development looks to be a suitable solution to long standing problem.

The city council has done well to finally unite the building under one ownership, to allow development to progress

A refurbished Egyptian Halls and top hotel would breathe life into what has become a neglected corner of the city centre.



IN THEIR OPINION

From Europe? Don't rule out the Ivory Coast... or Japan!

ONLY AND EXCUSE - P57

Chips are down
for fryer Luigi

OPERA - P9

GLASGOW is sizzling with talent and if more proof is needed listen to singing chippy Luigi Corvi.

Now he has been discovered he could be catapulted from the Glasgow Cross chip shop to Milan's La Scala or London's Covent Garden.

Opera aficionados can get a little taste of his talent on BBC's One Show tonight.

Lets hope Luigi leaves them craving second helpings.

IN YOUR OPINION

Never mind the Freedom of the city, Big Yin Billy Connolly deserves a Knighthood

READERS' LETTERS - P14

EveningTimes

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Will you be cheering England ... or is it a case of anybody but?



DAVID YATES, 33, road sweeper, Drumchapel: "Argentina, they've got a great team of players I put a wee bet on them winning as well."



SUZANNE MCLEAN, 21, student, Bishopbriggs: "Spain, I love the country. I don't see the point in the bitterness people have for England."



MAYO MICHIE, 31, secretary, West End: "England. You have to back your own ... why shouldn't we? I'm sure deep down they'd support us."



GARRY HENDERSON, 20, sales assistant, Southside: "Anyone but England! Got to keep the old rivalry up."

Who will
you back
to lift the
World Cup?

By ANDREW DOUGLAS

THE Football World Cup is almost upon us and for Scottish fans that troublesome question has surfaced again:

'Which team am I going to support?'

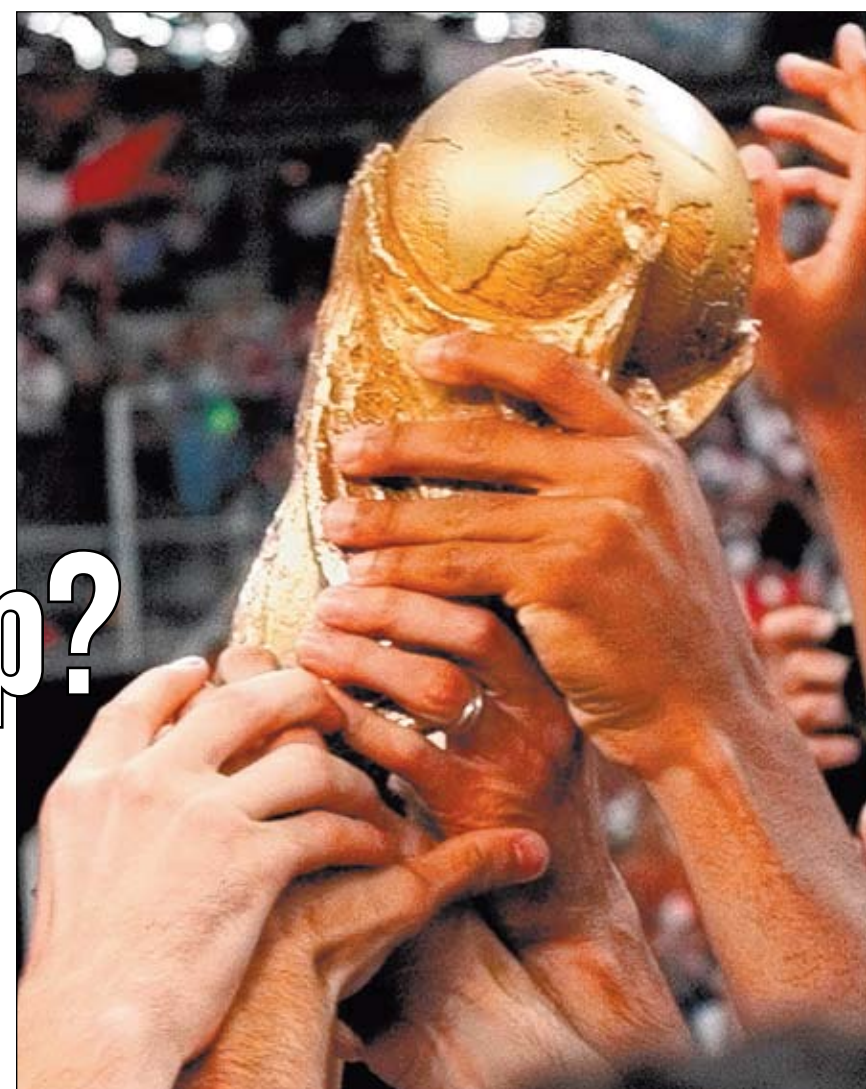
At the start of the year, Scottish clothing and kilt makers Slanj encouraged fans not to back our near neighbours, with the introduction of the Anyone But England (ABE) clothing range.

The T-shirts inspired outrage, debate and laughter among Britain's population and most people accepted there will

always be a rivalry between Scotland and The Auld Enemy.

Scotland v England is the oldest international football fixture in the world, having first being played in 1872 at the West of Scotland Cricket Club's ground in Hamilton Crescent, Glasgow. The teams have played 110 matches; England have won 45, Scotland 41, and there have been 24 draws.

Recently, England have developed rivalries with the German and Argentina national squads, after World Cup clashes. Many England fans now feel matches with these teams warrant more of a rivalry



than that with their Scottish neighbours.

So if the 'Auld' rivalry really is fading down south, is the same happening here?

Will the average Scotland fan cover up their lion rampant with the cross of St George and sit

sipping a pint of John Smith's, hoping Rooney's fifth metatarsal is alright?

When asked about sales of England shirts, staff at Greaves Sports, in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow said: "They're flying out, we had to order another batch this week."

The majority of people we asked on the street wished the England team all the best.

However, Slanj claim that sales of their ABE range are at fever pitch.

So who will you be cheering to lift the famous trophy?



LINSEY MORRISON, 29, toy shop employee, city centre: "England. I like David Beckham ... even if he's not going to be playing."



KATRIONA GULLESEL, 21, IBM rep, Bearsden: "Italy, because they play great. My boyfriend's from Norway but they didn't qualify either!"



FAISAL IABUL, 26, shop assistant, Garnethill: "England. Scotland aren't playing so I'll support another British team."



DAVID COCHRAN, 23, customer service rep, Easterhouse: "Holland. I'm a Ranger's fan and have loved Dutch football since Van Bronckhorst played at Ibrox."

WORD ON THE STREET EVERY weekday, we'll be out on the streets of Glasgow to get your views on what's in the news, from serious topics to the light-hearted stories that will bring a smile to your face.