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SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1921/22

RUNNERS UP

1938/39

SCOTTISH LEAGUE 1 RUNNERS UP

1976/77 1981/82

1984/85 1988/89 1999/00

2001/02 2009/10 2012/13

2016/17

SCOTTISH LEAGUE 2 WINNERS

1997/1998 2011/2012

CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS

1999/2000

RUNNERS-UP

2001/02 2014/15

STIRLINGSHIRE CUP WINNERS

1904/5 1907/8 1908/9

1912/13 1920/21 1924/25

1933/34 1946/47 1955/56

1957/58 1959/60 1965/66

1981/82 1996/97

MOST CAPPED PLAYER

Jock Hepburn, 1 Cap
(Scotland v Wales 1891)

*includes equivalent competitions

Club Information

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Clackmannan Road,
Alloa, FK10 1RY
Telephone: 01259722695
Fax: 01259210886
Email: fcadmin@alloathletic.co.uk
Web: alloathletic.co.uk

Club Officials

Honorary Directors

Pat Lawlor
David R. Murray
Directors
Mike Mulraney (Chairman)
Martin Ross (Vice Chairman)
Ewen Cameron
Steven Lynch
Dr Robert McElroy

Secretary

Ewen Cameron

Mobile: 07810507185

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Email: eweng@sky.com

Operations Manager

Carol Edgar

Child Protection Officer

Alloa Athletic: Ewen Cameron

Wasp Community Club:

June McLauchlan

Management

Peter Grant (Manager)

Paddy Connolly (Assistant)

Gerry Docherty (Physio)

Stuart Phinn (Sports Therapist)

Alan Fraser (GK Coach)

Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor)

Tommy Farries (Scout)

Graeme Ellis (Scout)

Derek Nicholson (Head of Youth)

Ground Staff

John Robertson

Kit Manager

Pat Dunne

Safety Officers

Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar

Wasp 2000 Manager

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 HEARTS	14	11	0	3	36	13	23	33
 RAITH ROVERS	12	6	3	3	27	18	9	21
 DUNFERMLINE	13	5	6	2	20	14	6	21
 DUNDEE	13	5	5	3	24	24	0	20
 AYR UNITED	13	4	5	4	20	17	3	17
 GREENOCK MORTON	12	4	4	4	11	15	-4	16
 QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	13	4	2	7	19	30	-11	14
 INVERNESS CT	10	3	4	3	15	12	3	13
 ARBROATH	13	2	4	7	8	18	-10	10
 ALLOA ATHLETIC	13	2	2	9	13	32	-19	8

WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

CHAMPIONSHIP

 ALLOA ATHLETIC	 QUEEN OF THE SOUTH
 ARBROATH	 DUNFERMLINE
 DUNDEE	 INVERNESS CT
 GREENOCK MORTON	 RAITH ROVERS
 AYR UNITED	 HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN

PREMIERSHIP

 CELTIC	 MOTHERWELL
 HIBERNIAN	 ABERDEEN
 LIVINGSTON	 ST JOHNSTONE
 ROSS COUNTY	 DUNDEE UNITED
 ST MIRREN	 KILMARNOCK
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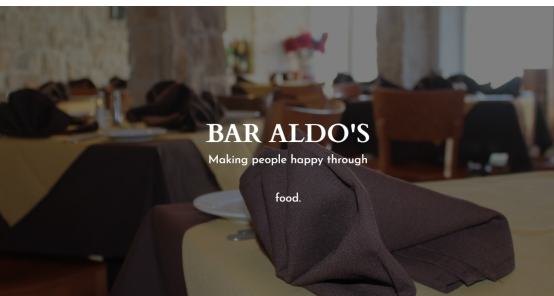
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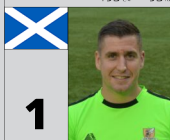


GOALKEEPERS

Neil PARRY

08/11/1985

195 CM 95 KG



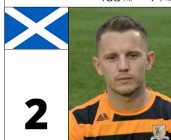
1

DEFENDERS

Scott TAGGART

27/12/1991

183 CM 71 KG

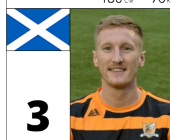


2

Liam DICK

19/08/1995

180 CM 76 KG



3

Andy GRAHAM

22/09/1983

188 CM 83 KG



5

MATCH

most appearances

Cawley	358
Taggart	191
Hetherington	189
Graham	178
Robertson	174

GOALS

Cawley	63
Trouten	38
Buchanan	26
Graham	12
Thomson	11

Andy WILSON

22/04/1998

190 CM 70 KG



21

Jon ROBERTSON

25/04/1989

183 CM 77 KG



8

Nicky JAMIESON

03/08/1996

190 CM 89 KG



15

Lucas WILLIAMSON

26/03/2003

168 CM 58 KG



24

Reece WILLISON

27/05/1999

190 CM 77 KG



31

Jordan WRIGHT

28/02/1999

198 CM 77 KG

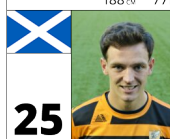


51

Edin LYNCH

07/08/2000

188 CM 77 KG



25

MANAGER

PETER GRANT



MIDFIELDERS			FORWARDS	
Steven HETHERINGTON 09/03/1993 180 CM 70 KG  	Kevin CAWLEY 17/03/1989 170 CM 64 KG  	Stefan SCOUGALL 07/12/1992 170 CM 64 KG  	Liam BUCHANAN 27/03/1985 175 CM 70 KG  	Alan TROUTEN 08/11/1985 173 CM 70 KG  
Adam BROWN 09/06/1995 175 CM 70 KG  	Blair MALCOLM 03/02/1997 180 CM 70 KG  	Cameron O'DONNELL 29/09/2001 180 CM 70 KG  	Innes CAMERON 22/08/2000 188 CM 70 KG  	Lee CONNELLY 18/10/1999 170 CM 58 KG  
Ray GRANT 01/09/1996 178 CM 70 KG  	Innes MURRAY 17/02/1998 180 CM 70 KG  		Robert THOMSON 28/05/1993 188 CM 83 KG  	Liam EVANS 17/11/2001 190 CM 70 KG  
				
				



DAVID GLENCROSS



NEWSDesk

Today we welcome Queen of the South to the Indodrill Stadium, welcoming Allan Johnston, the players, officials and directors of Queen of the South FC. Who are currently on a rich vein of form unbeaten in their last five matches going back to 26th December, 2020. The manager has brought in Innes Cameron and Jordan

Wright to strengthen the squad, Innes making his first team debut last week v. Ayr United at Somerset Park. The manager continues to look to strengthen the squad but with the continuing corona virus pandemic and restrictions, it has made it difficult. The domestic loan window remains open for Championship

clubs until the end of February as an extra concession this season along with the free agent market which the club will look for opportunities to strengthen the squad.

Innes Cameron - Joined club in January transfer window from Kilmarnock until the end of the season, had been on loan to Ayr United

in first part of the season but has now moved to the Wasps to push for first team football. Already has played at Indodrill Stadium this season in pre season friendly for Kilmarnock. Previously had a spell on loan to Stranraer where he played 29 games and scored 10 goals, also been capped at Scotland Under 17 level and

<p>played in 2019/20 Europa League for Kilmarnock v. Connah's Quay from Wales. Made debut for the Wasps v. Ayr United last Saturday at Somerset Park.</p> <p>Jordan Wright - Goalkeeper who joined "The Wasps" in the January transfer window from Nottingham Forest, looking to gain first team football a player Peter Grant had previously tried to bring to the club. Tall six foot five keeper with great presence, will look to push Neil Parry for No. 1 jersey. Previously been out on loan to English Conference clubs Alfreton Town, Nuneaton Borough and Kettering Town, welcome to the Indodrill Stadium.</p> <p>After today's SPFL Championship fixture against Queen of the South, the Wasps will be in midweek action against Inverness CT on Wednesday 10th February at the Tulloch Caledonian Stadium, Inverness, Kick-off 7.45pm. Then back at the Indodrill Stadium next Saturday 13th February against Dick Campbell's Arbroath</p>	<p>side.</p> <p>Alloa Athletic FC legend George Brown who made over three hundred appearances for the club between 1967 - 1974, sadly died on Monday 11th January, 2021, aged 72. George recently revisited Indodrill Stadium, known as Recreation Park in George's days on 7th April, 2018 when he and his sons, Nicky and Stuart returned to rekindle some great memories. George's funeral took place on Thursday 21st January, 2021 at St. Ninians Parish Church with donations to Alzheimer's Scotland.</p> <p>George was signed for the club on 7th January, 1967 from Bonnybridge by Alloa manager Archie "Curly" McPherson as a centre-half. George is one of only eleven players who have made over 300 first team appearances for "The Wasps" and the eighth highest player in appearances for the club since 1945/46.</p> <p>During George's time with Alloa Athletic he played under four managers - Archie "Curly" McPherson 1967-69, Duncan</p>	<p>McCallum 1969-71, Ian Crawford 1971-72 & Dan McLinden 1972-74. He made his debut against Montrose at Recreation Park in the Scottish Cup in a 2-1 victory on 7th January, 1967 and at that time Alloa Athletic played in the Scottish League Division Two, some of George's highlights during that time were in the Cup competitions - In season 1971/72 in the League Cup "The Wasps" qualified from their League Cup section which included Hamilton Accies, Brechin City, Forfar Athletic & East Stirlingshire, in the two-legged Play-off for a Quarter final place the Wasps drew 1-1 at Recreation Park but lost 4-1 to Partick Thistle who were to go on and defeat Celtic 4-1 in the final. The following season 1972-73 The Wasps went one better having again won their League Cup section they were to face First Division side Ayr United over two legs, the first game at Recreation Park ended 0-0 and in the 2nd Leg at Somerset Park "The Wasps" were to</p>	<p>win 1-0 thanks to a Willie McCulloch goal and goalkeeper Davie McWilliams saving an Eric Stevenson penalty, one of the longest lasting memories from the game was Alloa centre half George Brown celebrating victory with a cartwheel on the pitch at full-time!</p> <p>George was rewarded with his consistent displays in the heart of the Alloa Athletic defence when St. Mirren manager Willie Cunningham signed him for the Paisley side on 19th October, 1974 before a certain Alex Ferguson took over as manager the following season at Love Street and George then moved back to Clackmannanshire signing for Sauchie Juniors. In total George Brown made 310 first team starts and another six from the bench for "The Wasps" scoring four goals for the club.</p> <p>WASPS 2000 DRAW WEEK 4 £ 100 I KENNEDY £ 50 G SHAND £ 25 A COOPER £ 25 D GLENCROSS £ 25 J BAIN JANUARY WINNER £275 H CARMICHAEL</p>
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PETER GRANT



MANAGERS NOTES

Good Afternoon
Everyone

Hope you and your families and friends are safe and well during these trying times. Unfortunately last weekend we couldn't put a smile on your face by getting the result we all wanted. People say we should have at least got a point from the game, but

I disagree, when you lose 4 goals you don't deserve to win any game and to many times this has happened to us. For me we have probably lost 2/3 goals that we could do nothing about but the others we have to take full responsibility. The effort and commitment the boys put in is unquestionable. They are a privilege



to manage but they know their concentration levels have to be much better in every part of our game. The old adage - what you do in both boxes will determine the outcome sums up where we are at this moment - not ruthless enough in both areas. It is something we are constantly working at to improve and I'm 100 % sure we will.

On a question supporters keep asking about loans, etc, it is very difficult for many

reasons but the biggest one is COVID-19. When players come to us for instance they are not allowed to go back into their parent clubs bubble so trying to get clubs or players to do that is very difficult and I understand that completely. The issue for us only being part time is these players don't want to be only training twice a week.

I would like to welcome QOS and Alan and Sandy and all their staff and



players here today. They have done very well so far this season and thoroughly and deservedly beat us at Palmerston but I know I have a squad here that is capable of beating anyone in the league.

No better time to start than today.

Enjoy The Game

SUPPORT THE PLAYERS ALWAYS

PETER





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SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP

16th January 2021
Indodrill Stadium, Alloa
3:00 pm KO

ALLOA ATHLETIC

1:3

HEARTS



(0:2)

SCORERS

0:1 35' Irving

0:2 45' Frear

Cawley **87'** **1:2**

1:3 93' Ginnelly



STARTING XI

1 PARRY

8 ROBERTSON

5 GRAHAM

15 JAMIESON

24 WILLIAMSON

22 GRANT

6 HETHERINGTON

7 CAWLEY

12 SCOUGALL

23 MURRAY

19 THOMSON

SUBS

51 WRIGHT

9 BUCHANAN

14 BROWN

17 CONNELLY

20 O'DONNELL

25 LYNCH

26 EVANS

SUBS

13 STEWART

5 HARING

10 BOYCE

14 NAISMITH

17 MACKAY-STE-

28 POPESCU

30 GINNELLY

STARTING XI

1 GORDON

2 SMITH

26 HALKETT

6 BERRA

21 KINGSLEY

7 WALKER

19 IRVING

16 HALLIDAY

11 ROBERTS

31 HENDERSON

24 FREAR

REFEREE: Alan Muir

SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP

30th January 2021
Somerset Par, Ayr
3:00 pm KO

AYR UNITED

4:1

ALLOA ATHLETIC



(2:1)

SCORERS

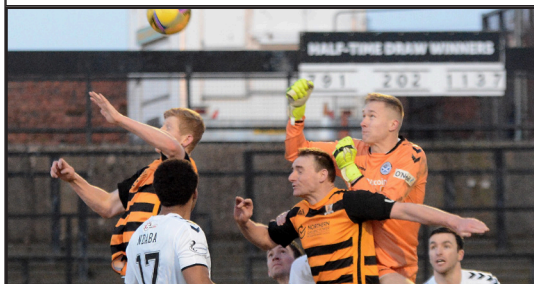
Walsh **5'** **1:0**

1:1 **11'** Trouten

McCowan **30'** **2:1**

Muirhead **61'** **3:1**

McCowan **69'** **4:1**



STARTING XI

- 1** SINISALO
- 4** MUIRHEAD
- 6** MURDOCH
- 8** MILLER
- 9** WRIGHT
- 10** WALSH
- 11** MCCOWAN
- 14** SMITH
- 17** NDABA
- 18** CHALMERS
- 30** BAIRD

SUBS

- 21** HARE-REID
- 3** READING
- 5** ROSCOE
- 7** MOFFAT
- 19** ZANATTA
- 20** HEWITT
- 22** MCKENZIE

SUBS

- 51** WRIGHT
- 8** ROBERTSON
- 9** BUCHANAN
- 17** CONNELLY
- 19** THOMSON
- 20** O'DONNELL
- 23** MURRAY

STARTING XI

- 1** PARRY
- 3** DICK
- 5** GRAHAM
- 6** HETHERINGTON
- 7** CAWLEY
- 10** TROUTEN
- 11** CAMERON
- 12** SCOUGALL
- 15** JAMIESON
- 22** GRANT
- 25** LYNCH

REFEREE: Peter Stuart

CHILD PROTECTION AND WELLBEING POLICY

Alloa Athletic FC acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of those who engage with the club especially children and vulnerable adults. We are committed to protecting children and vulnerable adults from all form of harm and actively promoting the creation of a positive, safe and supportive environment.

We recognise -

- the welfare of the child (up to the age of 18) is paramount.
- all children regardless of age disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- working in partnership with children and their families is essential in promoting and embedding this policy

The purpose of the policy and related procedures is to:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults
- provide staff and volunteers with appropriate training to recognise, identify and respond to safeguarding concerns relating to children and vulnerable adults
- ensure appropriate action is taken in event of incidents of concerns and that support is provided to those who raise or disclose the concern and that is dealt with confidentially;
- prevent the employment or engagement of unsuitable individuals by adopting rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures

Alloa Athletic Football Club's policy will be widely promoted and will be reviewed on a regular basis, or in the event of changes in legislation or government guidance, or as a result of any other changes.

MIKE MULRANEY, CHAIRMAN
ALLOA ATHLETIC FC

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JONATHAN MARKWELL



MISSING THE IRONIC CHEERS

Missing those ironic cheers at the football

I haven't seen an Alloa game live in person for over a year now. While there are many aspects of the matchday experience I am truly missing, one of the more niche football pleasures that I can't enjoy at the moment is booming out an ironic cheer or two during the game. Taking joy from someone else's misfortune is question-

able in some contexts, but in the often tribal world of football it is commonplace.

Even the mildest mannered supporters cannot fail to take some pleasure for when things don't go according to plan for opposing players, matchday officials, opposing fans or even the stadium announcer.

The opposing team are often the butt of an ironic cheer from the

crowd. There are so many instances of when this possibly occurs during a game I've had to list some of my favourites below:

- When a player misses a simple chance to score. Last month versus Morton I heartily jeered when

Aidan Nesbitt blazed a gilt-edged chance over the crossbar, when it looked all but certain that he'd break the deadlock. It was more a

cheer of relief, celebrating a get-out-of-jail-free moment with more gusto than some goals for Alloa this season, such is the strange nature of remote watching.

- That marvellous moment when a player has a fresh air kick in any area of the pitch – these players are just like you and me I'd chuckle to my dad.

- When team-mates get in one another's way, lose possession

and inevitably start remonstrating with one another – there really is no finer sight as you jeer and think we've got them rattled today!

- I'm a big fan of ironically cheering when a player who should have been booked ages ago finally gets his name taken by the referee.

- When the team inexplicably kick the ball directly out of play from kick-off. Queen of the South certainly did that twice on my recent visits to Palmerston at the beginning of games, and it certainly gave me a psychological boost that they didn't fancy it today and that the Wasps were going to win.

- That moment when a player has a shot which flies high and wide, or even worse out for a throw – down

south a terrace chant of 'swing low, sweet chariot' to signify the shot was more akin to a rugby conversion always raises a smile with me. I inwardly sing that whenever Stevie Hetherington hits row Z (most recently away at Dundee having already got on the score-sheet that night), as he'd certainly have that sung back at him if he was plying his trade back in his native England.

It's delightful to see the crowd reaction too, jeering and gleefully waving outstretched arms and motioning like a school-boy playing aeroplanes in the playground.

- When the opposition manager is sent to the stands (Mr Raymond McKinnon in the play-offs at the Recs for Brechin in 2013 springs to mind), or a new phenomenon this season, the opposition manager

being booked (a fate bestowed to Robbie Neilson last November).

- When a back-pass is misdirected by an agricultural centre-back and goes out for a corner. This one is even better when the keeper makes a valiant attempt to slide and prevent the corner, but fails. Needless to say the keeper gives the defender a glare – shouting with their eyes 'you are useless and you've got me muddy!' Its the kind of stare which teachers specialise in giving to keep their unruly pupils in check everyday. From a supporters perspective, these scenarios always give me a lift, an ironic cheer, an enthusiastic clap of the hands and a raised expectation that we'll be going to score from the corner as it's exactly what the opposition deserve!

- One of my favourites is when a player slowly trudges off the pitch having been sent off, perhaps showing some emotion in the process. Poor Phil Roberts taking



his frustrations out on the Falkirk ice buckets at the Recs in 2014 or Raith's Iain Davidson gesturing to the supporters in those memorable 2018 play-offs spring immediately to mind.

- When a goalkeeper misjudges a back-pass and either wildly slices the ball out of play, or has his attempted clearance charged down by the attacker (e.g. Ross Stewart charging down Graeme Smith in that calamitous play-off evening for Raith, or even this season Cammy O'Donnell almost scoring an unlikely late equaliser versus Hibs in the cup). There are other instances when a keeper can make a perfect connection with their kicks, but jeers still

ensue for unimaginable reasons.

Take for example Neil Parry's routine goal kick up at Peterhead in 2016, which hit a passing seagull mid-flight, resulting in bewilderment, ironic cheers and a seagull inspired end-of-season award for Parry.

Quite often these are small incidents that shouldn't matter, but to superstitious supporters such as myself they can act as momentum shifters in games, bringing anxiety to one team and boosting the other. They can be game-changers, when in reality they are innocuous incidents which shouldn't have the impact they sometimes do.

The opposition aren't my only victims when it comes to jeering. The

matchday officials are inevitably in the firing line when it comes to what in German is known as *schadenfreude*. When broken down *Schaden* means "harm" or "damage" and *Freude* means "joy", hence the definition of finding joy in someone else's misfortune:

- When the ball hits the ref and interrupts play. This is sadly no more, as it now results in an uncontested drop ball, rather than the injustice of it turning over possession when the opposition were building a promising attack, making your glee all the sweeter (laughing at opposition fans in the process of course).

- That moment when the referee finally awards you a free kick

after missing several fouls against your team in the preceding minutes. Equally rewarding is the ironic cheer when an offside decision goes in your favour after one which was missed and led to a goal minutes earlier occurred. Sometimes an ironic round of applause from embittered defenders add another delicious layer of joy to this moment.

- That time when something unusual happens with a referee – it could be a collision with a player, the assistant referee pulling up with a calf injury or when the fourth officials sub board numbers aren't working. Whatever the out of the ordinary moment is, the already maligned officials have to bear some additional



jeering too.

Whilst jeering on the sidelines sometimes amounts to obvious small-time behaviour, when the victims of your ironic cheer are opposition fans it has no boundaries in my opinion:

– There are few more satisfying feelings at football when the opposing fans start celebrating a goal, only to discover in a split second (or sometimes longer) that the ball has only rippled the side netting rather than the inside of the net. We've all been there when from our vantage point the ball appears to have nestled in the back of the net, only to soon realise that angles or sheer distance have deceived you and its not actually a goal. You are crest-fallen and confused (why aren't the players celebrating? Was this just an illusion?) with those feelings only compounded when opposition fans elsewhere in the ground take great delight in ironically cheering your misfortune.

In-fact, any disallowed goal, for any normal reason, be it an offside flag, an unknown infringement or even the upper echelon game reason VAR, can always guarantee an ironic cheer from the relieved section of the crowd.



– When an off target shot hits an off-guard fan (obviously not a child and obviously not too hard), but just enough to startle them and turning their face to thunder in a second – delightful!

– When a fan makes a pigs ear of returning the ball to play. It can't be those who intentionally do it to break up the play or make a name for themselves, it has to be a genuine attempt to get the ball to the keeper or the full-back, but fails miserably.

– When there is a single pitch invader and the stewards can't catch the culprit, turning it into a carry-on movie scene. Looking at it from a slightly different angle, perhaps the finest most recent example was the Ayr supporter gracing Palmerston Park with his presence in 2018 as Stephen Dobbie took a penalty, only to fall flat

on his face in the penalty box in celebrating Dobbie's kick being saved – ironic cheer followed by ironic cheer! It's fair to say Dobbie had the last laugh that day as he scored four in a crushing 5-0 win for Queens, who we welcome to Clackmannanshire this afternoon.

Sometimes even the humble stadium announcer facilitates an ironic cheer too. These instances range from historic favourites of 'your wife is in labour' to 'can the owner of this car please move it as it is blocking a fire exit' or 'this car has left its lights on'. These are less commonplace in recent times, but you can always rely on the stadium announcer struggling with the pronunciation of players names; the number of variants of Bolo-chowewckyj I heard when

Bolo was playing for the Wasps always raised an ironic cheer with me. I couldn't finish this section without mentioning Alloa's announcer Gerry Watson, who got a cheer from bemused Falkirk and Alloa fans when asking for John Cena to contact the nearest steward during a match in 2019. Poor Gerry obviously wasn't aware of wrestler John 'you can't see me' Cena and some wag being on the wind up.

All these idiosyncrasies are fine examples of the patchwork of wider joys the game brings us and which are sadly restricted at present – they enrich and enliven the afternoon's entertainment and I can't wait to get back to games to ironically cheer once again!

APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL	
		APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
PARRY	GOAL	9 (0)	0	6 (0)	0	15 (0)	0
WILSON	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0
WILLISON	GOAL	4 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	5 (1)	0
WRIGHT	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
TAGGART	DEF	7 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	11 (0)	0
DICK	DEF	12 (0)	0	6 (0)	0	18 (0)	0
GRAHAM	DEF	11 (0)	0	4 (1)	0	15 (1)	0
JAMIESON	DEF	7 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	11 (0)	0
LYNCH	DEF	3 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	6 (0)	0
GILHOOLY	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
WILLIAMSON	DEF	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	2 (0)	0
HETHERINGTON	MID	12 (0)	1	5 (2)	1	17 (2)	2
ROBERTSON	MID	12 (0)	0	5 (0)	0	17 (0)	0
GRANT	MID	11 (0)	0	5 (1)	0	16 (1)	0
MALCOLM	MID	0 (2)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (2)	0
ROBERTSON	MID	12 (0)	0	5 (0)	0	17 (0)	0
BROWN	MID	2 (2)	0	2 (0)	0	4 (2)	0
MURRAY	MID	8 (2)	1	4 (1)	0	12 (3)	1
SCOUGALL	MID	3 (4)	1	3 (3)	1	6 (7)	2
O'DONNELL	MID	3 (0)	0	2 (2)	1	5 (2)	1
TROUTEN	FWD	9 (0)	3	5 (1)	3	14 (1)	6
BUCHANAN	FWD	6 (6)	2	6 (1)	3	12 (7)	5
THOMSON	FWD	6 (6)	3	1 (5)	3	7 (11)	6
CONNELLY	FWD	3 (4)	0	2 (2)	0	5 (6)	0
EVANS	FWD	0 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (3)	0
CAMERON	FWD	1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0
CAWLEY	FWD	13 (0)	2	5 (1)	0	18 (1)	2



ALLOA CAREER LGE		ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
124 (0)	0	35 (0)	0	159 (0)	0
1 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1 (2)	0
4 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	5 (1)	0
0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
150 (0)	6	41 (0)	1	191 (0)	7
64 (0)	1	22 (0)	0	86 (0)	1
139 (0)	11	39 (1)	1	178 (1)	12
7 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	11 (0)	0
3 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	6 (0)	0
0 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0
1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	2 (0)	0
125 (30)	6	27 (8)	1	152 (38)	7
113 (22)	2	37 (3)	2	150 (25)	4
11 (0)	0	5 (1)	0	16 (1)	0
10 (2)	0	2 (1)	0	12 (3)	0
113 (22)	2	37 (3)	2	150 (25)	4
13 (18)	3	12 (4)	0	25 (22)	3
8 (2)	1	4 (1)	0	12 (3)	1
3 (4)	1	3 (3)	1	6 (7)	2
4 (2)	0	2 (4)	1	6 (6)	1
60 (5)	22	20 (3)	16	80 (8)	38
50 (22)	18	21 (4)	8	71 (26)	26
16 (28)	8	3 (9)	4	19 (37)	12
4 (7)	1	2 (3)	0	6 (10)	1
0 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (3)	0
1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0
259 (37)	53	55 (7)	10	314 (44)	63



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BRIAN ROACH



A FAN'S VIEW

Alloa enter a vital period of the season, with today's match against Queen of the South, followed by Arbroath next week. Both games possess a real opportunity to pick up points at home. Sandwiched between these is a midweek trip to Inverness for the rearranged fixture from a fortnight ago.

On paper it looks like a game we could be doing without at this time, such is the importance of these two home matches.

Alloa come into this game off the back of a couple of defeats, and now sit at the foot of the table following Arbroath's win over Morton last week. Such is the unpre-

dictable and cut throat nature of the Championship, results elsewhere very rarely seem to fall in our favour. However, it's nothing a couple of wins won't alter for the better. Three weeks ago, Alloa were defeated here by league leaders Hearts. Alloa were a bit unfortunate to trudge in at the break with a 2

goal deficit. Andy Irving produced an excellent strike to open the scoring for the visitors. But the killer second by Elliot Frear was the real sickener, occurring with just seconds remaining in the half. There wasn't too much action in the second half until the closing stages where it became really interesting. First,

Lucas Williamson was sent off with 7 minutes remaining, and it was a really harsh decision to give the youngster a booking. There was minimal contact on Gary Mackay-Steven as Williamson raced to contest a high ball. The referee was a considerable distance away, but it happened right in front of his far side assistant- who really should have helped the referee in his decision making. A bit of needle emerged in both dugouts - it had been simmering for much of the game in a feisty encounter, but bubbled over after the red card. With the numerical deficit adding to Alloa's woes, the match looked dead and buried. But 2 minutes later, they pulled one back to set up a grandstand finish. Robertson's first time delivery into the box was excellent, and Kevin Cawley marked his appearance record with a goal - a terrific diving header leaving Craig Gordon with no chance. The Hearts defence suddenly became

rather uneasy, and Alloa had a real opportunity in the final minute to deliver a set piece into the area. The manager shouted Neil Parry into the area for one last push to snatch an equaliser. It's always fun to watch a goalkeeper in these instances. The goalkeepers uncharacteristic sprint, and trying so hard to make the forage forward appear to be in their comfort zone. When in reality it's blatantly obvious they are completely and utterly out of their comfort zone. Sadly, the chance came to nothing, and Hearts quickly broke forward and sealed the points- with Ginelly evading Stevie Hetherington's last ditch attempt to halt him, and steer-

ing the ball into the empty Alloa net.

No shame in Alloa being second best to Hearts, but I was impressed with the manner in which they stood up to the visitors and gave them a really competitive test. Hetherington was a real standout and had a proper battle with Jamie Walker in particular all afternoon. His challenges were aggressive and he picked the ball up and took us forward on numerous occasions. With the ever present Liam Dick absent from the starting lineup, the manager gave Lucas Williamson a start at left back. He was really impressive- calm, composed and generally unfazed against strong op-

ponents. He didn't need talked through the game, his runs forward were well timed and he looked mature beyond his age. The sending off as mentioned was really harsh - it was sad to see his day ending in this manner, but he can be proud of the way he performed.

Last week's trip to Somerset Park on the surface looks like a real body blow. The scoreline was slightly harsh in terms of reflecting the gaps between the teams on the day, but a couple of the goals were certainly preventable from an Alloa perspective. The margin of the defeat also clouded the one real positive aspect of the afternoon.



Alloa trailed early, but with 10 minutes gone the returning Alan Trouten produced a moment of real magic, right up there with the best goals of the last decade or so. Alloa were awarded a free kick on the halfway line and Trouten reacted quickly- noticing the goalkeeper off his line and lobbing him to equalise. Was it better than Stevie Mastertons at Stranraer almost 9 years previous to the day? Probably. So it looks like Alloa's goal of the season is sewn up, and in all honesty it's a strike that's unlikely to be

bettered in years.

As for the game itself I thought it was fast paced and frantic, which didn't really suit Alloa. They only showed glimpses and spurts of getting a foothold in the middle of the pitch and really dictating the play. Wonder goal aside, Trouten looked capable of causing real trouble to the home rearguard all first half, but we just didn't manage to get him on the ball often enough. It was a similar situation with Scougall and Cawley, where they showed some nice touches but we just didn't get them into good

areas. I liked the look of new striker Innes Cameron, who had a presence and was looking to drag the centre halves out of position to open up space. Although the performance was fragmented, I have sympathy for the manager. He really hasn't had the opportunity all season to play a settled back 4, nor midfield and allow these areas to really push on and flourish. The midfield 5 who started at Somerset are more than capable of getting the team victories and points. But ideally we need a run of games where they

can start every week to see the best of them as a sum of its parts. Similarly the back 4, which picked itself for seemingly hundreds of games, now requires constant tweaking due to injuries. Again it's hard to pick up momentum when the defence is constantly being altered. Its key players too- the likes of Parry, Taggart and Trouten - who have all experienced significant absences this season. Faith remains that this group of players have the capability to put some points on the board, hopefully starting this afternoon.

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LOOKING BACK

In The Premier Division, leaders Celtic enjoyed a 3-0 home win v mid-table St. Mirren, while second-placed Rangers remained close on the heels of their fierce rivals, thanks to a 5-2 win at Hearts. Third-placed Dundee United were 2-1 victors v struggling Falkirk at Tannadice, Aberdeen were now fourth thanks to a narrow 1-0 success v Motherwell at Pittodrie, while Hearts slipped one place from fourth

to fifth. Rock-bottom Hamilton Accies woes continued with a 0-1 home reverse v Hibs, Clydebank remained second from bottom despite collecting a point from a 1-1 home draw v Dundee, while Falkirk still occupied third-bottom spot.

Dunfermline remained in pole position in The First Division, despite being held 1-1 at East End Park by another of the promotion challengers,

Airdrie. Second-placed Morton were held 3-3 at Forfar, while another top-of-the-table clash, at Bayview, between third-placed East Fife and fourth-placed Dumbarton ended all-square at 1-1. At the bottom, Montrose, in spite of a 3-0 home win v Queen Of The South, still propped up the table, The Gable Endies local rivals Brechin, held 0-0 at Partick, remained just one place better off, while Clyde, despite

collecting a point from a 1-1 draw at Kilmarnock, still occupied third-bottom spot.

Down in The Second, table-topping Raith narrowly defeated lowly Stenhousemuir 1-0 at Stark's Park, while Ayr retained second spot after a 3-1 home win v Stirling Albion. Third-placed Meadowbank were also victorious on home soil, by 1-0 v fellow challengers Cowdenbeath, while fourth-placed



St. Johnstone were gameless. Cowdenbeath slipped from fourth to fifth place, while Alloa in turn dropped from fifth to sixth after a 1-1 draw at Queen's Park, Stuart Sorbie netting for The Wasps, who lined up as follows: Lowrie, Thomson, Haggart, Donaldson, Dall, Love (Jamieson), MacDonald, Wilkie, Sorbie, Nelson, Cole (Murray). And there was no respite for bottom club East Stirling, who went down 1-2 at home v Arbroath.

South of the border, Everton took over leadership of The First Division after a 3-1 home win v Coventry, The Toffees displaced Arsenal, who faced

North London rivals Spurs in the semi-finals of The League Cup the following day, and who meantime dropped to second. Gameless Liverpool remained third, while Newcastle, despite taking a point from a 2-2 home draw v Luton, remained in last place. Portsmouth retained top spot in The Second Division after a 1-0 win at another of the challengers, Ipswich, while second-placed Derby shared four goals and the points with Midlands rivals Birmingham at The Baseball Ground.

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Cup Winners (2)

This afternoon we welcome the form side of the division, Queen of the South, to the Indodrill for a crunch tie at the bottom of the Scottish Championship. The Doonhamers have found themselves in a fine upturn in form since Christmas. They are unbeaten in five, a run that dates back to the 29th December, seeing impressive victories over Ayr and Raith Rovers in that time. Included in that run was also their 3-0 win at Hampden over Queens Park to sail into the next round of the Scottish Cup, earning a match against Hibernian in the process. Their recent success has

been done without the help of veteran striker, Stephen Dobbie, but has allowed other players like Connor Shields and Aidan Fitzpatrick to step up to the plate and impress. The visitors sit in seventh position and six points ahead of Peter Grant's men as he looks to draw teams back closer to the drop.

THE BOSS – ALLAN JOHNSTON

Former midfielder, Allan Johnston, is the man in the opposition dug-out this afternoon. Johnston had a long and successful career for a whole host of clubs, most notably Hearts, Sunderland and Kilmarnock. He finished his playing career alongside starting his managerial career in a joint role at Palmerston with Queens in 2013, where he won the Second Division and Challenge Cup. Following his success there, he earned a move back to the Premiership and his old club, Kilmarnock, in 2013 where he narrowly avoided the drop. Two years later Johnston would be appointed Dunfermline boss and in his second season would guide them to

a play-off position. His last game for the club though was a draw against Alloa where Alan Trouten bagged the equaliser with seconds to go. He was only out the game for a few months though when he joined forces again with Queen of the South in 2019 and secured their safety in a play-off final against Montrose.

THE CAPTAIN – STEPHEN DOBBIE

Stephen Dobbie is the captain for Queen of the South this season. Regarded as a local hero, Dobbie has been back at the club since 2016 and notched nearly seventy goals in his four years at the club. The striker spent some time at Palmerston previously in his career with a similar goal ratio which earned him his move to Swansea. Dobbie enjoyed great success down South and won two Championship play-off finals at Wembley, with both Swansea and Blackpool. Goals have followed everywhere he goes with his most potent season in front of goal being the 2018/19 campaign for the Doonhamers. Forty-three





goals meant he had scored the most goals in all competition for the club. That season they also scooped the PFA Championship Player of the Year, despite the team finishing ninth and facing stiff competition from the likes of Lawrence Shankland. This season has been a stop- start season for the forward though. Recently turning thirty-eight, Dobbie has been out the side since picking up a hamstring

injury against Morton on the 19th of December.

NEW BOY - DAPO MEBUDE

Allan Johnston recently made the move to bring in highly-rated Rangers forward, Dapo Mebude, to the club on a loan till the end of the season. Despite being born in England, he moved to Scotland at a young age qualifying him for the National Team. He went on to represent Scotland for

the u16's, u17's, u18's and is currently in the u19 squad. Turning professional with Rangers in 2017, he bided his time before being given his professional debut in a 2-1 defeat to Kilmarnock in 2019. Having made the switch to Palmerston a few weeks back, this is his first senior loan and an opportunity to test and impress at a senior level. Mebude made his debut for the club last Saturday coming off the bench in the

win over Morton. As well as Mebude joining the club, he was also joined recently by Isaiah Jones who signed on loan from Middlesbrough and fellow Rangers starlet Rhys Breen.

ONE TO WATCH - CONNOR SHIELDS

One player who has been pivotal to this resurgent Queen of the South side is Connor Shields. The striker will be a familiar name to Alloa fans having spent some time on loan at the club back in 2018/19. He will be remembered fondly by the Wasps faithful after bagging that all important goal at Somerset on the final day to earn a 1-1 draw with Ayr and secure Alloa's Championship safety. He departed Sunderland shortly after

CONTINUED ON P32



BY KIEREN MOONEY

his stint in Clackmannanshire and spent some time at Aldershot Town. In August 2020 though, he returned to Scotland signing for Queen of the South. After a slow start to the season, Shields has found his feet again and has become one of the most clinical finishers in the league. Before he blanked last Saturday, Shields had scored six goals and in every one of the previous four league matches. During that run too he also scored the final goal in the Scottish Cup victory. This form has seen him fire up the goalscoring charts and has him sitting joint third top scorer in the division with six goals in his twelve appearances.

Having strengthened a partnership with Aidan Fitzpatrick, they will provide the Alloa defence much to think about.

THE CONNECTION

Connor Shields is an obvious link and one Alloa will have to be extremely wary of. Apart from him, there are no other players making a return to Alloa this afternoon. Similarly, in the Alloa ranks, there is not a single player playing against their former side today. Some previous names from the past who have pulled on both shirts would be Jack Hamilton, now with relegation rivals Arbroath. Also, Jamie MacDonald was part of Alloa's squad last

season and a hero for the Doonhamers leaving with a Scottish Cup runners up medal. Alloa fan favourite, Michael Doyle, also spent time at the club following his Alloa departure.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

This is the second time the sides have met this season. The first game was back in November, where Peter Grant expressed his displeasure with the way the game unfolded. Queen of the South eased to a 2-0 victory that day with goals from Gregor Buchanan and Joe McKee either side of the break. Last season Alloa had a strong record against the

visitors. Alloa won in the game this time last year after a late goal from Kevin O'Hara snatched all three points for the Wasps in a 3-2 win at Palmerston. The last game between the two sides at the Indodrill was back in 2019 and it ended a point a piece. Two goals in a minute from Stephen Dobbie and Jack Hamilton fired the visitors into a commanding two goal lead before half-time. However, Alloa would hit Queens for two goals in a minute too in the second half. Alan Trouten brought his side back into it on the sixty-fourth minute before Kevin O'Hara fired home the equaliser a minute later on the sixty-fifth minute.

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HT QUIZ

1. WHICH ENGLISH NATIONAL LEAGUE CLUB DID CONNOR SHIELDS PLAY FOR BETWEEN HIS STINT AT ALLOA AND HIS CURRENT CLUB QUEEN OF THE SOUTH?
2. WHO ARE THE ONLY 2 SCOTS TO HAVE PLAYED FOR A NON-BRITISH TEAM IN A EUROPEAN CUP/CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL?
3. IN WHICH WORLD CUP TOURNAMENT WERE SUBSTITUTES FIRST USED?
4. WHICH 9 ARGENTINIANS HAVE WON ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP WINNERS MEDALS?

	GOALKEEPERS		DEFENDERS			
	<div><div>Jack LEIGHFIELD</div><div>23/03/1998</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>1</div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Nortei NORTEY</div><div>29/10/1994</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>2</div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div>James MAXWELL</div><div>09/12/2001</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>3</div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Gregor BUCHANAN</div><div>31/03/1990</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>4</div><div></div></div></div>		
	<div><div>Rohan FERGUSON</div><div>06/12/1997</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>20</div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Ayo OBILEYE</div><div>02/09/1994</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>5</div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Rhys BREEN</div><div>06/01/2000</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>19</div><div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Willie GIBSON</div><div>06/08/1984</div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>33</div><div></div></div></div>		
<div><div>Josh RAE</div><div></div><div><div>CM</div><div>KG</div></div><div><div>31</div><div></div></div></div>						
MANAGER						
ALLAN JOHNSTON						
						

MIDFIELDERS			FORWARDS	
<p>Joe MCKEE</p> <p>31/10/1992</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>6</p>	<p>Aidan FITZPATRICK</p> <p>20/03/2001</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>7</p>	<p>Dan PYBUS</p> <p>12/12/1997</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>8</p>	<p>Tommy GOSS</p> <p>14/04/1998</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>9</p>	<p>Connor SHIELDS</p> <p>29/07/1997</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>10</p>
<p>Rhys MCCABE</p> <p>24/07/1992</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>12</p>	<p>Calvin MCGRORY</p> <p>09/08/1999</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>15</p>	<p>Keiran MCKECHNIE</p> <p>04/04/2001</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>18</p>	<p>Stephen DOBBIE</p> <p>05/12/1982</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>11</p>	<p>Euan EAST</p> <p>05/07/2000</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>16</p>
<p>Isaiah JONES</p> <p>26/06/1999</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>25</p>	<p>Dapo MEBUDE</p> <p>29/07/2001</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>29</p>		<p>Niyah JOSEPH</p> <p>12/05/2001</p> <p>CM KG</p>  <p>17</p>	
				
				

[illegible][illegible]

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. ALDERSHOT TOWN

2. PAUL LAMBERT (BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1997) AND STEVE ARCHIBALD (BARCELONA 1986)

3.1970 WORLD CUP IN MEXICO.

4. SERGIO AGUERO, CARLOS TEVEZ, PABLO ZABALETA, NICOLAS OTAMENDI, HERNAN CRESPO, GABRIEL HEINZE, MARTIN DEMECHE-LIS, LEONARDO ULLOA





ALLOA ATHLETIC



QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

POS



	1	NEIL PARRY			
	21	ANDY WILSON			
	31	REECE WILSON			
	51	JORDAN WRIGHT			
	2	SCOTT TAGGART			
	3	LIAM DICK			
	5	ANDY GRAHAM			
	6	STEVEN HETHERINGTON			
	7	KEVIN CAWLEY			
	8	JON ROBERTSON			
	9	LIAM BUCHANAN			
	10	ALAN TROUTEN			
	11	INNES CAMERON			
	12	STEFAN SCOUALL			
	14	ADAM BROWN			
	18	BLAIR MALCOLM			
	19	ROBERT THOMSON			
	20	CAMERON O'DONNELL			
	22	RAYMOND GRANT			
	23	INNES MURRAY			
	24	LUCAS WILLIAMSON			
	25	EDIN LYNCH			
	26	LIAM EVANS			

MANAGER PETER GRANT

POS



	1	JACK LEIGHFIELD			
	2	NORTEI NORTEY			
	3	JAMES MAXWELL			
	4	GREGOR BUCHANAN			
	5	AYO OBILEYE			
	6	JOE MCKEE			
	7	AIDAN FITZPATRICK			
	8	DAN PYBUS			
	9	TOMMY GOSS			
	10	CONNOR SHIELDS			
	11	STEPHEN DOBBIE			
	12	RHYS MCCABE			
	15	CALVIN MCGRORY			
	16	EUAN EAST			
	17	NIYAH JOSEPH			
	18	KEIRAN MCKECHNIE			
	19	RHYS BREEN			
	20	ROHAN FERGUSON			
	25	ISAIAH JONES			
	29	DAPO MEBUDE			

MANAGER ALLAN JOHNSTON

REFEREE: Gavin Duncan

ASST: Kylie McMullan & David Dunne

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

23.01.21, AWAY, 15:00



INVERNESS CT



ALLOA ATHLETIC

06.02.21, HOME, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

13.02.21, HOME, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



ARBROATH

20.02.21, AWAY, 15:00



DUNFERMLINE



ALLOA ATHLETIC

27.02.21, AWAY, 15:00



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DEANSTON



OBAN



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