# THE WASP



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scottish championship winners
1921/22

#### RUNNERS UP

#### 1938/39

SCOTTISH LEAGUE I 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 Address: Indodrill Stadium, Clackmannan Road, Alloa, FK10 1RY Telephone: 01259722695 Fax: 01259210886 Email: fcadmin@alloathletic.co.uk Web: alloaathletic.co.uk

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Barry Ferguson(Manager) Paddy Connolly(Assistant) Bob Malcolm( Assistant) Stuart Phinn (Sports Therapist) Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor) Derek Nicholson (Head of Youth) Dean Robertson (Head of Scouting) Mike Zaleski (Head of Sports Science) Ground Staff John Robertson Kit Manager Pat Dunne Calum Wood Safety Officers Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar Wasp 2000 Manager Malcolm Gordon Club Shop June McLauchlan Programme Editor John Glencross Mobile: 07877530314 Email: jgxalloafc@aol.com Programme Contributors J. Markwell, A. Cockburn, B. Roach, K. Mooney, D. Pollock Club Photographer David Glencross AAFC Supporters Club Brian Roach - 0777576483

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cinch CINCH LEAGUE 1

	Ρ	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
QUEEN'S PARK	- 11	5	5	1	20	11	9	- 20
COVE RANGERS	- 11	6	2	3	21	14	7	20
	- 11	6	2	3	19	14	5	20
MONTROSE	- 11	5	4	2	22	11	11	- 19
FALKIRK	- 11	4	3	4	13	14	-1	- 15
ALLOA ATHLETIC	- 11	4	2	5	18	19	-1	- 14
DUMBARTON	- 11	4	2	5	18	22	-4	- 14
PETERHEAD	- 11 -	4	1	6	19	17	2	- 13
CLYDE	11	3	2	6	13	25	-12	- 11
EAST FIFE	- 11	2	1	8	13	29	-16	7

### WEEKEND'S FIXTURES



ST JOHNSTONE

HIBERNIAN

RANGERS

# SCOTTISH CUP (SELECTED REPLAYS)

AYR UNITED

ELGIN CITY

DUNDEE UNITED

ROSS COUNTY

MOTHERWELL



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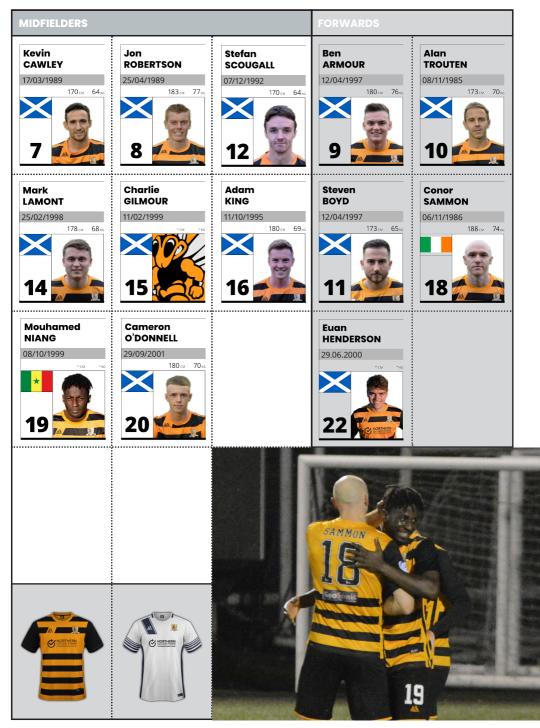
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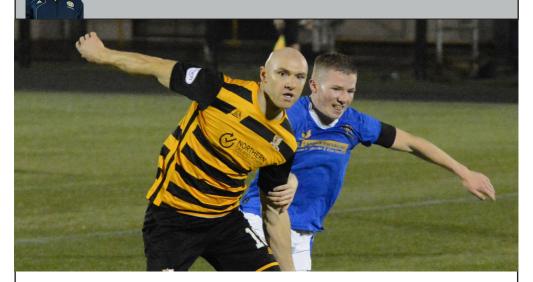








**JOHN GLENCROSS** 



# NEWSDESK

Welcome to today's match against Airdrieonians, who are visitors to the Indodrill Stadium for the first time in the league since March, 2018, the players, directors and management, who all have played for "The Wasps" in the past - Manager Ian Murray, Assistant Player/Manager Scott Agnew & First Team coach Bryan Prunty. "The Diamonds" are in great form winning their last three league matches, in-

cluding a roller coaster end to their game last Saturday, Dumbarton finished the game with eight men in a frantic finish which saw the Airdrie come out 3-2 winners. Ian Murrav's side thought they had won all the points when Dylan Easton scored to make it 2-1 in the 90th minute. However, with four additional minutes on the clock. Paul Paton drew Dumbarton level once more. The drama was not over though

as Salim Kouider-Aissa made it 3-2 and put the final nail in the Son's coffin for all three points. However we ourselves could also claim to have been in a frantic finish to our game at Firhill Stadium, Luca Connell putting the home side ahead in the 88th minute. However credit to the Alloa plavers who always looked confident in winning the game, Euan Henderson made it 3-3 in the 90th minute and two minutes later grabbed the winner, which was no more than the players deserved.

We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of the former Scotland national coach, one of the most successful managers in Scottish football history, with Dundee United, Rangers and Everton, Walter Smith. The thoughts of everyone at Alloa Athletic FC are with his friends and family at this time.

Congratulations to Kevin Cawley for being named in the SPFL Team of the week after being on the scoresheet at Firhill in Sunday's 4-3 victory over league leaders Queen's Park.

Scottish Football Programme & Memorabilia Fairs@Footballfairs. date for your diary -Forth Valley Programme and Memorabilia Fair. Sunday 31st October, 2021, Collessio Hotel, Stirling. 9.30am - 3pm, Admission Free. Vendors will be set up to ensure maximum room although it will be cash only for all transactions on the day, please support.

Wasps 2000 Club winners - Week 42 Drawn 23rd October, 2021 £ 100 0313 B.McLeod

£ 50 0452 I.Pat-



erson

£ 25 0797 R.Neil £ 25 0408 E.MacLeod

£ 25 0081 J.Fairley

#### Scottish Cup Full Third Round Draw - matches due to be

played weekend of 27th Nov, 2021

Alloa Athletic v Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic Arbroath v Forfar Athletic

Auchinleck Talbot v Hamilton Academical Ayr United v Brora Rangers or Albion Rovers Banks O'Dee v East Fife

Brechin City v Darvel

Civil Service Strollers v Peterhead

Clydebank or Elgin City v Clyde

Cove Rangers v Queen of the South

Dalbeattie Star or Rothes v East Kilbride

Dumbarton v Sauchie Juniors

Dunbar United or Lo-

thian Thistle Hutchison Vale v Edinburgh City

Falkirk v Raith Rovers

Gala Fairydean Rovers v Annan Athletic

Inverness Caledonian Thistle v Greenock Morton

Kelty Hearts v Montrose

Partick Thistle v. Dunfermline Athletic

Queen's Park v. Kilmarnock

Stenhousemuir v. Airdrie Stirling Albion v. Tranent Juniors





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# We would like to take this opportunity to wish Alloa Athletic Football Club every success this season





### 27th October 2021 Indodrill Stadium, Alloa 7:45pm KO

(2:2) SCORERS Niang 8' 1:0 1:1 Alegria 1:2 Alegria Trouten 2:2 2:3 Alegria	
<b>2.5</b> Alegria	
Contrained         Contrai	
STARTING XI STARTING XI	
31 HUTTON 1 BUDINAUCH	KAS
5 GRAHAM SUBS SUBS 2 DEVINE	
17 ARMSTRONG     21 BURT     21 CERVANTES     3 FRASER       17 ARMSTRONG     10 WILLIAMSON     10 FUTUL     10 FUTUL	
25     LEIGHTON     24     WILLIAMSON     12     EWEN     4     MCKINNON       3     CHURCH     9     ARMOUR     14     HARKNESS     5     MACKINNO	
14 LAMONT23 MENDY17 RITCHIE-HOSLER8 KELLY10 TROUTEN12 SCOUGALL18 LYALL9 ALEGRIA	
10 TROOTEN12 SCOOGALL18 LYALL9 ALEGRIA20 O'DONNELL19 WESTON10 LINDSAY	
20 O DONNELL   19 WESTON   10 LINDSAT     18 SAMMON   20 URE   11 MCCAUSLA	

23rd October 2021 Excelsior Stadium, Airdrie 3:00pm KO								
AIRDRI	EONIANS	3:2 DL	JMBARTON					
	McCabe 8' Easton 90 Kouider-Aissa 96'	1:1         25' Mc           2:1         2:2         94' Pat						
			STARTING XI					
	1							
16 WATSON	SUBS	SUBS	8 GEGGAN					
7 MCCABE	8 AGNEW		2 MCGEEVER					
	14 ALLAN	6 CARSW						
6 FORDYCE	18 CANTLEY							
	19 WALKER	9 ORSI	18 PATON					
10 EASTON 21 FRIZZELL	22 KOUIDER-AIS	SA 20 MUIR 21 O'NEIL	14 MCKEE 19 WILSON					
21 FRIZZELL 11 SMITH			25 SCHIAVONE					
9 GALLAGHER			11 MCLEAN					

### **REFEREE:** Scott Lambie

### **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 priotitise the saftey 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 inicdents 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 wof unsuitable individuals by adopting rigorous recruitment and veting 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** 



# **FIRST HALF RED CARD WOES**

Alloa have been reduced to ten men during the first half of matches on a total of twenty six separate occasions in the past quarter of a century, equating to an occurrence of a smidgen over once per season. As such, for the Wasps to have already suffered three first half dismissals this season is somewhat out of the ordinary. The first half red cards shown to Craig Howie versus Queen's Park in August,

then just six weeks later to Mouhamed Niang in the very first minute of Alloa's encounter with Cove, and then David Hutton's dismissal in the very next game versus Peterhead a fortnight ago, made the Wasps task doubly difficult on all three occasions. Considering the Wasps had actually gone over nine and a half years without losing a man during the first half prior to Howie's early bath, a run which spanned a total of 406

Alloa matches, for lightning to strike not twice, but three times in eight matches was certainly unusual.

Having a player sentoff during the first half undoubtedly changes the nature of the match for the side which suffers the red card. To endure a numerical disadvantage at any point is a major inconvenience, but it occurring with over half the match still to play alters the whole complexion of the encounter. The ten-man team generally seek to sit in, make the play as compact as possible and seek to maximise rare efforts going forward via set pieces. For the team with the numerical advantage, they can expect to have more possession and the expectation is for them to set the tempo and apply pressure on the ten-man team; some teams revel in that pressure, whilst

others huff and puff as the containing tactics of the opposition prove effective.

To the Wasps credit, on all three occasions this season they have evidently attempted to dig in, fully embracing the additional work-rate required when down a man and, in particular against Queen's Park and Cove, sticking diligently to their task against two of the promotion favourites. The commitment shown by Alloa's remaining ten players couldn't be auestioned either, with the point earned versus Queen's Park that extra bit satisfying because of the circumstances in which it was achieved. After Blair Yule's 76th minute own goal put Alloa level against Cove earlier this month, it looked like the Wasps would pick up another against-the-odds point. Alas, two late Cove goals settled the match, with my view being that Paul Hartley's side played much more imaginatively against ten men than a sluggish and wasteful Queen's Park did, with Cove moving the ball much quicker and utilising the full width of the pitch far more than Laurie Ellis' side did (probably helped by the wet weather conditions allowing the ball to zip off the surface) to find the gaps to punish the Wasps. The most recent example versus

Peterhead was a bit of a different context, with the loss of a goalkeeper resulting in the double whammy of an outfield substitution also being required. The Wasps looked a bit jaded in the second half, with the game having a bit of a feeling of 'Groundhog Dav' about it... the reaction of the players immediately after Hutton's red-card showed their extreme frustration of the early red-card curse happening again!

There was little surprise that the Wasps would struggle to get a result in any of these games considering the early dismissal, with this being the twelfth time in the last twenty five years when Alloa have been reduced to ten men during the first half and when level in the game at the time of the dismissal, only to go onto then lose. More often than not the pressure eventually tells and that was certainly the case versus Cove and Peterhead. In comparison, Alloa have surprisingly actually won three and drawn three when being reduced to ten men in the first half whilst being level in the game when the red-card occurred. Those rarest of occasions when the ten men of Alloa actually had a positive impact on the outcome of the game came in 2006. 2010 and 2011.

The 2006 occurrence was particularly againstthe-odds, as it came in the cup against higher division opposition Ross County. Former Staggies defender Stuart Malcolm's 15th minute dismissal for a professional foul on Derek Adams did not prevent the Wasps winning. Current Bradford City manager Adams saw his

resultant penalty saved by the larger than life character Allan Creer and that set the tone for a famous Wasps victory. Goals either side of half time from man-of-the-match lone striker Graeme Brown and half-time sub Fraser Forrest put the Wasps into a shock 2-goal lead. Kevin McKinlay halved the deficit with over half an hour still to play, but a 2-goal lead could have been restored minutes later only for Kieran McAnespie to blast a penalty into orbit! A late onslaught from County didn't result in a equaliser, with Allan Maitland's side using all the tricks of the trade to run the clock down to earn an unlikely win.

Fast forward four years and Allan Maitland was full of praise after another 10-man victory, this time in the league versus Stenhousemuir



at the Recs. Scott Walker was the central defender dismissed on this occasion. five minutes before the interval after two bookings for fouls which Maitland thought were harsh, but ultimately fair on the basis of the rules of the game. This adversity only spurred the Wasps on, with Bryan Prunty's second half strike being sufficient to beat a lacklustre Stenny side. who were fortunate not to lose by more against a determined Alloa side. That win left the Wasps outside the promotion play-offs only by virtue of goal difference after 13 games, but the spirit to win games then evaporated, as only three more wins were secured that season, leaving the Wasps relegated.

In March 2012 the Wasps won on the road at Montrose despite losing Ryan Harding to a red card after just 19 minutes. The Wasps Beckenbeuer styled centre-half hauled back a young Martin Boyle (who is still pacy!) to earn himself an early bath, but with the Wasps on a run of five successive victories and eleven points clear at the top of the table, this setback was not terminal for Paul Hartley's confident side. The Wasps played the percentages and had a great out ball in the form of teenage sensation Stevie May,

who won a controversial penalty for the Wasps with ten minutes to play. Ryan McCord converted the spot-kick, which saw Mo defender Alan Campbell red-carded too. McCord settled the game three minutes later after Darren Young's shot had rebounded from both posts, to put Alloa within touching distance of the Third Division Championship. Not even the early dismissal of Harding could stop the Alloa juggernaut towards the title!

So the moral of those three examples is that The Wasps can triumph despite a first-half numerical disadvantage – if it ever happens again this season keep the faith and carry on is my unscientific advice!

This advice may be a little naïve on my part, but a solution could be to get ahead in the game before having a man sent-off in the first-half. Based on my roll call of first-half red-carded Wasps, when Alloa have been ahead when reduced to ten men it has only resulted in one loss from four matches. Back in 1997 David Pew was harshly sent-off for fighting with County's future Wasp 'Wee' Gerry Farrell. The Wasps were 1-0 up at that point thanks to Willie Irvine, but that man Derek Adams equalised in the second half to earn County a point. 18 months later Alloa were 1-0 ahead versus East

Fife when Steve 'Spider' Ramsay saw red for a foul; the Wasps didn't read the script that afternoon though as an inspirational Irvine (two goals and two assists) and Martin Cameron masterclass (two goals) saw Alloa emphatically win 5-1. Fast forward to the Third Division Championship winning 2011/12 season, a key victory was earned away at Clyde despite playing for over an hour with only ten men. After Graeme Holmes' early opener, it was all looking rosy for Paul Hartley's side. However, two quick-fire yellows for Fraser Forrest, both for handball on a greasy midweek Broadwood pitch handed (literally) the initiative to Clyde. The Wasps ground it out though, with Michael Dovle in central defence and Kevin Cawlev playing as a striker when attacking and a left midfielder when defending! The only occasion when a winning position turned to defeat after a first-half red was after Michael Bolochoweckvi's needless dismissal at Avr in March 2007. Makeshift striker Bolo had already scored, but with the Wasps 2-1 up went from hero to zero after retaliating with a swinging arm towards home midfielder David Dunn. Things unravelled from that point on, with the Wasps eventually losing 4-3 and manager Allan Maitland blaming

his stand-in keeper Scott Findlay for three of the goals conceded!

Returning to the present time. of the three early dismissals this season, Mouhamed Niang's probably got the most wider publicity owing to the red-card being flashed after 25 seconds of the match. It goes down in the history books as one of the earliest red-cards every brandished, and certainly is within the last 25 years from an Alloa perspective. Sena broke the unwanted record previously held by Stuart Malcolm, who saw red after four minutes of an instantly forgettable 5-0 debut defeat at Stirling in 2006 – the captain hauled back future Wasp Nathan Taggart and Alloa were 4-0 down within 35 minutes, so eventually did well to keep it to five. Other early reds are more a speciality of Alloa substitutes, with midfielder Grant Iohnston being dismissed just four minutes after coming on versus Clyde in March 2001 for a rash challenge on Brian Crawford, Finally, in 2009 debutant Callum Anderson replaced 17-year-old Greig Spence in the 100th minute of a League Cup tie at Airdrie, only to be dismissed ten minutes later for raising his feet in a challenge – youngster Anderson never played for the Wasps again.



**DONALD POLLOCK** 

the second s	-		1.00	-	Goa	18.	Star 1
The I have been a for the	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.F	IS.
Alloa Athletic,	11	7	1		20		
Armadale,	12	7	2	3	16	9	17
Cowdenbeath,		7	2	2	23	9	16
East Fife,	11	7	3	I	24	14	15
Vale of Leven,	11	76	2	- 3	18		15
Broxburn United,	11	5	3	3	15	13	13
Bathgate,	12	4	3	5	16	12	13
Arbroath,		4	2		12		
Bo'ness,		4	4	3	17	13	11
E. Stirlingshire,	îî.	4	4	3	13	16	îi
Dundee Hibs,	10	4	5	3	21		10
St Bernards,		4	5	ž	16		10
King's Park,	11	3	4		12		10
Tring & Lain,	11	0			TE		10

# ALLOA TAKE THE LEAD FOR PROMOTION

November was yet to arrive yet already the press were talking of a blockbuster weekend at the top of the Second Division. The main focus back in late October 1921 was the clash in West Lothian between Armadale and Cowdenbeath. two of the three sides who were locked together on 14 points at the top of the table. It was perhaps of particular importance to Armadale who had lost two in a row after going unbeaten in their first eight games. But Cowden too were

desperate for a win and for the first time that season would run a special train for their fans, something which they had resisted previously due to a challenging period in the mining industry. Alloa's match at Lochgelly looked easier on paper with the Fifers in the bottom half of the league, but a closer look showed that all of their defeats had come on the road. With Alloa's form having dipped slightly - the Daily Record reporting even after their win over Broxburn that the

Wasps were "nothing like the team that opened the season" and concerns lingering over the fitness of star striker Willie Crillev (Alloa themselves protesting against perceived rough handling of their diminutive centre), a hard test was expected in Fife. "The results of the Armadale v. Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly v. Alloa matches will have a telling impact on the Second Division Championship", reported the Dundee Courier, who predicted a draw at Volunteer

Park and a home win at Lochgelly.

The second prediction looked good at half-time in Lochgelly as the home side turned around a goal ahead. A disjoined Alloa struggled to move through the gears and it was noted that Lochgelly were perhaps unfortunate not to add to Kirkby's goal. The second-half was a different story. Whittle levelled for the Wasps before Crilley rattled home his 15th goal of the season. Dunn completed the scoring with Gaffney and

Caldwell also coming in for praise as Alloa eased home 3-1. With news filtering through of a 2-1 win for Armadale against Cowdenbeath the Wasps were back on top. "ALLOA TAKE THE LEAD FOR PROMO-TION" proclaimed the Sunday Post.

Those credentials would now be sternly tested as the Wasps prepared for back to back games against their nearest challengers. First up was Armadale at the Recs. "For the second Saturday in succession we have a game of first rate importance, the contestants on this occasion being Alloa and Armadale", noted the Evening News, adding that "There will be some little diversity in style, Armadale playing

rather less football and affecting the rush habit more than Alloa".

The Wasps had already welcomed Armadale to the Recs just two months earlier in the Penman Cup when a Crilley penalty had seen Alloa progress in front of 3000 fans. The subsequent league form of both sides had clearly caught the attention of the public and a bumper crowd of 6000 was inside Recreation Park for the return of the West Lothian men, hundreds of them having travelled on a special train from Armadale. Alloa started brightly in front of their partisan support and with seventeen minutes on the clock Crilley headed home a lock Stirling cross to put the Wasps ahead. Armadale were a strong side

however, and just five minutes later Chalmers levelled things up. That was the way it stayed until the closing stages. With just under fifteen minutes remaining the visitors grabbed the initiative following the controversial award of a penalty "for a suspicious movement by the Alloa keeper". McInally stepped up to drive the ball bevond Caldwell and Alloa were in danger of losing at home for the first time. The home crowd were still none too happy at the award of the spot kick but it was reported that they were "more or less pacified and the game was allowed to proceed without any interference from those outside the ropes". Alloa went back on the attack and once more it was Crillev to the rescue, the wee

man taking advantage of fine work by Wood to level the game up late on and save a point for the Wasps. It was 17 for the season now for the midget centre and 13 of them in the league.

If Alloa had looked to their neighbours Clackmannan for a favour against Cowdenbeath they were in for a disappointment as the struggling County Lads were thumped 4-0 at Central Park. That left Alloa and Armadale tied at the top on 17 points with Cowden a point behind and Vale of Leven and East

Fife now just a further point back. It didn't get any easier for the Wasps either with their next two games against Cowden and East Fife. More in the next edition of The Wasp



# **APPEARANCES**

		LEA	GUE	CI	JP	то	TAL	ALLOA CAREER LGE		
	POS	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	
HUTTON	GOAL	10 (0)	- 0	3 (0)	0	- 13 (0)	- 0 -	10 (0)	0	
BURT	GOAL	0 (1)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (1)	- 0 -	0 (1)	0	
ARMSTRONG	DEF	· 1 (0)	- 0	2 (2)	0	3 (2)	- 0 -	5 (4)	0 -	
MENDY	DEF	10 (1)	- 0	1 (0)	- 0	- 11 (1)	- 0 -	10 (1)	0 -	
WILLIAMSON	DEF	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (0)	0 -	
LEIGHTON	DEF	0 (0)	- 0	1 (0)	0	- 1 (0)	- 0 -	125 (23)	2	
ARMSTRONG	DEF	1 (0)	- 0	2 (2)	0	3 (2)	- 0 -	5 (4)	0 -	
DURNAN	DEF	10 (0)	- 0	1 (0)	0	- 11 (0)	- 0 -	10 (0)	0	
CHURCH	DEF	6 (2)	- 0	6 (0)	0	12 (2)	- 0 -	6 (2)	0	
HOWIE	DEF	5 (1)	- 1	4 (2)	- 0	9 (3)	- 1 -	5 (1)	1 -	
GRAHAM	DEF	4 (1)	- 0	5 (0)	0	9 (1)	- 0 -	157 (1)	12	
TAGGART	DEF	10 (0)	- 0	4 (1)	1	- 14 (1)	- 1 -	174 (0)	- 6	
WILLIAMSON	DEF	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (0)	- 0 -	
ROBERTSON	MID	6 (3)	- 0	5 (0)	0	- 11 (3)	- 0 -	131 (26)	2	
SCOUGALL	MID	9 (0)	- 1	5 (1)	- 1	- 14 (1)	2	17 (8)	2	
LAMONT	MID	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (0)	0	
KING	MID	9 (0)	- 1	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (0)	0	
O'DONNELL	MID	0 (6)	- 0	4 (0)	- 0	4 (6)	- 0 -	5 (10)	0	
NIANG*	MID	7 (0)	- 1	2 (0)	- 1	9 (0)	2	7 (0)	1	
GILMOUR	MID	3 (0)	- 1	0 (0)	- 0	3 (0)	- 1 -	3 (0)	1	
MCCOLL	MID	0 (0)	- 0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	- 0 -	0 (0)	0	
CAWLEY	FWD	5 (3)	- 1	2 (0)	- 0	7 (3)	- 1 -	278 (40)	57	
ARMOUR	FWD	0 (1)	- 0	1 (4)	0	1 (5)	- 0 -	0 (1)	- 0 -	
TROUTEN	FWD	2 (1)	- 0	2 (1)	2	4 (2)	2	71 (7)	- 24	
BOYD	FWD	· 11 (0)	- 5	5 (0)	1	16 (0)	- 6 -	11 (0)	- 5	
SAMMON	FWD	7 (4)	- 3	4 (1)	0	11 (5)	- 3 -	7 (4)	- 3	
EVANS**	FWD	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (1)	0	
HENDERSON	FWD	5 (1)	- 3	0 (0)	0	<b>5</b> (1)	- 3 -	5 (1)	- 3	
WEBSTER	FWD	0 (1)	- 0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	- 0 -	0 (1)	- 0 -	

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# **A FAN'S VIEW**

Sometimes you have to endure a bit of hardship to reap the rewards and it certainly feels like that following Alloa at times. The **Queens Park October** away fixture looked like one to relish at the start of the season. With the Spiders ground sharing with Partick Thistle at Firhill, the bright lights of Glasgow's West End held lots of potential to make a day of it. However, the fixture was then moved to Sunday. which meant major transport issues with all trains currently cancelled. But the scramble to book megabuses and the like were all worthwhile in the end. Lalso think back to the 4-4 draw with Morton a

couple of seasons ago at Cappielow, where traffic chaos meant huge delays and a crazy round trip through the countryside just to make the match. But we were rewarded with a hugely entertaining game and a thrilling outcome. Last week's game might have even topped it. Yes. Sunday football is far from ideal, but the 2 teams produced an incredible match, particularly in the 2nd half.

This was a match which had everything. Early goals, late goals, controversies. You name it- and it's highly likely it happened last weekend at Firhill. Following the setback

the previous week against Peterhead, the manager threw Jon Robertson in at left back replacing Daniel Church, and Euan Henderson dropped to the bench to make way for Connor Sammon. Craig Howie also started in a deep lving midfield role replacing Adam King. New loan goalkeeper Kieran Wright also came in for the suspended David Hutton.

Alloa got off to the perfect start, when Kevin Cawley drifted off the Queens Park central defensive pairing with a deft touch and drove home after only 35 seconds. This was a goal I didn't see live, because purchasing a ticket to get into the ground involved some crazy work on a laptop and considerable delays. With just over 10 minutes gone, the first 2 controversial incidents occurred in rapid succession. A high Scot Taggart cross was clumsily cleared by the OP defence, and the ball rebounded from foot to arm for an Alloa penalty claim. In all honesty it would have probably been a bit harsh, but certainly fell into the "seen them given" category. Oueens then broke up the pitch and Charlie Gilmour received a booking for scything down Liam Brown on the right flank. Following the recent cascade of early red cards for Alloa, this was a real heart

in mouth moment. Again, the decision was probably correct, but only just. Brown continued to play but was eventually subbed at the break. Alloa were playing some decent stuff at times, with Cawley in particular drifting back and taking responsibility to dictate play. Scot Taggart was also drifting into space down the right flank regularly, looking extremely dangerous at times. But they did go into their shell a bit as the league leaders looked to get back into the game. It wasn't a huge surprise when Bob McHugh equalised before the break as the teams were level at the halfway point. The first half was a decent encounter, with the scoreline probably a fair reflection of the play to that point. But the best was still to come- you couldn't take your eyes off the match in the 2nd half for fear of missing something. The hosts quickly got their noses in front, when Tommy Robson carved the Alloa defence open with a brilliant pass to McHugh who slotted home his second of the game. But almost immediately Alloa equalised. Craig Howies backward header from a corner bringing the Wasps level. It was a terrific goal, Howies first for the club. Queens Park then had a strong penalty shout when McHugh's shot appeared to strike Dur-

nan's arm in the area. From the stand it looked a stick on award, and was certainly a let off for Alloa. Kieren Wright then made an excellent save from Charlie Fox, where the ball looked to have trickled beyond him- but he somehow managed to snatch the ball with his left hand to prevent a goal. The match ebbed and flowed, with both attacks looking really dangerous. Alloa substitute Alan Trouten missed a glorious opportunity when he lifted over the bar from 10 yards in front of goal. As the game drew to a close, there was an old fashioned stramash in the Alloa area, as Jon Robertson twice made goal saving clearances on the line before Simon Murray scrambled wide when it looked easier to score. There was another bizarre refereeing decision as Alloa's sub Euan Henderson was clean through on goal. He looked to be fouled by Fox as he steadied himself to pull the trigger just outside the area. It appeared to be a certain foul and a red card. but the referee waved play on. Another QP substitute Luca Connell then rattled the upright with a stunning free kick. At this stage, a share of the spoils looked a likely outcome, and one personally I'd have been satisfied with. But with 2 minutes to go Alloa were dealt a hammer blow when Longridge was through on the



right. He turned past Wright and managed to cut the ball back, where Connell finally converted as a gueue of Queens players waited in line to score. I hadn't noticed the 2nd half started late, and assumed the goal had occurred in stoppage time. I readied myself for an exit, absolutely gutted to lose so late on- and only stuck around at the exit after the announcer stated the goal time was 88 minutes. Thank goodness I did. Alloa got the equaliser seconds later. Sloppy Queens defending admittedly, but Henderson found space in the area to turn and shoot. Honours even once more. But deep into stoppage time Gilmour played a iaw dropping pass for the pacey Henderon to latch onto. He made no mistake with the finish. 2 injury time goals and crazy scenes in the away end as Alloa snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. This was also the Spiders first reverse of the season. A draw would have probably been fair, but it was a huge 3 points for Alloa in one of the most entertaining games we will

witness all season.

Alloa were a bit frantic at the back at times, and it was a baptism of fire for young Wright coming into the team in goals. But going forward everyone played their part and they looked really strong. Charlie Gilmour is really beginning to settle now and make his mark on the team. His pass for the winner was sublime and he really looks classy. Boyd was very busy and Cawlev was the real leader for Alloa on the pitch. After some poor results at home, this performance certainly had encouraging elements to take forward into today's match. And they'll need it. Airdrie have won 5 of their last 6 games including a 2-1 win over Alloa last month. I'd say out of all the teams Alloa have faced this season, they impressed me the most with their shape and setup in that match. Giving the league leaders their first defeat should give the players a real lift, so hopefully some momentum can be built as we look to challenge at the top of the table. Enjoy today's game.

# LOOKING BACK 29TH OCTOBER 1988

In The Premier Division, leaders Rangers maintained their three-point advantage, despite being held 1-1 at mid-table St. Mirren, while Hibs' 3-0 win at struggling Hamilton Accies moved them into second spot. The HiBees displaced Aberdeen, who slipped to third, after they were held 1-1 at lowly Hearts, while Dundee United who also drew 1-1 with one of the strugglers, Motherwell, at Tannadice, in turn dropped from third to fourth, Hamilton Accies defeat was their sixth in a row in the league,

and it kept them rooted to the bottom of the table, their Lanarkshire rivals Motherwell were still just one place better off, while Hearts still occupied third-bottom position.

In The First Division, the day's top clash was undoubtedly at Cappielow, where leaders Morton hosted third-placed Dunfermline in front of a crowd of 4,500, and a 1-0 win for The Ton saw them remain two points clear. Falkirk stayed second after a 3-1 home win v struggling Raith, St. Johnstone were now third after they too were successful on home soil, by 2-0 v lowly Kilmarnock. Airdrie, despite being held 1-1 at Forfar. remained in fourth place, K. MacDonald The Diamonds scorer, while Clydebank's 3-0 success at luckless Oueen Of The South moved them up to fifth place. This was The Doonhamers sixth league game without success, and as a result they still propped up the table, Partick, despite collecting a point from a 1-1 home draw with Meadowbank remained second from bottom.

while Raith's defeat kept them in third-bottom position.

Stirling Albion now topped The Second Division, after a 3-1 home win v East Fife, while the previous leaders Arbroath dropped to second, after they were held 1-1 at Cowdenbeath. Stranraer. 2-1 home winners v Stenhousemuir. were now third. Albion Rovers. who were also victorious by 2-1 on home soil, v Montrose, moved up to fourth, while Brechin, who defeated bottom club Berwick by 2-0 at





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Glebe Park, jumped up from eighth to fifth. Alloa meantime, had endured a slightly inconsistent time of things in the league to date, but they chalked up their first away league win of the campaign, by 2-0 at Oueen's Park, thanks to goals from Charlie Lytwyn & Gus Smith, though in spite of this success, The Wasps remained in eleventh place. And their line-up at Hampden had been as follows: Lowrie, Haggart, R. Lee, Millen, McCulloch, Ramsay (Rodgers), Smith (Lamont), Gibson, Lytwyn, I. Lee, Henderson,

South of the border,

First Division leaders Norwich moved six points clear, despite being held 1-1 at home by Southampton. Arsenal were now second thanks to a 2-0 home win v Coventry, The Gunners displaced London rivals Millwall, who slipped to third after a 2-4 defeat at Middlesbrough, while Spurs, 1-2 losers at Aston Villa. remained in last place. Watford moved five points clear at the top of The Second Division, after a 1-0 win at Walsall. while Blackburn remained second, in spite of a 1-2 home defeat by WBA, who moved up to third.

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# **AIRDRIEONIANS**

The Diamonds

**FOUNDED** 2002

**GROUND** Excelsior Stadium, Airdrie

**TOP HONOURS** Scottish League One\*

Winners: 2003-4

Runners-up: 2007-8

Scottish Challenge Cup Winners: 2008-9

Runners Up: 2003-4

This afternoon Alloa return to Cinch League 1 action with a tie against Airdrie. The visitors come to the Indodrill in fine form having won their last three games against Dumbarton, Falkirk and Clyde. Those nine points have seen the Diamonds rise up the table and they currently sit six points ahead of the Wasps in third position, equal on points with the two in front of them, Oueen's Park and Clyde. Last weekend they grabbed the three points at the Excelsior in similar chaotic fashion to Alloa, Dumbarton finished the game with eight men in a frantic

finish which saw the home side come out 3-2 winners. Ian Murray's side thought they had stolen all the points when Dylan Easton scored to make it 2-1 in the 90th minute. However, with four additional minutes on the clock. Paul Paton drew the sides level once more. The drama was not over though as Salim Kouider-Aissa made it 3-2 and put the final nail in the Son's coffin for all three points. With the signings made in the summer and the strong start, there is a clear desire and expectation to challenge at the top end of the division and earn Championship status.

### THE BOSS -IAN MURRAY

Airdrie will be managed once more by lan Murray. Beginning his career at Dundee United, Murray went onto play for clubs, such as Hibernian, Rangers and Norwich. At the start of the decade in Season 2000-01, he spent a very short time out on loan at Alloa Athletic, making two league appearances against Inverness CT & Livingston. It was in 2012 where he decided to hang up the boots and focus on management when he took charge of Dumbarton. With former Alloa boss, Jack Ross, by his side, he led the Sons to continual Championship safety over his three year spell. Impressive results at the Rock saw him earn a move to full-time management when Murray was appointed St Mirren boss in 2015. However, despite the two-year deal signed, he resigned in December following a defeat to his former side. Murray decided to take some time away from full management, spending time as an assistant manager with Norwegian club Asker,





before returning to the hot seat in 2018. It has a successful stint at Airdrie as he has surpassed his total games managed with the Diamonds and holds his highest win percentage across any of his three jobs.

### THE CAPTAIN -CALLUM FORYDCE

The Diamonds will be led out by commanding centre half, Callum Fordyce. He joined the Livingston youth system in 2009 before making his senior debut just two years later. Fordyce would go on to spend four years with the Lions making over one hundred appearances and guiding them to a Challenge Cup victory, of which Alloa were the victims of in the final. Spells at Dunfermline and Queen of the South followed.

which were successful too. He knows what it takes to get out of this division having won it in 2016 with Dunfermline. In 2019, he made the switch from Dumfries to Airdrie and has become a fan favourite since. No nonsense defending and leadership from the back has made him one of the most reliable defenders in the division. It has become a family affair at the Excelsior now after his cousin, Rhys McCabe, made the move to join him at Airdrie.

### NEW BOY - RHYS MCCABE

As mentioned before, Rhys McCabe is impressing in his first season with his new club. The 29-year old has a whole host of clubs on his playing CV, including Rangers, Sheffield Wednesday, Dunfermline and Sligo Rovers to name a few. He, like his cousin, was also part of the Dunfermline squad to win this division five years ago. McCabe plied his trade at Palmerston last season with Queen of the South before making Airdrie his ninth senior club in the summer. It has been a stellar start for the versatile midfielder since joining, having scored five goals in twelve appearances.

What makes this even more impressive is the fact that he has played half of those games in the new position of centre back.

### ONE TO WATCH-DYLAN EASTON

One of Airdrie's dangermen will need no introduction to Alloa boss Barry Ferguson. Easton was part of Ferguson's promotion winning Kelty Hearts side and played an integral role in his success there. Having spent large parts of his career with clubs like Clyde and Forfar, when his availability was made known in the summer, there were plenty of suitors attempting to secure his signature. It was Airdrie who were successful and the last few weeks have proven that it was a wise choice. Since moving into the middle of the park, Easton has been

**CONTINUED ON P32** 





### **BY KIEREN MOONEY**

pivotal in their three game winning run. The first win of the streak was a 2-1 victory over his former side Clyde, where Easton bagged both the assists. The following two games, he has scored in each of them and also added another assist against Falkirk

### THE CONNECTION

There are a few familiar faces returning to the Indodrill today to face their former time. The man who spent the longest with Alloa was Scott Agnew who spent a year with the club in 2007 making thirty appearances. The other two spent short loan spells at the club. Firstly, Calum Gallagher, who is the current vice-captain of Airdrie, had a spell at Alloa back in 2012. Callum Smith's spell was a lot more recent, being part of the lim Goodwin promotion winning side in 2018. One of the most memorable names for the Airdrie supporters is Alloa goalkeeper, David Hutton. Signing back in 2018. Hutton went onto make over fifty appearances for the club in his three years there.

### **PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The sides have already met once this season with Airdrie coming out on top on a cold and wet Wednesday night. The home side took the lead early with a strike from former Wasp, Calum

Gallagher. The second half Airdrie doubled their lead through Adam Frizzell with a fantastic strike from outside the area. Conor Sammon came off the bench to give Alloa a lifeline with a verv tidv finish from inside the 'D', however, it was too little too late as Airdrie came out on top 2-1. The last time the sides met here at the

Indodrill stadium was back in 2017 in the playoff semi finals. With Alloa losing the first leg 1-0 they had it all to do in the return fixture. A beautiful strike from Jon Robertson gave the Wasps a 1-0 win on the day and a penalty shoot-out place. It was heroics from Neil Parry and co. that saw Alloa triumphant on that day.



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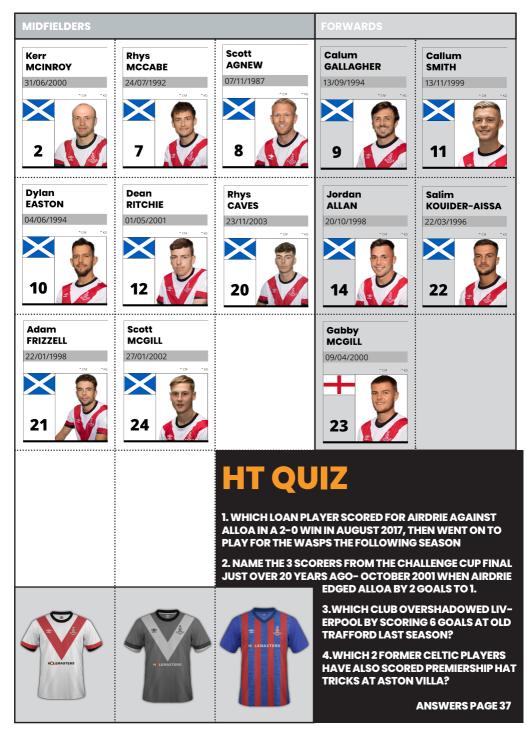
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45		45		



### QUIZ ANSWERS

**1. JAKE HASTIE** 

2. OWEN COYLE, MARK ROBERTS, GARETH EVANS

3. TOTTENHAM (6-1 WIN)

4. TOMMY JOHNSON AND DION DUBLIN





ALLOA ATHLETIC





# AIRDRIEONIANS

ALLOA ATHLETIC

EAST FIFE

SCOTLAN

*	POS 🛞 🗍	# PO5	s 🛞 🗌 🖡
21	KEIR BURT	1	MAX CURRIE
31	DAVID HUTTON	2	KERR MCINROY
2	SCOTT TAGGART	3	RICO QUITONGO
🗙 з	DANIEL CHURCH	4	JOSH KERR
<b>X</b> 4	CRAIG HOWIE	5	LUKE LYONS
5	ANDY GRAHAM	6	CALLUM FORDYCE
6	MARK DURNAN	7	RHYS MCCABE
7	KEVIN CAWLEY	8	SCOTT AGNEW
8	JON ROBERTSON	9	CALUM GALLAGHER
9	BEN ARMOUR	10	DYLAN EASTON
10	ALAN TROUTEN	11	CALLUM SMITH
<b>X</b> 11	STEVEN BOYD	12	DEAN RITCHIE
<b>X</b> 12	STEFAN SCOUGALL	14	JORDAN ALLAN
14	MARK LAMONT	15	MATTHEW MCDONALD
<b>X</b> 15	CHARLIE GILMOUR	16	CRAIG WATSON
<b>X</b> 16	ADAM KING	18	JAY CANTLEY
17	JORDAN ARMSTRONG	19	SCOTT WALKER
18	CONOR SAMMON	20	RHYS CAVES
19	MOUHAMMED NIANG	21	ADAM FRIZZELL
20	CAMERON O'DONNELL	22	SALIM KOUIDER-AISSA
22	EUAN HENDERSON		GABBY MCGILL
23	FERNANDY MENDY	24	SCOTT MCGILL
24	LUCAS WILLIAMSON		GER IAN MURRAY
25	TOM LEIGHTON		IAN MORRAT
	E: Barry Cook	ASST: Ge	orge King & lan Hart
L		1	
			20.11.21, HOME, 15:00
	ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE		
	06.11.21, AWAY, 15:00		27.11.21, HOME, 15:00
<b>;</b> ;	FALKIRK - ALLOA ATHLETIC		DA ATHLETIC - BONNYRIGG ROSE
	13.11.21, HOME, 15:00		4.12.21, AWAY, 15:00
	1875	EASTPU	

MONTROSE

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