# 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

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cinch CINCH LEAGUE 1

		Р	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
	COVE RANGERS	16	9	4	3	31	17	- 14	- 31
MONTROS	MONTROSE	16	7	7	2	27	- 14	13	28
	QUEEN'S PARK	16	6	8	2	31	17	14	26
AF	AIRDRIEONIANS	16	8	2	6	25	21	4	26
	FALKIRK	16	6	4	6	20	23	-3	22
	ALLOA ATHLETIC	16	5	5	6	25	26	-1	20
	PETERHEAD	16	5	3	8	24	26	-2	- 18
	DUMBARTON	16	5	3	8	22	31	-9	- 18
	CLYDE	16	4	5	7	20	32	-12	17
SCOTLAN	EAST FIFE	16	3	3	10	18	36	-18	12

### WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

LEAGUE 1





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We would like to wish the team every success for the coming season!



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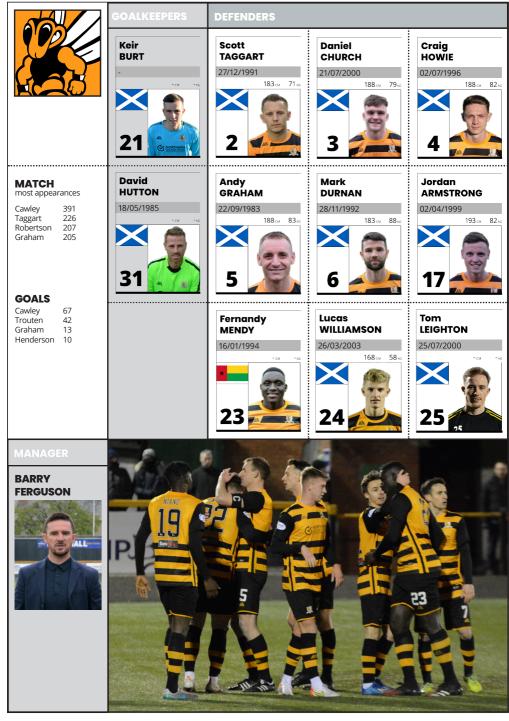
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**BARRY FERGUSON** 



# AFTER DRAW AT EAST FIFE

We're in control of the game until, again, a sending off. We dominated the game in terms of possession. We just never had enough attempts on goal but when we get the goal and go ahead, I don't know what he's [Howie] thinking.

He gets booked, I don't know how many times I need to tell them and then obviously he makes a rash challenge and the refs got no other decision to give him a second yellow and send him off.

We were in control, we dominated the ball, there's no doubt about it, there was only one team that was in control of the game. I keep saying, that's the fifth game this season where we've went down to 10 men and we've dropped either three points or two points.

I"ve spoke to them a number of times about it so that's the disappointing thing for me. When you're in control of a game, you're 1-0 up, any stage it's going to be two because we're dominating it and then Howie makes a rash decision.

I can only say so much, it's up to them when they step across the line. Nowadays in modern day football if you get booked you can't tackle. It's as simple as that, you can't even look at an opposition player now and you get booked.

They've been told enough times, more than enough times, so he should know better and he was told that after the game, as you can imagine.

That's the reason why I was desperate to get [Henderson]. We've got him until the middle of January, hopefully I can keep him until the end of the season. He was actually quiet but he took his goal well, that's what he was brought here to do. He's in fine form just now.

We better keep 11 players on the park. We need to. You see the difference when we keep 11 players on the park: we beat teams. That's the disappointing thing.

East Fife are going to get a lift from

[the red card], no doubt about it. And then they put us under pressure and we've just got to try and see the game out.

You might look back and say it's a good point but it's definitely two points dropped.



**JOHN GLENCROSS** 



### Merry Christmas!



From the players & staff at Alloa Athletic F.C

# NEWSDESK

To-day we welcome Clvde FC to the Indodrill Stadium, welcoming Danny Lennon, the players, officials and directors of Clvde FC. It has been a while since the clubs have played in a League fixture at The Indodrill Stadium. the last time being on 25th February, 2012 when "The Wasps" won 1-0 thanks to a Darren Young goal. However "The Bully Wee" did score a late winner at Broadwood Stadium,

Cumbernauld earlier this season to win 2-1 thanks to a David Goodwillie double. David joined Clyde in March, 2017 and has continued the form which has seen him capped by Scotland at International level, now aged 32 he again is their top goalscorer with 16 goals already this season.

It would be fair to say going into our last home match in the Scottish Cup against Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic few would have predicted a 5-0 victory for "The Wasps" due to the Rose rich vein of form. however on the day getting the two early goals settled the team and it was good to see Euan Henderson score the club's first hat-trick since Liam Buchanan v. Stenhousemuir 14th Nov, 2020 and the first in the Scottish Cup since Kevin McDonald did so against Raith Rovers in 4-2 victory on 20th Nov,

### 2010.

Today we return to League business in cinch League One, where we will look to bounce back after losing at home to Dumbarton 2-1 and drawing last Saturday against East Fife at Bavview 1-1. In both these matches we have made things more difficult for the team by having players sent off and now have had five players dismissed already this season

which statistic not to be proud of, Fernandy Mendy and Craig Howie the most recent players to suffer this fate.

Euan Henderson was included in the SPFL Team of the week for 27th November, when Craig Fowler from the Terrace, selected himas the star man after his hat-trick in the Scottish Cup v. Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic.

Birthday wishes go to Stefan Scougall who celebrated his 29th birthday on Tuesday 7th December, 2021. Stefan was on target for "The Wasps" earlier in the season against Clyde, lets hope he can find the net again today. Alloa Athletic's reward for reaching the Scottish Cup 4th Round is a home tie against Celtic in the New Year, a side we have not faced in the Scottish Cup since 4th September, 1996. This tie will be eagerly awaited but for now we need to concentrate on gaining more valuable league points.

HIBERNIAN

**KELTY HEARTS** 

Wasps 2000 Draw -Week 48 4th December, 2021

- £ 100 0506 K.Aitken
- £ 50 0938 S.Scougall
- £ 25 0234 S.Menzies
- £ 25 1460 D.Glencross
- £ 25 0171 R. McGrouther

COVE RANGERS





# FOURTH ROUND DRAW

ABERDEEN	V	1	EDINBURGH CITY
	v		CELTIC
ALLOA ATHLETIC	V	-	GELIIG
ARBROATH	V	1	BRECHIN CITY OR DARVEL
AUCHINLECK TALBOT	V		HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN
	-		
AYR UNITED	V		ST MIRREN
BANKS O'DEE	V		RAITH ROVERS
CLYDEBANK	V		ANNAN ATHLETIC
DUMPARTON			BUNDEE
DUMBARTON	V		DUNDEE

FOURTH ROUND DRAW

ORIGINAL MOMENTS. UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES.

5.00			Contraction of the Later Day of the South States
	KILMARNOCK	V	DUNDEE UNITED
	LIVINGSTON	V	ROSS COUNTY
	MOTHERWELL	V	GREENOCK MORTON
	PARTICK THISTLE	v	AIRDRIEONIANS
	PETERHEAD	v	EAST KILBRIDE
-	RANGERS	v	STIRLING ALBION

ORIGINAL MOMENTS. UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES.



WILL



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



	cỉnch	LEAGUE 1	
	Bayview St	ember 2021 adium, Methil 0pm KO	
	EAST FIFE	1:1 ALLOA A	THLETIC
SCOTLAND JOINT	sc	0:0) ORERS 0:1 53' Henderson 1:1	
STARTING XI			STARTING XI 31 HUTTON
3 HIGGINS	SUBS	SUBS	2 TAGGART
		21 BURT	4 HOWIE
7 DENHOLM	2 ANDERSON	3 CHURCH	5 GRAHAM
<mark>19</mark> HIGGINS	5 DUNLOP	11 BOYD	7 CAWLEY
11 MILLAR		17 ARMSTRONG	8 ROBERTSON
12 MERCER	16 SEMPLE	18 SAMMON	12 SCOUGALL
14 WATT	20 OSEI-BUNSU	20 O'DONNELL	15 GILMOUR
15 DAVIDSON		25 LEIGHTON	16 KING
18 NEWTON			19 NIANG
10 SMITH			22 HENDERSON

### **REFEREE:** Mike Roncone

	cinch	LEAGUET	
	Broadwood Stadi	mber 2021 ium, Cumbernauld om KO	
	CLYDE 2	2 PETERHE	AD
	Goodwillie 45' 1	:2) RERS :1 20' McLean :2 26' Savoury :2 :2	Peterheac
			Control of the second sec
STARTING XI			STARTING XI
1 PARRY			1 LONG
	SUBS	SUBS	
26 ELSDON	2 MORTIMER	10 CAMERON	5 BROWN
20 PAGE	6 BALATONI		17 WILSON
12 DOCHERTY	7 DEVENEY	15 STRACHAN	32 DUFFY
16 SPLAINE	21 BRADLEY-HURST	18 BROWN	7 RITCHIE 8 BROWN
4 GOMIS	22 TRIALIST	20 DUNCAN 27 WILSON	12 MCCARTHY
			MOGARIT
	25 KENNEDY		2 MULLIGAN
10 CUNNINGHAM 17 JONES	25 KENNEDY	<mark>99</mark> LYLE	2 MULLIGAN 9 MCLEAN

### **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 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



# PLAYERS RETURNING TO HAUNT THE WASPS

Every week in the cinch League One Alloa will potentially face a former player, with each of our rivals having at least one ex-Wasp in their playing squad. This afternoon is no exception, with Mark Docherty making another return to the Recs and Neil Parry making his maiden trip back to Clackmannanshire since swapping Alloa for Clyde in August. The connections aren't limited to playing squads

either, with Danny Lennon making his first return to the Indodrill Stadium since his spell as Alloa manager six years ago, and the Bully Wee's goalkeeping coach James Evans being another former Wasp.

The return of former players is nothing new and everybody will be conscious of the potential of those players coming back to haunt their old teams. It is a cast-iron guarantee that the extra motivation of returning to a former club transcends into the player scoring a goal or putting in a man-of-thematch performance. It has been happening since football began and will always be an extra ingredient which adds spice to any encounter. It goes without saying that Neil Parry will be looking forward to this afternoon, having given simply tremendous service to the club

since 2016. There's no doubt he'll be warmly welcomed by the Alloa support after all his heroics for the club over the years, and forming a strong bond with fans. I wouldn't put it past him to come back to haunt the Wasps this afternoon (although naturally I'd far prefer it if he didn't!) and he'd be in good company if he did. To preview such an eventuality, here are six other examples of former employees put-



ting one over the Wasps after leaving the club.

Martin Cameron -'The Butcher' as he was affectionately known earned himself a move to Bristol Rovers in 2000 after scoring 54 goals in 114 games for the Wasps. Two injury plagued years later after his £100.000 + move the striker was back up in Scotland, playing under the manager who had plucked him from the Edinburgh Sunday leagues to play for the Wasps – Tom Hendrie, then at St Mirren. Cameron's first game against his former team came on a mid-August afternoon at Love Street, with me witnessing the game as part of my then annual holiday to Scotland. In an incident-packed encounter the Wasps looked like getting a result, drawing level just before the break after the Saints were reduced to ten men after Ricky Gillies, who had earlier opened the scoring,

handled on the line. With Alloa on top during the second half, disaster then struck as Cameron inevitably got on the scoresheet in the last ten minutes, out-jumping Wasps keeper James Evans to head home a lofted cross. The Buddies added a third in injury time, but Cameron's intervention was decisive.

As a side note. although Clyde goalkeeping coach James Evans won't want to be reminded of that afternoon too often, his manager Terry Christie did give a balanced assessment when commenting afterwards "Or goalkeeper James Evans should have dealt more comfortably with Martin Cameron's goal in what was a one-on-one situation - he should have attacked the ball early. He's a smashing young guy and he'll come back from it. Keepers only get mentioned for their mistakes and nobody will remember the three fantastic saves he made during the match." Evans never really truly established himself at the Recs, but going by his profile on the Clyde website his youthful looks remain despite his 40th birthday fast approaching next month!

'The Butcher' continued to haunt the Wasps that season, most memorably on his first return to the Recs on 14th December 2002. With the Wasps 2-0 up Cameron handled a cross when challenging with Wasps defender Stevie Thomson in the 71st minute. but somehow referee Colin Hardie decided Thomson was the offender and Gillies dispatched the penalty. To add insult to injury Cameron then scored twice to earn the Buddies a 3-2 win and leave Terry Christie raging.

For example, Christie quipped that Specsavers were wasting their money sponsoring referees! Moreover, five months later when the Wasps were subsequently relegated on goal difference, the Duffel coat wearing headteacher pinpointed Cameron's handball as the reason for Alloa's relegation! A sheepish Cameron said after the game "I said to the ref at the time that I had handled the ball. but he just wasn't listening – it's not nice coming back to Alloa in these circumstances."

Gareth Hutchison – Hutchison scored 19 goals during his first season with Alloa in 2001/2, firing the Wasps to promotion back to the First Division. However, the goals and starting appearances dried up in his second season at the



club, resulting in the forward swapping Alloa for Berwick Rangers in the 2002/3 season. Hutch was a nemesis for Terry Christie's Wasps throughout that season, scoring in all four league meetings between the sides, including two braces as the Borderers won three of the four games between the sides that season. To put that into perspective. Hutchison become the first player to score in all four meetings against the Wasps since league re-construction in 1994 - he was certainly a player with a point to prove, presumably partly owing to Christie shifting him to the left-wing rather than a striker during his less productive second season at the Recs!

Mark Docherty -Sparky returns to the Recs for the first time in Clyde colours this afternoon, but already

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knows all about facing the Wasps after his two successful spells at Alloa, first with Dumbarton and then with Fast Fife. On his first return to Clackmannanshire with Dumbarton in December 2015 Sparky used the wind conditions to his advantage to curl in the opening goal of the game direct from a corner (David Hutton you have been warned!). It was a priceless strike for the Sons, as they jumped from 9th to 7th in the Championship table, whilst Alloa were

Ramsay

of the table with 5 points from 16 games. The defeat also meant Alloa's winless run stretched to 11 games, with that proving the final straw for manager Danny Lennon, who within days resigned as Alloa manager. When Danny signed Mark in the summer I'm sure Sparky would have reminded Lennon of the contribution he made in his departure from Alloa! Docherty also scored a winning goal for East Fife against the Wasps in January 2018. when he curled the ball away from Neil Parry in the Alloa goal with his unfavoured right-foot - everyone connected with the Wasps knew it wasn't our day when Mark scored with his right foot! Docherty's enthusiasm for the game is infectious and going by his record against the Wasps. I'd far prefer it if he was still in Alloa colours today!

rooted to the bottom

Liam Buchanan -Buchs has been an accomplished goalscorer throughout his long and illustrious career, although it seems to me that he is even more prolific immediately after his spells with Alloa than he was during them! After earning a return to full-time football with Livingston in 2015, having scored 17 goals to help Alloa avoid the drop, Buchanan inevitably scored two of Livingston's three goals without reply in his first game back at the Recs. The following season, after both clubs had been relegated to League One. Buchs scored in three of the four games against Alloa, missing a penalty in the other on the day Livi clinched the title. This season of course it was no surprise that Buchanan curled in the only goal of Barry Ferguson's first game in charge of the Wasps, in what also turned out to be Neil Parry's 174th and final match for the Wasps.

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WEB W

Graeme Holmes - It was a brave decision by lim Goodwin to release popular captain Graeme

Holmes in 2017, after six successful seasons with the Wasps. The classy midfielder had some kind words ahead of his return with Albion **Rovers in September** 2017 "I loved my time at the club. I had a great few years there. It was probably the best of my career. They are a proper football club and everyone really cared - from the players to the tea lady. There are people there who gave their full life to the club and I really respect that." There was no room for sentiment however, with Holmer adding "We are looking to go there and surprise a few people with a win." It is fair to say that a few people were left surprised as the Wee Rovers ran out 5-2 winners on Holmes' return, with future Wasps Connor Shields (1 goal & 2 assists) and Alan Trouten (2 goals and 1

assist) both exceptional. Rovers were clinical that day, converting 5 of their 6 shots on target, whilst Alloa actually had almost double the number of total shots than Albion (15 versus 8), but only 2 went in, leaving Jim Goodwin scratching his head at some of his summer transfer dealings, including the departure of Holmes.

Kevin O'Hara - Of all the players to come back to haunt the Wasps, nobody did it more emphatically than Kevin O'Hara on his first return to the Recs in October 2020. Having earned himself a three-year full-time deal at Dunfermline following a sensational single season with the Wasps, O'Hara's 24 minute cameo from the bench saw him score a hat-trick as a match which Alloa had the upper hand in evaporated into a

soul-destroying 4-1 home defeat. O'Hara's energy would have been well-know to his former team-mates, but Kevin was inspired on the day, with Alloa's Player of the Year in 2019/20 unable to hide his joy at scoring his first career hat-trick.

As a footnote, it is interesting to note that you could make a decent team from former Wasps still plying their trade in the cinch League One. I would go as far as suggesting that it would be competing for a promotion play-off place. Parry would automatically be in goal, assisted by a back-three of Michael Doyle (Queen's Park), Edin Lynch (Dumbarton) and Docherty. The midfield four would consist of Scott Agnew & Callum Smith (both Airdrie), Stevie Hetherington (Falkirk) and Connor McManus (East Fife). A powerful front line trio

of Mitch Megginson (Cove), Russell McLean (Peterhead) and Calum Gallagher (Airdrie) would complete the team. On the bench would be lain Campbell (Montrose), Alan Cook (Peterhead) and Scott Gallacher (East Fife). The coaching staff would be extensive, with four managers (Paul Hartley, Ian Murray and Paul Sheerin as well as Lennon), assistant managers Scott Agnew and Frank McKeown (Dumbarton), first team coaches Iain Campbell and Bryan Prunty (Airdrie), no fewer than three goalkeeper coaches in the form of Derek Soutar (Cove), Jim Butter (Peterhead) and Evans. and finally fitness coach Tam Ritchie (Cove). That would certainly be a formidable squad!



**DONALD POLLOCK** 



# BATTLE BETWEEN THE TOP NOTCHERS

Another Saturday and another blockbuster clash featuring high flying Alloa. The Wasps went into December 1921 sitting top of the new Second Division and with their sights firmly on the first ever automatic promotion place in the Scottish League. With a number of sides in close pursuit, Alloa were already well used to top of the table clashes. This time the opposition was Armadale, and to add to the occasion the West Lothian side would be opening their new stand,

which had been signed off at a cost of £200 on their own elevation to the league. "All leads in West Lothian will lead to Volunteer Park... Armadale are sure to do their utmost to stem the flowing tide of Alloa's success", previewed the Evening News, with the Dundee Evening Courier suggesting that "the battle between the top notchers should be a rousing one". The sides were already well acquainted. Alloa had begun the season with a 1-0 win over the Dale in the Penman Cup.

the goal coming from a Willie Crilley penalty. Crilley had then notched a double in the first league clash between the clubs, a 2-2 draw at the Recs in October. Like everybody else in the league, Armadale knew that keeping Crilley quiet would go a long way to ensuring success against Alloa. And like everybody else, they knew that was easier said than done. There was a pre-match boost for Alloa at the other end of the park though, with former Scotland cap Bobby

Orrock returning to the Wasps defence.

Once again Alloa would run a special train for their supporters and the travelling fans added to a fine crowd of 5000 at Volunteer Park. They saw a cagey first half with chances at a premium. Armadale's Campbell was closest to a goal, a terrific effort from distance matched by a tremendous save from Caldwell in the Alloa goal. There was iust one half chance for the Wasps, who else but Crilley heading

narrowly wide. The wee man missed the first clear chance of the second period too, cutting through the Armadale defence with a mazy run but placing his angled effort wide. As the game entered the closing stages it was the home side who grabbed the initiative. Campbell was the creator this time, his cross met by Fleming who found the far corner. Two minutes later Fleming added the killer second, forcing the ball home at the third attempt following a scramble in the box. It finished 2-0 Armadale with the Sunday Post recording that the win was "thoroughly deserved", with special praise for McInally in the home defence - "a

grand general" – who "watched Crilley so successfully that Alloa's wonder was only twice in the picture". The win lifted Armadale to second, just a point behind Alloa, and Cowdenbeath a further point back. Indeed, just five points now separated the top seven sides in the table.

The Wasps were back on the road as they aimed to return to winning ways, this time heading north to take on Dundee Hibs at Tannadice. And the Wasps made no mistake this time in front of a bumper crowd of 10.000. racing into a two goal lead early on courtesy of Dunn and Whittle. They started the second half in similar fashion. Whittle scoring again

before Gaffney grabbed another. It finished 4-0 Alloa, the perfect response to the Armadale reverse and the kind of comfortable win at Tannadice that Alloa fans of future decades would hardly believe. It was the second week in a row that Crilley hadn't scored and on this occasion a chance for a few of his teammates to enjoy the spotlight. Gaffney was picked out "as the best half-back on the field". and former Partick man Robert Whittle was praised for his double: "The wing men were a continual thorn in the flesh to the defending backs and the fact that Whittle found the net speaks for itself". Indeed, the Dundee Courier suggested that the home defenders had paid too

much attention to Crilley and that this was a "fatal mistake", for the "Alloa vanguard is anything but a one horse show". In the eyes of the Courier, the Tannadice men had come up against a side more than capable of living with top flight opposition. And as Alloa travelled back to the Wee County there was more good news with Armadale beaten 1-0 by Broxburn. Cowdenbeath took advantage to jump back into second. The Wasps now geared up for a busy festive programme with games against East Stirlingshire. Arbroath and Clackmannan to come.

More in the next edition of The Wasp.

the second second second	P.	W.	Le	D.	F.	A. ]	Pts.
Alloa Athletic,	17	11	2	4	37	17	26
Cowdenbeath,	17	11	4	2	29	12	24
East Fife,	17	10	4	3	33	17	23
Armadale,	18	9	4	0	25	16	23
Broxhurn United,	17	9	5	3	24	17	21
Buthgate	18	8	5	5	27	20	21
Vale of Leven,	17	8	5	4	25	17	20
Johnstone,	17	5	5	7	23	23	17
St. Bernards,	17	7	7	3	20	23	17
Arbroath,	16	6	6	4	19	18	16
Dundee Hibs,	17	6	8	3	28	29	15
Bo'ness,	17	5	7	5	21	22	15
East Stirlingshire,	17	5	7	5	18	27	15
Stephousemult,	17	5	7	5	13	20	15
Dunfermline Ath.,	16	6	9	1	24	23	13
Clackmannan,	17	5	9	3	18	32	13
Lochzelly,	17	5	10	2	20	29	12
St Johnstone,	17	5	10	2	18	30	12
Forfar Ath.,	17	2	8	7	21	30	11
King's Park,	17	3	9	5	13	33	11



		LEA	GUE	C	UP	то	TAL	ALLOA CAREER LGE		
	POS	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	
HUTTON	GOAL	15 (0)	0	4 (0)	- 0	19 (0)	- 0 -	15 (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	14 (1)	- 0	2 (0)	- 0	16 (1)	- 0 -	14 (1)	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	14 (0)	2	1 (0)	- 0	15 (0)	2	14 (0)	2	
CHURCH	DEF	6 (2)	0	6 (0)	- 0	12 (2)	0	6 (2)	0	
HOWIE	DEF	8 (3)	1	4 (2)	- 0	12 (5)	- 1 -	8 (3)	1	
GRAHAM	DEF -	5 (1)	- 0	6 (0)	- 0 -	- 11 (1)	0 -	158 (1)	12	
TAGGART	DEF	15 (0)	- 0	5 (1)	- 1	20 (1)	- 1 -	- 179 (0)	- 6	
WILLIAMSON	DEF	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (0)	- 0 -	
ROBERTSON	MID	10 (3)	- 0	6 (0)	- 0	16 (3)	- 0 -	135 (26)	2	
SCOUGALL	MID	14 (0)	- 1	6 (1)	- 1	20 (1)	2	22 (8)	2	
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O'DONNELL	MID	0 (6)	- 0	4 (0)	0	4 (6)	- 0 -	5 (10)	- 0 -	
NIANG*	MID	12 (0)	- 1	3 (0)	- 3	15 (0)	- 4 -	12 (0)	1 -	
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MCCOLL	MID	0 (0)	- 0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	- 0 -	0 (0)	0 -	
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TROUTEN	FWD	2 (3)	- 0	2 (1)	2	4 (4)	2	71 (9)	- 24 -	
BOYD	FWD	15 (1)	- 5	6 (0)	- 1	21 (1)	- 6 -	15 (1)	- 5 -	
SAMMON	FWD	7 (8)	- 4	4 (2)	- 0	11 (10)	- 4 -	7 (8)	- 4	
EVANS**	FWD	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0 -	0 (1)	- 0 -	
HENDERSON	FWD	10 (1)	- 7	1 (0)	- 3	11 (1)	- 10 -	10 (1)	7	
WEBSTER	FWD	0 (1)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (1)	- 0 -	0 (1)	- 0 -	

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**BRIAN ROACH** 



# **A FAN'S VIEW**

It's been an eventful fortnight following the club- with firstly a comfortable passage into the next round of the Scottish Cup, then an exciting draw, followed by a largely frustrating afternoon in Methil last Saturday. The visit of Bonnyrigg Rose here a fortnight ago looked on paper to be a potential banana skin. With an impressive number of league victories and a defence performing resolutely, the Lowland League leaders would have arrived in Alloa in the hope of creating a real upset. Thankfully Alloa approached the tie correctly and the gap in quality was pivotal to the outcome. Stefan Scougall and Euan Henderson shone brightest for the Wasps in as one sided a game as we could have hoped for. Henderson in particular was way too good for the visitors-helping himself to a hat trick as Alloa scored five without reply. Credit to the travelling support, who backed their team throughout-particularly at the start of the 2nd half at 2-0. Although two of the five goals were scored in the dying embers of the game. the final result didn't flatter Alloa in any way. And the victory was more lucrative than we could have imagined when the draw for the next round was made on Monday evening. As more and more

teams came out of the hat and Alloa were vet to emerge, you find yourself considering who also remainsand I knew Celtic and Hearts were still there. My heart sank when Auchinleck were pulled out at home. But thankfully Alloa remained tucked in nice and warm before popping out for the plum tie hosting Celtic. It's a guaranteed full house, and it seems a while now since we had oneparticularly when they were occurring really frequently in the not so distant past. It will also be Celtics first visit here since 1982, so there is a novelty factor included. And probably just as importantly, will surely

be a pick for Premier Sports to be televised live. Definitely one to look forward to on the other side of Christmasit will be a great day for the club. I've already had plenty of questions through text messages about tickets, venue, likelihood of being on TV...you name it. So I'm sure the club will be bracing themselves to be inundated in the lead up to the game.

After all that drama, it was back down to earth on league business with a trip to New Bayview last Saturday. Not the most appealing destination in the month of December, with the ground being so open. Luckily I learned my lesson from the previous week's freezing temperatures against Bonnyrigg and ensured I was fully kitted out in appropriate clothing. It's a ground where Alloa didn't have a great record heading into the game. No wins there in the previous 5 games, and only 1 win in the past 8 visits. Suspensions to Mendy and Durnan meant a new centre half pairing, with Andy Graham and Craig Howie coming in. Reeling from their cup upset the previous week from Banks O Dee, bottom club East Fife were playing for new manager Stevie Crawford for the first time. And in the opening half they looked vulnerable- content to sit back and contain. fearful of conceding an early goal. Alloa were on the front foot for pretty much the entirety of that opening period. But despite Ste-

fan Scougall hitting the post with an audacious free kick effort. Alloa struggled to make real headway through East Fife's deep lying unit. Alloa came firing out of the traps after the break and looked way more creative. The inevitable opener came 5 minutes in. Euan Henderson found space to turn in the penalty area and practically dribble the ball into the net. At that point there was plenty of scope for optimism, as it appeared likely that East Fife would leave more gaps as a result of having to push forward. East Fife looked better after Jamie Semple and Kyle Connell were introduced from the bench, but Alloa still looked likely to get the 3 points. However a lack of discipline was frustratingly Alloa's undoing once more. In the 74th minute Craig Howie was sent off after receiving

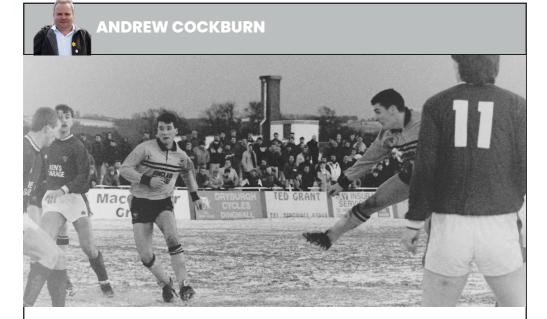




his second yellow card. Once again the backline needed to be patched up, and once again our opponents took advantage, with substitute Semple equalising for the hosts. Despite both teams going for it in the closing stages in some end to end action. Alloa had to settle with a point in a game where they really should have picked up all three. With vet another instance of going down to 10 men (the fifth occasion), this has cost the team a number of points this season.

Whilst Alloa aren't losing many gamesonly 1 defeat in the last 6- that's now 3 league games without a win. It's vital that they reverse that short trend and pick up the win today. Today's opponents Clyde sit only 3 points behind Alloa in 9th. Whilst goal difference dictates that Clyde are very unlikely to go above Alloa with a win today, anything other than maximum

points could see the Wasps creeping close to the relegation area of the league table. The next 2 fixtures on the road are against Cove Rangers and Airdrieprobably the two best teams in the league so far this season. On the other hand though Alloa have tended to produce their best performances against the better teams this season so there should be no trepidation about what lies ahead. Regardless of this, 3 points today would give us a bit of breathing space and confidence as we head north to Cove next weekend. We also get to welcome back former goalkeeper Neil Parry to the club for the first time since his departure in summer. Whilst we obviously hope he leaves empty handed today, he will undoubtedly get a good reception when he takes his place in goal at the Clackmannan Road end today. Enjoy today's game.



# LOOKING BACK 8TH DECEMBER 1990

In the Premier Division, there was no positional change at the top, though leaders Rangers extended their lead to two points, thanks to a 4-1 home success v St. Johnstone, while second-placed Aberdeen's own title challenge suffered a setback, as they went down 0-1 at mid-table Hearts. Dundee United remained third thanks to a 3-1 win v a rather inconsistent Celtic at Tannadice, St. Johnstone retained fourth place in spite of their own defeat, while Celtic were still fifth. The "basement battle"

between second-bottom Dunfermline and rock-bottom St. Mirren at East End Park was cancelled due to bad weather, as was the clash at Fir Park between two of the other strugglers, third-bottom Motherwell and fourth bottom Hibs.

There was a change of leadership in The First Division, as Airdrie, despite being held 2-2 at home by struggling Clyde, for whom William Reid & Gerry McCoy were on target, Airdrie now topped the table on goal difference from

Dundee, who went down 1-2 at Kilmarnock, and who thus dropped to second. Raith's 3-0 home win v another of the strugglers, Ayr, moved them into third place, while gameless Hamilton and Falkirk dropped to fourth and fifth respectively. At the bottom, Clyde, in spite of their welcome point, still propped up the table, while second-bottom Brechin were gameless, as were third-bottom Forfar. Sadly for Clyde, they and Brechin City were to end bottom of the division and were

relegated to Division Two. In the Scottish Cup Clyde were defeated 2-0 by Hibernian in the third round.

lust one game place took place in The Second Division. at Shielfield, where fifth-placed Berwick hosted leaders Stirling Albion, the game ending 1-1, which meant no positional change for Berwick, while The Binos extended their lead to six points. In the first round of The Scottish Cup, the Montrose v Dumbarton, Threave Rovers v Spartans and

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& Whitehill Welfare v East Fife ties were all postponed. But in the games that did take place. Oueen Of The South triumphed 3-1 at fellow Second Division strugglers East Stirling, while Fraserburgh were successful by the same scoreline at home v fellow non-Leaguer's Vale Of Leithen. Alloa meantime, made the long journey North to Dingwall, in treacherous conditions to face Highland League pacemakers Ross County, the game ending 1-1, with John Irvine netting for The Wasps, who'd lined up as follows: Butter, Newbigging, Thomson (Ormond), Wilcox, Mc-Culloch, D. Lee, Grant, Ramsay, Moffat, Irvine, McEnteggart.. Sadly in the replay at Recreation Park, Ross County won 3-1, Willie Newbigging

scoring Alloa's consolation goal. John Irvine would end top goalscorer at Recreation Park by the end of the season with 14 goals, pipping Barrie Moffat on 9 goals.

South of the border. and with First Division leaders Liverpool gameless due to the cancellation of their game at Nottingham Forest, second-placed Arsenal missed out on the chance to take over leadership, when they had to settle for a 1-1 draw at Luton. Spurs, despite being held 3-3 at home by struggling Sunderland, still moved up one place to third, albeit on goal difference from London rivals Crystal Palace, who slipped to fourth, after a 1-2 defeat at another side from the capital, Chelsea. In The Second Division, leaders

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West Ham moved five points clear, thanks to a 1-0 win at lowly Portsmouth. second-placed Oldham were gameless, while Sheffield Wednesday's point from a 1-1 draw at Bristol City was enough to nudge them into third spot.





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Scottish Cup Winners (3) Runners-up (3)

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This afternoon we welcome Danny Lennon and his Clyde side to the Indodrill for this Cinch League 1 fixture. The visitors currently occupy the relegation play-off spots but are only three points behind Alloa, making todav a real crunch tie. Having played the same amount of games. fixtures like today may determine what play-off Alloa are competing for. It has been a tough run of fixtures for Clvde with just two wins in their last ten outings, one of which included a major cup upset as they fell 2-0 to non-league side Clydebank. However, Alloa will be well aware of the threat they pose and in particular, David Goodwillie, having already lost out to them this season. Although work to be done for Lennon's men, wth the league being so tight, they will know a good run of form can see them push at the right end of the table.

### THE BOSS -DANNY LENNON

It is a former Alloa manager that will take charge of the visitors this afternoon. Danny Lennon managed the club back in their survival bids in the Championship in 2015. Iconically using the 'Any Given Sunday' speech in the play-off final against Forfar, Alloa completed the great escape with a historic comeback. The next season didn't go to plan though as Alloa were left well adrift at the bottom of the table without a home win to their name. Lennon departed the club in December after just five points out of a possible forty-eight. His managerial career highlight so far came before his stint at Alloa, however.

Lennon led St Mirren to their first ever Scottish League Cup win in 2013 beating Hearts 3-2 in the final, and Celtic in the semi-finals. Since leaving the Indodrill. the former midfielder had a brief stint at Airdrie before returning to permanent management with Clyde in 2017. Two years later, he would take the Bully Wee up into League 1 through the play-offs, it would be the club's first season out of the bottom division for the first time in ten years. After being away for so long, success would be considered as survival and despite the season being cut short, they were well on course to do that as they finished seventh.

### THE CAPTAIN -DAVID GOODWILLIE

The man with the armband is also Clyde's star striker, David Goodwillie. He burst onto the scene back in 2006 with Dundee United and it didn't take him long to win Young Player of the Year awards and caps for Scotland. Sensational performances saw him earn a two million pound





that two of those goals came in the last game between the two sides which ended 2-1 Clyde. He has scored five goals in his last five which will make it a great battle between his counterpart, Euan Henderson, who is also on a rich run of goal scoring form.

YDERG

#### NEW BOY -NEIL PARRY

It will be a strange sight to see former Alloa number one return to the Indodrill for the first time as he takes to pitch with his new side Clyde. Neil Parry is considered a modern-day legend in Alloa colours for his part in a historic five or so years

for the club. Massive penalty saves, heroics at Celtic Park, survivals and promotions are just some of the memories the Alloa fans will find hard to forget anytime soon. Football works in funny ways as Neil found himself out of favour this season and struggled to make an impact. Alloa's loss was Clyde's gain as they very guickly snapped up the experienced goalkeeper inSeptember. His debut was hampered by Covid but since making his debut against Peterhead, he has kept his place as he looks to get back to his best. Parry has kept two clean sheets in his opening twelve games for the club.

#### ONE TO WATCH -MORGARO GOMIS

It is hard to look past Goodwillie as the man to watch out for this afternoon, however, Morgaro Gomis offers a wealth of experience for the Bully Wee in midfield. The Senegalease internationalist signed on at Broadwood this summer and with Scottish Cup and Championship medals in his locker looked a real coup for Clyde. Starting his career in France, he moved over to Britain and started his career over here with English side, Lewes, and then Cowdenbeath before earning his move to Dundee United. It was there he would win the Scottish Cup and stand-out performances saw him earn a move to Birmingham City. He then re-joined United before stints at Hearts. Motherwell and Falkirk. Since ioining in the summer he has made joint most appearances for the club

### **CONTINUED ON P32**





### **BY KIEREN MOONEY**

having played in all twenty one games that he was in the squad for. Offering a calming presence to the midfield, Gomis also adds solidity to his defence.

### THE CONNECTION

We have already been able to highlight the return of Danny Lennon and the first game back for Neil Parry. Both will be welcomed back warmly, especially Neil with the Alloa fans able to show their appreciation for his part over his one-hundred and fifty-four appearances for the club. Another returning Alloa favourite is Mark Docherty. 'Sparky' had two spells for the club, firstly back

in 2011 under Paul Hartley and then three years later under Barry Smith. Known for his passion on the park, he played his part in some fantastic moments for the club including the victory over Rangers and a great goal in a relegation cruncher with Cowdenbeath. Another recent transfer between the two sides is Craig Howie who moved from Broadwood to the Indodrill in the summer. Unfortunately for Howie, his red card last week against East Fife will see him miss the opportunity to play against his former side. Alloa's new goalkeeper, David Hutton, will also play against his former employers this afternoon. Hutton signed for Clyde in 2006

and was voted their Player of the Year a year later. He left for Queen of the South in 2009 due to financial difficulties at the club. Lastly, but certainly not least, Alloa's manager, Barry Ferguson also faces his former outfit today. Ferguson was appointed player-manager of Clyde in 2014. His side narrowly lost out in the play-off final back to Queen's Park in 2016 and he soon departed the club the following season.

#### PREVIOUS MEETINGS

This is the second time the sides have met this season with Clyde taking all three points the last time out at Broadwood. A brace from David Goodwillie was enough for the home side that day, as Stefan Scougalls equaliser late in the second half proved to mean nothing. After Goodwillie had opened the scoring on the hour mark. he would further rub salt in Alloa wounds when he smashed home the winner with just minutes left on the clock. You have to go back to 2012 to find the last game between the sides at the Indodrill. That game ended 1-0 to Alloa with Darren Young bagging the winner with fifteen minutes left on the clock. The only player that was involved in that game that will be again today is Mark Docherty who was on the bench for the Wasps.



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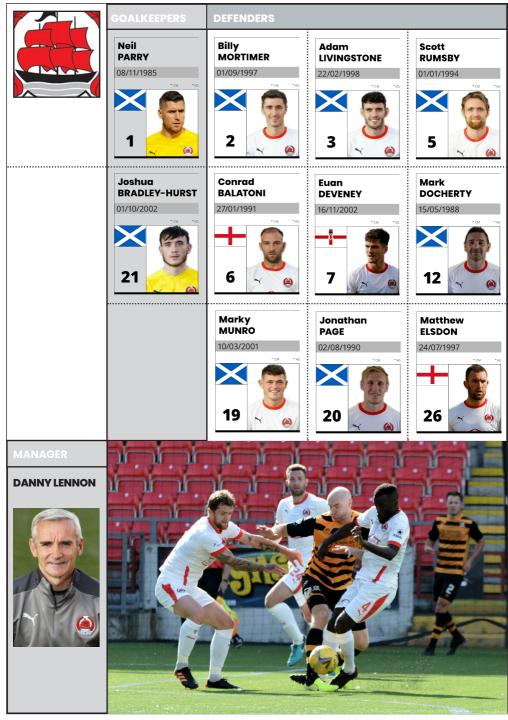
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WEBSTER
25
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45



### QUIZ ANSWERS

**1. STEFAN SCOUGALL** 

2. 1992

3. JOHNSTON- NANTES, FLETCHER-MARSEILLE, BLACK- METZ, JOHN-STON- RENNES

4. BERTI VOGTS (PLAYER IN 1972, MAN-AGER IN 1996)









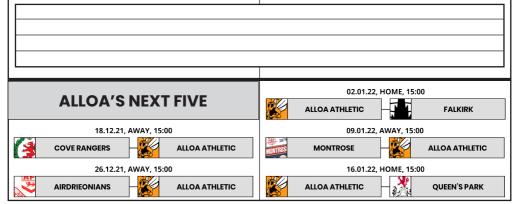
CLYDE

	#	POS		۲	
Х	21		KEIR BURT		
$\times$	31		DAVID HUTTON		
$\times$	2		SCOTT TAGGART		
$\times$	3		DANIEL CHURCH		
$\times$	4		CRAIG HOWIE		
X	5		ANDY GRAHAM		
$\times$	6		MARK DURNAN		
X	7		KEVIN CAWLEY		
X	8		JON ROBERTSON		
Х	9		BEN ARMOUR		
Х	10		ALAN TROUTEN		
Х	11		STEVEN BOYD		
Х	12		STEFAN SCOUGALL		
Х	14		MARK LAMONT		
Х	15		CHARLIE GILMOUR		
Х	16		ADAM KING		
Х	17		JORDAN ARMSTRONG		
	18		CONOR SAMMON		
*	19		MOUHAMMED NIANG		
$\times$	20		CAMERON O'DONNELL		
Х	22		EUAN HENDERSON		
•	23		FERNANDY MENDY		
Х	24		LUCAS WILLIAMSON		
X	25		TOM LEIGHTON		
$\mathbf{ imes}$	МА	NAG	ER BARRY FERGUSON		

#	POS				
			ř		-
1		NEIL PARRY			
2		BILLY MORTIMER			
3		ADAM LIVINGSTONE			
4		MORGARO GOMIS			
5		SCOTT RUMSBY			
6		CONRAD BALATONI			
7		EUAN DEVENEY			
8		BARRY CUDDIHY			
9		DAVID GOODWILLIE			
10		ROSS CUNNINGHAM			
11		ALLY LOVE			
12		MARK DOCHERTY			
14		KEVIN NICOLL			
16		AARON SPLAINE			
17		ROBERT JONES			
19		MARKY MUNRO			
20		JONATHAN PAGE			
21		JOSHUA BRADLEY-HURST			
24		GREGORY TADE			
25		PAUL KENNEDY			
26		MATTHEW ELSDON			
MA	NAG	DANNY LENNON			
	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 14 16 17 19 20 21 24 25 26	3       4       5       6       7       8       9       10       11       12       14       16       17       19       20       21       24       25       26	3       ADAM LIVINGSTONE         4       MORGARO GOMIS         5       SCOTT RUMSBY         6       CONRAD BALATONI         7       EUAN DEVENEY         8       BARRY CUDDIHY         9       DAVID GOODWILLIE         10       ROSS CUNNINGHAM         11       ALLY LOVE         12       MARK DOCHERTY         14       KEVIN NICOLL         16       AARON SPLAINE         17       ROBERT JONES         19       MARKY MUNRO         20       JONATHAN PAGE         21       JOSHUA BRADLEY-HURST         24       GREGORY TADE         25       PAUL KENNEDY	3       ADAM LIVINGSTONE         4       MORGARO GOMIS         5       SCOTT RUMSBY         6       CONRAD BALATONI         7       EUAN DEVENEY         8       BARRY CUDDIHY         9       DAVID GOODWILLIE         10       ROSS CUNNINGHAM         11       ALLY LOVE         12       MARK DOCHERTY         14       KEVIN NICOLL         16       AARON SPLAINE         17       ROBERT JONES         19       MARKY MUNRO         20       JONATHAN PAGE         21       JOSHUA BRADLEY-HURST         24       GREGORY TADE         25       PAUL KENNEDY         26       MATTHEW ELSDON	3       ADAM LIVINGSTONE         4       MORGARO GOMIS         5       SCOTT RUMSBY         6       CONRAD BALATONI         7       EUAN DEVENEY         8       BARRY CUDDIHY         9       DAVID GOODWILLIE         10       ROSS CUNNINGHAM         11       ALLY LOVE         12       MARK DOCHERTY         14       KEVIN NICOLL         16       AARON SPLAINE         17       ROBERT JONES         19       MARKY MUNRO         20       JONATHAN PAGE         21       JOSHUA BRADLEY-HURST         24       GREGORY TADE         25       PAUL KENNEDY         26       MATTHEW ELSDON

**REFEREE:** Chris Graham

**ASST:** Dougie Porter & Ross Anderson



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