

# THE WASP



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22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2022



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# ALLOA ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB



## 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

### Address:

Indodrill Stadium,  
Clackmannan Road,  
Alloa, FK10 1RY

**Telephone:** 01259722695

**Fax:** 01259210886

**Email:** fcadmin@alloathletic.co.uk

**Web:** alloathletic.co.uk

## Club Officials

### Honorary Directors

Pat Lawlor

Directors

Mike Mulraney (Chairman)

Martin Ross (Vice Chairman)

Ewen Cameron

Steven Lynch

Dr Robert McElroy

Secretary

Ewen Cameron

**Mobile:** 07810507185

**Home:** 01259722696

**Email:** eweng@sky.com

**Operations Manager**

Carol Edgar

**Head of Media**

Lewis Russell

**Child Protection Officer**

Alloa Athletic: Paula Campbell

Wasp Community Club:

June McLauchlan

## Management

Barry Ferguson (Manager)

Paddy Connolly (Assistant)

Bob Malcolm (Assistant)

Stuart Phin (Sports Therapist)

Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor)

Derek Nicholson (Head of Youth)

Dean Robertson (Head of Scouting)

Mike Zaleski (Head of Sports Science)

### Ground Staff

Alan Petrie

**Kit Manager**

Pat Dunne

Calum Wood

**Safety Officers**

Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar

**Wasp 2000 Manager**

Malcolm Gordon

**Club Shop**

Geoff Kay

**Programme Editor**

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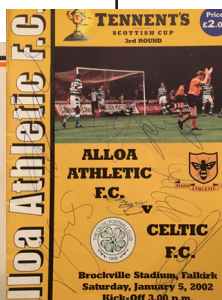
David Glencross

**AAFC Supporters Club**

Brian Roach - 0777564853

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 <b>COVE RANGERS</b>	22	15	4	3	44	19	25	49
 <b>AIRDRIEONIANS</b>	21	13	2	6	36	24	12	41
 <b>MONTROSE</b>	22	10	9	3	36	18	18	39
 <b>QUEEN'S PARK</b>	19	6	10	3	33	20	13	28
 <b>FALKIRK</b>	20	7	4	9	29	33	-4	25
 <b>CLYDE</b>	20	6	6	8	24	35	-11	24
 <b>PETERHEAD</b>	21	6	5	10	29	33	-4	23
 <b>ALLOA ATHLETIC</b>	21	5	7	9	28	35	-7	22
 <b>DUMBARTON</b>	21	6	3	12	29	44	-15	21
 <b>EAST FIFE</b>	21	3	4	14	21	48	-27	13



## FOURTH ROUND FIXTURES

 <b>HIBERNIAN</b>	 <b>THURS</b>	 <b>COVE RANGERS</b>	 <b>DUMBARTON</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>DUNDEE</b>
 <b>RANGERS</b>	 <b>FRI</b>	 <b>STIRLING ALBION</b>	 <b>KELTY HEARTS</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>ST JOHNSTONE</b>
 <b>AUCHINLECK TALBOT</b>	 <b>12.30PM</b>	 <b>HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN</b>	 <b>KILMARNOCK</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>DUNDEE UNITED</b>
 <b>ABERDEEN</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>EDINBURGH CITY</b>	 <b>LIVINGSTON</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>ROSS COUNTY</b>
 <b>ARBROATH</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>DARVEL</b>	 <b>MOTHERWELL</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>GREENOCK MORTON</b>
 <b>AYR UNITED</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>ST MIRREN</b>	 <b>PARTICK THISTLE</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>AIRDRIEONIANS</b>
 <b>BANKS O'DEE</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>RAITH ROVERS</b>	 <b>PETERHEAD</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>EAST KILBRIDE</b>
 <b>CLYDEBANK</b>	 <b>V</b>	 <b>ANNAN ATHLETIC</b>	 <b>ALLOA ATHLETIC</b>	 <b>5.30PM</b>	 <b>CELTIC</b>

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**GOALKEEPERS**

**Keir BURT**

27/12/1991

183 cm 71 kg



**DEFENDERS**

**Scott TAGGART**

27/12/1991

183 cm 71 kg



**Daniel CHURCH**

21/07/2000

188 cm 79 kg



**Craig HOWIE**

02/07/1996

188 cm 82 kg



**MATCH**

most appearances

- Cawley 396
- Taggart 230
- Robertson 211
- Graham 210

**GOALS**

- Cawley 68
- Trouten 42
- Graham 13
- Taggart 8

**David HUTTON**

18/05/1985

183 cm 83 kg



**Andy GRAHAM**

22/09/1983

188 cm 83 kg



**Mark DURNAN**

28/11/1992

183 cm 88 kg



**Jordan ARMSTRONG**

02/04/1999

193 cm 82 kg



**Fernandy MENDY**

16/01/1994

183 cm 83 kg



**Lucas WILLIAMSON**

26/03/2003

168 cm 58 kg



**Devan MCCOLL**

22/07/2003

183 cm 83 kg



**MANAGER**

**BARRY FERGUSON**



MIDFIELDERS

**Kevin  
CAWLEY**

17/03/1989

170 CM 64 KG



**Jon  
ROBERTSON**

25/04/1989

183 CM 77 KG



**Stefan  
SCOUGALL**

07/12/1992

170 CM 64 KG



**Mark  
LAMONT**

25/02/1998

178 CM 68 KG



**Adam  
KING**

11/10/1995

180 CM 69 KG



**Mouhamed  
NIANG**

08/10/1999

— CM — KG



**Cameron  
O'DONNELL**

29/09/2001

180 CM 70 KG



FORWARDS

**Ben  
ARMOUR**

12/04/1997

180 CM 76 KG



**Alan  
TROUTEN**

08/11/1985

173 CM 70 KG



**Steven  
BOYD**

12/04/1997

173 CM 65 KG



**Conor  
SAMMON**

06/11/1986

188 CM 74 KG



**Liam  
EVANS**

17/11/2001

190 CM 70 KG





**BARRY FERGUSON**



## MANAGER'S NOTES

Today's game is one that everyone can look forward to. It's the Scottish Cup and we'll try to cause an upset but it's a great opportunity to test ourselves against a top quality team.

A full house as the home team is always great to play in front of but we're going to come into it with a game plan. We're planning on facing Celtic's strongest team. I was lucky enough to win the

Scottish Cup five times and it's a competition that's still special and one that everyone wants to win. Even if they mix it about you can see from the depth and quality in the squad that no matter what it'll be a tough night for us. That's why it's so important for us to have our game plan and to execute that well on the night. Of course we'll need a bit of luck, but hopefully come the end of it we can be

that cup upset.

We've been working hard in the transfer window but we've lost out to clubs in higher divisions. That's understandable, but we're going to keep working to bring some in although it'll be unlikely before this big game.

The best advice I was given when faced with a big game was very simple: 'don't have any regrets.'

I don't think the team will need a big

team talk. The guys are well aware of the task. It's Celtic! I think it's far more important that we train well, prepare right and go out and give it everything and earn a bit of luck. I thought on Saturday we did that against Queen's Park, just the breaks didn't quite fall for us. That's how things are going in the league but you can throw all of that out of the window. Anything can happen in the Scottish Cup!





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**JOHN GLENCROSS**



# NEWSDESK

To-day we welcome Celtic FC to the Indodrill Stadium, welcoming Ange Postecoglou, the players, officials and directors of Celtic FC. This will be the first time the clubs will have met in the competition. The Scottish Cup is the oldest competition in Scottish Association football, and the oldest trophy in the world that teams can still compete for. The tournament is steeped in history, and has created countless

unforgettable moments throughout the years; the kind of moments that fans keep hold of and recount to friends and family at every opportunity.

The format for the competition this season for matches up to and including the Third Round, the last round, in games which ended in a draw a replay was required. However today we enter the Fourth Round where

there will be no replays for drawn matches from the Fourth Round onwards which will go straight to extra time and penalties.

If today's match was to be postponed the rescheduled date would be Tuesday 25th December at The Indodrill Stadium, Alloa.

Full crowds can now return to Scottish outdoor sporting events as from Monday 17th January, first minister

Nicola Sturgeon has confirmed. The Scottish government last month introduced Covid restrictions that capped attendances at events at 500. The first minister said the "Covid certification scheme will remain in place" but with "two important changes" for organisers of events. "Firstly, our guidance will now stipulate that the organisers of large events of 1,000 or more people should check the certification status of at

least 50% of attendees, rather than the current 20%, or at least 1,000 people - whichever figure is higher," Ms Sturgeon explained "And, second, from Monday the requirement to be 'fully vaccinated' for the purposes of Covid certification will include having a booster if the second dose was more than four months ago. "It will still be possible to gain admission to events and venues covered by the certification scheme by providing proof of a recent negative lateral flow test."

Wasps 2000 Draw -  
Week 2 15th January, 2022

- £ 100 0177 A.Prentice
- £ 50 1189 C.Lindsay
- £ 25 0812 J.Talbot
- £ 25 0713 E.McCallum
- £ 25 0595 J.Heggie

Alloa Athletic is proud to announce the launch of our new senior women's squad, which will

compete at SWFL level for the 2022 season.

In addition to bringing senior women's football to Indodrill Stadium and Clackmannanshire, the establishment of our Alloa Athletic Women's FC squad will provide a pathway to the senior game for the players of our Wasp Community Club Girls section.

As we progress our recruitment process, we welcome contact from players or coaches with an interest in being considered for a role within the squad.

You can contact the club on Facebook and Twitter (@AlloaAthWFC) or email womens@alloaathletic.co.uk for more information.

Email Address: womens@alloaathletic.co.uk

Socials: facebook.com/alloaathwfc + twitter.com/alloaathwfc

Premier Sports will have live and exclusive



coverage of the Scottish Cup Fourth Round this January 2022.

Rangers v. Stirling Albion | Friday 21 January 2022; Kick-off 7.45pm

Alloa Athletic v. Celtic | Saturday 22 January 2022; Kick-off 5.30pm

Scotland's draw and fixtures for the forthcoming Nations League was recently made grouping us with Armenia, Ukraine and the Republic of Ireland. The fixtures will be:-  
Saturday 4th June, 2022

Scotland v. Armenia  
Kick-Off 2pm

Tuesday 7th June, 2022  
Scotland v. Ukraine  
Kick-Off 7.45pm

Saturday 11th June, 2022  
Rep Ireland v. Scotland  
Kick-Off 5pm

Tuesday 14th June, 2022  
Armenia v. Scotland  
Kick-Off 5pm

Friday 23rd Sept, 2022  
Scotland v. Rep Ireland  
Kick-Off 7.45pm

Monday 26th Sept, 2022  
Ukraine v. Scotland  
Kick-Off 7.45pm



## UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT

Alloa Athletic Football Club is fully committed in its policies and communication thereof that any form of

Unacceptable Conduct will not be tolerated and that any Players, Officials, Supporters who are found to have engaged in such conduct may have appropriate action taken against them. This applies both on the occasion of an official match at Indodrill Stadium or at away matches

Unacceptable Conduct is conduct which is violent or disorderly.

Violent Conduct includes any actual, attempted or threatened physical violence against any person, or causing damage to property.

Disorderly Conduct

Conduct which is likely or designed to stir up/sustain hatred or ill will against or towards individuals or groups of people because of:

Non Compliance

Alloa Athletic F.C. will not tolerate racist, sectarian, sexual or bigoted harassment or any other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal, and will work to ensure such actions are met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs.

Any Alloa Athletic F.C. official, employee or other person connected with the Club who engages in such behavior will be dealt with under the Club's internal disciplinary procedures.

Any supporter who engages in such behavior will be liable for sanctions imposed by the Club which could include withdrawal of season ticket, exclusion from future Alloa Athletic matches or, in the event of serious and/or persistent offending, an application for a Football Banning Order

- Colour, race, nationality, or ethnic or national origin
- Membership, or presumed membership, of a religious group or of a social cultural group with perceived religious affiliation.
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- Transgender identity
- Disability
- Use of threatening, abusive or insulting words
- Display of banners etc the content of which is threatening, abusive or insulting



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15th January 2022  
Indodrill Stadium, Alloa  
3:00pm KO

**ALLOA ATHLETIC**

**1:1**

**QUEEN'S PARK**



**(0:1)**

SCORERS

**0:1 38'** Smith

Cawley **58'** **1:1**



**STARTING XI**

- 31** HUTTON
- 5** GRAHAM
- 6** DURNAN
- 2** TAGGART
- 3** CHURCH
- 4** HOWIE
- 16** KING
- 19** NIANG
- 7** CAWLEY
- 22** HENDERSON
- 11** BOYD

**SUBS**

- 21** BURT
- 18** SAMMON
- 12** SCOUGALL
- 20** O'DONNELL
- 10** TROUTEN
- 9** ARMOUR
- 17** ARMSTRONG

**SUBS**

- 2** DAVIDSON
- 5** GRANT
- 11** QUITONGO
- 15** GILLIES
- 16** YEATS
- 17** HERAGHTY
- 18** BIGGAR

**STARTING XI**

- 12** FERRIE
- 3** ROBSON
- 4** KILDAY
- 9** MCHUGH
- 10** BROWN
- 19** FOX
- 21** GILLESPIE
- 24** DOYLE
- 27** SMITH
- 28** LONGSTAFF
- 48** CONNELL

**REFEREE:** Alan Muir

17th January 2022  
Celtic Park, Glasgow  
7:45pm KO

**CELTIC**

**2:0**

**HIBERNIAN**



(2:0)

SCORERS

Maeda **4'** **1:0**

Juranovic **25'** **2:0**



**STARTING XI**

- 15** HART
- 88** JURANOVIC
- 20** CARTER-VICKERS
- 4** STARFELT
- 3** TAYLOR
- 18** ROGIC
- 42** MCGREGOR
- 41** HATATE
- 11** ABADA
- 38** MAEDA
- 49** FORREST

**SUBS**

- 5** SCALES
- 7** GIAKOUMAKIS
- 16** MCCARTHY
- 17** JOTA
- 19** JOHNSTON
- 21** IDEGUCHI
- 29** BAIN
- 56** RALSTON
- 57** WELSH

**SUBS**

- 9** DOIDGE
- 14** MUELLER
- 16** STEVENSON
- 18** MURPHY
- 20** HALLBERG
- 21** DABROWSKI
- 23** ALLAN
- 25** SCOTT
- 29** BRADLEY

**STARTING XI**

- 1** MACEY
- 33** BUSHIRI
- 4** HANLON
- 3** DOIG
- 27** CADDEN
- 11** NEWELL
- 22** DOYLE-HAYES
- 32** CAMPBELL
- 8** WRIGHT
- 10** BOYLE
- 15** NISBET

**REFEREE:** William Collum

# 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 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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## WELCOME BACK TO ALLOA, SCOTT BAIN

Yesterday marked the 10th anniversary of a pivotal win in Alloa's march towards the Third Division league title in the 2011/12 season. The Wasps travelled to Stair Park to face a Stranraer side who were a single point and single place behind Paul Hartley's side, who had edged to the top of the table for the first time that season on Boxing Day. The Wasps were expecting a stern test of their title creden-

tials, but what ensued was one of the most complete away performances Alloa had produced in many a year. A rare right footed strike from Mark Docherty opened the scoring and teenage loanee Stevie May bagged a double, in-between Alloa's eventual goal of the season, an audacious 20 yard chip from Stevie Masterson. All in all it was a completely commanding performance from the rampant Wasps.

Fast forward a decade and a day and just one Alloa player remains on the club's books, record appearance maker Kevin Cawley. But another Alloa player from that game could be on the pitch this evening, with Celtic's Scott Bain making his first return to the Recs after leaving in 2014. Bain had little to do down at Stranraer a decade ago, but if he plays this evening hopefully he'll be far busier. Bain's three seasons

with the Wasps were highly successful and it is therefore fitting to chronicle some of those moments today.

Bain was actually Hartley's first ever signing as Alloa manager in June 2011, with the then 19 year old goalkeeper making the same journey from Pittodrie to Recreation Park as his new manager. Bain was let go from the granite city side by Craig Brown, who remarked that he



might come to regret releasing Bain, but the ambitious young keeper was keen to gain regular first team football and immediately established himself as Alloa's number 1.

There were some character building early experiences for the Edinburgh born shot-stopper, with a big mistake for one of Morton's goals on his home debut and two red cards in his first nine matches for the club. First, Bain saw red for a professional foul at the Recs versus Clyde, who converted the resultant penalty to earn a 2-2 draw. Seven weeks later Bain was first booked for conceding a penalty up at Elgin, and then picked up another booking after mouthing off to the assistant referee following the

conversion of the penalty to put Elgin 4-0 up!

In-between those hiccups Bain had however shown enough promise to draw plaudits from his manager and fans alike. In particular, Hartley praised Scott for keeping the Wasps in the match with a series of fine stops to deny Stranraer in Alloa's eventual 3-2 win on the opening day of the league season. The Wasps supporters meanwhile gave Bain their thumbs up as "being a safe pair of hands", no doubt influenced by the indifferent form of previous custodians Stephen Robertson and Jamie Ewings a season earlier.

After a couple of games on the bench following his second suspension Bain was rein-

troduced to the starting eleven, beginning a run of 21 consecutive starts. During this spell the Wasps stormed to the Third Division title, with Scott getting some rave reviews along the way. A couple of memorable moments included a Boxing Day penalty save versus Elgin to avenge that earlier dismissal and a match-winning point-blank save from David Cox in a narrow 2-1 victory at Annan in March. Afterwards Hartley was fulsome in his praise "What a save it was from my goalkeeper - it was absolutely fantastic from Scott and it kept us ahead at a crucial time. It looked a goal all the way but I should expect that from Scott because I know his qualities. He's been doing it all season for me." Bain clearly enjoyed

that victory, high fiving some Wasps supporters behind the goal when the final whistle blew. Weeks earlier the keeper reflected on his season so far by enthusiastically stating "I'm loving my football at the moment and to be playing every week is just fantastic."

Come the end of the season Bain was celebrating with a Third Division Championship title medal and a place in the divisional Team of the Season (alongside teammates Michael Doyle, Ryan Harding, Ryan McCord, Kevin Cawley and Stevie May). Bain finished the season with a man-of-the-match performance on trophy presentation day versus Annan, a new contract for the following season and ten clean sheets in total. He was also named the Directors



Young Player of the Year and could feel highly satisfied with his decision to drop down the leagues to play games.

The step up to the Second Division did not frighten Bain or Alloa as a whole, with the Wasps going onto achieve successive promotions. Scott played every minute of the season, barring the final league match of the regular season when a host of players were rested in preparation for the end-of-season play-offs. His assured displays and fine shot-stopping earned him international recognition by being called up to the August and September 2012 Scotland Under 21 squads. Poor Scott had to book a couple of days off work from his building site labouring

job to join the squad!

During the season he was understandably busier than the previous campaign, but managed a greater number of shut-outs, with 14 achieved across the campaign. Being part of a more solid back-line helped, with new signings Daryll Meggatt and Jason Marr joining Michael Doyle and Ben Gordon to form a rock-solid back four, while the signing of midfield shield Stephen Simmons couldn't be underestimated either. However, Bain's clear communication, commanding presence and willingness to come for crosses all assisted in Alloa's improved defensive record.

The personal highlight of Bain's season was perhaps a remarkable double stop away at

Brechin in January. First Scott repelled David McKenna's penalty, before blocking the rebound as well, which had my fellow Wasp contributor Brian Roach signing Bain's praises. Come the business end of the season Bain was cool and calm in the play-off final matches against Dunfermline, although to be honest he was a virtual spectator in the clash at the Recs and the first 70 minutes at East End Park. After a Dunfermline goal made the score 3-1 on aggregate Bainy was alert to pull off a couple of fine late stops, which if they'd gone in would have certainly increased the pressure levels for the Wasps. Happily the Wasps played out time and Scott celebrated his second successive promotion. The scenes at the end of the game on the pitch and back at the Recs will still vividly be remembered by many. It is also pertinent that many players wait an entire career to achieve a promotion or title, so to achieve two in successive seasons at the age of 21 must have been highly pleasing for Bain.

Such was Scott's form and growing reputation it was no surprise that he almost made a move to a Premiership club over the summer of 2013. In the end it didn't happen and him re-signing for another campaign at the Recs was a real coup for the club. By this stage Bain quit his

job as a labourer, to focus fully on performing his best for Alloa whilst still on a part-time deal. The Wasps free-flowing attacking football was adapted into a more robust counter-attacking style in the First Division, with Bain's reliable presence and non-stop heroics contributing to a sensational first half of the season for Alloa. The opening day 1-0 victory over Livingston saw Hartley describe Bain as the best young goalkeeper in the country. The strength of evidence for that claim grew in the subsequent weeks, with man of the match awards in successive home games versus Hamilton (won 1-0) and Falkirk (drew 0-0) adding to his reputation.

Up until the turn of the year Bain had remarkably kept 10 clean sheets from 18 matches in the second tier. In December Hartley again talked up his keeper "He makes a couple of outstanding saves in every game but we just expect that of him now. He is the best young goalkeeper in Scotland and I do not think he will be with us much longer. I'd be delighted if we got to the end of January and he was still an Alloa player but it is getting harder every transfer window to keep him."

The second-half of the season was tougher for Alloa, with Hartley departing and the Wasps finding points harder to achieve. Bain captained



the team for the first and only time on his 100th appearance for the club (in a game versus Cowdenbeath) and continued to perform with distinction in the Alloa goal. It however took a last day of the season 96th minute equaliser from QoS striker Bob McHugh at Cowdenbeath to drop the Blue Brazil into the play-off positions and move Alloa up to the promised land of an 8th place finish and safety. Alloa, who had lost that day at Falkirk, joyfully found out the news back in the dressing room, with Bain the first one back out onto the pitch to run to the remaining Alloa support to celebrate the Wasps staying up. Supporters and Bain himself will have known that he'd be moving on that summer, so it was a fitting end to his Alloa career, with his successes shared with the Wasps support a lasting memory. Successive promotions and safety from the drop in the second tier meant success was all Bain knew at Alloa, with 40 clean sheets in 117 games an outstanding record.

Since departing the Recs for Dundee in 2014 (reuniting him with Paul Hartley) Bain's career has happily continued on an upward trajectory. After moving up the four senior leagues in successive seasons Bain soon established himself in

the Premiership with the Dees, performing regular heroics which earned him a call-up to the senior Scotland squad (without playing) a year after leaving Alloa. Things turned sour after a fallout with Neil McCann during the 2017/18 season at Dens Park, resulting in first a loan spell with Hibernian and then sensationally a similar loan with Celtic. Bain's debut was memorable, as it came in a 3-2 comeback win at Ibrox which sent Celtic nine points clear at the top of the table. Just four years earlier Bain was still playing part-time with the Wasps and had just made his 100th appearance for Alloa – from there to the biggest game in Scottish football! Bain's contribution was praised, which meant he shared the goalkeepers spot with Craig Gordon for the rest of the season and earned himself a permanent transfer on a four-year contract.

To put the icing on a whirlwind six-months Bain was then called back up to the national team squad and made his international debut at the famous Axteca Stadium versus Mexico in June 2018. It was pleasing to see Scott keep a clean sheet in his 45 minute performance, which came exactly seven years to the week after he'd first signed for Alloa. In making his international bow Bain became the first player to

be capped by Scotland having previously played for Alloa on a permanent basis since Tommy Hutchison 45 years earlier. Bain has also played on the European stage whilst with Celtic, with one particularly memorable evening being an outstanding personal performance away at Valencia in February 2019, making a series of stunning reflex saves. Such was Bain's splendour he gathered two further national caps the following month, in the infamous 3-0 defeat in Kazakhstan and 2-0 victory three days later in San Marino.

It's also heart-warming that Bain evidently still holds some affection for Alloa. For example, on the day Celtic clinched an eighth successive title on 4th May 2019, Bain took a

moment away from celebrating to pass on his congratulations via social media to the Wasps, who on the same day defied the odds to avoid relegation from the Championship thanks to a draw at Ayr. It wasn't something Scott needed to do, but perhaps it struck a chord with Bain after his last-day survival joy five years earlier for Alloa at Falkirk? In the past couple of seasons Bain has been used more sparingly for Celtic, with this season him being largely on the bench behind first-choice Joe Hart. Should he get the nod to play this evening he will deservedly receive an appreciative warm welcome back to the Recs from Alloa supporters, having served the club so well whilst a Wasp!





**DONALD POLLOCK**

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
Alloa Athletic, .....	25	18	2	5	55	20	41
Cowdenbeath, .....	24	16	4	4	46	16	36
Armadale, .....	25	14	6	5	38	25	33
Broxburn United, .....	24	13	6	5	32	21	31
Vale of Leven, .....	25	12	6	7	35	25	31
St Bernards, .....	25	11	9	5	32	29	27
Bathgate, .....	24	9	7	8	36	27	26
East Fife, .....	25	11	10	4	38	32	26
Dunfermline Ath., ....	24	9	11	4	35	30	22
Arbroath, .....	24	8	10	6	28	27	22
Stenhousemuir, .....	24	7	10	7	23	31	21
Bo'ness, .....	25	8	12	5	32	36	21
Lochgelly, .....	25	8	12	5	32	40	21
East Stirlingshire, ..	25	6	10	9	27	40	21

# MESMERISING WASPS IN PREMIER POSITION

A welcome break from the league with the January Scottish Cup visit to Alloa of one of the grand old names of Scottish football - and past winners of the famous trophy to boot. That was the scenario for the Wasps 100 years ago as St Bernard's arrived in town for a mouth-watering first round tie. Alloa went into the match in fine fettle, unbeaten in 9 games and sitting proudly at the top of the table in their maiden season in the Scottish League. For the first

time too, there was the prospect of automatic promotion for the Second Division champions. Wee County folk were starting to believe that the local Wasps, a Central League club just months before, could maintain their form and claim a place in the top flight alongside the giants of the national game. That belief had been reinforced the week before the St Bernard's tie when Vale of Leven had visited Alloa on league business. The Vale too were a club with a fine pedigree

- three time winners of the Scottish Cup in the late 1870's. On the latter two occasions the Vale had gone on to enjoy comfortable victories over FA Cup winners The Wanderers and Old Etonians in the contest which some would label a few years later as 'The Championship of the World'. The Vale of Leven side which arrived in Alloa in January 1922 weren't quite world champions, but they were a solid combination who had been steadily climbing the Second Division. A

win would put the Vale within 6 points of Alloa and firmly establish the Alexandria men as championship contenders.

The Wasps were quick to extinguish any such hopes. There was just a minute on the clock when Dunn fired Alloa ahead and that set the tone for the rest of the half, the Sunday Post reporting that the Vale defence was "mesmerised" by the home attack. Willie Crilly - who else - was at the heart of it all and two goals from the pint

sized attacker had Alloa 3-0 up at the break. Crilley completed his hat-trick in the second period – his seventh treble of the season – in another display which showed just why he would end up a few months later in the colours of today's opponents Celtic. Indeed, Crilley was already training at Celtic Park, which was after all just a mazy run from the streets where he had grown up, and the press would soon report that he couldn't deny his affection for the Parkhead men. But not yet. For now Crilley was still very much the darling of the Wee County. The Post concluded that this was a "wonderful display of football" that proved that Alloa were "the" team of the Second Division, and wondered just how far could they go in the cup as well.

St Bernard's would not be easy opposition. The Stockbridge Saints

were one of only two sides to have defeated Alloa in the league and a 2-0 win over a faltering East Fife was the perfect preparation for the cup tie. A crowd of 4,500 was inside the Recs as the teams took to the field and they saw a new name in the Alloa line-up – if not altogether a new face. An exciting wide player going under the name of McDougall had featured in Alloa's last two games, the press assuming that this was Alva born former Millwall winger Duncan McDougall, who had signed for Alloa a few months earlier. But it turned out that the elusive attacker was actually Cochrane of Shawfield Juniors, playing under an assumed name. Alloa could have listed Cochrane as a trialist, but with the papers describing the inside left as "promising and highly sought after", this can only have been a ruse to throw other interested parties off

the scent. It worked and Cochrane was now officially a Wasp. The unfortunate McDougall on the other hand, his identity used as a ploy to sign another player in his own position, was promptly placed on the transfer list. It wasn't going to work out for this Alva man at Alloa.

Cochrane was quick to show just why Alloa had been so keen to get him. With 20 minutes played he combined with Crilley before releasing Stirling down the flank. The veteran's cross was met by Quinn and it was 1-0 Alloa. Back came St Bernard's and a drive from Cox struck the upright with Caldwell beaten. Alloa were happy enough to reach the interval a goal ahead. The second half followed a similar pattern but gradually Alloa took control and Crilley turned home the second goal following a goalmouth scramble. Soon enough it was

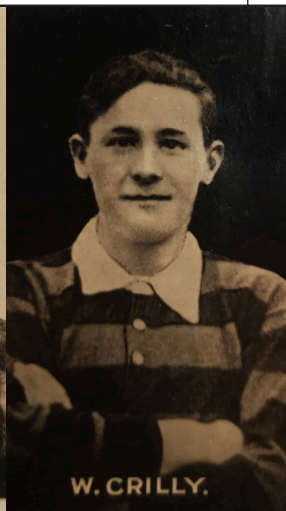
three, Crilley embarking on one of his trademark solo runs before finding Stirling whose cross was finished to the net by Cochrane. Donachie pulled one back for the Edinburgh men but it finished 3-1 Alloa, the Sunday Post noting that "for once Crilley was not the man in the attack – Cochrane easily claiming premier position". The Wasps supporters headed back into town most satisfied with their new signing and safe in the knowledge that they would go into February top of the table and safely into the next round of the cup. Today's opponents Celtic were through too, McFarlane (2), McInally and McLean on target in a 4-0 win over Montrose in front of 10,000 fans. Next up for the Wasps was a league clash with Stenhousemuir – and some most unwelcome transfer rumours about Crilley. More in the next edition of The Wasp



J. STIRLING



B. DUNN



W. CRILLEY.



A. COCHRANE

# APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		ALLOA CAREER LGE	
		APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
HUTTON	GOAL	20 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	24 (0)	0	20 (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	1 (0)	0
MENDY	DEF	14 (2)	0	2 (0)	0	16 (2)	0	14 (2)	0
LEIGHTON	DEF	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
ARMSTRONG	DEF	1 (0)	0	2 (2)	0	3 (2)	0	1 (0)	0
DURNAN	DEF	19 (0)	2	1 (0)	0	20 (0)	2	19 (0)	2
CHURCH	DEF	9 (2)	0	6 (0)	0	15 (2)	0	9 (2)	0
HOWIE	DEF	9 (3)	1	4 (2)	0	13 (5)	1	9 (3)	1
GRAHAM	DEF	10 (1)	0	6 (0)	0	16 (1)	0	163 (1)	12
TAGGART	DEF	19 (0)	0	5 (1)	1	24 (1)	1	183 (0)	6
WILLIAMSON	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
ROBERTSON	MID	14 (3)	0	6 (0)	0	20 (3)	0	139 (26)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	16 (1)	1	6 (1)	1	22 (2)	2	24 (9)	2
LAMONT	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
KING	MID	11 (0)	1	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
O'DONNELL	MID	1 (7)	0	4 (0)	0	5 (7)	0	6 (11)	0
NIANG*	MID	17 (0)	1	3 (0)	3	20 (0)	4	17 (0)	1
GILMOUR*	MID	12 (0)	1	0 (0)	0	12 (0)	1	12 (0)	1
MCCOLL	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (0)	0
CAWLEY	FWD	14 (4)	2	3 (0)	0	17 (4)	2	287 (41)	58
ARMOUR	FWD	0 (1)	0	1 (4)	0	1 (5)	0	0 (1)	0
TROUTEN	FWD	2 (3)	0	2 (1)	2	4 (4)	2	71 (9)	24
BOYD	FWD	19 (1)	6	6 (0)	1	25 (1)	7	19 (1)	6
SAMMON	FWD	8 (12)	4	4 (2)	0	12 (14)	4	8 (12)	4
EVANS	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
HENDERSON*	FWD	15 (1)	8	1 (0)	3	16 (1)	11	15 (1)	8
WEBSTER	FWD	0 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0



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ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL



4 (0)	0	24 (0)	0
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THE CAIRN, ALVA

0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
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2 (2)	0	3 (2)	0
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2 (0)	0	16 (2)	0
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STUART LATHAM

KURAGE-TEI, JAPAN

1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0
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2 (2)	0	3 (2)	0
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1 (0)	0	20 (0)	2
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CLELLAND SHAND

6 (0)	0	15 (2)	0
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VICTOR HERRIDGE

4 (2)	0	13 (5)	1
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WORLDWIDE WASPS

45 (1)	1	208 (2)	13
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JOYCE & THE PIE HUT

46 (1)	2	229 (1)	8
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0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
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BANNOCKBURN LTD, CANADA

43 (3)	2	182 (29)	4
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THE CAIRN, ALVA

THE GLASGOW ALLOA SUPPORTERS CLUB

9 (4)	2	33 (13)	4
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ROY COOPER

0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
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RUTH HUTTON

0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
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COMPASS ROOFING LTD

6 (4)	1	12 (15)	1
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3 (0)	3	20 (0)	4
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0 (0)	0	12 (0)	1
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0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0
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61 (7)	10	348 (48)	68
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AIMEE BURGESS

1 (4)	0	1 (5)	0
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22 (4)	18	93 (13)	42
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MCCALLUM ENGINEERING

6 (0)	1	25 (1)	7
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FOOTYSAB, JAPAN

4 (2)	0	12 (14)	4
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RGP ENGINEERING

WALLACE OVEN CLEANING

1 (2)	0	1 (3)	0
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1 (0)	3	16 (1)	11
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0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
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**BRIAN ROACH**



## A FAN'S VIEW

Today is an occasion I'm sure all connected to the club have been looking forward to ever since the cup draw was made a couple of months ago. Scottish Government restrictions to crowd numbers were thankfully lifted last week, which guarantees a full house and a great atmosphere- as well as a nice little revenue injection for the club. Celtic make their first visit to the ground competitively for almost 40 years- since the old League Cup sections back in season 1982/83. Celtic are also the last of Scottish footballs larger clubs to visit in the more modern era. We've hosted Hearts, Hibs, Rangers, Dundee Unit-

ed, and even Aberdeen just prior to Paul Hartley joining the club as manager back in 2011. And with the exceptions of the Dons, Alloa have beaten them all here. A few years ago, Alloa made the trip to Celtic Park (again for the first time since 1982) to face the Celtic team who would go onto become Brendan Rodgers domestic "invincibles" that season. And the Wasps succumbed only to 2 very late goals by James Forrest and Moussa Dembele. I remember being at the game and seeing the clock run down, thinking extra time was a real possibility. There was also the additional factor of the failure to send

off Craig Gordon for a first half karate kick on Alloa striker Greig Spence outside the area. It's doubtful that the referee showing some backbone with his card colour would have reversed the outcome of that game, but regardless Alloa gave a really good Celtic team a proper contest- as good a game as anyone did that season.

I think the timing of this game is also favourable, in terms of a welcome breather from the league campaign. The results of the last 2 league games haven't been bad at all- draws against Montrose away then Queens Park last weekend here. But

obviously it's victories Alloa need at this stage to pull away from the relegation positions. After a fairly subdued opening half across the piece against Queens last week, Connor Smith jump started the contest 5 minutes before the break with a really lovely curling effort bouncing in off the woodwork. This put the onus onto Alloa to come out all guns blazing second half. And for 15 minutes they were excellent, creating a number of chances before Kevin Cawley was in the right place to equalise from close range. Alloa looked likely to remain on the front foot and push on for more goals, but they became a bit



bogged down and it all petered out a bit. I don't think Alloa looked in any real danger of losing the game, but it will be a source of slight frustration that they couldn't really sustain that bright spell for a more prolonged period. It was similar to the Montrose game the previous week, where Alloa were excellent at times but just couldn't keep the momentum for long enough to fully dominate their opponents sufficiently enough to guarantee the 3 points. When Alloa resume their league campaign next week they face 2 pretty critical matches on the road against Clyde followed by Peterhead. These games are certainly proverbial "6 pointers" and will be pivotal fixtures.

But this weekend Alloa can enjoy the occasion and hopefully put on a strong showing

in front of the full house and the TV audience. The pressure is obviously off tonight, and whilst I wouldn't expect too much deviation structurally, I'd naturally expect the team to sit in a deeper position and ensure we have bodies behind the ball protecting the back 4. At the time of writing, Euan Henderson's position at the club was still in the balance. He of course played against Bonnyrigg Rose in the previous round, so is eligible if his loan spell is extended. However, regardless of whether Henderson returns (and he would be a huge void to fill in the team going forward) I suspect Conor Sammon will start up top as sole striker. He was really effective there at Links Park a fortnight ago, and his experience will be a vital asset in games such as these. The effort the big man puts in is never



## HT QUIZ

1. **WHICH CURRENT MANAGER IN SCOTLAND SCORED FOR CELTIC THE LAST TIME THE CLUBS MET IN THE SCOTTISH CUP BACK IN 2002 AT BROCKVILLE?**
2. **WHO IS CELTIC'S SHORTEST SERVING PERMANENT MANAGER IN TERMS OF GAMES MANAGED?**
3. **PUT THESE CELTIC PLAYERS IN ORDER, FROM MOST TO FEWEST IN INTERNATIONAL CAPS FOR THEIR COUNTRY- TOM ROGIC, CALLUM MCGREGOR, JOSIP JURANOVIC, JAMES FORREST, JOE HART**
4. **WHO AM I? - I MADE MY INTERNATIONAL DEBUT FOR BRAZIL IN 1993 AND SCORED IN THE GAME. I HAVE PLAYED IN 2 WORLD CUP FINALS AND CAUSED CONTROVERSY IN THE 2002 TOURNAMENT. IN MY CLUB CAREER I PLAYED IN BRAZIL, ITALY, ANGOLA, SPAIN, GREECE AND UZBEKISTAN**

**ANSWERS PAGE 37**

in question, and position wise he tends to be in the right place. I doubt Celtic's centre backs will relish coming up against him and he'll certainly give them a hard time if selected today. For the opposition, it's always great to see good players live and in the flesh on the Alloa pitch. I think it's doubtful that Jota and Kyogo will be risked for the game as they recover from hamstring injuries- unfortunately they would probably be the pair who would be the most enjoyable to watch from close quarters with both looking outstanding this season. Regardless, it will be interesting to see new signings Hatate, Maeda and Ideguchi should any play a part in the game. Add to that class operators like Tom Rogic which should hopefully make this a memorable night. I really like the Celtic manager and his straight shooting approach to interviews in particular. He is creating

a team who take risks but are also exciting to watch. Finally, as the match programme becomes available online this season a couple of days before the fixture. If you are reading this on the Thursday or Friday I was a guest on the Celtic podcast "Homebhoys" hosted by Scott McCorry, where I gave him the lowdown on Alloa for a laid back 45-minute chat. Here's the link if anyone fancies it: <https://www.spreaker.com/user/trend90/homebhoys-room-1-on-1-alloathletic>

Obviously Alloa are massive underdogs tonight, but as stated earlier Alloa have been in this situation before against the big guns and prevailed. That particular outcome would be out of this world, but regardless of the final result hopefully tonight is a memorable occasion that all attending supporters enjoy.



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**KICK-OFF 3 p.m.**

**SCOTTISH CUP — FIFTH ROUND**

**ALLOA ATHLETIC**

**VERSUS**

**CELTIC**

# GAME FROM THE PAST

5th February, 1955  
Scottish Cup - Fifth Round

Alloa Athletic v. Celtic

Score Half - Time : (1 - 1)  
Full - Time 2 - 4

Goalscorers - Billy Lynch (25m), Mike Haughney (44m Pin), Jimmy Walsh (55m), Tommy Kiernan (59m), Bertie Peacock (75m) & Jimmy Walsh (85m)

Teams:- Alloa Athletic - 1. Willie McInnes 2. John Farrell 3. Bobby Kerr 4. Alex Miller 5. Jock Wilson 6. Billy Lynch 7. Thomas McKinstry

8. Thomas Kiernan  
9. Jimmy Wishart 10. George Millar 11. Jimmy Davidson

Celtic -

1. John Bonnar  
V2. Michael Haughney  
3. Frank Meechan 4. Bobby Evans 5. Jock Stein 6. Bertie Peacock 7. Bobby Collins 8. Jimmy Walsh 9. Sean Fallon 10. Willie Fernie 11. Neilly Mochan

"The Wasps" had been handed the sell out Celtic tie after defeating Highland League side Fraserburgh in the previous round 4 - 2 at Recreation Park. A

crowd of around 15,000 packed into the ground and eagerly awaited the kick-off. Alloa manager Webber Lees was dealt a blow prior to kick-off when their top goalscorer George Henderson was ruled out, but did include ex Celtic player Thomas Kiernan who had scored 16 goals under Jimmy McGrory at Parkhead during Season 1946/47. Celtic themselves had Charlie Tully & John Higgins unavailable

Alloa Athletic were huge underdogs going into the game and had

opted to play Jimmy Wishart at centre forward instead of defence and his presence was giving the Celtic defence an unexpected problem with "The Wasps" taking the game to their esteemed opponents. Hesitancy in the Celtic defence was near to be costly as Stein was again troubled by Wishart but the Glasgow team survived for now. In 25 minutes "The Wasps" did take the lead and it was certainly not a surprise on the way the pressure had been mounting on the Celtic defence where Bonnar

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had been the busier keeper, after a corner from the right had been partially cleared the ball broke to Billy Lynch who hit a low grounder past the Celtic keeper to open the scoring. This gave Celtic a jolt and there was more urgency now, Bobby Collins driving deeper into the Alloa half. The home side still looked in control but it was important to hold out until half-time then disaster struck just prior to the half-time whistle, when referee J.A. Bissett (Edinburgh) pointed to the spot after Neilly Mochan was deemed to have been brought down in the box. Michael Haughney scored with the penalty to draw the sides level just as they left the pitch for half-time.

"The Wasps" had the first attempt on goal in the second half, but the ex Celtic player, Thomas Kiernan saw his shot go over the bar. Ten minutes into the second half the visitors took the lead, Jimmy Walsh putting Celtic ahead for the first time. But back came Alloa who never looked out of the game and four minutes later it was 2-2 when Thomas Kiernan deflected a Billy Lynch corner past Bonnar in the Celtic goal.

Celtic had another scare when Jock Stein had to go off with no substitutes available before being introduced

in 1963, however he did return and soldiered on. As the time ran down it was looking as if this tie would go to a replay that is before Celtic hit back with a killer punch to the valiant Alloa side. The Celtic goal scored by Bertie Peacock came out of the blue putting them 3-2 ahead and with Alloa pushing everything into attack to try and gain a draw Jimmy Walsh scored his second goal of the game to kill the tie.

Sadly "The Wasps" were to finish second bottom of the "B" Division only above Brechin City while Celtic progressed to the Scottish Cup final were they faced Clyde at Hampden. The first game ended 1-1 and unfortunately for Celtic Clyde won the replay 1-0 thanks to a Tommy Ring winning goal.

Today sees the fifth meeting between the two clubs in the Scottish Cup with Celtic winning each of the previous games.

7 February 1925 – Celtic 2 Alloa Athletic 1

18 February 1928 – Celtic 2 Alloa Athletic 0

5 February 1955 – Alloa Athletic 2 Celtic 4



8 January 2002 – Alloa Athletic 0 Celtic 5

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Colours—Green and White

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# CELTIC

## *The Hoops*

**FOUNDED**  
1887

**GROUND**  
Celtic Park, Glasgow

**TOP HONOURS**  
European Cup Win-  
ners: 1966-67

Runners-up: 1969-70

Uefa Cup Run-  
ners-up: 2002-03

Intercontinental Cup:  
1967

Scottish Premiership\*  
Winners [51]

Scottish Cup  
Winners [40]

Scottish League Cup  
Winners [20]

This afternoon we welcome Premiership giants, Celtic, to the Indodrill for the Scottish Cup fourth round tie. This is a competition that Celtic have enjoyed the most success in with thirty-nine titles to their name, the last of those being in 2019. The visitors entered the competition in the fourth round and were given the tie to Indodrill after Alloa's resounding 5-0 victory over Bonnyrigg Rose. Having taken an early winter break, this will be the Hoops second game back after facing Hibernian on Monday night. With one trophy already under their belt with their League Cup

victory over Hibernian in December, they will be looking to take one step further to another this evening. Celtic currently sit second in the league as they also look to clinch back their title from rivals, Rangers. In a period of change at Glasgow, there is no time for transition as supporters demand success straight away from their new faces.

### **THE BOSS - ANGE POSTECOGLOU**

Celtic made their move to replace Neil Lennon in the summer with the eye-catching appointment of Ange Postecoglou. The Greek-born defender was brought up and plied his trade in Australia with South Melbourne and his National side. It was at this side where he began his managerial career and went onto win NSL Premiership and Championship titles in the nineties. Postecoglou would go onto manage Brisbane Roar and Melbourne Victory where his success was recognised with his appointment with the Australia National Team. He led the team to the 2014

World Cup where they were drawn alongside Spain, Netherlands and Chile. Despite dropping out of the competition, the side were commended for their performances and were later rewarded with a win in the 2015 AFC Asian Cup. 2017 saw Postecoglou move to Yokohama F. Marinos in Japan where he guided the team to their first J. League title in fifteen years, becoming the first Aussie to win a Japanese title. This summer was the switch to Glasgow and again, he became the first Australian to manage in this country. Despite a bumpy start in Europe and on the opening day against Hearts, his attractive and intense style of football has found its feet as his side become a force to be reckoned with. Already one trophy in the cabinet, his new signings and style of play continue to catch the eye of many.

### **THE CAPTAIN - CALLUM MCGREGOR**

When Scott Brown left Parkhead, the captaincy was a big position to fill. The natural progression was what Celtic





went for by appointing Scotland midfielder Callum McGregor. The 28-year old has been at the club his whole life beginning it back in 2001 in the youth system. Influenced by Tommy Burns, McGregor was always highly rated by the coaches at Parkhead, however, it was a loan in 2013 to Notts County where he found his feet at a senior level. He returned in 2014 and a goal on his Celtic debut away to KR Reykjavik was a sign of success to come for McGregor. Over three-hundred appearances, over fifty goals and fourteen trophies later he was awarded the captain's armband. Last year saw more glory with him scoring Scotland's only goal at the Euro-

pean Championships against Croatia and signing a bumper five-year deal at Celtic Park. An integral part of Postecoglou's side, McGregor offers a steady and reliable head in the middle of the park.

#### **NEW BOY - DAIZEN MAEDA**

Postecoglou's transfer policy this month has raised a few eyebrows as Daizen Maeda is one of three Japanese players to make the switch to Glasgow. The forward spent time with Postecoglou at Yokohama F. Marinos and has caught the attention of many with his performances in the J League. Last season he was named in the J. League Best XI at the end of the season and was also top goalscorer in the league

with twenty-three strikes. Two caps to his name for Japan also adds to an impressive footballing CV. This will be his second stint in Europe after a brief spell in Portugal with C.S. Martimo. Maeda signed for Celtic alongside Reo Hatate and Yosuke Ideguchi on the first day of the window. The deal is initially a loan, however, has the obligation to buy in the summer. Postecoglou and the Celtic fans will be hoping that he can produce similar stats to fellow countryman, Kyogo, who has set the league on fire so far.

#### **ONE TO WATCH - KYOGO FURUHASHI**

The Celtic squad is glittered with talent but none more so than the man previously mentioned, Kyogo Furuhashi. Another one of Postecoglou's Japanese recruits

in the summer, Kyogo has brought a breath of fresh air to Scotland with his scintillating performances so far. Having signed from Vissel Kobe in the summer for just under five million, Kyogo immediately hit the ground running with a goal on his first start against Jablonec. Three days later he scored his first league goals with a hat-trick against at Dundee. That has been a familiar story for the rest of the season so far, with despite injuries, Kyogo has hit sixteen goals for the club and is the top goalscorer. These goals included a glorious double at Hampden in the League Cup Final to secure a 2-1 victory against Hibernian. Questions mark remain over his fitness after a return for injury but no

**CONTINUED ON P32**



**BY KIEREN MOONEY**

doubt Postecoglou will be desperate to get him back fully fit and firing for the second half of the season.

### THE CONNECTION

There aren't many Alloa connections in the current Celtic ranks to speak about. However, the main one would be goalkeeper Scott Bain making his return to the Indodrill. Bain's career has gone from strength to strength since he left Alloa back in 2014 for Dundee with Scotland caps and several trophies under his belt. 'Bainy' was part of a historic Alloa side from 2011 to 2014 that

enjoyed back-to-back promotions and a heroic survival season in the Championship. Regarded as a modern-day great by Alloa fans, he goes down as one of the best Alloa stoppers in history. There are a few Alloa players who began their career in the Celtic youth ranks but didn't quite make the grade at Parkhead. Kevin Cawley is one who impressed in the youth teams between 2005 and 2009. More recently though, Daniel Church was part of successful Celtic reserve sides before making a move in the search of first-team football. We must also mention the legendary

Willie Crilly.

### PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There aren't many times that these clubs meet so the occasion is a special one. The last time was back in 2016 when Jack Ross took his unbeaten Alloa side to Celtic Park. It took the Champions till the eighty-third minute to break the deadlock after heroics from Neil Parry, Andy Graham and co. James Forrest opened the scoring that night before Moussa Dembele made it two with minutes left on the clock. Alloa fans can dream 'what if' if Celtic goal-

keeper Craig Gordon had seen an early red for a high-kick on Greig Spence. Celtic would go onto win an Invincible Treble that year showing their dominance. The last time the sides met in the Scottish Cup was when Celtic came away with a much more convincing 5-0 win in 2002 when the tie was moved to Brockville Park, Falkirk as Recreation Park was deemed unfit. Celtic booked their place in the next round with goals from Balde, Weighor, Maloney, Petta and Sylla. This is Celtic's first visit to the Indodrill Stadium.









TWITTER: @FOOTYSAB

# TEAM of the WEEK



## WATCHING OUT FOR THE JAPANESE BHOYS

Nice to meet you all. I am footysab, I've sponsored Steven Boyd this season. I'm from Japan and I love Scottish football!

I am very happy that Alloa Athletic will be playing Celtic today. I've been a fan of Celtic since Shunsuke Nakamura, our local star from Yokohama, was playing there. I've even travelled Celtic Park.

I am very fortunate to be able to witness this matchup as a sponsor, at the time when Celtic has four Japanese players.

I am happy to have the opportunity to introduce them here. All of them are members of the Japanese national

team and they are expected to make great strides in the future. They are all players to keep an eye on for the future.

### **KYOGO FURUHASHI**

*THE MAN WHO WAS LED TO THE TOP LEVEL BY INIESTA AND VILLA.*

Furuhashi's breathtaking performances in the first half of the season must have been very surprising to people in Scotland. You may be even more surprised to hear that he was an anonymous player, even in Japan, until a few years ago.

He went to the same high school as Liverpool's Takumi Minamino. Minamino was a promising youth

national team player, and he also played at the professional level while still in high school. On the other hand, Furuhashi was just a member of his high school's football club.

He continued to play football in university. He attended training sessions at several professional clubs, but did not receive any offers. He had almost given up on becoming a professional footballer.

At the last minute, he received an offer from FC Gifu, in the second division of the J-League and finally achieved his dream.

FC Gifu was one of the lower-ranked clubs in the division. However,

Furuhashi continued to show his ability. He got a regular position from the opening game and he played in 68 games and scored 18 goals in his first year and a half with FC Gifu. In the summer of 2018, he won a transfer to Vissel Kobe in the first division.

Vissel Kobe is a club sponsored by Rakuten, a major internet shopping company in Japan that also sponsors FC Barcelona. When Furuhashi moved to Kobe, the club had some big names like Andres Iniesta, David Villa and Lukas Podolski. The encounter with these players would change his career.

In training, Furu-



**MAEDA  
CELEBRATES  
A DEBUT GOAL**

hashi learnt the world class skills of Villa. He improved his skills as a striker. During the game, Iniesta took advantage of his skills with accurate passes. Furuhashi scored 42 goals in three years, 10 of which came from assists from Iniesta. Playing alongside world class players, he grew in confidence.

In 2019, he was selected for the national team for the first time. He played with Min-amino, who was out of his league in his high school days.

He moved to Celtic last summer. He has made 26 appearances and scored 16 goals, already becoming an indispensable part of the team. We are looking forward to seeing how Furuhashi develops in Glasgow.

**WINTER NEWCOMERS: THREE SAMURAIS**

Celtic coach Ange Postecoglou, convinced of the quality of Japanese players after the great success of Furuhashi, welcomed three new samurais to the Hoops this winter.

Unlike Furuhashi, Daizen Maeda, Yosuke Ideguchi and Reo Hatate have all represented the youth national teams and have shown great promise at a young age.

Described as a bullet train, **Daizen Maeda** is a fast attacker who can run 50 metres in 5.8 seconds.

As well as his speed, he is notable for the number of sprints per game. Running the length and breadth of the pitch in such a way that you would imagine the Hoops had 12 players.

In 2021, he played 36 games, scoring 22 goals at Yokohama F. Marinos and becoming the top scorer of Japan. He also played in the Olympic Games held in Tokyo.

He worked with Ange Postecoglou at Yokohama. With the influence of Ange, Maeda began to score regularly for the first time in his career. After partnering up again, it won't be long before he is fit for the team.

**Yosuke Ideguchi** is a central midfielder known for his ability to

win the ball. He is also a threat in attack when the opportunity arises.

He has been selected for the national under-category team since he was 15 years old. He is also a precocious player at club level, making his first team debut for Gamba Osaka at the age of 17. In 2017, he scored the goal that led Japan to the World Cup in Russia. However, he experienced a major setback.

He moved to Leeds United in 2018. After failing to get a work permit, he was sent out on loan to play in Spain and Germany.

Both were less than successful and he missed out on a place in Japan's World Cup squad.

He returned to Osaka and in the last three years has been getting back on track. Now he's back in Scotland for a second chance at European football.

**Reo Hatate** is an athletic utility player. He originally played as a striker before reaching the professional ranks.

He won the Universiade twice and scored a hat-trick in the Toulon International for the U22

national team.

However, after he joined Kawasaki Frontale, who had a strong forward line, Hatate was converted to left back to give him more opportunities. The conversion was a great success and he was selected for the Japanese Olympic team at left back.

He has only been playing at left back for a short time and still has a lot to improve defensively, but his dynamic attacking play will add depth to Celtic's attack. It will be interesting to see which position Ange Postecoglou chooses to use him in.

Today, of course, I would like to support Alloa Athletic as a sponsor. However, as a Japanese, I would be delighted if as many as possible of the four Japanese players could play at Indodrill Stadium.

It would be great if this match could be seen by many Japanese football fans and show them the beauty of the local football stadium in Scotland. I would like to thank everyone involved with Alloa Athletic for giving me this opportunity. Thank you so much.



**HATATE'S VOLLEY  
SAVED BY MACEY**



### MIDFIELDERS

CAWLEY	ROBERTSON	TROUTEN	SCOUGALL	LAMONT	GILMOUR	KING	NIANG	O'DONNELL	MCCOLL
7	8	10	12	14	15	16	19	20	22
74	90		90			90	*		
	90	1	28	90		62		70	
	90		90			29		84	6
	90		90					56	
		45	90	9		90		45	
			90			90			
	25	1	90			66	90	21	
45	90		90			45	90	27	
90	90	90	1	90	2		90	90	
90	90	32	90				90	58	
55	90	70					90	55	
7	90					1	90	1	90
10	90		80				90	90	79
34	23		90			90	67	1	
37	18		90		1	90	90		
1	90	90	19	71		90			
		1	79	30	60		90	1	60
90		15	90			90		90	
27	90		63			90		90	
90	90		90			90		90	
90	90	38	52			90		69	
90	90		90				90	2	90
90	90	89				90	90	90	
90	90		90					90	
72	90	61				90	18	90	
90	64					90	26	90	45
90	90					90	90	4	
1	90		21			90	69		

### FORWARDS

ARMOUR	BOYD	SAMMON	HENDERSON	WEBSTER
9	11	18	22	25
16	90	90		
20	90	70		
53	90	37		
34	90	90		
	90	90		45
	2	90	1	90
24	69	90		
	1	90	27	
	1	90		
	90	1	50	1
	90	1	35	90
	90			83
	1	80	10	29
	90		56	
	1	90	19	71
	90	71	2	19
45	90	45		
	75	30	2	90
	90	1	1	90
	80	2	88	
	90	1	21	75
	90	5	3	85
	1	3	1	87
	78	12	90	
	90	29	90	
		45	1	90
	1	90	86	90
	84	6	90	

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. **SHAUN MALONEY**

2. **JOHN BARNES (29)**

3. **HART (75 CAPS FOR ENGLAND), ROGIC (47 CAPS FOR AUSTRALIA), MCGREGOR (41 CAPS FOR SCOTLAND), FORREST (38 CAPS FOR SCOTLAND) JURANOVIC (15 CAPS FOR CROATIA)**

4. **RIVALDO**



### GROUND REGULATIONS

- Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play, trackside or any other place specified by the Club or Police.
- Unnecessary noise, such as from the use of radio sets and behaviour likely to cause confusion, annoyance or nuisance of any kind, is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- Foul, abusive or racist language is totally FORBIDDEN
- It is an offence punishable by law for any person to enter or attempt to enter the ground
  - Whilst in possession of a prohibited container which is or was capable of holding liquid and which if thrown would be capable of causing injury to another person.
  - Whilst in the possession of alcohol
  - Whilst drunk
  - Whilst in possession of any article or substance whose main purpose is the emission of a flare for purposes of illuminating or signaling or the emission of smoke or a visible gas
  - Any article which is a firework.

All persons entering the ground may be searched by the Police.

5. Standing is FORBIDDEN in seated viewing areas.

6. Banners, or other articles which could, or might be used as a weapon, or to cause annoyance or offence, are not permitted within the ground.

7. All persons entering this ground are admitted subject to the condition that they may be required to

submit to search to prevent prohibited articles being brought into the ground which might be used to cause injury or damage to other persons or property.

8. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any objects whether onto the pitch, track or otherwise.

9. All persons entering this ground are admitted subject to the above Ground Regulations and to the

Rules of the Scottish Football Association and The Scottish Football League.

Entry to this ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations

The Club reserves the right for its Servants and Agents and for members of Police Forces to remove from this Ground any person who does NOT COMPLY WITH GROUND REGULATIONS

AND WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS of the Scottish Football Association, The Scottish Football League and/or, where applicable, The Regulations of FIFA/UEFA, or whose presence in the Ground is or could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other Spectators



# ALLOA ATHLETIC



# CELTIC

#	POS			
	21	KEIR BURT		
	31	DAVID HUTTON		
	2	SCOTT TAGGART		
	3	DANIEL CHURCH		
	4	CRAIG HOWIE		
	5	ANDY GRAHAM		
	6	MARK DURMAN		
	7	KEVIN CAWLEY		
	8	JON ROBERTSON		
	9	BEN ARMOUR		
	10	ALAN TROUTEN		
	11	STEVEN BOYD		
	12	STEFAN SCOUGALL		
	14	MARK LAMONT		
	16	ADAM KING		
	17	JORDAN ARMSTRONG		
	18	CONOR SAMMON		
	19	MOHAMMED NIANG		
	20	CAMERON O'DONNELL		
	23	FERNANDY MENDY		
	24	LUCAS WILLIAMSON		
	26	LIAM EVANS		
	36	DEVAN MCCOLL		
	<b>MANAGER</b> BARRY FERGUSON			

#	POS			
	1	VASILIS BARKAS		
	2	CHRISTOPHER JULLIEN		
	3	GREG TAYLOR		
	4	CARL STARFELT		
	5	LIAM SCALES		
	6	NIR BITTON		
	7	GIORGOS GIAKOUMAKIS		
	8	KYOGO FURUHASHI		
	10	ALBIAN AJETI		
	11	LIEL ABADA		
	12	ISMAILA SORO		
	14	DAVID TURNBULL		
	15	JOE HART		
	16	JAMES MCCARTHY		
	17	JOTA		
	18	TOM ROGIC		
	19	MIKEY JOHNSTON		
	20	CAMERON CARTER-VICKERS		
	21	YOSUKE IDEGUCHI		
	23	BOLI BOLINGOLI		
	24	JOHNNY KENNY		
	26	OSAZE URHOGIDE		
	29	SCOTT BAIN		
	38	DAIZEN MAEDA		
	41	REO HATATE		
	42	CALLUM MCGREGOR		
	47	DANE MURRAY		
	49	JAMES FORREST		
	54	ADAM MONTGOMERY		
	56	ANTHONY RALSTON		
	57	STEPHEN WELSH		
	65	CONOR HAZARD		
	77	KARAMOKO DEMBELE		
	88	JOSIP JURANOVIC		
	<b>MANAGER</b> ANGE POSTECOGLU			

**REFEREE:** Don Robertson

**ASST:** Andy Milne & John McCrossan

**4TH:** Steven Kirkland

## ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

29.01.22, AWAY, 15:00



CLYDE



ALLOA ATHLETIC

05.01.22, AWAY, 15:00



PETERHEAD



ALLOA ATHLETIC

12.02.22, HOME, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



EAST FIFE

19.02.22, AWAY, 15:00



DUMBERTON



ALLOA ATHLETIC

26.02.22, HOME, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



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