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SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1921/22

RUNNERS UP

1938/39

SCOTTISH LEAGUE 1 RUNNERS UP

1976/77 1981/82 1984/85 1988/89 1999/00 2001/02 2009/10 2012/13 2016/17

1997/1998 2011/2012

CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS

1999/2000

RUNNERS-UP

2001/02 2014/15

TIRLINGSHIRE 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)

Club Information

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Fax: 01259210886

Email: fcadmin@alloathletic.co.uk Web: alloaathletic.co.uk

Club Officials

Honorory Directors Pat Lawlor Ewen Cameron Directors Mike Mulraney (Chairman) Martin Ross (Vice Chairman) Steven Lynch

Dr Robert McElroy

Secretary Carol Edgar

Head of Media Lewis Russell

Child Protection Officer Alloa Athletic: Paula Campbell

Wasp Community Club: June McLauchlan

Management

Brian Rice(Manager) Paddy Connolly(Assistant) Kenny Brannigan (Assistant) Stuart Phin (Sports Therapist) Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor) Derek Nicholson (Head of Youth) Robert Glen (Goalkeeping Coach) Allan Salvona (Women's Team Manager)

Ground Staff

Alan Petrie

Kit Manager Pat Dunne

Safety Officers

Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar

Wasp 2000 Manager Malcolm Gordon

Club Shop Geoff Kay

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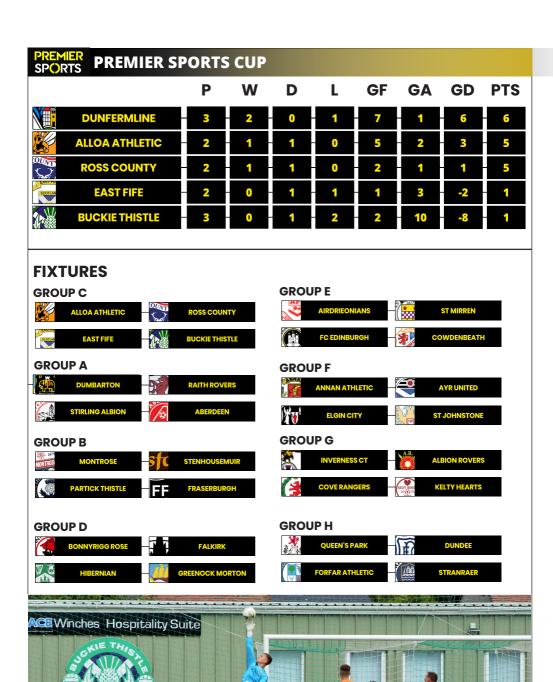
THREE OF THE BEST

TEAM LINES

PERFORMANCE TABLE 36



^{*}includes equivalent competitions





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



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Scott **TAGGART**



Daniel CHURCH



Craig HOWIE



Keir **BURT**



Andy GRAHAM



Mark **DURNAN**



George STANGER



Jay HOGARTH

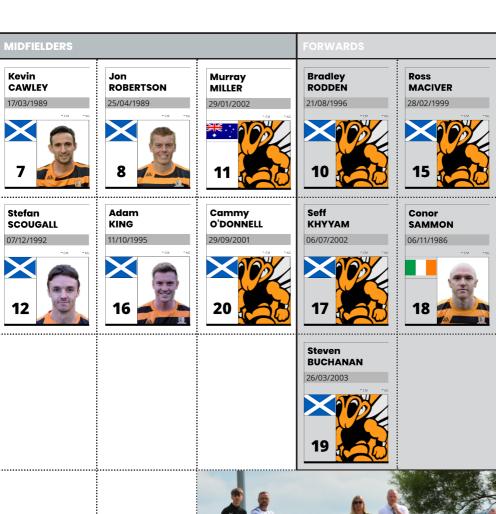






















AFTER 4-1 WIN AT BUCKIE THISTLE

After two games I think we should have had six points. Disappointed to lose the goal we did on Tuesday night but to come here and win 4-1 today, delighted.

It was a tough game, always tough coming here and against a team finishing second in their league last year and on top of that to do it with 6 players down, players out with concussion, players on holiday, on honeymoon and a few injuries as well. It's a great credit to the boys that with the early start and travelling, down to bare bones and kids on the bench, they've shown a fantastic attitude and energy today so I'm really, really pleased with them.

Connor Sammon has been excellent today picking up a hat-trick. He leads the line and puts himself about. He picks up knocks and does the hard work for whoever plays up top with him becasue he's the one taking the brunt of the knocks. Today he's chased lost causes and done all the hard work and he deserves

the goals. Even in training he's constantly working so well done to him.

Of course, next week, we need to step up our game against Ross County and Dunfermline. On Tuesday, Ross County, it's a team that's finished top 6 in the Premiership but hopefully we'll have a







NEWSDESK

Welcome back to the Indodrill Stadium for our second home tie in this season's Premier Sports Cup, We opened our Premier Sports Cup Group C fixtures with a home draw against East Fife last Tuesday before gaining the bonus point by winning the penalty shoot-out 6-5. On Saturday we comfortably won in Buckie 4-1. Tonight we face Premier League side Ross County at home and finally Dunfermline

Athletic at East End Park on Saturday 23rd July. Ross County will be very strong opposition for our side, we last met in the League Cup in Season 2018/19 at the Indodrill Stadium when "The Staggies" won 2-0. The Premier Sports Cup is made up of Eight groups of five teams, three points for a win, one point for a draw, if drawn game goes straight to penalties, one bonus point for winner of penalty shootout. This season the regionalization has been removed after six years of the North/South split in the group stages. The initial group stages will involve 37 SPFL clubs plus Highland League Champions Fraserburgh and Lowland League Champions Bonnvrigg Rose. The additional slot is taken up by Highland League Runners Up Buckie Thistle as the Lowland League were granted the extra place last season. The eight

group winners and three best runners-up will join Celtic, Rangers, Hearts, Dundee United and Motherwell in the last 16 at the end of August.

The SPFL has announced record prize money of over £2.1 million for the 2022/23 Premier Sports Cup. Each club participating in this season's competition is guaranteed to receive at least £22,000 – whilst the winner will

earn £350,000 in prize money, with further sums available as facility fee payments for all live televised matches.

The total prize money that will be shared with clubs for the upcoming Premier Sports Cup competition will amount to £2,157,000 – a rise of nearly £150,000 from last season's figure of £2,015,000.

The full schedule of prize monies is set out below:

- · 1st round group stage 5th position: £22,000
- · 1st round group stage 4th position: £23,250
- · 1st round group stage 3rd position: £25,000
- · 1st round group stage
- 5 worst runners up: £29.000
- · 2nd round losers -£50.000
- · Quarter-final losers -£80.000

- · Semi-final losers £110.000
- · Runners-up £160.000
- · Winners £350,000
- · Total £2,157,000

In addition, each club playing in a live televised Premier Sports Cup tie (whether home or away) will receive a facility fee payment of: £17,000 (first round group stage); and £27,000 (second round, quarter-finals, semi-finals and final).

Neil Doncaster, chief executive of the SPFL, said: "We are delighted to announce record prize money in this season's Premier Sports Cup. Premier Sports have been fantastic supporters of our premier cup competition. Their investment into the Cup has allowed us to announce record prize money this season

and these funds will continue to support our clubs as they recover from the pandemic.

"With the first-round group stage kicking off on 9 July, we are very much looking forward to another year of passion, drama and excitement in this season's Premier Sports Cup, live on Premier Sports."

The History of Alloa Athletic FC, a book by Stuart Latham and John Glencross will be published in August, 2022 and celebrates Alloa Athletic's 100 years in the Scottish League. Over 660 pages in A4 size covering League Tables, Results, Player Appearances since the club joined the Scottish League in 1921. The book will be sold via the club with profits going directly into the club.

The book will be on sale at Waterstones Retail Price £ 40. However the book can be ordered direct from the club for £ 29.99. Orders can be placed directly with the club at fcadmin@ alloaathletic.co.uk. The book will be officially launched on Saturday 6th August at our first home league match against Kelty Hearts when both Stuart Latham and myself will be present at the game to promote.

Wasps 2000 Draw -Week 27 9th July, 2022

£ 100 1497 I.Fitzgerald £ 50 0220 C.Glass £ 25 0551 J.Finlayson £ 25 0389 S.Cocking £ 25 0455 B.MacPherson

Alloa Athletic





T: 01259724230

PREMIER SPORTS

16th July 2022 Victoria Park, Buckie 3:00pm KO

BUCKIE THISTLE

1:4

ALLOA ATHLETIC



	(1:2)		
	SCORERS	3	
Urquhart (P) 16'	1:0		
	1:1	23' Sammon	
	1:2	27' Rodden	
	1:3	81 ' Sammon	
	4.4	96' Cammon	









ST	ARTING XI
1	DEMUS
2	WOOD
16	FYFFE
6	MURRAY
13	RAMSAY
7	FRASER
15	PUGH
17	BARRY
10	MACASKILL

11 URQUHART

20 GOODALL

SU	BS
12	HERBERT
5	MACKINNON
3	MCLAUCHLAN
14	MCCABE

23 ADAMS

18 MILNE

22

	STARTING XI
	31 HOGARTH
BS	2 TAGGART
BURT	5 GRAHAM
KHYYAM	14 STANGER
COMRIE	3 CHURCH
BUCHANAN	11 MILLER
MCLAREN	16 KING
	20 O'DONNELL
	15 MACIVER
	18 SAMMON

10 RODDEN

REFEREE: Duncan Williams



16th July 2022 Victoria Park, Dingwall 3:00pm KO

ROSS COUNTY

1:0

DUNFERMLINE













STARTING XI			STARTING XI
1 LAIDLAW			1 MEHMET
2 RANDALL	SUBS	SUBS	2 COMRIE
15 WATSON	4 CANCOLA	6 MACDONALD	4 BENEDICTUS
6 IACOVITTI	5 BALDWIN	8 CHALMERS	12 BREEN
3 PURRINGTON	SAMUEL	10 TODOROV	3 EDWARDS
8 CALLACHAN	12 JOHSON	19 FENTON	18 ALLAN
24 PATON	14 LOTURI	24 RENNIE	5 HAMILTON
7 EDWARDS	17 OLAIGBE	25 BEAGLEY	26 TODD
10 DHANDA	22 TILSON	27 YOUNG	9 WIGHTON
11 SIMS	26 WHITE	28 TOD	14 MCCANN
19 HIWULA	31 EASTWOOD	30 ARCHIBALD	7 O'HARA

REFEREE: Nick Walsh

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
- 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





JONATHAN MARKWELL



MANAGING EXPECTATIONS

It is just 11 days until the start of what promises to be one of the most intriguing League One seasons of recent vears. Almost every side in the division has a realistic expectation of reaching the promotion play-offs, with one of the key factors between success and failure likely to be the decisions made by the ten team managers. Given that there is new freshness surrounding the league this season, with four new teams, and seven of the managers have

been in their jobs for less than six months, my divisional preview will focus on those who are charged with masterminding their clubs' quest for success this season.

Amongst the ten managers in the division there is your usual blend of youth and experience. From the youthful Rhys McCabe at Airdrie, who only turned 30 on 24th July, to a man more than double McCabe's age in Falkirk's new manager John McGlynn. Some

may suggest that the player-manager appointment of McCabe is a risk, but Alloa supporters with long memories will recall Willie Garner being appointed as the Wasps player-manager at the age of 27 in 1982. The fresh approach McCabe can offer shouldn't be underestimated, with it also perhaps notable that his aunt is former SWNT manager Shelley Kerr, Having retained the nucleus of the side which performed so well last season (with

the notable exceptions of Dylan Easton and Scott Agnew following Ian Murray to Raith) and complementing that with a couple of eye-catching new signings in the form of Montrose's Cammy Ballantyne and Queen of the South keeper Josh Rae, I think Airdrie will be pushing for promotion again.

Other younger appointments are James McPake at Dunfermline Athletic and Wullie Gibson at Queen of the South. McPake will use

the various experiences he gained in his twoand-a-half season stint at Dundee to try and propel the Pars back to the Championship at the first time of asking. My perception of McPake at Dundee was that he was entirely competent in his role, without being outstanding. For large parts of the 2020/1 season the Dark Blues were fairly ordinary, but they built momentum at the business end of the season to win promotion to the top tier. Last season they were a Jekyll & Hyde side, having spells of good results followed by runs of defeats. To outsiders. it was surprising that McPake departed after a better spell of results. For me, his reputation was only enhanced by the subsequent nosedive in form his successor at Dens Park endured. Dunfermline feels like a similar fit to his first managerial gig, in charge of a newly relegated side with an expectant fan-base who will demand good football as well as victories. McPake needed two seasons to get Dundee promoted, but will there be a similar patience at Fast Fnd Park?

On paper, Gibson has recruited well for his first season in permanent charge of Queen of the South. The greater prize money gained from playing in the Championship

last season appears to have helped attract established names to Palmerston and they'll be hoping to make an immediate return, just as they did the last time they were in the third tier in 2012/13. Gibson will need to decide how much of an active role he plays on the pitch as well as from the sidelines. Despite fast approaching his 38th birthday, Gibson was still a regular starter last season, even when he took over managerial duties too. Alloa supporters saw the difficulties lim Goodwin encountered trying to combine the two roles so time will tell as to whether Gibson continues his dual role.

The two managers at the newly promoted teams have a number of similarities. Both John Potter at Kelty Hearts and Alan Maybury at FC Edinburgh are in their early 40s and have made the step up to the No. 1 role having gained plenty of experience in coaching positions. Potter actually had a short spell in charge of League One Dunfermline in the second half of the difficult 2014/15 season for the Pars. Potter then reverted to a coaching role at East End Park before coaching and assisting lack Ross at first Sunderland and then Hibernian. The former defender will have gained various skills from those different settings and roles. which means he will feel he has the tools to be a manager again. The ambitious surroundings of New Central Park make it an attractive proposition for any aspiring manager, with Potter seeking to build on successive promotions

for Kelty. The step up to League One will be bigger and tougher though; I foresee Kelty starting well with both a new manager bounce and momentum from the previous two seasons assisting in that regard, but a third successive promotion would require a monumental effort from Potter and his squad.

Maybury's route to FC Edinburgh has been a steady rise through the coaching ranks, with the former Ireland international defender coaching at Hibernian, Falkirk, St Johnstone and Oldham (under Harry Kewell, now of Celtic - so perhaps a loan signing or two during the season?) and Kilmarnock before becoming the interim coach of Edinburgh City at the end of March. Despite only winning



two of his six games in charge that was enough to earn a fourth place finish and Maybury delivered in the play-offs. helped by a bit of magic from former Alloa loanee Innes Murray, to win promotion and turn his interim appointment into a permanent one. With some off-pitch distractions over the summer, I suspect Maybury will be hoping to stabilise FC Edinburgh's position in the division this season, before seeking to grow the obvious potential the club has in the longer term.

I'd usually expect there to be predominantly younger managers at clubs in League One, with this being an ideal level to gain experience and success to use as a springboard to a job further up the footballing pyramid. As such, it is surprising that this season half the managers are over 50. Three of the top six longest-serving managers in the country are amongst those gaffers, with Jim McInally at the top of the tree having been in charge at Peterhead for over a decade now. In that time the Blue Toon have bounced between League One and League Two a couple of times, with McInally being the constant throughout that period. There were times where his position appeared from a distance to be



on a shoogly peg as Peterhead struggled to get out of League Two despite a superior budget to most of their competitors, but the former Sligo, Morton and East Stirling manager steadied the ship and will be looking to improve on a 7th place finish. In recent weeks, the former Scotland international player has spoken of the difficulties of attracting players to the north-east, with his efforts sometimes being gazumped by lowland league sides who are able to pay as much as Peterhead but without the long journeys for central belt based players. That's just a sign of the times and I personally think McInally will need to unearth some gems to keep his reign going for another season.

The other long serving

managers in the division are Montrose's Stewart Petrie and Clyde's Danny Lennon, Petrie has a really solid and settled squad at Links Park at his disposal and they are continually underestimated. I think if the Gable Endies get off to a good start this season they could be serious contenders, which will result in Petrie inevitably being touted for other iobs. He seems like he is more than content at Links Park though and that can only bode well for the Angus club. Dannv Lennon needs little introduction to any Alloa supporter, although his roller-coaster spell at Alloa in 2015 seems an absolute lifetime ago now. I'd say that Lennon extracted the maximum from his squad last season, who clearly have one of the lower budgets in the division and will be banking

on the experienced backline trio of Neil Parry and new signings Peter Grant Jr and Brian McLean to steer them clear from danger again. Lennon is a canny manager and is arguably the most successful of any in the division. having led St Mirren to a national cup win in 2013. Although I'm usually a big fan of the dark arts in the game, the biggest question for me this season is whether Clyde's new home ground in Hamilton has more than the single football Broadwood seemed to have whenever Lennon's team were ahead in home games last season!

On paper Falkirk have, amongst all their trials and tribulations off the pitch, made an astute and entirely sensible decision in attracting John McGlynn and his trusted assistant Paul Smith to the Falkirk Stadium. Surely with the experience and knowhow of this duo Falkirk's malaise cannot continue for another season? In recent seasons, the much heralded 'McGlynnball' at Raith was easy on the eye and effective at this level and the one above: can McGlynn replicate that with Falkirk and provide the success their ever demanding fan-base crave? Given what's gone on across the Forth in recently I cannot see anything but McGlynn succeeding in turning around the fortunes of the Bairns, with the biggest challenge being creating a winning mentality in

the dressing room and getting the supporters onside, even if there are some wobbles in results along the way. The summer signings of a strong central core of PJ Morrison in goal, Coll Donaldson in defence and Stephen McGinn in midfield has the hallmarks of McGlynn already working his magic again.

A feature amongst all the managers is that they have all either played or managed outside of Scottish football. Broadening ones experience outside of the goldfish bowl of Scotland is becoming increasingly common for both players and managers. The furthest flung of the League

One managers is Petrie, who played in Australia and Singapore towards the end of his playing days and also coached with North Queensland Fury too. The less exotic examples are John McGlynn's 18 month spell as a youth player at Bolton Wanderers and Danny Lennon's late playing days with Workington!

Another thing all League One managers will need to be particularly mindful of this season are the eight artificial pitches, with only Dunfermline and Peterhead still playing on traditional grass surfaces. In my mind, bearing in mind Alloa's experiences at Dumbarton and Firhill's quagmires last March,

this can only point to a better spectacle for supporters and technical players being to the fore.

The only manager I'm yet to mention is Alloa's very own Brian Rice. After steadying the ship in the final quarter of last season. Rice will be quietly confident that he can help Alloa go under the radar, away from the hullabaloo of other sides in the division, to have a successful campaign. Whichever manager is celebrating come 6th May 2023, it promises to be a fascinating campaign full of twists and turns in the ever entertaining world of lower league Scottish football.



DONALD POLLOCK



CHALLENGES AHEAD

"Alloa are building up an exceptionally strong team and the new First Leaguers' outlook for next season is good". That was the encouraging news in the papers 100 years ago as the Wasps prepared for their debut season in Scotland's top flight. Alloa were a club on the up, promoted as champions in their first ever season in the Scottish League. The directors were well aware of the challenges ahead in sustaining a First Division team in a small town

and in troubled economic times, and with a pool of players many of whom had been playing in the Central League just a year before. The club's share capital had been increased and there was an appeal to the people of the Wee County to back the club with the funds to bolster the squad and prepare the Recs for the arrival of the big boys.

While the majority of the championship heroes had been retained, a number of players were moved on to make way for new additions, most notably goalkeeper Caldwell – a safe pair of hands throughout the promotion season - and attacker Whittle, a man who had popped up with some important goals for the Wasps on their path to the title. There was no question about the most prominent departure though, and it was a player Alloa had been loath to lose. Wee Willie Crilley had gained cult status in the Wee County almost as soon as he had arrived from Cambuslang

Rangers in October 1920. The Midget Centre' had scored the goals that had inspired Alloa's Scottish Cup run of 1920/21 and he had taken that form into the Second Division, smashing home an incredible 48 league goals and finding himself on the fringes of the Scotland team. Speculation over his future had grown as his tally mounted and come summer 1922 the wee man was on his way. Not without a fight from the Wasps it must be said. As Celtic



swooped it emerged that Alloa were offering Crilley more cash to stay at the Recs than he was going to get at Parkhead. Not only that, but Crilley could also have made more money by taking an offer to go south to Millwall. But this was man of impeccable Irish heritage raised in the shadow of Celtic Park: in truth there was only going to be one destination for him when Celtic declared their interest. Alloa's hero was gone but there was the consolation of a £700 transfer fee and two fringe players from Celtic, John Connor and Thomas 'Tully' Craig, whose nickname derived from his home town of Tullibody. Tully was back in the Wee County and aiming to make a name for himself after failing to command a regular place at Parkhead.

Joining the two former Celts was goal-

keeper Jack Thomson from Bristol Rovers, a man who had previously played for Benburb. Tough tackling defender Andrew Ford arrived from Albion Rovers and right winger George Forrest came in from Hearts. The Wasps had also been keeping tabs on Arthur McInally of Armadale, another who had been on Celtic's wanted list. When his move to Parkhead broke down in nipped Alloa to pip Clydebank to his signature. It was reported that the lure of top flight football sealed the deal: "He has made an excellent bargain with Alloa, and they have secured a splendid half-back". Another new arrival was defender lames Headrick, a local lad who had come through the ranks with Alva Albion Rangers and had most recently been turning out for Dundee Hibs.

Still the wheeling and dealing continued with a goalscorer to replace

Crilley the priority – an impossible task. The Wasps looked south and an offer of £400 was accepted by Nottingham Forrest for former Dundee striker Davie Brown, but personal terms could not be agreed: "Alloa told him they could not go higher and that he could take it or leave it. He left it".

Meanwhile, Wasps secretary James Saunders took a trip to Switzerland, writing home that "I'm just as many feet above sea level here as I hope Alloa will be above Relegation Pond in April 1923. But I have not found a centre forward here".

The search continued as Alloa returned to training at the end of July. They did so in enhanced surroundings with the terraces at the Recs having been built up to increase the capacity to 15,000, along with a new press box and fencing. Trainer McDonald "expressed himself as very hopeful" about Alloa's prospects. With August now looming that optimism would soon be put to the test. More in the next edition of The Wasp.



APPEARANCES

		LEA	GUE	CI	UP	TO	Γ AL	ALLOA CA	AREER LGE
	POS	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
MUIR	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
BURT	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
HOGARTH	GOAL	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
TAGGART	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	194 (0)	6
CHURCH	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	20 (4)	0
HOWIE	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	17 (3)	1
GRAHAM	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	176 (1)	13
DURNAN	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	33 (0)	4
STANGER	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
ROBERTSON	- MID	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	147 (28)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	8 (8)	1
KING	MID	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	26 (5)	4
O'DONNELL	- MID	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
MILLER	MID	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
CAWLEY	- FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	298 (43)	62
COMRIE	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
MCLAREN	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (0)	0
SAMMON	FWD	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	- 3	2 (0)	- 3	21 (13)	5
MACIVER	- FWD	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	3 (5)	1
КНҮҮАМ	- FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (0)	0
RODDEN	- FWD	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	1	1 (0)	1	0 (0)	0
BUCHANAN	- FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (0)	0





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50 (1)	2	70 (5)	2	WORLDWIDE WASPS	-
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0 (0)	0	147 (28)	2	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS	-
1 (0)	1	9 (8)	2	MCCALLUM ENGINEERING	DC CONSULTING
2 (0)	0	28 (5)	0	BRAIN DAMAGED BARON	-
0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	-	-
2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	STUART LATHAM	-
5 (2)	1	303 (45)	63	AIMEE BURGESS	-
0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	-	-
0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	-	-
2 (0)	3	23 (13)	8	CARRUTHERS WELDING SERVICES	-
2 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	HAMISH COMRIE PLUMBING	-
0 (2)	1	1 (0)	1	CHARLIE & JAMIE BELL	
0 (2)	0	0 (2)	. 0	-	-
- \-/		- \-/			



A FAN'S VIEW

I have no idea what Alloas chances of League Cup progression are today, as I write this prior to Saturdays match at Buckie Thistle. Another ground visit to tick off the list- quite literally for me. Recently I was browsing on the internet and came across footballgroundmap. com. The site allows you to track every ground you've visited in the UK. It became a tough but enjoyable evening trying to remember all the stadium visits over the years. I'm not of the "ground hopper" mould. but if an opportunity arises to visit a new ground to take in a match on my travels, I'll always push to go for it. The site covers

all stadiums in the UK. right down through the respective pyramids, including Scottish Junior Leagues etc. After Buckie my total will be 87, with Kelty in the dwell when the league campaign begins. A passable score, but take into account the likes of Beechwood Park. The Gannochy etc are all listed- and its not so impressive. Later this season I'm considering a day trip to Hartlepool to see what kind of team Paul Hartley has put together. And there's a potential trip with a couple of work colleagues on the horizon to see Fleetwood Town vs Bristol Rovers-Scott Brown vs Joey Barton in the dugout.

Despite being a competitive opener, last weeks match against East Fife still had a large whiff of pre-season in the air. Alloa were a bit makeshift in their lineup, with 5 players completely absent- Kevin Cawley, Mark Durnan, Ion Robertson, Bradlev Rodden and Craig Howie. The most notable starter for Alloa was young Jay Hogarth in goal having just joined the club in the previous week. Alloa started the match well, and it no real surprise when they took the lead after 12 minutes. It was a good bit of interchange play, then Scougalls delivery was turned into his own net by Aaron Steele of the visitors. At that

point it appeared for all intents and purposes to be heading towards a comfortable Alloa victory. But the game descended into a frantic, overly busy affair in the middle of pitch- with only small bursts of quality or decent passages of play. The East Fife equaliser from Scott Shepherd did inject a bit of urgency into Alloas play in the closing stages, with Cammy O'Donnell and substitute Steven Buchanan failing to convert decent opportunities. But it ended all square. It felt like a bit of a chore staying on for more action- the game hadn't been great, the sun had gone down and everyone clad in shorts/t-shirt



combo was feeling slightly more chilled. But you really can't beat a penalty shoot-out for universal appeal and excitement- even when there's little at stake. Alloa blinked first when Andy Graham missed, but East Fife struck the crossbar immediately afterwards and the scores remained level into sudden death. With the score at 5 apiece. Pat Slatterys effort was saved by Hogarth- and George Stanger won

Alloa the bonus point. It wasn't the most memorable evening I've experienced watching Alloa, but it was pleasing to see the young goalkeeper take the headlines in his first home match. That will do his confidence no harm at all going forward. Similarly. I really liked the attitude and some of the play from Steven Buchanan from the bench. He could have emerged the hero in the 90 minutes had he converted his

chance at the end. But he got himself into some threatening positions and made an impact.

You can see from the "Three of the Best" column elsewhere in this programme that midweek matches against Ross County have produced some memorable evenings in the past. For me League Cup progression through these groups is merely a bonus and its more prominently preparation for the league campaign. What I've enjoyed this summer is a really refreshing, optimistic approach from the Alloa support-which seems to be fairly universal. The league will be tough this season, and I don't think anyone would believe otherwise. With 3 full time teams in League One, it has the potential to be as competitive as it's ever been- and I think

its definitely the most competitive of the 4 Scottish senior leagues. Brian Rice did really well at the tail end of the last campaign, and everyone seems to back him. This should make attending games a bit more enjoyable, with the atmosphere not so great at this time last season and moving forward. The transfer market seems tougher than usual, whether that's down to the post-covid landscape or other reasons. I think the managers approach has been correct to retain the majority of the squad from last season. And I reckon there's more to come in terms of the new faces from utilising the loan market. Lets enjoy the warm summer nights from behind the Clackmannan Road end, because they'll be gone before we know it.







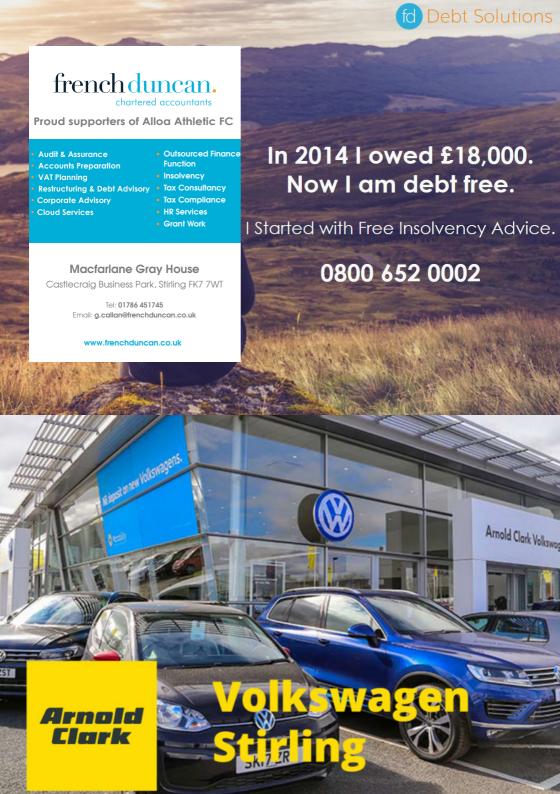
IN RETROSPECT SEASON 1992-93

After missing out on promotion by the narrowest of margins in season 1991-92. Alloa Athletic were no doubt hopeful of making up for the disappointment in the 1992-93 campaign, and a 2-0 home opening day win v Berwick, perhaps suggested that The Wasps were on the right tracks. But any early optimism then seemed dispelled, when the next six league games produced just one victory. During this time, there was an inglorious 1-5 home beating v another of the fancied

sides, Clyde, also a 2-4 reversal at local rivals East Stirling, While in addition, Alloa's Skol Cup hopes for 1992-93 had ended more or less before thev'd even began, when St. Johnstone of The Premier Division proved too strong, in a second round tie at Recreation Park, this after Alloa had accounted for East Stirling at Firs Park. However, Alloa soon recovered from this bad spell, and proceeded to embark on a strong run of form, which saw just three defeats suffered in the next twenty-three

league games. During this time, and in common with their Skol Cup campaign, Alloa's Scottish Cup adventure had ended rather prematurely, when East Fife won a second round tie at Recreation Park by 6-5 on penalties, AET, while the same was true of their interest in The B & O Cup, when they were defeated at Stranraer in the first round. However, promotion was surely the overriding aim, and by mid-March, Alloa looked a good bet for one of the top two spots in The

Second Division. Unfortunately, the wheels then came off their promotion push, and a run of eight winless games put paid to any hopes of promotion. as they ended in fifth place, nine points off second-placed Brechin. But The Wasps did end the campaign on a high note, with a tremendous 7-0 win at Queen Of The South, which perhaps gave encouragement that they'd come good in season 1993-94.



	Home	Away
Albion Rovers	1-0/4-0	1-0
Arbroath	0-3/0-2	0-0
Berwick Rangers	0-2/2-0	2-2
Brechin City	3-2	0-1/2-4
Clyde	1-1/1-5	1-1
East Fife	0-2	2-2/0-2
East Stirling	1-0	2-0/2-4
Forfar Athletic	1-1	1-1/1-1
Montrose	3-1/3-0	4-1
Queen Of The South	2-2	7-0/2-1
Queen's Park	0-0	2-2/3-0
Stenhousemuir	0-2/2-1	1-0
Stranraer	1-4	3-3/2-1

SCOTTISH CUP

2nd round East Fife (away) 1-1

East Fife (home, replay) 1-1 (lost 5-6 on penalties AET)

SKOL CUP

1st round East Stirling (away) 1-0 2nd round St. Johnstone (home) 1-3

B & Q Cup 1st round

Stranraer (away) 2-3

GOALSCORERS

Moffat 19 (1 pen), Smith 9, McAvoy 6 Hendry 5, McCormack 5, Tait 5, League Newbigging 4 (4 pens), McNiven 2, Russell 2, Wilcox 2, Bennett 1, Crombie

McAvoy 1, Moffat 1

Scottish Cup:

Skol Cup: McAvoy 1, Moffat 1 B & Q Cup: McNiven 1, Wilcox 1



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SECOND DIVISION FINAL TABLE FOR 1992-93

Pos		PL	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Clyde Brechin City Stranraer Forfar Athletic Alloa Athletic Arbroath Stenhousemuir Berwick Rangers East Fife Queen Of The South Queen's Park Montrose East Stirling Albion Rovers	39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39	22 23 19 18 16 18 15 16 14 12 8 10 8 6	10 7 15 10 12 8 10 7 10 9 12 7 9	7 9 5 11 11 13 14 16 15 18 19 22 22 23	77 62 69 74 63 59 56 70 57 51 46 50 36	42 32 44 54 54 50 48 64 64 72 73 71 85 76	54 53 53 46 44 44 40 39 38 33 28 27 25 22



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ROSS COUNTY

The Staggies

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GROUND

Victoria Park. Dingwall

TOP HONOURS

Scottish League Cup Winners: 2015-16 Scottish Cup: Runners-up: 2009-10 Challenge Cup Winners (3) Scottish Championship:* Winners: 2011-12, 2018-19 Scottish League 1* Winners: 2007-2008 Scottish League 2* Winners: 1998-99 Highland League Winners (3)

This evening we continue our Premier Sports Cup campaign with a match against the group's highest ranked team, Ross County. The Staggies can find themselves hard done by to be in this stage of the cup and not fighting on the European stage. It was a fantastic season last year for the visitors as they fought up in the top half of the table for the majority of the season. However, it was a cruel end as they slipped to 6th place behind Motherwell. It did not take away from what can be considered a phenomenal achievement and their best

season since promotion in 2019. A lot of this success was down to SPFL Premiership top scorer, Regan Charles-Cook, who set the league alight with his goal return and performances. The Highlanders will have to go without him though after he departed to Belgian side, KAS Eupen. They will be looking to bounce back after disappointment against Buckie Thistle last week to begin this campaign but they know if they can turn their fortunes. they may be able to dream again that they can replicate 2016 when they won this trophy.

THE BOSS -MALKY MACKAY

Ross County raised evebrows last year when they parted ways with John Hughes and appointed Scottish Football Association's performance director. Malky MacKay as their new boss. However, all critics were answered as he led the side to a brilliant season at the right end of the table. The centre-half had a successful playing career for teams such as Oueen's Park. Celtic and Norwich to name a few. as well as multiple caps for Scotland. His managerial career





began in 2009 when he took over the reins from Brendan Rodgers at Watford. He would stay there for two years before moving to Cardiff where he would enjoy a lot of success. Leading his side to the English Premiership by winning the league in 2013, his side were known for their attractive and efficient style of play. The year prior to that he had reached the final of the English equivalent of tonight's tournament before falling short to Liverpool at Wembley. After some time out of the game for personal reasons, he returned with the Scottish FA in a performance director role, with a brief caretaker stint as boss. before joining County last May.

THE CAPTAIN -KEITH WATSON

The Staggies will be led out by experienced defender Keith Watson this evening. Watson began his career at Dundee United in the youth development system in 2004, before making his senior debut in 2007. Despite an injury plagued time at the beginning, he managed to establish himself as a first team player in 2010 and was a part of the squad that won the Scottish Cup. Over a hundred appearances for United, which included a few loan spells, he moved to St Mirren, then St Iohnstone before settling in the Highlands in 2018. He won the Scottish Championship in his first season with the club and at the

beginning of last season was given the honour of the captain's armband of which he definitely lived up to by leading by example for their top six finish. Watson is now the longest serving senior player at the club as he sets out on another season as skipper in the Premiership.

NEW BOY - CALLUM JOHNSON

It has been a busy window for the Staggies so far and you only have to go back a week or so to see their latest recruit, Callum Johnson. Mackay made the move for the right-back, signing him from Fleetwood Town after an extensive scouting process. Johnson has a wealth of experience in the English lower leagues

with over two-hundred appearances for a whole host of clubs, such as Middlesborough, Accrington Stanley and Portsmouth. The 25-year old was yet to make his debut at the time of writing this article, however, he may have a chance to impress against Dunfermline before travelling to Alloa tonight. He joins on a two-year deal.

ONE TO WATCH-DOMINIC SAMUEL

Another new face is this evening's one to watch after an impressive start to his County career is Dominic Samuel. The striker also signed a two-year deal from the English lower leagues earlier this summer. Last season he was at Gillingham FC, however, his time at the

CONTINUED ON P32





BY KIEREN MOONEY

club originally started as a loan spell. Being part of the high reputable Reading academy, Samuel played in the under-eighteen squad before making his Premier League debut in 2012/13 season against Sunderland, Successful loan spells at Coventry and Gillingham would follow before he moved permanently to Blackburn, scoring eight goals and firing them up to the Championship. A brief return to Gillingham followed before making the move up North. Described as a proven goal scorer in English football, the striker, now at his prime, got off to the perfect individual start with a goal on his competitive debut against Buckie Thistle.

THE CONNECTION

With the geograph-

ical distance between the two clubs, there are very few connections between them. The only current connection still involved in either side todav is Alloa's newest striker, Ross MacIver. Born in Inverness, the forward came through the Ross County Academy and was part of the under-twenty side that won the 2016-17 SPFL Development League for the first time in the club's history. He made his first debut a season later in the Challenge Cup against Montrose and took home the man of the match award for his brief stint. A notable name in the past that played for both club's would be another striker. Ross Stewart. Dubbed the Loch Ness Drogba, Stewart is now enjoying a successful spell at Sunderland. who will compete in the Championship this year,

as well as being part of the Scotland National Team. Stewart played an integral role in Alloa's promotion in 2018 with seven crucial goals during his half a season at the club. Three of those goals importantly coming in the play-off semi and final. He would move to County after his stint at Alloa and after an impressive few seasons would earn his move to Sunderland where has come on leaps and bounds.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The sides were in the same division back in 2018/19 and faced up against each other four times that year. Ross County took the majority of the spoils winning four out of the five games then, however, the most recent of those four was an Alloa

victory at the Indodrill. A Dario Zanatta strike in March 2019 separated the sides, the last time they faced one another. County won two of the other games with a 2-0 score line, some of the scorers back then being Callum Morris and Harry Paton for one game. and former Wasp, Declan McManus and Jamie Lindsay for the other. The other game of that season was a 1-0 win for The Staggies when a stoppage time winner from current captain Keith Watson broke Alloa hearts. County had already hit Alloa with a sucker punch 1-0 earlier in the season when Marcus Fraser a few minutes from time gave them the victory. All things considered between the league and cup games that year, they were always closely tied affairs.







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THREE OF THE BEST..... ALLOA CUP WINS OVER ROSS COUNTY

1. ALLOA 2 ROSS COUNTY 0 (SCOTTISH CUP ROUND 3, 8TH FEBRUARY 1994)

A 4th Round tie against Rangers at Ibrox lay in wait for the winners of this encounter. Ross County were still in the Highland League in early 1994 but had received notification their application to join the Scottish League was successful. They came to Recreation Park full of confidence, having

dispatched St Cuthberts Wanderers 11-0 in round 1, and an even more impressive 2nd Round 4-0 thrashing of Alloas Division 2 counterparts Forfar at Station Park. The tie certainly caught the imagination of the locals. The kick off was delayed by 10 minutes with 4.207 packed into the ground on a cold Tuesday night. Alloa took control of the tie with 2 first half goals. Mike McAneny headed

home the opener from close range off the bar, then Alloa added a second when a Willie Newbigging free kick fell to Neil McAvov. His quick turn allowed him the space to slot home. County played well throughout the game though spending much of it on the ascendancy but were repeatedly denied by the Alloa rearguard- with Iim Butter producing a man of the match performance

in the Alloa goal. Alloa would get their money-spinning trip to Ibrox, where they lost 6-0.

2. ALLOA 2 ROSS COUNTY 1 (LEAGUE CUP ROUND 2, 22ND AUGUST 2006)

Another memorable midweek cup win- mainly due to Alloa playing the majority of the match with ten men. County were a Division 1 team at this point, whilst Alloa sat a league

below. Alloa suffered a major setback when they conceded a penalty after 15 minutes, with central defender Stuart Malcolm receiving a straight red card. However, goalkeeper Alan Creer saved Derek Adams' spot kick to keep the tie goal-less. The save spurred Alloa on and they were excellent for the remainder of the first half, even with the one man deficit. They deservedly took the lead after 34 minutes. Striker Graeme Brown had earlier struck the woodwork twice, but managed to drive home the opener at the third time of asking. Minutes into the 2nd half Fraser Forrest headed home Alloas second to give them a real cushion. This was reduced just before the hour mark when Kevin McKinlav pulled the visitors back into the game. A much more comfortable watch would have ensued had Alloa not missed a golden opportunity to seal the tie when a second penalty was awardedthis time for the Wasps. Kieren McAnespie, who had been excellent throughout the evening, sent his penalty high over the bar onto Clackmannan Road. Alloa held on though for a great triumph in the face of adversity.

ALLOA 3 ROSS COUNTY 2 (LEAGUE CUP GROUP STAGES, 26TH JULY 2016)

Yet another midweek encounter, and on this occasion the lim McIntyre's Premiership visitors rocked up as the League Cup holders having beaten Hibs in the previous season's final. Alloa had just been relegated from the Championship, facing their first full season under lack Ross in League One. Alloa had won their opening 2 matches of the League Cup section against Montrose and Cove Rangers, whereas Ross County had slipped up at home to Raith Rovers in their previous match- a 1-1 draw and subsequently losing the penalty shootout bonus point. The story goes that Jack Ross observed County in the pre match warm up doing

drills with an unfamiliar back 3- then tweaked his system accordingly and asked his players to go for the jugular. It worked to great effect from kick off. With just over 60 seconds on the clock Greig Spence fed the onrushing Jordan Kirkpatrick and he fired home the opener. It got better for the Wasps after 11 minutes, with Iain Flannigans delivery allowing Ion Robertson to slot home from close range. The visitors fired back though, and a Brian Graham volley after 14 minutes reduced the deficit. A great run and finish down the left from Alex Schalk then levelled the tie. 2 goals apiece with only 21 minutes on the clock. Both teams had their chances before the break to take the lead- County hit the crossbar while Kevin Cawley had a header dip inches over the top.

The game continued to ebb and flow after the interval, but as the half wore on Alloa were getting the better of the exchanges. They got their noses back in front after 73 minutes, with the 2 full backs combining- a great delivery from Scott Taggart was struck home first time by Callum Waters. Isaac Layne missed a great chance late on to put the game beyond any doubt, but Alloa hung on for a great win- eliminating the holders from the League Cup in the process. They would defeat Raith Rovers at Starks Park to complete a clean sweep of group wins, before defeating County's close Premiership rivals Inverness Caledonian Thistle. In the guarter finals they lost narrowly at Celtic Park to Brendan Rodgers 'invincibles' side.

HT QUIZ

I.NAME THIS FORMER DEFENDER WHO PLAYED FOR BOTH CLUBS BY HIS SEQUENTIAL CLUB CAREER PATH: ROSS COUNTY-ALLOA-BERWICK-EAST STIRLING-SHIRE-FORFAR-EAST STIRLINGSHIRE-CLYDE-MONTROSE-SPARTANS

2.OF THE 12 CURRENT SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP CLUBS, WHICH IS THE ONLY ONE ALLOA HAVE NOT FACED IN A COMPETITIVE MATCH THIS CENTURY?

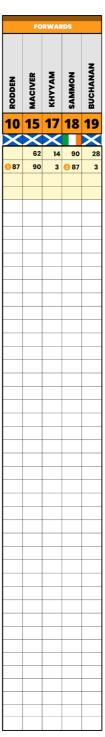
3.THE SCOTLAND SQUAD FOR THE 1998 WORLD CUP CONTAINED PLAYERS ON THE BOOKS OF THE FOLLOWING CLUBS- WIMBLEDON, NOTTINGHAM FOREST, LEICESTER CITY AND FC UTRECHT. NAME EACH OF THE 4 PLAYERS

4.NAME THE 3 COUNTRIES WHO HAVE WON THE WORLD CUP IN A HOST COUNTRY OUTSIDE OF THEIR OWN CONTINENT. A BONUS IF YOU CAN NAME THE RESPECTIVE TOURNAMENT YEARS AND HOST NATIONS.

ANSWERS PAGE 37

	ENDERS	DEFEND		ALKEEPERS	GO/							CEY:
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LC						REFEREE	SCORE			OPPOSITION	DATE	
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11 36.07.22 DUNFERMLINE A									н	ROSS COUNTY	19.07.22	LC
11 06.08.22 KELTY HEARTS H									н	DUNFERMLINE	23.07.22	LC
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		90		90	87	3							





QUIZ ANSWERS

1.MICHAEL BOLOCHOWECKYJ

2.MOTHERWELL- LAST COMPETITIVE FIXTURE 1996, A FAMOUS LEAGUE CUP WIN ON PENALTIES.

3.WIMBLEDON- NEIL SULLIVAN, NOTTS FOR-EST- SCOT GEMMILL, LEICESTER CITY- MATT ELLIOTT, FC UTRECHT- SCOTT BOOTH

4.BRAZIL (SWEDEN 1958, USA 1994, SOUTH KOREA/JAPAN 2002), SPAIN (SOUTH AFRICA 2010), GERMANY (BRAZIL 2014)





ALLOA ATHLETIC



ROSS COUNTY



		POS		•	_	
X	1		ROSS LAIDLAW			
ŧ	2		CONNOR RANDALL			
Ŧ	3		BEN PURRINGTON			
	4		DAVID CANCOLA			
+	5		JACK BALDWIN			
\times	6		ALEX IACOVITTI			
Ŧ	7		OWURA EDWARDS			
X	8		ROSS CALLACHAN			
Ŧ	9		DOMINIC SAMUEL			
+	10		YAN DHANDA			
+	11		JOSH SIMS			
*	14		VICTOR LOTURI			
X	15		KEITH WATSON			
+	16		GEORGE HARMON			
	17		KAZEEM OLAIGBE			
+	19		JORDY HIWULA			
\mathbf{X}	20		ADAM MACKINNON			
X	21		ROSS MUNRO			
+	22		JORDAN TILSON			
\times	23		MATTHEW WRIGHT			
*	24		BEN PATON			
	25		ALEX SAMUEL			
X	26		JORDAN WHITE			
X	28		RYAN MACLENNON			
X	30		DYLAN SMITH			
+	31		JAKE EASTWOOD			
X	32		CONALLEWAN			
X	33		ANDREW MACLEOD			
+	34		GEORGE ROBESTEN			
\mathbf{X}	41		LOGAN ROSS			
*	-		WILLIAM AKIO			

REFEREE: Barry Cook

ASST: Colin McAlpine & Clyde Buchanan

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

ALLOA ATHLETIC



KELTY HEARTS

23.07.22, AWAY, 15:00

DUNFERMLINE



ALLOA ATHLETIC

TC

ALLOA ATHLETIC



20.08.22, AWAY, 15:00

FC EDINBURGH

30.07.22, AWAY, 15:00





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AIRDRIEONIANS



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PROUDLY SUPPORTING ALLOA ATHLETIC FC



UK'S MAJOR BRAND SUPPLYING FOOTBALL KITS & TEAMWEAR DIRECT



INDUSTRY LEADING QUALITY STANDARDS



MARKET LEADING 2 DAY DESPATCH ON PRINTED KITS