

# THE WASP



**FALKIRK**  
**17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**



**NORTHERN**  
**GAS AND POWER**  
THE SMARTER ENERGY CHOICE



**Mitre®**  
DIFFERENT LEAGUE



**Mitre®**

Official  
Ball  
Supplier  
of the



[mitre.com](https://mitre.com)



# 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  
Ewen Cameron  
Directors  
Mike Mulraney (Chairman)  
Martin Ross (Vice Chairman)  
Steven Lynch  
Dr Robert McElroy

Andrew Allan

### 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

### Programme Editor

John Glencross  
Mobile: 07877530314  
Email: jgxaltoaafc@aol.com

### Programme Contributors

J. Markwell, A. Cockburn,  
B. Roach, K. Mooney, D. Pollock

### Club Photographer

David Glencross









### A AFC Supporters Club

Brian Roach - 07775764831

# CONTENTS











<b>LEAGUE TABLE AND FIXTURES</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>THE ALLOA SQUAD</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>MANAGER'S NOTES</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>NEWSDESK</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ALLOA ATHLETIC VS QUEEN OF THE SOUTH</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>FALKIRK VS DUNDEE</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>THREE QUICKFIRE GOALS</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>PLUCKY WASPS BACK TO WINNING WAYS?</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>APPEARANCES</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>A FAN'S VIEW</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>LOOKING BACK</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>THE OPPOSITION</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>THREE OF THE BEST</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>PERFORMANCE TABLE</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>TEAM LINES</b>	<b>38</b>















	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 DUNFERMLINE	17	11	5	1	26	9	17	38
 FC EDINBURGH	17	10	1	6	31	24	7	31
 FALKIRK	17	8	5	4	31	20	11	29
 MONTROSE	17	8	4	5	25	19	6	28
 ALLOA ATHLETIC	17	8	3	6	33	25	8	27
 AIRDRIEONIANS	17	7	5	5	29	23	6	26
 QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	17	6	5	6	29	27	2	23
 KELTY HEARTS	17	6	2	9	17	25	-8	20
 CLYDE	17	2	3	12	21	38	-17	9
 PETERHEAD	17	1	4	12	10	41	-31	7

## WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

## LEAGUE 1

 ALLOA ATHLETIC	 FALKIRK
 AIRDRIEONIANS	 DUNFERMLINE
 FC EDINBURGH	 MONTROSE
 PETERHEAD	 CLYDE
 QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	 KELTY HEARTS











## PREMIER LEAGUE

 RANGERS	 HIBERNIAN
 ABERDEEN	 CELTIC
 HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN	 KILMARNOCK
 LIVINGSTON	 DUNDEE UNITED
 MOTHERWELL	 ST MIRREN
 ROSS COUNTY	 ST JOHNSTONE

## CHAMPIONSHIP

 DUNDEE	 COVE RANGERS
 HAMILTON ACCIES	 INVERNESS CT
 GREENOCK MORTON	 QUEEN'S PARK
 PARTICK THISTLE	 AYR UNITED
 RAITH ROVERS	 ARBROATH

## LEAGUE 2

 ALBION ROVERS	 ELGIN CITY
 ANNAN ATHLETIC	 BONNYRIGG ROSE
 DUMBARTON	 STENHOUSEMUIR
 EAST FIFE	 STRANRAER
 STIRLING ALBION	 FORFAR ATHLETIC





**Celebrating 30 years of  
VIP and Corporate Coach hire  
TEL: 01259751753**

**woodscoaches.net**

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



## **WEE COUNTY BLINDS**

*Ian Douglas*

**FREE MEASURING & FITTING**

**VENETIAN, ROLLERS  
WOODEN & FAUX WOOD**

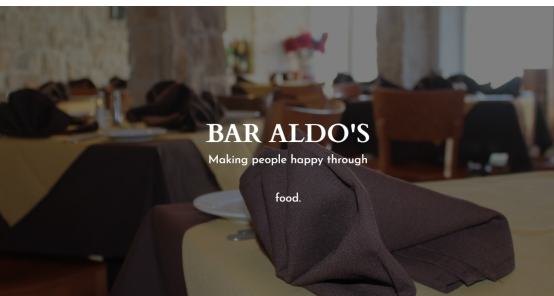
**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE ON  
SELECTED VERTICAL BLINDS**

**REPLACEMENT VERTICAL SLATS FROM £1**

**Tel: 01259 723917**

**Tel: 07763752341**

**weecountyblinds@gmail.com**



**BAR ALDO'S**

*Making people happy through*

*food.*

9 Coalgate, Alloa, Clackmannanshire, FK10 1EH  
bookings@baraldos.uk  
01259 729 243

## **RIVERBANK LAUNDRY LTD**

Unit 5a, Castle Street, Alloa

Tel: 01259215643

**We collect and deliver**

**Official laundry partners of  
Alloa Athletic FC**

# **SMS**

**Bedford Place,  
Church Street, Alloa**

**Tel: 01259 216586**

- **Brakes**
- **Parts & spares**
- **Accessories**
- **Batteries**
- **Exhausts**
- **Tyres**



## GOALKEEPERS

**William  
MUIR**

16/03/1993

183 CM 75 KG



**1**



## DEFENDERS

**Scott  
TAGGART**

27/12/1991

183 CM 75 KG



**2**



**Daniel  
CHURCH**

21/07/2000

183 CM 79 KG



**3**



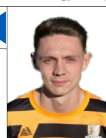
**Craig  
HOWIE**

02/07/1996

CM KG



**4**



**Keir  
BURT**

09/09/2004

175 CM 69 KG



**21**



**Andy  
GRAHAM**

22/09/1983

188 CM 85 KG



**5**



**Mark  
DURNAN**

28/11/1992

188 CM 89 KG



**6**



**George  
STANGER**

15/08/2000

CM KG



**14**



**Jay  
HOGARTH**

18/07/2003

185 CM 82 KG



**31**



**Paul  
MCLAREN**

01/04/2004

185 CM 76 KG



**22**



**David  
DEVINE**

20/06/2001

CM KG










**23**



## MANAGER

**BRIAN RICE**



MIDFIELDERS		FORWARDS		
<div> <div>Kevin CAWLEY</div> <div>17/03/1989</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>7</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Jon ROBERTSON</div> <div>25/04/1989</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>8</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Luke DONNELLY</div> <div>20/01/1996</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>9</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Bradley RODDEN</div> <div>21/08/1996</div> <div>178 cm 68 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>10</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Ross MACIVER</div> <div>28/02/1999</div> <div>180 cm 73 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>15</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>
<div> <div>Murray MILLER</div> <div>29/01/2001</div> <div>175 cm 65 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>11</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Stefan SCOUGALL</div> <div>07/12/1992</div> <div>170 cm 63 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>12</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Seff KHYIAM</div> <div>06/07/2002</div> <div>175 cm 69 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>17</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Conor SAMMON</div> <div>06/11/1986</div> <div>188 cm 91 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>18</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Steven BUCHANAN</div> <div>26/03/2003</div> <div>178 cm 70 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>19</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>
<div> <div>Adam KING</div> <div>11/10/1995</div> <div>178 cm 74 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>16</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Cameron O'DONNELL</div> <div>29/09/2001</div> <div>183 cm 70 kg</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>20</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Luke RANKIN</div> <div>27/11/2004</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>24</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Kieran OFFORD</div> <div>28/03/2004</div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>25</div> </div> <div>  </div> </div> </div> </div>	
				
				





**BRIAN RICE**



## AFTER DROPPING OUT OF THE SPFL TRUST TROPHY

I thought we created a lot of really good chances, at least five or six of them and we scored two really good goals but we've got to keep the back door shut and the goals we lost were poor defensively for us. We're struggling for bodies defensively but there's no

excuse, the boys that go in need to defend better than that. Same boys making the same mistakes. If they continue making those mistakes they won't play, simple as that.

The chances we made I'd expect us to score two or three of them at least.

You never know in football. Steven [Buchanan] running through to make it 3-1 but they come back down the other end and it's an individual mistake again.

The penalty - well I think the less said about it the better we all have bad days and I think the

referee was conned a wee bit. I spoke to their striker he just started laughing when I asked if it was a penalty but the refs gave it and we just accept it and get on with it. We all make mistakes.

Delighted to see Mark Durnan back. He just needs games.

It's hard at this time of year to arrange games. Clubs don't want to risk injuries but it's good to get him back on the pitch. We've got plenty injuries ourselves and I was wary about not picking up anymore.

Luke Donnelly has

broken his foot at Montrose. We were so short on players Luke had to play, Scougs had to play but on Tuesday he was feeling his foot and we had to send him for an x-ray so he will be out for a period of time.

Couple of long terms injuries with Donnelly and Devine. Stanger's still out, Vinny's just coming back. Robbo's out and Scougs is carrying a knock so we've not got our troubles to seek but the boys got their opportunity to-

night. We'll just need to wait and see.







**JOHN GLENCROSS**



# NEWSDESK

Welcome back to the Indodrill stadium for our penultimate Cinch One league fixture at home in 2022, today against Falkirk FC, we welcome John McGlynn and Paul Smith as the management team, the directors and supporters of Falkirk FC.

Ex Scotland International Tommy Hutchison, who began his senior career at Recreation Park with Alloa Athletic in March, 1966 will be guest of honor today at our home

match with Falkirk. Tommy will be available on the day to sign copies of his recently published autobiography "Hutch - Hard Work and Belief" which will be on sale for Twenty Pounds, against RRP of Twenty Five. This is the story of how one small boy's near impossible dream became a reality. Growing up in poverty in the austere 1950s Fife coalfield, Tommy Hutchison had an unshakable belief that one day he would wear the dark blue shirt of

Scotland. To an outsider it seemed an improbable ambition. Too weak to cross a ball from the byline to the goal area, the teenage Hutchison was overlooked by his teachers and never made the school football team. Through sheer determination, an indomitable spirit and hour upon hour of lonely practice, the adolescent Tommy was finally noticed by his local team, and his journey to Hampden and World Cup glory began. Tommy signed for Alloa

Athletic on 5th March, 1966 from Dundonald Bluebell after having trials with Dundee United, Blackburn Rovers and Oldham Athletic, Archie "Curly" McPherson signed him for "The Wasps" and the journey began, eventually signing for Blackpool on 7th February, 1968 for Six Thousand Pounds which was a lot of money at that time. Tommy's football genius ultimately took him all over the world to play with and against some of the greatest football-



<p>ers of the 1970s and 80s in a career spanning four amazing decades. Making his Scotland debut v. Czechoslovakia at Hampden in 1973 in 2-1 victory which saw the Scots qualify for the 1974 World Cup in Germany, he also played for Coventry City, Manchester City, Burnley, Swansea City &amp; Merthyr Tydfil before moving into management. Hutch, Hard Work and Belief is the funny yet inspiring story of how the seemingly unattainable can be achieved by unwavering, resolute self-belief. Catch up with Tommy at the Alloa Athletic home match v. Falkirk on 17th December, 2022, when</p>	<p>he will be happy to recall his memories in the Beautiful Game and sign copies of his book.</p> <p>Just the present every Alloa Athletic fan will want for Christmas - The History of Alloa Athletic book, which celebrates the club's 100 years in the Scottish League, Over 660 pages in A4 size covering League Tables, Results, and 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. Myself and Stuart Latham will be on hand today if any</p>	<p>fans buying as a Christmas present and would wish the book signed.</p> <p>The match against Kelty Hearts originally scheduled for Monday 2nd January has now been moved to Saturday 31st December. Please note the new kick-off time of 1pm. Recap on forthcoming Alloa Athletic fixtures over Festive period. Next game v. Clyde, Friday 23rd December, New Douglas Park, Hamilton, Kick-Off 7.45pm, next home game v. Kelty Hearts, Saturday 31st December, Indodrill Stadium, Kick-Off 1pm, and then Saturday 7th January, 2023 v. Queen of the</p>	<p>South at Palmerston Park, Dumfries, Kick-Off 3pm.</p> <p>Birthday wishes to Alloa Athletic fan Gregor Hutton, who celebrated his 50th birthday on Thursday 15th December, 2022 from sister Ruth who will be cheering on "The Wasps" today.</p> <p>Wasps 2000 Draw - Week 49 10th December, 2022</p> <p>£ 100 0632 C.McLeod £ 50 0236 S.Dawson £ 25 0302 J.Law £ 25 0613 C.Mitchell £ 25 0586 M.Lumsden</p>
---	--	---	---

# Hard Work and Belief







SPFL TRUST  
TROPHY

9th December 2022  
Indodrill Stadium, Alloa  
7:45pm KO

**ALLOA ATHLETIC**

**2:4**

**QUEEN OF THE SOUTH**



(2:1)

SCORERS

**0:1 3'** Connelly

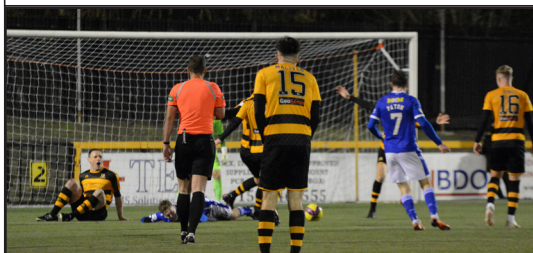
King **15' 1:1**

Cawley **39' 2:1**

**2:2 49'** McKenna

**2:3 77'** Connelly

**2:4 82'** Todd



**STARTING XI**

**31 HOGARTH**  
**2 TAGGART**  
**3 CHURCH**  
**20 O'DONNELL**  
**11 MILLER**  
**7 CAWLEY**  
**5 GRAHAM**  
**16 KING**  
**18 SAMMON**  
**15 MACIVER**  
**19 BUCHANAN**

**SUBS**

**21 BURT**  
**4 HOWIE**  
**6 DURNAN**  
**12 SCOUGALL**  
**24 RANKIN**  
**10 RODDEN**  
**22 MCLAREN**

**SUBS**

**43 HENDERSON**  
**11 MURRAY**  
**15 MCGRORY**  
**18 MCKECHNIE**  
**19 RUTH**  
**21 MCMAHON**  
**22 BANGE**  
**28 JOHNSTONE**  
**29 BURNS**

**STARTING XI**

**1 CURRIE**  
**2 MCKAY**  
**6 COCHRANE**  
**7 PATON**  
**8 TODD**  
**10 CONNELLY**  
**12 MCKENNA**  
**17 HENDRIE**  
**20 IRVING**  
**27 GIBSON**  
**33 GIBSON**

**REFEREE:** Graham Grainger



8th December 2022  
The Falkirk Stadium  
7:45pm KO

**FALKIRK**
**0:3**
**DUNDEE**

**(0:2)**
**SCORERS**
**0:1 5'** Rudden

**0:2 14'** Rudden

**0:3 77'** Robertson

**STARTING XI**

<b>1</b>	<b>MORRISON</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>MCCANN</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>DONALDSON</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>MACKIE</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>MCKAY</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>MCGUFFIE</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>MCGINN</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>HETHERINGTON</b>
<b>73</b>	<b>KENNEDY</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>NESBITT</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>BURRELL</b>

**SUBS**

<b>7</b>	<b>MORRISON</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>ALEGRIA</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>MARTIN</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>YEATS</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>ROSS</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>OLIVER</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>LAWAL</b>

**SUBS**

<b>7</b>	<b>JAKUBIAK</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>MULLIGAN</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>SHERIDAN</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>ANDERSON</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>SHARP</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>OSEI YAW</b>

**STARTING XI**

<b>1</b>	<b>LEGZDINS</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>FRENCH</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>SWEENEY</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>ASHCROFT</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>KERR</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>MCMULLAN</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>ROBERTSON</b>
<b>38</b>	<b>GRAYSON</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>MCCOWAN</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>CAMERON</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>RUDDEN</b>

**REFEREE:** Calum Scott

# CHILD PROTECTION AND WELLBEING POLICY

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

We recognise -

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

The purpose of the policy and related procedures is to:

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

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

**MIKE MULRANEY, CHAIRMAN**  
**ALLOA ATHLETIC FC**

OVER 400  
LIVE GAMES

sky sports





## THREE QUICKFIRE GOALS

Sometimes everything just comes together and clicks in football. That happily happened for Alloa last month as three goals in the space of just five minutes saw the Wasps move from a drawing position into a commanding 4-1 lead against Queen of the South at the Recs. Those euphoric moments when the momentum for one side translates into an avalanche of goals in double quick time are few and far between. In-fact, my

research reveals that Alloa's purple patch of scoring three goals in five minutes last month was the first time the Wasps had achieved this considerable feat for over a decade. Furthermore, in the past quarter of the century Alloa have only notched three goals without reply in quicker time than against the Doonhamers on two occasions.

For any supporter, if your team scores three goals without reply in rapid succession it cannot fail to conjure

feelings of unbridled joy and a sense that 'this is going to be our day'. It is sometimes the unexpected nature of everything suddenly going in your favour which makes it so exciting. That was certainly the case against Queens last month, as the visitors had the better of the first half and deservedly led before Ross MacIver's equaliser on the stroke of half-time. That undoubtedly gave the Wasps a boost going into the interval, but the match was very

much in the balance when Daniel Church's second stylish finish in successive weeks put the Wasps ahead just after the hour. At that stage there wasn't any indication that the Wasps would then run away with the game, but the sight of George Stanger stretching every part of his neck muscles (almost reminiscent of a giraffe stretching to munch from a tree that looks just out of reach, but straining every sinew of their body to reach their food source)



to head in Stefan Scougall's free-kick and make it 3-1 three minutes later was simply sensational.

Somehow it got even better within another two minutes as Queen's couldn't deal with a long Willie Muir free-kick and Kieran Offord swept home. For me, that was almost happening in joyful slow motion, as you knew it was destined for the bottom corner of the net as soon as it left the Scotland U19's boot, made the game well and truly safe with the scoreline changing from 1-1 to 4-1 for the Wasps in the space of 300 wonderful seconds.

From a normally nervous disposition of watching a game which could have easily gone either way, the Wasps were on easy street just five minutes later and it was wonderful to watch the final quarter of the game in a relaxed mode, with Queens knowing they were beaten and Alloa confidently holding them at arms length whilst playing with confidence and looking to put an extra gloss on the scoreline – just one more goal came Alloa's way, thanks to a delightful cross from Bradley Rodden leading to Adam King timing his run perfectly to ghost in and finish at the back post. It was just Alloa's day

that afternoon, with the Wasps clinical in front of goal and sending the supporters home with a spring in their steps.

It's fairly common for teams to score two quickfire goals, but to score three in a short space of time is all together rarer. As the table which I have assembled shows, in the past quarter of a century Alloa have scored three goals in under ten minutes on nineteen separate occasions, translating to this occurring on average less than once a season. However, what my table also reveals is that, for Alloa at least, these goalscoring splurges have become

rarer in the past decade. There have been only three other examples in this time and two of those, against Ayr in the Scottish Cup in 2014 and Arbroath in 2018 were right on the cusp of the ten minute threshold of them being 3-quickfire goal instances. Interestingly, all three of those games were midweek encounters at the Recs too, but that's nothing more than a coincidence for me. Instead, for Alloa at least, scoring three quickfire goals is more commonplace as a thing of the past, with five of the instances having occurred over twenty years ago.

The quickest of quick-



fire triples came back in November 1997 when the Wasps turned a 1-0 lead over Albion Rovers into an unassailable 4-0 lead thanks to strikes from former Falkirk man Jimmy Gilmour (who was supposed to be used sparingly that season and concentrating on his role as Reserve Team Manager, but due to an injury crisis was playing in the Wasps midfield a month prior to his 36th birthday) and a double from Alloa's post-war record goalscorer Willie Irvine.

As a personal side-note that match was also the very first time I got a mention in the matchday programme, with editor John Glencross kindly noting that my fantasy football team was flying high at the time and had a team-name of 'Alloa Athletic are going up'. That prophecy of course came to fruition

come the end of the season as Tom Hendrie's swashbuckling attacking side romped to the Third Davison title. Writing with my tongue firmly in my cheek, readers may be interested to know that my fantasy football team-name this season is another future prediction, namely 'Conor Sammon Ballon d'Or'. I'm quietly confident that one will come true in the next year too, as Sammo today hopefully begins another scoring streak to emulate his early season heroics!

Some of the times when the Wasps have scored three quickfire goals have coincided with the most memorable victory of recent times. The 8-1 mauling of Elgin on the day Alloa secured the Third Division title features not just once, but on two separate occasions, with the Wasps moving from 1-0 to 4-0 ahead in the space of five minutes ei-



ther side of the half-time interval and then an 8 minute spell later in the second half saw another three goals scored at the Railway End to seal the 8-1 victory. Looking back, the visitors included teenage defender Mark Durnan (now thankfully back in action for the Wasps this season after being absent to undertake training in order to join the Fire Service) on loan from St Johnstone in their line-up that day, albeit

it was two other Saints loanees who grabbed the headlines that day. Keeper Zander Clark was sent-off early on for hauling down his parent club team-mate Stevie May, who then scored four goals for the Wasps on that most memorable of afternoons.

Other afternoons which live long in the memory and include three quickfire goals include the never-to-be-forgotten 7-0 demolition of at that time local rivals Stirling Albion in 1998, with goals 4, 5 and 6 that day coming in the space of just six second half minutes, with Willie Irvine's perfect lob to make it six arguably being the pick of the bunch. Alloa's post-war record win, the 9-0 mauling of Selkirk in the 2005/6 Scottish Cup features, with the gloss being put on the scoreline thanks to two late strikes from Iain Nicolson (completing a hat-trick for





the full-back) and one from Robert Sloan. I recall it being a most welcome and somewhat surprising result, despite the lowly opposition, as the Wasps were in the doldrums at the time towards the end of Tom Hendrie's second spell in charge, with that result being sandwiched between two 4-0 defeats!

Of course if you are on the receiving end of losing three goals in double quick time the feelings are the complete opposite. I'm sure there have been plenty of dressing room rants from managers of when a team caves in and concedes a trio of goals in quick succession. The words 'chucked it' and 'lost the plot' are some

of the kinder words you'd expect to hear from the opposition dressing room. There is obviously a mental fragility when you concede once which sometimes makes you more vulnerable to conceding another, but to concede three in double quick time is rarer still. All in all it is all part of the emotional roller-coaster

that football brings you from time to time, but its fair to say that I certainly prefer being on the right side of three quickfire goals!

Three quickfire goals for the Wasps in the past quarter of a century



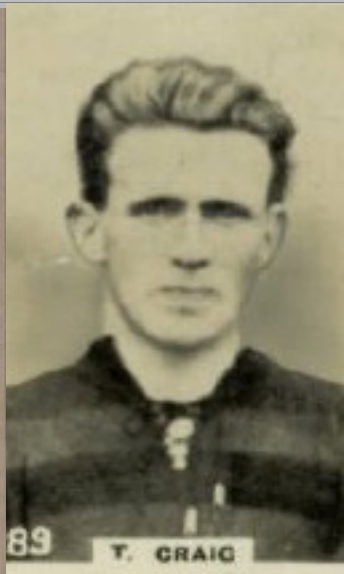
DETAILS OF THE GAME	CHANGE SCORELINE	TIME TO SCORE 3	SCORERS	FINAL SCORE
29/11/97 Albion R (H) 3rd Div	1-0 > 4-0	3 mins	Gilmour (73) Irvine (74, 75)	4-0
30/8/08 Stranraer (H) 2nd Div	0-1 > 3-1 & 1-1 > 4-1	6 & 4 mins	MacAulay 2 (57, 65) Buist (62) Brown (63)	5-1
28/11/05 Selkirk (H) Scot. Cup	6-0 > 9-0	5 mins	Nicolson (80, 82) Sloan (85)	9-0
7/4/12 Elgin (H) 3rd Div	1-0 > 4-0	5 mins	May (44, 47) Winters (49)	8-1
12/11/22 QoS (H) Lge 1	1-1 > 4-1	5 mins	Church (62), Stanger (65), Offord (67)	5-1
29/8/98 Stirling (H) 2nd Div	3-0 > 6-0	6 mins	McKechnie (71) Cowan (75) Irvine (77)	7-0
3/5/08 Clyde (A) 1st Div Play-Off Semi 2nd	0-1 > 3-1	6 mins	Ferguson (40) Forrest (42) OG (46)	3-5 AET
14/8/18 Stirling (H) Chall. Cup	0-0 > 3-0	6 mins	Cawley (40, 45) Flannigan (46)	3-1
20/11/10 Raith (H) Scot. Cup	0-1 > 3-1	7 mins	MacDonald (41, 42) Noble (48)	4-2
22/3/97 Queen's Pk (A) 3rd Div	0-0 > 3-0 & 1-0 > 4-0	9 & 8 mins	Pew (58) Irvine (63) Simpson (67, 71)	4-0
6/5/00 QoS (H) 2nd Div	1-1 > 4-1	8 mins	Little (38) Beaton (41) Walker (46)	6-1
18/12/04 Arbroath (H) 2nd Div	0-2 > 3-2	8 mins	Townsley (67) Bolchowecykj (71) Ferguson (75)	4-2
7/4/12 Elgin (H) 3rd Div	5-1 > 8-1	8 mins	May (75) Ryan McCord (82) Campbell (83)	8-1
27/2/99 East Fife (A) 2nd Div	0-0 > 3-0	9 mins	Irvine (6) Cameron (12, 15)	4-0
4/10/03 Hamilton (A) 2nd Div	0-0 > 3-0	9 mins	Little (32, 41) Janczyk (39)	4-3
10/1/04 Stenhousemuir (A) 2nd Div	0-1 > 3-1	9 mins	Nicolson (60) Callaghan (62pen) Hamilton (69)	3-1
1/5/10 Cowdenbeath (H) 2nd Div	0-1 > 3-1	9 mins	Prunty (74) Scott (79pen, 83)	3-1
11/11/14 Ayr (H) Scottish Cup	0-0 > 3-0	9 mins	Buchanan (24) Meggatt (28) Docherty (33)	4-0
6/3/18 Arbroath (H) Lge 1	0-0 > 3-0	9 mins	Fleming (6pen) Stewart (9, 15)	5-3





DONALD POLLOCK

SCOTTISH LEAGUE—First Division.									
	P	W.	L.	D.	Goals.		Pts		
					F	A			
Rangers, .....	19	12	2	5	39	12	29		
Dundee, .....	22	12	7	3	36	29	27		
Falkirk, .....	20	8	3	9	26	14	25		
Airdrie, .....	20	10	5	5	22	15	25		
Hibs, .....	21	10	6	5	24	23	25		
Aberdeen, .....	22	11	8	3	30	20	25		
Hearts, .....	20	7	3	10	31	27	24		
Celtic, .....	18	11	6	1	30	23	23		
Partick Thistle, ..	19	7	6	6	31	26	20		
Ayr United, ..	19	6	6	7	22	22	19		
Raith Rovers, ..	20	7	8	5	15	26	19		
Kilmarnock, .....	19	7	8	4	26	34	18		
Morton, .....	19	7	8	4	23	23	18		
Third Lanark, ..	21	7	10	4	23	30	18		
Motherwell, .....	19	5	7	7	34	29	17		
St Mirren, .....	20	5	9	6	27	32	16		
Alloa, .....	19	4	10	5	15	27	13		
Clyde, .....	20	4	11	5	19	31	13		
Hamilton A. ...	21	5	13	3	21	33	13		
Albion Rovers, ..	20	2	11	7	18	36	11		



## PLUCKY WASPS BACK TO WINNING WAYS?

There was a distinct lack of festive cheer as Alloa headed for Pit-todrie on First Division business 100 years ago. The Wasps had started their debut campaign in the top flight with some encouraging displays and October had brought famous wins over Third Lanark and Hibs. As December arrived however, Alloa were on a four game winless streak, all against sides in the lower reaches. Even worse,

star striker Willie Crilley had been suspended after absconding from the Glasgow hospital where he was due to undergo knee surgery. The door wasn't quite closed on the pint sized attacker with Alloa willing to lift the ban should he go under the knife. "Crilley is too valuable a man to lose and the directorate, while insisting on strict discipline, are willing to overlook his indiscretion", the local Devon Valley Tribune

had noted. The ball was in Crilley's court. Meantime, "Alloa travel to Aberdeen in dubious mood", reported the Evening News, although the paper also noted that Alloa had "done best when least was expected of them". That was the case once more as the Wasps produced a fighting display in the north. Indeed, they should have gone ahead in the opening minute, Tully Craig shooting

straight at the keeper after the home defence had failed to cut out a cross. Chances followed at both ends and Alloa's James Headrick, the centre-half again moonlighting in attack, had two fine opportunities. When a goal finally arrived after 70 minutes it was for Aberdeen and against the run of play. "Until Aberdeen scored the visitors played better football, their forwards moving quickly by means of

deft ground passing", admitted the north-east P&J. "Repeatedly the Aberdeen defence was in difficulties, but the visitors were unequal to accepting the chances offered". Even in defeat there was encouragement here for the Wasps.

Alloa took that into their next match as Kilmarnock visited the Recs. A fine start was rewarded when Craig converted a Forrest cross. Killie immediately equalised from a hotly disputed penalty, but Alloa went back up the field and Craig got his second, again after fine work from Forrest. Into the second half and Headrick got his first goal after being set up by Connaboy. Killie pulled one back but Alloa were rampant now with Dunn and Cochrane scoring to put the Wasps 5-2 ahead. Cochrane's goal came with just a few minutes remaining and as fog began to descend on the Recs, a fog which soon "swept over the entire field". To the dismay of the home crowd, the referee promptly marched the teams off the field, leaving the final decision on whether or not the result would stand in the hands of the League Management Committee. Surely a 5-2 advantage with just minutes remaining would result in the award of the points to the Wasps? Alloa would

have to wait. "There was no doubt that it was Alloa's best game of the season", said the Devon Valley Tribune.

So to Dens Park and a daunting test against the side sitting second in the league. There was a change in goal after some grumbles that Thomson had not played well against Killie. A pretty tough verdict given the former Bristol Rovers man had generally won praise since his arrival in the summer. Between the sticks against Dundee for his league debut would be an Alloa boy, Bowie, who was said to be a little shorter and lighter than Thomson. He didn't have too much to do in the first half as Alloa picked up where they had left off against Kilmarnock. Their tackling was said to be decisive and they were enterprising in attack, with Cochrane in particular impressing. The only downside was the lack of goals and Dundee would make Alloa pay after the break with McLean and Troup on target. The Wasps battled on and a Headrick penalty reduced the leeway but the game ultimately finished 2-1. Just like Pitodrie, the papers were united in their praise for "plucky Alloa", while Bowie was said to have shown "anticipation and resource", but again there were no points.

There was a real Christmas cracker in

prospect for Wee County fans now as Rangers arrived in town on December 23rd. A week after facing the side in second place, Alloa would take on the league leaders. The team was along similar lines with the Headrick experiment continuing in attack. The trend of recent weeks continued too with Alloa serving up another fine performance in front of 9000 fans. "In the first half, Alloa were the superior company", claimed the Sunday Post. "Well supported by their half and backs, the home forwards were often on the move, but their finishing was not in keeping with their outfield play, but Alloa should have crossed over with a substantial lead". They didn't, and as

often happens in such circumstances, would soon come to regret their profligacy. Rangers duly went ahead, Alan Morton scoring as Alloa called in vain for offside, with Bowie's attempted save "decidedly weak". Soon enough it was two, Cunningham setting up Henderson to score. The game petered out and Alloa were left to rue another missed opportunity. "If Alloa had taken the chances which were afforded them, there is no saying what might have been the result", said the Dundee Courier, but it was another defeat and Alloa were now just two points off the bottom with a hectic festive schedule to come. More in the next edition of The Wasp.



# APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		ALLOA CAREER LGE	
		APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
MUIR	GOAL	3 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	3 (0)	0
BURT	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
HOGARTH	GOAL	14 (0)	0	6 (0)	0	20 (0)	0	14 (0)	0
TAGGART	DEF	17 (0)	1	7 (0)	1	24 (0)	2	211 (0)	7
CHURCH	DEF	11 (3)	2	7 (0)	0	18 (3)	2	31 (7)	2
HOWIE	DEF	2 (5)	0	0 (2)	0	2 (7)	0	19 (8)	1
GRAHAM	DEF	8 (1)	1	7 (0)	0	15 (1)	1	184 (2)	14
DURNAN	DEF	4 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	4 (1)	0	37 (0)	4
STANGER	DEF	14 (0)	3	4 (1)	0	18 (1)	3	14 (0)	3
MCLAREN	DEF	1 (2)	0	2 (1)	0	3 (3)	0	1 (2)	0
DEVINE	DEF	6 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	6 (0)	0	6 (0)	0
ROBERTSON	MID	15 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	15 (1)	0	162 (29)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	10 (2)	1	4 (2)	0	14 (4)	1	44 (15)	6
KING	MID	4 (8)	1	6 (0)	1	10 (8)	2	30 (13)	5
O'DONNELL	MID	6 (6)	1	3 (1)	0	9 (7)	1	13 (26)	1
MILLER	MID	11 (3)	0	7 (0)	0	18 (3)	0	11 (3)	0
CAWLEY	MID	14 (1)	0	3 (2)	1	17 (3)	1	312 (44)	62
DONNELLY	FWD	7 (4)	4	2 (0)	1	9 (4)	5	7 (10)	5
SAMMON	FWD	17 (0)	5	6 (1)	5	23 (1)	10	38 (13)	10
MACIVER	FWD	14 (3)	4	5 (2)	0	19 (5)	4	17 (8)	5
KHYIAM	FWD	0 (1)	0	0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0	0 (1)	0
RODDEN	FWD	6 (7)	5	5 (1)	1	11 (8)	6	6 (7)	5
BUCHANAN	FWD	0 (5)	0	2 (3)	0	2 (8)	0	0 (5)	0
RANKIN	FWD	0 (3)	1	0 (1)	0	0 (4)	1	0 (3)	1
OFFORD	FWD	3 (8)	3	0 (0)	0	3 (8)	3	3 (8)	3





## OFFICIAL PROGRAMME DISTRIBUTION PARTNERS

ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
1 (0)	0	4 (0)	0
0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
6 (0)	0	20 (0)	0
7 (0)	1	218 (0)	8
55 (1)	2	86 (8)	4
6 (2)	0	25 (10)	1
12 (2)	0	196 (4)	14
46 (2)	1	83 (2)	5
6 (1)	0	20 (1)	3
2 (1)	0	3 (3)	0
0 (0)	0	6 (0)	0
0 (0)	0	162 (29)	2
4 (2)	1	48 (17)	7
12 (4)	2	42 (17)	7
0 (0)	0	13 (26)	1
7 (0)	0	18 (3)	0
8 (4)	2	320 (48)	64
2 (3)	1	9 (13)	6
6 (1)	5	44 (14)	15
5 (2)	0	22 (10)	5
0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0
5 (1)	1	11 (8)	6
2 (3)	0	2 (8)	0
0 (4)	0	0 (7)	1
0 (0)	0	3 (8)	3

SPONSORS	
-	-
FREEBETS.LTD.UK	-
CASINOSITES.LTD.UK	LEON PRESTON
LEAH REID	JONATHAN MARKWELL
WORLDWIDE WASPS	NEIL PARRY ALLOA SUPPORTERS CLUB
MAYFIELD AUTOS SCOTLAND LTD	-
JOYCE & THE PIE HUT	-
VICTOR HERRIDGE	BETTING.BET
RGP ENGINEERING	FOOTYSAB, JAPAN
IMO SCOTLAND, HAMILTON	MORTGAGE ADVICE BUREAU, STEPPS
-	-
S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS	-
MCCALLUM ENGINEERING	DC CONSULTING
BRAIN DAMAGED BARON	-
ROBERTSON'S CARPETS & FLOORING	-
STUART LATHAM	-
AIMEE BURGESS	-
CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO
CARRUTHERS WELDING SERVICES	-
HAMISH COMRIE PLUMBING	CRAIG GRACE
CHARLIE & JAMIE BELL	-
THE WASPS NEST PODCAST	-
MACGREGOR BUILDING SERVICES	MACGREGOR BUILDING SERVICES
SMS ALLOA	V-TECH
STMIRREN.INFO	SAGE



**BRIAN ROACH**



## A FAN'S VIEW

Being so soon since the last edition of The Wasp, there is little to report on other than the SPFL Trust Trophy match last Friday where Alloa faced Queen of the South. Due to the weather, I know some felt otherwise but I was looking forward to the game. I had enjoyed the previous tie against Airdrie, which also occurred on a Friday evening. That was an end-to-end encounter, with both sides perhaps a bit more adventurous and open than a typical league game. I was hoping for more of the

same this time round, where Alloa again faced a team in the same division.

In the end must admit I managed to avoid the sub-zero temperatures. I was requested to do co-commentary for the live stream at the last minute- with the deal-making line- "you'll be in the press box where it's warm". And warm I was- taking in the game with the heat of a nice radiator behind me. Obviously, I won't be so lucky today. As for the game itself, Queen of the South replicated their last visit

in November by firing out of the traps- again scoring with just 2 minutes on the clock. Ex Alloa man Lee Connelly used his pace to outrun the Alloa backline and slot home. Alloa responded well though and got their noses in front with 2 outstanding strikes from Adam King and Kevin Cawley. Cawley played in a more forward position in the first half and was at the heart of the majority of Alloa's creative passages of play. His goal was another to add to his list of excellent strikes in his career at the club. He

dropped the shoulder and opened up space on his weaker left foot- but left the Queens keeper rooted to the spot as the ball flew into the corner of the net.

So Alloa had a half time lead, probably deservedly so- but the visitors improved after the break. They quickly levelled the game through a McKenna header fed from Josh Todd's pinpoint cross. Mark Durnan had his first taste of competitive action since August- out of the team for a long spell due to undertaking training for the fire

service. With George Stanger perhaps still a couple of weeks away from full fitness, Durnan's return provides a welcome additional option at the back. He came very close to marking his return with a goal - his header bouncing up and striking the crossbar just after the hour mark. But Todd and Connelly were becoming more and more influential for the visitors, and Queens edged ahead with thirteen minutes to go- via a somewhat controversial penalty award. Durnan tried to get goal side across Connelly as he received the ball in the area- but there didn't appear to be much contact as Connelly went to ground. The referee had no hesitation

however, and Connelly dusted himself off to convert the kick. Queens sealed their passage into the quarter finals with ten minutes remaining. Willie Gibson cracked the Alloa crossbar with a long range effort, and Todd nodded the rebound into the empty net. There was an immediate exodus from many on the terracing, and after spending a long time standing in those temperatures it was understandable. Admittedly, the Challenge Cup (or SPFL Trust Trophy in its current guise) usually gets interesting from the last eight onwards. And with no B teams left in the tournament it has the makings of a "legitimate" cup competition. Although there's slight disappointment from being eliminated due

to these factors, it's not a massive setback by any means. Alloa may have lost but played fine for decent periods of the match so there's no alarm bells ringing or any real concern.

Alloa face Falkirk this afternoon, which should lead to a bigger crowd than we are usually accustomed to in League One (Dunfermline's visit aside). This is always welcome- but perhaps even more so today. Going by some of the temperatures during the week, we need as many people in the ground as possible to try and keep warm! Falkirk had Alloa's number in the last meeting between the clubs- a midweek trip to Falkirk Stadium back in October. The game was pretty much done

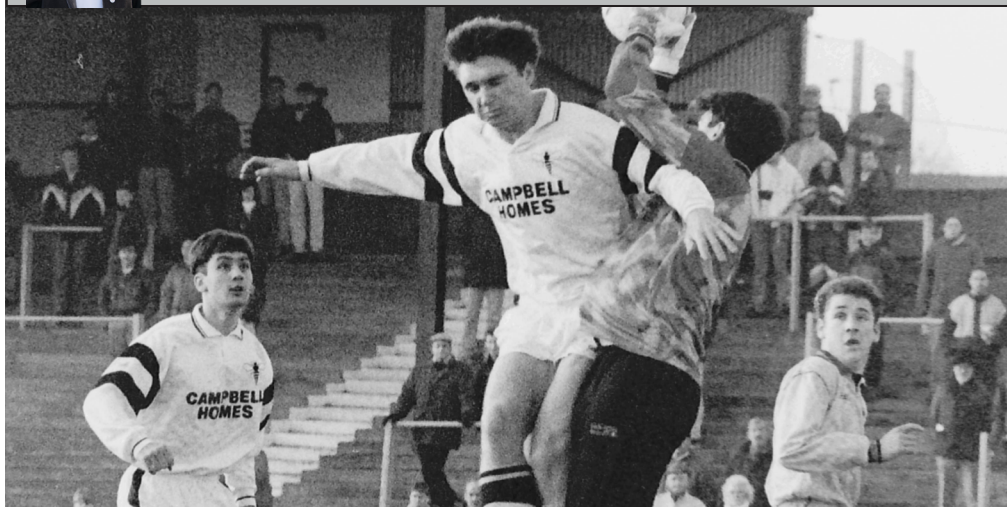
and dusted by half time that night, and it was an evening to forget for the travelling support. The defence will be looking to nullify striker Juan Alegria- who has 5 goals to his name in the two occasions he has faced Alloa. Falkirk also come into this game off the back of an SPFL Trust Trophy defeat (3-0 against Dundee), but like Alloa I don't expect that to have any real effect on them as they approach today's match. There's also the added bonus of former Alloa and Scotland international player Tommy Hutchison attending today's game and signing copies of his book- which takes care of the majority of my fathers Christmas present. Enjoy today's game.







**ANDREW COCKBURN**



## LOOKING BACK 19TH DECEMBER 1992

In The Premier Division, leaders & reigning Champions Rangers continued their relentless march towards the retention of their title, with a 2-0 home win v St. Johnstone. This result also extended The Gers unbeaten league run to seventeen games, and at the same time maintained their four-point advantage over second-placed Aberdeen, while they also had a game in hand. The Dons kept up their own title quest, also with a 2-0 home

victory, v lowly Hibs, Celtic still retained third spot in spite of a 0-1 reverse at fourth-placed Hearts, while Dundee United, despite being gameless, remained in fifth place. At the other end of the table, a vital "basement battle" took place at Dens Park, where fourth-bottom Dundee hosted today's visits Falkirk, who lay one place below The Dee. And a 2-1 win for the home side eased their relegation worries, though their league position remained

unchanged. But The Bairns, for whom Richard Cadette was on target, swapped places with second-bottom Airdrie, who collected a valuable point from a 1-1 draw at Partick, while rock-bottom Motherwell were another inactive side.

With First Division leaders Raith gameless, second-placed Kilmarnock narrowed the gap slightly, thanks to a 1-0 home win v struggling Dumbarton. Hamilton Accies 2-0 success

v fellow promotion challengers St. Mirren in the top-of-the-table clash Love Street, saw them displace The Buddies from third place. St. Mirren thus slipped down to fifth, while Dunfermline, 4-1 home winners v luckless local rivals Cowdenbeath, moved up one place from fifth to fourth. bottom club Cowdenbeath's latest setback was their fifteenth league game without success, and even at this stage of proceedings, with just

## Proud sponsors of Alloa Athletic.



Accountancy | Tax | Corporate Advisory | Restructuring |  
Personal Insolvency | Wealth Management |  
HR | Payroll | Health & Safety

**Struggling  
with your debts?**

Get free advice at  
[fddebtsolutions.co.uk](http://fddebtsolutions.co.uk)  
or call 0800 652 0002.

 Debt Solutions

Macfarlane Grey House, Stirling  
**Tel: 01786 451745**  
Also in Edinburgh & Glasgow.



five points to their credit, Cowden looked booked for an immediate return to The Second Division. Second-bottom Stirling Albion were another gameless side, while Meadowbank, in spite of a welcome 1-0 home victory v Ayr, remained in third third-bottom spot, while Dumbarton were still just one place better off than Thistle.

In the second round of The Scottish Cup, Alloa journeyed to Bayview, for a clash v Second Division counterparts East Fife, The Wasps lining up as follows: Butter, Newbigging (Russell), Bennett, Wilcox, McCulloch, Campbell, Gibson, McNiven, McCormick (Smith), Moffat, McAvoy. And things looked a bit bleak for the visitors, when they trailed to a Hope goal at the break, but a second-half effort from Barrie Moffat earned Alloa a "second bite at the cherry", in the replay the game ended 1-1 again with Neil McAvoy scoring for "The Wasps" before East Fife won 6-5 in penalty shoot out, 1-1 was also the outcome at Netherdale, in the clash between Gala Fairydean and Arbroath, while the Vale Of Leithen v East Stirling also ended in stalemate, at 2-2. Elsewhere, Clyde progressed to the third round, after a 3-1 win v fellow Second Division promotion hopefuls Brechin, while the surprise of the round came at Allan Park, where Highland League

outfit Cove Rangers surprised Montrose by 2-0.

Down in England, and with Premier League leaders Norwich not hosting local rivals Ipswich till the following Monday, second-placed Aston Villa missed out on the chance to at least temporarily reduce The Canaries lead to just two points, when they were held 1-1 at mid-table Manchester City. Blackburn's narrow 1-0 home win

v struggling Sheffield United moved them into third spot, in place of Manchester United. United dropped one place to fourth, after they were held 1-1 at Stamford Bridge, in the top-of-the-table clash v Chelsea, who in turn slipped from fourth to fifth, while bottom club Nottingham Forest hosted fellow strugglers Wimbledon was a Sunday kick-off. In The First Division, leaders Newcastle met fourth-placed Millwall in

an important promotion clash at St. James park the following day. Meantime, The Magpies still held a fairly-comfortable nine-point lead over second-placed Tranmere, who were 3-0 home winners in another important promotion battle, v sixth-placed Wolves, while third-placed West Ham were another side in action on the Sunday, when they visited London rivals Brentford.





# DIAGEO

Proud to support the  
**Wasp Community Club**  
in association with Alloa Athletic FC

## DIAGEO Technical Centre Europe, Menstrie



### Hamilton & Brydie Ltd.

**Roughcast Chipping Specialists**  
Delivering Roughcast & Renders all over  
Scotland

UNIT 1 BLOCK 6, BOND STREET, DUMYAT BUSI-  
NESS PARK, TULLIBODY, FK102P6

TEL: 01259722896 FAX: 01259216217  
EMAIL: [SALES@HAMILTONBRYDIE.CO.UK](mailto:SALES@HAMILTONBRYDIE.CO.UK)

**Caesar & Howie**  
*The Central Scotland Law Group*

If you require assistance in the  
following please contact us.

- ✓ **Childrens' Panel**
- ✓ **Child Contact & Residence**
- ✓ **Grandparents' Contact**
- ✓ **Divorce & Separation**
- ✓ **Financial Settlements**
- ✓ **Guardianship, Wills and Powers of Attorney**

---

**0800 005 1755**

29 George St, Bathgate, EH48 1PG	107 Almondvale South, Almondvale Centre, Livingston, EH54 6QT	32 West Main St, Whitburn, EH47 0QZ	27 Mar St, Alloa, FK10 1HX
--	---	---	----------------------------------

[www.caesar-howie.co.uk](http://www.caesar-howie.co.uk) |  



# FALKIRK

*The Bairns*

## FOUNDED

1876

## GROUND

The Falkirk Stadium

## TOP HONOURS

Scottish Cup  
Winners (2)

Scottish League Cup  
Runners up 1947-48

Scottish Premiership  
Runners up\* 1907-8,  
1909-10

Scottish Champion-  
ship\*  
Winners (7)  
Runners up (8)

Scottish League 1\*  
Winners 1979-80  
Runners-up 2019-20

This afternoon we brave the cold to welcome Falkirk across the Forth for today's derby match in Cinch League 1. As well as the club's close proximity to one another geographically, there is also a closeness in the points on the table, adding more spice to the fixture. The Bairns currently occupy 3rd in the table, 2 points and 2 places ahead of the Wasps, however, it could all change following the result of play this afternoon. Falkirk have had their sights set on Championship football for a few seasons now and with noticeable changes in the dug-out and pitch

over the summer, many thought this would be the year they would see that vision realised. Of course, there is plenty of football to be played and the Falkirk faithful will fully back their team to do so but it is going to be a much closer affair than many would have expected. This fixture will also set us up nicely for the upcoming Scottish Cup game in January where the sides drew one another in the 3rd round here in Alloa.

## THE BOSS – JOHN MCGLYNN

One of the most, if not the most, noticeable of changes in the summer

for Falkirk was the management. Kenny Miller's temporary reign ended at the end of the season and Falkirk turned to an experienced head to lead them forward in John McGlynn. Having spent the last 4 years at rivals, Raith Rovers, this was certainly an appointment that turned heads. He had enjoyed success at Starks Park winning this division that he currently battles in 2020, as well as winning the Challenge Cup twice in the same season and last season. His affinity with the Rovers dates back to 2006 where he spent 6 years, again having silverware in a Second Division title and





## ONE TO WATCH – KAI KENNEDY

Falkirk have quality throughout their squad but one that certainly excited the supporters is winger Kai Kennedy. Playing an influential role on the left hand side, alongside another notable one to watch Leon McCann, Kennedy seems to be finding his form with the Bairns in the last few games. The on-loan Rangers star has had temporary spells at Raith, Dunfermline, and Hamilton in his time but now looks to take this opportunity to further enhance his reputation in the senior game. He struggled for starts at the start, coming off the back of an injury also, however, the last few

games have really seen him come to life. 4 assists in Falkirk's romp over Wick Academy and a goal in their last league game against Airdrie mean he is the man in form at the moment and more importantly, he seems to be the one involved in most of Falkirk's positive play going forward. This is definitely an area and player that Scott Taggart and co. will be well aware of going into this afternoon.

## THE CONNECTION

Referencing back to the close proximity of the two clubs, this inevitably means that there are a few familiar faces for both sets of supporters. Returning to Alloa is former favourite, Stevie Hether-

**CONTINUED ON P32**

Fife Cup to show for his time. Spells at Hearts and Livingston were in between but McGlynn is most known for the 10 years in total he spent as the boss at Raith. He will now be looking to create new memories a little bit down the road by replicating some of that success at his new club, Falkirk.

## THE CAPTAIN – STEPHEN MCGINN

In keeping with the noticeable changes, a new signing and the man entrusted with the armband was one which also caught the eye. Following his departure from Kilmarnock after helping them to a Championship title,

Falkirk made the move to sign experienced midfielder, Stephen McGinn. The 34-year old has had a glittered career playing for teams like St Mirren, where he also won the league, Dundee, Sheffield United, and Hibernian to name a few. His calming and influential presence in the center of the park has been a fantastic asset to McGlynn's side since joining, which in turn has made him a firm fan favourite in his short time. Of course, it is worth noting the strong footballing blood that runs in his family with both his younger brother Paul and John both playing professionally and being Scotland internationalists.



**BY KIEREN MOONEY**



ington. Known for his crunching tackles in the midfield, Stevie has had many great moments in the black and gold. During his 7-year stint he was involved in the team who beat Rangers famously in 2014, as well as promotion and survival seasons. His individual accolades, such as player of the season, and goals from corners meant that when he did decide to leave for Falkirk in 2021 it was a massive loss to the Alloa side. Also returning to the Recs is goalkeeper, PJ Morrison. The 24-year old spent time out on loan at Alloa last season and was mightily impressive in his short stint. It was

no surprise that PJ was able to stay in full-time football following his departure from Motherwell in the summer. He has spent a significant period of time injured this season, however, did return to the starting 11 against Dundee in their last game. The two former Bairns now plying their trade with Alloa are Mark Durnan and Connor Sammon. Both of these players played for Falkirk from 2019 to 2021 before moving to Alloa. Since switching allegiances, they have enjoyed games against their former employers scoring in a few of the fixtures since moving. We could not close off this section without

mentioning the brothers who will potentially line up against each other today. Goalkeepers, Nicky and Jay Hogarth, are both on loan at their respective clubs and will face up once again. To add to this narrative their father, Myles, also a goalkeeper, played for both Alloa and Falkirk too.

### PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The sides have already met once this season and it was an evening that Alloa will be looking to forget going into today. It was a midweek fixture than within 7 minutes of play looked to be over. A

scintillating start to the game saw Falkirk 2-0 thanks to goals from Brad McKay and Juan Alegria. The latter would compile more misery on Alloa just before the break to make it 3-0. A late strike from Connor Sammon cut the deficit back to 2 but it was too little, too late for Alloa to salvage anything from the game. The final fixture between the sides last season was the last time Alloa won this fixture. Goals from Kevin Cawley, and again Sammon, were enough to come away with a 2-1 victory despite Anton Dowds' strike at the Falkirk Stadium.



# Find your perfect match

Whether you're carrying the squad or riding solo, you'll find the perfect ride from the biggest range of cars to buy entirely online. Browse, buy and relax with a 14-day money back guarantee.



Don't just nail it, cinch it

Comparison is against equivalent 'pure-online' car retailers like cinch. Verify at [cinch.co.uk/rangeclaim](https://cinch.co.uk/rangeclaim). Returns subject to mileage restrictions. Terms and conditions apply.

**cinch**  
Cars without the faff



**BRIAN ROACH**



## THREE OF THE BEST..... BATTLES WITH THE BAIRNS

### **ALLOA 3 FALKIRK 2, SCOTTISH FIRST DIVI- SION 18TH NOVEMBER 2000**

Alloa had initially struggled upon their return to the First Division in 2000. They opened the season with a memorable away win over Raith Rovers- Alloa supporters will recall Derek Clarks brilliant decisive goal from that 2-1 victory at Starks Park. But they had only won another two of their next thirteen league games as they welcomed Falkirk to Recreation Park. Alloa started the match well, with loan striker Colin Nish going close with two early efforts. But an early setback was to come for the Wasps, with centre half Richard Huxford forced off injured- replaced by Frank Conway. With 9 minutes played Davie Nicholls had the visitors in front, stabbing into the roof of the net

from close range.

Nish had a goal disallowed for offside with 5 minutes remaining in the half, and Falkirk went in at the break ahead. But with 57 minutes gone Alloa were level. A high ball forward was misjudged by Falkirk defender Andy Lawrie- Alloa's Ian Little was on hand to toe poke over goalkeeper Myles Hogarth to equalise. And on the hour mark Alloa got their noses in front with another memorable goal. Ross Hamilton charged forward from his own half as Alloa countered, and as he looked for a pass he realised there was very little opposition resistance to his rampage forward. And thus, he ran virtually the full length of the pitch and slotted home. With 13 minutes remaining, Falkirk's captain Nicholls received his marching orders after an off the

ball clash with Alloa's Max Christie- ill-advised retaliation due to the Wasps midfielder catching him with a late tackle. But the Bairns showed resolve to level things up again with seven minutes left to play. Alloa keeper Mark Cairns got a hand to Steven Craigs close range volley, but it trickled agonisingly over the line. However, Falkirk were reduced to nine men when Kevin Christie upended his Alloa namesake Max and received a straight red card for his troubles- rather harshly it has to be said. But just as it looked to be heading for a share of the spoils, Frank Conway rose to head home a corner with two minutes left to seal the points for Alloa in an entertaining match.

### **ALLOA 3 FALKIRK 0, SCOTTISH CHAMPION- SHIP 22ND MARCH 2014.**

This game is most fondly remembered as

the "Ice Bucket" match- for the memorable incident which really sparked it to life in the closing quarter of the match. Following consecutive promotions, Alloa were playing their trade in the Championship alongside Falkirk for the first time in 11 years. They had started the season well on this occasion- something of a surprise package finding themselves only 4 points from the league summit in early December. However, a poor run of form thereafter led to manager Paul Hartley quitting the club in late January- with Barry Smith unveiled as his replacement. Going into this game towards the end of March Alloa were yet to record a league win in calendar year 2014, whereas Falkirk were challenging at the top of the table firmly in the promotion play-off positions. This was the third meeting of the clubs



in the 2013/14 campaign- with both previous games producing dull cagey goalless draws. This game looked likely to be heading towards a similar fate until it sparked to life in the final 25 minutes.

The game ignited when Falkirk striker Phil Roberts and Alloa's Michael Doyle clashed at the corner flag after an exchange. Roberts had tried to put a cross into the penalty area but Doyle had used his body to harry the ball out for a goal kick- but the pair had a coming together and Doyle ended up on the ground. It was all much ado about nothing, but Roberts picked up what you could say was a slightly harsh yellow card for his role in the incident. Roberts was clearly frustrated with this, but he left the referee with no option just moments later when he cynically barged Doyle as the Alloa full back tried to burst forward, leaving Doyle hurtling off the pitch. In disbelief at the referee's decision, Roberts marched off aiming a swift kick to a stationary ice bucket in front of the away dugout. When the ice bucket remained rooted to the spot, Roberts then grabbed it above his head and threw it to the ground- the contents engulfing the Falkirk technical area- before disappearing up the tunnel leaving manager Gary Holt visibly angered by his players' petulance.

The extra man and the nature of the red card noticeably tipped the match in Alloa's favour. On the 73-minute mark, Liam Lindsay played the ball forward to substitute

Eddie Ferns just past the halfway line with his back to goal on the left touch-line. He turned past David McCracken and his pace left the experienced Falkirk man chasing his shadow. After galloping into the box he unleashed a great shot high into the net for the opener. The goal was eerily similar to Gareth Bales famous one in the Copa Del Ray Final against Barcelona a month earlier. Alloa added a second with ten minutes remaining- a looping cross from Doyle was headed home at the back post by Kevin Cawley. The points were sealed in the closing stages- a near carbon copy of the second with Liam Caddis this time the provider and McCord heading home. This was a huge 3 points as Alloa finished 8th that season and consolidated their place in the Championship by the narrowest of margins- goal difference.

### **ALLOA 2 FALKIRK 0, SCOTTISH LEAGUE ONE 11TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

Alloa picked up a comfortable three points on this sunny September

afternoon last season. Falkirk's subsequent poor run of form perhaps ensures this appears less of an achievement in hindsight- but Falkirk came into this game as favourites having won 3 and drawn one of their first five league fixtures. Steven Hetherington made his return to the stadium as Falkirk captain- opting to switch ends to prevent Alloa shooting "traditionally" towards the Clackmannan Road End in the second half. Euan Henderson made his debut in an Alloa shirt after signing on loan from Hearts- and his maiden outing proved to be memorable. Alloa had started the match well and should have been ahead after 23 minutes. Steven Boyd's shot was saved by Falkirk keeper Robbie Mutch, but the rebound fell to Alan Trouten who headed inches wide when it looked easier to score. With half an hour played, a long ball from Mark Durnan found Henderson who had outfoxed the Falkirk defensive line. Holding off the attention of left back Paul Dixon, he waited for

Mutch to commit then stabbed it low into the bottom corner of the net to give Alloa the lead. But Alloa went on to experience a couple of first half setbacks- Alan Trouten and Steven Boyd both being forced off through injury. Falkirk had a couple of chances from long range before the break. David Hutton tipped over a Seb Ross effort, then Charlie Telfer went close with a free kick. But right on half time sub Cameron O'Donnell spurned a glorious chance when he just couldn't get a decent connection on Henderson's cutback. Alloa continued their ascendancy after the break and extended their lead on 63 minutes. Scott Taggart's lofted free kick was headed across the face of the goal by Mark Durnan and Conor Sammon nodded home from close range. Hutton saved from Falkirk substitute Samuel Ompreon late on, but overall there was a fair distance between the visitors and Alloa on the day.

## **HT QUIZ**

**1. NAME THE THREE ALLOA PLAYERS WHO SCORED AT THE FALKIRK STADIUM LAST SEASON IN THE TWO MATCHES THERE BETWEEN TODAY'S TEAMS.**

**2. PRIOR TO THE 2022 WORLD CUP TOURNAMENT, NAME THE SIX EUROPEAN NATIONS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY REACHED THE WORLD CUP FINAL IN THE 21ST CENTURY**


**3. NAME THE THREE WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS WHERE ENGLAND WERE ELIMINATED IN THE GROUP STAGES**

**4. WHICH THREE PLAYERS HAVE SCOTLAND INTERNATIONAL CAPS AND CURRENTLY PLAY THEIR FOOTBALL IN THE MLS?**

**5. NAME THIS FORMER ALLOA PLAYER FROM HIS CLUB CAREER PATH- TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR- AJAX AMSTERDAM- FRANKSTON PINES (AUSTRALIA)- MORWELL FALCONS (AUSTRALIA)- HEIDELBERG UNITED (AUSTRALIA)- SEVEN STARS (SOUTH AFRICA)- ALLOA ATHLETIC**

**ANSWERS PAGE 37**



MIDFIELDERS						
CAWLEY	ROBERTSON	MILLER	SCUGALL	KING	O'DONNELL	
7	8	11	12	16	20	
						
		90	90	90	71	
		90		90	87	
39		76	26	90	14	
75	45	68	90	22		
90		90	90	90		
54	36	90	62	90		
90	90	60	50	30	29	
90	90	45		69	45	
80	84	6		10	85	
90	90		35	3	90	
83	90		83	7	90	
36		90	90	64		
65	90		90	25	61	
45	90	27	90		90	
90	90	72	90	18		
62	90	90				
64	90	90			26	
82	90	68			22	
89	61	90			1	
90	90	74	90	15	16	
	90	64	90	26	55	
90		90	64	90		
	82	8	90	90		
90		76	14	90	45	

FORWARDS							
DONNELLY	RODDEN	MACIVER	KHYAM	SAMMON	BUCHANAN	RANKIN	OFFORD
9	10	15	17	18	19	24	25
		62	14	90	28		
87	90	3	87	3			
76	90	14	64				
45	90		90				
18	90		72				
28	90		90				
40	90		90				
30	90		60	21			
73	90	5	80	17	10		
35	55	90	87		2	35	
27	21	90	63	7			69
72	90	31	18	59			
29	29	90	61				61
45	63	63	45				27
72	64	26	77				18
		90	90				90
75	75	20	70				15
90	63	27	27	8			27
90	90	90	69				21
82	8	59	82			31	
64		90	83		7		
90	53	37	77	13			
77		90	68	13			22
	24	90	83	66	7		



## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. EUAN HENDERSON, KEVIN CAWLEY, CONOR SAMMON

2. CROATIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, HOLLAND, SPAIN

3. 1950, 1958 AND 2014

4. DANNY WILSON (COLORADO RAPIDS), LEWIS MORGAN (NEW YORK RED BULLS), JOHNNY RUSSELL (KANSAS CITY)

5. ALLY DICK







# ALLOA ATHLETIC



# FALKIRK

# POS



	1	WILLIAM MUIR			
	21	KEIR BURT			
	31	JAY HOGARTH			
	2	SCOTT TAGGART			
	3	DANIEL CHURCH			
	4	CRAIG HOWIE			
	5	ANDY GRAHAM			
	6	MARK DURNAN			
	7	KEVIN CAWLEY			
	8	JON ROBERTSON			
	9	LUKE DONNELLY			
	10	BRADLEY RODDEN			
	11	MURRAY MILLER			
	12	STEFAN SCOUGALL			
	14	GEORGE STANGER			
	15	ROSS MACIVER			
	16	ADAM KING			
	17	SEFF KHYYAM			
	18	CONNOR SAMMON			
	19	STEVEN BUCHANAN			
	20	CAMERON O'DONNELL			
	22	PAUL MCLAREN			
	23	DAVID DEVINE			
	24	LUKE RANKIN			
	25	KIERAN OFFORD			

MANAGER BRIAN RICE

# POS



	1	PJ MORRISON			
	2	RYAN WILLIAMSON			
	4	STEPHEN MCGINN			
	5	LIAM HENDERSON			
	6	COLL DONALDSON			
	7	CALLUM MORRISON			
	8	STEVEN HETHERINGTON			
	9	JUAN ALEGRIA			
	10	AIDAN NESBITT			
	11	CRAIG MCGUFFIE			
	12	PADDY MARTIN			
	14	FINN YEATS			
	15	LEON MCCANN			
	16	SEB ROSS			
	17	JAIME WILSON			
	18	GARY OLIVER			
	19	RUMARN BURRELL			
	21	OLUWASEGUN LAWAL			
	22	BRAD MCKAY			
	26	SEAN MACKIE			
	28	PEARSE CARROLL			
	29	FINLAY MALCOLM			
	31	NICKY HOGARTH			
	44	PAUL WATSON			
	73	KAI KENNEDY			

MANAGER JOHN MCGLYNN

REFEREE: Ian Sneddon

ASST: Paul O'Neill &amp; Craig McCrae

## ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

23.12.22, AWAY, 19:45



CLYDE



ALLOA ATHLETIC

31.12.22, HOME, 13:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



KELTY HEARTS

07.01.23, AWAY, 15:00



QUEEN OF THE SOUTH



ALLOA ATHLETIC

14.01.23, HOME, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



FC EDINBURGH

21.01.23, HOME, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



FALKIRK



**MARSHALL CONSTRUCTION**

**PROUDLY SUPPORTING**

**ALLOA ATHLETIC FC**



buy direct  
save typically

**40%**

PRINTED TEAM KITS FROM

**£149**



**UK'S MAJOR BRAND SUPPLYING FOOTBALL KITS & TEAMWEAR DIRECT**



INDUSTRY LEADING QUALITY STANDARDS



MARKET LEADING 2 DAY DESPATCH ON PRINTED KITS