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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

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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

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 DUNFERMLINE	18	11	6	1	27	11	16	39
 FC EDINBURGH	19	11	2	6	37	26	11	35
 FALKIRK	18	9	5	4	36	22	14	32
 AIRDRIEONIANS	18	8	5	5	33	25	8	29
 MONTROSE	19	8	5	6	29	25	4	29
 ALLOA ATHLETIC	18	8	4	6	35	27	8	28
 QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	19	6	5	8	32	34	-2	23
 KELTY HEARTS	19	7	2	10	20	28	-8	23
 CLYDE	18	2	4	12	23	39	-16	10
 PETERHEAD	18	1	4	13	10	45	-35	7

WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

LEAGUE 1

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







PREMIER LEAGUE

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

CHAMPIONSHIP

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

LEAGUE 2

 ALBION ROVERS	 DUMBARTON
 STIRLING ALBION	 STENHOUSEMUIR
 FORFAR ATHLETIC	 ELGIN CITY

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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

183 cm 75 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

190 cm 88 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

183 cm 75 kg



23



MANAGER

BRIAN RICE



MIDFIELDERS

**Kevin
CAWLEY**

17/03/1989



**Jon
ROBERTSON**

25/04/1989



**Murray
MILLER**

29/01/2001

175 cm 65 kg



**Stefan
SCOUGAL**

07/12/1992

170 cm 63 kg



**Adam
KING**

11/10/1995

178 cm 74 kg



**Cameron
O'DONNELL**

29/09/2001

183 cm 70 kg



FORWARDS

**Luke
DONNELLY**

20/01/1996



**Bradley
RODDEN**

21/08/1996

178 cm 68 kg



**Ross
MACIVER**

28/02/1999

180 cm 73 kg



**Seff
KHYAM**

06/07/2002

175 cm 69 kg



**Conor
SAMMON**

06/11/1986

188 cm 91 kg



**Steven
BUCHANAN**

26/03/2003

178 cm 70 kg



**Luke
RANKIN**

27/11/2004



**Kieran
OFFORD**

28/03/2004





BRIAN RICE



A POINT GAINED AT CLYDE

I asked them at half time to go and win the second half and we did that. We've come away from home and got another point. We could've lost the game, we could've won the game with how it swung back and forwards but I thought it was

tremendous in the second half for us to get back in the game.

Still a couple of injury problems but we're getting there. That was the first game back for George Stanger tonight. Scougall before the game had gotten a phone call as he was travelling

to the game that his kid had been rushed to hospital otherwise he'd have been playing but for the boys who did play great character to come back. I said to the boys lets get a good result and we can enjoy Christmas but we've come and got a point and we're

better off.

We can look at ifs, buts and maybes but looking at what happened: we score an early goal. We should be solid for 10/15 minutes but again we've lost two poor goals through the middle of the defence. Taggart is playing out of posi-

tion. He's probably been our best player this season but soon we'll have boys back. We've had our partnership disrupted between [George] 'Stan' and David Devine but that's old news. George is back, Mark Durnan is on his way back. He just needs some games and during the window I'm

looking to sign one or two defenders. There's one done but we won't announce that until the time is right but we will be stronger in the coming weeks and there'll be that competition for places.

Kieran Offord was excellent tonight. He's been biding his time

and making impacts off the bench and I thought tonight was a great opportunity for him to start and show us what he's got and show what he's got and he did that. He scored a really good goal and was dangerous driving at the opposition so I'm delighted with him. It's easy to forget

he's only 18 so it was good for him to get a goal and 90 minutes.

I wanted the win to enjoy Christmas but it is another point in the right direction. When I came into the club we had 28 points in 26 games. We've now got 28 in 18 games and now it's time to kick on.





JOHN GLENCROSS



NEWSDESK

Welcome back to the Indodrill stadium for our final Cinch One league fixture at home in 2022, today against Kelty Hearts FC, we welcome John Potter and Dougie Hill as the management team, the directors and supporters of Kelty Hearts FC.

Returning to the Indodrill Stadium today is ex Wasp, Dougie Hill, who is the Assistant Manager with Kelty Rangers, Dougie was a player who was signed by Alloa Athletic on

three separate occasions by three different Alloa managers, he initially joined the club on 24th July, 2004 from Falkirk signed by Tom Hendrie. And played in defence along with Chris Townsley and Michael Bolochowecyj scoring his first goal v. Morton in Sept, 2004 and then scoring the winner in 1-0 victory over Dumbarton on 30th Nov, 2004. At the start of Season 2005/06 he moved to Cowdenbeath until Allan Maitland resigned him for

Alloa on 21st May, 2008. The following season 2009/10 Dougie moved to Starks Park, Kirkcaldy playing for Raith Rovers. At the start of Season 2015/16 it was Danny Lennon who signed Dougie for the third time for "The Wasps" making him team captain. Once again at the end of the season he was off again this time to Brechin City, he then moved to Dumbarton and then played for Brechin City again for the third time, signing for Kelty Hearts at start

of Season 2020/21. In all Dougie made 95 appearances for "The Wasps" scoring 4 goals.

The Alloa Athletic Woman's Player of the Year Awards took place in the Boardroom on Thursday 15th December, celebrating their first year in formation and finishing 6th in the league. The award winners on the night were:-

Most Improved Player : Heather Dickson (Awarded By Manager)
Goal Of The Season : Molly

Williams (Awarded By Players) Late Winner Against McDermid Ladies 27th November, 2022
 Player Of The Year : Cree Connell (Awarded By Manager)
 Player 's Player Of The Year : Cree Connell (Awarded By Players)
 Most Improved Player : Molly Williams (Awarded By David Glencross Club Photographer)

With the disappointment of the cancellation of the Falkirk fixture on Saturday 17th December Ex Scotland International Tommy Hutchison, who began his senior career at Recreation Park with Alloa Athletic in March, 1966 will now be guest of honor at our home match with Falkirk in the Scottish Cup on Saturday 21st January, 2023. 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" McPher-

son 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 footballers 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 & 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 he will be happy to recall his memories in the Beautiful Game and sign copies of his book.

Our next fixture will be on Saturday 7th January, 2023 v. Queen of the South at Palmerston Park, Dumfries, Kick-Off 3pm.

Wasps 2000 Draw - Week 50 17th December, 2022

- £ 100 0014 I.Paterson
- £ 50 1460 D.Glencross
- £ 25 0422 R.Boland
- £ 25 0204 S.Drummond
- £ 25 0305 M.Mowat

As this will be our final home match of 2022 and I would like to hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a will have a "Good New Year" I hope you receive everything you wish for over the festive period, including another three league points today, enjoy the game.





23rd December 2022
 New Douglas Park, Hamilton
 7:45pm KO

CLYDE

2:2

ALLOA ATHLETIC



(2:1)

SCORERS

0:1 21' Offord

Stanger (OG) **29'** **1:1**

Allan **39'** **2:1**

2:2 70' Taggart



STARTING XI

- 1** PARRY
- 2** LYON
- 3** GRANT
- 22** CRAIG
- 4** MCLEAN
- 19** CUDDIHY
- 11** ROBERTS
- 6** GRANT
- 9** ALLAN
- 15** SCULLION
- 17** CAMERON

SUBS

- 21** BRADLEY-HURST
- 14** KENNEDY
- 16** MCDONALD
- 5** THICOT
- 23** HENJI

SUBS

- 1** MUIR
- 5** GRAHAM
- 6** DURNAN
- 4** HOWIE
- 20** O'DONNELL
- 19** BUCHANAN
- 24** RANKIN
- 10** RODDEN
- 22** MCLAREN

STARTING XI

- 31** HOGARTH
- 2** TAGGART
- 14** STANGER
- 3** CHURCH
- 11** MILLER
- 16** KING
- 7** CAWLEY
- 15** MACIVER
- 18** SAMMON
- 25** OFFORD
- 8** ROBERTSON

REFEREE: Alan Newlands

24th December 2022
New Central Park, Kelty
3:00pm KO

KELTY HEARTS

1:2

DUNFERMLINE



(0:0)

SCORERS

Agyeman **60'** **1:0**

1:1 **67'** O'Ware

1:2 **86'** McCann



STARTING XI

1 JAMIESON

3 PEGGIE

4 O'WARE

5 MARTIN

26 LYON

22 AGYEMAN

12 TIDSER

10 BARJONAS

7 CARDLE

11 HIGGINBOTHAM

9 AUSTIN

SUBS

2 LOGAN

15 HILL

16 MCNAB

19 MCGILL

20 CAMPBELL

21 CAMERON

24 KAMGNA JR.

25 DOHERTY

SUBS

5 HAMILTON

6 MACDONALD

10 TODOROV

14 MCCANN

20 LITTLE

27 YOUNG

28 TOD

29 SUTHERLAND

30 MAHON

STARTING XI

1 MEHMET

15 FISHER

4 BENEDICTUS

12 BREEN

2 COMRIE

26 TODD

8 CHALMERS

3 EDWARDS

21 RITCHIE-HOSLER

9 WIGHTON

11 MOCHRIE

REFEREE: Greg Aitken

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

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JONATHAN MARKWELL



SUBS ON THE SCORESHEET

Any substitute will tell you that they crave making a positive impact once they join the fray. Happily, that's certainly been the case with Alloa subs so far this season, with one of the most noticeable trends during the first half of the campaign being the number of Alloa substitutes who have scored goals after climbing off the bench. At the time of writing (prior to the scheduled Friday night encounter with Clyde, due to festive period printing

deadlines) 10 Alloa goals this season have come via substitutes, which accounts for a surprisingly high proportion of 23% of all Alloa's goals so far.

To put that into some further context, substitutes have scored more goals for Alloa in half a season than in any of the previous ten whole seasons, as my table found within this piece illustrates. In three of the past ten seasons subs have each contributed nine goals, but despite playing only

half the campaign and having scored far fewer goals in total, the Wasps squad this season has already surpassed that previous high watermark.

There are various good reasons this helps explain this unusual feat. The most obvious is the recent increase in the number of substitutes permitted to be used, jumping from three to five. For Alloa, that only came in at the end of January 2022, when the cinch League One clubs agreed to

return to five subs after this increase was originally introduced on a temporary basis during the condensed Covid restricted season. This was for fully justified player welfare reasons, amid the condensed fixture programme. However, the motion wasn't passed in the Championship where the Wasps were playing at the time, meaning January was Alloa's first taste of this rule change. Put simply, substitutes are more commonplace and getting more

SEASON	NO & %	DETAILS
12/13	9 out of 72 = 13%	Thomson 2 v Albion, Grehan v Brechin, Thomson v Stranraer, Cawley v Arbroath & Albion, Ry McCord v Stranraer, Tiffoney v East Fife, Hynd v Arbroath
13/14	7 out of 44 = 16%	Ferns v Cowdenbeath, Salmon v Inverurie, McManus v Morton, Caldwell v QoS, Ferns v Falkirk, Caddis v Dumbarton, Caldwell v Hamilton
14/15	2 out of 58 = 3%	Flannigan v Hibs, Spence v Dumbarton
15/16	3 out of 29 = 10%	Ferns v Dumbarton, McDonald v Stenhousemuir, McManus v QoS
16/17	9 out of 95 = 9%	Layne v Cove & Peterhead, Donnelly v Albion, Hynd v East Fife, Longworth v Peterhead, Kirkpatrick v Peterhead, Flannigan v Stranraer, McCluskey v Dunfermline, Longworth v East Fife
17/18	5 out of 71 = 7%	Martin v Queen's Pk, Meggatt v Queen's Park, Renton v Albion, Martin v East Fife, Flannigan v Arbroath
18/19	4 out of 60 = 7%	Trouten v Dundee U, Kirkpatrick v QoS, Kirkpatrick v Falkirk, Hamilton v Morton
19/20	0 out of 48 = 0%	
20/21	6 out of 43 = 14%	Thomson v Airdrie, Thomson v Edinburgh, Hetherington v Stenhousemuir, Thomson v ICT, Thomson v Morton, Buchanan v QOS
21/22	9 out of 61 = 15%	Trouten v Livingston, Sammon v Falkirk & Airdrie, Henderson 2 v Queen's Park, Sammon v Dumbarton, Scougall v Clyde, Riley-Snow v Dumbarton, Sammon v Falkirk.
22/23	10 out of 44 = 23%	Rodden 2 v Kelty, Rankin v Peterhead, Offord v Clyde, Rodden v Montrose, Sammon v Airdrie, Maclver v Airdrie, O'Donnell v Peterhead, Offord & King v QoS

minutes on the pitch, so logically it translates that there will be a greater amount and proportion of goals from the replacement players.

Although I haven't crunched the data to evidence this, I'm also reasonably confident that the first subs in games are generally entering the pitch far earlier in games now there is the option to make more switches during games. You only need to look at the World Cup Final a fortnight ago to see that in action, with Didier Deschamps boldly (but justifiably) making a double change after just 40 minutes of what turned out to be the arguably the finest Cup Final world football has witnessed since Alloa's triumph versus Inverness Caledonian Thistle in 1999's Bell's

Challenge Cup Final! Managers appear to me to be far more willing to change personnel earlier in games, knowing that they still have more options off the bench later on should they choose to use them. Changes at half-time (particularly as they don't count towards the three instances when switches are permitted) anecdotally appear more commonplace, while switches early in the second half appear more regularly, whereas in times when only three sub options were available the changes typically all happened after the hour mark in my mind, as managers didn't want to gamble too early and suffer injuries later in games (and numerical disadvantages having already used all their subs). It is also typically attacking players who are switched more often in games, with

there being scope to rotate both or all three strikers during games, with the fresh energy reinforcements bring against tiring defenders (who traditionally are less likely to be rotated) another explanation for the increase in goals from subs witnessed at the Recs.

There has been some criticism of the 5-sub-rule, in that it is perceived to benefit the bigger clubs with stronger squads the most, resulting in an unfair advantage. Although I personally have a degree of sympathy with that argument, I would suggest that the wider benefits of it giving more opportunities for young players to break through (examples being the cameo's seen this season by Alloa's Steven Buchanan and of course the dream goalscoring debut for Luke Rankin) trumps the possible harm. All clubs should have at least five realistic options on the bench and, if they don't, then quite simply their squad isn't competitive enough for modern-day football. The other main argument for its introduction was to help protect players from injury, which I think is probably more difficult to measure but has some definite merit in general terms.

The five sub rule has arguably helped improve the quality and

intensity of the games we are witnessing today too, with the greater flexibility bringing fresher legs on the pitch throughout the 90 minutes. I'd suggest that forward thinking players probably need to change their mindset of expecting or wanting to play 90 minutes every week; the increase in subs means the normal approach should be to expect to get an action-packed, high energy performance out of starting strikers for 60-70 minutes, before a completely fresh front-line joins the action in the final 20-30 minutes to keep the pace and energy levels up. In the past being a sub has felt like a punishment for some strikers in particular, but the five subs rule means they are just playing a slightly different role, rather than a lesser one. For the paying spectator the result should hopefully be a better product on the pitch, providing the subs are of around the same standard as the starters!

Brian Rice has embraced the flexibility that additional substitutes provides him. Of the seventeen league games played at the time of writing Rice has used all his subs on five separate occasions, with three and four subs being made in five further instances too. Only twice has the manager used fewer than three subs in



league games, two on the opening day away at Dunfermline and choosing to make only a single change away at Falkirk (which I think was more of a message [or punishment] to the eleven who started the game and found themselves 3 goals down at the break on that instantly forgettable evening!).

The changes have bore fruit for Alloa on several occasions already this season, with match-winning contributions provided by substitutes on a regular basis. Kelty Hearts, who we welcome back to the Recs this afternoon, won't need reminding the impact Bradley Rodden played after replacing Stefan Scougall during the maiden competitive encounter between the clubs. Within six minutes Rodden had put the Wasps two ahead with a fine header from a pinpoint Scott Taggart cross, before making the points safe in the final ten minutes with another strike. Youngster Luke Rankin was the next Alloa substitute to get on the scoresheet, with an instinctive finish to apply the gloss to a pleasing 5-0 thumping of Peterhead at the end of August. I'd suggest that had only three subs been permitted that day Rankin wouldn't have enjoyed that dream debut moment. The following weekend another debutant rose

from the bench to devastating effect, as loanee Kieran Offord made an immediate impression in scoring one and forcing an own goal clincher in the 4-2 success at Clyde, as part of an all-round splendid outing from the bench, full of hunger, raw pace and no sign of fear against a beleaguered Bully Wee backline.

A fortnight later Alloa made it three wins on the bounce and yet another sub grabbed the headlines as Rodden came up trumps for Brian Rice, coolly slotting home the winner with his weaker right foot versus Montrose. The following week the run of match-winners from subs continued as Conor Sammon got in on the act with his later winner seeing Alloa edge past Airdrie in the cup. When the sides met again on league business three weeks later the Wasps win was secured by, you guessed it, a goal from a sub – this time Ross MacIver decided to take the game by the scruff of the neck by driving home a sublime strike from 25 yards high into the corner of the net – Brian Rice must have thought he had a midas touch with his changes by this stage! That bandwagon continued the very next week, as Cammy O'Donnell came off the bench up at Peterhead to shoot home from distance, with the



aid of a deflection, to seal the three points for Alloa that day. The most recent occurrence of Alloa goals from the bench came last month when both Offord and Adam King netted to put the finishing touches on a sensational second half performance in the 5-1 victory over Queen of the South.

After that game Alloa subs accounted for 27% of all Alloa goals this season; although that's now dropped slightly to 23%, its still far higher a proportion than any full season in the past decade, where the overall percentage has varied from 0% (no Alloa substitute got on the scoresheet in the curtailed 2019/2020 season!) to 16% in the Paul Hartley / Barry Smith managed 2013/14 season. The average across the past decade is around 10%

of Alloa's goals coming from subs, meaning the first half of this season can very much be seen as a purple patch.

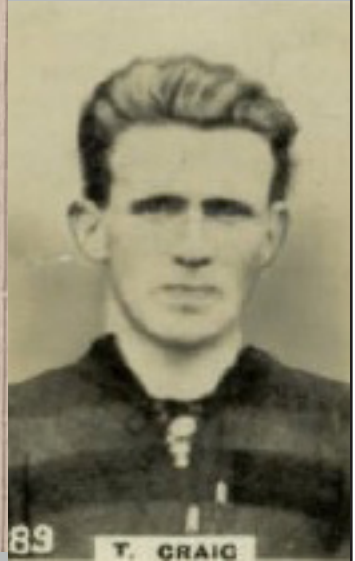
Looking more closely at the list of goalscoring subs from the past decade, it includes some unforgettable memories of match-winning goals. From 15-year-old's Scott Hynd's winner at Arbroath, Iain Flannigan's fabulous free-kick to beat Hibs and more recently Jordan Kirkpatrick's crucial winners at Queen of the South and Falkirk in 2019. Finally, just last season who could forget Euan Henderson's 90th minute brace against Queen's Park to turn defeat into victory in injury time. Fingers crossed there will be a few more memorable goals from Alloa substitutes in the second half of this season too.



DONALD POLLOCK

SCOTTISH LEAGUE—First Division.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals.		Pts
					F.	A.	
Rangers,	21	13	2	6	42	13	32
Dundee,	24	13	7	4	40	29	30
Airdrieonians, ..	22	12	5	5	26	17	29
Hibernians,	23	11	7	5	26	25	27
Aberdeen,	24	11	8	5	31	21	27
Falkirk,	22	8	4	10	28	17	26
Celtic,	20	12	7	1	33	25	25
Hearts,	22	7	5	10	33	31	24
Partick Thistle, ..	21	8	7	6	34	28	22
Kilmarnock,	22	8	9	5	31	39	21
Morton,	21	8	8	5	24	25	21
Ayr United,	21	6	7	8	23	24	20
Raith Rovers,	22	7	9	6	15	29	20
St Mirren,	22	7	9	6	32	34	20
Motherwell,	21	6	8	7	37	34	19
Third Lanark, ...	23	7	12	4	24	36	18
Clyde,	22	6	11	5	22	31	17
Hamilton Acads.,	23	7	13	3	26	34	17
Alloa,	22	4	12	6	18	32	14
Albion Rovers, ..	22	2	13	7	19	42	11



YULETIDE SCANDAL AND MORE WASPS WOE

Goodwill to all men – except those on the League Management Committee. That was the festive message in the Wee County 100 years ago as local fans fumed at the football authorities. The controversy stemmed from the home clash with Kilmarnock earlier in December, a game in which Alloa had put an indifferent run of results behind them with perhaps their finest display yet in their debut

season in the top flight. The Wasps had been 5-2 up and cruising with just minutes remaining when a thick fog had descended upon the Recs, leading to the referee to march the sides from the field. Alloa had waited hopefully for news that the result would stand but had ultimately received the Christmas gift they didn't want in the shape of a hastily arranged rematch. "AN ALLOA GROUCH" was the headline in the

Evening News: "Great dissatisfaction is felt in football circles in Alloa at the decision of the Scottish League in ordering the unfinished game between Alloa and Kilmarnock to be replayed. Quite a number of Alloa supporters are so incensed at the decision that they are endeavouring to get the directors to refuse to play the game and let Kilmarnock get the points". The directors did not agree and "as a

large percentage of the Alloa supporters are said to be determined to boycott the game it is anticipated that the attendance will be very small". And it was, by the standards of the time at least, with 1700 fans attending on December 27th 1922. By comparison, 9000 supporters had watched Alloa lose 2-0 to Rangers at the Recs four days earlier. The diehards who turned up saw Alloa start well on

an icy surface. A Forrest goal was chalked off but Alloa pressed on and took a well-deserved lead before the break. Tully Craig – restored to centre forward – was set up by Tom McGregor and finished coolly. There was a blow shortly after when McGregor limped off to reduce Alloa to ten men. Killie duly took advantage with McPhail turning the ball into the net early in the second half after a stramash in the Alloa box. The Wasps responded well with Wood, then Craig again, putting them 3-1 up. Just as it seemed that justice would be done, disaster struck. Goldie scored from distance - with the consensus being that Alloa keeper Bowie should have done better - before Dunlop forced home the equaliser. It finished 3-3 with Alloa left to rue the disallowed goal, the injury that left them to play the second period with ten men, and more suspect goalkeeping. The main focus of their ire however, was the decision to replay the game in the first place, with local fans labelling this as “a scandal” and “a mean dodge to get Alloa out of the First League”.

It was perhaps no great surprise when Thomson was returned to the Alloa goal for the visit to Cappielow three days later.

McGregor had overcome his knock to start in defence alongside Headrick and the pair were under pressure in a first half dominated by Morton. Thomson was outstanding in goal, the best of his saves denying McNab from the penalty spot. He was helpless to keep out a Gourlay effort however, with Morton turning around 1-0 ahead. The second half started with Morton again in control and Thomson once more in form. Alloa survived and finally enjoyed some pressure of their own in the closing stages, culminating in a goal which was disallowed for an infringement, something that didn't do anything for the mood of those in the visiting support who were sure the authorities were out to get them. The final score was 1-0 with the Sunday Post concluding that “Apart from Thomson, none of the Alloa players distinguished themselves”.

The Wasps only had one day off before heading to Shawfield on January 1st 1923 to take in the New Year against Clyde. The hectic schedule was taking a heavy toll with a string of changes. Bowie was back in goal, with Orrock, Young and Forbes also coming into the team. Conditions were far from ideal – “owing to the keen frost, the pitch at Shawfield had to be literally covered with sand” – with many

players “slipping and falling” throughout. Alloa survived a scare with a Clyde goal chalked off early on before Dunn came close at the other end. Shortly before the break the Bully Wee took advantage of a defensive mix up to go ahead, and despite a fine second half by the Wasps there was no further scoring. “The poorer side won... the Alloa forwards played well, and only Shingleton's fine saving kept them from getting the reward the deserved”, said the Dundee Courier, but it was yet another damaging defeat. With the first Killie

game expunged from the records, it was now ten matches without a win for the Wasps, going all the way back to the heady 2-1 win over Hibs in October. Alloa had picked up plenty of plaudits through that bad spell but precious few points. They started 1923 second from bottom and there was no rest for the beleaguered men in Black and Gold, for the day after their defeat at sandy Shawfield they were back in action in a New Year derby against high flying Falkirk. More in the next edition of The Wasp.



PICTURED BOBBY ORROCK

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	15 (0)	0	6 (0)	0	21 (0)	0	15 (0)	0
TAGGART	DEF	18 (0)	2	7 (0)	1	25 (0)	3	212 (0)	8
CHURCH	DEF	12 (3)	2	7 (0)	0	19 (3)	2	32 (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	15 (0)	3	4 (1)	0	19 (1)	3	15 (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	16 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	16 (1)	0	163 (29)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	10 (2)	1	4 (2)	0	14 (4)	1	44 (15)	6
KING	MID	5 (8)	1	6 (0)	1	11 (8)	2	31 (13)	5
O'DONNELL	MID	6 (7)	1	3 (1)	0	9 (8)	1	13 (27)	1
MILLER	MID	12 (3)	0	7 (0)	0	19 (3)	0	12 (3)	0
CAWLEY	MID	15 (1)	0	3 (2)	1	18 (3)	1	313 (44)	62
DONNELLY	FWD	7 (4)	4	2 (0)	1	9 (4)	5	7 (10)	5
SAMMON	FWD	18 (0)	5	6 (1)	5	24 (1)	10	39 (13)	10
MACIVER	FWD	15 (3)	4	5 (2)	0	20 (5)	4	18 (8)	5
KHYHAM	FWD	0 (1)	0	0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0	0 (1)	0
RODDEN	FWD	6 (8)	5	5 (1)	1	11 (9)	6	6 (8)	5
BUCHANAN	FWD	0 (6)	0	2 (3)	0	2 (9)	0	0 (6)	0
RANKIN	FWD	0 (3)	1	0 (1)	0	0 (4)	1	0 (3)	1
OFFORD	FWD	4 (8)	4	0 (0)	0	4 (8)	4	4 (8)	4



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ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
1 (0)	0	4 (0)	0
0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
6 (0)	0	21 (0)	0
55 (1)	3	267 (1)	11
13 (0)	0	45 (7)	2
5 (4)	0	24 (12)	1
53 (1)	1	237 (3)	15
2 (1)	0	39 (1)	4
6 (1)	0	21 (1)	3
2 (1)	0	3 (3)	0
0 (0)	0	6 (0)	0
0 (0)	0	163 (29)	2
13 (7)	2	57 (22)	8
6 (0)	2	37 (13)	7
0 (0)	0	13 (27)	1
7 (0)	0	19 (3)	0
65 (9)	11	378 (53)	73
2 (3)	1	9 (13)	6
6 (1)	5	45 (14)	15
5 (2)	0	23 (10)	5
0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0
5 (1)	1	11 (9)	6
2 (3)	0	2 (9)	0
0 (4)	0	0 (7)	1
0 (0)	0	4 (8)	4

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BRIAN ROACH



A FAN'S VIEW

As this is the last edition of *The Wasp* in 2022, I thought I'd use it as an avenue to recall some highlights of another eventful year following the club. The first major fixture of the year was undoubtedly the televised home Scottish Cup tie against Celtic in late January. This was Celtic's first visit to the ground in almost 40 years, their previous visit being a League Cup section tie in the summer of 1982. There was an inevitable ticket scramble, and I'm sure there were other Alloa supporters who

heard from a few "old friends" for the first time in many years to try and obtain tickets for this match. The ground is always terrific when it's full though and it was a good atmosphere on the night. Conor Sammon almost caught out Joe Hart straight from kick off - but Alloa hopes of an upset probably ended on the stroke of half-time following Liel Abada's excellent second goal for the visitors. But Alloa gave Ange Postecoglou's men a real game, and Sammon did manage to score late on to ensure

a nervous conclusion for Celtic. However, the post-match "trial by social media" sideshow and all the other nonsense that accompanied it really took the shine off the whole occasion for me. It was good in the moment, but I was glad when it all over for good.

Continuing with a less than positive subject matter, Alloa hit their lowest point of the year in February - when basement boys East Fife came to Recreation Park and swept them aside. The outlook was bleak, and it appeared the

club may be involved in a precarious relegation battle. But Alloa lifted themselves under new manager Brian Rice with an instant response. In the manager's home debut, Alloa destroyed champions in waiting Cove Rangers with a brilliant first half performance. Cove to their credit showed their championship credentials after Alloa's Jon Robertson was sent off - scoring two late goals to leave with a point. Regardless, it was a particularly entertaining match with encouraging signs all

over the pitch from an Alloa perspective.

Qualifying for the promotion play-offs had looked a bit of a pipe dream since the turn of the year and beyond any realistic expectations by that point- but Alloas form had picked up for a positive conclusion to the campaign. They travelled over to Falkirk in April with a chance to pip their full time near neighbours for 5th place in the table. A scant consolation perhaps- but would nevertheless ensure the status quo of bragging rights for those Alloa supporters who work in the local area. And more importantly- the club account on Twitter could retain the “best team in Forth Valley” moniker within the accounts profile details for another season at least. It was a memorable day at the Falkirk Stadium, and perhaps Alloas most comfortable win I have witnessed there. The final score of 2-1 didn't reflect how one side the game was. And Conor Sammon scored my favourite goal of the year- pick pocketing the Falkirk centre backs and slotting the ball home before a lovely fist pumping celebration right in front of the home Kevin McAllister Stand. Great stuff- probably the best away match of the year.

From a home perspective, the aforemen-

tioned Cove Rangers game was a barn burner- but you can't really top a high scoring home win. The 5-0 August victory over Peterhead was a great day- starting with Sammons goal after 30 seconds and ending with youngster Luke Rankin scoring in stoppage time. It had all the pleasing aspects you would wish for on a Saturday afternoon. The 5-1 win over Queen of the South was similar in result, but an altogether different type of victory. The visitors blitzed Alloa early on, scoring after a couple of minutes and looking likely to add to their lead. Alloa somehow went in at the break level. But they completely changed the momentum of the match with three goals in five minutes, before adding a fifth late on. I was particularly pleased for a bunch of Birmingham lads who travel up to follow the Wasps when time allows. Led by Dan Page, the “Alloa Brummies” have been frequent visitors for years- but hadn't been able to take in a match since March 2019. A planned trip to Firhill in 2020 to watch Alloa face Partick Thistle was nixed at the last minute as all football was cancelled due to the pandemic. Their planned trip north was also the subject of two false starts this season- thanks to train strikers and the death of the Queen. Having final-

ly got back to Alloa for a game, I was particularly pleased that they witnessed a brilliant second half with some terrific Alloa goals. A great bunch of lads who I hope we see back at the ground again soon. I was very impressed by their pre match tippie of choice on the trip north- a “budget” whisky named High Commissioner. If you know- you know.

For the travelling supporters we got to tick three more grounds from our lists in 2022. From both a stadium and a game perspective, the less said about FC Edinburghs sports centre complex the better (not fit for purpose). But our July trip to Buckie Thistles Victoria Park was a far more enjoyable experience. You can't beat sitting on a grassy hill taking in the sun watching Alloa. Buckie had a great setup and were very welcoming hosts. And Alloa didn't have it all their own way in the game either- going behind to an early penalty kick with the game a lot closer than the 4-1 final score suggests. But Conor Sammon showed his experience and proved too much for their defence that day, scoring a hat-trick. The other debut trip of course was to Central Park, Kelty- home of todays opponents. It was a good experience- I loved their ground. You're very close to the

pitch and the stadium has a real community feel to it. There is also a variety of vantage points to view the game. The banked terracing behind each goal- steep enough to get you right on top of the goalmouth action. There are covered paddocks should the elements hit, seating if that's your thing- or you can just stand at the sidelines where you're practically in the linesmans' shorts pocket. I'm looking forward to our return trip in February. I didn't venture in last time, but I'll be paying the social club within the stadium a visit to see if it adds to the fun.

Staying with football but moving away from Alloa for a moment- I'd say the most memorable non Alloa football event was Scotlands double header against Ukraine in the Nations League. The 3-0 win at Hampden was one of the best Scotland performances in years. I must admit the Polish vodka hit me quite hard in the return game in Krakow- but it was great to see them getting over the line and achieving promotion to the top tier of the competition. With an Alloa promotion play-off battle to come, along with the European Championship qualifiers with the national team- hopefully 2023 is a memorable year. Enjoy today's game, and Happy New Year to all.



ANDREW COCKBURN



LOOKING BACK 31TH DECEMBER 1983

In the Premier Division, leaders Aberdeen kept up their relentless march towards the Championship with a 5-2 home win v struggling Dundee, a result which also extended The Dons unbeaten League run to twelve games, while second-placed Celtic kept up their own title ambitions with a 1-0 win at Hibs. Third-placed Dundee United were victorious at home, by 2-1 v Motherwell, courtesy of goals from Stark &

Hegarty, fourth-placed Hearts won by the same scoreline at another side in the doldrums, St. Johnstone, while fifth-placed Rangers were held 1-1 at Ibrox by St. Mirren. At the bottom, Motherwell's defeat was their sixth in a row, and it kept them firmly in bottom place, seemingly booked for the drop, while St. Johnstone & The Saints Tayside rivals Dundee still lay immediately above The Well.

First Division leaders

Partick Thistle were victorious by 2-1 at fellow promotion challengers Kilmarnock, second-placed Dumbarton were victorious by the same scoreline at home v Ayr United, while Morton stayed third despite being held 1-1. Brechin City were now fourth thanks to a 3-1 home success v Airdrie, fifth-placed Falkirk were held 2-2 at struggling Raith Rovers, while Kilmarnock remained handily placed in sixth position. Alloa Athletic started

the festive season with their first win in the league since the start of November when they defeated high flying Hamilton Accies at Recreation Park on Boxing Day by two goals to one, Bryan Purdie and Bobby Harris their goalscorers. The Wasp's side which secured the points was: Donald Hunter, Bobby Harris, Larry Haggart, Bryan Purdie, Willie Garner, Jim Thomson, Garry Thompson, Pat McCurdy, Pat Daly, Davie Houston, and

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Frankie Cole. At this time Kely Hearts were playing in the Fife Junior league, joining as full members in SFA in December, 2017, allowing them to compete in the Scottish Cup and enter the pyramid system and being promoted to SFA League Two in Season 2021-22 and ending the season as Champions and proving their worth to the SFA Cinch League and continuing their success and progress.

Down in the Second, leaders Forfar Athletic crushed their bottom-of-the-table local rivals Montrose by 4-0 at Station Park, while Stirling Albion remained second despite being held 0-0 at home by Stenhousemuir. Third-placed Queen Of The South were 2-1 home victors v Queen's Park, Berwick remained fourth in spite of a 1-2 home reverse v lowly East Stirling, while fifth-

placed Arbroath were 1-0 winners at another of the strugglers, Cowdenbeath.

South of the border, First Division leaders Liverpool were 1-0 winners at Nottingham Forest, thanks to another goal from their ace marksman Ian Rush, second-placed Manchester United were victorious by the same scoreline v struggling Stoke at Old Trafford, while Wolves still propped up the table in

spite of a second successive home win, this time by 2-0 v Norwich. Chelsea's 1-0 home win v Brighton saw them take over leadership of the Second Division, The Blues displaced Sheffield Wednesday, who dropped to second after they were held 1-1 at Carlisle.



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This afternoon we welcome Kelty Hearts to Alloa for the final game of the year. It is time to shake off the Christmas turkey with plenty at stake for the two club's in this Hogmanay fixture. With both sides sitting outside the play-off positions, they will have their eyes firmly set on pushing their way further up the table. It was a very poor start to the season for the visitors, however, as players have returned from injury and new management have settled in Kelty have begun to string together a run of results. Recent back-to-back victories against Peterhead and Queen

of the South saw them cement a large gap between themselves and the relegation spots, leaving the bottom 2 to a league of their own. After their defeat to rivals, Dunfermline, on Christmas Eve, they will be looking to bounce back with this fixture.

THE BOSS - JOHN POTTER

As mentioned, there is a new man in charge of the visitors this afternoon from their title success last year in John Potter. The towering defender is most known for his playing days with Clyde, St Mirren, and Dunfermline. It

was at the latter where he was given his first role in management. Taking control of the Pars in 2014, after Jim Jerreries departure, his stint was short having failed to meet the club's objectives. He continued to coach at the club before teaming up with ex-Wasp boss, Jack Ross for the next chapter of his career. Stints at Sunderland and Hibernian followed before the duo left the role at Easter Road last season and went their separate ways. With Ross taking the reins at Dundee United, Potter also had his own gig lined up at Kelty Hearts. Now back in the same division he





ONE TO WATCH KALLUM HIGGINBOTHAM

A man who will need no introduction to Alloa fans to be wary of is inventive forward, Kallum Higginbotham. The winger missed much of the opening of the season due to injury, and that did include his side's last visit to Alloa. Since returning to the squad, he too has needed time to find his feet and get going again. Playing a shadow striker role behind another returning man from injury, Nathan Austin, is where he posed the most threat though. Higginbotham got on the scoresheet for the first time recently against Queen of the South meaning he will be bursting with confidence come today.

Now at 33-years old, he has had an illustrious career which includes many games South of the border, where he is from. It was during his time at Huddersfield, 10 years ago, where he enjoyed League One play-off success of his own. His clubs closer to Kelty include spells with Dunfermline, Partick Thistle, and Kilmarnock.

THE CONNECTION

The most notable return to the Indodrill is long-serving Kelty defender Ross Phillip. The 30-year-old spent 3 years with Alloa beginning in 2009 before a relegation under Alan Maitland and a severe knee injury put him out of action for the last 16 months of his

CONTINUED ON P32



managed Dunfermline, he will be hoping to use the coaching experience of the last 7 years to have a more successful outcome.

THE CAPTAIN - MICHAEL TIDSER

Kelty have an experienced man with the armband in Michael Tidser. Having started out captain Celtic reserve sides, and playing for the Scotland u19 squad, he made his first senior appearance with Greenock Morton, a club where he would go on to play more than a 150 times for. Soon into his first stint at Cappielow he was attracting interest from down South, the

Premiership, and picking up individual accolades. It was Rotherham that he eventually ended up moving to, before making his debut a week later against his former side. During his 2-years he spent time out on loan at Ross County and Oldham, before returning to Morton in 2015. Transfer regulations and a suspected hernia kept him out for longer than he would have anticipated but he stayed at the club until 2020, when he moved to Kelty. Since joining the club he has led them to Tidser's only pieces of silverware with leagues win in the Lowland League twice, and League 2.



BY KIEREN MOONEY

spell. When Paul Hartley arrived at the club in 2012, Phillips was the only contracted player left from the summer exodus. He did decide to leave Alloa in 2012 and joined Kelty Hearts. Known for his versatility and selfless attitude, he did go on to spend a few seasons with Boness, before returning to his former side to play an integral part in their title wins. Also returning is defender Reis Peggie. Alloa signed the youngster after his release from

Falkirk in 2018 after an impressive trial. After an awkward start with injury, he only made a couple of appearances for the Wasps. A successful spell at East Stirlingshire following his time at Alloa saw him earn a move to Kelty and he has played a part in all the games so far this campaign. There are no current players in the Alloa ranks who have played for Kelty and our most recent connection would be the shared former manager of Barry Ferguson.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Before this season, the sides had never met before and now we prepare for our 3rd match-up of the season. The first game here in Alloa was kick started by Stefan Scougall who opened the scoring direct from a corner, reminiscent of Mark Docherty and Steven Hetherington's efforts in the past. A double from Bradley Rodden put the Wasps in a commanding position as the clock

ticked down. It wasn't to be a clean sheet for Jay Hogarth when Andy Graham, unfortunately, headed it into his own net. Alas, the Wasps came out 3-1 victors. The return fixture was Alloa's first trip to Kelty and the spoils were shared in a 1-1 draw. Daniel Church opened his senior account with a fantastic finish in the first half before Alfredo Agyman equalised with a rebounded effort from Higginbotham.



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BRIAN ROACH



THREE OF THE BEST..... HOLIDAY PERIOD WINS

ALLOA 3 ELGIN CITY 0- SCOTTISH THIRD DIVISION, 26TH DECEM- BER 2011

Kicking things off recalling a brilliant Alloa performance on a cold Boxing Day afternoon back in 2011- where the victory allowed them to reach the summit of the Third Division heading into the new year. Alloa were looking for revenge against their Highland visitors having suffered a 5-0 defeat up at Borough Briggs earlier in the campaign. Alloa started brightly and took an early lead. With 16 minutes gone Ryan McCord's cross found Mark Docherty who had made a late run into the penalty area- and his first-time finish put Alloa ahead. Both teams also struck the woodwork in the first half. Kevin Cawleys shot glanced the crossbar for Alloa, and Elgin also hit the bar

right before half time- with prolific Elgin striker Craig Gunn nodding the rebound straight into the arms of Scott Bain. Alloa continued to press after the interval. Stevie May saw his shot tipped over by Zander Clark, and the on-loan Elgin keeper came to their rescue again when he tipped Cawleys goal bound effort round the post. However, he blotted his copybook just before the hour mark- allowing Cawleys shot to squirm through his body and into the net as Alloa took a commanding lead. Five minutes later however there was a potential game changing incident at the other end. Ben Gordon was adjudged to have fouled Gunn in the penalty area and the referee pointed to the spot. The Alloa defender was then given a rather harsh straight red card for the offence and Alloa were down to ten men.

However, Jason Crooks penalty was saved by Bain and Alloa retained their two-goal advantage. Alloa rounded off the day with a third in stoppage time. Clarks clearance was headed into McCords path by Darren Young and McCord rounded the Elgin keeper and slotted into the empty net. Alloa were not displaced from the top of the table for the remainder of the season as they embarked on a terrific run to end the season as champions.

ALLOA 2 DUNDEE UNITED 1- SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP 29TH DECEMBER 2018

This victory may have had an element of smash and grab about it- and maybe overshadowed by the televised 1-0 victory over United the following season. But none the less this was a memorable win

over the Tayside club. Backed by a large travelling support, Dundee United had the better of the opening half but struggled to break down a stubborn Alloa rearguard. They had to wait until the 38th minute to create a real clear-cut chance when Sam Stantons cross found Craig Curran 6 yards from goal. His header struck the post, before Andy Graham scrambled clear from the onrushing Slovak Pavol Safranko. The visitors continued to turn the screw after the interval. Paul McMullan fired inches over the bar before Neil Parry saved from Safranko. And with an hour gone Alloas resolve was finally broken. Sam Roscoe fouled Safranko right on the edge of the penalty area. Callum Booth stepped up and fired the free kick into the top corner of the net to give United the lead. With twenty min-

utes left Alloa substitute Connor Shields was close to getting on the end of a Scott Taggart cutback, but Frederic Frans did just enough to evade the Alloa man. Two minutes later though Alloa were back on the level terms with an equaliser that had looked unlikely on the balance of play. Steven Hetherington floated a free kick into the penalty area, where United keeper Siegrist rushed out from his goal line but clutched nothing but fresh air. Andy Graham headed the ball into the net and Alloa were right back in the game. United should have regained their lead with 5 minutes left when Booths cross found substitute Fraser Aird who somehow directed his header wide. But it was Alloa who struck the decisive blow on 88 minutes. With back to goal Zanatta picked up Hetheringtons header and embarked on a mazy run breezing past two United defenders. Siegrist attempted to narrow the angle, but Zanatta slotted past him to win the game for Alloa. With Zanattas parents over from Canada to take in the game, it was a huge personal moment for Zanatta and indeed Alloa. This victory put Alloa 6 points clear of Falkirk in bottom spot and Alloa went on to finish in 8th position that season, consolidating their place in the Scottish Championship.

DUNFERMLINE 1 ALLOA 3- SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP 28TH DECEMBER 2019

Another recent encounter to round things off- but this was

a memorable day just up the road, where Alloa produced a perfect away performance. It was a rather unexpected result too- Alloa were in poor form heading to East End Park having lost their last 4 league games and sitting at the foot of the table. Dunfermline started the match on the front foot with their talisman striker Kevin Nisbet causing problems from the off. With 9 minutes gone he forced Alloa keeper Jamie MacDonald into action with a stunning double save. Initially diving to palm away Nisbets goal bound header, the dangers was not fully averted. The striker picked up the loose ball and found space in the packed penalty area to get a shot away. But again he was thwarted by MacDonald with an even better save low to his left. Nisbet wasn't to be denied though and after 19 minutes he got his goal- heading home a Ryan Dow cross to open the scoring. It had been virtual one-way traffic at that stage, and looked for all intents and

purposes as if it would be a long afternoon- but Alloa stunned the hosts with an instant response. Winning a corner, Stevie Hetheringtons high delivery was fumbled by Dunfermline keeper Ryan Scully- initiating a goalmouth scramble. Liam Dicks shot was blocked before Adam Brown managed to evade a sea of bodies with his shot to fire the Wasps level. Four minutes later it got even better for Alloa as they capitalised on another home defensive error to take the lead. A Robbie Deas lob forward appeared to cause little danger, but Josh Edwards clearance rebounded off the pressing Liam Buchanan, and Kevin O'Hara was on hand to strike into the net and completely turn the match on its head. Dunfermline struggled to get going again for the remainder of the half. After the break there was an immediate goalmouth scramble in the Alloa box, but Greg Kiltie fired over. Alloa were happy to contain and counter very effectively and they

extended their lead on 65 minutes. A neat interchange between Jon Robertson and O'Hara opened up space for Robertson to drive forward on the right flank. He looked for a central pass, but his marauding run was halted as he was upended in the penalty area. Iain Flannigan was never missing from the spot and Alloas captain for the day showed composure to slot home.

The hosts looked a beaten side, and it was Alloa who looked more likely to add to their commanding lead. Substitute Robert Thomson headed just over on 72 minutes, and he just couldn't get his shot away a minute later as the Pars defence was again breached. But 3-1 it finished- a massive three points for Alloa and laid the foundations for 4 consecutive wins in the Championship. This run proved critical as the Wasps were in 8th place when the league was shut down a few months later due to the pandemic.

HT QUIZ

- 1. WITH WHICH CLUB HAS FORMER ALLOA AND CURRENT KELTY HEARTS DEFENDER ROSS PHILP HAD A RECENT STINT ON LOAN?**
- 2. KYLIAN MBAPPE BECAME THE FIFTH MAN TO SCORE IN 2 WORLD CUP FINALS- NAME THE OTHER FOUR.**
- 3. BOTH 2022 WORLD CUP FINALISTS SCORED FROM THE SPOT IN REGULATION TIME. THIS HAS ONLY EVER OCCURRED IN ONE OTHER WORLD CUP FINAL- NAME THE YEAR OF THAT FINAL.**
- 4. IN THE PAST TEN YEARS MANCHESTER CITY HAVE WON THE ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP (CURRENTLY CARABAO CUP) 6 TIMES. NAME THE OTHER 4 PREVIOUS WINNERS IN THAT TIMESCALE.**
- 5. WHICH SCOTTISH LOWER LEAGUE CLUBS DID THE FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS HAVE A SPELL ON LOAN? CRAIG GORDON, KENNY MILLER, KENNY MCLEAN, ALLAN MCGREGOR.**

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	
1	90		76	14	90
90	90	45		83	45

FORWARDS							
DONNELLY	RODDEN	MAGIVER	KHYHAM	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	155	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	
	7	90		57	33		90



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. STENHOUSEMUIR

2. VAVA (BRAZIL- 1958 AND 1962), PELE (BRAZIL- 1958 AND 1970), PAUL BREITNER (WEST GERMANY- 1974 AND 1982), ZINEDINE ZIDANE (FRANCE- 1998 AND 2006)

3. 2006 (ITALY VS FRANCE)

4. SWANSEA CITY (2013), CHELSEA (2015), MANCHESTER UNITED (2017), LIVERPOOL (2022)

5. CRAIG GORDON- COWDENBEATH, KENNY MILLER- STENHOUSEMUIR, KENNY MCLEAN- ARBROATH, ALLAN MCGREGOR- DUNFERMLINE





ALLOA ATHLETIC



KELTY HEARTS

#	POS				
	1	WILLIAM MUIR			
	21	KEIR BURT			
	31	JAY HOGARTH			
	2	SCOTT TAGGART			
	3	DANIEL CHURCH			
	4	CRAIG HOWIE			
	5	ANDY GRAHAM			
	6	MARK DURMAN			
	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 KHYHAM			
	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	DARREN JAMIESON			
	2	CAMMY LOGAN			
	3	REIS PEGGIE			
	4	THOMAS O'WARE			
	5	LEWIS MARTIN			
	6	JORDON FORSTER			
	7	JOE CARDLE			
	8	NICKY LOW			
	9	NATHAN AUSTIN			
	10	JAMIE BARJONAS			
	11	KALLUM HIGGINBOTHAM			
	12	MICHAEL TIDSER			
	16	ROBBIE MACNAB			
	19	SCOTT MCGILL			
	20	LIAM CAMPBELL			
	21	SCOTT CAMERON			
	22	ALFREDO AGYEMAN			
	24	MIGUEL KAMGNA JUNIOR			
	25	KYLE DOCHERTY			
	26	DARREN LYON			
	28	JASON THOMSON			
		MANAGER JOHN POTTER			

REFEREE: Callum Scott

ASST: Scott Anderson & John Stewart

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

07.01.23, AWAY, 15:00

	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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14.01.23, HOME, 15:00

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		FC EDINBURGH
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21.01.23, HOME, 15:00

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		FALKIRK
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28.01.23, AWAY, 15:00

	AIRDRIEONIANS		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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04.02.23, HOME, 15:00

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		PETERHEAD
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