



THE WASP

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



VS STIRLING
12TH AUGUST 2023



NORTHERN
GAS AND POWER
THE SMARTER ENERGY CHOICE



5th August 2023
Palmerston Park, Dumfries
3:00pm KO

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

3:4

ALLOA ATHLETIC



(2:4)

SCORERS

McKechnie	2'	1:0	
		1:1	6' McKay
		1:2	15' Rodden
		1:3	29' Sammon
Reilly (P)	37'	2:3	
		2:4	44' Rodden
Reilly (P)	84'	3:4	



STARTING XI

STARTING XI

1	BOTTERILL
2	HOUSTON
5	MCKAY
6	COCHRANE
7	MCKECHNIE
8	TODD
9	REILLY
11	MCGUFFIE
15	MCCLELLAND
18	MIMNAUGH
23	LOGAN

SUBS

12	COWIE
3	CHURCH
10	CONNOLLY
20	IRVING
24	AMBROSE
27	GIBSON
28	JOHSTONE
30	WALKER
39	MENDY

SUBS

1	MORRISON
5	GRAHAM
27	DEBAYO
3	DEVENEY
19	BUCHANAN
26	COULSON
24	RANKIN
17	CANNON
2	TAGGART

41	OGAYI
15	MCKAY
6	NEILL
23	DEVINE
20	O'DONNELL
14	VIRTANEN
8	ROBERTS
12	SCOUGALL
10	RODDEN
18	SAMMON
7	CAWLEY

REFEREE: Alan Newlands

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

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Club Officials

Honorary Directors

Pat Lawlor

Ewen Cameron

Mike Mulraney

Directors

Andrew Allan (Chairman)

Martin Ross (Vice Chairman)

Steven Lynch

Dr Robert McElroy

Secretary

Carol Edgar

Head of Media

Lewis Russell

Child Protection Officer

Bill Anderson

Management

Brian Rice (Manager)

Paddy Connolly (Assistant)

Kenny Brannigan (Assistant)

Sebastian Panczyk (Physiotherapist)

Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor)

Derek Nicholson (Head of Youth)

Robert Glen (Goalkeeping Coach)

Ground Staff

Alan Petrie

Kit Manager

Pat Dunne

Safety Officers

Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar

Wasp 2000 Manager

Malcolm Gordon

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
FALKIRK	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
KELTY HEARTS	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
ALLOA ATHLETIC	1	1	0	0	4	3	1	3
STIRLING ALBION	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
HAMILTON ACCIES	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	1	0	0	1	3	4	-1	0
EDINBURGH CITY	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
COVE RANGERS	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
MONTROSE	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0
ANNAN ATHLETIC	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0

WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

LEAGUE 1

ALLOA ATHLETIC	STIRLING ALBION
ANNAN ATHLETIC	MONTROSE
COVE RANGERS	FALKIRK
EDINBURGH CITY	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH
KELTY HEARTS	HAMILTON ACCIES

CHAMPIONSHIP

AIRDRIEONIANS	PARTICK THISTLE
AYR UNITED	INVERNESS CT
DUNDEE UNITED	DUNFERMLINE
QUEEN'S PARK	ARBROATH
RAITH ROVERS	GREENOCK MORTON

PREMIER LEAGUE

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

LEAGUE 2

CLYDE	BONNYRIGG ROSE
DUMBARTON	SPARTANS
FORFAR ATHLETIC	ELGIN CITY
PETERHEAD	STENHOUSEMUIR
STRANRAER	EAST FIFE

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every success for the coming season!**



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GOALKEEPERS

PJ MORRISON

27/02/1998



DEFENDERS

Scott TAGGART

27/12/1991



Euan DEVENEY

16/11/2002



Morgyn NEILL

10/03/1996



Keir BURT

09/09/2004



Andy GRAHAM

22/09/1983



David MCKAY

17/06/1998



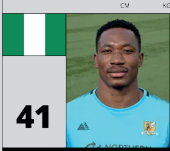
Paul MCLAREN

01/04/2004



Tochukwu OGAYI

10/10/1996



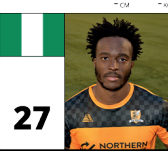
David DEVINE

20/06/2001



Josh DEBAYO

17/10/1996



MANAGER

BRIAN RICE



MIDFIELDERS

Steven HETHERINGTON

09/03/1993



Kevin CAWLEY

17/03/1989



Kurtis ROBERTS

06/09/1994



Stefan SCOUGALL

07/12/1992

170 cm 63 kg



Miko VIRTANEN

29/01/1999



Cameron O'DONNELL

29/09/2001

183 cm 70 kg



Jon ROBERTSON

25/04/1989

183 cm 70 kg



FORWARDS

Luke DONNELLY

20/01/1996



Bradley RODDEN

21/08/1996

178 cm 68 kg



Conor SAMMON

06/11/1986

188 cm 91 kg



Steven BUCHANAN

26/03/2003

178 cm 70 kg



Luke RANKIN

27/11/2004



Quinn COULSON

01/09/2003





BRIAN RICE



THE MANAGER AFTER DEFEATING THE DOONHAMERS

I couldn't have asked for any better, this is a difficult place to come to at anytime but first game of the season, to get three points is just fantastic.

It was a really poor decision from one of the centre halves and we lost a goal early on but we showed the character and we showed the belief to get back in the match.

We did it, we went 3-1 up very quickly and conceded two penalties but great spirit, great desire from the boys not to get beat. Honestly, it was a fantastic result for us today.

Brad [Rodden] knows what he needs to do to score goals, he needs to work hard all the time. Today, he did it. He gave

the back three or the back four at Queens a hard time because of his running power and his desire and he deserved his goals today. He could've had another one – little bit more composure there.

It's great to see him scoring again. This lad has only been in professional football a year, people shouldn't be judging that boy. He comes in with a smile on his face and he works as hard as anybody else and I'm absolutely delighted for him.

[On Stirling] It's not about revenge, I don't see anything like revenge. We had a tough game today and next week will be another tough game. This league is tough all the time – every game is tough.

Any team can beat anybody in this league and that's why it is so good and so competitive.

It's a local derby next week and we just need to make sure we're ready, get a few injuries back. It's a good game for the fans to watch and it's great to get the new season going with a win.

We're still looking to add to the squad – people keep asking me about strikers but we scored four goals today. I'm still looking for strikers, everybody knows I'm looking for strikers. They're difficult to find at part-time level They've got to be better than what you've got. The work never stops but I can't be any prouder than I am for the boys today.





JOHN GLENCROSS



NEWSDESK

Welcome back to the Indodrill Stadium for our second fixture already this season against our local neighbours Stirling Albion, who are still undefeated this season, in the Viaplay Cup they defeated us 2-1 at Indodrill Stadium with a last minute penalty in a remarkable come back and last Saturday in the Cinch League One opening fixture, which was their flag day when they raised the Cinch League Two Champions flag for Season 2022/23 they won 1-0 against Edinburgh City, already this season Darren Young's team have scored ten goals with the loss of only three. Today, however we will look to get back to winning

ways at home and gain another three valuable league points after our 4-3 victory at Palmerston Park, Dumfries in a seven goal thriller last Saturday against Queen of the South.

On Monday 14th August we will hold our fifth Football Memories Group in conjunction with Alzheimer Scotland and Football Memories Scotland part of the Memories Scotland network. The football reminiscence group is to be enjoyed by anyone living with Dementia, experiencing difficulty with memory, and is open to all including football supporters, family and friends. At all the meetings we have

had good turnouts of between sixteen and twenty four people who enjoyed looking back on football through the ages and looking at old programmes, team lines, and photographs. Our next Football Memories meeting will take place on Monday 14th August at Indodrill stadium, at 11.30 - 1.00 O'clock, all are welcome.

Alloa Athletic's new goalkeeper is 27-year-old, Nigerian, Tochukwu Philip Ogayi Goalkeeper who was signed after impressing in pre-season friendlies, Nigerian born player who joined The Wasps as a free agent having left SV Tasmania

Berlin at end of last season where he played in the 5th Tier NOFA Oberliga. He previously had played in Ukraine for SC Kakhovka. He made his competitive debut v. Stenhousemuir in Viaplay Cup then Cinch League One debut v. QOS but had to go off injured in second half last Saturday after pulling a muscle in his leg.

Alloa Athletic Ladies team kick-off their SWFL West League fixtures this Sunday 13th August, 2023 against Dumbarton United Ladies (A), who were approved membership of SWFL to play woman's football at start of this season 2023/24, playing their matches at East End Park, Dumbarton.

Alloa Athletic supporters

please note that our next home game versus Falkirk on Saturday 26th August, 2023 has been selected by BBC Alba to be shown live on TV, to accommodate this the Kick-Off time has been changed from 3pm to a later time of 5.30pm.

Wasps 2000 Draw - Week 31
5th August, 2023

£ 100 1069 D.Harris
£ 50 0443 J.Scott
£ 25 0138 C.Fraser
£ 25 1042 S.Armitage
£ 25 0823 J.Mitchell

After the success of the History of Alloa Athletic book last season, the club have produced a second book "Diary of a Season 2022/23" which is now available to purchase. The book will retail

at £ 19.99 in Waterstones but at a discounted price of £ 14.99 from the club. Diary of a Season 2022/23 continues where the History book ends. It covers what has happened at the club over the course of last season through articles and stats as well as match photos by David Glencross. Both John Glencross and Stuart Latham have added additional information that has come to light since the history book was published, Jonathan Markwell has also added some of his brilliant articles which are always worth reading. As with the history book, all profits will go to the club. Now on sale at Lime Tree House, Alloa and on matchdays at the club shop for £14.99.

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NETWORK

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Football Memories Group

Indodrill Stadium Alloa

Monday 14th
August 2023

11.30-13.00

For more info please contact
jalloafc@aol.com
07877 530314





THE ULTIMATE ALLOA MAKESHIFT XI

The Wasps were well and truly down to the bare bones in the painful play-off defeat at Hamilton in May. Alloa finished with a striker and midfielder within the back three and an attacking midfielder at left-wing-back, as the 10-man Wasps bravely bowed out of the race for the Championship. In the aftermath of the defeat it got me thinking as to Alloa's finest makeshift XI from the past quarter of a century, containing those players who have on an emergency or makeshift basis did a job for the Wasps in a completely unnatural part of the pitch to their normal roles. I'm not thinking about just a full-back filling in at the centre

of defence or vice-versa, or your dependable utility men that can do a job virtually anywhere for the team (for example Mark Docherty), I'm only considering those players who have been asked to play roles which are completely alien to their normal roles, real square pegs in round holes types of roles which cause supporters to really worry that this isn't going to end well! So, here's my ultimate Alloa makeshift XI.

GK: David Gormley

The role of emergency keepers really is a dying breed, with substitute goalkeepers and very occasionally two back-ups on the bench nowadays. As

such, I'm now almost giddy with delight at the sight of an outfield player donning the keepers gloves and top in the final throws of matches. For Alloa, David Gormley springs immediately to mind after his heroics after replacing the red-carded Stephen Robertson in the final minute of a Scottish Cup tie away at Hamilton in 2011. Gormley's first task was to face a Simon Mensing penalty, which he courageously dived to save! Although Accies wrapped up a 2-0 victory moments later, Gormley's five minute spell as the last line of Alloa's defence was still memorable for the right reasons.

There's an honourable mention too for Andy Graham's cameo away at Stenhousemuir after Neil Parry pole-axed Alan Cook on Hogmanay 2016, although Andy was beaten by a world-class late strike the Wasps won 4-2 (Graham was ironically also playing for the Accies against Alloa the day Gormley went in goal). Finally, Gary Clark deserves credit for playing the final 17 minutes of a Scottish Cup tie against Dundee United in 2000, replacing the injured Mark Cairns with the Wasps 2-1 ahead of a United side who in those days were 4th in the top division. Clark had no chance with Jim Hamilton's late equaliser (available on YouTube via the excellent ArabArchive), with excellent goals from Davie Beaton and Martin Cameron looking like the Wasps were going to dump out the Tangerines from the cup until Cairns's injury. However, neither Graham or Clark saved a penalty as Alloa's emergency keeper so Gormley gets the nod for me.

RB: Kevin Cawley

Alloa's top appearance maker since WW2 has played in all the striking and midfield positions for the club during his illustrious Wasps career, but on very occasional circumstances the wee man has also been asked to fill-in at right-back. Naturally Kevin does his best wherever he's asked to play, but he's simply not a right-back! I think the first instance of Cawley being deployed here was by Peter Grant away at Morton in February 2020. With the Wasps 4-2 down Grant wanted as many attack minded players on the pitch as possible, leading to Cawley becoming an attack-minded full-back. The fact Cawley made two sensational assists to help Alloa salvage an unlikely point

in an amazing 4-4 draw probably worked against him, as Grant repeated the trick of switching Kev to right-back late in games on other occasions thereafter! Brian Rice repeated that move on other occasions last season too, with Cawley actually starting games as right wing-back on 9 separate occasions and as a conventional right-back in another 5 matches, mainly due to injuries. Of-course Cawley also needed to revert to a full-back role in that eventful afternoon in Hamilton, which was a game too far for Kev!

LB: Jon Robertson

Although Robbo converted himself into a more than capable right-back during the promotion winning 2017/18 season and was regularly deployed there during the subsequent Championship seasons, the sight of him playing occasionally at left-back was even more unconventional. You'll meet few more honest pros than Jon Robertson, but even he'd be first to admit that his left foot isn't used for much more than standing on, while the sight of Paul McMullan racing towards Robbo in the televised match against Dundee United in October 2019 highlighted it was a real mis-

match – however Robbo stuck to his task like he always did for the club, with the Wasps winning 1-0 that night. In his wisdom Barry Ferguson also started Robbo at left-back on 10 separate occasions in 2021, despite having natural left-back Daniel Church sitting on the bench each time! By being out of his usual central midfield role and playing on his least favoured left-side too, Robbo is my ultimate makeshift left-back

CB: Ross MacIver

MacIver moved from centre forward, then to central midfield and finally central defence in the space of 45 eventful minutes at Hamilton in May. For the first 11 minutes of the play-off encounter MacIver was deployed in his conventional striking position, but an early injury to Scott Taggart meant Ross switched to a midfield role he'd performed so well in during the first leg of the tie, despite it being deeper than either his 'number 9' or 'number 10' roles Alloa fans became accustomed to last season. Half time signalled a change in shape which saw MacIver complete his front to back transformation in the space of half a game, with





him being the right-sided central defender in a back three. At times Maclver's naivety in an alien position showed (being skinned a couple of times and some aimless forward passes), but the team as a whole were out on their feet and it was logical that Maclver's strength in the air could see him perform this emergency role – he did so commendably in what turned out to be his final Alloa appearance, after earning a move back to full-time football with Falkirk after impressing with the Wasps.

CB: Paul Simpson

Back in 1997, in the opening stages of what turned out to be Alloa's first championship winning season for 76 years, injuries to both captain Keith McCulloch and flame haired Mark Cowan meant Tom Hendrie had a dilemma as to who to fill-in at the back. Instead of choosing Mark Nelson, Hendrie moved Alloa's 6ft4ins striker Paul Simpson back into defence for a month prior to Cowan's return. The following season, up in the third tier, Simpson also had a single game at the back, in a re-arranged midweek away game at Partick in January. Jimmy Gilmour was in caretaker

charge of Alloa that night, with Hendrie having left for St Mirren before Christmas. Simpson actually scored the winning goal that night, but sadly it was an own goal as the lorry driver from Livingston's attempted clearance from Martin Lauchlan's cross agonisingly looped over Mark Cairns in the 79th minute to give Thistle a 2-1 win.

CB: Cammy O'Donnell

With it being evident that David Devine was playing with an injury in the play-off match at Hamilton and the game was clearly gone with twenty minutes remaining, it was no surprise to see Devine substituted. That resulted in yet another team reshuffle and Cammy O'Donnell ending up as a left-sided centre back alongside Andy Graham and Ross Maclver. Just writing that sentence reminds me of the madness of the situation the Wasps faced that afternoon! Cammy's forward thinking nature means he's typically thought of more of an offensive player than a defensive one, with it being a stretch for him to fill-in at left-back or left wing-back. To see O'Donnell play at centre-back took unconventional thinking onto a whole new level, but his natural athleticism meant

I thought he performed admirably in very trying circumstances!

MID: Craig Howie

A number of Alloa fans thought Craig Howie did a decent job in Barry Ferguson's Alloa side playing as a central midfielder. I personally was never convinced though. For me Howie clearly looked like a central defender being asked to play in midfield, with there being that hint of awkwardness in possession, the lack of a natural instinct that midfielders need to have to constantly scan

around them in the midfield battleground (rather than defenders who typically have the game in front of them) and never really looking comfortable in his surroundings. Although Howie never lacked effort playing in midfield, he was obviously far more comfortable in his natural defensive role.

MID: Garry Fleming

Garry Fleming is the captain of my makeshift XI, with his switch from underperforming striker to midfield general being transformational in Alloa's promotion winning 2017/18 campaign. The early months of the season were not working for either Alloa or Fleming, but the master-stroke to change Fleming's role, which was initially treated with scepticism, worked out perfectly. Fleming could break up play and distribute it to his more athletic colleagues with either short neat passes or glorious long balls. Tenacious in the tackle and up for the battle week after week, the Wasps march up the table was in no small part thanks to Fleming, so much so that what started out as a makeshift experiment in an attempt to rescue Alloa's fortunes became a key ingredient in a promotion winning



season. Although Fleming was only a single-season wonder for the Wasps, I think it opened Jim Goodwin's mind to tweaking the roles of his players and having the confidence to try new things out. As such, I think it gave Goodwin the green light to consistently play Iain Flannigan in a deep-lying central midfield position the next season, having predominantly employed Flanny in an attacking midfield role previously. That worked out perfectly for the Wasps in the next two seasons, with Fleming getting an indirect assist in Flannigan's glorious final campaigns in Alloa colours.

MID: Andy Scott

Andy Scott's versatility worked against him at times, was he a central striker, did he play better out wide, was he best just behind a central striker? It turned out in the 2010/11 season that Scott's best position was actually not a role he played regularly until the final days of his Wasps career, as an all-action central midfielder. There's an endearing quality of a striker moving back into midfield and spraying passes around – Scott did this and loved to thread passes through to strikers too. Unfortunately whilst Scott played relatively well in an unconventional midfield role, his team-mates were severely lacking and the Wasps were relegated, leading to the release of virtually the whole squad as a new era of the club's history begun under the management of Paul Hartley in 2011.

'NUMBER 10' ROLE: Mou-hamed Niang

Sena's loan spell with the Wasps in 2021/22 was a mixed bag, with him occasionally impressing with his all-action displays and on other occasions not looking completely comfort-

able in his surroundings. Barry Ferguson initially used Sena as a defensive midfielder or occasionally as a box-to-box midfielder. However, Sena also started a game at problem position left-back (a win over Airdrie at the Recs) and I tallied up at least five starts as an attacking midfielder, just behind a lone frontman. I didn't think this 'Number 10' role suited Sena's strengths and at times he looked lost trying to thread the play in the final third and be the creative spark for the team. Considering that Barry Ferguson had the options of Cawley, Scougall or Trouten to play that role, it still surprises me to this day that Sena got the nod to play in an unnaturally advanced position.

FWD: Michael Bolochowecykj

During the 2006/7 season Allan Maitland resorted to deploying central-defender Michael Bolochowecykj as a central striker, with varying levels of success. Away at Ayr, despite strikers Lewis Coult and Kyle MacAulay being subs, Bolo opened the scoring 14 minutes into his debut as a striker, being the proverbial defender-cum-striker by putting himself about and making a nuisance of himself. Sadly, just after the half-hour Bolo got a little carried out, swinging an arm at David Dunn to receive a fully deserved red-card. Alloa were 2-1 ahead at the time and actually went into half-time 3-1

up at Somerset Park, before losing 3 soft goals in ten second half minutes to lose 4-3, leaving Maitland to publicly bemoan indiscipline and the performance of his goalkeeper Scott Findlay. On the final day of the season, Bolochowecykj made what turned out to be his 135th and final Alloa appearance, playing and scoring as a striker in Alloa's 2-0 win over Forfar to ensure a 7th place finish. Bolo celebrated his strike at the Clackmannan Road end with a Peter Crouch inspired 'robot' dance, in tribute to team-mate Lewis Coult! Bolo also regularly moved forward late in games with the Wasps chasing an equaliser, making him an easy choice in this makeshift XI.

Manager: Paddy Connolly

Paddy has been in charge of competitive Alloa games in four separate stints, between the reigns Hartley & Smith (1 game – a credible away draw at Dundee thanks to Ben Gordon's 94th minute equaliser), Smith & Lennon (6 games, including a draw at Ibrox and being in charge of Alloa in the 2015 Petrofac Challenge Cup final), Lennon & Ross (2 games, including an away win at Livingston) and Ferguson & Rice (1 away win at Dumbarton). As such, Connolly far eclipses other caretaker candidates from the past quarter of a century such as Jimmy Gilmore, Gareth Evans or Brown Ferguson/Scott Walker.





DONALD POLLOCK



GREGOR MCKECHNIE

"This will make every-one sit up and take notice. I had four former Stirling players in my side including Gregor McKechnie and I knew that they were bursting to show they should not have been allowed to leave that club". So said Alloa manager Tom Hendrie back in August 1998 after a game that has gone down in the history of the club, the 7-0 thrashing of local rivals Stirling Albion. Gregor McKechnie played almost 50 games for Alloa and scored some important goals, but it was perhaps for his contribution during that derby at the Recs that

he is best remembered amongst Alloa fans.

Stirling born McKechnie was a late arrival in senior football, signing for Albion in the summer of 1997 from local amateur club Milton at the age of 23. The player had made a name for himself as a prolific scorer at amateur level, including a goal for Milton at Hampden in the 1997 Scottish Amateur Cup Final, a match that the Bannockburn based club ultimately lost 2-1 to Knockentiber.

"I was playing amateur and I think I had scored about 40 goals that season", says Gregor. "I remember the

Milton manager saying; look you can either be a big fish in a small pond here or try the senior game. I was tempted to stay because I was quite happy playing amateur football, but I decided to give it a go at Stirling".

The move represented a considerable step up with Stirling at the time enjoying a spell in the First Division. Competition for a first team place was fierce and McKechnie was limited to 5 appearances from the bench in the league. Ironically the player's only competitive start and goal for the Binos came against Alloa, Gregor netting the

decisive second goal in a 2-1 win for Stirling in the Challenge Cup.

Tom Hendrie was monitoring the situation and later revealed that he had tried to sign McKechnie for Alloa before Stirling made their move. With Gregor becoming frustrated on the sidelines at Forthbank, Hendrie finally got his man in February 1998 when he tempted the player to the Recs on a loan deal. Gregor made an immediate impact at Alloa, coming off the bench to net a superb goal against Queen's Park on his debut. The pacy McKechnie revelled in

an attacking Alloa line up and finished the season with 6 goals from 9 starts.

The Third Division title was duly secured with a 3-1 win at Central Park with McKechnie amongst the scorers. The player was secured on a permanent deal for a transfer fee of £10,000. Gregor quickly repaid that fee and more with the winning goal in a League Cup tie against Premier League Dundee at Dens Park. The goal secured a trip to Ibrox and although the Wasps were defeated 4-0 the game was worth around £100,000 to the club.

Alloa's promotion back to Division 2 put them on a collision course with local rivals Stirling, who had just been relegated from Division 1. The first derby of the 98/99 season was at the end of August and it was another of the ex-Stirling men in the Alloa line up, Davie Pew, who put the Wasps ahead. Paul Simpson quickly added another goal to give Alloa a 2-0 half time lead.

McKechnie then put his former club to the sword, scoring twice to put Alloa 4-0 up, then drawing a foul from Stirling player/manager John Philliben which saw Albion reduced to ten men. Further goals from Willie Irvine, Mark Cowan and Stuart Mackay

left the home crowd in raptures, celebrating the biggest derby victory in the history of the Alloa – Stirling fixture. "I got a couple of goals and man of the match and it was just the season after I signed from them. It didn't make it any sweeter to be honest because there were a lot of new faces there from when I played, a new manager even, and I was just enjoying playing regular football at Alloa. We knew what it meant to the fans though, the rivalry was always there, and it was a thoroughly enjoyable day for us".

Such was McKechnie's form in the early part of the 98/99 season that he was offered a trial with Dundee United and the tantalising prospect of completing a meteoric rise from amateur football to the SPL in just over a year – and via Stirling's reserve team! Unfortunately for Gregor, a broken cheekbone suffered in training at the Recs put paid to the trial and the chance was gone.

The departure of manager Tom Hendrie to St.Mirren at the end of 1998 was a blow to Alloa. It was to the great credit of the Wasps board that they managed to attract a replacement in Terry Christie who was able to build upon the work done by Hendrie and take the club on a further level. The transition seemed to be smooth but every manager has their own

views on players and tactics and Christie set about putting his own stamp on the Alloa team. Although Gregor McKechnie would remain with Alloa for a further 18 months, the player still regards the departure of Hendrie as a key moment in his football career.

"Terry Christie came along and I felt that my face didn't fit, I couldn't get into the team. I was Tom Hendrie's signing and I was scoring a lot of goals and doing well. It's maybe a bit of sour grapes but I did feel a bit hard done by", he says.

McKechnie was retained by Alloa for 1999/00 but whilst it turned out to be momentous season for the club with promotion to Division 1, an excellent Scottish Cup run and the winning of the Challenge Cup, there was an element of frustration for the striker on the fringes of the team.

Gregor was limited mainly to appearances from the bench for much of the season, although his final goal for the club was an important one, helping the Wasps to escape Ferguson Park in Rosewell with a 2-2 draw against

Whitehill Welfare in the Scottish Cup. The team of course went on to make great progress in the tournament, defeating Kilmarnock and then pushing Dundee United close.

It was no surprise however when Gregor departed the Recs in the summer of 2000 with the player feeling his career had stalled under Terry Christie. "It was chalk and cheese really because I had such a successful spell under Tom Hendrie and I was doing well and I could feel myself that I was improving as a player. Perhaps injuries got to me and knocked my confidence a bit as well, but I felt I could have gone on and been a better player if there hadn't been a change in management. I will admit that I was glad to move on because it wasn't as enjoyable for me under Terry Christie".

His spell at Alloa might not have been too long but the important goals he scored to help the club to success – including two of the magnificent seven against Stirling - ensures Gregor McKechnie's place in the history of the club.



APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		ALLOA CAREER LGE	
		APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
MORRISON	GOAL	0 (1)	0	3 (0)	0	3 (1)	0	0 (1)	9
BURT	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
OGAYI	GOAL	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	1 (0)	0
TAGGART	DEF	0 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	229 (1)	11
GRAHAM	DEF	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	189 (7)	14
MCLAREN	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	0
DEVINE	DEF	1 (0)	0	2 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	11 (0)	0
NEILL	DEF	1 (0)	0	3 (1)	1	4 (1)	1	1 (0)	0
DEVENEY	DEF	0 (1)	0	2 (1)	0	2 (2)	0	0 (1)	0
MCKAY	DEF	1 (0)	1	2 (2)	0	3 (2)	1	1 (0)	1
DEBAYO	DEF	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
ROBERTSON	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	175 (30)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	1 (0)	0	3 (1)	0	4 (1)	0	60 (18)	8
O'DONNELL	MID	1 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	17 (34)	9
CAWLEY	MID	1 (0)	0	1 (2)	0	2 (2)	0	325 (47)	63
HETHERINGTON	MID	0 (0)	0	3 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	137 (30)	6
VIRTANEN	MID	1 (0)	0	3 (1)	0	4 (1)	0	1 (0)	0
ROBERTS	MID	1 (0)	0	3 (1)	0	4 (1)	0	1 (0)	0
DONNELLY	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	12 (19)	7
SAMMON	FWD	1 (0)	1	4 (0)	1	5 (0)	2	52 (22)	20
RODDEN	FWD	1 (0)	2	3 (0)	0	4 (0)	2	8 (8)	7
BUCHANAN	FWD	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	1	3 (0)	1	0 (11)	0
RANKIN	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (11)	1
COULSON	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	1	0 (1)	1	12 (4)	1



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ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
3 (0)	0	3 (1)	9
0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
1 (0)	0	2 (0)	0
55 (1)	3	284 (2)	14
54 (2)	1	243 (9)	15
2 (2)	0	3 (4)	0
2 (1)	0	13 (1)	0
3 (1)	1	4 (1)	1
2 (1)	0	2 (2)	0
2 (2)	0	3 (2)	1
3 (0)	0	3 (0)	0
44 (5)	2	219 (35)	4
17 (8)	2	77 (26)	10
7 (1)	0	24 (35)	9
67 (11)	11	392 (58)	74
30 (9)	1	167 (39)	7
3 (1)	0	4 (1)	0
3 (1)	0	4 (1)	0
3 (3)	2	15 (22)	9
16 (3)	7	68 (25)	27
8 (2)	1	16 (10)	8
5 (3)	1	5 (14)	1
0 (6)	0	0 (17)	1
0 (1)	1	12 (5)	2

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BRIAN ROACH



A FAN'S VIEW

After the heavy defeat at Ayr United the majority of those Alloa supporters who travelled to Palmerston Park last week would have done so with trepidation. However in the past couple of seasons Alloa have tended to react well after a bad defeat and thankfully this was no different- keeping up our great recent record in Dumfries and starting the season strongly. The approach to the League Cup campaign appeared to be rotation and allowing the full squad some proper game time. The system didn't alter much, so it allowed the manager to see which players can slot into that setup going forward. Results were obviously not altogether positive. Although edged out in a tight game against today's opponents Stirling, the winner came from a fairly controversial penalty award- which probably put paid to our chances of progression in

the tournament right away. As an aside, full credit to Stirling for an excellent campaign which will be rewarded with a lucrative last 16 home tie against Aberdeen. Back to Alloa though, and our own campaign contained a nice midweek win at Stenhousemuir followed by heavy defeats to St Johnstone and Ayr. Despite having virtually nothing riding on it from an Alloa perspective, the 6-0 defeat at Somerset Park was hardly ideal preparation for the league curtain raiser. And although Stevie Hetherington's passion is to be admired, his suspension for that game left a void in the starting 11- he would have been a stick on to start at Palmerston and play a key role.

A lot of discussion on the trip down to Dumfries centred on the goalkeeping position. Personally I'm not a big fan of chopping and changing the

goalkeeper, but following a heavy defeat a change there was always going to be considered. Indeed, one was made and Tochukwu Ogayi did start between the sticks- more on his entertaining performance later. Brad Rodden was also in the starting line-up alongside Conor Sammon. Whilst Brad had showed plenty endeavour as always in pre-season and the League Cup, he had yet to find the scoresheet. Whilst most would have probably had Quinn Coulson in there, we were all proved wrong in the best possible fashion.

It was an ominous start to the game though, with Alloa behind shortly after kick off due to a defensive error. It appeared at that moment that we may be reliving the events of the previous Saturday all over again. But rather than set alarm bells ringing,

the goal seemed to settle Alloa down to play some decent football. And Dave Mackay atoned for his error with a quick equaliser- a well taken shot in the area. Alloa never looked back from there. They chased every ball and looked by far the hungrier of the two teams. Brad Rodden scored 2 excellent goals either side of a Sammon header in a brilliant opening half. He latched onto a stray defensive pass to put Alloa in front before the big Irishman extended Alloa's lead with a brilliant downward header into the corner. The hosts reduced the deficit after being awarded a penalty. There was no complaints about this, and Miko Virtanen was rash when he slid in for the offence- just one of those things. But Alloa restored their two goal advantage with the goal of the game- Rodden firing home a really well worked goal with brilliant interchange play between Scougall and Sammon before Rodden created his own space to fire home. I noted in his post-match interview the manager reminded everyone that this is Rodden's second season in senior football. Taking this into account, with the additional caveat of the boy recovering from a bad injury last term- this must have been a great personal moment for the player and a real boost for the team overall. With all of the other League 1 fixtures goal-less Alloa went in at the break 4-2 ahead. This was a first half which will take some beating this season from an entertainment perspective.

Alloa didn't attack as much in the second half, but this was to be expected. They continued to get in the faces of their opponents and show intelligence on the ball when possession was overturned. Scott Taggart was introduced as a substitute towards the end which was

another welcome return. Queen of the South were awarded a late penalty which was a bit of a nonsense. A Queens shot struck Taggart's arm (by his side) from point blank range- Taggart was so close to the Queens player

he would have known his brand of deodorant. As we know, these offences are now given as a penalty and collectively as football fans we just have to live with it. It meant a slightly nervy finish but in the end there was no real danger. Additional entertainment came from the aforementioned keeper Ogayi- a player already on the brink of Alloa cult hero status in only his second competitive appearance. At part time level in League 1, you simply aren't going to see the perfect goalkeeper who ticks every box. On that basis, Ogayi is exactly the type of goalkeeper I want to see. His style is admittedly erratic on occasion, but he's actually deceptively good in goals. He has a real presence in the penalty box, but really agile for his size. He pulls off saves which appear to be intended for the TV cameras at times, and his goal kicks are frighteningly good. He unfortunately left the field injured in the second half but the circumstances were certainly entertaining. For unknown reasons, he attempted to save a shot on goal with his feet rather than his hands and appeared to tweak his hamstring as a result. One

of those incidents likely to be recalled for years to come, it added an amusing shine to what was a brilliant three points on the road. The performance wasn't perfect, but the effort and application shown by every player certainly was. If the players can maintain that level, then the odd mistake or two will always be forgiven by the supporters.

This afternoon presents a quick chance to gain some revenge on our close neighbours, although the manager quite rightly distanced himself from the use of that word. The return of the derby fixture in the league after a 13 year gap will undoubtedly be universally welcomed by both sets of fans. Stirling will be buoyed not only by their League Cup success, but also by picking up an opening day victory last week against Edinburgh City. Like Edinburgh last season, I'm expecting Stirling to start the campaign strongly as a "surprise package" that most League One teams will not be accustomed to facing. The League Cup game was competitive and even, and I expect a similar match today. The return of Stevie Hetherington is a valuable one, and it remains to be seen if Stevie and Scott Taggart come straight into the starting line-up. But thankfully Alloa go into the game with a bit of momentum after the trip to Palmerston Park. Enjoy the game.





ANDREW COCKBURN



LOOKING BACK 10TH AUGUST 1974

In the first round/group section of The Scottish League Cup, holder's Dundee suffered a setback in their bid to retain the trophy, when they went down 1-2 at Tayside neighbours St. Johnstone, but there were no such problems for The Dee's fierce local rivals Dundee United, who overcame Ayr by 3-1 at Tannadice. Fancied Celtic defeated Motherwell by the odd goal in three at Celtic Park, though there was no joy for The Celts arch-rivals Rangers, who went down 1-3 at Hibs, who were seeking a second League Cup success inside three sea-

sons. Hearts defeated Aberdeen by a solitary goal at Pittodrie, Clyde were 3-2 winners at Dumbarton, Kilmarnock overcame Montrose by 2-0 at Rugby Park, Partick crushed Arbroath by 4-0 at Firhill, while Dunfermline and Morton shared two goals at East End Park. The League Cup final was a high scoring affair with Celtic beating Hibernian 6-3. Celtic also won the Scottish Cup defeating Airdrieonians 3-1 in the final, while Rangers won the First Scottish Premier League. Scottish Player of the Year was Sandy Jardine of Rangers.

Alloa's opening tie saw them up against Division Two rivals East Fife at Recreation Park, The Wasps lining up as follows: Anderson, Campbell, Wilkinson, Thomson, Brown, McGarry, Low (Ness), Wilson, Russell, Mitchell, Gillespie. And things looked promising for the home side, when they led at the break thanks to a goal from Kevin Low, alas, The Fifers came back in the second period to record a 2-1 win, courtesy of efforts from Harry Kinnear and Billy McPhee. Today's visitors Stirling Albion went down 2-3 at St. Mirren, Jim Clark & Billy Steele Albion's

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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scorers, Lanarkshire rivals Airdrie and Hamilton both enjoyed 4-0 home victories, v Clydebank and Berwick respectively, and Falkirk triumphed by the same scoreline v Cowdenbeath at Brockville. There were also goals galore at Station Park, where the Forfar v East Stirling clash ended all-square at 3-3, though in contrast, the Queen's Park v Stranraer tie failed to produce a single goal. Raith and Queen of The South drew 1-1 at Stark's Park, while the Brechin v Stenhousemuir also ended in stalemate, at 2-2. Meadowbank Thistle were voted into the Scottish League at the start of the season, the clubs voting 21 - 16 in favour of Meadowbank Thistle over Inverness Thistle. The League reconstruction was due to Third Lanark's demise seven

years previous and clubs voting for a new three tier format in the Scottish League. In Alloa's first ever match against Meadowbank Thistle at the Commonwealth Stadium in Edinburgh, "The Wasps" won 1-0 thanks to a goal from Donnie Wilson and then the following week 18th September, 1974 the teams were to meet again this time at Recreation Park when Alloa won 8-1, Donnie Wilson scoring 4 goals while Jimmy Thomson, Roy Mitchell, Rab Russell and Alex Totten scored the others goals. Donnie Wilson would finish the season as top Goal scorer for "The Wasps" with 12 goals, two ahead of Kevin Low on ten.

South of the border, the start of the 1974-75 English League season was still a week away, and this was the date of the traditional "curtain raiser", The FA Charity Shield, contested on this occasion by League Champions Leeds and FA Cup holders Liverpool. The game ended 1-1 in ordinary time, with Liverpool then proceeding to win 6-5 on penalties, though Leeds' Billy Bremner and Liverpool's Kevin Keegan were both dismissed for fighting. Winners of the English League that season were Derby County managed by Brian Clough and Peter Taylor, who finished the season on top ten points ahead of Liverpool in second place, remembering club's at that time only received two points for a win not three.



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77, 1990-91, 1995-96,
2009-10

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League 2*

Winners 2022-23
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This afternoon, supporters are lucky to be entertained by their second derby of the season as Stirling Albion come to visit the Indodrill for the second game of the Cinch League 1 season. The Binos came out on top last time out in the Viaplay Cup, and it wasn't the only scalp they took that campaign. Continuing on their strong form which saw them win the title last year and clinch promotion, they went undefeated in the group, despite losing on penalties to Ayr, which saw them progress to the next round. More notable than their upset against Alloa, they put

4 past St Johnstone in Perth with no reply from the Premiership side. Darren Young will now have the challenge of Aberdeen in the League Cup Second Round next week. As if the cup wasn't a strong enough start, they secured their first 3 points of the season win a solid 1-0 victory against Edinburgh City on the opening day. Meaning both sides go into the game today locked on 3 points apiece.

THE BOSS – DARREN YOUNG

We welcome back Stirling Albion manager, Darren Young, to the

Indodrill Stadium for this evening's derby match. Young enjoyed a successful spell as captain of the Wasps from 2011 to 2014, securing back-to-back promotions, as well as Championship survival. He departed the club in 2014 but returned only a matter of weeks ago to kit up once more for the Alloa Athletic Legends team for Kevin Cawley's testimonial, where he rolled back the years for 45 minutes in midfield. After he left the club in 2014, he joined Albion Rovers as a player / manager which began in a fitting manner for the success that came. In his first match in charge, he



*includes equivalent competitions

scored the winning penalty as Albion Rovers beat Airdrieonians 4-2 on penalties following a 2-2 draw in the Scottish Challenge Cup on 26 July 2014. Young won the League Two championship and promotion in his first season as a manager. A 4-year spell would follow at East Fife before joining Alloa's rivals in 2021. Last season he returned to success by guiding them to the title and being nominated for Manager of the Year.

THE CAPTAIN – PAUL MCLEAN

The visitors will be led out by captain, Paul McLean. Described as one of the most influential players in the team by supporters, he is coming off a fantastic season for the club. A league title and a place in the PFA League 2 team of the season capped off a stellar year for the club. McLean started his career in England after growing up in Musselburgh. The defender began at Norwich City playing for their u23's before moving to the Falkirk academy. It was Brechin who offered him

his first senior contract though at the age of 19. He became a part of the furniture at Glebe Park staying for 10 years and being part of teams that rose all the way up to the Championship. After that spell, he departed in 2019 to sign for only his second senior club with Stirling Albion. Now 33-years old, he is looking forward to hopefully continuing the success they have built last season in Cinch League 1. He has proven that he still has plenty to offer at both ends of the pitch with a brace in their triumph in Perth and the equaliser against Alloa.

NEW BOY – DALE HILSON

Adding firepower to the Binos frontline, Dale Hilson, made the switch to Forthbank this summer. The 30-year old has spent the last few seasons at Arbroath where he found the back of the net 5 times in the Championship side's campaign last year. It was at the Lichtie's rivals, Forfar, where he made a name for himself following four different loan spells and two permanent spells

at Links Park. With golden boot awards and influential performances in the attacking third, he was part of Forfar sides that have caused Alloa trouble in the past. He now partners up with Greig Spence and Player of the Year, Dale Carrick, in the Binos front line for Cinch League 1, which is a trio that will cause many a team defensive headaches. He was one of the difference makers in the League Cup game when he came on alongside Dale Carrick, however, may miss the game today due to injury.

ONE TO WATCH – GREIG SPENCE

The Wasps programme could not possibly write 'The Opposition' piece without paying tribute to the former number 9, Greig Spence, returning to the club. The Spence Alloa relationship began in 2008 when he embarked on his first spell with the club, making his senior debut at the age of 16. A year later Alloa would receive a club-record breaking fee for Spence to move to Celtic
CONTINUED ON P32



BY KIEREN MOONEY

where he would spend time out on loan at Hamilton, and then permanently at Raith before returning once more to Alloa in 2014. This was a memorable stint with a hat-trick on his returning debut and a historic brace against Rangers in the Challenge Cup semi-final victory. A spell at Cowdenbeath would follow before once again returning for spell 3 in 2016, where he finished top scorer at the club. That form earned him a return to full-time football with Raith and of course, following a year at Raith, he would come back for a 4th time in 2018. Since leaving the club, time at Arbroath, Stenhousemuir, East Fife and Hillfield Swifts followed before moving to Stirling Albion last season on an 18-month deal. He scored 3 goals and notched 1 assist in the second half of the season, a tally he will no doubt be looking to build on. The prolific striker opened the scoring in their remarkable 4-0 away to St Johnstone.

THE CONNECTION

The two most notable returning faces have already been highlighted in Darren Young and Greig Spence, who, as mentioned, both returned at the end of June for Kevin Cawley's testimonial match. However, there is another returning face at the Binos in Robert Thomson. The 6ft 2 striker had his first spell at Alloa in 2012 on loan before returning for two years in 2019 on a permanent basis. It was at the Wasps where he would score his first professional goals of his career in a brace against Albion Rovers in 2012. For the travelling support, they will be glad to see a legend for both clubs, Andy Graham, take

to the park again. The 39-year-old centre back began his career at the Binos and played there for 5 years, ironically with his first professional goal being for Stirling Albion against Alloa in 2005. He started his career as a central defender but won the Stirling Albion Player of the Year award for the 2009-10 season playing at right back when they won the Second Division title. One of Alloa's new boys, Kurtis Roberts, also had a spell at Stirling for 2 years back in 2020.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Despite a fiery pre-season game last year, the clubs have rarely met in recent years. We have alluded to the game that took place a few weeks ago, which Stirling Albion came out 2-1 victors over Alloa at the Indodrill. A Quinn Coulson free-kick was cancelled out by Paul McLean before a late dubious

penalty gave Dale Carrick the opportunity to grab all the points, which he did. That last meeting prior to that between the sides came in 2022 where Alloa brushed aside their rivals with a convincing 4-1 victory in a friendly. The most recent League Cup game was in 2019 where again Alloa took the victory, this time 2-1. David Wilson had opened the scoring for the visitors, before second half goals from Kevin O'Hara and a late winner from Liam Buchanan turned the home team's fortunes for all 3 points. 2018 seen the sides meet in the Challenge Cup and it was Alloa who came out on top 3-1 winners that day through a Kevin Cawley brace and Iain Flannigan strike. You have to go back to 2010, the year the Binos won the league in dramatic fashion, for the last league fixtures which Stirling won 3 out of the 4 matchups that year.



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BRIAN ROACH



ALLOA vs STIRLING ALBION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

In each clubs opening match of the new millennium, they clashed at Forthbank on January 3rd 2000. The match ended in a 1-1 draw- Gary Clark opening the scoring for Alloa after 48 minutes, with Paul McGrillen equalising for the hosts.

· Despite a 13 year gap in league matches between the clubs, they have faced each other on 35 occasions in total in the 21st century across the league (always third tier), Scottish Cup, League Cup, Challenge Cup and Stirlingshire Cup.

· Of the 23 league fixtures, Alloa have 9 wins, Stirling Albion have 7 wins and 7 matches have ended in a draw.

· In the League Cup, Alloa have won on two occasions, with Stirling picking up one win- the recent 2-1 victory here last month.

· Alloa have won both Challenge Cup fixtures- A 2-1 victory at Forthbank in 2014 followed by a 3-1 home victory in 2018.

· Alloa also picked up the victory in the solitary Scottish Cup fixture- a 3-2 win in November 2013.

· In the now defunct Stirlingshire Cup, the clubs faced each other 7 times in the 21st century, with Stirling picking up 5 victories to Alloa's 2.



· There have been eight red cards. Alloa (3)- Paul Mortimer (21/08/04), Stuart Malcolm (04/11/06), John Grant (03/03/07). Stirling Albion (5)- Stuart Devine (19/02/05, 03/03/07), Paul Di Giacomo (08/03/05), Ross Forsyth (26/08/06), Sandy Cunningham (30/11/13)

· There have only been 2 games finishing without a goal- one of which was played on a Friday night at Forthbank on October 7th 2005. This fixture was moved due to Scotland facing Belarus the following day.

· The highest scoring Alloa vs Stirling match of the 21st century contained seven goals. At Recreation Park on the 8th November 2008 it finished Alloa 4 (Jamie Stevenson 21, Kyle Macaulay 46, Fraser Forrest 51, Brown Ferguson penalty 75) Stirling 3 (Martin Grehan 63,78, Paul Murphy 86)

· Alloa's victory by the highest margin was a 4-0 win at Forthbank in February 2005. Scorers were Iain Nicolson, John Ovenstone and a Jose Quitongo double.

· Stirling's counterpart was a 5-0 win the following November. Alloa defender Stuart Malcolm was sent off in the opening minutes, and Stirling eased to victory with goals from Chris Aitken, Nathan Taggart, Steven Bell, Marek Tomana and Dene Shields.

· Of the current individuals at both clubs: - Alloa defender

ANDY GRAHAM has played in 13 derbies- 11 for Stirling Albion and 2 for Alloa. He scored against Alloa on 3 occasions. Alloa coach PADDY CONNOLLY made 3 derby appearances for Stirling Albion- scoring a double here in a 4-2 Albion victory in November 2005.

Stirling striker GREIG SPENCE has made 4 derby appearances, with 3 for Alloa and starting for Albion in the most recent fixture. He scored 3 times for Alloa. Stirling manager DARREN YOUNG was an unused substitute for Alloa in the 2013 Scottish Cup win.



HT QUIZ

1. WHICH FORMER ALLOA PLAYERS SCORED ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE 2023/24 SCOTTISH PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUES?

2. DAVID MOYES BECAME THE SEVENTH SCOTSMAN TO WIN A EUROPEAN TROPHY AS A MANAGER WITH WEST HAM LAST SEASON- NAME THE OTHER SIX

3. SCOTLAND HAVE A 100% WINNING RECORD AGAINST THREE NATIONS WHERE THEY HAVE FACED THEM ON OVER 5 OCCASIONS. NAME THEM.

4. STIRLING ALBION MANAGER DARREN YOUNG PLAYED FOR WHICH 2 CLUBS IN THE TOP TIER OF SCOTTISH FOOTBALL?

5. WHICH 10 CLUBS HAVE REPRESENTED ENGLAND IN THE UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE?

6. NAME THE TWELVE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL CLUBS WHO HAVE ENTERED INTO ADMINISTRATION THIS CENTURY

ANSWERS PAGE 37



ALLOA ATHLETIC



STIRLING ALBION

#	POS				
	1		PJ MORRISON		
	21		KEIR BURT		
	41		TOCHUKWU OGAYI		
	2		SCOTT TAGGART		
	3		EUAN DEVENEY		
	4		STEPHEN HETHERINGTON		
	5		ANDY GRAHAM		
	6		MORGYN NEILL		
	7		KEVIN CAWLEY		
	8		KURTIS ROBERTS		
	9		LUKE DONNELLY		
	10		BRADLEY RODDEN		
	11		STEFAN SCOUGALL		
	12		MIKO VIRTANEN		
	15		DAVID MCKAY		
	18		CONOR SAMMON		
	19		STEVEN BUCHANAN		
	20		CAMMY O'DONNELL		
	22		PAUL MCLAREN		
	23		DAVID DEVINE		
	24		LUKE RANKIN		
	25		JON ROBERTSON		
	26		QUINN COULSON		
	27		JOSH DEBAYO		
	MANAGER		BRIAN RICE		

#	POS				
	1		BLAIR CURRIE		
	2		ROSS MCGEACHIE		
	3		CAMERON CLARK		
	4		PAUL MCLEAN		
	5		JORDAN MCGREGOR		
	6		ADAM CUMMINS		
	7		AARON DUNSMORE		
	8		ROSS DAVIDSON		
	9		DALE CARRICK		
	10		JACK LEITCH		
	11		KIERAN MOORE		
	12		KYLE BANNER		
	14		JORDAN WYLES		
	15		DALE HILSON		
	16		MATHEW MEECHAN		
	17		CALLUM LAW		
	18		CALLUM SIMPSON		
	21		JOSH COOPER		
	22		GREIG SPENCE		
	23		ROBERT THOMSON		
	24		LEWIS MILNE		
	26		GODWIN KAGNI-SOUKDE		
	27		MARK WEIR		
	MANAGER		DARREN YOUNG		

REFEREE: Alan Muir

ASST: Stuart Stevenson & Stuart Broadfoot

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

19.08.23, NEW CENTRAL PARK, 15:00

	KELLY HEARTS		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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26.08.23, INDODRILL STADIUM, 17:30

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		FALKIRK
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02.09.23, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		COVER RANGERS
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16.09.23, BALMORAL STADIUM, 15:00

	HAMILTON ACCIES		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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23.09.23, GALABANK, 15:00

	ANNAN ATHLETIC		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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