



THE WASP

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY
PROGRAMME



VS EDINBURGH CITY
30TH SEPTEMBER 2023



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





SPFL TRUST
TROPHY

26th September 2023
Cappielow Park, Greenock
7:45pm KO

RANGERS B

4:1

ALLOA ATHLETIC



(1:1)

SCORERS

McCausland	5'	1:0	
		1:1	44' Rodden
Curtis	86'	2:1	
Graham	88'	3:1	
Lyall (P)	93'	4:1	



STARTING XI

- 1 MUNN**
- 2 HARKNESS**
- 3 FRASER**
- 4 YFEKO**
- 5 ALLEN**
- 6 NSIO**
- 7 LOVELACE**
- 8 ALLAN**
- 9 STEVENS**
- 10 LYALL**
- 11 MCCAUSLAND**

SUBS

- 12 HUTTON**
- 14 NEWTON**
- 15 GRANT**
- 16 MCINALLY**
- 17 ROBERTSON**
- 18 CURTIS**
- 19 GRAHAM**
- 20 EADIE**
- 21 HALLIWELL**

SUBS

- 21 BURT**
- 5 GRAHAM**
- 18 SAMMON**
- 20 O'DONNELL**
- 17 CANNON**

STARTING XI

- 41 OGAYI**
- 2 TAGGART**
- 6 NEILL**
- 15 MCKAY**
- 3 DEVENEY**
- 4 HETHERINGTON**
- 8 ROBERTS**
- 19 BUCHANAN**
- 26 COULSON**
- 10 RODDEN**
- 9 DONNELLY**

REFEREE: Lloyd Wilson

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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Clackmannan Road,
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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

Club Shop

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
FALKIRK	7	6	1	0	20	4	16	19
HAMILTON ACCIES	7	6	1	0	13	4	9	19
MONTROSE	7	4	0	3	12	11	1	12
STIRLING	7	3	1	3	5	9	-4	10
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	7	3	0	4	13	13	0	9
ANNAN ATHLETIC	7	2	2	3	10	13	-3	8
KELTY HEARTS	7	2	2	3	8	12	-4	8
ALLOA ATHLETIC	7	2	1	4	9	13	-4	7
COVE RANGERS	7	1	3	3	10	10	0	6
EDINBURGH CITY	7	0	1	6	7	18	-11	1

WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

LEAGUE 1

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

CHAMPIONSHIP

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

PREMIER LEAGUE

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

LEAGUE 2

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

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every success for the coming season!**



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01259 729 243



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



FORWARDS

Luke DONNELLY

20/01/1996



Bradley RODDEN

21/08/1996

178 cm 68 kg



Taylor STEVEN

17/09/2004



Kurtis ROBERTS

06/09/1994



Stefan SCOUGALL

07/12/1992

170 cm 63 kg



Nathan CANNON

26/08/2005



Conor SAMMON

06/11/1986

188 cm 91 kg



Steven BUCHANAN

26/03/2003

178 cm 70 kg



Miko VIRTANEN

29/01/1999



Cameron O'DONNELL

29/09/2001

183 cm 70 kg



Luke RANKIN

27/11/2004



Quinn COULSON

01/09/2003



Jon ROBERTSON

25/04/1989

183 cm 70 kg





BRIAN RICE



AFTER ALL-SQUARE IN ANNAN

The first half we were pretty comfortable. We got ourselves in front. The second half, we didn't turn up.

We were giving the ball away, we were pretty sloppy in possession. The goal was coming, so credit to Annan. Annan will feel aggrieved that they didn't win it with their second-half performance.

I've said to the players just now - their performances will reflect me as a manager and how my teams want to play. That doesn't reflect me in the

second half. There are boys in there who are comfortable on the ball [but are] giving it away.

First half, I thought we were controlled, had control of the game, and then in the second half, we just fell right out it.

One goal is never enough, two goals is never enough. It's a mentality thing, some of them are maybe not strong enough. Too many of them didn't play well in the second half.

I think Ogayi did what he has to do, he kept the ball out of the net. I think he should do better

for the goal, he's palmed it right across his goals. He's done well, he's made a couple of good saves; he's made one really good save, the rest I expect a goalkeeper to save.

I think he could do better at the goal and he knows that himself but we should deal with the cross, we should deal with the header but we didn't and we got punished for it.

PJ is still injured and he's going to be out for a couple of weeks. It isn't as bad as we first feared but it is bad enough.



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JOHN GLENCROSS



NEWSDESK

Welcome back to the Indodrill Stadium for our first fixture this season against Edinburgh City , welcome to Edinburgh City FC manager Alan Maybury and his assistant manager Mark Kerr, the players, officials, and directors of Edinburgh City FC.

Congratulations to Alloa Athletic midfield player Cammy O'Donnell for celebrating his 22nd birthday, yesterday Friday 29th September. Cammy has progressed through our Youth Academy, making his debut in Season 2019/20 and has now made 74 appearances for the club, scoring three goals.

Congratulations to Alloa striker Conor Sammon, who made his 100th competitive appearance for "The Wasps" on Tuesday night v. Rangers "B" in the Trust Trophy Cup. (Read Jonathan

Markwell's excellent article in today's programme for Conor's wonderful career in the game).

October Camp – All children between 5 – 13 years old are welcome, this is an opportunity for kids to develop and improve their skills, while getting out playing and making new friends. This will be held at The Indodrill Stadium, Monday 9th – Friday 13th October, 2023. Morning Sessions 9am-12 noon, Afternoon sessions 1pm – 4pm, Cost for Morning or Afternoon Sessions £ 9, Full day Session £ 18. Contact jayne@waspcommunityclub.com

Alloa Athletic Walking Football Club members jetted out to Portugal on Wednesday 27th September, having been invited to represent the "Wee County" in the 8th Algarve Walking Football

Cup which was won last year by Sauchie Walking Football team which included 5 players from the Alloa Group. This week we will be sending two Over 60's team to compete in the competition, the games last 20 minutes, with a half-time break. Good luck to Alloa Athletic FC today v. Edinburgh City, they will be cheering from afar.

On Monday 9th October we will hold our seventh 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



All children
5-13
Are welcome

OCTOBER CAMP

Alloa October Camp
Monday 9th October - Friday 13th
October

Session Times
Morning Sessions - 9am Till 12pm
Afternoon Sessions - 1pm Till 4pm

Session Costs
Morning or Afternoon session - £9 per session
Full Day Session - £18 per session

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 9th October at Indodrill stadium, at 11.30 – 1.00 O'clock, all are welcome

Wasps 2000 Draw - Week 38
23rd September, 2023

£ 100 0335 M.Mochar
£ 50 1180 F.Gordon
£ 25 0470 F.MacKenzie
£ 25 0827 W.Mitchell
£ 25 0322 C.Coffield

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 online, 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.

Scottish Gas Men's Scottish Cup Second Round Draw was made on Sunday 24th September by Ex Alloa Athletic player Paul Sheerin, now Assistant Manager with Kilmarnock along with host Gordon Duncan. Here are the ties to be played on the weekend of 28th October, 2023.

Albion Rovers v St Andrews United
Beith Juniors v Broomhill
Brechin City v The Spartans
Civil Service Strrollers v Stranraer
Cumnock Juniors v Turriff United
Deveronvale v Broxburn Athletic
Dumbarton v Banks O'Dee
Dunbar United v East Fife
Formartine United v Clydebank
Forres Mechanics v Buckie Thistle
Fraserburgh v Bonnyrigg Rose
Huntly v Forfar Athletic
Jeanfield Swifts v Elgin City
Kilwinning Rangers v Cowdenbeath
Luncarty v Bo'ness United
Musselburgh Athletic v Clyde
Peterhead v Clachnacuddin
Pollok v Gala Fairydean Rovers
Stenhousemuir v Brora Rangers
Tranent v East Kilbride

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MEMORIES
SCOTLAND



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**Football
Memories
Group**

**Indodrill
Stadium
Alloa**

**Monday 9th
October 2023**

11.30 - 13.00

For more info please contact
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JONATHAN MARKWELL



SAMMON'S CENTURY

Conor Sammon has enjoyed a long and varied career, beginning in his Irish homeland, playing and scoring in the Premier League with Wigan, mixing it on the international stage with Spanish superstars and all the way through to the Autumn of his career with the Wasps. This week however Conor is scheduled to tick off another milestone in his career which has eluded him to date, that being playing a century of games for a single club. If Sammon appeared in the midweek cup game versus Rangers 'B' that would have marked his century, but if Brian Rice chose to rest his frontman, today's clash

should see the Dublin-born striker make his landmark 100th appearance for the Wasps.

Signed by Barry Ferguson in the Summer of 2021, Sammon has virtually been ever-present in the Wasps matchday squad ever since. With his supreme physical stature making him an instantly recognisable figure on the pitch, Sammon soon endeared himself to the Wasps faithful with his all-action displays. Sammon's sheer presence is often enough to force defenders into a mistake, with his hustle and bustle a key attribute of his game. His pace and power are other natural features, with an uncanny knack

of being in the right place at the right time to finish chances in the penalty box being another feature which all strikers need. I see Sammon's sheer unpredictability as another string to his bow; while that can be to the frustration of some supporters, I see it as a strength, as if the fans don't know what's going to happen when Conor gets on the ball, that's probably also the case for the defenders he's facing too, meaning in that split second of uncertainty Sammon can take advantage.

Whilst signed by Ferguson, Sammon's form for the Wasps has undoubtedly blossomed since Brian Rice became the

Alloa manager. I felt that Ferguson's single-mindedness in playing with only a single-striker worked against Sammon, with Conor evidently a striker who benefits from playing as part of a pairing upfront, always keen to link up with a strike partner, rather than being burdened with the often thankless task of single-handedly leading the line. Sammon was often restricted to late cameos from the bench under Ferguson, but that all changed with Rice just as single-minded as Ferguson in his approach to the number of strikers on the pitch, although Rice's mantra of always playing two strikers has been a better natural fit in getting the best out of Sammon.

After a modest half dozen goals during his first season with the Wasps (the highlights of which were goals in two separate wins versus former club Falkirk and one past Celtic's Joe Hart in the Scottish Cup), Sammon was on fire last season, equalling his career high with nineteen goals for the Wasps. An early season hat-trick away at Buckie Thistle was a signal of things to come, with Sammon displaying a new level of confidence in front of goal which was maintained throughout the season. Like most footballers, getting in a positive mindset can be crucial and the Wasps reaped the benefits of having a confident frontman being the spearhead of Alloa's attacks.

Even during a barren 10-match spell in the middle of winter, Sammon could still be relied upon to put a shift in for the team, with him being an ultimate team player with his tireless running, probing and getting the Wasps up the pitch with his runs and hold-up play. The

tide turned back in Sammon's favour when he took advantage of a defensive slip away at Queen of the South last January, with Conor visibly energised for the rest of the game as the Wasps secured a valuable comeback win. The following week saw perhaps Sammon's finest 90 minutes in an Alloa shirt, with the frontman bagging both goals through superbly executed headers in a home win versus Edinburgh (who we welcome to Clackmannanshire this afternoon). However, it was Sammon's all round display which impressed me the most that day, with him involved in the thick of the action throughout. His positive play put Alloa on the front foot, with all the knock downs, flicks and link up play being exemplary and Sammon's tireless pressing forcing Edinburgh into countless mistakes.

Arguably Sammon's most dramatic strike of the season was his 93rd minute matchwinner at Keltie Hearts towards the end of the season, which went a long way in securing Alloa's place in the promotion play-offs. Conor's bullet header that day cued delirium in the away end and amongst his team-mates, although Sammon still managed to remember

his trademark goal celebration of a fist-pumping leap and creating a heart symbol with his hands – always a joyous scene!

This season Sammon has continued to be amongst the goals, with his four goals helping Alloa to three wins and last week's draw at Annan. That game was actually the first time I'd personally seen Sammon in the flesh for the Wasps (with me being a long-distance Alloa supporter) and what impressed me most about Conor was the verbal encouragement he was giving his team-mates throughout the game and even in the warm-up too. Having played at the highest levels of the game means that he has the respect of his team-mates, but he displayed all the traits you'd want in an experienced player by leading by example and having a positive impact on those around him.

Scoring goals still evidently gives him as much joy now as when he started out on his senior career with University College Dublin in his native Republic of Ireland almost two decades ago. Sammon has actually averaged a goal every 3.5 games throughout his Alloa career, although last



season Sammon far exceeded that with a goal every 2.42 games. In-fact, the goals/game ratio is skewed a little due to cameo appearances from the bench during Sammon's first season at the Recs, which artificially count against the striker. It is perhaps more appropriate to measure goal returns on a minutes per goal rate. Last season Sammon scored a goal every 166 minutes he played, which is comfortably better than a goal every two games. By comparison, some casual internet research suggests deadly marksman Alan Shearer scored a goal every 147 minutes. Although I'm in no way comparing the two, it does signify that at whatever level of the game you play, a goal every other game is a decent return.

From a statistical perspective, almost three quarters of Sammon's appearances have been from the start of games (73), which is in contrast to other spells in his career when he was utilised more as an impact sub (which occurred in his time at Derby in particular). In-fact, Sammon has only missed two games since joining the club, which is to his credit given his advancing years (Conor will turn 37 in November) and the physical battles

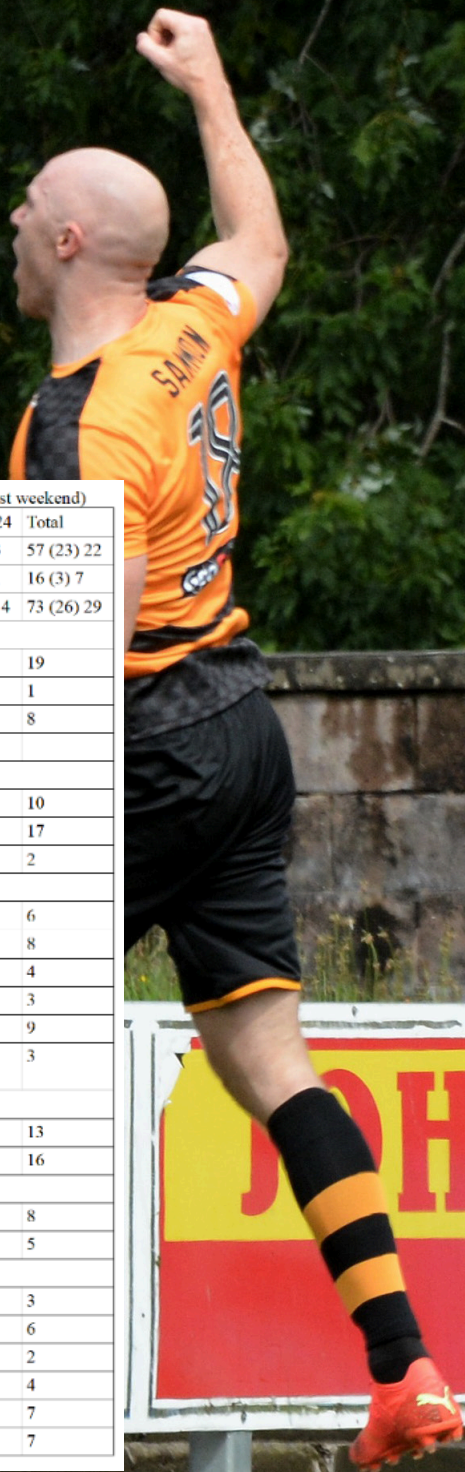
he gets into each week. A goal return of 29 goals in that time is impressive, with these typically being close-range low finishes with his right foot or headers (his matchwinner in Alloa's last home game versus Cove was his first Wasps goal via his left foot!). Only two of Sammon's strikes have come from outside the penalty box, with his delightful curling effort in a midweek away defeat at Airdrie early in his Alloa career being one; the other was when he charged down the keeper's clearance away at Montrose towards the end of last season, which proved that chasing down lost causes really does bring its rewards in the end! Whilst some of Sammon's finishes are unconventional, another thing which has been clear to me throughout his Alloa career is that he rarely seeks to shoot with maximum power, instead preferring placement over pace, and on most occasions he intentionally shoots low rather than high. His precise low finish past Neil Parry to seal a 3-1 home win versus Clyde in March was a perfect example of a finesse casual observers perhaps would not immediately associate with Sammon.

As mentioned at the outset of this piece, it is interesting to note that Sammon has now made

more appearances in the gold and black of Alloa than for any other club during his long and distinguished career. Whilst he came close to a century of appearances at Derby (90 games), during his two spells at Kilmarnock (another 90 appearances, 75 in his first spell and a further 15 during a loan return in 2017) and for his first club UCD (83 appearances between 2005 and 2007), this will actually be the first occasion Sammon has reached triple figures for any club he has played for.

Looking forward, Sammon has a couple of personal milestones on the horizon which he will be hoping to achieve this season. First, based on my calculations he is fast approaching 650 competitive career appearances for club and country, which would undoubtedly be a fantastic achievement for any player to reach. The tally currently stands at 642 (in date order UCD 83; Ireland u21 3; Ireland u23 1; Derry City 21; Kilmarnock 75 & 15; Wigan 34; Derby 90; Ireland 9; Ipswich 20; Rotherham 15, Sheffield United 33, Hearts 27, Partick 36, Motherwell 21; Falkirk 60; Alloa 99). By my calculations, providing Sammon carries on playing regularly for the Wasps that milestone should be reached at some point in November. Another personal target fast approaching for Conor is 150 career goals, with that tally presently standing at 138 (by my calculations it runs as follows: UCD 19; Derry 7; Kilmarnock 25 & 5; Wigan 1; Derby 13; Ipswich 1; Rotherham 3; Sheffield Utd 6; Hearts 2; Partick 10; Motherwell 3; Falkirk 14; Alloa 29). If Sammon were to continue his goalscoring form from last season that may be achievable this season too and bode well for the prospects of the Wasps.





Sammon Stats (up to and including the match at Annan last weekend)

Appearances & goals	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
League record	20 (15) 5	31 (7) 14	6 (1) 3	57 (23) 22
Cup record	5 (2) 1	7 (1) 5	4 (0) 1	16 (3) 7
Total record	25 (17) 6	38 (8) 19	10 (1) 4	73 (26) 29
Goals record – how they are scored				
Right foot	4	13	2	19
Left foot			1	1
Header	2	5	1	8
Deflection off body		1		
Goals record – distance of strike				
Inside 6 yard box	4	6		10
6-18 yards out	1	12	4	17
Outside the box	1	1		2
Goals record - what the goal meant				
Matchwinner	1	4	1	6
Added gloss to win	1	6	1	8
Equaliser	1	3		4
Consolation	2	1		3
Opening goal		7	2	9
Put Alloa ahead (not opener)	1	1	1	3
Goals record - Home and away comparison				
Home	4	8	1	13
Away	2	11	3	16
Goals at the Rees				
Railway end	1	6	1	8
Clackmannan Road end	3	2		5
Timing of goals scored in games				
0-15 minutes		3		3
16-30 minutes		5	1	6
31-45 minutes			2	2
46-60 minutes	1	3		4
61-75 minutes	4	2	1	7
76-90 minutes	1	6		7



DONALD POLLOCK

SCOTTISH LEAGUE—Second Division.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals.		Pts.
					F.	A.	
Armadale,	6	4	1	1	9	5	9
King's Park,	6	4	1	1	16	6	8
Johnstone,	5	3	0	2	9	3	8
Cowdenbeath,	6	0	0	4	9	6	8
St Johnstone,	5	2	0	3	6	2	7
Bo'ness,	6	3	2	1	8	7	7
Dundee Hibs,	5	2	1	2	4	4	6
Dunfermline Ath.,	6	2	2	2	8	8	6
St Bernards,	6	1	1	4	7	7	6
East Fife,	6	3	3	0	6	6	6
Stenhousemuir,	5	1	1	3	8	7	5
Bathgate,	5	1	1	3	4	4	5
Dumbarton,	5	2	2	1	5	5	5
Forfar Athletic, ..	4	1	1	2	5	6	4
Broxburn U.,	5	1	3	1	4	11	3
Alloa,	6	1	4	1	4	9	3
Albion Rovers,	4	1	2	1	2	4	3
Vale of Leven,	5	1	4	0	5	9	2
Arbroath,	5	1	4	0	5	9	2
Lochgelly U.,	5	1	4	0	2	8	2

PLENTY OF ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

"Alloa have plenty room for improvement and it is to be hoped an improvement will soon be evident". Fans of the present day would probably agree but this was in fact the verdict of the local press in the Wee County 100 years ago as the Wasps made a slow start to life back in the Second Division. The team had undergone significant surgery in the summer after relegation from the top flight with some notable departures, but there wasn't too much patience from a fanbase that had been somewhat spoiled in previous seasons. Alloa had started with a draw at Dunfermline and

narrow defeat against Dundee Hibs before things had improved with a midweek 2-1 win over East Fife and some hope that the new team was settling. Their credentials would now be tested with a trip to early pace setters Armadale. Not only were the shale men top of the table, they had also had the distinction two years earlier of remaining unbeaten against Alloa's all-conquering title winning team. Still, the Linlithgowshire Gazette was expecting a tough encounter: "Alloa always play a sprightly game at Armadale and if the home lot are to maintain their league leadership and relieve

the brewery boys of the points, they will require to get 'on the go' as early as possible".

300 Alloa fans made the journey in a fine crowd of 3000 at Volunteer Park. Unfortunately for the travelling Wasps, Armadale were indeed on the go early, centre forward Croal heading them into the lead after just five minutes. An exciting game raged end to end thereafter with Alloa's best chance following to Quinn. Alas "in his eagerness, the winger shot high over from an excellent position". It was a costly miss as Armadale broke up the field with Croal heading home a cross from

home winger Willie Dick. Alloa then claimed in vain for a penalty after Alexander was "floored" in the box. The Wasps began the second-half well and Alexander reduced the leeway after a free-kick from Wood. There was plenty of promising build-up play from the visitors after that but the attack was "rather disjointed" and it finished 2-1 Armadale.

The Wasps had now lost two of their opening four league games and probably welcomed the midweek distraction of a Stirlingshire Cup semi-final against King's Park. A crowd of 4400 was the biggest of the season so far at the Recs and an illustration of the prestige which still surrounded the Shire Cup at the time. It would appear to have given Alloa a timely boost with goals from Connaboy and Gilmour sealing a 2-1 win. "King's Park gave an excellent display, but there is no doubt that Alloa completely outclassed them" enthused local columnist 'Ben Cleuch', adding that fans were now supremely confident about the weekend visit of Dumbarton in the league.

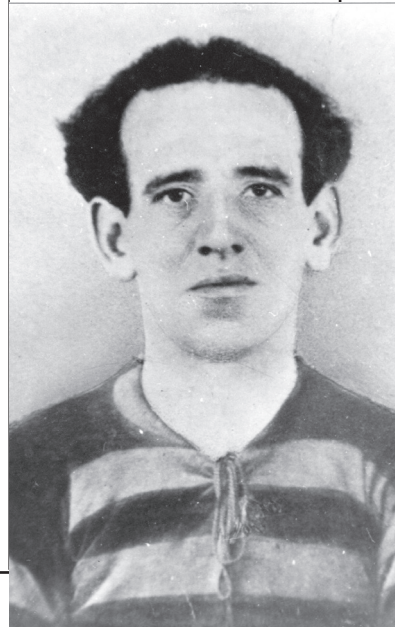
Alloa would bolster their squad ahead of that game. A right-winger by the name of Neilson had appeared in some of the early season games. It was now revealed that he was in fact Sommerville of Bellshill Athletic who had been playing as a trialist under an assumed name. The other new face was Frank Roberts, a player who had spent the previous season with St Johnstone but whose registration was held by Rangers. The Perth men were reported to be keen to bring Roberts back but this move was not favoured by the Ibrox club. The Wasps stepped in to bring Roberts to the Wee County,

although the press reported that Alloa would have preferred his Ibrox clubmate Johnny Rollo. Both men started against Dumbarton but an off colour Alloa didn't get close to the levels displayed against King's Park a few days before. "It was very poor stuff that was served up...there was a lamentable lack of cohesion on the parts of both elevens, and even when chances came they were usually frittered away by poor shooting", reported the Sunday Post. Two second-half goals clinched a 2-0 win for the Sons with Alloa falling into the lower reaches of the table. 'Ben Cleuch' noted that the two new players "did fairly well but two players don't make a team". The columnist reported that the Wasps support had been particularly disgruntled with the home attack, quoting one supporter as saying that "Alloa's front five were all at sixes and sevens".

Following the new additions the previous week, controversy now surrounded a player that Alloa were looking to sell. Arthur McInally had impressed in midfield in the First Division season and while he had been retained by Alloa, he had refused new terms. The player had been linked during the summer with Hull City and Third Lanark (where his younger brother, former and future Celtic star Tommy, was already playing). Clyde, Hamilton and Motherwell then joined the race with Clyde and Accies both claiming to have agreed terms and McInally favouring a switch to the Bully Wee. The Scottish League stepped in and after gathering evidence promptly refused to sanction the transfer of McInally to any club before the end of the season "on account of his unsatisfactory evidence in connection with his transfer to Clyde". Alloa were reported to be in possession of cheques for £174

from Clyde and Accies and unable to cash either. The Wasps were now the only club McInally could play for but this was apparently unlikely to happen, leaving Alloa with no transfer fee and McInally with no wages. "There could scarcely be a more unsatisfactory decision...what crime has he (McInally) committed to justify a decision such as has been issued?", asked the Evening Telegraph. The player himself agreed and filed his intent to appeal.

Alloa could have done with him in midfield as the struggling Wasps travelled to face East Fife. The Fifers were the only side that Alloa had beaten in the league thus far but the Wasps failed to do the double in Methill. It finished 1-0 for the home team with the Sunday Post reporting that "East Fife were value for a far wider margin of goals than the score indicates". Alloa had now lost 4 of their opening 6 games, the same number of defeats suffered over the whole season when they had won the Second Division two years before. Was there any hope for the months ahead? More in the next edition of The Wasp.



APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		ALLOA CAREER LGE	
		APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
MORRISON	GOAL	5 (1)	0	3 (0)	0	8 (1)	0	5 (1)	9
BURT	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
OGAYI	GOAL	2 (1)	0	2 (0)	0	4 (1)	0	2 (1)	0
TAGGART	DEF	5 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	6 (2)	0	234 (2)	11
GRAHAM	DEF	0 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	189 (8)	14
MCLAREN	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	0
DEVINE	DEF	5 (2)	0	2 (1)	0	7 (3)	0	15 (2)	0
NEILL	DEF	7 (0)	0	4 (1)	1	11 (1)	1	7 (0)	0
DEVENEY	DEF	2 (2)	0	3 (1)	0	5 (3)	0	2 (2)	0
MCKAY	DEF	2 (1)	1	3 (2)	0	5 (3)	1	2 (1)	1
DEBAYO	DEF	5 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	8 (0)	0	5 (0)	0
ROBERTSON	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	175 (30)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	5 (0)	0	3 (1)	0	8 (1)	0	64 (18)	8
O'DONNELL	MID	4 (2)	1	2 (1)	0	6 (3)	1	20 (36)	10
CAWLEY	MID	5 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	6 (3)	0	329 (48)	63
HETHERINGTON	MID	6 (0)	0	4 (1)	0	10 (1)	0	143 (30)	6
VIRTANEN	MID	2 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	5 (2)	0	2 (1)	0
ROBERTS	MID	7 (0)	0	4 (1)	0	11 (1)	0	7 (0)	0
DONNELLY	FWD	1 (4)	1	1 (0)	0	2 (4)	1	13 (23)	8
SAMMON	FWD	6 (1)	3	4 (1)	1	10 (2)	4	57 (23)	22
RODDEN	FWD	2 (2)	3	4 (0)	1	6 (2)	4	9 (10)	8
BUCHANAN	FWD	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	1	4 (0)	1	0 (11)	0
RANKIN	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (11)	1
COULSON	FWD	2 (4)	0	3 (2)	1	5 (6)	1	14 (8)	1
CANNON	FWD	0 (3)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (4)	0	0 (3)	0
STEVEN	FWD	4 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	4 (0)	0



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ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
3 (0)	0	8 (1)	9
0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
2 (0)	0	4 (1)	0
56 (1)	3	290 (3)	14
54 (3)	1	243 (11)	15
2 (2)	0	3 (4)	0
2 (1)	0	17 (3)	0
4 (1)	1	11 (1)	1
3 (1)	0	5 (3)	0
3 (2)	0	5 (3)	1
3 (0)	0	8 (0)	0
44 (5)	2	219 (35)	4
17 (8)	2	81 (26)	10
7 (2)	0	27 (38)	10
67 (11)	11	396 (59)	74
31 (9)	1	174 (39)	7
3 (1)	0	5 (2)	0
4 (1)	0	11 (1)	0
4 (3)	2	17 (26)	10
16 (4)	7	73 (27)	29
9 (2)	2	18 (12)	10
6 (3)	1	6 (14)	1
0 (6)	0	0 (17)	1
3 (2)	1	17 (10)	2
0 (1)	0	0 (4)	0
0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0

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BRIAN ROACH



A FAN'S VIEW

Since the return from the international break- and a glorious week in Cyprus- we've returned to a couple of tough matches on the road prior to today's match. We've experienced the agony of losing a stoppage time winning goal at Hamilton but with a really good performance, followed by a reasonably good result at Annan with the team far from their best. In the opening stages at Hamilton a fortnight ago it appeared it may be a long afternoon as Accies started strongly. The first 20 minutes or so was quite a tough watch, with the travelling support receiving a bird's eye view as the home team attacked towards our goal.

But Alloa gradually settled into the game and the half-ended goal-less with very little fanfare. The entertainment picked up at the break though. On our previous visit to Hamilton for last seasons' play-off semi-final, the Alloa support were placed in the corner of the home stand. Given the events of the game it led to a few unsavoury incidents both inside and outside the ground. The club clearly highlighted this and acted upon it, placing the travelling support in the more traditional away section behind the goal. However, any previous visitors to the ground will be well aware there's a squad of Hamilton youngsters who

pitch themselves within close proximity of the away section- and produce a fair volume of verbal dialogue in your direction for the majority of the game. However, on this occasion it was pretty heartwarming to see both sets of younger supporters enjoying a friendly game of head tennis across the segregation barrier all through the interval after a stray football made its way into the corner. Footage of this impromptu contest even made the national media. If I was a judge I'd have awarded the victory to Alloa overall. They were outnumbered, but certainly not outgunned.

However, the home fans had way more to shout about as the match resumed, as Hamilton took an early second half lead. Former Wasp Euan Henderson stabbed home at the near post for the worst possible restart. Once again though Alloa got a foothold in the game, and it was two younger players- Cameron O'Donnell and Taylor Steven- who were asking real questions of the hosts' backline. The introduction of Luke Donnelly provided that extra composure in the final third, and it was no real shock when the substitute scored the equaliser Alloa merited. I thought in the closing stages Alloa looked the more likely to win it. Scott Taggart agonisingly struck the woodwork with a header and couldn't quite get his foot round the rebound to direct it goalward. Deep into stoppage time though, Hamilton struck the winner. It was a wicked delivery into the penalty area- a nightmare to defend. And although perhaps Accies shouldn't have been allowed the space to launch that cross, it remained a very cruel blow after what was a really good away performance. The travelling support were obviously sickened by that late sucker punch, but encouraged by what they had seen against one of the full-time title favourites.

This was followed up by last week's trip to Annan. This was admittedly one I was looking forward to- our first trip down there in 11 years. And not a lot has changed- other than a far more attractive raised standing section in the away end behind the goal. Annan were fresh off a comprehensive 3-0 victory over Stirling Albion, and the return of their talisman Tommy Goss. This came after a relatively slow start to the campaign- it seemed a tougher proposition than per-

haps had we faced them a few weeks earlier. The first half was an uneventful scrappy encounter in all honesty. But Alloa did show a bit more quality on the ball, and maybe just deserved their lead through Conor Sammons close range finish nine minutes before the break. It was anticipated that Alloa would push on in the second half. The three points certainly looked more than there for the taking. Unfortunately, after the interval it was largely one way traffic towards the Alloa goal. They just couldn't put together any real passages of play to take the pressure off for sustained periods. Alloa were way too reliant on goalkeeper Tochukwu Ogayi to bail them out. He had a really good second half, and whilst I agreed with the manager that most were saves, you'd expect him to make- it was still impressive to see him keep Annan at bay almost single handedly at times. Despite the introduction of Coulson and Donnelly, Alloa just couldn't get a foothold in the game at all. The equaliser was inevitable and arrived twelve minutes from time. In truth, it would have been daylight robbery had Alloa left with all three points. The mood amongst the support wasn't great at time up- much more downbeat than the previous week after losing in the last minute. Admittedly a point at Annan is hardly a disaster. That's my fifth visit to Annan and I had

watched Alloa lose down there on three of the previous four occasions. It was just frustrating that the points were there for Alloa to win, and in the end they were perhaps quite fortunate not to lose.

Whilst the dust has settled on last week, and there is a degree of perspective- today's match is quite a pivotal one for so early in the campaign. Alloa face the bottom club at home- Edinburgh City only picked up their first point of the season last week. The support will turn up today expecting to see a victory. Of course, Edinburgh City have some good players, and by all accounts should have picked up three points against Cove Rangers last week. But a victory would set us up nicely to head to Montrose next week- a ground where we always seem to do well. A defeat on the other hand would put us in quite a precarious position. In a ten-team league though, a club's fortunes can take a significant turn for the better by piecing together a few wins. It's been a tough start to the season but picking up points in the next couple of weeks would salvage the first quarter somewhat and ensure moving into the second round of fixtures looking to push on. I'll be quite happy to take a result in similar nature to the one Alloa picked up the last time we were here at home- a 1-0 win over Cove Rangers.





ANDREW COCKBURN



LOOKING BACK 29TH SEPTEMBER 1984

In The Premier Division, Aberdeen maintained their unbeaten start to the league season, and at the same time retained leadership, after a 4-0 hammering of Hearts at Pittodrie. Second-placed Rangers had also still to experience defeat in the league, after they narrowly overcame Dundee United 1-0 at Ibrox. The Gers fierce local rivals Celtic remained third after a 3-2 win at Dundee, & St. Mirren moved up to fourth after they too were successful on their travels, by 1-0 at Dumbarton, The Buddies replaced Dundee United, who slipped down to

fifth. In the "basement battle" at Easter Road, rock-bottom Hibs met second-bottom Morton, who were still finding the going hard, after their promotion at the end of the previous season. And a 3-1 win for The HiBees saw them move up two places, while for The Ton, this was their sixth league reverse in a row, which saw them now prop up the table, while Hearts occupied second-bottom spot.

Airdrie remained in pole position in The First Division, thanks to an emphatic 5-0 win at Kilmarnock. The Diamonds local rivals Motherwell's 3-1 home

victory v Meadowbank saw them move into second spot, The Well displaced Clydebank, who slipped to fourth after they were involved in an incredible 4-4 draw at East Fife. Ayr's 3-2 home victory v Partick moved them into third place, while Hamilton Accies, who were also successful home soil, by 3-1 v Forfar, were now fifth. At the other end of the table, there was no positional change, as relegated St. Johnstone, who'd not found life back in The First Division easy so far, still propped up the table, following a 0-1 home reverse v Brechin.

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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Kilmarnock's home hammering kept them in second-bottom position, while Meadowbank still occupied third-bottom spot.

Down in The Second, Alloa had made a positive start in their bid for an immediate return to The First Division, and they stretched their unbeaten league run to eight games, with a 3-0 victory v Cowdenbeath at Recreation Park, thanks to goals from Davie Lloyd (pen), Bobby Barr & Gary Murray. The win in fact put The Wasps top of the table for the first time in the 1984-85 campaign, and they'd lined up as follows: Lowrie, Thompson, Haggart, Thomson, Dall, Barr (Shearer), Paterson, Kelly, Murray,

Houston (Sorbie), Lloyd. Dunfermline dropped from first to second place, after they were held 1-1 at home by Queen of The South, Montrose's 1-0 home success v Stenhousemuir moved them into third spot in place of The Warriors, who slipped to fourth, Cowdenbeath in turn dropped from fourth to fifth, while East Stirling, still winless after a 0-2 defeat at Raith, remained in bottom spot.

South of the border, there was a three-way tie for leadership at the top of The First Division. But Spurs led the way on goal difference, after a 4-2 home win v Luton, then came Nottingham Forest, 3-1 home

winners v Norwich, and Arsenal, who were victorious by 2-1 at Coventry. Manchester United retained fourth spot after a 2-1 win at WBA, while Watford remained bottom and winless, after a incredible 4-5 home reverse v their FA Cup Final conquerors of the previous season, Everton.

There was no positional change at the top of The Second Division, as leaders Birmingham remained two points clear, thanks to a 1-0 home victory v struggling Huddersfield, while second-placed Oxford and third-placed Blackburn were also victorious on home soil, by 4-0 v Carlisle and 2-0 v Wimbledon respectively.



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2015-16

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Runners-up 2003-4

EoS League Cup
Winners (3)

This afternoon we continue our SPFL League 1 campaign with a game against Edinburgh City from the capital. After the side from the capital started their season last year heroically, they slightly dropped off the pace as the season went on and that ultimately cost them their place in the promotion play-off spots. This campaign it has started in similarly tough fashion. The Citizens currently prop up the table having failed to find their first victory of the season so far. 6 defeats in a row had opened the season before last weekend's

draw against Cove Rangers seen them add their first points to the table. In this fixture, they were moments off clinching all 3 points before an own goal from Jack Wilkie in stoppage time denied them their first win. They will be looking to close the gap on the Wasps this afternoon currently sitting 6 points behind the home side.

THE BOSS – ALAN MAYBURY

This afternoon's opponents will be managed by Dublin-born, Alan Maybury. The former full-back had a stellar playing career both

for his various club sides and his national team, with 10 caps for Republic of Ireland. Most notably Maybury had long spells with Hearts from 2001 to 2005, followed by 3 years at Leicester City. Aberdeen, St Johnstone, Hibernian and Falkirk are more Scottish teams on his playing CV. Having been with the coaching staff at Kilmarnock, Maybury was approached in June 2022 to replace Gary Naysmith as the manager of Edinburgh City. He came into the club and during his interim period secured their promotion with their Scottish League One play-off



*includes equivalent competitions



Stephen Robinson at St Mirren. Since joining the club in August, he has played a part in every game for the Citizens. Most of which have been in the starting 11. His only goal has come in their 3-2 defeat to Annan Athletic, where he not only found the back of the net but also bagged an assist. Offord scored 4 goals for the Wasps last season. A strike on his debut against Clyde, a brace in a 5-1 over Queen of the South and finally, another goal against the Bully Wee. We look forward to welcoming back Kieran to the Recs for this afternoon's game.

victory over Annan Athletic. Now in his second season in League 1, Maybury looks to continue to consolidate their status in this league.

THE CAPTAIN – LIAM FONTAINE

Edinburgh will be captained by experienced centre-half, Liam Fontaine, this afternoon. The Englishman is well known in this country for his time in the top flight with Hibernian, Ross County and Championship with Dundee. It was at the first 2 that he enjoyed most of his success lifting multiple pieces of silverware. Fontaine was part of the historic Hibernian side who won the Scottish Cup in 2016, and the Championship a year later. In the Highlands with County, he won both the Championship again and the Challenge Cup in 2019. He signed for Edinburgh last July and after a strong first season as captain of the club, signed on for another year this July. The 37-year-old has been

coming back from an injury with bit part performances in the last 2 games, last week he did take the armband again to play 45 minutes against Cove.

NEW BOY – KIERAN OFFORD

A new man up top is one that Alloa fans and Brian Rice will recognise. Kieran Offord made the temporary switch to the capital in the summer having been made available on loan by

ONE TO WATCH – DANNY HANDLING

Today's one to watch is a man on a rich vein of form, Danny Handling. Having captained the side a couple of times a season, Handling has been an integral part of the City set-up since joining the club back in 2018. Beginning his career at Hibernian, the attacking midfielder made his first-team debut for Hibs as a substitute against Aberdeen in

CONTINUED ON P32



BY KIERAN MOONEY

2011, at the time becoming the 4th youngest player of the club. Loan spells followed before he moved to Dumbarton for a season in 2017, where he had a successful season and rose eyebrows by moving to League 2 side, Edinburgh City, where he has been ever since. Handling bagged 17 goals last season, one in which came in the remarkable 4-3 game at Meadowbank last season. Despite a slower start to this season, Handling has scored in consecutive back-to-back games for his side. Goals against Montrose and Cove put him in hot form coming into this fixture.

THE CONNECTION

Apart from the previously mentioned Kieran Offord returning to the club, there are a few more returning faces to the Indodrill today. Another former loanee, Innes Murray, will be returning to the club. Murray is in good form himself, currently sitting as the top scorer on 3 goals. He spent time with Alloa in the 2020/21 season, scoring similarly three goals for "The Wasps". Alloa fans will have fond memories of former left-back, Callum Crane, returning to the club. Often now deployed more centrally, and in midfield, he was a stalwart on loan from Hibernian in 2017/18 helping the club to promotion under Jim Goodwin. He cemented himself in modern-day history with an iconic goal against Ayr United towards the end of that season. Ben Stirling began his career with Hibernian, then had loan spells with Berwick Rangers, Cowdenbeath, Arbroath before making seven appearances with "The Wasps" in 2020. After a spell with Hamilton Accies he had a spell on loan

with Edinburgh City, which was made permanent at the start of this season. Six foot four Russell McLean joined "The Wasps" from Syngenta Juveniles in 2014/15 season joining our Youth Academy. Since then, he has played with Hearts, Civil Service Strollers, East Kilbride, Peterhead, Montrose, Forfar Athletic and Dumbarton, before signing for Edinburgh City at the start of this season, where he made an immediate impact scoring twice on his debut v. Kelty Hearts. David McKay's the only previous Citizen after a short loan spell from Raith in 2021-22.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Last season the sides met 4 times, with an equal number of victories each. The first half of the season, both wins went in favour of the side from the

capital. The opening game at the Indodrill saw the visitors triumph 4-2. Goals from John Robertson (2), Innes Murray, and Danny Handling were enough to see off strikes from Conor Sammon and Ross MacIver, despite a late red card from the former Wasp, Calum Crane. The 4-3 victory for the Citizens followed next after a bonkers opening half seen Alloa 3-0 up away to Edinburgh, only to be caught in dramatic fashion with 4 goals from the home side. Following the turn of the year, results began to fall more favourably for Alloa. A brace from Connor Samon was enough to secure 3 points in January with a 2-1 victory. The Wasps followed that up with a comfortable 2-0 victory at Meadowbank, this time Luke Donnolly and Quinn Coulson on the scoresheet. Time will tell if this campaign will follow a similar pattern to the last.



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BRIAN ROACH



EDINBURGH CITY PAST MEETINGS

Fixtures between Alloa and Edinburgh City have all occurred in the last 5 years. The current incarnation of Edinburgh City achieved promotion to the Scottish leagues in 2016, defeating East Stirlingshire in the Scottish League 2 play-offs. Alloa and Edinburgh City first met in 2018 in the Challenge Cup, before being paired in the League Cup group stages in 2020. Following Edinburgh City's promotion to League One in 2022 the clubs competed in the same division for the first time.

Alloa did regularly face the previous Edinburgh City club in the years prior to World War 2. The original Edinburgh City were founded in 1928 and gained entry into the old Division 2 in 1931, joining Alloa. The excellent "History of Alloa Athletic" book by John Glencross and Stuart Latham has the results of these fixtures documented. The first meeting between the clubs took place on the 7th of November 1931 at Recreation Park- which Alloa won by a significant margin 8-2. Between 1931 and 1939 they faced each other on 16

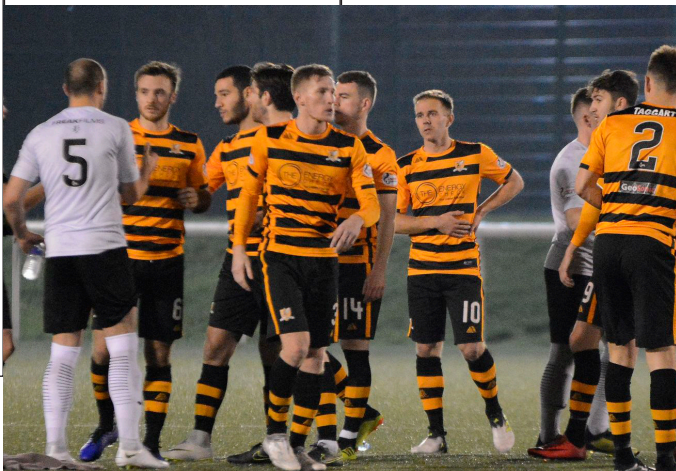
occasions, with Alloa winning 13 of them. It was September 1935 before Edinburgh City finally recorded a win over the Wasps- by 3 goals to 1 in the capital. Alloa actually replicated their previous 8-2 victory in January 1937, this time at Edinburgh City's Powderhall Stadium. Alloa were promoted to the First Division in 1938/39- finishing second to Cowdenbeath after a memorable campaign. But ironically bottom club Edinburgh City did record a victory over Alloa that

season in March 1939- another 3-1 win which turned out to be the last meeting between the clubs. Only a handful of matches were played the following season before the leagues were cancelled due to war. Edinburgh City struggled post war and left the Scottish Football League in 1949. They switched to junior status but ceased to exist in 1955.

A new club named Postal United was formed in 1966, eventually adopting the Edinburgh City name 20 years later- which of course is the current club facing Alloa today. They had a brief name change to F.C. Edinburgh in 2022 before reverting the name back earlier this year

EDINBURGH CITY 2 ALLOA 2 (EDINBURGH WIN 4-3 ON PENS) - 17/11/2018, SCOTTISH CHALLENGE CUP QUARTER FINALS

Having reached the last 8 of the Challenge Cup Alloa, then plying their trade in the Championship, had high hopes of reaching the final. They were paired with League 2 Edinburgh City at Ainslie Park for the Quarter Final tie. The Wasps looked to be heading into the semi-finals after 2 early goals. First, a mazy Dario Zanatta run and brilliant finish in the 2nd minute put Alloa ahead. Then Alan Trouten slotted home at the back post to double Alloa's lead with 12 minutes on the clock. But talisman Blair Henderson headed one back for the hosts on the stroke of half time, before a rocket of a volley from Scott Shepherd levelled the tie in the 2nd



half. Following a stalemate 90 minutes, the first spot kick of the shoot out from Scott Taggart was saved. All other penalties were converted until Andy Graham dragged Alloa's fifth kick wide of the post. Edinburgh progressed to the last 4 losing narrowly to Connahs Quay Nomads.

ALLOA 2 EDINBURGH CITY 1- 13/10/2020, SCOTTISH BETFRED CUP GROUP STAGES

The shoehorned Covid campaign meant no spectators in the stadium as Alloa faced League Two Edinburgh in the Betfred Cup. Stefan Scougall gave the Wasps an early lead with a close range finish. Alloa went on to pass up a hatful of chances in the game and were made to pay the price when substitute Blair Henderson headed the equaliser with 10 minutes left. But Robert Thomson restored Alloa's lead 5 minutes later to seal the victory.

ALLOA 2 EDINBURGH CITY 4- 13/08/2022, SCOTTISH LEAGUE ONE

Alloa looked dominant in the opening 20 minutes of this game, taking the lead through a Conor Sammon back post header after 8 minutes. That initial encouraging opening spell from Alloa evaporated after John Robertson equalised from close range following a Jay Hogarth save. Poor distribution across the backline gifted the visitors the lead on 33 minutes as Robertson doubled his tally. In the second half an outstanding Innes Murray free kick extended Edinburgh's lead. Ross MacIver gave Alloa some hope with 5 minutes remaining but Danny Handling sealed a deserved Edinburgh victory minutes later.

EDINBURGH CITY 4 ALLOA 3- 19/11/2022, SCOTTISH LEAGUE ONE

The capital club landed another body blow on Alloa with an impressive comeback win at Meadowbank. Alloa had raced into an early 3 goal lead after just 17 minutes. A 3rd minute own goal was followed up by headers from Luke Donnelly and Andy Graham. Alloa could have added to that tally but the Wasps defence switched off allowing Ryan Shanley to give Edinburgh a lifeline ten minutes before the break. Shanley notched another just two minutes into the second half and it was game on. Alloa were awarded a penalty after Stefan Scougall was felled in the area, but his spot kick was

well saved by Robbie Mutch. Cameron O'Donnell was then red carded after an over exuberant challenge. Danny Handling then curled home a superb equaliser with an hour gone. Ten man Alloas resolve was eventually broken when Shanley completed his hat trick with twelve minutes remaining. This was arguably Alloa's bleakest day of the campaign.

ALLOA 2 EDINBURGH CITY 1- 14/01/2023, SCOTTISH LEAGUE ONE

Alloa finally had a good afternoon in this fixture with a home victory. Another trademark early start against Edinburgh where they could have been two ahead in the opening couple of minutes. Conor Sammon also had a goal disallowed- but he made no mistake after 16 minutes heading home a brilliant delivery by Luke Strachan.

Ten minutes later, a carbon copy from the big Irishman put Alloa 2 ahead, with the cross from Daniel Church this time. Edinburgh pulled one back 7 minutes after half time from John Robertson but there was to be no comeback on this occasion.

EDINBURGH CITY 0 ALLOA 2- 11/03/2023, SCOTTISH LEAGUE ONE

Alloa laid their disastrous previous visit to rest with a comprehensive victory at Meadowbank. A first half strike from Luke Donnelly had the visitors in front after 32 minutes. Quinn Coulson sealed the points with his first goal for the club after the break- catching out Mutch with an early shot which the keeper fumbled at the near post. This was as good an away performance as Alloa produced all season.



HT QUIZ

- 1. NAME THE 2 EDINBURGH CITY STRIKERS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES FOR ALLOA**
- 2. NAME THE 5 SCOTTISH CLUBS EDINBURGH CITY MANAGER ALAN MAYBURY HAS MADE APPEARANCES FOR IN COMPETITIVE MATCHES**
- 3. WHICH 3 CLUBS SCORED 4 GOALS OR MORE IN THE OPENING ROUND OF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP STAGE FIXTURES A FORTNIGHT AGO?**
- 4. NAME THE NATIONS WHO DUAL HOSTED THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS: 2000, 2008 AND 2012?**
- 5. WHO WERE THE LAST CLUB TO BEAT MANCHESTER CITY OVER 90 MINUTES IN A COMPETITIVE MATCH AT THE ETIHAD STADIUM?**
- 6. WHICH SEVEN PLAYERS HAVE BEEN CAPPED FOR ENGLAND WHILST PLAYING FOR SPANISH CLUBS?**

ANSWERS PAGE 37



ALLOA ATHLETIC



EDINBURGH CITY

#	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	TAYLOR STEVEN			
	12	STEFAN SCOUGALL			
	14	MIKO VIRTANEN			
	15	DAVID MCKAY			
	17	NATHAN CANNON			
	18	CONOR SAMMON			
	19	STEVEN BUCHANAN			
	20	CAMMY O'DONNELL			
	22	PAUL MCLAREN			
	23	DAVID DEVINE			
	24	LUKE RANKIN			
	25	JON ROBERSTON			
	26	QUINN COULSON			
	27	JOSH DEBAYO			
		MANAGER BRIAN RICE			

#	POS				
	1	KELSEY EWEN			
	2	KIERAN MACDONALD			
	4	LEE HAMILTON			
	5	SCOTT MERCER			
	6	BEN STIRLING			
	7	ROBBIE MAHON			
	8	ROBBIE LEITCH			
	9	RYAN SHANLEY			
	10	DANNY HANDLING			
	11	KIERAN OFFORD			
	13	KYLE JACOBS			
	14	RUSSELL MCLEAN			
	16	LEWIS SPENCE			
	17	LIAM FONTAINE			
	20	JACK WILKIE			
	21	CAMERON QUATE			
	23	INNES MURRAY			
	24	QUINN MITCHELL			
	25	AIDAN MCADAMS			
	27	SAM GORMLEY			
	30	CALLUM CRANE			
		MANAGER ALAN MAYBURY			

REFEREE: Stewart Luke

ASST: Craig Macrae & Steven Mckay

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

28.10.23, FALKIRK STADIUM, 15:00

	FALKIRK		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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04.11.23, FORTHBANK STADIUM, 15:00

	STIRLING ALBION		ALLOA ATHLETIC
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21.10.23, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		KELTY HEARTS
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11.11.23, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00

	ALLOA ATHLETIC		QUEEN OF THE SOUTH
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