



23RD JULY 2024 7:45PM | £3









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

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

MIKE MULRANEY, CHAIRMAN ALLOA ATHLETIC FC



ALLOA HLETIC **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

TIRLINGSHIRE CUP WINNERS

1904/5 1907/8 1908/9 1912/13 1920/21 1924/25 1933/34 1946/47 1955/56 1957/58 1959/60 1965/66 1981/82 1996/97

MOST CAPPED PLAYER

Jock Hepburn, 1 Cap (Scotland v Wales 1891)

Club Information

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Club Officials

Honorary Directors

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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

Men's Team

Andy Graham(Manager) Niall Marshall (Assistant Graeme Holmes (Coach) Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor) Neil Parry (Goalkeeping Coach)

Women's Team

Allan Milne (Manager)

Ryan Cairney-Smith (Assistant Manager) Shaun McErlane (Coach)

Ground Staff Alan Petrie

Kit Manager

Pat Dunne

Safety Officers Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar

Wasp 2000 Manager Malcolm Gordon

Club Shop Geoff Kay

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TEAM LINEUPS

34

^{*}includes equivalent competitions

PREMIER SPORTS CUP TABLE & FIXTURES

GROUP F

	ALLOA ATHLETIC	\$\\3\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	ST JOHNSTONE
ECOTIAN .	EAST FIFE		RRECHIN CITY

\3 [*] €	ST. JOHNSTONE	Н	2	Н	2	Н	0	Н	0	Н	4	Ж	1	\mathbb{H}	3	Ю	6
	ALLOA ATHLETIC	Н	2	Н	1	Н	1	Н	0	\mathbb{H}	3	\mathbb{H}	1	\mathbb{H}	2	Ю	5
	EAST FIFE	Н	2	Н	1	Н	1	Н	2	\mathbb{H}	3	\mathbb{H}	0	\mathbb{H}	3	Н	4
	GREENOCK MORTON	Н	3	Н	1	Н	0	Н	2	\mathbb{H}	1	\mathbb{H}	5	\mathbb{H}	-4	Н	3
(An	BRECHIN CITY	Н	3	Н	0	Н	0	Н	3	\mathbb{H}	2	\mathbb{H}	6	\mathbb{H}	-4	Ю	0

GROUP A

	ABERDEEN	AF Z	AIRDRIEONIANS
871 010	EAST KILBRIDE	F.	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

A. S.	AIRDRIEONIANS	Н	2	Н	2	Н	0	Н	0	Н	12	Н	3	Н	9	Н	6
	ABERDEEN	Н	2	Ж	2	\mathbb{H}	0	Ю	0	Н	7	Н	0	\mathbb{H}	7	Н	6
F(S)	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	Н	2	H	1	Н	0	Н	1		2	H	3	H	-1	Н	3
616	EAST KILBRIDE	Н	3	Н	0	H	1	Н	2	H	1	\mathbb{H}	13	H	-12	H	2
M	DUMBARTON	Н	3	Н	0	H	1	Ю	2	H	4	H	7	H	-3	H	1

GROUP B

sfc	STENHOUSEMUIR	AYR UNITED
	BUCKIE THISTLE	DUNDEE UNITED

7.7	FALKIRK	Н	3	2	0	1	7	2	5	6
	DUNDEE UNITED	Н	3	2	0	1	5	3	2	6
sfc	STENHOUSEMUIR	Н	2	1	0	1	4	3	1	3
	AYR UNITED	Н	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3
17-Y	BUCKIE THISTLE	Н	2	0	0	2	1	9	-8	-

GROUP C

19 75	KELTY HEARTS	PETERHEAD	İ
*	QUEEN'S PARK	ELGIN CITY	i

7.0	HIBERNIAN	3	2	0	1	10	2	8	6
10 (2 70 S	KELTY HEARTS	2	1	1	•	2	1	1	4
3	QUEEN'S PARK	2	1	0	1	6	5	1	3
2	PETERHEAD	2	1	0	1	4	7	-3	3
##* <u></u>	ELGIN CITY	3	0	1	2	3	10	-7	2

GROUP D





GROUP E

(3	COVE RANGERS	LIVINGSTON
	SPARTANS	FORFAR ATHLETIC

1	LIVINGSTON	2	\mathbb{H}	2	Н	0	Н	0	\mathbb{H}	3	0	3	6
	FORFAR ATHLETIC	3	\mathbb{H}	1	Ж	1	\mathbb{H}	1	H	3	3	0	5
	SPARTANS	2	\mathbb{R}	1	Ж	0	Н	1	H	5	3	2	3
N.	OUNFERMLINE ATHLET-	3	\mathbb{H}	1	Ж	0	${\mathbb H}$	2	\mathbb{H}	3	3		3
(3)	COVE RANGERS	2	\mathbb{H}	0	\mathbb{H}	1	\mathbb{H}	1	\mathbb{H}	1	6	-5	1

GROUP G

MONTROS	MONTROSE		EDINBURGH CITY
	STIRLING ALBION) (STRANRAER

///	MOTHERWELL	Н	3	ŀ	2	ŀ	1	ŀ	0	H	7	Н	2	5	8	
	PARTICK THISTLE	Н	2	ŀ	2	1	0	ŀ	0	H	9	H	2	7	- 6	
	CLYDE	Н	2	ŀ	1	ŀ	0	ŀ	1	H	6	H	3	3	3	
MONTRAS	MONTROSE	Н	2	ŀ	0	ŀ	1	ŀ	1	H	3	H	4	1	1	
	EDINBURGH CITY	Н	3	}	0	}	0	}	3	H	0		14	-14	0	

GROUP H

	PARTICK THISTLE	CLYDE
* .*	HAMILTON ACCIES	ROSS COUNTY

	RAITH ROVERS	- 3		2	H	0		6	3	3	6
	ROSS COUNTY	2		2	\mathbb{H}	0	0	- 5	2	3	6
	HAMILTON ACADEMI-	2		1	H	1	0	3	0	3	4
S	STIRLING ALBION	- 2		0	H	1	1	0	3	-3	2
(<u>@</u>	STRANRAER	3	П	0	${\mathbb H}$	0	3	2	8	-6	•

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Kane





David





ANDY GRAHAM



THE GAFFER'S THOUGHTS

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Craig Levein and his staff to Alloa for tonight's game.

Saturday's game against Brechin showed a much-improved performance from the players, as Brechin is a difficult place to go, and they will certainly be challenging to get back into the leagues. Kevin Cawley and Luke Rankin's goals were excellent finishes and highlight the importance of combining experience and youth.

As always, a big thanks to all who traveled to Brechin to support the boys; it's always appreciated.

Tonight's game will be tough as St Johnstone have a strong squad. While we respect that, we must go in with the belief that we can win the game.

Enjoy the game.

Andy



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LEWIS RUSSELL



NEWSDESK

On Tuesday night Alloa completed a perfect bonus point penalty shootout after a drab 0-0 against East Fife.

The Fifers looked the more potent side with Nathan Austin the main threat to PJ Morrisons goal but the Alloa goalkeeper kept a clean sheet with some smart saves on an off day for the Wasps at the other end. East Fife's Andy Munro missed his side's opening penalty as Scott Taggart, Conor Sammon, Steven Hetherington, Kurtis Roberts and finally Calum Waters all found the back of the net to give Alloa

two points on the opening day.

On Saturday the Wasps made what will become a familiar travel to Angus this season - except it was to face Highland League Brechin City. Last meeting between the sides was a shock Marc Scott winner for the Hedgemen so it was great to see an early penalty award courtesy of Luke Rankin being annihilated by the Brechin goalkeeper handily converted by captain Scott Taggart. Alloa veteran Kevin Cawley added a wonderful curling effort in

the second half to secure Alloa's lead and youngster Luke Rankin in the team for the first time since his highly successful loan spell at East Stirling drilled home a clean half-volley into the top corner to put the cherry on the icing on the cake. A little bit of the shine came off on the day with Brechin's only effort on target all game finding the bottom corner after a late Alloa lapse but the Wasps avoided any hairy endings and were unlucky not to have added any more against the side three divisions lower.

It leaves a shoutout today against St Johnstone for pole position in the group, with the Perth side the only team to win their opening two games in Group F. Brechin and Morton fairly comfortably dispatched as you'd expect from the group's top seeds.

David Devine remains unavailable for the forseeable future injuring his hamstring against East Fife. He joins Miko Virtanen (broken toe) in the stands but Shay Nevans may be available tonight after suffering a dead leg.

WASP 2000 CLUB

100 W Burns 222 50 M Glencross 549 25 F Wheeler 1053



REMIER SPORTS CUP RESULTS									
Home Team	Score	Away Team							
Dundee Utd	2-1	Ауг							
Arbroath	0-3	Annan							
Brechin	1-3	Alloa							
Buckie Thistle	1-5	Falkirk							
Clyde	1-3	Motherwell							
Dumbarton	3-4	Airdrie							
East Kilbride	0-4	Aberdeen							
Edinburgh City	0-6	Partick							
Forfar	1-1 (3-1 on penalties)	Cove Rangers							
Inverness	3-0	Bonnyrigg Rose							
Kelty Hearts	1-0	Hibernian							
Livingston	1-0	Dunfermline							
Peterhead	4-2	Elgin							
Ross County	2-1	Raith							
St Johnstone	2-0	Morton							
Stranraer	0-1	Hamilton							



STATS OF THE SEASON 2023/24

Although the Wasps are this evening playing a third competitive game of the 2024/25 season, there is just enough time to look back at some of statistical quirks and fascinations of the previous season, as the Wasps finished a credible third in League One and were unfortunate to lose out narrowly in the playoffs to Hamilton Accies for a second successive season.

MORE AWAY WINS THAN HOME VICTORIES

Unusually, the Wasps picked up more away wins than at the Recs last season, with 10 victories on the road and 8 on the hallowed 4G synthetic turf of home. That was only the third time in the past decade to have occurred, with the shortened 2019/2020 (5 home wins & 6 away wins) and relegation 2015/16 (3 home wins - 1 in the league v Hibs and 2 Stirlingshire Cup ties - & 4 away wins) being the other exceptions to the generally accepted principle that teams do better at home than away. However, the quick attacking play of the Wasps last season probably explains why more awayday wins were achieved, with that particularly suited to being away when the onus is often on the home

side to take the game to the opposition. Perhaps the fact that all teams barring Stirling played on 4G pitches meant home advantage was less pronounced, with three teams picking up more away wins than home victories (Hamilton 12 away versus 10 home wins: Montrose 8v7 & QoS 6v5) and only Annan (7 home wins versus 2 away wins) having a markedly better home win rate in the division. Ahead of this season, Andy Graham has already said that the target for the season is to improve on last season, with the number of home victories certainly appearing to be

one category where there is obvious scope for the Wasps to make headway during this campaign.

GOALS GALORE ON THE ROAD

As well as picking up more away wins than at home, Alloa were far more free scoring away from the Recs last season too, with 46 goals scored on the road and just 26 back at the Recs. The 5-1 mauling of Stirling Albion, the eventual 5-2 success at Edinburgh City and the roller-coaster 4-3 opening day success at Queen of the South spring immediately to mind as three high-scoring away days which gave the Wasps loval away support plenty to cheer. If you also factor in the 3-2 successes at Annan and Cove, together with the 3-1 Viaplay Cup win at Stenhousemuir and the 3-4 reverse to Montrose. those seven games equal the total number of home goals scored in the Wasps' 21 matches at the Recs last season! The Wasps failed to score in a third of all home games played last season, with one goal scored in another third of the games and multiple goals scored a third (7 games) of times too. Encouragingly, six of the seven occasions when the Wasps did score more than one goal at home came under Andy Graham's reign, although scoring more goals at home may well be another indicator of improvement

this season? Perhaps I'm being a little harsh here, or this could be framed more positively that on Alloa's travels last season they were up for the fight and willing to go toe-to-toe in ding-dong battles, taking the ethos of, "We'll score one more goal than you", rather than unconsciously being less gung-ho during home matches?

THREE PLAYERS IN DOUBLE FIGURES FOR GOALS

With all those away day goals, it was perhaps no surprise that no fewer than three separate Alloa players managed to get into double figures for goals last season. Any striker will tell you that their first personal aim for any season is to get to ten goals, as that's always a reasonable barometer that a

striker is having a good season in front of goal. With the Wasps freshening up their frontline after an indifferent first quarter, it was also not surprising that the goals were spread amongst a series of players this season, rather than having a single runaway top marksman as was the case in the 2022/23 season (Conor Sammon's 19 goal haul). Loanee Bobby Wales topped the end of season scoring charts, with 12 goals. Another outstanding loanee Taylor Steven also reached double figures with 10 goals, with the youngsters' tallies being sandwiched between the trusty 11 goals from the evergreen Conor Sammon. In-fact, if you take Conor's age (37), that was the combined age of Wales (18) and Steven (19) last season, which I think



reflects tremendously well on Sammo! If you looked up the definition of "a good pro who has looked after himself over the years" in your footballing dictionaries, alongside Portuguese duo Cristiano Ronaldo and Pepe, you'd find a picture of Sammon, who keeps himself in peak condition despite his advancing years. Last season, Sammon proved his worth yet again, scoring four deadlock breakers, three match-winners (versus Cove. Dunbar and Annan) and some vintage finishes you wouldn't immediately expect of Conor, such as that glorious run and low finish past Liam Kelly to equaliser at old club Motherwell in the Scottish Cup. I cannot wait to see Sammon's trademark goal celebration again this season, with the former Republic of Ireland internationalist still very evidently getting an enormous sense of satisfaction out of that timeless sensation of scoring

ng o

a goal.

YELLOW CARD MERCHANT HETHERINGTON TRIUMPHS AGAIN

A year ago I predicted that Stevie Hetherington would pick up more bookings than any other Alloa player in the 2023/24 season. This wasn't a particularly bold forecast, with the combative midfielder having amassed more bookings in each of his previous five seasons with the Wasps, prior to his two-year stint with Falkirk. The returning Hetherington didn't disappoint me, with him once again winning

the 'most bookings award' for the sixth season in his Alloa career! Hetherington surpassed himself with a needless red card for serious foul play with the Wasps already 5-0 down at Ayr in the Viaplay Cup group stages, to rule himself out of the league opener at Queen of the South and last week's opener this season versus East Fife too. During the first half of the season. Stevie picked up a steady stream of bookings, with 8 in 19 games until his injury in the Scottish Cup at Motherwell. My notes specify that each of the midfielders' bookings were for fouls, with two being 90th minute cynical fouls, one being for an accumulation of a series of fouls and all being within the second half of matches! Unfortunately, it seems Stevie has developed a little bit of a reputation with referees for picked up cautions over the years, with some being harsh decisions, but others have been completely merited too! With Hetherington missing from the Wasps team for 11 weeks during the second



half of the season, I feared that Messrs Neill or Virtanen may sneak in and steal Stevie's 'bookings crown', but both fell short (Neill - 7 vellows and 1 red: Virtanen - 5 yellows), with Cammy O'Donnell also getting an honourable mention for his 6 bookings throughout the season. As such, Hetherington retained his title for a sixth time, albeit upon his return from injury in April Stevie escaped picking up a single booking in his final six appearances of the season, so perhaps he's turned over a new leaf! All of the above is of course written in jest, with Hetherington's value to the team never in doubt, exemplified by a majestic performance in what turned out to be the final game of last season at Hamilton. I'm pretty sure that Granit Xhaka must have been watching Hetherington's performance in that game at the Accies. as the Swiss midfielders cultured and controlling performances in the Euros were reminiscent of Stevie's masterclass at New Douglas Park!

NEVER PLAYING AGAINST 10 MEN

Amazingly, the Wasps went a whole season without an opposing player being sent-off, which given the laws of the game as they are now, is surprising in the extreme! In-fact (writing this prior to a ball being kicked this season) you have to



go back all the way to 12th November 2022 for the last time Alloa plaved against 10 men, when Stephen Hendrie was red-carded for Queen of South after Alloa went 5-1 up in the 86th minute of that encounter. By comparison, since that point in time Alloa have themselves been reduced to 10 men on 6 separate occasions (George Stanger in the final game of the 2022/3 season, together with last seasons dismissals of Hetherington at Ayr, David McKay versus both Stirling and Cove, Kevin Cawley at Montrose and Morgyn Neill at Hamilton). As such, for the Wasps to have now played for over a season and a half without the opposition having a player red-carded is certainly an unusual quirk!

LOANEES PRODUCING NUMBERS

In addition to the aforementioned goalscoring outputs of Bobby Wales and Taylor Steven, the duo also contributed heavily in terms of assists too. Steven matched his goal tally with 10 assists too (becoming the first player since I kept records of assists to reach double figures in terms of both 'goal contributions') and Wales claiming 5 assists too. Bobby finished joint third of Alloa assist-makers (alongside his captain Scott Taggart), with the runner-up being another loanee Ethan Sutherland, who amassed 6 assists in his second half of the season loan. Sutherland's 2 goals, and 5 strikes from Alloa's other loanee, Ally Roy, meant the output Alloa gleaned from the loanees was off the scale, with a grand total of 29 goals and 21 assists from the quartet. It was Alloa's most productive crop of loan signings, in my opinion, since at least the 2018/19 season (when the Wasps were treated to Dario Zanatta, Connor Shields, lake Hastie and Sam Roscoe amongst others) and holds the Wasps in good stead for the upcoming season,

with the big clubs hopefully queuing up to enable Andy Graham to develop talented youngsters into future superstars!

SECOND HALF OF THE SEASON SPECIALISTS

The Wasps really are second half of the season specialists, with last season amazingly being the tenth consecutive season Alloa have amassed more points in the second half of the season than the first. Looking back over the past quarter of the century, the trend continues with the Wasps picking up more points in the second half of 20 of the past 25 seasons. Last season, the record was achieved with four games to spare and by the end of the campaign 31 points were achieved in the second half of the season. easily eclipsing the 25 points gained during the first 18 games.





5 GOALS AT FORTHBANK

April's 5-1 victory over local rivals Stirling was a memorable day for the Wasps. It was the first time Alloa had ever scored five goals on Stirling soil (or Annfield astroturf), with it being the Wasps 56th trip to play Albion (not including the Stirlingshire Cup), going back to 1948. It was also Alloa's joint highest margin of victory on an awayday visit to Stirling, on par with the 4-0 success back in 2005 when Jose Quitongo led the Stirling defence a merry dance, helping himself to a second half double that day. The 5-1 success was therefore Alloa's joint biggest win over Stirling since the never to be forgotten 7-0 thrashing in 1998.

A PERFECT FEBRUARY

Alloa enjoyed a perfect February, with five successive league wins (for the first time since 2012 in the old Third Division), earning Andy Graham the manager of the month award and Taylor Steven

the monthly player gong. It was an epic run of victories, culminating in a 2-1 away win at Hamilton with a late winner from Ion Robertson. It was Robbo's first Alloa goal for 2,479 days (almost 7 years and 214 games since his previous goal) and turned out to be his final strike for the Wasps, with his May release marking the end of 8 tremendous seasons service with the club, amassing 262 appearances in the process. Every Alloa supporter will wish Robbo the best of luck having been installed as club captain at Edinburgh City.

GOALS IN 14 SUCCESSIVE CALENDAR YEARS

Kevin Cawley's deflected late strike in January versus Edinburgh City meant that Alloa's record appearance maker had scored in every single calendar year since 2011, with no Alloa player having ever scored in 14 consecutive calendar years for the club before!

GOALS IN EACH OF HIS FIRST 4 ALLOA APPEARANCES

Ally Roy became the first Alloa player for 58 years to score in each of his first four games for the Wasps. David Keddie achieved that remarkable feat back in 1965 and that was mirrored by Ally Roy with his strikes against Edinburgh City, Montrose, Stirling Albion and Queen of the South.

LANDMARK APPEARANCES

A series of loyal players clocked up milestone appearances for the club during the season. Early in the season Scott Taggart reached the 300 mark, quickly followed by Kevin Cawley's record-breaking 450th

appearance. In addition, both Stefan Scougall and Conor Sammon made it 100 games in the gold and black of Alloa during the campaign. With all four players still at the Recs this season the quartet will be hoping to add to their impressive hauls during this campaign.

FIRST GOAL / FIRST APPEARANCE

At the other end of the scale, there were a series of Alloa debutants during the 2023/24 season, or those who scored their maiden goals for the club. The roll call of the 12 debutants were (in squad number order): Euan Deveney, Morgyn Neill, Kurtis Roberts, Taylor Steven, Miko

Virtanen, David McKay, Ally Rov. Nathan Cannon, Josh Debayo, Bobby Wales, Ethan Sutherland and Tochukwu Ogavi. Those who scored their first goals were youth team product Steven Buchanan (at Stenhousemuir), alongside Neill, McKay, Roy, Steven, Wales, Roberts, Sutherland and Virtanen, All of those goals, barring Sutherland's (versus Montrose) coincidentally contributed towards either an Alloa victory or draw!

Hopefully in the upcoming nine months there is a plentiful supply of positive records achieved by the new squad of players in Alloa colours.

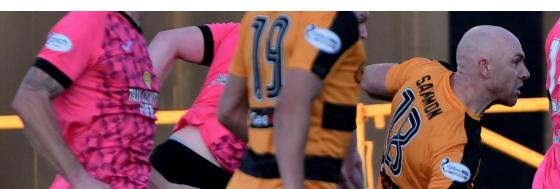
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APPEARANCES

		LEAGUE		C	UP	TO	Γ AL	ALLOA CAREER LGE		
	POS	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	
OGAYI	GOAL	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	0	8 (1)	- 0	
PARRY	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 -	138 (0)	- 0	
MORRISON	GOAL	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0 -	30 (1)	0	
TAGGART	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	1	2 (0)	1	265 (2)	16	
WATERS	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0 -	40 (0)	- 1	
GRAHAM	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	190 (8)	14	
NEILL	DEF	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	34 (0)	0	
MCKAY	DEF	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0 -	14 (5)	- 1	
THOMSON	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (0)	- 0	
DEVINE	DEF	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	33 (3)	0	
HETHERINGTON	MID	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0 -	157 (33)	- 6	
CAWLEY	MID	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	1	2 (0)	1	338 (56)	64	
ROBERTS	MID	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0 -	36 (0)	- 4	
NEVANS	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0 -	0 (0)	- 0	
SCOUGALL	MID	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0 -	82 (22)	- 8	
VIRTANEN	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 -	13 (11)	- 1	
O'DONNELL	MID	0 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	33 (40)	- 11	
MULLEN	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	- 0	0 (2)	0	0 (0)	- 0	
DONNELLY	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	- 0	0 (2)	0	18 (27)	- 9	
SAMMON -	FWD	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	62 (44)	27	
BUCHANAN -	FWD	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	10 (27)	2	
RANKIN	FWD	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	1	1 (0)	1	0 (11)	1	



ALLOA CA	REER CUP	ALLOA	TOTAL	443	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	SPONSORS SPONSORS	
2 (0)	0	10 (1)	0	-	-
35 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	RUARI & BRIAN CUTHBERT-IMRIE	NEIL PARRY ALLOA SUPPORTERS CLUB
16 (0)	0	46 (1)	0	DEREK YULE	-
60 (1)	4	325 (3)	- 20	-	-
13 (0)	1	53 (0)	2	DAVIS DISTRIBUTION	-
54 (3)	1	244 (11)	15	JOYCE & THE PIE HUT	-
7 (1)	1	41 (1)	1	-	-
7 (2)	0	21 (7)	1	MCCALLUM ENGINEERING	-
0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	-	-
3 (1)	- 0	36 (4)	0	JON CARRUTHERS	-
34 (9)	1	191 (42)	7	-	-
69 (12)	13	407 (68)	77	AIMEE BURGESS	-
8 (1)	0	44 (1)	4	BRAIN DAMAGED BARON	ANDREW WILSON
0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	MAYFIELD MOTORS	-
21 (8)	2	103 (30)	10	STUART LATHAM	-
3 (3)	0	16 (14)	1	ANDY@MAGNAFIBRE	-
10 (3)	0	43 (43)	11	ROBERTSON CARPET & FLOORING	-
0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	-	-
4 (6)	2	22 (33)	11	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO
19 (4)	9	81 (48)	36	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS
8 (4)	1	18 (31)	3	HAMISH COMRIE	-
1 (6)	- 1	1 (17)	2	CALLUM MCTAGGART	-



LEWIS RUSSELL

ANNAN ATHLETIC	3	2	1	2	6	2	4	7
ALLOA ATHLETIC	2	1	1	0	3	1	2	5
KELTY HEARTS	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	4
INVERNESS CT	2	1	0	1	3	1	2	3
STENHOUSEMUIR	2	1	0	1	4	3	1	3
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	2	1	0	1	2	3	-1	3
MONTROSE MONTROSE	2	0	1	1	3	4	-1	1
DUMBARTON	3	0	1	2	4	7	-3	1
COVE RANGERS	2	0	1	1	1	6	-5	1
ARBROATH	2	0	0	2	0	5	-5	0

LEAGUE CUP LEAGUE 1 TABLE

If you feel so far that today's programme has been too sensible then we are about to fix that. Adding the league cup tables together we are going to predict the League 1 final standings in a completely scientific and completely fair way.

1. ANNAN ATHLETIC

Our new southern overlords have learned a thing or two from their dramatic survival scrap of 2023-24 and despite their pesky neighbors stealing their manager and standout centre mid, they've managed to

find a ready made replacement in Wullie Gibson and Queen of the South cast-offs like Josh Todd. Aidan Smith and Tommy Goss are still a right good handful and despite the slim squad it's Annan leading the way.

2. ALLOA ATHLETIC

The Wasps have slipped under the radar at this early juncture of the season being the 5th favourites with the bookies to win League 1 but with evolution of the playoff qualifying squad instead of revolution but with some solid youngsters growing into the fray that has been enough to better last year's standings despite not having the outstanding loanees of yester-year. We'll forget that League 2 and Highland League is a fairly easy run of it - we've still got a game in hand on Annan.

3. KELTY HEARTS

Michael Tidser's debut managerial season was successful in steadying a ship at Kelty after their benefactors and previous manager John Potter jump over to relative Fife giants Raith. Dare I say the Maroon Machine were one of the better footballing sides last year and have followed it up this year with signing talent like Liam Brown, Murray Miller and Scott Williamson to again defy expectations and secure a playoff place. They might get a cup run this year too if they can keep producing perfomances like they've just done in the 1-0 win over Hibs.

4. INVERNESS CT

To call Inverness last three months a shambles would be a gross oversimplification. Surely with such on and off the field uncertainty the newly relegated highland side were destined for a dreich season in the seaside league but Big Dunc' has delivered a playoff spot and the slight glimmer of promotion back to the hallowed ground of the Scottish Championship and that's before any new ownership and subsequent investment in players. This has been the group that has been the most interesting with two other League 1 sides to compare and Inverness despite their troubles are still cutting middle of the pack out of Annan and Arbroath.

5. STENHOUSEMUIR

Last season's League 2 Champions have secured fifth spot with very much a continuity squad this year. Worries that they'd carry in their limp form to the title have been completely unfounded and loyalty has been rewarded with a solid 5th place finish. Not too much to take from Stenhousemuir's group in real terms. Buckie Thistle were well off the pace and easily dispatched while Dundee United produced an expected performance and were solid 2-0 winners.

6. QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

Peter Murphy's Queen of the South has not been able to rise to the heights expected with the provincial side only sitting in 6th. They've got rid of some of the bad eggs of Bartley's time in the summer but is their recruitment of the likes of Leighton McIntosh, Beniamin Luissint, Matty Douglas and Jay Hogarth been enough? Back to reality its been tough opposition against Aberdeen and most importantly looking forward a really solid win against newly promoted Dumbarton who can be a right handful on their day.

7. MONTROSE

It's been a struggle for last years beaten playoff semi-finalists as father time finally gets the better of Terry Masson, Sean Dillon and Michael Gardyne. It's the hardest thing in football to keep renovating your squad with younger players as good as the oldies they're replacing and perhaps that's the Angus side's lot for this season. They've brought in a couple of permanent signings from the Lowland League in Ben MacIver-Redwood from Stirling Uni and Craig Smith from Heriot Watt but will they need a few years to get to the levels Stewart Petrie is used to his Montrose team delivering? In reality the hardest opening in Championship favourites Partick and Premiership Motherwell who don't feel like they give up too many shocks.

8. DUMBARTON

The League 1 playoff winners might've snuck through against Stirling and they've snuck through to survival by the narrowest of margins in this fantasy League Cup League 1 table. Without striker Michael Ruth they are much diminished up front but still almost upset the rampant Airdrie if not for throwing away the game in the dying minutes. Some things change - some stay the same. They share Queen of the South's group but I imagine the best is yet to come from this side.

9. COVE RANGERS

At times last year Paul Hartley's jacket sat on a shoogly peg according to some and that was just missing out on the promotion playoffs! This years drop to the relegation edition surely will signal change from the full time side. It's always difficult for teams on the relatively far reaches of Scotland to rebuild as the likes of Spartans in Edinburgh pick up central belt talent more easily but even that will be a poor excuse when you conside the 5-0 thrashing the League 2 side have just handed out to Cove. The can console themselves that they've not been pointless after drawing with Forfar and losing out on penalties and have some faint hope of survival in the playoffs but I see a long season ahead for the north-east side.

10. ARBROATH

After a rip-roaring stint in the Championship for a few seasons are we about to witness a new Brechin and multiple relegation? While preseason favourites they've confounded expectations to land bottom of the pile after defeats to Annan Athletic and a much maligned Inverness. A toxic relegation season surely won't be stacked on another if only they had fit forwards in Gavin Reilly and Calum Gallagher. As it is Arbroath return home to League 2.







ST JOHNSTONE

The Saints

FOUNDED

1884

GROUND

McDiarmid Park, Perth

TOP HONOURS

Scottish Cup Winners: 2013-14, 2020-21

Scottish League Cup Winners: 2020-21

Scottish Challenge Cup Winners: 2007-08 Scottish Championship* Winners: 1923-24, 1959-60, 1962-63, 1982-83, 1989-90, 1996-97, 2008-09

This evening, we continue our Scottish League Cup Group Stage by welcoming Premiership side, St Johnstone, to the Indodrill for match-day 3 for the Wasps. As this is written, both club's will have gone on to play a 2nd game on Saturday just passed, however, Saints did open their account in the group with a 2-1 victory over Brechin City at Glebe Park. Grahm Carey's penalty and a strike from Kyle Cameron put the visitors in a comfortable position before Brechin's late consolation goal. Their start in the cup carries on their strong finish

to the season last campaign. A dramatic final day of the season away to Motherwell sealed St Johnstone's place in the topflight. Nicky Clark and Adama Sidibeh hit the back of the net in a 2-1 victory, just days after their last-minute equaliser against relegation rivals, Ross County. Having narrowly avoided the dreaded play-off spot, they will be looking to solidify their place in Premiership in the upcoming season.

THE BOSS - CRAIG LEVEIN

The visitors will be led by the experienced, Craig Levein. Follow-

ing a poor start to the 2023/24 campaign for Saints. Levein was appointed manager in November 2023 with the task of keeping the club in the division. Having moved from his role at Brechin City, Levein brought in former Wasp, Andy Kirk, to the club and the pair completed the job by steering the team to safety come May. The 59-year-old is a household name in Scotland with a packed CV since beginning his managerial career with Cowdenbeath in 1997. He would then have spells with Hearts. Leicester, and Dundee United where he reached the League Cup



*may include equivalent competitions



Final in 2008 and overhauled the club's youth system, which subsequently brought through players such as Ryan Gauld and John Souttar. A notable moment in Levein's career came in December 2009 when he left Tannadice to become the new Scotland manager, a pinnacle of anyone's career. His spell at Hampden would last 24 games before being relieved of his duties in 2012. Following that a break from management came, with supporters seeing most of Levein through the media. He would return to Tynecastle in 2017, where he was supporting in a Director of Football role. After leaving there, doing more media work and advising Brechin City, he is now back in management and looking to propel St Johnstone back up the league.

THE CAPTAIN -KYLE CAMERON

Following the departure of Liam Gordon from the visitors this summer, St Johnstone will

now be captained by Kyle Cameron. The 27-year-old centre-back has only just signed for the club on a loan deal from Notts County. However, despite only being a new face and at the club on a temporary basis, Cameron has all the capabilities and experiences to be a great leader of the club. The former u-21 Scotland defender was the Notts County captain when they had their Wembley triumph by winning the play-offs and returning to the English Football Leagues. Having recently lost his captaincy at his parent club, he described the 'shock' captaincy decision as an honour after joining. He has already began repaying the faith placed upon him by grabbing the winning goal in his first competitive game for the club against Brechin City.

NEW BOY - UCHE IKPEAZU

Craig Levein has made several transfers this window as he looks to bolster his ranks for another attack on the Premiership. One of those is a familiar face to the former-Hearts boss in Uche Ikpeazu.

The 29-year-old striker has 15 different clubs on his playing CV but the most notable one of those was his time spent at Tynecastle. A real handful for any defence with his physicality and experience, he will no doubt be an asset for his team once he is available. Unfortunately, following his move from Port Vale to McDiarmid Park, he has suffered a 'freak injury' whilst at home just before the start of pre-season. That setback means that St Johnstone fans will have to wait until October to see their new striker.

ONE TO WATCH – GRAHAM CAREY

One consistent part of the St Johnstone core is Graham Carey and he is certainly one to keep an eye upon this evening, following his strike on the opening day of the tournament. The versatile midfielder has been at the club for 2-years having previously spent time at Celtic's youth academy, St Mirren, Ross County,

CONTINUED ON P32



BY KIEREN MOONEY

Plymouth Argyle, and CSKA Sofia. Carey has recently signed an extension to his contract which will see him stay at McDiarmid Park until the summer of 2025. With his contributions both defensively, and offensively, with big goals and assists for his side, he will be looking to showcase his talent and experience in the Premiership once again. He scored a vital goal last season in a 1-0 win over Ross County, as well as grabbing headlines with a long-range strike against Rangers.

THE CONNECTION

There are 2 very notable returning faces for Alloa fans this evening. Both Stevie May and Taylor Steven enjoyed some of the most successful loan periods at the club in 2011/12 and last season. Firstly, May, goes down in Alloa history

by being the main talisman in a historic League winning season for the Wasps. Come the end of the campaign, May had won the league, the Player of the Season and golden boot with his 19 goals in 22 games. More recently, Taylor Steven, enjoyed success under Andy Graham last season. With his link-up play with Bobby Wales, the youngsters lit up the league as Steven notched 10 goals and 10 assists for the club. Also, Andy Kirk, another former Wasp attacker, returns to the Indodrill as assistant manager. In terms of current Wasps, only Stefan Scougall has played for the visitors. He has a spell at the club between 2017 and 2019 following his success with Sheffield United.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Supporters only need to look back to last season at the same

round of the Cup to see the last time the sides met. It was a comfortable victory for the visitors, amongst a tough group stage, as they cruised to a 4-0 win here in Alloa. It took only 57 seconds for Saints to take the lead through Ballantyne, before doubling their lead through McGowan to go in 2-0 up at half-time. 2 more goals from May and McCrystal would follow in the 2nd half to make it a very controlled afternoon for the Premiership outfit. In the side's 5 total meetings, the Wasps have only notched a single victory and that came in the 2nd most recent game, back in 2004. Ross Hamilton, Stuart Callaghan and Brown Ferguson, who would go on to get sent off, were enough to see past St Johnstone 3-2. Goals from the hosts in 2004 came from David Hannah and Chris Hay.





JOHN GLENCROSS



SORBIE'S STUNNERS KO THE SAINTS

Going back to season 1986-87, is a game which is still foremost in my memory as "The Wasps" were to overrun St. Johnstone on one of "The Wasps" final visits to Muirton Park, before it and the Ice rink next door were purchased by Asda and finally closed on 29th April, 1989.

The game was played on Saturday 7th March, 1987, a Fine Fare League Division Two fixture.

Alloa Athletic team on the day – 1. Ronnie Lowrie 2. Bobby

Dall 3. Ken Thomson 4. Jim Donaldson 5. Alan Mackin 6. Dave McCartney 7. Gus Smith 8. Gary Murray 9. Stuart Sorbie 10. Martin Nelson 11. Alan McDonald Subs: David Nesbit & Mick lamieson.

St. Johnstone under the guidance of Ian Gibson lined up – 1. John Balavage 2. Kenny Wilson 3. Don McVicar 4. Doug Barron 5. Ian Heddle 6. Scott Douglas 7. Ian Gibson 8. Davie Lloyd 9. Willie Brown 10. Sammy Johnston 11. Andy Millen Subs: Graeme Payne & Gordon Winter. Referee: - WP Knowles (Inverurie).

Both teams still had a

chance of promotion and were determined to gain another vital two points. Alloa started very brightly and after nine minutes looked to have taken an early lead, when Alan McDonald turned away jubilant after striking home a low shot, but the goal was disallowed for an earlier infringement? It was a let off for "The Saints" which they never took. Stuart Sorbie was running in behind the home defence and on sixteen minutes he played a one two with Martin Nelson and fired the ball again past keeper Balavage. The home fans were less than pleased, Alloa keeper

Ronnie Lowrie had to be alert to turn away an attempt by Willie Brown, Sammy Johnstone beat two men and looked to charge through on goal before being fouled, but Ian Gibson's free kick proved no danger.

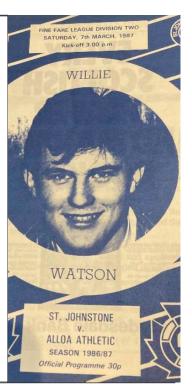
Two minutes from half-time Alloa Athletic were to increase their lead when a long clear out by Ronnie Lowrie was chased down by Alan McDonald whose early cross found Stuart sorbie arriving in the box to bullet a header past the Saints keeper, 2-0 to Alloa.

The second half started very much in the same vein, with Stuart Sorbie nearly completing a hat-trick on 48 mins, his low shot beat the keeper but went just past. The Wasps were buoyant now and in 52 minutes Gus Smith & Alan McDonald broke down the wing, Smith's cross was missed by the Saints

defence and Martin Nelson smashed the ball home, under a late tackle by none other than Don McVicar who's name goes into the referee's book.

Saints brought on Graeme Payne to try and inject some life into their attacks, eventually lan Heddle managed to pull a goal back on 66 minutes giving the home support their first cheer of the afternoon. Alan McDonald then missed an easy chance to put the game out of sight, but he mishit his shot which scuffed past a beaten keeper.

The victory at Muirton Park was as clean-cut as it was unexpected, it had been Alloa's best display for month's under Dom Sullivan. By the end of the season the sides swapped places again St. Johnstone finishing 5th and Alloa 6th behind Champions Meadowbank Thistle and Runners up Raith Rovers.

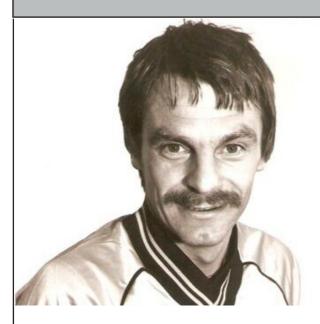


HALF TIME QUIZ

1.KEVIN CAWLEY, SCORES AGAIN FOR ALLOA TO MAKE IT 2-0 ON SATURDAY AT BRECHIN. HOW MANY SEPARATE SEASONS HAS KEVIN CAWLEY SCORED FOR THE WASPS?

- 2. WHICH SIDE IS THE FURTHEST NORTHERN SIDE IN YEARS PREMIER SPORTS CUP?
- 3. WHICH PLAYER FINISHED LAST SEASON'S LEAGUE CUP CAMPAIGN AS TOP SCORER?
- 4. STEFAN SCOUGALL MADE HIS 400TH CAREER APPEARANCE ON TUESDAY AGAINST EAST FIFE. HOW MANY APPEARANCES DID HE MAKE WITH ST JOHNSTONE?
- 5. WHICH FORMER NORTHERN IRISH FORMER ALLOA STRIKERS' SON SIGNED FOR ST JOHNSTONE THIS WEEK?

JOHN GLENCROSS



HE PLAYED FOR BOTH TEAMS

Kenny Thomson's career began in 1970 when at the age of 18 he signed for Dunfermline Athletic, his hometown team from local side Dunfermline United. He played for "The Pars" for the next twelve years with certain notable achievements -between December, 1976 -March, 1981 he did not miss a match being club captain and also picked up Player of the Year awards on three separate occasions and his tremendous speed helped him become the Scottish Professional Footballers Sprint Champion in 1974 and 1975. In 1982 Kenny, having made over 300 League games

for Dunfermline, a club record at the time, was given a free transfer.

This is when Alloa manager Alex Totten quickly snapped him up, Season 1982-83 saw Kenny take over as Alloa captain and lead them to sixth place in the First Division, their best ever season and was voted "Player of the Season" and he also managed to score a spectacular goal v. Queen's Park on 4th December, 1982 in a 4-1 victory, other goals scored by Davie Lloyd 2 and Ian Campbell, which was to be Kenny's only goal for "The Wasps".

Kenny was to make his final appearance for "The Wasps" against Cowdenbeath on 22nd August, 1987 in 5-2 victory, the following week moving to St. Johnstone to rejoin Alex Totten who was now in charge at Perth in a swap deal with Andy Millen moving to Recreation Park as part of the deal.

In total Kenny would make 211 appearances for "The Wasps" scoring 1 goal.

Kenny was to play another three seasons with St. Johnstone before John Brownlie signed him for Cowdenbeath at the start of Season 1990/91. Then in 1992/93 Kenny moved to East Fife to be assistant to Alex Totten and then in 1994/95 Kenny would follow Alex Totten to Kilmarnock again as his assistant.

In total in Scottish Football Kenny Thomson would make 751 full appearances, plus 20 as substitute, making 771 appearances scoring seven goals.

Born 9th November, 1951, now aged 72.







GREENOCK MORTON

The Ton

FOUNDED

1874

GROUND

Cappielow Park, Greenock

TOP HONOURS

Scottish Cup Winners 1921-22 Runners Up: 1947-48

Scottish League Cup Runners Up: 1963-64 Scottish Challenge Cup

Runners Up: 1992 Scottish Premiership* 1916-17

Scottish Championship* Champions (6) Runners Up (4) Scottish League One* Champions (3)

Alloa will conclude their League Cup group stage by travelling to Cappielow to take on Greenock Morton. The game will take place this coming Saturday, 27th July, with a 3pm kick-off. Editor's note: This will surely be a relevant article when we're looking to top the group on the final day. This will be Morton's last test before they take on Partick Thistle on the opening day of the Championship campaign. Having been on the receiving end of a 3-0 defeat to East Fife on the opening day, at the hands of an Alan Trouten hat-trick, they bounced back with a 1-0 victory at home to Brechin City. This programme has

been written before the Ton's 3rd game against St Johnstone, so it is unclear whether they will have anything riding on Saturday. However, momentum is so crucial in football and no doubt they will be looking to carry some good form into the league campaign.

THE BOSS – DOUGIE IMRIE

Morton are managed by 40-year-old, Dougie Imrie. The former winger had a strong playing career, after making his debut in the lunior leagues with Lanark, he eventually moved into the Professional game playing for sides like Inverness Caledonian Thistle, St Mirren, Hamilton, and of course, Morton, Imrie achieved lots of his playing days but most notably he won the Championship, then called First Division. in 2010 with Inverness, as well as he was part of the Accies team who won the Premiership play-offs in 2017. His playing days shows he knows what it takes for a club to get out of this division and into the promise land of topflight football. He was given his first flurry

into management with Morton after coaching under David Martindale at Livingston. After being appointed in December 2021, he only lost 3 of his first 12 games and very quickly was rewarded with a manager of the month award for January and February 2022. Despite a smaller budget than some of the other clubs in the league. Imrie has always had his teams competing at the right end of the table, most recently finishing 5th in the 2023/24 season. He has led his side to memorable victories over the likes of Motherwell, as well as running Glasgow giants, Rangers, close at Ibrox.

THE CAPTAIN – GRANT GILLESPIE

The Ton will be led out by midfielder, Grant Gillespie. Now at 33-yearold, Gillespie enters his 3rd season at the club having made over 75 appearances since joining from Queen's Park in the summer of 2022. Having played for Hamilton, Dundee United, Raith Rovers, Derry City, and Ayr United previously, Gillespie seems to have found a permanent home under Imrie



at Cappielow. The combative midfielder was entrusted with the captain's armband on day 1 of joining the club and hasn't looked back since. The skipper was the man on the scoresheet in that narrow defeat to Rangers, dispatching his penalty past former England international, lack Butland.

NEW BOY - OWEN MOFFAT

Dougie Imrie moved in the market for exciting young forward. Owen Moffat. The 22-year-old is a product of the Celtic youth system after joining the club at the age of 7. He was rewarded with his first professional deal in 2019 and went on to make his professional debut in 2021 in a 2-1 victory over Ross County. Just 4 days later he would make an appearance off the bench in the League Cup final, where Celtic triumphed over Hibernian. This was all whilst bagging 14 goals and 8 assists in the Lowland League for Celtic B. A brief spell at Blackpool in their development squad followed before he returned to Scotland with a loan spell at Dunfermline last season. This summer he made the switch to Cappielow and looks to continue his development under Imrie. Alloa fans may be aware that it was in fact, Moffat, who scored the winner in the 1-0 fixture in pre-season just a few weeks ago.

ONE TO WATCH - CAMMY BALLANTYNE

A signing that caught the attention of many was Cammy Ballantyne. The dynamic right-back made the move from Airdrie to Cappielow this summer and has already hit the ground running. Ballantyne has

always impressed against the Wasps, most notably during his time with Montrose where he enjoyed 3-years with the club from 2019. That form earned him his move to the Championship with Airdrie and then eventually over to Morton where he prepares for his first season. Ballantyne has contributed on the goal front, most recently for his new club in that 1-0 win over Brechin last week.

THE CONNECTION

Remarkable there is no players in the Morton ranks who have pulled on the black and gold of Alloa, Ton assistant, Andy Millen, who made over 100 appearances for the club from 1987 to 1990. There is, however, players in the Wasps team who are returning to familiar territory. One fresh on everyone's mind is a transfer between the 2 clubs this summer, Calum Waters returned to Alloa this summer following his departure from Morton. The left-back initially went on loan to Morton from Kilmarnock in 2023. before having a full season at the club permanently last campaign. Alloa skipper, Scott Taggart, also spent time at Cappielow and played regularly during the successful 2012-13 First Division season. Thirdly, Luke Donnelly is another one who played for the Ton, albeit a short stint on loan in 2017. The final and one of the most notable is Alloa gaffer, Andy Graham. Having supported the club, Graham, signed for Morton in 2011 and spent a year with his childhood favourite club.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The teams did meet only a few weeks ago in a friendly, which Morton won 1-0. Prior to that, it



was another friendly last season where Morgyn Neill's header seen the Wasps win 1-0. However, it really only is competitive football that matters. The last time the sides met would have been the Scottish Championship campaign in 2020/21. It was back-to-back 1-1 draws in the final fixtures of those meetings, Markus Fjortoft and Innes Cameron on the scoresheet that day. The most exciting game of recent times a 4-4 draw in February 2020. Kyle lacobs opened the scoring before a quickfire double from Alan Trouten and Kevin Cawley turned the game on its head. Once more the game would turn with Morton going 4-2 up by half-time with goals from Luca Colville, Reghan Tumility, and Bob McHugh. With most thinking the game was over, plucky Alloa had other ideas. 85 minutes on the clock, Kevin O'Hara gave Alloa a fighting chance in the dying embers. With only seconds remaining on the clock, Robbie Deas header at the death pulled the sides level at 4-4 in a truly remarkable game of football.



BY KIEREN MOONEY



ALLOA ATHLETIC



STJOHNSTONE



REFEREE: Colin Steven ASST: Paul O'Neil & Brian Christie

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE



ALLOA ATHLETIC

27.07.24, CAPPIELOW PARK, 15:00

GREENOCK MORTON



ALLOA ATHLETIC

03.08.24. INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

DUMBARTON



17.08.24, INDODRILL STADIUM. 15:00

10.08.24, DUMBARTON, 15:00

ALLOA ATHLETIC



24.08.24. GALABANK. 15:00





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