



**3RD AUGUST 2024**

**3:00PM | £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 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.

## ALLOA AFC CHAIRMAN ANDY ALLAN



# 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,

Alloa, FK10 1RY

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Web: alloathletic.co.uk

#### Club Officials

##### Honorary Directors

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

#### 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

#### Programme Contributors

J. Glencross, J. Markwell, K. Mooney,

D. Pollock, A Cockburn

#### Club Photographer

David Glencross

#### AAFC Supporters Club

Brian Roach - 07775764831

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
ALLOA ATHLETIC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANNAN ATHLETIC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARBROATH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COVE RANGERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUMBARTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
INVERNESS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KELTY HEARTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MONTROSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STENHOUSEMUIR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

### LEAGUE 1

ALLOA ATHLETIC	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH
STENHOUSEMUIR	ARBROATH
COVE RANGERS	ANNAN ATHLETIC
INVERNESS CT	DUMBARTON
MONTROSE	KELTY HEARTS

### PREMIER LEAGUE

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

### CHAMPIONSHIP

FALKIRK	QUEEN'S PARK
HAMILTON ACCIES	AYR UNITED
LIVINGSTON	DUNFERMLINE
PARTICK THISTLE	GREENOCK MORTON
AIRDRIEONIANS	RAITH ROVERS

### LEAGUE 2

BONNYRIGG ROSE	PETERHEAD
EDINBURGH CITY	STIRLING ALBION
ELGIN CITY	EAST FIFE
FORFAR ATHLETIC	CLYDE
STRANRAER	SPARTANS

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## GOALKEEPERS

**PJ MORRISON**

27/02/1998



## DEFENDERS

**Scott TAGGART**

27/12/1991

183 cm 75 kg



**Calum WATERS**

10/03/1996



**Morgyn NEILL**

10/03/1996



**Neil PARRY**

08/11/1985



**Andy GRAHAM**

22/09/1983

188 cm 85 kg



**David MCKAY**

17/06/1998



**Kane THOMSON**

22/03/2004



**Tochukwu OGAYI**

10/10/1996



**David DEVINE**

20/06/2001



## MANAGER

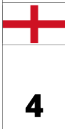
**ANDY GRAHAM**



**MIDFIELDERS**

**Steven HETHERINGTON**

09/03/1993



**Kevin CAWLEY**

17/03/1989



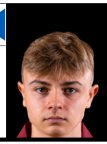
**Kurtis ROBERTS**

06/09/1994



**Shay NEVANS**

23/05/2006



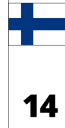
**Stefan SCOUGALL**

07/12/1992



**Miko VIRTANEN**

29/01/1999



**Cameron O'DONNELL**

29/09/2001



**Reece MULLEN**

26/03/2006



**FORWARDS**

**Luke DONNELLY**

20/01/1996



**Conor SAMMON**

06/11/1986



**Steven BUCHANAN**

26/03/2003



**Luke RANKIN**

27/11/2004



## ANDY GRAHAM



## THE GAFFER'S THOUGHTS

I'd like to welcome Peter Murphy and his staff to the Indodrill today. Murph did a great job at Annan and fully deserved his move to full-time.

I'd also like to welcome all the Alloa fans back for a new season. I hope we can build on last year. The focus is always on improvement, and that is the message to the squad as we go into the league campaign.

The players were unfortunate not to qualify from the League Cup section,

which is always very difficult to do.

I hope this season we can encourage as many Wasps fans as possible back to the Recs, as the support you give the players makes such a big difference.

I hope you enjoy today's game.

Best wishes,  
Andy



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# NEWSDESK

Alloa open their William Hill League 1 campaign with the visit of Queen of the South today. This is the last opportunity for stand season ticket holders to retain their seat for the season as they will be released for general sale after this game.

The Wasps narrowly missed out on qualification to the next stage of the Premier Sports Cup after finishing as one of the 5 runners up who didn't progress from the groups while today's opponent's QoS finished in 3rd with wins over Dumbarton and East Kilbride and two losses to Airdrieonians and Aberdeen. The 8 winners, 3 best placed runners up and the 5 teams

representing Scotland in Europe all were involved in the last 16 of the Premier Sports Cup draw with ties to be played on the weekend of the 17th and 18th August.

## PREMIER SPORTS CUP DRAW

- Celtic v Hibernian
- Dundee United v St Mirren
- Aberdeen v Queen's Park
- Falkirk v Heart of Midlothian
- Dundee v Airdrieonians
- Motherwell v Kilmarnock
- Rangers v St Johnstone
- The Spartans v Ross County

## PATRICK LAWLOR

18th November 1934 - 26th July 2024

A Director and past Chairman of the club, Pat's grasp of the game and his opinion and counsel were well appreciated, indeed directors, managers, players not just from Alloa often sought his advice on the game.

A great servant to the club, he rarely missed a game, home or away, until his recent illness and with just short of 50 years' service was ranked as one of the longest serving directors in

Scottish football.

His charismatic personality and enthusiasm for the game were quite infectious and his services generally quite indispensable to the club for many years.

Although he took a back seat more recently Pat's familiar face will be sorely missed from the Alloa Athletic FC Board Room.

Our deepest sympathy extends to all Pat's family.

**WASP 2000 DRAW**

Wk 30

100 G Murray 433

50 S Frew 254

25 D Glencross 792





JONATHAN MARKWELL



## BACKROOM STAFF SHUFFLES

Each summer there are invariably changes to every club's playing squad, as teams up and down the country press the refresh button in the hope of building a successful squad for the season ahead. For Alloa, that squad turnover has been more limited this time around in comparison with previous seasons, with six permanent Wasps departing (along with four loanees) and four new signings so far joining the club. Given the relative lack of activity

amongst the squad, it has actually been the backroom staff shuffles which have been more eye-catching for the Wasps over the summer.

First, goalkeeping coach Robert Glen has departed after two and a quarter seasons with the club. The experienced coach joined Brian Rice's backroom staff shortly after 'Chipper' arrived at the Recs, having previously been a specialist coach at Dumbarton, Annan, the Rangers Academy, Ayr, Stenhouse-

muir, Clyde and the Celtic Academy over the previous two decades. Accordingly, with such experience, Glen was (pun fully intended) a "safe pair of hands" for PJ Morrison, David Hutton, Keir Burt, Jay Hogarth, Willie Muir, Scott Gallacher and Tochukwu Ogayi to learn from. Despite being at the club for only a couple of years, it isn't until you list all the keepers the Wasps have had during that time to realise what a big turnover of shot-stoppers there have

been. There's been quite the turnover of goalkeeper coaches over the past fifteen years too, with John Hillcoat, Gordon Marshall, Alan Combe, Jim Butter, Alan Fraser and John Gibson all having passed through the club in that time.

The Wasps new goalkeeper coach needs no introduction with the Wasps faithful, with Andy Graham turning to his former Alloa team-mate Neil Parry to fill the void of Glen. Parry was an exceptional last line of defence for five seasons, helping the club to a memorable promotion and three subsequent seasons at Championship level with 45 clean sheets and 10 penalty saves (including shoot-outs) in 174 appearances, prior to becoming an unfortunate early victim of Barry Ferguson's ill-fated reign in Clackmannanshire. Parry was given little option but to move on in 2021 after falling down to third-choice goalkeeper at the club, but under three years later Neil makes a most welcome return. It is somewhat ironic that on this occasion Parry is more than happy to be at the club as third-choice keeper!

Parry's primary role, as he approaches his 39th birthday in November, is now undoubtedly in the coaching department, as he takes his first steps in this important supporting role. From a supporter's perspec-

tive, there couldn't have been a more popular choice to join Andy's backroom staff. Neil always spoke warmly of the club in the press, even after departing in less than ideal circumstances. Making appearances in the stands as a spectator last season, including at Motherwell and the play-offs at Hamilton, indicated a deep connection with the club and his former team-mates. As such, it appears a perfect match for all parties, with Parry telling the Alloa Advertiser's Chris Faulds that "It's the next step for me and to get the opportunity to work with big Andy who I have so much respect for and I'm close friends with, it's the perfect scenario for me". Neil also revealed that he'd dipped his toe into the coaching world last season

and is relishing his new role. "I did a couple of weeks at Alloa during the season when the goalie coach was unwell, so it was a no-brainer when I spoke to Andy about it. I just can't wait to get started. The season can't start quick enough. I'm desperate to get started in this new side of things and I just want to get going." Such words cannot fail to bring a smile to the face of any Alloa supporter, with Parry coaching two keepers in Morrison and Ogayi who will be pushing one another for the number one jersey throughout the coming campaign. It is also reassuring to know that should injury or suspension rule out both custodians at the same time, the Wasps can still rely on Parry to put in an emergency shift for the team too.



Last month also saw the announcement of Paddy Connolly stepping down from his role as Assistant Manager at the club after an incredible 13 years service. In that time, Paddy assisted no fewer than nine separate managers (Paul Hartley, Barry Smith, Danny Lennon, Jack Ross, Jim Goodwin, Peter Grant, Barry Ferguson, Brian Rice and Andy Graham), with his longevity despite all those changes being testament to the esteem he will have been held in by all at the club. When the announcement was made, the warm words from Chairman Andy Allan and Manager Andy Graham were fully deserved, with the compliments over the years from previous managers like Jack Ross and Jim Goodwin in particular illustrating the high regard Paddy is held in by everyone at the club. Also, in five separate spells as caretaker manager, Paddy oversaw many fine moments, like the Wasps gain-

ing a point away at Dundee in 2014 (Ben Gordon's joyous 94th minute equaliser), a draw at Ibrox on (ironically) St Patrick's Day in 2015, playing in a Challenge Cup Final, leading Alloa to one of only four league wins in 2015/16 (a 1-0 success at Livingston) and most recently league wins on a quagmire of a pitch at the Rock versus Dumbarton and last season versus Queen of the South, who we welcome this afternoon for the league curtain-raiser.

In total, Paddy was involved in a remarkable 570 matches, with 222 wins, 798 Alloa goals and 3 promotions along

the way. Paddy explained a change in circumstances as part of his day job and wanting to spend more time watching his son Aidan play for Raith were the reasons for him stepping back. Therefore, I do hope Paddy enjoyed his son's hat-trick at Stirling Albion on the opening day of the cup campaign last month! I always had it in my mind that at some point Aidan would be recruited by the Wasps, with his Dad playing a role in that particular transfer. Perhaps in time that may still be the case and if that does ever transpire, there will be plenty of happy folk ready to welcome Paddy back to the Recs!

Paddy's departure means Niall Marshall, who the manager brought to the club from down the A907 upon his appointment last November, officially steps up to be Assistant Manager, and another familiar face from the past returns as First Team Coach – Graeme Holmes. Another stalwart for the Wasps, Holmes made 229 appearances between 2011 and 2017, scoring 16



goals (including 1 goal of the season strike – a sweetly struck first minute half-volley from 20 yards v Queen of the South on Halloween day in 2015), achieving 2 promotions and being appointed captain by Jack Ross in what turned out to be his final season with the Wasps in 2016/17. During the summer of 2016, on signing his sixth contract and weeks prior to being appointed captain, Holmes told the Alloa Advertiser's Graeme Lafferty "It has been an honour to play for the club this long and the fans had a big part in making my decision to stay much easier. I would love to see out my career here at Alloa

if that is possible and really leave a lasting legacy at the club because they have been a big part of my life for a long time now."

Alas, Homer's playing career didn't finish at the Recs, but spells with Albion Rovers, East Kilbride, Edinburgh City, Forfar and with great distinction since 2021 with Cumbernauld Colts saw Homer running the show from the middle of the pitch beyond his 40th birthday last season! In-fact, Holmes was all signed up to continue with the Colts this season until Andy's call led to Holmes' retirement from playing and appointment to the coaching team at the Recs. If Holm-

es' coaching philosophy is aligned to his playing style, it will be another canny move from Graham, with Holmes the classiest of operators throughout his many years of service and really knowing the DNA of the club too. Personally, I can't think of a more likeable bunch that you'd like nothing more to succeed. Combined, the management team have an amazing total of 658 Alloa appearances between them and they will certainly now be hoping to leave a lasting legacy with their work off the pitch too.

The backroom staff changes actually remind me a little of playing Championship

# IF YOU DON'T HAVE A GOAL, HOW CAN YOU SCORE?

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Manager in 2000/01. As soon as I took on the reigns at the Recs, my first task was to tie down Willie Irvine, Davie Beaton and Mark Cairns on player/coach roles, mainly to stop them from immediately retiring after a single season and being lost to the game forever! However, whilst Holmes and Parry's connection to the club will have played a part in Andy's decision to bring them back to the club, I'm in no doubt that this isn't an old pals act, with both having an array of attributes following long playing careers which can bring an added freshness to Alloa's backroom team.

As a footnote, I couldn't fail to spot that another change over the summer has been the replacement of the goals at the Recs, with the sad removal of one of my personal favourite footballing features, the humble stanchion. That oh so familiar 'sticky out bit' feature at the top of the goal, to help position the goal nets and stop them drooping, is heartbreakingly no more! Down south the last stanchion of the 92 clubs was lost a couple of seasons ago when Leyton Orient rid themselves of their famous last remaining (research courtesy of Adam Hurrey of Football Clichés) goals with stanchions, in favour of the standardised box shaped goal, boringly seen everywhere for well over a decade. Hence, I was immensely proud that the

Recs still had stanchions on our goals and, when visiting Galabank last season, I was delighted to see that Annan Athletic still had stanchions too. So, whilst studying the warm-up during the first competitive match of the season versus East Fife, I was aghast to immediately spot that my beautiful stanchions had been cruelly replaced. Who sanctioned the loss of the stanchions? I demand to know! In all seriousness, I looked back and pinpointed that the stanchions were still present during pre-season (such as David Glencross' photos of the keepers being back training and during Cammy O'Donnell's cute back-heel finish v Cumbernauld Colts), so it must have been a very recent change

indeed. My stance is softening a little however, after enjoying the manner in which the ball nestled into the net following Conor Sammon's penalty in the shoot-out versus East Fife, and, moreover, seeing the net bulge with Luke Rankin's magnificent finish to put Alloa 3-1 up on St Johnstone (which was a little reminiscent of Liam Buchanan's sweet strike from a very similar position on the pitch in the play-offs versus Forfar in 2015). Despite that, I am still fundamentally sad (in a very niche manner) about the demise of the stanchions, but we'll never forget Bryan Prunty's injury time winner versus Stenhousemuir into the stanchion top corner in 2010!







# APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		ALLOA CAREER LGE	
		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	4 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	30 (1)	0
TAGGART	DEF	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	1	4 (0)	1	265 (2)	16
WATERS	DEF	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	40 (0)	1
GRAHAM	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	190 (8)	14
NEILL	DEF	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	1	3 (0)	1	34 (0)	0
MCKAY	DEF	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	4 (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	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	157 (33)	6
CAWLEY	MID	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	1	4 (0)	1	338 (56)	64
ROBERTS	MID	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	36 (0)	4
NEVANS	MID	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (0)	0
SCOUGALL	MID	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	3 (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	1 (3)	0	1 (3)	0	0 (0)	0
DONNELLY	FWD	0 (0)	0	0 (3)	0	0 (3)	0	18 (27)	9
SAMMON	FWD	0 (0)	0	1 (1)	1	1 (1)	1	62 (44)	27
BUCHANAN	FWD	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	10 (27)	2
RANKIN	FWD	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	3	3 (0)	3	0 (11)	1



ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL

2 (0)	0	10 (1)	0
35 (0)	0	0 (0)	0
18 (0)	0	48 (1)	0
62 (1)	4	327 (3)	20
15 (0)	1	55 (0)	2
54 (3)	1	244 (11)	15
9 (1)	2	43 (1)	2
9 (2)	0	23 (7)	1
0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0
3 (1)	0	36 (4)	0
35 (9)	1	192 (42)	7
71 (12)	13	409 (68)	77
10 (1)	0	46 (1)	4
0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0
22 (8)	2	104 (30)	10
3 (3)	0	16 (14)	1
10 (3)	0	43 (43)	11
1 (3)	0	1 (3)	0
4 (7)	2	22 (34)	11
19 (5)	10	81 (49)	37
10 (4)	1	20 (31)	3
3 (6)	3	3 (17)	4



-	-
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JON CARRUTHERS	-
THE JOLLY BOYS	-
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HAMISH COMRIE	-
CALLUM MCTAGGART	-



## KIEREN MOONEY



For football fans across the country, today marks one of the most exciting days on the footballing calendar. Officially, we embark on another league campaign against Queen of the South here at the Indodrill Stadium.

The first day of the season is one where no matter what has happened in previous seasons, you can head to the football with that tinge of optimism and hope for what lies ahead over the next 9 months. Pre-season has come and gone, the tricky cup ties to navigate and predict have passed, and normality

resumes for your Saturday afternoons as league football returns. For the next 9 months, there will be highs and lows, with everything in between, but this sweet spot of pre-match on opening day is truly a special feeling.

For Alloa fans coming to the match today, it is certainly one of excitement. Last season was one that took supporters a rollercoaster ride through League 1. Beginning the season under the stewardship of Brian Rice and then ending in Andy Graham's young guns narrowly missing out on the play-off final

in cruel fashion at Hamilton.

Having reflected many times already on that final day at New Douglas Park, although it was the same outcome as the previous season, it felt totally different. Instead of Alloa bowing out with a whimper and by multiple goals, the 10-men of the Wasps battled bravely in the face of adversity to take the tie right to the dying moments. That performance was very much inspired by the special youngsters who were on loan at the club, Taylor Steven, Bobby Wales, and Ethan Sutherland. However, it was veteran, Conor

Sammon, who could feature today, that bagged the equaliser that got Accies shaking.

The overall mood over the summer was one of pride of what Andy Graham had brought to that Alloa side. A new sense of belief of the direction the team was going and a clear indication of the style of play that was going to be adopted under this new management. Alloa fans were treated to some swash-buckling football last season and are no doubt in for another treat this season with Graham at the helm.

Over the summer, it has been the case of sprinkling that added quality to the established core. The manager has managed retain the core of the squad, keeping hold of the likes of Kurtis Roberts who had a fantastic first season and the long-serving stalwarts of Scott Taggart and Stefan Scougall to name a few. We know the quality and experience that these players bring to the team. Having had successive seasons in the play-offs with the majority of these players, and some of which being involved in promotion seasons, it is fantastic to see that group stay and look to go one further. They know the club and they know what it takes to bring success.

The message across the summer was quality over quantity. There is doubt that the signing of Calum Waters is exactly that. A proven left-back is a real coup for Alloa this window and already in the cup campaign we have seen what he will bring to the side. Not only good for his experience and defensive stability, Waters is not scared to bomb forward and provide goal contributions for his team too. Another character who the manager and the squad know well is another massive tick for

this signing. In terms of other signings, it is an opportunity for youngsters like Shay Nevans and Kane Thomson to make their mark in the senior game. Both have impressed in spells during pre-season and the cup with their direct play, bravery, and pace. With nothing to fear and bags of potential between them, these are also signings that can excite the Alloa faithful.

Youngsters was the word of the cup campaign as they stole the show on many occasions. We have seen both Steven Buchanan and Cammy O'Donnell sign on for another year, as they both look to continue to build on a strong start to the season. Reece Mullen hasn't looked out of place in midfield either showing composure on the ball against higher ranked opposition, Greenock Morton. You can't not look back over the last few weeks and not reflect on the form of Luke Rankin. The 19-year-old striker had a phenomenal loan spell at East Stirling last season under the management of Pat Scullion and he has returned to the Indodrill

looking like the real deal. 3 goals in 3 appearances, including a sensation brace against Premiership opponents, has filled the support with so much excitement for the season ahead. He has the world at his feet and I for one am really excited to see him flourish in an Alloa shirt.

To conclude the good feeling around the club over the summer, Graeme Holmes and Neil Parry returned in coaching roles. Legends of the club being at the heart of club is what every football fan wants. Bringing a wealth of knowledge to Alloa, there is nobody else I'd rather see take charge of the team for the coming campaign.

As mentioned at the start, today is the day for excitement and optimism. If you are an Alloa fan, there is a million more reasons than the ones above to feel that in abundance. Buckle in for the ride ahead, it is going to be thrilling, it is going to be tough, but we know for sure that this squad and these players will run through a brick wall to make sure it is a successful one come May.



## JOHN GLENCROSS



# PLAYED FOR BOTH TEAMS – STEVIE RAMSAY

Back in March, 2005, BBC Sport ran a feature on Football Focus called "Cult Heros" and Stevie "Spider" Ramsay was the Alloa Athletic FC Supporters choice as their "Cult Hero".

"Spider" was a tough tackling terrier of a midfielder and a "Cult Hero" amongst Alloa Athletic fans of a certain age, he had two spells with the club in the late eighties and nineties, winning promotion on his both occasions with the club. As most Alloa Athletic supporters of the club would say "Spider would kick his grannie to win a football game".

The BBC Sport announced their result as Alloa Athletic "Cult Hero", 1st Stevie Ramsay, 2nd Keith McCulloch & 3rd Peter Lamont – "Spider" is a neat midfielder with an excellent touch and an eye for a pass. Unfortunately he was likely to be suspended for as many matches as he played, as his slight build belied the fact he was willing to "Mix it" with the best of them.

Stevie Ramsay joined Dundee United on a "S" Form in November, 1981 under the guidance of Jim McLean but he was released in September, 1982 and the

following season joined Dalkeith Thistle. While playing at King's Park in Croft Street, Dalkeith, Stevie was used as a dashing forward and at times played as a centre forward in the East Region Division Two.

Stevie Ramsay was initially signed for Alloa Athletic by manager Gregor Abel, making his debut in pre-season friendly against Hartlepool United at Victoria Park in County Durham. He made 27 appearances and scored 2 goals in his first season and won promotion on the final day of the season against Dumbarton at the old Boghead

Stadium. The following season playing in the B&Q First Division the club found very tough and finished bottom of the league. Hugh McCann took over as manager between 1990-93. At the start of Season Alloa Athletic faced Cowdenbeath knowing that a victory would give them promotion, while Cowdenbeath only needed a draw to pip "The Wasps" to promotion, the game was held as a crowd of over 5,000 fans attended the game at Recreation Park. However, the game was to end in a 0-0 draw and although having the bulk of the play and shots on goal Hugh McCann's side could not find that elusive goal to gain them promotion.

Season 1993-94 was to change Scottish Football, in preparation for the introduction of a Third Division the following season the Top 6 clubs in the Second Division would stay in a Second Division while the bottom 8 clubs would form the new Third Division along with Ross County and Inverness CT who were elected to the Scottish League from the Highland League. In Alloa's final game of the season again Alloa needed a win to consolidate their Second Division status against East Fife who only needed a draw, sadly the game ended 1-1 and Alloa Athletic moved down to the Third Division for the first time in their history.

In season 1994-95 Stevie Ramsay moved to Palmerston Park to join Queen of the South managed at the time by Billy McLaren. He along with another ex Alloa Athletic player, Colin Campbell, both played against Partizan Belgrade in a Friendly on 22nd December, 1994, which ended 4-0 to the visitors, he later played under Rowan Alexander and Mark Shanks.

In season 1996-97, Stevie moved to East Stirlingshire to join up again with Billy Little along with John Brownlie where he made 30 appearances and scored 3 goals, but when Tom Hendrie approached him at the start of the following season, he returned to Recreation Park to gain his second promotion with the club. Stevie Ramsay was part of the Alloa Athletic side at the end of Season 1997-98 as they were crowned Bell's Third Division Champions.

In a Scottish Cup v. Stenhousemuir (A) on 5th December, 1998, Steve Ramsay launched a four-letter blast at referee Brian Cassidy – and doesn't regret a word of it. The Alloa Athletic midfielder turned the air blue as he got his marching orders four minutes from time. He stood by his outburst after the game, even though he knows he could be risking his career. "The referee blew for a foul as I fell after a challenge and claimed I touched the ball with my hand." "All the players around could see I definitely did not handle the ball, he then proceeded to flash a yellow card – I was absolutely stunned. I was livid and told him he was nothing but a cheating wee \*\*\*\*. I had deliberately stayed out of trouble too. I knew my reputation follows me and then something like this happens." Within seconds of Stevie Ramsay walking, Wasps Gaffer Tom Hendrie was sent packing as well, for dissent.

Ironically the Stenhousemuir manager, a certain Terry Christie said he felt sorry, I thought the referee overreacted sending both off.

"Spider" played his last game for "The Wasps" at Palmerston v. one of his old clubs Queen of the South on 30th January,

1999, although the game ended 0-0, Stevie picked up another two yellow cards in the game and was given a five match ban. This was too much for the new Alloa Athletic manager Terry Christie who had taken over from Tom Hendrie the previous week. Christie immediately did a swap deal with East Fife, Stevie Ramsay moving to Methil, while Alloa Athletic were given Gibby Allan as part of the swap deal plus £ 15,000 went to the Fifers. Without a doubt this must have been the worst transfer deal I can recall in any dealings at Recreation Park, Stevie Ramsay was a winner and was the victim of many referees, because of his reputation, not because of his play.

Gilbert Allan made two full appearances and one as a substitute and was freed at the end of season 1999/2000.





# QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

*The Doonhamers*

## FOUNDED

1919

## GROUND

Palmerston Park,  
Dumfries

## TOP HONOURS

SCOTTISH LEAGUE  
ONE\*

Winners: 1950-51,  
2001-02, 2012-13,  
Runners-Up: (5)

SCOTTISH LEAGUE  
TWO\*

Runners-up 1924-25

SCOTTISH CUP

Runners-up: 2007-08

CHALLENGE CUP

Winners:

2002-03, 2012-13

This afternoon we begin our 2024/25 League 1 campaign at the Indodrill with the visit of Queen of the South. It is a reverse of the previous campaign's opening day when the Wasps travelled down to Palmerston to take on the Doonhamers. If today's opener is anything like that one, supporters will be in for a treat as that game finished a thrilling 4-3 to Alloa. There has been plenty of change at Queen of the South over the summer with a new manager, new players, and they hope a new-stored belief that they can better their previous campaign. They finished 15 points

behind Andy Graham's side last year in 7th place, which for a full-time club is significantly below the expectations. Under new management they have started positively with 6 points in their League Cup group stages, victories over Dumbarton and East Kilbride being the highlight.

## THE BOSS – PETER MURPHY

One of the main reasons for hope for what is to come is the appointment of experienced boss, Peter Murphy. Following the conclusion of the Queen's season, it was decided that

Marvin Bartley would no longer continue to be the manager and the Doonhamers turned to rivals, Annan Athletic, for their next manager. The Dublin-born defender began his paying career at Blackburn Rovers but is most known in his playing days for his 12-year stint at Carlisle United. Murphy has become a Carlisle favourite because of his upbeat personality, and his record for most games of any outfield player in the club's history. The capped Irishman first stepped into management with Annan in League 2. After multiple individual awards, Murphy guided his side







to promotion in May 2023 with a play-off triumph against Clyde. Last season he consolidated the club's status in Annan as they impressed particularly at the end of the season with their performances. Now stepping up to full-time football, he will be looking to continue his personal development and guide Queen's up the league.

**THE CAPTAIN –  
MATTY DOUGLAS**

With new boss Murphy in, there was a battle for the armband. It was revealed that there were in-house discussions between Harry Cochrane, Reece Lyon, and Matty Douglas on who would be the new club captain. Murphy opted for the latter and the visitors will be led out by Douglas this season. A natural leader off the park, Douglas also leads by example with his determination and grit in defending his box. Douglas is well known to Murphy having also made the move from Galabank to Palmerston this summer, signing

a 2-year deal earlier this summer. Prior to Annan, where he was part of the successful promotion side, Douglas spent time at Workington AFC and Carlisle United's academy.

**NEW BOY – KAI KENNEDY**

One of the new signings who has also caught the eye is Kai Kennedy. A tricky winger who needs no introduction to Scottish Lower League fans, Kennedy adds quality, pace, and goal involvements to any team he is involved in. Coming through the Rangers youth ranks, Kennedy has always been in the public eye having been chased by multiple clubs, including Manchester City, Roma, and Bayern Munich. Much like many young players trying to break through into the big 2, Kennedy spent many of the opening years of his career on loan. Inverness, Raith Rovers, Dunfermline, Hamilton, and Falkirk are all clubs he has plied his trade with since 2020. After a short spell down South with York, he returned to Scotland, this time

on a permanent basis to play at Palmerston Park. A player capped at all the youth levels in Scotland is no doubt going to bring that added quality to any side in this division. At only 22-years of age, Kennedy adds potential and immediate impact to the team.

**ONE TO WATCH –  
LEIGHTON MCINTOSH**

Another man added to the Queen of the South ranks is experienced forward Leighton McIntosh. The 31-year-old has been a consistent goal scorer for the Highland and Angus clubs the last few years. Spells at Cove Rangers and most recently, Arbroath, have always provided strong link-up play, goals, and experience. Unfortunately, McIntosh was part of the Lichties side last season who lost their 2nd tier status, however, he did manage to grab a respectable 6 goals for his side. Taking the long trip down to Palmerston for his next move, he now leads the line

**CONTINUED ON P32**



**BY KIEREN MOONEY**

in an improved Queen's side. It has been a strong start for McIntosh as he scored his first goal for the club in the victory over Dumbarton in the League Cup. He will be looking to replace the goalscoring exploits of Gavin Reilly, who went the other way and joined his former side, Arbroath.

### THE CONNECTION

There are a few returning faces to the Indodrill today and we welcome them all back gladly. The first of those is left-back, Daniel Church. After coming on leaps and bounds under Brian Rice, Church earned the move last summer back to full-time football with Queen's. It was an unfortunate campaign though as he spent much of it on the sidelines injured. We all hope that this season is a healthy one for Church as he looks to get back playing a key role over

the season. Also returning to the club is young goalkeeper, Jay Hogarth. The number 1 spent time out on loan at the club the season before last and broke records in his time, such as the 4-successive away clean sheets. We last welcomed Hogarth to the Wasps when he played for the Legend's team in Kevin Cawley's testimonial. He now moves to Queens after a successful loan spell at promotion winners, Dumbarton, last season. The players in the home dressing room playing against their former side are David McKay and David Devine. The latter only spent a short loan spell at Palmerston and will miss the game this afternoon with a hamstring injury. McKay enjoyed a season there in 2022/23 before joining the Wasps last summer.

### PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The sides met 4 times last season and will begin it all again today for the 2024/25 campaign. As mentioned, the opener of the previous campaign was a 4-3 victory for the Wasps with Brad Rodden the star with an opening day brace. Queen's only victory last season came in the final meeting between the teams as goals from Mum-bongo and McGuffie gave the Doonahmers a 2-0 victory at the Indodrill. Prior to that the teams had played out a 1-1 draw at Palmerston with goals from young and departed duo, Lee Connolly and Bobby Wales. The Wasps did notch another victory over the visitors last season though with a solid 1-0 victory in the first home game of the last campaign. This game was part of Ally Roy's goalscoring spree as he scored the winner against his former club.





*William* **HILL**

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of Scottish Football

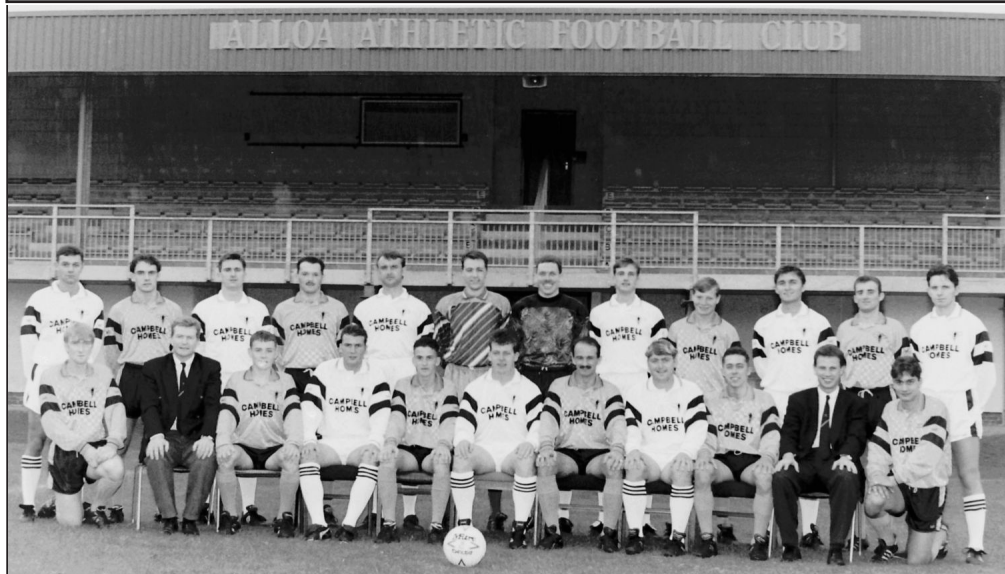


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## ANDREW COCKBURN



# LOOKING BACK 1ST AUGUST 1992

The opening day of the 1992-93 Scottish league season. And in The Premier Division, Champions Rangers started the defence of their title with a narrow 1-0 home victory v St. Johnstone, while the previous season's runners-up Hearts lost by the same scoreline at home v Celtic, who having endured another barren season trophy-wise in 1991-92, were now surely hoping to get back amongst the honours this time round. Dundee United were also victorious by 1-0 on their travels, at Motherwell, who having endured a struggle v relegation in the previous campaign, were now possibly

hopeful of better fortunes in the 1992-93 campaign. Falkirk triumphed by 2-1 at newly-promoted Dundee, but the other newcomers, Partick fared better, when they defeated Airdrie 1-0 at Firhill. While the division's the biggest win of the day was recorded by Aberdeen, by 3-0 at Pittodrie v Hibs.

In The First Division, relegated St. Mirren got off to the worst possible start in their bid for an instant return "upstairs," when they were crushed 0-7 at Raith, who having missed promotion by four points in the 1991-92 season, no doubt were hopeful of reaching The Premier Division

for the first-time ever, come the following May. But the other demoted side, Dunfermline, made a reasonable start, when they collected a point from a 1-1 draw at Ayr. Hamilton Accies, who'd been pipped for promotion only on goal difference the previous season, made a bad start to their bid to make up for the disappointment, when they lost 1-3 at home v a Meadowbank side who'd rather narrowly avoided the drop, the previous May. But Kilmarnock, another of the previous season's front-runners, began in positive style, with a 2-0 home win v Morton. The two promoted clubs,

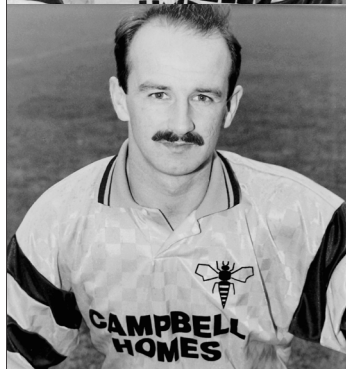
Cowdenbeath and Dumbarton, were both involved in home scoring sprees. For Cowden shared six goals and the points with Clydebank at Central Park, while at Boghead, The Sons overcame Stirling Albion by 4-3.

The Second Division clubs began their 1992-93 schedules the following week. And Alloa, who missed out rather agonizingly on promotion by one point in 1991-92, and who were no doubt hopeful of making up for the setback in 1992-93, would begin their promotion bid at home v Berwick, winning 2-0 with goals from Barrie Moffat & John McNiven, the Alloa team which faced Berwick Rangers:-  
1. Jim Butter 2. Willie Newbigging 3. Neil McAvoy 4. Stuart Romaines 5. Keith McCulloch 6. Colin Campbell 7. Barrie Moffat 8. John McNiven 9. Shaun Smith 10. Mike Hendry 11. Paul Sheerin Subs:- Neil Bennett & John

Conroy. While today's visitors Queen of The South, who'd endured a disappointing time of things in the 1991-92 season, what with an eleventh-place finish, would kick-off what they no doubt hoped would be a more productive 1992-93 campaign, at newly-relegated Forfar, however they were to suffer a 5-1 defeat at Station Park, Forfar.

South of the border, the start of the historic first-ever season of the new FA Premier League was still two weeks away. And this would be preceded by the traditional curtain-raiser, The FA Charity Shield fixture at Wembley, to be contested this time by the very-last Champions of the "old" Football League, Leeds United, and FA Cup winners Liverpool.

Pictured: John McNiven & Barrie Moffat



## HALF TIME QUIZ

- 1. ALLOA HAVE SIGNED THE THIRD LEAST PLAYERS IN LEAGUE 1. WHICH TEAM HAVE SIGNED THE MOST PLAYERS AND HOW MANY?**
- 2. KILMARNOCK FACE CERCLE BRUGGES IN THE EUROPA LEAGUE TOMORROW? WHICH THREE PLAYERS IN THEIR EUROPEAN SQUAD HAVE PREVIOUSLY PLIED THEIR TRADE FOR THE WASPS?**
- 3. ST MIRREN DREW 0-0 IN THEIR ICELANDIC EUROPEAN TRIP AGAINST VALUR. HOW MANY YEARS SINCE THE PAISLEY SIDE WERE REPRESENTED IN EUROPE?**
- 4. ALL 12 SPFL PREMIERSHIP SIDES ALL ADVANCED IN THE CUP . WHEN DID THIS RARE EVENT LAST HAPPEN?**
- 5. THE PREMIER SPORTS CUP GROUP STAGE WAS A CERTIFIED GOAL FEST WITH CRICKET SCORES RACKED UP FOR SOME TEAMS. WHICH PLAYER LEADS THE TOP SCORER CHARTS**

# Queen of the South

Official magazine  
of Alloa Football Club



## GAME FROM THE PAST

### **ALLOA ATHLETIC V. QUEEN OF THE SOUTH**

22nd February, 1989 Scottish Cup 4th Round Replay

Score (ht 1-1) Full-Time 4 - 2

Scorers :- Stevie Ramsay (10m), Charlie Lytwyn (51m), Gus Smith (78,81m)

Kevin Hetherington (21m), Tom McDonald (85m)

Referee - W.N.M. Crombie (Edinburgh)

Crowd - 2,642 Recreation Park, Alloa

ALLOA ATHLETIC:- 1. RONNIE LOWRIE 2. BOBBY ROBERTSON

3. LARRY HAGGART 4. ANDY MILLEN 5. KEITH MCCULL-OCH 6. JOHN GIBSON 7. BILLY BLACKIE 8. STEVIE RAMSAY 9. MUNGO MCCALLUM 10. IAN LEE 11. CHARLIE LYTWYN  
SUBS:- GUS SMITH (9) ALAN RODGER (7)

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH:- 1. BARRY HOLLAND 2. GARY JOHNSTON 3. WILLIE GRAY 4. TOM MCDONALD 5. DOUGIE MILLS 6. GARY FRASER 7. BILLY REID 8. TOMMY SLOAN 9. DEREK COOK 10. KEVIN HETHERINGTON 11. JIM MCGUIRE  
SUBS:- BILLY SIM, GARY TELFER

Second Division Alloa Athletic

moved into the Quarter-finals of the Scottish Cup for the first time in 50 years with a powerful display which was maintained throughout an evening of snow storms.

"The Wasps" had come so close on the previous Saturday at Palmerston Park, Dumfries and had their First Division opponents QOS at full stretch, with Mungo McCallum so close to giving Alloa the winning goal.

Two things happened at Recreation Park that evening which hadn't been seen for many years. Firstly the game was held up to allow the large crowd into

the Stadium and Secondly, the referee held up the play at one stage to put the fans back off the touchline at the Clackmanman Road end.

If Alloa had been so close to winning the tie at Palmerston, they made no mistake at home. Right from the start after the delayed kick-off Alloa took the game to QOS. The game started at full throttle during a night of snow, sleet, wind and rain which latterly would sap the strength out of the players.

Alloa took the lead in 10 minutes, Stevie Ramsay being in the right place to knock home Ian Lee's in swinging corner which had been headed on

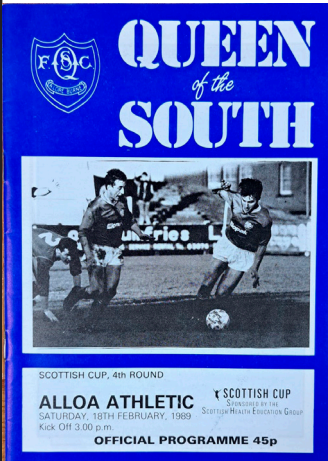
by Charlie Lytwyn. The storm abated but the game was still played at a cracking place.

Queen's then scored an equaliser after 21m, Kevin Hetherington heading home a beauty from a Jim McGuire corner. This was Queen's best period in the game, although the last chance of the first half fell to Mungo McCallum but he just failed to connect in front of an open goal.

Six minutes into the second half, Barry Holland's clearance got caught in the wind, John Gibson latched on to the opportunity and crossed to the ever-alert Charlie Lytwyn to go 2-1 ahead. In the 67th minute Gus Smith replaced Mungo McCallum and

the fresh legs were to be the catalyst for Alloa to go on and win the game.

Gus Smith then made it 3-1 with a diving header and three minutes later he repeated the feat to stretch Alloa's lead to 4-1. In the 84th minute QOS missed a great opportunity to pull a goal back, but Billy Reid's penalty was saved by Ronnie Lowrie. A couple of minutes Tom McDonald scrambled the ball home after it came down off the crossbar. It had been a classic Scottish Cup tie but it was "The Wasps" who were to face Hibernian at Easter Road in the Quarter-Final.

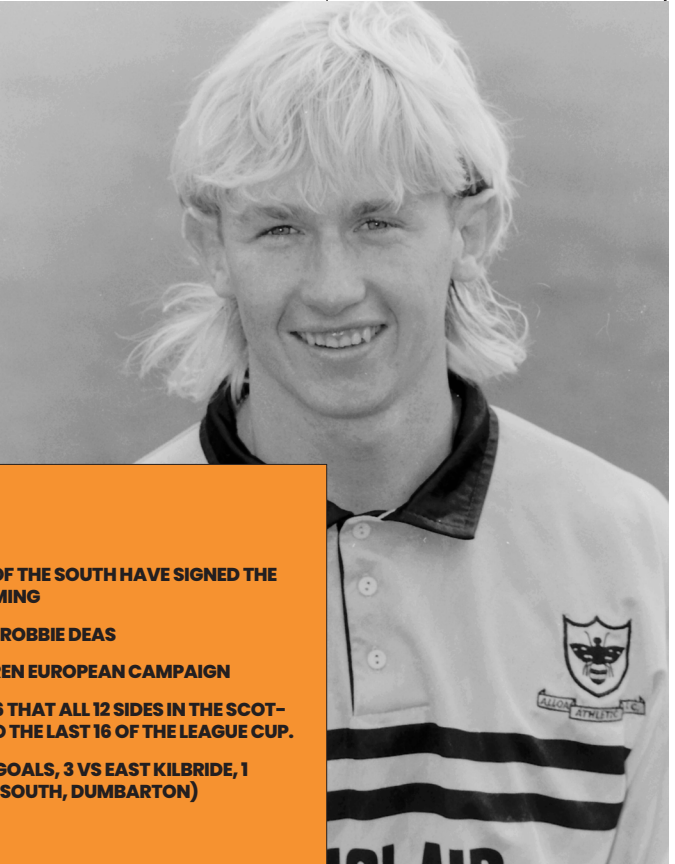


**QUEEN of the SOUTH**

SCOTTISH CUP, 4th ROUND

**ALLOA ATHLETIC** v **SCOTTISH CUP**  
SATURDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY, 1989  
Kick Off 3.00 pm

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 45p



## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. AT THE TIME OF WRITING, QUEEN OF THE SOUTH HAVE SIGNED THE MOST WITH ELEVEN PLAYERS INCOMING
2. BOBBY WALES, INNES CAMERON, ROBBIE DEAS
3. 37 YEARS SINCE THE LAST ST MIRREN EUROPEAN CAMPAIGN
4. THE FIRST SEASON SINCE 2005/06 THAT ALL 12 SIDES IN THE SCOTTISH TOP FLIGHT HAVE MADE IT INTO THE LAST 16 OF THE LEAGUE CUP.
5. BEN WILSON, AIRDRIEONIANS (6 GOALS, 3 VS EAST KILBRIDE, 1 AGAINST ABERDEEN, QUEEN OF THE SOUTH, DUMBARTON)







SAFE DRIVE

AY ALIVE

GS BROWN

GS BROWN

22

As a standard for



# ALLOA ATHLETIC



# QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

#	POS				
	1		<b>TOCHUKWU OGAYI</b>		
	21		<b>NEIL PARRY</b>		
	31		<b>PJ MORRISON</b>		
	2		<b>SCOTT TAGGART</b>		
	3		<b>CALUM WATERS</b>		
	5		<b>ANDY GRAHAM</b>		
	6		<b>MORGYN NEILL</b>		
	15		<b>DAVID MCKAY</b>		
	17		<b>KANE THOMSON</b>		
	23		<b>DAVID DEVINE</b>		
	4		<b>STEVEN HETHERINGTON</b>		
	7		<b>KEVIN CAWLEY</b>		
	8		<b>KURTIS ROBERTS</b>		
	11		<b>SHAY NEVANS</b>		
	12		<b>STEFAN SCOUGALL</b>		
	14		<b>MIKO VIRTANEN</b>		
	20		<b>CAMERON O'DONNELL</b>		
	22		<b>REECE MULLEN</b>		
	9		<b>LUKE DONNELLY</b>		
	18		<b>CONOR SAMMON</b>		
	19		<b>STEVEN BUCHANAN</b>		
	24		<b>LUKE RANKIN</b>		
		<b>MANAGER</b>	<b>ANDY GRAHAM</b>		

#	POS				
	1		<b>ROSS STEWART</b>		
	2		<b>MICHAEL HEWITT</b>		
	3		<b>DANIEL CHURCH</b>		
	4		<b>REECE LYON</b>		
	5		<b>MATTY DOUGLAS</b>		
	6		<b>HARRY COCHRANE</b>		
	7		<b>KIERAN MCKECHNIE</b>		
	8		<b>BENJAMIN LUISSINT</b>		
	9		<b>LEIGHTON MCINTOSH</b>		
	10		<b>KAI KENNEDY</b>		
	11		<b>BRENNAN DICKENSON</b>		
	12		<b>CHARLIE COWIE</b>		
	14		<b>BEN JOHNSTONE</b>		
	15		<b>NIALL ROGERSON</b>		
	21		<b>EUAN ROSS</b>		
	22		<b>OSCAR MACINTYRE</b>		
	23		<b>JOSH WALKER</b>		
	24		<b>HARRY MCLINDEN</b>		
	25		<b>KYLE DOHERTY</b>		
	28		<b>ZANDER CRAIK</b>		
	31		<b>JAY HOGARTH</b>		
	35		<b>JACK BRYDON</b>		
		<b>MANAGER</b>	<b>PETER MURPHY</b>		

**REFEREE:** Ryan Lee

**ASST:** Chris Newman & Steven Traynor


## ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

10.08.24, DUMBARTON, 15:00



DUMBARTON



ALLOA ATHLETIC

17.08.24, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



STENHOUSEMUIR

24.08.24, GALABANK, 15:00



ANNAN ATHLETIC



ALLOA ATHLETIC

31.08.24, GAYFIELD, 15:00



ARBROATH



ALLOA ATHLETIC

14.08.24, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00



ALLOA ATHLETIC



INVERNESS CT



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