

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.

ALLOA AFC CHAIRMAN ANDY ALLAN



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

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)

Club Information

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Email: fcadmin@alloathletic.co.uk

Web: alloaathletic.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, A Cockburn

Club Photographer David Glencross

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34

^{*}includes equivalent competitions

WILLIAM HILL LEAGUE 1

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
STENHOUSEMUIR	16	8	3	5	24	15	9	27
ALLOA ATHLETIC	16	6	7	3	21	14	7	25
ARBROATH	15	7	4	4	19	17	2	25
KELTY HEARTS	15	6	4	5	23	15	8	22
COVE RANGERS	16	6	3	7	24	23	1	21
MONTROSE MONTROSE	16	5	5	6	16	15	1	20
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	15	5	3	7	13	17	-4	18
ANNAN ATHLETIC	16	4	3	9	11	27	-16	15
INVERNESS	15	5	7	3	15	14	1	7
DUMBARTON	16	3	7	6	21	30	-9	1

WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

LEAGUE 1



LEAGUE 2



PREM	IIERSHIP		
	HIBERNIAN		ROSS COUNTY
	MOTHERWELL		DUNDEE UNITED
	KILMARNOCK	I·M	HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN
	ST JOHNSTONE	1877	ST MIRREN

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DEFENDERS











David







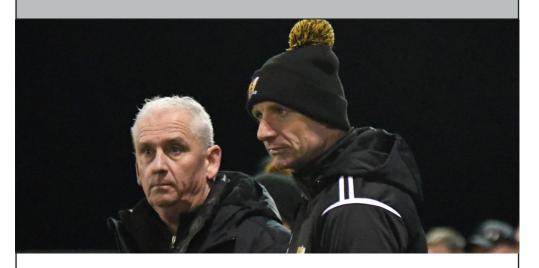
David







ANDY GRAHAM



THE GAFFER'S THOUGHTS

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Stewart Petrie and all the staff from Montrose. They have done a fantastic job at Montrose and always provide a tough challenge to play against, and today will be no different.

Last week's disappointing draw at home to Dumbarton was followed by a strong performance at Kelty. Regardless of the result, I was just pleased to see us play with the energy and enthusiasm that we all want to see. With a few injuries, I was delighted to see players step up to the mark and deliver some very good performances. During the game, we lost Luke Donnelly and Calum Waters to injury, but the players showed great togetherness and desire to see the game out and secure three valuable points at a tough venue.

On Monday, Neil Parry and I attended the Alloa

Football Memories Group. The work that John Glencross puts in to run the group successfully is greatly appreciated.

Next Saturday, we travel to Cove, but for any supporters who aren't travelling, there will be a game at the Indodrill at 2 pm to raise money for the SAMH charity. It's been organised by Alloa fan, commentator, and interviewer Kieren Mooney, and any support would be greatly appreciated.

With this being the last home game before Christmas, I'd like to wish all of the fans a Merry Christmas and hope you all have a fantastic festive period.

All the best.

Andy



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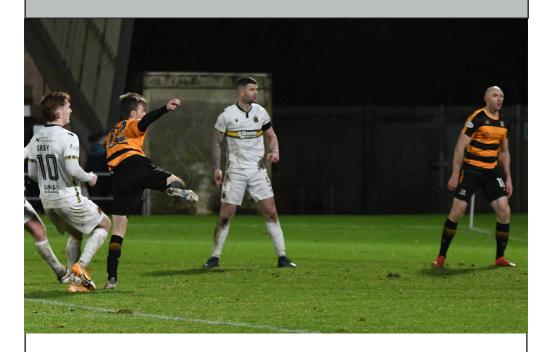
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Whitburn,

Alloa. FK10 1HX



LEWIS RUSSELL



NEWSDESK

Since our last edition of the programme Alloa have had a mixed bag of results. First the Scottish Cup Third round tie against Dumbarton ended in an agonising 3-2 defeat after the Wasps almost completed a comeback from three - nil down. Mouhamed Niang, James Hilton and Michael Ruth had put the Sons into a commanding position before Luke Donnelly hit beack before half time and Stefan Scougall unleashed an unstoppable drive into the top

corner. Yet despite many other chances to add to these two fine strikes the elusive equaliser never came.

A swiftly rearranged league tie from the previous week's snow postponement saw Alloa leading after just three minutes after Rankin's cutback to Donnelly. Dumbarton then pegged back the Wasps from winger Tony Wallace. In the second half an early penalty was controversially awarded after a coming together between Mumbongo

and Dave McKay and converted by Tony Wallace before Calum Waters grabbed a late equaliser.

A frustrated Alloa then travelled to league leaders Kelty. Luke Donnelly then continued his fine scoring form before Scott Taggart converted a late penalty to give the Wasps a deserved 2-0 lead.

Our fixture against Stirling on Tuesday will finally be our first outing in the revived Stirlingshire Cup competition. Season tickets are not valid but prices have been agreed with all participating clubs:

Adults: £10 Concessions: £5 Under 18s: £5

Under 12s: Free with a paying adult

Our other group fixture against East Stirlingshire has again fallen to the scheduling hierarchy and will most likely take place in the new year.

WASP 2000 WINNERS 30-11-24

100 M Glencross 934
 50 D MacGregor 490
 25 C Ormiston 205

Alloa supporter and commentator, Kieren Mooney, has re-launched his **HEART OF THE GAME CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR TO SUPPORT SAMH,** this a personal inspiration to mark the anniversary of his Mum's passing. The charity do fantastic work in the Mental Health space in Scotland and his hope is to raise awareness and funds through a variety of ways in the coming months.

The showpiece will be a charity football match at the Indodrill on Saturday 21st December, 2pm, where there will be Bands for Brothers, food, and much more on matchday.

Should you be able to donate, you can do so here: https://www.justgiving.com/page/heartofthegame-samh-footballmatch







ALLOA'S ROUTE TO THE CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

Hot on the heels of Alloa's 25th anniversary of winning the Challenge Cup last month, eleven days ago another anniversary of a monumental game in the proud history of the club passed, with it being 10 years since the Wasps came from two goals down with eighteen minutes to play to beat Rangers to reach another Challenge Cup final. To this day it is still the only time Alloa have beaten either of the Glasgow giants of Scottish Football and is possibly my favourite ever single game as an Alloa supporter.

The game was packed with arrative and by the end of it Hollywood script writers would probably have rejected the story for being too far-fetched. It was the Petrofac Cup Semi-final, but Barry Smith's Alloa were down to the bare bones, with no fewer than seven players being missing due to injury and illness (defenders Jason Marr and Jonathan Tiffoney, midfield stalwarts Stephen

Simmons, Graeme Holmes, Kevin Cawley, Iain Flannigan, not forgetting wide forward David Weatherston).

That meant a first-ever starting appearance in Alloa colours for Adam Asghar (it turned out to be his only ever start for the club!) at right midfield and just a fourth start for Stevie Hetherington at left midfield, with Mark Docherty partnering Ryan McCord in central midfield and playing two upfront in Liam Buchanan (who at the weekend had finished a run of scoring in seven successive Alloa games) and Greig Spence (one goal since August). Further back, Craig McDowall was in goals, with his defence being regulars Michael Doyle, captain Ben Gordon and Daryll Meggatt, together with young Ioanee Kyle Benedictus. Barry Smith could only name five substitutes. with three youth teamers yet to make their Alloa debuts (Scott Hynd, Lewis Wilson and Graham Forsyth) ioined by sub keeper John Gibson

and flu victim Eddie Ferns.

Rangers meanwhile had the benefit of a host of former international players in their ranks, including Lee McCulloch, lan Black, Kris Boyd and Dean Shiels, as well as then current Tunisian international Bilel Mohsni and future Canadian international Fraser Aird. Wonder-kid midfielder Lewis MacLeod had also a month prior to the game been named in Gordon Strachan's Scotland squad without making his international bow.

Whilst the Wasps were in the same division as Ally McCoist's side, the Wasps were battling against relegation with Dumbarton, Cowdenbeath and Livingston, whilst Rangers were seeking a third successive promotion, battling it out with Hearts and Hibs in the most box-office season the always eventful Championship has ever seen. The previous weekend the Wasps had been knocked out of the Scottish Cup at home to Hibs, while Rangers dismantled top-flight Kilmarnock 3-0.

Despite the depleted squad the Wasps went into the semi-final with a quiet confidence, having already held Rangers to two separate 1-1 draws that season, most-recently only eighteen days earlier at Ibrox when Buchanan followed up on Cawlev's saved shot to equalise McCulloch's opener. Ally McCoist meanwhile was under-pressure, as a recent 2-0 defeat at Tynecastle had left Rangers nine points behind a rampant Hearts in the race for the title. The stage was therefore set for a battle under the lights at the Recs, with the BBC Alba cameras in town for an early 7.30pm kick-off.

The game started with Barry Smith's side set up to deny Rangers any easy chancers, but as the first half progressed, the Wasps began to sense that the Glasgow giants were not quite at it. Instead, it was Alloa who were creating the best openings. Spence couldn't get enough on a close range effort to test Simonsen, Asghar flashed a shot

wide and Buchanan should have opened the scoring eight minutes before the break but shot wide. Rangers meanwhile were failing to get any fluency or creating chances, with McCord and Docherty getting through a power of work to win the midfield battle, after the early withdrawal of 'Gers youngster MacLeod to a hamstring injury.

Whilst Alloa were encouraged by creating chances and restricting Rangers to nothing, there was a sense at half-time that surely the Ibrox side couldn't be as bad in the second half and the Wasps may rue those first half chances? Four minutes into the second half, that storyline appeared to be playing out as Rangers opened the scoring. McDowall could only parry Boyd's low free-kick back into the danger zone and the wily Miller was there to stroke in the rebound, 69-cap Miller's low key salute to the celebrating Rangers supporters behind the goal gave the impression to me that they thought the opener would knock the stuffing out of the Wasps and the goals would now flow. For a time that looked like how it might play out, with McDowall making a tremendous one-handed stop to deny McGregor and Alloa fortunate not to concede a penalty when Aird's shot was blocked by Gordon's arm.

The second goal did arrive though after 64 minutes, as Docherty lost the ball in midfield, McCulloch strode forward to play the ball into Miller, who held off Meggatt before playing the ball towards Shiels, who stole ahead of Doyle to slip the ball into the far corner past McDowall. Miller and Shiels wheeled away as if it was game, set and match for Rangers. To be fair, to most observers, that would have been the logical conclusion.

However, this Alloa side loved the role of the underdog and had a never-say-die attitude. The introduction of winger 'Fast' Eddie Ferns, straight from his sick bed, gave the Wasps a new attacking thread, as Rangers perhaps looked to conserve energy for a big league game against Cowdenbeath that weekend. On seventy-two minutes the magic started. Ferns did well to get to the bye-line past Richard Foster and his cross was almost met by an on-rushing

Hetherington at the back-post. The ball was retrieved by Docherty, with Sparky's dancing feet enabling him to get it onto his trusty left-foot to dink a cross straight onto the head of Spence to nod low into the corner beyond Simonsen. Game on and cue Docherty rushing to get the ball from the net and all the players rushing back to the half-way line geeing one another and the crowd up, with the obligatory waving arm movements to signal that the comeback was on!

That game-changing momentum shift was evident for all to see, as within two minutes the Wasps were level. Neat play on the right saw Buchanan feed Ferns and Eddie's intelligent cut back was perfect for the advancing McCord to ghost into the box, as he so often did in Alloa colours, to coolly dispatch the ball into the bottom corner. Unbelievably, it was McCord's final goal for the Wasps, but remains to this day the most famous, with it wildly celebrated by the players (Docherty planting a kiss on McCord – another Sparky trademark!) and the terraces – this was absolutely spectacular!

Rangers looked completely shellshocked by the quick-fire Alloa double, with the game now end to end as both teams searched for a winner. It looked as if Rangers had regained some composure and were turning the screw again, with McDowall making another fantastic save with six minutes to play, this time denying sub Jon Daly from point-blank range. But the sting in the tail was Alloa's, as in the final minute of the ninety, crisp passing on the floor led to Meggatt playing the ball onto Hetherington on the left-wing. Stevie let the ball run onto his left foot and, without breaking stride, played a lovely first-time cut back ball towards the edge of the box, where the on-rushing Greig Spence was there to show amazing technique to apply a side-footed finish low into the postage stamp bottom corner to send the Recs crazy! Spence could not have hit it better and wheeled away to celebrate in front of the Alloa fans (and some less enthusiastic Rangers supporters amongst the home ranks) behind the goal. The scenes of delirium were magical and will never be forgotten, with the smiles as wide as the Firth of Forth and it being such a richly deserved comeback!

Given the final goal came in the last minute of the ninety and it being a comeback victory, none of the match reports mention anything of the three minutes injury time which were



played (journos frantically re-writing their copy!). Those three minutes were excruciating in part, with Ben Gordon making a heroic goal-line clearance as the ball flew across the Alloa goalmouth, Doyle tremendously blocked Mohsni's effort as Rangers forced successive corners, before Spence and Buchanan, both completely exhausted by this point, played out time wonderfully by running the ball down to the corner and drawing fouls, where minutes earlier they'd been celebrating Spence's spectacular winning strike.

When the final whistle finally blew, there was bedlam on the pitch and on the terracing. This was Alloa's night, with the players soaking up the moment, with a combination of surprise and utter ecstasy at what had just happened. Alloa's only ever victory over Rangers, having been 2-0 down with 18 minutes to play and reaching a cup final – priceless! The press invariably focused on Rangers shortcomings, but there was widespread praise for the Wasps.

Afterwards, manager Barry Smith led the tributes "I thought we thoroughly deserved the victory. Even at 2-01 had the belief we could still get back into the game. It's a part time club and these boys were working this afternoon, to beat Rangers is a massive achievement. I don't look into a lot of facts but it's great to be the first Alloa manager to beat Rangers." Goalscoring hero Greig Spence echoed the sentiment that it was a deserved victory "We lost two goals"

that were quite soft but when we got the first goal back we knew we had a great chance of winning the game. You want to play in finals and for the club it's massive. In the first half we were by far the better team." Chairman Mike Mulraney didn't hold back when talking to the BBC the morning after the night before, confirming "As a single game it's the biggest victory we have ever had. It's the one people will still be talking about in 10 or 20 years time." You were correct Mike! Striker Liam Buchanan added "At no point did I think we were out of the Cup. We rolled up our sleeves and there was a real sense if we scored one we could get another couple. The headlines will be about Rangers and McCoist and it's understandable. If Alloa were two goals up in any game and didn't win I'd be disappointed."

The inquest at Ibrox was felt for some time. Manager Ally McCoist said immediately after the defeat, "We got what we deserved. We took our eye of the ball and lost some really sloppy goals. It is not as if we didn't know what to expect. But the real disappointing thing is that after being 2-0 up we couldn't see the game out." Within 10 days McCoist was reported to have handed in his notice and a week later the former striker had been put on gardening leave by the club. In the days after the Alloa match Kenny Miller said it was a low point of his entire career. The feeling off the back of that result is probably the most disappointed I've been. I've been on the end of some hammerings in my time but to lose

the game in the manner we did was really disappointing.' Former player George McLean went as far as saying it was even worse than the infamous 1967 defeat at Berwick which ended his lbrox career

Reading back some of the match reports even now is pleasing and cannot fail to bring a wry smile to the face of any Alloa supporter: The Daily Mail's Brian Marjoribanks, predictably, didn't hold back:

For Ally McCoist, cups have a tendency to turn into poisoned chalices. But in a lengthy roll of dishonour in knockout competitions during his time at the helm at Rangers, this defeat against Alloa last night was just about as bad as it has ever been for the beleaguered lbrox hoss

As Alloa celebrated their first-ever win over Rangers in their history, the theme tune from the A-Team blared out across the Indodrill Stadium. To widespread astonishment, the plucky part-timers had come back from the dead: 2-0 down to win 3-2 and reach the final of the Challenge Cup.

But having presided over the most unlikely transformation since BA Baracus and co entered a shed armed with a couple of pipe cleaners and some bolts only to emerge with a fully kitted out armoured car, the sad truth for Rangers here was that they had actually just lost to Alloa's B-Team.

To be fair the Daily Record's Euan McLean was fulsome in praise towards the Wasps:

WHEN it comes down to it, these nights are about who wants it most. Who is willing to work that bit harder, who wants to go the extra mile for his mates, his fans and his club. Well last night a group of part-timers who were ravaged by injury and illness. Many of whom had just knocked off their shift at their day job just a few hours before went out and ran themselves ragged - and ultimately ran Rangers ragged. Make no mistake Alloa Athletic thoroughly deserve their place in the final of the Petrofac Training Cup, no matter how much the fallout that follows will focus on Rangers and their deficiencies. That the Ibrox glaring side failed to muster a single shot on



goal in the first half is embarrassing enough. But perhaps even more unforgivable is that having seemed to sewn up victory with strikes by Kenny Miller and Dean Shiels early in the second half they appeared to take their foot off the gs believing the job was done. But it wasn't. Not when they're up against guys for whom this was their second job of the day but a task they approached with an energy and enthusiasm that should give their full-time pampered rivals nightmares the next they go for their pre-match sleep. A strike from Ryan Mc-Cord and a double from Greig Spence rocked Rangers to snatch what might just go down as the worst defeat of Ally McCoist's troubled campaign as manager.

The Scotsman's Andrew Smith's first paragraph didn't underplay matters either:

EVEN by his own ignominious cup standards, the fate that befell Ally McCoist and his Rangers team as they were beaten by Alloa in last night's Petrofac Training Cup semi-final has no equal. Two goals up with 17 minutes of regulation time remaining, the subsequent humbling they were given by their part-time opponents was scarcely believable. Rangers seemed to have a final place in the bag after goals from Kenny Miller and Dean Shiels early in the second period. Instead, the impossible task it seemed to leave Alloa with inspired them to produce one of the most spectacular cup comebacks that means questions will once again be asked of McCoist's management. Last night ensured the club have failed in three attempts to win a Challenge Cup largely populated by teams with 1/25th of their budget.

Finally though, this was a night for the fans to marvel over. I took the opportunity to save some of the comments from Pie & Bovril at the time and they still make for tremendous reading a decade on. 'Printer' said "Last night was the sort of result you dream about as an Alloa fan, but deep down you aren't sure it will ever happen. Last night it did." Tommy

added "Wow!!! Hoping for extra-time to be played even though we'd won it in 90, just didn't want it to end. Surely the best game ever seen at the Recs, so many of the side playing far, far above what we expect of them. Thanks again, Alloa, for a wonderful night." Donald Pollock summed things up nicely when saying "Still can't quite believe that happened. Thank you to the players, management and chairman (and anybody else in any way involved) for giving us a night like that, a result I never ever thought I would see. The manner in which it was achieved, with so many players missing and from the 2-0 deficit (which was undeserved) made it even more special. That's about as good as it gets and these boys have made themselves Alloa legends."

A decade on the memories of an unbelievable night at the Recs still resonate clearly with me. Many of us may never see another game quite like it in our lifetimes, and for everybody involved it will forever be a night to remember with pure joy.

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FANS VIEW

A decade on from one of the greatest comebacks in Alloa history - a 3-2 win over Rangers to dump Ally McCoist's side out of the Petrofac cup with a threadbare side - Alloa are looking for a comeback to the top of the table. Last week's win over Kelty have plastered over a tough couple weeks against Dumbarton and a run of results with just one win in seven fixtures.

The week before Alloa were beleaguered by injuries to Steven Hetherington and Stefan Scougall so Alloa were forced to change up the midfield with Cameron O'Donnell and Miko

Virtanen making a central pairing for the first time this season. Steven Buchanan and Tyrece McDonnell completed the wings - not quite the injury crisis of ten years ago but the Wasps with a seemingly weakened team again produced a convincing performance. The midfield battle was won by the Wasps as Alloa's combative Finn paired well with the Alloa youth product and the game almost exclusively took place in the Kelty half.

Luke Donnelly cracked the woodowork within 6 minutes as Buchanan burst into the box

to cut back to Alloa's inform striker. Luke Rankin, who is currently well overdue for a goal was spared any blushes as he fluffed a shot on an open goal after a silky through ball from Donnelly. The officials though wrongly raised the flag against the youngster who had already missed goalkeeper Ruaridh Adams goal by a vard. Alloa would be denied again as Morgyn Neill collected an overhit deep freekick on the wing and squared low to his centre-back partner. Adams managed to block but the ball fell for McDonnell who was denied by one of a sea of marron shirts before O'Donnell

then rattled a third successive attempt over the bar. The opening goal was coming.

Finally, Alloa's fine start would be capitalised on by the midas touch of Luke Donnelly. Cameron O'Donnelly started the sequence with a low curled free kick saved by Adams. Rankin chipped the ball back into the danger area and after a few partial clearance and Alloa ricoshets the ball fell for Donnelly who forced the ball home from 8 yards. Not quite the clean connections we're used to seeing from Donnelly but he's now Alloa's top scorer with 8 goals and three in three consecutive games. For those who've doubted the big striker during his injury troubles it's a clear message of what he can still contribute and a fine repayment to the faith Andy Graham has shown in LD.

It was also a rare day in goal when PJ Morrison was barely required - such was the dominance of the Wasps. Ross Cunningham was frustrated from range dragging an effort 10 yards wide and Conor Allan couldn't find the net with a speculative looping shot/cross which again harmlessly bounced wide.

In the second half Alloa had an opportunity to put the result into surer footing with winger Buchanan charging into the box from the right and attempting the back post cross to Rankin. The ball was agonisingly close to Rankin at the back and slipped past the open goal with the Alloa striker colliding with the post to add to his troubles.

Alloa were beginning to tire but Kelty couldn't carve out any clear chances. Instead it was Tyrece McDonnell's footwork capturing the imagination as he ball rolled into the box and left Adams on the floor not once but twice before aiming a cutback to Rankin. It was just a little to square as Rankin had to stop any movement to receive the pass and was met by a crowd of maroon defenders as Adams recovered his position in the goal.

PJ Morrison was beaten for the only time of the game as Tam O'Ware's looping header cannonned of the crossbar but the following up Chris Johnstone could only head the ball up and over the bar by about 5 yards to ensure the Alloa goalkeeper didn't have a save to make in the game.

Alloa again could've finished the game with Conor Sammon failing to convert after a horrendous pass out from goalkeeper Adams but they would soon take advantage of a complete misplacement of pass from Scott Allan. The former HIbernian midfielder set up McDonnell to beat Sam Cleall-Harding and as he tried to recover on the edge of the box fouled the on-loan Queen's Park midfielder to give Alloa a free shot at

goal. Scott Taggart despite the attempts of Adams to distract him smashed the ball down the centre to win the mental battle with the Kelty keeper and give Alloa a deserved 2-0 lead.

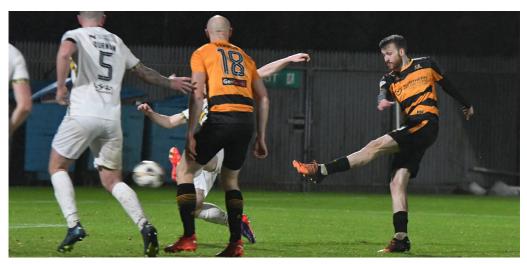
The result means that Alloa stay in touch with the top of the table. Stenhousemuir thumped Dumbarton to rise to the summit and Kelty still have a game in had to throw their hat in the ring along with Arbroath who could rise to 28 points so the result was no small matter. Alloa continue to give up so few points to their league rivals - 7 draws and 3 defeats mean they've contributed 16 points to everyone else and have been impossible to beat if they get the opening goal. The Christmas period is always a make or break time of the season and the Wasps would love to string a few wins in a row before we get into the January transfer window. It's a difficult run of fixtures with the Stirlingshire cup against Stirling, Cove Rangers and the current league leaders Stenhousemuir to play in the coming weeks but let's hope we're still battling at the top in 2025.







FIXTURE	VENUE	COMPETITION	RESULT	WIN/DRAW/LOSS	OGAYI	PARRY	MORRISON	TAGGART	WATERS	GRAHAM	NEILL	MCKAY	THOMSON
East Fife	Home	LC	0(5)-(4)0	Draw			90	90	90			90	20
Brechin	Away	LC	1-3	Win			90	90	90		90	90	10
St Johnstone	Home	LC	3-2	Win			90	90	90		90	90	
Greenock Morton	Away	LC	2-1	Loss			90	90	90		90	90	
Queen of the South	Home	L1	0-0	Draw			90	90	90			90	90
Dumbarton	Away	L1	3-3	Draw			90	90	90			90	90
Stenhousemuir	Home	L1	1-0	Win			90	90	90		29	90	61
Annan Athletic	Away	L1	0-1	Win			90	90	90		90	90	
Arbroath	Away	L1	0-0	Draw			90	90	90		90	90	6
Partick Thistle	Away	СС	1-3	Win	90			90	90		90	90	2
Inverness	Home	L1	2-2	Draw			90	90			90	90	90
Kelty	Home	L1	1-0	Win			90	90			90	90	90
Montrose	Away	L1	2-2	Draw			90	90			90	90	90
Cove Rangers	Home	L1	0-2	Loss			90	90	90		45	78	12
Arbroath	Home	СС	1-0	Win	90			90	90			90	90
Stenhousemuir	Away	L1	1-0	Win			90	90	90		90	90	
Arbroath	Home	L1	0-1	Loss			90	90	46		42	90	90
Annan Athletic	Home	L1	5-0	Win			90	90			90	90	90
Queen of the South	Away	L1	1-1	Draw			90	90	90		90	90	
Dunfermline	Away	cc	1-0	Loss	90			90			90	90	90
Inverness	Away	L1	1-0	Loss			90	90	90		90	90	
Dumbarton	Away	SC	3-2	Loss			90	90	90		90	90	
Dumbarton	Home	L1	2-2	Draw			90	90	90		90	90	
Kelty	Away	L1	0-2	Win			90	90	75		90	90	
Montrose	Home	L1											
Cove Rangers	Away	L1											
Stenhousemuir	Home	L1											
Arbroath	Away	L1											
Queen of the South	Home	L1											
Inverness	Home	L1											
Dumbarton	Away	L1											
Montrose	Away	L1											
Kelty	Home	L1											
Annan Athletic	Away	L1											
Cove Rangers	Home	L1											
Arbroath	Home	L1											
Queen of the South		L1											
Inverness		L1											
Dumbarton		L1											
Stenhousemuir	Away	L1											
Annan Athletic		L1											
Cove Rangers		L1											
Montrose		L1											
Kelty		L1											



DEVINE	HETHERINGTON	CAWLEY	ROBERTS	HONEYMAN	NEVANS	SCOUGALL	VIRTANEN	O'DONNELL	MULLEN	MCDONNELL	DONNELLY	SAMMON	BUCHANAN	RANKIN
90		61	90		9	76		61	29		76	90	90	
	80	90	80			71		13	10		19	9	81	77
	90	90	90			86			4		10		90	90
		90	90		30				60		90	30	60	90
	90	77	77		13	90					13	5	85	90
	90	90					65	25			90	25	65	90
	90	61	90			29		29			61	90	90	
	90	73	75			63	15	17			27	90	90	
	90	84			6	79	75	11			15	90	84	
	90	88			2	90	90	28			88	62	90	
	90	63				27	63	90			90	27	90	
	90	58				85	5	90			90	32	90	
	90	66				90				24	66	90	90	24
41	90	45				90	6			45	36	45	45	90
	90	86			4	77	13				90	19	90	71
	90	69				90	69	21		5		21	90	85
		48				73	61	29		17		16	74	90
		26		26	15	75	90	64	15		75	26	64	64
	15			20		75	90	70		20	90	5	70	85
	28	28		13		90	62	77			90	13	62	77
	32	32				82	58	82		8	90	8	58	90
	90	59		90		90					90	90		90
	86	64		26		45	4	90		36	90	13		77
		24					90	90		90	90	6	90	86



APPEARANCES

		LEAGUE		С	UP	TO	TAL .	ALLOA CAREER LGE		
	POS	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	
OGAYI -	GOAL	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	- 0	3 (0)	0	8 (1)	0	
PARRY	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	138 (0)	0	
MORRISON	GOAL	16 (0)	0	5 (0)	- 0	21 (0)	0	46 (1)	0	
TAGGART -	DEF	16 (0)	2	8 (0)	- 2	24 (0)	4	281 (2)	18	
WATERS -	DEF	12 (0)	1	7 (0)	- 0	19 (0)	1	52 (0)	2	
GRAHAM -	DEF	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	0	- 190 (8)	- 14	
NEILL -	DEF	12 (2)	1	6 (0)	- 1	18 (2)	2	- 46 (2)	1	
МСКАУ	DEF	16 (0)	0	8 (0)	- 0	24 (0)	0	30 (5)	1	
THOMSON	DEF	8 (3)	0	2 (3)	0	10 (6)	0	8 (3)	0	
DEVINE -	DEF -	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	33 (4)	0	
HETHERINGTON -	MID	12 (2)	0	5 (1)	0	17 (3)	0	169 (35)	- 6	
CAWLEY	MID	12 (3)	1	7 (1)	- 3	19 (4)	4	350 (59)	- 65	
ROBERTS	MID	3 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	39 (0)	4	
NEVANS	MID	0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0	0 (7)	0	0 (3)	0	
SCOUGALL	MID	12 (2)	1	6 (0)	- 1	18 (2)	2	94 (24)	9	
VIRTANEN	MID	9 (3)	0	2 (1)	- 0	11 (4)	0	22 (14)	1	
O'DONNELL -	MID	7 (7)	1	2 (2)	- 0	9 (9)	1	40 (48)	4	
MULLEN -	MID	0 (1)	0	1 (3)	- 0	1 (4)	0	0 (1)	0	
MCDONNELL	MID	1 (7)	0	0 (1)	- 0	1 (8)	0	1 (7)	0	
HONEYMAN	MID	0 (3)	0	0 (1)	- 0	0 (4)	0	0 (3)	0	
DONNELLY	FWD	11 (3)	6	5 (3)	- 2	16 (6)	- 8	29 (30)	15	
SAMMON	FWD	4 (11)	4	3 (3)	- 1	7 (14)	- 5	- 66 (55)	- 31	
DONNELLY	FWD	11 (3)	- 6	5 (3)	- 2	16 (6)	- 8	29 (30)	15	
SAMMON	FWD	4 (11)	4	3 (3)	1	7 (14)	5	66 (55)	31	







ALLOA CAREER CUP	ALLOA TO	TAL	SPONSORS	
APP GOAL	APP (GOAL	SPONSORS	
- 5 (0) - 0	13 (1)	0	-	-
35 (0) - 0	173 (0)	0	RUARI & BRIAN CUTHBERT-IMRIE	NEIL PARRY ALLOA SUPPORTERS CLUB
- 19 (0) - 0	65 (1)	0	DEREK YULE	-
- 66 (1) - 5	347 (3)	23	BEN WOODRUFF	THE JOLLY BOYS
18 (0)	70 (0)	3	DAVIS DISTRIBUTION	-
- 54 (3) - 1	244 (11)	15	JOYCE & THE PIE HUT	-
12 (1) - 2	- 58 (3) -	3	THE WEE FITBA PODCAST	-
- 13 (2) - 0	- 43 (7)	1	GLENN SAUNDERS	-
2 (3) - 0	10 (6)	0	JOHN SPENCE	-
3 (1) - 0	36 (5)	0	JON CARRUTHERS	-
38 (10)	207 (45)	7	THE JOLLY BOYS	MCCALLUM ENGINEERING
74 (13) - 15	424 (72)	80	AIMEE BURGESS	BEES ON THE PRIMROSE
- 10 (1) - 0	49 (1)	4	BRAIN DAMAGED BARON	ANDREW WILSON
0 (4)	0 (7)	0	MAYFIELD MOTORS	-
- 25 (8) - 3	119 (32)	12	STUART LATHAM	JOHN SPENCE
- 5 (4) - 0	27 (18)	1	ANDY@MAGNAFIBRE	-
14 (7)	54 (55)	5	ROBERTSON CARPET & FLOORING	GARAGEGYMREVISITED.COM
- 1 (3) - 0	1 (4)	0	-	•
0 (1) - 0	1 (8)	0	-	-
0 (1) - 0	0 (4)	0	-	-
9 (7) - 4	38 (37)	19	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO
- 21 (7) - 10	87 (62)	41	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS
9 (7) - 4	38 (37)	19	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO	CRAIG CAMPBELL SEO
- 21 (7) - 10	87 (62)	41	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS	S SMITH VEHICLE REPAIRS





MONTROSE

The Gable Endies

FOUNDED

1879

GROUND

Links Park, Montrose

Winners: 10

TOP HONOURS

Scottish League One* Winners: 1984-85 Runners Up: 1990-91 Scottish League 2* Winners: 2017-18 Runners-up: 1994-95 Forfarshire Cup

This afternoon, we return to the Indodrill Stadium for the final home game before the festive season, facing Montrose. The visitors will be eager to bounce back from last Saturday's home defeat to an in-form Inverness side. Montrose lost 3-2 at Links Park after conceding two goals in the final five minutes, a setback exacerbated by Andrew Steeves' red card. That result leaves them in 6th place: however. as everyone knows, the league table is one of the tightest in the country, making every point crucial. They sit just five points behind the Wasps, who are in 2nd place. Having regularly made the play-offs, Montrose will be aiming to secure one of the top three spots this season and push for promotion to the Championship. With so many teams in contention, each fixture becomes increasingly important.

THE BOSS – STEWART PETRIE

Montrose is led by experienced manager Stewart Petrie. Born in Dundee, the former winger began his playing career at Forfar Athletic in 1989 before moving to Dunfermline Athletic in 1993, where he built his playing legacy. Petrie spent a decade at East End Park, scoring

a crucial goal during the 1995/96 season that helped secure the Championship title and top-flight promotion. His playing career later took him to Australia, where he began his coaching journey with A-League side North Queensland Fury. After interim management at Forfar and an assistant role at Broughty Athletic, he was appointed Montrose manager in December 2016, Petrie led the team to the League 2 title in 2018 and has continued to impress, making him the second-longest-serving manager in the SPFL, behind Dougie Samuel of Spartans.



THE CAPTAIN PAUL WATSON

Montrose's skipper is veteran defender Paul Watson. At the start of 2024, Watson cemented his legendary status by making his 350th appearance for the Gable Endies. Currently in his testimonial year, he is the club's second-longest-serving player, behind Terry Masson. Since joining from St Andrews in 2012, the 38-year-old has played a vital role in maintaining the team's League 2 status before helping them secure the 2018 League Title. This season, he has already made 32 appearances and scored five goals, including a crucial late header against Alloa in a 2-1 victory back in August. After starting the last two fixtures on the bench, Terry Masson has taken on the captain's armband.

ONE TO WATCH - KANE HESTER

Montrose's attacking threat comes from Kane Hester, the club's top goal scorer this season with six goals. Two of those came in the Scottish Cup victory over Peterhead, ending a seven-game goal drought. His last league goal, however, came against the Wasps in September during a 2-2 draw. Hester is on track to surpass his tally from last season, which ended with 14 goals. His best season came with Elgin, where he netted 29 times for the Black and Whites.

THE CONNECTION

Current connections between the two teams are limited, with



no players in today's squads having represented both clubs. However, past loanees Euan Henderson and Mohammed Niang (Sena) have played for both sides. Henderson scored five goals for Montrose but was even more prolific at Alloa, becoming their top scorer in the 2021/22 season with 17 goals. Sena also played for Alloa that season. Henderson. achieved what both clubs aim for this season by winning the playoffs last year. Sena is now battling relegation with Dumbarton following their points deduction.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Today marks the halfway point in the season's meetings between the two sides. Their first encounter at Links Park earlier in the campaign was a high-scoring affair, as is often the case between these teams. Ali Shrive gave Montrose an early lead in the third minute, but Alloa equalized through Morgyn Neill 20 minutes later, sending the teams into the break level. Montrose regained the lead through Kane Hester, and it seemed the points would stay at Links Park until substitute debutant Tyrece McDonnell's mazy run set up fellow youngster Luke Rankin, who scored a last-minute equalizer to make it 2-2. Despite the goal-filled encounters at Links Park, the last meeting at the Indodrill ended in a goalless draw back in April, with both teams sharing the points.



BY KIEREN MOONEY

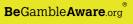




Proper Supporter of Scottish Football







ANDREW COCKBURN



LOOKING BACK 12 TH DECEMBER 1992

There was no positional change at the top of Premier Division, but leaders Rangers extended their unbeaten league run to sixteen games, with a 2-1 win at struggling Falkirk, a result which also saw them move four points clear. Aberdeen remained in second spot, but lost ground slightly on Rangers, when they were held 2-2 at fifth-placed Dundee United, third-placed Celtic made it six games unbeaten with a 1-0 home success v Dundee, while Hearts retained fourth place. despite being held 1-1 at St. Johnstone. At the other end of the table, a "basement battle" took place at Broomfield, where second-bottom Airdrie hosted their bottom-of-the-table local

rivals, Motherwell. And Motherwell emerged victorious, by 2-0, though in spite of this welcome success, only their fourth in the league so far in the season, The Well still propped up the table, while Airdrie and Falkirk still lay immediately above them.

In The First Division, the day's top clash took place at Stark's Park, where table-topping Raith hosted fellow promotion challengers St. Mirren, who lay two places below Rovers. But a 3-1 win for the home side saw them move seven points ahead of second-placed Kilmarnock, who were gameless, St. Mirren still retained third place, fourth-placed Hamilton Accies were another inactive side. while

Dunfermline, 1-0 winners at Dumbarton, remained in fifth spot. Luckless bottom club Cowdenbeath suffered yet another defeat, this time by 1-3 at home v Clydebank. And with just one win and five points to their credit so far, even at this stage of proceedings, Cowden were looking somewhat certain to make an immediate return to The Second Division. Stirling Albion, in spite of a rather welcome 3-0 success at Dumbarton, still remained in second-bottom spot, while third-bottom Meadowbank were gameless.

Second Division leaders Brechin moved four points clear, and at the same time made it

ten league games unbeaten. thanks to a 2-0 home win v local rivals Arbroath. Stranraer remained second, despite being held 1-1 at home by rock-bottom Queen's Park, third-placed Clyde maintained their own promotion push with a 2-1 win at another of the strugglers, Albion Rovers, while Stenhousemuir were now fourth, after a 3-1 home win v East Fife. The Warriors displaced near-neighbours Alloa, who slipped one place to fifth, after they were held 2-2 at Berwick, Stevie Mc-Cormick and Barrie Moffat were on target for The Wasps, who'd lined up at Shielfield as follows: lim Butter, Willie Newbigging, Neil Bennett, Davie Wilcox, Neil McAvoy, Colin Campbell, Shaun

Smith, John McNiven, Stevie McCormick, Barrie Moffat, Gavin Tait (John Gibson). Today's visitors Montrose had not experienced the best of times so far in the 1992-93 campaign. but they still chalked up a third straight league success, by 4-1 at home v East Stirling, thanks to goals from Martin Nelson (Who had been a fantastic player for Alloa Athletic between 1986-88 before moving to Hamilton Accies then Raith Rovers, capped for Scotland Semi Professional team while with "The Wasps" gaining three caps, Alan Logan, Derek Grant & Ian Robertson, the result moving The Gable Endies up one place to eighth.

Down in England, Premier League leaders Norwich went down 0-1 to another of the title challengers Manchester United, at Old Trafford. Though The Canaries still held a fairly comfortable five-point lead over Aston Villa, who were now second after a 2-1 home win over their bottom-of-the-table Midlands rivals Nottingham Forest, while Manchester United were now third.

First Division leaders Newcastle visited Barnsley the following day, though The Magpies still held a healthy-looking twelve point lead over second-placed Tranmere, whose clash at another of the promotion challengers, Swindon, was cancelled. While West Ham, 2-0 home winners v bottom club Southend, were now third.



HALF TIME QUIZ

1. ONLY 4 PLAYERS HAVE MADE MORE THAN 350 APPEARANCES FOR ALLOA SINCE WW2. WHICH PLAYER PASSED THE LANDMARK ON SATURDAY AGAINST KELTY?

- 2. TODAY'S OPPONENTS MONTROSE ARE THE LONGEST SERVING SIDE IN LEAGUE 1. HOW MANY CONSECUTIVE SEASONS HAVE PETRIE'S MEN COMPETED?
- 3. CELTIC CAPTAIN CALUM MCGREGOR HIT WHAT EUROPEAN MILESTONE THIS WEEK?
- 4. SCOTT MCTOMINAY AND BILLY GILMOUR HAD BEEN LEADING THE TABLE UP UNTIL THIS WEEK IN SERIE A. WHICH SIDE INFLICTED THEIR THIRD DEFEAT OF THE SEASON?
- 5. ARSENAL HAVE SCORED MORE GOALS FROM CORNERS THAN ANY OTHER ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE CLUB. HOW MANY CORNERS DOES IT TAKE MIKEL ARTETA'S GUNNERS TO SCORE ON AVERAGE?

JOHN GLENCROSS



FOOTBALL MEMORIES MEETINGS AT INDODRILL STADIUM

When I began my Football Memories meetings at Alloa it took a while to take off, with people not really knowing what to expect and who could attend. My first meeting at Alloa at the Ochil Lounge in the Indodrill Stadium, which the club have kindly allowed me to use, started with six people attending back on 13th March 2023.

The beginning of the sports memories project dates to 2009 when the Scottish Football Museum and members of the Scottish Football Heritage Network launched a pilot reminiscence project at Hampden Park. Using old images of football, the Football Memories pilot supported people living with dementia as well as people who were otherwise experiencing loneliness and social isolation. The images acted as memory triggers, prompting memory recall, and encouraging conversations. The pilot proved to

be very successful and in 2010 Alzheimer Scotland joined the museum as a national partner, thus permanently establishing what would become known as Football Memories Scotland. By 2012 photographic collections from the Scottish Football Museum were digitised and uploaded onto a dedicated resource website to further support the project as it expanded across Scotland.

By 2020 the national network

of sports reminiscence groups amounted to more than 250 groups running from the Scottish Borders up to the Western Isles and Northern Isles. By the end of 2024 it is hoped there will be as many as 500 Football Memories around Scotland.

At Alloa we have been supported by groups from the Walking Football, Dementia Scotland, Orchard Care Home, Scottish Football Programme & Fairs (Jim Thomson) and other Football Memories groups not forgetting our guest speakers – Arthur Grant, Robert Harvey, David Somers, Hugh McCann, Chris Townsley, Alex Totten, Gregor Abel, Lennie McComb,

Ronnie Lowrie, Andy Campbell, Hugh MacDonald, Conor Sammon who have kept the occasion very special.

On Monday 9th December 2024, we held our 17th meeting with group of regular members growing to 40 people now attending, such has the interest and companionship people have found by coming to the monthly meeting. This was our Christmas Lunch meeting with catering supplied by Michael More from Cambusbarron. who provided - Lentil Soup, Turkey or Steak Pie, Trifle with Mince Pies along with Tea. Coffee, Still Water or soft drinks to conclude. Our guests on this

occasion were Andy Graham and Neil Parry who kept the group entertained by their memories of playing football at different grounds, playing surfaces and the great team bonding there is at a part time club rather than just looking out for vourself at Full-Time clubs. Santa also made his entrance and handed out gifts. other goodies on the table were supplied by the club and monies raised from the Alloa Athletic Football Memorabilia exhibition in Castle Street, I will be having a break over Christmas and January and have pencilled in 10th February 2025 for our next meeting. Merry Christmas – John Glencross



QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1. SCOTT TAGGART SCORED TO MARK HIS 350TH APPEARANCE FOR THE WASPS.
- 2. SEVEN SEASONS SINCE MONTROSE WERE PROMOTED AS CHAMPIONS FROM LEAGUE 2
- 3. 100 APPEARANCES IN EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS.
- 4.NAPOLI WON 1-0 COURTESY OF GUSTAV ISAKSEN'S LATE GOAL AGAINST NAPOLI.
- 5. ARSENAL SCORE ONE GOAL EVERY 16.4 CORNERS.

JOHN GLENCROSS



THINGS WE HAVE LOST IN FOOTBALL.

EVEN IF THE SCORE WAS 12-0



IT WAS ALWAYS NEXT GOAL WINS WHEN IT WAS TIME TO GO HOME

SATURDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL NEWSPAPERS

BEING LIFTED OVER THE TURNSTILES

WHITE SHEETS BEING CARRIED AROUND

JUNIOR GROUNDS AT HALF-TIME AND THROWING MONEY INTO THEM

PIPE BANDS

MACAROON AND SPEARMINT CHEWING GUM

KIDS LOOKING FOR AUTOGRAPHS

1,500M RACE FOR ATHLETES
AROUND HAMPDEN/POWDERHALL/
IBROX AT HALF TIME

HALF TIME SCOREBOARD

JUNIOR FOOTBALLERS IN THE FIRST TEAM

OLD TRAINERS WITH THE MAGIC SPONGE

RESERVE TEAM FOOTBALL

WEMBLEY TRIP

TEAM COMMUNAL BATH, CARBOLIC SOAP

FANS CHANGING ENDS AT HALF-TIME

CHALK BOARD AT HALF-TIME GO-ING ROUND PITCH

MOBILITY CARS PARKED AROUND THE GROUND

INVACARS

HAVING SCOTTISH PLAYERS IN TEAMS

NUMBERS 1-11 ON PLAYERS IERSEYS

ONE MAN CLUB. LOYALTY

CENTRE FORWARDS THAT ONLY PLAY IN THE

PENALTY BOX

PLAYERS CELEBRATING WHEN THEY SCORE DUE TO VAR

REFEREE'S IN CHARGE OF GAMES

SCREW IN STUDS AND DUBBIN

PAYING CASH FOR A PIE AND BOVRILEVERY TEAM HAVING A PERSONALITY PLAYER

STANDING AREAS AND TERRACING

KIDS PLAYING ON THE PITCH AT HALF TIME

EX PLAYERS RUNNING PUBS.
FOOTBALL RATTLES





ALLOA ATHLETIC



MONTROSE



REFEREE: Stewart Luke **ASST:** Ross Nelson & Robin Taylor

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE

28.12.24, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00

ALLOA ATHLETIC STENHOUSEMUIR

17.12.24, INDODRILL STAIDUM, 19:45

ALLOA ATHLETIC



STIRLING ALBION



ARBROATH



ALLOA ATHLETIC

21.12.24. BALMORAL STADIUM, 15:00









11.01.25. INDODRILL STADIUM. 15:00

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH



PROUDLY SUPPORTING ALLOA ATHLETIC FC





UK'S MAJOR BRAND SUPPLYING FOOTBALL KITS & TEAMWEAR DIRECT



INDUSTRY LEADING QUALITY STANDARDS

