



## **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 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 Address: Indodrill Stadium, Clackmannan Road, Alloa, FK10 1RY Telephone: 01259722695 Fox: 01259210886 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

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Pictures from Arbroath coutesy of @PJParkerPix

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WILLIAM HILL LEAGUE 1

	Ρ	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
ARBROATH	20	10	4	6	31	23	8	34
	20	9	4	7	29	20	9	31
KELTY HEARTS	20	8	6	6	28	19	9	30
COVE RANGERS	20	8	4	8	30	25	5	28
ALLOA ATHLETIC	20	7	7	6	26	22	4	28
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	19	7	4	8	17	21	-4	25
MONTROSE	20	6	6	8	19	21	-2	24
ANNAN ATHLETIC	20	5	5	10	18	34	-16	20
INVERNESS	19	7	7	5	19	20	-1	13
	20	5	7	8	26	38	-12	7

#### WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

#### LEAGUE 1



#### CHAMPIONSHIP



#### LEAGUE 2



#### PREMIERSHIP

	ROSS COUNTY	CELTIC
	HIBERNIAN	MOTHERWELL
	ST MIRREN	
<b>B</b>	ABERDEEN	HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN
	RANGERS	ST JOHNSTONE





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	GOALKEEPERS	DEFENDERS		
	PJ MORRISON 27/02/1998	Scott TAGGART 27/12/1991 183cv 75cc 2	Calum WATERS 10/03/1996 	Morgyn NEILL 10/03/1996
	Neil PARRY 08/11/1985	Andy GRAHAM 22/09/1983 188 85 5	David MCKAY 17/06/1998 	Kane THOMSON 12/09/2004 
	Tochukwu OGAYI 10/10/1996 C	David DEVINE 20/06/2001 23		
MANAGER ANDY GRAHAM	dly taining eld		A	



#### **ANDY GRAHAM**



## THE GAFFER'S THOUGHTS

I'd like to take the chance to wish you all a happy new Year.

A warm welcome to Peter Murphy and all his staff from Queen of the south.

I'd like to start by congratulating Kevin Cawley on his 500th alloa appearance last week. His son Luca also turned 1 last Saturday so a day for his family to remember. To get to that number of appearances at any club is an amazing achievement and one wee Kev should be extremely proud of.

Last week's win up at Arbroath was a big boost

to the players having lost the previous 3 games. The players deserve great credit for keeping calm and showing character to go to the team top of the league, score three goals and deserve to get 3 points. It's important we try to build on that today but the two previous hard fought draws between the teams show that we have to be at our best to get a victory.

Please continue to support the team as the players and staff greatly appreciate your backing.

Thanks, Andy



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# NEWSDESK

Our last home game saw Alloa drop to a 3-1 defeat against Stenhousemuir. An early corner was directed into the side netting as Aaron Steele put pressure on Dave McKay and the Alloa defender made contact. Miko Virtanen was robbed of the ball in his own half and Michael Anderson chipped a stranded PJ Morrison to double the advantage. Alloa rallied with Luke Donnelly having a headed goal chopped off for offside but just minutes later he would turn creator for Conor Sammon for the Wasps to set up a nervy finish. However a quick Stenhousemuir break that saw a clearly offside Corey O'Donnell chase through and score would put down any chance of a late comeback.

Alloa's next trip was to league leaders Arbroath. The Angus side had corrected early season form issues but found themselves on the back foot until Alloa cut them open through Rankin and O'Donnell saw his effort blocked. The resulting stramash saw Conor Sammon score from an offside position but just sixty seconds later Arbroath would be ahead with a dangerous cross over PJ Morrison unable to be dealt with by the Alloa goalkeeper and all he could do was flap the ball down for Gavin Reilly to give the Red Lichties the lead. This however would not last long as Alloa continued to cause problems with some high tempo attacking. Stefan Scougall

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would fire home to level the scores and then just before the break a powerful Luke Rankin shot would give the Wasps the lead. In the second half an early corner was cleared only as far as centre-half Dave McKay and he rattled a shot past Aidan McAdams to double Alloa's advantage. PJ Morrison would pull off a couple excellent saves as Alloa managed the game and took home all three points but it was a really pleasing way to end a run of three straight defeats.



The only negative of the day may well have been a Steven Hetherington injury that saw him withdrawn on 49 minutes. Hopefully he only requires a quick turnaround after recent injury troubles.

Alloa Athletic are sad to lean that former player Andrew Rogerson died on the 9th December 2024 after a short illness. In total Drew made 229 appearances scoring 21 goals in his time at Alloa, making him the 25th most appearances since 1945/46 before moving to Stirling Albion, Albion Rovers, Stenhousemuir and Raith Rovers . Our thoughts and condolences are with Drew's family at this sad time.

Alloa Athletic FC, in conjunction with its community partner, Wasp Community Club, is thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new Club Lotto, designed to raise vital funds to support the continued development of our youth and women's and girls' pathways, and other community projects with a massive jackpot of £2000 up for grabs with weekly draws which take place on Wednesdays at 8.15PM, with £50 being added to the jackpot each week.

Buy your tickets and enter the draw here: **HTTPS://BIT. LY/WASPSLOTTO** 

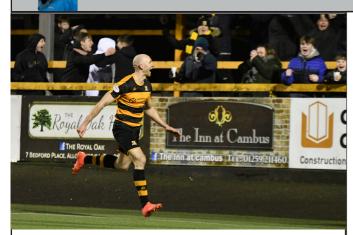
#### WASP 2000 WINNERS

Week 1 4-1-25						
100	C Perrow	1149				
50	W Roy	616				
25	E Snadden	45				

Week 52

- 100 J Fitzgerald 1497
- 50 K Brown 975
- 25 A Morrison 29

JONATHAN MARKWELL



## 2024 ALLOA'S YEAR IN NUMBERS

Although football is typically remembered in seasons rather than calendar years, the Wasps' first home game of 2025 provides the perfect opportunity to wrap up the year that has just passed for Alloa Athletic Football Club. It was another year of highs and lows, with some iovous wins and some crushing defeats, most notably the deja vu play-off defeat to Hamilton Accies for a second successive vear. As has become something of an annual tradition (this will be my 21st successive yearly review for the matchday programme), all the key moments in the year will be recounted through numbers.

#### **20 WINS**

The Wasps won a total of 20

games during the calendar year, eclipsing the 18 won in both 2022 and 2023. Those wins were spread evenly between home and away matches and those during the last season and the current campaign. The most common winning scoreline was 1-0, with six separate Alloa wins being by this narrowest of margins. Beyond that, Alloa were also victorious on three separate occasions by scorelines of 3-1 (v Edinburgh, Brechin and Partick) and 3-2 (v Annan, Cove and St Johnstone). For Alloa supporters, the most memorable win was probably the 5-1 annihilation of Stirling Albion at Forthbank. It was the first time ever that Alloa had scored five goals on an away day in Stirling (in 56 games going back to 1948) and the biggest derby victory since the 7-0 thrashing in 1998. With five different scorers and the Wasps dominant against a sorry looking home side, it was a perfect afternoon for the noisy away support and undoubtedly provided one of the moments of the year.

#### 5-0

Alloa's biggest win of 2024 came at the beginning of November, when Annan were trounced 5-0 at the Recs. That game will be best remembered for the two sublime goals from Luke Donnelly either side of half-time, showcasing LD's outstanding natural ability. Some of my favourite wins were closer encounters with dramatic late winners, such as the 3-2 success. at Cove in April (live on BBC Alba with Ethan Sutherland's perfect cross being headed superbly into the far corner by Bobby Wales) to secure Alloa's play-off place and the 3-1 second-half comeback win at Partick Thistle in the SPFL Trust Trophy, when Kevin Cawley rolled back the vears with a magical brace to shock Thistle

#### 5 SUCCESSIVE WINS IN FEBRUARY

Alloa enjoyed a perfect February, winning all five league games to move from 6th to 3rd position in the table. It was the first time the Wasps had won five in a row since 2012 in the Third Division under Paul Hartley. Annan (3-2), Stirling (1-0), Annan (2-1), Cove (4-1) and Hamilton (2-1) were all defeated, leading to Andy Graham being awarded the manager of the month award, with red-hot winger Taylor Steven (4 goals and 2 assists) walking away with the divisional player of the month award too. The confidence and momentum gained from those victories was tremendous to witness.

#### **1 PREMIERSHIP SCALP**

The Premier Sports League Cup Group Stages saw St Johnstone return to the Recs for a second successive year. However, unlike the 4-0 Saints victory in 2023, this time around the Wasps stepped up and fully deserved a 3-2 victory against the top tier team. Morgyn Neill's opener (a trademark header) was immediately cancelled out. but two sensational finishes from teenage striker Luke Rankin saw Alloa go into an unassailable 3-1 lead. Although the Saints pulled one back during injury time, the 3-2 Alloa win was the Wasps first over St Iohnstone since 1958!

#### 8 GAMES UNBEATEN START TO THE LEAGUE SEASON

The Wasps enjoyed a positive start to the league season, with the 8 game unbeaten run (3 wins and 5 draws) being Alloa's longest unbeaten start to a league season since 1986. The bedrock of those fine results was a solid defence, with PI Morrison achieving five clean sheets from the opening seven league matches. Alloa actually topped the table after matchdays 6, 7, 10 and 13, marking the first time since October 2016 that the Wasps found themselves at the league summit.

#### 12 GOALS

For the third calendar year running, Conor Sammon topped the goalscoring charts. After scoring a dozen goals in 2022 and fourteen in 2023, the



evergreen Wasps striker proved his worth yet again by bagging another dozen goals in 2024. That tally included match-winning second-half strikes in home victories over Annan, Stenhousemuir and Kelty Hearts. with the former Republic of Ireland international having a wonderful knack of being in the right place at exactly the right time. Sammon also scored an excellent goal in the Scottish Cup defeat at Motherwell (one of Conor's former clubs) and a double at former club Falkirk. when the Wasps came within five minutes of denving Falkirk an invincible season at a sell-out Falkirk Stadium, November's strike against Annan marked the 150th goal of Sammon's distinguished career, which is now in its 21st season. Just behind Sammon on the scoring charts was loanee Bobby Wales with 11 (it is tremendous to see that the Scotland U21 cap is now beginning to regularly start games and make telling contributions back at Kilmarnock). The bronze medal was shared by Taylor Steven (interestingly, the combined ages of Steven

[19] and Wales [18] equalled the age of Sammon [37]!) and Luke Donnelly (both with 9 goals), with Scott Taggart and Luke Rankin just off the podium with 8 goals apiece in 2024. 75% of Taggart's strikes were from the penalty spot, with the ever-reliable captain successful from each of his six spot-kicks during 2024. There were a total of 18 different Alloa goalscorers during the year, with the most surprising being Ion Robertson breaking his almost seven year wait for goal after steering home the winner at Hamilton in Februarv. It turned out to be Robbo's final goal for the club, with his summer release ending eight tremendous seasons service for the club which saw him make 262 appearances and score 5 goals in total.

#### **8 BRACES**

Although there were no hattricks by an Alloa player in 2024 (Alloa's last hat-trick hero was Conor Sammon at Buckie Thistle in July 2022), there were 8 separate braces scored by Wasps in 2024. Bobby Wales bagged two separate doubles, in the away wins at Annan and Cove. Last season Taylor Steven also scored a double against Cove (Steven was unplayable that damp February afternoon at the Recs), Scott Taggart scored the first double of his career in the 5-2 away win at Edinburgh and Conor Sammon scored two first half goals in that eventual 2-2 draw at Falkirk. This season's braces have already been mentioned elsewhere in this article (Rankin v St Johnstone, Cawley at Partick and Donnelly v Annan).

#### **2 PENALTY SAVES**

While Scott Taggart had a 100% success rate from the spot for a second calendar year running for Alloa, at the other end of the pitch the Wasps conceded 5 penalties during 2024. Of those, PJ Morrison was a full stretch to pull off fine saves to deny Motherwell's Blair Spittal and Arbroath's Thomas O'Brien. Docherty of Annan, Spencer of Falkirk and Wallace of Dumbarton all converted their penalties against the Wasps, but none of those games finished in Alloa defeats, whereas when Morrison did perform heroics to keep the penalty out, Alloa were still beaten on both occasions!

#### 6/1-RED CARD COUNT

To continue a theme experienced in 2023 (3 red cards in 44 matches), there was a refreshing lack of red cards during Alloa matches in 2024, with only 7 dismissals during the 50 matches played. In 2023 all 3 red-cards were for Alloa players, with that almost being repeated in 2024, with 6 of the 7 dismissals being for those in the gold and black of Alloa (McKay, Cawley, Neill, Donnelly, Waters and McDonnell). The single time the Wasps had the advantage of playing against ten men was in the final 26 minutes of Alloa's eventual 3-2 success over St Johnstone, after Aaron Essel's ordering-off for violent conduct. With that dismissal being in a cup match. Alloa are now on a run of 77 league matches of the opposition not having a player dismissed, stretching back to Stephen Hendrie's 86th minute red-card for dissent in Alloa's 5-1 victory over Oueen of the South in November 2022. I have no idea whether that run is any kind of record, but bearing in mind the Wasps have endured 10 separate red cards in that time, I can speculate that it might be!



#### 72% WIN & DRAW RATE

The home draw with Dumbarton at the beginning of December saw Andy Graham clock up his half-century of games in charge of the Wasps. In the past 30 years only Terry Christie's Alloa side were tougher to beat than Andy's in their respective first 50 games in charge of the Wasps, with Graham's 72% win and draw rate eclipsing the records of Billy Lamont (68%), Tom Hendrie's two spells (60% & 56%), Allan Maitland (58%), Barry Smith (44%), Jim Goodwin (62%), Peter Grant (56%), Brian Rice (66%), level with Paul Hartley and just behind Christie (78%). When calculating matters purely on a more conventional win-rate metric. Andv's win percentage (42%) was only bettered by Hartley (52%), Rice (50%) and Christie (46%), which reflects well on Andy's first 50 games in management.

#### **49 APPEARANCES**

With the exception of the December Stirlingshire Cup tie, captain Scott Taggart started every single game for the Wasps in 2024 (unsurprisingly more than any other Alloa player). Taggart's durability is exceptional, with it being notable that Andy Graham has employed his captain at his natural right-back berth as much as possible. Previous Alloa managers continuously switched Taggart to either centre-back or left-back, but Graham has consciously resisted that temptation as much as possible. In 2024 Taggart starting 43 games at right-back and just 6 in central defence. Ironically, in the very first game of 2025 last weekend Taggart was moved across to left-back in the pleasing victory at Arbroath. As always, Taggs stuck to his task with determination and skill, successfully nullifying the Red Lichties dangerman Scott Stewart, as all Andy Graham's tactical tweaks worked to perfection. Taggart is currently on a run of 67 successive starts (excluding the 'Shire Cup), stretching back to August 2023.

#### **13 CLEAN SHEETS**

Alloa kept thirteen clean sheets in 2024, which is an improvement on the 12 achieved in 2023 and 10 earned in 2022. PJ Morrison kept 11 of those clean sheets, with the very capable Tochukwu Ogayi being in goal for the other two. It is a real strength of Andy Graham's squad to have two very able goalkeepers, with both impressing during 2024.

On the other side of the coin. the Wasps failed to score in a total a 12 games during 2024. Interestingly, the Wasps failed to score on 8 occasions at the Recs in 2024 (split equally between last season and this campaign), with Alloa only drawing a blank on 4 occasions in away matches. All of those occurrences have come this season, starting with the late August goalless draw at Arbroath and more recently in defeats at Dunfermline. Inverness and Cove. This followed a trend of the Wasps being a bit more expansive on the road in 2024, with 47 goals scored in away games, far exceeding the 35 scored in the same number of games (25) at the Recs.

#### LATE GOAL SPECIALISTS

Prior to the turn of the year, during the 2024/25 season, the Wasps scored a disproportionally high amount of goals late in games. 17 of the 38 goals scored this season prior to last weekend's game versus Arbroath had come in the final 20 minutes of matches. That total matched the total number of goals scored in the first 60 minutes of those same matches, which also totalled 17! That's a kind of stat that you can draw several different conclusions from, but I prefer the positive spin of it signalling Alloa being late goal specialists.

#### PERSONAL APPEARANCE MILESTONES

Throughout 2024 a number of Alloa players passed various personal appearance milestones. Most recently Scott Taggart capped his 350th Alloa appearance with a goal in the December victory at Kelty Hearts. Conor Sammon made his 150th Alloa appearance that day too, with that same feat being achieved a week earlier away at Dumbarton in the cup by Stefan Scougall. Skilful Scouggs marked the occasion with a finely struck goal, albeit in defeat for the Wasps. That very same night Stevie Hetherington also clocked up his 250th Alloa appearance and marked it with a customary vellow card! In August Cammy O'Donnell joined the 100 club (becoming the first youth academy graduate to do so for 15 years in the process). In

terms of whole career appearances, Scougall passed the 400 mark in July, Taggart clocked up 500 in July and Kevin Cawley remarkably made it to 600 in October (also congratulations to Kevin for beginning 2025 with his landmark 500th Alloa appearance in last weekend's victory at Arbroath). At the other end of the scale, a series of players either made their first senior career appearances in 2024 (Reece Mullen, Shav Nevans and Kane Thomson), or scored their first career goals in senior football during 2024, namely Ethan Sutherland and Kane Thomson (ironically both were scored in separate games against Montrose).

2024 delivered some magical moments which will be remembered for decades to come, particular in the later months of the 2023/24 season, as the Wasps chased promotion with an exciting brand of front-foot football. After such a promising start to the new year last weekend at Arbroath, my fingers are crossed the current Alloa team can create some more wonderful memories for supporters in 2025 too.





#### **JOHN GLENCROSS**



## PLAYER FROM THE PAST - SCOT BUIST

Scot Buist signs from Oakley United - May 2007

Alloa Athletic signed defender Scot Buist from Oakley United for an undisclosed fee, manager Allan Maitland had tracked Scot after being alerted to his progress by Oakley player/manager and ex Alloa Athletic captain, Willie Newbigging.

Scot had begun his footballing career as a youngster with Glasgow Rangers but was farmed out to Stenhousemuir. Whilst at Ochilview this time Scot was put out on loan to Oakley United where he soon showed his worth.

At the start of Season 2007/08 Alloa manager Allan Maitland gave him his chance to play for his first senior club. Scot struck up an excellent defensive partnership at Recreation Park with Chris Townsley and later in his spell with "The Wasps" also played alongside Sandy Hodge, Fraser Forrest and Dougie Hill.

Scot Buist Appearances with Alloa Athletic

Season 2007-08 26 (2) 2

Season 2008-09 32 (1) 1

Season 2009-10 30 (1) 1

Total Appearances 88 (4) 4

Scot moved to Stirling Albion for Season 2010-11, then on the Brechin City in Season 2011-12, next back to Ochilview in Season 2012-13 where he played three seasons before a move to Links Park, Montose in 2015-16, then finished he senior career back with Stirling Albion before being released on 1st May 2016







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	CC	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	CC	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	1-2	Loss			90	90			90	90	90
Cove Rangers	Away	L1	2-0	Loss			90	90			90	90	90
Stenhousemuir	Home	L1	1-3	Loss			90	90			90	90	45
Arbroath	Away	L1	1-3	Win			90	90			90	90	90
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	Away	L1											
Inverness	Away	L1											
Dumbarton	Home	L1											
Stenhousemuir	Away	L1											
Annan Athletic	Home	L1											
Cove Rangers	Away	L1											
Montrose	Home	L1											
Kelty	Away	L1											



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	13 8 90 13 6 3	5  70    13  62    8  58    90





		LEAGUE		С	CUP		TOTAL		AREER 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	18 (0)	- 0 -	5 (0)	- 0	23 (0)	- 0 -	48 (1)	- 0 -
TAGGART	DEF	18 (0)	2	8 (0)	2	26 (0)	4	283 (2)	- 18 -
WATERS	DEF	14 (0)	- 1	7 (0)	- 0	21 (0)	1	54 (0)	2
GRAHAM	DEF	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	- 0	0 (0)	0	190 (8)	- 14 -
NEILL	DEF	14 (2)	- 1	6 (0)	- 1	20 (2)	2	48 (2)	1
МСКАУ	DEF	18 (0)	- 0	8 (0)	- 0	26 (0)	0	32 (5)	1
THOMSON	DEF	8 (3)	- 1	2 (3)	- 0	10 (6)	- 1	8 (3)	1
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 (5)	- 1	7 (1)	- 3	19 (6)	4	350 (61)	- 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	9 (7)	- 1	2 (2)	- 0	11 (9)	- 1	42 (48)	4
MULLEN	MID	2 (1)	- 0	1 (3)	- 0	3 (4)	- 0 -	2 (1)	- 0 -
MCDONNELL	MID	3 (7)	- 0 -	0 (1)	- 0	3 (8)	- 0 -	3 (7)	- 0 -
HONEYMAN	MID	0 (4)	- 0	0 (1)	- 0	0 (5)	- 0 -	0 (4)	0
DONNELLY	FWD	- 13 (3)	6	5 (3)	2	18 (6)	- 8 -	31 (30)	- 15 -
SAMMON	FWD	4 (13)	4	3 (3)	- 1	7 (16)	5	66 (57)	- 31 -
BUCHANAN	FWD	17 (1)		7 (0)	- 0	24 (1)	- 0 -	27 (28)	2
RANKIN	FWD	- 12 (1)	4	6 (0)	- 3	- 18 (1)	- 7 -	12 (12)	5

ARMSTRONG PRINTING (ALLOA) LTD

ALLOA CA	REER CUP	ALLOA	TOTAL
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
5 (0)	- 0 -	13 (1)	0
35 (0)	- 0	173 (0)	0
19 (0)	- 0	67 (1)	0
66 (1)	5	349 (3)	23
- 18 (0)	- 1	72 (0)	3
54 (3)	- 1	244 (11)	15
12 (1)	2	60 (3)	3
13 (2)	0	45 (7)	1
2 (3)	0	10 (6)	1
· 3 (1)	- 0	36 (5)	0
38 (10)	1	207 (45)	7
74 (13)	15	424 (74)	80
· 10 (1)	- 0	49 (1)	4
0 (4)	- 0	0 (7)	- 0
25 (8)	- 3	119 (32)	12
5 (4)	- 0	27 (18)	- 1
- 14 (7)	- 1	56 (55)	- 5
1 (3)	- 0	3 (4)	- 0
0 (1)	- 0	3 (8)	0
0 (1)	- 0	0 (5)	0
9 (7)	- 4	40 (37)	19
21 (7)	- 10	87 (64)	41
- 13 (4)	- 1	40 (32)	3
6 (6)	3	18 (18)	8

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## **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 Alloa return to the Indodrill for the first time of 2025 with Queen of the South the side coming to visit. The Doonahmers sit in 6th, a place behind the hosts, however, there is only three points separating the teams. With a game in hand over Alloa too. this makes this afternoon's game another crucial tie in the everchanging League 1 table. They come to Alloa in good fettle after, like Alloa, opening the year with three points. Michael Hewitt's strike at Palmerston last Saturday was the only goal in the game as Queens took all the points against

Paul Hartley's Cove Rangers side. The last five for the opposition have been a mixed bag with victories mixed in with a couple of defeats and a draw. Much like Alloa, they will be looking to build momentum and generate a run that can see them rise up the table.

#### THE BOSS – PETER MURPHY

Peter Murphy continues the quest for promotion in his first season at the club. 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 hi 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. Queens supporters will be hoping the experienced head of Murphy will be enough to guide them to loftier heights by the end of the season.

#### THE CAPTAIN – MATTY DOUGLAS

Matty Douglas will continue to lead the team with the armband following his appointment of captain in the summer. 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. The 26-year-old has been present in all bar two of Queen's fixtures this season. Having not only added defensive stability, he has also d=chipped in with goals against rivals, Annan Athletic, and league leaders, Arbroath.

#### ONE TO WATCH – MICHAEL HEWITT

This afternoon's one to watch was also last Saturday's matchwinner in the form of Michael Hewitt. The 24-year-old right back began his career in the Rangers academy which saw him earn a transfer to Ayr United. Following loan spells at Kilwinning Rangers, Annan Athletic and Peterhead, he eventually departed Somerset Park permanently to sign for Hamilton Accies. After a year at Accies, Hewitt made the switch to Palmerston in the summer and has been an ever present throughout the campaign. Not only providing energy on the right hand side of defence, Hewitt has contributed across the campaign on the goal front. Having found the net four times against Cove Rangers, Kelty Hearts and Dumbarton, he is the club's joint top scorer despite playing right back.

#### 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

**CONTINUED ON P32** 



football with Queen's. It was an unfortunate campaign though as he spent much of it on the sidelines injured. This season has been met with similar frustration as he has only featured once throughout the campaign. 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. Like Church, he has found it a struggle to consistently play for the visitors with experienced keeper, Ross Stewart, preferred in the sticks. 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 and comes in on fine form after featuring in the SPFL Team of the Week and getting on the scoresheet in last week's win over Arbroath.

#### **PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

As we enter the second half of the season, this will be the third time the sides have met this season. The first game in the Indodrill at the beginning of the season was an affair Alloa can feel hard done by not to take all three points. Despite an array of injuries, Queen of the South battled bravely to earn a 0-0 draw to open the account between the teams. The return fixture was once again a close one with the teams yet again being locked in a draw. This time it was young Luke Rankin who opened the scoring the Wasps in the second half. That lead would be short lived though as Josh Walker equalised for the hosts just six minutes later. The league table and previous results suggest and prove that whatever happens today, it will be a closely fought affair.









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#### **ANDREW COCKBURN**



## LOOKING BACK 18TH JANUARY 2003

Alloa Athletic v. Queen of the South

Goal scorers: - Andy Seaton (10m, 42m), Steven Thomson (75m)

John O'Neill (8m), Peter Weatherson (21m, 62m)

Referee – Hugh Dallas Crowd – 561

Alloa: Myles Hogarth, Richard Walker, Andy Seaton, Craig Valentine, Steven Thomson, Max Christie, Ross Hamilton, Robert Sloan, Ryan Davidson, Gareth Hutchison & Ian Little

Subs: Scott Crabbe, Greg Watson, Mark Cowan, James Evans

Q.O.S.: Colin Scott, Steven Renicks,

Derek Anderson, Brian McColligan, Andy Aitken, Jim Thomson, John O'Neill, Steven Bowey, Eric Paton, Peter Weatherson, Brian Mclaughlin

Subs: Jamie Campbell, Derek Allan, Alan Gray, Joe McAlpine, Sean O'Connor.

Battling Alloa came back from the dead three times in their brave struggle for survival. Queens always had the edge thanks to John O'Neill's opener and a double from Peter Weatherson. But each time they went ahead they were pegged back, through an Andy Seaton double from the penalty spot and a late Steve Thomson header.

Despite their fighting display,

Wasps are still without a home win this season and remain rooted to the foot of the table. Terry Christie's men started brightly, with loan signing Robert Sloan showing some nice early touches. Indeed, they were unlucky not to have taken the lead inside three minutes when Gareth Hutchison's header from a Seaton corner crashed off the bar.

However, their early good work was undone in eight minutes as O'Neill headed Queens in front from Brian McLaughlin's cross. Wasps hit back two minutes later when Queens defender Jim Thomson pulled back Ryan Davidson in the box and Seaton drove home the spot kick. Steve Bowey then tested home keeper Myles Hogarth in 18 minutes before the Dumfries men regained the lead three minutes later.

Andy Aitken charged down the wing and found O'Neill, who neatly chested the ball for Weatherson to blast home from 20 yards. Queens threatened again in 34 minutes as Weatherson collected Steve Renicks' pass, only to fire into the sidenetting. It proved a costly miss as Alloa drew level just before the break, thanks to a second penalty. Andy Aitken hauled down Ross Hamilton and Seaton again converted. Seaton was proving a real thorn in the visitors' side. His in-swinging corners were causing Queens all sorts of bother, with Eric Paton heading one off the line and fellow defender Steven Thomson nodding another off the bar.

But at the other end Queens were also threatening. John O'Neill shot just past the upright before the visitors took the lead for a third time in 62 minutes. Renicks was the provider this time, sweeping the ball in for Weatherson to volley past Myles Hogarth. Dumfries boss John Connolly urged his side to concentrate as Alloa poured forward, with Max Christie then Steven Thomson having efforts blocked by the Queens rearguard. But the visitors just couldn't hold out. In 75 minutes another brilliant Seaton corner was met by Steven Thomson, who powerfully headed home. Both sides threw everything at each other in the dying minutes, with John O'Neill and Eric Paton coming close for the Doonhamers. However, neither outfit could break the deadlock and the game ended 3-3.



## **HALF TIME QUIZ**

1. QUEEN OF THE SOUTH HAVE SCORED 17 GOALS IN LEAGUE 1. HOW MANY OF THOSE GOALS WERE AWAY FROM HOME?

2. HOW MANY LEAGUE MATCHES SINCE ALLOA LAST PLAYED AGAINST 10 MEN?

3. FORMER ALLOA MANAGER JIM GOODWIN SAW OUT THE CALENDAR YEAR AT DUNDEE UNITED IN ONLY THE SECOND INSTANCE SINCE 2014. WHICH SCOTTISH FOOTBALL MAN-AGER MANAGED IT IN 2019?

4. KEVIN DE BRUYNE RECENTLY PASSED 400 APPEARANCES FOR MANCHESTER CITY – HOW MANY ASSISTS DOES HE HAVE IN THAT TIME?

5. SOUTHAMPTON ARE HAVING ONE OF THE WORST STARTS EVER TO A PREMIER LEAGUE SEASON WITH JUST 6 POINTS FROM THE FIRST ROUND OF FIXTURES. WHICH TEAM HAS THE WORST RECORD FROM THE OPENING 19 GAMES?

#### **JOHN GLENCROSS**



## **KEVIN CAWLEY**

Kevin Cawley broke through another milestone with Alloa Athletic FC at the weekend as Alloa Athletic defeated Arbroath 3- 1 at the Greenversity Stadium at Gayfield, Arbroath.

Kevin has now made 500 games for the club, scoring 80 goals.

When he came on as second half substitute for Stefan Scougall after 72 minutes against Arbroath at Gayfield on Saturday 4th January, 2025 making it his 500th game for the club.

However, this is not the full story with Kevin already made 111 appearances and scoring 19 goals with other clubs in the Scottish League. So, he is now on 500 + 111 appearances in the Scottish League = 611

Also scoring 80 goals for Alloa + 19 for other Scottish Clubs = 99 goals

Kevin was born on 17th March 1989 and is now 35 years old, he began as a Youth with Glasgow Celtic where he represented Scottish Youth's U16 in 2004/05, when he played 6 matches. Then again in 2005/06 for Scotland Youth's U17 when he played another 6 matches, and lastly 2007/08 he played 3 matches for Scotland U17's. While with Celtic, when Gordon Strachan was the manager, Kevin was also in the Celtic Youth side which were runners up twice in the Youth Cup final in 2007 & 2008.

In 2009/10 Celtic sent Kevin out on loan to Ayr United where he made 15 appearances under Brian Reid. In the second half of 2009/10 season Kevin moved to Stranraer where he made 15 appearances under guidance of ex Alloa Athletic player Keith Knox. At the start of Season 2010/11 he joined East Stirling where he made 42 appearances and scored 14 goals under guidance of Jim McInally.

Then at the start of **SEASON 2011/12** Kevin was to join up

with Paul Hartley who he had know at his time with Celtic and he has never looked back.

**SEASON 2011/12** winning promotion as Champions from the Third Division

**SEASON 2012/13** winning Promotion again, this time through the Play-Off, where the defeated Dunfermline Athletic in the two legged final to gain back-to-back promotion.

Season 2013/14 finished 8th in Championship

**SEASON 2014/15** finished 9th but won the Play Off v. Forfar Athletic

**SEASON 2015/16** Kevin was left unsure of his future with manager Danny Lennon going off on holiday, Stevie Aitken stepped in and took Kevin Cawley & Mark Docherty to Dumbarton.

**SEASON 2016/17** Jack Ross then brought back Kevin from Dumbarton, however Jack Ross was to move to St. Mirren in October 2016 while Jim Goodwin then took over the managers role. Again, the club reached the Play off final but lost agonisingly to Brechin City on Penalties.



**SEASON 2017/18** the again reached the Play Off final v. Dumbarton where Jim Goodwin went one better than last season by winning promotion after defeating Dumbarton in the final.

**SEASON 2018/19** went to the final game of the season when Alloa managed to secure 8th position with QOS & Falkirk

being relegated.

**SEASON 2019/20** was a difficult season due to the corona virus pandemic, the season being cut short, finishing on 12th March 2020 with Alloa in eighth place in the division.

**SEASON 2020–21** was even more difficult, again the season been reduced to 27 games, not beginning until October 2020,

### **QUIZ ANSWERS**

1. TWO -MATT DOUGLAS SCORED AT COVE AND KYLE DOCHERTY AT DUMBARTON (BOTH 2-1 DEFEATS)

2. 77 LEAGUE MATCHES SINCE STEPHEN HENDRIE'S 86TH MINUTE RED-CARD FOR DISSENT IN ALLOA'S 5-1 VICTORY OVER QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

**3. ROBBIE NEILSON** 

**4.165 ASSISTS** 

5. SHEFFIELD UNITED - JUST ONE WIN AND 2 DRAWS IN THE 2020/21 SEASON

but all games had to be played behind closed doors due to players and fans having to isolate. Sadly, the club were also to lose one of their finest midfield player Ian Flannigan who decided this is not how he wanted to play football. The club finished bottom of the league and were relegated.

Season 2021-22 Sadly, Peter Grant decided a change was needed and he left the club with Barry Ferguson taking over the manager's job, but it just didn't work, therefore Brian Rice was appointed on 21st February 2022 and managed to get the club to finish 5th in the League which earlier in the season did not look possible.

**SEASON 2022–23** Brian Rice would lead "The Wasps" again into the Play-Off's where he met one of his old clubs Hamilton Accies, which proved to be a game too far for Alloa cruelly losing 5-3 on aggregate with Alloa struggling due to injury & fatigue. Kevin himself married Gillian 1st July, 2022.

**SEASON 2023-24** Brian Rice began the season as manager but was tempted to a full-time

management position with Livingston. Andy Graham, another Alloa legend took over the managerial positioput up a great display n, but still never closed the door on making more appearances for the club. At the start of Season 2023-24 Kevin Cawley was rewarded with a testimonial on 24th June 2023, the match ended 2-2 with Kevin Cawley scoring the goal of the game. By the end of the season Alloa Athletic finished 3rd in the League and another Play-Off fixture against Hamilton Accies again, unfortunately "The Wasps" put up a great display but went down 5-4. Kevin's son Luca was born on 4th January 2024.

**SEASON 2024-25** Kevin once again this season has featured very much in the manager's plans, Andy Graham said "Kevin has been regenerated after starting a new job, getting married and his wife Gillian giving birth to his son Luca all in the past two years. In a season which highlights the importance of combining experience & youth."

#### WHAT WAS SAID ABOUT KEVIN:



Paul Hartley recalled "He was a terrific signing for me... I loved working with him... he's been a brilliant servant to Alloa and I really can't speak highly enough of him".

Jack Ross noted on bringing Kevin back from his season at Dumbarton that he'd been a long-time admirer of his, while Jim Goodwin quipped that we could all do with more Kevin Cawley's, before adding "He is a pleasure for me as a young manager to work with and the boys love him."

Peter Grant was another who always praised 'KC', recalling in his time, "he was a great player for me, it was a joy and pleasure to work with him and I really enjoyed it."

Cawley's team-mates have always appreciated his efforts, with some of his long-term colleagues undoubtedly best placed to place on record their admiration for Wee Kev, seeing him on-and-off the pitch for so long.

Stevie Hetherington explained, "He demands high standards, he's a top, top player. He's such a hard-working player too, someone you really appreciate... He's been a great servant to the club, he's had a lot of success."

Captain at the time before taking up the managers role, Andy Graham added "His attitude to everything is brilliant; the way he looks after himself off the pitch. He's one of the most unassuming people that you'll meet. I can't talk highly enough of him and as a person off the pitch, in the dressing room he's brilliant, he's a funny wee guy. He deserves all the plaudits he gets for the quality he's brought to Alloa."

Kevin Cawley a	appearances for	or Allo	a Athletic
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THE

Kevin Cawley appearances for Alloa Athletic							
Season	League	League Cup	Scottish Cup	Other 1st Team	Total		
2011-12	32 (3) 9	1 (-) 0	2 (-) 1	1 (-) 0	36 (3) 10		
2012-13	29 (10) 14	0 (1) 0	1 (-) 0	1 (-) 0	31 (11) 14		
2013-14	35 (-) 8	2 (-) 0	3 (-) 1	1 (-) 0	41 (-) 9		
2014-15	36 (2) 5	2 (-) 0	3 (-) 0	4 (-) 0	45 (2) 5		
	132 (15) 36	5 (1) 0	9 (-) 2	7 (-) 0	153 (16) 38 1st Spell		
2016-17	36 (3) 6	3 (3) 0	2 (-) 0	3 (-) 1	44 (6) 7		
2017-18	30 (7) 5	3 (1) 0	2 (-) 0	2 (-) 1	37 (8) 6		
2018-19	22 (12) 1	4 (-) 1	2 (-) 1	3 (1) 2	31 (13) 5		
2019-20	26 (-) 3	4 (-) 1	2 (-) 1	2 (-) 0	34 (-) 5		
2020-21	27 (-) 5	4 (1) 0	1 (-) 0	0 (-) 0	32 (1) 5		
2021-22	25 (6) 6	1 (-) 0	2 (-) 0	1 (-) 0	29 (1) 5		
2022-23	26 (4) 1	1 (1) 0	2 (-) 0	1 (1) 1	30 (6) 2		
2023-24	14 (9) 1	1 (2) 0	1 (1) 1	0 (-) 0	16 (12) 2		
2024-25	13 (5) 1	4 (-) 1	1 (-) 0	2 (1) 2	20 (6) 4		
	219 (47) 29	25 (8) 3	15 (-) 3	14 (3) 7	273 (58) 42 2nd Spell		
	351 (61) 65	30 (9) 3	24 (-) 5	21 (3) 7	426 (74) 80 Over 2 Spells		
					426 (74) 80		
		1					



## ALLOA ATHLETIC



### **QUEEN OF THE SOUTH**

	#	POS		۲	0		
	1		TOCHUKWU OGAYI				
X	21		NEIL PARRY				
$\mathbf{X}$	31		PJ MORRISON				
$\mathbf{X}$	2		SCOTT TAGGART				
X	3		CALUM WATERS				
X	5		ANDY GRAHAM				
Х	6		MORGYN NEILL				
Х	15		DAVID MCKAY				
Х	17		KANE THOMSON				
Х	23		DAVID DEVINE				
+	4		STEVEN HETHERINGTON				
Х	7		KEVIN CAWLEY				
Х	8		KURTIS ROBERTS				
Х	10		SCOTT HONEYMAN				
Х	11		SHAY NEVANS				
Х	12		STEFAN SCOUGALL				
+	14		MIKO VIRTANEN				
Х	20		CAMERON O'DONNELL				
X	22		REECE MULLEN				
$\times$	26		TYRECE MCDONNELL				
$\times$	9		LUKE DONNELLY				
	18		CONOR SAMMON				
$\times$	19		STEVEN BUCHANAN				
$\times$	24		LUKE RANKIN				
$\mathbf{ imes}$	MANAGER ANDY GRAHAM						

	#	POS		۲		
X	1		ROSS STEWART			
X	2		MICHAEL HEWITT			
Х	3		DANIEL CHURCH			
Х	4		REECE LYON			
╉	5		MATTY DOUGLAS			
Х	6		HARRY COCHRANE			
$\times$	7		KIERAN MCKECHNIE			
	8		<b>BENJAMIN LUISSINT</b>			
$\times$	9		LEIGHTON MCINTOSH			
$\times$	10		KAIKENNEDY			
+	11		<b>BRENNAN DICKENSON</b>			
$\times$	12		ADAM BROOKS			
$\times$	14		BEN JOHNSTONE			
$\times$	15		NIALL ROGERSON			
+	16		JACK HANNAH			
$\mathbf{X}$	17		LEWIS O'DONNELL			
┿	18		PHARRELL WILLIS			
$\times$	19		FRASER BRYDEN			
$\mathbf{X}$	20		CHARLIE COWIE			
$\ge$	22		OSCAR MACINTYRE			
$\times$	23		JOSH WALKER			
$\times$	25		KYLE DOHERTY			
$\times$	26		MARK THOMSON			
$\times$	31		JAY HOGARTH			
$\times$	35		JACK BRYDON			
MANAGER PETER MURPHY						

#### **REFEREE:** Alastair Grieve

ASST: Paul O'Neill & Ian Hart

ALLOA'S NEXT FIVE	01.02.25, DUMBARTON FOOTBALL STADIUM, 15:00
14.01.25, FALKIRK STADIUM, 19:30	08.02.25, LINKS PARK, 15:00
25.01.25, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00	15.02.25, INDODRILL STADIUM, 15:00



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