

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC F.C

FORMER PLAYERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE 22 // MARCH 2022



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DAFC FORMER PLAYERS ASSOCIATION SPORTSMAN'S BRUNCH WITH

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WELCOME

So here we are approaching March and things are looking a bit brighter. The recent undefeated run ended in Kilmarnock but it was a narrow defeat and what is important now is that we kick on again.

I am looking forward to seeing Dom Thomas and Stephen Lawless causing havoc in opposing defences and providing more support for Lewis McCann, who I think, has done very well with little support. We are, however, still in a precarious position and I hope that Yogi has been left with enough time to recover from the catastrophic start to the season.

We are all looking forward to the Celebration Brunch on 20th March. Mikey has been working so hard to make it a great day for everyone. Keep your eyes on the magazine and our Facebook page, for news of future ventures.

There are some big birthdays in March. One of our founder members, Dan McLindon is 82 on the 3rd. This month's magazine is full of your favourite articles.

Chris Wishart
Secretary



PATON'S PREMIER PARS - 25 YEARS

This month we will celebrate 25 years of Paton's Premier Pars. The sold-out event promises to be a great afternoon with a great turnout from the players and staff from the season.



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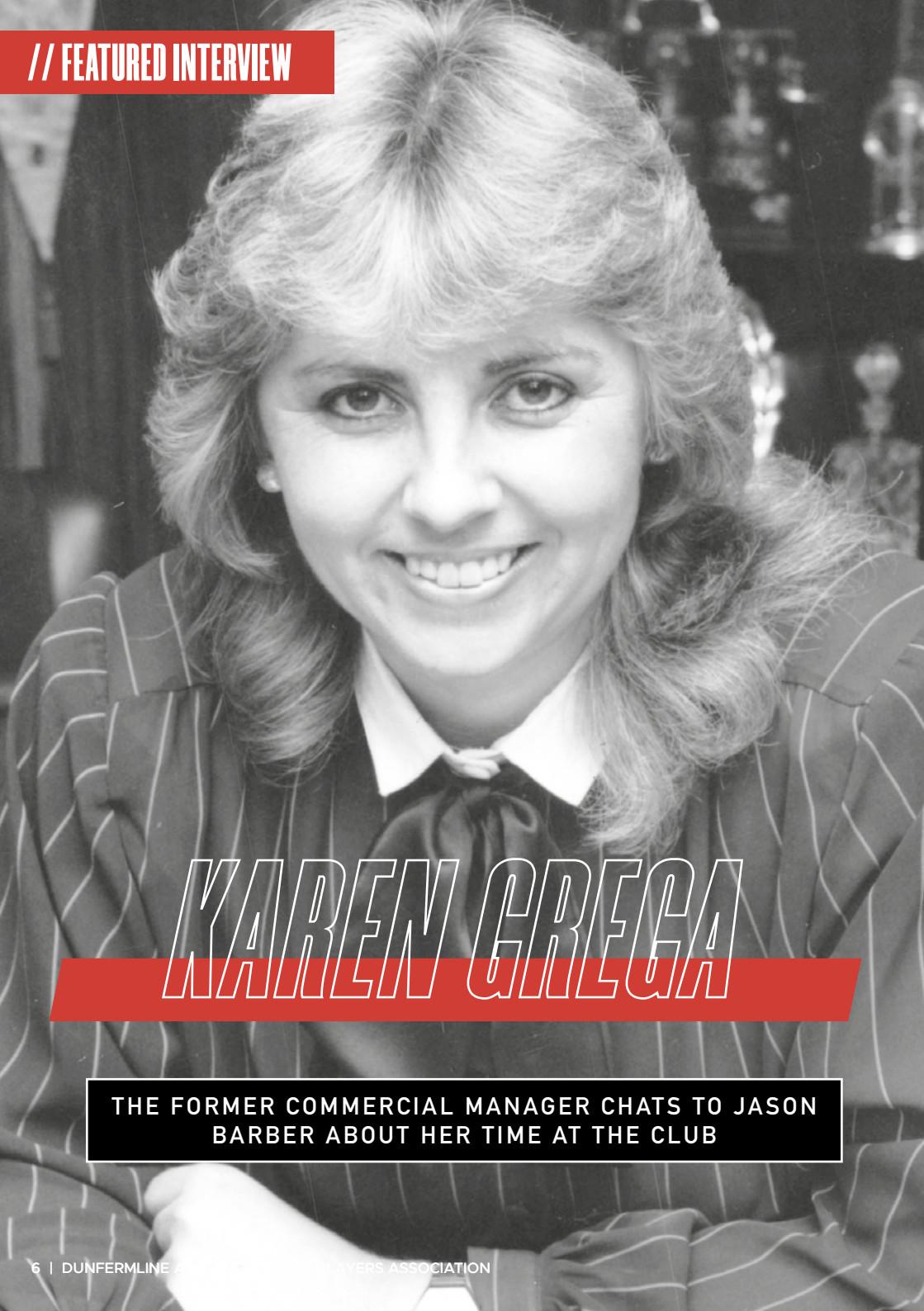
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A STRIP BACK IN TIME

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Pictured: Official Umbro advert for the kits and tracktop worn season 1988 - 90



KAREN GREGA

THE FORMER COMMERCIAL MANAGER CHATS TO JASON BARBER ABOUT HER TIME AT THE CLUB

Karen always had aspirations to work in sport.



For this edition, we are going “off the pitch” for once as Jason Barber spoke to the club’s commercial manager between 1986 and 1988; Karen Grega.

At a time when the club was going through very rapid progress on the park, it was agreed that similar development was needed off the park in order for the club to try and keep up with the additional support, and publicity, it was garnering through the results and promotions being targeted.

Karen was working in Edinburgh at the time and takes up the story as to how she ended up as the club’s high profile, and extremely successful, Commercial Manager; “My mum was from Paisley, and my dad Slovakian, so I had some family ties and roots to Scotland already. Plenty of cousins over here too, so even though it was on the other side of the

world, it certainly wasn’t a complete unknown.

“I moved across to work for a great friend and colleague, Nicky O’Reilly, who had a PR company in Edinburgh at the time; Capital PR. Nicky and her husband were looking for a partner to come in with an interest in football/sport in general. They had a contract working with Skol and it was the lead up to the annual Skol Cup final at Hampden when Nicky’s husband sadly passed away suddenly. She, understandably, had to deal with all of that and I stepped up before the final and helped get the company get that work over the line. It was the 1986 final between Celtic and Rangers in front of 75,000 fans, so an absolute dream come true to be involved in the PR for that occasion!

Not long after that, I met with Dunfermline Athletic’s board and informally

spoke about where the club was heading. It had recently won the Second Division and was destined for successive promotion and the Premier League awaited. After a good start to the season, that was looking like a distinct possibility, so I compiled a report on the commercial department at the football, and the opportunities that were perhaps being missed!

I met with dear Jessie Arnott, who became a close friend for many years, and pulled together suggestions of where the club could make improvements. At that time, the commercial offices were like broom cupboards, with no daylight getting into them and the shop was not doing some of the more obvious things; such as using window displays to appeal to passing supporters.

I wanted the staff to have nice offices and feel



important, make people like Jessie feel proud to be there. I pulled together my report and met with the club's board, who then offered me a job!

One of the key things I tried to bring in was organisation and the staff having some confidence in themselves. The media coverage at the time was huge, so again we had to use that to our benefit. "Crocodile Dunfermline" was one newspaper headline, given the popular film at the time. I also went out and met with all sorts of various organisations in the area; Fife Young Farmers, PR students who were studying at the local Lauder College for example. There was the odd television interview as well which brought in considerable publicity, although Ian Archer at Scotsport did do the "what's a nice girl like you doing working in a place like this?" line!

One of my proudest moments came on the journey back from a midweek match,

the wonderful Bob Crampsey was on the radio and had seen some of the work taking place at Dunfermline. He gave some lovely and detailed coverage on the professional work that was being carried out by all the team behind the scenes at Dunfermline, hearing it from someone as knowledgeable and kind as Bob really meant a lot to me. It was a validation of everything taking place.

Some of the work we carried out during my time at the club included the first Jock Stein suite which was installed in an area that was previously a void near the Paragon Club. It was the club's first executive lounge and brought in new revenue streams.

The Centenary Club had not long been launched so I also worked with people like Jim Harrison to make sure that got a lot of coverage. I created a sponsorship brochure, something the club had not done before, and other clubs were impressed with the levels of sponsorship we were

offering to local businesses and individuals. Jim Farry, who was head of the SFA at the time, said "you're ten, maybe twenty, years too early for some of these initiatives" I would constantly ask if the club could do something new, or unusual, even having two different sponsors on the strips for example. Because nobody had asked before, they were often stumped when I'd ask them if we could something out of the ordinary! After struggling to get a shirt sponsor, we ended up with Aluglaze and then Thomson's after themselves

Of course, the club doing so well on the pitch helped massively. We had Jim Leishman as the manager at the time, who was brilliant at going out to local businesses and being the face of the club. Players included John Watson and Norrie McCathie, who were both happy to attend events and put themselves forward for any PR events that we had. With those three involved, we didn't struggle to

get media coverage during my time at the club! Mel Rennie was chairman, who was an absolute gentleman and a huge supporter of the work that was going on too.

The club was obviously promoted to the Premier League and I left at the start of that season. Jock Brown approached me as he was setting up a new business based in Glasgow in player management/agency, and it was too good an opportunity to miss out on. After that, I returned to Australia and have been non stop ever since, working in a

variety of high profile sport and media positions

These days, I'm actively involved in three boards;

- Football Coaches Australia
- Heartbeat of Football;

aiming to have zero heart related deaths in football. We do pop up testing for supporters attending matches and now have defibrillators at all grounds across the country.

- Dunbar Rovers FC, helping to promote good coaching and teaching

I'll certainly be hoping to be back at East End Park again though. I was last back in Scotland in 2017 and Ross McArthur kindly gave me a tour of the stadium. Quite some changes from my time at the club!

It was lovely to meet Ross and hopefully my next visit will coincide with a match and I can meet up with some of the wonderful people I met during my time working for Dunfermline Athletic.

All the best to everyone involved"



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY



3rd March: Dan McLindon - 82



6th March: Stuart Rafferty - 61



19th March: Scott Wilson - 45



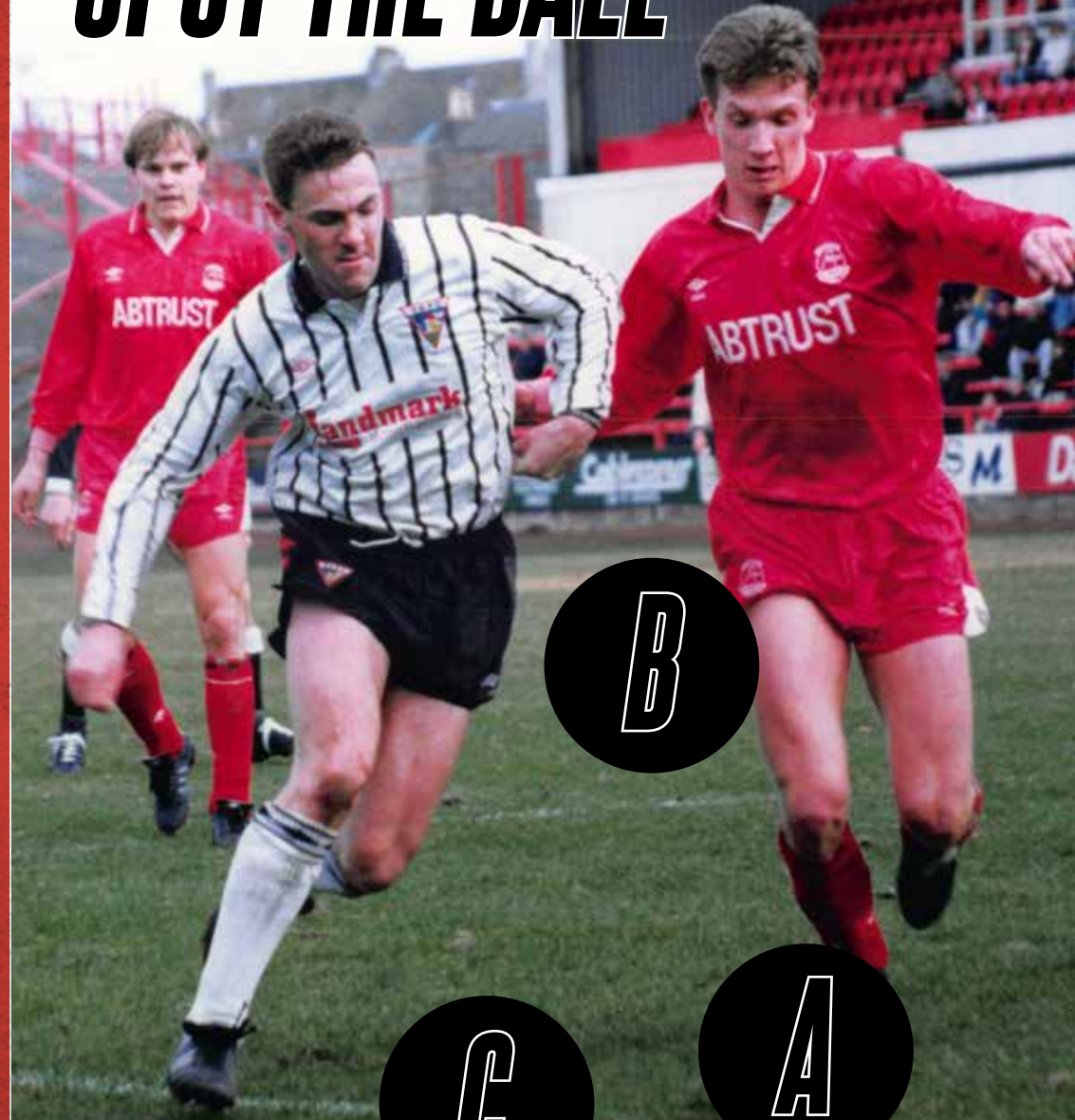
21st March: Ross Jack - 63

GUESS THE PAR?



Answer: Andrew Tod

SPOT THE BALL



Answer: A



500

By far one of The Pars favourite modern players, Joe Cardle recently made his 500th appearance in senior football. Joe is currently plying his trade within the thrilling project at Kelty Hearts and is a big hit with the Kelty fans.

Born in Blackpool on 7th February 1987, Joe progressed through junior football and signed for Port Vale in 2003. He signed senior forms for the Burslem club in 2005 and spent three years as a Port Vale player, although he had a loan spell with Clyde in 2007. Staying on in Scotland, Joe spent season 2008/09 with Airdrie, but had a falling out with certain people at the club and opted for a pre-signing agreement with Dunfermline Athletic. He joined The Pars at the start of season 2009/10.

Joe became a firm favourite with Pars fans and remained so until he was forced to leave by the Administrator in 2013. By this time Joe had started 95 games, come on as substitute in 43 more and scored 24 goals. He spent the rest of 2013 with Fife rivals Raith Rovers before starting season

2014/15 with Ross County. To everyone's delight Joe was re-signed by Allan Johnston and played a big part in the promotion winning team of 2015/16. For three seasons, Joe remained one of the most popular players and made a further 70 starts and 29 substitute appearances scoring 31 more goals. To general dismay, Johnston choose not to offer Joe a new contract, so he was on the move again, this time back to England to join the rising new team at AFC Fylde on the outskirts of Blackpool.



His family had become settled in Dunfermline and it was not long before he became homesick. His new club were understanding and in 2019 he joined Partick Thistle, who he helped to promotion back to the Championship.

He was not offered a new contract, however and in 2021 he joined the exciting project at Kelty Hearts where he passed 500 appearances. 237 of those appearances were with The Pars, the most recent addition to The Pars 200 Club.



JOIN US

Dunfermline Athletic Former Players Association was founded in 2009. It exists to provide a meeting point for anyone associated with the playing staff of Dunfermline Athletic. It is independent and run by a committee of former players. It also provides sponsorship to Dunfermline Athletic and its players.

Benefits to Members

Free entry to matches at East End Park with free half-time refreshments. A reserved area in the main stand. The Guest of Honour Scheme allows a member and his guest to enjoy full hospitality in the Club's premium hospitality suite at a game of his choice on a first come first served basis. The FPA also organises social events such as quizzes, cabaret evenings, whisky tastings, theatre trips and our own reunion events. A much admired magazine is issued each month.

Benefits to DAFC

The Association provides financial assistance to The Pars by donating kit items, help with young players expenses and capital items such as contributions for a players' room fridge, kit van, training items, etc. The FPA sponsors an inductee into the Hall of Fame each year. The Guest of Honour

Scheme provides the interviewee for Jim Leishman MBE which is such a popular part of Hospitality.

Work with other groups

Provision of the capital items is usually in conjunction with other DAFC groups such as The Supporters Trust, Lifeline and The Heritage Trust. The most popular part of the Heritage Trust's work has been the video interviews of former players. These interviews have almost all been with Guests of Honour.

IT ONLY COSTS £20 FOR A YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP. JOIN US.

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Bonar Mercer, Treasurer, 5, Pinnel Place, Dalgety Bay, KY11 9PB

// CULT HEROES

ANDY GEGGAN

You can become a Cult Hero with Pars fans by being that bit different or special, but one thing guaranteed to endear you to the fan-base is to give 100% in every game.

This Andy Geggan did and more besides. For most of his time with The Pars, he shared the captaincy with the similarly committed Josh Falkingham, and from his signing at the start of season 2012/13 till when he left at the end of 2016/17, his popularity was there for all to see. Andy left for Ayr United, simply because they offered him a more secure

contract. Most Dunfermline fans were unhappy that this should be so.

Andy's youth career was with Livingston. He signed a full contract with Dumbarton in 2006 and in a 5 year spell he made over 150 appearances for The Sons. At the beginning of Season 2011/12 he moved on to Ayr United, where he was a regular in the team. The start of the following season found him at East End Park.

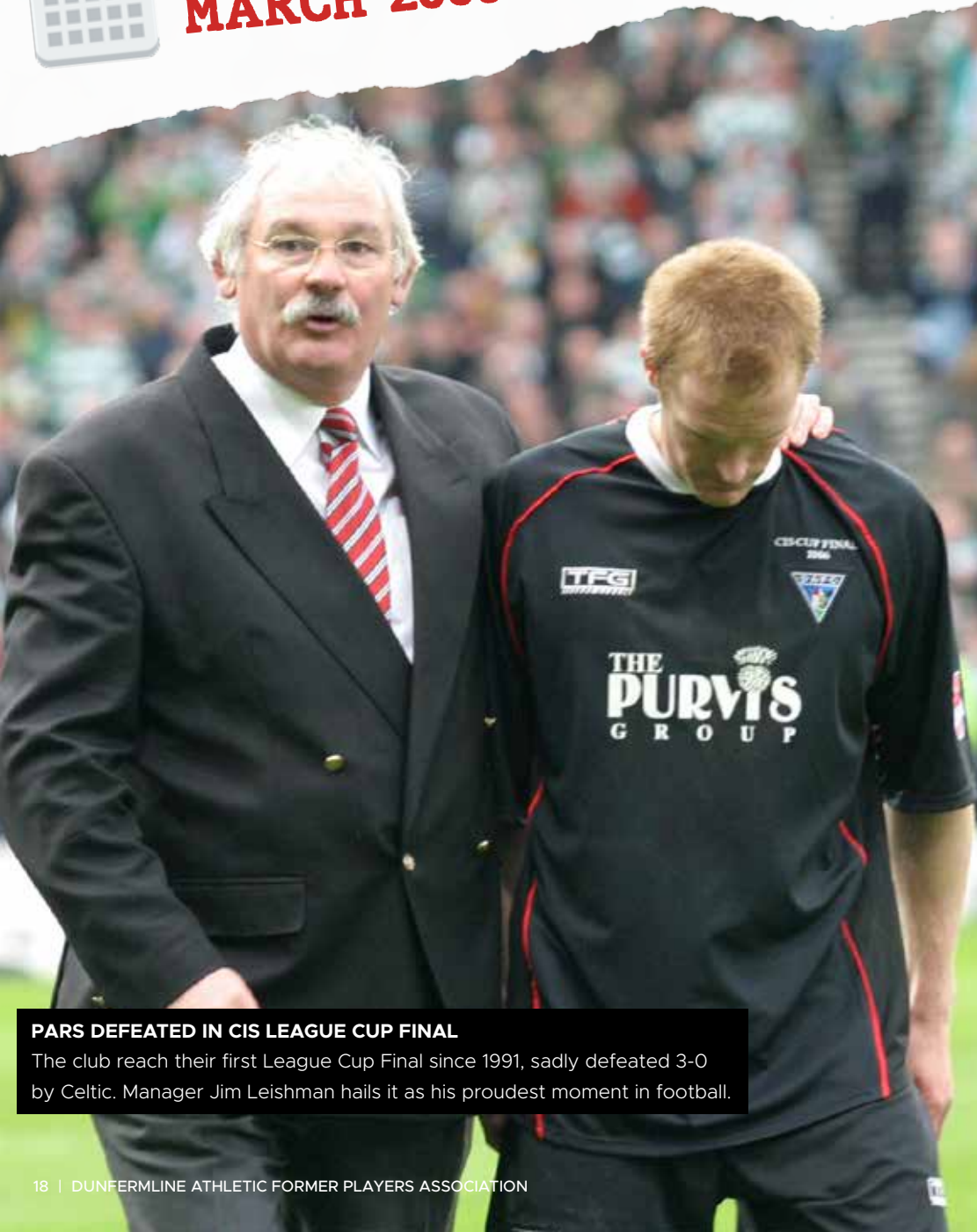
For The Pars Andy made 187 starts and came on as substitute on 7 more occasions almost gaining

entry to the 200 Club. He scored 32 goals. As stated above he returned to Somerset Park in 2017 and remained there until the end of season 2019/20. By now, however, injury was having a detrimental impact on his appearances and he moved to the Lowland League with BSC Glasgow.

As his fitness improved he went on loan to Partick Thistle for the latter part of 2020/21. Andy began the new season with Dumbarton and is still in their first team pool.



IN THE MONTH OF... MARCH 2006



PARS DEFEATED IN CIS LEAGUE CUP FINAL

The club reach their first League Cup Final since 1991, sadly defeated 3-0 by Celtic. Manager Jim Leishman hails it as his proudest moment in football.

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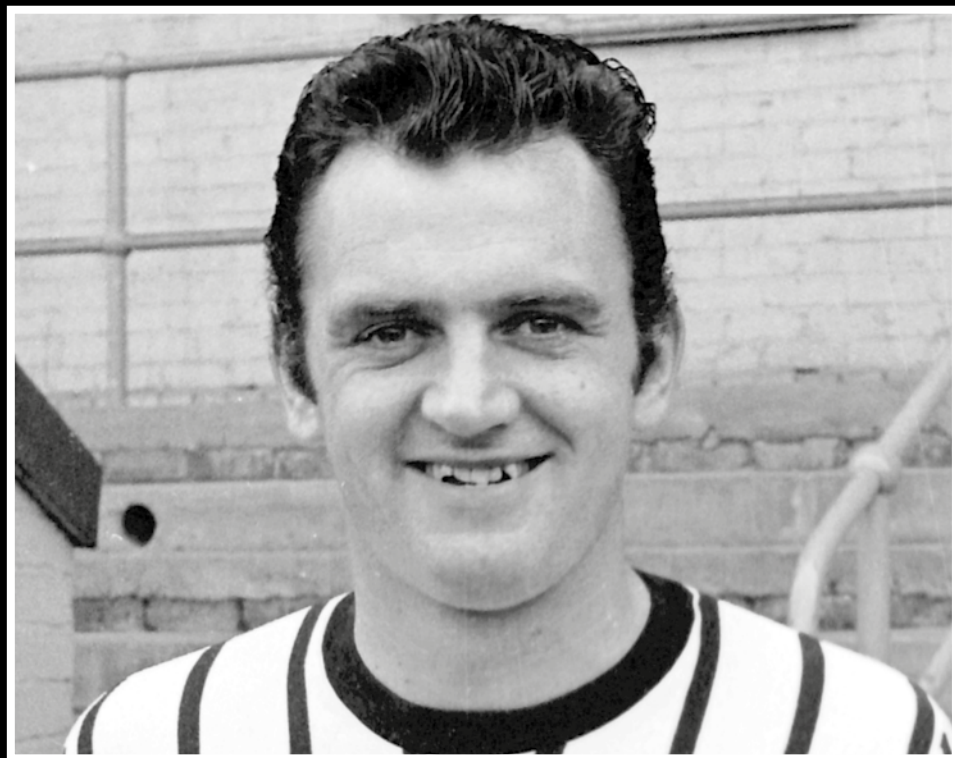
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DOUG BAILLIE

27th JANUARY 1937 - 19th FEBRUARY 2022



It is with sadness that we learned of the death after illness of former player Doug Baillie at his home in Hamilton at the age of 85. Our condolences are extended to Doug's family.

It was appropriate that the man to take over the captaincy when Roy Barry was transferred to Coventry City, should be his successor at centre half, Doug

Baillie. A strong, powerful figure, Doug arrived at Dunfermline with a wealth of experience having already captained Airdrie, Third Lanark and Falkirk. He had also captained Rangers Reserves.

Doug Baillie started his senior career with Airdrie in 1953 and stayed with the Broomfield Club until 1960, apart from a very brief

spell with Swindon Town in 1956. He was big and commanding centre half and his performances with Airdrie persuaded Rangers to sign him in 1960.

He remained, mainly as a reserve, until 1964, when he moved across Glasgow to join Third Lanark. The demise of the Hi-Hi's led to another move and in 1965 he joined Falkirk. At Brockville,

he was the key figure in The Bairns defence and in a four year spell he played well over 100 games.

In 1969, George Farm was looking for cover for Roy Barry and signed Doug for The Pars. With Roy's move to Coventry, Doug became the regular centre half and Doug Baillie played in all six of Dunfermline's Inter Cities Fairs Cup matches in season 1969-70. He made 26 starts and five as a substitute for Dunfermline Athletic before hanging up his boots.

After retiring as a player, Baillie became a football journalist, working for The Sunday Post. He was the chief football writer there for 32

years covering World Cups in Argentina and France and becoming President of the Scottish Football Writers' Association in 1990 before retiring in 2001.

An example of Doug's humour is recorded in the book Black and White Magic where he contributed to the background of what was termed on October 1969 as the 'Battle of Bordeaux'.

October 1, 1969. The Municipal Stadium in Bordeaux. A never to be forgotten ninety minutes. I will never forget it anyway! For what started off as a stage for displaying all that is sordid in football ended up with my East End colleagues

and myself rolling about in the dressing room afterwards.

After the match we'd fought our way off the field and battled our way to the relative sanctuary of the changing rooms. All was well we thought, everybody had made in safely. Wrong. One man was missing, there was no sign of George McLean. Five minutes later big George staggered into the dressing room with blood gushing from a head wound.

He'd been hit by a beer can. 'How are you feeling?' I enquired anxiously. 'Fine' came the reply 'I was lucky it was a can of LIGHT ALE! Exit the after-match tension.

Doug in action against Gwardia Warsaw in November 1969.





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1. **Chic Murray:** The bride wore a lemon dress. The groom was a sucker.
2. **Stephen Wright:** I walked into the bedroom. The curtains were drawn but the furniture was real.
3. **Milton Jones:** My neighbour died of massive head injuries. Hardly surprising since he had a massive head.
4. **Gary Delaney:** I bought a chameleon. I can never find it.
5. **Tommy Cooper:** I'm on a whisky diet. I've lost three days already.
6. **Chic Murray:** If you are not drunk why are you lying in the gutter? Sorry officer, I've found this parking place, so I've sent the wife home for the car.
7. **Stewart Francis:** My wife and I have decided we don't want kids. You can pick them up any time.
8. **Milton Jones:** When my daughter was born she had jaundice. She was small round and yellow. We called her Melanie.
9. **Gary Delaney:** Uri Geller - Surprisingly hard to stab.
10. **Tommy Cooper:** I went to the paper shop. It had blown away.

Got any jokes or one liners you want to share? Let us know

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC

200 CLUB

Scott Wilson appeared in the Champions League for former club Glasgow Rangers before joining The Pars in 2002. He is next up in our 200 club.

BY MICHAEL WOOD

Scott Peter Wilson was born in Edinburgh on the 19th of March 1977.

The centre back began his career with Rangers under Walter Smith, making his debut at Ibrox against Ajax in the Champions League on in October 96 alongside future par Greg Shields.

Wilson was predominately a squad player for the Govan side in their league titles wins of 99 and 2000. "Dinger," as he was known by the Ibrox support, also cameoed in Dick Advocaat's 99 Scottish League Cup winning side.

Aged 25 and seeking to be a starter, Wilson ventured closer to home, and East End Park with his former teammate Barry Nicholson awaited him. Unfortunately, his debut was a 6-0 defeat in Fife to his former employers.

While a composed defender on the ball, which is why Jimmy Calderwood wanted Wilson in the first place, he was strong in the tackle and uncompromising to his opponents as shown by the fact he was booked 13 times in 39 appearances in his debut season.

Sadly, Wilson missed out on the 2004 Scottish Cup final because of appendicitis, but Scott did score the goal that knocked holders Hearts out of the 06-07 Scottish Cup. However, Pars were undone in the final by Celtic through a late Perrier-Doumbé goal, a year after being beaten by the same opposition in the 06 League Cup final with Scott starting both games.

The only silver lining that to be taken from those Scottish Cup finals defeats was entry into the UEFA Cup qualifiers. As a result: Wilson, alongside Darren

Young, Scott Thomson and Shields are the only players to feature in both UEFA Cup outings for DAFC.

Wilson was appointed captain by Stephen Kenny in late 07, and three weeks later, he led the team out in the Challenge Cup final against St Johnstone, scoring a consolation.

Wilson spent his best years with Dunfermline and left after his contract finished in June 09 to round off his career with North Queensland Fury. Scott joined up with Ian Ferguson, who, while club captain, moved to Australia from East End Park seven years previous.

253 APPS



4 EVENTS THAT HAPPENED IN...MARCH



1965

Dunfermline Athletic win 2-0 in the Scottish Cup Semi Final against Hibernian. Game is played at Tynecastle. Dunfermline would meet Celtic in the final.



2012

Jim Jefferies is appointed the new manager after Jim McIntyre is dismissed. Jim's first job is trying to save the club from relegation from the SPL.



2010

Former player Bobby Smith sadly passes away aged just 56. Bobby signed for the Pars in 1987 playing over 50 games for the club.



2013

A dark day in the history of the club as administration is confirmed. Various first team players are released from their contracts to cut costs at the club.

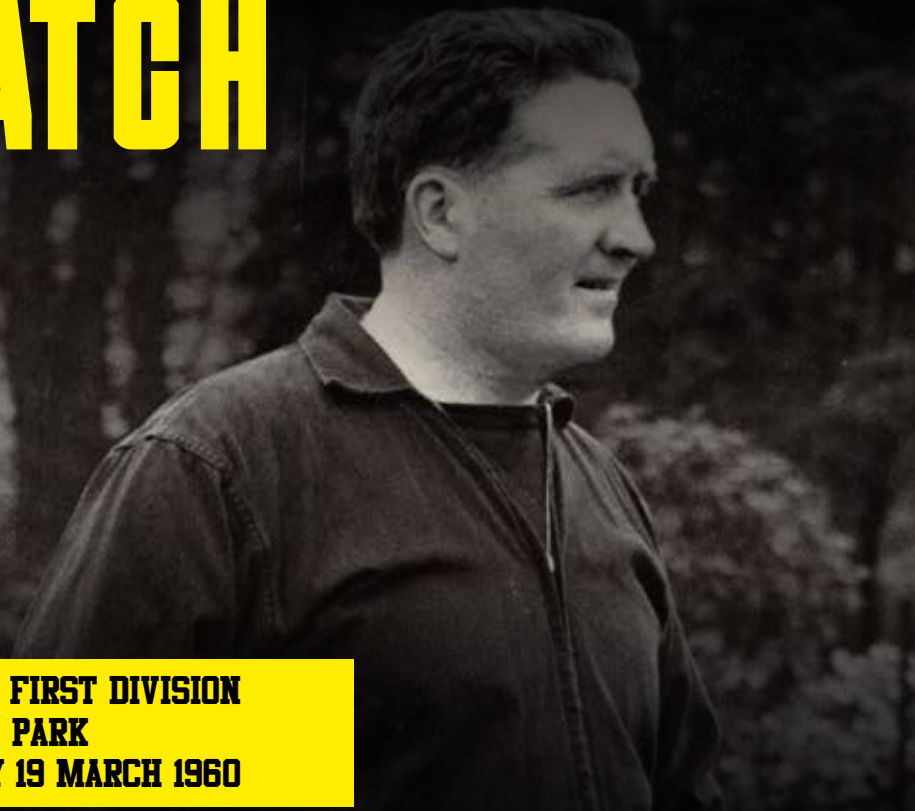


FROM THE PARCHIVES

16th March 1965 Dunfermline Athletic travel to play Atletico Bilbao in the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup Play-offs losing 1-2 at the San Mames Stadium.



MEMORABLE MATCH



**SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION
EAST END PARK
SATURDAY 19 MARCH 1960**

On 13th March 1960 Dunfermline appointed Jock Stein as their manager. Celtic had appointed Stein to coach their reserve team after he retired as a player. Jock had not applied for the vacant post at Dunfermline but was invited to a meeting by the Dunfermline directors.

On his subsequent appointment his words to the assembled newsmen were: "The team is in a precarious

position. I have no magic wand but I will do everything in my power to save them from relegation".

When Stein took over for the last six games of the season Dunfermline lay in the relegation zone with only Stirling Albion and Arbroath below them. The prospect that in just over a year European football and the glamour games that such competitions brought, were to be destined

for Dunfermline truly seemed to require the services of a member of the Magic Circle.

The wizardry started as he recorded six straight wins defeating Celtic 3-2 in his very first game in charge. His personal powers were evident considering he made only one change in team selection - George Miller stepping in for the last five matches after an injury to Jimmy Wardhaugh against Celtic.

NEW DOSS

By JIM RODGER

JOCK STEIN, 37-year-old Celtic chief coach, is Dunfermline Athletic's new manager. He was appointed last night and will take over his new duties today.

And Dunfermline's first game with Jock as manager...

In the first ten seconds of the Stein era Dunfermline got one of their best breaks of their season. Bobby Evans missed a simple pass letting Jim Kerray's pass through to Charlie DICKSON who raced on to shoot before being closed down by McKay and Kennedy. Frank Haffey stretched his full length but the ball spun past his fingers into the corner of the net. 1-0

Two minutes later Cammy Fraser was able to block a very dangerous Byrne drive on the goal-line.

On twenty minutes Celtic were back level when Conway pounced on a missed cross and put the ball away. John Sweeney completely missed an incoming ball, Jim CONWAY scooped it from keeper Eddie Connachan's grasp and drove the ball into the unguarded net. 1-1

Jimmy Wardhaugh was then crocked in 27th minute when he injured his ankle. Alex Smith dropped back to half back and the former Hearts man played the rest of the match on the right wing with George Peebles switching to outside left.

There followed a long period

with nothing to note. Both defences broke up the attacking moves that came their way and it was a time of frustration for the forwards. In the time up until the interval Byrne came closest with a low drive.

Half time: Dunfermline 1 Celtic 1

Two blunders which really swung the game came early in the second half. Five minutes in Alec Smith went on a mazy run. Weaving his way through the Celtic defence he saw Harry Melrose standing completely unmarked. MELROSE first timed his team mate's pass past Haffey. 2-1

Two minutes later MELROSE completed almost an identical manoeuvre to put the Pars 3-1 up. From a melee involving Dickson and Jim Kerray, the ball went out to the wing. McKay seemed to have forgotten that the former Rangers play existed and although Haffey saved the first effort Harry made no mistake when the ball rebounded to him.

Dunfermline never looked back although a defensive mistake by Stevenson allowed Conway to split the Pars defence

and score a second with half an hour still to play. Connachan stopped Conway's shot but Alec BYRNE smashed home the loose ball. 3-2

In 70 minutes it looked like parity for Celtic when Neil Mochan cut the ball back we'll away from Connachan but Conway's attempt was blocked.

The heroic Dunfermline defence, ably generalled by Stevenson, held out. They succeeded in making the Celtic attack - which earlier seemed capable of doing great things - look pretty mediocre. Pars supporters found it hard to comprehend the transformation that was started by Jock Stein and came to expect their team to be near the top of the league and in European competition. Dunfermline will be eternally grateful for his contribution.

While undoubtedly a legend in his own lifetime, Jock Stein's affection for Dunfermline remained a deep and powerful one. He famously wrestled the Scottish Cup with George Farm as the Champions took on the Cup winners in April 1968 and his happy return for the Centenary Match in 1985 at East End Park.

BORN ON THE TERRACES // COMING SOON

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EAST END PARK THROUGH THE YEARS



September/October 1997

New continental style floodlights and pylons are installed. Their first action comes on 1st November 1997, against Celtic, when the Pars were beaten 0-2. East End Park boasts two sets of floodlights for the remainder for the season.

NOT ALOT OF PEOPLE KNOW THAT...

This cartoon appeared on the morning of Saturday 28th November 1953 and celebrated the fact that Dunfermline Athletic were the only undefeated side in British Senior Football. Of course, being The Pars, the next thing to happen was inevitable and they lost heavily and fell away in the League, eventually finishing 8th.



The 1953/54 line up was:- Back Row (l-r) Forsyth, Mackie, Benson, Clarkson, Millar, Baikie. Front Row (l-r) Currie, McSeveney, Henderson, O'Brien and Mailer.

Some stars in that line-up, with giant centre half Jimmy Clarkson, future Rangers star Jimmy Millar, Eric Baikie, Willie McSeveney, George Henderson, future Leeds and Southampton star George O'Brien and Ron Mailer.

The team did, however sow the seeds for the following campaign when they finished second and gained promotion to the top division.

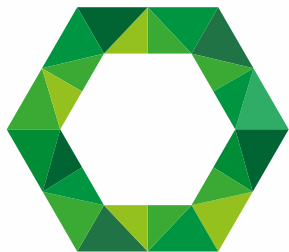
Here is the promotion winning team.

Back Row (l-r) Laird, Samuel, Duthie, Mackin, Chalmers, Mackie. Front Row (l-r) McKinlay, O'Brien, Dickson, Reilly and Anderson.

You will note quite a few changes, particularly George Duthie, Joe Mackin, Charlie Dickson and Felix Reilly.

Still, the last unbeaten team in Britain at the end of November. Not a lot of people know that!





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