

# DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC F.C

## FORMER PLAYERS ASSOCIATION

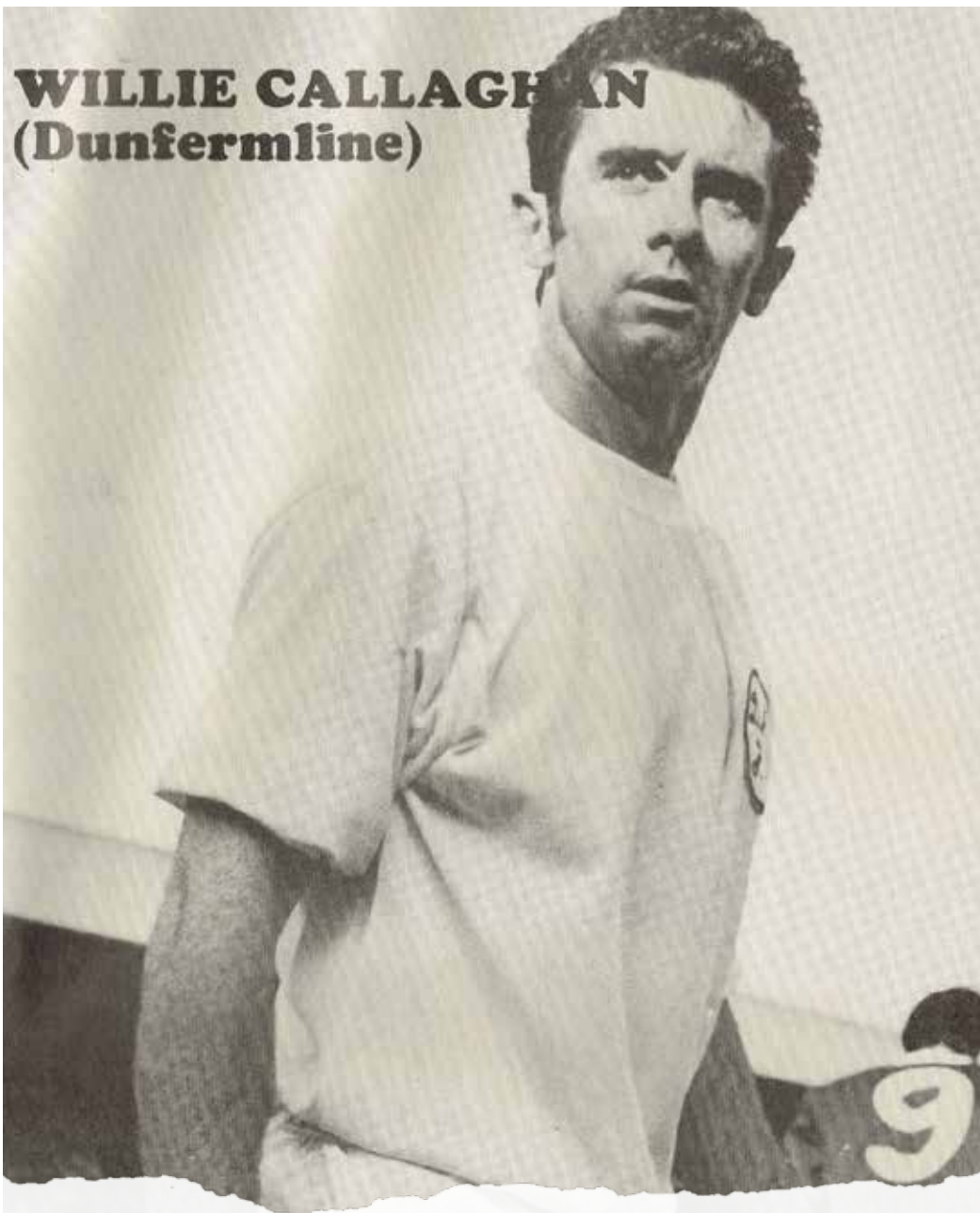
ISSUE 16 // SEPTEMBER 2021

### INSIDE //

- > THE STORY OF SEASON 2010/11
- > CULT HERO - MARTIN HARDIE
- > JOHN HOLT
- > AND MUCH MORE!



# WILLIE CALLAGHAN (Dunfermline)



## A STRIP BACK IN TIME

HOME | Season: 1971-72 | Manufacturer: Bukta | Shirt Sponsor: N/A

Players Pictured: Willie Callaghan

# WELCOME

After a promising start it has all gone pear shaped, which makes last night's abandonment all the more frustrating, as the team had started the game very well and hopes were high.

Next week's game against Arbroath (28th August) sees the return of the Former Players to the matches (see circulars). Let us hope it signals the kick start to our season.

Last week I attended a meeting with our German Investors and was very encouraged both by what they had to say and with their enthusiasm. Declan McManus continues to take Europe by storm, well done to him.

I have also circulated you all with details of the AGM (25th September) and with match arrangements.

Lots to enjoy in this month's magazine, including the story of the last time we gained promotion to the Premier League, under Jim McIntyre.

COYP

**Chris Wishart**  
Secretary



## FRONT COVER: JOHN HOLT

*Our featured interview this week is with former player John Holt. John signed for the club in 1987 and played a vital role in Jim Leishman's team. Read more on page 6.*



### COMMITTEE //

**Chairman:** Colin O'Brien  
**Secretary:** Chris Wishart  
**Treasurer:** Bonar Mercer

Roy Barry  
Bert Paton  
Ian Westwater  
Scott Thomson  
Michael Mlotkiewicz  
Jason Barber  
Pete Campbell

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# DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FPA UPDATE



I now have the access cards for former players wishing to attend matches and partake of the half-time refreshments. To take advantage of this facility, you must inform the secretary by no later than 10am on the day before the match.

This is to allow for contact details to be provided to the Club to allow them to meet their Track and Trace requirements and to allow me to confirm seating and catering arrangements.

It is no longer possible to meet in the foyer, so we shall meet in Legends. Please note that masks must be worn when moving around the stadium but can be removed when seated in Legends or to watch the game.

Otherwise arrangements will be the same as before lockdown - same seats. This commences with the game against Arbroath on 28th August.

## **FPA AGM** **Saturday 25th September at 12noon**

The AGM will take place before the match with Hamilton Accies on the above date. The meeting will be in The Rennie Suite and will begin promptly. After the meeting the group will retire to LEGENDS where a buffet lunch will be provided. Seats will be provided for watching the match and half-time refreshments also provided. Masks will not be required for the meeting, in Legends or to watch the match, but must be worn otherwise.

**PLEASE INFORM ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU INTEND TO ATTEND THE AGM. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE CATERING AND SEATING FOR WATCHING THE GAME.**

### **CONTACT:-**

Chris Wishart (Secretary)  
chris@wishartnet.com  
01383 721787



## Volatile times

When you live in volatile and uncertain times, should you put your long-term plans on hold?

### Promotional Feature

Read or watch the news, and you will encounter a world that's volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous.

Glance at a stock market's performance over the course of a few weeks, and what stands out is probably not the general direction of travel, but the short-term seesawing of prices – especially during a volatile period.

Those characteristics can make the task of planning for you and your family's future feel all the more daunting.

As investors, it can be all too tempting to try to predict the future, or react to events as they happen. However, on the one hand, even long-term investors can all too easily respond emotionally to short-term volatility; and make bad decisions as a result. On the other, events are unpredictable at the best of times, and perhaps especially just now. On top of all this, it's not always easy to sort the facts from the fake news. The wide range of current

challenges make the world highly unpredictable. In the context of saving and investing, the products and services we need to help us are similarly numerous and complex. Do you take the DIY approach to investing, seek guidance, or look for professional financial advice?

Do you know your ISAs from your pensions and unit trusts – and how do you choose?

Where should you invest? In public or private markets? In equities, bonds, or property? And should you seek out active managers or passive funds?

The weight, number and nuance of such questions can make us yearn for simpler times – and bury our heads in the sand.

Yet that will not help you secure a brighter future for you and your family. In times like these, it's important to take action and speak with someone you trust.

A professional financial adviser can help guide you through the wealth of options available, to keep your eyes focused on the horizon, and to help you to achieve your long-term financial goals.



If you feel you would benefit from a financial review of your individual requirements, I offer a no obligation review to suit each individual need.

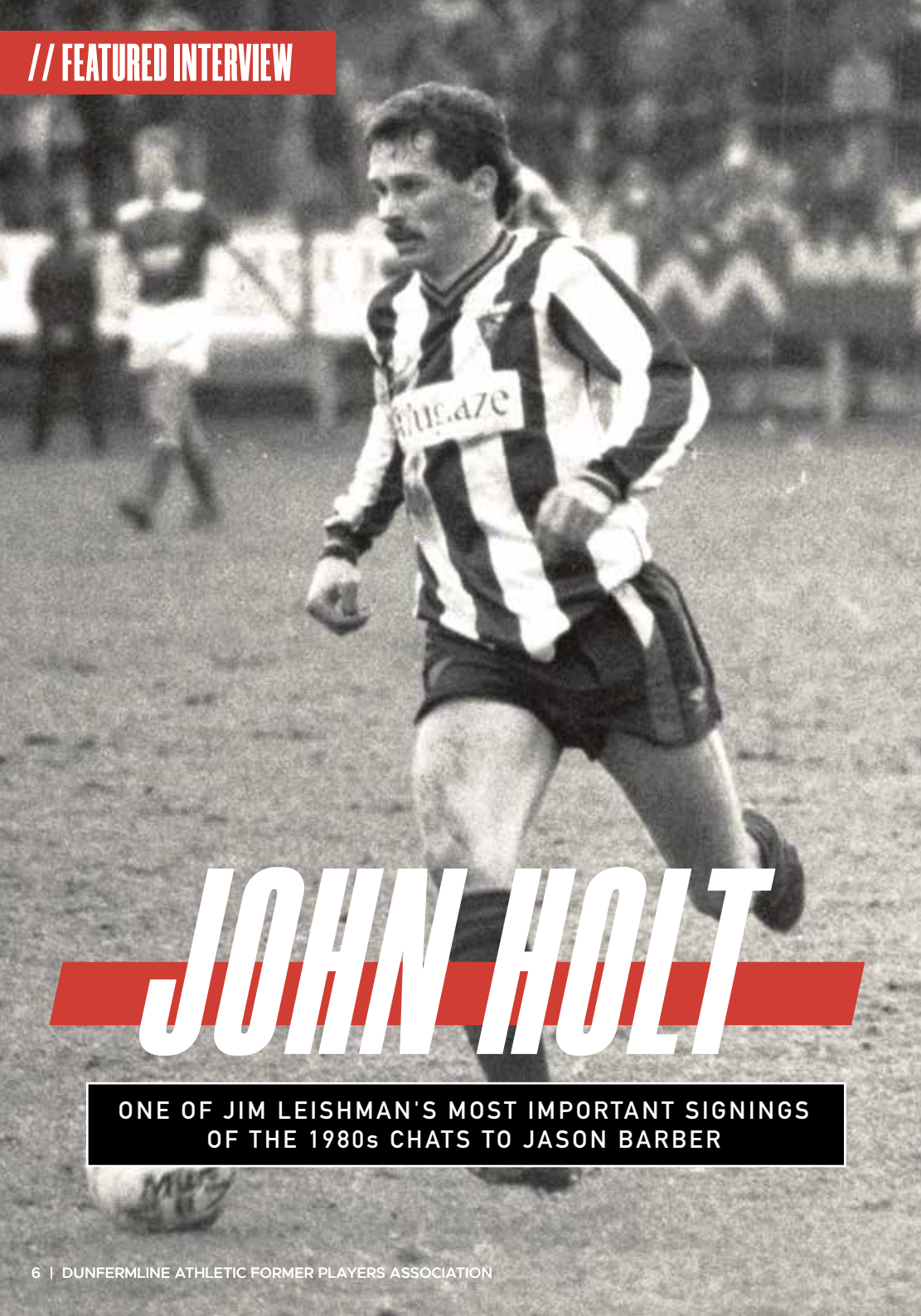
This review could be via a zoom meeting, telephone call or face to face at a Covid-secure venue at a time convenient to you.

Please contact Marc Millar, Wealth Manager for Patrick McLaughlin on 07842 628 731 or email Marc.Millar@sjpp.co.uk

To receive a complimentary guide covering wealth management, retirement planning or Inheritance Tax planning, contact Marc Millar on 0191 5482830 or email Marc.Millar@sjpp.co.uk.

The value of an investment with St. James's Place will be directly linked to the performance of the funds you select, value can therefore go down as well as up. You may get back less than you invested.





# JOHN HOLT

ONE OF JIM LEISHMAN'S MOST IMPORTANT SIGNINGS OF THE 1980s CHATS TO JASON BARBER



**For the latest FPA magazine, Jason Barber spoke with a former player with one of the finest CVs in Scottish football when he joined Dunfermline back in 1987; John Holt.**

John was part of the legendary Dundee United side who won the club's one and only Premier League title in 1983, as well as the semi finals of the European Cup a year later and the UEFA cup final in 1987. Within months of that two legged final, he was on his way to East End Park via what sounds like one of the most straightforward transfer deals in the club's history!

"Billy Kirkwood had made the same move just before me, coming from Tannadice to join Dunfermline. I'd played for Dundee United on the Saturday and Jim McLean came up and said that I wasn't looking too happy! Would I be interested

in a move was the first question, quickly followed up by the fact that he had received a call from Jim Leishman who was interested in signing me that day! I travelled down to East End Park and met with Leish, very quickly agreed that I'd sign for the club and the paperwork was all done and dusted straight away. No mucking about whatsoever.

Having played for Jim McLean all my career up until that point, I had the hugest amount of respect for him. Winning two league cups and a league title had been incredible for all of us involved. As you could probably imagine, he was very strict and organised. If you were not ready and on the team bus for training at 10am every morning, you knew about it. He was bringing in younger lads such as Davie Bowman and Jim McNally so perhaps it was just the right time for me to move on and keep playing

first team football every week.

Jim Leishman sold the club to me, his passion and enthusiasm really impressed me. It was a complete opposite from the very quiet and strict regime that I'd been used to, but seeing a manager coming onto the park and hugging players after a big win was not something I'd been used to, but I loved it all the same. Leish also mentioned to me about the growing number of supporter's clubs that were starting up around then.

I can honestly say I found the Dunfermline fans to be great at that time, there were so many buses and supporter functions in the late 80s. Leish asked me if I'd like to help out and attend some of these events, which I was happy to do. I must have gone around a dozen difference player of the year events at the end of 87/88 season



and met so many lovely people. Was very humbling winning a lot of their awards too which I still have to this day.

I think one highlight for me would have to be that Rangers game in the Scottish Cup with a packed East End Park, the atmosphere really was electric that afternoon. Richard Gough had been an old team mate of mine at Tannadice and he'd not long joined Rangers as their latest superstar signing alongside all the other England and Scotland internationalists that they had. Mark Smith (what a player he was) and John Watson's goals were more than enough and we really

deserved to beat them that day. I'm sure Leish sent them a bill for the broken dressing room door too, not sure if they ever paid it though!

Most of that season, I played along with big Norrie (rest in peace) who was a lovely guy to play alongside. I'd originally joined Dunfermline to play full back, but Leish asked me one day if I fancied moving to centre half and I was happy to play anywhere so that was that! You also had Gary Riddell at the time, a wonderful young player who was again taken away at far too young an age as he raised money for charity. Westie in goals was unlucky with injury that season so

we ended up chopping and changing keeper quite a lot, so having a settled defence was even more important.

I stayed well into the next season and played for the first part of the season. Not sure I ever received a medal for the games I played though, I'll have to chase that up and see whatever happened to my prize! Angus Cook was the Dundee chairman and got in contact with Dunfermline to see if I'd be interested in moving back up there (which is where I was still living) The drive honestly wasn't an issue, took me less than an hour each way to get to training. Dundee were still in the top flight and I played

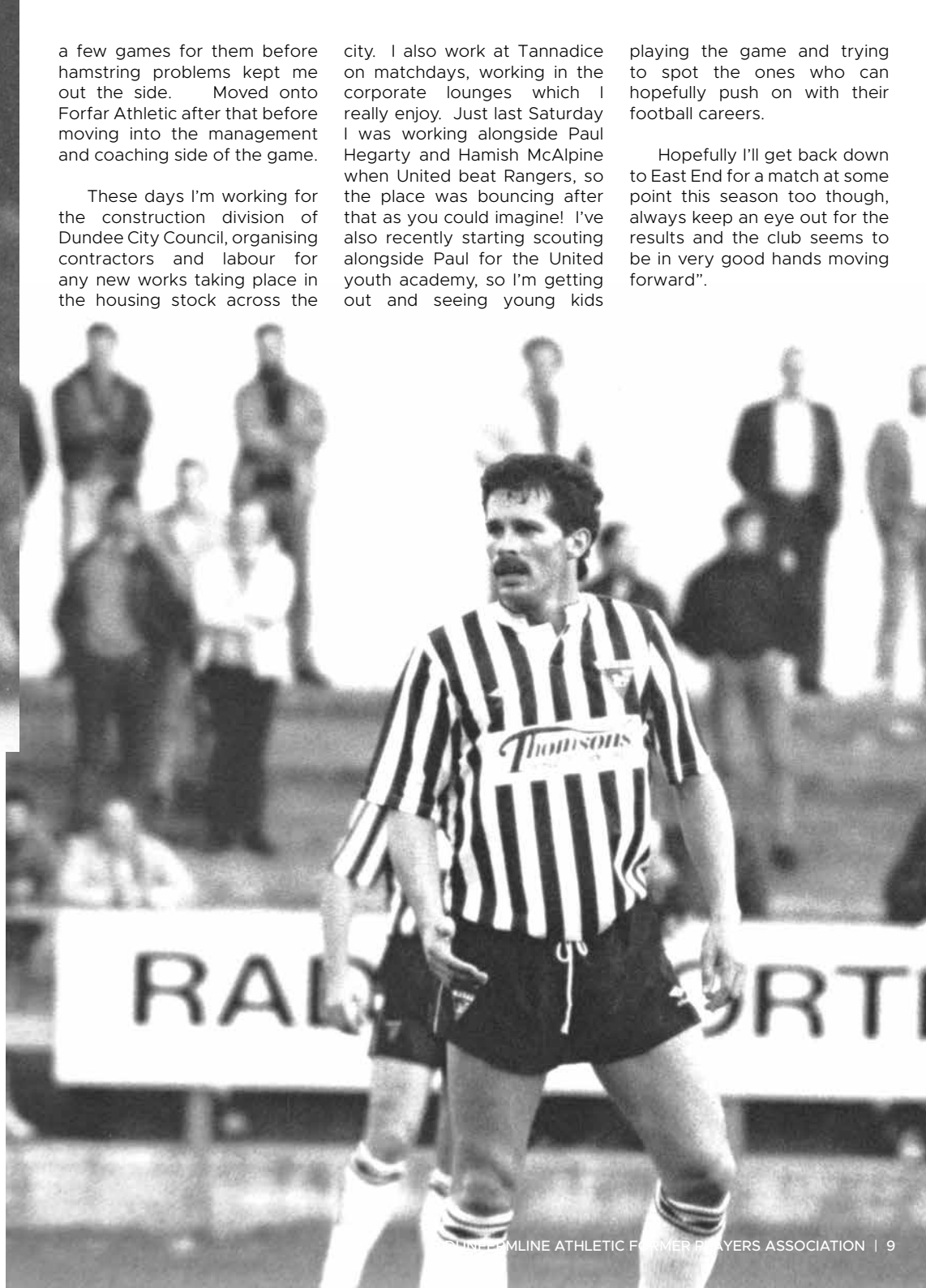
a few games for them before hamstring problems kept me out the side. Moved onto Forfar Athletic after that before moving into the management and coaching side of the game.

These days I'm working for the construction division of Dundee City Council, organising contractors and labour for any new works taking place in the housing stock across the

city. I also work at Tannadice on matchdays, working in the corporate lounges which I really enjoy. Just last Saturday I was working alongside Paul Hegarty and Hamish McAlpine when United beat Rangers, so the place was bouncing after that as you could imagine! I've also recently starting scouting alongside Paul for the United youth academy, so I'm getting out and seeing young kids

playing the game and trying to spot the ones who can hopefully push on with their football careers.

Hopefully I'll get back down to East End for a match at some point this season too though, always keep an eye out for the results and the club seems to be in very good hands moving forward".







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**JOIN US AT  
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**SIGN UP TODAY!**

**Sort Code: 83-33-00 Account No: 00649431**

Remember to add your name and FPA as a reference.

By Cheque payable to Dunfermline Athletic Former Players Association.

**Treasurer:** Bonar Mercer: 5 Pinnel Place Dalgety Bay KY11 9PB  
**Secretary:** Chris Wishart: 110 Garvock Hill Dunfermline KY12 7RW

# GUESS THE CREST



The answers are:-  
 1. Besiktas 2. Benfica 3. Auxerre 4. Juventus 5. Galatasaray 6. Lazio 7. Deportivo La Coruna,  
 8. Lens 9. Borussia Dortmund 10. PSV Eindhoven 11. Dynamo Kiev 12. Rosenborg 13. Barcelona  
 14. Fiorentina 15. Monaco 16. AS Roma 17. Panathinaikos 18. CSKA Moscow 19. Inter Milan  
 20. Grasshoppers Zurich 21. AC Milan 22. Fenerbache 23. Porto 24. Schalke 25. Anderlecht  
 26. Olimpiakos 27. Valencia 28. Feyenoord 29. Ajax Amsterdam 30. Real Madrid



# STORY OF SEASON 2010/2011

BY CHRIS WISHART

**World Cup and holidays out of the way and a new season to look forward to. The Pars were celebrating their 125th anniversary and hoping to mark it with a return to the SPL.**

Graeme Bayne was beaten by his injury and joined those leaving the club - Greg Fleming, Stephen Glass, Greg Ross, Scott Muirhead, Graham Holmes and Ross Campbell. On the way in were Kyle Allison from Inverness Caley Thistle and one of the stars of Ross County's run to the Cup Final - Alex Keddie. Striker Pat Clark made a welcome return along with Chris Smith. Amongst the pre-season friendlies was a game against the Manchester United Youth Team managed by Ole Gunnar

Solskjaer. Their ranks included James Chester, Ravel Morrison and William Keane.

Their 5-1 thrashing of The Pars showed what superior coaching could achieve. The competitive season got underway with a double header against Arbroath, both at East End Park. First in the Challenge Cup and a narrow 1-0 win watched by only 976 fans and a week later a 5-2 victory in the League Cup (attendance 1283). Stewart Petrie was the Red Lichties assistant manager and Josh Falkingham in their line up.

August saw the start of the League season and a solitary Pat Clark goal at the Falkirk Stadium got the campaign off to a flyer. Involvement in

the Challenge Cup ended at East End Park where, after a 1-1 draw, Queen of the South won 6-5 on penalties. Morton were comfortably beaten 2-0 in Dunfermline, thanks to Andy Kirk. Raith Rovers won the Fife derby 2-0 at Starks Park. The following midweek a home win 3-2 against Clyde saw The Pars progress in the League Cup. Tributes were paid to Dr John Yellowley, who had sadly died. He had given great service both as Club Doctor and on the Board, including an eleven year stint as Chairman. The month ended with a 5-1 triumph away to Stirling Albion, which included an Andy Kirk hat trick.

September began with more tragic news. Jackie Sinclair, one of The Pars greatest players, had lost his brave fight with cancer.

The football started with a 3-1 home win against Dundee and the following week Jimmy Nicholl brought his very well organised Cowdenbeath side to East End, losing narrowly 2-1. The League Cup run came to a sorry end with a 7-2 reverse at Ibrox but, the following Saturday, a 2-0 win at Firhill brought a happier return from Glasgow. Jackie McNamara, Paddy Boyle, Simon Donnelly, Liam Buchanan and Bryn Halliwell all played for Thistle.

The month of October got off to a poor start with a 2-0 defeat away to Queen of the South. A narrow 3-2 win at home to Ross County was fought out with Scott Morrison playing for The Staggies and Andy Barrowman on the bench. Dundee at Dens Park was next and a creditable 2-2 draw brought a point back to Fife. The month ended with

a 3-0 home win against Stirling Albion.

The opener for November was a visit to Cappielow which ended in a 2-1 win for Morton. The following week, in front of a crowd of 7158, Raith took a point back to Kirkcaldy after a 2-2 draw. Bad weather wiped out the rest of the month's matches.

A crowd of only 2062 turned up to see December's first match. Joe Cardle scored the only goal to beat Queen of the South at East End. A dull 0-0 draw at home to Partick Thistle was followed by a hastily rescheduled home match against Cowdenbeath. An easy 5-0 victory was, at least in part, due to the fact that Cowden had not played for over a month, due to the weather.

I was in the habit of starting

the new year in a state of great discomfort, seldom brightened by a good Pars performance. This year was no different, as I risked hypothermia by going to Kirkcaldy and witnessing a 2-1 defeat. Matters did not improve much when the Cup campaign began with only a 2-2 draw away to Montrose. The first home game of the year was a dour 0-0 draw with Dundee. Three days later The Pars scraped past Montrose 5-3 in the replay. The month ended as miserably as it had begun with a 2-0 defeat away to Partick Thistle. To remedy things Jim McIntyre did a splendid bit of business by bringing in Martin Hardie, Kevin Rutkiewicz and Liam Buchanan.

February began with a narrow defeat in the Cup at Pittodrie. Aberdeen were very fortunate to get their 1-0 victory. Central Park was next



*A glorious day in Greenock! 2-0 Win claims the Championship with a game spare.*



Raith, with the same number of games played and nine ahead of Falkirk, who now only had one game in hand. A superb 6-1 win at home to Queen of the South set them up for next week's vital clash with Raith Rovers at East End Park. Before the game Sammy the Tammy was up to his antics again. This time, clad in a cardboard tank and to the sound of gunfire, he took aim at the Raith fans.

Most of the Rovers fans took it as it was intended and returned fire with imaginary rifles and machine guns. It was hilarious. As usual the miserable "pc" brigade idiots got involved and after the match the Club was given a warning. On with the match and former Pars Craig Wilson and Stephen Simmons lined up for the Rovers and Iain Williamson was on the bench. Just before half time John Baird put Raith in front. If it finished that way Rovers would have had a two point lead, with only two games left. Step forward the man of the moment. Martin Hardie entered

Pars immortality with firstly an equalising header and then with a glorious free kick from nearly 30 yards, the winner. It was to be his last action of the season, as the injury he had played on through, kept him out of the final



lot of nonsense was spouted by some of the press and TV pundits about Dundee deserving the Championship because they had battled against a 25 point reduction for serious misdemeanours, including going into receivership again. Jim McIntyre was denied the Divisional Manager of the Year, with the award going to Dundee's Barry Smith. Sure enough he did a great job with his team but even with their 25 points restored, they would still have finished behind Dunfermline. Jim's achievements alongside Gerry McCabe deserved better!

two games. A crowd of over 11,000 watched the drama unfold. The month finished gloriously with a 2-0 win away to Morton to win the Championship with a game to spare.

The Pars often do not get the credit they deserve and a

May was to be a merry merry month indeed. The Pars were champions and could celebrate at home against, of all teams, our friends from Falkirk. The thought of seeing the Pars fans celebrating was too much to bear for Bairns fans, so it was almost all homesters in the 7876 crowd. An excellent 3-0 win had everyone looking forward to next season and another crack at the SPL.

and an excellent 4-0 win against Cowdenbeath. The Pars finished the month with two more away games, 1-1 in Dingwall and 3-1 in Dumfries - two good results.

The good work at Palmerston was undone when Morton won 3-1 at East End to kick off March's fixtures. Only 1699 hardy fans turned up in midweek to see a 1-1 draw, at home to Ross County, but the following Saturday a trip to Falkirk produced a fine 2-1 win.

Inconsistency returned when The Pars could only manage

a 1-1 draw away to Stirling Albion. With nine games left, Dunfermline were four points behind leaders Raith Rovers and ten in front of Falkirk, who had three games in hand. Stirling Albion were comprehensively beaten 4-1 at East End Park. Martin Hardie scored a hat trick and Liam Buchanan the other, whilst Kevin Rutkiewicz (when fit) had steadied up the defence. Graeme Bayne, now restored to fitness, returned to the fold from Dundee.

There were to be three more games in March, making eight in

total. Dens Park was the scene of a 1-1 midweek draw with Dundee whilst a 0-0 home draw with Partick Thistle followed on the Saturday. The final game in March found Martin Hardie once more to the fore as his goal won the away match with Ross County 1-0. Jake Hyde was signed as an amateur from Dundee until the end of the season.

As April kicked off, Liam Buchanan's goal secured a win away to Cowdenbeath. With four games to go, The Pars were now top by a point over





# FROM THE PARCHIVES

*The Summer of '65 Alex Edwards and Tommy Callaghan  
train at East End Park.*





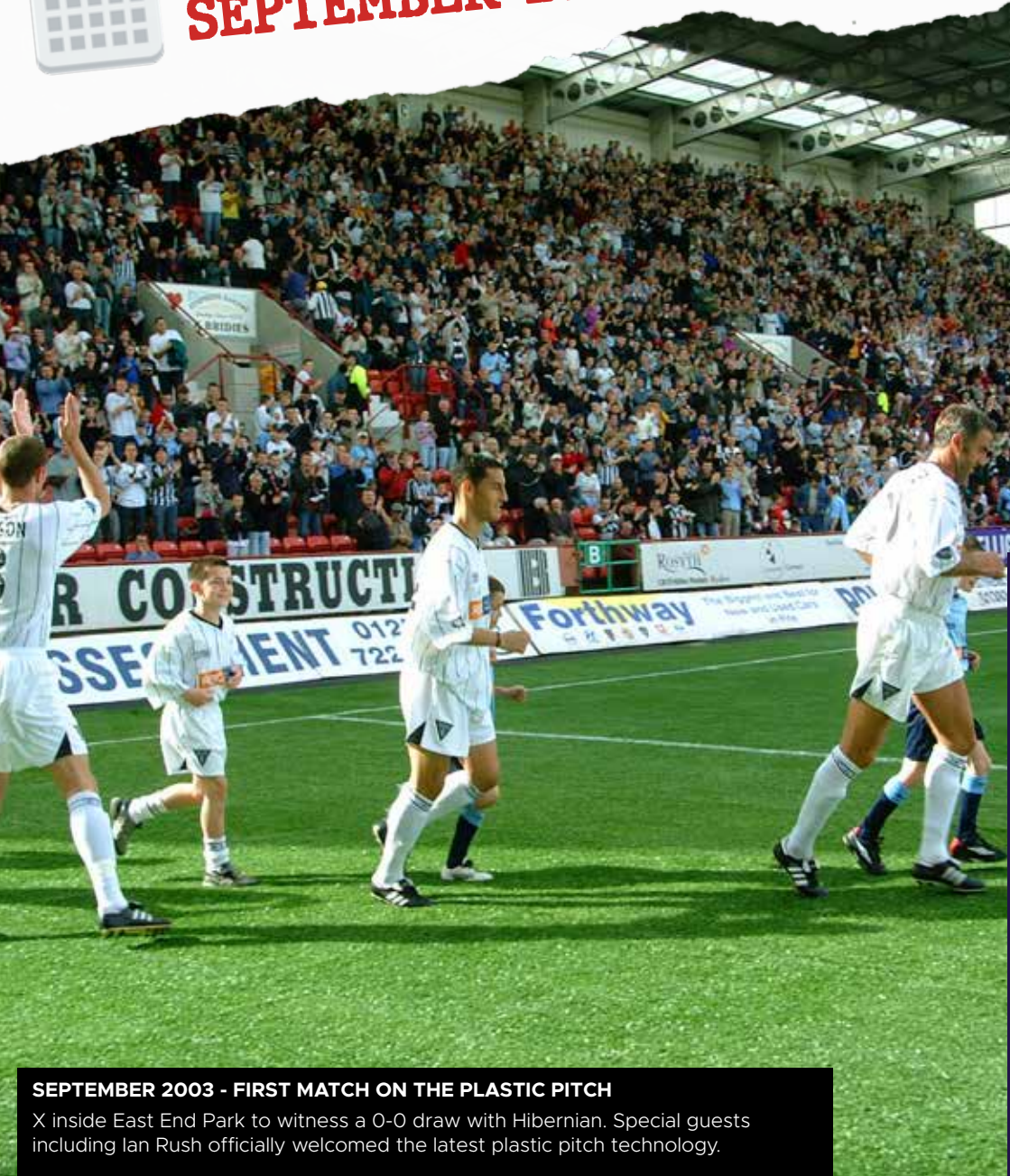
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## IN THE MONTH OF... SEPTEMBER 2003



**SEPTEMBER 2003 - FIRST MATCH ON THE PLASTIC PITCH**  
X inside East End Park to witness a 0-0 draw with Hibernian. Special guests including Ian Rush officially welcomed the latest plastic pitch technology.

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# JOIN US

**Founded over ten years ago, the Former Players Association is open to anyone who has played for Dunfermline Athletic Football Club.**

The FPA is independently constituted and is owned and run by its members. It is run for the benefit of its members and to assist and provide sponsorship for Dunfermline Athletic. The current membership fee is £20 p.a. and there are members from across the eras from the late 50's through to date.

## **BENEFITS TO MEMBERS**

Members have free entry to matches at East End Park with free Half-time refreshments. Seating is allocated to allow members to sit together and discuss the match and old times.

The Guest of Honour scheme allows a member and their guest to enjoy full hospitality in the Club's premium facility:- The Purvis Suite at a match of their choice. This is organised on a game by game basis.

The Association also organises social events. We have had a number of Cabaret Events, Whisky Evenings, Quizzes, Theatre Trips and even a Cycle Race.

## **BENEFITS TO DAFC**

The Association provides financial assistance to The Pars by means of donations for players kit items, lunches for youth players and other projects.

We worked with the Supporters Trust to provide a new fridge for the players' room. A donation was made to help purchase another kit van. The Association sponsors the induction of a former player into the Club's Hall of Fame. Members also regularly attend Club Events to help attract fans. The interview by Jim Leishman MBE with the Guest of Honour is a popular attraction to the hospitality package.

## **WORK WITH OTHER GROUPS**

As mentioned above, the FPA worked with the Supporters Trust on projects like the Youth Players lunches and the players' fridge. In its recent survey, the Heritage Trust identified its interview videos as the most popular part of its work. These videos stem from the FPA's Guest of Honour Scheme and nearly all of the interviewees have been Guests of Honour.

Members also attend and support events, such as quizzes and lunches.

## // CULT HEROES



# MARTIN HARDIE

**With our featured season being 2010-11, there is one obvious choice for this month's Cult Hero feature. Martin Hardie.**

Signed at the end of January 2011, Martin only played in 12 games with two more from the bench but he netted a total of 8 goals vital to the push for the championship.

These included a hat trick against Stirling Albion, a last minute winner away to Ross County and the equaliser

followed by that free kick to defeat nearest rivals Raith Rovers. The injury picked up in that game caused him to miss the last two games. The following season he started with a last minute top corner 30 yarder to equalise away to Inverness Caley Thistle.

He made a total for the season of 20 starts and 10 appearances from the bench, but this proved to be his only goal.

Starting his career in 1996 with Queens Park, he moved

to East Stirling in 1998. A three year spell with Partick Thistle from 2000-03 with well over 100 appearances was followed by a year with Kilmarnock and two with Airdrie United. In 2006 he joined St Johnstone and spent five years with them before moving to East End Park. In 2012, Martin moved on to Morton before finishing his career with Airdrie in 2014.

In his short spell with The Pars, Martin became a firm favourite and very much a Cult Hero.





# A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE... 6 SEPTEMBER MOMENTS

# MUNDIAL RETRO

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**1964**

Harry Melrose scores a stunning 5 goals in a 5-1 victory over local rivals Falkirk.



**1966**

Roy Barry joins the club from Hearts. He would make his debut against FC FRIGG of Norway.



**1966**

Dunfermline play FC FRIGG in the Inter-cities Fairs Cup. Second leg ends 3-1 to The Pars.



**1968**

Dunfermline Athletic defeat Apoel Nicosia 10-1 in the first leg of the Cup Winners Cup tie.



**1989**

Hungarian Istvan Kozma joins the club for a record fee of around £540,000 (more on page 28).



**1991**

Ian Munro is replaced by Jocky Scott as the club's new first team manager.



DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC

## 200 CLUB

**FORMER STRIKER, MANAGER AND GENERAL  
MANAGER, INTRODUCING HARRY MELROSE**

**BY MICHAEL WOOD**

**Harry Melrose was born in Edinburgh on the 31st of May 1935, starting at Dalkeith Thistle before heading to Glasgow, Ibrox bound.**

Melrose, a winger with a penchant for scoring, netted a brace in his only appearance for Rangers in their league cup semi victory against Brechin City in 1957. Even though Harry never established himself in Govan, Andy Dickson had the faith to give Harry an opportunity at Dunfermline Athletic and brought Melrose back east shortly before his 23rd birthday.

The belief was repaid in April 1959, as Melrose would own a club record for a period before sharing it with Athletic's all-time scorer Charlie Dickson; most goals in a single match: six. Harry managed his goal glut in a 10-1 win against Partick Thistle.

There were a couple of famous efforts throughout the other 100 goals Melrose scored for the Pars. One is the goal that knocked Everton out of the 1962-63 Inter-City Fairs Cup. Another was the opener in the

1965 Scottish Cup final – a match DA would lose to former manager Jock Stein's Celtic.

Yet, Melrose's career is about team success, not individual moments. The preeminent achievement coming under Mr. Stein in the 1961 Scottish Cup as Harry and Charlie ran amok in attack, defeating the Hoops 2-0 in a replay for the club's first major honour.

And after seven magnificent years with the club, Melrose moved to Aberdeen for a £10,000 fee and was quickly entrusted to be captain before leaving to be player/manager for Berwick Rangers in 1969.

Six years later, Harry moved into the East End Park dugout, guiding DAFC back to division one in 1979 after a three-season absence. The following year when Melrose departed from Halbeath Road for the final time in an official capacity, only Willie Knight and war-time custodian Sandy Archibald managed the Pars longer than himself, cementing his legacy as a Dunfermline legend.



# OTHER NEWS



## CONGRATULATIONS CALLUM SMITH

We wish former player Callum Smith and his partner Millie on the birth of their son Ollie Smith on 15 August 2021.

Callum recently departed Hamilton Accies and re-signed for his former club, Airdrie.

Congratulations from all at the DAFC Former Players Association.

## ALL THE BEST SOL

It was great to see former defender, Sol Bamba recently sign for Neil Warnock's Middlesbrough.

Neil Warnock has hinted Sol could work in a player-coach capacity at the Riverside Stadium.



## BRIAN RICE

We wish former player Brian Rice all the very best after he recently resigned as manager of fellow Championship side, Hamilton.

Brian signed for The Pars under Bert Paton and Dick Campbell in 1995 playing a vital role in the Championship winning season.

He made 10 appearances before departing in 1997.



**September 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.*





# THAT MAN ISTVAN

SEPTEMBER 1989 AND THE CLUB SIGN HUNGARIAN INTERNATIONAL, ISTVAN KOZMA  
MICHAEL WOOD TELLS THE STORY

**The year is 1989 and, Saginaw, Michigan's Stevland Hardaway Morris, is being nominated for his performance on the album "Characters." Meanwhile, across the pond in Dunfermline, Fife, István Kozma is instrumental in a Pars side managed by one of the dominant personalities of Scottish football: Jim Leishman.**

What Kozma and Morris have in common – outside of being geniuses in their respective professions – is that they are both better known, in the eyes of Leishman, by their monikers: Stevie Wonder.

It had not even been a day at East End Park before Kozma's moustached manager had a black and white scarf wrapped around his new signing's neck, dubbing him Stevie, the nickname of the English equivalent of his given name.

Although it is to wonder how the Hungarian international landed in the former royal burgh, this was not the Pars side of the 1960s competing in Europe and lifting Scottish Cups; it was a club that had won the first division after being relegated the year previous.

It was through good fortune and a club record fee of c.£540,000 that the talented

midfielder was brought to Halbeath Road. "His vision and technical ability are not at issue." Leishman stated, "Bordeaux made him available because of the new regulations that allow them to have only a certain number of foreigners – strangers as they call them."

Girondins de Bordeaux, a team Athletic defeated in their last campaign in Europe – the 1969-70 Fairs Cup – were in their pomp in the 80s: the Southwestern French outfit won half of their six Ligue 1 titles, as well as two of their four Coupe de France in the decade. All of which made Kozma's move from the wine capital of the world to the birthplace of Andrew Carnegie, a bolt from le bleu.



Leishman had reservations that Hungarian Stevie may not live up to expectations, saying: "continental players like time on the ball, and you just do not get that in the Premier League. Hopefully, István can adapt to the different pace."

Yet, Jim did not need to worry. Even though Kozma's pregnant wife was still in Budapest and István spoke next to no English, he showed his determination to give his all by breaking his 16 game streak for Hungary to prepare himself for the match against Motherwell on the ninth of September.

It was little coincidence that István's arrival



The hat-trick against St Mirren in October 1989 is still talked about to this day.



coincided with an upturn in fortune for the fifiers as he was central in dictating play with his exceptional range of passing that at times was too intelligent for his teammates, never mind the opposition.

However, it was only a month later when the rest of the league was warned what Kozma could do given the opportunity as he knocked his first goals in a Pars shirt, netting a hat-trick on Halbeath Road against St Mirren in what was the second game of a four-match winning streak. "The goals were great, especially the fifth, beating an international class keeper from 30 yards." Leishman said enthusiastically before adding: "Kozma is the kind of boy you pay to see."

The last game of the eight-match unbeaten run that sent the first division champions to the top of the premier division

in early November provided a personal highlight for the Hungarian. After latching onto Grant Tierney's clearance, István took the ball with him on a 40-yard run, beating two defenders before deftly curling the sphere past Alan Main to keep the streak alive and show that he was more than just a talented playmaker.

Turning out for Dunfermline did not stifle Kozma's international career: 13 of his forty caps were earned while at the club. István was also recognised domestically when he was selected to play for the last Scottish league team in its centenary match against Scotland in 1990, winning one-nil.

Although DA won nothing in István's time at the club, he did help them reach their first major final since 1968 when they played Hibernian in the

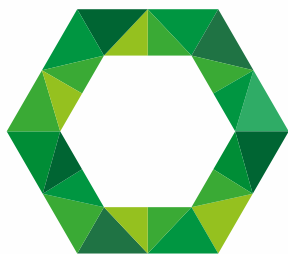
1991 Scottish League Cup Final. Under Jocky Scott, Kozma's influence was stifled with his deployment onto the right wing. The outcome was his departure to Graeme Souness' Liverpool in February 1992 for c.£300,000 after 100 plus appearances and nine goals with Dunfermline.

Yet there would be one last hurrah. 11 years after leaving East End Park, Kozma returned for Stewart Petrie's Testimonial to a rapturous reception ready to see the mighty Magyar show off some of the wonderful skills that made him a fan favourite.

But it should be left to a former Dunfermline teammate to have the final comment on István. In a recent interview with former goalkeeper John Hillcoat, summarised him aptly and succinctly in two words: the best.







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