

Chit-Chat

By way of a disclaimer you may be told that the opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily representative of the overall Ayr United support. However they probably are! A two-match ban for Aidan McAdams for throwing a toilet roll in the direction from whence it had come! The warped interpretation of the SFA was that he breached rule 77. In a fair world it would be followed by a rule 78 relating to common sense but we can forget that. This is the SFA we are talking about. The logical conclusion is that a toilet roll falls under their definition of a missile. If a toilet roll does indeed count as a missile then you, dear reader, are advised to take great care the next time you are carrying out a lavatorial function. Please don't laugh. This is a serious matter. Some of us are old enough to remember the Cuban toilet roll crisis of 1962 when the world was thought to be on the brink of destruction. The toilet roll really does deserve its place in the list of dangerous missiles. Notwithstanding our rivalry with Kilmarnock your Chit-Chat writer apologises unreservedly for any bodily injury caused to visiting fans as a result of having soft tissue paper thrown in their direction and it is sincerely hoped that no one will have suffered from severe trauma. As a responsible media organ it is incumbent to publish an illustrated guide which could be vital to your safety.

An Idiot's Guide To Lethal Weapons



Dangerous



Very Dangerous

Meanwhile back in the real word the Championship table has developed into a league of two halves. The gap between first and fifth is three points and the gap between sixth and tenth is also three points. Between fifth and sixth is a yawning points gap which it would be futile to contemplate. Even with a scintillating run we could not aspire to fifth place any time soon. Modern technology allows for league tables to be updated almost immediately a goal is scored but constant checking of the league positions is not for those with a delicate disposition. Take last Saturday

for example. Before kicking-off at Cappielow we sat seventh. We went a goal behind and managed to drop to tenth. Steven Bradley equalised and we climbed back to seventh. Four minutes later Tomi Adeloye scored to secure sixth place. Okay 'secure' is probably the wrong word. Seven minutes later it was 2-2 and we were back where we started in seventh place. Our stay at the bottom was mercifully short but the persistent changes of position amply illustrated the fine margins in this league. Fine margins – this is becoming a repetitive theme on this page but there is no escaping it. At 2-1 there was noticeable displeasure from the Morton fans but few would have anticipated that it would end with Gus MacPherson being sacked. Yes sacked! There was none of the diplomatically cautious wording that clubs sometimes use to describe such situations. You know the kind of thing: "by mutual consent": "parted company": "invited to resign."



Gus MacPherson is the grounded player who has just scored a Scottish Cup goal for Ayr United but he doesn't look too pleased about it!

Next weekend we are off to Dumfries having taken a total of two points out of our last twelve visits to Palmerston. Our last league win there was on 24th August, 2002, when Mark Campbell and James Grady scored. Our adverse record there could be viewed positively. To put it hopefully we are due a win at Palmerston. Such sequences cannot last into eternity. Right now Queen of the South are bottom of the league but, at the risk of labouring the point, the margin is wafer thin. Can we win? Of course. In the Scottish Championship all things are possible.

Duncan Carmichael.

Tonight's Visitors Hamilton Accies

At the end of last season Hamilton Accies got relegated after seven seasons in the Premier League. To have survived so long was a commendable achievement for a club situated in an Old Firm-centric area. In the intervening period probably the biggest change occurred when Ronnie MacDonald let go of his controlling interest in

the club. MacDonald was one of those characters with drive and ambition but also with the business acumen to transform ideas into reality. He was also possessed of an ability to talk common sense about football. On the Scottish football scene nowadays the ability to talk common sense is sadly lacking.



In playing matters there was the anticipated turnover of players at the end of last season.

Players out: Nathan Thomas, Charlie Trafford, Ross Callachan, Aaron Mullin, Kyle Gourlay and Scott McMann.

Players in: Matthew Shiels (Rangers), Kieran MacDonald (Raith Rovers), Andrew Ryan (Stirling Albion), Joe Hilton (on loan from Blackburn Rovers), Lewis Spence (Scunthorpe United), Miko Virtanen (Aberdeen), Josh Mullin (Livingston), Luke Matheson (on loan from Wolves) and Mihai Popescu (on loan from Hearts).

With a recent Premier League pedigree it might have been expected that the Accies would be quick to mount a promotion challenge. However it failed to materialise. Losing 6-1 at home to Partick Thistle and getting knocked out of the Scottish Cup at Auchinleck have comprised the lowest points of their season. Hammered by Partick Thistle and lost at Auchinleck – on both issues Ayr United supporters can look Hamilton Accies fans in the face! Yet let's dip into the book of footballing clichés to have a look at the saying that a team is as good as its last result. Their last result was a 1-0 home win over the Yogi-resurgent Dunfermline Athletic. The book of footballing clichés also talks about the new manager bounce. That is what happened with Yogi when Dunfermline had a win at Inverness then a home win over, er, Ayr United. Hamilton Accies versus Dunfermline Athletic was a fixture in which the visiting team would have been expected to have much more confidence. We can forget pre-conceived ideas in this league of ours.

Our only league meeting with Hamilton Accies this season was a 2-0 win at New Douglas Park on 18th September. Our scorers were Steven Bradley then Tomi Adeloye. This replicated our sequence of scorers at Cappielow on Saturday.



Steven Bradley scoring at Hamilton.

On This Day: 10th December

10th December 1921

Ayr United 0 Celtic 0 (League)

Team: Nisbet, Smith, McCloy, Hogg, McLeod, Gibson, Kilpatrick, Low, Cunningham, Slade and McLean.

Celtic: Shaw, McNair, Dodds, Gilchrist, Cringan, McMaster, McAtee, Gallacher, Craig, Cassidy and McLean.

The Ayr United wingers were both making a debut. On the right was Tommy Kilpatrick, formerly of Hibs and Dundee. On the left was Jamie McLean whose



former club was Troon Athletic. In 1973 your writer had the privilege of interviewing Jamie McLean in his Troon home. He was adamant in stating that an account of our talk should not be published. On his debut in this match precisely a century ago he went very close to scoring with the first chance that came to him. The Celtic team included the legendary Patsy Gallacher who was a footballing genius but was highly volatile. He had a history of indiscipline against Ayr United and he was true to form in this match. Jimmy Hogg had a combative style which upset Gallacher who aimed a deliberate kick at him. The referee saw the incident but merely gave him a talking to. A contemporary report talks of the game being "fast and strenuous with smart defences preventing scoring on either side."

Tommy Kilpatrick always had a menacing look. Don't dare mess with me!

10th December 1960

Ayr United 1 Raith Rovers 1 (League)

Team: Gallacher, Burn, Thomson, Walker, McLean, Elliot, McIntyre, McMillan, Price, Fulton and McGhee.

Raith Rovers: Thorburn, Wilson, Mochan, Polland, McNaught, Duffy, Wallace, Easson, French, Matthew and Urquhart.

Raith Rovers took the lead in what was reported as 89 minutes. In 1960 this really was the last minute. The 90+5 scenario quite simply did not exist, albeit that when

players were getting treatment the referee would stop his stop watch. If a goal was scored with the last kick it was reported as 89 even though the precise time was 89 minutes 59 seconds. It may seem that we are splitting hairs here but the reason for being so pedantic will now be revealed. On this day in 1960 the home fans dejectedly headed for the exits when Raith Rovers went 1-0 ahead at the death. It



was a complete and utter sickener. It was expected that the referee would blow for full time immediately upon the re-centre.
Coincidentally this is being written while the television in the background is showing Tales of The Unexpected. Happily the unexpected did happen. From the kick-off a move was initiated which culminated in Peter Price scoring an equaliser. This time the game really was over. With literally seconds to spare consecutive defeat number seven was avoided. The corresponding reserve match at Stark's Park got abandoned for floodlight failure. Ayr goalkeeper Ian Hamilton had been sent off prior to the premature halt.

Peter Price - the greatest Ayr United player of all time.

10th December 1983

Ayr United 1 Brechin City 1 (League)



Jim 'not yet Chic' Charnley.

Team: Brown, Shanks, Hetherington, Morris, McAllister, Charnley, Christie, Connor, McInally, McNaughton and Murphy; substitutes – Hume and Buchanan.

This match was witnessed by a paltry attendance of 1,018. Since winning 5-1 away to Meadowbank Thistle the team's form had been indifferent with four draws and a defeat. Making his debut was Jim Charnley, a 20-year-old on loan from St.Mirren. Was Jim Charnley related to the better known Chic Charnley? It was the same player but the media had yet to reinvent his name as Chic.

With our recent tendency to draw matches this fixture also had good draw prospects. Shortly before half-time Charlie Elvin put the visitors ahead. In the 68th minute we were awarded a penalty which was entrusted to Jim Charnley. To this point of the match it was evident that he had a cannonball shot and this just had to be the rationale behind him being delegated with the responsibility. The choice was vindicated when the young loanee scored. Further vindicated was the prospect of it ending in a draw.



On this day in 1983 Robert Connor and Ian McAllister indulged in 'ring a roses' with the Brechin City defenders.

10th December 2005

Ayr United 3 Morton 2 (Scottish Cup)

Team: McGeown, McKinstry (Reid 88), Ramsay, McLaughlin, Campbell, Logan, Conway, Weaver, Cashmore (Boyd 71), Wardlaw and Robertson (Hyslop 88); unused substitutes – Strain and Phillips.

Morton: McGurn (Gonet, half-time), Weatherson, Harding, McGregor, Alex Walker (Greacan 67), Millar, McLaughlin, McAlister, McLaren (Templeman 59), Lilley and Jason Walker; unused substitutes – Adam and Keenan.

This was a quick rematch, the teams having met in a league fixture at Cappielow on the Tuesday evening prior to this Scottish Cup tie. Morton had won that match 2-1 but these back-to-back matches may have been the cause of individual feuds. The Somerset Park crowd of 1,672 (fifteen more than on the Tuesday!) became witness

to some intense action with three red cards, a goalkeeper substituted at half-time, a tense fightback and nearly eight minutes of added time.

Six minutes into the second half Ian Cashmore delivered a cross from which Gareth Wardlaw scored with a close range header. The home crowd was delirious. Ten minutes later the delirium increased when Chris Robertson scored with a header from a Raymond Logan cross. Barely had the commotion died down when it became 3-0 four minutes later. Gareth Wardlaw picked out Chris Robertson who found the net with a decisive shot. Morton goalkeeper David McGurn had not reappeared for the second half due to injury. His deputy, Stefan Gonet, was having a torrid time. The 3-0 lead lasted for just three minutes. Peter Weatherson pulled a goal back with a strong drive. By then half of the second half remained. In 80 minutes Chris Templeman trimmed it to 3-2 with a superb shot. Four minutes afterwards Morton's Jason Walker got a second yellow card for diving in the box. It became ten versus ten when Paul Weaver got a second yellow card after an altercation with Chris Millar. Derek Lilley then got dismissed for a nasty challenge on Barry McLaughlin. Even at ten versus nine stoppage time was nervous. It lasted for seven and a half minutes.



Chris Robertson getting his Man of The Match award from director Douglas McKenzie.

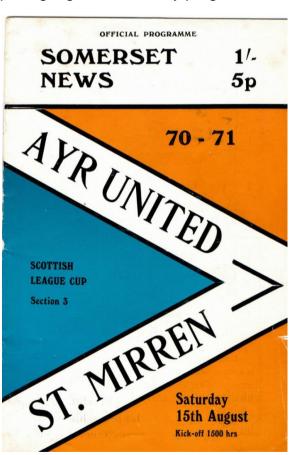
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Douglas Symington Obituary

With very deep regret it is necessary to report the death, at the age of 69, of Douglas Symington. He was a personal friend since childhood and, as befits this publication, a pioneer of the Ayr United programme. The word 'pioneer' would imply that he was involved since inception. However the intended context is that he was a pioneer of the modernisation of the Ayr United programme. We both shared an interest in collecting football programmes and we eventually agreed to merge our collections into one big collection. It really was a super collection. In order to increase the collection further we regularly bought programmes from dealers' lists. This could be an expensive pursuit. Douglas raised money from cutting old folks' grass and I raised money by scavenging lemonade bottles and getting the money back on them.

It occurred to us that the standard of the Ayr United programme was poor in comparison to the majority in our collection. At that time the programme was published by the Ayr United Supporters' Association and we concocted the idea of putting together a dummy programme of our own and submitting it to them for



consideration. We sat in Douglas's room and designed a programme with pens, crayons, cellotape and sticky paper. Neither of us were particularly artistic but we managed to create a thing of beauty, especially the cover. It was as if there was divine intervention. We stuck in photographs and scribbled some pencilled text to indicate the layout. It was accepted so from August 1970 Ayr United had a programme that captured interest not just locally but nationally. Douglas, aged 18, was the editor and I, aged 17, was the assistant editor. His sister Helen Nelson did all our typing and Helen's husband Hugh did the proofreading. In 1973/74 Programme Monthly introduced a Programme of The Year award. Ours was the inaugural winner.

Douglas is survived by wife Eileen and children Neil and Elaine.

The first issue of a programme conceived in Blue Peter-style.

Duncan Carmichael.

Our All Time League Record Against Hamilton Accies

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
Home	72	29	23	20	120	90
Away	70	19	17	34	94	125
Totals	142	48	40	54	214	215

These statistics are extraordinary. 142 league fixtures dating back to 27th September, 1913, and there is only one goal in it! The aggregate score is Ayr United 214 Hamilton Accies 215 – surely the gap can be bridged tonight. All 72 home matches have been played at Somerset Park but the away matches have been played at Douglas Park, Firhill, Cliftonhill, Fir Park and New Douglas Park. The tabulation includes the war time Regional League and also the 6-1 Ayr win at Somerset Park on the eve of war, albeit that the First Division programme of 1939/40 got ditched after the declaration of war.

Our away record in the series has been conspicuously good in recent years. The last nine aways have produced six Ayr wins, two draws and just one Hamilton win. During that run we have also had wins at Hamilton in the Challenge Cup and, this season, in the League Cup. In contrast we had a run in which we only had one away league win out of eighteen at Hamilton. The sole victory during that horrendous run

HAMILTON ACADEMICALS F.C. airman—Mr W. ELDER Vice-Chairman—Mr T. C. WILSON
— Mr W. McKEOWN Mr J. CRINES Mr J. NAISMITH Mr A. JACKSON Telephone: 23108 PROGRAMME THE LINE UP HAMILTON SUB -MCLARE HALPIN (2) GILCHRIST (10) WADDELL (11) BLACK (11) WEAMES (7) McCULLOCH (10) THOMSON (6) QUINN (5) MITCHELL (4) MURPHY (3) McPHERSON (2) SCOTTISH LEAGUE - DIVISION II HAMILTON ACADEMICALS F.C. AYR UNITED Kick-off 3 p.m.

was a 4-1 win at Douglas Park on 23rd March, 1985. That was our first league win there since a 4-0 result on 13th April, 1968. After the 1985 win our next triumph there took place on 2nd March, 1993.

The programme from 13th April, 1968. In winning 4-0 Ian Hawkshaw scored a hattrick including two penalties.

The biggest winning margin in the series is five which occurred in the following matches. Ayr United 6 Hamilton Accies 1 on 2nd
September, 1939: Hamilton Accies 5 Ayr
United 0 on 8th November, 1947: Ayr United 5 Hamilton Accies 0 on 19th December, 1998. Glynn Hurst scored a hat-trick in that latter triumph. On the day before the match he was sent to the hospital for an x-ray on

his ankle. The team selection was planned without him and, by luck, Gordon Dalziel asked him to join the squad for the pre-match meal. This was after he had already been sent home for Christmas. On the morning of the match he felt much better so he was given a fitness test which he passed.

Our predecessors Ayr FC first played Hamilton Accies in season 1897/98. Curiously the league clashes in that season were just one week apart. On 8th January, 1898, the result at Douglas Park was Hamilton Accies 3 Ayr FC 0. Then, on 15th January, 1898, it was Ayr FC 3 Hamilton Accies 0 at Somerset Park. When the 1897/98 season began Renton were in the Second Division. Renton proceeded to quit the league after losing each of their four games to that point. Hamilton Accies then stepped in to take over. They also took on their record of played four, lost four.

Reverting to topic it is not difficult to pick out the most exciting match of the 142 played in the series. On 29th March, 1958, Hamilton Accies had a 4-1 lead with eighteen minutes left. Then Peter Price scored four goals between the 72nd minute and the 80th minute for a result reading Hamilton Accies 4 Ayr United 5. It was the

stuff of fiction.

Team: Jim Fulton, Paterson, Telfer, Willie McIntyre, Hannah, Haugh, Alastair McIntyre, McMillan, Price, Billy Fulton and Bradley.

Hamilton Accies: Samson, McCabe, Young, Strickland, Richmond and Walker, Agnew, McLean, Lennox, Anderson and Hastings.

Goals: Willie Bradley (3): Jim McLean (37) – Hamilton Accies: Jim Richmond (44) – penalty, Hamilton Accies: Stan Anderson (46) – Hamilton Accies: Guy Lennox (53) – Hamilton Accies: Peter Price (72, 73, 78 and 80).

The programme from 29th March, 1958.

HAMILTON ACAS. F.C.

Directors and Officials:
Chairman — Mr HAMILTON JAMIESON.
Mr D. WALLACE Mr A. ROBERTSON Mr W. ELDER
DOUGLAS Mr J. NAISMITH Mr A. MILLER
PARK Mr JOHN LOWE, Secretary-Manager

Referee—A. McCLINTOCK, Bishopbriggs

HAMILTON ACAS
HANGE AGREEMENT Agree

HAMILTON ACAS
HANGE AGREEMENT AGREEME

It took Hamilton Accies sixteen attempts to get their first away league win against Ayr United, albeit that they twice had league wins at Somerset Park against the olden day Ayr FC. These results were Ayr FC 0 Hamilton Accies 2 on 26th December, 1903, and Ayr FC 1 Hamilton Accies 2 on 21st October, 1905.



21st April, 1984. Ayr United 1 Hamilton Accies 1. The photo shows Alan McInally's equaliser.

On 29th January, 1938, Lewis Thow scored twice on his first team debut for Ayr United. That was in a 3-0 league win over Hamilton Accies at Douglas Park. He was aged 17 years 293 days. It was a remarkable feat considering the pitch was a mudbath and the wind played havoc with the ball. He was destined to be the Ayr United chairman between 1966 and 1969. The other seventeen-year-olds to score for Ayr United on a first team debut are:

Barry Scott (17 years 248 days) away to Hamilton Accies (league) on 2nd March, 1993:

Gareth Armstrong (17 years 335 days) away to Queen's Park (League Cup) on 1st August, 1998 :

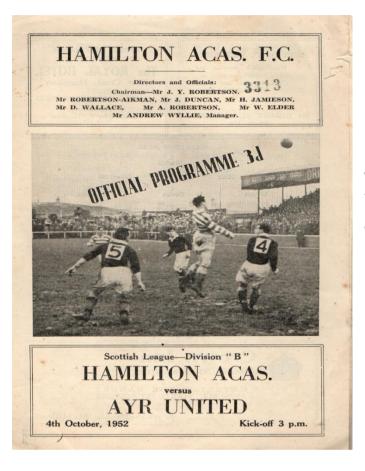
Stewart Kean (17 years 56 days) away to Livingston (league) on 29th April, 2000 :

Andrew Ferguson (17 years 279 days) at home to Arbroath (league) on 28th December, 2002.

However **Alan Forrest** trumped them all. He is the youngest player to have scored a competitive debut goal for Ayr United. When he scored away to Queen's Park in a Ramsdens Cup tie on 27th July, 2013, he was aged 16 years 321 days. This remains a club record for the youngest scorer in a competitive match.

Statistics can be open to conflicting interpretation but one thing does stand out. Ayr United and Hamilton Accies have met in league action for the past 108 years and

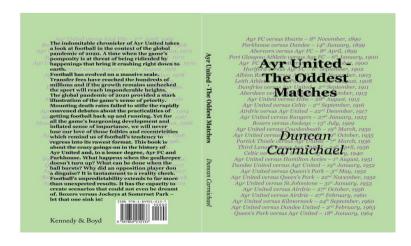
here in 2021 we find ourselves merely a single goal down on aggregate. If, tonight, we manage to level it at 215 each we will have won the game. Little more could be asked.



4th October, 1952. Hamilton Accies 4 Ayr United 0. Please pardon this comprehensive defeat being highlighted here but the programme is a gem.

Ayr United – The Oddest Matches

This book is available via the Ayr United Club Shop, Ayr Waterstones or via Amazon. You know where I stand at home matches should you require a signed copy. If you cannot see me you will hear me at the first dubious decision! The book is wacky but accurate.



Well Done To The Moff

Our Top Ten Scorers of All Time

Peter Price	213
Sam McMillan	127
Terry McGibbons	125
Alex Ingram	118
Jimmy Richardson	110
Billy Brae	107
Alec Beattie	103
Michael Moffat	102
Jimmy Smith	100
Malky Morrison	93

The Tallest Players

There is a two-way tie for Ayr United's tallest player. In February 1974 goalkeeper Louden Muir signed from Blantyre Celtic. He was 6'7" (he did not make a first team appearance). In March 2009 the club signed central defender Kevin James on loan from St.Johnstone. He too was 6'7".



28th March, 2009 – Kevin James expectedly winning a high ball at Stranraer.

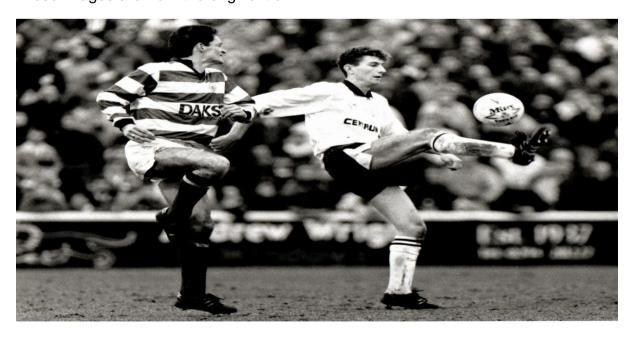


The Ayr United squad in the summer of 1974. Louden Muir is prominent by his height in the middle of the centre row.

Memories Are Made Of This

On 23rd February, 1991, Ayr United met Hamilton Accies in the Scottish Cup for the first time. The crowd was 4,524. After a scoreless draw at Ayr we won 3-2 in the Douglas Park replay, a tie memorable for Peter Weir's textbook goal from a free-kick and a headed winner from Greg Shaw just seconds from the end.

These images are from the original tie.



Greg Shaw fending off Andy Millen.



Alan Gillespie winning an aerial challenge.

Random Facts

 In November 1992 Ayr United's Greg Shaw was invited for a trial spell at Liverpool. In a reserve fixture against their Blackburn Rovers counterparts he played up front alongside John Barnes.



Greg Shaw.

- Alan Rough, Steve Archibald and Arthur Albiston were all Scottish internationalists who played one first team game each for Ayr United.
- The youngest Ayr United captain has been Willie McStay who was aged
 nineteen when he attained the captaincy in August

1913.

Willie McStay. Prior to August 1914 the Ayr United colours were crimson and gold.



- This year Christmas lands on a Saturday but we will have no game on that day. Ayr United have had a total of ten Christmas day games (9 league, 1 friendly) the last of which was a 1-0 victory away to Partick Thistle in 1971
- The earliest point of the season at which an Ayr United game has been postponed due to ground conditions was on 10th August, 2004. This was in connection with a League Cup tie away to Hamilton Accies. The ground was waterlogged despite it being an artificial surface.

Quiz Time (answers on the last page)

1. Who is this player?



- 2. Which Ayr United player was nicknamed Trigger?
- 3. Which current Ayr United player has Manchester United on his CV?
- 4. Who was voted Ayr United Player of The Year by the fans for season 2020/21?
- **5.** Can you identify this player?



6. Which player did we fix up on loan from Middlesbrough on the last day of the January 2020 transfer window?

Neil Hood - He played for both clubs

In the summer of 1969 Neil Hood signed for Ayr United from Annbank United. He was a striker who had little chance of getting a first team start due to the form of Alex Ingram. 1969/70 started well. In the opening league fixture Hibs were beaten 3-0 at Ayr and the team reached the League Cup semi-finals only to lose to Celtic after a replay. In that extended summer of 1969 the team picked itself. Week after week it was Stewart, Malone, Murphy, Fleming, Quinn, Mitchell, Young, Ferguson, Ingram,

McCulloch and Rough. Even today people can still rhyme off that team. The substitute (just one then) was liable to variation and this included Neil Hood. On 27th September, 1969, he went on as a substitute at home to Morton and proceeded to score the only goal of the game. This

was his first involvement in first team action and it came a fortnight after Rangers had been beaten 2-1 at Ayr on the day the ground record was broken. On 15th November, 1969, he again went on as a substitute and scored (at home to Raith Rovers).

On 13th December, 1969, he was in the starting line-up for the first time due to Alex Ingram being injured. He scored twice in that match. It was a 4-3 defeat against Hibs at Easter Road when all seven goals came in the first half. By the following Saturday Alex Ingram had signed for Nottingham Forest and Neil Hood retained his place in the starting line-up versus Dunfermline Athletic at home. He did not score. By the next match he was out with flu but was back in the starting line-up for a 3-2 win over Kilmarnock on 3rd January, 1970, a match in which he did score. For the remainder of the season he made nine more starts (eight league, one Scottish Cup). His only other goals that season were one versus Dundee (league) and one versus Dundee United (league).



In season 1970/71 he made no first team starts. The signing of Ian Whitehead then the mid-season return of Alex Ingram made it difficult for him. He was listed as a substitute five times that season and scored no first team goals. He was released at the end of 1970/71. In turn his next clubs were Queen of the South, Hamilton Accies, Clyde, Stranraer then Clyde again. In 2004 he was voted Clyde's all-time cult hero.

Chief claimant of the number nine shirt Alex Ingram.

The following is an extract from the Ayr United Miscellany. It describes the celebration of a Neil Hood goal.

The ultimate goal celebration

On 27th September, 1969, the sun shone brilliantly upon Somerset Park just as it had done a fortnight earlier when the ground record had been broken for the visit of Rangers. With 25,225 paying spectators inside the ground, every vantage point had been taxed to capacity. On this occasion the visit of Morton attracted a crowd close to one third of capacity. The Ayr team need hardly be printed here. It was the team that fans of a certain age can still rhyme off with ease. Younger generations might also be able to recite that team. After all it is an integral part of responsible parenting to educate one's children in the history of Ayr United Football Club. Whereas people turned up knowing precisely what the team would be, there was no such uniformity in the selection of the substitute (just one back then). Jim McFadzean, Tommy Reynolds and Neil Hood were all candidates in that extended summer of 1969. Against Morton, Jacky Ferguson was withdrawn in the 59th minute having given his all. Local boy Neil Hood was then thrust into the action in the role of striker. It is a reasonable guess that Ally MacLeod used his supreme powers of motivation on Hood. Whatever he said worked. It was quickly apparent that the youngster was high in motivation. After being on the field for seven minutes he collected a pass from Alex Ingram and drove the ball into the net for what was ultimately the only goal of the match.



Ayr United FC 1969/70. Neil Hood is fourth from the left in the front row.

As was their wont, the home fans were far from shy in expressing their appreciation of this goal. The author viewed it from the bear pit at the as yet uncovered Somerset Road end. Nearby in that packed mass were two inebriated gents. They were not fighting drunk. At that moment they were in a place that might be termed a state of happy drunkenness. The goal made them even happier and they fitted in nicely

amidst the overall celebration in that place. Then an aeroplane flew past bringing forth a response from one of them to the effect that: "It's only right that the goal should be marked by a fly past." It has to be admitted that the presence of the aeroplane was attributable to the close proximity

of Prestwick Airport and that it was a passenger aircraft anyway. It was not an RAFstyle fly past as would befit the Queen's birthday. Not that an inebriated mind would consider such rational thought. Besides, rationality can be a scarce commodity in the Somerset Road end at goal time. Let us just stick with the delusion that the fly past was staged.

At A Glance 2021/22

			21/2	2	Ayr ca	reer
Name	Previous Club	Date of signing	Apps (Goals	Apps G	oals
Tomi Adeloye	Barnet	01-07-21	18(1)	8	18(1)	8
Jonathan Afolabi	Celtic	Loan	6(9)	1	6(9)	1
Charlie Albinson	Warrington Town	08-07-21	10	0	10	0
Jack Baird	St.Mirren	04-09-20	21	1	55	2
Steven Bradley	Hibs	Loan	5(6)	2	5(6)	2
Joe Chalmers	Ross County	15-09-20	10(3)	1	38(6)	2
Finn Ecrepont	Youth Academy	29-05-18	0(2)	0	0(4)	0
Markus Fjortoft	Morton	27-05-21	13(3)	0	13(3)	0
Michael Hewitt	Rangers	01-05-19	5	0	7(6)	0
Jordan Houston	Rangers	23-01-20	13	0	53(8)	0
James Maxwell	Rangers	Loan	12(4)	2	12(4)	2
Aidan McAdams	Morton	21-06-21	11	0	11	0
Nick McAllister	St.Mirren	27-05-21	9(1)	0	9(1)	0
Sean McGinty	Morton	27-05-21	12(1)	0	12(1)	0
Mark McKenzie	Youth Academy	01-07-19	10(4)	1	19(33)	3
Michael Miller	Raith Rovers	06-08-20	1(3)	0	22(9)	3
Michael Moffat	Dunfermline Athletic	23-05-17	3(8)	1	276(46)	102
Aaron Muirhead	Falkirk	24-01-19	15(1)	1	79(6)	6
Andy Murdoch	Morton	12-07-18	20	1	95(4)	4
Daire O'Connor	Cliftonville	28-07-21	7(4)	0	7(4)	0
Patrick Reading	Stevenage Borough	21-07-20	20	1	44	2
Cameron Salkeld	Morton	25-05-21	10(8)	2	10(8)	2
Paul Smith	Youth Academy	03-07-19	0(1)	ō	0(4)	ō

Up to and including match played on 4th December, 2021. Includes League, Scottish Cup, League Cup, Challenge Cup and play-offs. Brackets indicate player going on as a substitute but excludes substitute listings where the player has remained unused.

Ayr United FC Results 2021/22. Home Games and Scorers In Bold.

10-July Albion Rovers Muirhead Baird McGinty Houston Se Ecrepont Jeanes Smith Shootout lo		Lge Cup urdoch Reading	150 McKenzie	McAdams Adeloye Hewitt
13-July Edinburgh City Muirhead Baird McGinty Houston S ADELOYE2 Ecrepont Jeanes Miller			500 ding McKe	Albinson enzie
20-July Hamilton Accies Houston Baird McGinty Reading SA Miller Chalmers Fjortoft Ecrepont Bi				Albinson enzie Adeloye
24-July Falkirk	(3-0)	Lge Cup F	orfeited i	n our favour
02-Aug Kilmarnock Houston Baird McGinty Reading Sa Moffat O'Connor Maxwell Chalmers			3,692 tt McKenz	Albinson ie Adeloye
07-Aug Arbroath Fjortoft Baird McGinty Houston Salk Muirhead McAllister Chalmers Hewi			<i>*</i>	Albinson or ADELOYE
14-Aug Dundee United Houston Baird Fjortoft Reading Hew McGinty Miller O'Connor Salkeld Mc				
21-Aug Inverness CT 0-1 League 2,032 Albinson Houston Hewitt Fjortoft Baird McGinty Muirhead Murdoch Chalmers McKenzie Adeloye Moffat Miller (Michael) O'Connor Salkeld Afolabi Ecrepont Miller (Mateusz)				
07-Sep Raith Rovers Houston Baird Fjortoft Reading McA McGinty Moffat O'Connor Salkeld B			1,204 xwell McK	McAdams enzie Adeloye
11-Sep Dunfermline Athletic 3-1 League 1,553 Albinson McAllister Baird McGinty Maxwell SALKELD Murdoch O'Connor Reading Bradley ADELOYE2 Moffat Chalmers McKenzie Fjortoft Ecrepont McAdams				
18-Sep Hamilton Accies Houston Baird McGinty Reading Mu O'Connor Moffat Salkeld Maxwell M				Albinson DELOYE
25-Sep Morton McGinty Baird Reading Salkeld Mur Maxwell McAllister Chalmers Hewitt			1,638 dley Adelo	Albinson Fjortoft ye Moffat

02-Oct Partick Thistle 0 - 4League 2.667 Albinson Fjortoft Baird McGinty Reading McAllister Murdoch Muirhead Chalmers Moffat Adeloye Salkeld Maxwell Afolabi Ecrepont McAdams 16-Oct Queen of the South 1,663 McAdams League McAllister Fjortoft Baird Reading Salkeld MUIRHEAD Murdoch MAXWELL Adeloye Afolabi Moffat Bradley Chalmers Ecrepont Albinson 23-Oct Arbroath 1-1 League 1.415 **McAdams** Muirhead Fjortoft Baird Reading Salkeld Chalmers Murdoch Maxwell Adeloye Bradley Moffat McAllister McKenzie AFOLABI Ecrepont Albinson 26-Oct Kilmarnock League 6,052 **McAdams** Muirhead Baird Fjortoft Reading McAllister Murdoch Chalmers Maxwell Adeloye Bradley Houston Moffat Salkeld McKenzie Afolabi Ecrepont Albinson 30-Oct Raith Rovers 1-2 1.602 **McAdams** League Houston BAIRD Fjortoft Reading McAllister Murdoch Chalmers Maxwell Adeloye Salkeld Moffat O'Connor McKenzie Afolabi Ecrepont Albinson 06-Nov Inverness CT 2-2 1,289 **McAdams** League McAllister Fjortoft Baird READING Maxwell Murdoch CHALMERS McKenzie Adeloye Afolabi Houston McGinty Moffat O'Connor Salkeld Ecrepont Albinson 13-Nov Partick Thistle 0-4 **McAdams** League McAllister Fjortoft Baird Reading McKenzie Murdoch Chalmers Maxwell Adeloye Afolabi Houston McGinty Moffat O'Connor Salkeld Bradley Albinson 20-Nov Dunfermline Athletic 0-3 McAdams League 3,503 Houston Baird Fjortoft Reading Muirhead McKenzie Murdoch Chalmers O'Connor Afolabi McGinty Adeloye Salkeld Maxwell Bradley McAllister Albinson 27-Nov Albion Rovers Scottish Cup 986 **McAdams** Houston McGinty Baird Reading MAXWELL Murdoch Muirhead O'Connor MOFFAT Afolabi Salkeld Bradley McAllister McKenzie Fjortoft Ecrepont Albinson 04-Dec Morton 2-2 League 1,335 Albinson Houston Baird McGinty Reading Maxwell Murdoch McAllister O'Connor Moffat Afolabi ADELOYE Salkeld BRADLEY Chalmers McKenzie Fjortoft Miller

Ayr United FC Forthcoming Fixtures

18-Dec	Queen of the South	League
26-Dec	Raith Rovers	League
29-Dec	Partick Thistle	League
02-Jan	Kilmarnock	League

08-Jan	Arbroath	League
15-Jan	Morton	League
22-Jan	St.Mirren	Scottish Cup
29-Jan	Hamilton Accies	League
05-Feb	Dunfermline Athletic	League
19-Feb	Inverness CT	League
26-Feb	Queen of the South	League
05-Mar	Raith Rovers	League
12-Mar	Kilmarnock	League
19-Mar	Arbroath	League
26-Mar	Morton	League
02-Apr	Hamilton Accies	League
09-Apr	Inverness CT	League
16-Apr	Dunfermline Athletic	League
23-Apr	Queen of the South	League
29-Apr	Partick Thistle	League

Ayr United squad







21 Charlie Albinson 23 Joe Hilton

1 Aidan McAdams 41 Ryan Scully

9 Tomi Adeloye 5 Brian Easton

24 Jonathan Afolabi 6 Jamie Hamilton

30 Jack Baird 15 Ronan Hughes

16 Steven Bradley 7 Kieran MacDonald

18 Joe Chalmers 22 Luke Matheson

25 Finn Ecrepont

23 Markus Fjortoft

20 Michael Hewitt

2 Jordan Houston

14 James Maxwell

17 Nick McAllister

5 Sean McGinty

22 Mark McKenzie

7 Michael Moffat

4 Aaron Muirhead

6 Andy Murdoch

10 Daire O'Connor

3 Patrick Reading

11 Cameron Salkeld

31 Paul Smith

35 Adam McGowan

18 Reegan Mimnaugh

20 David Moyo

16 Josh Mullin

21 Kyle Munro

3 Mihai Popescu

26 Marley Redfern

9 Andrew Ryan

27 Matthew Shiels

11 Lewis Smith

4 Ben Stirling

2 Miko Virtanen

Referee: Craig Napier: Assistant: Ralph Gordon: Assistant: Barry Reid.

Quiz Answers

- 1. Andy Lyons.
- 2. Barry McLaughlin.
- 3. Sean McGinty.
- 4. Luke McCowan.
- 5. Ross Scott.
- 6. Connor Malley.





Thank you once again for your continued support.





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