

**THE  
EVENING  
TIMES**

**SCOTTISH  
JUNIOR  
HISTORIES  
1932-33**

**ARTICLES BY  
“JUNIOR VETERAN”**

**COMPILED BY  
MARK DONNELLY**

## INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Throughout the 1932-33 season, the much missed "Saturday Pink" edition of the Evening Times ran a series of articles detailing histories of some of the prominent Scottish Junior clubs of the time. The articles were all written by the columnist "Junior Veteran"

I have collated these articles into a single booklet in the hope that they may be of interest to historians of all grades of the Scottish game. Some of the articles were accompanied by a photograph relating to the featured team. Unfortunately, due to copyright issues, these are not reproduced here. The articles can be viewed in their entirety on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Glasgow's Mitchell Library.

The content of the articles remains as it was when printed originally. Some minor changes have been made to the format in team line-ups and honours lists. Any additional corrections have been listed at the end of each article.

I would like to thank the following for their assistance in compiling this booklet: Rosemary O'Hare of the Evening Times for clarifying copyright issues, the staff at the Mitchell Library for their help in viewing the necessary articles, Stewart Davidson for his advice and help in publishing the booklet, and Bernard Stocks, author of "The Winners", an essential reference book, which has aided me in correcting dates for trophy wins and cup successes. Any further corrections or comments are welcomed. Please feel free to e-mail me at: norrie81@yahoo.com

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## “BORN” 1883 AND STILL GOING STRONG

Parkhead's Record in Junior History - Cup Winners Five Times

Reading somewhere of the return of Tommy Low, once Rangers' outside right in the days when much of their present popularity was established, recalled the fact that he came from Parkhead to Ibrox - not like Alec Bennett, "Tully" Craig or R.G. Campbell as a player from the rival Celtic camp, but from the famous junior club Parkhead, one of the oldest, if not the oldest in the membership of the Scottish Junior Association. I am sure to get a call from Larkhall to say "And so are we"! Parkhead first came to light in 1883, when Bridgeton Thistle put up a cup for clubs in the north-eastern district, and they amalgamated with East Thorn.

The officials of the club at its formation were - President, William Willox; vice-president, James Kelso; secretary, John Kirkwood; treasurer, Thomas Cochrane; and the team:- A. Cooper, William Willox, John Houston(captain), George Houston, James Kelso, Thomas Reid, Walter Nelson, David McJimsey, John McKenzie, John Nelson and Thomas Shields. Mr. Kelso still takes an interest in Parkhead.

The First Home- The club's original ground was adjacent to the present Helenslea Park. Then a move was made to what is now only a memory- old Helenslea Park, situated at the junction of Old Edinburgh Road and the east end of Westmuir Street. During Parkhead's career they have done most of the things worth while in the junior world, and some of them several times over. For example, they have won the Scottish Junior Cup more often than any other club. Appearing in no fewer than nine finals, they were actual winners on 5 occasions. In 1918 they were shaping towards another final, but together with Renfrew they sided against the Association decree regarding the replaying of the semi-final, and Petershill, who had already qualified, were awarded the cup.

Final Debut- It was in 1896 that Parkhead first reached the exalted rank of finalists, the match being played at Celtic Park on a Thursday evening in May. But Parkhead did not win this game, Cambuslang Hibs beat them 2-1. It must have been a good game, as I read that "they played like two English elevens." but what the names of these stout fellows were no-one seems to have taken the trouble to record in the 20-line report in front of me. However, the side which represented the club in the semi-final will stir some folks' memories: - McAllan, Wyllie, Brown, Thorn, Tatton, Harvie, Low, Nicol, Carse, Logan, and Young. Celtic FC made the hire of their ground available at the attractive rate of 10 per cent of the gate. Incidentally, the £73 drawings were a record for that time.

Third Time Lucky- In 1898 Parkhead again rolled up hopefully, but the Dalziel Rovers from Motherwell beat them 2-1. But the third time was lucky. Next year, 1899, they beat Westmarch XI, from Paisley, by 4-1 with the following team: - Raeside, Thorn, Ritchie, Barrie, Waters, Key, Mears, Edgar, Howden, Wilson, and Logan. That was good enough, but their next big year, when the present Helenslea Park was opened, 1903, was a triumphal one, as they were winners of the three cups- Scottish, Glasgow, and "The Evening Times" Trophy(as Glasgow Junior League champions). The Scottish Cup team, who beat Larkhall Thistle 3-0, was: - "Smith" (Robertson?), Anderson, Richmond, Conner, "Reddy" Paterson, Potter, Gilchrist, "Fly" Hannah, "Dodger" Connelly, McIntosh, and Thomson. The players were in good hands then, being under the care of "Banger" Cochrane, still a very much active member of the club, and "Jock" Barr, an interested onlooker of the present day.

Vale of Clyde Intervene- In the 1904 final their Tollcross neighbours, Vale of Clyde, would take away any conceit which might have developed by winning 3-0. There was a big gap until 1915, when Port Glasgow Juniors were beaten 2-0. One year later Petershill whacked them 2-0. 1920 was round before they were again interested, and they sent Cambuslang Rangers home disconsolate with a 2-0 defeat. The team that met Port Glasgow was: - McManus, Carson, Neilson, Neil, Cowan, Arnott, Findlay, Bell, Ferguson, Taylor, and Kennedy. While Cambuslang Rangers were knocked out by: - Walker, Smith, Cant, Murphy, Kirkwood, Beattie, Cringan, Manson, Lister, Dempster, and Hosie. Their last victory was in 1924 when they beat Baillieston Juniors 3-1. This game was a replay after a draw (1-1), and took place at Firhill with the following side, which since it is the most recent winning team is worth noting: - McIntosh, Riley, Girvan, Baxter, Hyslop, Stewart, Beattie, Morgan, Hart, Hannah, and Kennedy.

In The Old Days- Parkhead have also held "The Evening Times" Trophy as winners of the old Glasgow Junior League three times. Their first success was recorded in 1898, the third year of the competition, in 1903, and in 1917, when they tied with Petershill and played a decider to win by 1 goal to 0. Junior enthusiasts never tire of telling the world as to how this or that international senior originally hailed from their club. Parkhead have a long list of successful seniors, and from memory I recall the undernoted good goalkeepers- Dan McArthur

(Celtic), Raeside (Third Lanark), Monteith (Bury), and McAllan (Kilmarnock). Backs like Danny Blair (Clyde), George McQueen (Airdrieonians), and Andrew Richmond (Queen's Park and Rangers), one can be proud of. Amongst notable half-backs were Hunter Hart (Airdrieonians), and now acting in an official capacity with Everton, whom he served so long. Singularly enough, more forwards are in my mind than other divisions, and one above all others, the late Hugh Ferguson, the "darling of the gods" when at Motherwell, where another Parkhead product, Willie Rankin, was also so deservedly popular.

Now a Director- Jimmy Kinloch, now a Partick Thistle director; Russell Moreland, the Third Lanark manager; Archie Kyle, Tommy Low, and Dicky Bell, all Rangers; the late Elijah Cresswell (Queen's Park), Boardman (Partick Thistle), Sammy Kennedy (Airdrieonians), and Johnny Edgar (Aberdeen), the great Tennant and Turner wing, first with St Bernard and then Middlesbrough are others. Then there was the couple whose connection with Dunfermline Athletic in a measure helped to precipitate the Intermediate dispute- Button and Dickson. Kyle's name brings back the story I was told attached to his signing. It appears that Celtic wanted him, thought they had him, and were waiting for him at the door of the pavilion for him after the Vale of Clyde final, but certain zealous officials saw him safely Ibrox way, the exit being made by a window. The story is, I believe, reliable, and the circumstances suggest to me the origin of the catch phrase, still in use, of asking certain people if they "prefer the window to the door"!

Jimmy Brown's Part - No attempted sketch of the club's career would be complete without reference to the late James Brown, who did much for Parkhead as well as being president of the S.J.F.A. for four seasons from 1900 to 1904. Traditions die hard, and at Helenslea Park the present team and officials are doing their best to uphold the honourable name, whilst judging from what I have seen recently, seniors like Motherwell and Partick Thistle are hopeful of gathering into their folds perhaps another of the Rankin-Ferguson standard. This is not intended as a history of the club. That may be tackled by someone with a long and very intimate knowledge. It is only a whimsical sort of survey, and to those who have served the club and apparently been overlooked I hasten to give assurance that no slight is intended.

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## ASHFIELD-THE PRIDE OF POSSILPARK

Junior Club with All the Honours

(Article accompanied by team photo from 1929 with 5 trophies)

Ashfield have ever been one of our foremost junior clubs, with substantial standing in the game. The club was formed in 1887 with President Alec Melrose and Secretary James McNee at the helm. During all the years Saracen Park has been their only headquarters, and in that respect they have been singularly fortunate. It's an ill wind that blows nobody good, and with their tenure of that ground they were happily circumstanced, inasmuch as it agreeably pleased the proprietors to see them there instead of perhaps commercial rivals. In the good old days it was obtained, I understand, for a humble "fiver" per annum.

An Innovation - Ashfield were amongst the first to make the modern type of clubhouse, with self contained provision for little social activities. I am not sure if L.R.A.M. qualifications are demanded from applicants for places in the team, but I do know that harmony has always been a strong point. No better example could be given of the value of good fellowship than the success of the club during the Intermediate period, particularly the part of it 1928-29, when George Brown (Rangers) was skipping the side. I have been told by one player that this term was the happiest of his life. Why, the whole team went away on holiday to Manxland, and "Captain Brown played his ukulele."

Past Presidents - Presidents like Mr. D. Belch, R. Clark, Tom Shields, R. Gray, A. Young, and R. Sibbald all did excellent work for the club. Equally favoured have they been with secretaries, and a few at random will suffice to show the quality: - Davie Belch, Alec Young, the late Bob Steven, Sammy Kyle, Louis Gordon, and W. Husband. Alec Young nowadays is Mr. Struth's assistant at Ibrox, and he has told me lots about Saracen, and I thought I knew a bit myself.

Notable Players - When we come to the list of notable players whom Ashfield have passed through their hands, the activities and judgement of their officials will be gauged. Yet they missed Jimmy Gordon, and that for the matter of half a sovereign; the rest of the team was costing nothing and why consider such extravagant expenditure? Incidentally I recall that my first glimpse of both Jimmy Gordon (Rangers) and Jimmy Quinn (Celtic), two of the greatest Scotland ever had, was at Saracen, the former playing right half for Renfrew Victoria and the latter outside left for Smithston Albion. Since the days of "Sawdust Jock", the personality who

looked so well after the ground equipment, a long, long list of first-class players have graduated to the higher grade. It is impossible to recall everyone, but the following will serve. Rangers have had Davie Taylor, Bobby Neil, Bobby Parker, and George Brown. Partick Thistle, James and Neil Gibson, the two Ballantynes, Willie Fraser, and Eddy McLeod. Hibernian, Paddy Murphy, McConnachie (later Everton), Baldy Gray (later Arsenal), and the two Lauders. Airdrieonians, Davie Rombach, Andy Donaldson, David Ellis, and J. Allan. St Mirren took Alex Hart, Hall, and Anderson; Queen's Park, Donald Dixon, John McKechnie, and Ralph Risk; Kilmarnock, Ramsay, and Hastie; Ayr United, Tommy Kilpatrick; St. Johnstone, Bob Penman; Cowdenbeath, Donald Menzies; Clyde, Jimmy Blair, Peter Cunningham, and Burke; and Celtic, John Crum. Down South we find went Archie Low(Arsenal), Stevenson(Derby County), Smith(Blackburn Rovers), Willie Penman(Bradford City), Jimmy Stewart(Liverpool), now Blackpool's trainer; and last but not least the incomparable Alec James, after, of course, a senior baptism with Raith Rovers.

Many Honours - Honours have been abundant, and they are proud to be next to Parkhead as Scottish Cup winners, gaining the trophy four times out of six final appearances. Their first success was at Underwood Park, Paisley (the old Abercorn F.C. ground), in 1894, when they beat Renfrew Victoria with the following team: - Hatch, Neil, Murphy, Arnott, Wylie, Harvie, Cairns, Sloan, Smith, Stevenson, Baines. They won the "blue riband" again the next year at Tynecastle beating West Calder Wanderers after a drawn game at Paisley. This 1895 team was: - Hatch, Murphy, Rombach, Harvey, Burns, Barrowman, Arnott, Wylie, Mills, Scott, and Sloan. It was ten years later before they won the cup again. They disposed of Renfrew Victoria at Meadowside by 2 goals to 1, with the team placings as follows: - Thomson, Niven, Dewar, "Chips" Clark, "Dinger" Drain, McCallum, Wilson, McLean, White, Stewart, and O'Brien.

Famous Names - In the Renfrew team was Jimmy Gordon (Thornwood), the referee was the famous Tom Robertson, and a linesman with a familiar name at junior grounds, Peter Hodge (Dunfermline), now the Leicester City manager. Then came that 1910 final with Kilwinning Rangers when the meaning of the word "protest" in the junior-world sense was never more seriously recognised. At Firhill, Kilwinning had beaten them by 1-0, but there must have been good "wireless" even at that time, as it came over very swiftly to Ashfield to find out about the scorer- not to verify the goal, but his credentials. It meant a replay, and this Ashfield won 3-0 with the side: - Hart, Wilson, Reilly, McConnell, Smart, Crichton, David Parker, Smart, Bobby Parker, Donaldson, and Lambie. Parker joined Rangers about this time as did also Bobby Brown of the Kilwinning side later. Kilwinning endeavoured to do the "boomerang trick" by questioning the eligibility of Donaldson, and Wilson, but failed. That completes the winning teams. The "unlucky" lads in 1914 were: - Hart, Penman, Mackie, McKechnie, Gordon, Anderson, "Brown", Gray, Bell, Kyle, and Dunn. Larkhall Thistle won this cup by 1-0 at Cathkin Park after two draws, and the Association did not grumble. They raked in the fine fat sum of £1255.

A Disappointment - Nearly ten more years had passed- to be exact it was 1921- when they reached out to the final again, to be flattened and disappointed. There was only one goal for Rob Roy in it, and how it was rushed through probably only the goalkeeper and the scorer (Boyd), who had "breasted the ball through" know whether it was "double-breasted" or "single-handed." The team here was: - Murphy, Cornock, Allan, Jimmy Gibson, Neil Gibson, Goodwin, Harvey, Ballantyne, Mitchell, Elliot, and Devan. Paddy Connolly, not so long ago a Celt, was outside left for the "Robs" that day at Hampden.

"Evening Times" Trophy Record - One of Ashfield's most successful feats was in winning the Glasgow Junior League "Evening Times" Trophy and the Glasgow Junior Cup for five successive seasons, 1905 to 1910. They won the Glasgow Junior League all told six times- a record also. One of the cups they make special bid for is the Maryhill Charity Cup, and Mr. Peter McNeilly (the secretary of the Maryhill Association) is proud that his club has had the new cup seven successive times out of nine tries. Whilst in the wilderness, 1928-31, with the Intermediates they had considerable satisfaction, their honours then qualifying them for the title as the most successful club. They were twice champions of the Western Section, twice Scottish Intermediate Cup holders, and once League champions, with which went the "Evening Times" Trophy. The team that bore the brunt of most of this was that happy one: - Hope, Smith, W. Lauder, G. Brown, Menzies, Kater, Burke, MacDonald, Cunningham, T. Lauder, and "Jerry" Hogg. When you are shown photographs of Ashfield teams with five silver cups in the front row as in 1929, four, as in 1910, three, as in 1908, you naturally exclaim "Some team," and hope that a strong room was included in the pavilion precincts. Ashfield, however, have not always been good boys. Once upon a time they went through the league without winning a game- and drawing very few- and I did come across a paragraph which reported that the ground would be closed for a month- and it was not at the Fair holiday time. But why bring that up?

## THE GLAMOUR OF GLENCAIRN F.C.

What the Rutherglen Club Has Recorded - Outstanding Events Since 1895

(Article accompanied by photos of James McMenemy and Alec Bennett)

You can always tell a Rutherglen man, but you cannot tell him much- about football. And there is a glamour surrounding Rutherglen Glencairn. That is the conclusion I have reached after hearing how the club has carried along during the 35 years they have lent adornment to the junior world. There has always been a good standard of play associated with the club, quality being an important factor. Take, for instance, the 1901-02 team, which had as members two men whom every schoolboy has heard about – James McMenemy and Alec Bennett. This team has also been recalled time and again, and by very competent judges set down as being as good a junior side as ever played together.

Start in 1895- The club was instituted during season 1895-96, a few enthusiasts calling a meeting in the “Old Hall”. Why there I did not like to inquire. Mr. William Napier was appointed the first president, and Mr. John Morrison secretary. Mr. Morrison still retains connections with the club, and he has a wealth of interesting things to relate. He and another gentleman took a sporting risk in the renting of Southcroft Park, and in May 1896, it was opened by a visit from the Ibrox XI (Rangers junior string in these days). Glencairn won that day by 1 goal to 0.

Always Southcroft – Though for a long time sitting on a week’s notice, they have never had a “flitting”, but have made the house look much more imposing by the provision of a very neat covered stand and pavilion accommodation. Because of this stand many a night I have decided for Southcroft in preference to elsewhere, and I am sure many others, including senior managers, found it a boon. It cost round about £1000, and this was provided by some good folk running a bazaar, while voluntary labour of a practical nature also assisted towards the good cause. Incidentally, I cannot help thinking that if some other junior grounds had this stand equipment they would be greater challengers than ever to the seniors.

Capable Officials – With capable officials down the years governing affairs such as Messrs J. Wilson, J. Couborough, H.J. Clark, Hugh Clark, A. Borland, J. Hadden, A. Pardie, B. Flannigan, and now Andrew Hutcheson, the club has been fortunate. In the first season the club began collecting trophies- winning the South Side Junior Cup and the Cambuslang and District League. The following was the side which took the field during the earliest games: - Renfrew, Smith, Milligan, D. Irvine, W. Oswald, McKim, Dick, Morton, Sands, Wilson, and Shaughnessy. The outside left is none other than the well known Celtic director, Colonel Shaughnessy. Perhaps, since he acted in that capacity, the Parkhead folks may consult him as “special adviser” for the one place at Celtic Park which gives such concerns.

In Glasgow League – Glencairn joined the Glasgow League in season 1897-98, and were sufficiently successful to be runners-up in their first attempt. The next season they won the championship outright, and the undernoted qualified for “The Evening Times” Trophy medals: - Logan, Smith, Milligan, Kinnon, Martin, Swift, Lindsay, McCartney, Ronaldson, Laird, and John Stewart. Sands, R. Lilley, J. Murdoch, and T. Morton also gave able assistance. In 1900 they won the Glasgow Cup, beating Petershill by 2 goals to nothing at Celtic Park after a goalless draw, and before a Monday night crowd paying the modest sum of £11 16s all in for admission,. The team was: - Kirkhope, Smith, Murray, Kinnon, Sands, Williamson, McLaren, Underwood, Ronaldson, Houston, Wilson. Incidentally, the club had a second eleven that same season, and the reserves reached the semi-final of the North-Eastern 2nd XI Cup, to be beaten by Perthshire by 3 goals to 1, the “Glens” being:- Crooks, A. Lindsay, Scoullar, W. Lindsay, A. Stevenson, J. Stevenson, Campbell, Bryce, Rennie, McArthur, Murray. But their big moment did not arrive till season 1901-02, when they won the Scottish Cup, Glasgow League Championship, and the Glasgow Exhibition Championship, the latter competition carrying with it a special flag and medals much prized.

Not So Simple – The winning of the Scottish Cup was no simple affair. Here they had to work on the “never too late to mend” principle as in all the ties they lost the first goal – or goals- and then had to make good the damage, usually as the ballot luck would have it, away from home. This was the eleven which beat Maryhill by 1-0 in the final at Meadowside, and it was some side: - Tom Sinclair, John Kinnon, McLean, Brannan, Russell, Williamson, Leitch, McMenemy, Bennett, Underwood, and McEwen. Really it was the best ever so far as Southcroft is concerned. Jimmy McMenemy scored the only goal, and somebody described it as a trifle soft, but I know the subtlety of those simple-looking McMenemy touches. They were by no means innocent of guile.

An Ibrox Connection - It is interesting to find that a present Rangers director, Mr. R.G. Campbell, was with Glencairn at this period and he got a league medal. Of this side eight went senior, and only modesty - mistaken,

I should say - prevented the other three from going upstairs also. Sinclair found his way to Rangers, then Newcastle United, and back to Rangers. Bennett and McMenemy ultimately landed at Celtic Park. Bennett later played for Rangers, McLean at Newcastle, Russell and McEwen at Everton, Underwood at Barnsley, and Billy Williamson at Tynecastle. Williamson had "one crowded hour of glorious football life," when at Birmingham playing against Junior England in a drawn game of 3-3, he scored the lot for Scotland from half-back, a feat which the Scottish Junior F.A. duly recognised with a special little souvenir.

St. Anthony's Beaten - It was a long time before they reached the final again, but 1918-19 found them beating a crack team, St. Anthony's, which included Tom McInally and Johnny Gilchrist, by 1-0 at Hampden before what at that time was a record crowd. The total drawings over two games (the first was a 1-1 draw and attracted 40,000) was £1720 12s 10d, and I think it was only an 8d gate. This team was:- Davie Edwards, Mackie, Hopewell, Hagan, Shield, W. McLellan, T. Bennett, G. Lawrie, Gordon, Dempster, Cameron. Gordon was the scorer. In 1926-27 they had their third Scottish final, and their third win seemed to follow as a matter of course.

Family Names - Seeing it was their near neighbours, Cambuslang Rangers, whom they overcame by 2-1, the satisfaction would be greater than ever. Again that game was at Hampden and the team:- Lang, Fraser, Smith, Ferguson, A. Robb, G. Borland, T. Crozier, McMillan, Stevenson, Harry Borland, G. Syme. Syme scored the first goal and the second went in off Docherty of Cambuslang, following a corner from Syme which Stevenson redirected. The names Borland and Bennett are household words in the clubs annals. No fewer than six Borlands and three Bennetts have been associated with Southcroft, and at present one of each name is on the books as a left back, and excellent lads both.

Latest Departure - I've seen them and a lot more that is good out there this year, and goalkeeper Milliken's departure to Kilmarnock seems to indicate that more important people than I have been watching also. When on that subject, I rather enjoyed the story pertaining to one well-known Glencairn forward. To the proposed terms of an English agent he agreed, with only one condition- there must be two pay days in each week! Ultimately he did go further south, and though not really a success as a player the director decided to give him a second year's engagement as a sort of "entertainer." He could keep the staff in good humour, and harmony was important.

A Black Spot - All the days have not been happy days, however, and in the memorable Oswald protest case in 1897-98, when the club was disqualified in the Scottish Cup after beating Vale of Clyde by 3-2 at Tollcross, was one of the black spots. Some of the talent reared at Ru'glen revives many interesting personalities. They had good goalkeepers such as Willie Howden (Partick Thistle), "Collie" Allen (Hearts), Tom Sinclair (Rangers), and Davie Edwards (Morton), with part interest in the welfare of both Tom Blair (Kilmarnock), and Kenny Campbell (Partick Thistle), whom they brought up from the juvenile ranks from Greenhill Athletic and Eastfield Star respectively. Backs like "Tanny" Craig (Rangers), McLay (Airdrieonians), Smith (Clyde), Calderwood (Partick Thistle), and last, but not least Joe Nibloe (Kilmarnock) are valuable players even if some were taken at "bargain prices" from that club, as I heard it bitterly put.

Famous Forwards - A class half-back line would have been Bagan (Kilmarnock), Russell (Everton), and Williamson (Hearts), and a forward line comprising Billy McGartney (Hibs), McMenemy (Celtic), Bennett (Celtic), Howieson (Airdrieonians), and Archibald (Raith Rovers and Stoke) would have taken some tricks. "Wee Bobby" has been one of our football "Peter Pans". The "Glens" brought him from a Boys Brigade team, and I believe he could rejoin next week and pass muster as a staff sergeant. Others once in the Ru'glen ranks who received promotion were Martin (Liverpool), Lindsay (St. Mirren), Ronaldson (Grimsby), John Stewart (Third Lanark), Fraser (Partick Thistle), Crozier (Plymouth), Harry Borland (Clyde and Morton), John Borland (Raith Rovers), Meekie (St. Johnstone), Hopewell (Cowdenbeath and Raith Rovers), Lawrie (Hamilton Acas.), Cameron (St. Mirren), and Cameron (Clyde). And I am certain to have forgotten about as many more.

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## VAUNTING VALE OF CLYDE

Tollcross Record to Be Proud of - How Club Got It's Name  
(Article accompanied by picture of Peter Gavigan)

"What's in a name" once you have found it, or made it? It used to be a standing joke that most of the coloured seaman visiting Glasgow port appeared to have taken their names from sundry sources- off a tea chest or a biscuit box! But it was in all seriousness that Mr. Edward McPhee, the first secretary of the Vale of Clyde, put the suggestion of the name Vale of Clyde before his committee after noting it from the side of a tramcar on a visit to Govan on the old steam-propelled vehicles. Other titles were considered, and as at that time there was a

Tollcross organisation known as the “Gents” the young Vale might have called themselves the “Players” and made a game of it. That by the way.

45 Years Ago - This all happened almost 45 years ago. And somewhere between Cambuslang and Tollcross, on the Banks o' Clyde, Bogleshole Park was headquarters for two years. Then a move was made to Germiston Park, where they lived more or less happily, and not exactly in the lap of luxury, down the seasons until the current year when they had to find a new billet at Fullarton Park. Their good times included three Scottish Cup victories, and they have made their career truly an honourable one by, at one time or other, winning all the forms of junior trophies. The club has had many able officials from the first president, W. Martin, and secretary McPhee, down to the present day scribe, the popular Peter Simpson- who sports junior English caps- and including such well known names as Matthew Galston, John Bell, Ian Fleming, Tom Braidwood, Alec Marshall, Jimmy Collins, and John Chatham.

Vocalist Trainer - And there was one very worthy chap who gave of his best to the club as trainer for many years, Jock McAllister. I'm afraid he has something to answer for, as I am informed that his one song at the after match teas- a feature of the old days- was “The Wells o' Wearie.” Now we know. There must be a goodly number of the Clan McAllister in the Ibrox and Parkhead camps. I was also told that the club was often twitted about how their players were looked after. Which does not seem to reconcile with the difficulties which were experienced at times in keeping the club going along. One very good aid towards revenue maintenance was the cup which was put up at their annual juvenile tournament ties. I vividly remember having taken part in them sometimes in a fading twilight!

Example of Self-Help - It might be called an example of self-help, because the cup was one which the club won and, by clever reasoning, retained. It was the old North-Eastern Cup put up for junior club competition by the Thistle F.C. of Bridgeton. This was in 1889, and the North-Eastern winners' names will be interesting. It was the club's first cup, and was won by: - Allan, Smith, Collins, McPhee, Anderson, Marshall, Miller, Baxter, Roger, Bell, and Grove. The left wing has a kind of Dennistoun flavour rather than Tollcross. Incidentally, Grove was father of the current Partick Thistle player. A chapter, of course, could be devoted to “Eddy” McPhee as player, referee, club, and Association secretary. Collins was the late Jimmy Collins, for many years secretary of the Glasgow Junior League and Dumbarton's manager. One of the best elevens Vale of Clyde ever fielded was that which in 1893\* beat the famous Minerva at old Barrowfield Park in a Charity Cup final. It was: - Laird, D. Baxter, Paterson, Smith, Anderson, Marshall, J. Baxter, Gray, Rodger, Bell, and Grove. The Baxter-Paterson combination was unique- a sort of David and Jonathan partnership for ten years. Another distinguished side which once won the Glasgow Cup and “Evening Times” Glasgow League championship trophy was:- Montague, W. Baxter, McCurdie, Livingstone, Cunningham, Baird, Govan, McGuire, Linnen, White, Brock. Govan and McGuire were a pair who dazzled many a left back, and Brock occasionally provided “fireworks”. “The Evening Times” trophy was won on four occasions- in 1900, 1913, 1918, and 1920. I might as well continue with the Scottish Cup victorious sides. The first, which beat Chryston Athletic by 2-0 at Whitefield Park, Cambuslang, in 1890-91 season was:- Laird, D. Baxter, Paterson, Smith, Anderson, Marshall, A. Gray, J. Baxter, Dempster, Rodger, D. Bell. The clubs had previously drawn at Ibrox where with Chryston leading by one goal at 30 seconds to go D. Baxter came right up on a non-stop run to equalise. In season 1892-93 they beat Dumbarton Fern 3-2 at Boghead with this eleven: - Breen, Frew, Paterson, Livingstone, Mair, Marshall, Gray, Lawrie, Morrison, Bell, and Calder. This was also a replayed final. The first game was at Airdrie, and the press had apparently no muzzle on them, as play was described as “of the roughest nature, composed of hard hitting and tripping.”

Great Captures - Certain names here might be noted. Govan Dean Park had discontinued and their crack players “Luggie” Lawrie, “Tarry” Marr, and Hugh Breen, were great captures. Gray and Lawrie made one of the best ever Vale of Clyde wings. The third and last- it may be observed that Vale won every one of their three Scottish Cup finals- was in 1903-04, when at Celtic Park they had that peculiar satisfaction, extracted from beating your local rivals, by whacking Parkhead 3-0 with the following side:- Morton, Law, “Effie” Smith, Willie Kay, Collins, White, Paterson, Hunter, Kerr, Lavity, Fulton. The outside left was none other than Wee Johnny Fulton (Strathclyde), at the last moment prevailed upon to turn out. He will come up again when I deal with Strathclyde. The men who go “upstairs” are usually worth mentioning. Early promotion from Vale of Clyde were Joe Leiper (Derby County), Bill Sinclair and Davie Stewart (Queen's Park), G. Harvie (Partick Thistle), Jimmy Collins (Everton), Andy Stewart (Third Lanark), Johnny Divers (Celtic), Jackie Clelland and Jimmy Martin (St. Bernard), Jim Baxter (Burnley), David Bell (St. Mirren), John Dick (Queen's Park), Willie Kay (Queen's Park and St. Mirren).



Joe Cassidy and Others - Later on there was enough talent to make a real International side:- Tom Blair (Kilmarnock), Tom Snoddy (St. Mirren), Louis Gordon (Ashfield), James Hamilton (St. Mirren, Rangers, etc.), Jimmy Hogg (Ayr United), Willie Rankine (Dundee and Blackburn), Hugh McNair (Falkirk), Peter Gavigan (Falkirk and Dundee), Martin Davis (Dumbarton and Bury), Willie Devlin (Cowdenbeath and Huddersfield), Joe Cassidy (Celtic), and last but not the least discussed John Cameron, whose Arsenal signing made such a how-d'ye-do in the Intermediate world. Joe Cassidy came a slip of a lad at 17 to set out on a notable football life. They are still rearing good youngsters, and I saw recently two inside forwards in Brown and Graham lads who will maintain the club prestige, given ordinary good fortune. And there are sure to be lots of other interesting parts to be explored in Vale of Clyde's career if time and space only permitted.

\* Glasgow Junior Charity Cup success was 1891 not 1893.

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## BORN 1908, AND WITH A LOT TO RECORD

Pollok's Place in Glasgow Football

(Article accompanied by a photo of Mr. James McLean Milne)

When taking up a house most folks are keen to settle in congenial surroundings, and the more genteel the more desirable. Thus the Pollok club, on their inception on July 1, 1908, were fortunate to have the privilege of a park allocated to them in the delightful policies of Pollok Estate. And they were allowed to sit rent free! What better start-off in their junior life could be desired? But I often wonder why their neighbours the cricket club, made the delicate distinction of spelling their name Poloc. Sounds as if there was "no connection with the business next door"! The name of John Stirling Maxwell was on their list of patrons as Hon. President. I rather think he was on many others also, his good nature in this respect being taken full advantage of.

The First President – Out of compliment, jerseys of black and white were adopted as club rig-out, these being the Pollok house colours. Provost McDougall, of Pollokshaws Burgh, was first president, and one of the vice-presidents was Mr. James McLean Milne, a popular city business gentleman. Mr. Milne modestly refuses particular praise, but his service to the club, which really began under the auspices of the Pollokshaws Working Lads' Club, was one long record of good guidance, and it is no mere accident that Pollok made such creditable standing in Glasgow junior football. He was president for nine years, giving up office in 1918. The club left Haggs Park in 1926-27, and during the following season they were without a ground.

A Difficult Period – Difficulties which arose after the occupation of the new ground at Newlandsfield Park brought Mr. Milne out again to help at that time, and he was soon working away very strenuously on behalf of the club with a title which tickles me of "Acting President". The Army records usually added the word "unpaid", and I suppose it was not different here. There was much more voluntary labour from the ranks of the membership, which also should be given due recognition. They have had many other zealous officials, such as Bailie Alexander McLellan, David Campbell, Alexander Rodgers, William Wilson, D. Forrester, A. McGregor, A. Brown, Thomas Syme, John Duncan, John Colquhoun, James McKinlay Dow, William Govan, John Gibson, and the present president, Mr. Hugh Bone.

A Sporting Risk – The club has undoubtedly established itself as a power in junior circles, and, if unable to boast of many honours- no Scottish Cup, for instance- have usually gone a fair distance in the competition and landed an occasional trophy. In this connection I recall how the club might readily have gone on to win an important cup. That was when, comfortably situated in a tie on opponents' ground, the home supporters invaded the field at 10 minutes to go, and had Pollok taken advantage of the circumstances would probably have been granted the verdict. Through the influence of Mr. Milne- who took more than a sporting risk- it was played out, and in due course Pollok "passed out." A certain well-known Glasgow club will remember the incident vividly.

An Early Team – Pollok began in the Scottish Junior League, later becoming members of the Glasgow Junior League. One of the earliest teams went undefeated for six months. It was: - Greig, Kelly, Ireland, Robert Whittle, Neil, McFie, Dalglish, Blyth, Shaw, Mackie, and Haldane. Willie Greig was a wag, like all good goalkeepers, and his sartorial distinctions always a source of good fun. Season 1930-31 was probably the club's most successful year. They won the Scottish Intermediate League Cup, beating Benburb by 1-0, and also the Scottish Intermediate Consolation Cup at the expense of Shawfield by 2-1. In addition they captured the Kirkwood Shield\*\*. The players who made this possible were: - Miller, Hillhouse, Hopewell, Thomson, McBride, Hirst, Sykes, Robertson, Armstrong, McIntyre, and McCabe. Williamson, Lambie, and Smith assisted on occasion.

Pertinent Facts – Pollok won the Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup twice, in seasons 1919-20 and 1920-21.\* Round about this period, when the Intermediates were striving hard to make good their case, Mr. Milne gave a good boost to the cause by bringing to light certain very pertinent facts in connection with a player who has perhaps gone furthest of all from the club, Bob McPhail (Rangers). The relative value put on this player by Airdrieonians for the purpose of placating Pollok and what it took for moving him a corresponding distance to Ibrox Park made mighty interesting comparison. I don't remember exactly how many 0's were added to the original figures.

Other Fine Players – Many other fine players have been sent to the seniors. One to whom the club was very grateful is Wallace Lambie, who for a period was at Hampden Park. Archie Johnstone went to Hamilton Acads, and is now with Cowdenbeath, and he is one of our shrewd players who, like Alan Morton and Fleming, have business interests. Robertson, who left for Chelsea last year, is now also with Cowdenbeath. Joe McBride and Griffiths went south with Robertson to Stamford Bridge, Sunderland got Charles Thomson, as did McNab, a clever youngster who went to Roker Park after a few junior games and has had his English League baptism this year. Besides McPhail, the Airdrieonians had Peter McFie and now have Ernie Armstrong.

Had to be Content – Partick Thistle got James Hynd and Alex. Lockhart together for a by no means hefty sum, but one which Pollok were told by Thistle was “all that ever would be given- even for anyone of the Jimmy Quinn standard.” So they had to be content. Adam Black and Willie Whittle also became Partick Thistle players. Kilmarnock secured D. Fulton, Agnew, and John Garrity; Dundee took John Ross; and one of Pollok's best, Robert McGregor, rendered excellent service to Morton. Robert Gilmour also was with the Greenock club. Archie Somerville was with Ayr United; Frank Gilmour, Hibs; Edward Haldane, Third Lanark; Stewart Kellock, Queen's Park; James Doolan, St. Mirren; and Matthew Smith, Clyde. One of their best teams was: - Cope, Tom Craig, Currie, James Craig, McGregor, A. Stewart, Lambie, Bowie, Agnew, S. Kennedy, and Meikle. Round about 1918 to 1920 they did well, gaining high positions in the Glasgow Junior League, although never the actual championship. Other notable players then were McBeth, McIntosh, Falconer, Callan, Ross, Bradley, and Lindsay.

An Honourable Item – And here is an interesting and honourable item. Their roll of honour is a long one. Why, in one battle on the Somme no fewer than eleven ex-Pollok players- a whole team- made the great sacrifice, amongst those being big Alec Thomson, the centre-half whose home was just round the corner from my own. This for the junior ranks, I think, with the credit with which Hearts as seniors were given on account of their patriotism. They still have pluck on the playing field, as I know from seeing them in their Scottish tie last week, when they got an early blow which would have shattered all hopes for many teams, but only made Pollok buckle to and play hard enough to live to fight another day- this afternoon at Newlandsfield.

\* Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup successes were in 1917-18 and 1918-19, not 1919-20 and 1920-21

\*\* Kirkwood Shield not won in 1930-31. Successes around that time were in 1928-29, and 1929-30.

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## BENBURB'S GOOD PART IN FOOTBALL

Govan Products Who Made First-Class Seniors

(Article accompanied by a photo of Glass)

New Tinto Park, the new ground of the Benburb F.C., in Craigton Road, Govan, was opened this afternoon, officially, by Mr. R. Campbell, President of the Scottish Football Association. Our native hills and “bens” never rise to prodigious heights compared with similar things elsewhere. Neither in junior football have the Govan “Bens” in the language of the day, just “hit the high spots.” But both have something in common- they are often difficult to get over. The present “Bens” have the bump of stubbornness highly developed. I saw them recently down three goals to Rutherglen Glencairn and playing away as if for the winning goal, and incidentally giving me better value for my money than half a dozen senior games did round about these same week nights.

Their Fourth Ground – New Tinto Park is their fourth ground. The first was Govandale Park, situated in Holm Street, close to the river, and here, as at the senior ground of Partick Thistle over at Meadowside Park, you occasionally had diversion from the passing shipping. This was their home from the foundation of the club in 1900 until 1911. There was an enthusiastic body of officials at the formation, and the club was well run by the committee, which included: - President, W. Seath; secretary, R.S. Montgomery; treasurer, Alex. McDougall; match secretary, Alex. Park; and Messrs J. Ferguson, H. McDonald, and G. Essler.

Another Benburb – It might be mentioned that about this period there was another club named the Benburb F.C. playing at Oatlands. No connection existed between the two. The first team names will be interesting: - Bailie, Ewing, Glen, Sinclair, Urie, Riddoch, Baird, Walker, Cooke, Smith, and Dearie. They won the South-Western Cup in their first season. Bob Montgomery became one of our best known administrators, and was president of the Glasgow Junior Football Association from 1903-1906. In 1912 a move was made to the Gymnasium Ground in Broomloan Road, and during their stay there they accomplished some of their best work.

A Proud Record – One of the principal achievements- in 1913-1914- was the winning of the Glasgow Junior League Championship, which carries with it the “Evening Times” trophy. Their record was one to be proud of:- Played 26, Won 20, Lost 2, Drawn 4, For 48, Against 18, Points 44. They had rather a taking side at the time, and the following in one of the concluding games with Cambuslang Rangers, who were running second, practically settles the issue:- McLellan, Mercer, Shaw, Walker, Buchanan, Brooks, Keay, Kilpatrick, Dozens, Stewart, and Taylor. Benburb came very near winning the “Times” trophy again in 1921, I think it was. They played Ashfield at Gymnasium Park, and a win would have given them the championship. Ashfield, however, only required one point, and a draw gave them it to pip Benburb on the post. In 1917 Benburb won the Glasgow Junior Cup, beating Petershill at Firhill with the following side: - Campbell, McLellan, J. Rae, Black, McIntosh, Watkins, Lawrie, Stitt, H. Rae, McNair, and Aitken.

Beating Ashfield – Then in 1920 they won it again, beating Ashfield at Shawfield Park, the team reading:- Thomson, Watt, Paton, McCourt, Walker, McGuire, Gray, Gossman, Meldrum, Russell, and Edwards. In 1924 they brought off a “double” by winning two cups, the Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup and the Kirkwood Shield. In the former final at Firhill they beat Shawfield, and it was only at two minutes to go that Langmuir scored the only goal of the game. Then after a hurried towelling and equally hasty tea, over they went to Moore Park to meet Pollok, who had been resting earlier.

Two Hours to Win – It took two hours to settle this Kirkwood job and then by a less margin than in the Consolation Cup. It was a corner in that extra time that pipped Pollok at the post. The afternoon team was: - Galbraith, Cleland, Weir, Longmore, Hamilton, Liddle, Goodwin, Heron, Smith, Langmuir, and Watson. Only one change was made for the evening match. Other honours won are the North-Eastern Cup and the Elder Hospital Cup (twice). Last year the “Bens” won the Glasgow Charity Cup, the team being: - McDonnell, Riddoch, Shaw, Smith, Herson, McGinnigle, Robertson, Glass, Divers, Kerr, and McLoughlin. In 1925 another “flitting” was necessary- to Tinto Park in Shieldhall Road- and now on to New Tinto.

Seniors Supplied – The club has a long list of senior “supplies,” one of the best known being Willie Russell, who went to Airdrieonians, to be a member of the Broomfield club’s crack cup winning eleven of 1925 with Hugh Gallagher, Jimmy Reid, Jacky McDougall, and others. Russell got his “cap” against England in the “All Tartan” Scottish team at Hampden in 1925 and was later with Preston North End. The Benburb player I know best was Watty Thomson, who went to Hamilton Academicals and helped to form the happy family at Douglas Park with George Sommerville and Company. I never heard him grumble, and he has not always been lucky. Watty was a rare, even-going player, something of a philosopher, and had a great fund of humour and anecdote. One of his tales about the razor strops at a certain junior ground made my blood curdle.

Earlier Departures – Amongst the earlier departures were W. Logan to Queen’s Park Rangers in London, J. Monteith to our own Queen’s Park, J. Smith (St. Mirren), J. Donnachie (Oldham Athletic and Everton), J. Callender, J. Baird, A. Black, and J. Curtis (Partick Thistle), H. Rae (Clyde), W. McLellan (Bury), F. Aitken (Bury), J. Slaven (Third Lanark). Then there were the three Walkers- Willie, affectionately dubbed “Shoogley” because of his quaint swerving style, to Clyde; “Ike” another droll fellow, to Cathkin; and then Duncan to Kilmarnock. There were also D. Paterson (Cowdenbeath and Falkirk), J. Preston (Hibs), J. Thomson (Bristol City), H. Hall (St. Johnstone), G. Hunter (Morton), Frank Doyle (Fulham and Celtic), and G. Malloch (Derby County, and now with Sheffield Wednesday). Last year Motherwell took young Tom Wylie to understudy McFadyen, and had also McEwan as a reserve goalkeeper. This season Morton took over McLoughlin, C. Ferguson went to Middlesbrough, and last, but not least important, J. Glass now occupies Hugh Morton’s place at right half for Kilmarnock.

Guiding Spirits – Guiding the club down the years have been such excellent gentlemen as President D. McDonald, A. McKenzie, H. Millar, and now Mr. Thomas McGregor. In various capacities have served also Messrs J. McKenzie, M. McInnes, Alexander Taylor, William Holt, A. McCamley, J. Mulhall, F. Auld, Colin Smith, Joe Thomson, James McPherson, G. Dobbie, A. Kenneth, J. McKechnie, J. Dickie, J. Carrick, and one to whom I am indebted for much of my information and who has a long record of good work for the club, Mr. Mick Connolly. The club has had splendid patrons and a large number of modest but painstaking helpers. New

Tinto Park is the best tribute to the enthusiastic band of voluntary workers who have rallied to the club at a very difficult time. Their part has been very real “spade” work, and during some of the operations an “Army day”- i.e. 24 hours, as the sergeant used to tell us- was cheerfully carried on. I understand that tonight, after the game, the club are entertaining their voluntary workers at a social gathering, and I trust it will be something in the nature of “the end of a perfect day.” The “Bens”, sometimes pawkily known as the “Chookey Hens” have now a fine place to “come home to roost.”

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## STRATHCLYDE THE EASTERN STARS

Milestones in a Remarkable Record  
(Article accompanied by photo of Stevenson)

Back again among the wise men of the East it is for me to say that Strathclyde F.C. have a particularly fine record of consistent prominence in the junior world. They always have been feared- and respected. The club dates back about 40 years. It was instituted in season 1892-93 at a meeting convened by Mr. Alan Dunbar who was associated with the Summerfield Juvenile club of that time. Along with a few members of the third eleven of the (senior) Thistle, a committee was formed comprising Messrs J.R. Riddell, J. Clark, J. Bird, R. Watt, G. Dunbar, J. Sawers, K. Freebairn, and A. Mitchell. Officials were appointed as follows: - President, J.R. Riddell; secretary, W. Patterson; treasurer, A. Hill; and match secretary, W. Provan.

The First Ground – The first ground was Beechwood Park, prior to that the Thistle’s ground, and the area now rejoices in the name of Strathclyde Street. When evicted from that ground temporary accommodation was provided at the Victoria Trotting Grounds, Springfield Road, the track of which bordered a football pitch of fair class. A new home was found in new Beechwood Park, on the Clydeside near Dalmarnock Bridge, until the Electricity Department gave them another “shock”, and so on to the first Springfield Park. Next came along another Glasgow Corporation concern, the Education Committee, and Strathclyde had to move again to make way for a new school. But they had not to go many yards to their present headquarters, New Springfield Park, adjoining Belvedere Hospital.

Cost £3000 to Make – Springfield Park cost about £3000, and its construction was done by voluntary labour. All Strathclyde need is a grand stand, and their ground could surpass half the provincial senior grounds I know. I believe even Hearts would envy the spaciousness of the place, and the holding capacity is “estimated” as 45,000. But to build a stand you need to transfer players at the £5000 rate, and only seniors get away with that! Down the years Strathclyde have been capably guided by such football personalities as Messrs J.R. Riddell, A. Dunbar, James Clark, R. Mackay, S. Swan, Thomas Hanks, Hugh Higgins, James Bird sen., Alan McCulloch, R. Forrest, Johnnie Fulton, J. Chapman, H. Tumulty, Alec Carmichael, James Leckie, and the present president, Mr. McIntosh, who has favoured me with many important details.

Many Honours – Honours have been plentiful, with the Scottish Cup won three times. Their first final outing was at Celtic Park on May 8, 1897, when against the Dunfermline Juniors the following side was fielded: - Wilkie, Montgomery, McMillan, Coulter, Raeside, Allison, Dougan, Blue, Forrest, Laird, and Carmichael. Other people also thought it an important show, and in our football edition of that date it took about four columns to accommodate all the complimentary, and otherwise, comments of vastly interested folks. There was a replay and it only took about half a dozen lines to dispose of it! Dunfermline had secured a protest against McMillan and it was sustained. It was rumoured others, such as Raeside, and Allison, were suspect. In the replay the team was: - Wilkie, Montgomery, Kerr, Paterson, Raeside, Allison, Dougan, Blue, Forrest, Laird, and Torrance. The Coulter, Raeside, Allison, half-back line was a famous one, and it was only broken up when all went senior, the first two to Clyde and Allison to West Ham.

A Clever Pair – Dougan and Blue were not giants, but a mighty clever pair. Third Lanark sought the latter, and Partick Thistle took T. Wilkie. Even prior to that period the club had been supplying material to the seniors, the first batch being Duguid, to Greenock Morton, Gillespie to Manchester City, A. Wilson to Sunderland, and Jas. Monteith and W. McCann, to Celtic. The club seemed well off in many respects, as I read that it was free of debt, indeed passing rich with the handsome sum of £100 in hand, and also boasting a brake club with 60 members. Strathclyde’s second Scottish Cup success was obtained at Meadowside Park in 1906-1907, when, after two drawn games of one goal each, Maryhill were beaten by the only goal of the third game, scored by Speirs, the team being:- Steven, Caddies, Forsyth, Campbell, McRoberts, Stewart, Kerr, Balfour, Spiers, Fairlie, and Gray. In 1908-1909 they lost in the final to Kilwinning Rangers at Rugby Park, Kilmarnock, by 1-0 after

extra time. The sides had previously drawn at Shawfield Park in the first game. This losing team was: - Cherry, Forsyth, Cook, Douglas, Pearts, Stewart, Rankine, Ramsay, Nicol, McBride, and Prentice.

Notable Performance – I have one very vivid recollection of a Strathclyde tie that year. It was played on the afternoon of the Scotland-England League International at Celtic Park, when Harold Paul, and Jimmy Quinn performed that memorable double-turn goal. There were two men also performing a duet at Beechwood, the two men I take off my hat to being extreme wingers, Johnny Rankine and Charlie Prentice. In 1925-1926 Strathclyde won their third Scottish Cup, beating Bridgeton Waverley by 2-0 at Firhill after a 1-1 draw. This winning team was: - Stevenson, Westwater, Reid, Semple, Fulton, McMurray, Waddell, Gray, Brunton, Haddow, and Syd McDonald. Haddow had both goals.

“Times” Trophy Winners – The club were the first to have their name inscribed on “The Evening Times” Trophy as winners in 1896-97 of the Glasgow Junior League. They also won it again in 1922-23. One other season Ashfield were heading for this championship, when Strathclyde played their last game against Renfrew Victoria. They only needed to win by a margin of 10 goals to beat Ashfield on the post. They worked like the little nigger boys, but they only got nine. Probably if they had given wee Johnny Fulton some more rehearsal he might have made it right, but I think he did remarkably well to register five. The result placed the club level on points, and, after reference to the English League secretary, Ashfield got the honour on goal average. Strathclyde’s other honours are\*:- Glasgow Cup – 1895-96, 1910-11, 1930-31; Glasgow Consolation Cup – 1913-14; Glasgow Charity Cup – 1924-25-26; Eastern Charity Cup – 1924-25-26-27; Partick Charity Cup – 1907-08; Smyllum Charity Cup – 1922-23, 1924-25, 1926-27-28; Glasgow League Cup – 1921-22-23; North-Eastern Cup – 1907-08, 1910-11, 1915-16; Glasgow Eastern League – 1921-22; Cambuslang and District League – 1905-06. The club has sent many players to the seniors besides those already mentioned.

Rangers’ Share – Rangers have had Johnny Bovill, the dapper little Johnnie Dickie, and Russell, at present left half in the Alliance team. Once upon a time I thought the Ibrox club was likely to snap goalkeeper Stevenson – now with Clyde. I saw this player pass as fiery a test as it is possible to conceive at Millburn Park one evening, and I felt it would have passed him on anywhere. Andy Haddow was with the club then. He has never quite reached senior ambitions either, though Morton, Burnley, Clyde, and other clubs gave him opportunity. Clyde recently took McCulloch and Campbell, Hamilton Academicals got a good goalkeeper in George Sommerville, latterly of Burnley, and now with Bristol City. So did Airdrieonians in Willie Duncan. St. Mirren had Johnnie Clark and Bobby Rankine. Morton took Sammy Banks. Tom Gracie went to Hearts, and another who fixed up at Edinburgh was the neat right winger, George Stewart (Hibs), who played against England and Wales in 1905 and 1907.

Two Famous “Jags” – Partick Thistle got good service from Joe Harris and Sandy Hair, whose chief exploit was a nap hand of goals against Rangers in a charity final tie. Queen’s Park had G.S. Ramsay, Taylor, Parry, Rosenbloom, and John and Alec McLean. Another of the Clan McLean was the third brother, Finlay, who played for Hamilton Academicals. Ayr United had Tommy Brock, and Albion Rovers secured the two brothers W. and T. Creighton. Included in the number who went down south were Gray (Chelsea), Tom Black (Arsenal), Pratt (Leicester City), and, of course, the most recent, that highly successful young man, Harry McMenemy, to Newcastle United. This list could no doubt be increased a lot, but those given will suffice to show the quality reared. One very fine servant of the club who retained his junior status throughout was Tom Fulton, a rare type, and the club recognised it.

A Touch of Comedy – While usually taking their football life very seriously, they had an odd humourist in the ranks. Johnnie Layden, I am told, was once up before the S.J.F.A. When asked what he had to say for himself, he meekly replied, “Nothing.” The president asked for a definition of nothing, and got it. Johnnie drawled out that “Nothing was a bung-hole without a barrel”! Then there was the centre-half who carries a safety pin– for safety. When the opposing centre forward rose to head the ball the pin went into action. It became a form of anchor. That story also has official corroboration. The present Strathclyde bid fair to uphold the prestige of the club. I have seen them several times this season, and good material exists for upholding the traditions, and one particular Glasgow senior club are evidently of my opinion, as they had a representative with a watching brief on each of my visits.

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\* Strathclyde’s honours list contains a few discrepancies. The 1930-31 Glasgow Cup success was in the Glasgow & District Intermediate Cup. The Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup win was 1912-13 not 1913-14. Glasgow Charity Cup not won in 1926. Eastern Charity Cup not won in 1927, but won in 1929-30 and 1931-32. Smyllum Charity Cup was also won in 1923-24.

## PETERSHILL IN THE LIMELIGHT AGAIN

Springburn Club and Its Fine Record  
(Article accompanied by a photo of Walter Hay)

Springburn has received much of its industrial distinction from the product of the North British Locomotive combine, and not a little of its football fame from the combine known as the Petershill F.C., one of our popular junior clubs. I have some acquaintance with the activities of both. The club dates back to 1896, and was formed after a meeting held in Thomson's Coffee House in Castle Street, Townhead, the following officials being appointed:- President, J.H. Potter; vice-president, P.J. Lavery; general secretary, Stephen Pulman; match secretary, Archie Blue; treasurer. John MacDonald.

The First Game – The opening game was played on their first ground, Arrol Park, situated in Petershill Road, against Redcliffe Thistle F.C., and resulted in a goalless draw, the pioneer team being:- L. Crichton, J. McLean, D. McCulloch, G. Todd, W. Mercer, R. Todd, R. Aitchison, R. Paterson, H. Donnelly, C. Cairns, and A. Petrie. The club started off rather well, playing 13 games before defeat came their way, Vale of Clyde stopping the run of success in a Scottish Cup tie. It was not until season 1902-3 that they began to take the honours, and the first silver pieces were the North-Eastern Cup and Glasgow Charity Cup. The players who helped were: - J. Brackenridge, "Tons" McLeod, A. Govan, R. Weir, J. Cowan, Harry Wilson, "Dandy" Anderson, J. Main, T. McKenzie, S. Kyle, and H. Collins, with also James McLaine and A. Park assisting on occasion. Looking over these names made me think straightaway of the big list of good men Petershill have sent up to the seniors.

Three Good Teams – Quite readily I could make up three teams of players, any set of whom could have held their own anywhere with the best. Consider, if it had been possible, for instance, to play a side such as:- George Nisbet (Ayr United), Jock Young (Morton), Walter Hay (St. Mirren), W. Paterson (Motherwell), Jock McIntyre (Morton), H. Carmichael (Ayr United), James Maxwell (Kilmarnock), "Jock" McTavish (Falkirk), Tom McKenzie (Third Lanark), Bobby Howe (Hamilton), and Bobby Ferrier (Motherwell). If Petershill had never rendered any other service to the game than providing Motherwell with Ferrier, their existence would have been fully justified.

"Bud" Maxwell's Father – Maxwell, father of "Bud" Maxwell, the young Rugby Park centre, and McTavish did play together for the Scottish League against England at Ibrox in 1907. Here is another valuable lot:- Joe Ramsay (Partick Thistle), "Tushy" McDougall (Motherwell), Sam Allan (Hibs and Rangers), Harry Wilson (Partick Thistle), W. Narrowmore (Reading), Sam Forrest (Fulham), Sandy Overead (Fulham), Bobby Stevenson (St. Mirren and Morton), R. Tait (Hearts), Billy Brae (Ayr United), and Davie Munro (Third Lanark). And this further alternative set:- Jimmy Brown (Airdrieonians and Raith Rovers), Alex Patrick (Kilmarnock), W. Winning (Raith Rovers), R. Henderson (Kilmarnock), Sam McCulloch (Blackburn), Bobby Sim (St. Mirren), Boyd (St. Bernard and Newcastle United), David Croal (Falkirk), R. Kennedy (Falkirk and Gateshead), James McLeod (Partick Thistle), and Fred Blanchflower (St. Mirren).

More Prominent Players – To these lists can be added names of others who as one pawky official put it, "slipped up." Goalkeepers – Jimmy Gilhooley (Ayr), Leo Massie (Ayr and Partick Thistle), James McCloy (Clyde), Rooney (Bristol City), "Jock" Breckenridge (Clyde). Backs – Alex McGregor (Queen's Park), W. McIntosh (Celtic), Alex. Govan (Hearts). Half-backs- Joe Davidson (Raith Rovers), Tommy Mitchell (East Fife), Andrew Gardner (Leicester City), and Dick Hendrie (Brentford and Thames)- now manager of the club Tunbridge Wells, who have come up here to disturb a few happy homes- Jack Cross (Third Lanark). Forwards- "Yankee" Blackwood (Celtic), Jimmy Stalker (Dunfermline), W. Grant (Morton), Harry Collins (Falkirk), J. Creachan (Hibs), James Scott (Raith Rovers), J. Galbraith (Preston North End), Jock McKim (Dumbarton), James Cameron (Clyde), Ronald Keith (Motherwell), Charlie Sutherland (St. Mirren), Neil Turner (Raith Rovers), Robert Faulds (St. Bernard), George Bertram (Airdrieonians), and Albert Smith (Manchester United).

Church and Stage – The club have the distinction of the connection with church and stage, as they have had the assistance of the Rev. Alpine Munro who is well known in Glasgow, and also J.H. Cameron, of the Empire Theatre, Edinburgh. Though the club was often- when I saw them- in the language of a railway district, "running late", they were generally running hard and physically very fit when under the charge of trainers such as Hughie Howatt (now Morton), Willie Barr (Third Lanark), David Rutherford (St. Johnstone), and Charlie Durning (St. Mirren), now looking after the Glasgow University athletes. The club at present is managed by a former player of the club, John Sim, who acts as match secretary.

Atlas Park Opened – The present ground is Hawthorn Park (opened 1919), a good distance removed from the original headquarters at Arrol Park. Between times they were housed at Atlas Park, also near the locomotive

works. It was opened in 1903, and Glasgow Perthshire were beaten that day by 3-2 in a Scottish Cup tie by: - Wallace, McLeod, Breckenridge, Johnstone, Cowan, Morrison, Osborne, Frame, Munro, Kyle, and Collins. This was a big day. They were proud of the ground, and I believe Sammy Kyle requested a 'Shire player to be careful when "digging in his heel to place the ball."

Prize for First Goal – The first scorer on the ground was to be given a gold scarf-pin. I am assured it was mere coincidence that it fell to the Perthshire centre forward, who was a brother of the Petershill's goalkeeper. One won the pin and the other won the game. Whilst on the gold standard, I might refer to another little story. On a very important cup game Petershill were at two minutes to go one goal behind. A young forward equalized just on time, and as he trooped off was stopped by an enthusiastic patron- a well-known city gentleman- who clapped him on the back and with great insistence pressed him to accept his gold watch. Then, remembering something, the generous donor suggested taking it back to have the lad's initials engraved. It has been a long job!

Scottish Cup Arrives – However, many valuable silver and gold goods have been delivered to the club- honours have been plentiful. They won the Scottish Cup for the first time in 1911-1912 beating Denny Hibs, Jimmy McMullan's junior team, by 5-0- a record score for the final of this competition. The winning side was: - Brown, Traynor, McGregor, Douglas, Forrest, Connell, Overend, Keith, Turner, Faulds, and Blanchflower. In 1915-1916 they beat Parkhead by 2-0 winning the Scottish Cup for the second time with: - Nisbet, Young, Patrick, Henderson, Sim, Joe Cadden, Stalker, Croall, Sommerville, McKim, and Rutherford. Not long after that they again defeated Parkhead by 3-2 in the Glasgow Charity Cup final, finishing a good season by defeating Ashfield by 4-1 in the Maryhill Charity final.

Awarded the Cup – In 1917-18 Petershill were awarded the Scottish Cup. No final tie was played, as Parkhead and Renfrew Juniors were disqualified for failing to play off their semi-final on the date ordered. The club was in another Scottish final in 1910-11 when Burnbank Athletic defeated this side by 1-0 (after a draw of 1 goal each):- W. Main, Traynor, McArthur, Cadden, Kyle, Stark, Overend, Cunningham, Logan, Turnbull, and Coid. There was a particularly good side during 1926-27, which figured prominently in the ties, but had to rest content with the North-Eastern and Glasgow Consolation trophies. This team was:- W. Gilmartin, J. Gray, M. Wilson, J. McCurdie, Narrowmore, T. Mitchell, T. Jack, James McLeod, P. Corrigan, R. Adams, and R. Howe. Albert Smith, S. McCulloch, R. Kennedy, W. McTear, and George Bertram, also assisted the club that season.

"Times" Trophy Won – Our "Evening Times" trophy has been the most elusive of all for Petershill. In 1916-17 they tied with Parkhead for the Glasgow League championship. A deciding game was played at Cathkin Park, and in their anxiety to capture this much desired honour the club made some importations. But the best laid schemes "gang aft agley." Parkhead won by 1 goal to 0. The team may be given: - J. McDougall, Young, T. McDougall, Anderson, Reid, Cadden, R. MacDonald, Miller, Sommerville, Gresham, and Dorward. One name here most folks will always remember in connection with the club is Joe Cadden- as player and official.

Capable Officials – The club has been fortunate in having many capable and shrewd advisers and administrators, among whom might be mentioned as outstanding Messrs P. J. Lavery, John McKenzie, John Richardson, James Cowan, George Hendry. John Richardson had managerial connection with Raith Rovers, Third Lanark, and Falkirk, and Jimmy Cowan succeeded Jimmy Collins (Vale of Clyde) as secretary of the Glasgow Junior League. Mr. George Hendry has rendered particular service to the club and the game generally. During the Intermediate period he was an indefatigable worker in the cause. I am indebted to him for many details given herein.

A Good Side Now – There have been many other helpers who I am unable, in the space allotted, to enumerate. At the moment the club is under the care of President Hugh McNeil, Vice-President Tom Melrose, General Secretary Thorburn, and Match Secretary John Sim. I know they have a good side at their command, a fine, uniform, and balanced eleven, and their Scottish Cup tie at Govan today against St. Anthony's will be an acid test. In the last four games they have scored 15 goals and lost none- evidently sound fore and aft. The complete honours list reads:- Scottish Cup- 1911-12, 1915-16, and 1917-18; Glasgow Cup- 1903-04 and 1912-13; Glasgow Consolation Cup- 1907-08, 1909-10, and 1926-27; Glasgow Charity Cup- 1902-03, 1915-16, and 1919-20; North-Eastern Cup- 1902-03, and 1926-27; and the Maryhill Charity Cup frequently.

## WHERE ANDY WILSON WAS NURSED

Cambuslang Rangers and What They Have Done

(Article accompanied by photo of Andrew Wilson)

Cambuslang Rangers F.C. have generally cut a prominent figure in Scottish junior football. They have won most of the junior honours, but so far the national trophy has eluded their grasp. The Scottish Cup was once in the village- when the defunct Cambuslang Hibs won it in 1896- and maybe it will return this season. So far Parkhead and Strathclyde, eastern area rivals, have been cleared from the path to a belated triumph. Cambuslang Rangers came to life in 1897 from the ashes, so to speak, of Clyde Rovers, and for the first six years were quartered at Westburn Park, locally known as Westburn Green.

Pioneer Office-Bearers – The pioneer office-bearers who set the club on its feet were:- Hon. President, Jas. Morton; president, John Smellie; vice-president, Wm. Brown; general secretary, Andrew Brown; treasurer, A. McFarlane; match secretary, Harry Aitchison, the latter a well-known local business man and still a very keen Rangers supporter. The hand of enthusiastic workers set a standard that has been well maintained by their successors. Mr. James Wardrop joined the club in its infancy, and held office as president on numerous occasions covering a period of 20 years, and others who have rendered valuable assistance are Mr. David MacIntosh, who is another long-service member; the late Mr. William Eadie, a prominent townsman; James Muir, John Poste, and William MacKenzie, who became a well-known Glasgow Junior League official.

A Ghost Story – There were others who have in varied capacities assisted the club, and the exploits of Ishmael Reece and Tobin Gillies are still talked about. It is recorded in local history, for instance, that the pair once saved a tie at Perth by telling the opposing goalkeeper some effective ghost stories! And those who took part will never forget the day, in Billy Ross's time, when they met Newton Villa in a cup tie, and had to fight their way home.

About Billy Ross – Billy Ross, too, was a big Cambuslang personality as well as a great little goalkeeper who had senior experience with Hamilton Academicals. He also had a wit and way of his own. I came in contact with Billy in the days when khaki was the more popular rig-out, and the laugh was against me. He joined the Air Force and arrived at the depot square at Farnborough on of a squad of recruits in civvies and at a time when I was an old soldier of three weeks standing! The party was halted opposite where I was busily engaged on an important job for the Air Ministry with a pail and a mop. Billy spotted me and in his usual pawky way asked "How do you like flying?" So much for that.

The First Team – As befitting all good clubs carrying the name the club colours are light blue, and the first eleven to wear Cambuslang jerseys were:- Robert Tait, J. Stevenson, Joe McCartney, Guy Jarvie, J. Finlayson, G. McDiarmid, Joe Woolley, S. Balfour, J. McDiarmid, D. Ross, and Johnnie Dodds. It would take more space than is my portion to recall the many famous players who followed so it will suffice if I refer to a few of the most notable men reared to senior eminence.

A Great Goalkeeper – Players like Kenny Campbell, Liverpool and Partick Thistle; Andy Wilson, Hearts, Middlesbrough, Chelsea, and now at Nimes teaching the French how football should be played, and Crapnell, Airdrieonians, have added lustre to the prestige of the Cambuslang club. McGinnigle, once a Hibernian defender; Willie Miller, an Easter Road centre-half of proved merit; "Wee" Murray, also a Hib, who gave Rangers a Scottish Cup shock; Johnny McNaught, the right-winger who got a Scottish Cup medal with Falkirk and Kilmarnock, Willie Crilly, the Alloa and Celtic centre; Bobbie Robertson, a right good back, who gave valuable service to Hamilton Academicals, and Tom McKenzie, a recent addition to Motherwell's reserve strength, are others worth noting. But, as I have said, that is a mere picking from a big list. They have gathered a good side together this season, and goalkeeper Wylie bids fair to follow in the footsteps of the illustrious Kenny Campbell and Billy Ross.

In Two Cup Finals – Although the Scottish Cup has not yet been won, they have been near enough winning with two final appearances, and eight times in all as semi-finalists. In 1920 Parkhead beat them in the deciding game by 2 goals to 0, the Cambuslang side being:- R. McKessock, D. Findlay, R. McDonald, E. McManus, J. Pollock, J. McGowan, P. Neil, J. Lawrie, Ben Connolly, W. McCulloch, J. Williamson. Then seven years later they ran up against their Rutherglen rivals, Glencairn. Hampden Park was again the final venue, and this eleven was beaten by two goals to one: - Tonner, Irwin, Guthrie, Docherty, Cunningham, McFarlane, Wilson, Connolly, Waugh, Wallace, and McKay. Of that lot Docherty went to Rangers, Wilson to Aberdeen, where a promised brilliant career was cut short as a result of a bad leg injury in his first senior game, and Wallace joined Cowdenbeath.



Club's Best Team – Many good judges consider that the 1910-11 team, beaten in the semi-final by Burnbank Athletic, was the club's best team. It was:- Kenny Campbell, R. Robertson, W. Anderson, "Daddler" Stewart, C. Dickson, G. Raitt, J. McNaught, W. Raitt, W. Campbell, W. Watson, A. Duncan. Another good lot, but not good enough, was the Rangers team which lost in the final of the Glasgow Cup in 1914:- Ross, Shearer, Gibb, Brown, Cowden, McGregor, McGinnigle, Walker, Hamil, Morton, and Laird.

Notable Performances- The club put up notable performances when in 1901-02 they won the Glasgow and District Junior league without a defeat, and in 1915-16 when they were also unbeaten winners of the Glasgow Junior League and with it "The Evening Times" Trophy. That coveted silver piece has, in fact, rested with Cambuslang Rangers four times- in two successive seasons twice. Somervell Park, the present home of the club, was taken over in September, 1904, when Glencairn first-footed, and in recent years it has been improved to rank with the best. The team on the opening day was:- Abe Keir, J. Johnstone, C. Keir, A. Wilson, J. Finlayson, G. Collins, Stevenson, W. Isatt, J. Walker, Hunter, and Orr. Johnny Finlayson still treasures the badge he won for scoring the first goal on the new ground. The present treasurer, Mr. John Gray, who assisted me with some facts and figures, hopes to have something very much more important to add when the season finishes. May he not be disappointed.

The Honours List\*:- South Side Cup, 1899; Glasgow District League, 1901, 1903; Glasgow Consolation Cup, 1908, 1916, 1918; Glasgow Challenge Cup, 1912, 1921, 1926; North-Eastern Cup, 1910, 1914; Glasgow Charity Cup, 1915, 1917, 1918, 1922; Glasgow Junior League, 1911, 1912, 1915, 1916.

\* The Cambuslang Rangers honours list contains a few discrepancies. The Glasgow Consolation Cup successes were in 1907, 1916, and 1917. Glasgow Challenge Cup won in 1927 not 1926. Glasgow Charity Cup won in 1910, not 1918.

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## WHERE GOOD 'KEEPERS COME FROM

Kirkintilloch Rob Roy's Prominence - Tale of a "Flying Header"

(Article accompanied by a photo of Mr. William McAndrew)

Rob Roy had many a good day in and around Dumbartonshire, and the Kirkintilloch Junior club of the same name has also done a lot in football to make itself widely known and respected. The club was founded in 1878, and it is said that the small band of enthusiastic pioneers took root when they pinched their first ball from a showman at a local fair ground. It is not recorded, however, that that act of petty pilfering gave the club its name, and I'll let it pass! However, Mr. William Downie with his brother officials, Messrs W. Fletcher, and F. Downie, had the distinction of launching the club. And on their efforts has been built an organisation a credit to the town and football generally. This was the first team: - William Grant, William Fletcher, Simon Downie, R. Stockart, James Milroy, Alex. Aitken, William Downie, Robert Downie, Willie Smith, Pat Docherty, and Willie McDonald. Pat Docherty is still to the fore and a regular attender at Adamslie Park. The club has been fortunate in having excellent officials superintending affairs, such as Messrs John Willox, Alex. Walker, John Glass, Alex. Alexander, William Sneddon, Andrew Dick, Hugh Cameron, Alex. Willox, Charles Cassells, Alex. Sliman, Robert Gault, and Scoullar Lawson.

Some Header! - Mr. Scoullar Lawson, the president of the club, one of the most popular officials in junior circles and a worthy president of the Scottish Central League, told me rather a good yarn regarding one of their players- a centre forward who would have a go at anything. In the last minute of an exciting cup-tie, a man in the crowd released a carrier pigeon which flew across the goalmouth just as a corner was being taken. The centre also rose to it, and the bird, beating the ball, was sent spinning past the astonished goalkeeper!

The First Ground – The first ground was Birdston Park, which they occupied from 1878 to 1884. They then moved to Smillie's Park for two more years before going to Broadcroft Park. This was their headquarters for another short term of two years before they took over Kelvinside Park in 1888. They were there apparently for duration, but in 1926 they had to pack up and go on to Adamslie Park, their present home, and one of the best in junior circles. I remember Kelvinside Park. It occurred to me that the correct title of the team should be the Kirkintilloch Rob Roy Football and Angling Club, as much of the time was spent fishing balls out of the adjoining Kelvin! In fact, according to a reliable informant, once upon a time a match had to be abandoned when heavy seas- or was it an unfavourable tide- disposed of five balls, and there was no sixth available. They are in a drier area now.

Scottish Cup Record – Honours have been plentiful enough for the "Rabs" who have been three times in the final of the Scottish Junior Cup, with one triumph to their name. That was in 1921, when they defeated Ashfield

by one goal to nothing, and this was the eleven who triumphed over a Saracen side, including Allan (Third Lanark), Gibson (Aston Villa), Neil Gibson (Clyde), and Ballantyne (Partick Thistle):- Bruce, Fergus, Scullion, Boyd, Stafford, Michie, Murdoch, Williamson, Robertson, Osborne, and Paddy Connolly. I remember this game, and how Ashfield folks never were quite reconciled to the manner of the scoring of the only goal by Boyd. Bruce went to Partick Thistle, Fergus to Burnley, Scullion to Hamilton Academicals, Murdoch to Airdrieonians and then Motherwell, and Connolly did much good work for Celtic.

An “Ill-Luck” Final – Rob Roy had their share of ill luck when they met and were defeated by Dunipace Juniors in the 1908 final at Meadowside. With very little time to go Dunipace equalized with a penalty kick, and in the replay at Brockville Park, Falkirk, Dunipace won by the odd goal. Rob Roy’s team was: - Cleland, Shaw, Hudson, Leggatt, Aitken, McKenna, James Wilson, Andrews, Bobby Wilson, Ralston, and “Midge” Campbell. Last season Rob Roy were considered to have more than an outside chance of winning the cup for the second time, but Glasgow Perthshire beat this side by two goals to one at Firhill:- Britton, Naylor, Ure, Knox, Lyon, McCaffer, Peter, McConnell, Dowdells, Breslin, and Miller. Ure is now with Ayr United, Dowdells has gone back to Newmains, and Britton, Naylor, Lyon, McCaffer, Peter, and McConnell are carrying on. Last season, too, Rob Roy reached the final of the West of Scotland Cup again to be beaten- this time by Irvine Meadow XI at Firhill Park.

League Cup Three Times – What was known originally as the Glasgow Junior League Cup competition has been won three times and under three different auspices, so to write. In the days before the recent “split”- in 1924 to be exact- they defeated St. Roch’s by four goals to two. In the first season (1927-28) of Intermediate control they accounted for Clydebank by three goals to nothing, and last season, when the title of the competition became the Scottish Central League Cup, they again met St. Roch’s and won by two clear goals. They have won the Dumbartonshire Cup on numerous occasions, and also collected at odd times the Dumbartonshire Charity Cup, and the Kirkwood Shield. In the Intermediate period they also won the special “Hundred Guineas” Competition.

Great Goalkeepers – “Guarding the pass” was one of the MacGregor’s expert accomplishments, and it is a singular coincidence that the football club has provided the seniors with such a big number of outstanding goalkeepers- Tom Hamilton (Rangers), Willie Robb (Rangers, etc.), John Jackson (Partick Thistle), and Jock Bradford (Morton and St. Mirren). And last but not least Jock Britton, still a very lively junior after senior service with Albion Rovers, Dundee, and Tottenham Hotspur, and an odd game for Celtic reserves not so long ago. Charlie Shaw, of Celtic, also had a Kirkintilloch connection, but I think he played with the defunct Harp.

Willie McAndrew’s Part – One of the clubs foremost products was Willie McAndrew, a centre-half of the best class, who after serving with Queen’s Park, Clyde, and Third Lanark, has made his mark as a manager with the chief distinction of building the present team representing Hamilton Academicals. Other middle line men of note were Chatton and Donald, once of Partick Thistle; Lamb, a Hibernian stalwart at one time; Knox, an Airdrieonians, and Wilfred Sharp, who is assisting Tunbridge Wells at present having had a disagreement with the Broomfield Park club. McLean, now at Blackburn with the Rovers, is a more recent product, and Lyon, his successor, is one of the best pivots in junior circles, and one on whom not a few senior clubs have set envious eyes. Coming to forwards, such as Love (Aberdeen), Murdoch (Motherwell), George Gibson, (Hamilton Academicals and Bolton Wanderers), and Sammy Black (Plymouth Argyle) are current stars.

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## OFFSPRING OF A CRICKET CLUB

### Glasgow Perthshire’s Bright Career - When They Were Independent

“From teams such as these our football greatness springs” is not exactly the proper quotation, but it will serve here when dealing with the ‘Shire. The club is one of the oldest amongst the juniors, being founded in 1890 and in the same year as the Scottish League was formed by the seniors. Glasgow Perthshire was the title, and, as the name implies, was composed of natives of Perthshire resident in Glasgow. It really was secondary to a cricket club of that name who were desirous of having a winter sport. I believe they had a short term as seniors. With the assistance of some influential businessmen in the north-west district the new club began their career at Kelburn Park.

First Officials and Team – Official affairs were then in the hands of resident Robert Keillor, Vice-President Burleigh, Hon. Secretary J. Whitton, Match Secretary A. Aitken (now secretary of the Scottish Central League), and Treasurer W. Proudfoot. The first team was: - Hart, Stewart, Hunt Riddoch, Turnbull, Dickson, Jones,

Eyres, Miller, Williamson, and Ingram. Personal observation down the years was that the Perthshire commanded respect, but somehow never were taken so seriously as they might have been when it came to competitive matters and where the collection of cups and banners was concerned. Nor were they very lucky.

Cups Won Last Season – Furthermore, when they won they won the Scottish Cup last year, I was convinced that never would there be more universal and sincere congratulations given by their junior friends. It was the first-time the club had reached the final, and the team which beat Kirkintilloch Rob Roy at Firhill by 2-1 was: - McCulloch, Miller, Fulton, Corrance, Pollock, Taylor, Bagglely, Fraser, McVicar, Allan, and Hogg. Painstaking officials who built up this team were President John McCrae, and Messrs. G. Henderson, J. Carson, E. MacDonald, and that zealous match secretary, William Anderson.

Some Old Timers – I have repeatedly expressed admiration for the work done by junior officials, but I often thought that working for Perthshire must be particularly testing. They had no more enthusiastic guide and counsellor than the late Mr. James Luke. Others who have helped the club along include Messrs Wm. McGuire, Peter Leish, John Dunlop, George Millar, R. Palmer, J. Sime, T. Muir, Archie Duff, J. Lindsay, A. McLaren, George Richardson, and also “Jake” Luke and who trained the club and practically made Balmore Park. Between the days of Kelburn and Balmore the club had two other grounds- Kelvinside and Nelson Park. Their present ground, Keppoch Park, adjacent to Ashfield’s Saracen Park, was opened this season, and the club aim at purchasing it and making it second to none in Glasgow. That is a lofty ambition, but President Henderson and his colleagues do not think it beyond their capacity.

Refused to Join League – They have always been self-reliant, these Perthshire folks; indeed sometimes quite independent. For instance, when the Glasgow League was formed Perthshire refused to join up. They could get better gates by playing “friendlies” with their numerous town and county friends, and even our “Evening Times” Trophy had no great attraction for them. Ultimately they did come into line, but evidently they have not worried too much over capturing this cup, though twice they have been runners-up. Two of their best men would never go senior. Frank Harris, a favourite with the Kelburn crowd, was often tempted, but always made fun of the thing. He told an agent of a provincial club that his transfer would be a heavy one, nothing less than “two fifty-sixers and the shifting of that senior club’s ground to Glasgow!” Then there was Johnny McGill– the Alan Morton of the junior world at that time- who got all the junior honours, but never left the club.

Notable Products – But many others did, and some of them were- Jimmy Lawrence (Newcastle United), J. McConnechie (Hibs and Everton), Matt Forsyth (Aberdeen), Jimmy Stark (Rangers), Bob Gillespie (Queen’s Park), Bobby Neave (Kilmarnock), Bert Thomson (Celtic), Johnny Browning (Celtic), Hugh Logan (Queen’s Park), and James Connor (St. Mirren and Sunderland). Most football folks know Connor, Thomson, and Gillespie, but only the old-timers can recall the others. Jimmy Stark was one of the most exemplary captains Rangers ever had, and Hugh Logan, who came originally from the famous juvenile Silwood of Dennistoun, became president of the Queen’s Park club. Another old Perthshire player was Tom Sloan, now a director at Cathkin Park. Other notables from the Perthshire fold are- Robert Fulton (Brentford), of last season’s team, and Archie Elliot (Partick Thistle).

The Best Team – In the opinion of one of the older officials one of the best list of staff players were those of the 1910-11 season, when the club had the services of goalkeeper McNab, a choice of backs from Clark, J. Dunn, and McAlpine, good selection of half backs from McGrory, McMeekin, McDougall, McFie, and Neave, and plenty of able forwards in Templeman, Blyth, Dr Young, Gallacher, Barbour, Scouller, A. Dunn, and Stiller. The club were runners-up in the League that season and also won the Glasgow Consolation Cup. They also won the Consolation Cup in 1920. Although they have played in the Glasgow Junior Cup final no fewer than five times they have only won it once, in 1913-14, when they beat Cambuslang Rangers (2-0), with the following:- Neil, McLachlan, Robertson, McMeekin, Allan, Connell, McLean, Murphy, Sprott, Logan, and Greenhorn. The Glasgow Charity Cup was captured three times- in seasons 1897, 1901, and 1902- and the North-Eastern was on the president’s sideboard during 1908 and 1928. They have a good side this year again, and of course this does not pass without notice from “upstairs.”

## TEN YEARS' RECORD OF ST. ROCH'S

Many Fine Players Raised for Seniors - All The Honours Gained

(Article accompanied by photo of Morrison)

St. Roch's F.C. is our study this week. The club is one of our "moderns", and being so they have, like all true moderns, done things- in fact, nearly everything- in their short but adventurous career. It is with justifiable pride that they tell you that actually at one time or another they have won every Junior Cup they have competed for from the Scottish downwards. That inside 10 years is very good going. It was really an Inter-Parish tournament which was responsible for their entry to the football world as a junior club. In this competition the club won the honours two seasons in succession, 1920-21 and 1921-22.

Father Lawton's Part – The enthusiastic and well-known Father Lawton was helpful in their interests, and his influence down the years has been very beneficial. Everyone round about Garngad knows what a power he has been. Incidentally the captain of these said winning teams was Mr. James McAree, of the well-known entertainers, Donoghue and Sands. The committee at that time was as follows:- Mr. W.A. Strang, hon. President; Mr. W. Crosby, vice-president; Mr. E. McKeown, financial secretary; T. Brankin, T. Brogan, J. McKeown, W. Docherty, and E. Devlin. The loss of Mr. W. A. Strang was deeply regretted. He rendered valuable service to the club as president and as representative to the various legislative bodies. Another great asset to the club was Mr. E. McGinty, and his guidance was missed when he resigned. Probably the most widely known personality connected with the club was Mr. Eddie McGill, who acted as secretary from the start until 1929, when he resigned, later joining St. Anthony's in a similar capacity, after a spell out of official control. Mr. James Hughes was his successor, but he resigned last month to be followed by Mr. John McAteer, 46 Bright Street, Garngad.

The First Game – St Roch's have never experienced the questionable experience of flitting, their only ground being Millburn Park, opened by Ashfield, who won by 2-0. The first competitive game was against Dennistoun Juniors in the North-Eastern Cup, and St. Roch's winning team was:- Carson, McFarlane, Fullarton, Mooney, Callaghan, Duncan, Carlin, Toner, Brunton, Taylor, and Lawson. Just to show how rapidly the personnel can change I have picked out a few elevens which turned out over a few years' period.

The Best Ever – In 1921-22 they had a great side, and in the opinion of qualified judges the best the club ever had. The fact that they won the Scottish Cup that year at Firhill would seem to prove it. It certainly looks good, and Kilwinning Rangers would doubtless confirm it. I could; I saw the two games. St. Roch's won the first 1-0. Kilwinning Rangers protested on a late registration point; one of those delicate matters involving proof of posting, delay in delivery, etc. But it served for the purpose of the replay, and St. Roch's again won, by 2-0. This was the composition of the winning team: - Steele, Clarke, Miller, Mooney, Swan, Stafford, Carlin, McGrory, Barton, Rollo, and Hilley. Everyone knows what an ornament to the game McGrory has been. Few may remember Rollo. He was a remarkably clever player as a junior, but never was able to make good when he joined Rangers.

A Strange Thing – Con Hilley had quite a goodly term at Kirkcaldy with Raith Rovers before he went down South to Crystal Palace. Swan went to Aberdeen, but for some reason he never reached anticipated heights as a senior. A very strange thing when one considers his great ability. In 1923 they had a typical team in: - Steele, Clarke, Adams, Mooney, Hunt, Bell, Harvie, Campbell, Murray, Hilley, and Meikle. Pat Hunt went later to Shawfield Juniors before playing senior for Hamilton Acads. and Burnley. During 1924 they had Tommy ("Tucker") Turner, the Hamilton Crescent schoolboy internationalist, who went to Raith Rovers, thence on to join other Rovers at Blackburn. By 1925 they had gathered another strong lot together, but they were edged out in the semi-final of the Scottish Cup that year by the ultimate winners, Strathclyde. The team then was: - Ferguson, Mitchell, Crickett, Kaminski, Neil, Adam, McArdle, McHugh, Kelly, McAra, and McLaughlan. This Mitchell was brother to Steve Mitchell, the dapper little captain of the Irish League eleven, who gained our sympathies at Ibrox ten days ago. Tom Crickett, who was with several of our Second Division seniors, did not have the best of good fortune, through injuries. R. Neil was good enough to be booked for Firhill, and Johnnie McArdle had a short spell at Celtic Park before coming back to Garngad.

Had Their Revenge – St. Roch's however, had their revenge before the season closed by defeating Strathclyde by 3 goals to 1 for the Glasgow Junior League championship and "The Evening Times" Trophy, of which they were holders, having won it the previous season with the record number of 67 points for 38 games. They won 30, lost one, and drew seven. The deciding game was played at Cathkin Park after a four-goals-each draw on the same ground, and on a Saturday evening after they had beat Parkhead in the afternoon for the Glasgow Charity

Cup. The team in the decider was: - Ferguson, W. Mitchell, Crickett, Kaminski, Neil, McKeary, Stark, O'Neil, Kelly, Fraser, and Bradley.

Last Season's Echo – At the tail end of last season, St. Roch's and Glasgow Perthshire made another day of it. They met both in the afternoon and evening at Firhill in the North-Eastern Cup final. St Roch's won at night by the only goal of the game, scored by John Connor in characteristic style. Yet in the afternoon match the same Connor had been carried off on a stretcher. Wonderful the revival powers of a cup of tea and a rest. This team was: - Morrison, Hutcheson, Gilmour, Reid, Thomson, Docherty, Brady, Tierney, Connor, Divers, and Downie. Among the 50 odd players nursed at Millburn Park who have made good in senior circles are: - McGuire of Clyde, Morton, and now Raith Rovers; Joe Reilly, who went to Celtic first and then to Kilmarnock; Peter Shevlin, once of Celtic; Argue, who was injured this season playing for Birmingham; R. Morrison, a goalkeeper now with Airdrieonians; Eddie Black, who went on to Aberdeen, but failed to hit it off at Pittodrie. Aberdeen's fondness for Garngad centre half-backs continued when they took George Thomson last June, John McMenemy went from St. Roch's to Celtic Park, and thence to win a Scottish Cup senior badge in a very short time in 1927 before landing at Motherwell. Another forward Celtic took was John Connor, who caused such a furore over his playing in a trial for the Parkhead club in an Alliance game against Partick Thistle. St. Roch's have not made a great noise so far this season, but there's plenty of time.

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## WHERE GALLAGHER WAS FOUND

Clydebank Juniors Who Have Made Good - Many Famous Products

(Article accompanied by photo of Patsy Gallagher)

There's many a slip- and many a split in our junior world. A split brought about the institution of Clydebank Juniors in 1899. A division of opinion in the Duntocher Hibs camp occurred, and several of their committee moved down to Clydebank and formed a new side, under the name Duntocher F.C.

One Season Only - They carried on for one season only under this heading, then made the change- doubtless for domestic reasons- to the name of Clydebank Juniors. This has been their name since, except when they were in the intermediate fold and the word "Juniors" was not in order. Clydebank Juniors' first set of players comprised a list of 13, namely: - Smith, Lang, McGregor, Watson, Cameron, Logan, Nash, McCallum, Ogle, Cormack, Speedie, Shields, and Mackay. The first game at Kilbowie Park, their home, by the way, was against Rob Roy in the first round of the Dumbartonshire Cup. Then- with particularly great pleasure , I presume- they disposed of Duntocher Hibs in the second round, ultimately beating Smithson Albion in the final and making a start in the silver collection line.

Jimmy Quinn - Incidentally, Jimmy Quinn was playing for Smithson Albion at this time. On the committee of the early Clydebank concern were zealous officials such as Messrs H. Dougan, A. Rodgers, J. Meekins, and J. Boyle. Others later to serve the club well in a similar capacity were Messrs Harry Diamond, James Hosie, John Young, Anthony O'Hara, James Gow, William Dempster, and Dan Michie. At present the club is in the capable hands of President J. McAdam, Vice-President C. McKay, Financial Secretary J.D. Watt, Treasurer R. Begg, and General Secretary R. Bulloch. I am indebted to Mr. Bulloch for assistance. Clydebank Juniors have had some good teams gathered together, but the undernoted, by general consent, is considered to be the outstanding eleven: - Ross, Todd, McEwan, Briggs, McMaster, Hannah, Casey, Gallagher. Lone, Plank, and Goldie.

Well Known Names - Ten of these went upstairs - Billy Ross to Hamilton Academicals via Cambuslang Rangers, Todd to St. Mirren, McEwan to Hamilton Academicals, Alfie Briggs to Hearts, John McMaster to Celtic, Hannah to Third Lanark, Patsy Gallagher to Celtic, Harry Lone to Queen's Park, Plank to Derby County, and Malcolm Goldie to Clyde. I would need a volume to do justice to Patsy's achievements, but I never saw him so happy in all his distinguished career as in the pavilion at Ibrox Park after Falkirk had beaten Rangers in that memorable midweek Scottish Cup-tie, when over 80,000 were thunderstruck at the "Bairns" audacity. Gallagher did not score the all-important goal but paved the way for Mason doing so. Alfie Briggs was one of the noted band of Hearts' players who joined up in the McCrae Battalion. He made the great sacrifice. McMaster was a very useful man at Parkhead at a time when only the best was good enough for Celtic. Next in order of merit as a team was that which represented the club during the Intermediate term: - Shortt, Clark, Sinclair, Deans, Young, Cameron, Qua, Murray, Gray, Smith, and Smillie.

Joe Shortt - Joe Shortt was a personality when with the seniors- Albion Rovers and elsewhere. I note he has joined this week with Baillieston. I was vastly entertained at Southcroft Park in an important tie with Yoker

Athletic to see how he could keep goal and carry on some great “cross-talk” with members of the crowd at his back simultaneously. He was rather good at both. Willie Deans is now on the Ibrox staff, and Young recently joined Hamilton Academicals. Next to Gallagher I think John Smith, now at Tynecastle, the best player they have sent up. He has an originality which delights me. I have seen him frequently as a senior and junior, and that bogey of his slowness can be laid when he can do so many other things well. It is on record that in a cup-tie at Kilbowie he startled the crowd by once shouting in his zeal “Leave it to me Harry, I’m faster than you!”

Young and Old - Harry Smillie would smile. Smillie had a spell at Tynecastle once, having gone there from Yoker. He figured in one of those bothersome cases which affected reinstatement, Alloa making a claim on him. Davie Murray went to Tynecastle also, but had an unfortunate time through ill health. Prominent amongst the older members were Finlay Speedie, one of the most popular and versatile players Rangers ever had. Nominally an inside forward, he could fill Jock Drummond’s place at back any time. He played against England, Ireland, and Wales in 1903. Singularly enough, Rangers engaged another Clydebank back, Alexander Fraser, to play right back after the late Nick Smith’s untimely death. Rangers also took Yuill, the goalkeeper, who was previously with St. Mirren, Dumbarton, and Aberdeen.

Once With Clyde - George McTurk was another first-class goalkeeper, who guarded Clyde’s interests at Shawfield Park. Bobby Orr was a warm favourite at Cathkin Park- and elsewhere- a stylish, sporting player with a good reputation at taking penalty kicks. Wee Hosie was another Third Lanark man, and was in the side which won the Scottish Cup for Cathkin in 1905. Jack Stirling was a dashing outside right for Clyde, and Willie Tennant a centre from whom Motherwell never got true value. Injury all too frequently intervened. There were three Andersons. “Swiftly” went to Queen’s Park and the other two went to Raith Rovers and Airdrieonians respectively. Partick Thistle took Ewing last season in an endeavour to settle their centre forward problem and further back, had Frank Branscombe. Queen’s Park had others in Gray, Hillhouse, and Paterson.

The Honours List - The honours list is a formidable one, including Dumbartonshire and Renfrewshire Cup - 1927-28-29-30; Dumbartonshire Cup - 1905-06, 1906-07, 1909-10, 1910-11, 1914-15, 1916-17, and 1919-20; Dumbartonshire Charity Cup - 1914-15, 1917-18, and 1926-27; Glasgow Challenge Cup - 1928-29; Glasgow Consolation Cup - 1927-28; Elder Cup - 1927-28 and 1931-32; Intermediate League Cup 1929-30; Scottish Intermediate Cup - 1929-30. They also won our “Evening Times” Trophy in 1930 as Champions of the Scottish Intermediate League. They only secured this title after two drawn games with Bridgeton Waverley (Champions of the Eastern Section that year). They seem to be a very happy family down at Kilbowie Park. A “new wing” has received great appreciation. This is the comfortable commodious annexe built onto the pavilion, where on my visit I found it “house full.” This “at home” business when industrial conditions down by are so bad is a feature well worth cultivating and extending elsewhere.

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## NURSERY OF MANY FINE PLAYERS

Shettleston’s Part in 30 Years’ Football - A Compulsory Flitting  
(Article accompanied by photo of Stewart)

Undisturbed at Well Park for 30 years, the Shettleston club might well have been named “Settleston”. But rather singular, is it not, that now I come to reviewing their football life during that period, notice has reached them that they must leave the old home three months hence! Arrangements have been made for the purchase of Frankfield Park, once the headquarters of Shettleston Celtic, who dropped out of the game last season. This will entail heavy expenditure, and the officials hope that the locals will rally round and assist by supporting the various entertainments which are being organized in aid of funds.

A 1903 Start – I think they will. I have always found Shettleston a hospitable place since my jaunty juvenile days. One had to “travel” in those days to Shettleston, a remote place, to play a local side on a pitch which rejoiced in the high-sounding title of the “Muck”! And so near Mount Vernon too! But I am digressing. The Shettleston club was formed in 1903, and those responsible for running affairs were:- President James Cunningham, Vice-President William Connor, Secretary William Jackson, Treasurer William Baxter, with members of committee, Messrs D. Anderson, J. Drummond, W. Bain, J. McGovern, W. Ballantyne, W. Cunningham, A. McGuffie, J. Simpson, J. Fullerton, W. Campbell, and R. Howat.

The First Players – From the following list the first teams were selected: - Anderson, Little, Findlay, McLean, Duncan, Simpson, Greenshields, Hughes, Cook, Park, Devlin, Barker, and Nat Bain. Trainer John Hillas looked after their physical welfare. Since then the club has had many vicissitudes, and at one time it looked as though

they would go to the wall. But, thanks to a number of what Mr. Bob Fleming- to whom I am indebted for much valuable information- calls "diehards," the situation was saved. Prominent amongst these were Messrs W.C. Reid, Charles McIntosh, Donald Shaw, Matthew Goudie, and Joe McCluskey (a good friend of the clubs for 21 years).

Lost Their Place – They lost their place in the Glasgow League, but after a spell in the Glasgow and District League, and also the Scottish Junior League, they found their way back to the old fold amidst many manifestations of joy. They had a job getting the house in order and the ground enclosed in readiness for the opening match. In this Messrs James Newton and Bob McNab and other good chaps did heroic work. But the club has always had some sound men behind it. Bob Fleming is widely known and respected, and as one of the pillars of the Intermediate period he occupied the president's chair of the League body.

For The Cause – After what he told me I can readily understand how he was such an enthusiast for this cause. Shettleston is one of our junior clubs which seemed to be used as a sort of football clearing-house. As the looker-on, I often pondered over the fact that they never seemed to be allowed to keep a good side together for any considerable time. The roost was so often raided. And when you get your very best player spirited away down South and not even a reply in your own stamped-addressed envelope to your query of "What about it?" what else could one do but rebel!

About Bob Connelly – By the way, some Shettleston people think one of the best that ever went across the Border was Bob Connelly. He went to Burslem with Port Vale, and I suppose there is a post office in that town! This player was not so well known as the following lot of Well Park products, who could have done damage if gathered together at one time:- Tommy Shingleton (Clyde), Tom Fleming (Dundee and St. Mirren), Jack Marshall (St. Mirren and Middlesbrough), Bobby Grove (Partick Thistle), Andy Swallow (St. Johnstone), "Fister" Walls (Rangers), Cheyne (Aberdeen and Chelsea), Marshall (Rangers), Fleming (Rangers), Tolland (Ayr United), and Stewart (Cowdenbeath). In what might be termed a "reserve" list will be found names some of them only familiar to old-timers, and a few much better known.

Other Notables – For instance there are Sam Anderson (an erstwhile idol and a clever forward, who went to Hamilton Academicals), Tom Gilchrist (Rangers), Bobby McNeil (Hamilton Academicals and Chelsea)(now trainer at Douglas Park), James Reid (Airdrieonians), T. Dickson (Dunfermline Athletic and Partick Thistle), T. McDougall (Ayr United), Willie Smith (Hibernian), and many more whose names, no doubt, will be readily recalled when this inadequate account of the club's work is read. Reference, too, must be made to Hector Lawson, who spent his best days in reserve at Ibrox, and to McLaren, the present Hamilton Academicals inside right, who left Well Park as a centre forward. Mr. Scott Duncan, who has been getting a lot of the limelight recently, was also a Shettleston player for a time, and so, too, was Joe Shortt, a goalkeeper who has had a long football life. There will naturally be varied opinions as to the "best side ever", but that of season 1923-24, when the Glasgow Junior League Championship and with it "The Evening Times" Trophy was won, was outstanding:- Mason, McIntosh, Mitchell, Frank Marshall, Swallow, Jessiman, Limpetlaw, "Buster" Brown, Jimmy Fleming, A. Wilson, and A. Haddow. They played a decider for the flag at Well Park with Rutherglen Glencairn, Shettleston winning a great game by 4 goals to 2.

Neck-and-Neck Struggle – The League championship was won again in 1926-27- that was the season immediately before the long drawn out dispute- after a neck-and-neck struggle with Strathclyde, whom they beat home and away. In 1923-24 they collected 53 points for 38 games, and in their second success they had five more points for the second number of games, with 14 of their last 16 games won, and two drawn. It was all done, be it noted, with only 14 players signed. That season's lot were: - Mathieson, Leslie, Sharkey, Glasgow, Hutton, Leitch, Kelly, Lyness, Hart, Dowdells, Graham, and Hasson. The others were two juveniles, Tony Dickson and Willie McNamara, from Fern Thistle, a one-time famous juvenile nursery.

Honours and Close-Ups – Other honours won are: - Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup, 1926; Glasgow Charity Cup, 1930; Eastern Charity Cup, 1927. They have frequently got close up in other competitions, notably when they were beaten in the final of the League "Gold Watch" ties by Maryhill in 1928 by the most slender margin (3-2), and also in the 1931 Glasgow Charity final, when Yoker won 3-1 after three games. On one occasion the semi-final stage of the Scottish Cup was reached, and they hope some day to go beyond that. Unfortunately it won't be this season, as only last Saturday Yoker Athletic again were the medium of blasting their aspirations, and by the odd goal. As I have indicated, one of Shettleston's troubles was to retain a side long enough to mature. One thing they are not scared of is work, and down the years they have had some very fine examples of faithful and zealous service.

Enthusiastic Workers – Everybody in the junior circles knew Mr. A. Marshall, past-president of the club and president of the Glasgow Junior Association from 1906 to 1911. Others not already referred to, and also enthusiastic workers, were Messrs T. Newton, T. Hay, J. McPhee, J. Gemmill, G. Ovenstone (the present president), R. Hornall (general secretary), A. Fleming (minute secretary), and Joe Crapnell, the popular Perthshire and Shettleston player, now acting as match secretary. I like the way the officials speak of the good lads they have put through their hands, and I also welcome the appreciation of the players of happy times at Well Park. They have some mighty good ones there at the moment. The backs, Hunter and Hepburn, appeal to me, and are not passing unnoticed by the senior sleuths. Elliot is a smart half-back, “Tank” Wilson has few superiors as a pivot, and I see they have another Stewart at outside left now. If he is anything like his predecessor then that long, long list of departures will be extended still further. As a reminder to the local folks, I am asked to especially draw attention to a whist drive to be held in the Miners’ Welfare Hall in aid of the ground scheme on Thursday next, the 24th inst. The admission charge is reasonable, only one shilling, with tea at the interval. These will be run fortnightly, and concerts, dances, etc., will also be arranged. Shuffle up Shettleston!

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## STARTED CUP-WINNING AT EARLY AGE

Yoker Athletic’s First When Two-Year-Olds – Fine Record Since 1887

(Article accompanied by photo of Sam English)

If Yoker Athletic did not exactly anchor on the Clyde with the Comet, they certainly did not come up with the last boat! They were constituted in 1887 with these office-bearers:- President, A. McDonald; vice-president, J. McDermaid; secretary, W. Wilkie; treasurer, J. McAulay, and a committee which included Messrs A. McBain, M. McBain, A. Donald, W. Donald, J. Gray, D. McCutcheon, and L. Alexander. Their first team was: - McKellar, Clark, Donald, McArthur, Stevenson, White, McLean, McAulay, Lamont, A. McCutcheon, and Wilkie. They won the first game they played against the Glasgow Minerva at Anniesland by 3-2, and, presumably to give them blessing, a reverend gentleman acted as referee.

The First Trophy – It only took them two seasons to begin winning trophies. They defeated Renton Thistle by 6-1 at St. James’ Park, Dumbarton, in the final of the old Dumbartonshire Cup with the following side: - Hamilton, Clark, Lamond, McLean, Mathie, Prentice, Robertson, McAulay, McBain, McCutcheon, and Watson. About 1893 the County Association dissolved, and circumstances forced Yoker to revert back to the juvenile world for a short period. Hereabouts their interests were in the capable hands of Messrs C. Adam and John McArthur. Mr. McArthur is surely one of the best known personalities in Scottish junior football, having served as treasurer of the S.J.F.A. for many years now. He with Mr. Douglas Butchart, present secretary of the club, have assisted me materially in the research work.

Junior Again – In 1895 Yoker had their “stripes restored” as juniors, and at the same time the new Dumbartonshire Association was formed. Yoker promptly proceeded to go in and win the new cup put up, defeating Kirkintilloch Rob Roy by 3-1- with this side:- Black, Fairley, Young, Gold, J. Campbell, McKenna, Gardner, Thomson, Leonard, Chalmers, and W. Campbell. At this time the club was much indebted to the efforts of Hon. President R. Horn, President R. Gold, Secretary John McArthur, and also Messrs R.W. Gunn, H. McKay, C. McCallum, A. McNair, James, Butchart, C. Irvine, G. Higgins, J. Wright, W. Sievewright, P. Mullen, D. Munro, and Hugh Lyle, their trainer.

Their Three Homes – Yoker have had three grounds. They commenced at Holm Park, Ferry Road, then migrated to Hamilton Park, Clydebank, for a brief term before taking up their quarters at the present Holm Park, which has been their home for 30 years, and a happy home at that, and the nursery rearing many a fine player. Here’s a good team chosen at random from their choice production:- J. Hill (Hibs), Todd (Queen’s Park), Bourhill (Morton), D. Hill (Hamilton Academicals), John Blair (Motherwell), Miller (St. Mirren), R. English (Coleraine), D. Stewart (Morton), Sam English (Rangers), H. Smellie (Hearts), and Mills (Stoke City). I have a particular liking for Blair, and, with luck, he might go as far as Miller did and play at Hampden for his country. Harry Smellie, of course, is a junior again in the “enemy camp”- Clydebank.

Can You Recall – Others who had their senior baptism from the ranks of Yoker are: - W. McBain, McAulay, Higginbottom, to St. Mirren; Brown, Thom, and Bryson, to Dumbarton; McDade and Henderson, to Liverpool; D. Campbell, Naismith, and Horn to Rangers; Ferrier and Gallacher, to Morton; Walker and McGonagle, to Hibs; Jackson to Kilmarnock; Lamont to Partick Thistle; Leonard to Derby County; McInnes to Falkirk; and Robertson to Sheffield Wednesday. Personally I have often wondered why Sammy Boyd has not stepped up. He



may not be a Blair, but he's a grand centre-half. It has also appeared strange to me that such a fine forward as Henry Duffy has been neglected by the seniors.

Generous Tribute – The club pays tribute to the generous assistance received from Messrs John Brown and Sons. and no doubt in return would, if able, help Messrs Brown to get that big ship off the stocks. It is perhaps not generally known that Messrs Brown had a lease of Holm Park ground for welfare purposes, but withdrew it in favour of Yoker, in addition to gifting a pavilion. Honorary patrons, Messrs R.W. Gunn and J.L. McKim, assisted the embellishment of the pavilion with a flagstaff, from which not a few League championship flags have flown.

Many Honours – Yoker have been members of several leagues in their career and were competent enough to become champions of the following: - Glasgow and District League - 1906-07, Glasgow Junior League(2nd Division) – 1907-08, Scottish Junior League (Western Section) – 1924-25, Scottish Intermediate League (Western Division) – 1930-31, Scottish Central League (Western Division) – 1931-32. Twice they have been on the verge of winning “The Evening Times” Trophy. In 1931 Bridgeton Waverley beat them for it, and they in turn the same season won the Scottish Intermediate Cup with the Barrowfield club as their final victims.

Bitter Disappointment – With reference to the 1907-08 Glasgow Junior League Championship (2nd Division), during that first split in junior football, Yoker were expected to be promoted to the first division, but bitter disappointment was occasioned when they were not admitted at the annual general meeting. In season 1908-09, back again to loyal football, Yoker reached the semi-final of the Scottish Junior Cup with this good side:- Duncan, Todd, Brownlee, Orr, Cuthbertson, Bruce, McNee, Pollock, Gibson, Hendry, George. But Strathclyde had a better and won (1-0) at Atlas Park. They advanced to the semi-final again in 1913-14, when by the same score Ashfield defeated the following at Firhill: - Fairweather, Carruthers, Dempster, McKenzie, Evans, Divers, Docherty, Greer, Bolger, McGregor, and Higginbottom. Since then their nearest approach to the final was a seventh round tie in 1924-25, when again that fatal solitary goal made them lose to St. Anthony's at Govan, with a team which reads:- Cairns, Carney, McLaughlin, McDade, Rice, Elliot, Hillis, J. Anderson, A. Reid, J. Reid, and W. Anderson. The above side with the occasional assistance of players A. Dunn, J. Sharpe, W. Anderson, B. McFarlane, A. Fraser, and J. Millar is generally considered one of the best collections the club has had.

A Fine Record – The greatest achievement for any one season was in the 1930-31 season. Here they had a record run of 33 successive games with freedom from defeat, and incidentally, winning the undernoted bag of honours:- Scottish Intermediate Cup, Scottish Intermediate League (Western Section), Glasgow Charity Cup, and Elder Cottage Cup, in addition to being runners-up for Glasgow and District Cup and Dumbarton and Renfrewshire Cup. The team which carried the club along for this arduous task was: - Hill, Milne, Bourhill, Henderson, Boyd, Kelly, Keene, Stewart, English, Duffy, and Mills. When once more “loyal” football was established in season 1931-32 Yoker got busy amongst the silver again by winning the Scottish Central League (Western Section), Dumbartonshire County Cup, Dumbartonshire and Renfrewshire Cup, and the Kirkwood Shield.

Still Going Strong – Though the seniors have raided the Yoker roost and taken eight players in the last couple of seasons, the club still possess a good side and every prospect of extending their honours list in the present season. Yoker, as I have indicated, have been fortunate in having many painstaking officials. Probably the most popular of all was the late “Rab” Woods, an ideal organizer and legislator. He was a president of the Scottish Junior League and a member of many other football bodies. Only last week the club lost another gentleman, Mr. L. Alexander, who served the club well as player and official. Others who gave much time and thought to the club's interest were Messrs J. Reivie, W. Haggarty, R. Brown, S. Dunn, G. Pollock, W. McKay, Harry Stewart, Hugh Stewart, W. Ritchie, D. Lockhart, the late Hugh Lyle, W. Malloy, and the late John Butchart. The physical wellbeing of the players is an important factor, and many of those who have passed through his hands pay high compliment to the careful attention and advice given to them by the present trainer, Willie Pollock. “Puggy” has the knack of getting the best out of his material.

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## HOLDERS OF "TIMES" TROPHY

Doing Big Things Since 1918 - Shawfield F.C.'s Bright Record

(Article accompanied by photo of John Halligan)

Shawfield F.C. is another of our sturdy, self-reliant, striving and thriving youngsters of the junior football family. The club was constituted on May 4, 1918, at a meeting arranged by several well-known local enthusiasts, including Messrs Tommy McClounan, Jimmie Hutchison, W. Cook, and the popular Johnnie Norton (who now runs the Glasgow Transport sports section). The following office-bearers were appointed: - Hon. President, Bailie John Stewart. Vice-president, A. Dunlop; secretary, T. Creany; treasurer, J. Ferguson; match secretary, J.C. Norton. The match committee was composed of Messrs MacIntosh, Dunlop, McClounan, Wilson, and J. Finlay.

The First Home - They were accommodated to start with at Shawfield Park, the senior Clyde F.C. ground, through the good offices of Bailie McGuire, at a rental of £20. Season 1919-20 saw the club secure a home of their own, called Roseberry Park, on the banks of Jenny's Burn, and in securing it tribute is paid to the generosity of the firm of Messrs Sam Stevenson and Co., who gave the ground rent free and a dowry of £50. A handsome pavilion was built by volunteers labour, prominent among the toilers were Messrs Birkett, Gordon, Rutherford, Gray, Slowey, Wood, Brock, Freil, and Murray. The outlay on the ground was considerable for a new club, about £1200, but the local ladies, as well as the mere males, rallied round, and by one scheme or another assisted towards squaring accounts.

Notice To Quit - Very practical interest was shown by Bailie J. Stewart, the late Bailie Buchan, and the late Mr. Alex. Jackson, who assumed financial guarantee responsibilities in a fine way. In 1922 the club received a nasty jar to the serenity of their young life - notice to quit from the Glasgow Corporation, who had bought the park and adjacent ground for housing. Negotiations were protracted, but in 1930 the final edict was made from George Square, and out they had to go. It was hereabouts that Captain Weyman, of the Playing Field Association, rendered valuable aid- in my rounds I have been hearing ever so much good he has done for the juniors- and a long lease was obtained of their present ground, New Roseberry Park, not many yards from the old, Mr. Barrie, the ground owner's representative, meeting them agreeably over these arrangements. And it is a fine ground. The enclosure measures 660 feet by 330 feet, and there is accommodation for 25,000 on the real terracing.

Classy Pavilion - The pavilion is thoroughly up-to-date, including splendid press quarters, and a large hall which seats nearly 400 and where I saw the other night a happy party having an evening's whist. These gatherings are mighty fine in many ways. They help the club, they pass the time for folks who perhaps are not getting much fun out of other things, and altogether are a good social feature. The Supporter's Club has a membership of about 300. Others who over a period have also given ungrudging help are:- Messrs R. Thomson, G. McGuire, J.H. Smith, Bob Kerr, E. Christie, J. Hope, J. Brodie, J. Brownlie, W. Wallace, J. Douglas, J. Boyd, J. Templeman, Jim Bond, J. Duncan, A. Anderson, and Alex. Shearer. The last-named gentleman donated the handsome League flag unfurled recently.

Among the Honours - The club has not been exactly a favourite of fortune in competitions, but they can show a moderately good record, with last season one of their happiest terms. Honours gained at one time or other are:- Eastern League Championship, Elder Cup, League Cup, North-Eastern Cup, Smyllum Cup, Charity Cup, Central League (Eastern Division), the "Evening Times" Trophy, and Glasgow Junior Cup. They also frequently were runners-up in these same and other competitions. The club were in the membership of the Scottish Junior League from 1918 to 1921. Their first league game was played at Shawfield Park, when St. Paul's United were beaten by 3-1 with the following side: - Munro, Simpson, Bell, McDonald, Hewitt, Taylor (captain), Robertson, Mackie, Sharp, Lochhead, and J. Hope. The opening game at Roseberry Park was another red-letter day. £136 was drawn at the gate (admission only 4d and 2d), and Shawfield were very pleased that they retained the whole gate less £3, the visiting team's portion.

Protest- and the Result - They were going well in season 1920-21 when after beating Pollok in the Scottish Junior Cup Pollok protested and won the replay. The team here was: - McKernan, Russell, Paton, McCourt, Galbraith, Mushett, P. Donoghue, Allen, Paton, Halligan, and McGraw. In 1921-22 they were admitted to the Glasgow Junior League, and in 1923-24 they won the North-Eastern Cup, beating Strathclyde at Cathkin Park 3-1 after extra time with the following eleven:- Kerr, Houston, Archibald, Little, Godsman, Reid, Main, Nibloe, Wallace, Grant, and "Dolly" Gray. During the Intermediate period the club jogged along with comparative quiet, and the only noise they made was when they reached the final of the Scottish Intermediate Consolation Cup, to fall to Pollok.

Last Season's Successes – Back once more to loyal football last season the club took a new lease of life, and were very important people. They won the Glasgow Junior Cup, beating Bridgeton Waverley 2-0 at Cathkin with the following team: - Taylor, O'Hare, McIntyre, Kyle, Gourlay, Bain, Ford, Johnstone, Smith, Brae, and Spence. Then they collared the Eastern Division Championship of the Central League, and in the decider with the Western Division champions, Yoker Athletic, for possession of "The Evening Times" Trophy, gave Yoker the knock-out by 5-2 after a fine sporting game which I witnessed and enjoyed. It was here that Hugh Campbell set tongues wagging. He took Spence's place, and Cunningham was in for McIntyre. Then once more they beat Bridgeton Waverley (3-2) in the Smyllum Cup at Southcroft. Here Robinson played for Bain, and Spence and Devlin substituted Brae and Campbell.

Some Notable Products – In these games I was much impressed by Davie Gourlay, a son of Tom Gourlay, of Girvan, who rendered good service to football in South Ayrshire. I am surprised that Ayr or Kilmarnock have not snapped him up. The club has given many clever players to the seniors, and here is a good team list, comprising men who have been at Roseberry Park, though unfortunately not all at one period, else that honours list would have been sure multiplied:- Taylor (Third Lanark), O'Hare (Chelsea), D. Gibson (Kilmarnock), Kyle (Watford), Pat Hunt (Hamilton Acads.), Donoghue (Celtic), A. Jackson (Aberdeen and Huddersfield), Alf Brown (Morton), G. French (Morton), Halligan (Hibernian), and H. Campbell (Rangers). It will be news to many that Alec Jackson was associated with the club. He played a trial and was signed on. Dumbarton induced him to go on tour and then persuaded him to turn senior. The Shawfield officials highly appreciated the fact that Jackson honourably returned the £10 signing fee with a courteous letter.

Two Morton Stars – George French was an unlucky chap; twice he had his leg broken. But he and the late Alf Brown both got senior Scottish Cup medals with the Morton who beat Rangers. Gibson also got one with Kilmarnock. Another product of the club was wee Johnnie Paton, who has added so much to the gaiety of nations, in the football sense. Shrewd judges, however, consider Hibs got the best value of all in securing Johnny Halligan. Another "bantam champion", Willie Crilley, first showed his paces at old Roseberry Park in a game in which he scored seven out of the nine goals registered. Jacky Galbraith captained Clapton Orient for many years, and the Rev. Alpine Munro, who interests himself so much in the Sportsman's Own services, played for two seasons with the club. Others who went upstairs were:- Willie Stewart (Queen's Park), P. Donoghue (Celtic), C. McGran (Partick Thistle), E. Cameron (Birmingham), A. Cochrane (Alloa), Jack Kay (Dundee United), J. McFarlane (Aberdeen), H. Goodwin (Bo'ness), R. Main (Aberdeen), C. Cannon (Manchester City), and W. Bain (Charlton).

A Bright Lad – They have had some bright lads through their hands, but it was not just the spice of humour in him, so much as the law of self-preservation, which made one chap retort when exhorted to "get into" a particularly heavyweight opposing back that "he had a wife and family to consider." The affairs of the club are now in the hands of:- President, W. Cook; vice-president, R. Thomson; secretary, W. Wallace; treasurer, A. Brock; financial secretary, T. Shearer; match secretary, W. Izett; scheme secretary J.H. Smith. And I am sure much credit is due to Mr. J. M. Paterson for his painstaking efforts on behalf of the club, although, I know, he modestly declaims special distinction, as being only one of a happy zealous band. Shawfield have only had three trainers since they started. Eddie McGarvey was the first, and stayed at Roseberry Park for over two years before joining Celtic at Parkhead and later becoming one of the best known masseurs in Glasgow. He was followed by Willie Livingstone, and the man now in charge of the players is the popular John Stark.

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## **WHERE S.J.F.A. CHIEF COMES FROM**

Burnbank's Place on the Football Map - Nursery of Many Notable Players

(Article accompanied by photo of Allan)

A way back in season 1888-89 we find from records that Burnbank had brought honour to Lanarkshire by winning the Scottish Junior Cup. The club which accomplished this feat was known as the Burnbank Swifts, and they defeated in the final West Benhar Violet by 3-1. Again the following year the Swifts answered to their name by quickly recording another Scottish final victory, this time beating Benburb by 3-1. These big achievements would assuredly place Burnbank as an important place on the football map. Whether the Swifts ran themselves out of sight I do not know, but in 1892 from the ranks of the second class juniors emerged Burnbank Athletic, and they quickly developed to the exalted rating of first class, a standard which they have consistently maintained.

In My Young Days – I well remember during the period of my kicking about in Lanarkshire junior football the particular respect paid to the Burnbank, and when drawn against them in a cup-tie it amounted almost to fear-wholesome, of course. They have done most things in the junior world- and done them well, winning at one time or another every competition for which they entered. This, however, excludes the period of the Intermediate “split”, when they took part in the Glasgow and also North-Eastern Cups. I have before me a list of their honours, and it is formidable\*:- Scottish Junior Cup – 1900-01, 1910-11; Lanarkshire Junior Cup – 1901-02, 1902-03, 1904-05, 1905-06, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1916-17; Lanarkshire League – 1895-96, 1900-01, 1901-02, 1902-03, 1903-04, 1911-12; Scottish Junior League – 1917-18; Lanarkshire Central Junior Cup – 1913-14; Lanarkshire League Victory Cup – 1918-19; Hamilton District League – 1903-04; Burnbank and District League – 1908-09, 1909-10; Cambuslang and District Cup – 1895-96, 1897-98. Further, in 1927-28 they were Scottish Cup runners-up, Maryhill Hibs beating them by 6 goals to 2.

That Strange Affair – Then in 1930-31 they took part in that strange affair with Denny Hibs and the S.J.F.A. I cannot take sides in a matter of this sort, but it goes down in the history of the club as one of the outstanding incidents in their career and described by one of their number an “action of the S.J.F.A. robbing us of the Scottish Junior Cup”. That sounds definite enough. The club has always been in capable governing hands, and there is no better example surely than their president, Mr. James A. Lang, who is also president of the S.J.F.A., and known widely as an able legislator. The first officials of the club were:- President, Mr. W. Allan; vice-president, Mr. John Kirk; treasurer, Mr. James Nimmo; and secretary, Mr. D. Campbell; with committee men- Messrs W. Sneddon, T. Brownlee, R. Hood, J. McGhie, J. Jardine, W. Cullen, W. Lindsay, R. Phillips, T. Brown, J. Fairbairn, J. McAulay, and J. McSeveny.

Long Service – The club owes a great deal to Mr. Joseph Stannage, who was match secretary for 12 or more years until the 1914 call to arms brought his service in that capacity to an abrupt end. With his return to civil life he has acted continuously as an auditor along with Mr. Robert Hannah, and during his time he has seen all the honours come Burnbank way. At one time during his term as secretary the club, at the end of a season, were left without a field, gear of any usable kind, and, in fact, the club’s assets were nil. But Mr. Stannage, with the help of Treasurer James Shields, Wm. Dowell, Tom Wyper, George Winning, and a few others, persuaded Hamilton Academicals to grant the use of Douglas Park. They set about getting the present Russell Park, fenced it where necessary, bought a golf club pavilion at a fairly big figure (it is still the pavilion), and finished with a fair balance, a remarkable turn in the history of the club which cannot be too creditably commented upon. The biggest half-back line, Cairns (a brother of Tom), Gourlay, and Nicholson, gave the club about 18 feet of half-back, but I question if they were any better than the smallest intermediate trio:- Orr, Marshall, and Stannage- not 16 feet in all- the latter a brother of the secretary. They were marvels, and all got over without difficulty their lack of inches. This trio figured in the Scottish Cup semi-final tie with Cambuslang.

The First Team – The first team to sport the black and gold colours was: - R. Barton, Gibson, Watson, G. Pritchard, C. Barton, Douglas, Hailstones, Maley, Carr, Renwick, and Wallace. Two years later they started to gain fame by winning the Cambuslang and District Cup and the Lanarkshire League with the following side:- Logan, Still, Watson, G. Pritchard, Barton, Renwick (or French), H. McKenzie, D. Newlands, N. Logan (or French), Buchanan, and Wallace. When the club was formed they first played on an open field somewhere about the High Blantyre Road. Then they later secured in turn Wilson Park, New Wilson Park, Jackson Park, and the present Russell Park, all this group almost within touch of each other.

The Best Side: - Common agreement prevails that the best side that has represented the club was the eleven which beat Maryhill by 2-0 in the 1900-01 “Exhibition Final” for the Scottish Junior Cup. It was: - Ritchie, Rodger, Bennie, Pritchard (R.), Scholes, Greenhorn, Reid, Clarkson, Wilson, Sharp, and Wallace. The advent of the one and only “Chick” Ritchie here was in the nature of a very lucky and happy circumstance. On the eve of the final Burnbank lost their goalkeeper, Guy Maxwell, to St. Mirren, and left the club in that form of dilemma which has so frequently exasperated junior official. A chance remark made by the then treasurer of the club, Mr. J. McSeveny, to Mr. Eddie McPhie, the S.J.F.A. secretary, brought Ritchie’s name up, and that player, who had just come ashore from a voyage as ship’s engineer, was promptly fixed up.

Beat Petershill – The triumphant side which whacked Petershill in the 1910-1911 Scottish final was another mighty good one, viz:- Miller, Winning, Easton, Cowan, Lees, Davidson, Robb, Cairns, Sommerville, Grady, and Connolly. Grady scored the only goal of the match, a replay, the first game being a one-goal-each draw. Coid (Petershill) drew the game level in the last moment and figured in the gold watch gift tale which I alluded to in the Petershill story. The side which played against Denny Hibs in 1931 was also a strong one- Kenny, Boyle, Morrison, Bolling, Gibson, Wilson, Smith, Benzie, Hillan, Collins, and Faulds. When I pondered over the names of Burnbank players who made good seniors I drafted the following “hard-to-beat” eleven:- Bobby

Mason (Clyde), “Puggy” Allan (Hamilton Acas.), “Square” Watson (Clyde and Sunderland), Tom Frame (Cowdenbeath and Manchester United), Willie Summers (St. Mirren), Jock Nicholson (Rangers), Love (Morton), Reid (Motherwell), Jock Young (Bradford and Sunderland), Tom Cairns (Rangers), and “Kilty” Cameron (Bury). James Watson, when he went to Sunderland, set up a great partnership with And. McCombie. Watson played four times against England. Tom Cairns played three times, and had innumerable other honours in his career.

Notable Centre – Jock Young was considered locally to be the best junior centre ever seen, but too small for the seniors. His transfer from Bradford and Sunderland, and that of Frame from Cowdenbeath to Manchester, are matters which provoke discussion in the Burnbank camp, as in neither case, it is stated, did the junior club get a “bean”. There was rather a unique case, too, of a secretary being spirited away when Hamilton Academicals took Mr. Stanley Baxter. Mr. Baxter was also a player with Burnbank, and went on to Port-Glasgow Athletic.

A Son of “Nap” – One of the famous McMenemy football family, Frank, went from Burnbank to Hamilton Academicals, as did also Douglas Hailstones, Scholes, McCulloch, and Reid at other times. Motherwell got Reid, Rankine, and R. Pritchard. Clyde took in addition to Mason and Watson, Eddy Summers, Burns, and G. Pritchard. McHugh and Causey went to Portsmouth, J. Morris to Hull City, Neil Logan to Burnley, P. Hanlon to Everton, Richardson to Tottenham, R. McEwen to Blackburn Rovers, Benzie to St. Johnstone, Winning to Raith Rovers, Williamson and Kelly to Hibernian, McDougall to Kilmarnock, Hodge and Love to Morton, and Walker to Middlesbrough. Individual honours have been also very plentiful. Kenny (now of St. Mirren), Allan, and Winning, received all the possible junior caps when with the club.

Remarkable Feat – Another notable feat was in providing no fewer than eight players, Mason, Rodger, Pritchard, Greenhorn, Clarkson, Wilson, Sharp, and Wallace, for the Inter-League game at Belfast when the Lanarkshire League secured their first draw there. And the three players left out on that occasion, Binnie, Scholes, and Reid, all received caps in the same fixture in the following season. Space does not permit of making mention of the many others who have helped the club along, all imbued with this “never say die” spirit, which was a feature of Tom Cairns’ play, and also, I think represented in the lad who tried to conceal injury before an international match at Dundee a few years back. He had to stand down after all, though it meant sending hurriedly to a neighbouring local game where a substitute was found at the last minute.

\* Burnbank won the Lanarkshire League in 1896-97, not 1895-96. Cambuslang and District Cup successes were in 1896-97 and 1898-99, not 1895-96 and 1897-98.

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## MARYHILL’S 48 YEARS OF FOOTBALL

Fame with Players and Legislators - Stirring Memories

(Article accompanied by a photo of Davie Meiklejohn)

Mention of Maryhill revives stirring memories. The club was formed round about 1884- the foundation year of the Glasgow Junior F.A. - and their ground was old Kelvinvale Park. The founders were Messrs J.W. Dick, Thomas Lennie, Malcolm McDonald, W. McFarlane, E.W. Langlands, and George Denny, the last name well-known later as one of the foremost junior writers. The first team I can see trace was that which won the Glasgow Junior 2nd XI Cup in 1885-86 and 1886-87, and remained undefeated for two years. It reads:- J. Coutts, R. Black, W. Davies, J. McPherson, Morgan, J. Carlyle, J. Weir, W. McFarlane, J. Anderson, P. Lennie, and T. Lennie.

The Greatest Height – Maryhill were rather strong in second elevens, and later on one of these formed the basis of a side which carried the club to its greatest height. In 1888 they reached the final of the Scottish Junior Cup, when they met Wishaw Thistle in a series of see-saw games. The first was played at Larkhall, when Maryhill won. Wishaw protested and won. Maryhill protested and lost. In this third game at Old Ibrox the ‘Hill were leading 1-0 at the turn when Wattie Munn got an ankle twisted and that handicap was too great- they lost 3-1. This team was:- G.D. Reid, R.B. Scanlan, J. Maughan, R. McPherson, R. Black, P. Gillespie, T. McGhee, W. Munn, D. Reid, P. Lennie, and R. McClure.

Up and Out – Success generated ambition, and an ascent was made to senior ranks. Professionalism, however, was becoming rampant, the club found the pace too hot, and the result was the declaration “defunct”. In 1894, however, they came up again with officials as follows:- President, J.D. Hunter; secretary, G. Griffen; and Messrs H. Ferguson, A. Hawthorn, M. McDonald, A. McAllister, J. Walker, W. Thomson, T. Burns, J. Sturrock, and W. Lindsay. The new team, which turned out against Crown Athletic at Polmadie and won a fine

3-0 victory, was:- Davidson, A. Cunningham, P. Simpson, T. Morton, F. Robertson, T. McAloon, H. McGuire, F. Laird, J. Leitch, F. Connor, and W. Ferguson.

Succeeded Johnny Campbell – The star of this side was “Wee” Willie Ferguson, who went to Celtic to take his place alongside the famous Sandy McMahan, whose partner, the equally noted Johnny Campbell, had gone south to Aston Villa. In 1897-98 Maryhill removed to Lochburn Park- their quarters ever since and now a permanent home, the ground purchase being completed last year. Now the club began to blossom out again. The indefatigable Alec Aitken came over from Glasgow Perthshire to act as match secretary, and, about the same time, the incomparable Donald Colman.

Good Football Family – No records were being set up just yet, but some particularly fine player were being passed out to the senior world, such as Willie Graham (Burslem Port Vale, West Ham, and Celtic), “Jam” Anderson, “Jellie” Robertson, and “Dorrie” Gemmell (all to Clyde), and Jimmy Long (to Ayr Parkhouse and England). The Longs were a good Townhead football family, Archie and Billy followed their brother later to fame- Billy with Maryhill, Archie (goalkeeper) with Clyde Juniors, then the senior team. During the next 10 years Maryhill made four appearances in the Scottish Cup Final. Their first of this series was in 1900, when they beat Rugby XI, at Shawfield Park with this team: - Galloway, Colman, Wattie Walker, Stevenson, Kelly, Dawson Walker, Lynn, McCrindle, Barney Swift, Long, and Willie Lennie.

Final Blows – The next year they rolled up again, when Burnbank Athletic beat the following eleven:- Robertson, Colman, W. Walker, Stevenson, Haggerty, D. Walker, Ryan, McCrindle, Swift, Long, and Lennie. For the third successive year they came smiling through to the final, but Rutherglen Glencairn beat them at the finish- after two games. Maryhill’s team here was: - Robertson, Colman, W. Walker, Stevenson, Haggerty, Easton, Rattray, Queen, Swift, Long, and Sellars. In the second Lilly played for Rattray. In between times the Glens had also beaten them in the “Exhibition Competition” final.

Not So Lucky – And so on to 1906-07, when again they were knocked out in the final round by Strathclyde. They cannot be reckoned a lucky club surely. Just think; five appearances in the final and only once cupholders! Further in 1904, 1905, 1906 they reached the semi-final, falling in the first instance to Parkhead, in the second to Ashfield, and in the last to Dunipace. Hereabouts changes were more numerous, but always good talent kept flowing in. Dawson Walker, whose activities for junior football generally and the Scottish Junior League in particular are widely appreciated, had retired from playing; Willie Lennie had joined Queen’s Park- later to play with Rangers, Fulham, and Aberdeen; Sellars had gone to Morton, Queen to Falkirk, McCrindle to Aberdeen (there to sea as a ship’s engineer), and Easton to India. But in came fine players like Moir, Coogins, Kidd, Muir, McFie, Turner, Bell, Billy McIntyre, Charlie Chalk, and Billy Spiers.

Changes Continue – Changes continued. Donald Colman and Bell joined Motherwell, and McFie, Spiers, and Chalk went to Rangers. But still Maryhill gathered in the goods. Here is the 1906 side: - Robertson, Brodie, W. Walker, Moir, “Dinger” Drain, McIntyre, Muir, Aitkenhead, Swift, Long, and W. Jamieson. Of this lot Jimmy Muir and Drain subsequently went to Aberdeen, McIntyre to Partick Thistle, Willie Jamieson to Queen’s Park, and last, but not least, Walter Aitkenhead to Partick Thistle, thence to Blackburn Rovers, where he had a romantic rise to football and commercial distinction. In these articles I find it intriguing to sort out what I think might be considered the best junior products, and the following list contains what could truthfully be termed much valuable material.

Great Names – Consider if Maryhill had never done more than give us this lot:- Willie Eadon (Tottenham Hotspur), Donald Colman (Motherwell and Aberdeen), W. Russell (Clyde), Charles Pringle (St. Mirren), David Meiklejohn (Rangers), G. Ritchie (Falkirk and Leicester), Jimmy Muir (Aberdeen), James Bowie (Rangers), James Spiers (Rangers), W. Aitkenhead (Blackburn Rovers), and W. Lennie (Aberdeen). Maryhill are represented in the present Third Lanark team by McKenzie, a clever inside forward, while such as Jerry Solis, for a short spell with Celtic and now in Ireland, and an old-timer like Joe Henry, of Rangers and Morton, are other Lochburn products whose names come readily to mind. Though the club has had many honours the Glasgow Junior Cup was only won once- in 1905- when the team read:- Robertson, Colman, W. Walker, Moir, Haggerty, McIntyre, Muir, McFie, Spiers, Long, and Bell. In the Glasgow Junior League they were joint holders of our “Evening Times” Trophy in 1901, and sole possessors in 1904 and 1905. The Charity Cup was won in 1900, 1904, 1905, 1907, 1914, 1927, and 1928. They have also won the Maryhill Charity Cup several times and the North-Eastern and Glasgow Consolation Cups on occasion.

Good Legislators – Maryhill have probably achieved almost as much fame in giving good legislators as well as players in the game. The present vice-president of the S.J.F.A., Mr. Tom Crawley is one example. He was

president of the Glasgow Junior F.A. during 1927-28, 1928-29, 1929-30, and 1930-31. Mr. Alex. Aitken, who steered the good ship Intermediate through stormy waters, is now secretary of the Scottish Central League. Mr. Dawson Walker is secretary of the Scottish Junior League, and Mr. J. Cumming held various offices and represented the club on the S.J.F.A. Council. And who has not heard of the Browns? Mr. David Brown was president of the Glasgow Junior F.A. in 1925-26 and 1926-27, and has held all offices in the club with good service when so engaged. Mr. William Brown was also in the Glasgow Association for a long period. Mr. Percy Rigby, player and secretary with the club, also represented them on the N.E. Association and was elected president of that body.

The Men To-day – Other prominent personalities who have assisted in the fortune of the club were Messrs George Carruthers, A. McCoy, Robert Dobbie, T. Taggart, and D. Inglis. Officials of the present period are:- President, W. Dobbie; vice-president, J. Shaw; financial secretary, D. Nicol; treasurer, D. Brown; match secretary, W. Brown; assistant secretary, J. Charteris; with a very energetic committee. And we must not forget the trainer, Willie Dick, who has been with the club longer than he cares to tell. The players find him one of the most able and genial to deal with, and he is also well known to barriers throughout the West of Scotland. It is with pleasure I recall seeing truly great players like Colman, Davie Meiklejohn, Jim Bowie, and Willie Lennie in the red and black Lochburn shirts.

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## **BESIDES JIMMY BROWNLIE, THERE WERE OTHERS**

And Young Crawley Has Emphasised the Fact – Blantyre Victoria's Ups And Downs

(Article accompanied by photo of James Brownlie)

It's an old story, but worth retelling- that one about the teacher who asked "What famous man was born at Blantyre?" and received the prompt reply from the wee lad in the front row "Jimmy Brownlie". Apparently there never had been anyone of the name of David Livingstone connected with the local football club! And I might have given the same answer myself, because at one time, following the Blantyre hamper about in Lanarkshire, I had tremendous respect for Brownlie. I certainly never would have dreamt of trying what Harry Hampton did so successfully at Crystal Palace.

There Were Others – Brownlie's football life story would need a special page, and, after all, there were other players reared at Castle Park- and still they come. Just ask some of the defenders who have met young Crawley, now of Hamilton Academicals. The club was formed in 1889, and the affairs were first in the hands of Secretary S. Dawson. What the first team was I have not been able to ascertain, but I am led to understand it did not differ much from the undernoted, which in 1892-93 won the Lanarkshire League Championship and also Larkhall Charity and Cambuslang and District Cups: - A. Robertson, J. Lawson, S. Copeland, R. Paterson, J. Speirs, R. Neilson, J. McGuire, P. Powers, J. Paterson, T. McCallum, and J. Downie.

To Castle Park – During the first two years of existence the club played at Craighead Park, and then they took over the residence at Castle Park, their home ever since.. In 1891 they reached the final of the Lanarkshire Cup and lost, but in the next season they gathered together a capable set of officials in President James Christie (who became president of the S.J.F.A. in 1906-07), Secretary H. Watson, and Messrs F. White, F. Harrington, W. Davidson, and W. B. Small (the latter a well-known personality in and around Lanarkshire). And a fine trainer in J. Orr. In turn was secured a good-working side, sufficiently smart to reach the semi-final of the Scottish Cup in the following season (1893-94). Here they were defeated by Renfrew Victoria 2-1. They also contested the Lanarkshire League Championship "decider" at Airdrie to be again on the losing side, Longriggend winning by 2-1. Four of the eleven who were playing in these games received representative honours- J. Downie, S. Copeland, and the brothers J. and R. Paterson.

Into Senior Ranks – Then, in 1894-95, they thought of trying their luck in a more exalted sphere, and actually the club became senior. They qualified to play in the Scottish Cup proper, and lost to Arthurlie at Barrhead by 3-2. It was in the next round that history was made at the "Humph" when Celtic were so sensationally given the order of the dump by Arthurlie. In the next season Hearts beat the Victoria at Blantyre. During these seasons their Qualifying Cup progress was arrested by Abercorn and East Stirlingshire. Then they went back to the junior land. Here they have been moderately successful, winning all the Lanarkshire county competitions in which they have participated, but never have they reached the final of the Scottish Cup- perhaps this is their year! At any rate, they are still in, and many who fancied their chances good are long since out. During their connection with Intermediate Association and the Scottish Central League competition they have kept high ranking. One of their prominent sides which made good showing in the various cups was that of 1903-04:-

Brownlie, Turner, Docherty, Smith, Cullen, H. Hutcheon, Main, Clark, Dooley, Caldwell, and Lynas. But one which will perhaps be more readily recalled is that which fell to Maryhill at Ibrox Park, after a series of three remarkably thrilling sixth-round Scottish Cup games:- Brownlie, Garrett, Hendry, Sprott, Quinn, Pickering, Rafferty, M. Fitzpatrick, Carr, Jamie Fitzpatrick, and Davidson.

Talk of the Town – Brownlie was the talk of the town over these games, and rumour had it he was a sure starter at Ibrox. But he landed ultimately at Cathkin. Of that side stalwart Willie Hendry, however, became a Ranger, and took part in many a hard game for them, not the least important being the one in which he and the famous Jimmy Quinn clashed. Of course, this sets me up to my old hobby of stringing a number of names together and reminiscing over how they would have worked as a side. Here's a formidable eleven:- Jimmy Brownlie (Third Lanark), T. Turner (Brighton and Hove), Willie Hendry (Rangers), Davie Colquhoun (St. Mirren and Spurs), Angus McPhail (Clyde), Jerry Kelly (Ayr and Everton), Dan Rafferty (Everton and Airdrie), Dick Black (Morton and Manchester United), Tom Crawley (Hamilton Acads.), A. Menzies (Hearts), and Frank Kelly (Celtic).

Strong in Centres – It might be noted that I have given three centres as inside men- Blantyre have been strong in that position of importance. Old-timers will remember the sensation caused when Menzies was unexpectedly "capped" against England in 1906. I don't think anyone got such a shock as the player himself. He had played in the "Anglo-Scots" trial and taken some important people's fancy. About this time the Vics. Had a very important centre, Alec McCreadie, a young student from Glasgow, who had a build and style almost a duplicate of Alec Bennett, and who, had he been spared, might have become equally famous. He got a knock in a game at Kirkcaldy, and died some months later after a painful, lingering illness. T. Reid, who went to Clydebank, Liverpool, and Manchester United, was another good leader, as was also J. Richardson, who signed for Manchester United.

Other Names – Others who went upstairs were:- A. Pinnall (Chorley and Everton), the first to go senior from the club; S. Elliot, H. Hutcheon, and T. Caldwell (Everton), J. Dunlop and H. Logan (St. Mirren), R. Gardner, J. Gardner, and T. McDonald (Motherwell); H. Menzies, brother of the centre, went to Crystal Palace; G. Nisbet to P.N.E., R. Dunsmuir to Hearts, W. Hutcheon to Bo'ness, W. Lennox to Clapton Orient, A. Greenhorn to Kilmarnock, W. Russell to Chelsea, W. Davis (Armadale and Newcastle), D. Kelly (Hamilton Acas.), D. Currie (Airdrieonians), W. Turnbull (Ayr United), W. Orr (Airdrieonians), W. Beedie and J. Reid (Portsmouth), W. Crinsen (Raith Rovers), P. Cunningham and the two brothers Michael and Jimmy Fitzpatrick to Hibs. Right half was another "specialized" position- four are at present playing first-class football as such: - Colquhoun (Tottenham Hotspur), McPhail (Clyde), Nisbet (P.N.E.), and Russell (Chelsea). The late Mr. James Kelly, the Celtic director and old-time internationalist, had business interests in Blantyre, and both his sons, Frank and James, played for the Vics. before going on to Celtic Park.

Fleming, of Rangers – These all went directly from the Vics. to the seniors. Amongst numerous others who went indirectly was Jimmy Fleming (Rangers). Down the years the club has been carefully guided by sound officials, as Messrs James Christie, T. Smith, Sam Currie, W. Hendry, R. Cumming, James Paterson, A. Allen, A. Wright, S. Dawson, J. Lees, W. Fleming, R.G. Yuill, D. Hendry, D. McBain, John Ramsay, A. Inglis, R. White, and D. Lamond. At present affairs are in the hands of Messrs President W. Cunningham, Vice-president W. Anderson, Financial Secretary A. Thomson, Treasurer James Mackay, and Match Secretary John Cameron. I am indebted to Mr. Cameron for his valuable assistance in compiling these facts. Other two particularly good sides were those of 1914-15 and 1926-27. The former read: - McFarlane, McKelvie, Brown, Currie, McGowan, Murray, Kelly, McBroom, Dunsmuir, Robertson, and Beedie.

33 Goals in One Round – The later side, which won the Lanarkshire League with a record number of points was:- Welsh, Donald, McMillan, Russell, Allan, Orr, McGuinness, Nisbet, Richardson, Towers, and Crinsen, with Gilmour and Dowdells as reserves. This team met Fauldhouse United five times in a Scottish Cup-tie before Vics. won, after 33 goals had been totalled over the series. Additions to the clubhouse carried out by voluntary helpers under Messrs J. and W. Langmuir have enabled social gatherings to be held at regular intervals in aid of the club funds- a fact much appreciated by the officials, and, judging from the conversation I had with one young chap, a boon to many like himself who have not too much in the form of pleasurable entertainment these days. It is cheering, this development of the social side- nearly all the grounds I have visited give abundant evidence of this feature.



## LARKHALL THISTLE SINCE 1878

Nursery of Many Fine Players - Founders Still to the Fore

(Article accompanied by a photo of 6 of the club's founders)

On the way to Larkhall the other evening in search of football history a children's rhyme about "Larkie Lee" kept running through my head. It was singular, because I knew there was nothing at all "larkie" about the Larkhall football. In fact, in my experience it has been very serious, and thoroughly sound. Then I took to reflecting on the days when, as a visiting junior, I watched the local team take the field before our boys. They all seemed bordering on six feet high, and some of them nearly three feet across, everyone as hard as nails. I think the present-day side is more assorted. I turned over in my mind the family football names of the Gibsons, the Millers, the Raisbecks, and the McStays- almost as well known as the county names such as Lockhart.

A Bowler, Too – Willie Farr was the first person I encountered, and his flood of reminiscences was interesting. Anyone connected with the club for nearly half a century, and half of that time as president- surely should be an authority. But he referred me in course to the secretary Mr. J. Cowan, and I soon heard all about things. Much was merely confirmation, but ever so much more fresh and original. Mr. Farr continues to father the club, and also to skip Larkhall's championship rink bowling side. The club dates back to 1878. Therefore their jubilee period fell due four years ago. Unfortunately, owing to various causes which anyone acquainted with the present-day conditions can readily understand, no celebrations were held.

Scottish Cup Winners – The wonder to me is how some clubs can "carry on" at all- the different atmosphere can be sensed. However, we can always revel in the past, and a club which has twice won the Scottish Cup and produced footballers of the calibre desired further down can extract much satisfaction from the recollection of achievements. So far as I could ascertain the first Larkhall Thistle team read something like the following:- H. Maxwell, G. Rundell, P. Rae, K. Cameron, J. Bone, J. Pollock, C. Rundell, J. Clark, P. Holton, J. Carrol, and D. Walker. The original secretary was Mr. Alex. Sneddon, understood to still be to the fore somewhere in the East of Scotland, and M. John Miller was treasurer. Mr. James McEwan followed as secretary later. Messrs Miller and McEwan are still in Larkhall, and take a lively interest in the club's welfare.

The Money In It – The first ground was at Loch Park, Machan; their second at the Bog, Larkhall; and in 1884 the removed to their present quarters with the illuminating name of Gas Work Park. The first gate at Loch Park was 14s 3d, but they soon began to draw big money, and actually- in 1888, when they housed the Scottish Cup final between Wishaw Thistle and Maryhill- raked in over £30. Now I proceed to my chief delight, to figure out the best products of the place, and the undernoted should not be far out. It embraces well-known ancients and moderns:- W. Fotheringham (St. Mirren), Willie McStay (Celtic), Willie Bulloch (Partick Thistle), Neil Gibson (Rangers), Alick Raisbeck (Hibs and Liverpool), James McStay (Celtic), Paddy Gilhooley (Celtic), Lachie McMillan (Partick Thistle), Willie Boyd (Clyde), Tom Cairns (Rangers), T. Lang (Newcastle United). Probably the most notable family are the Gibsons. Neilly Gilmour was one of the most artistic half-back Rangers ever had. His overhead kicking has never been surpassed. His sons- Jimmy (with Aston Villa), Neil (with Clyde), and Willie (with Newcastle) - all added lustre to Larkhall. Tom Cairns of course graduated through Burnbank, but Larkhall claim him as their own, and the name figures prominently in Larkhall teams.

In Order – Opinion differs as to the best side which ever represented the club, but I'll give them in order of antiquity. The "oldest inhabitant" considers the team which won the Lanarkshire League in 1896 has never been equaled. It read: - Stevenson, Robertson, Newlands, Prentice, Raisbeck, Gourlay, Hamilton, McKay, Morrison, Gilhooley, and Smith. This is disputed by the later generation, who give their vote to the team which beat Ashfield at Cathkin Park in the Scottish Cup final in 1914 after three hard games:- A. Miller, Caffray, Morrison, Stewart, Henderson, Law, Park, Bulloch, Cairns, Stannage, and Hamilton.

A Sensation – In this year one of the sensational happenings in the career of the club occurred. St. Ninian's Thistle protested against Stewart in the fourth round. The protest was upheld and Stewart suspended sine die. Afterwards the Association admitted the mistake and Stewart was reinstated, and came back to the team to score the winning goal in the final and also gain an international cap. The 1907-08 team which beat Queen's Park Hampden XI in the Scottish final was another solid side:- A. Miller, Roger, Greenhorn, H. Miller, Sneddon, H. McStay, Pollock, Meldrum, Cairns, Clark, and Nisbet. Post-war enthusiasts have it that this team would bear comparison with any: - Hamilton, Hunter, Newbigging, McStay, Henderson, McDougall, Skelly, Porter, Parker, Finlayson, and Patterson. In 1902-03 they were runners-up to Parkhead with the following: - Ritchie, Watson, Roger, Miller, Burns, Nesbit, Paton, Hogg, Russell, Gillespie, and Rodney.

The Honours List – The honours list is extensive and includes: - Scottish Cup 1907-08 and 1913-14; Lanarkshire Cup, 1907-08; Lanarkshire League 1895-96, 1912-13, 1913-14, and 1931-32\*. A list of players who went to the senior ranks will be worth scanning, though I am sure it will not be a complete record. I am almost bound to have overlooked a few. Here are goalkeepers:- W. Fotheringham (Airdrieonians), J. Rundell (Motherwell), T. Craig (Plymouth Argyle), W. Shirlaw (Bradford), J. Dickson (Motherwell), A. Miller (Kilmarnock), J. Anderson (Hamilton Academicals). Backs:- W. McStay (Celtic), W. Watson (Airdrieonians), W. Bulloch (Partick Thistle), W. Newbigging (Motherwell), W. Frame (Clyde), A. Hunter (Hamilton Academicals), J. Kerr (Preston North End), H. Miller (Hamilton Academicals), R. Caffrey (Partick Thistle), W. Smith (Third Lanark), Jimmy Smith (Rangers). The latter, a son of the famous Nick Smith, afterwards developed as an outside left at Ibrox and Aberdeen. Half-backs:- Neil Gibson (Rangers), Alec Raisbeck (Hibernian and Liverpool), James McStay (Celtic), Frank McStay (Motherwell), R. Stewart (Motherwell), A. Graham (Arsenal), J. Porter (Bury), D. Henderson (Motherwell), D. Marley (St. Bernards), D. Dawson (Celtic), J. Carabine and J. Waddell( Third Lanark). Forwards:- T. Lang (Newcastle), T. Cairns (Rangers), L. McMillan (Hamilton Academicals), P. Gilhooley (Celtic), K. McKay (Sheffield United), W. Paterson (Airdrie), G. Ramsey (Motherwell), E. Skelly (Motherwell), J. Hart (Rangers), W. Scott (Newcastle), W. Boyd (Clyde), A. Farr (Clyde), R. Keyes (Morton), J. Williamson (Preston North End), J. Paton (St. Mirren), H. Newbigging (Notts Forest), J. Finlayson (Third Lanark), J. Thomson (Third Lanark), J. Brown (Third Lanark), J. McConachy (Third Lanark). Though not Thistle players, the Miller family brought further fame to Larkhall-Tom with Liverpool and Hearts, John with Thistle and Aberdeen, Adam with Hamilton Academicals, and Andrew B., of Hearts and now Dundee, carries on the good name.

Men Who Matter – Affairs have been capably administered down the years by zealous, painstaking officials, and probably the best known was that popular personality, the late Mr. Tom Cunningham. He died seven years ago after long service, having held office for 17 years with distinction during both trying and joyous times. Mr. Samuel Hamilton took over for a couple of seasons before the present secretary, Mr. J. Cowan, took the reins, which he handles judiciously. Other two prominent officials, now abroad, were Mr. W. McPhail and Mr. C. Kilpatrick. The former is in America and still takes keen interest in the club through the medium of this paper. Mr. Kilpatrick is in Queensland, Australia, and is interested in a team there, the Thistle. We give a photograph showing six of the lads of the “old brigade” who founded the club away back 54 years ago- real junior veterans. And they are still rearing good material. And it is rather rich to hear of their having a reserve outside left who spends most of his free Saturdays playing trials in Alliance games!

\* Lanarkshire League won in 1930-31, not 1931-32.

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## TOP-NOTCHERS SINCE THE START

Bridgeton Waverley's Big Deeds - Club with All the Honours

(Article accompanied by photos of Law and Fergus)

In my juvenile days we had some very fine sides, and at that time I fancied that nothing could ever be better than the crack teams of the period. Going round the town, we had a Waverley in the North-West, the Tweedhill further over at Possilpark, then in the Springburn direction the Benvue, the “Hunts” (Huntingdon), and the “Pals” (Palermo); way out East the Parkhead White Rose and Wellwood Star; next, at the Glasgow Green, the famous Fern Thistle; and on the South Side the Pollok Hawthorn, Govan Hibs, and many others. Each had distinction of some sort, and, usually, on home territory were well nigh invincible. We were fortunate in having the many “tournaments” run by the principal junior clubs. These were 11-a-side games, and many a happy night during the spring and early summer was spent taking part at Lochburn or some of the other city grounds. When I think of how often we played and how long the sympathy extended to the present-day professionals when they are called upon to put in an extra turn seems undeserved. I recall playing at two fields, far distant from each other, on one night, the second game commencing nearer to ten o'clock than nine. However that's outside the story.

In 1904 – In the year 1904 was formed the Bridgeton Waverley Football Club, destined to become more famous than any of those previously mentioned, inasmuch as they had success while juveniles and followed on to make almost instantaneous mark as juniors. Seldom has a club so definitely established itself as the Lea have done. They are reckoned a power in the football land nowadays. A resume of their memorable juvenile career may be interesting. The boys who formed the club were nearly all pupils of Queen Mary Street Public School. The usual procedure for obtaining funds was adopted, and no door-to-door canvass was more assiduous- not bettered even by census or political people. Amateur rules were rigidly enforced, and no weekly subscription meant no place

in the team. Later some of the older boys who frequented “Stewart’s Corner” assumed control of the affairs and a few of the founders were given the order of the back seat. A new rig-out was secured, the lads duly photographed in Weirs, and then on to take part in their first competition, which had the highly commendable title of the “Clean Speech League”, inaugurated by a well known Glasgow gentleman, Charles Anderson, Esq. they finalized in what was termed a “respectable position”- presumably very few blots on their copy-book.

Disbanded and Back Again – Season 1908-9 marked their advent in first-class juvenile football. Various competitions were entered. Part was taken in the “tournaments” I have referred to, and in the Vale of Clyde’s 1909-10 one they got third place. They struggled on without capturing anything of moment, though in 1911-12, when entertaining big hopes, they were beaten in the sixth round of the Scottish Juvenile Cup by Dalmuir Royal Oak 1-0. When the Great War started the club disbanded. The boys who came back in 1919 decided to get the ‘Lea going again, and one of their greatest joys was when they mustered a side sufficiently good to beat their close local rivals, the hitherto all-conquering Eastern Greenfield, who rejoice in the quaint designation of the “Light Ale”! In 1919 Waverley won the Glasgow Juvenile Cup and also the “B” division of the Glasgow and District Juvenile League. A grievance exists over the latter as the badges never appeared- the money intended for them vanished! Mention of badges reminds me of the tale of a Waverley player very fond of sporting his “ornaments” on a black cord across his waistcoat. This was a good old “Spanish custom”, but it irritated one of his team mates. To ridicule the business the latter turned up one day wearing a plain boot-lace. Then when asked by the “badger” fellow what this was for curtly replied, “To lace ma Sunday bits, ye gowk.”

Badges Galore – However, it was not long before the club began to gather badges galore. In season 1921 they won the Glasgow North-Eastern Juvenile Cup and also Parkhead and District Juvenile Cup with a team considered to be the best they had for a decade. Next year they went one better, winning the Scottish, Glasgow, and North-Eastern Cups. The following year they recaptured the same three, plus the Glasgow Charity and East-End Juvenile Cups- a total of five for the season. They continued in 1923-24 their merry career by lifting the Scottish, Glasgow, Glasgow Charity, and “John Chatham” Cups, also the City and District Amateur League. The Scottish Juvenile Cup three years in succession was a memorable feat. Then they went upstairs to the exalted ranks of the juniors- under senior auspices, in a sense, as it was representation made by Frank Thompson, the Clyde manager, to his board to grant the use of Shawfield Park which decided the club to take the plunge. The officials at that time were:- President, A. Moffat; vice-president, W. Robertson; treasurer, K. Johnston; general secretary, A. McKay; and match secretary, the well-known Danny Scott, whose name is so closely associated with the fortunes of the club.

In Nine Years – They began the “silver collection” at once, and undernoted is a list of their big deeds in this comparatively short junior life of theirs, a matter of years:- 1924-25- Scottish Junior Victory Cup, Scottish Junior League, and Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup; 1925-26- Runners-up Scottish Junior Cup (to Strathclyde), winners North-Eastern Cup, Smyllum Cup\*, and Dawson Walker Gold Medal Competition; 1927-28- Runners-up “Bobby Walker Testimonial Cup” (to Ashfield); 1928-29- Smyllum Cup; 1929-30- Smyllum Cup, Scottish Intermediate League (Eastern Section), runners-up Glasgow Consolation cup (to Yoker Athletic), runners-up “Evening Times” Trophy (to Clydebank); 1930-31- “Evening Times” Trophy (beating Yoker Athletic), Scottish Intermediate (Eastern Section), East End Charity Cup, runners-up Scottish Intermediate Cup (to Yoker Athletic); 1931-32- Runners-up Glasgow Junior Cup (to Shawfield), runners-up Smyllum Cup (to St. Roch’s).

Their Big Day – Of course, their big day was on May 22, 1926. They met their near and dear neighbours, Strathclyde, at Firhill in the final of the Scottish Junior Cup, when they lined up with this strong side:- Moyles, Steel, T. Creighton, McHarg, Milne, Bolton, McGowan, Robertson, Main, W. Creighton, and Young. Having a busman’s holiday I enjoyed this game to the full, and recollect how, soon after, Rangers signed on Moyles, when most folk thought they were after Stevenson, the Strathclyde goalkeeper nowadays with Clyde. Bridgeton Waverley sent a lot of players to the seniors, and the following are eleven of the best:- Willie Moyles (Rangers), Willie Steel (St. Johnstone and Liverpool), Tom Low (Chelsea), T. Gibson (Aberdeen), W. Culbert (Clyde), J. Bolton (St. Johnstone), Tom Workman (St. Mirren), George Mills (West Ham), Hugh Mills (West Ham), Willie Mills (Aberdeen), Willie Gall (Clyde and Falkirk). Other prominent promotions were:- D. Main (Airdrieonians), J. McFarlane (St. Johnstone), A. Adams (Clyde), H. Bolton (Clyde), J. Ralston (Clyde), K. McCleish (Clyde), T. Whitney (Celtic), W. Creighton (Albion Rovers), J. Stewart (Albion Rovers), W. Meek (Airdrieonians), C. Kerr (Hearts), J. Robertson (Aberdeen), T. Creighton (Bo’ness), J. McPherson (St. Johnstone), G. Hawthorn (Third Lanark).

Some Teams – Some of the elevens from year to year may be worth noting. In 1925 they had one such as this, playing against Gartsherrie Athletic: - Moyles, Smith, T. Creighton, Hislop, Borland, Bolton, O’Neil, W.

Creighton, Young, Dickie, and Breslin. The 1926 side has been given and now here is one for 1927, meeting St. Anthony's in a North-Eastern tie: - Caleagh, Hill, Lundie, McHarg, McLeish, Culbert, McKennan, McDonald, Kelly, Leighton, and Miller. In 1928 they fielded in an early game against the Vale of Clyde: - Frame, Lewis, Culbert, McMurray, Waddell, Leighton, Sykes, Gibson, McKennan, Ashbridge, and McLeer. The year 1929 found them playing Shettleston Celtic with: - Frame, Lewis, Dunsmore, Gibson, Green, J. Downie, Sykes, Busby, McKennan, McLaughlan, and W. Downie. During 1930 this was a side which met Clydebank: - Skewis, Lewis, Smith, Gibson, Waddell, Lindsay, Sykes, Workman, Jamieson, Gilroy, and Whitney. Here's a 1931 side, playing Blantyre Victoria: - Lindsay, Turner, Murphy, Logan, Waddell, Cameron, Love, Gibson, H. Mills, W. Mills, and Sloan. What they have now and how they are faring can readily be ascertained.

One of the Best – I am told that one of the best sides ever representing the club was in their juvenile days, reading: - Sellar, Glasgow, G. Borland, Gardner, Knox, Kay, Munro, K. Borland, Greig, Clark, and McDonald. In 1926 the club formed a Parks committee, leased their present ground Barrowfield Park, and by dint of sheer hard graft of the enthusiastic volunteers laboured until they formed what they claim to be one of the best laid-out grounds in junior football with modern pavilion and press accommodation and terracing, which I know from experience is properly graded. The ladies helped with a grand bazaar. The present officials carry on the good work:- President A. McKay; vice-president, R. Reid; treasurer, A. Marshall; financial secretary, A. Watson; general secretary, W. Dempster; match secretary, K. Johnston, assisted by an enthusiastic committee- Messrs J. McPherson, J. Little, W. Moyles, J. Haddow, J. Edgar, J. Francis, W. McPherson, J. Watson, J. Hamilton, c. Wilson, R. Gordon, R. Glen, W. Burns, D. McGuire, J. Casey, J. Dickson, J. Tonner, R. Kennedy, W. McCrorie, and D. Kirshall.

Founders – Two of the founders of the club are still actively engaged- Messrs A. Moffat and K. Johnston. I am indebted to Mr. Johnston for his aid in compiling this article. And I have made another discovery- they have the whimsical Willie Curlie as groundsman. In his "dug-out" the other evening I fancied I was among the ammunition boxes again listening to one of the old "irrepressibles". Possessing a pretty wit, he gave me the best laugh I have had outside of the Royal or Princess's and I'm not sure yet "phut" it was all about. I will have to keep it for a separate article.

\*Smyllum Cup not won in 1926

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## TEAM THAT GAVE US JIMMY McMULLAN

The Joys and Sorrows of Denny Hibs  
(Article accompanied by photo of Matt Busby)

If Denny Hibs had never done anything other than just give us Jimmy McMullan their existence would have been justified. What a great little player, and what a great little general! And he is still in active service- behind the lines a bit, but there. I saw him at Maine Road, Manchester, in November in the dressing room, all smiles at that victorious Scottish League team was led inside by John Johnston. No doubt he and his young Denny friend Busby would have a peaceful week after that. Singular that another of my McMullan memories is of Manchester again- this time at Old Trafford in 1926- when we won the big international there. Big Jimmy Gibson seemed highly strung, and McMullan spent his precious period at the interval quietly chatting and soothing his clubmate, who went out to finish off in fine style.

In 1906 – But I'm forgetting- this is Denny Hibs' history, not McMullan's biography, though the name recurs so often throughout that it might be anything. Denny Hibs were formed in 1906 from a juvenile club of the same name who played in the field of Denny Athletic until they got their own ground, School Loan. The meeting at which it was decided to run as juniors was held in the schoolhouse. Among those present were the late Rev. Canon Shovens, Bailie (now Provost) Losey, John McGlade, and Jas. Kelly. They secured the field beside the school and named it School Loan- the only ground the club has had. It took much hard work to make it right, as a burn formerly ran right across it. Unfortunately this is likely to be their last season on it, as a new school is to be built.

The First Officials – The first officials of the club were: - President, J. Hamill (now in America); match secretary, James McBryde (who played with Stenhousemuir for years); and financial secretary, James Kelly. Denny Hibs entered for all the local cups and also the Scottish Cup, but were refused entry into the Stirlingshire League. This meant many friendlies to fill vacant dates. The first game on the field was a first round Scottish Cup-tie against Dunipace Juniors, then holders. There was nearly a sensation- Dunipace only drew level in the

last half-minute, making the score one goal each. Dunipace won the replay, but only by the merest margin: - 2-1. Denny's team here was:- T. Kane, Davidson, W. Kane, J. McMullan ("Grocer"), O. Kane, Loney, J. Fagan, J. Crawford, Patrick McMullan, Hynds, and Peter McMullan. The trainer was Neil Dougall, whose three sons played with Falkirk and Burnley.

The First Honour – The following season, again denied entry to the Stirlingshire League, Denny secured admission to the Clackmannan County League and won it- their first honour. In the Clackmannan Cup-final they were beaten by Alva 2-1. It was 1910-11 before they won their first cup, the Stirling and District, beating their local rivals, Denny Athletic, 3-0 with the following team:- T. Kane, Forbes, Bell, McCann, J. McMullan, Carr, Laurie, McCulloch, P. McMullan, Cameron, and Wilson. By this time they were in the Stirlingshire League and won it also. Then came one of their big years, 1911-12, and one of their sad disappointments. With only one goal registered against them they reached the Scottish Cup Final at Firhill, and when it was over they had lost a total of six and the cup- Petershill winning 5-0. I saw the game and how little luck they had in it.

An Ill Wind – However, it's an ill wind, etc. The cash from the gate cleared them of debt for the first time since the club was formed. They sportingly admit that the following side- not their full strength- had been fairly beaten: - T. Kane, Docherty, Bell, Carr, James McMullan, James McMullen (later Partick Thistle), E. Kane, McCulloch, Pat. McMullan, T.O. May, and McHarg. In 1917 Denny had this good side which won the County Cup and Falkirk District and Hospital Shield:- T. Ferguson, Wylie, Loney, T. Scott, J. McMullan, Hammond, O. McMullan, McCormick, Kieft, Mulholland, and McHarg. Again, in 1922, they had another fine side- sufficiently good to beat their greatest rivals, Dunipace, in the final of the County Cup. Here it is: - Coutts, Whitehead, Hammond, Dunnigan, J. McMullan, Marshall, Burns, Todd, Dyer, Price, and Malloy.

A Queer Year – 1928-29 was a queer year. They reached the final of the Scottish, Stirlingshire, Falkirk District, and Victory Consolation Cups, and lost the lot! They were beaten in the Scottish final by Dundee Violet 2-0, but protested before the game finished and secured a replay at Dundee. This finished a draw 2-2, and they were sent back to Dundee- which they considered harsh- and lost 4-0. They had another protest- sound and sufficient- but after persuasion from the ruling powers and a bitter meeting with their own supporters it was withdrawn. In view of certain happenings in the 1930-31 Burnbank-Denny Hibs final the arguments used then about "protests not being in the interests of the game" by influential people rankle with Denny now. Denny's team against the Dundee Violet was: - Maxwell, McAuley, Martin, Keir, B. McMullan, Crossley, McCormick, McKay, Young, Anderson, and Regan. At Dundee McRobert came in for McMullan, and the second day at Dundee McMullan came in for Young.

More Than History – In 1930-31 Denny won the Scottish Cup, Falkirk District, Stirling District, and the Scottish League, besides being runners-up in the Victory Cup final and Stirlingshire League Cup. The team which at Tynecastle beat Burnbank in the Scottish final 1-0 was: - Toner, Herd, Martin, Davidson, D. McLaughlin, Crossley, McKay, McDonagh, Wilson, Comrie, and Archibald. What followed is more than club history, and a book might be written about the subsequent "protest proceedings". But I'll keep off that, after recording that Denny Hibs were not just in ecstasies when they ultimately were given possession of the cup for ten days! They considered they had won it well twelve months previously. However their honours list is quite an imposing and creditable one, comprising:- Scottish Cup- 1930-31; Falkirk District Cup- 1917, 1924, and 1931; Clackmannan League- 1907-08; Scottish League- 1930-31; Stirlingshire County Cup- 1916-17, 1922, 1932; Stirling District Cup- 1910-11, 1932; Stirlingshire League- 1911; League Cup- 1926. Individual honours were gained by the following in being "capped" for Scotland:- J. Allan, W. Forbes, W. McHarg, James McMullan, D. Keir, M. Comrie, D. McLaughlin, G. Maxwell, J. Archibald, and J. Black.

Players Remembered – Players who have played with the Hibs and later gone to the seniors include James McMullan (Partick Thistle and Manchester City), J. Loney (Clyde), Busby, Rodgers, Comrie, and Burns(all of Manchester City), Sherry (Preston North End), W. Forbes (Plymouth Argyle), Black (Sunderland), Park (Swansea), Archibald, McDonagh, and McKay (Raith Rovers), A. McAttee, McCormick, Robertson, and Owen McInally (Celtic), O'Kane (Leith), J. Allen (East Stirlingshire), J. Crawford (Blackburn Rovers), James Smith (Rangers), and McCaig (Stenhousemuir). Other players who helped the club to prominence were J. Dunnigan, G. McAulay, G. Coyle, G. Price, J. Crossley, and Peter Ryan (president, and secretary when they won the cup). Crossley has a unique record- a winner's medal for every competition the club has entered for. And he is still playing!

Since the Beginning – Prominent Officials have been such as Mr. John O'Hanlan- who has given unflinching service since the club was started- A. McNeil, M. Ryan, J. Lynn, H. Dunnigan, J.J. Timmons, C. McMahan, W.

Crawford, B. Kelly, James Smyth, James McGlade, W. Coyle, J. Sinclair, J. McPake, C. McCallum, J. Casey, and T. Garner. And from what I have gathered in the compilation of this history the James McMullan resident at Denny is just as thorough in his position as his namesake at Manchester. They all seem to be a fine set of chaps, even if after a memorable Scottish Cup-tie a party got lost in the fog in Glasgow, missed all the buses, and were finally locked up overnight in the Central Police Station!

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## KILWINNING RANGERS SINCE 1899

Famous Players Reared by the "Buffs" - Old Soldiers Who Did Not Die

(Article accompanied by photo of Gavin McLelland)

Once upon a time some one gave us a few words which had relation to "a private in the Buffs". The praises of the crack infantry regiment have often been sung, and so in the football world have those of Kilwinning Rangers, also known far and wide as the "Buffs". I am not sure of the origin of that name, but possibly it may have something to do with their fighting qualities. They have come through some strenuous campaigning. The club was started as juveniles in 1899-1900 by Mr. Charles Walker, who apparently ran the club himself, fulfilling all offices of state. He must have known his job- or jobs- as the team did not lose a match during their first season. Here are the players in that first team: - McGavin, Lindsay, Kerr, McLaughlin, Muirhead, Rae, Watt, Wales, Currie, Bannerman, and Paterson.

In 1902-03 – They had no recognised ground, playing on the fields of both Monkcastle F.C. and the Eglinton F.C., both senior clubs of the Masonic town of that period. Latterly they secured Butts Park. In the following season the club reached the final of the Scottish Juvenile Cup, to be beaten at Saracen Park, Glasgow, by Dumbarton Corinthians by 2-0. The side here was: - McGavin, Lindsay, Kerr, McLaughlin, Muirhead, Rae, Lynch, Wales, Lundie, Bannerman, and Watt. Encouraged by their success, the junior club was formed in season 1902-03, and although modest in aspiration nevertheless won the Ayrshire Consolation Cup in their first year. Woodwynd Park became their ground then. Development was rapid, and reached the zenith in 1908-09, the most successful in the career of the club, as they won the Scottish Cup, Ayrshire Cup, and League championship. And they were particularly proud of the fact that nine of the players were local lads and the remaining couple- Harvie and Parker- also very much Ayrshire- from Stevenson and Kilmaurs respectively.

At Second Attempt – In the Scottish final at Shawfield Park, Glasgow, against Strathclyde, the following side played a goalless draw:- Hodge, Harvie, Currie, Brown, Paterson, Weir, Parker, Lundie, Dickson, Bannerman, and Campbell. Before the replay at Rugby Park, Kilmarnock, Currie had been signed by Leicester Fosse, and Weir by St. Mirren, creating something akin to consternation in the "Buffs" camp. But the old soldiers did not die; they were victorious by 1-0 with the amended side reading: - Hodge, Harvie, Kerr, Brown, Paterson, McLaughlin, Parker, Lundie, Dickson, Bannerman, and Campbell. It took extra time to settle it, and Dickson was the hero in scoring the only goal. Guiding the destiny of the club were: - President, Robert Logan; vice-president, S. Lockhart; secretary, James Campbell; and treasurer, J. Findlay.

Beaten After Protest – The following season they again rolled up to the final at Firhill, actually won 1-0, and then rolled out again when Ashfield protested and won the replay by 3-0. In the first game the team was: - Hodge, Harvie, Lindsay, Brown, Paterson, McLaughlin, Campbell, Lundie, Dickson, Parker, and Menzies. It was here that I had my first glimpse of that sterling footballer, Bobby Brown, and the hardy "Switcher" McLaughlin. Dickson, the subject of the protest, was substituted in the second game by R. Niven and Campbell by Lundie. Robert Niven was one of three brothers who gave good service to the club. He never went senior. James played for Partick Thistle, and the present joint treasurer at Hampden- along with Mr. Tom Sneddon- is Mr. Alec F. Niven.

War Years Blank – The club carried on with a fair measure of progress until 1914-15, when they closed down during the war years. Up until this time the "Buffs" were League champions seven times. In season 1919-20 they got going again, joining the Western Football League then being formed. Singular honour was conferred on Kilwinning, inasmuch as the League appointed as President Mr. Hugh McLaughlin (Rangers), secretary, Mr. R. B. Howden (Rangers), and treasurer, Mr. A. Dunlop (Eglinton). Looks as if administrative ability is well cultivated there. Season 1920-21 was just a fair one. The League Championship, Irvine and District Cup, and "Irvine Herald" Cup were won, the recognised team at this time being: - McMinn, Graham, Thom, Douglas, Harvie, Morrison, McAslan, McNeil, Clark, Calder, and McMinn.

Another Final – In 1921-22 the “Buffs” were in the Scottish final, again meeting the “Rocks” at Firhill. St. Roch’s beat them 2-1. This time it was Kilwinning’s turn for a protest, and a late posting of team lists by St. Roch’s enabled the “Buffs” to secure a replay- only to get another rebuff, again a 2-1 score. The Rangers’ team in the first game was- McMinn, J. Berryman, Thom, Douglas, Harvie, W. Berryman, McPhee, McNeil, McLean, Palmer, and Meikle. In the second match Meikle and J. Berryman did not play, Ferguson and Morrison making up the side. The League Championship and the “Irvine Herald” Cup were won in 1922-23 by a side which usually read: - Hodge, Fullarton, McLaughlin, Douglas, Kerr, Biggar, Goldie, McNeil, Anderson, Niven, and Rae.

Lean Seasons – The next season was entered upon with high hope, but in the first few weeks four of the side turned senior, and the year turned out to be a poor one. Then followed still another lean season, but in 1925-26, they began to pick up again, winning the “Irvine Herald” Cup from their rivals, Kilwinning Eglinton, at Troon by 3-1 with: - McLeod, Anderson, Gray, Fullarton, McLelland, Biggar, Reid, McNeil, Chalmers, Rankine, and McIntyre. There was a large number of changes in the side which again got the “Herald” Cup in 1926-27 at the expense of Glenburn Rovers at Saltcoats by a margin of 5-1. The “Buffs” fielded were: - Fallon, Anderson, Cumming, Irwin, Lindsay, McLaughlin, Heyburn, Walker, Gray, Douglas, and McIntyre. Then came the Intermediate rupture. Long experience and vivid recollection of 1923-24 happenings determined the “Buffs” to fight under the new flag. In this season the League was annexed, also the Irvine and District Cup, the team being: - Thom, Anderson, Cunningham, Heyburn, H. Wales, McLaughlin, McIlwraith, McNee, Carswell, A. Wales, and McIntyre.

More Recently – Their next important business was winning the League Cup in 1929-30, defeating Dalry Thistle 1-0 at Ardrossan with:- Thom, Anderson, Heyburn, Duncan, Carswell, Gowdy, Donnelly, McNeill, McLeod, Taylor, and Fulton. The following season was very successful, the Ayrshire Cup, John Stirling Trophy, League Championship, and the Gold Watch Competition all coming their way. The Ayrshire Cup winning team was: - Thom, Anderson, Heyburn, Taylor, Kenmuir, Gowdy, Donnelly, McNeill, Dale, Kenmuir, and Fulton. In the other games Walker, Miller, Kelly and Wales took part. The League Championship “decider” match with Irvine Meadow XI was a tremendously exciting affair, ding-dong, score about until just on time when Dale got the odd goal of seven. Dale, who was secured from the Juvenile Canal Bank F.C., had a remarkable good first season with 54 goals. The team that participated in this memorable game was: - Thom, Anderson, Walker, Taylor, Kenmuir, Goudy, Donnelly, McNeill, Dale, Millar, and Kenmuir. Last season Kilwinning Rangers had another League championship and the Irvine and District Cup with this as the standard eleven: - Kelly, Anderson, Jeffrey, Taylor, Kenmuir, Goudy, Donnelly, McNeil, Dale, Kenmuir, and Millar. And they are going strong this season also. After the war the club had quarters at Old Claremont Park, then New Claremont Park, back to Butts Park once more, renamed this Abbey Park, erected a handsome brick pavilion, and hope to live in peace for a while.

To the Seniors – Amongst players sent to the Seniors were:- James McLaughlin (Switcher), Ayr; R. Brown, Rangers; W. Hodge, Everton; S. Currie, Leicester Fosse; D. Harvie, Bristol Rovers; J. Bannerman, Motherwell; D. Currie, Hearts; J. Weir, St. Mirren; A. Niven, Queen’s Park; J. Niven, Partick Thistle; J. Wilson, Queen’s Park; G. Rae, Wigan; J. Orr, Luton; J. Anderson, Ayr United; J. McMinn, Morton; R. Graham, Luton; J. Quinn, Alloa Athletic; A. Brown, Kilmarnock; A. Rennie, Luton; H. McLaughlan, Third Lanark; W. Campbell, Morton; B. Hamilton, Third Lanark; G. Lennon, Third Lanark; T. Douglas, Motherwell; T. Paterson, Motherwell; R. Lynch, St. Mirren; J. Lynch, Port-Glasgow; T. Rae, Morton; R. Currie, Morton; J. Edgar, Port-Glasgow; G. Black, Port-Glasgow; McAlpine, St. Mirren; R. Steel, Tottenham; Morgan, Morton; McBride, Dundee; J. Harvie, St. Johnstone; H. Walse, Motherwell; A. Wales, Kilmarnock; A. Taylor, Kilmarnock; M. Kenmuir, Kilmarnock; R. Beattie, Kilmarnock; J. McLean, Ayr United. Junior international caps were gained by W. Hodge, R. Brown, M. Thom, J. Goodwin, W. Dale, and R. Beattie. The complete “honours” list is\*:- Scottish Cup – Winners- 1908-09, Runners-up- 1909-10, 1921-22; Irvine Herald Cup – Winners- 1910-11, 1913-14, 1920-21, 1922-23, 1925-26, 1926-27, 1930-31; Western League Cup – Winners- 1929-30; Ayrshire Consolation Cup – Winners- 1902-03, 1903-04; Ayrshire Cup – Winners- 1904-05, 1908-09, 1930-31; Western League – Winners- 1920-21, 1922-23, 1927-28, 1930-31, 1931-32, Runners-up- 1921-22, 1926-27; Irvine and District Cup – Winners- 1905-06, 1920-21, 1927-28, 1931-32; Ayrshire Charity Cup – Winners- 1906-07, 1910-11. At the moment ruling official are: - President Gavin McLelland (whose photograph we give here), Treasurer John Reid, and Secretary Charles Logan, who has been ever so helpful in assisting me to compile this story.

\* Irvine Herald Cup not won in 1931, but in 1904. Ayrshire Cup not won in 1930-31.

## THREE CUPS IN THEIR FIRST SEASON

Duntocher Hibs' Share of the Honours - Players of Note

(Article accompanied by photo of Peter McGonagle)

Duntocher Hibs have gone about their football life more quietly than many of our clubs, and, possibly as much from choice as any other reason, have not had the light of publicity so firmly focused on them as their neighbours of Yoker and Clydebank. But they have had a fairly long and not altogether uneventful career, doing quite a number of things of note, and sending out many a good player. The club, originally juveniles, was founded in the early "nineties" round about 1894 and took junior status in 1897-98. The following gentlemen were the officials who set the club going: - Mr. Thomas Bowman (the actual founder), president; Mr. Gemmell, secretary; and Messrs T. Lynch, W. Thorburn, Brown, and Dougan.

Many Removals – Their ground was Hillend Park, and the first team read:- Forbes, King, Fleming, P. Cassidy, P. Dunlevy, J. McCusker, Busby, Bratton, Price, Shields, and Hastings. Like most of our juniors, they found security of ground tenure rather a difficulty, and removals at intervals were made to Burnside Park, Castle Green (Dalmuir), St. Helena Park, and thence to their present location at Glenhead Park, opened in 1929 by Ashfield. The ground was purchased in 1926, and the club pay tribute to the honorary service and guidance they received from Mr. Miller, and Mr. Busby in their respective professional capacities. And they do not forget the hard labour voluntarily expended by the rank and file who assisted to construct Glenhead and make it such a tidy enclosure. They mean to improve it further.

Early Honours – Duntocher were early amongst the honours, and they won their first trophies by collecting the Dumbartonshire, Glasgow "Observer" Charity, and South-Western Cups all in their first season. Then the following year, 1899-1900, they were winners of the Clydebank and District League, with the following side: - McWilliams, Mochan, Milligan, McColgan, Cassidy, McCusker, White, Morris, Boyle, Gemmell, and Muirhead. Four of the forward line went quickly to the seniors- White (Notts County), Boyle (Hibernian), Gemmell (Clyde and Sunderland), and Muirhead (Partick Thistle). I don't know what harm Morris had done-somebody might have made it a nap hand. Then came what many considered to be perhaps the best side the club ever gathered together, which got the length of the Scottish Cup semi-final to be beaten at Meadowside by the club which specialised in cup-winning- Parkhead. But Duntocher managed the Dumbartonshire Cup.

Until The War – They jogged along quietly until the war years, when the closure was applied for a period. Others amongst the "old boys" who qualified for senior preferment were Forbes, Dunlevy, and Conachan to Celtic; Smith, Mooney, and Brown to Clyde; Stewart and Greaves to Hibs; Duncanson and McColgan to Partick Thistle; Ellis to Blackburn Rovers; Mochan to Grimsby; Gallacher to Tottenham; Davidson to Burnley; McDonald to Fulham; and McLean to St. Mirren. And the club had been carefully steered by shrewd officials in Messrs John Dickson, J. Nyland, W. Harvie, James White, W.J. French, P. McCusker, and D. McGhie. From 1919, after the reconstruction of things, the following have carried along successfully: - Messrs McCusker (who has given many years to the club in many capacities and was president last year), J. Hay, J. Forsyth, W. Shannon, N. Bissett, W. Cook, R. Boyd, J. McGhie, W. Halliday, H. Kelly, W. Gallagher, J. Cuthbertson, James Orr, and the present secretary, Mr. Patrick McGarry, who has given me valuable aid and information.

Champions – Honours soon came around once more. They won the Second Division Championship of the Scottish Junior League in 1919-20 after a deciding game with Twechar Rangers. Then they also won the Victory Consolation Cup for 1920 by beating Longriggend by 1-0. Season 1922-23 was a very good one. They were then First Division Scottish Junior League champions, and also collected some silver in the form of the Dumbartonshire Charity, Paisley and District, Clydebank and District, and West of Scotland Cups. The team usually doing this duty was: - Williamson, Barrie, Shields, Davie, Anderson, Fleming, Donoghue, McCluskie, Cuthbertson, Dolan, and Montgomery. The team received special badges for having won the Charity Cup four successive seasons. Another good run came in 1926-27, though the achievements might be termed modified, as in three cases they were only runners up- in the Kirkwood Shield, the Dumbartonshire Challenge, and Scottish Junior League.

Peter McGonagle – But they put a record in goal-scoring by knocking up 112 goals for 30 games. However, a special invitation Dumbartonshire trophy was won by beating Clydebank Juniors. The team then was: - Mitchell, McColl, McLaughlin, Raeside, Boyd, McGonagle, McFadyen, McLaren, Copeland, Hamil, and Findlay. The left half here, it may be noted, is the now famous Peter McGonagle of Celtic. "Picked off the trees" at Duntocher, as a Parkhead man put it, they made an ordinary half back into an extraordinary full back of international standing., sufficiently talented to be described to and by an English pressman of note at Maine Road to be "the best he had seen representing Scotland down South for 10 years"- that's a recommendation.



The One and Only – The one and only Jock Britton’s first club was the Hibs before going to Albion Rovers and then on to tour round Britain. Ayr United made the most of Willie Fleming, and they also had Simpson. Sammy Boyd went to Armadale before returning to the Hibs and Yoker. St. Mirren had C. Dodds, J. Cameron, Anderson, and Gillies. D. Cameron was with Vale of Leven, and still another of the clan, R. Cameron, went over the river to Morton, who also signed Dunlop. Hamil and McLaren followed Britton’s footsteps to Coatbridge, Mitchell and Donoghue went North to Arbroath, Barrie to Queen’s Park, but a batch which included J. Cox, J. Corrigan, Crawford, and J. Cricket went far, far away to American football. Partick Thistle took over Corrance and McLean who formed a fine left wing junior international combine. McGrath was with Motherwell, McGregor sent to Coventry, Caviney to Celtic, and McMullen to Sunderland. No doubt there were others, but that list will serve after I have mentioned just one more name- that of Johnny Clark, whose capture a few weeks ago by Wolverhampton Wanderers created a stir. It was only a matter of some months before that that the Hargate officials booked him for Dumbarton Fern.

A Golden Apple – He was one of the “golden apples” off the Duntocher trees for which the Wolves are understood to have thought good value round about £250. A handsome sum for a junior treasurer to take to the bank! And they still have others on the branches. Another trio- in goalkeeper McLatchie, right-half McGorm, and outside-left, McMurray- have been under review by clubs as far apart as Celtic, Sunderland, and Portsmouth. McGorm was once on the Partick Thistle list, but as a forward. The club joined in 1928 the intermediate camp, but did not make much noise there, put in the necessary drills, helped in the good fight, and doubtless were satisfied with that. Incidentally, when I was endeavouring to ascertain any big, brave things done during the career of the club one lad waggishly stated they held the distinction of being “the first club to win a protest in intermediate football”- against Pollok! But why bring that up?

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## DUNIPACE “DIEHARDS” AND THEIR TROPHIES

All the Honours and Men Who Gained Them

(Article accompanied by team photo)

Dunipace Juniors have many claims to distinction, but the one undisputable is the fact of having their name engraved on the scroll of junior football fame as Scottish Cup winners in season 1905-06. That and their other achievements I will deal with later on. It was as far back as 1879 that a football club was formed under the name of Dunipace. They were “seniors”, and, really, the team had their connection through the activities of a Temperance Association founded by several well-known local gentlemen, prominent among them being Mr. John Wilson Reid of Herbertson Castle; Mr. Nigel Robertson; and the late ex-Provost Hunter. In 1895 a change came about, and a move to run a junior team “to take part in competitions” was agreed upon.

To Win – Dwelling over what they have done since, I think they could have shortened the resolution by merely putting “to win competitions”. But probably that might have caused their Denny rivals to say something, and discretion is always preferable where delicate situations exist. The officials who took charge of affairs at that period were Messrs David Baxter, David Mealls, Thomas Binnie, John Penman, Thomas Nelson, Francis Lindsay, John Busby, and John McKay. The first team of note and, incidentally, the one to win their first cup- the Stirling and District Cup, season 1898-99- was: - Waddell, Beady, Scott, Morrison, Westwater, Reid, Gardiner, Beady, Comrie, Murray, and Brown. Three of the members of that team- Westwater, Reid, and Gardiner- participated in the next big year of the club, when they reached the semi-final of the Scottish Cup to be beaten at Meadowside 3-0 by Maryhill with the undernoted eleven:- Rae, Thomson, Davidson, J. Comrie, J. Westwater, P. Reid, Gardiner, Busby, Murray, Jarvie, and Waddell.

Revenge – However, they enjoyed the peculiar satisfaction extracted from revenge when in 1905-06 they met Maryhill again in the semi-final and “walloped”- I believe this is the word- them by 5-0. Then on to the final, when, after a drawn game, they ultimately beat Kirkintilloch Rob Roy by the most slender margin of one goal to nil. The winning team was: - Caldwell, Gillespie, Thomson, W. Comrie, J. Westwater, McKay, Waddell, Busby, Ferguson, Fraser, and W. Westwater. It was in the nature of coincidence, and surely a tribute to the football stock at this relatively area, that Dunipace Juniors should lift the Scottish Juvenile Cup during that same season. They must be good all-rounders there, as in season 1925-26 Dunipace Thistle won the Scottish Secondary Cup!

League Winners – Another particularly good season was in 1927-28, when the Juniors won the Scottish Junior League, Eastern Section, losing to Maryhill Hibs, the Western Section winners, in the play off for the championship at Firhill with the following side:- Maxwell, Coupar, France, Comrie, Duthie, Cairns, Gorrie,

Jack, Archibald, Comrie, and Marshall. But they won the "Citizen" Victory Cup for 1928 by beating Alva Albion Rangers 3-2 with this team:- Maxwell, J. Coupar, Docherty, Comrie, Duthie, Cairns, Paterson, Jack, Gorrie, Comrie, and Marshall. They had another Victory Cup in 1919-20 at Stirlingshire, what time the juvenile team was busy annexing the Juvenile Victory Cup during the same season. But to go into detail of all these accomplishments would go beyond the space allotted for this story, and after mentioning the stout fellows who contested another Scottish final- in 1912-13- it will suffice to give merely an "honours list", with dates. The side which lost to Inverkeithing and thus allowing Fifeshire to get the cup for the first time was: - Kidston, Thomson, Stalker, J. Stalker, Turnbull, Neil, Lamond, Forsyth, Comrie, Moffat, and Westwater.

The Big Deeds – Here are the big deeds:- Scottish Cup winners – 1905-06, runners-up - 1912-13; Stirlingshire County Cup winners – 1901-2-3-5-6-9-11-12-13 and 20; Falkirk and District Cup winners – 1902-3-8-9-12-13-21-22-23-30; Stirling and District Cup winners – 1898-99, 1900-1-2-3-5-6-13-20-21-22-21; Stirlingshire League Champions – 1900-1-2-3-4-5-7-8-9-13-14-20-21-22-23-24; League Cup Winners – 1920-21-22-23-24; "Citizen" Victory Cup winners – 1928; Scottish Junior League (Eastern Section) – 2nd Division – 1927-28; Denny and Dunipace Cottage Hospital Shield – 1901-2-5-6-7-8-9-10; Stirlingshire Charity Cup – 1920-21; Stirlingshire Victory Cup – 1919-20.

Good Lads – Naturally, it took good lads to go round. Take a glance at some of the men they have given to the seniors. At once it occurs to me that they must have had sound goalkeepers and, perhaps- as Blantyre Victoria evidently do these days with forwards- specialize in one department. To prove it, consider the names of Davie Adams, who guarded Celtic's goal in some of their best days. Livey Rae of St. Mirren, Bernard of Kilmarnock and East Fife, and now Archie Gourlay, who was out for Leicester City last week against the Austrians. Adams, Rae, and Gourlay were all junior internationals, and Rae's pluck at Birmingham, when he played most of the second half with a broken arm, is recalled. Then there was a fine selection of the "Comrie" clan- James Comrie, Third Lanark and Reading; John Comrie, Dundee and Reading; George Comrie, Millwall and Dundee; Dan Comrie, St. Johnstone; Andrew Comrie, Partick Thistle; and A. Comrie, Clyde and Falkirk. Further, Malcolm Comrie, now of Manchester City, was a product of Dunipace Juniors, as was Adam Black (Leicester City) and that delightful, stylish half-back of Hamilton Academicals and Burnley, Johnny Steel, whom I thought unlucky not to secure international recognition and add some luster to Dunipace as Jimmy McMullan did to Denny. Other signings were:- George Paterson (Celtic), T. Hogg (Dunfermline), A. Young (P.N.E. and Leicester City), G. Murray (Partick Thistle), J. Jamieson (King's Park), W. Duffy (King's Park), J. Paterson (Airdrie), W. Chalmers (Bo'ness), F. Chester (Bo'ness), W. Malcolm (Blackburn Rovers), G. Thomson (Kettering), W. Miller (Ayr United), Fraser (Northampton and E.S.), F. Copeland (Stenhousemuir), Alison (Raith Rovers and Kettering), Wilson (Plymouth Argyle), W. France (Alloa), J. Coupar (Alloa), N. Turnbull (St. Johnstone), McClure (St. Johnstone), A. Reid (Lochgelly), T. Moffat (King's Park), James Coupar (Dunfermline), D. Neil (Reading), W. Miller (Rangers), J.C. Kay (Third Lanark and Dundee United), Gavin Millar (Hearts), and N. Morrison (Hearts). Opinions differ as to the best lot the club ever had. The older members stick by the 1905-06 Scottish Cup side, but one of the more moderns suggests:- Gray, Stalker, Morrison, R. Murray, A. Comrie, Gilfillan, Wilson, Chalmers, Reid, Moffat, and Ferguson as being equal to anything.

Men In Charge – Mr. David Mealls was in charge of the early Juniors, followed by Messrs Tom Neilson and David Baxter, who brought Dunipace well into prominence. Messrs A. Buchanan, W. Thomson, R. Sutherland, J. Thomson, P. Ferguson, T. Gillespie, and H. Busby also lent their valuable aid in training the "young idea", etc. Amongst the oldest of the seniors still taking active interest in the welfare of the Juniors are Messrs J.C. Wright, J. Forsyth, J. Ferguson, Wm. Thomson, and Dr T Adams. I am indebted to Mr. Thomson and the present secretary, Mr. Robert Sinclair, for furnishing me with details. In the late Mr. J Mackenzie the club was fortunate in having his services as secretary over a period of 19 years. With Mr. Sinclair at the moment associated officials:- Messrs A. Millar (president), L. Stalker (vice-president), T. Smith (treasurer), J. Marshall (assistant secretary), also Treasurers A. Binnie and G. Easton, and Committeemen Messrs R. Smith, J. Rutherford, A. Dewar, R. Boyd, J. Binnie, R. Moffat, G. Murray, J. Digsie, and D. Turnbull.

The Social Side – They also have a social club doing good work run by Messrs J. Paterson, A. Erskine, R. Binnie, and A. Sneddon, and a women's section which, I am assured, is also a mighty good collecting medium- any form of cash, not necessarily silver, which comes in the form of cups. Club headquarters have been changed four times since inception, but the present home is expected to be "for duration" with a playing pitch second to none and general equipment right up to date. What more could they want? Well, I'm told that a victory over their dear neighbours, the Hibs of Denny, whom they will meet in the near future in the semi-final of the Falkirk and District Cup, would just make them thoroughly content. They have had many a stern tussle, and Dunipace like to recall season 1912-13 with a couple of good wins at Brockville- scores 6-1 and 2-1. They have had many staunch loyal men in their ranks. Two instances will suffice. J. Westwater played in their first final in 1898, won

a Scottish badge in 1905-06, and stood by as first reserve in 1912-13. W. Thomson took part in the 1901-02 Scottish semi-final, won his Scottish badge in 1905-06 and carried on to line up in the 1912-13 final again. Dunipace die-hards.

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## RENFREW JUNIORS' RECORD

Club Described as the "Champion Runners-Up" - Some Interesting Facts

Before I was a "Veteran Junior" there was in existence a club of some substance called Renfrew Victoria. They gave Rangers one of the most versatile, consistent, and profitable players in the history of the game- Jimmy Gordon. I first saw him at Saracen Park playing against Ashfield, and I don't think Renfrew won. Ashfield were rather severe on the "Vics". The Victoria reached the final of the Scottish Cup twice- first in 1893-94 and again in 1904-05. Ashfield beat them each time, by 3-0 and 2-1 respectively. Ashfield have carried on, but the "Vics" went to the wall, and in due course Renfrew Juniors took their place.

Enter the Juniors – Contrary to the belief held in some quarters, they did not rise directly from the ashes of the vanished "Vics". A well known juvenile club- Orchard Rovers- had taken over the Victoria Ground, Western Park, and to the Rovers belongs the credit of forming the present club. Their committee in 1912 called a public meeting of the Royal Burgh football enthusiasts, and in the Templars' Hall, Bailie Ferguson presiding, the new venture was launched under the guidance of president W. Hamilton, vice-president D. Moffat, treasurer J. Chalmers, financial secretary S. Anderson, and secretary W. Tyre. Messrs T. Morris, R. Watson, Sandy Neilson, Sam Anderson, James Abrines, and H. Abrines were on the committee. They were admitted to the Scottish Junior League, and their first game was against Yoker Athletic, when this side was fielded- A. McCallum, J. Bell, W. Anderson, C. Hunter, J. Graham, D. Orr, A. McGregor, J. Jack, G. Trotter, C.B. Anderson, and C. McCallum. This team commenced rather well, playing 13 games before meeting with their first defeat, Port Glasgow Juniors winning a Scottish Cup first round tie.

In Scottish Semi-Final – Next season they reached the semi-final of the Scottish Cup, falling to Larkhall Thistle, who ultimately won the cup. Perhaps it was just as well Renfrew did not reach the final, as it meant meeting Ashfield again! During the same season the team arrived at Bellshill for the sixth-round game, to find that the goalkeeper was missing. On his way to the ground St. Mirren had spirited him off to Paisley. That was the sort of thing that gave junior folks the Intermediate "kick". Season 1914-15 found them going well and winning the Scottish Junior League Championship after a tie with Croy Celtic. But Port Glasgow Juniors gave them a disappointment in the Renfrewshire Cup final that same season and the next.

Notable Performance – The Scottish League Championship was won again in 1915-16, and this time without a decider. The following season they went to the Scottish Cup final, meeting their neighbours, St. Mirren Juniors, of Paisley. Over all the Scottish ties that season they only lost one goal, but they lost it on the wrong day- that of the final at Firhill. Further, they missed the Scottish League championship this same year by one point- not a decimal. However, they had some considerable satisfaction next season, when they won the Percival King Cup by beating their friend, St. Mirren Juniors, by four goals to one.

A Fine Display – This was a highly creditable accomplishment, as the trophy was put up to be competed for by 16 selected clubs in Glasgow and district on behalf of war funds. The final staged game was at Firhill, and is still recalled for a very fine display of football. The Renfrew team was: - Hunter, Douglas, Anderson, Heasey, McIntosh, McDonald, McNab, McAulay, Allen, McCourt, and Chester. And they had a fine trainer in James Gilchrist, to whom many attributed much of the success gained by the team (first named), seven members of which were seniors the following season. Hunter, the goalkeeper, was A.G., of Queen's Park and Tottenham Hotspur fame. He gained an English Cup medal playing for the London club.

A Cup Sensation – Unfortunately the pleasure of that particular year was marred by an awkward circumstance whereby the Renfrew club and Parkhead were jointly disqualified in the Scottish Cup and officials suspended. This was due to the local clubs refusing to play off their semi-final on the date offered by the association, and Petershill were awarded the cup. Later on, in 1918, they had another misfortune- a domestic one- the pavilion being burned down. Ex-Provost Ferguson and other local gentlemen, however, were very helpful in procuring a new one. The club, like its contemporaries, has always commanded an enthusiastic band of painstaking workers, such men as Messrs John Woods, Tom Berry, Roddy Christie, W. Williamson, W. Middleton, W. Leslie, J. McKechnie, W. McKechnie, Stewart Adair (secretary during the difficult Intermediate days), W. Williams

(treasurer for several years), James Stevenson (connected with the club in various official capacities for 20 years), the present president, William Kerr, and the present secretary, J. Purdie.

A Good Friend – Mr. Kerr has been a particularly good friend to the club, with sound schemes and unremitting work to help the club out of the entanglement of debt and place it on a solid financial basis. Ground enclosure and field improvements have been affected, and the next laudable ambition is to possess a solid brick pavilion, baths, and “all modern conveniences”, as the advertisements have it. Renfrew’s honours list is fairly extensive. They won the Renfrewshire Cup in seasons 1916-17, 1917-18, 1919-20, 1926-27, and 1931-31. But as one rather doleful supporter has put it, they can be more readily recognised as the “champion runners-up.” Often have they figured in the last stages of various competitions and then crashed- to use a term familiar in the district.

Departed Players – Meantime they are in the running for the championship of the Western Section of the Central League notwithstanding the fact that they have this season parted with their brilliant goalkeeper, Robertson, to Motherwell, and right back McDonald to Cowdenbeath. Celtic, too, have earmarked Divers, the inside forward bearer of a famous Celtic name and a nephew to the one and only Patsy Gallacher. Renfrew have provided the senior with a rich assortment of players, and no doubt the club followers will recall these players taken at random:- W. Anderson (Motherwell), Andrew Lees (Motherwell), W. Hillhouse (Motherwell), J. Landies (Motherwell), Jock Robertson (Motherwell), J. Liddle (St. Mirren), A. Pollock (St. Mirren), M. Morgan (St. Mirren), R. McAulay (Morton), Gillies (St. Mirren), R. Hannah (St. Mirren), McLardy (Dumbarton), Barr (St. Mirren), R. Allen (Third Lanark), G. Weir (Third Lanark), J. Warden (Third Lanark), Andy Walker (Bo’ness), D. Walker (Dundee United), Allen Wilson (Morton), A. Torrance (Bristol City), G. McIntosh (Hibernian), R. Marshall (Hibernian), J. Gray (Partick Thistle), J. Graham (Barrow), A. McGregor (Celtic), H. McDonald (Dumbarton), J. McCaskell (Falkirk), J. Grant (Queen’s Park), Wharrier (Third Lanark), Ramsay (Kilmarnock and Arsenal), and Kirkpatrick (Rangers).

The Story Ended – I will round off with this rather inadequate story of the club with this choice sample of wit: - During the public meeting at which the club was formed a heated discussion arose regarding the signing of players. The proposal to have only local players was heartily endorsed and seemed to be carrying weight all round until the piercing voice of a well-known supporter convulsed and probably converted the audience with this remark. “Mr. Chairman, I consider you are far better with a good player a stranger to the town than a local player a stranger to the game.”

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## DROPS OF “PORT” FOR THE SENIORS

Club With Much Good Work To Its Credit

Many memories are stirred by the mere mention of the “Port”. Prescribed as a good tonic, a drop of (football) “Port” has done many a senior club quite a power of benefit, as can be readily ascertained from the list I will give further on. The present Port-Glasgow Athletic Juniors club was formed somewhere about 1904, and those most intimately connected with the team at the time were Messrs Samuel McKenzie, Alex. Walker, Robert Hemphill, and Robert Russell. The famous Clune Park, ground of the Port-Glasgow Athletic senior club, was allotted to them when the seniors could spare it, but there seem to have been complications at times, as another local junior club, the Clydevale, apparently had an interest in the ground. Matters for a time were difficult, but at last a crack local juvenile club, the Port Victoria, came forward, took over the liabilities, agreed to help in keeping the continuity of name, entered the main competitions, and duly fielded the following side in their first junior game against Neilston Victoria: - Docherty, McGovern, Law, McKenzie, Dunlop, Purdon, Monahan, Dunlop, Bolton, and Docherty. Most games had to be played away from home.

A Good Beginning - Season 1908-09 began well with the winning of the Renfrewshire Cup, the undernoted team beating Neilston Victoria at Love Street, Paisley:- Hempsey, McGovern, Docherty, McKenzie, Wright, Peters, Purdon, Craig, Dunlop, Bolton, and Docherty. Hereabouts they also took part in a competition known as the “Glasgow Second Division Junior League,” which they won without losing a point, the runners-up being St. Anthony’s, two points behind. In 1909-10 they entered the Scottish Junior League, won it with a substantial margin, and actually reached the semi-final of the Scottish Cup, to be beaten, though not disgraced, by Kilwinning Rangers at Firhill. The team here, reckoned to be the best ever representing the club was: - Hempsey, Paton, Dunlop, McKenzie, Wright, Peters, Thomson, Brownlie, Dunlop, Gillespie, and Stack.

Familiar Names - Next season they again won the Scottish Junior League and also the Renfrewshire Cup and Greenock and District Cup, and gave Petershill a long run for it in the Scottish Cup third round, only surrendering after three drawn games, none of which was played at home- it was not convenient for the seniors to permit that. Then they began to lose some of their good players. Here I will give a list of what would have made a rare set for any club:- T. Hempsey (Morton), W. Cook (Celtic and Everton), Jas. Jackson (Motherwell and Liverpool), Jacky Wright (Morton), Jacky McDougall (Airdrie and Sunderland), Jim McDougall (Partick Thistle and Liverpool), Meechan (St. Mirren), Armstrong (Aberdeen), Dunlop (Kilmarnock), H. Smith (Celtic), and Stack (Raith Rovers). The officials in these days found lots to give concern. Messrs R. Hemphill, S. Kinloch, and D. McGovern bore the brunt for a time until a full committee was co-opted.

Courage - One of the big questions for the club was when they heard that the seniors were giving up the field. What's to do about it? They must have had courage, as they took over the ground at a rental of £50 per annum- rather a responsibility for a club whose average League gate return was about £8. Drawn against Campbeltown Academicals in the Scottish Cup, they had to charter a special steamer to take them home, the expenses for travelling amounting to £29, and the gate no more than that hearty sum, £8. The dear old Clune Park was finally closed down to allow some other Port folks being properly housed- a building scheme was launched which embraced the field that had known many exciting days- and some cheery moments, too.

A Good Story - In this connection I recall the story told of "Rab" McFarlane, the Morton goalkeeper, and I think the occasion was a local game between his club and the Port. For some reason- not an obscure one, probably- compliments and other thing began to be exchanged until "Rab" heard rivets flying past his head. He left his goal, went behind it, and when attempt to persuade him to return was made he promptly retorted that "Greenock could have got plenty more rivets but not so readily another goalkeeper." Port-Glasgow had the use of Cappielow Park for a season or two until the present Garvel Park was prepared- a good ground on which I have seen several first-rate junior and juvenile games. In 1914-15 they ran to the final of the Scottish Cup, only to be beaten by Parkhead (2-0), the following being the team which fell at the last hurdle:- Campbell, Dillon, Dempster, McMaster, Haldane, Meechan, McKenzie, Lawson, Peters, Leitch, and Tait. The Renfrewshire Cup has been won frequently- in seasons 1904-05, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1914-15, 1915-16, and 1922-23; also Renfrewshire Consolation Cup, in 1913-14. The team which first won the Renfrewshire Cup (in 1904-05), beating Lavern Victoria was:- Boyle, Sullivan, McGill, Ross, Sweeney, Pettigrew, Smith, Gray, W. Taylor, Neil, and D. Taylor- this side being well looked after by such excellent trainers as P. Ferguson and Joe McKenzie.

Another Trophy - Another trophy the club has won is the "Citizen" Victory Cup, in 1926, beating Bridgeton Waverley (2-1) with the undernoted:- Wallace, Williams, McCloy, Ferguson, Connell, Wellwood, Thompson, Brown, Gibson, Lundy, and Cochrane. Still another team which in 1930 beat the Maryhill Hibs (3-1) in the Victory Consolation Cup final, read:- Robb, Crombie, Henry, Buchanan, Surgenor, Hughes, Russell, Harrison, R. English, Smith, and Hamilton. The Scottish Junior League was won in 1909-10, 1910-11, and 1913-14, and the Western Section in 1929-30, when they beat the Eastern Section winners, Croy Celtic, in the Championship play off. Practically the same team as won the "Consolation" carried the club through the League. Mr. William Campbell, the present secretary, has been very helpful and patient with me in this collection of details. His colleagues on committee just now are President James Reid, Treasurer Samuel Porter, and Messrs John Hurrell and Wm. McAleer.

Some Former Players - Amongst others, the following players went to the seniors:- McArthur (Morton), Cook (Celtic), Aitken (Bo'ness), Jacky McDougall (Airdrie), Jim McDougall (Partick Thistle), Jacky Wright (Morton), Smith (Celtic), Harris (Airdrie), Armstrong (Aberdeen), Leitch (Partick Thistle), Brownlee (Raith Rovers), Stack (Raith Rovers), Cleasbie, King, and Russell (Airdrie), James Jackson (Motherwell), Ferguson and H. Gibson (Partick Thistle), Meechan (St. Mirren), Cruickshanks (Derby County), Cochrane (Third Lanark), Surgenor, Crombie, Hempsey, R. Henderson, and A. Dunlop (Morton), Hendry (Dumbarton), J. Miller (Middlesbrough), Leslie (Birmingham), and W. Miller (Bradford City). Another list the club is proud of. This comprises those who in 1914 and 1915 rallied to their country's colours. They reckon they beat even the Hearts' record here with the following:- T. Miller, W. Miller, A. Leslie, T. Hutchison, P. Campbell, J. Moore, J. Dempster, W. Leitch, N. Gillespie, M. Law, A. Keenan, R. Aitkenhead, Fraser, McKechnie, Tait, Meechan, Dearie, Dillon, McGill, A. McMaster, J. Bellringer, and J. Tosh. The last three, I understand, made the supreme sacrifice. Then there was also Trainer McKenzie, and members of committee Messrs R. McKeibbon (killed), Barnes, and W. Dakers, D.C.M.

In Intermediate Camp - The club joined the Intermediate camp, and helped that cause considerably. It was at the Port during the "split" that Ashfield came to grief after a long string of successes, and I believe Jimmy Kelpers,

the Saracen Park captain, jocularly handed over to their conquerors a small pot- of jam- this having been carried around in the club hamper for some time ready for “der tag”! Before concluding, I might mention that once upon a time- from memory it would be about 1906- there was actually a “Port Juniors” club playing in Glasgow on a ground near the Alexandra Park car terminus and run by Mr. Bob Jackson. He was known familiarly at the time as “Pa Jackson” (after the name given to the famous Corinthians secretary), and acted as “Lord High Everything” at Dennistoun. They had some good players such as Dr. Archie McDougall, who went later to Hampden, and Dr. Johnny Atkinson, who played senior football with Hamilton Academicals and Celtic.

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## THE REAL BRAND AT BRANDON PARK

Bellshill and Their Great Players - Hughie Gallacher

(Article accompanied by photo of O'Neil)

Bellshill folks are not boastful, but quietly and justly proud of the standard of footballers reared out that way. The club was formed in 1898 from a local juvenile team called Bellshill Hawthorn, who played in a field behind the present L.M.S. railway station. It is now built upon, and one of the residents is Willie Mitchell, the club's first goalkeeper. The Hawthorn blossomed into the Athletic with the following first team:- W. Mitchell, T. Bissett, R. Douglas, W. Cunningham, J. McArthur, J. Muir, R. Stevenson, A. Bell, J. Drummond, Baird, and J. Duncan. Officials at that time were - President - Tom Scott; secretary - John Duncan; treasurer- William Inglis; Mr. R. Simpson, and the trainer (J. Lynch).

Now at Douglas Park – Mr. Duncan is now one of our most respected seniors, who has given Hamilton Academicals great service on the board. Mr. J. Muir became a well-known First League referee. And Tom Dougray, when his first was on the list, had the name Bellshill bracketed after his own. David Buchanan was the first player to go senior from the club. He went to Luton Town and also associated with Hamilton Academicals later on in the capacity of manager. It was season 1904-05 before the Athletic made their presence really felt by winning both the Lanarkshire League, and the Consolation Cup. The League in those days took some winning and these are the lads who did it: McStay, Bissett, Armstrong, Lindsay, McRoberts, McDade, Lily, Bryce, Moir, Docherty, and Emerson. Winners trained by Jock Greer. Of this side five stepped up- Lily (Airdrie), Lindsay (Hearts), McFarlane (Hamilton Academicals), Armstrong (Motherwell), and Docherty (Hibernian). Lily was capped against England by the S.J.F.A. , and Moir and Docherty both played against Ireland for the Lanarkshire F.A.

The White Form - This was one of the best sides ever seen at Brandon Park- the club's one and only headquarters- and governing affairs then were- President G. Law, Secretary J. Drummond, and Messrs J. Duncan, A. Murphy, G. Robertson, Wm. Mitchell, A. Wales, D. McLuckie, and S. Brown. These men were shrewd and capable, and Geordie Robertson, who still retains his connection with the club, along with Messrs Connor, Jack and Geordie Pettigrew, had considerable influence in the institution of the famous white form at the time of the 1923 split, when the Bellshill club joined forces with Glasgow junior clubs against the seniors over that vexed question of players being spirited away without as much as “by your leave”. There was a Sheriff Court case over the question of compensation between Bellshill and several of their players, and though the club lost the case through the loophole of the club breaking away from the S.J.F.A. they made out quite a strong case otherwise. The present day arrangements of the junior clubs and players may be traced to this early move by the astute Bellshill men.

Champions - But I am racing ahead. To get back to 1908-09 I find the club won the championship of the Scottish Junior League with this team:- Russell, Nicol, Buchanan, Wilson, Paterson, Downie, Richmond, Jeffrey, Aitchison, Corcoran, and Galbraith. Two years later- 1910-11- proved another good spell, the Lanarkshire Cup and Central Cup collected by:- Boles, T. McGowan, J. McGowan, Galbraith, Lindsay, Paterson, Robb, McKenzie, Findlay, McKay, and Dick. The club won the Lanarkshire Cup three times, the Consolation twice, and the Central Cup once. Season 1913-14 found them with another rare eleven- one of their best ever- which went as far as the seventh round of the Scottish Cup, losing to Renfrew 2-3. The team read: - Richardson, McCormack, McCrindle, Combe, Watson, Breslin, Hay, McBroom, Davies, Montgomery, and McKellar. The defence was particularly strong, Charlie McCormack became one of our best known senior backs, McCrindle, who was known familiarly as “Surefoot”, was killed in the war, as was Montgomery.

In Semi-Final - In 1916-17 a good side reached the semi-final of the Scottish Cup, to be beaten at Firhill (0-2) by St. Mirren Juniors. This lot were: Ballantyne, McGowan, Simpson, McIlhenny, Orr, Logan, Hay, McBroom, Davies, Faulds, and Greenhorn. We next come across a really fine side in 1920-21, comprising: - Taylor,

Mitchell, Cairns, Seagrave, Quigley, McPortland, Wyper, Kennedy, Yates, Rankine, and O'Halloran. But for an accident to Mitchell, the club captain in the game with St. Roch's, which they lost (1-2), it might readily have been Bellshill's big year. From this lot four went upstairs- Taylor (Airdrie), Kennedy (Dumbarton), Yates (Bradford City), and John Rankine (Hamilton Academicals, thence to Chelsea). The "split" year referred to- 1923- found them performing what at that time was a rather unique performance in winning the Glasgow Junior Cup- the first time it had been taken outside the city. They beat Parkhead 2-1 at Firhill with: - Jarvie, Hay, Allan, Seagrave, Laird, Duffy, McPhie, McKenzie, McKenna, Lafferty, and McNeil. The feature of this team was the physical power of the half-back line, easily the most solid section the club has ever had. Seven was the proportion of promotion from that eleven: - Jarvie (Third Lanark), McKenzie and Seagrave (Queen of the South), Duffy (Chelsea), McKenna (Airdrie), Lafferty (St. Johnstone), and Laird who went over to Ireland. Then came the lot in which the club's greatest product- Hughie Gallacher- figured: - Boles, McLaughlan, McGlenn, Sankey, McNeil, Moffat, Ford, Findlay, Gallacher, McConnell, and Cook. That year (1922\*) they won the Lanarkshire Consolation Cup.

Hughie Gallacher – Mention of Gallacher makes me call the customary halt to find out what the range of selection offers. Think of the following as a team had it been possible to field them all in one particular period:- Jock Ewart (Airdrieonians), Jock Hutton (Aberdeen), Charlie McCormack (Third Lanark), Tom O'Neil (Hearts), T. Bradshaw (Bury), Jock Gilmour (Dundee), A. Robbie (Bury), Patsy McConnell (Doncaster and Irish internationalist), Hugh Gallacher (Airdrie, Newcastle, and Chelsea), John Rankine (Hamilton and Chelsea), and Willie Chalmers (Queen's Park, Rangers, etc.). The O' Neil I mention is the Hearts present left-back, and "Old Tom" Dickson one of the club's most faithful servants, now unable to do any more scouting, lives in hope of seeing young Tom reach the highest pinnacle, considering him to be one of the club's best captures. This list gives an idea of the wealth of talent reared at Brandon Park:- D. Buchanan (Luton), Con. McGee (Third Lanark and Thames), A. Combe (Airdrie), R. Lily (Airdrie), P. Farrell (Clyde), "Dusty" Fleming (Clyde), J. Drummond (Manchester City), J. Ewart (Airdrieonians), H. Gallacher (Airdrieonians), Wm. McKenna (Airdrieonians), J. Taylor (Airdrieonians), W. Orr (Airdrieonians), C. McCormack (Third Lanark), W. Findlay (Third Lanark), J. Jarvie (Third Lanark), W. Flanagan (Third Lanark), S. McIlwraith (Third Lanark), Ford and Kennedy (Preston North End), J. Richardson (Queen's Park), S. Sankey (Queen's Park), W. Chalmers (Queen's Park), W. Cordiner (Queen's Park), P. McConnell (Doncaster), T. Bradshaw (Bury), A. McNab (Liverpool), A. Robbie (Bury), W. Brown (Leicester City), C. Cannon (Manchester City), B. Duffy (Chelsea), J. Rankine (Chelsea), P. Kennedy (Dumbarton), J. Gilmore (Dundee), K. Kierney (Dundee), W. Lafferty (St. Johnstone), W. Lennie (Motherwell), T. Seagrave (Queen of the South), T. McKenzie (Queen of the South), D. McKellar (Kilmarnock), D. Yates (Bradford City).

And Alec James – Ever so many of these were purely local lads, a fact which gives great satisfaction. Mention should be made of the useful work of such as "Bush" Wilson and "Mouse" McRoberts. It has been widely broadcast how the one and only Alec James, another local and a schoolmate of Hugh Gallacher, was retained on the honorary staff and not utilized on the playing field, thus allowing Ashfield to steal their thunder and make the big noise. The officials were not altogether unobservant, but they had two particularly good inside forwards in Rankine and Kennedy then, and "Wee Eck" was expected to bide his time. Another case almost parallel is that of Busby, of Manchester City, who went from Denny Hibs and is getting such great praise. It is interesting to learn that Busby is a Bellshill boy, and Jock Pettigrew and Co. had him on their little list, played him in a couple of trials, and intended to fix him up later. It must have been galling to think of having two such lads on their line and yet not actually landing them. Of course advisers were not infallible, and probably the outstanding instance is the following titbit, (Geordie Robertson could tell this tale more vividly than I can, but I'll give it briefly):- They had a recommendation from Ireland to try a certain player coming over to work in the district. He arrived all complete with gold albert and the requisite number of badges dangling therefrom- he certainly looked the part. Imagine the consternation of Frank Paterson, the Bellshill captain, when the star approached him at the start of a game and queried, "Sur where do I stand?" He was told. But in 20 minutes he was sitting- in the pavilion where he had been gently led. Meanwhile many of the supporters had gone of in search of a stimulant! Incidentally, I may state that there is a very loyal supporters' club run in connection with the club, and under President J. Turley, Secretary W. Tipping, and Treasurer A. Stevenson rendered useful aid.

Capable Officials – The club has been fortunate in having a continual flow of capable and industrious officials, and particular reference might be made of such as Messrs John Duncan, David Buchanan, James Muir, Jock Russell, Watty Muir, Andy Muir, Bob Smeaton, Jock Hill Campbell, Willie Bell, Tommy Bell, Sam Muir, Hugh Muir, Jock and George Pettigrew, and Geordie Robertson. They had two excellent trainers in Jock Greer and Sammy Dobbie. At the moment they have a willing working committee, with President W. Adamson, Treasurer J. Adamson, Secretary S. Cowan, and Financial Secretary B. Smith at head of affairs. I am indebted to Mr.

Cowan and also Mr. Hugh Muir for their assistance. The present team contains some good players such as Kennedy, Ewing, "Dusty" Russell, Bobbie Armstrong, Dunsmuir, Nicol, and "Wee Scottie", and the club hope to add lustre to the name of Bellshill. The accident to W. Campbell, their goalkeeper recently was an upsetting incident and he is not yet available. Our old Willie Rankin, who leaves for South Africa, was with Bellshill before going to Motherwell, via Parkhead- rather a roundabout way- and so also did Hugh McNeil, who went abroad after qualifying in his profession. They keep a good brand at Brandon!

\* No Lanarkshire Consolation Cup in 1922. Bellshill won it in 1926.

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## REARED MANY FAMOUS PLAYERS

Doing Big Things Since The Start - A Notable Record

St. Anthony's are a club of established standing, but it may not be generally known that they have been in business since season 1904-05. It was formed in connection with St. Anthony's League of the Cross for the promotion of Football- and athletics- and confined to members of the branch, having as first officials President E. Neary, Vice-President M. Duffy, Financial Secretary D. McKay, Match Secretary John Carroll, and as treasurer a well-known junior personality in Mr. John Thornton. Mr. Thornton rendered good service to the club. Their first ground was at the head of Hamilton Street, now occupied by Harland and Wolff's big glass house. Fixtures of the friendly variety were played in the beginning, with the friendliness continued after the games in the form of social and dance evenings. Then Mr. J. O'Brien took over the match secretaryship, and an invitation to play over in Ireland with Derry Celtic was accepted. They drew with the seniors, and proceeded to Strabane, where they played and beat (2-1) a North of Ireland selected junior side.

Asked Out – They were now being talked about, asked out to various places, and one trip was to Dundee, where they met in a charity game a team composed of Lochee Harp and St. Joseph's players. Ambitions were engendered and competitive football entered upon, their first engagement being in the Kirkwood Shield. Their first cup team was:- H. Quagley, T. McMahan, W. Moody, J. Donnachie, R. Craxton, J. Carson, H. McLean, J. Corrigan, R. McInnes, T. McGuinness, and O. McGuinness. Owing to building operations they lost their ground in 1906-07, but fortunately were able to secure Moore Park, which had been left vacant by the Co-operative United junior club's retirement. By the way, this Co-operative United gave Sheffield United a rare right winger in Lang. By their passing out they left their secretary, Mr. Steve Callaghan, and he joined up for service with the "Ants" thus beginning a very happy time for all.

Opened by Celtic – After Moore Park had been honoured on the opening day by Celtic the club went ahead, taking part in the Glasgow and District League- their first game being against Cambuslang Hibs, whom they beat 3-0. When that League was disbanded they joined the Scottish Junior League, which they won in 1916-17, 1918-19, 1919-20, and 1920-21. Then when invited to take part in the Glasgow Charity Cup for the first time in 1917-18 they won it, began a record run, and made other records of all sorts. They became a popular, indeed fashionable, club, and no wonder I stop for a moment to think of the talent they possessed. As usual, I will compile a list of those I can recall, and likely forget some equally good. To select one team from the lot is always an interesting study, and the following would take some beating:- Johnny Falconer (Cowdenbeath and Celtic), Dennis O'Hare (Partick Thistle), Hugh Hilley (Celtic), Johnnie Gilchrist (Celtic), Malcolm MacDonald (Celtic), Willie Gibson (Ayr and Newcastle United), Jimmy McColl (Celtic and Hibs), Jimmy Dunn (Hibs and Everton), Tommy McNally (Celtic and Sunderland), Bobby Bruce (Aberdeen and Middlesbrough), and Johnnie Aitken (Kilmarnock).

An Alternative Side – Or, as an alternative- I would not care to call it a reserve side- how about this:- P. McMahan (West Ham), Paddy Kelly (Motherwell), Charlie McKendrick (Partick Thistle and Morton), J. Fyfe (Partick Thistle), Hugh Chalmers (Clyde and Cowdenbeath), D. Lochhead (St. Johnstone), Andy Stirling (St. Johnstone), John McKay (Celtic), Jimmy Smith (Clydebank and Hearts), Johnnie Murphy (Hearts and Kilmarnock), and Willie Salisbury (Partick Thistle). Really the "Ants" export of players to the seniors was more of the wholesale rather than intermittent retail deliveries! As befitting the "wee Celts", as they were known for a time, they despatched the best of the bunch to Parkhead. And Mr. Steve Callaghan also settled there in due course. The first departure to the seniors from the club was that of George Porteous to Blackburn Rovers. Celtic got such notables as Tom McNally, Jimmy McColl, Hugh Hilley, Johnnie Gilchrist, Jocky McKay, Malcolm MacDonald, Danny Blair, Dennis McCallum, Hugh Brown, Willie Mitchell, Andrew Mitchell, George McLaughlin, John Watson, Paddy McAvoy, D. Syme, J. Cairney, E. Corrigan, and J. Burns- nearly two teams! Motherwell took Paddy Kelly, Hugh Coyle, Felix Gillan, J. Bryers, J. Keenan, J. McGrath, and Duncan Bell.



Clydebank annexed Davie Chalmers, Jimmy Smith, J. McAdam, J. Swann, and J. Reilly. Third Lanark had Tommy Callaghan, E. Cooke, and J. McDevitt. To Clyde went Hughie Chalmers, H. Gallacher, and J. Hillhouse. Partick Thistle collected O'Hare, Fyfe, McKendrick, Henderson, Haugh, Willie Salisbury, and Jacky Bowie.

Except Scottish Cup – And then some more:- Charlie Devon (Barrow), Charlie Brown (Pontypridd and Hibs), Willie Gibson (Ayr United), Jimmy Dunn (Hibs), John Aitken (Kilmarnock), R. Sang (Stalybridge Celtic), J. Stewart (Notts. Forest), R. Shaw (Armadale), J. Murphy (Hearts), J. Sibbald (Queen's Park), J. Campbell (Q.P. and Dumbarton), G. Craig (Albion Rovers), T. McQuade (Bournemouth), John Falconer (Cowdenbeath), Bobby Bruce (Aberdeen), John Goodwin (Barrow), McDonagh (Barnsley), and Barney McGoniagle (St. Mirren), a great trickster, whose football career was all too short. But there is one reflection here- the valuation put on such products by certain senior clubs, and Aberdeen was not one of them! Evidently Moore Park was looked upon by some as a "free gift" house where you might not only get a player for nothing but his boots as well! St. Anthony's, however, could scarcely help winning cups and badges with material like that to work upon, and the honours list covers almost every conceivable trophy, except the coveted Scottish Cup, to which they were ever so near in season 1918-19 and again in 1924-25. In the former year, with probably the best side ever representing the club, they, after a draw, ultimately lost at Hampden to Rutherglen Glencairn by a goal scored by Gordon which is argued about to this day, the Saints having eased up in belief that there had been an infringement. St. Anthony's team here was: - Austin, Shea, Paton, Gilchrist, Cahill, Bowie, Swan, McKay, McNally, McDevitt, and McAdam.

A Great Year – That was a great year for the club otherwise, as they won everything else they entered for, and I remember the particular pleasure I extracted from the series of games at Cathkin Park, where night after night in the spring evenings I gladly contributed my odd "tanners" towards gates which made Mr. Morrell (Third Lanark's manager then) rub his hands gleefully. It was a treat to see McNally and co. in these days. At one period the "Ants" played 11 matches in 13 days. The recent Austrian forward alignment had nothing on the then "Ants" attack, or even when it was composed at another date of Burns, Willie Mitchell, McNally, Bowers, and Salisbury. When they met Saltcoats Victoria at Firhill on May 23, 1925, they lined up with the team: - Mills, Shea, Buyers, McCabe, Gillan, Lochhead, McDonald, McNeill, Donnachie, Gribben, and Brown. This began a series of games which lasted in all a matter of 315 minutes, Saltcoats winning the third game by 2-1.

Wonderful Period – From any notes on the last game I evidently considered the "Ants" unlucky, with again a grievance over a possible penalty infringement. But this list shows achievement of no mean order:- Scottish Cup Runners-up - 1918-19 and 1924-25; Glasgow Cup Winners - 1918-19, 1921-22; Glasgow Charity Cup Winners - 1917-18, 1918-19, 1920-21, 1922-23; North-Eastern Cup Winners - 1918-19; Scottish League Victory Cup Winners - 1918-19, 1921-22; Kirkwood Shield – 1921-22; Paisley and District Cup – 1919-20; Smyllum Cup – 1925-26; McCaffer Testimonial – 1922-23; Elder Hospital Cup – 1923-24-25; Scottish Junior League Championship – 1916-17, 1918-19, 1919-20, 1920-21. At that wonderful period of 1918-19 the club was steered by President John Thornton, Vice-President H. McAllister, Treasurer Thomas McCabe, Fin. Secretary John Best, and Secretary Steve Callaghan. Their drawing powers were tremendous at the time, and the various associations and other clubs basked in the reflected glory and financial returns.

A Record? – Even in a friendly the "Ants" could bring out the crowds. In 1920, on the invitation of Aberdeen Richmond (whom they had formerly played in Glasgow in a Scottish tie) they travelled North and played before a £245 gate- surely a record for a junior friendly. No less than 4000 tickets were sold in Aberdeen for this game. St. Anthony's recall the trip pleurably and the two clubs pay each other high compliment. I referred in my article on Shawfield Juniors to the day when the "Ants" played at the Roseberry Park opening game and took away the £3 guarantee out of a gate of £142 10s. During that other successful term, 1924-25, the officials were:- President, John Thornton; vice-president, John Kilday; treasurer, W. Docherty; financial secretary, Peter Dunlop; and match secretary John McLennan, another hard club worker. At present the head of affairs is President T. McCabe and Secretary E. McGill, and headquarters are at New Moore Park, where they took up residence in 1929-30. Tribute is paid also to patrons such as Messrs Alec Irvine, G. Green, and J. Green.

A Bobby Bruce Story – Any detail overlooked must be pardoned- sufficient has been recorded to tell the world of a real football training ground, or, as some folk will have it, "nursery". The latter word reminds me of the story I was told of Wee Bobby Bruce- having been absent on the prize-giving night- calling at an official's home for his four pieces of gold (badges), and being refused by the good lady of the house because she thought he was a little school nipper sent up by his big brother! There were no giants amongst lads like McKay, Dunn, Smith, Chris Martin, or Bruce, but they were giant-killers!

## JOGGING ALONG FOR 30 YEARS

Neilston Victoria and What Has Been Done

Neilston Victoria have now been jogging along for a matter of 30 years, and, despite any talk to the contrary, are still carrying on. The meeting held on Monday last gave evidence of renewed vigour, and it is hoped, under Secretary John Gillespie and a zealous committee, revival of interest will follow. The first officials were: President, William Boyle; vice-president, R. Winning; match secretary, J. Kirk; treasurer, W. Cochrane. T. Williams was trainer, and W. Cochrane looked after the ground which was the present Brig o'Lea. They had a fairly successful season with the following side:- Farquhar, W. McGregor, W. Chalmers, M. McGregor, R. Hill, H. Humphrey, Wylie, Gowans, Clarkin, Quinn, and Fyfe. They won the South Side Junior Cup and contested the final of the Paisley and District Cup.

Temporary Transfer – From Brig o'Lea Neilston removed to Kirtonfield for about two seasons, then finally returned to the old home again. Looking over the side mentioned, I discover that the left half, Hugh Humphrey, is none other than the gentleman who figured on our First League referee list for many years, and who could tell us lots of interesting stories about the game. Incidentally, I should dearly love to know the inner history of a little incident I witnessed at Broomfield Park when Jock Ewart's persuasive "talkie" with the referee altered Ayr's outlook on their Scottish Cup life and Airdrieonians went on to win it. Victoria moved along in their modest fashion, ever and anon bobbing up in some important match and making a favourable impression, such as by only going down in the 1908 Renfrewshire Cup final to the renowned Renfrew Victoria by one goal at Love Street with the following side:- McFarlane, Russell, Murdoch, Douglas, McKechnie, Wright, Thomson, Gowans, McMillan, Barr, and Clarkin.

A Warm Afternoon – Strangely enough, I discovered that this afternoon in May must have been a warm one for the Renfrew club- they also fielded another side in an "Evening Times" Trophy Glasgow League competition at Germiston Park against Vale of Clyde. Many changes take place in our junior sides, sometimes with startling rapidity. For instance, in 1925 in the Western Junior League Neilston played Irvine Meadow with this lot: - Jackson, Cunningham, Grant, Newlands, Shaw, Maxwell, McCord, O'Brien, Gibson, Barron, and Moore. The next Saturday they had an entirely new forward line, two new half-backs and a back!

Against County Rivals – Probably the club is seen at its best when playing some of the county rivals, and just at random I have picked out a side which derived much satisfaction from beating Renfrew Juniors by 6-2 in a Renfrewshire Cup-tie in 1930:- J. Blair, Naismith, Blaikley, Denholm, Morris, H. Blair, Easton, Forrester, Toner, Maxwell, and Tucker. Of course, he that laughs last has the best. Just the other day Renfrew Juniors had a very pleasant Saturday afternoon at the expense of their Neilston friends with a 10-2 score. While the clubs were located at Kirtonfield in 1912-13 they struck one of their very best patches, winning the Scottish Junior League, Renfrewshire Cup, and the Carswell Cup with one of their good sides- some people consider it the best. It read: - McNab, Landels, McQuade, Gibson, Hamilton, Mushett, Stevenson, McKenzie, Angus Leitch, Kennedy, and McGeachin. An alternative selection for goal was McCready.

Others Benefit – In 1917, with a side comprising practically nothing but local talent, Neilston went far into the Scottish Cup. This fact had not escaped their neighbours, and the following season found St. Mirren Juniors securing the majority of them for service in Paisley and make history by winning the Scottish Cup. All that Neilston got was reflected glory of a sort in seeing McQuade, J. Mushett, W. Mushett, A. Leitch, Matha Howie, and D. Rodgers sporting their medals. Neilston have given many good players to the seniors, and they must have specialised in full backs. John Smith ("Fermer") went to Ayr United, there setting up a partnership with Phil McCloy which developed into such a perfect working agreement that the pair were chosen to play against England in 1924. I remember the combination vividly, and, in view of the dilemma we seem to be in for the Hampden match this year, just wish a couple like them were available. Then there was Jimmy Lawson, who went to Dundee- a good footballer and golfer. He played against Ireland in the League International in 1913.

Now Hibernian Manager – Next we have the debonnaire Bob Templeton, a sound player for Hibs, and now an equally dependable manager for them. Another hefty defender was Fulton, who went to Greenock Morton, where Bobby McKay, another Neilston product, also went before travelling around. Bobby and the late Alf Brown were a great pair of inside forwards in Morton's Scottish Cup winning team of 1922. R.R. Barr was centre for a period with our crack amateurs Queen's Park. Naturally when Arthurlie had senior status many automatically gravitated to the Barrhead club, amongst them being Hughes, D. Melville, W. Alexander, McAllister, D. Hamilton, D. Henderson, T. Brown, M. Galloway, W. Mushett, Stevenson. The latest arrival at Love Street, Paisley from Neilston is Farmer, who was expected to fill Connor's shoes.

Difficult Times – Like many others of our junior clubs, Neilston have passed through some very difficult times, and the handicaps have often threatened to be overwhelming. However, no doubt with the aid of the recently formed Supporters' Club and able committee men the "Vics" will yet rally to become a force to be reckoned with. Petershill people paid them a fine tribute for a recent display, and perhaps concentration on essentials will hasten the recovery. Let them bear in mind an opinion I was given by one of the foremost Englishmen in the football world, that "a yard of good linen is worth two of embroidery". Surely there's lots of good linen round Paisley as well as cotton. I have been indebted to a worthy whole-hearted supporter of the club, Mr. Dan McArthur, an official of standing when he was taking active part in club affairs, for assisting me by reference to his store of memories.

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## SALTCOATS VICTORIA CAN "SHOW THEIR MEDALS"

What the Ayrshire Club Has Done

The Saltcoats and Ardrossan Players achieved phenomenal success in the amateur dramatic world with their rendering of "The Old Lady Show's Her Medals." But there are other players down that way- and they can also display medals. Very proud is Saltcoats of the Victoria's victorious side which won the Scottish Junior Cup in season 1924-25 and the accompanying gold badges. Saltcoats Victoria are not quite ready to hold a jubilee dinner just yet- they were only formed in season 1911-12- but they have been a power in their county and national football. The first controllers of affairs were the committee, which included President T.W. Patrick, Secretary J. Muir, the late Wm. Wylie, ex-Provost A.S. Miller, W. Reid, J. Strachan, A. McGivern, D. Wilson, F. McKeiver, and in charge of the players' physical welfare was W. Roney, whose prowess brought him several honours. Their first team was: - Kilpatrick, Cook, Kerr, Alexander, McGivern, Simpson, Anderson, McDowall, Steel, Cherry, and O'Rorke.

Early Prominence – Victoria jumped right into prominence in their first year principally by winning the Ayrshire Cup at their first venture, and that without a goal being scored against them in the competition. The actual side to lift the trophy was: - McDade, Duncan, Kerr, Woodside, McGivern, Reid, Anderson, McDowall, McIntosh, Keenan, and Kelso. In 1912-13 they did nothing of any outstanding importance, their best progress in any of the competitions being to get so far as the sixth round of the Scottish Cup, when they were beaten at Rocky Knowe by Mugiemoss. The next year was a blank so far as trophies were concerned, and then came the war period, during which there was no Saltcoats team- the players were elsewhere qualifying for still another form of medal.

Into Their Own – After the war was over Saltcoats became one of the members of the Western League, but not until 1922-23 did they come into their own as runner-up in the Western League championship, winners of the "Irvine Herald" Cup, and St. Vincent de Paul Charity Cup. It was during this period that they had what some consider to be the best side that has represented the club:- Jarvie, McGinn, McQuade, Crapnell, Jones, W. McLennan, Keenan, Dorrnan, Leitch, Leonard, and Meikle (or Barr). This side had reached the sixth round of the Scottish Cup when the Ayrshire clubs joined the Glasgow clubs in the dispute at that time, and therefore had to scratch from the national trophy.

Scottish Cup Won – But then came their big year, 1924-25, when the coveted Scottish Cup was taken to the seaside town. I referred a fortnight ago in my article dealing with St. Anthony's- who were the other finalists- to the series of three games occupying 315 minutes in all, which produced much sterling football and ultimately terminated in a splendid victory for Saltcoats. In the first match of the three the following side took the field: - McMinn, McGinn, Berryman, O'Donnell, Mathieson, W. McLellan, Ball, J. McLellan, Thomson, Stanton, and Mundy. At this time the leading officials were: - President William Sinclair, Vice-President Terry Keggans, Treasurer Wm. Duff, Secretary C. Nicol; and others on the committee were Messrs Erskine and Kelly.

The McLellans – In 1925-26 the Western League was won with the undernoted side:- A. McLellan, Berryman, Anderson, O'Donnell, Skinner, W. McLellan, R. Parry, J. McLellan, Ratney, Blair, and Muir. Note the representation of the Clan McLellan. Obviously they played quite an important part in affairs then. Here I might put on record my indebtedness to Willie McLellan for his assistance in gathering facts and figures. Evidently Saltcoats had a particular joy in winning the Western League, as the very next year found them collar it and also the Western League Cup, District Cup, and Charity Cup, under the guidance of President Keggans, Secretary Bob Harris, Treasurer Duff, and P. Kelly, with the following side: - A. McLellan, Anderson, McKay, O'Donnell, Skinner, W. McLellan, Barr, Lundy, Rainey, McGregor, and Gibson. The year 1929-30 saw them members of the Scottish Junior League, and they were beaten on the post for the championship by Maryhill

Hibs. However, winning the Glasgow North-Eastern Cup, and the Ayrshire Consolation Cup helped to mollify. Here are the lads who brought in the cups:- O' Hara, McKay, Herd, O' Donnell, Daly, W. McLellan, Blair, Allan, Hunter, Blyth, and Gibson. They were under the supervision of President H. Harris, Secretary D. MacPherson, Treasurer W. Duff, and committee men Messrs T.M. Taylor, P. Kelly, H. Gault, and J. Robertson.

In Glasgow Cup – And so to the next season when they contested the final of the Glasgow Cup. The team about this period was: - O'Hara, McKay, Slowey, Crosbie, McMahan, W. McLellan, Blair, Allen, Nicol, Wardle, and Gibson. In 1929-30 they were back in the Western League again and won the John Stirling Cup with this side: - Farrell, McGinn, McAvoy, Reid, McLeod, Harrigan, Leitch, Allan, Sanson, Mathieson, and Barr. Since they have won no other, but their luck was frequently out. Now hopes are entertained that before the season finishes lots will be heard of the present side under the careful guidance of President J. Thornton, Secretary J.P. Cairns, and another gentleman to whom I would like to pay tribute, Mr. T.M. Taylor.

To The Seniors – They have sent many fine players to the seniors, and the first name that occurs to me is that of the sturdy Jock Marshall (St. Mirren and Middlesbrough), of whom my most vivid memory is, when alongside Jimmy Blair at Birmingham in 1922, he put up the shutters in front of Kenny Campbell. Then John Blair, the hero of the 1921 Scottish Cup final at the Parkhead on the afternoon when only Partick Thistle folk felt it was worth the two bob tariff. I saw Johnny flashing that great goal past Willie Robb what time Jim Bowie had gone off for change of garments. Alan Craig (Motherwell and Chelsea), who unwittingly was the “villain” in the 1931 final is another product. The happy-go-lucky “Hookey” Leonard and big Hugh McMahan went to Cowdenbeath before packing up for Sunderland and Blackpool respectively. Murray went to Rangers, but Newcastle made more use of him.

At Cathkin – Then there is that stylish player J. McLellan, also Merrie (Ayr United), O'Donnell (Dundee United), Dorrens (Cowdenbeath), Bell (Kilmarnock), Mathieson (Kilmarnock), Armour (Nithsdale Wanderers), Leitch and Jones (Celtic), Moore (Aberdeen), Crosbie and Craig (Airdrieonians), Armstrong, McGregor, and Robertson (St. Mirren), Nicol (Manchester United), Blair (Falkirk), Goldie and Hunter (Clyde), Thomson (Third Lanark), Dickson (Dunfermline), R. Parry (Queen's Park), Kane and Jarvie (Llanelly), Ballantyne (Stalybridge), and other I cannot recall for the moment. J. Blair, H. McMahan, J. McLellan, and W. McLellan were all junior internationalists. The following is the club's complete honours list\*:- Scottish Cup- 1924-35; Ayrshire Cup- 1911-12; Ayrshire Consolation Cup- 1927-28, 1928-29; Irvine Herald Cup- 1923-24; Irvine and District Cup- 1923-24, 1924-25; Glasgow North-Eastern Cup- 1929-30; St. Vincent De Paul Charity Cup- 1920-21, 1922-23, 1923-24, 1925-26, 1926-27; Western League Cup- 1926-27, and runners-up in 1923-24; Western League Championship- 1923-24, 1925-26, 1926-27, and also runners-up in 1922-23; Glasgow Cup- Runners-up in 1929-30.

\* No Irvine Herald Cup success. Glasgow North Eastern Cup win was in 1928-29 not 1929-30.

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## THE FOOTBALL NURSERY OF BAILLIESTON

Players Whom the Junior Rooted - Great Days Recalled

(Article accompanied by photo of 1928 team)

Baillieston has been an important place in junior football for many years. First there was the old Baillieston Thistle, who played their first game on Thistle Park away back in season 1889-90. Soon they were gaining prominence, and the next year they won the Wotherspoon Cup by beating Airdrie Fruitfield at the old Meadow Park, Whifflet, once the home of Albion Rovers. The team on that occasion was:- John Weir, William Ross, Angus McKinlay, H. McKim, G. Ewing, G. White, John Barrowman, James McEwen, James McAleer, James McGinn, and John Wotherspoon. Then for two seasons they had further good runs in the Scottish League with the following side:- A. McDonald, Wm. Ross, A. McKinlay, G. Hannah, G. Ewing, G. White, J. Barrowman, J. McEwen, John Carmichael, J. McGinn, and John Wotherspoon.

Early Successes – Mr. Wotherspoon could tell many interesting tales of the old Thistle, whose colours were worn well by such players as Willie Reid (Rangers, and now the Dundee United manager), Frank Leitch, W. Leitch, J. Breslin, Charlie Shaw, and J. McGinn (Celtic), W. Semple, W. Curle, and A. Murphy (Airdrieonians). The Thistle carried on in that old Glasgow and District League, then played in the Glasgow Junior League under Mr. John Barrowman, who gave fine service as player and official. Baillieston Thistle lapsed, and it was not until season 1919-20 that the village again appeared on the football map with the start of Baillieston Juniors. Mairhill Park was their first headquarters, and then, to begin with, they took part in and won the City and District Amateur League. Next year they were runners-up.

Able Leaders – They jogged along for three more seasons, and then they moved to Rhinsdale Park, where they had Mr. James Mowat as secretary, and he did yeoman service, as did Mr. Archie Fullarton who followed him. They club have had excellent men at the head of affairs, and since 1919 the following estimable gentlemen have acted as president, Messrs D. Martin, D. Horn, Geo. Watterson, J. Burdon, and Mr. A. Reid. With Mr. Reid at the moment are associated vice-president T. Cole, J. Broadly, financial secretary; treasurer T. Graham; and match secretary James Hay, a well known personality in junior circles. Honours have come along steadily. In 1923-24\* they won the Lanarkshire Cup with this side: - Duncan, Hill, Sharp, Watts, McColgan, Liddell, McMurray, Wyper, Gibson, Bothwell, and A Wales.

In Scottish Final – They also reached the final of the Scottish Junior Cup, when after a draw of one goal each, Parkhead beat them by 3-1 in the replay. Baillieston's team then was: - Duncan, Clarkson, Branks, Walls, Malarkie, Purdon, McMurray, Liddell, Gibson, Wyper, and Owens. They were the same season a big noise in the Scottish Junior League, and as Eastern Section leaders they beat Duntocher Hibs, the western section winners, for the championship. They were champions again the following season, when Yoker Athletic were their victims in their deciding game, the winning side being: - Duncan, Hill, Sharp, Walls, McColgan, Liddell, McMurray, Wyper, Gibson, Dockwell, and Wales. That game played at Shawfield Park on May 30, 1925, and won by 2 goals to 1, incidentally completed a remarkably fine league record. They won 31 of their 34 games and scored 100 goals against the loss of 24- an average of 4 to 1. Other competitions won were the Chatham Cup (twice), the Wheatley Cup, the Glasgow Junior League Second Division championship, and the Glasgow Junior Consolation Cup.

In the “Rebel” Days – But beyond all doubt their big achievements were made during the Intermediate “split” period, and their great tussles with Ashfield for “The Evening Times” trophy in 1928 and 1929 were something to remember. The Glasgow Junior League became the Scottish Intermediate League, and for the first two seasons Baillieston finished champions of the Eastern Section, their league records being: 1928 – Played 38, Won 28, Lost 6, Drawn 4, For 118, Against 49, Points 60; 1929- Played 38, Won 27, Lost 3, Drawn 8, For 110, Against 38, Points 62. Ashfield, the Western champions the same seasons, also had a great team with the Lauders, Burke, Donald Menzies, Peter Cunningham, and George Brown (now of Rangers) at their command; but Baillieston and one which could more than hold their own with their Saracen rivals.

“Times” Trophy Won – In the 1928 decider at Springfield Park they beat Ashfield 2-1 on a Friday evening, after a drawn game of one goal each the preceding Saturday evening. The team about that period was: - Boland, Anderson, Ure, Walls, Denholm, Higgins, Main, Gillespie, Mackie, Conlin, and Wales. Baillieston therefore took possession of “The Evening Times” Trophy, but they lost it to Ashfield the following season when the underrated team was beaten in the decider by one goal to nothing: - Louden, Anderson, Ure, Walls, Gibb, Higgins, Main, Brownlee, Lennon, Conlin, and Strain. In 1929 they were also fated to meet Ashfield in the Scottish Intermediate Cup final, but they were beaten by the odd goal in three at Southcroft Park, the losing side being: - Louden, Anderson, Ure, Brownlee, Denholm, Higgins, Main, Strain, Lennon, Conlin, and McDermid. Ashfield, too, were on top the same season in the final of the Scottish Intermediate Cup, scoring two goals against one registered for this lot:- Boland, Anderson, Ure, Walls, Denholm, Higgins, Main, Strain, Mackie, Conlin, and Lennon.

Stars and Their Courses – When it was “legitimate” for the seniors to secure the intermediate “stars” Baillieston lost Anderson, Ure, Higgins, Main, and Conlin, and not too long afterwards, and for reasons that are perhaps best forgotten, they ceased being “rebels” and rejoined the “loyalist” forces. Anderson went to Hearts- at the moment the most prominent of all- and many are being converted to the opinion that he is the best Scottish right back, and good enough to be selected to play for Scotland at Hampden. But when they were colleagues I fancied “Puck” Ure more. Ure, of course, after a spell with Albion Rovers and Kirkintilloch Rob Roy, has gone on to Ayr United. Few can better him in timing a ball.

The Case of Conlin – Perhaps the greatest of all in these intermediate days was George Conlin, and consequently “Chester's” failure to gain first grade establishment with Rangers seems strange. I remember hearing some interesting yarns regarding the endeavours of a club situated in another part of the city to enlist the lad. It is more than likely that had Conlin chosen another club he might have been a more prominent player today. But his time may be merely deferred. Conlin to me was a sort of blend of Tommy Cairns and Patsy Gallagher. He seemed to be running every minute of the ninety, and no one ever gave George Brown greater trouble.

Bobby Main's Part – Bobby Main was another who could scarcely be excelled in his Intermediate class, during the Baillieston boom. He also joined the Ibrox staff, and although getting more opportunity than Conlin, has not been able to make a permanent place for himself in the League team. Higgins went to Hearts, created great expectations, gained his place at left half to the exclusion of Bobby Beenie, and then in turn dropped out. Hodge and Purdon were other Baillieston players who migrated to Ibrox. Purdon became a sound right back and was occasionally called upon for first team service, but after much useful reserve team duty was allowed to go to Bradford. Dan McColgan was a hard nut to crack when with Celtic and Third Lanark. Loudon went to St. Bernard's and then, big as he was, got lost in the football alley.

Chester of Bury – Baillieston people take a special pride in remembering Tom Chester, a schoolboy internationalist of a few years ago, who slipped away quietly to Bury, to be rated as one of the best young backs in England. It is not possible for me to recall all the others who were reared for the seniors in the district where another kind of nursery industry flourishes, but the following players were noted offshoots:- Joe Strain, and Tracy (Watford), J. Gibson (Charlton Athletic), T. Reid (Blackburn Rovers), J. Grant (King's Park), Mackie, J. Rae, and Jas. Dougan (Albion Rovers), J. Wales (Bathgate), N. Little (Morton), J. Liddell and J. Stirling (Clyde), T. Coyle (Nithsdale Wanderers), Alex. Rattray and Hay (Airdrieonians), Gold (Bournemouth), Clark (Motherwell), Mooney (Clydebank), Grainger (Third Lanark), McCabe (Vale of Leven), Finlay Cunningham (St. Mirren), and Frank Tollan (Hamilton Academicals). I was surprised Tollan did not go further. He was a clever forward. Liddell was another who promised well, but illness was a handicap, and he latterly served Dumbarton and Third Lanark. Cunningham is one of the most recent departures, and he is developing on the right lines at Paisley. "Baillieston for jam" may be a certain trade slogan, but the football folks have had to work jolly hard for any success they have gained. Recently Rhinsdale Park had to be vacated to let the house-builders in, but a new home was soon found, and the fine spirit of optimism remains.

\* Lanarkshire Cup won in 1924-5 not 1923-4.

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## FELL INTO LINE IN 1914

Kilsyth Rangers – What Has Been Done

From Kilsyth came a message "burning me up" about not getting busy in one of the best football nurseries in the kingdom. They writer, whom I should have liked to meet had he not preferred to remain anonymous, concluded by asking me to burn his letter! Well, that's been done. Kilsyth has always been well before our notice, and has two prominent teams in the Rangers and the Emmet. I propose dealing with the Rangers in this article. The present Kilsyth Rangers was instituted in that memorable year 1914, and set going in August. It was really a revival of a club of the same name which had been in existence some 20 years previously.

A Ground Secured – Various attempts had been made previous to 1914 to secure a ground and team, and in the summer of that year a splendid field was granted by the representative of the Edmonston family, alongside the ground so long occupied by the Kilsyth Emmet. Garret Vale Park was the name given to the Rangers' ground. There was much enthusiasm over the preparations. At express speed a band of willing helpers levelled the ground, laid a playing pitch, and erected the barricade, pavilion, and balcony, while others exercised their skill in accruing a team. Everything promised well under the following officials: - President, John B. Frew; vice-president, Thomas Connacher; secretary, A.M. Andrews; treasurer, T.B. Wilson, and a committee composed of Messrs James Black, William Chalmers, James Connacher, R. Dunlop, William Grindlay, T. Kirkwood, J. Nugent, P. Shearer, and A. Marshall.

Initial Team – The official opening was on the first Saturday of August against Dunipace Juniors in the Stirlingshire Junior League and Provost Allen kicked off. The Rangers won 4-0 with the following side: - Patrick, Rankin, Carruthers, Peterson, McDade, Stack, Aitken, Reid, Aitken, McWilliams, and Goudie. Goalkeeper Patrick was a son of another great goalkeeper, "Jock" Patrick, St. Mirren's international custodian, and Henry, a brother of Mr. George Henry (Petershill). Amongst those early officials were a number who had been players of the old-time Kilsyth Rangers. Secretary Andrews was the old Clyde forward. Amongst his other activities was to act as president of the Scottish Juvenile Association.

Was It A Goal? – The outbreak of war altered the outlook. Automatically changes had to be made; players, officials, members, and supporters joined up, and it was doubtful if things could be carried on. Somehow it was done, and in the first season Kilsyth Rangers won the Stirling and District Cup, and also the Kirkintilloch and District Jubilee Cup. They also reached the fourth round of the Scottish Cup, to be beaten 1-0 by Ashfield. No

Kilsyth supporter has been known to agree that the solitary goal was a real goal. The following season they joined the Scottish Junior League and have played a prominent part in it since. Their honours list is quite a creditable one. The Stirlingshire Cup was won during their second season and again in 1918-19. The other Stirlingshire trophies have also been amongst their spoils. Their best achievement was perhaps in season 1925-26, when they were returned as champions of the Scottish Junior League, although this was only obtained after a hectic deciding match with Yoker Athletic, Kilsyth winning by 6-4. In 1923-24 they had held great hope of winning the Scottish Junior League Victory Cup, but succumbed rather simply to Paisley Juniors (1-0).

A Fine Team – The team at this time was a fine one: - Binnie, Inglis, Sharp, Knox, Rodgers, Riddoch, McGreachen, Brown, Weir, Waldon, and Garden. These five forwards, along with Binnie, Rodgers, and Riddoch, all went senior next year. However, they landed this Victory trophy in 1930-31, beating Denny Hibs 1-0 after a drawn game of 2 goals each at Firhill. That was one of their good seasons- some reckon it their best. They must have been going well as that was the season Denny Hibs but Burnbank in the Scottish Cup final. Kilsyth also won the Glasgow Junior Cup this year while the intermediate dispute was on. The winning side in these two cups was: - Hawthorn, Meek, and Doherty, Williamson, Loan, Hammond, Garden, Robertson, Forsyth, Donaldson, and Ross. Denny Hibs, however, beat them in the Stirlingshire Cup final.

To the Seniors – Particularly well remembered at Garret Vale are players such as Bob Henry (already mentioned); Geordie Millar, one of their first centre forwards, Watty Irvine, the handy man, who played in every position including goal; Andy Robb a rare half-back; the brothers John and James Millar, also Ben and David McLaren, and the 1923-24 set of forwards which included Tony Weldon. Here I might bring in a list of some of those who stepped up to the seniors. First, no less, than five good goalkeepers in Thomson (Hibs), Muir (Third Lanark), Torrance (Queen of the South), Binnie (Partick Thistle and Hamilton Accies), and the well-built Hawthorn (Alloa), who went South the other week. Amongst several good backs probably Devine (Plymouth Argyle), Mack (Swansea Town), and Latter (Third Lanark), were outstanding. Half-backs embrace Hardie (Third Lanark), Jack (Hamilton Acads.), Rodgers (Chelsea), Leishman (Falkirk), Harvey (Third Lanark), Duff (St. Mirren), and Mitchell (Airdrie). There could be selected a rare forward line from the following:- Aitken (Queen's Park Rangers), Higginbottom (St. Mirren), Campbell (Third Lanark), W. Young (Motherwell), T. Young (Clyde and Dumbarton), Heeps and Robertson (Airdrie), Waldon (Airdrie and Everton), Devlin (Third Lanark), B. McLaren (Hamilton Acads.), Weir and Brown (Kilmarnock), Forsyth (Alloa), Donaldson (Bristol City), Fyfe (Derby County), Shaw and Crawford (Clyde), Perry and McGreachen (Third Lanark), Duncan Walker (St. Mirren), Garden (Celtic), and, just a few months ago, J. Dougall, who made such a fine start with Falkirk. Jimmy Smith (Rangers) also had a run at Garret Park. At the moment affairs are in the hands of President William Wilson, Vice-President James Pollock, Secretary George Gilfillan, and Treasurer John Barrie.

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## THEY STARTED ON THE SHORE

### Ardrossan Winton Rovers' Big Deeds - Notable Family Record

We have heard a lot about Palm Beach, but nothing, when a youngster, ever gave me such joy as the South and North Beaches of Ardrossan. It was on that beach in 1900 that the Ardrossan Winton Rovers commenced their long and honourable career. The Rovers were a modest juvenile club at the outset, playing friendly games with such clubs as Troon Portland, Saltcoats Seaside Rangers, Irvine Thistle, and St. Andrew's, etc. The first game they played was against Ardeer Thistle, and it took place on the shore. And in these days they had to bear in mind that "time and tide wait for no man". Games were dependant on the ebb and flow.

Raising The Wind – However, in 1901, a ground was acquired near the Castle Hill. It was named Winton Park, and is now one of the best junior grounds in the country, with a fine stand, built in 1912, and capable of accommodating 500. Other improvements were made, and £400 raised by a bazaar helped. In 1901-02 they were admitted to the North Ayrshire Juvenile League, which was composed of good clubs, such as Ardeer Thistle, Dalry Athletic, Kilwinning Eglinton Thistle, Warner XI, Auchenharvie, Barlosholm, Irvine St. Andrew's, and their first opponents in competitive football Ardrossan Celtic, on August 31, 1901. The team in this game was:- Welsh, Kerr, Allan, Tait, Fullarton, Findlay, Anderson, Gillies, Reid Templeton, MacDonald; and the first officials- Messrs John Strachan, George Inglis, James Allison, William McKillop, R. Andrews, and A. McFarlane. Members of the team were also members of the committee, in addition to the foregoing. The first secretary, Mr. Joe Wallace, was also acting in that capacity in 1931. Hugh Irvine was trainer-player in these early days. The club did nothing of particular importance as juveniles, and took junior status in 1902-03 by

joining the North Ayrshire Junior League, in which Ardeer Thistle and Kilwinning Rangers were very prominent.

Ran An "A" Team – There was a period of fluctuating fortune until season 1907-08, when they won the Kilmarnock and District Junior League. Enthusiasm about this time was high, and even an "A" team was in operation. There was an uneventful period until season 1910-11, when after beating four Ayrshire clubs in addition to Aberdeen Mugiemoss and St. Anthony's they reached the Scottish Cup semi-final. They were beaten by Petershill (1-0) at Paisley after three drawn games, and their conquerors went on to lose to Burnbank Athletic in the final. Here are the lads who were so tough to beat: - Pringle, Ferguson, Bennett, Bannatyne, McCreadie, Steel, Ness, Goodwin, Orr, McAsh, and McIntosh. In one of these games Orr's place was taken by Gibson. The Rovers reached several other county finals also, but were unlucky. However, this year definitely established them on the football map.

Local Rivals Beaten – The next season they won the Irvine and District Cup and the "Irvine Herald" Cup. In the latter they had the peculiar satisfaction of beating the local Saltcoats Victoria (3-0) with the following eleven: - Gallagher, Bennett, Clarkson, Bannatyne, McCreadie, Steel, Ness, Goodwin, Culley, McAsh, and Bond. I note that here enters a real Rover in Willie Culley, who was a member of one of Kilmarnock's best teams. Another Rover whose advent later on at Rugby Park created a furore was Williamson, who won his Scottish Cup badge at the expense of Rangers in 1929. There was a considerable gap of little doing until the next good season (1919-20), when the undernoted side won the Ayrshire Consolation Cup: - Langlands, McGinn, McMaster, Hunter, Elliot, Woods, Kelman, Goodwin, Kerr, McAsh, and Gordon. They also collected the Irvine and District Cup at the expense of old friends Saltcoats Victoria with: - Langlands, McGinn, McMaster, Longmuir, Elliot, Woods, Kelman, Goodwin, Kerr, McAsh, and Sullivan.

Next Good Season – Another honour gained this season was the Western Junior League championship, and they got the length of the seventh round before losing their place in the fight for the Scottish Cup, a trophy which, so far, they have not won. The next good season was 1922-23, when they won the Ayrshire Association\* Cup again, defeating Kilbirnie Ladeside (2-1) with this side: - Dale, McMaster, Taylor, Anderson, Barr, Woods, Beattie, Cherry, Kerr, Linton, and Gordon. But 1926-27 was a particularly satisfactory season, as it was then they lifted the Ayrshire Junior Cup, beating Darvel (2-1) with the following: - Wright, Mack, Taylor, Rugg, Reid, Biggar, Lawrie, Williamson, Smith, Neil, and Kennedy. They also won the Irvine and District Cup through the agency of: - Wright, Barlow, Taylor, Rugg, Reid, Biggar, Laurie, Williamson, Smith, Millar, and Kennedy. The Intermediate period was reached before they claimed another trophy. In 1930-31 they beat Irvine Meadow XI for the Irvine Intermediate Cup with: - Jarvie, Anderson, Mack, Taylor McLellan, Biggar, Connell, Waters, Patrick, Boyd, and McEwen.

Second Fiddle – Last season they won the Moore Trophy defeating Saltcoats Victoria (2-1) with: - Jarvie, Mack, Taylor, Bolton, McLellan, Cree, Mason, Beattie, Patrick, Gilmour, and Adair. The final of the Ayrshire Cup was reached, but they had to play second fiddle to Irvine Meadow XI. This year's side has not been overburdened with good fortune, but as one of the best nonetheless, and they have hopes yet of making a silver collection. One of their players, at least, has been much talked about, Gilmour is his name, and his destination is causing speculation. The club has given many fine players to the seniors, and in addition to Culley and Williamson, already mentioned, I can recall Fullarton (Sunderland), W. Burgess, H. Burgess, Young, Bryce (St. Mirren), Goodwin, Bond (Kilmarnock), Jackson (Middlesbrough), McIntosh (Fulham), McBean (Queen's Park), Scott (Liverpool), Longmuir (Celtic and Blackburn Rovers), and Hillhouse (Albion Rovers).

Worthy Workers – The club has been fortunate in having in various official capacities gentlemen such as Messrs C. Price, W. Simon, G. Love, J. Shanks, J. Barbour, H. Skillen, H. McLachlan, R. Cochrane, J. Wallace, W. Millar, J. Bain, D. Fullarton, W. McQueen, J. Woodburn, J. Templeton, Dr. John MacDonald, ex-Provost G. McKellar. The affairs are at present in the hands of President C. Price, Vice-President J. Barbour, Treasurer J. Yuille, and members of committee:- Messrs W. Simon, J. Shanks, J.L. Taylor, G. Tyre, J. Denhy, R. Muir, and R. Walker. S. Murray acts as trainer, John Young looks after the ground with E. Cook as assistant, and Mr. B. McEwhig is an able secretary. They have had much loyal service, but the family record of the Andersons will take some beating. Six brothers- John, Donald, David, James, Robert, and Edward- all played at different periods, and a seventh, Danny, acted as trainer for many years.

\* This was the Ayrshire Consolation Cup not the Association Cup.



## FIVE TIMES WINNERS OF THE AYRSHIRE CUP

Irvine Meadow's Remarkable Performance – Memorable City Visit

When our county cousins come to town we are apt to be patronizing, but how absurd that attitude can be was revealed to football folks when Irvine Meadow XI came to Firhill one evening at the end of last season and gave us mighty mandarins of Glasgow a treat such as is all too rarely available. That delightful display I enjoyed to the full off the chain and roving round the terracing. Incidentally the Meadow XI won the West of Scotland Cup that night at the expense of Kirkintilloch Rob Roy. The Meadow have been of good repute during their long term of football life. The club was formed in season 1895-96 as juveniles by some young lads round Quarry Lane, who kicked a ball about Meadow Park- still the home ground- when they could find time. Amongst the "founders" were "Berry" Mitchell, Willie Cousar, John Cousar, and J. Milligan, with Mr. M. Bannigan as first president, and Mr. John McDonald, secretary.

Their First Cup – In 1896-97 they won the Ayrshire Juvenile Cup, and then boldly went forward to the junior world. Their first junior officials were President John Christie, Secretary A.G. Anderson, and Treasurer William Cousar. In this 1897-98 season, their first as juniors, they reached the final of the Irvine and District Cup to be beaten by Dreghorn with the following team:- Buchanan, Frew, A. Wilson, Mitchell, Harvey, Todd, Paton, Milligan, J. Cousar, Aird, and Nisbet. Then in 1898-99 they settled down to business in earnest by winning the Ayrshire Junior Cup with what old-timers consider the "best ever" lot:- Buchanan, Frew, Moffat, Mitchell, Harvey, Todd, Paton, Milligan, A. Wilson, Aird, and McDougall. They also won the Irvine "Herald" Cup that year. It must have been a rattling good side, and it certainly got a shaking up by the removal of Alec Moffat (now a director of Ayr United) to Queen's Park, T. Harvey (one of the most popular players both at the Meadow and at Meadowside) to Partick Thistle, Dave McDougall to Rangers, W. Todd to Middlesbrough, W. Cousar to Partick Thistle, and last, but not least, Andrew Wilson to Clyde and later Sheffield Wednesday, to play also for Scotland four times against England.

Ayrshire Cup Again – In 1899-1900 they beat Darvel in the final of the Irvine and District Cup with:- M. Aird, Fletcher, Moffat, Mitchell, Harvey, Murchland, Niven, A. Aird, R. Wilson, J. Wilson, and W. Cousar. Next season the Ayrshire Junior Cup was won again, this time at the expense of Drongan with this representation:- M. Aird, Muir, Moffat, Mitchell, Gelvin, Murchland, Niven, Paton, A. Aird, W. Cousar, and Paterson. At this time Mr. William Anderson was acting as secretary and treasurer, and the physical wellbeing of the side was attended to by trainer J. Muir. Again in 1903-04 the Ayrshire Cup was won, after some considerable trouble, with a team reading:- Bannigan, Geddes, Lyon, R. Wilson, Auld, Cowan, G. Wilson, Armour, J. Wilson, Cairney, and Hamilton. With two alterations- McDonald for Armour and J. Young for Hamilton- the Irvine and District Cup was also brought home. There was a gap until 1909-10, when this side won the Irvine and District Cup: - Tait, Montgomery, W. McGregor, Logan, J. Moffat, Smith, Laird, McLeavie, Wilson, Johnstone, and Young.

For Fourth Time – And on to 1913-14 to collect the Ayrshire Cup for the fourth time with a side which had altered considerably and read: - Syme, Parker, Craig, Mulhall, McLeavie, Montgomery, Davidson, Rollo, W. Ness, D. Goudie, and Gray. They carried on as best they could in 1914-15, and were fairly successful, lifting the Ayrshire Consolation Cup, Irvine "Herald" Cup, and Irvine and District Cup- with a team usually composed of the following:- Syme, Miller, Liddell, Douglas, McIntosh, Montgomery, Warren, McEwen, W. Ness, Goudie, and Gray. W. Ness was a brother of David Ness (Partick Thistle) and might have achieved equal fame but for a bad head wound on active service. About this time Mr. James D. Mitchell, who has given me particularly able assistance in gathering material for this article, was secretary, a post which he still holds. The club continued in 1915-16 under various forms of handicap and secured the Ayrshire Consolation Cup with: - Syme, Liddell, Couper, McKelvie, Mitchell, Montgomery, Fleck, Cunningham ("Peerie"), Warren, Gray, and Kilmarnock.

After the War – The club then ceased to function until the war was over, and in season 1921-22 they resumed their prize winning way. With an excellent list of players, including Syme, Paton, G. Wilson, Hunter, Wylie, Dobbins, McDonald, David Ness, Page, Leitch, Kennedy, R. Ferguson, J. Young, Cox, and Ford, they were the first winners of the Western League championship. The next season was not so fruitful, but a local sensation was provided when Davie Ness dropped a bomb in the camp by signing for Nithsdale Wanderers when ever so many first-class clubs were after his signature. The next departure of note was that grand half-back, Willie McDonald, to St. Mirren, and here I stop to consider what a Meadow side like this might have accomplished had it been possible to have them fielded at the one time:- "Sanny" Wright (Charlton Athletic), Alec Moffat (Queen's Park), Harry M. Fletcher (Queen's Park), Willie McDonald (St. Mirren), Tom Harvey (Partick Thistle), Johnny Jackson (Clyde), Davie Ness (Partick Thistle), Harry Cunningham (Kilmarnock), Andrew

Armour (Queen's Park and Kilmarnock), Andrew Wilson (Clyde and Sheffield Wednesday), and Johnnie Fleming (Hearts). The latter- an old friend of mine and a nephew of the great Bobby Walker- did not have a long career owing to a bad leg injury. He was a talented player.

With the "Rebels" – In season 1924-25 the "Irvine Herald" Cup was again brought to Meadow Park by:- Syme, Nisbet, McAvoy, Wyllie, Inglis, Kerr, Patrick, Maxwell, Miller, Wilson, and Wallace. From time to time the depredations of the seniors on the Meadow fold had been, as elsewhere, an irritation, and when the Intermediate split came the Irvine club were just in the right humour to join up, and Mr. Sam Murray's good work in the cause deserves all the credit bestowed. They had rather a good run during this period in the supposed Intermediate wilderness, and in the first year, 1927-28, walked off with no fewer than four trophies. The following players participated in the various competitions:- Sim, Wallace, D. Strain, W. Strain, Campbell, Johnstone, Burgoyne, D. Watson, Gowie, McCulloch, Sneddon, Donnelly, Ross, and Hunter. The forward line- Burgoyne, Gowie, McCulloch, Donnelly, and Ross- was considered one of the finest ever representing the club. The following season they had three honours with practically the same set of players, plus the introduction of Wright for goal. Then in 1929-30 they just missed the Scottish Intermediate Cup, being beaten in the final by Clydebank after fielding this side:- Wright, Wallace, Dean, Bingham, Campbell, Johnstone, Burgoyne, Donnelly, McCulloch, Thompson, and Ferguson. Season 1930-31 was a peculiar period, for the Meadow fished in five finals and caught nothing- not even a sprat! But they enjoyed their stay in the rebel camp. Back amongst the loyalists last season, they won the Ayrshire Junior Cup with: - Wright, Docherty, Wylie, Thom, Bingham, Johnstone, Burgoyne, Campbell, McGibbons, Donnelly, and Thompson. The same lot, with Linley for Campbell, gave us that memorable exhibition of real team football- clean, attractive, and profitable- at Firhill. Wright went to Charlton Athletic, for whom he is now the regular goalkeeper. Docherty is with Partick Thistle, Johnstone landed at Plymouth with the Argyle, and Donnelly is also on the Firhill staff. Donnelly, too, had the distinction of playing for Scotland last season against England, Ireland, and Wales, and his club recognised the occasion with a suitable presentation. An unusual happening was in 1910 when, after a Scottish Cup final, they took four players from Ashfield in Alec Hart, Johnny Mulhall, Tom Smith, and Dan Donaldson. The club has been fortunate in having excellent men guiding their destiny, and in addition to those already mentioned I might add Messrs John Samson, J. Johnstone, T. W. McCallum, R. Paterson, A. Campbell and the present officials, Messrs R. Balmer, John McGregor, and D. Butcher. This season has not been too bright in many ways, but at the moment the club sits at the top of the Western League.

The Honours List – Ayrshire Junior Cup – 1898-99, 1900-01, 1903-04, 1913-14, and 1931-32; Ayrshire Consolation Cup – 1914-15, 1915-16; Western Junior League – 1921-22; West of Scotland Cup – 1931-32; "Irvine Herald" Cup – 1914-15, 1924-25; Irvine and District Cup – 1899-1900, 1903-04, 1909-10, 1913-14, 1914-15. As Intermediates – 1927-28 – Ayrshire Cup, "Irvine Herald" Cup, Western League Cup, Scottish Consolation Cup; 1928-29 – Western League, Western League Cup, and Irvine and District Cup; 1929-30 – Ayrshire Cup, Irvine and District Cup.

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## WHEN OTHER CLUBS TOOK NOTICE

### County Cup Had To Be Won First - Largs Thistle's Record

Largs has a great hold on the affections of Glasgow folks, and Glasgow folks are mostly football folks. But it is not the importance of Largs on the football map which accounts for its popularity. Nevertheless, the local enthusiasts have done the best with the resources at their disposal, and in course of time may do better things. Largs Thistle F.C. is a comparatively youthful body, formed in 1920 after a public meeting held in the Artillery Hall. The first officials were:- Hon. President, Mr. H. Steven; president, William Cairney; vice-president, J. Brown; secretary, R. Struthers; treasurer, J. Hopkirk; and members of committee- Messrs B. Stewart, A. Brown, A. Toole, H.B. Fraser, A. Davidson, A.H. Mackie, and J. Lee.

Help From Fairlie – Two members of that committee are still associated with the club: - Messrs B. Stewart (now treasurer), and A.H. Mackie. Mr. H. Steven continues as hon. President, and I may mention that when the committee were in the pioneer stage they were greatly indebted to his wife, Mrs. H. Steven, for her particular zeal and assistance in establishing the Thistle. It seems strange that in a town surrounded by fields great difficulty was experienced in obtaining a playing field. Indeed, the earliest practice games had to be played at the neighbouring village of Fairlie! However, through the good offices of the late Mr. David Harper, the Provost, Kelvin Park in Nelson Street was secured, and the opening game was played on November 6, 1920, with Bute Athletic the opposition. It was not any reflection on the following team that they lost by the odd goal in nine: - Millar, Bell, McCartney, McKellar, Colthar, Hamilton, McLean, Yuill, Paterson, Chalmers, and

Gallacher. The remainder of the season was completed with friendly games. They started too late to participate in competitions.

Turned Down – When they did apply for admission to the Western League the next season they were turned down and they joined the Renfrewshire League. This, the committee of the club held, was won, but the league authorities ruled otherwise and ordered a deciding game with Overton Athletic. This the Largs club refused to play and thus went by the board their first chance of honours. Next year they again sought admission to the Western League, and once more the door was closed against them. They had no choice but to play friendlies and Cup-ties. They put such concentration into the latter phase of their football that they won the Ayrshire Junior Cup, defeating New Cumnock United by 4-1 on May 5, 1923, at Rugby Park Kilmarnock, with this side:- Smith, Bamford, Leatham, McConnell, McGrogan, Clark, Roxburgh, W. Brunton, T. Brunton, Muir, and Lawson. After that smart performance it was recognised that Largs Thistle had to be taken seriously, and in season 1923-24 they were welcomed amongst the elect of the Western League, and there they remain.

First League Game – Their first game under the auspices of the Western League was played at Kelvin Park on August 4, 1923, against Saltcoats Victoria, and the following side lost by 3-0:- Smith, Tait, Geake, McConnell, Clark, Sinclair, Roxburgh, Gunn, T. Brunton, W. Brunton, and O'Donnell. This game set up a record attendance for a League game in the district and has not yet been surpassed. The placidity of the club's existence was rudely disturbed when, in July 1928, without any previous warning, they were notified to quit the tenancy of Kelvin Park immediately. The present president, Councillor J. Lindsay, then the Largs representative to the Western League fortunately was able to negotiate an arrangement whereby the club had extended use of Kelvin Park until the first Saturday in September and permission to play all League games at home in the month of August.

A New Home – Futile efforts were made to obtain suitable accommodation and finally the local Town Council was approached. In due course the use of Barrfield Park was granted by the indulgence of the Council, and is now their home. And a most up-to-date home it is. Maryhill Harriers have made use of it for summer sports, and all those who know it can testify to its comfort. There have been some good teams but the usual difference of opinion exists as to which was best of all. The majority plump for the 1931-32 side composed of: - McInroy, Brown, McKay, McConnell, Lindsay, Ralston, McLaughlan, W. Brunton, McPherson, Know, and Scott. It will be observed that of the 1923 Ayrshire cup winning team McConnell and W. Brunton are included. In that interval, however, W. Brunton was away with Saltcoats Victoria and Blackpool, returning to Largs in the Intermediate period.

Record Service – McConnell has a rare record of service- eleven seasons unbroken. He has had the honour of a "benefit" and is expected to participate in a second one soon. The district has not been a fertile one apparently for the rearing of senior recruits, as in addition to W. Brunton already mentioned the only others of any consequence to become seniors were J. Millar to Morton via Middlesbrough, McGrogan to Celtic, and Roxburgh to Alloa. The club has been fortunate in having outstanding officials such as Councillor J. Lindsay and Mr. B. Stewart connected with the club since the start, and the present match secretary, Mr. W. Reid. The latter gentleman is a valuable asset to the club, and amongst his many activities includes the helpful one of organizing the whist drives and entertainments during the winter. Perhaps if the proposed formation of a North Coast Tournament, embracing Largs Thistle, Saltcoats Victoria, Ardrossan Winton Rovers, and Ardeer Thistle, should become an accomplished fact it would give additional interest in that area generally and Largs in particular.

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## TEAM THAT LOST FIFTEEN GOALS

The Royal Club at Rothesay – Perilous Trips

Rothesay has a wonderful hold on Glasgow folk, and to me Canada Hill (where the golfers play) is one of the most charming spots in our lovely countryside. But they don't play football up there, and the difficulty of getting ground in Bute is a sore one. It is the Public Park or nothing. I know the park, and played on it when it had not nearly such a fine surface as it possesses now. This is headquarters for the Royal Victoria, who were founded away back in 1891, originating through the activities of some old Academy Boys, but the exclusiveness was not unduly prolonged. Amongst the pioneers were Messrs D. Lamont, W. Sproul, James Stewart, John Stewart, R. Lauder, another R. Lauder, also W. Lauder, H. McKirdy, J. Cunningham, J. Halliday, J. Black, J. Paterson, J. Ormsby, and J. MacDonald, in the capacity of officials and players. Mr. MacDonald, a well-known

local schoolmaster, whose store of reminiscences I have been permitted to draw upon, was the first captain, and is still taking interest in welfare of the club.

Beaten 15-1 – They had ambition, and entered for the Scottish Junior Cup competition without hesitation. What matter if they got a right good dusting by 15-1 at the hands of the once famous Govan Hibs? It provided material for experience and a standing joke amongst the older hands. Evidently their title of “Royal”- which a good sportsman in “Tony” McGarry had been able to procure permission for them to use - did not entitle them to precedence. However, they did not sit in the back seat long, and got busy with fixtures in all directions possible- limited by their island situation always- and the Buteshire Cup, the Knockdow Charity Cup, and later the Salvesen Shield kept them moving. In these early days their chief opponents were the Adventurers, the Caledonia Bute Rangers, and St. Blane’s. Many things were of necessity primitive, and of stripping accommodation comforts mighty little- the canopy of heaven their roof. Nothing daunted, they gradually built up a fine side, and in 1895 the following eleven were only beaten in the Scottish Cup after three hard games by the powerful Renfrew Victoria:- P. Thompson, Tom Thompson, “Cutta” McMillan, Nisbet, A. Hunter, Kennedy, Hislop, McQuiston, Anderson, Smith, and Harvey. In these days their journeying was a thought-perilous trips in the dark on a Halliday lighter, rowing boat pulls to Kames and Tinnibruaich, with a hike from Kilmichael thrown in. No training really necessary, surely, with such strenuous endeavour! But the visit to the wilds of Glenbuck is the recollection for many- lost trains, a boilerful o’broth, a Sunday in Glasgow, and many lesser sundry happenings- part of the price of being far from the land.

An Organising Genius – Round about this time yeoman service was given by such as “Tammy” Locke, Willie Ferrier, and that incomparable worker, the late John Lister, who did almost as much to ease the little sufferings of the struggling club, in particular, as his illustrious namesake did to humanity in general. He had genius for organising, he spared no effort to bring the team to the fore, and he put it on a sound financial basis, though the Vics have never been any more than passing rich. One of the many good things he did was in bringing forward Dan McLean, who was capped for Junior Scotland against England in 1907. About this time they had a side considered to be just as good as any ever representing the club, winning the three local trophies and only going out in the fourth round of the Scottish Cup at Quarter with this side:- G. Harvey, J. Johnston, McKenzie, J. Cunningham, J. McMillan, J. Clark, N. McPhail, Matt. McLachlan, W. Alexander, H. Miller, and Dan McLean. The 1927-28 lot: - Sweet, Stirling Weir, McGuire, Adams, Paton, Haig, McColl, McArthur, Ballantyne, and Barbour – won the Renfrewshire Challenge Cup, taking it out of Renfrewshire for the first time since Campbeltown collared it some 40 years previously.

1930 Success – Another side which might claim to be their best ever was the 1929-30 eleven- Robinson, Campbell, Weir, McKellar, Adams, Paton, McMillan, Orr, Ferguson, Munro, Leitch. Aberdeen Hall Russells shattered their hopes of the Scottish Cup that year, but to go thus far, at the time, made local history. Next year’s eleven was also a good one- Wotherspoon, Stevenson, Buchanan, McKellar, Adams, Paton, McLaren, Snoddy, M. Ferguson, Wellwood, and J. Ferguson. They went right to the semi-final of the national competition, losing to Burnbank Athletic 2-1 at Paisley, whilst, singularly enough, it was Denny Hibs who deprived them of interest in the Scottish Junior League Victory Cup. The “Vics” actually won, but a protest was sustained, and they ultimately passed out. Then in 1931-32 this side created a stir: - Wotherspoon, Stevenson, McDougall, Irvine, McKellar, Edward, Aldton, Divers, M. Ferguson, Blue, and Brooks. They won the Western Section of the Scottish Junior League, and in the deciding game at Firhill- which I enjoyed greatly- defeated the Eastern Section winners by 4-2 for the honour of the championship trophy. David Alston and Archie Blue are in the present team and both provisionally signed for Partick Thistle mainly on account of the good show that night.

Feeding the Seniors – They have sent quite a number of players to the seniors, and before the war period the undernoted were the principal promotions:- Peter Thompson (goal) to Chesterfield, Hugh McKenzie (goal) to Morton, James Johnston (back) to Blackburn Rovers, Thomas Thompson (back) to Queen’s Park, James Haig (half-back) to Chesterfield, James (John) Rutherford (forward) to Derby County, Wm. Gray, Dan McLean and William Welsh (all forwards) to St. Mirren, also forwards Matt McLellan to Aberdeen, Archd. Thorburn and Wm. Hamilton to Albion Rovers, Wm. Gilchrist to Morton, and John Anderson to Chesterfield. Comparatively recent advancements were Wm. Ballantyne to Morton, Alex Wood and Robert Russell to Airdrie, W. McMillan to Swansea, John Leitch to Plymouth Argyle, James Ferguson to Wrexham, and William Buchanan to Bangor. The club has had many fine counsellors. The late ex-Bailie George G. Hill was a popular president in the years immediately preceding the war. Mr. Gavin Fleming was also an energetic member. Mr. Robert McCord, president about 30 years ago, was another outstanding man, and Mr. John Gillies, the present head of affairs, has held presidential office for four seasons, and a long connection- since 1896. Mr. John W. Irving was secretary during many of the good years until 1930, and was succeeded by the present scribe, Mr. John Gilles, jun. Mr. John Moore represents the club on the various associations, Mr. John Morrison, a former player, acts as

treasurer, and Mr. Robert McKellar, who looks after the physical wellbeing of the players, has been connected with the club since his boyhood days. The club is also being fortunate in having an untiring ladies' committee, who render valuable aid by means of their organising of whist drives and dances, etc., during the winter. I would like to express my thanks to Mr. MacDonald and Mr. William Thorburn for their assistance in my quest.

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## THE TEAM THAT GAVE US STEVENSON

History of Kilbirnie Ladeside

Kilbirnie and the adjacent community of Glengarnock have given many fine products to the industrial world, but in the football side of things nothing more perfect than that splendid type of player, Gentleman George Stevenson, of whom they are intensely proud. His fame almost rivals that of the other George Stephenson, whose invention dealt with another form of locomotion. The Ladeside club was formed in 1901 and the Ladeside field, their one and only home, opened on December 14 of that year by a friendly visit from Dalry Juniors, with this team wearing the amber and black colours: - J. Millar, H. Purdie, J. McDonald, H. Ross, James Watt, and D. Devlin, D. Marshall, J. Reid, R. Barclay, J. Connolly, and J. Ronnie. The first officials were: - President, Daniel Cochrane; vice-president, John Miller; financial secretary, Robert Partridge; treasurer, Hugh Purdie; and match secretary, Hugh Law. They also had a well-known local schoolmaster, Mr. John M. Fulton, as honorary president, and the famous senior internationalist, Frank Watt, as hon. vice-president. Mr. Hugh Law became prominent later as manager with St. Mirren. Bobby Templeton, manager with Hibernian, was a player at one period with Ladeside.

A Good Eleven – Ladeside have reared many fine players for service in the senior ranks, and at random I sort out eleven who could hold their own with the best in:- McCloy (Clyde), Willie Dowell (Motherwell), R. Templeton (Hibs), W. Hood (Clyde), T. McCosh (St. Mirren), D. Turnbull (Celtic), W. Knox (Dundee), W. McGrath (Ayr United), J. Wilson (Rangers), G. Stevenson (Motherwell), and J. Rutherford (St. Mirren). Kilbirnie have achieved a goodly measure of success in competitive football, the principal honours being as tabulated herewith:- Ayrshire Cup – 1912-13 and 1923-24; Ayrshire Consolation Cup – 1907-08, 1910-11, 1920-21, and 1931-32; Western League Cup – 1923-24 and 1931-32; “Irvine Herald” Cup – 1906-07, 1912-13, and 1923-24; Irvine and District Cup – 1904-05, 1910-11, and 1912-13. Probably the best ever side was their 1912-13 eleven: - White, Chaplin, Tait, Roberts, Richmond, McDougall, Laird, Frew, Howie, McCosh, and Rutherford. This lot won the Ayrshire, “Irvine Herald”, and Irvine and District Cups, and went as far as the semi-final of the Scottish Cup, when they fell at Shawfield Park to Inverkeithing United, the ultimate winners, rather unluckily, finishing as they did this tie with only eight men. Many considered Ladeside were really the best junior combine in the country that season. “Richie” Brown, a local lad, came into the side towards the end of that season at centre-forward, created a big stir, played in one of the finals, was “capped” for Scotland, and soon signed for Clyde. Mr. A.K. Taylor was secretary of this smart set.

Cup Winners - Other important sides were such as their first Cup-winning eleven in 1905:- McDonald, Armour, Smith, W. Crossan, W. Low, Jack, Torrance, Cook, Rankine, Steel, and Borland. That eleven beat Troon Rangers at Meadow Park, Irvine, in the final of the Irvine and District Cup, and was trained by Pat Hughes, who gave years of faithful service to the club. Next comes the team that whacked Irvine Victoria in the “Irvine Herald” Cup final by 2-1 at Kilwinning in 1907:- D. Farquhar, Barbour, Smith, Wardrop, Law, R. Menzies, McKie, J. McCosh, W. Reid, Young, and Aitken. Then there was the 1908 lot who won the Ayrshire Consolation Cup 2-1 in the final at Kilwinning at the expense of Irvine Victoria again:- T. Farquhar, Jackson, Barbour, J. Crossan, Law, R. Menzies, Blackwood, Young, Semple, J. Reid, and J. Gray.

Consolation Again – Again this Consolation came to Kilbirnie in 1911 through the medium of this side: - Paterson, Gray, McDougall, King, Gallagher, Kilpatrick, Lewis, Nisbet, Sinclair, T. McCosh, and Jack. These were pre-war sides. The first important lot after the war was that which once more had the Consolation in 1921, the “Buffs” being beaten at Kilmarnock 1-0 by:- McQueen, J. Berryman, W. Berryman, Barnardo, Munro, McDougall, Alex. Munro, McMillan, Torrance, R. Berryman, and Rutherford. In season 1923-24 Ladeside had a very capable young team, winning triple honours in the form of the Ayrshire Cup, “Irvine Herald” Cup, and Western League Cup with:- McKay, Mack, Dunlop, Hood, Borland, Munro, Russell, McWhinnie, Alex. Munro, McInnes, and Shedden. Mr. J. Allan was secretary of this lot, and Robert Blythe attended to their physical welfare.

Team That Beat Pollok – When the Intermediate period arrived Ladeside were all for it, and, although they did not make history, contrived to work in a few interesting returns, notably the besting of Pollok at Kilbirnie at a

time when the Glasgow club were favourites for the Scottish Intermediate Cup. Here are the eleven Kilbirnie lads: - Fallon, Berryman, Morton, McLaughlan, Denholm, Tennent, J. McLaughlan, McGrath, McKay, Barr, and Roach. Officials during that testing period were Messrs John Connell, Robert Finlay, James Hughes, David Boyd, the late Kenneth McPherson, and Alex. Hodgart. The last-named is the present secretary, and, to judge by the able manner in which he has assisted me to sort out things, a very painstaking and enthusiastic club worker. Mr. John Wallace has also been very indulgent in digging up material about the pre-war times, the records of which have gone astray. Consequently, some good folk to whom credit is really due may not be mentioned, but it is impossible to cover everything and everybody in a short synopsis.

Prominent Officials – However, particular reference may be made to the services given by such prominent officials as the late Daniel Cochrane, one of the pioneers of the club, who acted as representative to the various associations, and was a life member of the Ayrshire and S.J.F.A. The late Mr. J. Whitelaw was another who zealously studied the club interests. Others not already referred are such as Messrs W. Fotheringham, R. McWhinnie, Joe Ireland, D. Devlin, J. Ginegal, G. McClure, G. Allan, R. Hood, W. Walker, M. Barclay, H. Donnelly, J. Hughes, A. Clark, W. Clark, J.R. Nicholson, M. Fyfe, A. Darroch, J. McCartney, and J. McGlade. After the Intermediate breach was healed the club joined up under the Scottish Junior flag again, and last season, 1931-32, gathered a fine young side together sufficiently good to win the Western League Cup at the expense of the “Buffs”, and the Ayrshire Consolation from the other Kilwinning side, Eglinton. The latter game was the one in which Wilson, the reserve centre now at Ibrox, rattled in five of the six goals scored by his side, which read:- McGeoch, Steel, Morton, Tennent, Bradley, McCully, Stevenson, Nicholson, Wilson, McGrath, and Borland.

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## DARVEL'S CLAIM TO FOOTBALL FAME

Where Famous Rangers Were Reared - Some Of Their Best Teams

Darvel's claim to football distinction could well be founded on the sole fact that they produced such fine and desirable players as Alec Smith and the late “Nick” Smith, both of whom, as most of us know, were associated with Rangers. Their club was formed in 1892 from an amalgamation of two local teams- Darvel and Royal Albert. Their first team was Paterson, N. Smith, Ross, Young, Cochrane, Wilson, W. Struthers, J. McCartney, J. Borland, M. Struthers, and G. Finlay; while officials at the inception were:- President, G. Morton; vice-president, G. Young; treasurer, J. Brown; secretary, R. McBride. In those days it was considered a privilege to play in that team, and those who did paid their own expenses and weekly contributions without a murmur. Compare that with the present-day attitude, when, as one disgruntled treasurer said, “If he wanted change for a penny he would never go to a player, because he would only get one ha'penny for it.”

Some Old-Timers – Darvel old-timers, such as Messrs James Cochrane, W. Ireland, and John Clelland, revel in recollecting the past. There is, for instance, one rare story which may chasten the moderns who demand a “prize every time”. J. McNair, a local newsagent who helps to spread the gospel according to “The Evening Times”, played in no fewer than 20 finals and never once was on the winning side. But, as he philosophically relates, there was compensation; he got a badge in a “five-a-side” at Beith! Kirkland Park was their first ground, in the laying out of which players, officials, and “spare parts” all did some good spade work, including digging up a hedge which ran the length of the field. They are now located at Recreation Park, a tidy enclosure with a neat pavilion which I admired not long ago on the annual sports day.

A Good Start – Darvel made an auspicious beginning, reaching the final of the Ayrshire Cup in the first four years of their existence. In 1892 they lost to Glenbuck (1-3), in 1893 Irvine Rangers beat them by the odd goal, but in 1894 they at last won, Shawbank losing by the odd goal in three. Again in 1895 they won this cup, beating Woodend by 1-0 (officially). But to this day many swear there was no goal scored in that final, in which nets were not used! The first cup-winning team was: - Yuille, Paterson, Ross, Morton, Cochrane, Clelland, Lister, McCartney, Struthers, Cochrane, and Smith. The oldest inhabitants swear that this was their best side, and also that Cochrane and Smith formed the best junior left wing ever. The middle division- known then as the 18 feet half-back line- we are told, were “yards”, if not “miles” ahead of anything. J. Cochrane, the centre half, is now the local gas manager. One of the fond memories of their first year (1892) was when they also reached the semi-final of the Scottish Cup, to be beaten by the Minerva (3-1). The local folks could perhaps forget the score, but never Stewart, the Minerva right half, who played “skittles” along the whole Darvel left!

Another Bright Period – The next big, bright period came in 1902, when they had another side of top class in:- McBride, Logie, Clelland, Johnstone, Kerr, McNair, Torrance, A. Morton, D. Hopkins, R. Norton, and Craig.

They went as far as the Scottish Cup semi-final and the Ayrshire Cup final, but lost both games. They were beaten in the County Cup by Stewarton Juniors, whom, I believe were amongst the first to start the fashion of having a number of Glasgow young men down to assist. Two of these were Charlie Chalk, who later played outside right for Rangers, and the other, who might readily have developed as a football artist of the Bobby Templeton type, was Eugene Rougerelle. The "Eugy" fellow somehow faded out, but he had ability undoubted. The team that lost to Stewarton was: - Barbour, Craig, McLelland, Johnstone, Wylie, McNair, Hopkins, Woods, Thornton, Taylor, and Craig.

Stewarton Beaten – They had revenge on Stewarton in 1905 by dismissing them from the "Irvine Herald" Cup with the following: - McBride, Young, Fulton, Lawson, Kerr, B. Ross, Howie, Wishart, Millar, Craig, and J. Wishart. In 1908 the Kilmarnock League was won by: - Armour, McNair, Baird, J. Muir, Borland, Paterson, Lawson, McClymont, R. Young, S. Young, and R. Finlay. It is a bit of a jump until 1921-22, when the Irvine and District Cup was won by: - Christie, McGill, Morton, Ireland, Lawson, McEwan, Donnelly, Spiers, Hood, Ross, and McLean. Next year the same cup was brought home by this side: - Christie, Woodburn Gregg, McPherson, Lawson, McEwan, Laidlaw, Cook, Watson, Ross, and McColl. In 1927 they had another good, but again rather unfortunate, side who got as far as the Scottish Cup semi-final to be beaten by Rutherglen Glencairn at Rugby Park. The team was: - Nair, Allan, Watson, McPherson, Finlay, Strang, Bryson, Kennedy, Easton, Morton, and McGill.

League Cup Won – The Western League Cup was won in season 1930-31, Kilwinning Rangers being beaten (3-1) by the following side:- Hamilton, Wilson, Barrett, Ballantyne, Finlay, Morton, Moir, Cox, Gilchrist, Holland, and Monaghan. They have given many excellent players to the seniors, and by reason of proximity Kilmarnock have profited most, at least numerically having signed the following at various times:- J. Cochrane, W. Johnstone, D. Williams, D. Howie, J. Allen, McEwan, H. Morton, J. McColl, J. Wishart. Rangers had Nick Smith, Alec Smith, R. Ireland, A. Dick, H. Morton, and J. Craig. Hamilton Academicals did not do so badly with W. Allan and J. Cox, and neither did Alloa with Ross, Gilliland, and Bell. The club has been fortunate in having many fine officials, acting and honorary, and special tribute might be made to the undernoted gentlemen: - Messrs James McInnes, J. Cochrane, R. Jamieson, W. Neil, H. Morton, D. Paterson, J. Cox, W. Johnstone, J. Anderson, W. Allan, N. Lawson, D.S. Service, and our old friend Alec Smith, whom I saw at Perth recently looking as young as ever. He seemed fit enough to have turned out for Rangers, who were at Muirton that day, and in whom he obviously still takes deep interest. The other Smith, the late Nicol, will always be remembered by his wonderful physique great speed, and that remarkable type of "hitch kick" which mesmerized many an opponent close up on him with the surprising spring into the air. The affairs of the club are at present in the hands of President R. Anderson, Vice-President D. Young, Treasurer S. Young, and Secretary J.C. King, with the valuable assistance of Messrs Wm. Hamilton, J. Pollard, M. Ireland, W. Lohead, and trainers Carrick and Campbell. All are so sufficiently capable that they are to be entrusted with continuous charge during season 1933-34.

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## BUTE ATHLETIC AND THEIR DEEDS

### What They Have Done In Thirty Years

Bute Football has recently had a modified measure of boosting through the activities of the two Rothesay clubs, and the other day when on a visit to the town I could not help overhearing that the harbour gossip related more to trophy-hunting rather than Loch Fyne fishing. Rothesay has the Royal Victoria, with whom I have already dealt, and Bute Athletic, and in addition a revival of the old St. Blane's is proposed. Familiar names run through the Bute Athletic teams, such as Stewart, Thorburn, Cunningham, Lamont, and, not the least representative, the Clan McMillan. Rothesay would not be complete without the "M. and M." yellow bus, and the Athletic were not complete until the ex-Provost McMillan granted this coach-house for their stripping quarters. The club, originally a juvenile one, became juniors in season 1901-02, the first officials appointed at a meeting held on August 17, 1901, being:- President, Mr. J. McLean; vice-president, Mr. D. Bowie; secretary, Mr. M. Cunningham; and treasurer, Mr. J. Wright. A. Stevenson was given the captaincy of the following first side:- Gillies, Bone, Jamieson, N. McCallum, McTaggart, Thompson, Collins, J. Wright, Stevenson, D. McCallum, and N. McLean. J. Martin was sometimes drafted into the side.

In Pre-War Days – In pre-war days the club had a comparatively lean time, though some of their more important games showed them in quite a good light. Apparently they could, in a cup-tie, at any rate, be looked upon as a "good draw." This reputation was achieved through the habit they formed of drawing all these games, but as they had developed another more fatal one of losing all the replays the gilt was all too soon worn off. In 1906-

07 they mended their ways by winning the Knockdhu Charity Cup. Prior to that, in 1904, against their dear friends, the Royal Vics, in a Greenock and District Cup tie, they made quite a fair stand with the following side:- Derby, McMillan, Bone, Campbell, Johnstone, R. Cunningham, McPhail, Oliphant, McCallum, T. Stewart, and J. Gillies. It took four games to separate them, the Vics finally winning 2-0.

Odd Goal In Seventeen – Then in the next season, in the Scottish Cup, they had another long argument, this time with Gourock Juniors, who by the odd goal finally whacked this eleven:- Purvis, McMillan, McKenzie, Campbell, Hay, Cunningham, Horn, Stewart, Bone, Clark, and Gillies. During this same period they had a keen duel with St. Blane's in the Buteshire Cup, played on "home-on-home" rules. They went out by the odd goal in seventeen! There was no Knockdhu competition owing to the Town Council closing the Public Park, and therefore no further knock-out! Season 1905-06 found them with quite a good lot to open with in: - Purvis, McMillan, McColl, Wilson, McKenzie, Kemp, M. McMillan, Nicol, Stewart, Clark, and Gillies. But again they were not lucky, though reaching the final of the Buteshire Cup and being runners-up in the Salvesen Shield League. New office bearers had come along by this time in: - President, G. Ritchie; vice-president, A. Thompson; secretary, J.K.H. Walker; and treasurer, J. Wright.

A Cup Won – The next year (1906-07) was when as mentioned they at last won a Cup- a good side being brought together in:- Harvey, Rutherford, McKenzie, James McMillan, Campbell, John McMillan, M. McMillan, A. Stewart, T. Stewart, Clark, and Lamont. Their trophy capture here was the Knockdhu Charity Cup, in which they defeated Royal Victoria in the semi-final by 5-3, and more emphatically beat St. Blane's (8-1) in the final. As each of the three local clubs had won a trophy a series of challenge games were played. Bute beat the "Vics" and St. Blane's and were hailed champions. Further changes came on the official side the following year when these gentlemen took office: - President, John Lyle; vice-president, Mr. Bone; treasurer, W. Ferrier; whilst Mr. Walker continued as secretary. The succeeding five years were relatively uneventful, football locally being at a low ebb, but then came 1911-12 with the winning of the Salvesen Shield by this team:- McDermott, James Curran, Joe Curran, Gunn, Robertson, Clark, Peacock, Stewart, Templeton, Lamont, and McKendrick. Badges for this were presented by Mr. Edward Spencer, who took much interest in the club's welfare at this period.

Closed Down – The war meant a closing down- it was the Bute Mountain Battery which was doing the big things of the time, as I know well. However, in 1920, when football revived, Mr. Spencer took steps to resuscitate the Athletic, and at a meeting in May the following office-bearers set it agoing: - President, E. Spencer; vice-president, G. Prentice; secretary, R. Blair; and treasurer D. Lamond, with a strong committee in Messrs T. Napier, James Thorburn, R. Whiteford, J. Oliphant, R. Crawford, A. Campbell, W. Jenkins, A. Cunningham, whilst G. Spence as trainer looked after the physical side. "Old times had gone, old customs changed", and now Bute Athletic did not stop at draws. They won all three local Cups- Buteshire, Salvesen, and Knockdhu- and this was fully recognised by Mr. Spencer entertaining players and officials to a celebration dinner and presenting badges. The club had a good choice of men at this time in:- Smart and Purves (goal); A. Thorburn, W. Thorburn, and R. Bambridge (backs); Bone, Meldrum, and Cunningham (half-backs); R. Whiteford, A. Cunningham, W. Bambridge, W. Jenkins, R. Morrison, C. Donnelly, and W. Little (forwards).

In Loyalist Camp – When the Intermediate split occurred the club remained in the loyalist camp, and were admitted to the Scottish Junior League. In 1925-26 the club brought their first outside honour to the island when they won the Renfrewshire Junior League after a deciding game with Overton Athletic. The full honours list reads\*:- Salvesen Shield – 1908, 1911, 1921, 1922, 1926, 1927, 1928, and 1932; Buteshire Cup – 1910, 1921, 1922, 1924, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1930, and 1932; Knockdow Charity Cup – 1907, 1921, 1923, 1925, and 1929; Renfrewshire Junior League – 1925-26; Renfrewshire Junior Cup – 1931-32. The most prominent player reared by the club was probably James McMillan, who played with Falkirk when they had one of their very best sides, with Bobby Orrock, MacDonald, Johnny McNaught, Jimmy Croall, and others, and won a Scottish Cup badge in 1913 when Falkirk beat Raith Rovers at Celtic Park. Others who went "upstairs" were J. Nicol, D. McKellar, Hamilton, and Glass (Queen's Park), J. Gillies and C.H. Lyle (Morton), Spence (Clyde), Schofield (Arthurlie), McLean (Ayr Parkhouse), M. McMillan (Blackburn Rovers), R. Young (Johnstone), J. McGee (Hull City), Muir (Kilmarnock), Hasson (Third Lanark), A. Purves and E. McGuire (Newcastle United), James McDougall (Partick Thistle and Liverpool), and Pinkerton, their outside left for the moment, is provisionally signed for Partick Thistle.

Best Team Ever – Opinions vary, but perhaps the best side ever representing the club was:- A. Purves, Jas. McMillan, A. McKenzie, A. Campbell, J. McMillan, Clark, M. McMillan, A. Stewart, T. Stewart, D. Lamond, and J. Gillies. The ruling officials now are: - President, J. Ferguson; vice-presidents, J. McColme and W. Miller; treasurer, J. McEwan, secretary, J.R. Whitelaw. W. Cunningham acts in the capacity of trainer of the following



side which is finishing up a good season: - Beattie, Lang, McIlvennie, Boyce, Whitton, McCabe, Sinclair, Forbes, Colquhoun, Curie, and Pinkerton. Two drawn games have been played with Yoker Recreation for possession of the Scottish League Victory Cup, and today they meet Royal Victoria in the final tie for the Salvesen Shield. There has always been a lot of willing helpers at the command of the club, and the present officials express their gratitude towards the Ladies' committee, who undertake the various entertainments activities.

\* Knockdown Charity Cup won in 1926 not 1925. No success in Renfrewshire Junior Cup.

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## WHERE CLYDE GOT FRANK MCGURK

Short but Notable Career of Blantyre Celtic - Their Share of the Honours

Blantyre Celtic rank more amongst the moderns than their neighbours, the Victoria, but have now established themselves amongst our Scottish Central League clubs, and may in time add to the football lustre of the district. The club was founded in season 1917-18 under the guidance of President E. Lawrie, Vice-President W. Higgins, Treasurer Peter Cassidy, Financial Secretary J. Higgins, and Secretary Eddie Morgan. Both Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Morgan still retain their connection with the club, and the latter is well known in the Central League circles. With headquarters at Craighead Park the first set of players doing duty included Russell, Murray, Toner, Lawrie, McKeown, Cuthill, Devlin, Dunsmuir, McGuire, P. Scullion, Henderson, J. Scullion, and Clayton, and from these a good side was always available.

Impressive Start – They made quite an impressive start by winning in their first year the Lanarkshire Central Cup, the forerunner of many county triumphs, as almost every season they managed to pick up something or other, and, if not certainly making a few splashes. In 1918-19 they had solace with the Lanarkshire Consolation Cup after finishing runners-up in the Lanarkshire League. At any rate, they were marching along together in the proper direction. The next season they again ran second in the League, but collared a couple of cups- the Central Cup once more and the more exalted honour of the Lanarkshire County Challenge Cup, beating Cleland Juniors in the final at Fir Park, Motherwell. They had rather a good left-winger about this time in Stewart, who got his junior cap against Ireland.

The Best Eleven? - Many good judges considered that in the following lot the Celtic had one of the best sides in junior football of season 1919-20:- Coyle, Anderson, Rodden, Connor, Cunningham, Connolly, Devlin, Mackie, Reid, Kelly, and Stewart. 1920-21 was not quite such a successful period, but there was the "Consolation" once again for them. The following year found them running hard for both the County and the Central Cups- only to miss both and have the misfortune to be relegated to the Second Division of the League, a rather strange experience for County Cup finalists! However, they paddled along in the Second Division, never lost a game in it, yet never won the League. They made hereabouts quite a stir, and, perhaps, created a precedent as a second class club in reaching the Scottish Cup semi-final, only surrendering to the mighty Parkhead- the 1923-24 winners- by one goal, and a penalty kick at that.

League Champions – Then they went back to collecting honours again with the Lanarkshire Central Cup and the Second Division championship. Of course, this took them back to the charmed upper circle of the First Division for 1924-25, and raised their heads sufficiently high to land the Lanarkshire Consolation Cup. The next two seasons were comparatively uneventful, although in 1926-27 they were finalists in Lanarkshire County and Central Cups. Then came the Intermediate period, and their first season in the "rebel" camp found them runners-up in the Lanarkshire Intermediate Cup. They had rather a good side in 1928-29, good enough to challenge Parkhead for second place in the Scottish Intermediate League, and that only determined after a "rubber" game with Parkhead. 1929-30 found them reach the final of the Scottish Intermediate League Cup, only to lose to Clydebank by the odd goal in nine, at Barrowfield Park.

Something Unusual – In this particular competition they had a rather unique experience. They were beaten in the second round by Rob Roy. Bellshill, who in the early stage had been given a bye, again came out of the hat for another, but according to rule no club was allowed two byes in one competition, and it was decided to find them someone to play. Therefore the teams previously knocked out were balloted, and the Celtic were drawn to get a new lease of life. This was the side who played in one of their many Cup-ties that season: - Wallace, Scullion, T. McGurk, McCue, Allan, McNamee, F. McGurk, Weir, Rankine, Gallagher, and Miller.

Fruitful Season – Season 1930-31 was fruitful. Three cups were won- Lanarkshire Intermediate, Langbank Charity, and Glasgow Consolation. Here was one of their Consolation Cup elevens: - Taggart, Thomson, T.

McGurk, McCue, Allan, McNamee, F. McGurk, Gallagher, Greenhorn, Lennon, and Miller. The next year they reached the 5th round of the Scottish Cup before Rob Roy showed them the “exit”. This season they went to the last eight before Yoker Athletic quietened them. One side representing them recently was: - Dickson, James, Feenie, Cook, Kane, Allan, McArdle, McDonald, Kiggins, Reilly, and Gilbert. Quite a new set, although wee Johnny McArdle, once of St. Roch's and Celtic, will be readily recognised.

A Clyde Recruit – They have reared some mighty good players, possibly the most consistently successful being the dapper Frank McGurk, the Clyde outside right. When I first saw him there was another winger in the striped jerseys who appealed to me even more forcibly, but he does not seem to have possessed the merit of McGurk's consistency. Miller was the player I refer to, a lightly built lad who might have developed as another Bobby Templeton for delicate trickery, but first with Hearts and then later under Andrew Cunningham at Newcastle he seems not to have “arrived”. In that same side was a very sturdy, solid type of goalkeeper whom I thought might make a big name, although not tall enough for my taste. Taggart by name, he signed later for Motherwell. Then this season there was John Allan, whom Hamilton Academicals signed and played the same day against Rangers in what proved to be a rather sensational League match, drawn at 4 goals each. Allan is also an Uddingston cricketer of outstanding merit.

Some Former Players – Others who went upstairs from the Celtic ranks were Adamson (Bury), Plunkett (Bury), Gibson (Sunderland), Laird (Sunderland), Reid (Portsmouth), Mackie (Portsmouth), J. Kelly (Hamilton Academicals), C. Kelly (Queen's Park), Hardie (Third Lanark), McCourt (Hibs), Gardner (Clydebank), O'Shea (Cowdenbeath), McFarlane (Alloa), Lennon (King's Park), Collins (Charlton), O'Neil (Burnley), Stewart (Bo'ness), Telfer (Motherwell), Joe Allan (Leith), Goodwin (Wigan), and Docherty (South Shields). They have had many excellent patrons, and outstanding might be mentioned Mr. Robert Thom (Bothwell), Dr M.J. Harkin, and the Rev. Robert Paterson; and particularly zealous amongst the officials have been Messrs Cassidy, Morgan, and G. Thomson. Mr. Thomson held the secretaryship for eight seasons. Already their plans are fairly well laid for next season, and with some likely lads under review they are optimistic about their future.

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## WISHAW'S BIG PART IN THE GAME

All the Honours Won by Local Clubs -What Present Club has Done

Wishaw is by no means a new name on the football map. As far back as 1887-88 Wishaw Thistle won the Scottish Junior Cup, beating our city club, Maryhill, by 3-1 after two protested games. This was only the second year of the Scottish competition, Fairfield (Glasgow) having won the first final the previous season by beating Woodburn (Edinburgh). Wishaw Thistle thus were the first “provincial” winners. Wishaw Swifts- with whom Mr. David Calderhead, who has just retired from office with Chelsea after many years' service, was connected- can also be recalled. The present club was formed in season 1919-20, and known as Wishaw Y.M.C.A., under the presidency of Mr. R. Thomson, and with Mr. G. Tannahill as treasurer and Mr. D. McLellan as secretary.

The First Team – Their first team was: - Harper, Stevenson, Keenan, Jack, Ramsey, Higgins, Ferguson, Wyper, Rennox, Watson, and Cringan. This was one of their best, if not actually the cleverest, and they quickly asserted themselves by winning the Scottish League Victory Cup for 1920, beating Yoker Athletic by one goal to nil after a two-goal drawn game. Of their team several stepped up, Harper going to Sunderland, Stevenson to Grimsby Town, and Rennox to Clapton Orient. They also were runners-up in the Scottish Junior League. In 1921 they made a fine show in the Scottish Junior Cup, only going out in the seventh round to Ashfield, who were lucky enough to get a goal through Harper, Wishaw's goalkeeper having the misfortune to find that, after punting the ball out with his fist, is struck Fulton and rebounded into the net.

A Lanarkshire Final – There were some fine players in the Wishaw side at this time, such as Wyper and Cringan being prominent. Later on that year they played in the final of the Lanarkshire Junior Cup at Fir Park, losing to New Stevenson United by the odd goal in five with this team:- Harper, Stevenson, Cullen, Bryson, Biggins, Good, White, Renwick, McFadyen, Nichol, and Watson. Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-two found their form of a see-saw nature. There were good results, such as whacking Yoker Athletic (7-2) and Croy Celtic (5-1) on successive Saturdays, followed by results distinctly not so good! In 1923 they again made a special Scottish Cup effort, going to the sixth round before unexpectedly falling to Arniston Rangers, and at Wishaw too. The composition of their elevens varied a lot that year, and so did form, on account of these changes.

Intermediate “Splash” – They gained a measure of success next season with a typical side in: - Binnie, Higgins, Douglas, Mullin, Good, McDougall, Russell, Hart, Kerr, McKay, and Galloway. Changes were still rapid, and

against Coalburn in the Lanarkshire Consolation Cup this was their lot: - Kelly, Irvine, Watts, McNeil, Telfer, Morton, Garvie, McIntyre, Lynas, McKenzie, and McAulay. But it was their 1929 doings that I have most vivid recollection, They made rather a splash in the Intermediate circles and reached the final of the Scottish Intermediate Cup, being beaten 3-1 by the crack Baillieston team of that period, which included stars like Higgins and Anderson (Hearts), Ure (Ayr United), Main and Conlin (Rangers).

Three Ordered Off – It was a good game I well remember, referee Calder having occasion to send three lads out of the 22 to the pavilion earlier than the usual. Wishaw's team in this match was: - Meek, Miller, Gillespie, Donnelly, Sommerville, Hamilton, Naughton, McIntyre, Colvin, Bryce, and McLaughlan. Colvin opened the scoring- Baillieston players did the rest. This season they have had their "names in the paper" for their good work. They ran Douglas Water Thistle hard in the Lanarkshire League and made some noise in the cups. During their career they have sent some excellent players "upstairs", and passed on others to some of the city junior clubs to get the benefit of their Wishaw upbringing. Dowdells, who became so well known with Shettleston, Parkhead, Rob Roy etc., is an instance.

Delightful Winger – The first Wishaw player I can recall playing senior was Willie Smith, the delightful moving outside left of Hibernian, who singularly enough, had a style of squaring a ball very effectively, similar to what the more famous W.H. Smith of Huddersfield Town developed in more recent times. For accuracy in crossing these two could scarcely be bettered. Another Wishaw product who took my fancy in pre-war days was the quiet, modest lad Donald Dixon, who came to the town and joined up with Ashfield at a time when they had one of their famous sides. Dixon went senior to Queen's Park, but unaccountably failed to make good there.

Side-Tracked – Bob Kerr, a good centre, went to Hearts, where, like so many others who have gone up there, he seemed to get side-tracked. On the day he played as a junior internationalist at Tynecastle he was the hero, with nearly the whole Wishaw population shouting with joy as he rattled on a fine couple of goals. Another centre who went up and then down out of sight was Collins, whose arrival at Hamilton Academicals' camp created a stir. He began very successfully, and his jaunty assurance seemed incapable of being disturbed. But somehow he drifted. As centre half the lanky J. Donnelly has been quite a good investment for Partick Thistle. Possibly the best known of all is Willie McFadyen of Motherwell, who eight or nine years ago joined at Fir Park, following up good men, such as Hugh Ferguson and Willie Tennant, Motherwell had him as a right half-back for some time, but Manager Hunter's belief in him as a centre forward has been since amply confirmed.

Some of Their Trophies – Wood, the present centre half of Clyde, is another seasoned product of Recreation Park. They have done quite a formidable amount of trophy-collecting, and include in their captures at one time or another the Lanarkshire Cup, Lanarkshire League, Lanarkshire Consolation Cup, Lanarkshire League Cup, Lanarkshire Central League, Scottish League Victory Cup, and the Hozier Cup. The club has had many fine officials, and at present affairs are in the capable hands of a controlling committee, in which are prominent personalities in President Bailie Livingstone and Secretary D. Wyper.

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## A GOOD NURSERY AT ALVA

Albion Rangers and Their Honours - Only the Scottish Cup Wanted

When I visited Alva recently, for the first time, perhaps to my shame, I was delighted with the charm of the countryside, and sundry little things pertaining to the "Hill Fits" district were courteously volunteered to me during the bus journey from Stirling by a fellow passenger who was a native of Alva. The natural attractions of the area are plentiful, and the benefactors of the Cochrane family indicated to me have added other things towards the amenities. The Alva Albion Rangers have always been an attraction to the football world generally, and the Stirlingshire area more particularly, although not reaching the eminence of Denny Hibs and Dunipace in winning the Scottish Junior Cup. Invariably, however, they make a sting, and nobody breathes freely until the Alva obstacle is surmounted. What established Alva in my esteem was when away far back as I can recall, they sent an outside right winger to Rangers, Johnny Graham, these being the days when it was a high honour to get a place at Ibrox- more difficult than now even. The Rangers at that time had a sort of stock company and rarely needed supers.

The First Team – Since then Alva have reared many other prominent players in a good nursery. The club was instituted in season 1895-96, with Mr. D. Watt president and Mr. J. S. Young as secretary, and both gentlemen held office for many years. The first team Alva fielded was as follows: - Ramage, Turnbull, Fair, Fraser, Leckie, Honeyman, Horne, Fulton, Dobbie, Graham, and J.G. Young. Of this team Fulton was amongst the first to go to

the seniors from the club, joining Sunderland. Graham, I note here, was playing at inside left. He was capped on three occasions for junior Scotland and then signed for Derby County.

Early Honours – They began winning honours early with the Clackmannanshire Junior League in 1896-97-98, 1900-01-02-03-04-05, the Clackmannanshire Charity Cup in 1896-97, 1897-98, 1900-01, 1901-02, 1902-03, 1903-04, and Clackmannanshire Challenge Cup 1901-02, 1903-04. In 1905-06 they won the East of Scotland Junior Cup beating Bowhill Juniors in the final, and they also collected the Fife Shield. The year 1907-08 found them again taking the East of Scotland Trophy, this time at the expense of the Arniston Rangers, and securing three cups in all this season by also annexing the Clackmannanshire Challenge and Charity\* Trophies. During season 1910-11 they were in the second division of the Stirlingshire League, and won it. There was nothing of great moment accomplished until 1914 came with the war closing down football activity in Alva.

After The War – After the war was over the club resumed, but had to find a new playing field, and this, situated in an outlying district, had to be latterly abandoned. It was a failure in the financial sense. In 1921 another field was secured at the entrance to the village, named Tollcross Park, and this is the ground at present occupied. An enterprising committee, including several local ex-Servicemen, headed by Mr. Robert Murray, got busy with endeavour to help the club along by their activities which resulted in the provision of a first-class pavilion and stand. To their present position in junior football the club is largely indebted to the following gentlemen who have assisted as officials during the past years, such as Messrs A. Denholm, D. Drummond, A. Foggo, R. Syme, D. Thomson, R. Murray, and P. Graham. At the moment affairs are guided by President A. Hunter, a strong committee, and Mr. James Cameron as secretary, a position he has occupied for the last ten years.

League Champions – In post-war years they have accomplished some worthy work, amongst their achievements being the winning in 1929 of the Scottish Junior League (Eastern Section), and in the play off with the Western Section winners Maryhill Hibs, Alva won the championship and trophy by 5 goals to nil. Their team here was: - McDonald, Cameron, Robertson, Dickson, Napier, Johnstone, Aitken, P. Moffat, W. Moffat, McDonough, and Monks. One of the best teams the club ever fielded, in the opinion of good judges, was the 1925-26 eleven, which lost to Bridgeton Waverley (ultimate finalists) in a Scottish Cup-tie:- Shepherd, J. Noble, Fyfe, Cochrane, Wood, Donald, Jenkins, James, Campbell, A. Noble, and W. Robertson. Then they also gathered in Stirlingshire Junior League Second Division in 1924-25, the Stirlingshire League Cup in 1930-31, and the Stirlingshire Charity Cup in 1931-32. Another smart set was that which was narrowly beaten at Firhill by their rivals, Dunipace Juniors, in the Victory Cup final in April 1928:- MacDonald, T. Turnbull, D. Turnbull, Hislop, Liddell, McLellan, W. Aitken, M. McDonough, G. Arthur, Moffat, and Robertson. In 1930 they were also runners-up in the Victory Cup to Dunblane Rovers.

Well-Known Names – In sending players upstairs to the seniors Falkirk claimed a goodly proportion, securing R. Gibson, J. Tainsh, F. Graham, J. Rennie, W. Tainsh, and A. Donaldson. Leith Athletic had a fair quota with H. Young, H. Stewart, M. Paterson, and A. Wotherspoon. Another stylish player who went to Rangers was McPherson, later transferred to Liverpool. Celtic had great expectations from D. Prentice when he arrived. He also had a fascinating movement, but somehow did not quite hit it off at Parkhead. Godfrey, a comparatively recent signing by Aberdeen, has proved a fairly good investment for the Dons. Ogilvie, the outside right of Motherwell, also bids fair to bring lustre to Fir Park and reflected glory in Alva.

With St. Johnstone – Harry Ferguson has been one of the prominent personalities at Perth with St. Johnstone for the last few seasons, and Partick Thistle found good, useful fellows in McNiven, Miller, and Fitzsimmons. Mitchell is another Motherwell obtained. Campbell was a strong player for Cowdenbeath, and Machin gave good service to Dundee United until an accident spoiled his future. Other signings were- Thomson (East Stirlingshire), Cowan (Rochdale), Napier (Kilmarnock), Russell (Airdrieonians), T. Cochrane (Arbroath), Leckie (St. Johnstone), Jackson and Rennie (Alloa), T. McDougall (King's Park), T. Miller, W. Hunter, and D. McDougall (Millwall).

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\* Clackmannanshire Junior Charity Cup won in 1906-07, not 1907-08.

## THE OLDEST CLUB IN STIRLINGSHIRE

### St. Ninian's Thistle's Good Deeds - Their Fair Share of the Honours

In the course of our duties we have established a connection "round the fields", but probably have known none just so historically important as Bannockburn. Writing about the battleground recently, an Englishman averred that he had discovered that the actual field of feud had been moved to suit the convenience of the local cricket club. That is rather a tall story, but he apparently stuck to it. However, I am not concerned with cricket; football is my business, and round about the other fields of Stirling district have been fought many important battles. St Ninian's Thistle, founded in 1893, have the distinction of being one of the oldest, if not actually the oldest, existing junior club in Stirlingshire.

Various Homes – They have had a few changes of grounds, starting in Coxithill, then to William Field, next Anchor Park, later Orchard Park, and finally on New Year's Day, 1907, to Borestone Park, their present headquarters. Mr. A. McLay was the first secretary of the club, and at the moment we have the latest- Tommy McWuillan. Amongst the earliest teams fielded was:- A. Thomson, Wiseman, Taylor, J. Harper, J. Dawson, D. Kay, Cochrane, Stewart, R. Harper, Muirhead, and McFarlane; in a Stirling and District final at Forthbank, which they lost (2-3) to Kenneth Rovers. They have done many notable things, but possibly their best season- the oldest inhabitant insists on it- was 1906-07, when they won three cups- Stirlingshire, Stirling and District, and Charity- in addition to running into the semi-final of the Scottish Cup, in which, at Atlas Park, Glasgow, Maryhill beat them 2-0. The team that season was: - Aitken, Harper, Laing, Brown, Thomson, Neilson, Parks, Hunter, McDonald, Maier, and Watson. Another good year was 1907-08. Again they won the three local Cups, and went to the semi-final of the Scottish Cup.

Not a Good Goal? – This time they were beaten by Larkhall Thistle (the ultimate winners of the trophy) by the only goal of the game, and in the opinions of many honest Stirling folks not a good goal at that, inasmuch as they swear the ball was propelled by hand. The side then read: - Aitken, Hill, Jenkins, Brown, Thomson, Neilson, Parks, Turner, Bowie, Mailer, and Watson. They had other good elevens, such as that which first won the Stirlingshire Cup, namely: - Aitken, Hynds, Murray, Gibson, Thomson, McFarlane, Dick, Mitchell, McIntosh, Meldrum, and Watson. Officials controlling affairs round about this period were:- President, J. McDiarmid; vice-president, J. Buchanan; secretary, R. Smith; treasurer, D. Pollock; and Messrs Wightman, Napier, Paul, Walls, Jenkins, and McFarlane, with trainer D. Wallace.

Another Scottish Reverse – The 1911 team raised hopes once more, but fell out of the Scottish Cup in the sixth round to Burnbank Athletic, the 1911 Cup-holders. St. Ninian's side then was: - Gordon Kerr, Hill, Marshall, Turner, Turnbull, Thomson, Moffat, Woodrow, Mailer, Dewar, and Haldane. The following side, which defeated Denny Hibs in a Stirlingshire Cup final at Brockville, is reckoned one of the best since the war:- Ferguson, Graham, Marshall, T. Moffat, Woods, Dempster, Forbes, Allan, Murray, Murphy, and Chisholm. In the season just closed the club again won the County Cup at the expense of Denny Hibs at Forthbank with this side:- Ure, Wright, Forsyth, Kaminski, Smith, Allison, Fowler, McLay, McKell, McLean, and McInnes ("Tich").

Honoured Players – Their players have been frequently honoured. At one time the club was able to field a full junior international forward line in Stalker, Croall, Mailer, Moffat, and McHarg. The first pair are remembered in Glasgow. Others capped were Turnbull, Laing, G. Mailer, and Dicky Dempster. The last named was selected as captain on three occasions- evidently he was exemplary as such. And how's this for long service? There was a Charlie Thomson who served for 20 years! Many players have been sent to the senior ranks, including Gordon Kerr (Queen's Park and Albion Rovers), R. Aitken (Kilmarnock), A. Thomson (Falkirk), A. Watson (Clyde), J. Brown (King's Park), Charles Cowie (Hearts), Dicky Dempster (King's Park), R. Dick (King's Park), Mailey (King's Park), Traynor (Celtic), Allison, Haldane, and F. Reford (Third Lanark), J. Marshall (King's Park), James Lamond (King's Park), and Graham (Stenhousemuir).

\*The article on St. Ninian's Thistle was supplemented by an article on Junior Football in the Bannockburn area. This article is included next\*

### What Bannockburn Has Done – Three clubs and a Plea for Another

The neighbouring village of Bannockburn also has a long football history, dating back to 1888, when it had a side known as Bannockburn Thistle. So Mr. McKinnie, a local enthusiast, tells me. About 1900 the local club was known as Bannockburn Juniors and played on Muir Park when Mr. Robert Donovan was secretary. Later in 1903 the club played on Walker's Park under the guidance of such as Messrs Charles McFarlane, Andrew

Allan, John Kirkwood, and Tom Philliben. At that time they had some great experiences, particularly the day on which team and officials on their way to Slamannan lost their way in the moss! The team then was: - D. McFarlane, Munnoch, Nicol, Meldrum, Mullen, Cassidy, Graham, Fulton, McLaren, Crawford, and T. McFarlane.

A 1905 Team – 1905 produced probably as good a side as the club ever possessed in:- Jas. Stevenson, Murdoch, Stewart, John Stevenson, D. Taylor, J. Thomson A. Rankin, S. Taylor, S. Meldrum, R. Mitchell, and A. Meldrum. They won the Second Division of the Stirlingshire League that season, only dropping one point. Next season they won the Stirling and District Cup. Then in 1907 they gathered another good team together in:- Jas. Stevenson, Dick, Gillon, John Stevenson, Hunter, Gilroy, J. Wilson, J. Cullen, R. Mitchell, A. Cullen, and A. Meldrum. Then in 1911 Bannockburn Celtic upheld the dignity of the district under President J. Docherty, and officials Messrs J. Welsh, J. Cairney, Andrew Wilson, W. Stitt, W. Stevenson, J. Dick, J. Barr, C. Green, J. Woods, and J. Craig, and with headquarters at Bruce Street Park. The following year found them with another of their formidable elevens in McDonald, S. Traynor, Bruce, J. Traynor, Cannons, Robert Welsh (1), Gray, Bennett, A. Morgan, Robert Welsh (2), and P. Morgan.

Many Good Players – There was another change in title in 1922, when Bannockburn United took the field with: - R. Sneddon, A. Sneddon, Thomson, J. Morgan, Gowans, Hyslop, Kilgannon, Small, Campbell, Allison, and Bennie. The officials hereabouts were President A. White, Secretary H. Allan, and on committee were Messrs J. Penman, J. Stevenson, P. Bradley, T. Stowell, A. Beattie, and Alex. Auld. The club made a good show that year, particularly in the Scottish cup-ties. Surely having reared so many good players the Bannockburn people might make more history by reviving a club for the district, where I noticed the open-air cult had many devotees. Amongst the prominent men who went to the seniors were such as Alex. Sneddon (Raith Rovers), Walter Sneddon (St. Mirren), Robert Mitchell (East Stirlingshire), Malcolm Campbell (Falkirk), Andrew Orr (Airdrieonians), Peter Murdoch (East Stirlingshire), Sam Caldwell (Bo'ness), John Meldrum (Stenhousemuir), Alex. Mitchell (Cowdenbeath), and that well known personality, Davie Taylor, who came to Ashfield in Glasgow, and thence to do really big things with Rangers, Bradford City, Burnley, and finally become manager with St. Johnstone. I am sure I have very inadequately dealt with the resources of the district, but perhaps sufficient to stir them to be up and doing greater deeds than ever before.

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## THEIR FAIR SHARE OF THE HONOURS

Maryhill Hibs and What They Have Done -Nursery of Many Good Players

(Article accompanied by photo of Charlie Napier)

The elevation to the presidency of the Scottish Junior Football Association last week of Mr. Tom Crawley set me to thinking of his connection with Maryhill Hibs, one of the outstanding teams formed in post-war years. It was incepted in 1922. The partial success of the local parish team in the Inter-Parish Tournament and the good deeds of the local Maryhill Hearts in Juvenile circles created a strong desire to have “Old Maryhill” represented in Junior football. Many years ago there had been a juvenile club, and with others such as Maryhill St. Vincent’s, Lambhill Harp of the past, established latent traditions quite readily famed into expression again.

Enthusiastic Start and – Like many other ventures of this nature, the club found that the enthusiasm displayed in the beginning was not sustained, support and sympathy erratic, and the labours of a few faithful folks have in the main kept thing going, and I should say, all things considered, rather successfully, with one or two particularly fine achievements to prove this contention. The first officials were: - President, T. Graham; vice-president, T. Crawley; financial secretary, J. McGhie; match secretary, S. Carr; treasurer, J. Canning; minute secretary, J. Moore. Of these only Messrs Crawley and Canning are now officially connected with the club, the first named being hon. president and the later president for some years now. Fine tribute is paid to the late Mr. T. Graham, a most popular personality, with his first thoughts always for the club in those early days.

Some Useful Workers – Others who have left a lasting impression on the club’s history are such as Mr. Crawley himself, an able, discriminating legislator whose important connection with football matters and men are so widely known as scarcely to need detailing; Mr. Eddie Moran, who was match secretary during the days when the club rose to the exalted heights; and Mr. George Desson, the present treasurer, who makes an amazingly agreeable “Chancellor of the Exchequer”; incidentally, he is affectionately termed “Snowdon”- surely a significant compliment. Headquarters are at Kelvindale Park, always worth a visit, and during the Intermediate period one of the principal ports of call by the seniors. The first side which the club possessed was composed of the following:- Hunter (Maryhill), Shields (Duntocher Hibs), Currie (Yoker Athletic), Keith (Benburb), Stewart

(Springburn Hibs), McLaughlin (Bridgeton Waverley), Biggars (Duntocher Hibs), O' Neill (Greenhead Thistle), Keyes (Cardowan St. Joseph's), Mount (Rutherglen Glencairn), and Beattie (Greenhead Thistle). It will be seen how this energetic committee had been round the fields in search of their footballers!

Charlie Napier's Place – What they have reared proves conclusively their right to high placing in the scheme of football things. At the moment probably the best known of all is Charlie Napier, the brilliant Celtic forward, who has puzzled us all with that “will of his own” in his playing performances. You never know what to expect from the “wandering wizard”, and that was exactly how the English League goalkeeper at Maine Road, Manchester, last November still wonders how Charlie's tricks are done. Then think of Peter Scarff. It just seems the other evening that I watched him leaning over the side of the Anchor liner with his mates and Mr. Maley, with the Scottish Cup, departing for their grand U.S.A. tour. Now Scarff's illness has forced him to give up.

“Wuggy” Gray's Club – There was also that hardy specimen, Jock McHale (Aberdeen), and that lad with the curious action and thunderbolt drive, “Wuggy” Gray, who went to Celtic and later Hamilton Academicals as a centre forward. As a goalkeeper Davie Nicol was one of the best. He, like Gray, served Celtic and Hamilton Academicals. His career as a senior had a lengthy interruption through an unfortunate injury. In some respect I think Johnny Meehan, now with St. Mirren, is as good as any of their products. He has a sort of will o' the wisp movement which has always fascinated me. Others who have gone “upstairs” are Joe Reilly, Jack Ferguson, Willie Brown, and Tommy McGonagle (Celtic), McMeekin and Burke (Airdrieonians), Jackson (Clyde), and J. McNeill (Portsmouth). International honours have been won by Nicol, Gray, Hillan, McGonagle, and Murphy- all capped by the S.J.F.A., while the Scottish Junior League recognised Nicol, Gray, Hillan, McGonagle, Napier, John Ferguson, Murphy, Nicholson, and Littlejohn. The club honours are plentiful. In 1925 they began to make themselves known in competitions, and reached the Scottish Junior League Victory Consolation Cup final, only to be beaten (4-2) by Duntocher Hibs after a drawn game of 2 goals each. In 1927 they again kept their name before the public, and amongst other things reached the semi-final of the Glasgow Junior Cup before being beaten (2-1) by Cambuslang Rangers, the ultimate winners of that trophy.

Scottish Cup Winners – But with season 1927-28 came the crowning achievements as winners of the Scottish Junior Cup, Scottish Junior League, Glasgow North-Eastern Cup, and Scottish League Victory Consolation Cup. The winning team was certainly the most successful, if not also the most capable, side the club has fielded, and read: - Nicol, Miller, Campbell, Brown, Ferguson, McNeill, Hay, Burke, Gray, Reilly, and McMeekin. They beat Burnbank Athletic in this Scottish Cup final by 6-2. All but Hay and Campbell were seniors the following season. After winning the Western section of the Scottish Junior League, they defeated the Eastern Section winners, Dunipace Juniors, by 4-1 in the deciding game for the championship. The Victory Consolation Cup was collected at the expense of Longriggend Wanderers by 2-0.

The 1928-29 Eleven – Next season (1928-29) they had probably a more brilliant and stylish playing side, if not quite so powerful, in: - Wotherspoon, Miller, Campbell, Brown, John Ferguson, McNeill, Hay, Napier, Hillan, Cox, and James Ferguson. They gathered in quite a fair number of trophies hereabouts- Lanarkshire Cup, Renfrewshire Cup, and Scottish League (Western Division), while they were beaten (2-1) by Dunblane Rovers in the final of the Victory Cup, the only trophy for which they have played and not won. Season 1929-30 found them have the distinction of being Glasgow Cup holders and also winners of the Renfrewshire Cup. During the past season they had a fine side and again became Scottish Junior League champions, the following team beating Camelon at Firhill in the deciding game for the “flag”:- McKenzie, Jordan, Rennie, McLeod, Littlejohn, Wardrop, Hutcheson, Barr, Nicholson, Docherty, and Murphy.

For Next Season – Littlejohn, Hutcheson, and Nicholson are seeking new pastures, but the unobtrusive secretary, Mr. James Keenan, has been getting round and has fixed up replacements in McLellan (Overton Athletic) for centre and McGuire, back after a year at Rothesay, for the pivotal position. Murphy, the League Hearts juvenile internationalist, is expected to make a good successor to Hutcheson at outside right. They have had some cheery days at Kelvindale Park, but never a better laugh than over the assertion of a visiting Strathclyde enthusiast after a certain cup-tie on that ground before it was properly levelled that “Strathies would have won if their centre forward (Rankine) had not got lost doon a hole near the goal!”

## NOT ONE OF OUR OLDEST CLUBS

Camelon's Big Deeds Since 1919 - No Ball or Rig-Out For First Game

Most of our junior clubs pride themselves on their having been "established in remote antiquity." Camelon reverse the order and claim the distinction of being the youngest members of the fraternity in Stirlingshire and on having done so much in their relatively brief career. As Mr. James Allan, the present secretary, pawkily put it to me, "We have had our ups and downs, but mostly gone one way – up." Jimmy, as he is to all more familiarly known, has been the leading light since the inception. At the founding, in 1919, he put down his quota of the first few bawbees to start things. Then in conjunction with Messrs Robert Fraser (now in Australia), A. Rae, A. Gibla, Dan Pollock, James Reid, John Wardrop, T. Cruickshanks, and the late John Lawrie, he made them go further.

No Ball or Rig-Out – With great optimism they entered for the Scottish Cup and were drawn against Bannockburn at the "home" they did not at this precise time possess- indeed they had not even a ball or rig-out! It was a plight, but sublime belief in their luck coming up was justified. They got permission to play on Stenhousemuir's Ochilview ground, a local shopkeeper put up the ball, jerseys came up the night before the game, and when it was duly played the Camelon defence "put up the shutters" and won by 1-0, when they might have lost by six goals. Their luck was truly in, and it held. This match brought a £16 "gate". They met Yoker Athletic in the next round, also at Stenhousemuir, won also 1-0, and gathered £18.

K.O. at Wishaw – In the next round at Wishaw they made their exit from the competition before a £40 "gate". Their "stock" had risen! The team which began the good work was:- D. Connell, A. Marshall, G. Roberts, W. Millar, H. Davis, T. Smith, T. Graham, H. Robertson, J. Russell, J. Wardrope, and A. Stewart. Next year Carmuir's Park, their present ground, was secured and opened by Dunipace, who won 3-2. In the preparation of the pitch much good spade work and barrow work was done by energetic helpers, including Messrs G. Lauder, J. Wright, A. Plenderleith, and the late T. McFeat. Now the ground is well equipped, and on a recent visit I admired the compact enclosure, all complete with electrically lighted pavilion and a tidy little stand. They are certainly comfortably housed, and in a sense comfortably off, as at the moment they "owe not any man."

Fine Players Reared – They have reared many fine players as recruits for the seniors, and probably the most prominent for the time being is Jerry Dawson, the popular Rangers goalkeeper, who made his name when Camelon were going in great style during the Intermediate period. One of his best displays, in my opinion, was against Ashfield, who had George Brown, Donald Menzies, and other stars at that time. Their present keeper, J. Henderson, was understood to be provisionally signed at Ibrox, while the stalwart Mason went also to join the "Light Blues" as a candidate for that troublesome berth of left back. But given a measure of luck probably Young McAulay, the auburn haired inside right, and another Camelon product, will make a greater name than any of them at Ibrox.

Outstanding Back – R. Nisbet was another outstanding personality in the Intermediate days, and when he went to Motherwell it was thought he had solved the problem there- in this case right back. Somehow he did not strike it, but I fancy Falkirk, his new club, will get better service from him. He has experience now in his favour. James Paterson, another product, went to Everton for a big fee- a record at that time- and is now with Leicester City. Mr. Scott Duncan prophesies a great future for him. James Kennedy, the ex-Falkirk right half, now with Rangers, also had a spell with Camelon. Just as clever a half-back as they have had, however, I think, is W. Whyte (now with Rutherglen Glencairn). Amongst others who went "upstairs" are:- J. Chalmers (Airdrieonians), McAulay and J. Grant (East Stirlingshire), Peter Cowan (Preston North End), Corbett (Ayr United), G. Scobbie, J. Miller, G. Murray, W. Birkenshaw, Jas. McNeil (all to Falkirk), Robert McKee and A. Blair (East Fife). Jerry Dawson, A. Dennison, Neil Rennie, and Joe Robertson were given junior international caps.

The Best-Ever Sides – The best-ever side of course is always a matter of varied opinion, but one of the best sides was that of 1930-31, which played in the final ties of all the competitions they entered for that year, with the exception of the Scottish. It included such as: - Henderson, Mason, Mitchell, Robertson, Meikle, Whyte, Birkenshaw, Gilfillan, Graham, Chalmers, Blair, McIntosh, and Bell. But to others the greatest of the lot was that which won all the local cups and the Stirlingshire League (and unluckily passed out in the sixth round of the Scottish), reading: - Dawson, Couper, Docherty, Richardson, Dennison, Park, Graham, Rae, Paterson, Watson, and Howden. Honours have been won by the club with creditable plenitude, the Stirlingshire County Cup no fewer than four times, Stirlingshire League Cup, Falkirk and District Cup, Stirling and District Cup, "Falkirk Herald" Shield, Stirlingshire Charity Cup, and the Scottish Junior League Cup twice.



An Elusive Trophy – The Scottish Junior League Victory Cup has been elusive. Twice they contested the final and lost each time. Here is still another of their good sides in the Intermediate League (1929):- Dawson, Nesbit, Lawson, Miller, Dennison, Duthie, Gilchrist, Sharpe, Bell, Davidson, and Gillespie. During the Intermediate days Camelon (the only Stirlingshire club, I think, who joined the “rebel” camp) made a distinct splash, and in the first year of the four “in the wilderness” they reached the final of the Scottish Intermediate Cup, narrowly falling to Ashfield (1-0) at Barrowfield. The team here was: - Dawson, Nesbit, Lawson, Grant, Dennison, Duffy, Graham, Miller, Craig, Bryce, and Davidson. It may be interesting to repeat the Ashfield side:- Hope, Smith, W. Lauder, G. Brown, D. Menzies, Kater, Burke, McDonald, Peter Cunningham, Tom Lauder, and Hogg. The referee was none other than Willie Wilson, whose recent promotion was deserved. In the season just completed they had quite a fine side, but stumbled once or twice, notably when at Firhill they disappointed expectation by falling to Maryhill Hibs with this side:- Henderson, Cameron, Waters, Robertson, Mitchell, Clark, Shearer, Small, Morrison, Rennie, and MacIntosh. They are an enterprising lot at Camelon, and amongst other ventures was that of starting the first dog racing in Stirlingshire eight years ago. Had they carried on they might have become famously rich or notoriously poor. As elsewhere there has always been a lighter side of life at Camelon, but the heavy expenditure entailed when a very raw treasurer invited about twice the normal number for the house party ham-and-egg tea led to trouble. The total number was 28- more like an international party- and he ultimately had the “privilege” of going 50-50 in the squaring of the bill. And that did not end it!

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## IN THE VALE OF DOUGLAS

Club That Brought Out Great Half-Backs - Willie Cringan For One

(Article accompanied by photo of Willie Cringan)

It was just about this period of the year, as a youth, the nature of my employment privileged me to be in the residence in the beautiful countryside of the Douglas Valley. That was, of course, the off season for football, but I heard lots about local lads who were as smart as anything in the county, and the Wallaces, Crosbies, Davidsons, Parks, and Blyths of Glenbuck had nothing on the Ramage, Wallace, Nellies, Cringan, and Knox contingent at Douglas. Glenbuck at that time was a great nursery, and a stay I had at the short stretch of miners' rows with a relative who bore the good football name of Tait branded into me that his was the place where the hardy type of fellow was reared.

The Douglas Scheme – But I am only interested with the Douglas Water Thistle Club in this article, and the interpretation of the Douglas scheme in a footballing sense. They were founded in season 1899-1900 just before the great memorable Glasgow Exhibition of 1900, and had as officials to guide them President James Weir, Secretary Daniel Dalziel, and Treasurer James Milligan. Their ground was known as Holm Park, and the first team representing the club was as follows:- John McGann, Thomas Knox, William Newbiggin, William Knox, William Wallace, John Wallace, Walter Neillies, Hugh Knox, James, Miller, Peter Knox, and John Bone. And in the opinion of those well qualified to speak it was the “best ever” side also.

Lanarkshire Champions – Douglas Water have had a fair measure of success, and the season just completed has possibly been one of their happiest, bringing with it, as it did, the championship of the Lanarkshire Junior League, and the Hozier Cup. The team that carried them through this campaign consisted of James Notman, Michael Mullen, Robert Ramage, William McFarlane, Arthur Grieve, Thomas Bryce, Robert Marks, Archie Hastie, John Park, James Jackson, and William Bone, with George Knox, and John Hunter standing by in the readiness as reserves. In the Hozier final they met and defeated their rivals, Wishaw Juniors, at Lesmahagow, with the undernoted eleven:- Notman, Mullen, Ramage, Knox, Grieve, Bryce, Peter Devlin, Marks, John Park, Hastie, and Bone. I was interested to find that game played at Lesmahagow's new ground, Craighead Park- a departure from the usual custom of having it in Lanark. This was a tribute to the “Haigie” people, whose energies in preparing the place I had heard much about from the gentleman who had granted the ground, the late Major Lander of Auchtyfardie.

Cup and League – Two years ago was another bright period with the distinction of capturing both the Lanarkshire Junior Cup, and the Lanarkshire Junior League. The cup team was:- Notman, Mullen, Ramage, McFarlane, Wm. Cowan, Robert Gemmell, Park, John Bollin, Marks, George Harvie, and Bone. The eleven which won the league flag, by means of a rubber game with Burnbank Athletic at Carluke was: - John Porter (Larkhall Y.M.C.A.), Alex. Bernard, Robt. Ramage, Robt. Park, Thos. Logan, Wm. Johnston, Gilbert Knox, Robt. Shankley, Alex. Crocker, Alex. McKay, and C. Tracey. On the eve of this game Walter Graham the goalkeeper, signed for Ayr United, creating consternation, but Porter was fixed up in time and shared in the triumph. Between the first team and those just given they have had many other good sides, and at random I may

mention an eleven of 1925 which played in the Lanarkshire League. It was: - Shaw, Woods, McClymont, French, Cunningham, Brown, Nelson, Russell, Hart, Grieve, and Cowan.

Three Great Half-Backs – Mention of Graham going to Ayr recalls the other well-known men whom the club sent upstairs to the senior ranks. Probably the most prominent of these were three who, had they played at one time, would have made a truly great half-back line- namely, David Steele (Huddersfield), Willie Cringan (Celtic), and Peter Neilies (Hearts). All of them played as senior internationalists. Cringan took part in that particularly gratifying win in the “big match” at Birmingham in 1922 with his clubmate Johnny Gilchrist at his right-hand side, and again in 1923 with David Steele in Gilchrist’s vacated position. Then there was Matthew Paterson, one of the best centre halves and best servants Hibs ever had, and that’s not forgetting that Alec Raisbeck made his name at Easter Road.

For Next Season – A strong side has been fixed up for next season, with the seasoned, dependable trio of Notman, Mullen, and Ramage, defending their last lines, and McFarlane, Grieve, Hastie, Marks, and Devlin available further in front, and they have added a couple of promising young men in McNeish (Greengairs) for centre half, and Baillie (a Churches League product) for outside left. Robert Ramage has been a valuable man to the club, and it might be noted that he was captain in both the season that the Thistle won the Lanarkshire League, whilst another useful man in attending to the welfare of the side was Matthew Peat, the trainer. Secretary George Forrest was in office during the good periods, still holds it, and I am indebted to him for providing me with some facts and figures for various matters such as the following record of their honours:- Lanarkshire Junior Cup – 1931-32; Lanarkshire Junior League – 1930-31, and 1932-33; Hozier Cup\* – 1902-03, 1903-04, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08, 1913-14, 1922-23, and 1932-33.

\* Hozier Cup successes: 1900-01, 1901-02, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1909-10, 1914-15, 1921-22, 1922-23, and 1932-33

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## CARRYING ON THE TRADITIONS

Dumbarton Harp’s Place In The Sun – A Record Scorer  
(Article accompanied by photo of James Smith)

Dumbarton, as a football place, has always been held in my great esteem, ever since I was a small boy at school, when I sat under a famous international back- often a partner with the late Wattie Arnott- Michael Paton. I was usually close enough to read the inscription on his gold medal. He was powerfully built, but not ponderous, and, in my innocence, I assumed that to qualify for this team you had to be a real solid son of the Rock. In later years I saw other types of Dumbarton products such as Scott Duncan, one of the sweetest moving forwards the game has known, and Finlay Speedie, who was so versatile that at forward he would surpass Mr. Duncan, and at back almost equal Paton. Neither job was any trouble to him. And Alec Jackson was a Dumbarton player. Dumbarton Harp, amongst the Juniors, carry on the traditions of the town.

Among the Seniors – Away back in the ‘80’s there was a Harp playing nearly all the time to the junior tunes, but for a period they were on a higher “pitch” among the seniors. They came into prominence in 1904-05- when Mr. W. Coleman was secretary, and headquarters were situated at Woodyard Park- by going to the fifth round of the Scottish Cup. On that journey they had ousted Strathleven, Greenock Wanderers, Lauriston Juniors, and Falkirk Juniors before Ashfield beat them at Saracen Park. They were narrowly beaten in the final of the Dumbartonshire Cup by Rob Roy, and in the Kirkwood Shield they were also unlucky.

Beaten After Replay – The team that played Ashfield at Woodyard Park in that Scottish tie was: - Hastie, Kane, Galloway, McLachlan, McFall, Colquhoun, Barnes, Lacey, Malloy, McKay, and Garry. This game resulted in a draw of one goal each, and in the replay Harp lost by 2-0, two changes having been made in their side by Donaldson and Kay substituting Barnes and Malloy. Thus early they were attracting attention, and players who went senior during this season were Colquhoun and McLachlan to Dumbarton, Lacey to St. Mirren, and Garry to Celtic.

In Glasgow Cup – The following season, 1905-06, they opened the present Meadow Park, but were not doing anything of note until 1907-08, when that difference of opinion arose between the Scottish Junior F.A. and the Glasgow Juniors. Harp joined the Glasgow clubs and participated in the Glasgow Cup, reaching the third round when Ashfield once more were their undoing. They reached the top of the Second Division of the League, but at the end of the season they shut shop, and when it re-opened they were of senior status. At this time players McDermott, Pender, McCulloch, and Wingate all went forward to the senior Harp, and the brothers W. and D. Blair joined Dumbarton at Boghead. In season 1921-22 the club was re-formed as juniors and they had quite a

good run although unfortunate to lose on the post in no less than three cup finals- Duntocher Hibs beating them in the Dumbartonshire and the Dumbartonshire Charity Cups, and Condorrat Rovers in the Victory Cup. They also lost the Scottish League (Second Division) by one point to East Kilbride Thistle.

All Equal – In the League there was rather a unique feat in goal registering, the three inside forwards making a division of labour by scoring 25 goals each. Harp's team about this period usually was:- J. Curan, A. Nicol, A. Duffy, J. Watters, P. Watters, P. Heaney, B. McBride, La. Lafferty, H. Graham, D. Duffy, and R. Hendry. P. McGarry, B. Dougan, and G. Fotheringham were in reserve. When the Intermediate split came along Mr. McFall was with Kilsyth Emmet and gained a life member's badge from the Scottish Junior League. In 1923-24 they won the Dumbartonshire Challenge Cup, beating Singers F.C. in the final by 2-0 with this side:- Wilson, Mailey, Hamilton, Graham, Hogan, Heaney, Mannion, Hosie, Early, Johnstone, and McKean. The following year they won the Dumbartonshire Charity Cup at the expense of Croy Celtic, also doing well in the County Cup and other competitions. The season 1925-26 found them collecting the Dumbartonshire Jubilee Cup and getting as far as three other semi-finals. One of their best games during this season was when they beat St. Anthony's in the Scottish Cup-tie at Govan with this team:- Wilson, Kelso, T. Irwin, P. Milloy, Beattie, Sharpe, Boyd, Fraser, W. Milloy, A. Irwin, and Howe.

Now of Hearts – After that game W. Milloy signed for Celtic, and Kelso for Morton. The Howe in this side is Bobby, now of Hearts, who was better known when he was with Petershill. Season 1926-27 saw them once more win the Dumbartonshire County Cup with: - Tait, Moyes, Heaney, Galbraith, Moore, Dougan, Burke, Graham, McCabe, Gallacher, and Bourhill. Burke was "Micky", later of Ashfield and Clyde, and Bourhill went senior via Yoker to Morton.

Championship Won – In 1927-28 they went Intermediate, but cut very little figure there. Ultimately, they landed back in the Scottish Junior League, and in season 1930-31 they won the Western Section and then beat the Eastern Section winners, Denny Hibs, by 2-0 at Celtic Park in the play off for the championship. Their team was: - Kean, Hendry, Adams, Adair, Young, Unwin, Speedie, Ferguson, Baird, Hunter, and McCulloch. They also won the Renfrewshire Cup at Port Glasgow by beating Bute Athletic, with only one change in the side that accounted for Denny Hibs- Galbraith for Unwin in the half-back line. The McCulloch here is the smart little winger now with Clyde, who went to Shawfield via Strathclyde.

Record Scorer – There were others beside those already mentioned who went up from time to time, such as David Beattie to Clydebank, Hugh Reid to Dumbarton, James Reid to Dumbarton Harp seniors, and James Smith to Clydebank, before continuing his adventurous career with Rangers, Ayr United, and Liverpool as a goal-scoring centre forward. His big feat was accomplished with Ayr, when he created a record of 66 goals in one season.

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## DUNBLANE'S CLAIM TO FAME

Victory Cup Provides Minor Record – Short Career

Dunblane can lay varied claims to distinction, including that of being a cathedral town, sufficiently important in the railway companies' estimation to justify the running of one of the special evening excursions, and also the possession of a fairly consistent junior club. Dunblane Rovers were formed in 1920 to take the place of a senior combination formerly carrying the town's name with credit. Away back thirty years ago a prominent member was the well known Superintendent Murray, recently retired from the Glasgow Police, and always a notable figure at Firhill, where his son played for Partick Thistle for a time. The first officials guiding the club's destinies were President Baillie D. C. Blair, and Secretary Mr. D. Martin, supported by a hard working committee in Messrs Bremner, Farrell, McKendrick, McCall, R. Stewart, R. Martin, and Ramsay.

Frequent Changes – Frequent changes in officials were made between 1920 and 1923, and facts pertaining to that period are only relative, the books not being available. But the following is a list of the earliest players who donned the red shirts at Duckburn Park, a particularly well-equipped ground, with commodious stand and pavilion, the envy of many visiting teams:- Morton, Hendry, Adams, Wilson, McMillan, Glegg, Kennedy, Gowans, Dickson, Bullock, Vance, Weir, McLauchlan, and Mackrell. Amongst the first of their players to achieve special recognition was Harry Walker, who in 1922 obtained all the junior caps and later joined up to the seniors with St. Mirren. Season 1923-24 saw that club set off in great fashion with a long succession of victories, home and away, made possible by the efforts of a team from the following players:- Anderson, Stuart, Watt, Forsyth, Braid, Woods, Neill, Flockhart, Robertson, Stirling, G. Walker, Stoddart, and Henderson.

To the Seniors – Of course, their well-doing was talked about, and as a result several players were lured away to the senior fold, such as Anderson, Stuart, and Stirling to Falkirk; Henderson to Stenhousemuir; and Stoddart to East Stirlingshire (then later going to Morton). This big bite into their preserves nearly felled (“pole-axed” is the expression given me) the club, who suffered in more senses than one, as that was in the bad old time when “compensation” was a matter entirely at the discretion of the senior clubs in question. About 1925 Mr. Beck, secretary at that time, had a serious illness and everything pointed to the club lapsing, when Mr. James Fraser came along and took over, rendering excellent service in various capacities since, and now acting as president. Mr. Fraser gathered together several keen and helpful enthusiasts in Messrs J. Brown, Davidson, and J. Bremner (one of the original members), and between them they licked things into a shape which rapidly brought the club to the front.

A Football Authority – Others that Mr. Fraser pays tribute to for their good work are Mr. J. Muir (their representative to and chairman of the Stirlingshire Junior Association), Mr. R. Cramb, and the present match secretary, Mr. J.B. Watson. And he insists that I do not forget their trainer, Mr. John Crawford- recognised as a football authority locally, with a wealth of knowledge which goes back to the obscure days prior to 1914- and his assistant, Mr. John Miller. Gradually the club advanced until in 1926-27 they definitely established their reputation by winning the Stirlingshire Junior Cup when at Forthbank they beat Grange Rovers with this side:- Paton, Dougall, Richardson, Robertson, McRobert, Whyte, Rae, Penman, Cochrane, Fitzpatrick, and Don; with McDonald as reserve.

Victory Cup Team – Two years later they made a stir by winning the Victory Cup by beating Maryhill Hibs at Firhill with this eleven:- Russell, Turnbull, Richardson, Manning, Bett, Graham, Watters, Hyland, Penman, Hutcheson, and Archibald. In the offing as reserves were Clark and Mitchell. Here I note the name of wee Jacky Hyland, whose tricky work was the talk of several towns, including Dundee, where I saw him play in a Junior International game against Wales. The club went on to accomplish what in a minor way made record by again winning the Victory Cup, making two years in succession as cupholders, and also collecting the Stirlingshire Junior Cup and figuring as runners-up in the Falkirk and District Cup.

Stuart Renfrew – In 1930-31 they once more made good by securing the Stirlingshire Junior Cup with a side which included probably the most interesting personality they have had on their list, Stuart M. Renfrew, footballer and cricketer, who went to Sheffield Wednesday for a time and is now with Cowdenbeath. He played against Junior Wales and England in 1931. Scottish Junior League Caps were awarded to W. Rae, J. Richardson, J. Hyland, S.M. Renfrew, and J. McPhail. Last season was not quite so bright, the only final they contested being the Stirling and District, which they lost. Another outstanding player they had was Rae, who went to play left back for King’s Park, thence to Firhill to make a name, and then migrate to Portsmouth.

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## PRESTWICK’S “STEELE” TEAM

Record Since 1914 To Be Proud Of

It was hitherto my belief that either Motherwell or Glengarnock held the exclusive rights of being called the Steeltown. But the frequency of the name Steele in connection with Glenburn Rovers F.C. might have alerted it had it not been for the final “e”. Though known as Prestwick Glenburn Rovers, the club has been playing on Ayr United’s ground, Somerset Park, for a time, but pending the interpretation of the new Scottish Junior F.A. rule regarding junior clubs having any sort of connection with the seniors they made preparations for flitting to Boreland Park, Prestwick. However, presumably they are to get Somerset again, and with the house retaken can go ahead with the furnishings.

Players Retained – The best of last season’s lot in Brown, Jardine, Scobie, Weisencroft, and Steel have been retained and will form a sound foundation for building a good side. McGill, who was so prominent at centre forward, is expected to go senior, perhaps via Troon or elsewhere, and Dumfries is given out as a probable destination. The club was formed in 1914 under the title of Mossblown Juniors, but this was altered the following season to the present designation. The first officials were: - President, Peter Robb; vice-president, John Johnstone; treasurer, James Dougan; and secretary, Allan Steele, who has the longest connection of all. This foursome carried on for quite a time in charge of affairs, and Mr. Robb is given credit for being the best worker the club ever had. Their welfare was his foremost consideration, until he left for Australia in 1926.

Prominent Official – Mr. Dougan is now a member of Prestwick Town Council, whose enterprise in providing the “Pleasant Pool for Prestwick” and other amenities have actually made their neighbours of Ayr think of a co-

partnership! Mr. Steele carried on until the period of the Intermediate dispute, and later on the secretaryship in turn was filled by Messrs John Grant, Mat Murray, and James Steele. Other outstanding officials were such as Messrs Tom Gemmell, the late Bob Campbell, and Harry McGinn, J. Johnstone, J. Anderson, and Alec McDonald. The first-named trio were presidents, and probably to the outer world the best known would be Campbell, the one time right-back of Bradford City when they won the English Cup in 1911.

Days to Remember – The career of the club has not been exactly adventurous, but there are some days to remember. One of the modest achievements was a disturbing day at Traddoch in 1916-17, when they were down to replay an Ayrshire Junior Cup-tie, and the grand total of players, committee, and supporters numbered only eleven. Treasurer Dougan said he would “play” as linesman. Only 10 players took the field, but playing to such good purpose they actually drew the tie again. This was principally due to a great goal by President Robb after a run in which Secretary Steele participated. The third game was unlucky, as at Ayr they were defeated at Beresford Park, the home of the old Ayr Parkhouse.

The First Team – The first team- as Mossblown Rovers in 1914-15- was: - Morton, William Steele, Kerr, Brady, Clark, Malcolm, Balfour, Gilbert Steele, McLean, John Steele, and Morrison. Next year as Glenburn Rovers the side was constituted thus: - Morton, William Steele, Allan Steele, Brady, Clark, Malcolm, Kennedy, John Steele, Gilbert Steele, Goodwin, and Kedens. Opinions differ as to the best ever side, but old-timers swear to that which won the Ayrshire Junior Cup in season 1918-19 namely:- Armour, Johnstone, Russell, Gibson, Hastings, Malcolm, Currie, Kennedy, McLean, Murray, and Campbell. Lambie and McConnell also were on the list then. Of that lot Armour and Kennedy went to Nithsdale Wanderers, Currie to Notts County, Murray to Vale of Leven, and Campbell to Halifax Town.

In the “Big Final” – Not the least important was Johnstone, the sturdy little back who went to Firhill and figured as centre forward for Partick Thistle in their great day of joy at Celtic Park in 1921, when they defeated Rangers and won the Scottish Cup by Johnny Blair’s memorable goal. Another fine team was that of 1920-21:- Gourlay, Mathieson, Campbell, Curragh, Steele, Dickie, Hendren, Davidson, Kedens, McLaughlin, and Price. Later the 1924-25 eleven was considered a clever one: - McWilliam, Mathieson, Campbell, Hair, Monaghan, Murphy, Hendren, Dunlop, Howat, McPike, and Kedens.

Their Silver Collection – They started the silver collection in their first year by winning the Coyllton and District Cup and the Kilmarnock District Shield, in addition to being runners-up in the Ayr and District League. During the next two years they again won the Coyllton and District Cup, but season 1918-19 found them making their best bid by winning the Ayrshire Junior Cup along with the minor Coyllton trophy again. In 1924-25 they had a measure of distinction in the Western Junior League. They tied for the runners-up medals with Dalry Thistle, but lost the deciding game. Next season they won the Gould competition and were runners-up in the “Irvine Herald” Cup. 1928-28 found them obtain the John Stirling Trophy, and last season they ran to the final of the Ayrshire Junior Cup again, but lost this time.

Given to Seniors – They have passed many grand players through their hands, and it would have been interesting if the following lot could have been played together at one time:- John Morton (Clydebank), David Johnstone (Partick Thistle), Alex Campbell (Halifax Town), Pat Graham (Coventry City), Alec Lambie (Kilmarnock and Partick Thistle), Dan Brannigan (Halifax Town), James Currie (Notts County), Robert Barr (St. Mirren), G. Steele (Ayr United and Stockport County), John Murphy (Bo’ness), and Nat Murray (Vale of Leven). Other departures upstairs in addition to those already mentioned were Hugh Price (Kilmarnock), James Kedens (Bristol Rovers), and William Monaghan (Halifax Town). At one time they also had Hugh Russell (who went later to Aberdeen), and Bobby Gemmell (Ayr United), both players being transferred to Ashfield during the Intermediate period, and who joined the senior ranks when “peace” was restored, as also did another of their products, James Brannan (Ayr United). It is fitting to close with a reference to Willie Hedren, who served the club well in a capacity to which some folks pay scant credit- that of trainer. The popular “Winks” never enjoyed anything more thoroughly than the reflected glory of the club winning that County Cup- a red latter day for all concerned.

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## TROON'S PLACE IN FOOTBALL

Four Clubs Since 1875 – Athletics Keep Flag Flying

Troon is so very much a golfing area that one might be excused thinking of the town as a football centre at all. But it has been one, and for a long period, and this might be likened to the hymn book which has “ancient and modern” sections. As far back as 1875 there was a Troon Portland team, reckoned as seniors. Most of the games were of necessity friendlies, as no leagues were available, and they played clubs such as Irvine, Irvine Victoria, Ayr, Kilmarnock Athletic, Kilmarnock Portland, and other county teams.

A Young Team – Of course they had cups to compete for, but they never won anything of moment. They were a young side, mostly apprentices at their trade, and about 17 or 18 years of age on an average, but could stand up to a lot. One of the older inhabitants recall with relish when they whacked a Coynton side (in the Ayrshire Cup) which contained ten seniors of more mature years. That was away back in 1877, when Coynton had players like the Grahams who went to Preston North End. The first lot in 1875, who played on Craighend Park, were the undernoted set of 13:- Frank Briggs (goal), Charles Fullerton, David Connell and Hugh Allison (backs), Robert Hastings and James Connell (half-backs), Reuben McNeilage, John Keenan, James Murchie, William Cunningham, John Johnstone, Robert Smith, and David Johnstone. All are dead with the exceptions of Hugh Allison, still resident in Troon and holding a responsible position in the Ailsa Shipyard; James Connell, a former municipal dignitary, now retired; and David Connell, in retirement at Leith.

The Pioneers- In those days the welfare of Troon football was materially assisted by such gentleman as Messrs William Briggs, John Dickie, John McNeilage, James Robertson, and Joseph McCulloch. The next spell of local activity came in 1887-88, when the club with the plain label of Troon F.C. had a good run actually winning the Ayrshire Junior Cup, “Irvine Herald” Cup, and Irvine and District Cup during their career. The last-named trophy they collected in 1892, the first year of the competition, and it took some winning, as in the first round they had to play Crosshouse five times before they could get rid of them. They had some really good talent. Here is a side taken from their lists:- A. Affleck, W. Howie, D. Gilmore, T. Cuthbert, T. Riley, S. Latta, A. McCreadie, T. Nairn, A.W. Fullerton, D. Boyd, and T. Walker. The last pair played as a left wing for Scotland against England.

Enter the Athletic – Then there was another lot with a change of title- Troon Rangers- but they did not exactly rise to the exalted standard of some of the Rangers we have read about. They did quite good work by keeping the game going in the district, and after all “pot-hunting” is not the only thing worthwhile. It is when we hear of Troon Athletic that we get to the “moderns”. This club was founded in 1920, by the Troon Federation of Ex-Servicemen with a committee headed by President, Mr. Tom Wallace; treasurer, Mr. Wm. Noble; and secretary, Mr. Wm. Docherty. Their first team consisted of the following:- S. Elliot, W. Kettle, A. Hendren, P. McAdam, G. Elliot, H. Murdoch, J. Wright, J. Hillditch, A. Howie, J. McLean, and R. Hunter. Headquarters were at the Public Park from 1920 to 1923, and from 1923 onwards they were stationed at New Portland Park. They established a fine honours list during their existence, beginning in their first year, when they won the Kilmarnock and District League, and figured as finalists of Irvine and District Cup. Their complete collection reads: - 1920-21 – Kilmarnock and District League; 1921-22 - Ayrshire Junior Cup; 1923-24 - Ayrshire Consolation Cup; 1928-29 – Ayrshire Intermediate Cup; 1929-30 – Western League Gold Watch Competition. In 1925-26, and 1926-27 they did well in cup and leagues, but not well enough to win any. They have had several very fine sides, one of the best being:- S. Elliot, H. Kirk, W. Kettle, P. McAdam, G. Elliot, Prentice, P. Penny, M. Davie, A. Lambie, J. Torrance, and J. McLean. Quite a number of their players went upstairs to the seniors, and this lot would have made a good team: - H. Wallace (Bradford City), C. Quinn (Kilmarnock), C. McKerron (Kilmarnock), Tom Morrison (St. Mirren and Liverpool), Alex. Lambie (Partick Thistle), H. Price (Kilmarnock), Frank Toner (Portsmouth), John Hart (Bo'ness), C. Gilmore (Kilmarnock), Rob. MacInnes (St. Mirren), and James McLean (Ayr United). Others were: - A. Bain (Arthurlie), W. Dempsey (Queen of the South), and I think Tom Fraser, the old Clyde goalkeeper and good golfer, who had a Troon connection.

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## PLAYED IN TWELVE FINALS

Much reflected glory has been cast upon Stirlingshire generally on account of the football talent recently unearthed there, such as Buchan of Celtic and McAuley of Rangers, and others. The Grangemouth district added lustre by the election at the last Scottish Junior F.A. meeting to the vice-presidency of Mr. John S. Murray of Forth Rangers, one of our most popular junior personalities. This club is one of the oldest in Stirlingshire, the exact date of inception being somewhat obscure, but it was properly organised in 1894, dressed up a bit more, and ready to join the Scottish Junior F.A. ranks in 1895. The first officials were President William Wright, Secretary Peter Baird, and members of committee- Messrs J. Lyon, A. Robertson, R. Swan, E. Clason, and G. Stratton.

An Early Team - One of the earliest sides representing the club was the following: - Neilson, Binnie, Dempster, Duncanson, Whitelaw, Clark, Shaw, Laidlaw, Dobbie, Petrie, and Fraser. This lot, with J. Dobbie in goal and "Madda" Nicol at centre, played together for several years. "Madda" was particularly well known throughout the shire in his playing days, and is still enthusiastic over the wellbeing of that club. Nicol never received the Association recognition he perhaps deserved, but was often enough in the "trials" of his time. Season 1898-99 was the first really successful year the club enjoyed. The Stirlingshire Junior League Championship was brought to Grangemouth for the first and only time.

Bit of Cup History - Stirlingshire Charity Cup was also captured, and, incidentally, was the first football trophy to find a resting place in the town. The team on that occasion was: - Lyle, Leyden, Adams, Clark, Graham, Palmer, Dobbie, Laidlaw, Nicol, Baillie, and Pyper. At various dates all the county trophies have been collected, with the exception of the County Cup itself, though they contested the final on occasion. The last trophy won was the Stirling and District Cup, which landed in Grangemouth in season 1931-32, and the winning team, which had a good run in other competitions was:- Penman, Jordan, Balderstone, Anderson, Docherty, Edwards, McGillvary, Moffat, McGrory, Sweeney, and Wilson. Though they have not very frequently had their name inscribed on that silver plate they have always been a strong team. For proof could be instanced the case of Peter Gardner, right-half of the club for a period of ten years (1900-10), during which he participated in 12 finals and 15 semi-finals and never had the pleasure of receiving a solitary winning medal!

A Bad Knock - Great expectations were shattered when, just after the war, having rigged up a fine team- one of the best in the annals of the club- senior depredations weakened them to the degree of impotency, the outstanding incident and misfortune being the signing of Jas. Hunter and Meldrum by Falkirk on the eve of a fourth-round Scottish Cup tie. James Hunter (the "Doo") was one of their many players who went senior. He was with Falkirk, and later went to Newcastle United. Another famous product was Bobby Orrock, captain of the Falkirk team which won the Scottish Cup in 1912-13, and a rare type of back. Others who graduated were Davie Main (Aberdeen), W. McNair (Tottenham Hotspur), Bobby Dougall (Hamilton Academicals), Alex. Jenkins (Queen of the South), J. Muir (St. Johnstone and Rangers), Lawrence (St. Bernards), Meldrum, Hannah, Martyn, and Hamilton (Falkirk).

Control in Good Hands - The club has a very modernly equipped pavilion and enclosure at Dalgrain Park, opened in 1904, and subsequently much improved. The last two years, in fact, have seen great advancement. Control of the club has always been in good hands. Amongst those who have rendered yeoman service and known in the county well are Messrs Ralph Reid, James Howe, Bailie Stanners, Harry Wilson, William T. McKay, Wm. Baird, and D. Wood. One of the readiest and respected helpers of the club is Mr. Duncan Palmer, a member of the first trophy-winning side, and now well known amongst our senior folks. The club is fortunate in having at the moment as president Mr. James Seath and as secretary Mr. James Dick, both having given considerable service. The latter gentleman has acted in every capacity. And I'm sure the club is very proud of Mr. Murray, whose connection started as a player in 1912-13. He was secretary and representative from season 1918-19 till 1923-24, thereafter a worthy representative.

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## CLUB IN THE QUINN COUNTRY

Croy Celtic Triumph Over Difficulties - Fine Traditions

Admiration for the countryside round about Condorrat and Croy was early instilled into me. The canal trip to Craigmarloch could not have been surpassed by Venice in my humble estimation, and later, when the fame of the great Celtic centre forward caused the district to be known as the "Quinn Country", regard was increased. I recall seeing Jimmy Quinn for the first time at Saracen Park playing against Ashfield in a Scottish Cup-tie, his

club being known as the Smithson Albion. He was at outside left then, and, from memory, had a brother playing back. Quinn's son and namesake was a local player, had a trial with his father's great club, later played with St. Roch's at Garnkad, and is now on the list of Camelon Juniors.

Difficulties Overcome - Croy Celtic carry on the tradition of the district. Sometimes it is a trifle difficult for Secretary Peter Doherty and his colleagues, but they take it all as part of the business. It took some trouble to rig up this year's side, but they got a good one, played five League games undefeated, then at Alva two serious but innocent accidents to Phil Quinn and their centre crippled them. I noticed that they were wise, or lucky, enough to fix up several of last year's Scottish Juvenile Cup winning side, Shieldhall Thistle, who I admired at Kilmarnock. The present officials are: - President, James Livingstone; vice-president, Dennis Mellon; treasurer, Wm. Carberry; financial secretary, James Doherty; and general secretary, Peter Doherty, with an enthusiastic committee and an equally zealous supporters' club.

Born in 1910 - The club dates back to season 1910-11, when the Rev. Father McRory was chiefly instrumental in launching the ship. He was the first president. When he left for his native Donegal, the responsibility fell on Mr. James Nash and later on Mr. James Griffen. Mr. Phillip McGochey was the first secretary, and during their first season Croy were members of the Second Division of the Stirlingshire League. The following season they joined the Scottish Junior League 2nd Division and won it after a deciding game with Bedlay Juniors. This brought them promotion to the 1st Division, and there they remain. Headquarters have always been at Hill Park, excepting for an odd year, when they played on Bogside Field.

The Best Ever - They have had some good sides, but it is generally agreed that their best was that of 1929-30, which went as far as the Scottish Junior cup semi-final, being beaten by Newtongrange Star, the ultimate cup-winners. Croy's team was an all local composition: - McPhee, Morrison, Nash, Mulholland, Currie, Kelly, Hunter, Fitzsimmons, Provan, Paterson, and Quinn. The club has had a fair share of honours, the most important being the winning of the Scottish Junior League on two occasions, 1926-27 and 1929-30. Individual honours have been gained by players such as Philip Quin, John Morrison, and Frank Murphy.

Three Good Ones - They have also had many lads through their hands who have gone upstairs directly or indirectly through another junior club. In the latter category are Tom McInally (Celtic) via St. Anthony's, Tony Weldon to Airdrie via Kilsyth Rangers, Pat Connolly to Celtic via Rob Roy, and the late Archie McMillan through the same channel as Connolly. Croy are fortunate in having Mr. John McArthur as their representative on the S.J.F.A., and pay tribute of the highest nature to his work on their behalf. Of the other clubs round about, Cumbernauld Thistle are amongst their greatest rivals, and the luck of the Scottish Cup ballot has decreed that the pair meet at Croy. This will be one of the tit-bits of the first round.

Victory Cup Won - Cumbernauld have not been just quite so prominent as their neighbours, but had many a good day on Guy's Meadow and elsewhere, particularly that on which they won the Victory Consolation Cup in 1932 with a side which contains many names now known to the Glasgow junior world: - McKie, Westwater, Graham, Fergus, Pollard, Mackrell, Smellie, Barrett, Hunter, Cassidy, and Burns. The last two have been playing as Ashfield's left wing; Fergus is prominent with Bridgeton Waverley, and Graham is doing well at Yoker. They have some good players at present, such as Cox, of Coats Juniors, whose signature was reckoned as important; and Watty Alexander, now back to fitness and form on the right wing. Cumbernauld have also been happy in having some one with their welfare keenly at heart in the person of Mr. Arthur Wilson.

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## FOUR CUPS WON IN A WEEK

The Successes of Grange Rovers – Jocky Simpson and Croal

(Article accompanied by photo of Cumming)

It was natural that when I set out to deal with Grange Rovers I should get in touch with Mr. John M. Harley, who has been so long associated with junior football in general and the Grangemouth club in particular. In the course of my inquiry I discovered quite a lot, but nothing surely more interesting than a photographic portfolio produced for my edification, which gives Grange Rovers and another odd hundred junior clubs of the period round about the inception of the club in 1897. Number one of the series of team photos is that of Fairfield Athletic, the first of our Scottish Junior Cup holders in 1886-87. There is temptation to dwell for long enough on the matter revealed in this book, but I must refrain meantime.

Captain Colt's Rovers – One thing that did occur to me is the number of clubs who adopted names which suggested "deeds of derring do", such as Greenock Volunteers, Campsie Black Watch, Waterloo Rangers,



Glenboig Cameronians, Mossend Brigade, 3rd L.R.V. (Cathkin XI), and, most intriguing title of all, Captain Colt's Rovers! But all the old soldiers seem to have faded away. Grangemouth, prior to 1896-97, possessed two good junior clubs in Vale of Grange and the East End Rovers, but an amalgamation was made, and Grange Rovers came before our notice. They started their first season with the following players:- J. Faill, J. Richardson, J. Burns, R. Young, J. Craig, A. Hunter, J. Drysdale, J. Ellis, A. Robertson, J. Dougall, and W. Glen.

Real History – It was not until season 1900-01 that the Rovers began to make real history by winning the Stirlingshire Junior Cup, beating Dunipace Juniors by the only goal of the game, headed past Davie Adams (later of Celtic) by inside right Baillie of the following team: - D. Bryce, A. Bruce, R. Goldie, J. Brown, W. Murray, W. Kay, W. Jack, A. Baillie, J. Buchan, John Baillie, and A. Brown. Andrew Buchan, now dead, was the father of the young lad now with Celtic, and the W. Murray who now looks after his interests is an uncle. In season 1904-05 the Rovers again won the County Cup at the expense of Dunipace with this side:- A. Wilson, W. Wright, J. Lasker, A. MacFarlane, J. Graham, D. Laird, R. Gray, J. McColl, J. White, J. Baillie, and W. McNair.

Four Finals in a Week – Just after the war they started winning the County Cup again- once more Dunipace their victims- with this lot:- McLean, Bennie, Aitken, Hastings, Kemp, White, Forrester, Scott, Sweeney, Malcolm, and Bennie. Again, in 1924-25, they gathered another very successful side, which played and won four finals in a week: - Simpson, Laird, Leslie, Wilkie, Laird, McLelland, Ramsay, Cartner, Leslie, Heep, and Baird.

Almost a Clean Sweep – In 1928-29 they thought they had gone one better, but a dispute which arose deprived them of the pleasure of gathering all the silver in Stirlingshire! The following players helped to take the collection:- Richmond and Scobbie (goal), Sutherland and McKail (backs), McIntosh, Muir, McIlwraith, and Crayton (half-backs), Graham, Cartner, Stanners, Miller, W. McLaren, G. McLaren, and McIntosh (forwards). Concentration on cup business was evidently bad for their League prosperity- they never did much in that line. And in the national competition they have never gone very far, excepting one year when Arniston Rangers put them out in the seventh round, and another when Darvel beat them in the fifth round.

Junior President – But they have much reflected glory in the Scottish Association by Mr. Harley's honoured place there as president of the S.J.F.A. in 1925-26, 1926-27, and 1927-28. The present officials are President J. Grant, Vice-President J. Miller, Secretary T. Lawson, Treasurer H. Sneddon, and an enthusiastic band of helpers. Tribute is paid to the service rendered to the club by Hon. Presidents Messrs John M. Hogg and Wm. J. Cooper, and a true Rover in Mr. James Mitchell, who was secretary for 15 years. Earl's Park is well equipped and may yet be better, the club having secured a ten years' lease. It is a happy home.

Simpson and Croal – Senior football has benefited by Rovers products, and to learn that this was the first junior club of Jocky Simpson and Jimmy Croal (of Falkirk and international fame) makes interesting reading. We know what they are rearing nowadays when we see Cumming (Partick Thistle) and Buchan (Celtic) outstanding examples of quality. Only this week Dick Hoggan, Cummings successor, joined Raith Rovers. Willie Marshall is fancied by Hearts, and St. Johnstone have a notion of Mauchline. One of the best servants the club ever had was J. Cartner, and another valuable aid to the club was T. Leslie, who won all the junior cups before later going to Shettleston. At one time or another the club has won every cup in the county, and the honours list includes the Stirlingshire Cup eleven times, Falkirk and District Cup seven times, League Cup six times, Charity Cup five, and Stirling and District twice.

\* Stirlingshire Junior Cup not won in 1904-05.

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