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Front cover pic: Tayport's former Vics' player Craig Sturrock makes tracks for the West End goal in last week's league game
Pic by Ryan Mashedor

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THE CHAIRMAN...

Good afternoon. Can I begin by welcoming our fans and the players and officials of our visitors Arbroath Vics for this Midlands League match.

Last weekend I said it was important after the reversal against Broughty Athletic, to embark on another journey and it has to begin with a success and we achieved that with a convincing 5-2 win. Although I'm sure the manager will be disappointed with us losing two preventable goals and I'm sure our players will be unhappy with that as well.

As you can see, we're working to replace the various sections of fencing that were destroyed by the storm some months ago. The fence behind the large trees at bottom end of the pitch was almost totally destroyed and of the 75mtrs, we have only managed to salvage 20mtrs or so. However I managed to secure more Heras fencing at a decent price so that will temporarily replace the 55mtrs that's down. The replacement for the wooden fence at the pavilion end consists of new posts and braces and we've managed to recycle the corrugated sheets from the top end. It's slow going, but I'm targeting the end of this month for completion.



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PARAFFIN CALOR GAS

Arbroath Vics are today's opponents and our players only need to cast their minds back to our last meeting at Ogilvie Park. In my opinion, that day we produced one of our worst performances of our season and I must admit that the reversal contributed to the club's decision to ask our manager to step down. We know therefore that we can't be complacent going into this afternoon's game. It's vital our mentality and our workrate is at its best to achieve a victory. Enjoy the game.

The Support The Port,

Davie Baikie



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TODAY'S TEAMS

Arbroath Vics
from



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	Darren BROWN	MIDLANDS		Jonathon BASTOW
	Bradie HEGGIE	LEAGUE		Dean HARDIE
	Craig STURROCK			Luke O'BRIEN
	Jamie HUME	Saturday		Ryan STIRTON
	Greg McCOLM	5th March		Connor GRAY
	Louis JOYCE	2022		John DYE
	Ryan PATERSON	Kick-off		Josh CHALMERS
	Ewan WHITE	2.30pm		Sam CLARK
	Kris ROLLO	Referee:		Craig TOSH
	Paul SLUDDEN	Duncan		Ross FRASER
	Jamie McCABE	McCULLICH		James LAMONT
	Jamie GILL	Assistant 1:		Lewis SIVEWRIGHT
	Kieran STURROCK	Scot SHERRIT		Kevin DURNO
	Ross CAMERON	Assistant 2:		Argyll CAIRNS
	Daniel DOROVIC	John Hugh		Matt KEOGH
	James MALONE	EDENS		Jack BLEADOWSKI
	Aidan COBB	Port Prog		Scott MILNE
	Adam FRASER	Vol. 31		Connor McFARLANE
		No. 12		Zac ARCHER
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FIVE DIFFERENT SCORERS

After their poor performance against Broughty Athletic, Tayport were looking to get 3 points at home to Forfar West End. The home side did just that, coming away with a 5-2 victory, although it was a very messy and tense game.

Charlotte's Chat

New signing Luke Emmett, on loan from Keith FC started for Tayport and also 16 year old Aidan Cobb made his debut off the bench.

It was a fast-paced start for the home side and the first goal came only 13 minutes in. A powerful strike from Jamie Gill put Tayport ahead. However, a bad tackle from keeper Darren Brown only a few minutes after meant Forfar had a penalty, which they easily scored.

In the 31st minute Tayport got their second goal. A header from striker Daniel Dorovic put the home side ahead, but again, just before half time, Forfar equalised through Aidan Benvie. Half time and both teams were neck and neck.

Tayport's third goal came in the 61st minute, after a slow start to the second half. Paul Sludden was the goal scorer, and only 4 minutes later defender Greg McColm got a goal of his own making it 4-2.

There was a huge scuffle 15 minutes from the end of the match when Emmett made a bad tackle on Forfar's Ryan Cormack. Shouting between players and management meant several yellow card were shown, including a second one for Benvie who was now off the pitch.

10 men Forfar West End still continued to challenge the home side but it was Tayport who got the final goal 93 minutes in. Man of the Match Ryan Paterson simply chipped the ball over the keeper and the match ended 5-2 to Tayport.

It was a fantastic comeback from Tayport especially after the poor performance against Broughty Athletic and with 5 different goal scorers, the team proved that they aren't all dependent on one player.

Today we are up against Arbroath Victoria. The last time these two teams met this season, Tayport lost 2-1. Hopefully today the team can redeem themselves and put on a great performance like they did last week.

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	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
East Craigie	27	24	2	1	116	26	90	74
Carnoustie Panmure	28	24	2	2	115	25	90	74
Lochee United	25	19	2	4	98	22	76	59
Broughty Athletic	27	17	5	5	114	33	81	56
Tayport	27	17	5	5	71	33	38	56
North End	24	16	5	3	73	31	42	53
Forfar West End	28	10	9	9	45	54	-9	39
Arbroath Vics	29	11	5	13	61	73	-12	38
Kirrie Thistle	24	12	3	10	58	59	-1	36
Brechin Vics	26	11	3	12	51	60	-9	36
Lochee Harp	26	11	2	13	56	69	-13	35
Violet	29	9	4	16	40	63	-23	31
Letham	28	9	4	15	55	79	-24	31
St James	27	9	3	15	60	79	-19	30
Downfield	26	8	3	15	34	63	-29	27
Blairgowrie	26	8	2	16	44	62	-18	26
Forfar United	23	4	2	17	35	79	-44	14
Coupar Angus	27	2	2	23	33	126	-93	8
Scone Thistle	29	1	1	27	33	156	-123	4

Current League Form - most recent result to left

East Craigie	W W W W W W	Downfield	L L W W L L
Carnoustie Panmure	W W W W W W	Forfar United	L L W L L L
North End	W W W W W W	Violet	W L W L L L
Kirrie Thistle	W W W W L L	Coupar Angus	D L W L L L
Broughty Athletic	D W W L L W	Blairgowrie	W L L W L W
St James	L W W L L L	Forfar West End	L L L D W L
Arbroath Vics	L W L W D W	Brechin Vics	W L L L W W
Lochee United	W W L W L W	Lochee Harp	L L L L L L
Letham	L W L W L W	Scone Thistle	L L L L L L
Tayport	W L W W W W		

TODAY'S GAME

EAST REGION MIDLANDS LEAGUE

TAYPORT v ARBROATH VICS



A warm welcome to The Canniepairt to our visitors Arbroath Vics who arrive here



looking to complete a league double. Back at the end of October, despite being forced to play a number of trialists, Vics' 2-1 win ended Tayport's run of 6 successive league wins and, to cap it all, Vics' goals were scored by former Tayport players Connor

Gray (below right) and local Tayport lad Luke O'Brien (above). They'd both have enjoyed the post-match pints that night!

The defeat would prompt the management team of Chris McPherson and Alan McSkimming to step down to be replaced by Eddie Wolecki-Black.

Broughty a couple of weeks ago and although pleased with the 3 points against West End last week, will not have been happy with the manner in which his side conceded the two goals.



The man Tayport will have to keep tabs on is top scorer Ross Fraser (r) who has been rattling in the goals recently, with doubles v Forfar Utd, West End and Kirrie. He's 21 on Monday so will be looking to celebrate that milestone by adding to his tally. Vics' Dean Hardie and 'Port's Bradie Heggie will both miss out through suspension.

Tayport will welcome back Kris Rollo, following his suspension, and Ewan White after illness while young Aidan Cobb, on trial after being released by Dundee FC and Adam Fraser, signed this week from Lochee Harp are also in the squad



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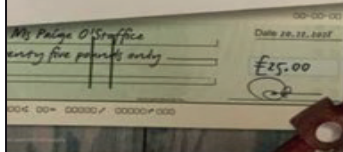
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Chic 'Huck' Phin

Club members would be saddened to learn of the death last week of Huck Phin, born 1938, a lifelong Tayport resident and supporter. Huck last pulled on a Tayport FC jersey when he made a cameo appearance for the club's Alliance XI in a 3-0 defeat by Grove on East Common in November 1972. The team was in the midst of an eight game losing streak and it was likely an all hands to the pumps situation when Huck got the call to pulled on the boots again!

Huck enjoyed his trips abroad, Liege, Belgium with the football team and more recently Poland with the Tayport branch of the Royal British Legion.



Huck in Liege - With brother Andy in the Pondy 2018 - In Poland with the RBL

TAYPORT F.C. OVER 50s WALKING FOOTBALL TEAM UPDATE

Tomorrow sees our WFS East Scotland League campaign commence for 2022.

Our first opponents will be Crieff Juniors, Dundee United CT and Dunfermline Dynamos.

All matches will be played on the first Sunday of each month, excluding July, and the season will finish in November. The venue is the Regional Performance Centre, Caird Park, Dundee.

First games start at 2:00pm and each game this season will last 15 minutes. All games will be refereed by fully qualified officials.

New clubs taking part this year include Montrose and Fairfield.

Last season we finished 4th out of 12 clubs, but this year we will be playing 24 league games and 2 friendlies, twice as many as before, so our squad have been putting in extra training to get themselves prepared for what lies ahead...

Paul Berg. Tayport FC Walking Football Co-ordinator

Luke joins up on loan until end of season

Making his debut in the win v Forfar WE last week was 21 yrs old Luke Emmett from Keith FC in the Highland League. Luke started off at in a traditional No.7 role but was later switched to left back, the position in which he featured with Keith for the first 15 games of this season. A suspension cost him a starting place, hence the opportunity for some game time on loan at Canniepairt. Luke, born in Warri in Nigeria, although now a naturalised Scot, was a youth player with Aberdeen FC, since when he has been with Cove Rangers and on loan at Formartine and Banks O'Dee before joining Keith



1985 - FROM THE ARCHIVES - 1992



The Fat Man Dash at the TFC 1985 Gala weekend. Nicky Johnson breasts the tape first, with Sandy McDade (R) and Alastair Oswald aka Herx (L) coming up fast



The Tayport FC committee pictured in 1992 during a pre-season tour to Essex to play Wivenhoe FC and later Broomfield FC wining both, 2-1 and 5-2. From left Alastair Oswald, Eric Beat, Andy Robertson, Ronnie Redpath, Sandy McDade, Ross Macmillan, Albert Oswald, Tam Maloney, Eddie Stewart, Iain Cougan, David Ayre.

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Ellidh Makes the Front Page !



yesterday...



...today



tomorrow...?



Ellidh Aitken started the season reporting on Tayport matches before getting a job as a reporter with the Dunfermline Press and last week we spotted her penning the newspaper's leading front page article



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Pete's Patter

Peter McEleny is Tayport FC's Communications Officer

Last week the club received their fixtures for April. There are still a few fixtures to be arranged but we now have a much clearer idea of what the last few months of the season are going to look like. So, let's take a look at what March and April look like for the Port and what fixtures we have left to play.

Today we host **Arbroath Victoria** in the league, the fixture which didn't go ahead in August due to Covid issues. We have already played Vics twice this season. We won 2-1 in the Quest Engineering Cup before they beat us by the same score in the league at Ogilvy Park in October, a game which turned out to be Chris Macpherson's last match in charge. Next Saturday we are at home to **Kirriemuir Thistle**, who we last played in November and won 3-1. This match against Kirrie will be our last home game for several weeks with us on the road for the rest of March and potentially all of April.

We start the first of six scheduled away games on 19th March against **Letham** in the league when we visit Seven Acres Park in Perth. We took on Letham at home back in September and won 3-2. We then turn our attention to the **Quest Cup quarter final v Forfar United** and the manager and players will be desperate for our name to be in the draw for the semi-finals. We've played Forfar United twice already this season, drawing 1-1 at Guthrie Park in the second league game of the season before beating them 4-1 under the Canniepairt lights in January.

Our first April fixture is in the league when we play title chasing **Carnoustie Panmure** at Laing Park. The original fixture should have taken place in December but the pitch was unplayable that day due to frost. Then on 9th April we take on **Lochee Harp**. There has been much change at Harp in the last month with their manager leaving the club and moving to Coupar Angus. Since then a large number of the Harp team have also made the move to Coupar Angus, so it will be a very different Harp team to the one we faced back in October. Harp now have Tayport's former Assistant Manager Alan McSkimming in charge along with former Port manager Chris McPherson.

The following week, 16th April, we take part in the **Thorntons Property Cup** for the first time this season, entering in round two when we are away to **North End**. We have played North End twice in the league this season, 2-0 on the opening day then 2-2 at North End Park in November. On 23rd April we visit the transformed Davie Park to take on **Blairgowrie**. It's all changed at Davie Park since we last visited there in the league in 2020 with them now having an Astro turf park. Blair visited the Canniepairt in October on league business when we ran out 4-0 winners.

We know if we defeat Forfar United in the Quest Cup, the semi-final will be on Saturday 30th April. We have also been informed by the league that there will be mid-week fixtures taking place on Wednesday 20th April and Wednesday 27th April and these fixtures will be released in due course. We have three league games left which have still to be arranged, away games at **East Craigie** and **Coupar Angus**, one of which was abandoned and the other postponed, leaving a home match against **Brechin Victoria**. **After today's match we will only have two home league matches to play.**

There are still a lot of points to play for in the league and silverware up for grabs in the cups, so let's hope it will be a strong finish to the season for the Port.

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL PYRAMID

The next page shows how the pyramid looks today as we move into the last ten weeks of the season. It shows the teams currently topping each tier of the pyramid and also shows where a selection of our neighbouring sides in other leagues are positioned in the pyramid..

Scottish football took a long time to adopt a pyramid system and so remove the 'closed doors' approach which prevented ambitious clubs from progressing. Now, any club can, subject to licensing conditions, move up the pyramid.

The pyramid structure is still settling down but it's like this...

At the end of this season the Highland League winners, presently Fraserburgh, play off against the winners of the Lowland League, presently Bonnyrigg Rose. The winners then play off against the bottom placed club in League 2, presently Cowdenbeath. The winners are



Subject to licensing conditions lands League would feature in an ners of the North Caledonian The winners would then play off

in next season's SPFL League 2 being met, the winners of the Mid-end of season play-off with the win-League and the North Super League. against the bottom club in the High-liam. The winners of this play off

would take their place in next season's Highland League, the losers dropping down to take a place in a Tier 6 league. In theory, that would be Tayport's route to the Premiership and ultimately the Champions League and the World Club Championship!

That's one leg of the Pyramid, the other being the Lowland League leg, which is our neighbouring Fife and Perth former Junior clubs' route to the SPFL and Europe!

Jeanfield are in Tier 6 and would have a similar route as ourselves (and other Midlands clubs).

It's a longer journey for the others, Kinnoull, Luncarty, Newburgh and St Andrews United, who are each in Tier 7. The top placed teams in the East of Scotland (EoS) Conference (league) A and the top placed team in Conference (league) B, each get promotion to the EoS Premier Division in Tier 6. Thereafter it's the same route to the top as for a Midlands club

FROM THE DUGOUT

Good afternoon

and welcome to Canniepairt for this afternoon's clash. Thankfully last week saw a return to winning ways following our disappointment v Broughty. For the second week running we gave our opponents a foothold in the game with a lacklustre first half. It is very annoying to see us gift two goals in a game we had under control, just like the week before. It meant we then need three goals at home to win the game. Not a good habit to get into.



Once again, our second 45 salvaged the points and it was very pleasing that the 5 goals came from 5 different scorers. This is of great benefit to the team as it means we don't rely upon any one player to score. Also very pleasing was the fact that all 5 goals originated via set plays, something we had identified earlier in the week. The creme de la creme however, was the fifth goal which, if I'm honest, I'd say you will be hard pushed to see a better goal at any level. It really was a sublime piece of skill by Ryan to get himself from the bye line to scoring.

In the days leading up to the West End game, we managed to recruit Luke Emmet from Keith FC. Luke is a natural full back bfrom on this occasion, I put him wide right to help us defensively following the news that Ewan White was missing due to a positive test. Following a switch around in the second half, Luke seemed more comfortable and relaxed when pushed over to left back.

This week we added Adam Fraser from Lochee Harp to our squad. Myself and assistant manager Allan Smart watched Adam twice in recent weeks and, on one of those occasions, we were accompanied by the chairman. We were all in agreement that Adam has some work to do physically but we could all see his physique and nice touch as being strong assets for the club. I wish Adam the best of luck and hope he doesn't have long to wait for his first goal.

Today's visitors are a team that intrigue me. I think they are better than their league position dictates and are a dangerous side, especially from set plays, but we have identified one or two areas in which we think we can capitalise.

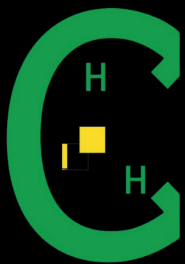
Our key words today are attitude and application. If we manage them correctly, we could be victorious again. Injury wise, Jamie Hume is a concern and may require a fitness test but Ewan White will return to the squad as will Kris Rollo following his suspension

Once again thank you for your support.

Eddie

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enquiries@signpost-international.org

01382 504033
The Roundhouse
Lothian Crescent
Dundee
DD4 0HU

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL PYRAMID

TIER 1	Premiership <i>Celtic</i>		
TIER 2	Championship <i>Arbroath</i>		
TIER 3	League One <i>Cove Rangers</i>		
TIER 4	League Two <i>Kelty Hearts</i>		
TIER 5	Highland League <i>Fraserburgh</i>	Lowland League <i>Bonnyrigg Rose</i>	
TIER 6	Midlands League <i>East Craigie (Tayport)</i>	North Caledonia League <i>Loch Ness FC</i>	North Super League <i>Banks O'Dee</i>
TIER 7	North Division 1 <i>Stonehaven</i>		
TIER 8	North Division 2 <i>Forres Thistle</i>		
	East of Scotland Conference A B <i>Leith Ath (St Andrews) (Newburgh) (Kinnoil) (Luncarty)</i>		
	West of Scotland Conference A B C <i>Arthurlie Cambuslang Drumchapel</i>		
	East of Scot Conference X <i>Bo'ness Athletic</i>		
	West of Scotland Div 4 <i>Finnart</i>		
	East of Scot (EOS) Premier Div <i>Linlithgow Rose (Jeanfield Swifts)</i>		
	South of Scotland League <i>St Cuthbert Wanderers Pollok</i>		
	West of Scot. Premier Div		

