



## Inverleith Angle

We are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to the Lasswade RFC tour party who have made the short journey into town for this Tennent's National League 2 fixture. We hope that President Billy Knowles, club secretary Dave Oliver, head coach Brian Hughes and their players, committee members and supporters enjoy their visit to Inverleith.

Our visitors today have had a difficult season to date, losing their first ten games before finally recording a 29-28 win over Preston Lodge under the lights at Hawthornden on 9<sup>th</sup> November. They followed that up with a comprehensive 29-7 home victory over GHK the following Saturday. They now sit in 11<sup>th</sup> place in the table, equal on points with Howe but above them thanks to having a significantly better points difference.

It's worth noting that, while Lasswade have suffered some heavy defeats this season, they've also run a number of the form teams very close, their 25-29 loss to Dumfries Saints last week being a prime example of this. They also ran *us* very close when we played them back in September, our 13-17 victory only coming after some desperate defence on our line in the last few minutes of the game. Despite those recent victories, Lasswade are still very much in need of points to climb away from the drop zone and I am sure that today is going to be another stern test for us.

As you'll read over the page, we were forced to dig deep to secure the win against Glasgow Accies at New Anniesland last week, our failure to turn our first half dominance into points looking like it would come back to haunt us as Accies hit their stride in the second half. It was, overall, a pretty decent day for the club, with a depleted 2s team going down fighting in a 56-52 try fest at Musselburgh and the Ferry Road Wanderers seeing off the Inverleith RFC 1<sup>st</sup> XV by 59 points to 31.

We were also delighted to welcome the Heriot's 1<sup>st</sup> XV to Inverleith on Saturday, their celebrations at beating Ayr at Millbrae being cut short when the boiler broke at Goldenacre. Obviously inspired by the success of the Ferry Road Wanderers this season, they asked if they could head along to Invers to get a heat and sink a few beers. We were, of course, delighted to see them, though we can neither confirm nor deny rumours that a tall, white haired chap wearing a faded British Lions jersey was seen sneaking out of the boiler room at Goldenacre with a spanner in his hand earlier that afternoon!

I'd like to finish by wishing all of our players, supporters and sponsors all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

I hope that you enjoy your visit to Inverleith and look forward to discussing the finer points of the game with you in the bar afterwards.

Bill McNie  
President



## Match Report vs Glasgow Accies, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Stew Mel commenced proceedings in front of the ageing stand, the pitch impeccable despite the inclement weather. The ball was well collected by Accies who cleared for the first lineout at around the halfway line. An attempt to kick downfield was, however, charged down, giving Accies possession, but a penalty was subsequently awarded in Stew Mel's favour. A good kick by Michael Miller gained some territory but Accies managed to steal the ball at the lineout and, again, kicked for touch, resulting in another lineout. It wasn't the tidiest, but, nevertheless, possession was retained, and, after another touch finder, this time it was Stew Mel's turn to win the ball back, enabling James Ferguson and Kyle Marshall to punch holes in the Accies defence.

In the early exchanges Stew Mel generally appeared to have the upper hand, pushing Accies well into their own 22. Sustained pressure eventually led to us being awarded an eminently kickable penalty; Happy slotted it home to make the score Accies 0 Stew Mel 3 with 10 minutes gone. Another long kick off by Accies and a clearance kick by Stew Mel resulted in a lineout around the halfway line which Stew Mel again managed to win. We were still very much in the ascendancy, and, with knock on's from both sides, we were starting to enjoy a degree of dominance at the resulting scrums, Accies frequently finding themselves on the back foot and having to opt for safety by kicking for touch.

The Stew Mel lineout was also functioning reasonably well, giving the back line attacking opportunities. Firstly James and then Freddie Roddick came at pace and waltzed through a dishevelled Accies defence for the first try (long overdue) of the afternoon. The conversion was, however, unsuccessful, as Happy's tee did not appear to be playing ball. 25 minutes played, Accies 0 Stew Mel 8.

After the restart the lineouts and scrums took on a familiar pattern, with Stew Mel again enjoying the upper hand in both. More quick ball and width gave Freddie another opportunity as he took off on a 'Hoggy' type break, eventually being wrapped up by some desperate Accies defence. A knock-on gave Accies some respite, but this was short lived as Stew Mel applied more pressure, driving Accies back into their own half with some good penetration on the right. This was followed by quick ball wide to the left and our second try eventually came care of newcomer Craig Davidson. This was clearly the result of some good, basic rugby, involving the width of the park, good running lines, good hands and simple passes from one side to the other. 35 minutes played, Accies 0 Stew Mel 13.

As the first half was coming to an end the rain, having temporarily abated, returned and both sides began an aerial bombardment, with Accies having the rare opportunity of an excursion into Stew Mel's 22. This was, again, short lived as a massive boot downfield put them back into their own 22. Accies did, however, launch an attack from deep and managed to get themselves into a



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reasonable position; they were then awarded a penalty which may have been kickable if your name was Greg Laidlaw ... the failed attempt was as inevitable as the half time whistle. Accies 0 Stew Mel 13.

After a dominant first half, what could the second half bring? Quite a lot, actually! The penalty count - not in our favour, I hasten to add - was mounting and the passages of play were turgid. From the restart, despite some good carries, the slippery ball was playing havoc and adding to the aforementioned penalty count. Accies were also pushing forward, making it particularly difficult for Stew Mel to get out of their own 22. The somewhat partisan crowd had now found their voice and were pushing their team on. The Accies players responded accordingly – and it also seemed that the crowd were also inadvertently putting a little bit of pressure on the referee, who appeared to be quivering in his muddy boots!

After retaining the ball from a clearance and in a good attacking position with numbers out wide, Accies opted to kick well into Stew Mel's 22. Freddie, however, plucked the ball out of the dark sky and sent it back. After a number of penalties, scrums and driving mauls, Accies were encroaching on the Stew Mel line, but, rather like the Biggar game the week before, Stew Mel stood firm for a significant period. We eventually managed to progress towards the halfway line with some good carries from Joe Bailey, Happy and Connor. Accies continued to attack, though, desperate to get some points on the board, and, to their credit, their game plan seemed to be working.

The fresh legs of Chris Baikie, Willie Malcolm and Matt Sandison entered the fray at this point, adding to the already robust defence. Play continued to follow a now familiar pattern, with forwards battling it out, kicks that weren't finding touch, penalties ... and then the inevitable yellow card. This was shown, somewhat harshly, to our number 8 Denis Pech, and, unfortunately ended his illustrious afternoon. It was no coincidence that the elusive try came Accies' way soon afterwards, the missed conversion leaving the score at Accies 5 Stew Mel 13 with around 70 minutes played.

With only a short period remaining and another penalty award to Accies, the decision was taken to grab the 3 points on offer and come away with at least a losing bonus point. Final score Accies 8 Stew Mel 13.

A tough game alright, with a good first half when we should have scored more points and a second half that really tested our defence. I think we passed that test with flying colours. Overall the backs looked sharp and showed some good hands in the damp conditions. Freddie is obviously at home at Anniesland, whether it's Old or New! James and Happy made the crucial yards and well done to debutant Craig Davidson on his try. On a day like Saturday, however, I think it has to be the forwards who deserve all the accolades.

*Kevin Murchie*



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## Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018: Kick off 2 pm

### Stewart's Melville RFC

15 Freddie Roddick  
14 Sean Murchie  
13 James Ferguson  
12 Euan Morrison  
11 Dave Allan  
10 Michael Miller  
9 Fraser Strachan  
1 Chris Baikie  
2 Doug Randall  
3 Ruaridh Mitchell  
4 Jamie Sword  
5 Fraser Morrison  
6 Willie Malcolm  
7 Alex Wainwright  
8 Denis Pech

### Player Sponsored By

Glencairn Properties  
Graham + Sibbald  
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Bill McNie  
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Jamie Frost  
Dreadnought Leith  
Barbershop Edinburgh  
Craneware  
Gav Maclean  
Hamilton Waste  
Parker Pest Control  
Keith Dobson  
CapitalVolt Electrical Services

### Replacements

16	Kyle Marshall	Findlay & Marshall Ltd
17	Connor McKay	Parkthorn Gates
18	Matt Sanderson	Cello Signal
19	Alex Rappestad	Euan Simpson

**Head Coach**

Nick McCashin

**Team Manager**

Andrew Manson





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### **Lasswade RFC**

- 15 Matthew Smith
- 14 Ciaran Lamont
- 13 David Hall
- 12 Niall Gray
- 11 Matthew Duffy
- 10 Lewis Clarke
- 9 Nick Elliot
- 1 Graeme Cook
- 2 Dylan Turnbull
- 3 Calum Sinclair
- 4 Alasdair Lamond
- 5 Jamie Graham
- 6 Craig Arnot
- 7 Matt Hart
- 8 Blair Smith

**Referee** Gordon Galashan

**Match Sponsor** Allied Surveyors

**Ball Sponsors** Graham + Sibbald

### ***Replacements***

- 16 Rory Mackenzie
- 17 Christopher Blackie
- 18 Niall Morris

***Next Home Game*** ***Sat 19 January 2019***  
***Vs GHK***  
***Kick-off 2 pm***

**Head Coach**  
**Team Manager**

Brian Hughes  
Craig Adam

**GRAHAM + SIBBALD**



**ALLIED SURVEYORS**



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## 1<sup>st</sup> XV Fixtures, Season 2018/19

Date	Opposition	KO	Venue	Result
25/8/18	Carrick (Cup)	3 pm	Carrick Academy	19-41 (W)
1/9/18	Whitecraigs	3 pm	Inverleith	27-21 (W)
8/9/18	Biggar	3 pm	Hartree Mill	36-3 (L)
15/9/18	Glasgow Accies	3 pm	Inverleith	40-15 (W)
22/9/18	Lasswade	3 pm	Hawthornden	13-17 (W)
29/9/18	Preston Lodge	3 pm	Inverleith	24-22 (W)
6/10/18	GHK	3 pm	Old Anniesland	7-46 (W)
13/10/18	Peebles	3 pm	Inverleith	22-7 (W)
20/10/18	Dumfries Saints	3 pm	Park Farm	41-26 (L)
27/10/18	Highland	3 pm	Canal Park	36-5 (L)
3/11/18	Howe Of Fife	2 pm	Inverleith	86-7 (W)
10/11/18	Falkirk	12.30 pm	Sunnyside	25-49 (W)
17/11/18	Whitecraigs	2 pm	West Lodge	22-50 (W)
24/11/18	Aberdeen Grammar (Cup)	12.30 pm	Rubislaw	31-14 (L)
1/12/18	Biggar	2 pm	Inverleith	0-31 (L)
8/12/18	Glasgow Accies	2 pm	New Anniesland	8-13 (W)
15/12/18	Lasswade	2 pm	Inverleith	
12/1/19	Preston Lodge	3 pm	Pennypit Park	
19/1/19	GHK	2 pm	Inverleith	
26/1/19	Peebles	2 pm	The Gytes	
2/3/19	Dumfries Saints	3 pm	Inverleith	
16/3/19	Highland	3 pm	Inverleith	
23/3/19	Howe Of Fife	3 pm	Duffus Park	
30/3/19	Falkirk	3 pm	Inverleith	



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## Tennent's National League Division 2

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	BP	PT
1	Biggar	14	13	1	0	12	64
2	Highland	14	12	2	0	12	60
3	Stewart's Melville	14	10	4	0	8	48
4	Preston Lodge	14	8	6	0	12	44
5	Dumfries	13	8	4	1	7	41
6	Peebles	14	7	6	1	10	40
7	Falkirk	14	7	7	0	7	35
8	Whitecraigs	13	4	8	1	9	27
9	GHK	14	4	9	1	3	21
10	Glasgow Accies	14	3	10	1	6	20
11	Lasswade	14	2	12	0	8	16
12	Howe Of Fife	14	2	11	1	6	16

## Tennent's National Reserve League Division 2

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	BP	PT
1	Currie	11	11	0	0	11	55
2	Edinburgh Accies	12	11	1	0	10	55
3	Stewart's Melville	12	8	4	0	11	47
4	Cartha QP	10	4	6	0	8	30
5	Biggar	12	4	8	0	6	29
6	Musselburgh	11	4	7	0	6	27
7	Dundee RFC	11	4	7	0	5	27
8	Boroughmuir	11	4	7	0	3	25
9	Selkirk	11	3	8	0	2	22
10	Kelso	9	2	7	0	2	15



## Many thanks to all of our Player Sponsors this season

<b>Player</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
<b>David Allan</b>	Bill McNie	<b>Connor McKay</b>	Parkthorn Gates
<b>Struan Allan</b>	Struan Samson	<b>Ruaridh Mitchell</b>	Craneware
<b>Chris Baikie</b>	Dreadnought Leith	<b>Euan Morrison</b>	The Wee Restaurant
<b>Joe Bailey</b>	Scott Dickson	<b>Fraser Morrison</b>	Hamilton Waste
<b>Chris Beattie</b>	John MacColl	<b>Sean Murchie</b>	Graham + Sibbald
<b>Alex Beveridge</b>	Bob Bowie	<b>Denis Pech</b>	CapitalVolt Electrical Services
<b>Ben Black</b>	Sunshine Communications	<b>Tom Petiau</b>	Jamie & Rosie Bruce
<b>Neil Bowie</b>	Ralph Campbell	<b>Gregor Porteous</b>	Brewster Brothers
<b>Jack Calder</b>	PMA Contracts Ltd	<b>Doug Randall</b>	Barbershop Edinburgh
<b>Will Corbett</b>	Tosh Park	<b>Alex Rappestad</b>	Euan Simpson
<b>Greg Cunning</b>	Jeremy Breaks	<b>Patrick Ritchie</b>	Allan Munro
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<b>Ben Dollery</b>	John Calder	<b>Dylan Russell</b>	Cambridge Bar
<b>James Ferguson</b>	Haldane UK Ltd	<b>Matt Sanderson</b>	Cello Signal
<b>Fraser Francis</b>	Fraser Porter	<b>Ally Scott</b>	IntelliDigest Ltd
<b>Adam Greig</b>	Prostate Scotland	<b>Charlie Simmonds</b>	Team Honey Badger 7s
<b>Stewart Hagart</b>	I. Simpson Agriculture Ltd	<b>Jack Somerville</b>	Bright Future Debt Advice
<b>Dave Hampton</b>	Connor Malcolm	<b>Ruaridh Stewart</b>	Prostate Scotland
<b>Murray Hanning</b>	ReSurge Africa	<b>Fraser Strachan</b>	Jamie Frost
<b>Gareth Henderson</b>	M Henderson Joinery	<b>Daniel Sweeney</b>	Morrison Ground Care
<b>Ed Kelman</b>	Stuart & Stuart	<b>Jamie Sword</b>	Gav Maclean
<b>Cameron Leask</b>	Ian Forsyth	<b>Seb Trotter</b>	Trotter Family Bakery
<b>Willie Malcolm</b>	Parker Pest Control	<b>Alex Wainwright</b>	Keith Dobson
<b>Kyle Marshall</b>	Findlay & Marshall Ltd	<b>Matthew Watson</b>	AW Photography
<b>Gavin McGregor</b>	Gavin MacColl	<b>Nick Winton</b>	P Mooney
<b>Jamie McGurk</b>	Seven Investment Mgmt	<b>Duncan Wood</b>	Breadalbane Finance