



## Inverleith Angle

A warm welcome to Inverleith to Dumfries Saints RFC, and, in particular, to their representatives at the pre-match lunch - VP Sharon Hiddleston and AN Other (strange name!)

The less said about last weekend, the better. Losses for the 1<sup>st</sup> XV, the Development Team and Scotland made me a very unhappy chappy (thank goodness Man U weren't playing ...) Unfortunately, I don't think any of these three teams can have any cause to complain. I was down in Prestonpans for the PL game and we just could not get going. We almost sneaked a victory but it would not have been deserved and we can count ourselves lucky we got a bonus point.

Phil Waine's 'Down Inverleith Way' column provides more information over the page (sorry – I cannot face going into more detail about the match– it is still too painful!)

There is no doubt today is going to be a tough one but I remain unashamedly optimistic – confident, even. Dumfries Saints are unbeaten and have notched up some big wins. We have yet to really get going this season, however, and, hopefully, today is the day! Training has been excellent this week and I know the boys are fit and raring to go.

Our Development Team faces a tough game away to Edinburgh Accies (changing rooms – TBC) and the Ferry Road Wanderers have a home fixture against local rivals Inverleith.

Off the pitch I am launching a new initiative that I genuinely hope you will get behind. It is called '100 New Faces' and, basically, I want 100 new members by the end of this season - and I want you to find them! For every new member that is signed up to pay by Direct Debit before the end of this season, I will personally donate £5 to the Edinburgh Headway Group. Not only will you be helping Stew Mel RFC but you will also be providing support to an extremely worthwhile charity which aims to 'empower and enrich the lives of adults who have survived an acquired brain injury'.

Unless notified otherwise, we will collect the subs on a monthly basis. For 16<sup>th</sup> Man membership that works out at £4.58 a month (less than a pint of lager on George Street), and, for full membership, £10.42 a month. Forms will be available from myself or Lindsey and I will email them out, too.

Brothers, uncles, cousins, sisters, mums, dads, babysitters, aunts, dog walkers. I don't care who it is - just sign them up! Please get behind this. Your rugby club and the Headway Group need you!

I hope to see you for a 'swift half' in the bar after the game.

Simon Breeze  
President



## Down Inverleith Way

It could have been – if Mike Miller had managed to hold onto his intercept attempt – a try under the posts, a conversion and a five league point victory for the Senior 1st XV. Should it have been? In a word, No!

A 25 – 19 loss produced only one bonus point for the league table, and the 19 points that we racked up during the game included two rather fortuitous tries (although both were well taken). Jamie McGurk scored the first of them, picking off a telegraphed pass well inside our half and outpacing the backtracking defenders for the score, while Charlie Simmonds made the most of a sliced clearance kick that almost landed behind the PL try line. Joe Bailey scored the third try, a rather more conventional pick and go effort, late in the second half.

After the heroics of the previous week, the RBG produced a strangely listless performance against Preston Lodge down in the 'Pans' and even the most rabid of supporters would have difficulty in saying that the East Lothian men didn't deserve the win and their elevation above us in National 2.

It is sometimes difficult to catch the mood of a game from the touchline but Stew Mel seemed somewhat distracted by the motivated and extremely loud-decibel approach of their opponents (a timely reminder of how everybody 'out of town' wants to beat the 'city slickers').

We were strangely off the pace and, although the defence collectively was generally solid, too many first time tackles were only half completed, which allowed PL to play off the front foot – as Scotland found out against Japan, it is a strenuous task to defend for long periods of time!

The backs also had a torrid time in attack, trying to negotiate the problem of playing with non-observation of the off-side law and the impact that that has in closing down available space. Goodness knows, the RBG already give away enough penalties, but, perhaps, this is an art that needs to be practised to meet the opposition on equal terms — or the laws need to be more stringently applied. The back foot seems to be as mythical as a Unicorn! In the spirit of rugby, however, a more positive approach would be to work out strategies to overcome this problem which is blighting the whole game.

It is only too easy to be critical from the stand and nobody will be hurting more than the players. The ideal opportunity for redemption comes next Saturday when the unbeaten league leaders, Dumfries Saints, visit Inverleith – *our* chance to produce an upset! Your support in this mission would be greatly appreciated.



STEWART'S MELVILLE  
R.F.C.

The mood was not lightened when the news filtered through that the Development XV had lost to Selkirk by 7-22. A game they might have expected to win. Next week they play Edinburgh Accies, venue still TBC. So that is two games to whet your appetite!

No College rugby to report on this week as it is the October holiday. If, however, you are interested in the school rugby scene, there was one result of particular note, with Glasgow High School defeating Merchiston in the third round of the U18 Cup.

The draw for the quarter finals is:

- Watson's v Strathallan
- Dollar v Stewart's Melville
- Glasgow H S v Marr College
- Edinburgh Accies v Fettes

The draw for the U16 quarter final is:

- Dunbar G.S. or Dollar v Fettes
- Edinburgh Accies v Merchiston
- Stewart's Melville v Strathallan
- St. Aloysius v Watson's

Here's hoping for a happier demeanour at 4.30 this Saturday!

*Phil Waine*

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#### Latest 100 Club Winners

October 2018	E Cunningham (£100)
November 2018	J Campbell (£100)
December 2018	E Cartwright (£500)
January 2019	G G Walker (£100)
February 2019	K J Harvey (£100)
March 2019	C Langlands (£100)
April 2019	T W Manson (£100)
May 2019	J Hobbis (£100)
June 2019	K Dobson (£500)
July 2019	D J Grant (£100)
August 2019	A M Addison (£100)
September 2019	J Crispin (£100)

Winners are asked to mail [100club@stewmelrugby.com](mailto:100club@stewmelrugby.com) ASAP to claim their prize.



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## Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019: Kick off 3 pm

### Stewart's Melville RFC

15	Matthew Watson
14	Adam Greig
13	Jamie McGurk
12	Euan Morrison
11	James Ferguson
10	Mike Miller
9	Fraser Strachan
1	Chris Baikie
2	Doug Randall
3	Connor McKay
4	Jamie Sword
5	Fraser Morrison (C)
6	Willie Malcolm
7	Joe Bailey
8	Scott Alldritt

### Player Sponsored By

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### Replacements

16	Tom Petiau	Sannox Bench Limited
17	Matt Sanderson	A Supporter
18	David Allan	A Supporter
19	Euan Bowen	Head Impact Trauma Limited

**Head Coach**

Jonny Else

**Team Manager**

Rhys Morgan





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### **Dumfries Saints RFC**

- 15 Jack Johnstone
- 14 Robert Neill
- 13 Jack Steele (C)
- 12 Rory Steele
- 11 Andrew Whiteford
- 10 Joseph Kerr
- 9 Lewis Young
- 1 Sean Graham
- 2 Tom Martin
- 3 Craig Goldie
- 4 David Andrew
- 5 Lee Scott
- 6 John Thomson
- 7 Ian Carlisle
- 8 Calum Smith

**Referee** John Smith

**Match Sponsor** Trinity Heriot

**Ball Sponsors** Gen!us Brewing

### ***Replacements***

- 16 Scott Goodwin
- 17 Nathan Brown
- 18 Ryan Cruickshank
- 19 Alan Birdsall

***Next Home Game*** ***Sat 26 October 2019***  
***Vs Dumfries Saints RFC***  
***Kick-off 3 pm***

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

Euan Mack  
Stan Johnstone

**GRAHAM + SIBBALD**



**ALLIED SURVEYORS**



STEWART'S MELVILLE  
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## 1<sup>st</sup> XV Fixtures, Season 2019/20

Date	Opposition	KO	Venue	Result
7/9/19	Falkirk	3 pm	Sunnyside	21-24 (W)
14/9/19	Kirkcaldy	3 pm	Inverleith	19-13 (W)
21/9/19	GHK	3 pm	Inverleith	19-44 (L)
28/9/19	Newton Stewart	3 pm	Bladnoch Park	0-12 (W)
5/10/19	Peebles	3 pm	Inverleith	27-17 (W)
12/10/19	Preston Lodge	3 pm	Pennypit Park	25-19 (L)
19/10/19	Dumfries Saints	3 pm	Inverleith	-
26/10/19	Dumfries Saints (Cup)	3 pm	Inverleith	-
2/11/19	Whitecraigs	2 pm	West Lodge	-
9/11/19	Gordonians	2 pm	Inverleith	-
16/11/19	Glasgow Accies	2 pm	Old Anniesland	-
23/11/19	Hamilton	2 pm	Inverleith	-
30/11/19	Falkirk	2 pm	Inverleith	-
7/12/19	Kirkcaldy	2 pm	Beveridge Park	-
14/12/19	GHK	3 pm	Old Anniesland	-
11/1/20	Newton Stewart	2 pm	Inverleith	-
18/1/20	Peebles	2 pm	The Gytes	-
15/2/20	Preston Lodge	3 pm	Inverleith	-
29/2/20	Dumfries Saints	3 pm	Park Farm	-
7/3/20	Whitecraigs	3 pm	Inverleith	-
21/3/20	Gordonians	3 pm	Countesswells	-
28/3/20	Glasgow Accies	3 pm	Inverleith	-
4/4/20	Hamilton	3 pm	Laigh Bent	-



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## Tennent's National League Division 2

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	BP	PT
1	Dumfries Saints	6	6	0	0	5	29
2	Peebles	6	5	1	0	3	23
3	GHK	6	4	2	0	6	22
4	Preston Lodge	6	3	2	1	5	19
5	Hamilton	6	3	3	0	6	18
6	Stewart's Melville	6	4	2	0	2	18
7	Kirkcaldy	6	3	3	0	5	17
8	Newton Stewart	6	2	3	1	4	14
9	Falkirk	6	1	5	0	4	8
10	Glasgow Accies	6	1	4	1	2	8
11	Whitecraigs	6	1	4	1	2	8
12	Gordonians	6	1	5	0	0	5

## Tennent's National Reserve League Division 1

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	BP	PT
1	Musselburgh	6	5	1	0	5	26
2	Selkirk	6	4	1	1	3	22
3	Edinburgh Accies	5	3	2	0	6	20
4	Heriot's	4	4	0	0	4	20
5	Biggar	6	3	3	0	5	20
6	Stewart's Melville	6	3	3	0	4	19
7	Hawick	4	3	1	0	4	17
8	Boroughmuir	6	1	4	1	1	11
9	Currie	5	0	5	0	4	9
10	Jed-Forest	6	0	6	0	2	8



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

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