



Inverleith Angle

A warm welcome to Peebles RFC as they make the relatively short trip to Inverleith today (A703, A701, A720, A90 and A902, I would imagine). I am delighted President Allan Beveridge and Bob Hogarth are joining us for lunch and I hope we see a feast of rugby after our scrum!

I am a little embarrassed to say I did not make the trip to Newton Stewart last weekend but did keep in regular contact with VP and road trip aficionado Bill McNie during the game. Again, the guys decided not to give our supporters a relaxing afternoon and ended up winning 0 – 12. I think Bill was very much ready for post-match refreshments at the final whistle!

Kevin Murchie's match report is over the page and Phil Waine's 'Down Inverleith Way' will be on the website. Please check them out.

Peebles will, I am certain, provide a stern test for our 1st XV today. They are currently unbeaten and sit in 2nd place in the league with 3 'try bonus' points. 3 of their 4 wins have been by 9 points or fewer so it looks like it will be another tight game today.

Instead of the 7 hour round trip to Dumfries and Galloway, I had a rather enjoyable afternoon at Invers watching our Development Team secure a fantastic win against Currie Chieftains A. They won 49 – 24 and very much deserved the victory. Wins like this demonstrate the depth of talent we have at the club and I know the coaches regularly struggle with selection due to the number of quality players in each position. Keep up the good work!

Our Development Team make the trip to the Borders today to play Hawick Force whilst the Ferry Road Wanderers play Ross High at Invers. If the stress on pitch 1 is too much, the FRW would appreciate your support behind the stand!

Off the field I need to remind you about the Six Nations away tickets deadline of 21st October (*full info on website*), the supporters lunch before the PL game in Prestonpans (*see me or Lindsey if interested*) and player sponsorship (*still a small number available – see me or Lindsey*).

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

Simon Breeze
President



Match Report vs Newton Stewart RFC, Saturday 28th September 2019

Their website notes that Newton Stewart RFC was established in 1984, however I know for a fact that the foundations for rugby were laid way before that in 1939 when a teacher from Hawick by the name of Jack Frame arrived at the Douglas Ewart High School with a rugby ball under his arm. My father and his two brothers were beneficiaries of this sea change and went on to enjoy illustrious careers representing the districts of Edinburgh and the North & Midlands.

Now back to 2019 at Bladnoch Park. A great set up for a club that has moved up through the leagues, having been promoted last season, and, to top that, a perfect day for rugby. As they took to the sun-kissed pitch there was a familiar line up, the only changes being Geoff Angco at 12, James Ferguson at 15 and Scott Murchie joining the back three at 11.

Stewart's Melville started proceedings, kicking deep into Newton Stewart territory, and our hosts were immediately put under pressure. From a successful line out, Stewart's Melville mounted the first attack of the afternoon with Jamie McGurk breaking through. The ball was, however, lost, but good defence by his fellow centre Geoff Angco kept the hosts at bay, although they managed to gain some territory and a scrum around 10m out from the Stewart's Melville line. Our set piece was solid, an early indication of how it would perform all afternoon. With possession changing hands in the early exchanges, Stewart's Melville eventually held on to the ball before pushing the opponents back, winning a scrum 5m out. Number 8 Scott Alldritt picked and drove over for the first try of the afternoon. Unfortunately, the kick wasn't as clinical. 15 minutes played, Newton Stewart 0 – Stewart's Melville 5.

From the restart the ball was well taken by Captain Momo, who found his scrum half Fraser and the ball was lobbed downfield. The short line out that followed ultimately led to Newton Stewart getting some possession, and, with a penalty coming their way, they managed to launch an attack before the Stewart's Melville tacklers wrapped them up and regained the advantage. It was, at this stage, one way traffic, with Stewart's Melville enjoying the majority of possession, and Newton Stewart were finding it difficult to get out of their own half. They were, to be fair, soaking up the pressure, which, at this stage was relentless, led tirelessly by Scott Alldritt the try scorer.

Our scrum was dominant, the line out was working well and the forwards were obviously enjoying themselves, giving their back line opportunities which perhaps could have been better exploited. Stewart's Melville, at this stage, should have had more points on the board, and Newton Stewart, to their credit, were making it difficult for us despite being under the cosh. With 25 minutes played, we only had 5 points to show for our efforts, despite our dominance.



STEWART'S MELVILLE
R.F.C.

A scrappy period then ensued and some good defensive play from Newton Stewart allowed them to clear their lines with a large boot downfield, wind assisted and with the low sun making it difficult for Stewart's Melville – an old Apache trick! Newton Stewart then enjoyed a period in the Stewart's Melville half but couldn't break through the resolute defence despite keeping the attack going well with ball in hand. It wasn't long before the first yellow card was produced and a penalty was awarded in Newton Stewart's favour. Although within reasonable distance of the posts, our hosts didn't manage to secure the three points – it wasn't going to be their afternoon. Half time, Newton Stewart 0 – Stewart's Melville 5.

The second half was soon underway and it wasn't long before the full RBG complement returned to the park. Newton Stewart were managing to live on scraps but they were still unable to capitalise on any opportunities that came their way – and there were a number of those, partially due to some erratic play by the visitors. Stewart's Melville were, however, soon back in the driving seat, and, with a scrum 10m out in front of the posts, reset three times, eventually drove over, with Scott Alldritt touching down again to make up for his trip to Le Sin Bin. Michael Miller this time added the extras. 50 minutes on the clock, Newton Stewart 0 – Stewart's Melville 12.

At this stage I felt it was in the bag for Stewart's Melville and I did think that there possibly should have been more tries. With our dominant scrum and tactical kicking pinning Newton Stewart back, they only had one option, Route One, but the Stewart's Melville defence was exemplary, preventing even a sniff of the line. The final whistle soon came and I am sure it made the long journey home much easier to bear. Final score Newton Stewart 0 – Stewart's Melville 12.

Not a big scoring game but all credit to Newton Stewart in doing their utmost to prevent any kind of rout. They certainly have some outstanding individual players, particularly in their back row. It was, however, a day for the Stewart's Melville forwards, an impressive performance. Scott Alldritt was outstanding all afternoon – well, 70 minutes of it – ably assisted by his fellow back rowers, Joe Bailey and Matt Sanderson. A special mention, also, to Jamie Sword in the boiler house, who had a great game, particularly in the line out. Our mobile front rowers did the business and the midfield of Geoff and Jamie put in a massive defensive effort, assisted by the back three who ensured that the Newton Stewart score remained at 0, a result of their all important cover tackles.

At times we could and should have been more clinical. Having earned the right to play wide, we should have possibly displayed a bit more decisiveness when the opportunities presented themselves. At times players were finding themselves isolated, and, as a result, our play lost cohesion. I am sure this will come.

Kevin Murchie



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Saturday 5th October 2019: Kick off 3 pm

Stewart's Melville RFC

| | |
|----|---------------------|
| 15 | Matthew Watson |
| 14 | Sean Murchie |
| 13 | Jamie McGurk |
| 12 | Euan Morrison |
| 11 | James Ferguson |
| 10 | Mike Miller |
| 9 | Fraser Strachan |
| 1 | Connor McKay |
| 2 | Doug Randall |
| 3 | Ruaridh Mitchell |
| 4 | Jamie Sword |
| 5 | Fraser Morrison (C) |
| 6 | Matt Sanderson |
| 7 | Joe Bailey |
| 8 | Dave Allan |

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Replacements

| | | |
|----|-------------|----------------------|
| 16 | Neil Bowie | Malones Edinburgh |
| 17 | Tom Petiau | Sannox Bench Limited |
| 18 | Ben Dollery | The Dollery Family |

Head Coach

Jonny Else

Team Manager

Rhys Morgan





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Peebles RFC

- 15 James Matthews
- 14 David Scott
- 13 Murray Brown
- 12 Donald Anderson
- 11 James Dow
- 10 Greg Raeburn
- 9 Ross Thomson
- 1 Neil Hogarth
- 2 Jamie Menzies
- 3 Rhys Wilson
- 4 Kenneth Clyde
- 5 Roddy Guiney
- 6 Rohan Maciver
- 7 Ruaridh Britton
- 8 Kieran Brown

Referee La Toya Mason (RFU)

Match Sponsor Trinity Heriot

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Replacements

- 16 Willie Aitken
- 17 Linton Brink
- 18 TBC
- 19 TBC

Next Home Game ***Sat 19 October 2019***
Vs Dumfries Saints RFC
Kick-off 3 pm

Head Coach

Lewis Bertram

GRAHAM + SIBBALD



ALLIED SURVEYORS



STEWART'S MELVILLE
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1st 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 | - |
| 12/10/19 | Preston Lodge | 3 pm | Pennypit Park | - |
| 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 | - |



STEWART'S MELVILLE
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Tennent's National League Division 2

| Pos | Team | P | W | L | D | BP | PT |
|-----|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1 | Dumfries Saints | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 19 |
| 2 | Peebles | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 19 |
| 3 | GHK | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 17 |
| 4 | Preston Lodge | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 15 |
| 5 | Hamilton | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 13 |
| 6 | Newton Stewart | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 12 |
| 7 | Stewart's Melville | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| 8 | Kirkcaldy | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | Whitecraigs | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| 10 | Falkirk | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| 11 | Glasgow Accies | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 12 | Gordonians | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Tennent's National Reserve League Division 1

| Pos | Team | P | W | L | D | BP | PT |
|-----|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1 | Stewart's Melville | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 17 |
| 2 | Musselburgh | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 16 |
| 3 | Edinburgh Accies | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 15 |
| 4 | Biggar | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 14 |
| 5 | Selkirk | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 13 |
| 6 | Hawick | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 12 |
| 7 | Heriot's | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10 |
| 8 | Boroughmuir | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| 9 | Currie | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 7 |
| 10 | Jed-Forest | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 6 |



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