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LEITH RUGBY 1ST XV
V INVERLEITH RFC
SAT 23 NOV | ACADEMY PARK | 2PM

LEITH RUGBY 2ND XV
V INVERLEITH RFC
SAT 23 NOV | ARBORETUM PARK | 2PM

#PERSEVERE



CAPTAIN'S CORNER



"Good luck to the teams playing today & thanks to all supporters for getting behind your local rugby club!"

Jamie Drummond
Club Captain

A warm welcome to Inverleith RFC, their supporters and our fellow Leithers to Academy Park.

We've not hosted Inverleith at Academy Park since October 2016, and a 54 - 16 win, a result that could be described very much an outlier, as clashes between the sides have traditionally been tight affairs over the years, as our narrow 29-22 victory at Arboretum in September certainly testified. We look forward to another tough challenge this afternoon as we look to keep the pressure on at the top of the table.

Recent results have been encouraging, as since the last programme notes we've put away 3rd placed Livingston (14 - 0 at home) and Dunbar (29 - 19 away), with the latter feeling a particularly important result as we'd not won there in a while, coming out the wrong side of 3 very narrow scorelines the past couple of seasons. Hopefully we can take that form into today's game.

The 2nd XV face the same opposition this afternoon, away from home at Arboretum, and will be looking to return to winning ways following their first loss of the season at Edinburgh Northern last weekend in challenging conditions (19 - 12). It's testament to the side that our opposition sent out a strong team and fessed up in the bar afterwards to swithcing the game to the poorer pitch in order to stymie our backs!

The 3s were also out last week, running up a big score against Walkerburn (81 - 27), to protect their undefeated season. Which now stretches to 2 games! In all seriousness though, it's a sign of the ever expanding player base that the 3s are getting closer to a regular schedule. We'd 3 debutants in the Walkerburn game, and another 11 new players at training over the past month. Good times.

If you see some questionable facial hair (well, more than usual) this weekend, this is because the club are raising money for Movember. Movember are supporting Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, which I'm sure we can all agree is a great cause. If you would like to donate please search for "Leith Rugby Club" at uk.movember.com. The club are also supporting the Caring Christmas Trees project next month, volunteering at Ocean Terminal, wrapping trees for the public, the sales of which support homeless and vulnerable people in Edinburgh at Christmas time. CaringChristmasTrees.com for more information

Good luck to the teams playing today & thanks to all supporters for getting behind your local rugby club!



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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?....COLIN MARSHALL

This week's former player in profile is Colin Marshall, who played 4 seasons at the club, till 2016. The big prop was a rock in the scrum, very handy in the loose, and was a key player throughout his time at Leith - despite a skiing injury keeping him out of East 3 title celebrations in 2013. We got in touch with "Chopper", Bob Munro Player's Player of the Year in 2012, for his Academy Park recollections.

Name: Colin Marshall

Hometown: Belfast

Age: 33

Position: Tighthead Prop

Playing Years: 20012 - 2016

Where are you these days? Still in Edinburgh but have moved out to Currie. Living right beside the Water of Leith though so the club doesn't feel too far away...just a short swim downstream...

Have you played any rugby since Leith? No, now in full time retirement as a terrible golfer. Although, like a boxer, still open to big money offers to come out of retirement...

Favourite Moment in a Leith jersey? Some of the big grudge matches against Edinburgh Northern and Inverleith were always good fun. Also, running a loop while breaking down the wing with fellow prop Craig Winton in the last match I played in against Northern...unbelievable scenes!

Funniest moment down the club? I think Gareth Marshall's 'stag' was one of my first nights out - and I remember laughing a lot. On the pitch, watching Craig Smith (playing at 10) throw a superb dummy against a very good flanker on the RBS team. Then throwing another great dummy against the same guy a few minutes later. Finally trying it for a third time...without as much success. Only funny in hindsight - glad you were okay Craig!

Best player played with? A lot of good players but I'd shout out the inconspicuous guys who get through a lot of work for the team. Mark Phillips and Neil Paterson spring to mind and Doug Watters in the backs (backs sometimes work hard too!)

Toughest training ground opponent? Gareth Marshall always seemed to have a glint in his eye when he saw me in front of him?

What do you miss most about Leith Rugby? Leith really is a community and friendly club - even though I wasn't there a lot over my last year or two playing, I always felt welcome and there was always a few new guys from far from places around the world. It's been great to see how much the club has grown over the last few years and hopefully it continues to do so.

How do you keep in touch with the club? Haven't been for a couple of years but have seen a few guys at Oriam when they're up training. I keep up on social media and keep an eye on the SRU tables.

Have you any message for the current playing squad? Hopefully this season brings success but make sure to enjoy it along the way.



'Hopefully this season brings success but make sure to enjoy it along the way!'

Former player
Colin Marshall

[If you'd like to recommend a former player for us to feature, get in touch at leithrfc@gmail.com]



YOUTH RUGBY UPDATE



Over the next 2 months Leith Rugby development team will be delivering a 6-week block of rugby to 6 Primary schools in the Leith area. All the schools will be taking part in a touch rugby festival at Leith Rugby club on Wednesday 11th December where we will be welcoming 380 P5's.

The u14 Girls team were in action last week playing away against St Augustine's in a development game. We welcome St Augustine's to Leith Academy for a return fixture next week. The u14 boys were in action as well in the T4 competition and won 2 games and lost 1. They are still top of the T4 conference. We have been very fortunate over the last couple of weeks, a couple weeks back we had Blair Kinghorn down taking a session with over 50 Leith Academy pupils, Edinburgh Rugby provided us with 50 tickets for the Edinburgh v Dragons game. We had 12 pupils going to their first ever game and had a great experience. On Wednesday we had Scotland and Edinburgh Captain Stuart McInally down taking a session on the breakdown thanks to Sporting start for giving the Leith Academy pupils this amazing opportunity. We finished up with a Q&A where Stuart discussed life as a professional player, what inspired him to play rugby and life away from the pitch. He talked about his coffee business and life as a pilot.



Sunday youth rugby continues to grow at the club. This year the youth players have been playing in several fixtures and joint training sessions around the capital and East Lothian. We are always looking to welcome new players and coaches to come along to Leith Rugby Club. In addition to this over the last couple of Sundays we have been running a UKCC Level 1 rugby coaching course and had 11 coaches on the course.

We will be running an Easter camp this year on 13th, 14th, 15th April 2020 and our summer rugby camp will be 3rd-7th August 2020.

If you would like to find out any more information about our youth section, please get in touch.

Thanks, Ross Johnston | Leith Rugby Development Officer | Leithhawks@gmail.com



MINI RUGBY AT LEITH

EVERY SUNDAY, 10AM - 11.30AM

PRIMARY 1 - 7 | BOYS AND GIRLS



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PLAYER PROFILES

SCOTT McATEER



Flanker
25
Carrnyduff, NI
Belfast Harlequins,
aged 6

Belfast Harlequins,
Methodist College,
Ulster University (UUC)

Ulster

PLAYER PROFILES

Position Versatile (stand off)
Age 25
Hometown Fleet, Hampshire
First club Aldershot & Fleet,
aged 5

Previous Clubs Aldershot & Fleet,
Canterbury Christchurch
University

Pro Team

Doncaster Knights

GEORGE LEES



This week we profile 2 x 25 year olds in Ulsterman Scott McAteer, and Sassenach George Lees. Scott joined at the end of last season, and has started his debut campaign in fine form, while George famously joined the club about 3 hours after arriving in Edinburgh, and the 2s inspirational leader currently sits atop their assists chart too. Selfless.

My pre-match Saturday ritual is - breakfast or lunch out, then down early to tape up everything

My pre-game music selection is - anything EDM or Rap

If I didn't play rugby on a Saturday I would - testing eyes or playing golf

My best claim to fame is - yet to happen

If I was an animal I would be - a dog

Who would play you in a movie about your life? - Jason Statham

My dream date is - Eugenie Bouchard

My sporting hero was/is - Tiger Woods

My favourite fast food is - a Burrito

My middle name is - Alexander Lowe

My favourite app is - it would have to be Instagram

You're stranded on a desert island, which team mate are you taking with you? Michael Hepburn as he provides constant entertainment

If you could be one of your teammates for a week....who would it be and why? Ben Wilkinson, to see what it's like running an eye business

Best dressed team mate? Andrew Paterson, always looks sharp

Worst dressed team mate? from my limited experience it's between Reece Barclay and Robert Stitt

Smartest and dumbest team mates? James Nimmo smartest, Heppy [Michael Hepburn] or [Paul] Haggon for dumbest

Best value on a night out? David Sommerville

I joined Leith because I met Craig Allan through a mutual friend and he invited me along...and it's my local club

What is your goal for the season? to earn a regular starting spot and hopefully contribute to a winning season

Least favourite training drill? constant pick and goes. Tiring!

Favourite rugby moment? winning the cup with my old club at Ravenhill/Kingspan

Most embarrassing rugby moment? too many to mention

Which team are you looking forward to playing most this season? Trinity

My pre-match Saturday ritual is - a beer and a fry up at 'Spoons

My pre-game music selection is - not allowed at home, and pretty heavy

If I didn't play rugby on a Saturday I would - be lost with what to do

My best claim to fame is - I was faster round a velodrome than Mike McMeekin (professional rugby league player with Castleford Tigers)

If I was an animal I would be - a lemur

Who would play you in a movie about your life? Kevin McKidd

My dream date is - Eva and a lot of cocktails

My sporting hero was/is - weird one, but probably Marius

Pudzianowski, world's strongest man, semi-pro rugby player, MMA fighter. The man's got it all

My favourite fast food is - a chippy

My middle name is David

My favourite app is - Amazon

You're stranded on a desert island, which team mate are you taking with you? Shaun Guesford could dig our graves for us. It pays to be prepared

Which one are you hoping isn't there? Cookie is a liability on a night out - wouldn't want to take the risk he's the same on a desert island

If you could be one of your teammates for a week....who would it be & why? Jamie Drummond. I can't grow a beard, so would be nice to know what it's like

Best dressed team mate? Andy Pat

Worst dressed team mate? Will Tuft - still rocking the discount geography teacher look

Smartest and dumbest team mates? Smartest - Owen Jenkins, off the field. Dumbest - Owen Jenkins, on the field

Best value on a night out? James Nimmo. A fabulous drunk

I joined Leith because it was the closest club to where I stayed

What is your goal for the season? easy - 2s promotion

Favourite rugby moment? winning University varsity game as co-captain

Most embarrassing rugby moment? getting handed off by one of my mates at work in the Queensferry friendly last year - not allowed to live that down

Who you looking forward to playing most this season? Edinburgh Northern - always a close game, and a decent bunch of lads in their 2s

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

1ST XV @ TRINITY ACCIES, 2PM

2ND XV @ ROSS HIGH, 2PM

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

CARING CHRISTMAS TREES, OCEAN TERMINAL, 9AM - 2PM

2ND XV v PORTOLISMORE, 2PM

PLAYERS XMAS NIGHT OUT, 7PM



TODAY'S TEAM LISTS

2019/20 SEASON STATS

1ST XV vs LINVERLEITH RFC, 2PM

1 J NIMMO
2 R MARSHALL
3 B CONNELLY
4 T KIRKWOOD
5 N PATERSON
6 J DRUMMOND (c)
7 S McATEER
8 F FORSYTH

9 D SOMMERVILLE
10 B WILKINSON
11 M BOWMAN
12 J CAMPEY
13 G JACKSON
14 A PATERSON
15 K DANNFALD
20 N ANDREWS
21 A BAXTER
22 F MACNAMARA
19 R JOHNSTON

TENNENTS EAST 2

#	TEAM	P	PTS
01	NORTH BERWICK	7	30
02	LEITH	7	29
03	LIVINGSTON	8	24
09	INVERLEITH	7	02

2ND XV @ INVERLEITH RFC, 2PM

1 M HEPBURN
2 S WILSON
3 R STITT
4 B PLACE
5 B SCOTT
6 S BATES
7 S MOORE
8 D MEADOWS

9 S GUESFORD
10 W TUFT
11 R MARWICK
12 J DERRIN
13 J NAJERA-ALESON
14 F PALIN
15 A BARR

16 R BARCLAY
17 C LAWRIE
18 J FOGARTY
19 D PETOUSIS-HARRIS

TENNENTS EAST RESERVE 3

#	TEAM	P	PTS
01	LEITH	9	42
02	PENICUIK	9	36
03	CORSTORPHINE	9	34
06	INVERLEITH	8	19

1ST XV



J DRUMMOND 10
J NIMMO 10
N ANDREWS 9
N PATERSON 9
10 PLAYERS 8

APPEARANCES

2ND XV



F PALIN
S BATES
B PLACE
R STITT
3 PLAYERS

TRIES



A BAXTER 9
M TEIXEIRA 6
J CAMPEY 5
N ANDREWS 3
N PATERSON 3
B WILKINSON 3

R MARWICK
A BARR
M CROLLA
K DANNFALD
L DUNKO
3 PLAYERS



ASSISTS



R JOHNSTON 11
J CAMPEY 4
A BAXTER 3
K DANNFALD 3
3 PLAYERS 2

G LEES
K DANNFALD
8 PLAYERS



POINTS



R JOHNSTON 68
A BAXTER 45
B WILKINSON 33
M TEIXEIRA 30
J CAMPEY 25

K DANNFALD
R MARWICK
S GUESFORD
M CROLLA
L DUNKO



MAN OF THE MATCH



S McATEER 2
9 PLAYERS 1

A BARR
S GUESFORD
6 PLAYERS



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