

#### MEN'S CAPTAIN'S CORNER

A very warm welcome to Academy Park as Leith Men's 1st XV take to the field for their first home game of the new season. I am honoured to be club captain for the 23/24 season and am looking forward to playing my part in the continuing success of our wonderful club!

Today we look to follow in the winning footsteps of our women's team as we take on Forrester at home. Our women's team, stole the show last weekend to notch the first Win in the Blue and White of Leith against Lismore.

With a successful pre-season behind us, we saw a great number of new players join our club. We welcome our new starts, bolstering the player pool and bringing some new talent to the field. Our ambition as a club, is to field 4 teams on the same weekend before the season is out.

Our 2nd XV playing away in Currie and Leith Hawks training on Sunday morning act as the perfect warm up to Scotland's first game against South Africa this weekend, as they begin their World Cup journey. The club will be open and showing the game too! What a great weekend of rugby all-round!

We are all looking forward to what is sure to be an exciting season on and off the field for Leith Rugby.







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## SPORTS MASSAGE



#### **WOMEN'S CAPTAIN'S CORNER**

In the past two weeks, the team has been on fire, embracing the valuable insights and strategies shared by our new women's coach, Emily Evans. This effort paid off brilliantly, helping us to secure a welldeserved victory against Lismore last Sunday.

Our team is thriving under Coach Emily's guidance, and it's evident in our team's progress. We're gearing up for a couple of intense weeks focused on refining our game plan. Rest and recovery will be a critical part of our preparation as we get ready for our next match on the 24th of September.

The determination in the squad is stronger than ever and we're building a sense of unity and teamwork that's truly inspiring. The journey continues, and we're determined to keep pushing for excellence in every game. With the team's dedication and Coach Emily's guidance, we hope to continue our success on the field.





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#### **CLUB NEWS**

<u>Kit Supplier</u> - Our new kit has landed! You will see over the next few weeks that the first XV and the womens team will be sporting a fresh look from VX3. The club shop is also available online for both the senior and youth teams. Check it out on the VX3 website

<u>Welcome Mike & Emily</u> - As you may be aware we have added two new coaches to our ranks over the summer. Mike Goodman has joined us at the start of the year and has experience in East Rugby as a coach at Dalkeith and Forresters as well as a referee. Emily has also joined us over the past few weeks and will be coaching the Womens team. Welcome both!!

<u>New Sponsors -</u> Many thanks to our new sponsors who have joined with us this year. We have a couple of announcements in the next few weeks but welcome aboard, VX3, Campervan, CA Massage and Leith Bottle Shop! Look forward to working with you!!

<u>Volunteers Needed</u> - The club are on the look out for more people to help out. There are many roles available from coaching, rugby logistics or some of the needed behind the scenes jobs. Most don't need a huge commitment and can be done from a far, email leithrfc@gmail if interested.

#### **NEXT CLUB EVENTS**

All at the club are excited that the Rugby World Cup has kicked off this weekend! And we are more delighted to say that we will be screening all Scotland games at the Academy Park club house! So get the dates in the diary and be sure to come down and cheer Scotland on from afar!!

We will be showing many of the other weekend games too, so keep your eyes on our social media channels for more information on this!

Also keep your eye out on our social channels for some special socil events coming Leith's way this year!



#### **WOMEN'S PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

Name: Emily Welham

Position: Blind-side Flanker

Joined the club: When Leith Women's side formed

earlier this year (2023)

<u>Sporting Hero</u>: Tayemar Fowler-Davis (obviously!)

<u>Favourite food</u>: Curry, in any and all forms

Pre Game Hype song: Godmode - In this Moment

Fun Fact: Had never played a game of rugby before October 2022, and I can down a pint in 6 seconds - video evidence can be provided!

Favourite Leith memory: Winning Women's Newcomer of the Year at the Leith Awards night.



#### MEN'S PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Name: Paul Haggon

**Position**: Back Row

Joined the club: School at aged 12, then adult at 16 and then after a 6 year gap came back in 2015

Sporting Hero: Joe Marler

Favourite food: Mince and Tatties

Pre Game Hype song: Die Antworld No 1

Fun Fact: I Only have one kidney

Favourite Leith memory: Scoring a hat trick in my very first senior game against Dalkeith - I was a winger back in those days!!







#### **LEITH HAWKS**



The Leith Girls kicked back into action this weekend out in East Lothian! Fielding both an U14 and U16 team.

On Sunday morning the u14 girls joined up with Dalkeith to form "Daleith". Plenty of action in these games with all the girls playing amazingly improving each game! Player of the day was Polly Uttley (Videod scoring) who was great carrying the ball and in defense.

The u16 girls showed up with plenty strength with 12 girls showing up to play in the first league fixture of the season! Some fantastic attacking rugby in all the games. The player of the day was Ella Cameron Lynch for some fantastic attacking rugby and 2 fantastic tries!

The Primary School children and the Little Leithers (Ages 3-5) are back in training on Sunday's at Academy Park.

If you know a young person who would like to take part then please contact Ruari Morrison. Similarly if you would like to volunteer with the Leith Hawks whether it is in the coching side or the administrative side of things then please get in touch.





#### THIS WEEKEND

Little Leithers & Primary 1-7	Training Sun. 10.30. Academy Park
U14 Girls	No Game
U14 Boys	Festival Fri. 15.00. Broughton HS
U16 Girls	v Murrayfield Wanderers Sun. 10.00. Roseburn Park
U16 Boys	Festival Sat. 09.00. Union Park

**Campervan Brewery Presents:** 

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# Celebrating the 50th birthday of Olive - Campervan Brewery's Campervan



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#### **MENS TEAM UPDATE**

The 1st XV squad took a trip out to West Lothian to take on Linlithgow in the 1st league game of the season. Unfortunatly the result was not to go the way of the Academy Park men as they went down 34-15. The home team raced into a lead and despit Leith recovering and pegging them back through tries from Michele Crolla and Reece Barclay and 5 points from the boot of Ross Johnston.

Closer to home the 2nd XV managed to overcome Haddington 2nd XV in a friendly as they get prepped for the start of the league season. A great 54-21 victory over a strong team that sets a marker down for the season. Ruari Morrison managed to walk away with 5 tries with Max Bowman, Jon Derrin and Ralph Fairhurst adding the others.





The first xv are in home action as we welcome Forresters to Academy Park. Both teams will be looking for a victory at this early stage of this season. Whilst Leith lost out last week, Forresters managed to get a bonus point win against divisional new boys Royal High.

The 2nd XV travel to Malleny Park to take on Currie 3rd XV in there final preseason friendly before legue action. Currie are hosting the day to pay tribute to player Grant Williamson who tragic passed away recently. We are glad to take part in the day and wish them well.

# RIFKIND & BROPHY OPTOMETRISTS I EST. 1966



#### **LADIES TEAM UPDATE**

Leith Vs Kirkcaldy: 20-22

An incredibly close game right up to the last whistle, with a united Leith team of 12 players digging deep to give a full Kirkcaldy squad a challenging game of competitive rugby, earning themselves 2 bonus points in the process.

The game featured 4 impressive tries from Jen McClusker, Jess Sandham and Brianna Baxter (2), and a very promising rugby debut from Kate Fowler. One of the main focusses going into the game for Leith was to implement effective communication on the pitch, which was vital as Leith adapted their game plan in response to the competition, leading to noticeable Improvements as the game progressed.

Despite the narrow loss, every player came off the pitch happy with their performance as a team and feeling confident going into the next game.









Leith Vs Lismore: 34-12

A determined Leith team, supported by players from Broughton, the Gala Vixens and Costorphine Cougars showed up for a convincing bonus point win against a strong Lismore squad on what felt like the hottest day of the year.

In the lead up to the game, Leith worked hard on improving their support play, structure in defence and gaining ground in attack, and it was great to see this effectively implemented on the pitch during the game.

With 6 tries from Mia Ehret, Zoe Tumer, Karly Yorkston, Kirsty Fraser and Alana Beethan (2) and a disciplined defence from the whole team, Leith dominated for the majority of the game.

The team was elated with their first win of the season, giving them a huge confidence boost along with the drive to keep working on improving ready for the next game.

#### **TEAM LINE UPS**

### LEITH 1ST XV v FORRESTER RFC

HOME

AWAY

JNIMMO

**C AITKEN** 1.

**C WINTON** 

A BEVERIDGE 2.

**B CONNELLY** 

3. R STRACHAN

P BLASCO 4.

R INGLIS

N PATERSON 5. E WARDROP

F FORSYTH 6. C FAHERTY

D MULLINS 7.

**D PARK** 

M CROLLA

**C MORRISON** 8.

J RODRIGUEZ 9. C MOORE

R JOHNSTON 10. M JOHNSTONE

R MARWICK 11. S FULTON

L PALMER 12. G ARCHIBALD

J CAMPEY (C)

**13.** C PRIOR

A PATERSON

14. B GRAHAM

K DANNFALD 15. N ROBERTSON

JO'NEIL 16. S GROAT

R BARCLAY 17. G DUDGEON

E VASAKULA

18. S DELAHUNT

R NOTTON

19. SHENRY

