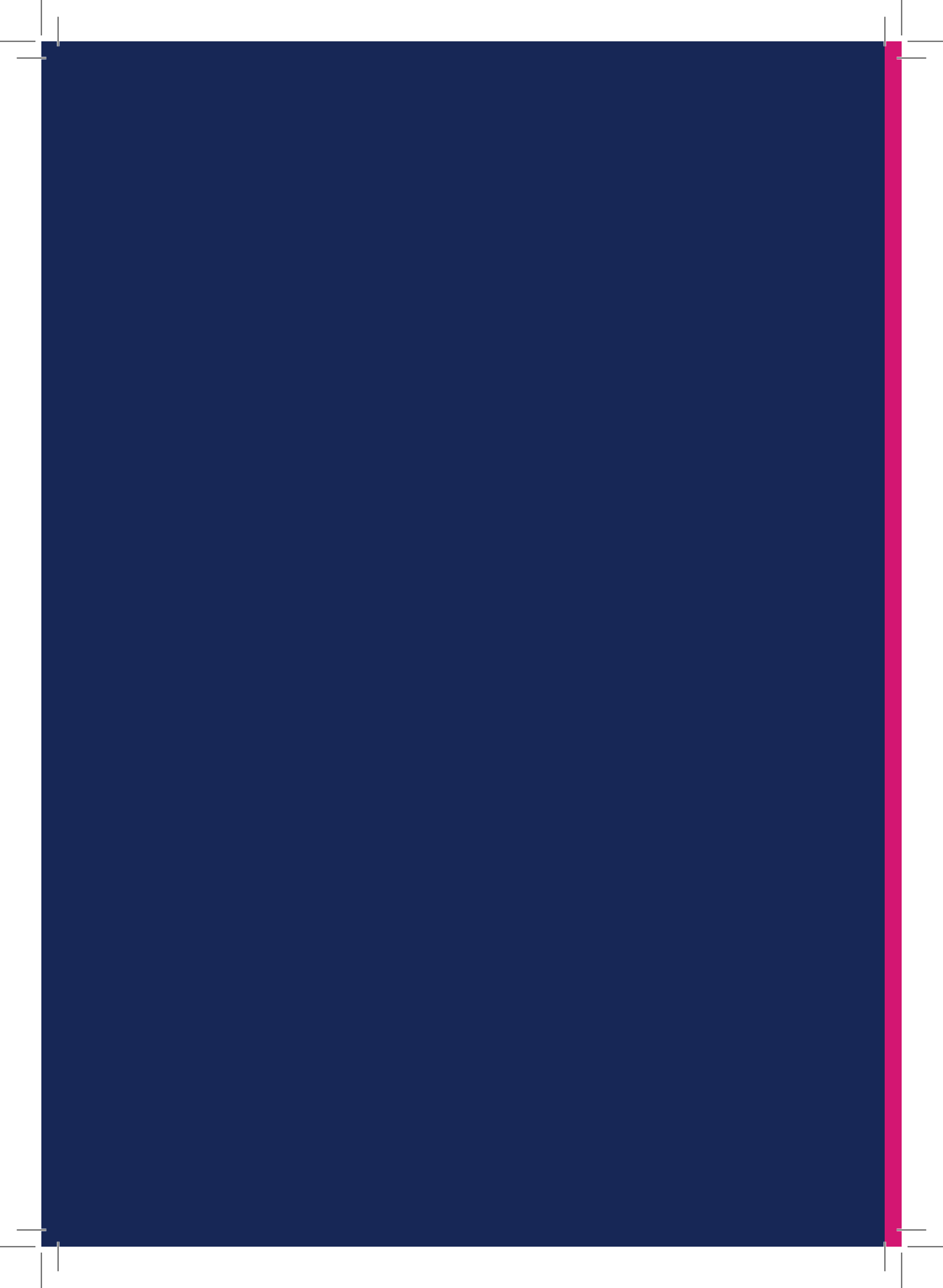


Leith Rugby Awards Night.

Saturday 13th June 2015



Celebrating the
success and
achievements of
Leith Rugby.



A grayscale background image showing a rugby scrum in progress. Several players are huddled together, pushing against each other. A player in the center is holding a rugby ball. The image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be overlaid.

President's Welcome

Welcome to the annual awards night at Leith Rugby Club and I hope you have an enjoyable evening.

This has been a very good season for Leith Rugby both on and off the pitch. The team has consolidated its place in BT East Regional League Division 2, playing a brand of fast entertaining rugby that has drawn compliments from spectators and players.

Credit has to be given to head coach Blair Skipper for his skill in preparing the team, supported by Brian Archer, as well as playing at a level that encouraged the players to showcase their abilities. Further evidence of the progress on the playing side is evidenced by the club putting out a 2nd XV on a number of occasions, and it's continued development is key to our future success.

Off the field the commitment shown by the club members, ably led by club captain Doug Watters, particularly in offering support to various charities has to be commended. This was superbly demonstrated in the support they provided to the Bethany Christian Trust Caring Christmas Trees campaign.

It's great to see you all at our annual awards event tonight and I hope that you will visit Academy Park regularly over the course of next season either playing, inspecting or simply to enjoy the club's hospitality.

To all the award winners well done and to the others remember that without you beside them they wouldn't have won.

I hope you have a good evening.

01



Programme of Events

Welcome and Introductions

Presentation of Awards

Break

02 The Apprentice: You're Hired!

Break

Presentation of Awards

Thanks and Close of Awards

Buffet

Dancing!

Captain's Corner



A warm welcome along to Leith Rugby Club for the highlight in our social calendar, and a fantastic opportunity to review and celebrate the work of the club over the past year, whilst also having a few laughs, and a drink or two along the way. I'm sure you'll agree that the club is looking fantastic this evening, and I'll start with a few thank yous, as tonight takes an incredible amount of putting together, not least by our technical wizard Richard Organ, and the hosts for the evening Craig Winton and David Meadows. The club committee have also had a big role, not least Paul Allison who, along with the bar staff, is responsible for the tie-in to World Gin Day and the buffet we will enjoy later. A huge thank you to all of these guys in particular for their work in arranging this evening, and a big thank you to you all for coming along too.

2014/15 has been a highly successful season for Leith Rugby, both on and off the pitch, and we can rightly all look back together with pride at the progress the club continues to make. On the pitch we've been led, in his first season as head coach, by Blair Skipper to a level of rugby that the club has not reached for some years, with a highest placed finish in the league structure in my 11 years at the club. We have played some spectacular rugby along the way to securing 3rd place, albeit one place behind where we were aiming, but which in any other year may well have been achieved. It is for each club in Scotland to manage their affairs however, and as rugby is a game played between 15 (or 22) guys on either side, congratulations go from us tonight to St Boswell's and (particularly) Forrester on securing promotion to RBS East 1. The rugby we've played this season should leave us confident to aim for the title next season – although naturally there will be other sides saying the same thing as they reflect on their season.

The progression from 2013/14, when we were acclimatising to this league has been marked - and perhaps best demonstrated by the confidence with which we dismantled old rivals Trinity in October for a first win at Bangholm in 20 years. The rugby we played in winning 43-18 that day drew plaudits from many and laid a marker for the standards for which we must continue to aim. I actually recall our being a little disappointed in the post-match huddle that day that we hadn't stuck over 60 on them. On the flip-side, we've had disappointing defeats at Arboretum, Northern and Penicuik this year which will be unacceptable if we are to take the next step next term. The league structure has now been set for next year and sadly we're still in this league. It's up to us to reach the consistency required next year and I'm confident we'll do it.

03

Central to that will be the continued development of our 2nd XV, who having been fielded three times two years ago, have had eight outings this year, and will join the reserve leagues next season, providing more opportunities for game time for guys at Leith and creating the competitive environment we need to improve.

Away from the pitch, the work being done on youth development, most notably by Blair and Vice President Gordon Anderson has been very encouraging. Although it can feel like it is moving slowly when you're at the goal face, the fact that the club is in primary schools delivering rugby, is bringing kids to the club and will be moving into Leith Academy soon is something which has felt miles away for some time.

We will continue to seek additional funding in order to deliver on our plans to rejuvenate youth rugby in our community, and your support at events such as this, goes along way to that. If you want to help further, please speak to Blair or Gordon.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the players who've put their hands up for Leith over the past three years during my captaincy, which I hand over to Kenny Dannfald moving forward, and I know he'll do a great job. (Get two phones though mate!) Seriously though, whether you've been a regular in the 1st XV or have had one game in the 2nds in the past three seasons, thank you, and it is your commitment that has, and will continue to define where this club goes. I've never been so proud to be a Leithian than earlier this season when the squad took the unanimous decision to refuse to play the hastily rearranged fixture with Forrester FP and to honour our commitment to Bethany Christian Trust. The work we do with our community, and charities such as Bethany, Maggie's Centres and Hospices of Hope is not only a crucial factor in the club's development but also that of us as individuals, and the commitment to that stance is another reason why this is such a special club.

I hope you'll all enjoy celebrating all that makes it special tonight.

Blair Skipper - Head Coach

'Skip' led the back line expertly throughout the season, his first at the club as head coach. A near ever-present, only missing 2 fixtures against St Boswells and Forrester, his ability to move the ball, and control the flow of a game added a new dimension to the side's play this season, and saw the club playing some of the best rugby seen at Academy Park in many years. Season highlights include a masterful performance in the 43-18 win at Trinity where the side played with impressive fluidity, and 29 try assists in 24 appearances also speaks volumes. (Less if Craig had passed it mind you...) Lowlights include dropping the ball over the line at Inverleith, and dropping the second row at home to Trinity..



Brian Archer - Forwards Coach

Forwards coach Brian worked tirelessly this season, not only in preparing the forwards set-piece work, but also in doing all the thankless tasks that you never get thanked for. So here goes BA...a huge thank you from all the boys for setting up the pitch, preparing the kit, monitoring training attendance and for your first words to everyone on a Saturday being to demand cash! Kidding about the last one, we know you do have a feeling...in all seriousness, Brian carries out all the jobs nobody else puts their hands up for, and his contribution off the field, as well as on it in developing, particularly the younger front row forwards at the club is immensely appreciated.

04

Claire Hagan - Physiotherapist

Claire is a tough task master, which is an attribute highly required when dealing with the safties at Leith Rugby. Normally busier than the coach for the first hour of training, Claire manages the injuries (and egos) of our pampered primadonnas with impressive patience, but also a healthy dose of honest candour. Can spot a faker before he's even on the table. Except when she's blitzed hungover.

Carol Newlands - Masseuse

New to the club in 2014/15, Carol has provided hugely beneficial sports massage to guys with ongoing muscular injuries, allowing Claire to focus more on diagnosis and treatment programmes for those with new injuries. Given that she's spent the year rubbing down us bunch of reprobates, she definitely deserves a drink tonight. Make sure she's not paying for them herself.



05

Keith Aitchison

The man, the legend. The big heart. Whilst not in a position to smash it up for 80 minutes anymore, 'Aitchy' still brings his abrasive style to the fore in smaller doses when required. There is no doubt that the boys walk a little taller with him in their corner, and even with a smaller role, is still going to be the first name on the...bench. To break briefly from writing in the third person, Keith Aitchison is the greatest Leith'er I've ever played with. (Doug Watters). We'll continue to refuse to organise his testimonial game, the much discussed Over 30s vs Under 30s, in the hope that he will continue to pull the Leith badge over his bearish (pigeon) chest for some time to come.



Grant Aitken

Working for the armed forces down south, Grant has been unavailable for most of the season, but still managed a try in the home friendly with Fife Southern, and played a key role in helping the boys to win the Broughton 7s. The great news is that the flanker/hooker is to be stationed in Scotland from this summer and so will be returning to the club for 2015/16. His tenacity and impressive ball-carrying will be a huge asset next season.

Paul Allison

Continued to roll back the years in the first half of the season, anchoring the scrum and dominating men much his junior. Paul knows his role so well that when Lismore required to go to uncontested scrums on the opening day, he subbed himself before anyone else could! At Earlston in September the referee even told him to go easy on the prop he was destroying! Paul's season was sadly cut short by injury at home to Earlston in December, and all of the boys sincerely hope that it won't be the end of what has been a very impressive Indian summer to his career over the past three seasons. May the summer continue!



Daniel Berger

Returned to rugby in the new year, and all at Leith are delighted he is back at the club in a playing capacity, having continued to be involved in the promotional side of the club during his absence. Once he gets a pre-season under his belt, 'D' will no doubt be a huge asset to the playing squad, as his basketball background makes him a gifted ball-player with excellent ball-carrying ability, wherever he is picked in the forwards.



06

Ryan Burgess

Scrum half Ryan only played fully for Leith in the first half of the season before heading off to pastures new to Royal High. Our loss has been their gain as Ryan's pace is a constant threat to the opposition. Burgess has also mastered the scrum half art of being a right good moaner as even if you can't always see him, you can be sure to hear him. Burgess put in a cracking performance at both outside and inside centre (!) away to Forresters in the cup capping it off with a fine try.



Daniel Carr

Joined the club on a dark winter night just before the Christmas break and immediately took to the sport blasting his way through his first contact session with ease, and demonstrating a natural talent for the game born of his impressive power and physicality. Started out in the back row before trying out, and holding up well in the backs at wing and centre - even if everyone knows he's a born hooker! Has the attributes and dedication to be a major factor in the success of the side next season, and all at the club are excited about his continued development.



Bruce Connelly

Bruce is one of the youngest members of the squad at only 19 however he has often stepped up to put in performances beyond his years. The young prop is still learning his trade and is bound to get better and better. Everyone hopes that they will never have to meet Bruce whilst at his job. Bruce was a tour virgin for this year's tour to Amsterdam and handled his virgin duties with ease.



Willie Cook

'Cookie' is a monster. A short monster, but a monster nonetheless. Having made his debut for the club's 17th XV (or something like that) back in 1996, the dynamic hooker continues to play for the 1st XV, despite constant mumbling about his dream of 2nd XV rugby. What a loss he would be however, particularly when still capable of a 90-metre try, as evidenced in the match with NRC Wasps last month, and the sublime skills he showed in backing up and taking an offload to quickly put Dave Roberston under the posts at home to Falkirk in August. Arguably the finest tourist at the club. And only if Aitchy chooses to argue about it.

07

Kenny Dannfald

Our new club captain has been a rock all season, both on and off the pitch. During the voting for tonight's awards words such as 'dependable', 'solid', 'classy' and 'committed' were never far away when his name appeared, and these are attributes he exudes at all times. One player even voted for Kenny at the General Election! Scored a wonder try at Inverleith early in the season which demonstrated his devastating counter-attack as well as the clincher at home to Liberton which secured 3rd place on the last day of the season.



Craig Davitt

Craig has been hampered by injury this season, owing to an accident at work, but remains one of the most dedicated members of the squad in attending training, helping out on Saturday's and in supporting social events. A committed lad, with no little talent when he has been able to get stripped, we look forward to seeing more of him in action next season as he seeks to lay down a marker in the 2nd XV and push for selection in the league side. Performed well in the top side at Grangemouth and at home to Inverleith, as well as in games for the 2nd XV against Les Moustachus and Inverleith.

Steven Eadie

Our resident flyer Stevie has had another cracking season on the wing for the club. Coming joint 3rd top of try scorers in the club Eadie has made a telling contribution to results on the pitch. An important match winning try against former club Liberton and length of the field effort in a famous victory against Trinity there is sometimes no substitute for raw pace which Stevie has in bundles!



Davide Fattore

The Neapolitan joined the club late in 2014, having moved to Edinburgh for work and the winger has been a regular trainer and committed part of the squad ever since. With his English, or rather his 'Leith' improving he's been able to make great strides with his game, and shows up well on the wing for the 2nd XV, as well as making his 1st XV debut at St Boswells in March. Not with us tonight as he is back in Italy, however Davide is a popular member of the squad, not least because he got in an argument with a Trinity player in a chip shop not long after joining. A natural Leither!



08

Victor Floch

An absolute beast of a boy, it shocked all to learn late in the season that our budding Parisian flanker was only 21! In his own words a "couch potato", had he been around a little more he would surely have been a regular pick. Tough tackling and never one to shirk any physical contest, Victor was man of the match both times we faced our biggest challenge in St Boswells, but has sadly now returned to France and won't be around next season, but he assures us the, um...food is great in Paris and would love to see us tour there. A great lad and a friend of the club moving forward for sure.



Fraser Forsyth

Another young member who joined the team at the tail end of the season from Livingston. Despite his youth there is no doubt that Fraser has potential to excel in the 2nd row given his stature at well over 6ft 5in. Fraser only managed a couple of games this year but we are more than sure he will be a big fixture in the squad next year.



Stuart Fox

Pitched up at one of our pre-season games and said he wanted to get back into rugby at the club, having not played for a few seasons, and what an asset he has been since, particularly with the enforced absence of Paul Allison. 'Foxy' is another who will never shirk the physical stuff, and anchors the scrum against more experienced opponents each time he is available for selection. Should be coming into his prime as a front-row forward over the next few seasons, so if he dedicates himself to his rugby could go on to achieve really great things. Tough props are thin on the ground all over Scottish rugby, and in Foxy we have a potentially awesome force to build the scrum around.



Kyle Gow

Liability. But the good kind. The Leith kind. 'Gowser' is always the life, (if not always the soul) of any team night out, and had an impressive season, particularly pre-Christmas before working commitments prevented him being available as often as he would have liked. The tough-nut flanker (don't ask him to play second row or wing!) managed 21 appearances this season and also his first 2 tries, in the away friendly at Hyndland in August.



09

Pietro Guerrera

Never show up at Leith measuring over 6 foot and 12 stone and tell anyone you're a centre....you're a second row now! And to be fair to Pietro, who is based in Edinburgh studying, he threw himself into the new role with impressive commitment. Can rival Willie Cook in lying on the wrong side of a ruck, but once he grew to understand his ball-carrying roll, was an asset each time he was available for selection. Working in China at the moment, but hopefully returning in 2015/16, Pietro will be a useful member of the forwards moving forward. Who doesn't need a hard-ass Italian lock in their squad?!



Sam Hall

Sadly moving back to Dublin in the near future, Sam has been a fantastic lad to have around Leith Rugby over the past year, and will be sorely missed by all. It took an immense effort and by his own admission, change in lifestyle, to get himself into shape to get back into rugby at the start of the season, but to his credit he achieved this, and became a near ever present trainer and 1st XV squad member. Will rightly be frustrated not to have started more this year, which is no reflection on his own improvements as a player, but merely the form and experience of others, and despite this he still managed 18 appearances for the 1st XV as well as a handful for the 2nds. Gave a memorable Immortal Memory speech at Burns Supper, and was cruelly robbed of his first Leith try at home to Lismore in February, when he did touch it down!



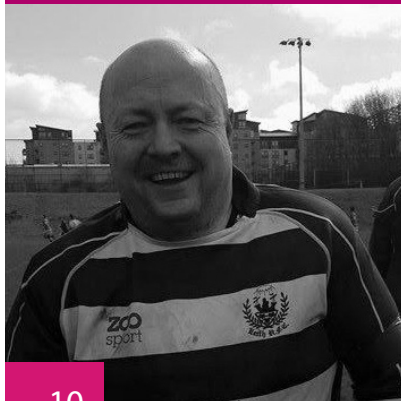
Greg Hancock

Returned to the club this season and when available to play was at his usual water-carrying best. The archetypal Borders number 7, Greg is a committed tackler and excellent over the ball at breakdown time, even if it did see him (wrongly) sent to the sin-bin at Trinity in October having just come on! Greg didn't cross the line in a league game this season, but did manage tries against Richmondshire and Hyndland in pre-season and will look to rectify the competitive record next season, when the Edinburgh Leisure gym instructor is sure to play another crucial role for the club in doing all the stuff that the other boys are too soft to do!



Neil Holman

Returned to rugby after a very long absence, and Neil appears to be relishing his return to the sport. The Welsh prop rolled back the years in games against Edinburgh Uni Medics and Inverleith as well as in the Cask & Still, to out-scrummage men many years younger. We're all delighted to have him at the club, where he is an asset both to the playing squad and social scene. Quite horrendous flatulence though.



10

Ruri Kemmet

Making his debut for the 2nd XV against Inverleith in December, Ruri performed well in the back-row and hinted at a bright playing future. Not always available due to working commitments, he is a frequent trainer however, and continues to develop into a good player. Provided the youthful vibrancy for the Old Boys in their war with Inverleith at the 7s.



Ross Kilgour

Kigoul has had another formidable season on the wing. Ross has been a constant in the back 3 this year, turning out in all but one Leith game this season. Kigoul has a step and quick footwork that can baffle any defender with strength and pace to back it up. He finished as the Leith 7s team top try scorer with strong performances at each of the tournaments we played in.



Choo Lawrie

Choo rocks. Simple as that. Coming to the club having played in the back-row in his junior days, he has shown remarkable dedication to convert himself into a tough prop, and one with no time for faffing about which side - this guy can play both! Choo has improved immeasurably over the season and has begun showing the backs a thing or two about running lines at touch rugby this summer, whilst his hands continue to develop as well. A bright future at Leith awaits him as he moves towards his prime front row years.



Andy MacIntosh

Mac, the Quiz Master extraordinaire and Edinburgh Leisure coach will be Club Vice Captain in 2015/16, and this honour comes off the back of a very impressive season, where he is another to have shown that old guys can play too. 17 appearances and a couple of man of the match awards don't really do justice to how much he has been missed by the pack when not available this season. A clear and intelligent talker on the pitch, Andy's leadership qualities will be important to the side next season as we look to improve our lot and push for promotion. Season highlight was probably his performance at Trinity in October when he took a tap penalty and sat down a mouthy second row, before going on to score a try later in the game. Still loves a wee yellow though...(Hiya Forrester!)



11

Jamie Malcolm

Jamie joined us during the season and was affectionately christened as 'JaMal' by the rest of the team. Despite not being the biggest player on the pitch there is not much who get past the tackling machine in the centre. An outstanding performance against Forrester away where even the opposition were commenting on his tackling skills. JaMal is an exciting prospect and we are looking forward to a full season next year at the club.



Colin Marshall

Having left the club in the summer with our best wishes and signed for Stewart's Melville, we were fortunate that 'Chopper' returned to the club in February, making five appearances, and despite some rustiness, showing what a unit he is! And he can be silky at times too, as demonstrated by his draw and pass to set up a score at home to Lismore. With the breadth of options available to the club at prop, he even tried his hand at second row, where his size and power were and undoubted attribute, as they were with a half at number 8 in the same Lismore game!







Ross Marwick

Big Rossco Marwick has made a telling contribution in his first full season at the club having moved in the centres he has been a formidable force at 12. There is not many who get past Ross in defence and at full flight he not an easy guy to stop! Having notch up 9 tries this season plus an impressive 7s season we are hoping the chocolate ankles stay intact next season. Makes a good Ninja Turtle.



Doddie McHardy

Seargant McHardy was celebrating the birth of his first child this season, and with the new-found responsibility, added to his, you know, defending of the country, he wasn't always available as often as either we or he would have liked, however there is no doubting his value when he pulls the boots on. The ex-London Scottish (when they were pish) player made six appearances and lost only once, at Inverleith in a game in which he was named Man of the Match - so it's safe to say if we lose, it ain't ever Doddie's fault!



14

David Meadows

Retired during pre-season. To be fair his retirement was perhaps understandable given he thought the Hyndland friendly was being played at Scotstoun itself, and not the adjacent astroturf pitch - a tough blow to anyone's career self-esteem. And he didn't really retire...he just stopped training, and after continuing to make himself available for the 2nds, and lighting it up whenever he did make an appearance, was coaxed back into the top team fold late in the season. Is now working out hard BEFORE pre-season starts for 2015/16. Welcome to the topsy-turvy world of David Meadows, your co-host for this evening's festivities.



David Montgomery

'Dangey' has been battling injury for much of the season and so has not been a regular member of the training squad, but has continued to make himself available for the 2nd XV, captaining the team, and leading from the front with typical disregard for his slight frame. In the land of the giants, this hooker/flanker always punches above his weight - which is bad news for players up and down the country as he has recently qualified as a referee! And you thought [insert chosen ref] was stubborn!



George Nixon

Rugby league convert only played 3 league games this year plus a couple more appearances for the 2nd XV. Nando's worker George is always a welcome addition to the team with hard running lines and rugby league 'tackles'. All at the club hope he recovers from the injury problems that he suffered last season and turns out a few more times next year.



Pete Mitchell

2013's Player's Player of the Season was again an invaluable member of the forwards when available this term, although an early season suspension, and late season injury limited those appearances to 6, including his last at home to Trinity which was the type of game Pete was built for - a close scrap! Everyone at the club will hope his finger are back in one piece for next season, as his experience and influence on the younger guys is crucial to the future success of the club, in whatever capacity he is able to provide it.

15

Richard Organ

The guy who has turned the club into the set for BBC Sports Personality of the Year tonight has not made a 1st XV appearance for the 2nd season in a row, which would suggest retirement, were it not for the dominant displays in the centre when captaining the 2nd XV this season. The first guy to get a try assist for smashing a breakdown - if you look closely you can actually still see the broken bodies of two Inverleith backs buried in the ground at the trees end of Academy Park - Rich is an immensely combative player, and loves to smash em' bro! Still got the dancing feet at touch too.



Andrew Paterson

Pat has excelled this season on the pitch. Having moved from the wing into the scrum half void left by Burgess, Pat has come on leaps and bounds. Whilst still learning the position, his endless energy around the pitch (even if he is prone throwing up mid game) and willingness to get stuck in to make a tackle, showing that size doesn't matter, make him an exciting prospect for the next year. Pat has the Honour of being the fastest sissy in 2015.

Neil Paterson

Mr Consistency is another who is missed massively when he is not available, as his propensity and willingness to do the hard yards are matched only by a few at the club. Equally adept in the second or back row, and even the front row - at least when Lismore go down to uncontested scrums anyway! Our resident bobby on the beat, he's thankfully never had to speak to any of us in a professional capacity, but we're pretty sure it'd be terrifying. Scored a good try at Forrester in the cup, and also walked off with 2 man of the match awards, and was close in the discussion for many others.



Mark Phillips

Last year's double Player's Player and Management Player of the Season, Mark has captained the side for much of the season, and continued to make himself available for the side despite the birth of his first-born, Ellie. One half of a hilarious husband and wife Toasting team at the club's Burns Supper in January, Mark is the team's go-to ball-carrier and always accepts the responsibility. Crossed the whitewash at home to Forrester on league business, and also scooped 3 man of the match awards.



16

Ben Place

Big Ben had another remarkably consistent season, making the 20 tackles per game expected of any good second row, and he continues to look as evergreen as ever, despite not quite being as old as Aitchy! 18 appearances despite competing family pressures speaks volumes to his continued commitment to the club as he settles into his 40s, and he would be hugely missed should he ever not be part of the squad.



Dave Robertson

Physio Dave had made a good start to the season becoming a consistent performer in the centre or on the wing. Dave managed to chalk up a couple of tries in the opening games of the season before suffering a season ending injury in the cup game away to Forresters in November. Dave was a big loss to the squad and with rehab starting now we are hoping to see him in the next season.



Shuggie Rodden

Shuggie played what has been billed his final game for the club this season, and if that is to be the case he was as typically strong and belligerent as ever, and closed out by doing what all good forwards love....running over the top of a petrified standoff! Yorkshire-based, but a huge supporter of the club from afar, and also up close on his frequent trips to see us play, the boys who were involved will never forget Shuggie hearing of our front-row crisis during the second half of the East 3 Championship- winning season in 2012-13 and making the trek home every weekend to help get us over the line. A giant of a player - today's squad can only imagine how giant he must have been in his day. Thank you for helping us win our medals Shuggie,



Craig Smith

Gerrard had a below par season with just the 33 tries! Having been deployed as a utility back in the past few years he has revelled in the stability of the outside centre position. I could mention a few tries of Gerrard's this season but I'm sure he will have told everyone about each one twice by now. There is no doubt Craig will be a massive loss to the club when he moves to London with girlfriend Mhairi later in the summer (can we not just borrow him every weekend?)



17

Russell Smith

Carnage. Does what he wants, when he wants to. Luckily he is also a very talented rugby player, and has the versatility to play all over the shop. Having dabbled at scrum-half, many commentators thought he'd finally found his calling as an ankle-chopping flanker, before finding a new calling as part of the back three late in the season. (He's still a flanker) 12 appearances and 3 tries speak to his ability to do what all good back-row players do....and get on the end of hard work from the backs, and his try at Earlston of a cracking inside ball from Skip was one of the tries of the season. Or at least he thinks so anyway. Probably the best dancer at the club.



Robert Stitt

Stitto was Stitto. A couple of tantrums, some incoherent rambling, and not to mention passport-gate. However that is to diminish the immense commitment he continues to show to the club, both in working hard to always improve, even doing individual sessions with Brian, and blasting his rehab from a recent shoulder injury, but also in his hard-work off the field as a valuable member of the social committee. He has even helped put together some of tonight's entertainment. Robert will also never say no to a request for help. He is a brilliant guy whose commitment to all things Leith Rugby is unquestionable, even if we've got no idea what he's talking about half the time.



Pete Swift

Winger Pete joined up with club at the start of the season and has managed 5 appearances in a season hampered by injury and work commitments. Ever reliable on the wing Pete made a couple of telling contributions against Forresters away and managed to cross the whitewash for a cracking counter attacking try against Lismore. Recently found fame in the newspapers for taking on Sky Tv and winning.



Sam Walker

Professional Husband didn't spend too much time training or playing this year due to various holidays, dates with his better half and moving to a new house (which is 10 meters away). Most of his minutes on the pitch were actually spent at flanker showing the versatility and hardiness of Sam. Always a good character to have around the club we are all hoping Sam comes down next season more often!

18

Doug Watters

International Jet setter Doug's season has often be scuppered by the long distances he has been traveling with work across the pond. However when called upon Doug has given his all to the cause playing at 9, 10, centre or even on the wing!! Doug rolled back the years in the final game V Liberton to score a try of the year contender and also bagged a wonderful assist with a trademark step. I am not the only who will miss Doug's texts and Facebook messages as he organises the teams for a Saturday.



Ben Wilkinson

Ben 10 has had a big season off the park getting married in November. This meant Ben wasn't able to get into the groove with his game. Still Ben managed to notch up a telling contribution, playing in multiple positions and giving his all when called upon. Despite a questionable costume at Halloween, Ben is always game for a night out, and will always be remembered this season for an outrageous piece of skill in a 2nd xv game against Penicuik (check the highlight reel)

Craig Winton

Winto is your other co-host this evening, which is no surprise given his commitment to the social side of the club over the past few years on the social committee. It's not off the field, but rather on it, that Winto does his best work, either at loose-head or hooker - even if he does sometimes wish he was a back! Was unfortunate to start the season crocked, and also to pick up a hamstring injury during the second half of the year, however he still managed 20 appearances this term, including 3 tries, at home. A big influence at training and in games, his intelligent and voice helps less experienced players immensely, whilst he is also one of the most welcoming guys at the club with new players.



Chris Bobby: Versatile player who took a stepback to study for his Masters. Good performance at Hyndland in pre-season.

Ian Briscoe: Total reprobate. Didn't manage a single game for the 2s all season....but still toured. Paid his subs though. Good lad.

Rory Clarke: Sadly unavailable owing to being based in London these days, Rory still managed one game in a friendly vs Lismore and was his usual combative self.

Davy Cornwall: Always got his hand up for the 2nd XV when he can, Davy adds class whenever he can get through. Fantastic tour virgin.

Steven Curle: Dublin-based these days, but still an avid follower of our fortunes, and another who still managed to tour. Ledge.

Liam Fogharty: Brought along by Cal McKay for 2s game with Edinburgh University Medics, he set the record for being carted off in the first minute. Looked decent in the warmup though!

Derek Greenan: Former captain, and a league winning one at that. 'Deek' pulled the boots on 3 times for the 2nds - just never ask him to play 7s against talented Frenchmen again!

Mark Halliday: The scrumhalf with the toughest paper round in Hawick still looked masterful in his try-scoring appearance for the 2s against Inverleith in December.

Richard Hastings: Converted from the backs to tighthead in pre-season and more than held his own, before stepping back from the club for work reasons.

Iain Hendrie: Merseyside based prop, Iain made his traditional annual appearance for the 2nd XV early in the year at home to Forrester.

Gareth Marshall: Former club captain and record try scorer, the one who was taken too soon showed he still has it in 2 appearances for the 2nds. The Edinburgh University Medics centres will certainly remember him.

Cal McKay: The prop returned from New Zealand to make a couple of appearances for the 1sts and 2nds before the season was out, but has elected to join Murrayfield Wanderers for next season.

Andy Morgan: The tough-tackling Welshman made two appearances for the 2nd XV, against Forrester and Penicuik and was his usual solid self.

Pierre Moulia: Studying English in Edinburgh isn't often available due to Saturday work, however has shown an impressive turn-of-speed and tenacity in training and in games with Les Moustachus and NRC Wasps.

Joe Nakavulevu: The flying Fijian marine made his debut in the season opener at home to Lismore, but was unfortunately not seen again, with the talented boxer breaking his hand.

Fraser Ross: Talented playmaker who found 1st XV opportunities limited early in the season and moved to Kinross. Oh how we could have done with him later in the season when the likes of Goswer were in the backs! Great lad, and continues to help the club when he can.

Liam Scotcher: Hard-running centre, Liam scored for the 2nds at home to Forrester, and also pitched up at Leith 7s where he starred for Edinburgh Eagles.

Tom Scott: Regular 2nd XV flanker, now-based in Glasgow, Tommy came through to help out in the injury crisis going into the Forrester away game this season, and took a season-ending injury for his commitment. That won't be forgotten.

Lucas Shearon: Talented wing/centre, who has sadly relocated back to Crieff, but continues to support the club when he can, and turned out for the 2nd XV twice.



List of Awards

Part 1

The Neil Clarke Fastest Donkey 2015

The Fastest Sissy 2015

The Stevie Meadows Pantomime Act of the
Year 2014/15

Top Tryscorer 2014/15

Best Trainer 2014/15

Try of the Season 2014/15

Most Improved Player of the Season 2014/15

Part 2

7's Player of the Season 2014/15

The Jean Lemaitre 2nd XV Player of the
Season 2014/15

Leith Management Player of the Season
2014/15

The WJS Neill Leith Management Young
Player of the Season 2014/15

Special Award

The Comie Waugh Player's Young Player of
the Year 2014/15

The Bob Munro Player's Player of the Year
2014/15

Accie of the Year



Award

Nominations

Try of the Season...

Kenny Dannfald
v Inverleith (A)

Kenny Dannfald
v Liberton (H)

Andrew Paterson
v Earlston (H)

Doug Watters
v Liberton (H)



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The Corrie Waugh Player's Player of the Year...

Bruce Connelly

Andrew Paterson

Ross Kilgour

Craig Smith

The Bob Munro Player's Player of the Year...

Kenny Dannfald

Neil Paterson

Andy MacIntosh

Craig Smith



7s Player of the Season...

Kenny Dannfald

Andrew Paterson

Ross Kilgour

Ross Marwick



23

Most Improved Player of the Year...

Daniel Carr

Andrew Paterson

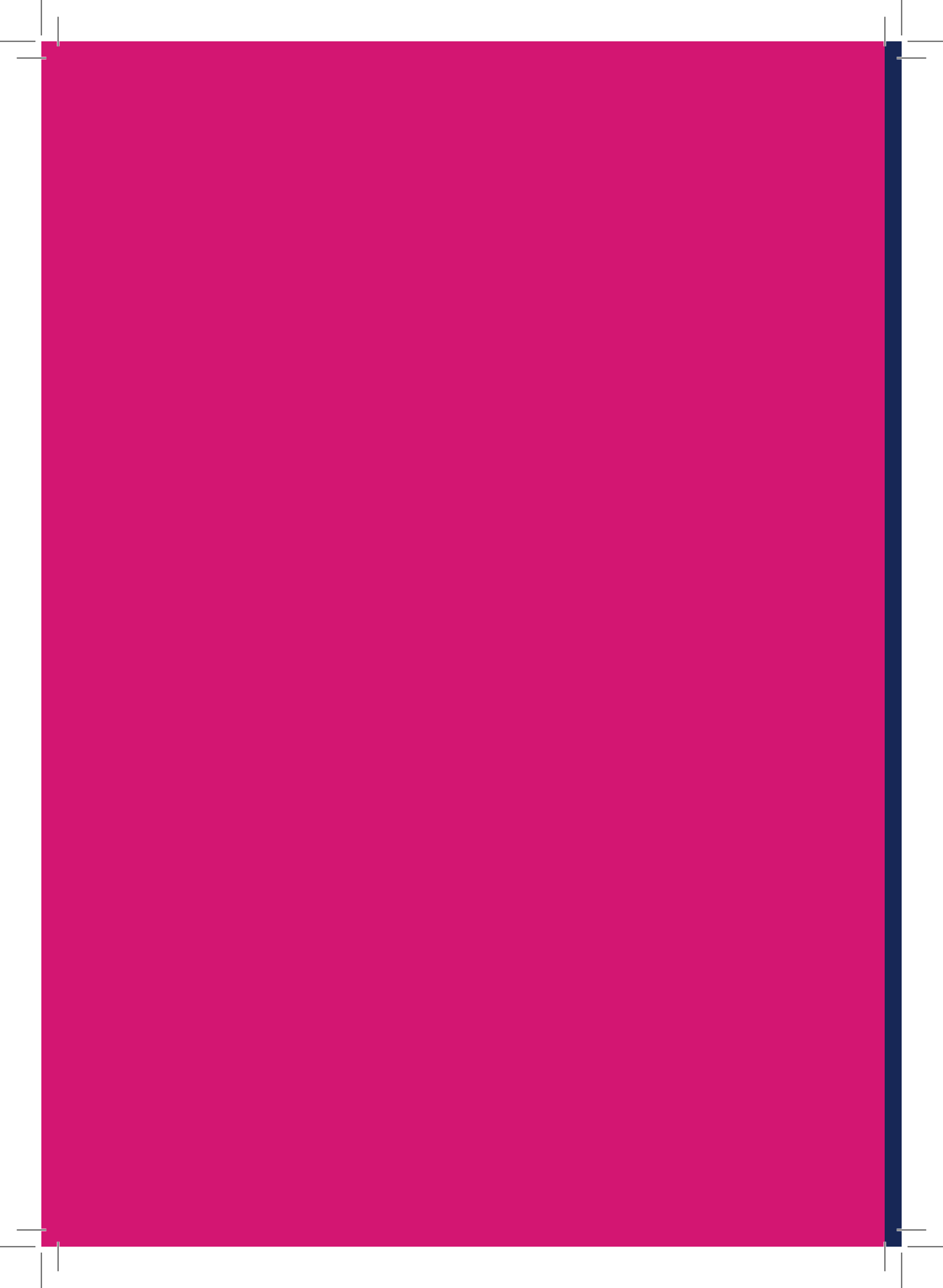
Ross Marwick

Choo Lawrie









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