

DUNBAR RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

1951 - 1952

IRISH TOUR

Dunbar break new ground this week by taking the 1st XV to play in Dublin against Skerries on the morning of the International match between Ireland and Scotland. The team and officials of the Club travel by air, to-day, from Renfrew to Belfast and by rail to Dublin, where they will be guests of the Skerries Club. Those travelling are:— J. Smeal, A. D. Hunter, G. Pullar, W. Donald, M. L. Stuart, T. Stewart, A. Hunter, S. Matassa, D. Rennie, R. Cameron, A. Stewart, J. Robertson, T. Simpson, D. Gardner, G. Millar, R. S. McKenzie, W. Main along with Messrs R. Chalmers, Watson, T. Craig, F. Gibson, J. Cochrane, G. Rennie, J. Millar, W. Downie, J. Robertson, P. Robertson, J. Hood and W. Naismith.

A HISTORY OF DUNBAR RFC & SKERRIES RFC

THE FIRST TRIP 1952

TRAVELLING PARTY

Players

Jackie SMEAL - Brunt farm. Refereed
AD HUNTER - (SANDY) brewery
GAVIN PULLAR - North Berwick. Still living I think.
W DONALD
MALCOLM L STEWART (stuart ?)
Terry STEWART - Taught @ Tranent when Ross high won NB 7s
A HUNTER
S MATASSA
Douglas RENNIE - South Belton farm
R CAMERON
ALAN STEWART - Bankrugg farm
Jock ROBERTSON - Beanston (Mains?) farm
Tommy SIMPSON - Highfield farm. Son Ian later played for Dunbar
DOUGLAS GARDNER (Capt) - Stonelaws farm
G MILLAR
RS McKENZIE
Willie MAIN - Davids dad.
H GRAY -

Others

RUPERT CHALMERS WATSON
Tommy CRAIG (tom from craig en gelt)
Frank GIBSON - Drylawhill farm.
Johnny COCHRANE - Knowes farm
G RENNIE
Joe MILLAR - Butcher
W DOWNIE
Jock or James ROBERTSON - Beanston or North Belton farm
Peter ROBERTSON - Easter Broomhouse farm
Jimmy HOOD - Co'path (farmer)
Walter NAISMITH - Banker

Info - Thought to be the first Junior Rugby Club from Scotland has travelled by air for a match.

Result - Skerries 3 Dunbar 9 (3 tries to Skerries penalty)

Not guaranteed to be 100% correct!

DUNBAR RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

1951 - 1952

GOOD WIN AGAINST IRISH SIDE

TWENTYNINE members of Dunbar Rugby Club visited Eire, last week, on the occasion of the Scotland versus Ireland match at Dublin. The main party left East Lothian by car in the early hours of Friday morning and, boarding the 8.50 a.m. plane from Renfrew, were in Belfast in just under an hour. There they joined the other four members of their party and their Haddington friends, who had crossed by boat. The "Enterprise," a fast non-stop train which runs between Belfast and Dublin, took the party to the latter city in good time for lunch. On arrival in Dublin they were met by members of the Skerries Rugby Club, and the afternoon was reserved for sight-seeing and shopping.

In the early evening the party proceeded to Skerries by train—a distance of 15 miles—and found it to be a small and delightful seaside resort, not unlike their own home town of Dunbar. That night they were entertained by their hosts to dinner in the Marine Hotel and, after a toast to the Dunbar Rugby Club had been proposed by the Skerries President and replied to by the Dunbar Captain (Mr Douglas Gardner), "the Skerries Club" was submitted by Mr R. Chalmers Watson and replied to by Mr Desmond Cashell, the Skerries captain.

JUNIOR CURHOLDERS BEATEN

The following morning at 10.30 the game between Skerries and Dunbar took place, and, to the pleasant surprise of the latter, the home team, who are the Junior Cup holders in Ireland, were not found to be as strong as had been anticipated. In fact, the Dunbar team, playing undoubtedly one of the best games they have ever played, were continually on the attack and scores were quickly registered by Malcolm Stuart and Alan Stewart. Skerries got a fair share of the ball, but the Dunbar tackling has seldom been excelled. In the second half Donald, who played his usual good game, got away on the wing and, kicking across found Robertson up for a further score. Unfortunately, the Dunbar kicking was not of the same high standard, as all three tries should have been converted. Towards the end of the match, Dunbar were penalised and Skerries were rewarded by a penalty goal. It was indeed an excellent game and, if the Skerries supporters were disappointed, those who had travelled the long way from Dunbar left wondering why it was that form such as "this could not be regularly expected for the home games. Result:— Dunbar 9 points, Skerries 3 points

SKERRIES RFC 3 DUNBAR RFC 9
23rd FEBRUARY 1952

DUNBAR RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB 1951-1952



Back Row; Cameron, McDonough, Hunter, Rennie, Sheridan, Robertson, Byrne, Stewart, Duff, , Glennon, Gall Gray, Gardener,
Chalmers-Watson, Grimes, Donald, Boylan, , McArdle, O'Rourke, Smeal, , Robertson.
Front Row Seated; Millar, McCabe, Simpson, Walls, Boylan, A Stewart, Pullar, Boylan, , Stuart, McKenzie, Grimes.

SKERRIES RFC -V- DUNBAR RFC
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In the afternoon the party went to Lansdown Road for the International and thoroughly enjoyed the game. The team returned by air, on Sunday, and were back in Glasgow by 5 o'clock that evening after a delightful flight in brilliant sunshine. It is believed that this is the first occasion on which a Junior Rugby Club from Scotland has travelled by air for an away game.

SKERRIES RFC -V- DUNBAR RFC
THE FIRST TRIP
1952

DUNBAR RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Hon. Secretary—A. D. HUNTER
Home Telephone—Dunbar 3219
Office Telephone—Dunbar 2134

“Bonavista”
Belhaven
DUNBAR.....28th May 1951
East Lothian

Season 1951-2

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in ~~offering~~
confirming the following dates:—

Dunbar R.F.C. 1st XV. v. Speeries R.F.C.
at Dublin (Donnybrook) on 23rd Feb 1952
and at on

Dunbar R.F.C. 2nd XV. v.
at on
and at on

~~If these dates are not suitable, I should be glad if you could let me have alternative ones as soon as possible.~~
Many thanks for your kind offer of this fixture, & I shall be glad to go into details with you at a later date. With kindest regards.

Yours faithfully,



(Hon. Sec. Dunbar R.F.C.)

TELEPHONE
DIRLETON 68.

FENTON BARNES,
DREM,
EAST LOTHIAN.

18th February, 1952.

Dear Mr. Cashell,

At last my final letter before we meet. We had our meeting in Dunbar last night to finalise plans.

There may well be a reduction of one or two, but it looks as if we will be 29 bodies for beds in Skerries on Friday night and 25 in Dublin on the Saturday night. It certainly won't be more.

Regarding time of arrival - as far as I know, it is on the Express train called the "Enterprise", due Dublin at quarter to one or thereby, but I expect you can easily get this from your timetable. We leave Belfast at 10.30.

So that you may recognise us, the majority will be wearing club ties which are green in colour with a white, rather indistinct, silhouette of Dunbar Castle. I have no doubt you will recognise us, although of course there will be several other teams on the train also.

Your letter reference bed accommodation not yet received, but I will sort that out when it arrives.

Thanks for everything and I look forward to seeing you greatly.

Yours sincerely,

