



“The Stick”

Aka: Friends of Scottish Rugby Newsletter Issue No. 6



The Shafting Stick

The Stick (and more importantly, the head-piece) was created by Donald McNab during the days when he was trying to raise funds for both the Scottish Conservative Party and Scottish rugby.

After a bout of being highly annoyed by a number of people, Donald decided to create the shafting stick to bear the names of those who had ‘shafted’ him.

He carved and cast the figures that he felt represented his feelings and mounted them on the stick.

Things changed when Friends of Scottish Rugby was formed and he decided to record the names of those people who were deemed to have annoyed the committee. Thus some illustrious names were carved and recorded.

Every year the stick is presented to the “lucky winner” by the secretary and last year this honour went to none other than Ian Morrison Macleod .

However, this year the Stick did not sit around gathering dust - Oh No! The Stick has travelled far and wide, read on....



The fun goes on at HSBC Emirates 7s

To A Stick

By

Ian “Rabbie Burns” MacLeod

*You sleek and wonderful wooden shaft,
McNab is a master of his craft,
His thoughts and carving made it good,
Although it is extremely rude!*

*My name’s engraved upon the stick.
An honour or am I just a d*ck?
The previous owners served it well,
Its’ secrets not for me to tell.*

*The biggest year in Scotland’s story,
The chance of independence glory
The stick will see the events unfold
Macleod is in charge.....so vote as you’re told!*

*The Games, the golf and then the vote,
We’ll spend our summer on the boat,
The stick, MacLeod will do the graft,
Ensuring Scotland sees the shaft.*

*The Friends of rugby made me the man,
The stick will see my Scottish clan,
I’ll proudly have the stick with me,
And get it on the BBC!*

*This poem ends in Rabbie style,
The stick will go that extra mile,
For honest men and bonnie lassies,
Let’s toast the stick with flowing glasses.*



HSBC Emirates 7s Glasgow in May 2014

After managing to get it through security at Heathrow airport (which was no mean feat!) the Stick had to spend it year in Scotland. It always seemed a strange item to female security staff at the airport and it was not easy to explain, firstly that it was not a weapon of mass destruction (WMD) and secondly it was not some kind of perversion accessory.

The BA stewardesses at least had some fun with it showing it off to the pilot and co-pilot. After much embarrassment it arrived safely in Glasgow and Ian decided it would do no more flying.

It has seen a few major events over the last year including the Commonwealth Games, Emirates 7s, Ryder Cup and off course the referendum. The Stick was inconsolable after the result. The Stick also visited a number of Scotland's beautiful golf courses and many of our wonder islands, not to mention the many and varied "watering holes" along the way.

Everyone who has met The Stick has been enormously impressed by its craftsmanship and its form. It has been lovingly caressed by many beautiful young ladies and given strange looks by many others some even fearful to hold it.

Well, another year has passed and Ian will say goodbye to The Stick with a heavy heart but he is sure its new owner will treat it well.

But who will the next winner be ??? Be sure to come to the AGM to find out!



Colin Gregor - the 7's Captain is used to giving stick to his opponents



The Stick enjoys the tranquillity of the Carrick Golf course - Loch Lomond



The Stick meets Ed Crozier - true rugby Royalty!



Glasgow Warriors - the trip is nearly over

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