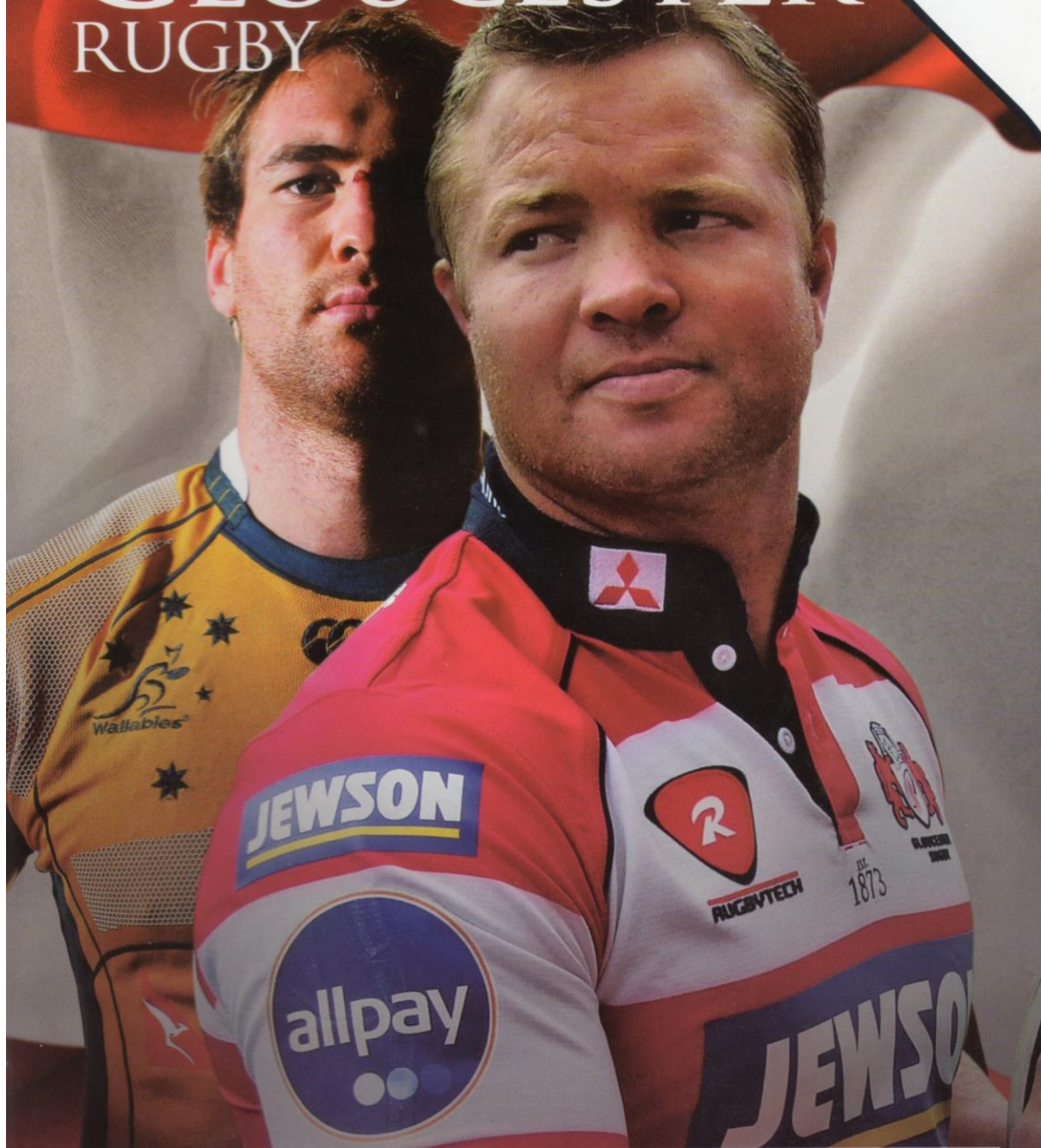


OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME // £3

# GLOUCESTER RUGBY



## GLOUCESTER RUGBY VS AUSTRALIA XV

TUESDAY 03/11/09 KO 7:45PM



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# ANDY HAZELL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

**WELCOME to Kingsholm on what is an historic occasion for the Gloucester Rugby.**

Being a Gloucester lad, I've watched plenty of big games from the terraces and then been lucky enough to go on to play for the team and actually take part in some massively important games as well.

But matches against international sides are few and far between. Fixture schedules have become so congested nowadays that touring sides seem to have got out of the habit of playing midweek fixtures against club sides.

So, I personally believe that it's a real coup for the club to have secured this fixture and a big well done to the people behind the scenes at Kingsholm who have worked hard to secure the visit of the Wallabies.

There may be those who will ask

everyone will want to be involved in some shape or form. It's one of those games that you'll look back on in years to come and be glad that you took part in.

It's particularly exciting for myself. I've been lucky enough to play for my country on several occasions but have never played for England against Australia so tonight will fill in one of those gaps on my playing CV!

And to be asked to skipper the side is an incredible honour for me. When Brush asked me whether I'd be interested in leading the side tonight, my first instinct was to ask him whether I'd definitely be playing! But, of course, I didn't hesitate to accept.

It's been an incredible year for me with my Testimonial year having just come

game will be right up there.

We're obviously far from certain exactly what side we'll be lining up against tonight. We know that Australia take on the All Blacks before they play us, then face a long flight in from Japan and will be taking on England a few days after they appear at Kingsholm.

However, there will be a number of their players who will be trying to force their way into the reckoning for the Tests and no Australian takes the field for the Wallabies expecting nothing else other to win.

It'll be a unique occasion tonight and I'll be leading the side with pride and hoping that we do ourselves justice, make a good game of it and maybe even make a bit of history ourselves!

**BEING A GLOUCESTER LAD. I'VE WATCHED PLENTY OF BIG GAMES FROM THE TERRACES AND THEN BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO GO ON TO PLAY FOR THE TEAM AND ACTUALLY TAKE PART IN SOME MASSIVELY IMPORTANT GAMES**

whether we need another fixture at this time of the year when we are already battling on three fronts.

But, I can assure you, the prospect of taking on the Green and Golds is a mouth watering one and

to a close. The last few months have been a whirlwind of activity with my joint Testimonial game with Lee Mears of Bath back in August being a real highlight and tonight's





# JOHN HARDING WALLABIES IN GLOUCESTER

**K**INGSHOLM first welcomed the Australians during their the inaugural tour when they recorded a 16-nil win over the Gloucestershire county side in front of 8,000 people on Thursday, October 1, 1908 and it was from that tour that the Wallabies name was adopted.

The British media had dubbed them the "Rabbits" by the players rejected that label and when it came to a vote the 'Wallabies' was chosen ahead of others including the Waratahs, Wallaroos and Kookaburras.

No flights for that touring side instead they left Sydney on August 8, 1908 on board the SS Omrah bound for Melbourne. The ship contained 116 passengers, 1579 bales of wool, 2729 carcasses of mutton, 4650 carcasses of lamb, 2000 quarters of beef, 4800 crates of frozen rabbits and 200 tones of lead and copper.

The tour took in 31 games in the British Isles, with the Australians winning 25, losing five and one drawn. Of the Test matches, the team lost against Wales, but beat England. These matches were the first ever encounters between an Australian team and their hosts. A further two matches were played in Australia en route and there were five matches in the USA and Canada.

The side that beat Gloucestershire in the fourth match of the tour included Queensland's second row Tom Richards who two years earlier, when a Bristol player, turned out for Gloucestershire on the same ground against the touring South Africans.

The interest in that 1908 tour continues to this date with two pages from an autograph book signed by 26 members of the tour party, plus the All Black Ernest Booth who was reporting on the tour, on



**GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
V AUSTRALIA**  
Kingsholm, October 1, 1908

#### Gloucestershire team:

B Davy (Cheltenham),  
A Hudson (Gloucester, captain),  
M Neale (Gloucester),  
V F Eberle (Clifton),  
E F Eberle (Clifton),  
D R Gent (Gloucester),  
T Elliott (Gloucester),  
W A Johns (Gloucester),  
H Berry (Gloucester),  
A Teague (Cinderford),  
A Redding (Cinderford),  
J Hyndman (Cinderford),  
W W Hoskin (Clifton),  
W Stinchcombe (Lydney),  
F W Feltham (Bristol).

#### Australian team:

P P Carmichael (Queensland);  
D B Carroll (St George),  
E F Mandible (Sydney),  
J J Hickey (Glebe),  
C J Russell (Newtown);  
F Wood (Glebe),  
C H McKivat (Glebe);  
H M Moran (capt) (Newcastle),  
N E Row (Eastern Suburbs),  
T J Richards (Queensland),  
S A Middleton (Glebe),  
P A McCue (Newtown),  
C A Hammond (University),  
T S Griffin (Glebe),  
J T Barnett (Newtown).

#### Scorers - tries:

Russell (2), Barnett, Wood;

**cons:** Carmichael (2).

**Referee:** T D Schofield (Wales)



sale recently for £1,700.

The tour coincided with the London Olympics though the 1908 Olympics were originally awarded to Rome, but in April, 1906, Mount Vesuvius erupted again leaving a cash-strapped Italy to abruptly cancel its plans to stage the Games.

When Italy had to cancel its 1908 Games, Great Britain stepped into the breach and London was named the new host city. The London Games was the best managed of the early Games and organisers built a stadium with 68,000 seats and interest was high.

Six months after the Opening Ceremony, 15 members of the Australian rugby union team arrived in London to contest the rugby competition. Scotland and Ireland had turned down the Rugby Football Union's invitation to participate. France were expected to contest the medal, but had withdrawn, leaving just Australia and Cornwall for England team to play for gold and silver medals.

It left a one-off game for Australia against Cornwall, the English champions, to decide the gold played at London's White City Stadium on an area alongside the Olympic Games swimming pool which measured 110 yards in length with a long line of netting



TER



# **GLOUCESTERSHIRE & SOMERSET V AUSTRALIA**

Kingsholm, September 20, 1947

## **Gloucestershire & Somerset team:**

S T J Walter (Gloucestershire & Blackheath);  
 F H Discombe (Somerset & Wellington),  
 T W Hicks (Somerset & Bath),  
 S H Davies (Gloucestershire & Gloucester),  
 G E Green (Gloucestershire & Bristol);  
 I J M Lumsden (Somerset & Bath, capt),  
 D L Roberts (Somerset & Somerset Police);  
 T W Price (Gloucestershire & Gloucester),  
 M J Howell (Somerset & Bath),  
 L J Griffin (Somerset & Bristol ),  
 A Meredith (Gloucestershire & Bristol),  
 W G Jenkins (Somerset & Bath),  
 J Thornton (Gloucestershire & Gloucester),  
 C Price (Somerset & Yeovil),  
 A G Hudson (Gloucestershire & Gloucester).

**Scorers - try:** Griffin;  
**con:** Walter;  
**pen:** Walter.

## **Australian team:**

C J Windsor;  
 A E J Tonkin,  
 T Allan,  
 M L Howell,  
 J W T MacBride;  
 E G Broad,  
 C T Burke;  
 E H Davis,  
 W L Dawson,  
 R E McMaster,  
 N M Shehadie,  
 G M Cooke,  
 K C Winning,  
 C J Windon,  
 W M McLean (captain).

**Scorers - tries:** Tonkin, Windon,  
 Cooke, McLean, Allan, McMaster;  
**cons:** McMaster (3);  
**pens:** McMaster (2)  
**Referee** T N Pearce (Chelmsford)



# **SOUTH & SOUTH WEST V AUSTRALIA**

Kingsholm, December 22, 1981

## **South & South West team:**

C S Ralston (Bath);  
 A H Swift (Swansea), rep: A J G Morley  
 Bristol 70 min),  
 R Pellow (Wasps),  
 J F Carr (Bristol),  
 R R Mogg (Gloucester);  
 J P Horton (Bath),  
 R M Harding (Bristol);  
 P J Blakeway (Gloucester, captain,  
 rep: A Sheppard Bristol 40 min),  
 S G F Mills (Gloucester),  
 M Preedy (Gloucester),  
 P M Stiff (Bristol),  
 N J C Pomphrey (Bristol),  
 M C Teague (Gloucester),  
 M Rafter ( Bristol),  
 R J Hesford (Bristol).

**Scorers - drop goal:** Horton

## **Australian team:**

G J Ella,  
 P C Grigg,  
 G A Ella,  
 A G Slack,  
 M C Martin,  
 M G Ella,  
 A J Parker,  
 D J Curran,  
 C M Carberry,  
 S J Pilecki,  
 D Hall,  
 S A Williams,  
 C Roche,  
 P W Lucas,  
 M E Loane (captain).

**Scorers - tries:** M Ella, Martin, Lucas;  
**cons:** M Ella (2)

**Referee** K C Parfitt (Wales)

stretched beside to catch flying balls.

Large mattresses were spread along the rim of the pool to prevent injuries to falling players. Neither tour captain Herbert Moran (Newcastle) nor the tour vice-captain Fred Wood (Glebe) played so Chris McKivat (Glebe) led the Wallabies to an easy 32-3 victory with each Wallaby in that match thereafter an Olympic gold medallist.

There were at least two more occasions, according to my stato friends, when the Australian tourists have played at Kingsholm. They Wallabies beat a combined Gloucestershire and Somerset XV 30-8 on Saturday, September 20, 1947 in front of 15,000 spectators when the referee was T N Pearce from Chelmsford who was also captain of Essex CCC.

But their last game here at Kingsholm was under lights against a South & South West XV on Tuesday, December 22, 1981 when the tourists, who included the three Ella brothers - Glen, Gary and Mark, won 16-3.

The game was in the week preceding their game against England and Gloucester provided the Division's front row of skipper Phil Blakeway, hooker Stephen Mills and tighthead prop Malcolm Preedy.

As Peter Arnold recalled recently in a matchday programme, the trio were making a right mess of their opponents, when suddenly a fist appeared from nowhere and broke Phil's nose.

Not only did he have to leave the field to be replaced by Bristol's Austin Sheppard, but he missed the England game on the following Saturday. The Division had been doing well up to that point, but couldn't hold their illustrious visitors afterwards - Blakeway really was that influential.

Finally, which of the Ella brothers scored a try against every country on the Australian Rugby Union tour of Great Britain in 1984?

The eighth Wallabies completed the Grand Slam during their tour of Great Britain and Ireland in 1984. This was the most successful Australian team to date and its record features a try in every Test by Mark Ella.



## GARETH BUTLER VIEW FROM THE CITIZEN

**T**onight's visit of Australia to Kingsholm is a time to put the rough start to the season aside and celebrate a bit of history.

Regardless of who plays and who is rested, the coup Gloucester Rugby have pulled off in getting the Wallabies in the city can only be a good thing.

Look at the way the All Blacks were welcomed to Munster last season - the way the Irish took on the stars of New Zealand is a blueprint for what Gloucester need to do tonight.

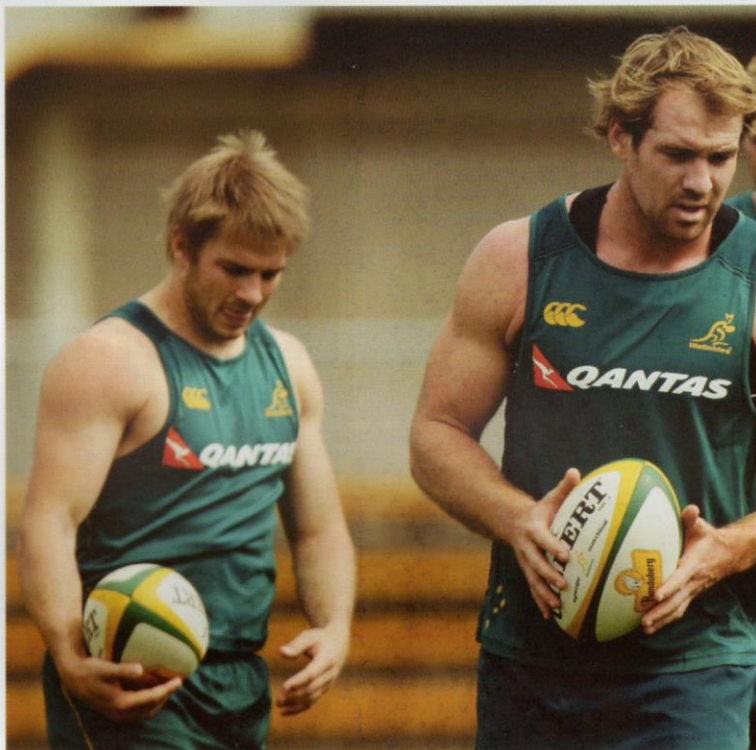
Gone are the pressures of must-win rugby, the worry of what losing might do to the club's position in the league table or qualification for the latter stages of Europe.

The players need to do what the fans have been desperate for them to do all season - go out and chuck it about a bit and see what happens.

If they do that, the much-talked about spark so desperately missing in recent games could be found at Kingsholm tonight. This game may not be the type which can have a galvanising effect on the season, but it could just give the Gloucester game, which has been so staccato, somewhere to build from.

If ever there was a game where the players can go out there and just let things happen, this could be it.

The most troubling aspect of the start to this season has not been missed tackles, has not been handling errors and has not been the lack of cutting edge. It has been



**TAKE THE RECENT DEFEAT TO WASPS AS AN EXAMPLE. SO OFTEN CARLOS SPENCER OR NICKY ROBINSON WOULD GET THE BALL WITH JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL IN ACRES OUT WIDE, BUT A BUNCH OF GRIZZLED FORWARDS IN BETWEEN.**

the root of the problem of which all these are a product, a total lack of composure.

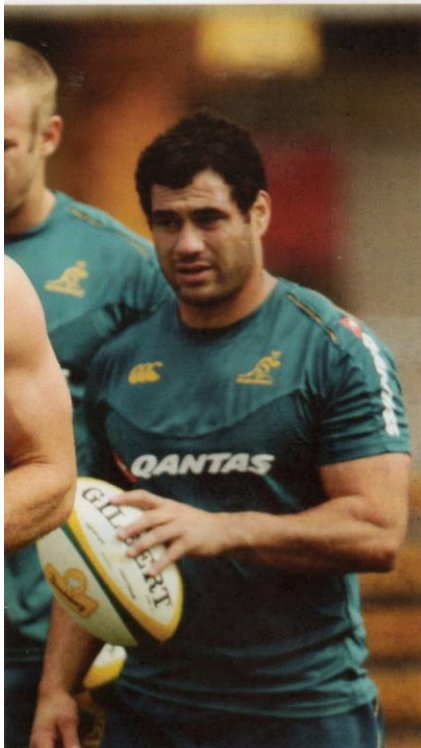
When a player is on top of their game they seem to have all the time in the world to make a decision which more often than not they get right.

The Gloucester players, through their desperation to turn things around, are frantic on the ball which blinkers them from reading the game and results in the wrong decision being made all-too frequently.

Take the recent defeat to Wasps as an example. So often Carlos Spencer or Nicky Robinson would



## The Citizen



get the ball with James Simpson-Daniel in acres out wide, but a bunch of grizzled forwards in between.

Simpson-Daniel should be going potty screaming for the ball and Spencer/Robinson should have the vision to see it, if not hear Sinbad's calls. But neither appeared to happen, and the result was the ball given to the forwards, an overlap gone and a turnover on the way.

It is easy to see from the stand, where you get a postage stamp view of what is going on and must be so frustrating for Bryan Redpath.

But it is all a product of the lack of composure which has drifted



**LOOK AT THE WAY  
THE ALL BLACKS  
WERE WELCOMED  
TO MUNSTER LAST  
SEASON - THE WAY  
THE IRISH TOOK  
ON THE STARS OF  
NEW ZEALAND IS  
A BLUEPRINT FOR  
WHAT GLOUCESTER  
NEED TO DO  
TONIGHT.**

through the cherry and white ranks since the Bath win, and even then the scores came from breakaways rather than building phases of play.

What a friendly against Australia does is take away that reason for panic, remove the pressure on the outcome rather than the performance and possibly get Gloucester playing again.

To every positive there's a negative, which has to be addressed too. If Gloucester meet a Wallabies side in the mood tonight they could cop another stuffing, which would only serve to develop the demons which have crept into the play.

Australia will not be coming here looking for a low-intensity game which could harm their build up to England this weekend.

They will be coming here to play, to blood some exciting prospects for the future who will be desperate to prove themselves.

It all points to an exciting evening's rugby which serves to uphold a great tradition of the amateur era.

To see the touring Southern Hemisphere sides playing the English clubs again is a fantastic thing, and when England go back over there they should strive to return the favour.

The chance to face Australia is one afforded to only a select few rugby players who get international recognition.

For those club players who would never have got that chance, tonight is a huge occasion. Let's just hope the rugby lives up to it.



# BRYAN REDPATH HEAD COACH

I'D LIKE to wish everyone a very warm welcome on a unique occasion here this evening as we welcome the Qantas Wallabies to Kingsholm.

If you ask any professional rugby player, or coach for that matter, they'll tell you that one of their main goals within the sport will be to test themselves against the very best there is.

In fact, I think that applies even to watchers or supporters of sport. One well known current sports writer has written a couple of books in recent years where he pits himself against the best teams in the world in a variety of sports just to see how he'd get on.

One of the chapters sees him join the Springbok rugby team as they enter training camp for a forthcoming international. Suffice to say, he gets pummelled, but that's another story!

But that's why welcoming the Wallabies here tonight is such an exciting prospect. A number of our squad have played international rugby. Some of them have represented their respective countries many times. They know what it's all about. They've experienced professional rugby at that level.

But for every one of those international players there is, generally speaking, a club stalwart who for whatever reason hasn't caught the eye of the international selectors.



These are the players who do their bit for their club each and every week but might have been injured at precisely the wrong time or be unlucky enough to play in a position where their country has sufficient strength in depth.

Players who have put their bodies on the line week in and week out for their clubs and probably deserve international recognition but have never had the chance to take on an international class team.

It's also a great opportunity for some of our younger players. They may have played international age group rugby but they'll already have found that it's a step up to first team level and taking on a team like the Wallabies will represent another step on

their learning curve.

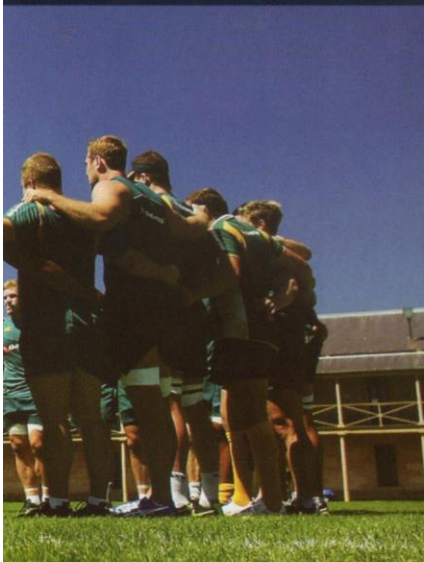
A game like this evening's also poses a different challenge for us coaches. We get quite used to analysing the same opponents in the Guinness Premiership on a regular basis although we do get some variety in our Anglo Welsh and Heineken Cup opponents.

The Wallabies tonight will be something completely different and that'll be good for Carl, Denis and myself. We'll learn just as much as the players in some respects.

Thanks to modern television coverage, we get the opportunity to see many of the players in the Wallabies squad in Super 14 or even international action.

However, we may well be watching those games purely on





a recreational basis or perhaps because they feature a player that we're potentially interested in.

It's not the same as preparing your team to take on an international side and it's something that we're looking forward to immensely.

It's a game that's probably come at a good time for us as well, a game removed from the pressures of the Guinness Premiership and Heineken Cup where there have been league points at stake.

I've made no secret of the fact that we've been lacking a bit of confidence in recent weeks although I can't fault the work ethic of the players.

The recent Wasps game was a case in point. We looked at the

match video after the event and some of the forwards, for example, racked up huge numbers of ball carries.

We dominated possession and territory and Wasps made twice as many defensive tackles as we did. Yet we couldn't make it count.

Some of that is down to confidence and some of it is simply down to individuals trying just that little bit too hard and trying to force something to happen when we need to stick to the game plan.

Those individuals are putting in the effort with the best of intentions, they want to make a difference but we have to remain patient and clear thinking in the heat of battle.

But we do need to improve certain things. We can't afford to drop off one on one tackles or cough up possession cheaply. We've been making it easy for our opponents. I can promise one thing, however, everyone is working hard to eradicate these things.

Tonight, though, offers us an opportunity to play with a bit more freedom. We can try a few new things without worrying about league points etc.

It's a chance for a few players to put their hands up and force their way into our thoughts for selection for forthcoming games and I genuinely hope that they take that opportunity.

Australia at Kingsholm – it's a very special occasion. Nights like this don't come around very often and hopefully it's one that we'll all enjoy.

**IT'S A GAME THAT'S PROBABLY COME AT A GOOD TIME FOR US AS WELL, A GAME REMOVED FROM THE PRESSURES OF THE GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP AND HEINEKEN CUP WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN LEAGUE POINTS AT STAKE.**







## PLAYER PROFILE: PAUL DORAN-JONES

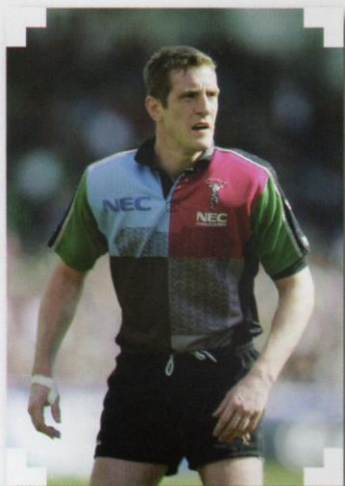
### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

#### WHAT'S THE FIRST GAME YOU REMEMBER WATCHING?

Either Maidenhead First XV going down to watch my Dad play or maybe France vs England on the TV.

#### WHO IS YOUR SPORT'S BEST PUNDIT?

Will Greenwood.



#### WHO'S GOT THE FLASHIEST MOTOR AT THE CLUB?

Big Les is the obvious answer for this one with his Escalade but Carlos has just got himself a new one which is pretty swish although I haven't seen it for myself yet.

#### WHO'S THE BEST DRESSER IN THE PLAYING DEPARTMENT? WHO'S THE WORST?

I'd have to say Rory Lawson, he's not bad. At the other end of the spectrum, I reckon Luke Narryway!

#### IF MONEY WAS NO OBJECT WHAT WOULD YOU BUY?

I'd probably buy a villa in St Tropez.



#### WHICH CHARITIES DO YOU SUPPORT AND WHY?

I support Wooden Spoon and also Testicular Cancer.

#### BEST TRY YOU'VE EVER SCORED?

I actually got Try of the Season for London Welsh last season and it was a pretty good one. I think it was against Coventry and I got a bit of a rumble on! They're usually just 5 metre dot downs for me!

#### CAN YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

No, not at all. Bit of a let down after Voycey and his tenor sax in the last programme...

#### IF YOU COULD BE IN A BAND, WHICH ONE WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

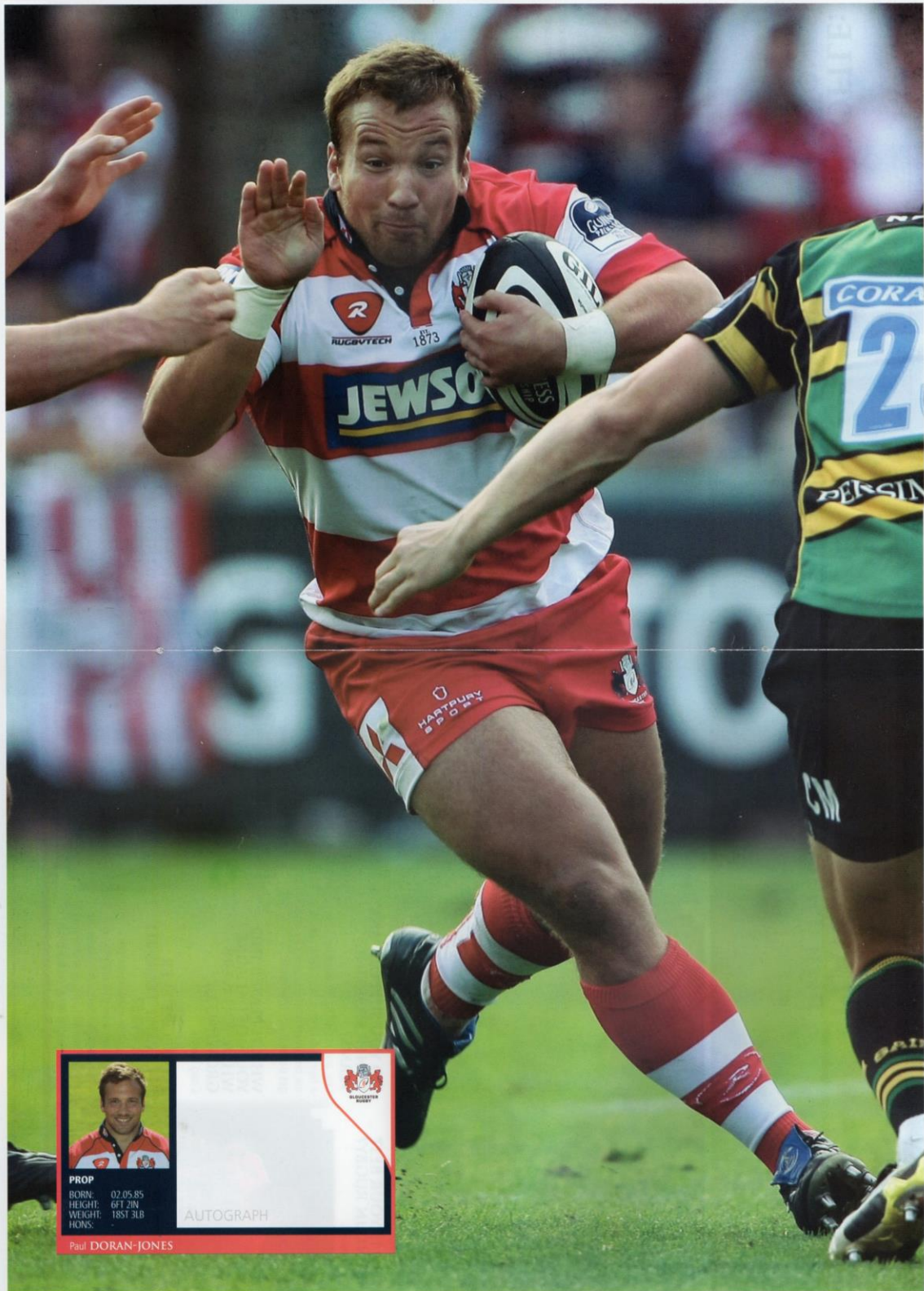
The Artful Dodger. Little garage band.

#### WHAT'S YOUR NICKNAME AT THE CLUB AND HOW DID IT COME ABOUT?

BLT. After the sandwich.









**PROP**  
BORN: 02.05.85  
HEIGHT: 6FT 2IN  
WEIGHT: 185T 3LB  
MONS:



AUTOGRAPH

Paul DORAN-JONES



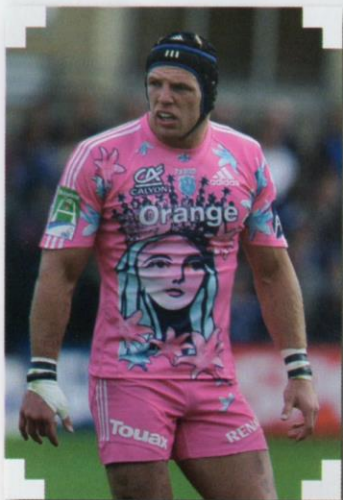


## PLAYER PROFILE: PAUL DORAN-JONES



### WHO IS YOUR BEST FRIEND IN RUGBY?

James Haskell.



### DO YOU SUPPORT ANY OTHER SPORTING TEAMS?

I try and keep it quite quiet because a few of the other boys gang up on me but Tottenham Hotspur. I try and get down there when I can.

### WHICH PLAYER DID YOU MOST ADMIRE WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP?

Craig Dowd.

### HAS SPORT EVER BROUGHT TEARS TO YOUR EYES?

I've been close a few times but we did have a bit of a nightmare when I was in South Africa with the U19s for the World Cup and one of the lads passed away on the pitch

through Sudden Death Syndrome.

### IF THERE WAS ONE RUGBY RELATED RULE OR LAW THAT YOU COULD CHANGE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I think, being a front row forward, the scrums are over officiated sometimes when we'd just like to get on with it.

### WHAT'S THE MOST COMMON MISTAKE YOU SEE PEOPLE MAKE WHEN PLAYING YOUR SPORT?

Not seeing the bigger picture really. Just charging headlong into situations without really thinking about it.

### WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THE BEST NIGHT OUT?

Ibiza.





# BOB FENTON'S KINGSHOLM NEWS



**IN all the years I have been writing a few pages for the match day programme I never thought I would be asked to write one for a game against Australia.**

We have, in the dim and distant past, hosted other international sides. I remember a European tie against Spain some years back when we rattled in loads of points, we played England in a warm up game once and we have hosted many touring district and even Super 14 sides (though they may have even been super 10s back then).

But to the best of my admittedly shaky knowledge, this is one of the first times I can recall a southern hemisphere superpower rolling into Kingsholm.

When I was first told about the game I thought it must be a wind-up... why us, why not one of the fancy-dan London sides like Quins with their new fantastic looking stadium. But maybe it's the rugby heritage that counts, maybe the Aussies want to go somewhere with a bit more vibe than a bunch of blokes in funny trousers and nice coats.

Whatever the reason, I'm really glad they are here. Games like this help put the club firmly on the big stage, and that has to be a good thing.

We have had a few players from the Land Down Under turn out in the famous cherry and white strip. Two of their superstars – Jeremy Paul and Jason Little turned out to be – and how can I put this politely – not the

best signings that we ever made.

For me, though, one of THE best signings Gloucester ever made was a relatively unheard of bloke by the name of Richard Tombs.

When he was announced as one of Saint Philippe's first signings along with another unheard of centre by the name of Terry Fanolua, some searching on the internet revealed that he had been a part of the Australia squad for the 1991 World Cup but didn't make it past the reserves stage, though he made his test debut the following year.

The experience and poise he bought to Gloucester at that time cannot be underestimated. He was quality, and alongside Tezza formed a fantastic centre pairing.



Tombsy was also a quality bloke – always good for chat and a story. I could bore you forever with stories about how he coerced me, Ed Snow and Noddy Lynagh into lifting his car out of a parking space when he was jammed in and needed to get away with his heavily pregnant wife, or how he once stopped the traffic on Metz Way by slamming to halt in front of me to ask whether there were any copies of 'Shedhead' left that he could scrounge, or how he once nearly caused Kingsley Jones to veer off the M6 by telling him that Natalie Imbruglia had been staying with him and his wife. I could go on...

After Tombsy left us he had a pretty bad injury that just about ended his career, though I do remember him running out for the Waratahs against the 2001 Lions. Turns out that was his last game – not a bad way to end a career,

When I sat down to write this piece I thought I would try to find out where Richard is now. On an Australian 'Where are they now' website I discovered that he is still involved in sport, only now he's playing the roundball game for an over-35s side in Northern Australia along with a couple of other ex-Wallabies. By his own admission he is "... a dreadful soccer player...". Just goes to show though, after retiring from rugby you can still be good enough to play soccer – what does that say about the two sports!

At the time of writing the 'All Time Greats From The Last 20 Years' poll on the Shedweb site shows Tombsy leading the inside centre vote by a country mile – that says it all about how Gloucester supporters remember him and his contribution.

So what can we expect from today. Well I doubt we'll see a full strength team in either strip, to be honest we have both got bigger matches to think about than this one, but hopefully we'll see a few of the Australian first teamers running out to shake off the jetlag.

Having watched the seemingly never-ending Tri-Nations series on TV Australia have a host of exciting youngsters coming through in their back division. They seem to be quite happy to adopt the mantra of 'if they're good enough, they're old enough' and as a result players like James O'Connor and Kurtley Beale made their debuts at the age of about 13, I think.

Looking some way ahead you have to fancy Australia as one of the favourites to lift the World Cup in New Zealand. Just imagine how galling that would be to the Kiwis – I mentioned it to a mate of mine from Wellington the other day, he went a very green colour at the thought of it.

And if we do put out a side with a few youngsters in ourselves how cool is it for them to be able to look back in years to come and say "Yeah... I played against a touring Wallaby outfit..." It'll be even better if can grab a win though!

Perhaps though we'll unleash a bit of experience tonight – I bet Greg Somerville and Carlos Spencer will be itching to have another crack at the boys in the green and gold. And if they do maybe they could perform a mini Haka for us just before kick off.

That would be worth the admission price on its own!



**AT THE TIME OF WRITING THE 'ALL TIME GREATS FROM THE LAST 20 YEARS' POLL ON THE SHEDWEB SITE SHOWS TOMBSY LEADING THE INSIDE CENTRE VOTE BY A COUNTRY MILE – THAT SAYS IT ALL ABOUT HOW GLOUCESTER SUPPORTERS REMEMBER HIM AND HIS CONTRIBUTION.**



# DAVE KING'S WORLD OF RUGBY

**WHEN** Australia venture forth to New Zealand it is usually to participate in the Bledisloe Cup. However, in 2007 the Wallabies headed across the Tasman Sea to recruit the Crusaders' Robbie Deans as their Head Coach. The Australian Rugby Union were successful in persuading Robbie Deans to put

pen to paper and secured his valuable services on contract until 2011. This will obviously enable the former New Zealand player to take within his contract the World Cup due to be held in his home country in 2010. Robbie is the first non-Australian to be entrusted with this appointment.



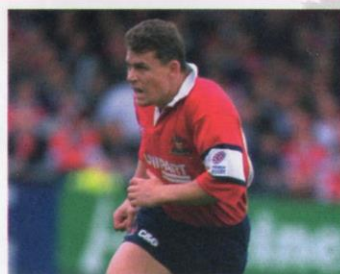
**ROBBIE DEANS** replaced former Bath Head Coach John Connolly. The New Zealander left his home territory with the perfect swansong when he guided the Crusaders to a Super – 14 Final victory over the Waratahs in May 2008.

**THERE** was twenty years difference in age between the youngest and oldest players to represent Australia! The youngest cap was B.W.Ford who made his debut at 18 years and 90 days in 1957 against New Zealand. It was his solitary cap! While A.R.Miller made his last appearance at the ripe old age of 38 years and 113 days in 1967 versus New Zealand. He had been capped initially in 1952 versus Fiji.



**ENGLAND** will play two Tests in Australia next summer. The matches will be staged in Perth and Sydney. The match at the Subiaco Stadium will be staged on 12th June and at Sydney's Olympic Stadium on 19th June. Fiji will meet Australia in Canberra on 5th June and will play Ireland in Brisbane on 26th June.

**OUR FORMER** three-quarter Jason Little who eventually joined Bristol before returning home to Australia was capped 75 times by Australia between 1989 and 2000 and is eleventh in the list of most capped players for his country. George Gregan leads the way with 139 caps in an International career spanning from 1994 to 2007.



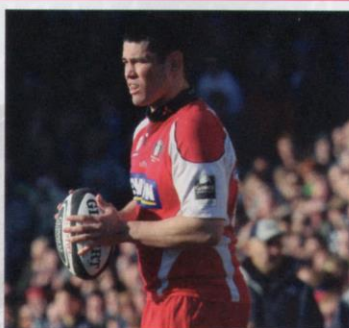
**THE FIRST** World Cup tournament of 1987 was staged in Australia and New Zealand. Australia topped Pool 1 in that year with six points with England in second place with four points. In the quarter finals the Wallabies defeated Ireland by 33 points to 15 but succumbed to France in the semi finals by 34 points to twenty-four.



**THE WALLABIES** moment of triumph came four years later when on 2nd November 1991 they defeated England by 12 points to six at Twickenham. There were Kingsholm connections with Mike Teague representing England and Jason Little who was still to arrive at Kingsholm in the Australian ranks. The Australian line up on that early winters day was: -

**M.C.Roebuck; D.I.Campese, J.S.Little, T.J.Horan, R.H. Egerton; M.P. Lynagh, N.C.Farr-Jones (Captain); A.J.Daly, P.N.Kearns, E.J.A.McKenzie, R.J.McCall, J.A.Eales, S.P.Poidevin, T.Coker, V.Ofahengaue.**

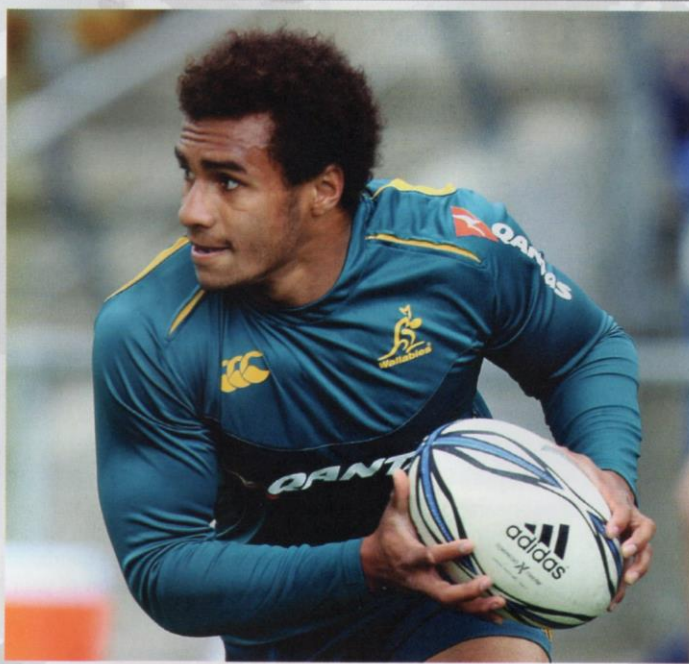
**JASON LITTLE** was to feature in another Australian World Cup triumph when Australia defeated France by 35 points to twelve at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff on 6th November 1999 when he replaced D.J.Herbert in the 46th minute of that encounter. Our former hooker Jeremy Paul made a fleeting appearance in the dying minutes when he replaced former Bath forward's coach Mike Foley.



**RICHARD HILL** who was later to become Head Coach here at Kingsholm was the England's scrum half that day.



**PHIL VICKERY and TREVOR WOODMAN** encountered the ultimate success on the 22nd November 2003 at the Telstra Stadium, Sydney, when they were instrumental in England's World Cup success against the hosts in a 20 points to 17 victory. Also included in the England team was Mike Tindall then with Bath Rugby. Our former player Iain Blashaw replaced Josh Lewsey for the final five minutes in England's finest hour. Jeremy Paul was a second half replacement in the 56th minute of that final.



**AS** we are all aware Australia are in the British Isles seeking to return home unbeaten. The Grand Slam of defeating England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland has not been achieved since 1984. Their only victory in the recent Tri-Nations came against South Africa in Brisbane. The average age of the Australian team in Brisbane was 23 years. Young players like James O'Connor (19), Ben Alexander (24), Will Genia (21) and David Pocock (21) all made their mark.

**ROBBIE DEANS**, the Australian supremo, spent eight years in control of the then all conquering Crusaders, the Canterbury based franchise. Robbie was awarded five caps by the All Blacks in his international career.



**AUSTRALIA** arrives in England ranked in third place in the I.R.B. world rankings behind South Africa and New Zealand. England is in seventh position, Wales in eighth, Scotland in tenth position. Pride of place in the United Kingdom goes to Ireland who are ranked in fourth position.



# PETER ARNOLD'S GLOUCESTER TALK

## DOWN UNDER TO UP YER

**TONIGHT'S** welcome visitors have come an awfully long way for a few games of rugby. But it was ever thus.

An Australian cousin of mine points out that, if you happen to live in Australia and fancy going somewhere else, then you have to fly.

They don't have the luxury of a Channel Tunnel or roll-on roll-off ferries because they're simply too far away from anywhere, apart from New Zealand, for such amenities to be practical, and once you're strapped into an aircraft, you might as well stay there and go anywhere you like.

All of which makes the Australian sporting record all the more surprising and creditable. It doesn't matter which sport you think of, you can bet that there's an Aussie or two competing at the highest level. They even have an 800-mile long golf course!

Australia might not be quite the dominant sporting force it once was, but can still claim some formidable contestants. A couple of decades ago, it seemed that just about every other top-quality tennis player, athlete or swimmer came from the land of the wombat and 4X beer. And don't get me started on their cricket.

Nevertheless, if you're up against the Aussies, you know you're in for a battle. We may have taken the Ashes back, but as the Duke of Wellington said after Waterloo, "It was a damned close run thing!"



Don't forget that an Australian won the Brazilian Grand Prix, even if Jenson Button emerged as the World Champion. So Australia won the battle, even though they lost the war.

It's this refusal to lie down and be beaten which makes the Australians welcome wherever they ply their sporting trade.

Here's one set of poms who are heartily pleased to see them on our own turf. Welcome to Kingsholm cobbers! Hope you enjoy the experience. We shall certainly enjoy having you.

## IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY

**IT'S great to see the Australian international squad here once again, of course, but over the years a whole galaxy of teams from far away have graced us with their presence.**

The last time the World Cup was held in England we entertained both the full England squad in a warm-up game and the Ireland squad which was masquerading under the name of the Irish



President's XV, a subterfuge which meant that the Irish authorities were saved the ignominy of adding a loss to Gloucester to their Irish international record.

But I wasn't thinking solely of top-rank international sides, although it wouldn't be right to ignore the visit of the All Blacks in 1972 who opened their tour here playing the South West. As it happened, the home side consisted of one Devonshire player and 14 from Gloucestershire.

I should also recall a visit by the Springboks during the Apartheid era. That match has gone down in Gloucester folklore, because Kingsholm Road was blocked by a horde of anti-Apartheid demonstrators trying to disrupt the game. They didn't succeed in that, not even getting into the ground.



## HERE'S ONE SET OF POMS WHO ARE HEARTILY PLEASED TO SEE THEM ON OUR OWN TURF. WELCOME TO KINGSHOLM COBBERS! HOPE YOU ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE. WE SHALL CERTAINLY ENJOY HAVING YOU.

The fans saw to that. Not seeing why politics should interfere with sport.

But as I say, a lot of lesser sides from overseas have come to Kingsholm over the years. The very first I remember arrived from Yugoslavia, would you believe, around 60 years ago. They were playing a United side and the ground was packed because of the sheer novelty of the occasion.

I was in the Shed with my then girlfriend. Then occurred a phenomenon, of which I had heard but never witnessed. A girl a little way from us suddenly upped and fainted. There ensued a classic case of hysterical fainting. Another young lady passed out, and the whole thing spread like rumours in the close season. Eventually, most of the female section of the Shed succumbed, including my own girlfriend. Luckily we were down at the front, so I draped her over the rail and got on with watching the game. Well, you have to get your priorities right don't you?



Another United game involved a Portuguese side. Nothing remarkable, except that they had a player who really was called Fidel Castro. Similarly, I recall an American player whose name was Bert Higgins, which seems a bit unlikely.

Another memorable visit from across the Pond came when we entertained the American Eagles for the first time. Their captain was a marvellous 32 year-old called Craig Sweeney, a highly efficient forward and a charismatic skipper. Sadly, about six months after they returned home, Craig Sweeney was dead. Apparently it was a genetic thing. All the males in his family died in their early thirties.

Very sad. But at least he went out as captain of his national rugby team, which must have given his family some consolation and satisfaction.

But one of my fondest memories is of about the best game I never saw.

### THE AUCKLAND EXPERIENCE

**I NEVER saw it because none of us could. When Auckland, the New Zealand Provincial Champions arrived, the ground was swathed in a thick blanket of fog, a severe disappointment to the very large crowd.**

It was ridiculous really. The officials took one look and tried to call the game off. The New Zealanders would have none of it. They took the view that, if so many people had turned up to see them, then they were going to play, come fog, hail earthquakes or rains of frogs.



So the game went ahead.

It is rumoured that the visitors won by over 30 points, but you couldn't tell it by me. You couldn't see more than a couple of yards beyond the touchline, and occasionally a figure would loom into view only to disappear immediately.

But the after match get-together was memorable. We were all delighted at the attitude shown by the Kiwis, and what a nice bunch of blokes they were.

"What you don't understand", the Auckland President told me, "is that this is one of the most famous purely club grounds in the world. When we announced the tour itinerary to the players, and told them they were coming to Kingsholm, they all stood up and cheered."

Just after that, one of the Wetton brothers put his hand on my shoulder. I still feel it in wet weather, sometimes. "We're all going back to the hotel to keep the party going," he said "Care to join us?"

I was sorely tempted but I had work the following day, so I gracefully declined. Just as well I did, because I heard later that the shindig was still going on at 5 a.m.

As I say, the most memorable game I never saw.





SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2009 / 17:35 KO

**GLOUCESTER RUGBY** 6**LONDON WASPS** 35**COACH'S COMMENTS**

*"We didn't create enough pressure to get points. We won't hide from the fact that it was a poor performance and, if you perform like that, you are never going to compete.*

*They were excellent and defended well. We are lacking massively in confidence and I don't question our work ethic but there are a lot of things to do."*

**KEY MOMENT**

Gloucester had spent the final few moments of the first half and the opening stages of the second period hammering away at the Wasps defence in a bid to overturn the half time scoreline of 6-13.

On 47 minutes, however, Wasps moved into the Gloucester 22 and patiently maintained possession through multiple phases, slowly softening up the home defence before David Lemi put Mark van Gisbergen into just enough space for the former England full back to show great strength to score in the corner and move Wasps two scores clear.



**In front of a live televised audience, Gloucester's hopes of moving up the Guinness Premiership table were cruelly undone by a Wasps side who came to Kingsholm to do a job and did it very well indeed.**

Gloucester dominated territory and possession and Wasps made more than twice the tackles that Gloucester did. Rarely will a team have dominated the stats so comprehensively but been so far behind on the scoreboard.

It may sound bizarre to state that Gloucester were sucker punched by the visitors on four separate occasions but that was how the game played out.

Bryan Redpath's side spent the majority of the game hammering away at the Wasps' defence without ever being able to make the killer breakthrough.

The visitors were superbly drilled, as you would expect from any side featuring Shaun Edwards as part of the coaching set up.

Rarely did they commit too many men to the breakdown. They were happy to concede possession, string defenders left and right and challenge Gloucester to break them down.

And the defence was up to the task. On several occasions, Gloucester did make an initial line break but





**BRYAN REDPATH'S SIDE SPENT THE MAJORITY OF THE GAME HAMMERING AWAY AT THE WASPS' DEFENCE WITHOUT EVER BEING ABLE TO MAKE THE KILLER BREAKTHROUGH.**



the thin black line buckled without actually breaking. Whether by fair means or foul, Wasps always managed to get enough bodies in the way to prevent the score.

And, in attack, Wasps dealt out a clinical lesson in taking your chances. The opening try from Dominic Waldouck was largely against the run of play but featured patience in possession before exploiting a back against a forward match up in the back line.

The second try, from Mark Van Gisbergen, also featured a patient

build up until a suitable breach was identified and the vital incision made.

With Dave Walder keeping the scoreboard ticking over with three penalties, Wasps were able to sit back and absorb the pressure from the inevitable Gloucester fightback before breaking out and scoring two tries from deep in the final 10 minutes.

It was a desperately disappointing evening for the Cherry and Whites but credit is due to Wasps for the professional way they went about their job on the night.

## THE TEAMS

### GLoucester RUGBY

Voyce  
Sharples  
Simpson-Daniel  
Fuimaono-Sapolu  
Vainikolo  
Spencer  
R. Lawson  
Dickinson  
S. Lawson  
Somerville  
James  
Attwood  
Strokosch  
Qera  
Delve

### REPLACEMENTS:

Molenaar for F-Sapolu (58),  
Robinson for Spencer (52),  
Lewis for R. Lawson (41),  
Doran-Jones for Dickinson (9),  
Hazell for Qera (58),  
Satola for Strokosch (78)

**NOT USED:** Dawidiuk,  
Capdevielle.



### LONDON WASPS

Van Gisbergen  
Sackey  
Jacobs  
Waldouck  
Lemi  
Walder  
Simpson  
Payne  
Ward  
Broster  
Skivington  
Birkett  
Ward-Smith  
Betsen  
Hart

### REPLACEMENTS:

Kefu for Jacobs (41),  
Hickey for Waldouck (52),  
Matthews for Hart (67),  
Leo for Birkett (71),  
Bocca for Ward (74),  
Baker for Broster (74),  
Fury for Simpson (77)

**NOT USED:** Beech.



# TODAY'S LINE-UPS

VS AUSTRALIA XV  
TUESDAY 03/11/09  
KO 7:45PM

**GLOUCESTER  
RUGBY**

VS

**QANTAS  
WALLABIES**

## ALL TIME POINTS



**Ludovic Mercier** 852  
Matches: 69

**Mark Mapletoft** 742  
Matches: 61

**Simon Mannix** 537  
Matches: 52

**Henry Paul** 444  
Matches: 74

**Ryan Lamb** 351  
Matches: 55

## ALL TIME POINTS



**MP Lynagh** 911  
1984-1995

**MC Burke** 878  
1993-2004

**MJ Giteau** 514  
2002-2009

**SA Mortlock** 489  
2000-2009

**DI Campese** 315  
1982-1996

## REPLACEMENTS

- 16 BEN PHILLIPS  
17 YANN THOMAS *Harvey*  
18 PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE *Harvey*  
19 WILL JAMES *May*  
20 APO SATALA *May*  
21 JORDI PASQUALIN *Simpson-Daniel*  
22 CARLOS SPENCER *May*  
23 CHARLIE SHARPLES

- 16 PEK COWAN  
17 MATT DUNNING  
18 MARK CHISHOLM  
19 GEORGE SMITH *Palata*  
20 RICHARD KINGI  
21 MATT GITEAU  
22 ADAM ASHLEY-COOPER *Common*

## THE OFFICIALS

### REFEREE:

Andrew Small

### ASSISTANT REFEREES:

Chris White and Bob Mullis

### 4TH OFFICIAL:

Paul Dix