

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

IT'S GOOD to be back at Kingsholm this afternoon to take on the Newcastle Falcons.

It's funny, I always think of 3pm on a Saturday afternoon as being the traditional Gloucester Rugby kick off time. But, because of TV schedules and the quirks of the fixture calendar, this is the first time we've had a 3 o'clock kick off on a Saturday since we played Northampton on September 19th!

Saying that, our last game here was the win over the Leicester Tigers and that was a cracking atmosphere on a Friday night under the lights at Kingsholm.

I think that victory demonstrated the sheer guts and self belief that we have within the squad. We were without a huge number of players because of injuries and international commitments and had to reshuffle at the eleventh hour but still dogged out a win on to bring the game to an end. We'd dominated the second half in particular without being able to finish off the Tigers. To have lost in the last minute would have been hard to take.

On the other hand, we found ourselves chasing the game at the Stoop last weekend with Harlequins hanging on for the win.

We started well and we finished well. However, either side of half time, we lost sight of what we'd talked about before the game and allowed Danny Care and Nick Evans to have a decisive impact.

It was frustrating because Quins are a good side but we proved that we have enough ammunition to trouble the very best teams. We've got a tight game that can measure up and we've got backs who look dangerous when they click of performance against Newcastle this afternoon but we're under no illusions about how tough it'll be.

The Falcons may have surprised some people so far this season but they've done a great rebuilding job over the summer. No-one wins at places like Bath and London Irish without being a very good side.

It's down to us to make sure they don't return to the North East with the points.

Enjoy the game!



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It was an important win for us. We'd come so close in the previous couple of games and really needed to close out a win.

So, it was a mixture of delight and relief when Lote Tugiri knocked

But we're only playing well for short periods at the moment and need to string together 80 minute performances. The players know that it's on our shoulders. We need to cut out the errors and be consistent.

It'd be good to deliver that level

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vs NEWCASTLE FALCONS //05

GARETH BUTLER VIEW FROM THE CITIZEN

ODAY'S game against Newcastle comes at a crucial time for Gloucester as they look to repair some of the damage of their troubled start to the season.

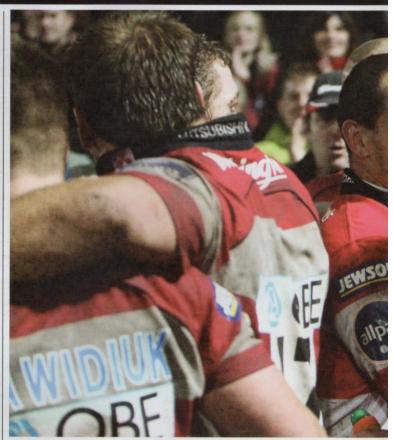
There is competition for places among the Kingsholm ranks again, with the return of Rory Lawson, Alasdair Strokosch, Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu and Apo Satala from various international duties.

Put that together with the improving injury situation (apart from poor old Will James) and there is a feeling of upwards momentum around Kingsholm for the first time in a couple of months.

Defeat today would soon quash that, however, and so it would linger for a couple of weeks as Gloucester head into the Heineken Cup double header against Glasgow.

Games before breaks always take on more importance. Gloucester could rise to joint sixth with Newcastle in the table with a maximum points victory. But they could also find themselves as low as 11th should the unthinkable happen and Bath and Worcester win, both unlikely results with the former going to Northampton and the latter to London Irish.

With so many players returning, there would have been some selection dilemmas for Bryan Redpath this week, where there haven't been before. The Head Coach has had to pick the last men standing of late, and the returning players do throw up some intriguing choices.



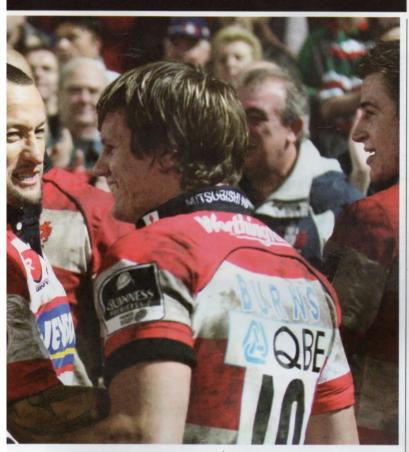
Half back is the main area to look at. Many put the mini revival in fortunes down to Freddie Burns, but Nicky Robinson came on and steadied the ship last week against Harlequins, kicking the two penalties and a conversion which won Gloucester the losing bonus point.

And at scrum-half the Dave Lewis v Rory Lawson debate rages. Depending on who you ask Lawson is either a crucial cog in the machine, especially when Gloucester are on the back foot, or the reason the ball is so slow coming back from the forwards.

Lewis has certainly upped his game of late, but he got a bit of a lesson off Danny Care last week and Redpath will find it difficult not to return to the comfort blanket of Lawson.

This is of course written before Redpath made his selection, which opens me up to a bit of ridicule given the team he actually picked is in this programme, but this week would have been one of the more interesting ones to be a fly on the wall in selection.





There are decisions to be made all over the pack. At hooker, do you stick with Darren Dawidiuk who threw 100 per cent last week, or go for Scott Lawson who came on and did the same?

Nick Wood and Greg Somerville are two form props, but Paul Doran-Jones is waiting in the wings off the back of his first England cap and Pierre Capdevielle has never let anyone down but seems likely to always be the back up with everyone available. Alasdair Dickinson is also on the verge of fitness.

At lock there are a number of combinations available even with the James injury. Dave Attwood has his shirt nailed down, but do you pick a returning Alex Brown, on the brink of fitness after a thumb injury, the steady Adam Eustace or move up Peter Buxton from the back row?

If you move up Buxton, in Alasdair Strokosch there is a ready made replacement, or Jake Boer could get an outing in his favoured position rather than at seven, where Akapusi Qera is back and available. That's not to mention Apo Satala, while at number eight, Luke Narraway is another on the brink of a welcome return. Weigh him against Gareth Delve, who is doing very well and is captain, but has been playing with injuries all season and could probably do with a rest.

Out wide the choices continue. Tim Molenaar is like a lorry full of fridges – he has taken a while to get going but is starting to move through the gears.

Henry Trinder has done nothing wrong, including a match-winning tackle on Anthony Allen against Leicester. James Simpson-Daniel had his best game last week while Fuimaono-Sapolu started the season as Gloucester's best back.

Mike Tindall isn't far off, but with others available you would expect the joint skipper to be given as much time as he wants and needs.

Moving into the back three, you have the only nailed-down shirt in the backs – Olly Morgan at full-back – but Redpath surprised everyone by leaving out Lesley Vainikolo last week for Tom Voyce and not bringing him on.

Then you have Simpson-Daniel in the mix if he is not needed at centre and Charlie Sharples, who showed his form with two tries last week and an excellent outing against Leicester.

Selection is probably the most crucial element a coach needs to get right, and this week, for once, Redpath had a job to do.

BRYAN REDPATH HEAD COACH

ON BEHALF of everyone at Gloucester Rugby, I'd like to wish the players, staff and supporters of the Newcastle Falcons a very warm welcome to Kingsholm this afternoon.

It's a long trip down from the North East, especially at this time of year, but we'll be as hospitable as we possibly can to our visitors – apart from on the pitch that is!

As always, it's a good feeling to be back at Kingsholm in front of our own supporters. In my last programme notes, I spoke about the importance of our home support and what a difference it makes to the team.

The atmosphere during our last game, when we beat the Leicester Tigers, was fantastic. The stadium wasn't quite full on the night but it certainly sounded as though it was! On an occasion like that, there's no better place to play rugby than Kingsholm.

It was a big victory for us. We'd come so close against the Cardiff Blues and London Wasps in the LV=Cup without being able to quite close out the game in the weeks leading up to that game.

So, I'd have forgiven our supporters for getting a bit twitchy as the Tigers moved into our half in the final couple of minutes! And, when the final whistle blew after Tuqiri's knock on, I was as pleased for them as I was for myself, the coaches and the squad.

I've said in the last few weeks that I've never doubted the



desire of the players to play for Gloucester Rugby and that was evidenced against the Tigers.

Where we have been going wrong is making errors which either keep our opponents in the game or let them back into the game. We managed to keep them to a minimum against Leicester and a win was the outcome.

In an ideal world, we'd have followed it up with a similar performance against Harlequins last weekend. Ironically, we actually delivered more as an attacking force but we let ourselves down again by making errors which cost us points.

We knew before the game that the Quins threat would come from their eight, nine and ten and we weren't quick enough to close down the threat posed by them. That cost us probably 16 points in the first half.

Again, our spirit was good. At 32-16 down, it could have got ugly. But we dug deep and I was delighted with our comeback. We could have come away from the game with far more than we actually did.

So, the challenge for us this afternoon is straightforward on paper although not quite so simple to achieve on a Saturday afternoon in the Guinness Premiership. We need to continue creating chances as we have done in recent weeks, convert more of them into points on the scoreboard whilst reducing our own error count.

And that won't be easy this afternoon against Newcastle who have had a great start to the season.

Many would have looked at the number of high profile players who left the Falcons in the summer and predicted a season of struggle for them.



But I've a huge amount of respect for Steve Bates and the job he's done up there. He's recruited cannily and quickly integrated his new signings turning the Falcons into a very competitive outfit.

They were 'score draw' specialists in the opening few weeks of the season but you have to give ultimate respect to any side that can travel to the likes of Bath and London Irish and win.

Their away form has been particularly impressive given how difficult it is to win on the road in the Premiership and they've taken some notable scalps. They've won three of their last four away from home in all competitions and a three match winning running run in the Premiership only came to an end last weekend at the hands of Northampton.

I should have a few more options in terms of selection this weekend. The Autumn internationals have come to a close so we've welcomed back the likes of Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu, Rory Lawson, Apo Satala and Alasdair Strokosch this week whilst Alex Brown, Alasdair Dickinson and Luke Narraway are all close to selection following injury.

When you consider that we've only just welcomed back a number of others following lengthy absences, it's clear why it's been such a difficult period for us.

But that's life in the Guinness Premiership and there's no point in complaining about it. You just have to roll up your sleeves and get on with it.

While we've been without so many players, the attitude of the squad has been superb and our performances and results over the past few weeks have been pretty good as a result.

But, now is the time to kick on. It's Guinness Premiership and Heineken Cup rugby all the way for the next few weeks and the next two months will help to define our season.

If we string together a few wins then we'll be moving up the Guinness Premiership table and our Heineken Cup future will be in our own hands.

It won't be easy but we know what we have to do. And it all starts this afternoon.

SO. I'D HAVE FORGIVEN OUR SUPPORTERS FOR GETTING AS THE TIGERS MOVED INTO OUR HALF IN THE FINAL COUPLE OF MINUTES! AND, WHEN THE FINAL WHISTLE BLEW AFTER TUQIRI'S KNOCK ON, I WAS <u>s pleased fof</u> THEM AS I WAS FOR MYSELF, THE COACHES AND THE SQUA

GLOUCESTER RUGBY HERITAGE CELEBRATION

5TH DECEMBER 2009 LEGENDS CHARITY MATCH IN AID OF SAMOAN TSUNAMI APPEAL

Today we are pleased to welcome back a number of Gloucester greats who have gathered to celebrate the clubs history and to raise money for the Samoan Tsunami Appeal.

At half time today number of our Gloucester Rugby legends, including Mike teague, Malcolm Preedy, Phil Blakeway, Don Rutherford among others will walk around the pitch with collection buckets inviting you to donate to help those in need who have been affected by the Earthquake.

The powerful earthquake measuring 8.3 on the Richter Scale struck in the Pacific Ocean roughly 100 miles South of Samoa and American Samoa on Tuesday the 29th of September 2009, at 6.48am local Samoan time.

The quake triggered a powerful Tsunami with waves measuring up to 20 feet that slammed into the small pacific island nations of Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga. Entire villages have been completely destroyed.

177 people have been confirmed dead and many more are still missing. Although the majority are Samoan, included amongst the dead are tourists from New Zealand, Australia and Britain.

Given the small combined population of 230,000 people, this tragedy will touch everyone living or with relatives in the area. As well as the death toll, the injured and the social costs, financial estimates of damage to infrastructure are in the region of SAT\$800million.

The Guinness Premiership's
Samoan players have got together to
co-ordinate fundraising across the
rugby community in England and
after today's premiership match a
number of them will be joined by some
of our Gloucester legends for a 'fun'
demonstration match.

Please show your support for these players and their families by making a contribution to the Samoan Tsunami Appeal, which will help assist Samoans

during this difficult time.

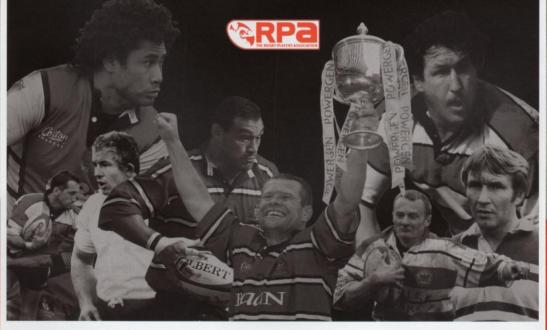
Gloucester Rugby have been fortunate enough to have had several fine Samoan players wear the Cherry and White in recent times. Terry Fanolua and Junior Paramore both represented the club with distinction and Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu is carrying on the trend.

Eliota confirmed why the appeal is so important:

"As professional rugby players in England, we may be a long away from home but this tragedy has affected every one of us."

"We are all related to or know someone who has been impacted by this disaster and launching this fundraising initiative is one way that we can help the people of Samoa start to pick up the pieces and rebuild their lives."

To find out more about the Appeal and how to donate, please go to: www. theRPA.co.uk/events/samoan_ tsunami_appeal.php





GLOUCESTER RUGBY HERITAGE CELEBRATION LEGENDS CHARITY MATCH

REFEREE: MR JOHN WATKINS (INTERNATIONAL)

CHERRYPICKER XV	Vs	JUNIOR PARAMORE
TIM SMITH	15	NICK MARMENT
JIM BREEZE	14	DERICK MORGAN
PAUL TAYLOR	13	TERRY FANALOU
RICHARD MOGG	12	GARETH GWILLIAM
NICK PRICE	11	SIMON MORRIS
PAUL WEBB	10	JERRY PERRINS
SCOTT BENTON	9	IAN MORGAN
PETE JONES	1	ANDY DEACON
KEVIN DUNN	2	NICKY NELMES
MALCOLM PREEDY	3	JACK PETELO
PETE MILES	4	ROBERT DAVEY
DAVE SIMS	5	LARRY CUMMINS
PAUL ASHMEAD	6	LEO HALAVATAU
DAVE SPENCER (C)	1	MIKE TEAGUE
JOHN GADD	8	JUNIOR PARAMORE (C)

REPLACEMENTS

RESERVES

GREG KEYES BOB PHILLIPS FRED MCLLENAN ALLUN EVANS SIMON DEVEREUX ADEPOWLES PAUL WILLIAMS
CORMAC O'DONOUGHE
BOBBY FOWKE
RICHARD WARD
MARK NICHOLSON
GLYN MANN
ANDREA SHARP

GARETH WILLIAMS
JERRY TOMULI
ADRIAN KNOX
JULLIAN HARRY
STEVE LOCKE
KARL KOCKERAN
JASON MERCHANT

RESERVES

ANDY BROWN ROB SHIPMAN JASON MERCHANT POODY CONWAY LEE OSBOURNE ANDY CURTIS

BOB FENTON'S KINGSHOLM NEWS



SEE, I told you that games under lights at Kingsholm produced some 'shock' results. I have to confess that my heart sank just before kick off a few weeks ago against Leicester when it was announced that Olly Morgan had been forced to pull out, surely the necessary re-jig would cause havoc and eventual defeat...

Not a bit of it. A great team performance with the kind of commitment to the cause that we all long for ensured a hard-fought victory. 12 – 9 is not everyone's idea of a classic, and it would surely fall foul of whatever the IRB term 'entertainment'.

But, if you like your sport raw and on the edge, this was for you. Personally I've never held with the view that you need three tries a piece to qualify as 'entertainment' and, while great tries are good to see, most of the great games I can remember have been low-scoring affairs with the result in the balance right up to the final whistle.

That said, the Leicester match was a bit too close and, when Anthony Allen spun the ball out to the multicapped Wallaby international Lote Tuqiri, I was already reaching for my phone with the Samaritans number on speed-dial.

We all know he didn't get hold of the ball and, having seen it on TV, Charlie Sharples would have belted him through the grandstand anyway. That said, I've never wanted to hear a final whistle quite so badly for a long time. Well, not since up at the Mad Stad earlier this season, but in that case I wanted to hear if it for entirely different reasons...

So would that game be a turning point? Would we head up to Quins and stick 25 points on them? Well, yes we did, and a few others besides, but unfortunately they racked up 35 of their own so it was back down the M4 with just a single losing bonus point to show for our efforts.

It is a rough old world when you score 29 points away from home and still end up with nothing. Those are the breaks though.

Despite the defeat my glass remains more than half full. I think we are seeing things that are far more advanced than green shots of recovery. If we can cut out the little individual errors that cost us dear, and get some of the walking wounded back into the side it will not be long before we are steaming up the table.

I wish I knew when that would be, but I'm not really into predictions except for this one.

Somewhere along the road this season our team is going to click. Our forward play is way ahead of where it was a few months ago, and with a few experienced backs in their proper positions, some poor team is going to take a hammering.

Hopefully that will be just after Christmas down at the Rec. That would really make my year!

But that is then and this is now, and there is the small matter of Newcastle to get over first. The Falcons have been going pretty well this season, well up until last week when Northampton gave them a bit of a roasting, so they

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will be no pushover. They have an interesting record so far this term – played nine, won three, drawn three and lost three.

These draws are becoming more common by the season, it used to be that they were as rare as rocking horse droppings but it seems that hardly a week goes by without one now. Don't ask me why that is, I'm easily confused by these things.

Having lost a number of key players during the summer – and not least St Jonny of Wilkinson, Newcastle were among a few pundits favourites to struggle this season. So, credit to them that they have not only shaken off the loss of these guys but have pulled together as a unit.

They've still got heaps of quality, watching Carl Hayman go up against Greg Somerville will be interesting, and they have a veritable points machine in the shape of the hugely experienced fly half Jimmy Gopperth – no penalties today then, boys.

If we need a bit of extra inspiration today there are a few guys around who are going to be able to provide it. After the game (hopefully) a side put together by former Gloucester hero and all round good bloke Junior Paramore will take on the Cherry Pickers to raise money for the victims of the Samoan tsunami earlier this year.

Joining Junior will be Gloucester's adopted son Terry Fanolua who is now plying his trade somewhere in south west France. Weather permitting these guys will get a chance to run out for a bit, and it'll be great to hear the Ter-ry Fan-o-lua chant ring round Kingsholm again.

So enjoy the spectacle, but don't forget why they are doing it – there will be plenty of people around with collection buckets, so lob in a quid or two.

I know it's nearly Christmas and we're all skint but remember when you go home to your nice warm house a lot of these guys kinfolk back home have absolutely nothing.



VE KING'S RID OF RUGBY

SINCE we

began playing at Kingsholm in the 1891-1892 season we have played a total of 323 matches where we have failed to register a single point. There have been 103 matches here at Kingsholm where we have failed to register and a total of 220 away matches. The last occasion where we failed to score was in the 2004-2005 season when we met Stade Français here at Kingsholm and suffered a 27 point to nil defeat in the Heineken Cup.



DURING the course of the history of this club we have had a total of five players who have recorded a total of over 1000 points during their careers at Kingsholm, they are: - Peter Butler 2,961, Eric Stephens 1,562, Tim Smith 1,277, Harold Boughton 1,240 and Bob Clewes 1,027. The most dropped goals in a career with this club belong to Mickey Booth with 41, followed by Willie Jones 38 and Terry Hopson 35. Willie Jones holds the record of the most dropped goals in a season with 17 in the 1947-48 season.

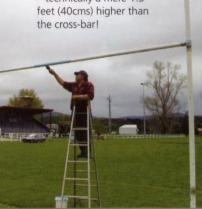




Dave King who has been a regular contributor to the club programme for several years has recently had a book published relating to Gloucester Rugby Club titled 'Cherry & White Companion' relating to all facts and figures of this club. It is currently on sale at major book shops in the area.

ACCORDING to an official injury audit conducted by the Rugby Football Union there are 25% of Premiership players injured at any one time.

THE MINIMUM required height of rugby posts under Law 1.4(c) is just 11.2feet (3.4m) – technically a mere 1.3 feet (40cms) higher than the cross-bar!



THERE is a misconception when the pool draws are made for the Heineken Cup that being drawn with an Italian club is a virtual guarantee that progress in the competition is automatic. Yet over the last five seasons there have been eleven pools with Italian clubs in them. Interestingly on only four occasions have the second placed team gone through to the last eight as one of the two best runners up. The best team to be paired with is Bourgoin. For three times in the last five years clubs paired with the French outfit have been in a pool which has produced one of the best runners-up.

NO LONGER do we witness the dual internationals, one of the most remarkable was Andrew Stoddart who captained England at cricket and rugby! Andrew won the last of his football caps versus Scotland on 4th March 1893. A year previous he had scored 134 runs against Australia in Adelaide. Sadly he committed suicide at the age of 52. The likes of the dual internationals are unlikely to be witnessed again.





SINCE the game turned professional only one Gloucester player has managed to score points in every match in a Premiership season. That honour belongs to Mark Mapletoft who in the Premiership One of the 1997-98 season scored 275 points recording 5 tries, 35 conversions, 2 drop goals and 58 penalties. Mark also scored points home and away versus Bristol, Leicester, London Irish, Saracens, Harlequins, Newcastle, Richmond, Sale, Wasps, Bath and Northampton.

The previous season of 1996-97, Mark Mapletoft re-wrote the club's record books in a tremendous season which ended in his selection for England's summer tour to Argentina. Mark ended the season with 269 points and therefore destroyed the club record of 85 which he shared with Tim Smith. Mark's 25 conversions and 58 penalties beat the previous records of 12 and 24 respectively held by Tim Smith. Mark Mapletoft became only the second Gloucester player to pass career totals of 200 and 300 after Tim Smith. In that season, Mark, also equalled and then broke the club record for points in a match. He equalled Tim Smith's record of 20 against Leicester at Kingsholm converting two tries and kicking six penalties. The six penalties equalled the club record he already shared with Tim Smith.

In that season of 1996-97, Captain Dave Sims became the second player after lan Smith to reach 100 league appearances. It was also a season where the club suffered their worst ever away defeat on the opening day of the season. Fielding virtually a second team and we were heavily defeated 75-19 on 31st August at Harlequins.

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GLOUCESTER RUGBY HERITAGE



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Welcome!
The Gloucester Rugby Digital Archiv

memories, memeritoss, reminiscences and records. Bringing Glaucester's unique rugby heritage to life, it aim to capture, preserve, celebrate and share over 130 year of history.

Whether you are an avid rugby fan or interested in local instory, this site has something to offer. Please contribute our feedback, ideas and memories.

Contribute See

gloucester Passect See what's new

Peter Butler
Gloucester and England full bac

First visit?



First visit to the site



Match Programmes



GLOUCESTER RFC has a long and proud heritage. Capturing, celebrating and sharing over 130 years of its history is the task of the Gloucester Rugby Community Heritage Project. This week saw the launch of the Gloucester Rugby Heritage web site – your web site. www. gloucesterrugbyheritage.org.uk

You may have spotted the displays in the C & G Grandstand. The web site takes it a step further, making material accessible online. Early news dates from the birth of the club, and covers the move from the Spa to Kingsholm, the first international in 1900 and the dramatic burning down of the grandstand in 1933. Player profiles

include the likes of Tommy Bagwell, Whacker Smith, Bumps Carpenter, Tom Voyce, Kit Tanner, Digger Morris, Peter Butler, Mike Teague and Phil Vickery.

A timeline traces the highlights – and occasional lowlights – of the club's long history, and there are enough old match programmes and match results to satisfy the most ardent fan's desire for details and statistics. The site also includes some of the cartoons that appeared in The Citizen in the 1920s, a trivia section and audio clips of interviews with players past and present.

These are still early days – only one year into a three-year project. We shall keep adding new material

Tom Voyce King of Gloucester By Malc King Regarded as one of the games greatest back row apocalates, he

Regarded as one or in guinter greatest back row appecialists, he began his playing career at the local Gorden League club. The flank forward made 218 appearances for Glocoster in which time he scored 54 tries.

Tom appearso in every match of Englands Crand Salam warring beams of 1921, 1923 and 1934, and also represented the Army and the Barbarians. Tom was captern of Gloupester brint 1924-1927 and was a member of the British bouring side to South Africa on 1924.

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On the 1924 tour of South Africa the deplayed the remarkation versions of the utility played of the side, playing out of position as that basis, centre and wing! well as the specialist position of wing threaters. He scored eight thes is trivision by kicked several goals. P. K. Abertigs, the South African captain, described him as ⁵ bost wing threedwarter in the British Isaam.⁷

"Since in War no man has fired the admission for the Collection of the Seath Processing of the Collection of

The name of Tom Veyce is synonymous with their of Riscussions. This is on an and the oil springs in mind. For the was it greated the risk year agreed to be a well-outly supposed to all springs in mind. For the was it greated the risk year of the risk year of the risk of the risk year of the risk of the risk of the risk year o

to the website, but this is also where you come in. Do you have memorabilia you could donate or loan? Examples include old match programmes, photos, news articles, caps, shirts, signed match balls or players' medals. Anything you can provide will be photographed for uploading to the web site, stored for public viewing at Gloucestershire Archives or displayed at Kingsholm (with your permission). Any contributions will be acknowledged in the archive catalogue, on displays, and on the website. Tours of the Kingsholm displays can be arranged through the club.

Why not take a look at the web site and offer your comments, ideas and anecdotes? It is easy to navigate and allows you to submit short articles, with images. Any resulting article (subject to checking of appropriateness of content) will appear on the site, either with your name, or anonymously if you prefer. Whether you are an occasional follower of Gloucester, a lifelong fan or have professional connections with the club, the project would like to hear from you. Whenever new items feature, they will be



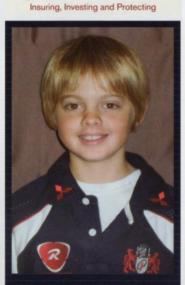
highlighted in the "What's New" part of the site.

Gloucester Rugby is rightly proud of its long heritage, and with the Gloucester Rugby Community Heritage Project the club is leading the way for others. The foundations of the project lie in the demolition of the old South Stand, which revealed a goldmine of old photographs, papers and other memorabilia. Saved from the skip by Gloucester Rugby Club Community Marketing Manager, Gary Little, 31 boxes of material were welcomed enthusiastically by Gloucestershire Archives. Thanks to their efforts, financial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and volunteers from the Friends of Gloucestershire Archives, the project has been working to make this wealth of historical information available to you.

There is far more to the project than a web site. Alongside the Kingsholm displays, the focus will soon turn to delivering educational packages to local schools. The web site is down to you now – please enjoy it and help make it what you want it to be.

TODAY'S MASCOT

Ecclesiastical



NAME: AARON HOLD

AGE: 11

SCHOOL: ST JOHN ST FRANCIS SCHOOL IN BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET

CLUB: BRIDGWATER AND ALBION RFC

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: LESLEY
VAINIKOLO BECAUSE HE IS STRONG AND
FAST, MIKE TINDALL BECAUSE HE NEVER
GIVES UP AND ALWAYS MAKES THE
TACKLE AND CARLOS SPENCER BECAUSE
HE READS THE GAMES SO WELL

FAVOURITE PLAYING POSITION: FLY HALF

AARON'S AMBITION IS TO PLAY RUGBY FOR A TOP CLUB (GLOUCESTER) AND PLAY FOR HIS COUNTRY FOLLOWING IN THE FOOT STEPS OF JONNY WILKINSON.

HE ENJOYS RUGBY, CRICKET, ATHLETICS, TABLE TENNIS AND PLAYING THE DRUMS!

GLOUCESTER TALK



GOOD AND BAD LUCK

A LOT has been said and written this season about the number of players getting injured. There's obviously a problem there, although I don't pretend to know what it is.

Whatever has been causing players to drop like flies, it has done a nasty to many clubs up and down the country, none more so than Gloucester. It hasn't done the England side any favours either, and it is to be hoped that the pundits can sort it out sooner rather than later.

Of course, the other side of that coin is that the enforced absence of first-choice players has provided opportunities for other, younger or less highly regarded performers to step up and be counted.

None more so than our own Paul Doran-Jones. Come on now, admit it! Had you ever heard of him twelve months ago? I certainly hadn't. I have to say, however, that he looked the real thing right from his arrival at Kingsholm. Martin Johnson and friends certainly thought so, because when the injury scourge decimated his prop forward options, he turned to our promising newcomer to fill the gap.

Even so, there was no guarantee he'd get on the field, and I, for one, thought it a hard ask to throw him in against the feared Argentinean front row, which included our old mate Rodrigo Roncero.

I need not have worried. His appearance during that game wasn't a markedly lengthy one, but he earned plaudits from all sides for his performance. Of course, you could say that he ought to have learned a thing or two having Nick Wood and Greg Somerville as role models, but nevertheless, he did us proud.

Of course, the other guy to prosper from others' misfortunes has been

Rory Lawson. One day he was girding his loins to skipper Scotland A, and 24 hours later found himself facing Australia in that historic Test at Murrayfield.

He acquitted himself nobly, too, being a pivotal asset in that Homeric defensive effort which gave the Scots their victory. It's doubtful whether either Blair or Cusiter would have done any better.

Of course, there's a downside to all this. Given the carnage among England's props, Nick Wood, who on the evidence of the Leicester game, is on supreme form, would have been a certainty for a cap or two during the Autumn Internationals had he not been injured. Of course that would have eliminated Paul Doran Wood from the reckoning, but there you go...

Similarly, Olly Morgan would have certainly regained his full-back spot following the image to Delon Armitage. I must say, however, that

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HE ACQUITTED HIMSELF NOBLY, TOO, BEING A PIVOTAL ASSET IN THAT HOMERIC DEFENSIVE EFFORT WHICH GAVE THE SCOTS THEIR VICTORY. IT'S DOUBTFUL WHETHER EITHER BLAIR OR CUSITER WOULD HAVE DONE ANY BETTER.

Morgs' record of injury may now have reached the point where, along with Sinbad, the national selectors may consider him too much of a risk. That would be a great shame.

So, you win some, you lose some.

NOT SO BAD

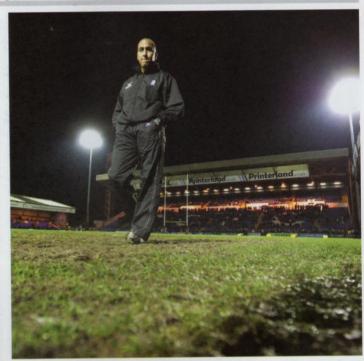
ALL right, so we lost up at the Stoop last week. In my view, however, it wasn't a defeat which should cause too much wailing and gnashing of teeth. And speaking of molars, away wins in the Premiership, these days, are akin to the hen variety.

This year, almost more than any other, the gap between England's top twelve clubs is vanishingly small, so much so that home advantage plus the support of thousands of avid supporters, can make all the difference. To come away from the Stoop with a losing bonus point is a result not to be sniffed at.

I was also moderately surprised to read that Bryan Redpath was mildly critical of the standard of refereeing. This is not something which he usually does, so he must have felt fairly strongly about it, although I did note that he was careful not to attribute his side's loss to that factor, and was simply making a plea for consistency. As he said, you have to be careful what you say about referees these days. Leicester's Mr Cockerill found that out last week.

The other point which struck me was the stark contrast between that match and the win over the Tigers the week before.

We were criticised after the Leicester match for reverting to the old



Gloucester style of ten man rugby, getting our results through a fine pack of forwards and a kicker. By all accounts the Harlequins game was a cracker with everyone trying to play some rugby. Which is no more than you would expect from a match which regaled the spectators with over sixty points.

So let's not be downhearted about it. However, our coaches are now left with a dilemma. The Autumn internationals having now gone, we're back to a full squad, barring a couple of injuries and the odd suspension.

So what happens now? Several players have put their hands up to be counted during the lean weeks, notably Freddie Burns and Paul Doran-Jones. And then there are the back row heroes, those

perpetual youngsters, Jake Boer and Peter Buxton.

With Narraway coming back numbers 6, 7 and 8 are looking a bit crowded.

It's a dilemma that I'm glad I don't have to solve. It's a nice problem to have, however.

A BIT WET

WHAT did you make of the Sale-Wasps contretemps last week? Whatever happened to the old rule that, if the two sides disagreed about the playability of a pitch, then the referee made the decision, and that was it?

In the old days, the match would have been awarded to Sale with no question about it.

vs NEWCASTLE FALCONS //051



FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2009 / 19:45 KO



GLOUCESTER RUGBY



LEICESTER TIGERS

COACH'S COMMENTS

"We needed a little bit of fortune at the end, with a missed penalty and the knock-on."

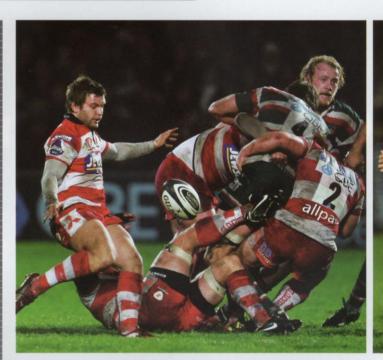
"I have never faulted the players' efforts over the last five or six weeks and sometimes we may be boring to watch but you have to be in the right areas to be in these games and work hard to create pressure."

KEY MOMENT

There was no time left on the clock as Leicester mounted a furious last assault on the Gloucester line.

With the Kingsholm crowd holding their collective breath, Anthony Allen was hit hard by Henry Trinder meaning that his pass to the waiting Lote Tuqiri was low and knocked forward by the former Australian





Gloucester got back to winning ways against Leicester Tigers at Kingsholm after a hard fought 12-9 victory.

Bryan Redpath's side were without 17 full internationals although it could be argued that the Tigers are one of the other Guinness Premiership sides who are badly affected by call ups during the Autumn international and Six Nations periods.

That said, things had seemed to swing the Tigers way before kick off as George Chuter, Jordan Crane and Ben Kay were all released from England duty (as indeed was Gloucester's Paul Doran-Jones) whereas Gloucester lost Olly Morgan, Nicky Robinson and James Simpson-Daniel to injury having originally named them all to start.

And it looked like business as usual for Leicester as they quickly went about their work and took an early 3-0 lead having forced a penalty from an early set scrum.

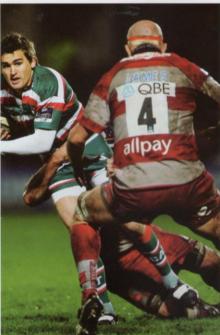
Gloucester's confidence may have been low coming into the game and conceding such an early score could have further eroded that self belief. However, with the platform laid by a monumental performance from the pack, Gloucester rose to the occasion.

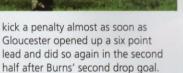
Leicester were forced to put in a massive defensive effort to prevent their line being breached but they were only able to do so at the expensive of 2 penalties and a drop goal for Freddie Burns.

Frustratingly, Staunton was able to

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KINGSHOLM ERUPTED IN DELIGHT AND PERHAPS RELIEF. THE TEAM EFFORT ON AND, FOR ONCE IN RECENT WEEKS. GLOUCESTER IUST HAD THAT LITTLE OF GOOD FORTUNE ON THEIR SIDE.





How Gloucester didn't add to their 12 point haul in the second half will remain a mystery as they spent nigh on half an hour camped in the Tigers' 22. They pummelled the Tigers' line but, credit to the visitors, their defence on the night was superb.

The longer the score remained at 12-9, the more the tension rose and, when Leicester moved downfield in the final few minutes, the feeling grew that the Tigers were going to snatch a late win.

Youngs had a penalty opportunity but dragged it wide before Tuqiri failed to pluck the final pass of the night off his toes.



Kingsholm erupted in delight and perhaps relief. The team effort on the night fully deserved the win and, for once in recent weeks, Gloucester just had that little bit of good fortune on their side.

Nick Wood got the vote as the 1873 Club Members' Man of the Match and the award was fully deserved given that it was only his second appearance after a lengthy injury lay off.

However, any one of the Gloucester squad could have picked up the award on the night. The pack laid the platform on the night and, although it wasn't a night for running rugby, the backs did their bit with Freddie Burns kicking all the vital points.

THE TEAMS

RUGBY

Trinder Molenaar

Vainikolo

Burns

Wood Dawidiuk

Somerville

James

Buxton

Boer Delve

REPLACEMENTS

Spencer for Burns (49), Doran-Jones for Wood (64), Capdevielle

for Somerville (69).

NOT USED: Phillips, Eustace,
N. Thomas, Pasqualin, May.



EICESTER TIGERS

Mauger J Murphy

B Youngs

Stankovich

Davies Cole

Parling

Kay B Deacon

Pienaar Crane

REPLACEMENTS:

Flood for Staunton (75), Chuter for Davies (57). NOT USED: R Harris, J Harris,

Green, Hemingway, Grindal,

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2009 / 15:00 KO



HARLEQUINS

35



GLOUCESTER RUGBY 29

COACH'S COMMENTS

"I was happy with a lot of things but we missed a one on one tackle on Danny Care and fell for the show and go from Nick Evans and it cost us dear."

"I was impressed with our fightback though. We created opportunities, scored a good try and had a three on two near the end which we couldn't take advantage of."

"I was delighted with the boy's effort and we could easily have got more out of that game."

KEY MOMENT

Gloucester had put in a huge effort in the first half, overcome the loss of Will James to injury, scored two fine tries and looked to be going into the interval with the lead.

Quins' fly half Nick Evans had other ideas however. Receiving the ball in space, some sleight of hand threw the Gloucester defence off balance and the New Zealander was able to sprint his way clear and score.

As a result, Quins went into the break with an 18-16 lead and, crucially, the momentum which they would take full advantage of in the first few minutes of the second half.

After the 12-9 victory over the Leicester Tigers a week before, a game where the scoring was dominated by the boot, Gloucester were part of a try fest at the Stoop.

Sadly, on an afternoon when seven tries were recorded in total, Gloucester could only manage three compared to Quins' four and were therefore on the wrong end of a 35-29 scoreline.

It was rough justice on Bryan Redpath's side who had contributed so much to the spectacle but who paid the price for not being able to subdue the effervescent Quins' scrum half, Danny Care, for the full eighty minutes.

Care, returning from a largely forgettable Autumn international campaign with England, was the difference between the two sides and played a part in three of his side's four tries.

Gloucester started well and finished well. It was the few minutes either side of half time that proved to be their undoing as a 16-13 lead evaporated into a 32-16 deficit.

It had all looked so promising as



GLOUCESTER LOOKED DEAD AND BURIED BUT LAUNCHED A FEROCIOUS FIGHTBACK. ROBINSON AND SIMPSON-DANIEL CRAFTED AN OPENING FOR SHARPLES TO SCORE HIS SECOND OF THE GAME.



Gloucester maintained their form of recent weeks and roared into an 8-0 lead courtesy of a Freddie Burns penalty and a try from number eight Gareth Delve who showed running and finishing skills that some of the outside backs would have been proud of.

However, Care promptly got his side back into the game. He spotted the merest of gaps at a ruck on midfield and was through it like a whippet before delivering the scoring pass to George Lowe.

Charlie Sharples responded with an opportune score to take Gloucester clear again as he successfully chased down his own kick ahead to claim his first try of the afternoon.

Two penalties from Evans

against one from Burns kept the scoreboard ticking over before Evans' moment of magic swung the game Quins way.

At the start of the second half, the home side threw the proverbial kitchen sink at Gloucester. Care's short pass put Nick Easter in from close range before his second break of the day lead to Lowe's second try.

Gloucester looked dead and buried but launched a ferocious fightback. Robinson and Simpson-Daniel crafted an opening for Sharples to score his second of the game.

Gloucester were back within a score but ran out of time and left frustrated with just a losing bonus point to show for their efforts.

THE TEAMS

Hartfollins

Mike Brown
David Strettle
George Lowe
Nils Mordt
Ugo Monye
Nick Evans
Danny Care
Ceri Jones
Tani Fuga
John Andress
James Percival
George Robson
Tom Guest
Chris Robshaw

REPLACEMENTS:

Nick Easter

T Williams for Mordt (31), Brooker for Fuga (60), Lambert for Andress (60), McMillan for Guest (69).

NOT USED: Croall, Stevenson, Dickson, Clegg.



HOUSE STEE RUGBY

Olly Morgan
Charlie Sharples
James Simpson-Daniel
Tim Molenaar
Tom Voyce
Freddie Burns
Dave Lewis
Nick Wood
Darren Dawidiuk
Greg Somerville
Will James
Dave Attwood
Peter Buxton
Jake Boer

REPLACEMENTS:

Robinson for Burns (50), Doran-Jones for Wood (50), S. Lawson for Dawidiuk (50), Qera for Boer (59), Capdevielle for Somerville (70), Eustace for James (6) NOT USED: Pasqualin, Vainikolo.



VS NEWCASTLE FALCONS SATURDAY 5/12/09

GLOUC RUGBY

WING

13

CENTRE

12

10

1

PROP

2

3

4

5

NEWCASTLE FALCONS





OLLY MORGAN CHARLIE SHARPLES

15 FULLBACK 14 **DANNY WILLIAMS**

CHARLIE AMESBURY

1 Saracens 9 8 1 0 167 114 0 34 London Irish 9 6 2 203 95 4 30 3 Northampton 9 6 0 3 198 150 3 27

JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL

ROB VICKERMAN

5 Wasps 8 5 0 3 152 119 2 22 6 Newcastle 9 3 3 3 127 137 2 20 7 Harlequins 9 3 2 4 150 177 2 18

ELIOTA FUIMAONO-SAPOLU

TANE TU'IPULOTU

8 Sale 8 3 1 4 137 149 3 17 9 GLOUCESTER 9 3 0 6 160 208 3 15

11 TOM BIGGS

10 Worcester 9 2 2 5 134151 3 15 9 1 2 6 115 153 3 11 12 Leeds Carnegie 9 1 1 7 96 241 2 8

TOP POINTS

105 Rvan Lamb

TOP TRY

Chris Ashton

Tom Varndell

TOP PENALTY

Ryan Lamb

Willie Walker

6

36

35

30

SCORERS: 2009-2010

105 Jeremy Staunton Leicester Tigers 94 Willie Walker Worcester Warriors

SCORERS: 2009-20010

KICKERS: 2009-2010

Sailosi Tagicakibau London Irish

Jeremy Staunton Leicester Tigers

London Irish

Northampton Saints

London Wasps

London Irish

Worcester Warriors

LESLEY VAINIKOLO

PAP NICKY ROBINSON

JIMMY GOPPERTH PP FLY-HALF

RORY LAWSON

NICK WOOD

SCOTT LAWSON

GREG SOMERVILLE

DAVE ATTWOOD

ALEX BROWN

9 SCRUM-HALF

HALL CHARLTON

JON GOLDING

ROB VICKERS

CARL HAYMAN (C)

JAMES HUDSON

TIM SWINSON

ALASDAIR STROKOSCH 6 **BRENT WILSON**

AKAPUSI QERA

WILL WELCH

GARETH DELVE (C)

FILIPO LEVI

MOST APPEARANCES : 2008-2009

24 Chris Hala'ufia London Irish 24

23

Richard Thorpe London Irish Steffon Armitage London Irish

REPLACEMENTS

8

- 16 DARREN DAWIDIUK 7-0 22-6 16 ALEX WALKER
- 17 PAUL DORAN-JONES 7-3 52-13 17 MICKY WARD 18 PIERRE CAPDEVIELLE 7-6 25-13
- **19** ADAM EUSTACE

23 TOM VOYCE

- 10-6 20 LUKE NARRAWAY 21 DAVE LEWIS 22 CARLOS SPENCER

- **18** LAURENCE OVENS 19 MARK SORENSON
- 20 JOSH AFU
- 21 CHRIS PILGRIM 22 ROB MILLER C
- 23 GCOBANI BOBO

ALTAIT

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