

LondonWelsh



V GLOUCESTER RUGBY | FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2014 | KICK-OFF 7:45PM | £3 OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME | ISSUE 2

**JUSTIN
BURNELL**

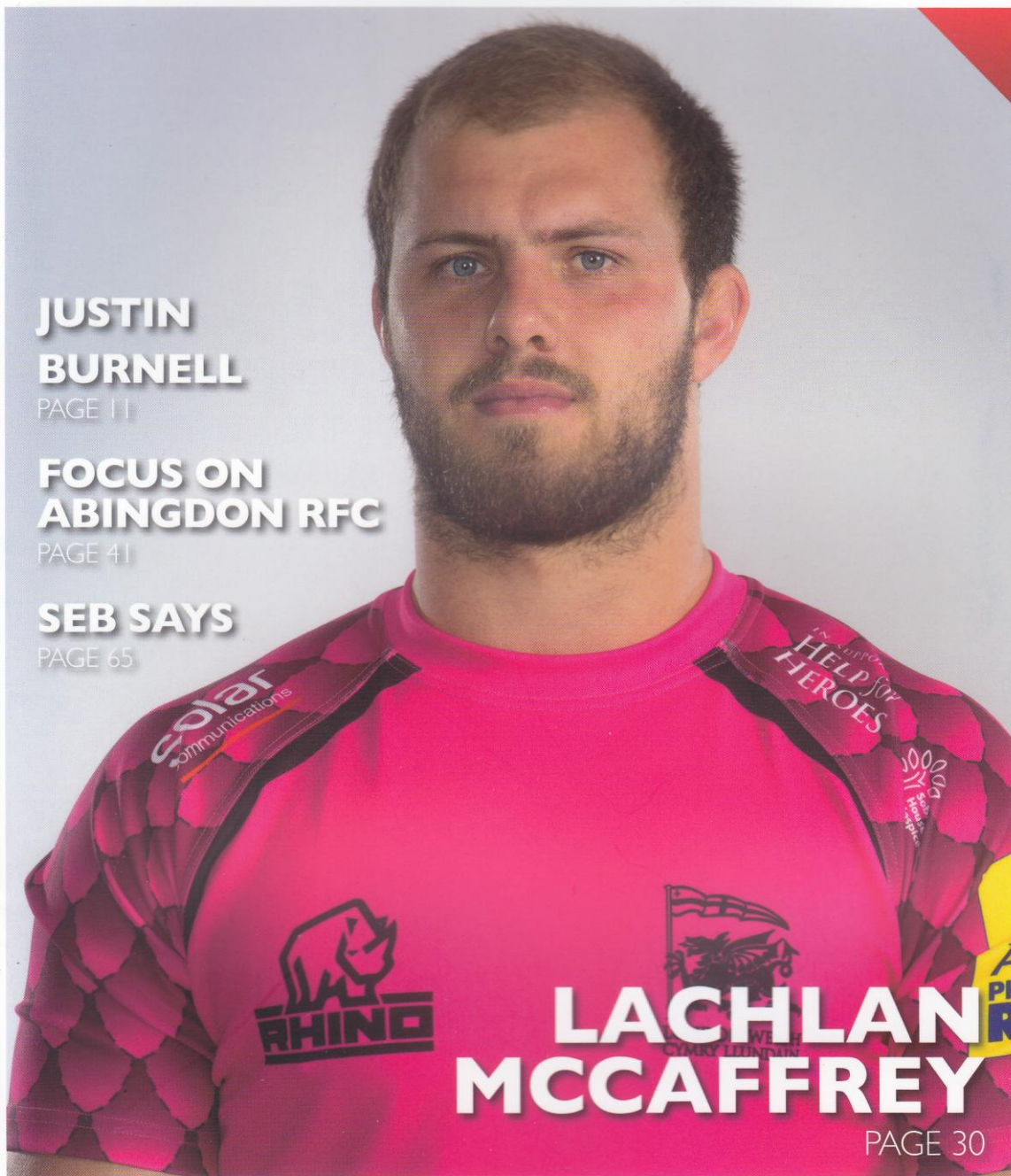
PAGE 11

**FOCUS ON
ABINGDON RFC**

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SEB SAYS

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BT Sport

THE NUMBERS GAME...

LONDON WELSH V GLOUCESTER RUGBY... THE COLD HARD FACTS!

1902

First meeting between London Welsh and Gloucester (played on March 28 at Kingsholm).

36

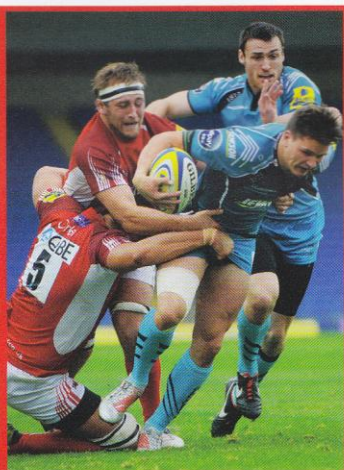
GLOUCESTER WINS

7

LONDON WELSH WINS

4

DRAWN



2011

London Welsh's last win over Gloucester was a 24-23 win at Kingsholm in a pre-season friendly in August 2011 – Gordon Ross converting Rob Lewis's (pictured below) late try to give the Exiles victory



23

39

Of their 47 previous meetings, 39 of them have been played at Kingsholm

47

Total number of times the sides have met

1

The number of previous meetings between the sides at the Kassam Stadium – Gloucester winning 31-25 on September 30, 2012, in the Premiership

2

The total number of times Welsh and Gloucester have crossed paths in the league – both came in 2012/13 Premiership season with Gloucester winning both

BIGGEST MARGINS OF VICTORY

London Welsh won 14-3 in the National Cup at Kingsholm on January 22, 1983.

Gloucester's biggest win over the Exiles came on April 13, 1925, in a 40-8 victory at Kingsholm in a club game.



MEMORY LANE

Aviva Premiership: Kassam Stadium, Sunday 30th September, 2012 Att: 4548

WELSH SECURE BATTLING POINT

LONDON WELSH

GLOUCESTER

25

31

T The sides' first-ever meeting in the Aviva Premiership saw London Welsh have to settle for a losing bonus point at the Kassam Stadium, as Gloucester extended their unbeaten run to four games.

The Exiles, though, will reflect upon this Round 5 clash as one that got away, particularly having overturned a nine-point half-time deficit to lead going into the final quarter thanks to Franck Montanella's debut try for the club.

38

Earlier, tries from Shane Monahan and Tom Savage had done the damage for Gloucester in the opening 40 – the former with Welsh winger Nick Scott in the sin bin – to see the Cherry and Whites lead 18-9.

But the Exiles could almost sniff a third consecutive Aviva Premiership win when fly half Gordon Ross followed up

Montanella's try with a penalty to give Welsh a 25-21 lead.

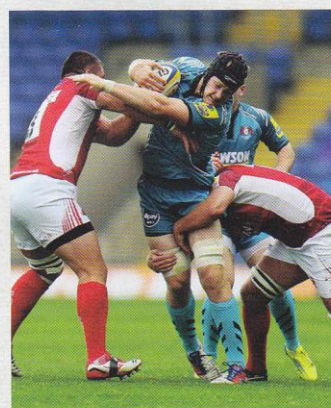
However, Shaun Knight's try ensured that it was a winning debut for the Cherry and Whites at the Kassam Stadium.

London Welsh scorers: Tries: Montanella; Cons: Ross; Pens: Ross (7).

Gloucester scorers: Tries: Monahan, Savage, Knight; Cons: Burns (2); Pens: Burns (3), Twelvetrees.

London Welsh: Seb Jewell, Tom Arscott, Sonny Parker, Hudson Tonga'uiha, Nick Scott, Gordon Ross, Tyson Keats, Franck Montanella, Neil Briggs, Paulica Ion, Matt Corker, Jonathan Mills ©, Daniel Browne, Michael Hills, Ed Jackson.

Replacements: Dan George for Briggs (12mins), Phil MacKenzie for Parker (19mins), Alfie To'oala for Jackson



(h-t), Arthur Joly for Ion (53mins), Tom Bristow for Montanella (63mins), Nick Runciman for Keats (74mins), Ryan Davis for Ross (74mins), Kirill Kulemin for Browne (74mins).

Yellow cards: Scott (15mins).

Gloucester: Rob Cook, Jonny May, Mike Tindall, Billy Twelvetrees, James Simpson-Daniel, Freddie Burns, Dan Robson, Nick Wood, Huia Edmonds, Rupert Harden, Tom Savage, Jim Hamilton ©, Peter Buxton, Andy Hazell, Sione Kalamafoni.

Replacements: Gareth Evans for Buxton (47mins), Koree Britton for d'Apice (58mins), Shaun Knight for Harden (58mins), Henry Trinder for Tindall (63mins), Dave Lewis for Robson (63mins), Dan Murphy for Wood (64mins).

Replacements not used: James Will, Martyn Thomas.

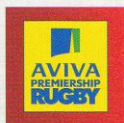
Yellow cards: Burns (43mins).

Half-time: 9-18

Referee: Llyr Apgeraint-Roberts

Referee Assistants: Peter Huckle & Kevin Stewart





MEMORY LANE

Aviva Premiership: Kingsholm, Saturday 23rd March, 2013 Att: 14627

KINGSHOLM HEARTBREAK FOR EXILES

GLOUCESTER LONDON WELSH

15

14

H Heartbreaking doesn't even begin to describe this defeat for London Welsh. On another day the Exiles might have prized a losing bonus point from fortress Kingsholm, but not this time, and not after a display like this.

Locked together at 6-6 at half-time, the excellent Daniel Browne and Tyson Keats combined to release James Tideswell, who only had eyes for the corner. Although hauled down just short, his offload found Phil MacKenzie to touch down. Ross' conversion came back off the post but Welsh could sense an upset.

Ross might have extended the Welsh lead further; but his penalty attempt had the audacity to stay wide right.

Gloucester were suddenly struck by a sudden sense of urgency. Two Freddie Burns penalties closed the gap and left the Exiles protecting a two-point lead with 11 minutes to go.

The ascendancy was with the home side, but the Gloucester number ten's goal kicking yips returned when presented with a fairly straightforward chance to complete the Gloucester comeback.

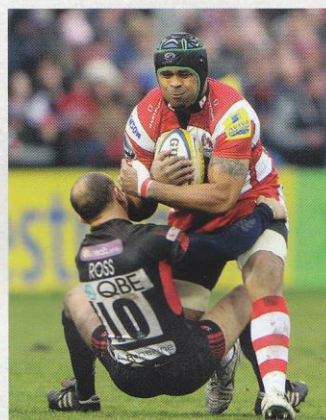
He missed, but he'd get one final chance thanks to the Gloucester scrum and this time he made no mistake, but it was awfully tough for Welsh to take.

Gloucester: Pens: Burns (5).

London Welsh: Tries: MacKenzie; **Pens:** Ross (3).

Gloucester: Rob Cook, Charlie Sharples, Mike Tindall, Billy Twelvetrees, Jonny May, Freddie Burns, Dan Robson, Nick Wood, Huia Edmonds, Shaun Knight, Jim Hamilton (C), Will James, Peter Buxton, Andy Hazell, Sione Kalamafoni.

Replacements: Tom Savage for Buxton (46mins), Akapusi Qera for Hazell (46mins), Koree Britton for Edmonds (56mins), Dario Chistolini for Knight



(64mins), Henry Trinder for Tindall (68mins).

Replacements not used: Yann Thomas, Dave Lewis, Martyn Thomas.

Yellow cards: May (44mins).

London Welsh: Seb Jewell, Phil MacKenzie, Gonzalo Tiesi, Sonny Parker, Seb Stegmann, Gordon Ross, Tyson Keats, Tom Bristow, Dan George, James Tideswell, Jonathan Mills (C), Kirill Kulemin, Julio Cabello Farias, Michael Hills, Daniel Browne.

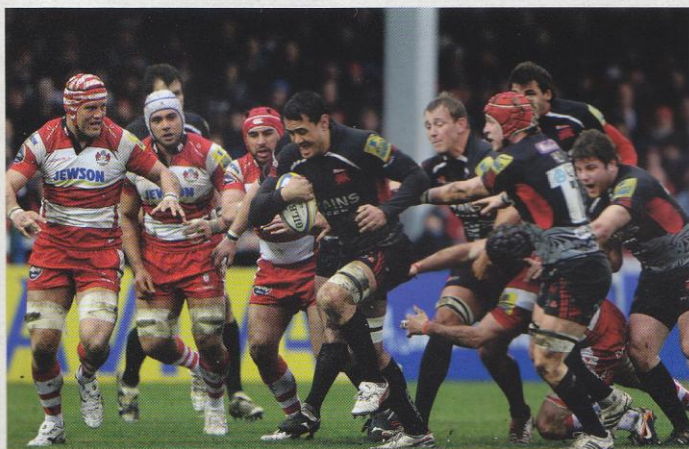
Replacements: Arthur Joly for Tideswell (56mins), Matt Corker for Kulemin (67mins), Alex Davies for Keats (74mins), Adam Balding for Browne (74mins), Billy Moss for Bristow (76mins), Greg Bateman for George (77mins).

Replacements not used: James Lewis, Nick Scott.

Half-time: 6-6

Referee: Martin Fox

Referee Assistants: Andrew Watson & Paul Dix



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TODAY'S VISITORS...

GLOUCESTER RUGBY



**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY**

**Gloucester
Rugby Ltd**

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Kingsholm Stadium
Kingsholm Road,
Kingsholm
Gloucester
GL1 3AX

MAIN CLUB:
01452 872 274

WEBSITE:
gloucesterrugby.co.uk

48

T

o say that it's been a close season of change at Gloucester Rugby would be one of the understatements of the year!

Director of Rugby Nigel Davies departed after last season's ninth place finish in the Aviva Premiership, and the search was immediately on for his replacement.

That man was David Humphreys from Ulster and, following the announcement of his appointment, the club turned its attention to finding a new Head Coach. Enter Laurie Fisher from the Brumbies.

Both men arrived during Gloucester's preseason as they completed their contracts with their previous employers and took charge of a playing squad which had also seen significant changes.

In to the first team squad came the likes of John Afoa, Mark Atkinson, Mariano Galarza, Richard Hibbard, James Hook, Tom Isaacs, Greig Laidlaw, Aleki Lutui, Steve McColl, Tom Palmer, Jacob Rowan and Aled Thomas.

With that many new faces in camp, it was always going

to take some time for everything to settle and for new partnerships and relationships on the pitch to gel.

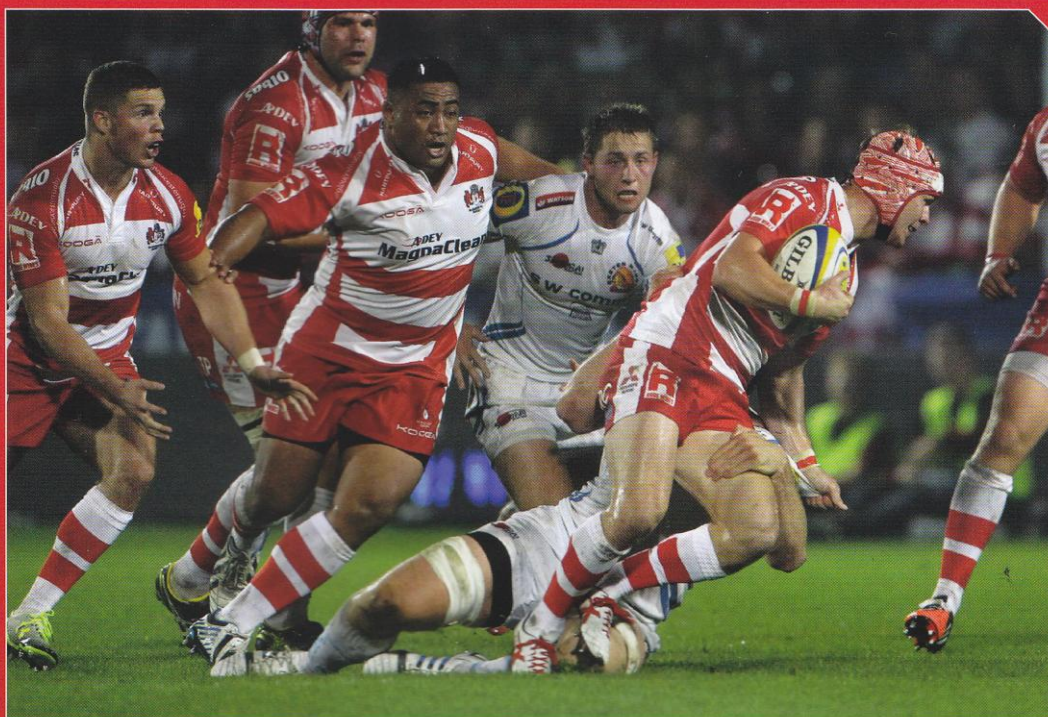
Accordingly, David Humphreys stressed throughout preseason whenever he spoke to the media that patience would be a virtue when looking at Gloucester over the first few weeks.

And so it has proved over the past few weeks. Preseason saw some real signs of promise in the victories over Yorkshire Carnegie and Munster, although the wins had to be tempered by the fact that the games were just friendlies.

Perhaps a stronger indicator of where Gloucester found themselves on their development curve was when they travelled to take on a strong Scarlets side and were narrowly defeated.

The season opener, away at Premiership champions Northampton Saints, couldn't have been a tougher assignment in the circumstances. In direct contrast to Gloucester, the Saints have been together as a group for some seasons now and produced a clinical display.

Gloucester's supporters were naturally disappointed



following the 53-6 defeat, but the Cherry and Whites took it on the chin and aimed to bounce back the following weekend against Sale Sharks.

Which they duly did, although it was far from straightforward against a Danny Cipriani inspired Sale side. In fact, perhaps suffering a bit of a hangover from the previous weekend's defeat, Gloucester trailed at half time.

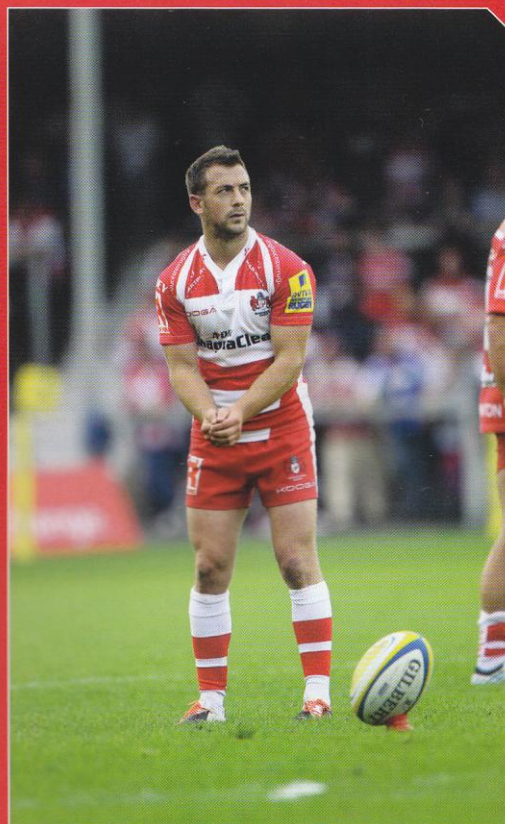
However, the second half was a different matter. Laidlaw and Hook controlled the game, Laidlaw kicked his goals, the backs started to look dangerous and the pack's efforts were rewarded with a penalty try.

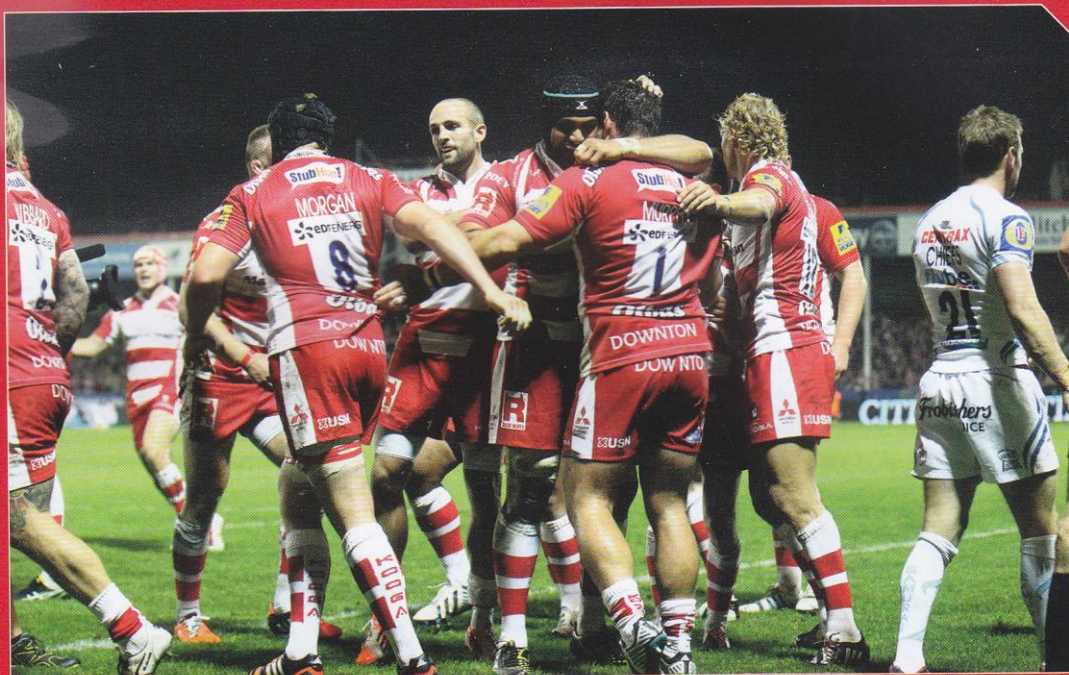
For all that, no-one was getting too carried away. The next visitors to Kingsholm were Exeter Chiefs, a side with whom Gloucester have enjoyed some ding dong battles over the years.

Despite outscoring the Chiefs by three tries to one, a lack of discipline allowed Gareth Steenson and Henry Slade to kick six penalties between them and that proved to be decisive in a 22-25 win.

The important thing for Gloucester is that there has been visible progress each and every week. And that progress will need to be continued if they are to get anything out of tonight's game.

London Welsh pushed Gloucester all the way when they last met at the Kassam Stadium two years ago. A similarly tough encounter is anticipated tonight.





THREE TO WATCH

50



MATT KVESIC

The England international openside flanker returned to playing action last weekend after missing the first two Aviva Premiership games with a toe injury.

The 22 year old started his career with Worcester Warriors before moving down the M5 to Kingsholm, where he started 27 games in his first season in the Cherry and White of Gloucester.

His ability to turn over possession at the breakdown and link play between the forwards and backs is a big part of Gloucester's game.



JONNY MAY

The Swindon born winger, a product of the Gloucester Rugby Academy, continues to light up the Premiership on a weekly basis.

Initially came through the ranks as a centre, but has settled into the role of left wing and gone on to earn international honours with England.

Possesses blistering pace and an ability to conjure up tries when, seemingly, nothing is on as evidenced by his sensational solo score against Exeter last weekend.



GREIG LAIDLAW

It's been quite some summer for the Scotland international scrum half – touring with Scotland, moving south to join Gloucester and becoming a Dad for the first time when son Ruary arrived.

He can play scrum half and fly half and is well known for his ability to manage a game. Add into the equation his goal-kicking abilities and his value to the squad is clear. Has played 31 times for his country and will be hoping to represent Scotland at his club stadium at Kingsholm in RWC 2015.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY SQUAD 2014/15

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN	POSITION	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DOB	HONOURS
Afoa	John	prop	16.10.83	1.83m	118kg	New Zealand
Atkinson	Mark	centre	8.3.90	1.91m	106kg	
Burns	Billy	fly half	13.6.94	1.80m	84kg	
Cook	Rob	full-back	07.07.84	1.83m	95kg	
Dawidiuk	Darren	hooker	21.9.87	1.80m	106kg	
Evans	Gareth	back row	19.09.91	1.91m	114kg	
Galarza	Mariano	lock	11.12.86	2.03m	118kg	Argentina
Hibbard	Richard	hooker	13.12.83	1.83m	112kg	Wales
Hook	James	fly half	27.06.85	1.85m	96kg	Wales
Hudson	James	lock	28.10.81	2.01m	113kg	
Isaacs	Tom	centre	18.2.87	1.83m	93kg	
Kalamafoni	Sione	back row	18.05.88	1.91m	118kg	Tonga
Knight	Shaun	prop	19.02.90	1.83m	117kg	
Kvesic	Matt	back row	14.04.92	1.88m	105kg	England
Laidlaw	Greig	half back	12.10.85	1.76m	80kg	Scotland
Lutui	Aleki	hooker	01.07.78	1.83m	110kg	Tonga
May	Jonny	centre	01.04.90	1.88m	92kg	England
McColl	Steve	full-back	16.08.88	1.83m	100kg	
Monahan	Shane	wing	28.04.87	1.88m	103kg	
Morgan	Ben	number eight	18.02.89	1.91m	115kg	England
Moriarty	Ross	back row	18.4.94	1.88m	103kg	
Murphy	Dan	prop	27.10.85	1.90m	115kg	
Palmer	Tom	lock	27.03.79	2.00m	118kg	England
Puafisi	Sila	prop	15.04.88	1.85m	120kg	Tonga
Robson	Dan	scrum half	14.03.92	1.71m	80kg	
Rowan	Jacob	back row	14.01.90	1.85m	102kg	
Savage	Tom	lock/ back row	18.04.89	1.93m	113kg	
Sharples	Charlie	wing	17.08.89	1.84m	89kg	England
Simpson-Daniel	James	wing	30.05.82	1.75m	93kg	England
Stooke	Elliott	lock	10.09.93	1.98m	130kg	
Thomas	Aled	fly half	02.01.85	1.83m	92kg	
Thomas	Yann	prop	16.04.90	1.88m	120kg	
Trinder	Henry	centre	14.04.89	1.85m	93kg	
Twelvetrees	Billy	centre	15.11.88	1.91m	103kg	England
Wood	Nick	prop	09.01.83	1.86m	112kg	

0-5
0-12
7-12
10-12
10-15
10-18
10-25

10-32
10-39
10-46



LONDON WELSH
CYMRU LLUNDAIN

TODAY'S TEAMS

TODAY'S TEAMS



LONDON WELSH

66

Seb Jewell	Full Back	15
Rhys Crane	Right Wing	14
Nic Reynolds	Centre	13
Tom May (C)	Centre	12
Nick Scott	Left Wing	11
Olly Barkley	Fly Half	10
Piri Weepu	Scrum Half	9
Ricky Reeves	Prop	1
Koree Britton	Hooker	2
Taione Ve'a	Prop	3
Dean Schofield	Lock	4
James Down	Lock	5
Lachlan McCaffrey	Flanker	6
Richard Thorpe	Flanker	7
Ollie Stedman	No.8	8
Nathan Morris	Replacement	16
Shane Cahill	Replacement	17
Jack Gilding	Replacement	18
Matt Corker	Replacement	19
Ben Pienaar	Replacement	20
Rob Lewis	Replacement	21
Tristan Roberts	Replacement	22
James Lewis	Replacement	23

GLOUCESTER

Full Back	Rob Cook
Right Wing	Charlie Sharples
Centre	Henry Purdy
Centre	Billy Twelvetrees (C)
Left Wing	Jonny May
Fly Half	James Hook
Scrum Half	Greig Laidlaw
Prop	Dan Murphy
Hooker	Richard Hibbard
Prop	Johan Afoa
Lock	Tom Savage
Lock	Tom Palmer
Flanker	Sione Kalamafoni
Flanker	Matt Kvesic
No.8	Ben Morgan
Replacement	Aleki Lutui
Replacement	Yann Thomas
Replacement	Sila Puafisi
Replacement	Elliott Stooke
Replacement	Ross Moriarty
Replacement	Dan Robson
Replacement	Mark Atkinson
Replacement	Bill Meakes

The Officials

Referee: Luke Pearce | TJ1 - Paul Dix | TJ2 - Ross Campbell | Assessor - Gary Welsh
NO4 - Andrew Small | TimeKeeper - Eric Bullion | TMO - Sean Davey

Teams correct at time of print