

Harlequins

Official matchday programme

£3

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



CLUB NEWS

ALL THE LATEST FROM
INSIDE THE STOOP
FROM PAGE 12

HARLEQUINS' TITAN

ADAM BISHOP
TAKES ON THE WORLD
FROM PAGE 24

PAVING THE WAY

A YOUNG GIRL'S JOURNEY
TOWARDS PROFESSIONAL
RUGBY ON PAGE 52

MIGHTY QUINS

CATCH UP WITH HARLEY
AND CHARLEY
FROM PAGE 60

ACTION REPLAY

HARLEQUINS' LATEST
LEAGUE ACTION
FROM PAGE 64

GEORGE ROBSON

"I'VE GOT SOME INCREDIBLE FRIENDS AND MEMORIES AND I AM VERY THANKFUL TO THE PLAYERS AND SUPPORTERS FOR THAT"

v GLOUCESTER RUGBY 11.04.15 | KICK OFF: 15.00

AVIVA PREMIERSHIP RUGBY

AVIVA

LAND ROVER

RICOH
imagine. change.

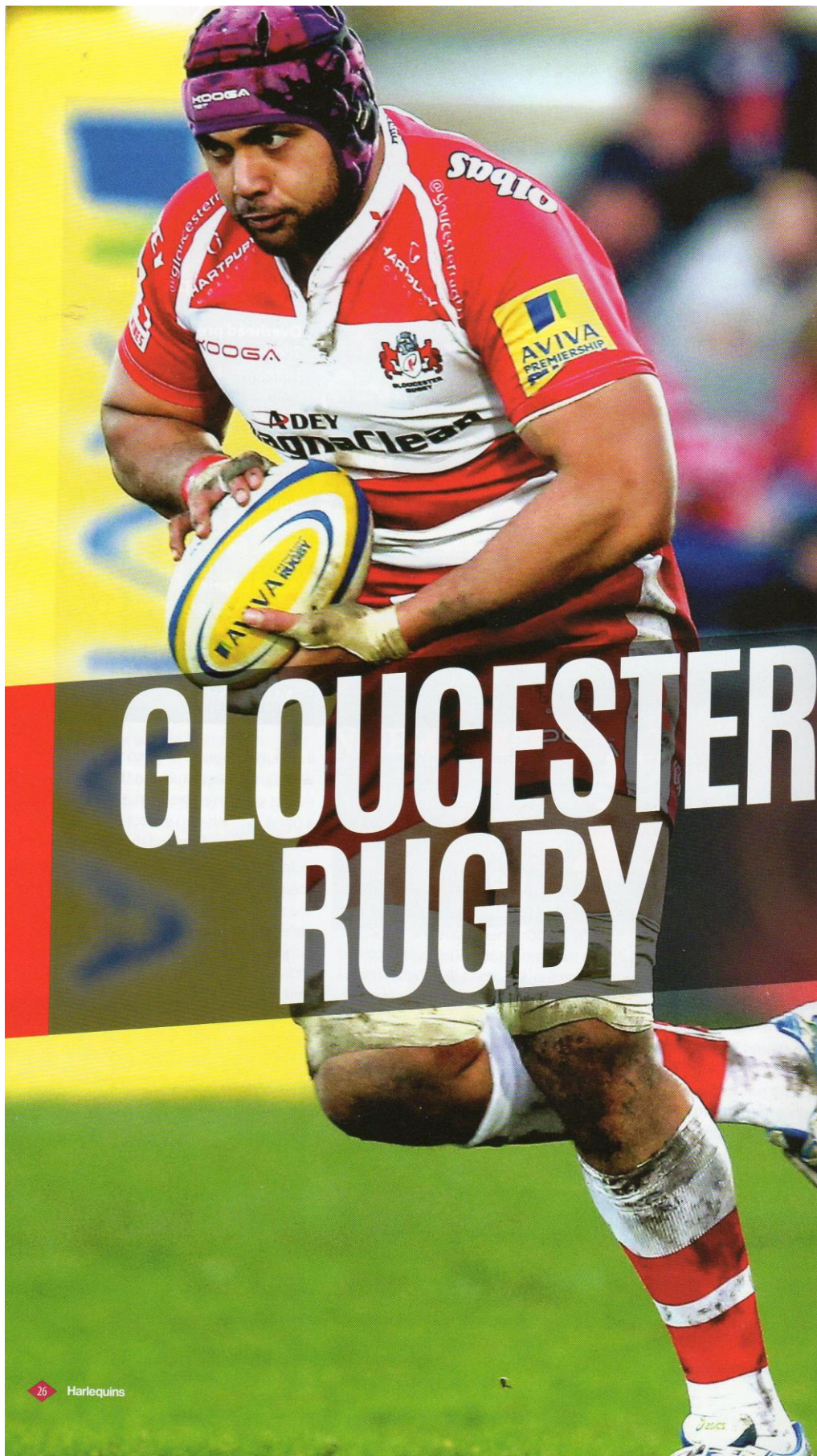
BINGHA

GreenFlag

GUINNESS

GILBERT

CITIZEN



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

Gloucester Rugby The season so far

AFTER A BRIEF FORAY INTO EUROPEAN ACTION LAST WEEKEND AGAINST CONNACHT, GLOUCESTER RUGBY RESUME THEIR AVIVA PREMIERSHIP CAMPAIGN AT THE STOOP THIS AFTERNOON ON THE BACK OF A DECENT RUN OF RESULTS IN 2015.

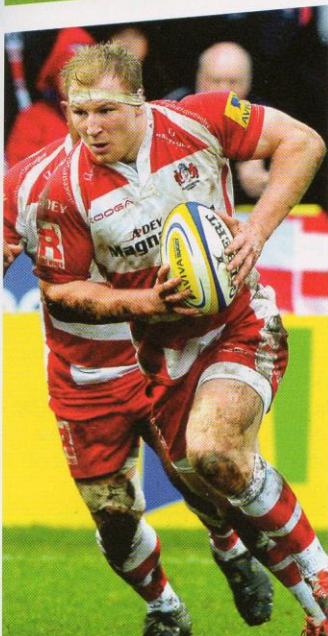
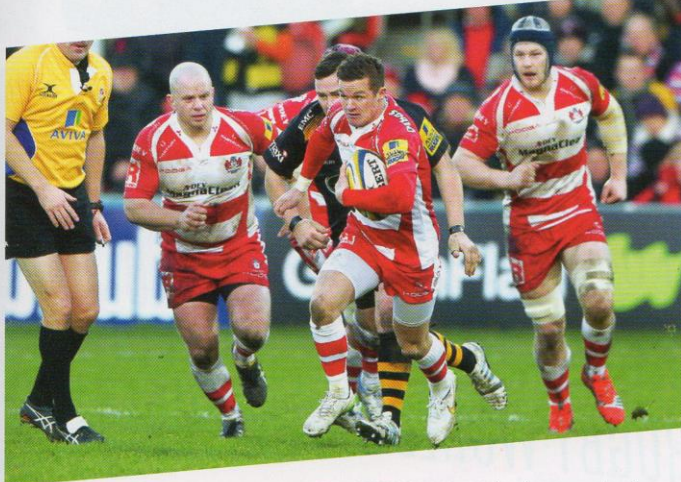
SINCE the turn of the year, the Cherry and Whites have won eight games and drawn one out of 12

in all competitions to give the team good momentum as they approach the business end of the season.

It will, of course, be the third

time that these two teams have met in 2014/15. Both the previous encounters have taken place at Kingsholm – Quins won the Premiership clash while Gloucester won in the LV= Cup.

After the many changes in personnel during the close season, both on and off the field, the main message from Kingsholm as the



season approached was a plea for patience. Everything will take time to gel was the predominant theme.

After all, incoming Director of Rugby David Humphreys didn't take up his post until August 1st, and new Head Coach Laurie Fisher didn't arrive until after the Brumbies' Super Rugby season came to an end.

In hindsight, perhaps winning the Premiership Rugby 7s series for a second season running didn't help with the tempering of expectations!

Even then, "Judge us after the first phase of the Premiership is over" was the Gloucester mantra, even after the heavy opening night defeat at reigning champions Northampton Saints.

Indeed, Gloucester have got



Playing Squad

	T	P	C	B
AFOA, JOHN				
ATKINSON, MARK				
BRALEY, CALLUM				
BURNS, BILLY				
COLE, LUKE				
COOK, ROB				
DAWIDIUK, DARREN				
EVANS, GARETH				
GALARZA, MARIANO				
GIBBONS, JAMES				
HALAIFONUA, DAVID				
HIBBARD, RICHARD				
HICKS, TOM				
HOOK, JAMES				
HUDSON, JAMES				
KALAMAFONI, SIONE				
KVESIC, MATT				
LAIDLAW, GREIG				
LUTUI, ALEKI				
MACKEN, BRENDAN				
MAY, JONNY				
MCCOLL, STEVE				
MEAKES, BILL				
MONAHAN, SHANE				
MORGAN, BEN				
MORIARTY, ROSS				
MURPHY, DAN				
PALMER, TOM				
PUAFISI, SILA				
PURDY, HENRY				
REYNOLDS, STEPH				
ROBSON, DAN				
ROWAN, JACOB				
SAVAGE, TOM				
SHARPLES, CHARLIE				
STOOKE, ELLIOTT				
THOMAS, ALED				
THOMAS, DANIEL				
THOMAS, YANN				
TRINDER, HENRY				
TWELVETREES, BILLY				
WOOD, NICK				

steadily better in all departments. Defensively in particular against Premiership opposition, the improvement has been marked. In the first half of the season, a number of games decided by small margins went against Gloucester. Recent matches have seen that trend turned.

In fact, two of Gloucester's significant Premiership victories – away at Exeter and at home to Saracens – were both won by the margin of one point. Small margins

▶ but significant ones.

Things have been a bit more straightforward on the European front. Having won all six games in the European Rugby Challenge Cup, Gloucester qualified for the knock out stages as top seeds.

It resulted in a home quarter-final against Connacht Rugby, a tense and hard-fought encounter which ended with Gloucester digging deep to clinch a 14-7 win and earn a semi-final against Exeter Chiefs next Saturday.

It was a bruising encounter and, at the time of writing, it's not known who may miss out today at The Stoop as a result. Next weekend's semi-final is important but so is momentum going into it.

This season's LV= Cup was also a very positive experience for the club. Embracing the goals of the competition, Gloucester took the opportunity to give game time to a number of their young guns - a

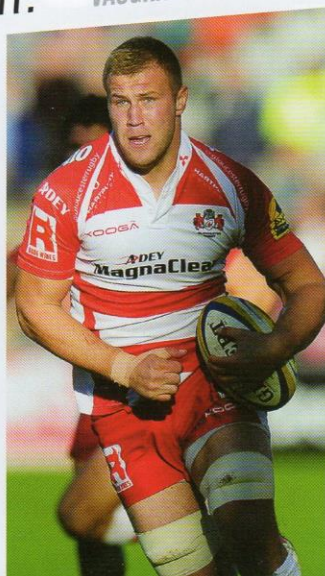


"GLOUCESTER RUGBY IS A WELL-RUN CLUB, WE MAKE PROFIT ON A REGULAR BASIS, OWN OUR OWN GROUND, GENERATE INCOME FROM OFF-FIELD ACTIVITIES AND ARE PROUD TO BE HOSTING FOUR RUGBY WORLD CUP FIXTURES LATER THIS YEAR." **STEPHEN VAUGHAN**

few players even missed school to train – and the youngsters rose to the occasion.

The Cherry and Whites finished with three wins from their four pool games, the only defeat coming at the hands of the Exeter Chiefs at Sandy Park.

And Gloucester so very nearly won that one as well – conceding a 79th minute penalty try to lose by a point. Even then, a last minute penalty would have won it, but Aled Thomas' kick hit the post and stayed out.



For today, however, the focus is completely on the Aviva Premiership. Gloucester are currently in ninth place in the table, just a couple of points behind today's opponents.

The push is very much on in the remaining games to try and climb the table and finish as high as possible, and games like today, are crucial in that respect.

The run in begins this afternoon. Harlequins enjoyed a break from action last weekend and will also be looking to finish their season on a positive note, especially in front of their own supporters.

May the best team win.

CAPTAIN BILLY TWELVETREES

BILLY Twelvetrees joined Gloucester Rugby from Leicester Tigers ahead of the 2012/13 season.

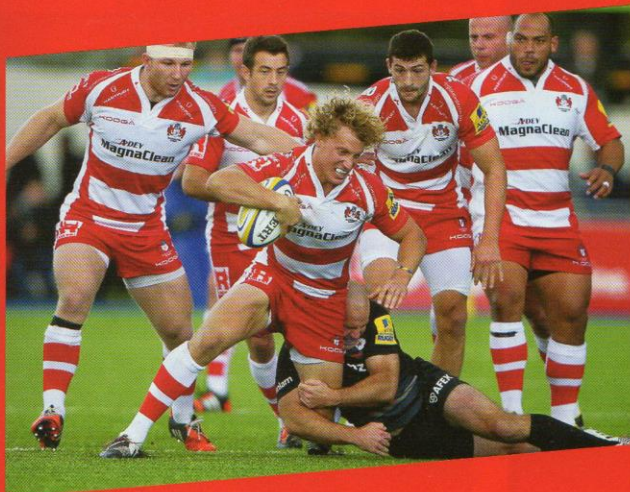
Originally from Sussex, Billy joined the Tigers Academy in 2007 and had a spell at Leicester Lions as well as scoring 18 tries, 16 conversions, and 13 penalties for Bedford in 2008-09.

His form for Bedford saw him quickly recalled by the Tigers and he went on to become a first team regular.

After moving further south, he quickly impressed with Gloucester and earned a call up to England's Elite Player Squad for the 2013 Six Nations, making his debut against Scotland at Twickenham, scoring a try in the process.

A fine first season was reflected in his selection for the England tour of Argentina. He scored a try in the first test before being called up to the British & Irish Lions squad.

Billy has since cemented a regular spot in the England squad and featured in more than 20 games for Gloucester in each of his three seasons with the club, as well as taking over the captaincy this season.



DIRECTOR OF RUGBY DAVID HUMPHREYS

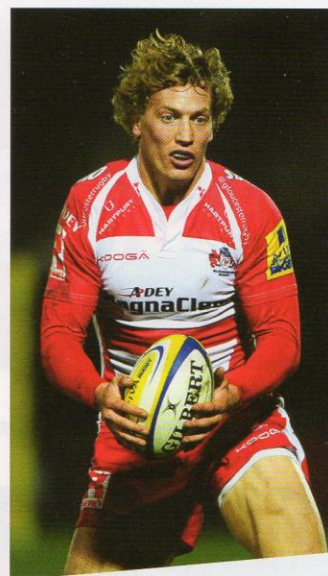
DAVID Humphreys was announced as the Director of Rugby at Gloucester Rugby in June 2014.

Belfast born, he started his playing career at his home province of Ulster, enjoyed a spell in the Premiership with London Irish before returning to Ulster ahead of the 1998-9 season.

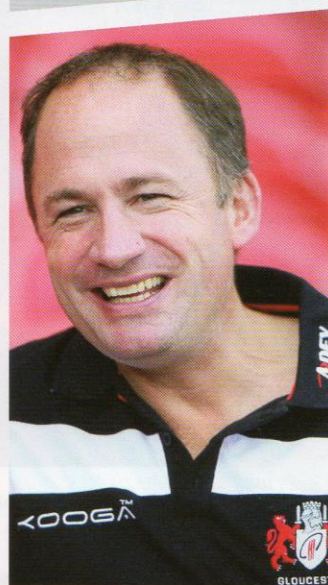
That season saw him play a pivotal role in the Irish province lifting the Heineken Cup, defeating Colomiers in the final at Lansdowne Road.

Capped 72 times for his country, scoring 560 points, Humphreys spent the rest of his playing career with Ulster before retiring in 2008 and taking on the role of Director of Rugby at Ravenhill.

A qualified solicitor, his time at Ulster saw him oversee the province establish itself as one of the true giants of the European rugby scene, regularly reaching the knock out stages of the Heineken Cup in the last few years, losing out in the final in 2012.



@GLOUCESTERRUGBY
f GLOUCESTER RUGBY
WWW.GLOUCESTERRUGBY.CO.UK



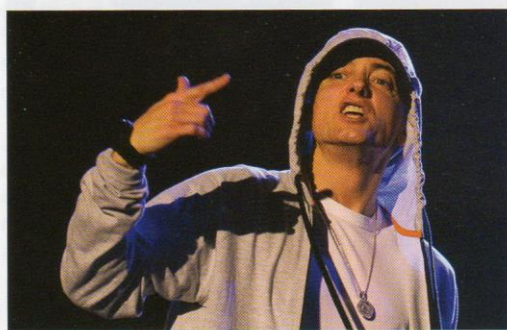
12 questions GLOUCESTER

→ with Elliott Stooke



Who would headline your house party?

ES Eminem



Who is your celebrity crush?

ES Luisa Zismann



What is your favourite app?

ES WhatsApp

Where was your worst holiday?

ES In France camping when I was younger. Horrible conditions to be camping in!

What are you scared of?

ES Brendan Macken in the morning especially if he hasn't had his coffee! Or swimming in the sea when it's dark!



Best follow on twitter?

ES At the moment the Top Gear lads, their banter on their unemployment is entertaining

Who do you live with?

ES Henry Purdy, Callum Braley and Brendan Macken

What is your secret talent?

ES Not a bad fly fisher

Best first date?

ES Never been on a date

Funniest teammate?

ES Not Jake Rowan. But a guy called Rakesy

How do you like your tea?

ES Strong. With one sugar and dash of milk

Who do you most like to play against?

ES Munster

5-0 11-13 17-21
 5-3 11-18 22-21
 8-3 14-18 29-21
 8-6 17-18 29-28
 11-6

11th April 2015, 15:00 kick-off

correct teams and tables at time of print

table

aviva premiersip rugby

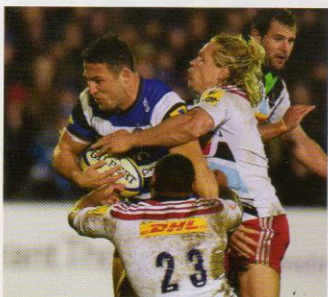
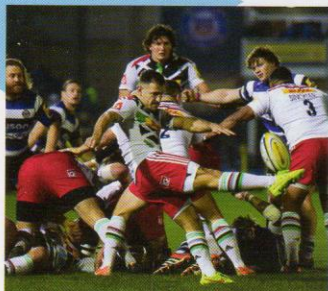
Team	Pl	W	D	L	Pts
1. Northampton Saints	18	14	1	3	67
2. Saracens	18	12	1	5	57
3. Bath Rugby	18	12	0	6	56
4. Leicester Tigers	18	12	1	5	55
5. Exeter Chiefs	18	11	0	7	54
6. Wasps	18	9	1	8	48
7. Sale Sharks	18	10	0	8	47
8. Harlequins	18	8	0	10	39
9. Gloucester Rugby	18	7	1	10	37
10. London Irish	18	6	0	12	33
11. Newcastle Falcons	18	4	1	13	26
12. London Welsh	18	0	0	18	1

NEXT FIXTURE:

Sale Sharks v Harlequins
 Saturday 25th April 2015, KO 14:00
 AJ Bell Stadium

NEXT HOME FIXTURE:

Harlequins v Bath Rugby
 Friday 8th May 2015, KO 19:45



today's teams

HARLEQUINS

- 15 OLLIE LINDSAY-HAGUE T
- 14 MARLAND YARDE T
- 13 ASELI TIKOIROTUMA
- 12 HARRY SLOAN
- 11 CHARLIE WALKER T
- 10 NICK EVANS PPPPC
- 9 DANNY CARE
- 1 JOE MARLER (C)
- 2 DAVE WARD
- 3 MATT SHIELDS
- 4 NICK EASTER
- 5 GEORGE ROBSON
- 6 LUKE WALLACE
- 7 CHRIS ROBshaw
- 8 JACK CLIFFORD
- 16 ROB BUCHANAN
- 17 MARK LAMBERT
- 18 DARRYL MARFO
- 19 CHARLIE MATTHEWS
- 20 NETANI TALEI
- 21 KARL DICKSON
- 22 BEN BOTICA
- 23 TOM WILLIAMS MONY E

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

- 15 STEVE M^cCOLL
- 14 CHARLIE SHARPLES T
- 13 BILL MEAKES T
- 12 BILLY TWELVETREES (C)
- 11 JONNY MAY
- 10 JAMES HOOK PP
- 9 GREIG LAIDLAW PP CP
- 1 DAN MURPHY WOOP
- 2 RICHARD HIBBARD
- 3 JOHN AFOA
- 4 TOM SAVAGE
- 5 TOM PALMER HUDSON
- 6 SIONE KALAMAFONI
- 7 MATT KVESIC RAYSON
- 8 GARETH EVANS
- 16 DARREN DAWIDIUK
- 17 NICK WOOD MURPHY
- 18 SILA PUAFISI
- 19 JAMES HUDSON MURPHY
- 20 ROSS MORIARTY
- 21 DAN ROBSON T
- 22 BILLY BURNS
- 23 HENRY PURDY



REFEREE: Luke Pearce **ASSISTANT REFEREES:** Andrew Pearce & Kevin Stewart
TMO: Rowan Kitt **Fourth Official:** Tom Moses