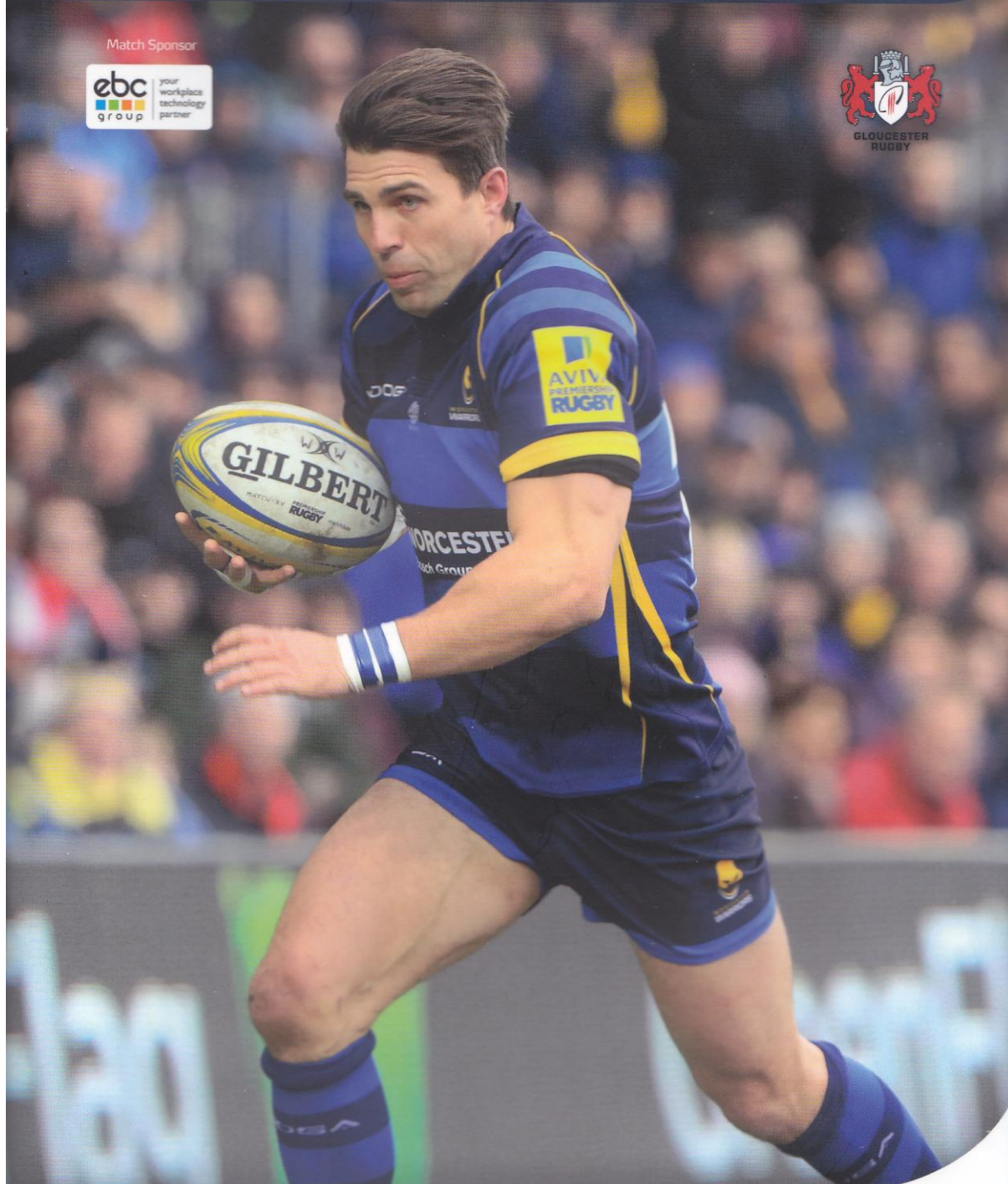


WARRIOR



Vs **GLOUCESTER RUGBY** | SATURDAY 12.03.2016 | KICK-OFF 14:00 | £3.00 | :11

Match Sponsor





WELCOME
GLOUCESTER RUGBY



THE BOSS

DIRECTOR OF RUGBY DAVID HUMPHREYS

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

Belfast born, he started his playing career at his home province of Ulster and enjoyed a spell in the Premiership with London Irish before returning to Ulster ahead of the 1998/99 season.

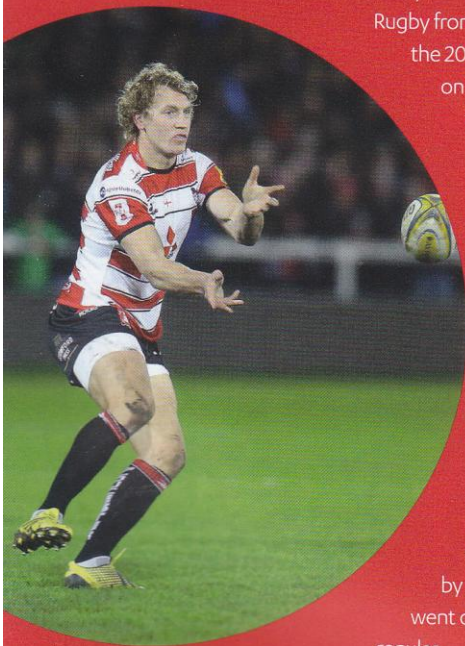
That season saw him play a pivotal role in the Irish province lifting the Heineken Cup, defeating Colomiers in the final at Lansdowne Road.

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 knockout stages of the Heineken Cup in the last few years, losing out in the final in 2012.



THE CAPTAIN BILLY TWELVETREES



Billy Twelvetrees joined Gloucester Rugby from Leicester Tigers ahead of the 2012/13 season and has gone on to make 88 appearances for the Cherry and Whites.

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 during the 2008/09 campaign.

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

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

A fine first season in the West Country 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.

Twelvetrees has gone on to rack-up 22 England appearances and has excelled since taking on the captaincy at Kingsholm.

He has a fine boot when kicking out of hand and is a more than capable goal kicker.

GLOUCESTER ENJOYING UPTURN IN FORTUNES



Gloucester Rugby come into this afternoon's derby against Worcester Warriors with everything to play for in the last few weeks of the season, as they push for a top six finish while also seeking to defend their European Rugby Challenge Cup title.

A decent run of form in recent weeks has seen the Cherry and Whites edge their way into the top half of the table, albeit on points difference, and they will be looking to keep up the momentum this afternoon.

However, that will be far from easy against a Worcester side in buoyant mood following their narrow but valuable victory at Newcastle last weekend, which eases them nine points clear of bottom-placed London Irish.

The Cherry and Whites headed into this season's Aviva Premiership campaign with a greater sense of familiarity than in recent years, with

a much quieter and settled summer setting the squad up well ahead of the new season.

As Gloucester kicked off 2014/15 at Northampton, a whole host of new players were finding their feet and the coaching team had literally just arrived. It was little surprise that the season got off to a shaky start away at the then defending champions.

Wind the clock forward and Director of Rugby David Humphreys and Head Coach Laurie Fisher embarked on their second season at the helm, with the only new face seeing Jonny Bell join as Defence Coach alongside the Senior Coaching Team of Nick Walshe and Trevor Woodman.

And it's been a largely positive campaign so far. Gloucester have won eight of their 15 Aviva Premiership outings to date and could easily have won three more, having conceded late leads to

Saracens, Harlequins and Leicester.

On the European front, it's all gone according to plan as the Cherry and Whites topped their pool with six wins from six to secure second seeding and a home quarter-final against Newport Gwent Dragons.

Having lifted the trophy at the Stoop last season following the 19-13 win over Edinburgh Rugby, Gloucester are seeking to become the first team to successfully defend the title.

But it's all about the Aviva Premiership for the next four weeks starting this afternoon at Sixways with Gloucester expecting a much tougher match than the European clash earlier this season.

These derby games always seem to be hard-fought and to go down to the wire.

Expect no different this afternoon!

COLLECTIVE EFFORT PLEASES MEAKES

The victory over in-form Wasps was based on a huge work rate and togetherness from the Cherry and White squad, and Bill Meakes typified this with another stand-out showing in the midfield.

The Australian, who continues to grow into his role in the Cherry and White midfield, impressed on the statistics charts, in both attack and defence.

Eighty-three metres made and six defenders beaten saw him stand out offensively, but his bravery at the breakdown saw him achieve a crucial turnover on Frank Halai in the shadow of his own try line.

Speaking after the game, the man from Manly Bay was proud of the effort of the team to edge to victory over a Wasps side that has swept aside most challengers this season.

He said: "They've scored over 100

points in their last couple of games. We knew they had threats all over the park.

"But the boys up front in the front five, and then the back row really dealt with their firepower, and made the job a hell of a lot easier for us boys out the back."

The Cherry and Whites controlled most of last Saturday's encounter at Kingsholm, with Meakes impressing with his midfield defence shackling the Piutau brothers.

He continued: "I had a few opportunities with ball in hand, it was difficult at times and there was probably a pass I could have given or a kick I could have put in behind.

"But we had clear messages about retaining the ball, building through the phases and taking our opportunities.

"It was extremely pleasing, probably the best I've felt after a game, but on the flip side, the worst I've felt at the full time whistle (in terms of fitness)."

The Cherry and Whites lost four men to injuries during the game, necessitating several reshuffles of the team, but Meakes was thrilled with the response, and hopeful the squad depth will show through, especially this afternoon at Sixways.

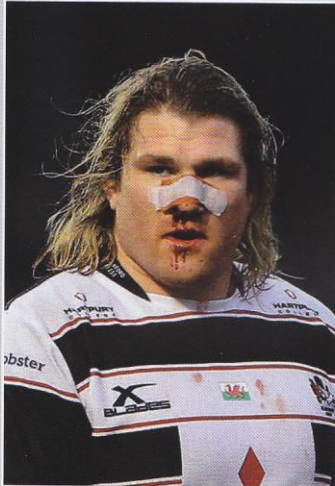
He added: "There were a few boys out of position, Greig stepping up at ten, Trinny in his 100th game playing on the wing – he wasn't used to doing that amount of running – and then Cal coming in at nine and organising the forwards.

"But our defence is growing week on week and I'm sure Jonny Bell will be delighted with that one."





THE DANGER MEN



RICHARD HIBBARD

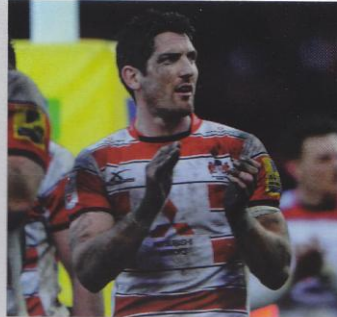
Richard Hibbard has racked-up 41 appearances for Gloucester following his move to England ahead of the 2014/15 season and is a player who needs little introduction.

The powerful hooker is a household name across Europe with his no-fear approach and arrived at Kingsholm amidst great excitement after his move from the Ospreys.

Richard was a key part of the Wales national team from 2006 to 2015 but remarkably never appeared in a Rugby World Cup game for his country.

He made a total of 41 appearances for his country and was a stand-out performer during the British and Irish Lions tour to Australia in 2013, where he started in the final test after substitute appearances in the first two.

Born in Neath, Hibbard joined the Ospreys after representing several local clubs.



JAMES HOOK

James Hook joined Gloucester Rugby ahead of the 2014/15 season and has gone on to made 46 appearances for the Cherry and Whites.

The multi-capped Wales, Barbarians and British and Irish Lion joined the Cherry and Whites following a spell in the Top 14 with USA Perpignan and his arrival added real quality to a talented squad and backbone.

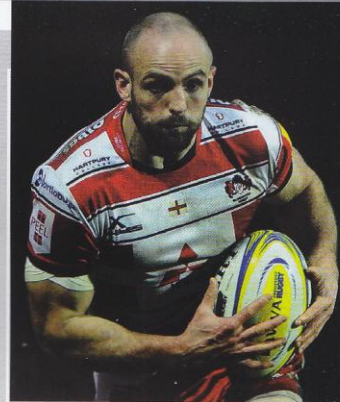
Born in Port Talbot, Hook made his debut for the Ospreys in 2006 and went on to make 101 appearances for the Swansea-based club, accumulating an impressive 780 points during his time at the Liberty Stadium.

After making his Wales debut against Argentina in 2006 Hibbard went on to make 81 caps for Wales, with a return of 352 points.

His fine test match form saw him called into the British and Irish Lions tour of South Africa in 2009.

In Hook's first season at Gloucester, he made 30 appearances, scoring 114 points including two tries and a memorable 50 metre penalty to help his side beat Saracens in January 2015.

His fine form in a Cherry and Whites shirt saw Hook recalled to the Wales squad ahead of Rugby World Cup 2015, where he started at centre in the quarter-final loss to South Africa.



CHARLIE SHARPLES

After breaking into the Gloucester first-team while still an Academy player, Sharples was named in the England Under 20s squad for the Junior World Championship in Japan in June 2009 and kicked on to enjoy a memorable 2009/10 season for the Kingsholm side.

He scored 12 tries from 18 starts and was shortlisted for Try of the Year at the Premiership Awards.

The 2010/11 campaign went even better for the back as he scored 18 tries in 29 appearances, was voted Young Player of the Year by the supporters and was selected for England Saxons.

Charlie was named in England's Rugby World Cup training squad in the summer of 2011, making his debut as a replacement against Wales before agreeing a two-year contract extension in July that year. He has gone on to make four appearances for his country.

Sharples marked his 150th Gloucester appearance in October 2014 with a hat-trick as his side opened up their European Rugby Challenge Cup with a 55-0 win over CA Brive.

The Danger Man has racked-up 195 appearances for the Cherry and Whites and signed a new long-term contract with the club last summer.



SURNAME FORENAME POSITION HEIGHT WEIGHT DOB HONOURS

Afoa	John	prop	16.10.83	1.82m	6ft	119kg	18st 11lb	New Zealand
Atkinson	Mark	centre	08.03.90	1.98m	6ft 5in	108kg	17st	
Braley	Callum	scrum half	23.03.94	1.78m	5ft 10in	86kg	13st 7lb	
Burns	Billy	fly half	13.06.94	1.82m	6ft	86kg	13st 7lb	
Cook	Rob	full-back	07.07.84	1.81m	6ft	94kg	14st 12lb	
Dawidiuk	Darren	hooker	21.09.87	1.77m	5ft 9in	108kg	17st	
Doran-Jones	Paul	prop	02.05.85	1.84m	6ft	121kg	19st	England
Evans	Gareth	back row	19.09.91	1.90m	6ft 3in	110kg	17st 5lb	
Galarza	Mariano	lock	11.12.86	2.04m	6ft 7in	118kg	18st 8lb	Argentina
Halaifonua	David	wing	05.07.87	1.88m	6ft 2in	104kg	16st 5lb	Tonga
Hibbard	Richard	hooker	13.12.83	1.82m	6ft	112kg	17st 9lb	Wales
Hicks	Tom	lock	25.10.91	2.03m	6ft 8in	119kg	18st 9lb	
Hook	James	fly half	27.06.85	1.85m	6ft 1in	96kg	15st 2lb	Wales
Hudson	James	lock	28.10.81	2.00m	6ft 7in	114kg	17st 13lb	
Kalamafoni	Sione	back row	18.05.88	1.90m	6ft 3in	121kg	19st	Tonga
Kvesic	Matt	back row	14.04.92	1.88m	6ft 2in	105kg	16st 8lb	England
Heinz	Willi	scrum half	24.11.86	1.81m	5ft 11in	94kg	14st 11lb	
Laidlaw	Greig	half back	12.10.85	1.76m	5ft 8in	80kg	12st 8lb	Scotland
Latta	Joe	lock	07.04.92	1.97m		114kg		
Lindsay	Tom	hooker	18.11.87	1.87m	6ft 2in	108kg	17st	
Marshall	Tom	centre	05.07.90	1.83m	6ft	91kg	14st 5lb	
May	Jonny	centre	01.04.90	1.88m	6ft 2in	92kg	14st 7lb	England
McAllister	Paddy	prop	20.07.89	1.83m	6ft	122kg	19st 4lb	
McColl	Steve	full-back	16.08.88	1.85m	6ft 1in	98kg	15st 6lb	
Meakes	Billy	centre	23.02.91	1.86m	6ft 2in	100kg	15st 10lb	
Morgan	Ben	number eight	18.02.89	1.91m	6ft 3in	115kg	18st 7lb	England
Moriarty	Ross	back row	18.04.94	1.88m	6ft 2in	103kg	16st 2lb	Wales
Murphy	Dan	prop	27.10.85	1.86m	6ft 1in	119kg	18st 12lb	
Protheroe	Mat	fly half	10.10.96	1.79m	5ft 11in	73kg	11st 6lb	
Purdy	Henry	wing	21.05.94	1.87m	6ft 2in	97kg	15st 3lb	
Reynolds	Steph	wing	23.10.93	1.75m	5ft 9in	83kg	13st	
Rowan	Jacob	back row	14.01.90	1.85m	6ft 1in	105kg	16st 8lb	
Savage	Tom	lock/ back row	18.04.89	1.95m	6ft 5in	118kg	18st 9lb	
Sharples	Charlie	wing	17.08.89	1.83m	6ft	90kg	14st 2lb	England
Stooke	Elliott	lock	10.09.93	2.01m	6ft 7in	125kg	19st 10lb	
Thomas	Dan	back row	11.10.93	1.83m	6ft 1in	100kg	15st 11lb	
Thomas	Nicky	prop	26.08.94	1.89m	6ft 2in	116kg	18st 4lb	
Thomas	Yann	prop	16.04.90	1.86m	6ft 1in	117kg	18st 7lb	
Thrush	Jeremy	lock	19.04.85	1.98m	6ft 6in	118kg	18st 8lb	New Zealand
Trinder	Henry	centre	14.04.89	1.84m	6ft 1in	93kg	14st 8lb	
Twelvetrees	Billy	centre	15.11.88	1.92m	6ft 3in	103kg	16st 3lb	England
Wood	Nick	prop	09.01.83	1.83m	6ft 1in	107kg	16st 12lb	

TODAY'S STEAMS

Vs Gloucester Rugby | Saturday 12.03.2016 | Kick-off 15:00

7-0
7-7
10-7
10-10
15-70
22-10
22-13
25-13
25-20
28-20
T



WARRIORS



Versus



GLOUCESTER

CHRIS PENNELL 15	FULL-BACK	15 ROB COOK
BRYCE HEEM 14	WING	14 CHARLIE SHARPLES
WYNAND OLIVIER 13	CENTRE	13 BILL MEAKES T
RYAN MILLS 12	CENTRE	12 BILLY TWELVETREES (C)
COOPER VUNA 11	WING	11 DAVID HALAIFONU
TOM HEATHCOTE 10	FLY-HALF	10 JAMES HOOK CPTC
FRANCOIS HOUGAARD 9	SCRUM-HALF	9 WILLI HEINZ
VAL RAPAVA RUSKIN 1	PROP	1 NICK WOOD
NIALL ANNETT 2	HOOKER	2 RICHARD HIBBARD
NICK SCHONERT 3	PROP	3 JOHN AFOA
DONNCHA O'CALLAGHAN 4	LOCK	4 TOM SAVAGE
DARREN BARRY 5	LOCK	5 JEREMY THRUSH
PHIL DOWSON 6	FLANKER	6 SIONE KALAMAFONI
CARL KIRWAN 7	FLANKER	7 MATT KVESIC
GJ VAN VELZE (C) 8	NO.8	8 ROSS MORIARTY
BEN SOWREY 16	REPLACEMENT	16 DARREN DAWIDIUK
NA'AMA LELEIMALEFAGA 17	REPLACEMENT	17 YANN THOMAS
JAMES JOHNSTON 18	REPLACEMENT	18 PAUL DORAN-JONES
DAN SANDERSON 19	REPLACEMENT	19 MARIANO GALARZA
SAM BETTY 20	REPLACEMENT	20 LEWIS LUDLOW
LUKE BALDWIN 21	REPLACEMENT	21 CALLUM BRALEY
RYAN LAMB 22	REPLACEMENT	22 HENRY TRINDER
ANDY SYMONS 23	REPLACEMENT	23 STEVE MCCOLL

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Ian Tempest
Assistant Referees: Peter Allan & John Meredith
Assessor: Nigel Yates
Fourth Official: Andy Watson
Timekeeper: Anthony Turner **TMO:** Rowan Kitt