



THE

SARACEN

VS GLOUCESTER



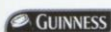
SARACENS



**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY**

2009/2010 SEASON OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

ISSUE 2 / £3.00



www.guinnesspremiership.com

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

KICK OFF 3PM

WELCOME TO GLOUCESTER



It's been a year of change for Gloucester with a new-look coaching staff going into the 2009/10 season.

Although with the club for many years, former Scottish international scrum half Bryan Redpath succeeded Dean Ryan in the role as Director of Rugby over the summer.

The Cherry and Whites have lost a number of familiar faces over the summer with the likes of Iain Balshaw (Biarritz), Ryan Lamb (London Irish), Anthony Allen (Leicester), Gareth Cooper (Cardiff Blues) and of course Carlos Nieto (Saracens) leaving Kingholm.

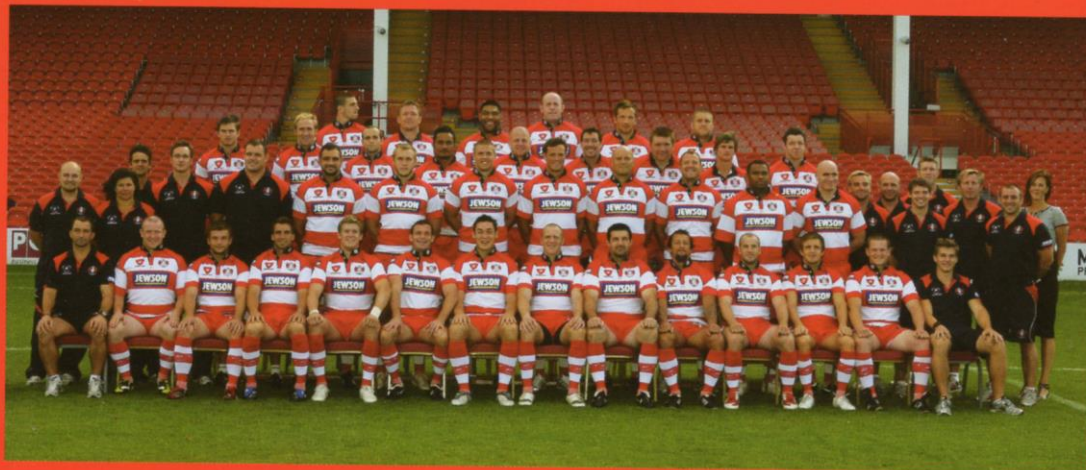
The club has promoted internally for its 2009/10 squad with no fewer than eight players making the step up into the first team. However the recruitment of two quality fly halves has really strengthened the squad. Carlos Spencer, who spent the final part of last season on loan at the club, has made a permanent move while Cardiff's Nicky Robinson made the short trip across the River Severn. Redpath has also recruited wing Tom Voyce from Wasps.

Gloucester started the season with an impressive 24-5 victory over Wasps. Wing James Simpson-Daniel's try double, and an assured display by Wales international fly-half Nicky Robinson on his Guinness

Premiership debut punished Bath. Robinson impressively eased his way into the season, scoring 14 points that included a late interception try.

However, a week later, Gloucester suffered a 40-10 defeat at London Irish to really make it a topsy-turvy start to the new campaign for Redpath's men.

In the games between the two sides last season, Gloucester came out on top. In November last year, tries from Apo Satala, Olly Morgan and Lesley Vainikolo were enough to undo Sarries who went down 25-21 at Vicarage Road despite a Ben Skirving score and a penalty try. In the return fixture on a frosty January day, Gloucester were 22-16 winners. A high second half penalty count cost Sarries and Olly Barkley took full advantage to kick 12 points after Sarries held a first half lead thanks to Richard Haughton's try.



GLOUCESTER SQUAD

Name	Position	DOB	Height	Weight	Honours
Dave Attwood	second row	05.04.87	2.01m , 6 ft 7in	115kg, 18st 1lb	
Olivier Azam	hooker	24.10.74	1.85m, 6ft 1in	120kg, 19st	France
Marco Bortolami	lock	12.06.80	1.95m, 6ft 5in	112kg, 17st 5lb	Italy
Alex Brown	lock	17.05.79	2.01m , 6ft 7in	116kg, 18st 1lb	England
Freddie Burns	fly half	13.5.90	1.85m, 6ft 1in	80kg, 12st 8lb	
Peter Buxton	back row	21.08.78	1.92 m, 6ft 4in	115kg, 18st 1lb	
Pierre Capdevielle	prop	30.3.1974	1.86m, 6ft 1in	123kg, 19st 5lb	
Darren Dawiduk	hooker	21.9.87	1.80m, 5ft 11in	95kg, 14st 12lb	
Gareth Delve	back row	30.12.82	1.91m, 6ft 3in	115kg, 18st 1lb	Wales
Alasdair Dickinson	prop	11.09.83	1.84m, 6ft	112kg, 17st 5lb	Scotland
Paul Doran-Jones	prop	02.05.85	1.88m, 6ft 2in	116kg, 18st 3lb	
Adam Eustace	lock	09.01.79	1.95m, 6ft 5in	107kg, 16st 12lb	
Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu	centre	31.10.80	1.85m, 6ft 1in	102kg, 16st 1lb	Samoa
Rupert Harden	prop	09.05.71	1.91m, 6ft 3in	118kg, 18st 8lb	
Andrew Hazell	back row	25.04.78	1.83m , 6ft	95kg, 14st 13lb	England
Will James	lock	22.12.76	1.99m, 6ft 6in	120kg, 18st 11lb	Wales
Rory Lawson	scrum-half	12.03.81	1.73m , 5ft 8in	85kg, 13st 5lb	Scotland
Scott Lawson	hooker	28.09.81	1.73m , 5ft 8in	96kg, 15st 2lb	Scotland
Dave Lewis	scrum-half	29.04.89	1.70m, 5ft 7in	80kg, 12st 8lb	
Olly Morgan	full-back	03.11.85	1.89m, 6ft 2in	94kg, 14st 2lb	England
Luke Narraway	back row	07.09.83	1.90m, 6ft 3in	108kg, 15st 13lb	England
Jordi Pasqualin	scrum half	28.03.90	1.83m , 6ft	81kg, 12st 10lb	
Akapusi Qera	back row	24.04.84	1.94m, 6ft 4in	103kg, 16st	Fiji
Seru Rabeni	centre	27.12.78	1.88m, 6ft 2in	106kg, 16st 9lb	Fiji
Tristan Roberts	fly half	23.03.87	1.70m, 5ft 7in	77kg, 12st 2lb	
Nicky Robinson	fly half	03.01.82	1.85m, 6ft 1in	93kg, 14st 9lb	Wales
Apo Satala	back row	14.08.78	1.93m, 6ft 4in	105kg, 16st 8lb	Fiji
Charlie Sharples	wing	17.08.89	1.84m , 6ft	93kg, 14st 9lb	
James Simpson-Daniel	wing	30.05.82	1.82m, 6ft	92kg, 14st 6lb	England
Greg Somerville	prop	28.11.77	1.86m, 6ft 1in	115kg, 18st 2lb	New Zealand
Carlos Spencer	fly half	14.10.75	1.85m, 6ft 1in	98kg, 15st 5lb	New Zealand
Alasdair Strokosch	back row	21.02.83	1.91m, 6ft 3in	107kg, 16st 11lb	Scotland
Yann Thomas	prop	16.04.90	1.88m, 6ft 2in	120kg, 18st 11lb	
Mike Tindall	centre	18.10.78	1.88m, 6ft 2in	102kg, 15st 12lb	England
Andy Titterrell	hooker	10.01.81	1.81m, 5ft 10in	94kg, 14st 12lb	England/Lions
Henry Trinder	centre	14.04.89	1.83m , 6ft	85kg, 13st 5lb	
Lesley Vainikolo	wing	04.05.79	1.88m, 6ft 2in	112kg, 17st 8lb	England
Tom Voyce	wing	05.01.81	1.85m, 6ft 1in	95kg, 14st 13lb	England
Matthew Watkins	centre	02.09.78	1.83m , 6ft	92kg, 14st 7lb	Wales
Dan Williams	number eight	01.02.89	1.97m, 6ft 5in	104kg, 16st 7lb	
Nick Wood	prop	09.01.83	1.86m, 6ft 1in	112kg, 17st 5lb	

GLOUCESTER

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



NICKY

ROBINSON

STAR MAN

Position:	Fly Half
Born:	Cardiff
Height:	6ft (1.85m)
Weight:	14st 8lb (93kg)
Honours:	Wales (13 caps)

Nicky Robinson starred for Cardiff Youth and under-21s before making his Cardiff senior debut in the final match of the 2000-01 season. That was against Caerphilly in a Welsh/Scottish League match and he was a 29th-minute replacement for Nick Walne.

He played the rest of the game in the centre alongside his brother, Jamie, whose try he converted with the final kick of the game. He became a first team player in his own right the following season when he played 24 games, scored 184 points, including six tries, and won his club cap at the age of 20. Another fine season ending

in May 2003 took his tally for the club to 367 points in 49 games.

His first full season included two games for Wales A, three for Wales under-21, and a call-up to the replacements' bench for the full international against England at Twickenham. In 2003 he was the mainstay of the successful Wales under-21 team that beat New Zealand, won the Six Nations' grand slam, and finished fifth in the World Cup. The tournament in England was his second World Cup campaign. In South Africa in 2002 he scored 54 points in five matches and in the English follow-up he contributed 71 of

his team's 146 points, including three tries in five matches.

He has toured to North America, and Argentina twice with Wales and is the top points scorers for the Cardiff Blues and has appeared for his country 13 times and while competing with the playmakers shirt for Wales with Stephen Jones and James Hooker.

He moved to Gloucester in the summer and started his career with an impressive display in the 24-5 victory over Bath on the opening day of the season.

MARCO BORTOLAMI



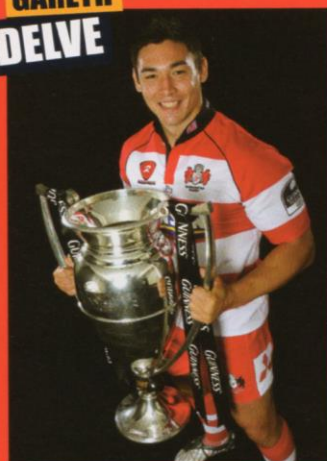
The Italian lock joined Gloucester in the summer of 2006 and was considered by many top judges to be one of the best players in the world around at the time.

He was made Italy's youngest ever captain in 2003 and made his debut when he was just 20. During his first season at Gloucester he formed a formidable partnership with Alex Brown and shared the captaincy with Peter Buxton.

Due to injuries and World Cup commitments, the 2007-08 season wasn't as consistent and he lost the Italian captaincy to Italian No8 Sergio Parisse, but continued to put in powerful performances for Gloucester.

His outstanding leadership qualities meant he kept the captaincy last year and by the end of the season he was back to his formidable best. Capped 72 times for Italy, he made 23 appearances for Gloucester in 2008-2009.

GARETH DELVE



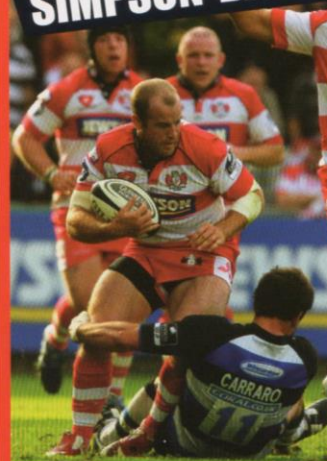
During his debut season at Kingsholm, Delve showed the glimpses of brilliance and talent that made Dean Ryan sign him from rivals Bath.

The hugely built Welsh back rower also regained his place in the Welsh squad for the Six Nations Championship and the summer tour to South Africa, after a superb maiden campaign at Gloucester.

At only 26, Delve has brought physicality and brutal ball carrying to the Gloucester pack

and after overcoming a knee injury suffered playing for Wales last summer bounced back in style last season and led from the front as team captain on occasion.

JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL



Sinbad joined Gloucester as a teenager and is fast-becoming a legend of the club. His talent was clear on his debut as he scored a superb individual try against Rotherham in 2001.

His England chances have been limited due to injuries, and although he made his debut against the All Blacks in 2002, he only has 10 caps.

The winger scored a superb try against the Barbarians early in his international career where with some deft handling and footwork he rounded Jonah Lomu in front

of a packed Twickenham crowd.

Simpson-Daniel is one of the most electric and quickest players in the modern game and was unlucky to miss out on World Cup selection in 2007.

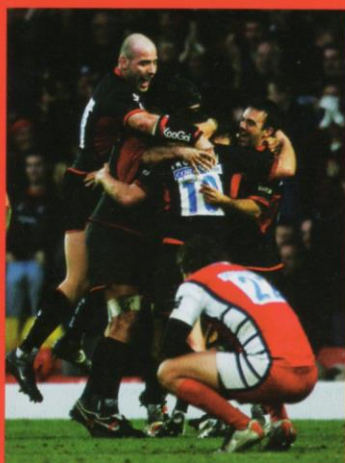
2007-8 culminated in Sinbad claiming the Guinness Premiership Player of the Season and helping Gloucester to the Heineken Cup quarter-finals.

His game-breaking qualities, pace and eye for a gap have marked him down as one of the best players in the country.

GLOUCESTER MEMORIES

SARACENS 24
GLOUCESTER 22

Guinness Premiership
Sunday 18th February 2007



Saracens clinched a thrilling 24-22 win over Gloucester with a last minute try handing them their eighth win in nine matches with Kris Chesney and Glen Jackson the heroes.

With Saracens trailing 17-22 with one minute remaining Chesney powered over the line to put Saracens level and then fly half Jackson held his nerve to land the touchline conversion to win the game with time on the clock having run out

Before that it was a try a piece, with Kameli Ratuvaou and Alex Brown scoring in the first half, with Ludovic Mercier kicking his side in front with an extra penalty.

Saracens got off to a dream start with a try on the board after just three minutes. From a scrum on halfway Jackson sent a long miss

pass to Dan Scarbrough who scythed through the midfield and then fed Tomas de Vedia, who had come round off of his wing. He then found Kameli Ratuvaou who hared down the wing to dive and score into the corner.

Jackson's conversion attempt sailed agonizingly wide but he was on target minutes later after Ratuvaou had chased a pin point kick by his fly half to bundle Rory Lawson into touch. From the resulting lineout Saracens drive towards the line was thwarted as Gloucester prop Christian Califano dived through and from the resulting penalty, Jackson extended Saracens' lead to 8-0.

Saracens had looked very dangerous with ball in hand but Gloucester were never just coming to make up the numbers and with a wealth of pace and talent out wide they were sure to begin asking questions and they crossed

the Saracens line from almost their first sustained attack inside Saracens territory with second row Alex Brown charging over from close range after Saracens defence was stretched to breaking point.

With Ludovic Mercier adding the extras it was time for the visitor's French contingent to take the stage. First it was hooker Olivier Azam as he started to throw his weight around and was at the heart of three heated exchanges. Then it was Mercier turn again as the fly half struck a penalty to take his side into an 8-10 lead.

Worse was to follow Sarries as the usually dependable boot of Jackson was distinctly off form missing two kicks that the fly half would usually kick in his sleep and Gloucester were beginning to grow in confidence.

As the game neared the break Saracens launched a great counter



attack from within their own half and Gloucester were caught on the back foot with No. 8 James Forrester diving in to slow the ball down. He was dispatched to the sin bin and Kiwi Jackson showed his mettle by electing to kick for goal and then striking the ball sweetly between the posts to put Saracens back in front 11-10.

In the last minute of the half, however, Mercier kicked the visitors back in front 11-13 and as the players headed for the tunnel it was anyone's game.

The second half started with Gloucester laying siege to the Saracens line but valiant defence held them out forcing Mercier to finally take the three points on offer to extend the lead to 11-16.

Jackson hit back after ten minutes but again his counterpart Mercier was handed another chance to cancel it out as the crowd began to show their disapproval for some of the referee's decisions.

With sixty minutes on the clock the game was being played at a manic rate but neither side could break the deadlock by crossing the line, Jackson taking the next pot at goal to close the gap to three points at 17-19.

The ball on the floor was hotly contested with neither side prepared to give an inch and you could hear the intensity of the tackles from stands as both sides

clattered into each other. But as the minutes ticked away Saracens looked to be losing the battle and Gloucester were desperately trying to run down the clock, particularly after Mercier had landed his fifth penalty to make the score 17-22.

With two minutes left on the clock Saracens took possession on the halfway line and launched one final desperate attack. The ball worked its way from one side to the other but the gaps didn't seem to be coming and time was running out.

Then, with Gloucester getting sucked into a maul in front of the posts Farrell sent a long pass out wide to Cencus Johnston who lined up his man and then fed Kris Chesney. The second row still had plenty to do and he tucked the ball under his arm and charged for the corner taking the Gloucester defenders with him. He crashed over the line and the referee, who was on the spot immediately, signalled for a try to send the crowd into raptures, not a sole (apart from Gloucester supporters) wasn't on their feet.

A look at the clock and there were 30 seconds remaining and with the scores now tied at 22-22 Jackson had the kick from the corner to win the game. The crowd drew their breath and Jackson held his nerve for his most important two points to date to clinch Saracens a last minute win.



Saracens line-up

- 15 Dan Scarbrough
- 14 Tomas de Vedia
- 13 Kevin Sorrell
- 12 Andy Farrell
- 11 Kameli Ratuvou
- 10 Glen Jackson
- 9 Neil de Kock
- 1 Kevin Yates
- 2 Fabio Ongaro
- 3 Cencus Johnston
- 4 Iain Fullarton
- 5 Simon Raiwalui
- 6 Kris Chesney
- 7 Richard Hill
- 8 Ben Skirving

- 16 Matt Cairns
- 17 Tom Mercey
- 18 Tom Ryder
- 19 Paul Gustard
- 20 Alan Dickens
- 21 Adam Powell
- 22 Rodd Penney

Scorers

- Tries: Chesney, Ratuvou
- Con: Jackson
- Pens: Jackson 4



RECENT PREMIERSHIP MEETINGS

SARACENS AND GLOUCESTER

Date	Venue	S	G	Saracens scorers	Gloucester Rugby scorers
Sun 18 Feb 07	Vicarage Road	24	22	Kris Chesney (T) Glen Jackson (C/4P) Kameli Ratuvou (T)	Alex Brown (T) Ludovic Mercier (C/5P)
Sat 5 May 07	Kingsholm (SF)	9	50	Glen Jackson (3P)	Anthony Allen (T) Christian Califano (T) Mark Foster (T) Andrew Hazell (T) Peter Richards (T) Willie Walker (6C/P) Luke Narraway (T) Penalty Try (T)
Sun 23 Sep 07	Vicarage Road	31	38	Adam Powell (T) Gordon Ross (2C/4P) Kevin Sorrell (T) Edd Thrower (T)	Anthony Allen (T) Ryan Lamb (T/3C/4P) Olly Morgan (T) Luke Narraway (T)
Sat 12 Apr 08	Kingsholm	15	39	Adam Powell (T) Glen Jackson (P) Gordon Ross (C) Ben Skirving (T)	James Simpson-Daniel (T) Rory Lawson (T) Ryan Lamb (2T/3C/P) Lesley Vainikolo (T) Akapusi Qera(T)
Sun 16 Nov 08	Vicarage Road	21	25	Glen Jackson (C/3P) Penalty Try (T) Ben Skirving (T)	Anthony Allen (T) Ryan Lamb (2C/2P) Lesley Vainikolo (T) Olly Morgan(T)
Sat 3 Jan 09	Kingsholm	16	22	Richard Haughton(T) Glen Jackson(C/3P)	Olly Barkley(C/5P) Olly Morgan(T)

STATS 2009/2010

Saracens have made the perfect start to the Guinness Premiership season with three wins out of three, and only find themselves in second spot to London Wasps because of an inferior points difference.

Sarries play their third home game of the season, but their first at Vicarage Road following trips to Twickenham and Wembley.

Gloucester Rugby's only win in their last seven encounters in the Guinness Premiership was 24-5 at home to Bath on 6 September.

Gloucester have not won away from home in any competition in 2009.

Saracens have won only one of their last nine clashes with Gloucester: 24-22 at Vicarage Road on 18 February 2007.

GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP BEST POINTS MACHINES

Name	Team	Apps	Try	Conv	PG	DG	Points
Ryan Lamb	London Irish	3	0	10	9	0	47
Jeremy Staunton	Leicester Tigers	3	0	0	14	0	42
Lee Thomas	Sale Sharks	3	0	1	12	0	38
Shane Geraghty	Northampton Saints	3	0	3	7	1	30
Nicky Robinson	Gloucester Rugby	3	1	4	5	0	28
Glen Jackson	Saracens	2	1	2	5	1	27
Willie Walker	Worcester Warriors	3	0	3	6	1	27

GUINNESS PREMIERSHIP BEST FINISHERS

Name	Team	Apps	Tries
Tom Varndell	London Wasps	3	5
Sailosi Tagicakibau	London Irish	3	3
Adam Thompstone	London Irish	3	3
Matt Carraro	Bath Rugby	3	2
Jon Clarke	Northampton Saints	3	2
Chris Hala'ufia	London Irish	3	2
James Simpson-Daniel	Gloucester Rugby	1+1	2

Teams



15 Alex Goode
14 Noah Cato
13 Kameli Ratuvou
12 Brad Barritt
11 Chris Wyles
10 Glen Jackson
9 Neil de Kock
1 Rhys Gill
2 Schalk Brits
3 Carlos Nieto
4 Steve Borthwick ©
5 Hugh Vyvyan
6 Wikus van Heerden
7 Andy Saul
8 Ernst Joubert

16 Fabio Ongaro
17 Tom Mercey
18 Richard Skuse
19 Mouritz Botha
20 Michael Owen
21 Justin Marshall
22 Derick Hougaard
23 Richard Haughton

15 Olly Morgan
14 Tom Voyce
13 Mike Tindall
12 Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu
11 Lesley Vainikolo
10 Nicky Robinson
9 Dave Lewis
1 Alastair Dickinson
2 Scott Lawson
3 Greg Somerville
4 Dave Attwood
5 Marco Bortolami
6 Peter Buxton
7 Akapusi Qera
8 Andy Hazell

16 Olivier Azam
17 Paul Doran-Jones
18 Pierre Capdeville
19 Alex Brown
20 Alasdair Strokosch
21 Rory Lawson
22 Freddie Burns
23 Charlie Sharples

Referee: Martin Fox Touch Judges: Ken Stewart, Roger Baileff