



CHERRY & WHITES

IN LOVING MEMORY OF GRAHAM SPRING



GLOUCESTER RUGBY v EXETER CHIEFS

GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP
26 MARCH 2021
5.30PM

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GLOUCESTER RUGBY

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ROAD GLOUCESTER GL1 3AX

www.gloucesterrugby.co.uk

Facebook [gloucesterrugby](https://www.facebook.com/gloucesterrugby)

Twitter [@gloucesterrugby](https://twitter.com/gloucesterrugby)

Main Switchboard

01452 872250

Customer Email

customerservices@gloucesterrugby.co.uk

Club President: Fred Reed

PLAYING DEPARTMENT

Head Coach: George Skivington

Team Manager: Sam Raven

Rugby Administrator: Karen Harrington

CLUB MANAGEMENT

Chairman: Martin St. Quinton

CEO: Lance Bradley

COO: Alex Brown

Interim Finance Director: Richard Weller

Marketing Manager: Lucy Nottage

Media & Digital Communications

Manager: Tim Rogers

Head of Venue Sales: Angela Sanders

Head of Partnerships: Mike Thomas

Commercial Sales Manager: Tom Adams

Operations Manager: Helen Grayer

Finance Manager: Matt Mulcahy

HR Manager: Zofia Karkola-Lubacha

PROGRAMME

Lead Editor: Louis Shaw

Co-editor: Tim Rogers

Photography: Martin Bennett, Getty Images

Design: Daniel Parker

Produced by: Amberley Court Associates

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CREATIVE DESIGN, PRINT & PUBLISHING



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INTRODUCTION



COLUMN SPONSORED BY



HELLO AND WELCOME TO ANOTHER DIGITAL EDITION OF OUR MATCHDAY PROGRAMME. GLOUCESTER RUGBY WELCOME EXETER CHIEFS TO KINGSHOLM IN ROUND 15 OF THE GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP BUT UNFORTUNATELY, WE ARE STILL WITHOUT FANS.

We hope that this programme can bring you closer to the action whilst you watch on from home so let us know what you think of it and what you would like to see included in future editions by clicking on [this link](#).

The Cherry and Whites come into this game after a couple of close fought defeats, but the team has shown true character in each fixture. In last Saturday's game against Harlequins, four Academy players made their Premiership debuts for the club, showing that the future of Gloucester Rugby is bright.

Unfortunately, this week Gloucester Rugby shared the tragic news of Graham Spring's passing. Remembering the voice of Kingsholm, we have shared tributes to Springy, as he was fondly nicknamed, in this programme.

All of us at Gloucester Rugby were saddened by the news but the way the rugby community responded, sharing their memories and stories, truly reminds us that in these times, together we are a squad of thousands.

“ IN LAST SATURDAY’S GAME AGAINST HARLEQUINS, FOUR ACADEMY PLAYERS MADE THEIR PREMIERSHIP DEBUTS FOR THE CLUB, SHOWING THAT THE FUTURE OF GLOUCESTER RUGBY IS BRIGHT ”



CLUB NEWS

BARTON & HUNT | FROM LONGLEVENS RUGBY TO GLOUCESTER RUGBY

WHEN GEORGE BARTON AND ETHAN HUNT FIRST TOOK TO A RUGBY PITCH TOGETHER, LITTLE DID THEY KNOW JUST WHERE THEIR JOURNEY WAS TAKING THEM.

With Ethan Hunt making his first Gallagher Premiership start at Hooker on Saturday, the day marked a proud moment for childhood friends Barton and Hunt.

Both George and Ethan started their rugby career just two miles from Kingsholm, at Longlevens Rugby, one of the many excellent rugby clubs in Gloucestershire.

From U7 right the way through the age-groups, coached by George's parents, Simon and Gill Barton, the pair were key members of the successful youth side, winning the County Cup consecutively at U14, U15 and U16.

Barton linked up with the Gloucester Rugby Academy aged 13, developing and nurturing his game through the various stages of the Academy programme, whilst



continuing to play his rugby with Longlevens. Whereas Hunt took a slightly different route, re-joining the Academy after continuing his growth with Hartpury College, having previously taken some time away from the set-up.

Longlevens Rugby's Chairman Chris Yorke says the Club are looking forward to seeing Barton and Hunt's continued progression.

"Longlevens Rugby are incredibly proud to watch Ethan Hunt and George Barton play for Gloucester Rugby. They join a rich heritage and proud tradition of Longlevens players going on to achieve higher honours. We look forward to watching their personal development and growth in the Cherry and White shirt."

ON SALE NOW | EASTER HOLIDAY RUGBY CAMPS

WE ARE EXCITED TO TAKE OUR RUGBY CAMPS OUT INTO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY THIS EASTER HOLIDAY, LED BY OUR EXPERIENCED AND QUALIFIED COACHES WHO WILL PROVIDE A MEMORABLE RUGBY EXPERIENCE TO OUR PARTICIPANTS.

The camp will involve aspects of contact, skill sessions and fun evasion games for all abilities.

Each camp will be following strict RFU Return to Rugby guidelines as well as ensuring each venue is COVID secure throughout. Pre-health questionnaires & temperature checks will be amongst the measures to ensure everyone's safety whilst taking part.

With this in mind, we will only be able to offer a limited number of places on each camp so be quick to book your place and avoid disappointment.

Schedule: Monday 12 & Tuesday 13 April | U7-U11's & U12-U16's | Coney Hill RFC
Thursday 15 & Friday 16 April | U7-U11's & U12-U16's | Stow RFC

Timings: 9.30 am - 3.30 pm
(staggered arrival and collection slots will be issued within 48 hours of commencement)

For just £60 for two days your child will develop the confidence, awareness and ability to make decisions under pressure.

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BOOK NOW!



GLOUCESTER RUGBY ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

GLOUCESTER RUGBY HAD SIX INTERNATIONALS IN ACTION LAST WEEKEND AS LOUIS REES-ZAMMIT, JONNY MAY, STEPHEN VARNEY, CHRIS HARRIS, ALEX CRAIG AND GIORGI KVESELADZE ALL REPRESENTED THEIR NATIONS.

Chris Harris and Alex Craig are also in action this evening as Scotland play France in the final fixture of the Six Nations.

Louis Rees-Zammit will hope that his Gloucester Rugby teammates can do him a favour as France need to beat Scotland by 21 points with the bonus point try to take the Six Nations title from Wales.





RUGBY WORLD CUP FRANCE 2023

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What happened?

Gloucester Rugby couldn't match Exeter Chiefs despite putting in a performance full of character at Sandy Park on Boxing Day.

It was a narrow game and for much of the first half, Gloucester Rugby looked like the better side. However, Exeter Chiefs showed their experience and stayed in the game and were able to push on in the second half and establish a lead that was too big for Gloucester Rugby to come back from.

Gloucester Rugby were first to get on the scoreboard through a Lloyd Evans penalty and were the more attacking side early on, with the TMO ruling out a try as it was deemed Ruan Ackermann was held up.

Ian Whitten was yellow carded for a deliberate knock on and this seemed to fire Exeter up who were then able to get over the try line.

The Gloucester Rugby defence was strong and Mark Atkinson literally put his body on the line to try and stop the score but Jonny Gray found a way through and Exeter went into half time 7-6 up.

In the second half, Exeter came out and scored three tries to take the bonus point victory. Sam Simmonds got over twice with a further score from Ollie Devoto.

Gloucester Rugby stayed very much in the game and scored twice through Toby Venner who came on in what was a spectacular performance off the bench.

Lloyd Evans had an opportunity to claim the losing bonus point with the clock deep in the red but unfortunately the Devon wind sent it wide.



KEY MOMENT



Toby Venner

On his Premiership debut, Toby Venner came on and scored two incredible tries for Gloucester Rugby. The speedy scrum half made an immediate impact and was hopping and skipping with pace every time he got the ball.

GLOUCESTER AND EXETER – THE HISTORY

LONG LONG AGO

The Exeter Club was founded in 1871-72, but the first recorded match was against Exeter Training College, later known as St Luke's, on 26th October 1873. The Gloucester Club was founded in 1873, but the first match, also against students, was earlier in the same month, on 4th October against the College (King's School).

Seven years later, the two Clubs met for the first time, when Gloucester travelled to Exeter on in October 1890. Exeter won the forward battle, but the Gloucester backs were superior. Their two tries garnered two points, and their two conversions were worth four in the 6-3 victory. A couple of months later, Gloucester, described as "the all-conquering Spa brigade", won a lot more comfortably in the return match at the Spa. The Gloucester committee had somehow managed to select 16 players for this match, and showed a rather parochial attitude in telling the one who had travelled furthest to get to the game that he couldn't play, and kept the local lad selected in error. Their 14-0 victory came from ten tries and two conversions. It's a sign of the times that, with the scoring values of today, this would have been 54-0.

The Clubs continued to meet occasionally in the seasons up to the Great War, but not at all during the inter-war years.

POST-WAR FIXTURES

Fixtures resumed after a gap of 35 years at Kingsholm on 5th October 1946. Sid Walter of Exeter only just made it to the game. Required that day to give evidence in court, when he finished his testimony, the police prosecutor requested that Walter be excused, so that he could dash to catch the train to Gloucester, and the magistrate let him go. Gloucester won a well-contested game 12-6, with Willie Jones controlling the game from stand-off, and kicking a conversion and a dropped goal to add to Douglas Kear's brace of



John Dix and Bob Clewes

tries. This ended Exeter's unbeaten away record, which, with the war intervening, had lasted since the 1938-39 season.

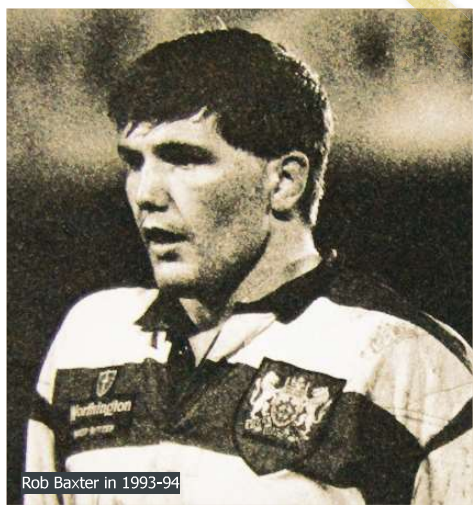
Thereafter, home and away fixtures in alternate seasons became the norm, with those in Exeter often forming part of Gloucester's end-of-season tours to the West Country, which were legendary for their popularity and lack of sobriety. On tour in April 1963, Gloucester managed to defeat Redruth, but two days later came unstuck 3-5 at Exeter, who thus recorded their first win over Gloucester in the 22nd game between the clubs, and after 73 years of trying.

Gloucester recorded their largest victory, 75-6, in November 1975, scoring 18 tries, which equalled the most ever in a Gloucester game. Bob Clewes ran in four tries, but even that was outdone by John Dix with five; only two were converted.

On 27th February 1982, the teams met in the John Player Cup. Gloucester were at the peak of their powers in a season which saw them lose only three of 41 fixtures. They powered past Exeter, 34-3, scoring seven tries, including a hat-trick by Phil Pritchard on the wing and two by Steve Mills at hooker. Gloucester went on to reach the final at Twickenham, where they shared the trophy in a 12-12 draw with Moseley.



Phil Pritchard, who scored a hat-trick in the 1982 cup match



Rob Baxter in 1993-94

In 1993-94, Rob Baxter spent a season with Gloucester, and made six appearances for the First XV, all of which were won, and included a try against Stroud. He also made at least 14 appearances for the United.

Fixtures between the Clubs continued until 1994-5, when Gloucester won 72-5, Don Caskie scoring a hat trick. This was the last encounter during the amateur era, by which time Gloucester had won 46, drawn three and lost eight of the 57 games played.

INTO THE PROFESSIONAL ERA

With the advent of league rugby, Gloucester had taken their place in the top tier, whilst Exeter were several levels down. However, by that time, Tony Rowe had started his involvement with Exeter, initially in 1993 with his company, SW Comms, as sponsor, when John Baxter, father of Rob, was Chairman.

They won Division 4 in 1996, and Division 3 in 1997. This led to several seasons in Premiership 2, which became National Division 1. In their first season there, they only avoided relegation thanks to a reorganisation of the leagues. With the advent of professional rugby, Rowe proposed that the Club become a limited company, and this happened in 1998, with Rowe as Chairman.

For ten years, the only opportunity for fixtures between Exeter and Gloucester came in cup competitions, and that happened on 21st December 2002, when the teams were drawn together in the Powergen Cup. Exeter were captained by ex-Gloucester hero, Dave Sims, with Rob Baxter packing down behind him. Gloucester won 35-6,

and went on to win the Cup, beating Northampton 40-22 in the final. This was the season in which Gloucester won the Premiership by 15 points, but failed to be crowned champions, because play-offs were introduced for the first time, and the final was lost to Wasps.

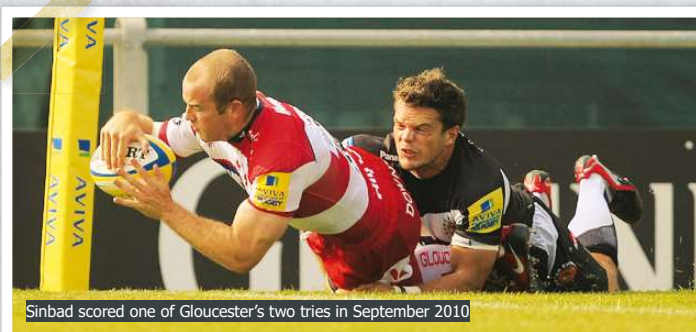
Exeter moved from the County Ground to Sandy Park in 2006, and their form improved further, but missed out on promotion, finishing as runners-up of National Division 1 in two successive seasons, 2007-09. 2009-10 saw a change in the league structure, with the creation of the Championship, and the introduction of play-offs to determine promotion. Exeter again finished second in the league, behind Bristol, but the teams met in a two-leg final. Although Exeter won the first leg 9-6 at Sandy Park, Bristol were hot favourites back at the Memorial Stadium. However, Exeter were utterly determined to seize their chance, and were much the better team on the day, winning 29-10.

EXETER'S RISE TO THE TOP

Their life in the Premiership started with a home game against Gloucester. Many of the Kingsholm faithful travelled down the M5 on 4th September 2010, confident of seeing their team teach the newcomers a lesson, but Exeter thoroughly deserved their 22-10 victory, and a new chapter in Exeter's history was underway. For several seasons they finished mid-table, but won the LV= Cup in 2014.

They finished second in the league in 2015-16 and 2016-17, but the play-offs saw them crowned as English Champions in 2017. They thus became the only club to have won all four top tiers of English rugby. For the last three seasons they have finished top of the league, but only last season did that result in them becoming Champions. But they were Anglo-Welsh Cup winners in 2018, and reached the top of European rugby with their triumph in the Champions Cup in 2020.

In the professional era the record between Gloucester and Exeter has been very different from the amateur era. There have been 26 fixtures, of which Gloucester have won 11, lost 14 and drawn one. Exeter gained their biggest win, 46-10 on 8th April 2018, and did the double over Gloucester for the first time in 2019-20, a mere 130 years after those first encounters back in the 19th century.



Sinbad scored one of Gloucester's two tries in September 2010



GRAHAM SPRING TRIBUTE

IT WAS WITH GREAT SADNESS THAT GLOUCESTER RUGBY ANNOUNCED THE PASSING OF FORMER LONG-TERM STADIUM ANNOUNCER, GRAHAM SPRING, EARLIER THIS WEEK.

Born and bred in Painswick, Spring's father introduced him to Gloucester Rugby when he was 10 years old where he would watch the Cherry & Whites from the old 'tump end'.

Spring took the mic at his hometown club in 1978, after finishing his role with Cotswold Hospital Radio, where he commented on games. However, little did he know, 40 years down the line he'd still be the stadium announcer at Kingsholm.

Graham's devotion to Gloucester Rugby was quite-frankly unrivalled. After starting his role on the 2 September 1978, when Broughton Park visited Kingsholm, Spring remarkably only missed nine matches between that game in 1978 and his final game before retiring in 2018.

Graham, fondly known as 'Springy' by the Gloucester faithful, planned his life around following his beloved Cherry & Whites. Trips away or holidays in season would be rare for Graham and his wife Sylvia, but if they were to go, the destination would often be a stone's throw away from where Gloucester Rugby happened to be playing that weekend.

Over the years, quite a lot changed at Kingsholm, rugby turned professional, players and coaches came and went, the stadium grew in size, but Springy was the one constant.

Graham himself fondly remembered working in the old grandstand, whereby the microphone was in a small office at the back of the stand, and matchday would consist of running up and down the stairs each time an announcement was required!

As times moved on, and technology advanced, the running around didn't stop, however. Spring was remembered by those around him as someone who had a knack of manoeuvring from the gantry to the pitch without missing any action. He'd arrive pitch side at half-time ready to

go, with his favourite tea-cosy style hat protecting the mic!

His infectious personality brought so much energy and passion to every match day, which understandably led to him being adored by everybody that knew him, but also by the Kingsholm faithful.

Since his retirement from the role, Springy's love for the Cherry & Whites remained just as strong. He continued to support the team as a Club Member in the Malvern Tyres Stand and was Gloucester Rugby through-and-through.

Lance Bradley, Chief Executive Officer at Gloucester Rugby, paid tribute to Graham, noting that the Club will honour him this week, but also next season, when we can welcome fans back to Kingsholm properly.

"Graham truly was part of the fabric of Gloucester Rugby. He contributed so much to the Club over his 40 years of service. I remember going to my first game and it was Graham's voice that made it so special for me, so I think we've all got very fond memories of him.

"The outpouring of affection from fans, from former players, and current players shows how incredibly highly regarded he was.

"We will join together for a moment of applause in memory of Graham before our game with Exeter on Friday evening, but we will also give fans a chance to pay your tributes to Graham when we are able to welcome you back in full next season."

Graham will be greatly missed by everybody at Gloucester Rugby. Our thoughts and best wishes remain with Graham's family and friends at this sad time.

Thank you for everything, Graham.

FORMER PLAYERS:

Freddie Burns: "Such sad news. A true Gloucester legend and someone who I will always associate with my time in Cherry and White. My condolences to Graham's family and friends. RIP Springy."

Nick Wood: "What sad news. No 'holm' game would have been the same without Graham. A good, kind man."

Phil Vickery: "Dreadful news... no one loved the club more than him and I will certainly never forget his wonderful way..."

Paddy McAllister: "Extremely sad news. Graham always had a smile and loved what he did, prayers for his family."

Rob Cook: "Really sad news, loved chatting all things Glawster with him. Great bloke and will be sadly missed. Thoughts with the family at this time."

Andy Deacon: Sorry to hear the passing of Graham Spring. Great servant to the club and when he spoke you listened. Thoughts with his family and friends at this sad time."

FORMER CEO:



Stephen Vaughan: "A genuine Gloucester legend. An encyclopaedic memory of players, games and incidents over many years and always retold his tales with the passion as if it was yesterday. Unashamedly biased as an announcer and loved him for it. Rest in peace Springy xx."

SUPPORTERS:

Richard Mansell: "Very sad to hear of the passing of Graham Spring. A great man who brought warmth, fun and humour to his pre-match announcements. He will be sorely missed."

Jonathan Cook: "Voice of my childhood watching games from the Shed. His commentary for the pre match tug of war was always a highlight."

@featsandfables: "Literally, 1978 forward, Springy's voice is synonymous with my Kingsholm years. Such a simple, straightforward recipe. Deliciously Cherry and White to the core. Called birthdays, Players of the Season, tug of war, opposition team sheets with the same enthusiasm and humour."

Matt Reed: "Terrible news. For me, Graham was an integral part of the matchday experience when I used to go. Always remember the fun he had trying to cajole people into the tug of war and then commentating on the mess that ensued. To me, he'll be remembered as fondly as any player."

Mike O'Brien: "Rest in Peace Graham in the knowledge that you will always remain part of the proud history of the club you loved."

Jon Shiach: "Such sad news. He was the voice from my childhood trips to Kingsholm. Remember 'balloongate' and Graham giving the crowd a telling off when some people booed the no smoking announcement, they soon shut up as if told off by a disappointed parent."

Ed Archer: "Sad news indeed that Graham is no longer with us. Commitment, decency and wit personified, he was an essential ingredient of a quality afternoon at Kingsholm."

Bob Fenton: "Sad to hear of Graham's passing. In an age when it was 'trendy' to have screaming and shouting announcers, he understood that was not the Kingsholm way and carried on in his own special and humorous way. A genuinely good man, a genuine Gloucester man. Thoughts with his family."

Paul B: "That is such sad news. Graham will live long in my memory for his sense of humour and breadth of knowledge about our club and game. Deepest condolences to his family."

Graeme Hickey: "The voice of Kingsholm, the sound of his dulcet tones is as synonymous to Gloucester Rugby as the Shed. We've lost one of our best."

A balloon disaster
Complex names
Tug-o-war
Silly half-time games
Interviews,
Announcements
Unpronouncements
In our accent of choice
A perfect voice
The Kingsholm king
The breath of Spring
RIP Graham

Alfred Lord Tension



GEORGE BARTON



GEORGE BARTON HAS GRASPED EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT HAS COME HIS WAY THIS SEASON AND LOOKING AT HIS PERFORMANCES YOU'D BE FORGIVEN FOR THINKING HE HAD MORE GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP EXPERIENCE THAN HE DOES.

22

At just 20 years of age, the Gloucester Rugby Academy product has been given a run of games at fly-half and has not looked out of place at the highest level.

"It's probably more than what I expected it to be," Barton says opening up about the step up to Premiership rugby. "As a kid coming through, I always wanted to be there. The speed, the physicality is that few extra steps up.

"As a 10 as well, the time that I have to make a decision is very limited, but it tests me more. As a young 10, I'm enjoying every single second of it because the less time that I'm getting to make a decision, the more I can learn and adapt to that and the more comfortable I will feel in those situations.

"Playing Premiership rugby was a dream and hopefully I can play as much as possible."

Barton made his starting Premiership debut for the Cherry and Whites against Wasps and it was a moment

that as a Gloucester boy through and through he will cherish forever.

"It was a bit surreal to be honest!" Barton says reflecting on the game. "Going out onto the pitch, I remember Wasps had the buzzing around the stadium as they came out and I was just stood there and it all just flashed by how much I had built up to this moment.

"Honestly, the feeling was incredible. I was nervous but it was a confident nervous and from it being a dream to actually achieving it, it was an amazing feeling. I couldn't have asked for it to have gone any better as well, to get the win."

Excelling at two sports whilst growing up meant that Barton had a hard decision to make.

"I had a trial with Cheltenham Town for a bit. I enjoyed it. Really enjoyed it. I loved playing football and I played a few games for them and I can't remember exactly what it was but they offered me a contract but if

I was to carry on with that I couldn't play rugby any more.

"I had to make a decision and I thought that rugby

was more of my sport to be honest. I enjoy running around the pitch, smashing each other and making tackles! It's a bit more physical but I did also enjoy scoring a few worldies on the football pitch!"

Barton has really impressed when asked to step up and an example of this is his accurate goal kicking, something his football experience has helped.

"I genuinely think that's one of the biggest reasons and factors as to why my kicking is going so well at the moment. Playing football at a young age has really enhanced my foot to eye co-ordination so when I'm kicking the ball, I feel that I know exactly where my foot is and exactly where my foot is going to end up. I think it's definitely translated into helping me as a kicker and as a fly-half especially."

Gloucester Rugby's fixture against Harlequins last time out saw a lot of younger players get opportunities and Barton's childhood friend, Ethan Hunt, made his starting debut for the Cherry and Whites.

"It's incredible. Just the fact that I've known Beef (Ethan Hunt) for so long. When we were kids, we always hung out together. He's more of a brother character than a friend. Not many people can say that they ran out on a Premiership rugby pitch with their best mate.



"It's something we'll remember for life. It's incredible really. As kids we wouldn't have asked for anything more."

Hunt's nick name, Beef, is one that was given to the hooker as a youngster and Barton has made sure the senior players use it as well.

"Yeah we call him Beef! It's a weird one as well! It just sort of stuck from a young age. Because I've known him for so long, and other people have known him for so long, they picked it up as well and now we've got the first team calling him Beef as well!"

Barton and Hunt were both part of the same year group and so many of their fellow teammates from their childhood have gone on to get opportunities both at Gloucester Rugby but also internationally with the likes of Louis Rees-Zammit and Stephen Varney involved in this year's Six Nations.

Last weekend, a number of them made their debuts with Matty Jones, Isaac Marsh and Freddie Thomas all stepping up from the same age group.

"I think for that group it was the mentality to buy into what the coaches taught us and the willingness to work extra hard on and off the field. Everyone at that age group would always be doing extras when they could and would always be learning off the pitch, doing stuff on the computers with analysis and stuff like that. Everyone just bought into how a professional would act.

"We've all supported each other as well along the way. We've pushed each other and want each other to fulfil their potential. I think it's really shown and to have that many players from the same age group in a Premiership game is ridiculous really! We stick together and we've stuck together the whole time.

"At the end of the game after Banners went off, me and Isaac (Marsh) spoke to each other and we just stood there as a 10-12 partnership and just said that we've been doing this together since we were U13s. Now this is the biggest stage for us to do it on. I think that comment just made me think, wow, this really is a special moment for us both."

Growing up, Gloucester Rugby was a massive part of life for George Barton and it was as much a family thing as anything else.

"I used to go over to The Shed most game days with my family. My dad



would take me along and he and my mum would always try and get me involved as much as possible.

"I was a ball boy as well at a young age and it was special just being on the pitch on a matchday to be honest."

Now, Barton's parents are watching on and are proud of their son for what he is doing on the pitch.

"My mum is my number one fan. In my game against Wasps, I imagine she would have been the first one to give me a hug after the match and tell me how proud she was of me. She's really struggling with the fact that she can't come and watch but it makes her more excited for when she can.

"I remember last year when I played a few U20 games, after the game when I would go up and see her, I was able to see the pure emotion on her face. At that point I really realised how much this meant to her. Having my family there is a real big motivator for me.

"Especially with them both being from Gloucester, this is their club as well. The joy it brings to their faces and the joy it brings to my brother and sister as well, it brings a smile to my face and really motivates me."

One of Barton's highlights so far was coming on to score the winning try against Ulster in the European Champions Cup. At the time, a small number of fans were allowed into Kingsholm and Barton recalls how his family reacted to the score.

"Funny story about that! Apparently when I scored, my mum got up on one of the chairs and was jumping around shouting and screaming! The security guard went to go over and was going to tell her to get off the chair health and safety wise, but I think they then realised she was my mum and then they started to celebrate with her and take in the moment!

"My mum told me about it and I was just like 'argh, what you doing that for it's so embarrassing!'

"It was an incredible moment for me. It was a weird one. The emotion that went through me just to be given the opportunity to play in that game. Then to find myself in the right position at the right time and to get that result, it felt amazing."

Barton has relished the opportunity to play for his childhood club and is looking to continue to shine in the Cherry and White shirt.

"For me personally it's just about trying to put my best foot forward and try and take as many opportunities as I can. Just enjoy every opportunity and not take anything for granted.

"It's my childhood club and any opportunity to play I'll be over the moon to take. It's just trying to get that consistency and show the coaches what I can do and how hard I'm working and how hard I'm willing to work."



HARLEQUINS GLOUCESTER RUGBY

59
24

HARLEQUINS WERE THE VICTORS IN A 59-24 VICTORY OVER GLOUCESTER RUGBY AT THE TWICKENHAM STOOP



What happened?

Gloucester Rugby had plenty of young talent on display against Harlequins but fell short in the end after a resurgence saw them draw level on points, 24-24, at one point in the game.

Harlequins started the game well and built a solid lead through four tries from Luke Northmore, Mike Brown, Cadan Murley and Danny Care, securing the try bonus before half time and making the score 24-0.

The Cherry and Whites showed great composure to stay in the fight and finished the second half with good momentum after Charlie Chapman got over to score.

George Barton had put Jack Clement through a gap and the flanker came onto the

ball at pace, offloading then to Chapman who went over to score. Barton's conversion meant the score was 24-7 going into the break.

In the second half the Gloucester Rugby resurgence continued and Barton kicked a penalty to keep the scoreboard ticking.

Freddie Clarke and Chapman, getting over for his second, both scored for the Cherry and Whites and Barton was accurate from the tee drawing the score level at 24-24.

However, Quins were able to find another gear and, helped by a Matt Banahan red card for a high tackle, scored tries through Tyrone Green, two from Alex Dombrandt and Luke Northmore to take the 59-24 victory.

KEY MOMENT



Charlie Chapman goes over for two

Gloucester Rugby scrum half Charlie Chapman had an impressive game for the Cherry and Whites with the Gloucester Rugby Academy product scoring two tries against Harlequins.

Chapman was up for it and was making tackles left, right and centre as well as managing the game from the nine shirt.





VS



T P C D					POSITION	T P C D				
					Santiago CARRERAS 15	FULL BACK	15	Josh HODGE		
					Louis REES-ZAMMIT 14	RIGHT WING	14	Olly WOODBURN		
					Billy TWELVETREES 13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	Dan JOHN		
					Mark ATKINSON 12	INSIDE CENTRE	12	Corey BALDWIN		
					Jonny MAY 11	LEFT WING	11	Facundo CORDERO		
					George BARTON 10	FLY-HALF	10	Harvey SKINNER		
					Willi HEINZ 9	SCRUM-HALF	9	Sam HIDALGO-CLYNE		
					Val RAPAVA-RUSKIN 1	LOOSEHEAD PROP	1	James KENNY		
					Henry WALKER 2	HOOVER	2	Jack YEANDLE (C)		
					Fraser BALMAIN 3	TIGHTHEAD PROP	3	Marcus STREET		
					Ed SLATER 4	LOCK	4	Sean LONSDALE		
					Matias ALEMANNO 5	LOCK	5	Tom PRICE		
					Jordy REID 6	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	6	Don ARMAND		
					Lewis LUDLOW (C) 7	OPENSIDE FLANKER	7	Richard CAPSTICK		
					Ruan ACKERMANN 8	NUMBER 8	8	Rus TUIMA		
REPLACEMENTS					 MATCH OFFICIALS Referee: Luke Pearce Assistant Referees: Sara Cox & Adam Leal TMO: Ian Tempest Citing Officer: Grant Seely	REPLACEMENTS				
						16	Elvis TAIONE			
						17	Danny SOUTHWORTH			
						18	Alfie PETCH			
						19	Will WITTY			
						20	Charlie WRIGHT			
						21	Stu TOWNSEND			
						22	Arthur RELTON			
						23	James SHORT			

