

£1.50



SUNDAY 29 JANUARY | KICK OFF 3PM | KINGSHOLM

# GLOUCESTER RUGBY HEROES

# V SOUTH AFRICA LEGENDS





# WELCOME

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO KINGSHOLM FOR TODAY'S MATCH BETWEEN THE GLOUCESTER RUGBY HEROES AND THE SA RUGBY LEGENDS.

It's the second outing for the Heroes this season following the inaugural Mitsubishi Motors Hybrid Cup match against the Salford Red Devils Legends back in October.

That was an absolutely fascinating encounter with one half played under union rules and one under league regulations. Predictably, the union boys dominated the first half and the league boys the second. But they both made a really good fist of the 'unfamiliar' code.

For me it was also terrific to see some real legends of the league code perform here at Kingsholm – household names like Dennis Betts, Sean Long, Adrian Morley and Keith Senior. It really was a treat.

And the quality of today's South Africa line-up is similarly high. Individuals like De Wet Barry, Breyton Paulse, Butch James, John Smit and Stefan Terblanche are known throughout the rugby world and we're privileged to welcome them to Kingsholm today.

I may be going out on a limb here, but it's only really here at Gloucester that two such distinctive games could be staged. The thirst for rugby in the region, and the knowledge of the fans, is very much unique to this area.

That's why we've been able to successfully stage so many games featuring international teams over the past few years, not to mention the four pool games in Rugby World Cup 2015. It's yourselves, the supporters, who help to make this possible.

What's even better, is that the game is helping to raise funds for a number of good causes including our very own Gloucester Rugby Community Charity.

Thanks to everyone who has played a part in making this happen, especially the South African players for flying over and I hope everybody has a great day.

*Steve*



# 3 GLOUCESTER RUGBY HEROES TO WATCH



## OLIVIER AZAM

Some players are just born to play for a club, and Olivier Azam was born to play for Gloucester.

The French international hooker first joined Gloucester in 2000 and rapidly endeared himself to the Kingsholm faithful. He returned to France for one season with Montferrand before returning to Gloucester for a second spell.

He made more than 230 competitive appearances for the Cherry and Whites and became a local hero, steadfastly refusing to take a backward step and always giving everything for the cause.

He enjoyed a testimonial season with the club before moving to Toulon as Forwards Coach and subsequently to Lyon and Oyonnax.



## JAKE BOER

After spells with Leicester and London Irish, Jake Boer moved to Gloucester and it proved to be third time lucky in terms of his choice of English club.

He led Gloucester to victory in the Powergen Cup in 2003 and also earned the Zurich Premiership Player of the Season award in the same season.

After making nearly 200 appearances for the club, he returned home to South Africa before answering an SOS call during an injury crisis in 2009, scoring at Biarritz on his first appearance in his second spell.

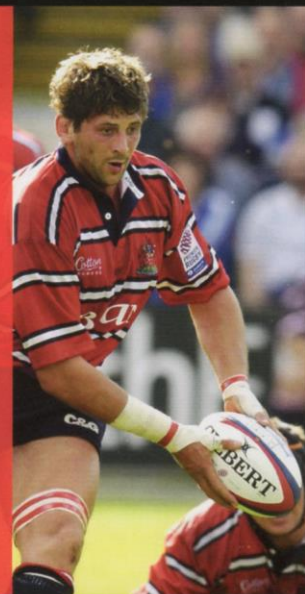
## ROB FIDLER

Cheltenham-born Rob is the son of another former Gloucester legend, John.

Rob went on to enjoy a distinguished career in Cherry and White himself, forming a formidable second row partnership alongside Dave Sims.

He featured in both the 2002 Zurich Championship triumph as well the 2003 Powergen Cup victory over Northampton, both at Twickenham.

Fidler left Gloucester to join local rivals Bath at the end of the 2002/2003 season after 9 years at the club and over 250 games with his final game being the play-off final defeat at Twickenham against Wasps.





# HEROES LOSE BUT HYBRID CUP IS A GREAT SUCCESS ON FANTASTIC KINGSHOLM AFTERNOON

THE GLOUCESTER RUGBY HEROES SIDE MADE THEIR KINGSHOLM BOW BACK IN OCTOBER WHEN THEY TOOK ON A SALFORD RED DEVILS LEGENDS SIDE IN THE 2016 MITSUBISHI MOTORS HYBRID CUP.



The cross-code challenge was the first of its kind. The first half was played to rugby union rules, the second was 35 minutes of rugby league action.

In a classic game of two halves, it was the Salford Red Devils who secured the victory after a dominant second half showing, and with it lifted the inaugural Mitsubishi Motors Hybrid Cup.

Adrian Morley's men were just a little too sharp in their own code in the second half, recovering from a 36-7 half time deficit to take the spoils with League legend Sean Long crossing for a hat trick of tries.

The first 35-minute half was played with rugby union rules, with Nick Wood assuming responsibility of referee, and the Kingsholm crowd loving every minute.

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The league boys took an early lead, benefitting from a handling error before the Gloucester Heroes took control as the Salford side struggled to get to grips with the unfamiliar code.

Jon Goodridge opened the Gloucester account as he ran on to a Rudi Keil chip, before Junior Paramore touched down after a catch and drive. Rob Cook then added a third.

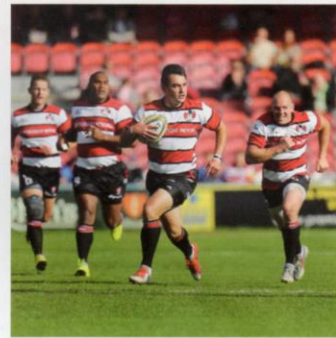
As you would expect with so much quality on the pitch, the action was definitely not for the faint-hearted, with a number of fierce hits and whole-hearted carries.

Olly Morgan was next to touch down, closely followed by Thinus Delpert before Rudi Keil and Apo Satala rounded off the scoring to leave the half time score at 36 points to 7 to the Gloucester Heroes.

It was a decent lead, but would it be enough with Salford now well and truly back in their comfort zone?



And they quickly found their groove with Martin Gleeson the first to touch down. But, the Cherry and Whites were able to hit back with the try of the day.



Rob Cook showed his class by collecting a kick from Watson, and beating four men before racing half the length of the field and sending Jon Goodridge over.

Pressure from the Red Devils then allowed Sean Long to slide over for his second of the afternoon before, after a period of play where possession changed hands a number of times, Joe McClean crossed for the visitors as they worked a neat overlap.

It was three tries in a row shortly afterwards as time started to run out, Andy Craig had plenty of room to stroll over in the far corner, before converting superbly.

Then the Rugby League side flew into the lead, a stunning score gained the initiative, and it was a length of the field burst from Ryan Worthington leaving all defenders in his wake, the conversion gaining the lead by a single point.

It was clear that the Rugby League rules were suiting the visitors, and Sean Long was able to stroll over for his third try of the game and seal a worthy win.

# TODAY'S TEAMS

SUNDAY 29 JANUARY 2017 | KO 3PM | KINGSHOLM



ROB **COOK** 15  
IAIN **BALSHAW** 14  
DAFYDD **JAMES** 13  
MIKE **TINDALL** 12  
JONNY **GOODRIDGE** 11  
NICKY **LITTLE** 10  
ANDY **GOMARSALL** 9  
KEVIN **YATES** 1  
OLIVIER **AZAM** 2  
LEE **FORTEY** 3  
ROB **FIDLER** 4  
CRAIG **GILLIES** 5  
PETER **BUXTON** 6  
APO **SATALA** 7  
JUNIOR **PARAMORE** 8  
  
CHRIS **FORTEY** 16  
DAVE **HILTON** 17  
NEIL **GRIFFITHS** 18  
ADAM **BALDING** 19  
PAUL **KNIGHT** 20  
DAVE **KNIGHT** 21  
JAMIE **BAULCH** 22  
KEITH **SENIOR** 23

## TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE  
NICK WOOD

## BACK ROOM STAFF

GLOUCESTER  
COACHES:  
NEIL BACK  
NICK KNOWLES  
JULIAN LEWIS JONES  
TEAM MANAGERS:  
ANDY HAZELL  
ALAN LAMB

SOUTH AFRICA  
COACH:  
IAN MCINTOSH  
PLAYER/MANAGER:  
MAC MASINA  
PLAYER/MANAGER:  
BREYTON PAULSE  
CAMERAMAN:  
HOWARD CLELAND  
LOGISTICS:  
TERENCE CHAPMAN



15 STEFAN **TERBLANCHE**  
14 TONDERAI **CHAVHANGA**  
13 DE WET **BARRY**  
12 THINUS **DELPORT**  
11 HENNO **MENTZ**  
10 BUTCH **JAMES**  
9 DAVID **VON HOESSLIN**  
1 LAWRENCE **SEPHAKA**  
2 PIETER **DIXON**  
3 JOHN **SMIT**  
4 HOTTIE **LOUW**  
5 MARCO **WENTZEL**  
6 JUSTIN **MELCK**  
7 CORNE **STEENKAMP**  
8 ERNST **JOUBERT**  
  
16 DELAREY **DU PREEZ**  
17 DARRON **NELL**  
18 NICO **LUUS**  
19 MAC **MASINA**  
20 RUDI **KEIL/**  
DANIEL **BRACKEN**  
21 KENNEDY **TSIMBA**  
22 NEIL **COLE**  
23 MARC **WATSON**  
24 CHRISTIAAN **SNYMAN**  
25 BREYTON **PAULSE**