

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME
ISSUE

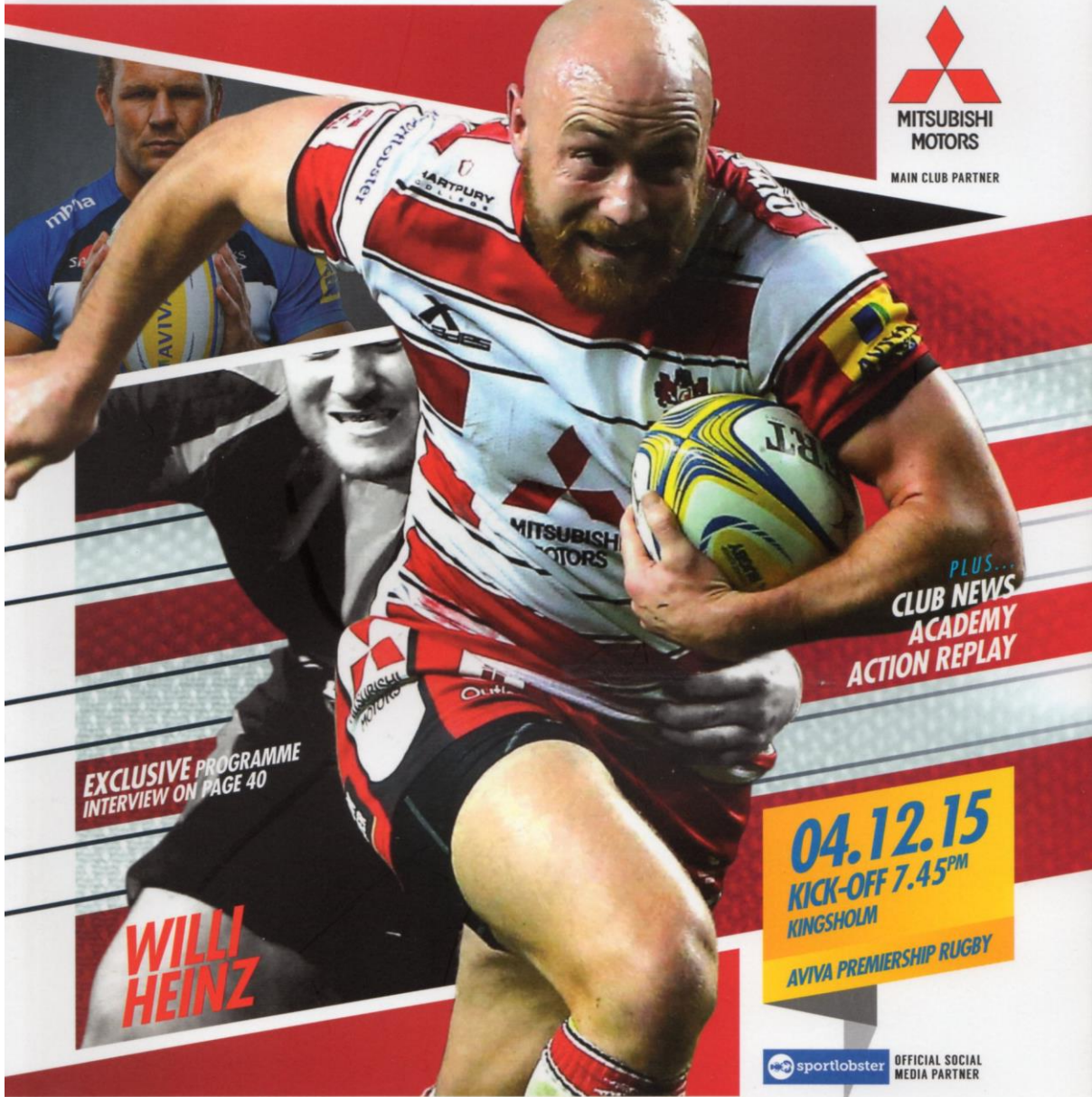
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PRICE. £3



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

vs SALE SHARKS
AVIVA PREMIERSHIP RUGBY - ROUND 6



MITSUBISHI
MOTORS

MAIN CLUB PARTNER

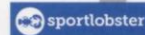
PLUS...
CLUB NEWS
ACADEMY
ACTION REPLAY

EXCLUSIVE PROGRAMME
INTERVIEW ON PAGE 40

WILLI
HEINZ

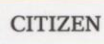
04.12.15
KICK-OFF 7.45PM
KINGSHOLM

AVIVA PREMIERSHIP RUGBY



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C CAPTAIN'S CORNER BILLY TWELVETREES

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME TO TONIGHT'S GAME AGAINST THE SALE SHARKS, AND OUR FINAL AVIVA PREMIERSHIP HOME GAME OF 2015.

IT'S a warm welcome to Steve Diamond and his Sharks team to Kingsholm for what will be another cracking atmosphere under the lights.

As a group we were massively disappointed after last Friday's result at Northampton, and we were frustrated that we were unable to turn possession and territory into points in difficult conditions.

We were reasonably happy with our attitude and commitment and particularly our defence, but that doesn't count for much if we cannot

(RIGHT) We are hoping to bounce back in style this evening



THE QUALITY OF THE COMPETITION CONTINUES TO RISE. AND WE NEED TO GIVE OUR MAJOR WEAPON: THE KINGSHOLM CROWD, SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT AND UTILISE WHAT VERY FEW OTHER CLUBS CAN CALL UPON, AN UNRIVALLED SUPPORT.

make the most of our scoring opportunities.

Sale will be another tough test for us, and the way the fixtures have fallen again, sees another evening game under the lights and in winter conditions so we know the nature of the challenge that lies ahead of us tonight.

Under Steve Diamond, Sale have developed into a really tight unit and, in Danny Cipriani, we know we have to be on our mettle to defend against a real livewire opponent.

The last time out at Kingsholm saw us defeat Zebre but, despite a sparkling first half performance we lacked accuracy in the second and missed out on a bonus

point. But we are trying to build momentum and confidence, and the result away in La Rochelle was an excellent one for us.

Travelling away to France is notoriously a difficult experience for any English team, and the atmosphere at the Stade Marcel Deflandre was exactly what we expected – a spicy, hostile and very noisy one.

La Rochelle were an excellent team on the night and we had to dig deep to get ahead in the closing stages, and then it was down to a bit of individual genius from Charlie to put the result beyond doubt.

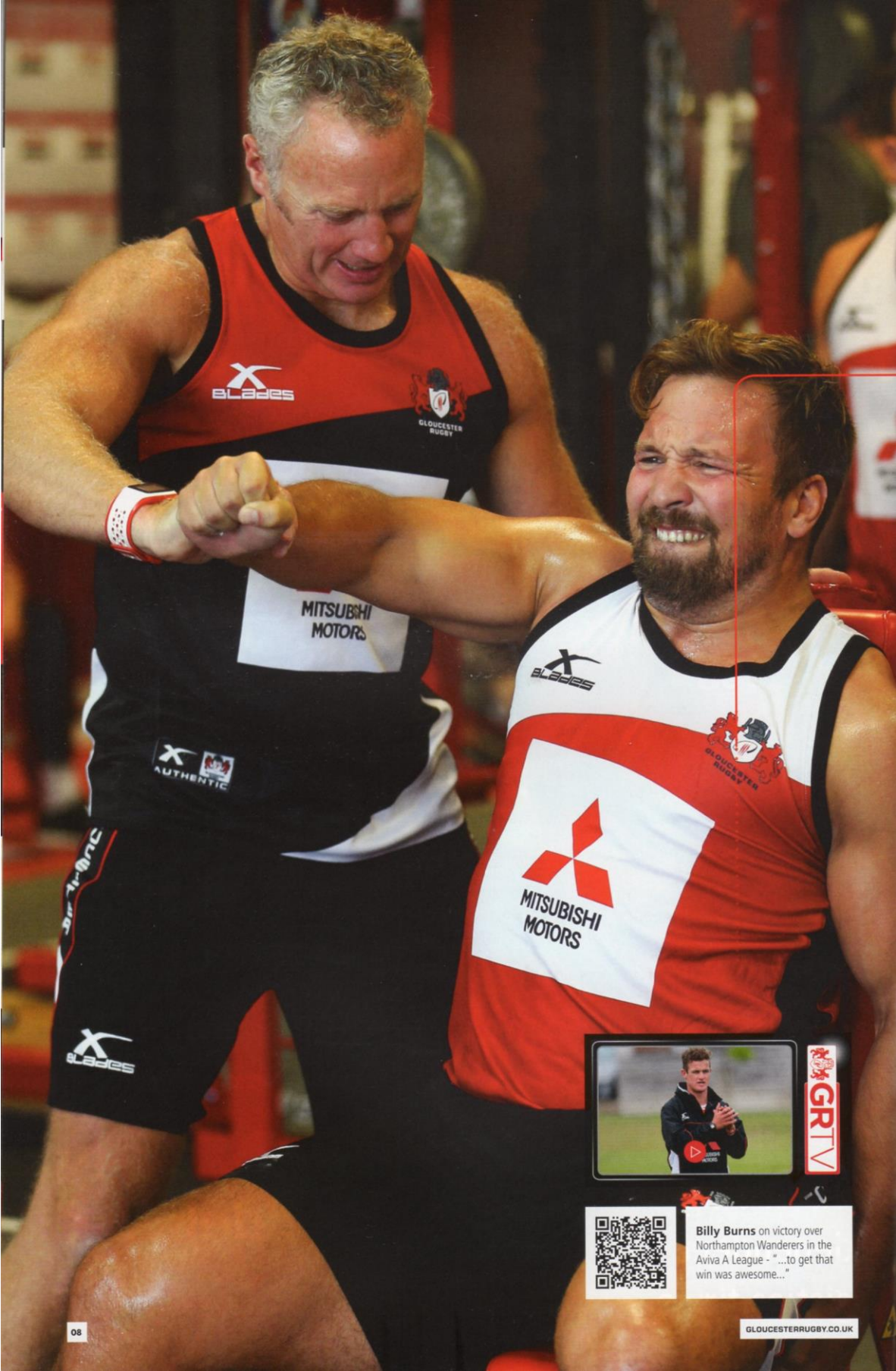
Of course, we share everyone's disappointment that we couldn't

back up the away win again last week so there has been a big effort behind the scenes this week as we seek to make amends in front of our own supporters.

The quality of the competition continues to rise, and we need to give our major weapon; the Kingsholm crowd, something to shout about and utilise what very few other clubs can call upon, an unrivalled support.

Enjoy the game

Billy



GRTV



Billy Burns on victory over Northampton Wanderers in the Aviva A League - "...to get that win was awesome..."

COMING UP...

EXCLUSIVE MATCHDAY PROGRAMME INTERVIEW
WITH WILLI HEINZ



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DAVID HUMPHREYS

DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

▼ WE NEED TO PRODUCE A BIG PERFORMANCE AGAINST AN EXPERIENCED AND PHYSICAL SALE SHARKS TEAM.

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME BACK TO KINGSHOLM FOR A FRIDAY NIGHT AVIVA PREMIERSHIP FIXTURE AGAINST SALE SHARKS.

I'M sure you'll provide the usual warm Gloucester welcome to Steve Diamond and all the Sale Sharks' staff, players and supporters.

November has been a busy month with fixtures in the Aviva Premiership, the Challenge Cup, the A League and of course, the visit of the Barbarians.

For many of our young Academy players, the opportunity to play against a star-studded Barbarians team was an experience they will never forget, and the queue to swap shirts at the end of the game reminded me of one of the great traditions of the amateur days!

Off the field, we were all saddened by the news of the untimely death of Jonah Lomu.

Like many of you, I watched him do unbelievable things on a rugby pitch but the title of the BBC documentary on his life, "The Man Who Changed Rugby", sums up the contribution Jonah has made to our sport.

His performances at the 1995 Rugby World Cup gave the game its first global superstar and redefined what everyone wanted in a professional rugby player.

At international level, the fall out from Rugby World Cup 2015 has continued with the appointment of Eddie Jones as England's Head Coach.

Hugely experienced and with the benefit of knowing the English club system, we're looking forward to working with Eddie over the next few seasons to deliver a successful

club game and a successful International side.

Despite what some commentators would have you to believe, success at both levels is not mutually exclusive!

After two good wins in Europe we're all excited about being back playing in front of our home crowd at Kingsholm in the Aviva Premiership, and we know that we need to produce a big performance against an experienced and physical Sale Sharks team.

After the disappointment of last Friday's game against Northampton, there's been a real edge to training all week and we know the areas we need to improve upon for tonight.

The weather conditions in Northampton last weekend made it almost impossible to play any rugby but, unlike the same fixture last season, there was very little between the two teams and the result turned on the number of penalties we gave away in our own half.

At Premiership level it's a game of very small margins and with every team having a top quality place kicker, discipline is key to becoming a successful team.

Thanks again to all the fans who have travelled with us over the last couple of weeks. The support on a Thursday evening in La Rochelle was incredible and it's always a massive boost to the team to see so many friendly faces in Gloucester colours!

Enjoy the game tonight.



(ABOVE) I will be looking forward to working with new England Head Coach Eddie Jones
(MAIN) The squad has been working hard in the gym as we reach an important part of the season

The Citizen

THE HUNT IS ON

JONNY BELL IS DETERMINED TO MAKE GLOUCESTER ONE OF EUROPE'S FINEST DEFENSIVE TEAMS BY INSTILLING A HUNTER'S MENTALITY.

THE former Ulster and Ireland centre is now five months into his role as the Cherry and Whites' defence guru after succeeding John Muggleton.

And while there have been plenty of frustrations during the opening weeks of the season, Gloucester's rear-guard action has been one positive and is steadily improving.

Bell has been impressed with the progress made but he knows it will be a long journey and he is not afraid to set his sights high.

He said, "Defence is a cornerstone of the game and in recent years Gloucester have played with a freedom that's been at the expense of defending with energy.

"It came back last season. John Muggleton did a very good job, the technique in the tackle here is very good and there is a lot of physicality. I was brought in to bring in clarity and specific roles, to really push the defence forward and take it to the next level.

"I make no apologies for saying I don't just want us to be one of the best defensive teams in England, I want us to be one of the best in Europe. That is our ambition and it



will take time.

"I'm passionate about defence and certainly in the northern hemisphere it's a huge part of the game. All the top clubs here, their foundation is defence and set-piece.

"We want a culture that sees defence as a defining part of the team, something we can build around. You need energy, passion and a hunger and I have upmost respect for the players here because they have bought into everything.

"It's all about more connection,

more focus on doubling up in the tackle, decision-making at the breakdown, kick-chase.

"I want a hunter's mentality – a real hunger and desire to get the ball back. We can't be happy to sit back and wait."

Gloucester's defence, on paper, appears to be improving – they conceded seven tries in the first three games of the season but have shipped just three in their three latest encounters.

Currently they concede just 1.8



GLoucester are an ambitious side. David's ambitious and there's a great opportunity to push the club back to the top table of rugby.

tries per Premiership tie compared to last year's overall 2.7.

That comes from an improved set-piece, with the exception of last week's defeat to Northampton Saints, and a much stronger maul defence.

And Bell can attribute many of the 'tries against' so far this season to system errors which will be ironed out over the weeks and months ahead.

Bell continued, "We're definitely moving in the right direction but with everything it takes time to bed in and implement ideas and systems.

"We have seen some system errors which from experience I expected - we have conceded some soft, sloppy tries.

"At Ulster it took a couple of years to get that consistency across the beliefs and cultures I want in defence.

"With time we will get better and better and the players will have a much clearer grasp of what I want. That will come with repetition and habits.

"The maul is also a huge part of the game, it's in vogue right now,

and we don't want to give teams energy there. It was a problem last year but there's been a massive improvement this year with Trevor Woodman and Laurie Fisher doing a lot of work.

"We kept our try-line intact against Northampton Saints who are regularly one, two, three in England and competing in Europe. That comes down to a huge amount of work from everyone and we can take confidence from that."

But Bell is also keen to stress that it is the players that must drive the continued progress.

He has made Tom Savage, Matt Kvesic, Bill Meakes and Billy Twelvetrees defensive captains at the club and expects them to live and breathe the culture.

Bell said, "We regularly talk to them for feedback on how they're feeling, to talk tactics and what we want to impose.

"It is their defence, I can give them the frameworks, systems and structures but by having ownership they can take it to the next level."

Bell's move from Ulster to Gloucester, just a year behind former

teammate and close friend David Humphreys, ended an association with the Northern Ireland province that spanned more than 20 years.

Despite the strong ties to Ravenhill, it was not a difficult decision for the 36-cap international and Heineken Cup winner.

He knew it was time to challenge himself in a new environment and both Bell and his family are loving life in Cherry and White.

The 41-year-old said, "I had been at Ulster as a player or coach for more than 20 years, which is an extremely long time. I felt it was the right time for me to make a change, the opportunity came up at Gloucester and it was an easy decision to make.

"From my time playing in the English league I knew all about the culture of the club and how well respected they are.

"There are a lot of similarities with Ulster in terms of that culture, being a very strong rugby county and city, and having a very strong and passionate fan base. It was a great chance to work with new players and challenges, just taking myself out of my comfort zone.

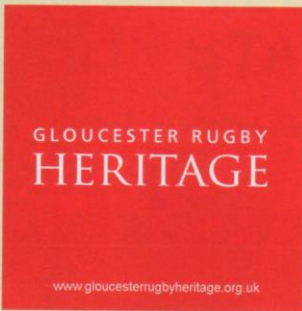
"Obviously I've known David for a long time and I have huge respect for him both as a player and today. From what he did at Ulster, towards the end of our playing days they were at a low ebb and, amongst others, he was instrumental in putting in place the right people and structures that has seen the province become a consistent European club side.

"That takes time but David knows what he wants, he is ambitious and wants the right people in place - we want to see Gloucester back at the level they are accustomed to.

"Gloucester are an ambitious side, David's ambitious and there's a great opportunity to push the club back to the top table of rugby.

"It takes time, it doesn't happen overnight. There is huge expectation here but it takes time to bed things in and to grow a team but I firmly believe we're on the right path."

Citizen
AVAILABLE DAILY



GLOUCESTER PROPS PART 1

THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF THE CLUB, GLOUCESTER BUILT AND MAINTAINED A FINE AND DESERVED REPUTATION FOR HARD UNCOMPROMISING PROP FORWARDS - OTHER CLUBS, INCLUDING THE WELSH, ALWAYS KNEW THAT THEY WERE IN FOR A TOUGH ENCOUNTER UP FRONT WHEN THEY FACED THE CHERRY AND WHITES.

This, the first of four articles, takes us up to the 1950s.

ERNEST COMLEY
ERNEST COMLEY was a versatile front five forward, who though primarily a prop, played for both Gloucester and Gloucestershire in the second row and was noted for his work in the line-out.



He played 272 1st XV games for Gloucester between 1924 and 1934. His 20 caps for Gloucestershire included the rare distinction of making his County Championship debut on the winning side in the final against Lancashire at Blundellsands in 1930.

He went on to win a second Championship against Durham at Blaydon in 1932 and was on the losing side in 1934 at Franklin's Gardens against East Midlands.

His outstanding season was 1933-34 when Gloucester notched a record 29 victories. He played in all six games for Gloucestershire and caught the eye of the England selectors, playing for the Rest against England at Twickenham in the final trial.

Ernest was born in 1904 in Gloucester, the son of a machine driller in an engineering works. He worked as a driver for Morelands Match Factory for 42 years. His daughter Patricia was married to the Gloucestershire and Nottinghamshire off-spinner Bryan "Bomber" Wells, whose brother Geoff played centre for Gloucester and Gordon League.

FRED WADLEY
FRED WADLEY was a durable prop forward who played in other positions in the pack when required and was a first team regular from 1927 until he retired in 1935, playing 210 games. He captained the club in his last three seasons and also captained Gloucestershire. He was on the winning side in three County Championship Finals and was an England triallist.

Alfred James "Fred" Wadley was born in Gloucester in 1902. He made his debut for Gloucester in 1926-27 and became a regular the following year. He was a reserve for England trials at Kingsholm and Northampton in December 1929, and later that season played for



Gloucestershire in their County Championship Final victory over Lancashire at Waterloo.

Fred played for The Rest against England in the final trial at Twickenham in January 1931 and two weeks later was a reserve for England against Wales. He played in Gloucestershire's Championship Final victory over Warwick at Kingsholm. The following year he played in a third consecutive Championship Final victory, this time over Durham at Blaydon.

In 1933-34 he captained the club to a record 29 victories. That season The Times considered Gloucester to be the Club of the Year. At the end of 1934-35, his third and final season as captain, he retired and was elected a life member of the club. He later served on the Committee, as did his son Doug.

TOM PRICE
TOM PRICE, renowned as a formidable opponent in both the tight and the loose, made 152 appearances for Gloucester from 1934-1948. He played 35 games for



Gloucestershire and won six England caps. He captained Gloucester in 1946-47.



Thomas William "Tom" Price was born in 1914. He made his debut for Gloucester in December 1934 and went on to play regularly in the second half of that season. He made his county debut in October of the following season and played for Gloucester throughout 1935-36.

In 1936-37 he suffered serious injury and even contemplated retirement at the age of 22. However he recovered to start the 1937-38 season and played for Gloucestershire and for the Possibles in the second England trial. Tom Price continued as a first choice for club and county up to the outbreak of WW2.

In 1945-46 he returned to play for Gloucester and was selected for an unofficial International against Ireland that season. He was appointed club captain for 1946-47 but only played in the first few games and resigned the captaincy in January due to illness. He returned at the start of the next season to play regularly for club and county and in March 1948 was selected to play for England against Scotland and France.

Tom Price joined Cheltenham in 1948 and continued to play for Cheltenham and for Gloucestershire until 1952. He played in all four Home Internationals of 1948-49 as a Cheltenham player.

TOM DAY

TOM DAY made 236 appearances for Gloucester at prop between 1938 and 1951. He captained the club in 1950-51 and played 16 games for Gloucestershire and for Western Counties. In retirement, he was a leading administrator in club and county rugby.

Sidney Thomas "Tom" Day was born in Gloucester in 1914. He made his debut for Gloucester in 1938-39 and played 19 games in his first season.

His career peaked in 1946-47 when he made his debut for Gloucestershire, playing through the season which culminated in a drawn County Championship Final against Lancashire. Tom also played for Western Counties against the Australian tourists and was a reserve for the final England trial that season.

Tom Day played for Gloucestershire in County Championship semi-finals in 1947-48 and 1948-49 and captained Gloucester in 1950-51, which was to be his final season.

After retirement he served as Gloucester Chairman for several years and was Gloucestershire RFU President in 1976-77 and Gloucester President in 1995-96.

GEORGE HASTINGS

GEORGE WILLIAM HASTINGS was born into a farming family in Dursley in November 1924. He made his debut for Gloucester at the start of the 1947-48 season and was a regular in the Gloucester side until his retirement in 1959-60.

Big and mobile, he started his career as a utility forward but went on to become one of the great England props. He was Gloucester captain in 1954-55. George made 260 appearances for Gloucester

and was capped 13 times by England. He played 34 games for Gloucestershire, culminating in a County Championship Final against Warwickshire in April 1959. He captained the county in 1955-56.

George Hastings first gained wider notice when he played for Western Counties against the All Blacks in 1953-54. The



following season he played in all three England trials before gaining his first cap against Wales at Cardiff. The Times said of his selection "the powerful Hastings of Gloucester, as a lusty forward, is well worth his place, but is not everyone's idea of a front row prop."

He went on to play in all four matches in the Five Nations Championship that year, scoring a try against Ireland.

In 1956-57, he played for England's grand slam winning side in all four Home Internationals and again in 1957-58, when England retained the Championship, he played in all four Home Internationals and against Australia.

Although George Hastings missed selection for the Lions tours of 1954 and 1959, he played no less than 20 times for the Barbarians, playing first on their Easter tour of South Wales in 1954-55 and touring Canada and South Africa in 1957-58.

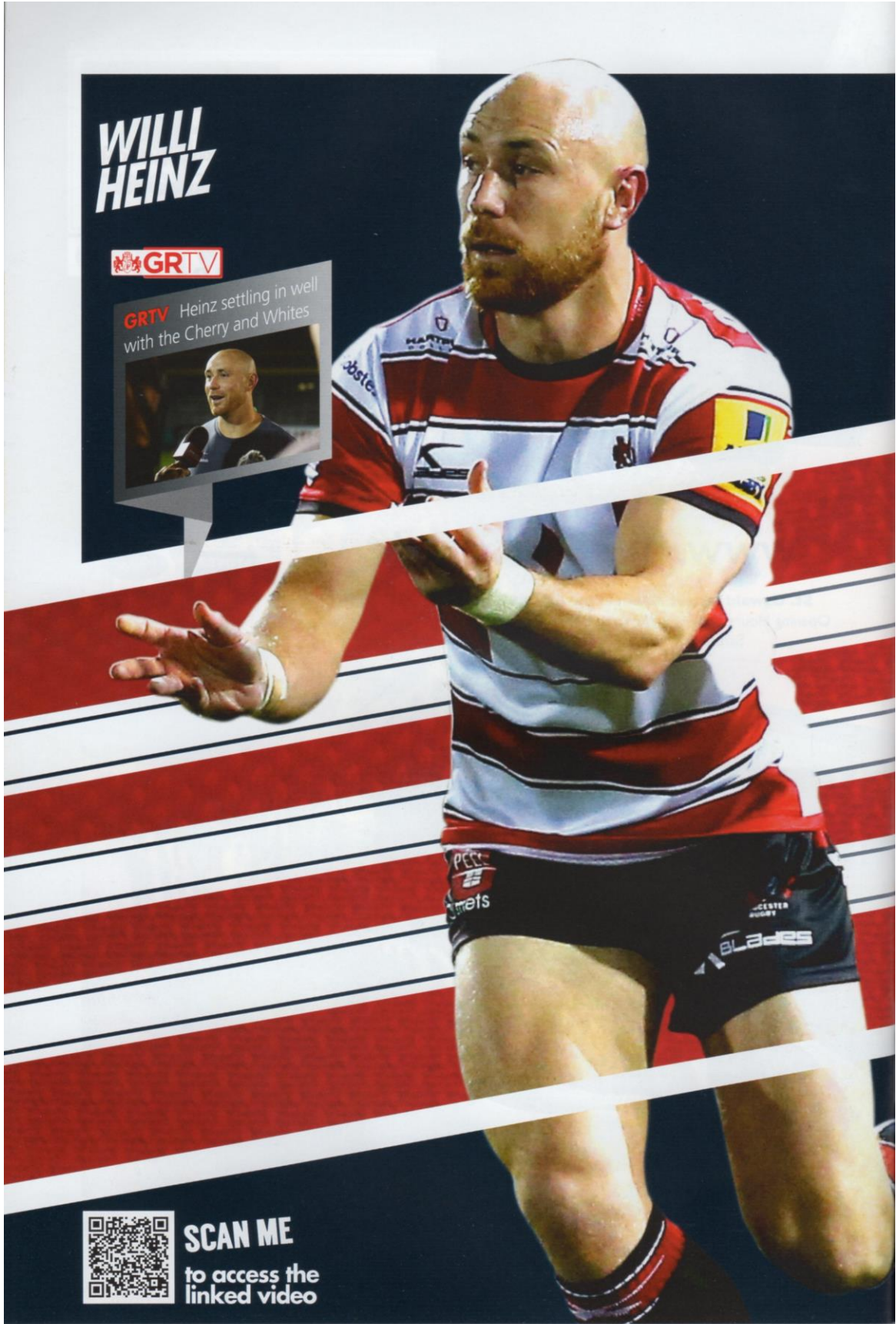
The Times said in 1960: "C R Jacobs and G W Hastings helped to form the best front row that England have had since the war"



WILLI HEINZ



GRTV Heinz settling in well with the Cherry and Whites



SCAN ME
to access the linked video

A SAFE PAIR OF HANDS

PLYING HIS TRADE NOW ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD, WILLI HEINZ HAS SETTLED FANTASTICALLY AND IS NOW TURNING HIS FOCUS ON HIS ON-PITCH PERFORMANCES IN CHERRY AND WHITE.

A summer arrival from Super Rugby side Crusaders, Heinz made the bold move to up sticks and head to the Northern Hemisphere and Kingsholm, a decision he is delighted to have made.

"I'm loving it so far, I guess, coming in from Christchurch, it's a long way to come. But the boys have made me feel really welcome and they weren't shy with the banter early on which helps you to settle into the groove of things on the whole.



"The club have been great in making it easy for my family and I to settle in and make the transition."

WE'RE WORKING HARD ON THE TRAINING FIELD. AND ALL THE BOYS ARE PUTTING EVERYTHING INTO IT. AND WE HOPE THAT THIS IS SHOWING WHEN IT COMES TO FRIDAY'S GAME AGAINST SALE, AND WE CAN PICK UP THE WIN.

Swapping one rugby mad city for another, Heinz admits that he can see plenty of comparisons between the home of the Crusaders and his new base on the edge of the Cotswolds.

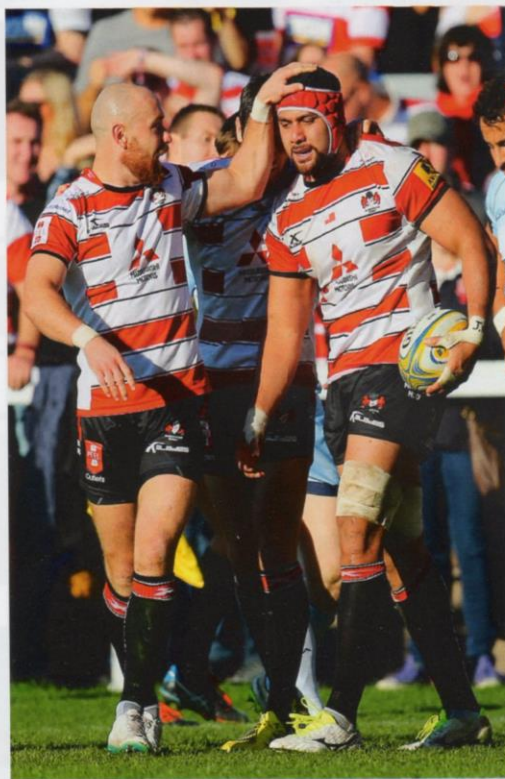
"I can draw massive comparisons. Christchurch is crazy about the rugby and have very one-eyed supporters and are very passionate. So there's certainly some similarities there.

"One thing I am noticing the most is the vocal support, and running around in front of The Shed in the warm up, it's pretty spine tingling stuff.

"Throughout the games when they get into their chants and get behind the boys, it's pretty awesome and definitely helps to lift us."

Swapping Super Rugby for the Aviva Premiership, Heinz admits that the challenge is on the same level, but the style of rugby played can be somewhat different.

"Absolutely expected this challenge, talking to people about the standard of rugby to expect, it's really tough games each week, really tight games with low scores



ONE THING I AM NOTICING THE MOST IS THE VOCAL SUPPORT, AND RUNNING AROUND IN FRONT OF THE SHED IN THE WARM UP. IT'S PRETTY SPINE TINGLING STUFF.

THROUGHOUT THE GAMES WHEN THEY GET INTO THEIR CHANTS AND GET BEHIND THE BOYS, IT'S PRETTY AWESOME AND DEFINITELY HELPS TO LIFT US.

and hanging tough.

"That's the stuff that I enjoy being part of, and I guess in the Aviva Premiership this season, from my experience, there are absolutely no easy games, and the teams that historically have struggled in the competition, are



really challenging now.

"It's a really enjoyable competition for me so far."

The last fortnight was one of firsts for Heinz as he made his first European appearance for the Cherry and Whites, and a first visit to France and the win over La Rochelle.

"It was really cool actually, I've never been to France and going to La Rochelle which was a lovely little town.

"I managed to get out for a few little coffees around the harbour on the day of the game before turning up to the ground.

"It was an intimate little field, and the crowd there were really passionate. You saw the classic French flair as the crowd got behind the team when they got their game going.

"It was a really cool experience and we were glad to get the win."

The tough tests come thick and fast now in the run up to the turn of the year, and Heinz says the team are continuing to put the effort in, but perhaps without the reward.

"We've been a little bit disappointed with our last few Premiership results. We feel we've got stuff to work on and we're close to cracking it but we're not quite converting that into points.



"We're working hard on the training field, and all the boys are putting everything into it, and we hope that this is showing when it comes to Friday's game against Sale, and we can pick up the win."

KINGSHOLM NEWS WITH BOB FENTON



SOMETIMES THESE PROGRAMME PIECES ALMOST WRITE THEMSELVES. I SIT DOWN TO WRITE THEM IN - USUALLY - AN OPTIMISTIC FRAME OF MIND, AND THE WORDS JUST FALL IN TO PLACE. AT OTHER TIMES IT'S NOT SO EASY TO BE POSITIVE.

I guess today is one of the latter. I'm currently hiding from the X Factor (well not as you read this obviously - well, not unless you read it on Saturday night...) and am still slightly traumatised by the events last night at Franklins Gardens.

Look, us Gloucester fans are used to losing games - far too used to losing games - especially away at places like Northampton and Wasps. I guess what really hurt from those two, though, is the fact that we were never really in it.

Had the Saints players been able to hang on to the ball they would have run in a cricket score, gawd knows how many chances they blew. Our guys, meanwhile, hardly managed a scoring opportunity of note during the 80 minutes.

I'm not a coach, I don't know why games like this happen - and they happen a bit too frequently for my liking - but sometimes we struggle to understand the decisions that are made. We looked at that team and though we have a ten at 12 and a 12 at ten... umm...

I'm sure, David and the coaching gang had their reasons, but it baffled us poor saps. Worse, it didn't seem to phase the Saints too much.

But it's gone now, finished - consigned to history, best left there and forgotten about. Anyway, the last few weeks have not been all doom and gloom.

We've had a good couple of run outs in the Challenge Cup, a solid enough win at home against Zebre was followed up with a great



performance in France against La Rochelle. They have been going pretty well in the French league, so the trip had all the hallmarks of a banana skin tie.

Having got ourselves in a good position, the inevitable and all too frequent 'fall asleep' moment around either side of half time suggested that the French boys were going to get back in to it, but two quick tries - including a thing of beauty from Charlie Sharples put four points in the bag, tied up the string and came back to Kingsholm.

We're masters of our own destiny in the group now, a couple more wins and we're home and hosed. Just got to finish top to get the home draw in the

COMING UP...

**ACTION REPLAY
VS BARBARIANS**



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SANDWICHED BETWEEN THOSE TWO GAMES WAS THE VISIT OF THE BARBARIANS. WHAT A GREAT NIGHT THAT WAS. A REAL PRIVILEGE TO SEE SO MANY SUPERSTARS OF THE GAME ON THE PITCH. AND THE BARBARIANS WERE NOT TOO SHABBY EITHER!

knockout stages.

Sandwiched between those two games was the visit of the Barbarians. What a great night that was, a real privilege to see so many superstars of the game on the pitch. And the Barbarians were not too shabby either!

Seriously though, did you see their team sheet? Ridiculous talent on show. A friend of mine went to the game and said he didn't enjoy it as it was a bit too one sided. Really??? He really was surprised that our team of youngsters didn't run them closer...

Man alive it was men against boys - I mean when Harry Robinson looked up at the winger opposite him - just the small matter of Nemani Nadolo (around 28 tonnes of Fijian power) he must have thought 'why me!' and got the emergency services on speed dial.

Of course it was going to be

one-sided, but what a feast of rugby it was. And what great experience for the young guys, and fair play to them they kept buzzing around until the final whistle. The pictures on social media afterwards were great - a game they will be talking about for the rest of their lives, and how can they not learn from an experience like that?

It was also good to see Tim Molenaar back in a Gloucester jersey, I think having him on the field got the average age of our squad up to about 17. It wasn't his best night though, chasing shadows as Ryan Crotty and Francois Venter trundled past him, then getting himself knocked out and led off the pitch. Hopefully he enjoyed the experience - what he can remember of it anyway!

So tonight, then. Sale. Above us in the table with two wins and a draw. 12 points to our nine. Look,



it's far too early to worry about league tables and where things will be at the end of the season. There's a heck of a long way to go yet and, despite last week's set backs, I'm still positive.

I know we'll come good, just got to find the confidence and belief in ourselves. We have experience throughout the squad and we just need to go out and play. A couple of good wins and we'll be flying into the Christmas period in good shape.

Deep down we know we have the players and coaches to make great things happen. While patience is a virtue a few good wins will help. And maybe playing the right shaped pegs in the right shaped holes will help (but I repeat, I'm no coach, just a punter).

Tonight is going to be great, no slip ups, no horror shows, just a good solid win to restore a bit of faith.

Not asking too much is it - and Black Friday was last week, right?





RANDALL ON RUGBY

FOR THE SECOND FRIDAY RUNNING GLOUCESTER'S OPPONENTS ARE ALSO IN THE BOTTOM FOUR IN THE TABLE, AND LET'S BE TRUTHFUL, THE GAME AT FRANKLINS GARDENS A WEEK AGO WASN'T MUCH OF AN EVENT. SAINTS HAVE HAD A WOBBLY START TO THE SEASON BUT THEY WILL SURELY GET STRONGER.

LAST weekend Sale became the first team not to beat Newcastle, although with Danny Cipriani missing a late penalty, they should have done and Director of Rugby Steve Diamond made it pretty clear after the match he wasn't too chuffed with the Sharks' display.

On that basis Gloucester had better be careful.

Mariano Galarza's return to the fray a week ago backed up David Humphreys' view that from an availability perspective, Gloucester's bill of health is almost completely clean.

Only Gareth Evans, James Hudson and Tom Marshall are some way off playing, with the 25 year old Kiwi still recovering from the



operation on his left knee which is delaying his debut.

"It was a three hour procedure and the recovery is renowned for being slow," he told me.

"I'm doing lots of rehab work as we try and build up the strength in the tendon. I can cycle and swim, and running is the next stage. Once I start running I hope getting fit will be a quick process. In a perfect world I'd like to be running this month and playing at some point after Christmas- that's with no hiccoughs...."

Marshall's Newcastle-born grandfather was a key factor to him playing in England. It qualified him for a four year ancestry visa which eased the registration process, as was his agent asking questions of former scrum half Jimmy Cowan which helped Gloucester's cause.

"When you are on the other side of the world a move like this is a bit of a stab in the dark sometimes" Marshall went on.

"You want inside knowledge and Jimmy was really helpful. He didn't have a bad word to say about the club, which on top of my conversations with David Humphreys on Skype helped sell Gloucester to me. I've only been



here three months but I'm happy with my decision."

With dual qualification. I wondered about Tom's international ambitions. If his side step on the field is as good,

YOU WANT INSIDE KNOWLEDGE AND JIMMY WAS REALLY HELPFUL. HE DIDN'T HAVE A BAD WORD TO SAY ABOUT THE CLUB. WHICH ON TOP OF MY CONVERSATIONS WITH DAVID HUMPHREYS ON SKYPE HELPED SELL GLOUCESTER TO ME. I'VE ONLY BEEN HERE THREE MONTHS BUT I'M HAPPY WITH MY DECISION. TOM MARSHALL



back home but the game is slower here," Tom said, "I've been in teams where it is really about playing what you see in front of you.

"The English game tends to be more structured. There are a lot of stoppages, and it feels as though there are a lot more set pieces and the mindset of the teams is a bit different.

"Exeter have caught my eye and although we were comprehensively beaten by Wasps, that doesn't look too bad when you see the results they've had since. We've not quite clicked yet but we won't be far off when we get some continuity."

Before Marshall headed off for another rehab session, he side-stepped me again when I asked about Gloucester's chances of a top six finish.

"It's all new, mate, I'm just soaking it in" came his cheery reply. "The pressure gauge comes on after Christmas."

Succinct, but no less accurate for that.

supporters will revel in his abilities.

"I really want to get back on the field and play some good footy for Gloucester," Marshall smiled.

Given his versatility, I wanted to know where he saw his name appearing on the team sheet.

"I enjoy playing full back because it is the best seat in the house - you can see everything. When you do chop and change it is difficult to show your best form everywhere. Ideally I'd like to settle in one position but coaches like players they can move around if it means keeping your best ones in the team. Ultimately it's their call."

The Kiwi mafia at Kingsholm is now a strong group - Afoa, Heinz, Thrush and Latta as well as Marshall himself - although four are new acquisitions this season, which means getting up to speed with who's who and what's what in the Premiership, and even though he's

still getting fit Marshall is banking knowledge for the future.

"The physicality is the same





Back To School

by Henry Purdy, age 21

PRIMARY SCHOOL

I WENT TO Wyehwood Primary

MY BEST FRIENDS WERE Ross Barrett and Toby Walker

MY FAVOURITE SUBJECT WAS PE.

MY FAVOURITE TEACHER WAS Mrs Barrett

MY FAVOURITE SCHOOL DINNER WAS Turkey twizzlers, chips and beans

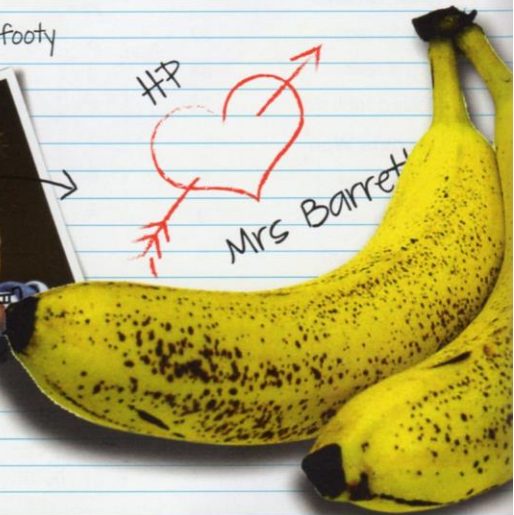
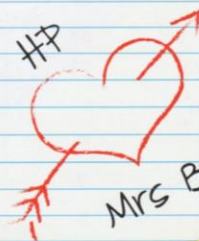
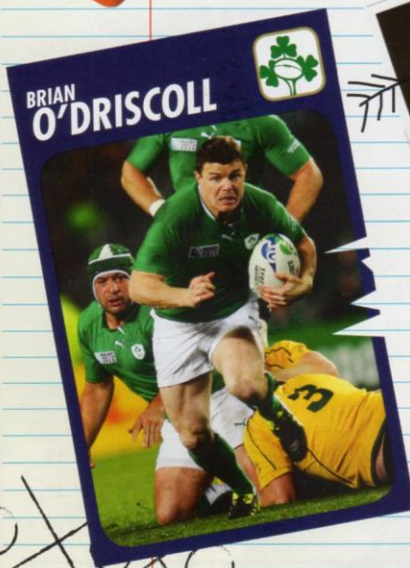
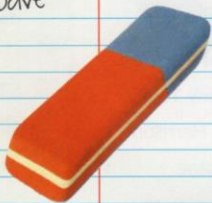
IN MY SNACK BOX I HAD Malt Loaf, sarnies and a banana

MY FIRST SCHOOL PLAY WAS Christmas Nativity, however I was Winnie the Pooh somehow

IN THE PLAYGROUND Play footy

Henry's best friends

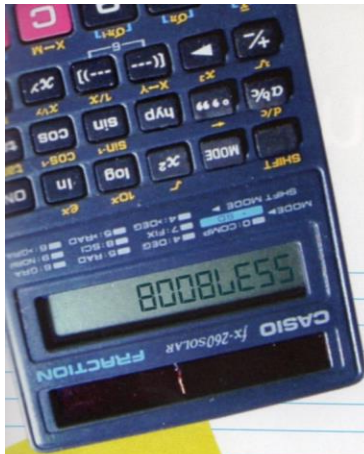
1. Ross
2. Toby
3. Duncan
4. Tom
5. Dave



MY EARLIEST RUGBY MEMORY Sundays at Chipping Norton aged 8, with mates I still have today

WHEN WE PLAYED RUGBY I PRETENDED TO BE O'Driscoll or Josh Lewsey

AT SCHOOL SPORTS DAY Bit of everything, but cross country specialist.



Henry's timetable
 PE
 Chemistry
 Apple throwing
 Rugby
 Dancing practice

SECONDARY SCHOOL

I WENT TO Burford School

MY FAVOURITE MEMORY I have many great memories, but if I had to pick one, probably ski trip with Burford School in year 9

I ENJOYED Everything about school except, RE and Physics

MY GRADES WERE GCSE's were A's and a few B's and a C

MY HARDEST SUBJECT WAS Chemistry

MY UNIFORM WAS Shirt & Tie and Blazer

GOT IN TROUBLE FOR Apple fights at lunch time

MY FAVOURITE SCHOOL TRIP WAS Ski trip like I mentioned above, or Spain water sports trip 2008

Dear Mr and Mrs Purdy

We regret to inform you that little Henry has been throwing apples at the other boys

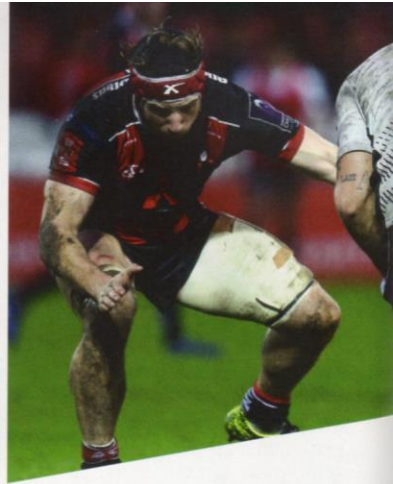
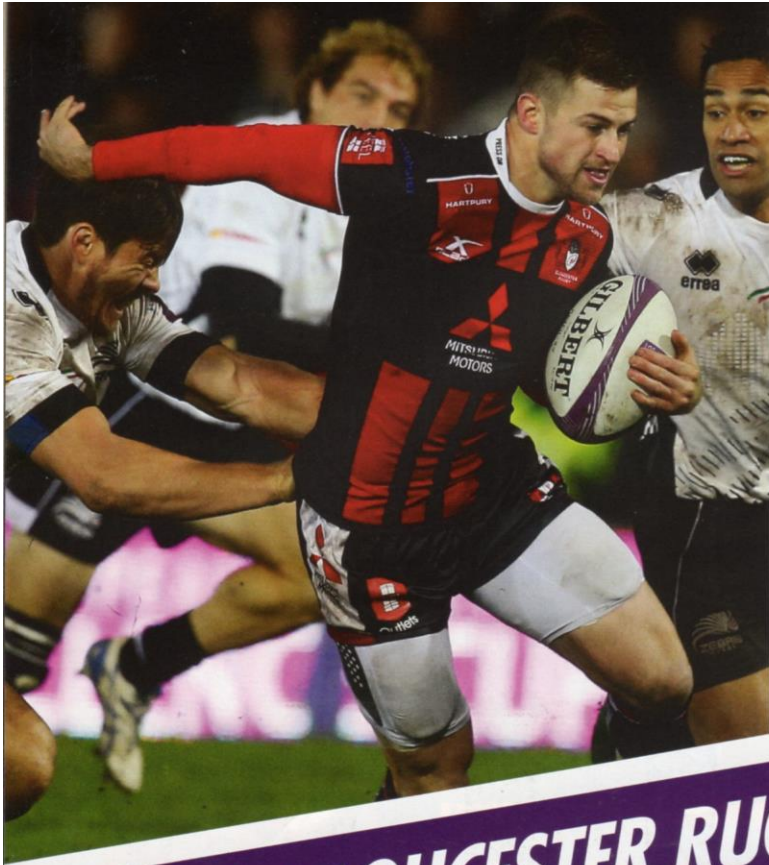


IN PE WE USED TO Make boys wear a skirt from lost property if they 'forgot' their shorts

AT SCHOOL I WANTED TO BE Billy Elliott in the west end

ON WORK EXPERIENCE I WENT TO Renault F1 and the Army





grew increasingly frustrated as conditions worsened.

However, a win is a win and Gloucester could now look ahead to the testing trip to La Rochelle with a first win under their belts.

On the day, Gloucester kicked



GLOUCESTER RUGBY 23

ZEBRE RUGBY 10

HALF TIME 23-0
ATTENDANCE 9,973
REFEREE Andrew Brace (Ireland)

GLOUCESTER'S defence of the European Rugby Challenge Cup got off to a winning start as they defeated Italian side Zebre by 23 points to 10 at Kingsholm.

Having been drawn together in the same pool of the same competition last season, it was the third time the two teams have met in less than twelve months and, like the two previous occasions, this was a hard-fought encounter.

Facing three games in six days, Gloucester fielded a much-changed outfit on the day, but the new-look side gelled well in the first half and pretty much had the game sown up

by half time.

Three tries were in the bag by the time the teams left the field after 40 minutes of action and it seemed as though all that was left to do in the second half was clinch the try scoring bonus point.

But it didn't turn out to be that easy. Italian resolve stiffened after the break and the men from Parma actually scored the only points of the second half as Gloucester



Speaking to GRTV after the win over Zebre, Callum Braley reflects on the victory

off proceedings with an absolute cracker of a try. Billy Burns was the creator with a lovely chip over the top in midfield. Callum Braley was on his shoulder to take it on, before Ross Moriarty fired the ball out to Henry Purdy who sprinted over in the corner.

The second came courtesy of some good old muscle from the pack. A catch and drive almost drove over, but Ross Moriarty made no mistake when the ball was recycled to power his way through a tackle and score.



It was so far so good at this point, and an attack launched from near their own line after a Jacob Rowan breakdown steal saw Steve McColl maraud downfield and his kick forced Zebre to concede a five metre scrum.



WE HAVE GOT TO DEVELOP A SQUAD THAT HAS 30 PLAYERS READY TO COME IN AND PLAY. MAKE A CHANGE HERE. REST A PLAYER HERE. AND THE PERFORMANCE DOESN'T SUFFER. DAVID HUMPHREYS

However, the third try was elusive at this point and it wasn't until just before half time that Gloucester crossed the whitewash again, although it was a try worth waiting for.

Attacking down the blindside, the ball was kept alive by superb handling from Atkinson, Ludlow and Braley before Billy Burns found the flying Steve McColl who had the pace and power to steam over in the corner.

23-0 at half time and everything going to plan, but things didn't go according to the script in the second half.

A somewhat harsh yellow card for Lewis Ludlow yellow carded

MATCHDAY SQUADS



GLoucester RUGBY

- 15 Rob Cook
- 14 Steve McColl 1T
- 13 Bill Meakes
- 12 Mark Atkinson
- 11 Henry Purdy 1T
- 10 Billy Burns 1C 2P
- 9 Callum Braley
- 1 Yann Thomas
- 2 Tom Lindsay
- 3 Paul Doran-Jones
- 4 Elliot Stooke
- 5 Jeremy Thrush
- 6 Ross Moriarty 1T
- 7 Jacob Rowan (C)
- 8 Lewis Ludlow ■

- 16 Darren Dawiduiik
- 17 Dan Murphy
- 18 Nicky Thomas
- 19 Tom Hicks
- 20 Daniel Thomas
- 21 Greig Laidlaw
- 22 Henry Trinder
- 23 Ollie Thorley



ZEBRE RUGBY

- 15 Guglielmo Palazzani
- 14 Dion Berryman
- 13 Giulio Bisegni
- 12 Matteo Praticchetti
- 11 Leonardo Sarto
- 10 Edoardo Padovani 1C 1P
- 9 Marcello Violi
- 1 Andrea Lovotti
- 2 Tommaso D'Apice
- 3 Dario Chistolini
- 4 Valerio Bernabo
- 5 Marco Bortolami (C)
- 6 Jacopo Sarto
- 7 Johan Meyer
- 8 Filippo Ferrarini

- 16 Oliviero Fabiani
- 17 Andrea de Marchi
- 18 Pietro Ceccarelli
- 19 George Biagi
- 20 Emiliano Caffini
- 21 Luke Burgess
- 22 Giiulio Toniolatti
- 23 Carlo Canna

and, in his absence, the Italian side took advantage of the extra man to score a penalty try before Padovani added a penalty.

Gloucester were never in any danger and, back up to 15 men, they strained every sinew in an attempt to get the bonus point try.

On several occasions, they established good field position in the Zebre 22, but anxious hands and wrong options taken saw the fifth point slip away from them.

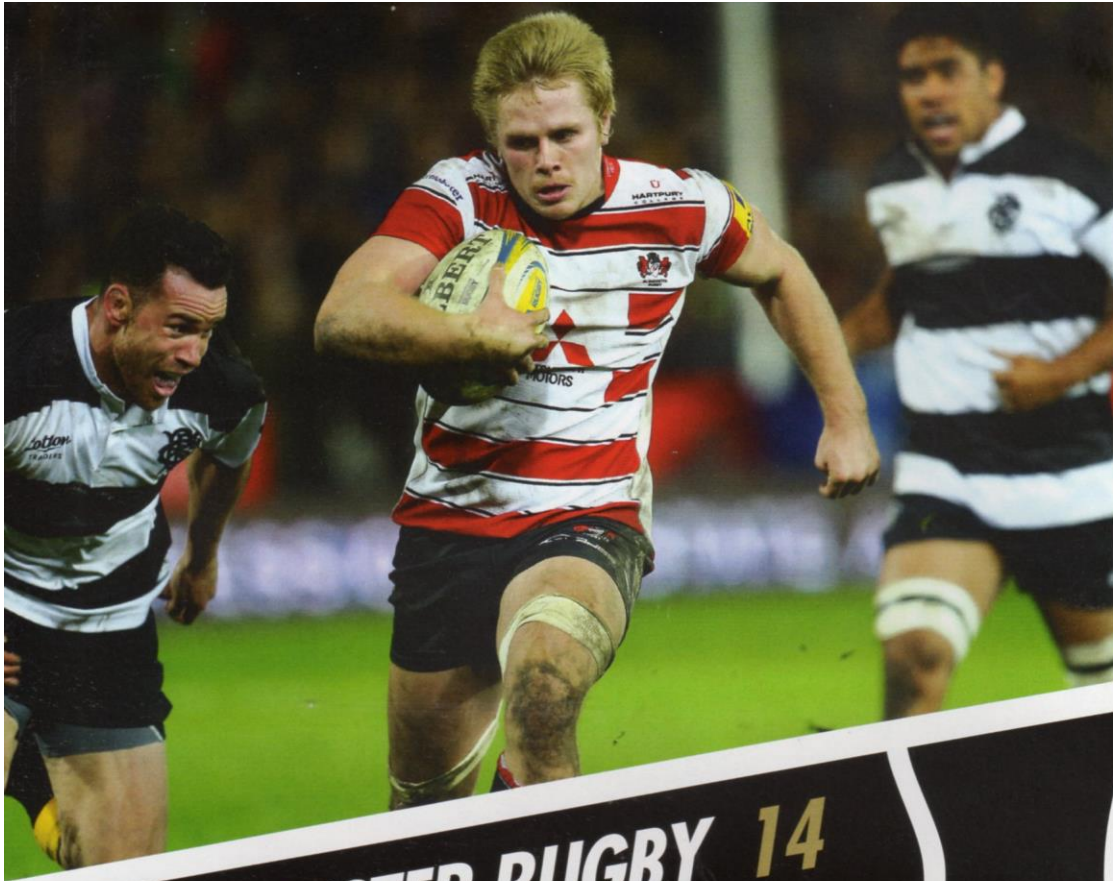


OFFICIAL LEGAL PARTNER

APPLYING THE LAW

Gloucester's push for a fourth try, to secure the try scoring bonus point, was made that little bit harder on 47 minutes when Lewis Ludlow was yellow carded for a 'no arms' tackle.

Television replays were inconclusive, the commentators describing it as '50/50', but the young back rower was forced to sit down for 10 minutes.



GLOUCESTER RUGBY 14

BARBARIANS 62

ON a night where perhaps the scoreline was irrelevant, some of the Cherry and White's brightest young talents had the opportunity to pit their wits against some of world rugby's finest.

The world-famous invitational club called upon the services of many of the stars of Rugby World Cup 2015 and, despite the gale-force conditions, both teams served up a treat of rugby for Kingsholm to enjoy.

The Cherry and Whites handed debuts to new arrival Joe Latta, and Academy winger Harry Robinson with a familiar face, Tim Molenaar, a guest in midfield.

But Molenaar was powerless to prevent the opening try of the evening as Fijian powerhouse



GRTV

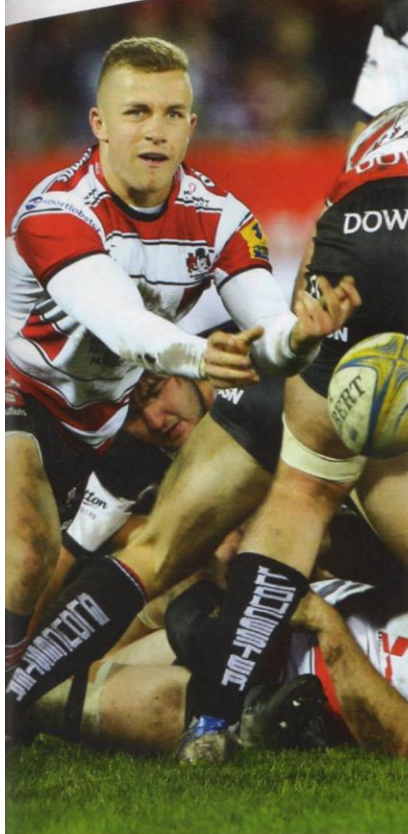
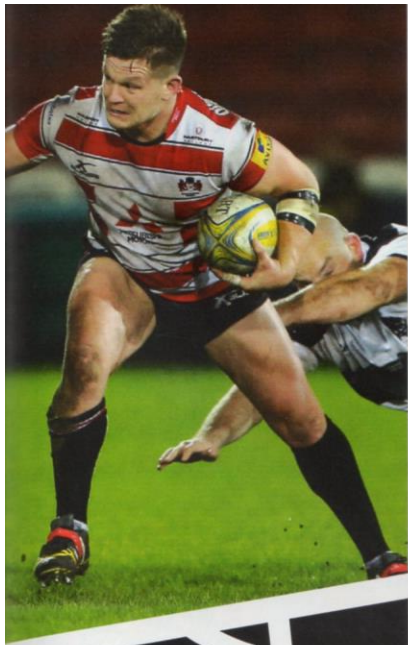


Dan Thomas relished Barbarians challenge and breakdown tussle in particular

winger Nemani Nadolo crashed over despite the attention of three defenders.

Much to the Kingsholm crowd's delight however, the hosts hit back. An opportune dash to intercept by Dan Thomas was rewarded and the back rower slid over untouched as he snaffled Cobus Reinach's misguided delivery from the base of a Barbarians scrum, and Gloucester led.

But the Barbarians class then saw them ease away for the rest of the first half. Despite



MATCHDAY SQUADS



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

- 15 Mat Protheroe
- 14 Harry Robinson
- 13 Olly Thorley
- 12 Tim Molenaar
- 11 Steph Reynolds
- 10 Lloyd Evans 2c
- 9 Ben Vellacott
- 1 Nick Wood (C)
- 2 Darren Dawidiuk
- 3 Nicky Thomas
- 4 Joe Latta
- 5 Tom Hicks
- 6 Elliott Stooke
- 7 Dan Thomas 1T
- 8 Lewis Ludlow

- 16 Henry Walker
- 17 Dan Murphy
- 18 Josh McNulty
- 19 Alex Craig
- 20 Will Safe
- 21 Harry Randall
- 22 Jack Spencer
- 23 Jack Evans



BARBARIANS

- 15 Nehe Milner Skudder 1T
- 14 Joe Tomane 2T
- 13 Francois Venter
- 12 Ryan Crotty 1T
- 11 Nemani Nadolo 1T
- 10 Pat Lambie 1T 4C
- 9 Cobus Reinach
- 1 Jamie Mackintosh
- 2 James Hanson
- 3 Toby Smith
- 4 Victor Matfield (C)
- 5 Lood de Jager 1T
- 6 Stephen Hoiles
- 7 Ardie Savea 1T 1C
- 8 Jarrad Butler

- 16 Stephen Moore
- 17 Thomas du Toit
- 18 Charlie Faumuina
- 19 Bakkies Botha
- 20 Scott Fardy
- 21 Tawera Kerr Barlow 1T
- 22 Lima Sopoaga 1C
- 23 Waisake Naholo 1T

Gloucester's scrum dominance, tries came from World Rugby Breakthrough Player of the Year Nehe Milner-Skudder, Ryan Crotty then a pair for Joe Tomane as the simple hands and execution was a delight to behold from the team led by Michael Cheika.

The 'Galacticos' of the Barbarians were on fine form, but the hosts were giving as good as they got but couldn't find a scoring pass to stay in touch and bring



cheer to the brave home support.

The scoring started in the second half as South African giant Lood de Jager took a quick tap metres from the line for a try that few defences would manage to prevent.

De Jager, a star of the World Cup, was a sensational presence throughout for the visitors, and showed his class, constantly stealing line out ball and creating a platform alongside Springbok legend Victor Matfield.

Tries for the BaaBaas then arrived through Ardie Savea and Waisake Naholo as the young All Black stars linked up well after making the most of half breaks to show the young Cherry and Whites how it is done.

World Cup winner Tawera Kerr-Barlow then got in on the action but the hosts never let their heads drop and put in a performance to be proud of on a memorable night.

The young pack flexed their muscle to be awarded a penalty try with time ticking down, but perhaps fittingly, the last word went to Cheika's men, as Springbok fly half Pat Lambie collected a neat Tomane break to stroll over and bring the evening to a close with yet another flash of quality.

5-0
5-5
5-8
8-8
8-11-8

11-11
23-19
11-16
16-16



TONIGHT'S TEAMSHEET

GLoucester RUGBY vs SALE SHARKS



Aviva Premiership Rugby - Round 6
Friday 4th December 2015, KO 19:45 Kingsholm

ROB COOK T	FULLBACK	15	FULLBACK	MIKE HALEY
CHARLIE SHARPLES	RIGHT WING	14	RIGHT WING	EDWARDS T TOM ARSCOTT
BILL MEAKES	OUTSIDE CENTRE	13	OUTSIDE CENTRE	SAM JAMES
BILLY TWELVETREES (C) PP	INSIDE CENTRE	12	INSIDE CENTRE	SAM TUITUPOU
JONNY MAY	LEFT WING	11	LEFT WING	WILL ADDISON
JAMES HOOK	FLY HALF	10	FLY HALF	PPP DANNY CIPRIANI
WILLI HEINZ	SCRUM HALF	9	SCRUM HALF	STRINGER CHRIS CUSITER
PADDY McALLISTER	LOOSEHEAD PROP	1	LOOSEHEAD PROP	ROSS HARRISON
RICHARD HIBBARD	HOOVER	2	HOOVER	TOMMY TAYLOR
JOHN AFOA	TIGHTHEAD PROP	3	TIGHTHEAD PROP	VADIM COBILAS
TOM SAVAGE	LOCK	4	LOCK	BRYN EVANS
JEREMY THRUSH	LOCK	5	LOCK	JONATHAN MILLS
ROSS MORIARTY	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	6	BLINDSIDE FLANKER	DAN BRAID (C)
MATT KVESIC	OPENSIDE FLANKER	7	OPENSIDE FLANKER	IOANE MAGNUS LUND
SIONE KALAMAFONI TT	NUMBER 8	8	NUMBER 8	JOSH BEAUMONT

DARREN DAWIDIUK	REPLACEMENT	16	REPLACEMENT	BULLOCK CAMERON NEILD
NICK WOOD	REPLACEMENT	17	REPLACEMENT	EIFION LEWIS ROBERTS
PAUL DORAN-JONES N. Thomas	REPLACEMENT	18	REPLACEMENT	BRIAN MUJATI
MARIANO GALARZA	REPLACEMENT	19	REPLACEMENT	ANDREI OSTRIKOV
JACOB ROWAN	REPLACEMENT	20	REPLACEMENT	SEYMOUR TJ IOANE
GREIG LIDLAW G	REPLACEMENT	21	REPLACEMENT	CUSITER PETER STRINGER
HENRY TRINDER	REPLACEMENT	22	REPLACEMENT	JOE FORD
HENRY PURDY	REPLACEMENT	23	REPLACEMENT	MARK JENNINGS

Officials

Referee JP Doyle **Assistant Referees** Peter Huckle and Paul Dix