

GLOUCESTER RUGBY
HERITAGE

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NORMAN & KEN DANIELL - FATHER AND SON -

Norman Daniell was a winger with real pace who played for Gloucester from 1919 to 1924, scoring 53 tries in 116 appearances for the club.

He was an athlete who usually started the season with a bang, as he was already in training and used to the hard ground.

Norman Walter Daniell was born in Gloucester in 1895, one of three generations of rugby footballers. His father, Henry Daniell, was a well known athlete who appeared at events across the country and also

played rugby for Gloucester Hornets. His son Ken played for Gloucester and Gloucestershire.

8th October in one of his early games for the club (a 14-6 win at Bristol) The Times said, "Daniell deserved



Norman Daniell scores against Quins

Norman served in the First World War and played for his regiment. He made his Gloucester debut in 1919 for the United, and played occasionally for the 1st XV that season.

His first full season was perhaps his best. In 1920-21 he scored 18 tries, a total that was only bettered by his close friend Sid Brown with 20. On

every credit for taking a very difficult pass and finally for slipping through the full back's tackle (to score)."

That season at Kingsholm, Gloucester beat all four top Welsh clubs – Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Llanelli. Norman played in all four games, scoring tries against Cardiff and Swansea. The greatest win was against Newport, who on



Norman Daniell

January 29, 1921 were still unbeaten that season.

Bill Bailey of the Citizen raised funds by public subscription to present each member of the winning team with a silver cigarette case, commemorating the win. It remains on proud display in the Daniell household to this day.

The following season, 1921-22, Daniell was again among the leading try scorers with 16, scoring a hat trick against Devonport Services and the only try in a 5-3 win over Cardiff.

In 1922-23 he again scored against Cardiff in a narrow 11-8 defeat and featured strongly in a fine 11-3 victory over Oxford University, although he was less prolific over the season.

Gloucester's match against Harlequins at Kingsholm on 29 September 1923 was a tremendous game, played at a great pace and watched by a large crowd. Gloucester won the game 14-10, Norman Daniell opening the scoring with a fine try. He again played his part in a victory over Newport that season.

In April 1924 Norman Daniell injured his arm playing against Pontypool. He did not play for the first team again. A growing family, and the death of his friend Stan Bayliss while playing at Kingsholm the following January, both contributed to his giving up the game in 1925.

Ken Daniell, Norman's son, was a centre who played for Gloucester between 1945 and 1950. He scored over 50 tries for club and county, and 44 in 89 games for Gloucester. Ken was a sprinter who could run a 10 second 100 yards and his explosive pace contributed to his prolific scoring.

Kenneth N Daniell was born in Gloucester in 1925. He was educated at the Central School and played for Gloucester boys at the age of 14, before becoming an apprentice and playing for the Atlas Works rugby team. He joined Gloucester in 1945.

He was chosen first on the wing because of his pace but quickly



Ken Daniell

moved to the centre as he says to "see more of the ball" behind Gloucester's powerful pack and their forward-based game.

He made his mark in his first season when, playing against Cardiff and the entire Welsh back division, he scored an interception try from 60 yards - the try he rates the best of his career.

Three generations of the family had been runners and Ken himself was a member of Gloucester AC. He ran a creditable second to the British Champion McDonald Bailey (later World 100m record holder and Olympic bronze medallist) in an invitation race at the annual Dowty Sports meeting held at the College Ground, Cheltenham on Saturday August 24th, 1946. The prize for the winner was 7 guineas (£7.35) and for Ken, the runner-up, 5 guineas (£5.25).

He made his county debut at centre in an 8-8 draw with Devon at Exeter in October 1946 (the only match in which the legendary Welsh international scrum half Haydn Tanner played for the county).

Ken played for Gloucestershire throughout the season, including the drawn final against Lancashire at Blundellsands and the lost replay at Kingsholm. He was also leading try scorer for Gloucester and at one point had scored 9 tries in 10 games.

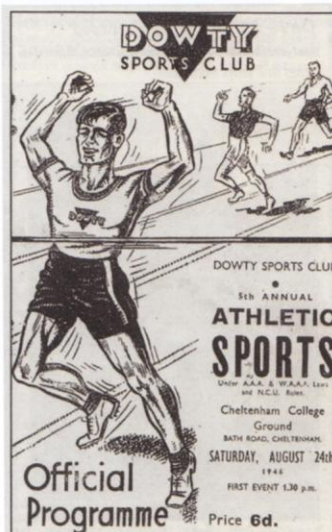
Ken Daniell was selected at centre for Western Counties against the Australians at Kingsholm on 20 September 1947 but was ill and unable to play.

He played throughout a second season for Gloucestershire, culminating in a semi-final defeat against Eastern Counties at Bristol. He was leading try scorer for Gloucester in a team which equalled the record number of 29 wins that year. Between 18 October 1947

and 10 January 1948 he scored in each of the 10 successive games in which he played - a total of 16 tries in 10 games and a scoring sequence unparalleled in the history of the club.

In 1948-49 Ken first suffered the knee injury which eventually put an end to his career. However, the Citizen reports that he was still able to find "that extra bit of speed again and draw the full back before sending in a nicely timed pass to Dangerfield to score in the corner" in a 15-9 win against Neath in January 1949.

He played in the drawn County



Championship Semi Final against Middlesex at Twickenham in February, but suffered a recurrence of the knee injury and was unable to play in the replay at Kingsholm. He missed the rest of the season.

In 1949-50 Ken Daniell became Gloucester vice captain. He continued to suffer knee problems, however, and only played a few games that season before being forced to leave the field during an 11-3 defeat by Neath at Kingsholm in January 1950. He realised immediately that at the age of 24 his career was at an end.

Ken's enthusiastic support of Gloucester burns as brightly as ever, and we hope he will have taken his place in the crowd today.