

GLOUCESTER RUGBY
HERITAGE

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TAKING
WING
- PART TWO

POST WAR STARS ON THE WING FOR GLOUCESTER

JOHN TAYLOR

Lydney born John Taylor was an established player and already a familiar face at Kingsholm, when he joined Gloucester in September 1951, having played there for Lydney, UAU and Gloucestershire. He had also represented English Universities and captained his own university, Bristol.

Taylor was a talented winger whom many thought was unlucky not to get an England trial. From the beginning he attracted extravagant praise from the local press. He captained Gloucester in 1952-53 on a number of occasions and in 1953-54 was elected Gloucester captain.



John Taylor

1953-54 was a personal triumph for Taylor. He played for Western Counties against the All Blacks and captained Gloucester to a record-breaking tally of 31 wins. After playing 101 games in three seasons, scoring 39 tries, business commitments took him

to Leicester where he played for another five seasons, although continuing to play county rugby for Gloucestershire.

He became President of the Gloucestershire RFU in 1981-82 and represented the county on the RFU Council for a number of years.

BOB CLEWES

Throughout the seventies the deceptive pace and powerful running of Bob Clewes made him one of the game's most dangerous wings. One of Gloucester's famous '500 club', he passed the magic figure in 1981 to put him alongside Alan Brinn, Peter Ford and Dick Smith.

Robert John Clewes, a product of the Archway Secondary School, Stroud, made his Gloucester debut as a teenager in 1968. A prodigious try scorer, his total of 278 tries in 533 games is a club record that will never now be beaten. Twice topping thirty tries in a season, he passed the twenty mark on no less than seven occasions. He was Gloucester's leading try scorer in ten of the fourteen seasons in which he played.

Bob Clewes captained his club in 1978-79 and was a cup winner with Gloucester in both 1972 and 1978. He played for Gloucestershire in three County Championship finals, twice on the winning side.

RICHARD MOGG

The final member of the '500 club', Richard Mogg ("Moggy")



Bob Clewes

to the Kingsholm faithful) was an elusive and strong running wing or centre with a devastating sidestep, who met with his greatest success on the wing. He played 510 games and scored 169 tries for Gloucester between 1974 and 1992.

Moggy was the only player to appear in three of Gloucester's four cup finals of the amateur era and will long be remembered for scoring the winning try against Leicester in the nail-biting finish to the 1978 match.

He represented England at Colts, Under 23 and B level and played in a final England trial, narrowly missing a full England cap. He played in three County Championship finals for Gloucestershire and three times for the South and South West against the All Blacks.

In 1988 his contribution to the game was recognised when he



Richard Mogg

was selected for the Barbarians Easter tour.

DERRICK MORGAN

Derrick Morgan was a specialist winger with real pace who was the regular first choice for Gloucester on the right wing from 1982 to 1993, scoring 158 tries in 248 games.

Derrick joined Gloucester from Longlevens RFC in 1982 and his pace and try-scoring potential were quickly recognized. A buzz would go round the Shed, every time he got the ball.

He consistently featured on the list of leading try scorers; among his many try scoring feats was to score four tries in the second quarter of a match against Coventry at Kingsholm in 1984, to give Gloucester a 28-0 half time lead against their old rivals.

A serious back problem in 1988-89 looked career-threatening, but he came back to play a major part in Gloucester's 1989-90 cup and league campaigns, in which they finished runners-up in both competitions.

PHILIPPE SAINT-ANDRÉ

The legendary wing Philippe Saint-André made his debut at Kingsholm on 23 August 1997. From that first match (a 35-13 demolition of Bristol in which Saint-André scored two tries) he became a hero in the Shed and the Marseillaise rang out on match days from the red-bereted fans.

Saint-André had been capped 64 times by France (29 as captain) when he began his Gloucester career and he gained 5 further caps as a Gloucester player. He played 41 games for Gloucester in 1997-99 scoring 21 tries but his

influence on both team and fans can't be measured in mere figures.



Philippe Saint-André

In February 1999 he took over as Head Coach from Richard Hill and retired from playing at the end of that season. Saint-André's three years as coach had their fair share of controversy, but he took Gloucester to the semi-final of the Heineken Cup for the only time in their history in 2001 and at the time of his departure in February 2002 they were lying second in the Premiership.

Following his success in coaching Bourgoin, Sale and Toulon, Saint-André is now the Head Coach of the French national team.

JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL

James Simpson-Daniel, known universally as "Sinbad", was that rarity in the professional game – a one club man who made 276 appearances for Gloucester and scored 120 tries.

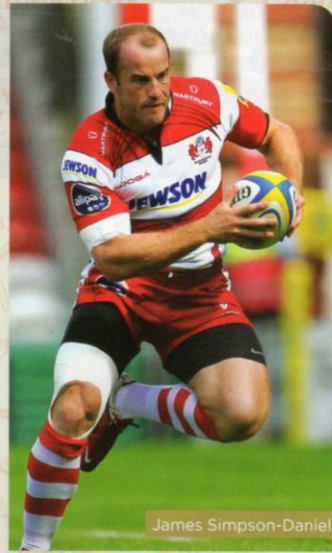
Sinbad joined Gloucester Rugby from Sedburgh School in December 2000. Four days before his twentieth birthday, playing for an England XV against the Barbarians, he rounded the mighty

Jonah Lomu to score a try which will long be remembered. Sinbad had arrived!

That early promise remained unfulfilled at international level due to a cruel series of injuries and he remained on the fringes of England selection, dogged by a reputation for being injury-prone. His ten England caps should have been many more.

At club level it was a different matter however. He was a true match winner and provided the Kingsholm crowd with many memorable moments. He played in Gloucester's only Heineken Cup semi-final, as a teenager in 2001, and scored crucial tries in the 2003 Powergen Cup and 2006 European Challenge Cup victories.

Marvellous performances for his club in 2007-08 earned him Guinness Premiership Player of



James Simpson-Daniel

the Season. Sinbad was still in sparkling form when he sustained the ankle injury which ended his career, playing against Newcastle Falcons at Kingsholm. He finally announced his retirement in September 2014.

His low centre of gravity and beautiful balance had made him one of the great wingers of his generation, the scorer or instigator of spectacular tries.