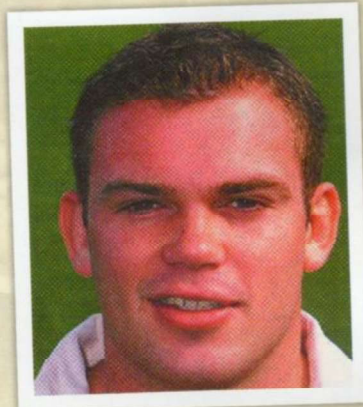


GLOUCESTER RUGBY
HERITAGE

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ANDREW HAZELL

The careers of professional rugby players tend to be short, often pursued at several clubs. Not so, Andy Hazell, an old fashioned one club man, who proudly played for the Cherry & Whites from 1997 to 2013 at open side flanker, making 263 appearances and scoring 26 tries. Of those appearances 178 were in the Premiership. In the Heineken Cup he made 29 appearances. On top of all that he won seven England caps.

He was a terrier in the tackle, fast around the field, and did a lot of work on the ground to win turnover ball. He was that increasingly rare animal, a player playing for his home-town club.

Andy Hazell was born in Gloucester on 25 April 1978, and educated at Severn Vale School. He played local rugby for Old Richians and Gloucester Old Boys, before making his debut for Gloucester off the bench against Newcastle on 14 December 1997.

That was his sole appearance for

GREAT PLAYERS FROM THE GLOUCESTER BACK ROW: NOUGHTIES AND TEENS

the season, and indeed it took quite a while before he could break into the team, because of competition from Nathan Carter and then Kingsley Jones.

Andy began to play more regularly during the 2000-01 season and was a replacement when Gloucester made it to the semi-final of the Heineken Cup, losing narrowly to Leicester. The national selectors were beginning to take notice and Andy played for England 'A' against Scotland in 2001.

The 2002-03 season was a great one for the club. The Premiership was topped by no fewer than 15 points, and Andy was in the team which beat Northampton 40-22 at Twickenham in the final of the Powergen Cup. A factor in the team's success that season was the formidable back-row of Jake Boer, Andy Hazell and James Forrester.

By this time Andy was making regular appearances for England 'A', but it was not until November 2004 that he gained his first senior cap, starting against Canada, and a week later was a replacement against South Africa. Four more caps, including a try against Italy, followed in the 2005 Six Nations championship, and his final cap was against South Africa in 2007.

Meanwhile more success was achieved in 2006 with Gloucester when the European Rugby Challenge Cup was won. London Irish were beaten 36-34 after extra time, in a thrilling final played at the Stoop, and Andy scored a try, The Times correspondent writing, "Hazell charged through a gap in a breaking lineout".

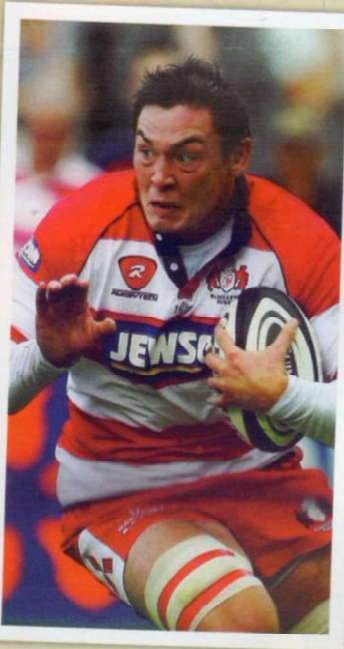
As the years passed Andy seemed to be troubled by more frequent injuries, but one more title was won



in 2011, when he was in the team that won the LV= Cup, defeating Newcastle 34-9 at Northampton. The injuries continued and in 2013 after he suffered two concussions in quick succession he decided to retire.

Andy said, "I would swap all my England caps for a Premiership win with Gloucester."

That tells you all you need to know about the man.



GARETH DELVE

Gloucester never really saw the best of Gareth Delve. He was a skilled and respected number eight, but suffered from so many injuries whilst at the club, that it made it difficult for him to sustain form.

He played three seasons from 2007 to 2010, but only accumulated 55 appearances. In his final season, when he was captain, he appeared 24 times but even then he was injured on 27 March against Leeds which proved to be his last game for the club.

Gareth Delve was born on 30 December 1982 in Cardiff and attended Rumney High School.

In 2001 he took up a professional contract with Bath, and although staying there until 2007 never held down a regular first team place. He did, however, attract the attention of the Welsh selectors, and he won 11 caps between 2006 and 2010.

Gareth made his debut for Gloucester as a replacement against Wasps in the EDF Cup on 4 November 2007, but did not make his first Premiership appearance until 24 November against Harlequins.

In the injury ravaged 2008-09 season, Gareth had a late run of games including the ill-fated EDF final against Cardiff at Twickenham, when Nicky Robinson played a big part in the Welsh club's 50-12 win.

The following season Gareth was made club captain. There was mixed success; a finish of only seventh in the Premiership, and defeat in another cup final. This time the LV= Cup was lost to Northampton 24-30 at Worcester. Almost inevitably Delve missed the final through injury.

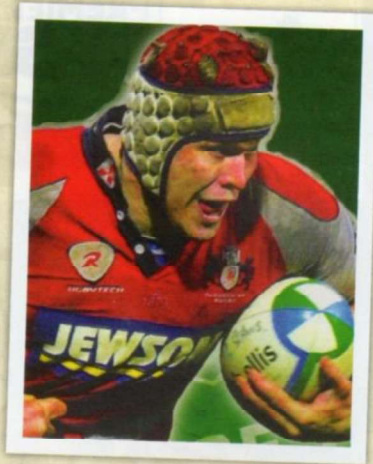
At the end of the season Gareth went to Australia to play for and captain the Melbourne Rebels. He later played for NEC Green Rockets in Japan, before spending the 2015-16 season with Ospreys.

LUKE NARRAWAY

Luke Narraway was a solid durable Number 8, who emerged from the Gloucester Academy system, and went on to play for England at Under 18, Under 21 and senior level, winning seven caps. He captained Gloucester in the 2011-12 season. Luke made 162 appearances for the Cherry and Whites from 2003 to 2012, scoring 16 tries.

Luke was born in Worcester on 7 September 1983, and attended The Chantry School in that city. He made his debut for Gloucester on 4 May 2003 against Leeds.

However, it would not be until the 2006-07 season that he would gain a regular place. He had to compete against Junior Paramore,



James Forrester and Adam Balding. He came off the bench in the successful European Rugby Challenge Cup final against London Irish in 2006.

Narraway was captain in his final season but missed Gloucester's victory in the LV= Cup Final against Newcastle, through injury.

For England, Luke won the first of his caps against Wales on 2 February 2008, and later that year won two more on the tour of New Zealand. He won the last of his caps off the bench against Ireland in 2009.

Early in 2012, contract talks between the club and Narraway broke down, and he moved to France to play two seasons for Perpignan. He was then signed up by London Irish, where he remains.

