

GLOUCESTER RUGBY
HERITAGE

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GLOUCESTER MAN IS UNLUCKY 13 FOR BATH

Clifford and Oscar Walwin were brothers born and bred in Gloucester.

Oscar played several games for Gloucester just before the First World War, during which he died for his country in the fighting on the Somme.

Clifford did not play for Gloucester, but he survived the war, and came back to play rugby for Bath. Tragically, he was injured, and subsequently died, whilst playing for Bath against Cross Keys on 28th December 1919.



◀ Clifford Walwin, No. 13

As a mark of respect for Clifford,

the Bath Club withdrew the number 13 jersey which he had been wearing. Many will remember Bath playing without a 13 jersey, and their fullback wearing number 16.

This tradition lasted for some 80 years, but since 1998-99 Bath have been wearing No. 13 again.

TRACK RECORD AGAINST BATH RUGBY

Today is the 220th encounter between Gloucester and Bath. The clubs first met 131 years ago in 1882 and, so far, Gloucester have won 131 matches, lost

67 and drawn 21. The points difference favours Gloucester 2871-2176.

The clubs first met in a cup competition in 1971, and the boot is on the other foot with regards to the rivalry in cup matches, with Bath ahead by 7 wins to 5, and by 196 points to 174.

FIRST CUP ENCOUNTER

**30th September 1971
National Knock Out Competition
Bath 3 - Gloucester 12**

This was the first season in which the RFU sanctioned and organised a national cup competition, although there were some at

The teams in the first cup match ▼

GLOUCESTER		BATH	
Colours: Red & White		Colours: Blue, White and Black	
Full Back		Full Back	
(15) R. ETHERIDGE		(16) B. THOMPSON	
Threequarters		Threequarters	
Right Wing (11) R. CLEWES		Right Wing (15) R. S. ELLIOTT	
Right Centre (12) J. BAYLISS		Right Centre (14) D. JENKINS	
Left Centre (13) R. JARDINE		Left Centre (12) N. HUDSON	
Left Wing (14) E. STEPHENS		Left Wing (11) R. ASCOTT	
Half Backs		Half Backs	
Stand-off-Half (10) T. PALMER		Stand-off-Half (10) G. PHILLIPS	
Scrum Half (9) M. BOOTH		Scrum Half (9) M. C. LLOYD	
Forwards		Forwards	
(1) R. COWLING		(1) J. S. PARSONS	
(2) M. NICHOLLS (Capt.)		(2) N. GOULD	
(3) M. BURTON		(3) N. K. CARTER	
(4) A. BRINN		(4) P. B. HEINDORFF	
(5) N. JACKSON		(5) K. M. PLUMMER	
(6) J. WATKINS		(6) R. J. WALKER (Capt.)	
(8) J. HERNIMAN		(7) P. R. HALL	
(7) R. SMITH		(8) R. LYE	
Referee: Mr. D. Foley, Devon Society (Exeter)		Referee: Mr. D. Foley, Devon Society (Exeter)	
Kick-off: 5.30 p.m.		† International † Trialist	

Twickenham who still harboured reservations about such a competition.

There were no set dates for each round, so the clubs had to agree a date on which to play their tie.

Bath and Gloucester agreed to play on a Thursday evening at the Rec early in the season. So early in fact, that this was the first knock out game ever played in a national competition.

Unfortunately the game was a poor advertisement for cup rugby. Eric Stephens kicked four penalties to win an uninspiring game.

However, three more away wins against Bristol, star-studded London Welsh and Coventry, saw Gloucester at Twickenham, where the 17-6 win over Moseley allowed our late and much lamented captain Mike Nicholls to step up and collect the diminutive but hard-earned trophy.

SUBSEQUENT CUP TIES

Gloucester drew Bath at home in the following season's competition, and won 16-0, with tries from John Watkins, Alan Brinn and Eddie Pinkney, two of them converted by Peter Butler.

More than ten years passed before the Clubs faced one another again in a Cup match, and Bath then won their first tie.

They squeaked home 12-11 at Kingsholm in the 1984-85 John Player Cup, but went on to win the whole competition – in fact this was the second of three successive seasons in which they were Cup Winners.

The competition acquired a new sponsor, and became the Pilkington Cup, but under this name Gloucester lost all four encounters with Bath.

The most exciting of these was the semi-final in 1992. In a pulsating match, the lead kept changing hands, until Tim Smith kicked a penalty to take the game into extra time, during which Tim soon landed another penalty, and Gloucester held on until they were just three and a half minutes away from Twickenham.

But, just when the match seemed to be won, Bath turned the game on its head. From a scrum deep in the Gloucester 22, Bath conjured a wonderful try for winger Tony Swift and, with Gloucester desperately throwing caution to the wind, scored a second on the other wing through Jim Fallon to take them into the final, 27-18.



▲ Willie Walker

Another change of sponsor reversed the clubs' fortunes, and Gloucester won both of the matches played in the Tetley's Bitter Cup. Along came another sponsor, and Bath won both matches played in the Powergen Cup.

The most recent cup clash was on 2nd December 2006 at Kingsholm in the EDF Cup. Gloucester prevailed 30-12, thanks to tries from James Merriman, Adam Balding and Willie Walker, plus a penalty try as well as 2 conversions and 2 penalties kicked by Willie.



FRIEND AND FOE

Despite the fierce rivalry between the Clubs, there have been numerous players who have performed on both sides in Gloucester v Bath clashes. This applies to all those pictured here – can you name them?

THEY PLAYED FOR GLOUCESTER AND FOUGHT FOR THEIR COUNTRY

Pete Wilson has interviewed Martin Davies about the Great War, 1914-1918, section of his forthcoming book on the wartime experiences of Gloucester players.

The interview can be heard on BBC Radio Gloucestershire between 1200-1300 tomorrow, Sunday 3rd February – it's worth a listen if you're interested in the history of the Club.

- Answers:
FRIEND AND FOE
A. Dave Attwood
B. Iain Balshaw
C. Ollie Barkley
D. Rob Fidler
E. Terry Hopson
F. Audley Lumsden
G. Neil McCarthy
H. Steve Ojomoh
I. Henry Paul
J. Ed Pearce
K. Keith Richardson
L. Ian Sanders
M. Alastair Saverimuttu
N. Rob Thirby
O. Mike Tindall
P. Trevor Woodman

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