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# GLOUCESTER RUGBY

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WORLD AND LOCAL  
RUGBY NEWS

### SPECIAL FEATURE



LV=CUP  
LAUNCH AT  
KINGSHOLM

# SPEED KING JONNY MAY MAKING HIS MARK



Gloucester ON PAGE 52  
with Peter Arnold talk

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LV=CUP: ROUND 1  
VS. SALE SHARKS  
15 OCTOBER 2011, KO 3PM



# Captain's CORNER



*"So, today we kick off our defence of the LV= Cup. Much has been written about the tournament in recent seasons but you'll only hear positive things from me."*

## THEY say a week's a long time in politics – it can be exactly the same in rugby sometimes!

When we were last here at Kingsholm, against London Irish a fortnight ago, it was like playing a preseason game in July.

I can honestly say that I've never played rugby in such hot conditions in the month of October. It was unbelievable!

And not really the ideal game to make my playing comeback! The week before I was on water boy duties and itching to get back into playing action.

You hear it time and again. No matter how much training you do, there is no replicating match fitness. And I'll certainly back that up after the way I felt following the London Irish game.

I wasn't really expecting to get the full 80 minutes and I never thought I'd last that long the way I felt at half time. The pace of the game was relentless and must have been great to watch even though it was tough

to play in.

London Irish are a very good side and we couldn't quite put them away even when we were 23-10 up in the first half and one more score could well have settled the game.

They've got some real talent, especially in the back line, and pushed us all the way. We had to show some real character to close the game out.

Then, in terms of the weather, we went from feast to famine! From the blazing sunshine at Kingsholm to the drizzle of Edgeley Park.

I'm not going to blame the weather for the defeat last weekend against Sale. After all, conditions were exactly the same for both sides.

And I don't know what it is about playing up there against them but we always seem to come away losing by just the one score.

We were incredibly frustrated after the game. Following two good home wins, we had a great opportunity to get some real momentum coming into today's

game.

To be honest, we only have ourselves to blame. We didn't really get going until we were ten points down and definitely didn't play our rugby in the right areas of the pitch.

We had a pretty open exchange of views in the dressing room afterwards. There was no point letting things fester. Things needed to be said and it was done constructively.

All being well, you'll see a reaction today.

So, today we kick off our defence of the LV= Cup. Much has been written about the tournament in recent seasons but you'll only hear positive things from me.

It's been a competition in which we've blooded quite a few of youngsters in recent seasons, guys who are now first team regulars.

And, take it from me, lifting that trophy at Franklin's Gardens back in March is one of the proudest moments of my career.

**Enjoy the game!**



*"It's been a good tournament to us over the past couple of seasons. A few players have made names for themselves in LV= Cup action and it was fantastic to finally lift the trophy after a couple of defeats in the final."*



IRISH

GR MATCHDAY PROGRAMME  
EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

# Coach's NOTES

with Head Coach, BRYAN REDPATH

**ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE AT GLOUCESTER RUGBY, I'D LIKE TO WISH THE PLAYERS, SUPPORTERS AND STAFF OF SALE SHARKS A VERY WARM WELCOME TO KINGSHOLM THIS AFTERNOON.**

**If you divide our season up into phases, then we've just finished phase one and are about to embark upon phase two.**

It's been exclusively Aviva Premiership action to date and we find ourselves in sixth place in the table at the moment with three wins from our six games to date.

On the whole, I guess you'd have to say 'not bad but could do better' for our efforts so far. If we'd been able to turn those narrow defeats at Northampton and Sale into narrow wins then we'd be sitting pretty.

Who knows how important those 'dropped' points will prove to be in the final reckoning? But, there's no point wondering about what might have been, it's all about learning from it and looking forward.

We knew that it would be a tough few weeks before the season started and so it's proved to be. We were well aware that we'd have players away at Rugby World Cup but we've also had more than our fair share of injuries which has meant that the remaining players have had to step up to the plate.

And to be fair, a number of them have done exactly that. They wouldn't have necessarily been expecting to play four or five games in a row but there's been a need for them to do that and they've risen to the challenge.

That said, it's been good to welcome back a number of players to training this week. They're international players for a reason and they'll bring some additional quality

to the squad.

I've seen some eyebrows raised as to why we didn't try and involve a couple of the Scottish players last weekend for the trip to Sale.

My view is that the current season has really only just got underway. There's an awful lot of rugby to be played. Those players have been away from home and existing within the surroundings of a training camp for weeks now.

I've been there and I know what effect that can have upon you. I didn't want to rush those boys off a plane and straight into the build up for an away game at Sale. A few days at home with their families will do them the world of good and I'm sure we will see the benefits of that.

Looking back over the past couple of weeks, we've obviously beaten London Irish here at Kingsholm before losing at Sale last weekend.

I said in my last set of programme notes that London Irish would be a tough nut to crack and I wasn't wrong! After a poor start with the interception try, we looked really well set at 23-10 up but couldn't get the score which would have well and truly killed the game off.

They always looked a threat and I thought we had to show real character to come back and win the game when we actually trailed at one point in the second half.

That made it two wins on the bounce for us and a good result at Sale last weekend would have rounded off this phase of the Aviva Premiership quite nicely.

However, we simply didn't play well in the conditions up at Edgeley Park and pretty much got what we deserved. Away from home, it's absolutely critical to respect field position and we simply didn't do that.

We were much improved in the second half, got the balance of our game better and played the game in the Sale half but we'd left ourselves with just too much to do.

Credit to Sale. Steve Diamond's on old friend of mine and he's Sale through and through. He's got people like Pete Anglesea and Jos Baxendell up there helping him, guys who are 100% committed to the club and they're working hard to instil that in the current squad.

The quirks of the fixture calendar mean that we face them again today as we kick off our LV= Cup campaign so there's an immediate chance to put things right.

We're obviously the cup holders but, if we are to make a spirited defence of the trophy, then we'll have to get a few things sorted first.

It's been a good tournament to us over the past couple of seasons. A few players have made names for themselves in LV= Cup action and it was fantastic to finally lift the trophy after a couple of defeats in the final.

Anyone will tell you that they'd far rather be in the final than sat at home watching but it's one game at a time, starting this afternoon.

**Enjoy the game.**

**COMMUNITY**  
GLOUCESTER RUGBY IN THE COMMUNITY  
ON PAGE 54



View from  
**The Citizen**



WITH NICK PUREWAL

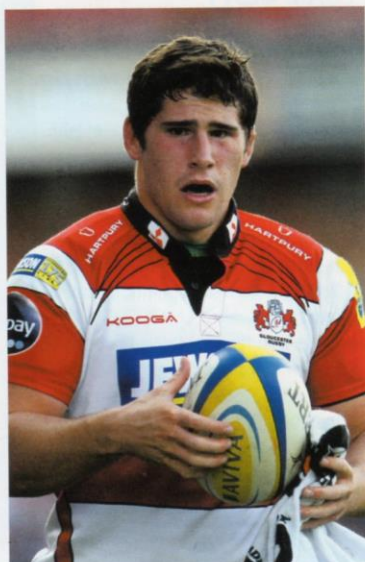
# PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE

“HOPEFULLY SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE I’LL GET ANOTHER CHANCE IN THE CHERRY AND WHITE.”

**N**ATHAN Charles came to Kingsholm for a life experience.

The 22-year-old Australian leaves Gloucester this week with so much more.

The Western Force front-rower could have spent the last month resting before embarking on another punishing Super Rugby pre-season.



Charles has never done anything by halves though. The free-running hooker wanted a real test, an unforgiving baptism of fire in the Northern Hemisphere’s bullish pack ways.

He admits he got all that and more in his Kingsholm loan, and leaves a better player because of it - with hopes high he might find his way back to Gloucester one day in the future.

The world’s only professional rugby player with Cystic Fibrosis, Charles has had a profound effect on his Gloucester team mates.

The man himself is constantly low key about living with a condition that means he has a projected life span of 37 years.

He gave a talk to his short-term team mates last week that certainly had a few people thinking.

But as he heads back to Western Force and into pre-season with next to no down time, he will just do as always - and focus on the rugby.

Admitting he exceeded expectations in his short Kingsholm tenure, he explained: “I definitely go back a better player.

“The opportunity and experiences



I’ve had here I will never forget, and I will definitely take back with me what I’ve learned over here with Gloucester.

“To be honest when I first came over I didn’t think I’d be playing at all, I just thought I would be covering



injuries.

"And the first three games, straight into it, really enjoyed it, I got an opportunity to start and I really enjoyed it.

"That's something I'll definitely cherish for the rest of my life. Hopefully sometime in the future I'll get another chance in the Cherry and White.

"I've got two and a bit weeks before I start pre-season, so if I hadn't been here I would have had a four to six week rest, but if I had the time again I wouldn't have done anything differently.

shadows everything in England, and so Charles admitted that extra strain takes its toll on Premiership Rugby's style.

But he feels he has been able to take advantage: to improve his set-piece and tackle-area work, and toughen up a touch in the process.

Keen to keep improving his tight game when he gets back into the Western Force swing, he admitted the differences between the Premiership and Super 15 remain fairly pronounced - to the ultimate benefit of the global game.

defensively-based.

"Also the mentality towards set-piece they use it as an attacking weapon which is something I've really grown to love.

"Then at the breakdown, over here you probably get away with a bit more, which I like, and you've really got to work hard for your ball at the breakdown.

"So those are the three main things that I find different. And they are three things I can definitely take back and use to improve my game at Western Force next year.



"I've loved my time here, I've really enjoyed the boys' company and the coaching staff have been fantastic as well."

The pressure of relegation does not loom over Super Rugby the way it

"Obviously the weather is different!" he continued.

"The pressures of the competition are different, I think the relegation prospect makes the competition very intense and that's why teams are very

**“I’VE LOVED MY TIME HERE, I’VE REALLY ENJOYED THE BOYS’ COMPANY AND THE COACHING STAFF HAVE BEEN FANTASTIC AS WELL.”**

"It is a cut throat business, it provides some very exciting footy, it's a tough debate, but it's what makes the Premiership so special.

"It has relegation and you have to perform, you can't go out and lose every game and just think well I'm going to be here next year.

"I do like the aspect that you have to perform, and the pressures of that, but in saying that, people's livelihoods are at stake, and that's not a nice thing to think of.

"The game of footy is something you have to go out and love to play, and hopefully that doesn't change through the pressures of relegation."





# DAVE KING'S WORLD OF RUGBY

## A SPA BREAK

**I**t is difficult to imagine nowadays as you stroll by the Gloucester Spa Ground that it was once the home of Gloucester Rugby Club.

Not unlike Kingsholm, it was situated close to the heart of the city and is within half a mile of the recently developed Victorian Docks area of the city. The Spa Ground is now solely a cricket ground which is enclosed by iron railings.

This attractive ground enhances the views from the Regency houses that overlook it. The first game of cricket staged here at the home of Gloucester City Cricket Club took place against Tewkesbury on June 6th 1863.

It was in the year of 1873 when Gloucester Rugby Football Club was formed. The Spa Ground was an ideal venue due to the fact that several of its members were involved with the cricket club.

Therefore it was agreed that the rugby players could have the use of the Spa Ground for their matches during the winter. This ideal compromise remained in place until the year of 1889.

For a period of seven years prior to 1889 the Spa had become a regular venue for county cricket. Somerset



provided the initial opposition when they were the visitors on July 13th.

It was a perfect opening for all the cricket followers in the city for the West Country opponents were sent packing, defeated by an innings and 177 runs, the Grace Brothers playing a prominent role.

E.M.Grace scored 108 runs while W.G. took 8 for 31 in the first innings.

In Gloucestershire's total of 348, Billy Midwinter made 107 not out, his highest score for the county. Billy Woof took 7-39 in Somerset's second innings to emphasise the domination of the County team.

The partnership of cricket and rugby at the Spa Ground came to a conclusion when an unfortunate incident occurred.



The club's tenure was ended in the wake of a match with Welsh visitors Swansea. A frozen pitch had threatened the fixture and when large quantities of salt were spread onto the playing area it caused a high degree of consternation.

It enabled the match to be played but the severe damage to the grass was too much for the cricket club officials. They then proceeded to serve notice to the rugby club to quit the Spa.

The tenants weren't quite turfed out on to the street. In fact the cricket club allowed the rugby club two years to discover a new home.

As we are aware, by the 1891-92 season, the rugby club was safely installed at Kingsholm.

During the tenure that the club enjoyed at the Spa Ground, there were two different changing rooms.

The old pavilion was demolished in July 1883 and a new structure remained in place until 1954. The new building had provision for 500 seats on the first floor above the dressing rooms. The architectural distinction came from a prominent gable.

During the period at the Spa Ground, the club had various captains: - Frank Hartley, J.F.Brown, H.Boughton, Tom Smith, C.E.Brown and Tom Bagwell.

In those seventeen seasons at the Spa there were two unbeaten records in 1873-1874 and 1882-1883.

The scoring in that tenure was so different to our modern day version. Up until the summer of 1891 there was no universal method. There were majors and minors or goals and tries. In those times a try was a minor with the kick being a major.

One of the proudest days during the club's stay at the Spa came on the 2nd February 1889 when a match was staged between Gloucestershire and the touring 'Maoris'.

It was an open ground for the match, only canvas was erected around the ground and receipts of £193 was taken, this was a record for any game staged at the club's old headquarters.

The club provided eleven players to the County team. Over 8,000 spectators attended. The tourists won by one goal and one try to one try.

Prior to the incident where the playing surface had been covered with salt there had been an earlier altercation between the rugby club and relevant authorities.

In 1879 the City Council banned rugby from the park due to shrubbery damage following a match in January of that year. They stated bad behaviour had emanated from the dangerously large attendance of 2,000 spectators.

In September of that year the ban was defeated following a deputation from local football clubs and the Headmaster of Crypt School who collected over 2,500 signatures in opposition.

The first match with South West rivals Bath took place at the Spa on December 2nd 1882 and resulted in a 12 points to nil victory. Try scorers were H.Coates, Sloman and Dewey. Goals were kicked by Boughton, Jones and Berry.

Attendances at the Spa were reduced by fifty per cent in the

the Citizen newspaper in the 1886-87 season. In that season ten of the first XV were born in the City.

There were three sets of club colours while the club played at the Spa. The original club colours were black and mauve – this was because there were no other colours readily available for the playing kit then.

In 1881-82 came a dark blue jersey and for the first time the City crest appeared in the colours. It was regarded as a lucky colour for at the completion of the 1882-83 season it had been the clubs only invincible season. Eleven wins from fourteen matches played.

The third set of colours came in September 1886 when they took to the field of play at the Spa wearing red, yellow and black. They were due to have been the club's original colours in 1873 but were not available!

The first floodlit match the club played was on 30th January 1879 when Rocklease – who were based in Bristol, visited the Spa. There was



1888-89 season due to the Boer War conflict and a smallpox incident within the city. Adverts for forthcoming matches were placed in the local newspaper in the nineteenth century regarding fixtures at the Spa.

The attendances increased significantly in the 1880-81 season when crowds of 3,000 and 4,000 paying spectators attended matches versus Clifton, Moseley and Newport.

The first match reports appeared in

an attendance of 2000 spectators recorded.

On leaving the Spa the club considered playing at Theresa Street and Sheephouse Lane which today is known as Tuffley Avenue. The land there eventually became the home of Old Cryptians and Widden Old Boys.

The site was the least expensive option but was considered to be too far from the City centre.

Eventually, Castle Grim was chosen.



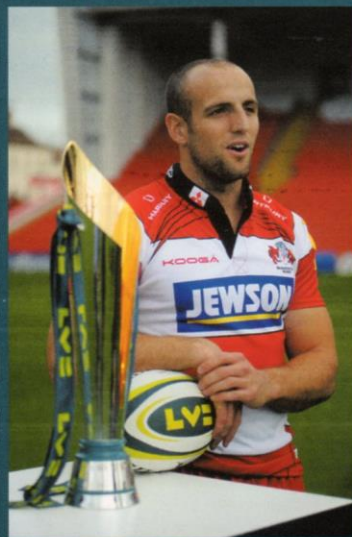
# Gloucester Rugby launch revamped



**KINGSHOLM** was the venue earlier this week for the official launch of the 2011-12 LV= Cup.

Gloucester Rugby were asked to participate in the launch as they are, of course, the current title holders and Head Coach Bryan Redpath, club captain Luke Narraway and Charlie Sharples and Henry Trinder were all present.

Credited for playing a crucial role in the development of elite players, the LV= Cup is now entering its third season and has seen the likes of Charlie Sharples and Courtney Lawes progress through the competition and into the



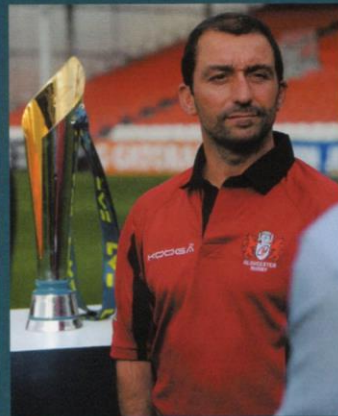
international set-up.

Speaking at the 2011-12 season launch, Sharples, who narrowly missed out on Martin Johnson's World Cup squad, spoke of the opportunity the LV= Cup has given him: "The LV= Cup was a massive highlight for myself and the other Gloucester boys last season as it was the first trophy we'd won for a number of years."

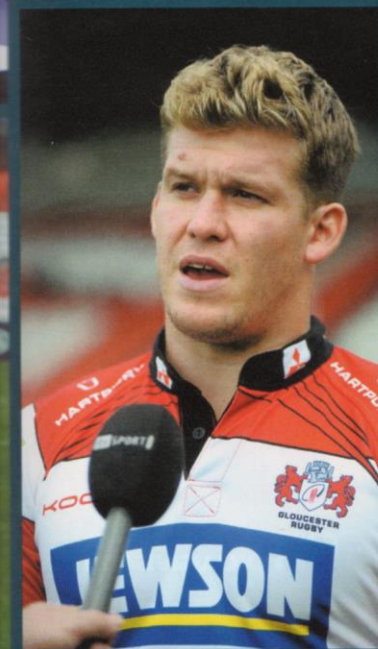
"For me personally, it resulted in my first winners medal at senior level and I think that the exposure I got through the semi-final and final really helped push my England claims."







*"The LV= Cup was a massive highlight for myself and the other Gloucester boys last season as it was the first trophy we'd won for a number of years."*



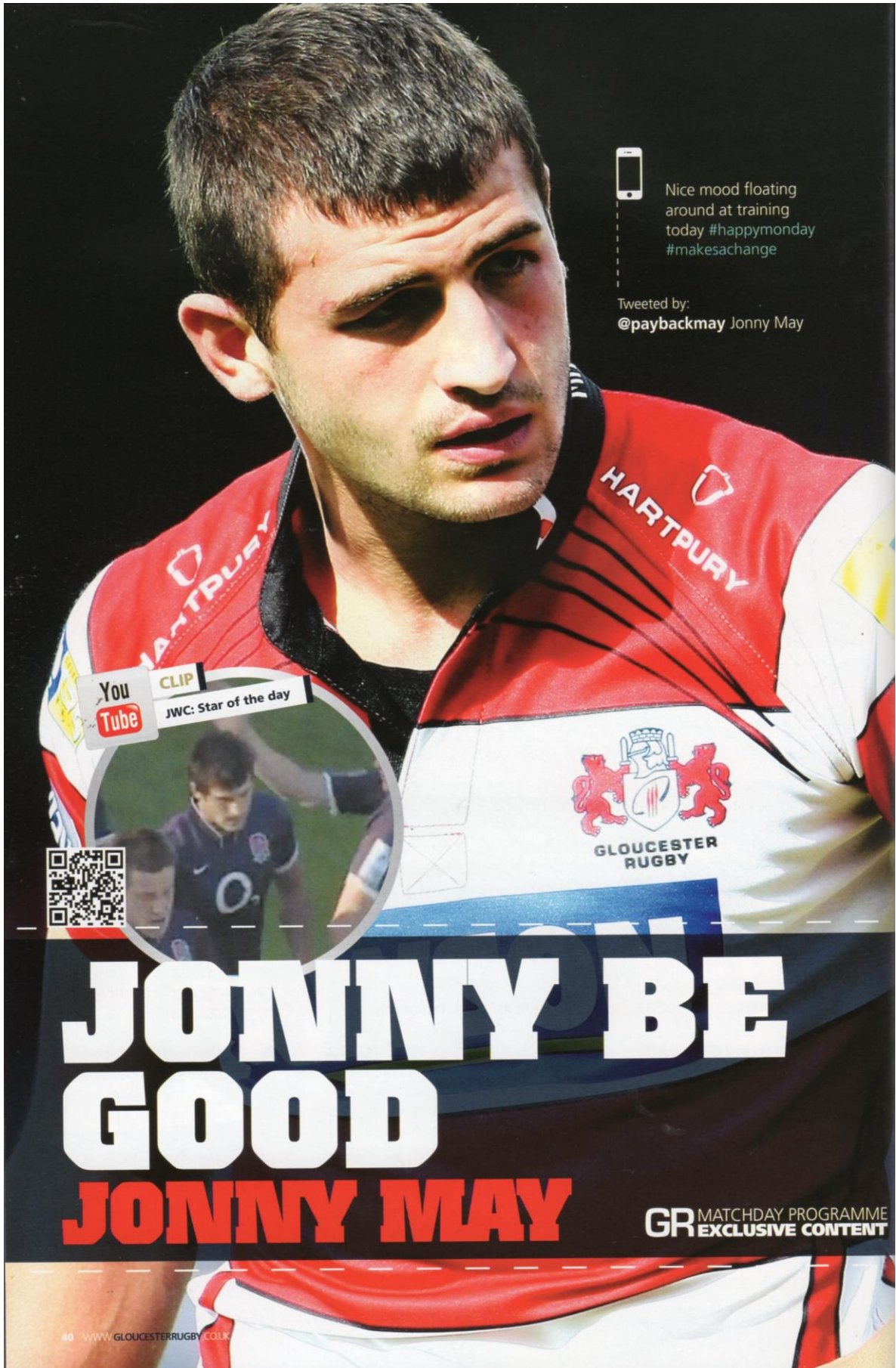
Off the field, the LV= Cup has undergone various changes to reflect its position as a tournament that actively encourages the development of young up and coming players looking to compete at the highest level.

Speaking on behalf of LV=, Head of Sponsorship Claire Jeromson said: "LV= is very pleased to extend its commitment to the LV= Cup for a further four years. This tournament offers an excellent platform for young, up and coming players to shine and foster the next generation of talented players."

"We're proud to continue our involvement in this unique tournament which has established itself as an integral event in the Rugby Union calendar."







Nice mood floating around at training today #happymonday #makesachange

Tweeted by: @paybackmay Jonny May

**You Tube** **CLIP**  
JWC: Star of the day



# JONNY BE GOOD

## JONNY MAY

**GR** MATCHDAY PROGRAMME  
EXCLUSIVE CONTENT



**He's been viewed as one of Gloucester Rugby's best young prospects for quite some time now but Jonny May is in no mood to hang around quite literally.**

**The Rugby World Cup period has allowed a number of players to stake a claim for more game time and May has been letting his rugby do the talking for him.**

Two tries in the first two Aviva Premiership fixtures saw him make his mark early but still one nagging question persists and it's a chance to put the record straight. Who is quicker? Him or Charlie Sharples?

(Laughs) "He'll probably be angry at me for saying this but I beat him over 40 metres last season so I'm going to say it's me! Over 40 metres I'd back myself."

Pace isn't everything of course but May has been quick out of the blocks in 2011-12. Having made six Premiership starts in total last season, he's almost at that total already.

Head Coach Bryan Redpath spoke before the season started about the challenge of week in, week out involvement for those unaccustomed to it. How's he coping?

"To be honest, it's exactly what I was hoping for before the season started. One of my main goals was to establish myself in the starting XV and I've been really happy to be involved this much."

"I was on the bench at Harlequins but I've started the other five games and have played the full 80 minutes in those as well."

"I'm really happy with that. I definitely feel more confident and am more and more comfortable playing my rugby at this level. I've played a couple of different positions but I think I'm coping well with that and doing my bit for the team."

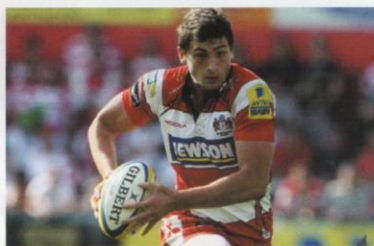
Prior to this season, the 21 year old had featured mainly at outside centre or on the wing. However, he's also turned out at 12 in this campaign. How is his role differing?

"It depends. When I'm playing alongside Les (Lesley Vainikolo), I'm playing a traditional 13 role. However, when I'm playing alongside Trinds

(Henry Trinder), we tend to mix it up and change positions from time to time."

"On those occasions, it's not that different for me from playing a normal 13 role and not too difficult for me to adjust."

"I don't really mind where I'm involved whether it's on the wing or



*"Some of the older players are constantly winding the youngsters up, saying we don't do anything with our spare time etc! But I'm pretty busy at the moment. I've resumed my studies at UWE Hartpury."*

in the centre as I think I've got the game to adapt to whatever is asked of me."

Much has been made in recent months of the number of young English qualified players in the Gloucester ranks and it's fair to say that the LV= Cup has played a role in their development with May and a number of his contemporaries seeing good game time in the tournament.

It's not just the fact that Gloucester have played in the past three finals,

winning in 2010-11, it's been a competition that the Cherry and Whites have embraced and have reaped the rewards?

"That's true. Freddie came through well in the competition the season before last, myself and Trinds played quite a bit in the centre last season and Sharps (Charlie Sharples) was awesome in the semi final and final."

"Even though I wasn't involved in the final itself, I was still there with the squad and a part of the matchday experience. It was superb to be part of it and, if we can get to the later stages again, I'd love to be part of it again."

He may only be 21 with hopefully many games in the Gloucester shirt ahead of him but the Swindon born flyer is already thinking ahead and working hard away from the playing field.

"Some of the older players are constantly winding the youngsters up, saying we don't do anything with our spare time etc!"

"But I'm pretty busy at the moment. I've resumed my studies at UWE Hartpury. I did my first year a couple of years ago but then rugby took over completely for a bit. However, I'm now looking to finish my degree in Sports Business Management."

"It's good. I don't have to travel too far for the lectures and I like to have something else to occupy my mind other than rugby. And, hopefully, it will open up opportunities away from rugby."

For the time being though, it's the rugby that matters and this afternoon gives Gloucester an immediate chance to right the wrongs of last weekend at Sale.

"Absolutely. We've got a proud home record to defend as well as the LV= Cup. There were plenty of areas where we let ourselves down last weekend and it'd be good to up our game and put them right today."



# KINGSHOLM NEWS

## WITH BOB FENTON

SO, THE WORLD CUP ENDS FOR ENGLAND IN THE WORST WAY POSSIBLE, BEATEN BY THE FRENCH – WELL FOR ME ANYWAY AS I WORK FOR A FRENCH COMPANY...

On the plus side we'll have all our World Cup players back in the fold and ready to perform. Well all but one as Eliota is 'enjoying' an extended stay down south after 'Twittergate' – and frankly the less said about that the better.

Given the number of players who were missing I think we have accounted for ourselves pretty well.

We've won our home games and lost our away games which is pretty much the norm for most Gloucester seasons really, but we've taken points on the road from two games and to be sat in 6th place is not so bad.

Not bad especially when you consider the current predicament of Leicester and Northampton. Those guys must never have been so happy to see the national team knocked out of a competition!

To be honest I'm one of these people who feels somewhat disconnected from the national team anyway. Even if you are lucky enough to be able to get a chance to lay your hands on an international ticket, the costs are horrendous, and for me the atmosphere at Twickenham is not a patch on pretty much any full club ground.

So, goodbye England. Mrs F is busy telling me that she had a Welsh grandmother so that must make me pretty much a



Welshman – so come on Wales!

Back in the domestic world the last two Premiership games have both been close run affairs. In the blinding sunshine of Kingsholm a couple of weeks ago only the bounce of a ball stopped London Irish snatching the win.

While up at Sale it was a missed conversion that maybe could have landed us with a draw. Still – as I said – 6th place is not such a bad place to

be with the cavalry just about to come over the hill. Trouble is, everyone else's cavalry is arriving too.

Today though, we put the Premiership to one side and concentrate on what is probably the best rugby tournament ever invented. Better than the Heineken Cup, even better than the World Cup! It is the (still unfeasibly difficult to work out just what the heck is going on) LV= Cup.





“TO SEE THE LIKES OF JUNIOR PARAMORE, TERRY FANOLUA, JAKE BOER AND EVEN ROB FIDLER TROTTING OUT AT KINGSHOLM AGAIN WILL BE GREAT TO SEE AND CREDIT TO THE CLUB FOR STAGING THIS SORT OF GAME.”

Lest you need reminding it was only a matter of a few months ago that we romped over Newcastle - with Eli scoring that wonder try - to pick up our first bit of silverware for a few years.

I know the competition has its detractors, and it is really odd how the pools play out, but at the end of the day it is one of only two domestic trophies that are up for grabs each season and it brings a ticket to the holy grail of the Heineken Cup.

So let's hope we can defend it. After all if we have to give the trophy back our cabinet is going to look pretty empty!

It's a bit of a weird quirk of fate that sees us playing Sale again just seven days after

meeting them in the league. If revenge is a dish best served cold I hope that they have had it in the chiller cabinet, because there ain't been all that much time between games to let it cool down.

Who will run out onto the park tonight is anyone's guess. In the past we have used these games to give a few up and coming players a bit of game time and to assess their progress. So far this season, though, it's been these same players who have been running out in the bigger Premiership games.

A chance for some of the guys who have just returned from their World Cup commitments to have a stretch on the Kingsholm turf, maybe?

Changing tack a bit it was great to see the Cherry Pickers, having a run out at Kingsholm after the London Irish game, even though quite a few of their players were looking a bit unfamiliar.

Especially the guy who started at full back - none other than Shedweb's 'Original Tetley' joining the ranks of people who have been invited to trot out for the Pickers.

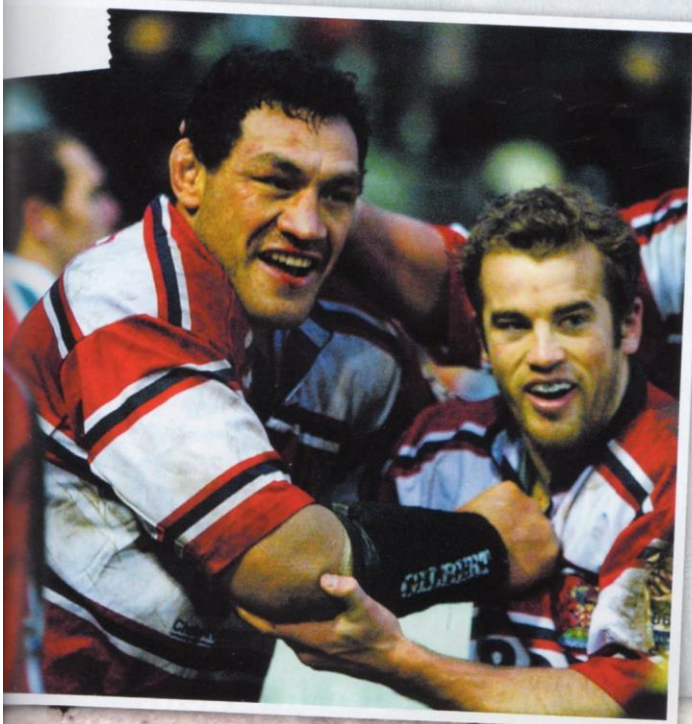
I guess these kind of sides will slowly start to die out now, with professional players coming in from all over the place the hard core group of local lads who want to carry on playing together will become harder to find.

I think that's a bit of a shame, so next time they play after a match, hang around for a while - not only is it fun, it's something you may not be able to do for that much longer.

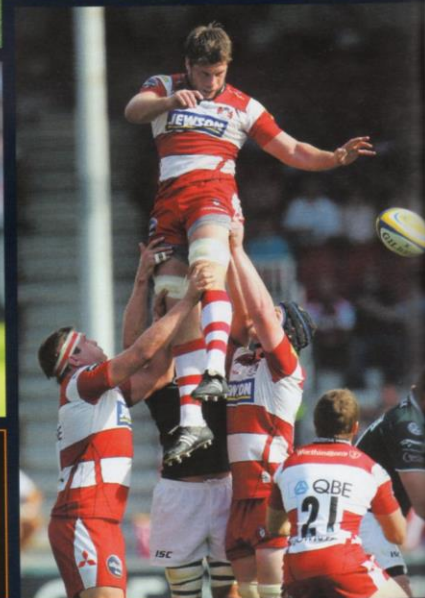
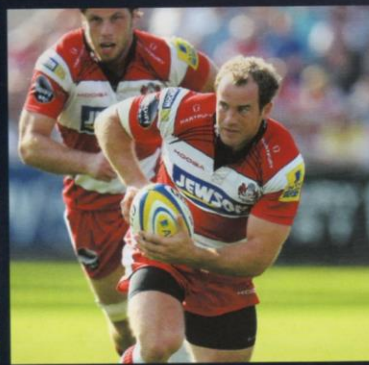
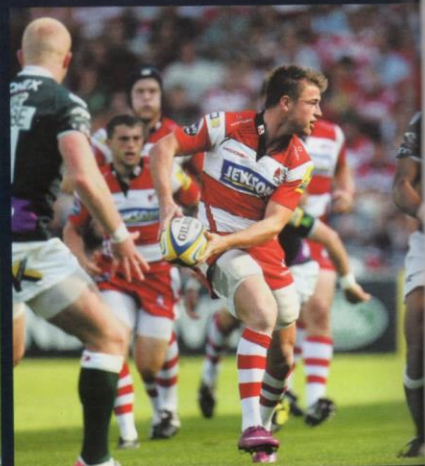
Talking of charity games, the Gloucester XV vs Combined Services in a few weeks time looks like it is going to be a great night.

To see the likes of Junior Paramore, Terry Fanolua, Jake Boer and even Rob Fidler trotting out at Kingsholm again will be great to see, and credit to the club for staging this sort of game.

I know it's a Tuesday night, but it's going to be well worth the trip and we will be helping to raise a few quid for a good cause so get along if you can - it'll be worth the admission price alone just to hear the chants of 'Ter Ry Fan O' Lua' and 'Junior, Junior' one more time!







GLOUCESTER RUGBY 33  
LONDON IRISH 30

Aviva Premiership Rugby, Kingsholm, 1 October 2011, 13:00 KO

#### **GLOUCESTER RUGBY**

**TRIES** Voyce (8),  
Penalty try (33),  
Dawidiuk (46)

**CONS** Taylor (9, 33, 47)

**PENS** Taylor (4, 15, 27),  
Burns (62)

#### **LONDON IRISH**

**TRIES** Gray (1),  
Ojo (36),  
Shingler (44)

**CONS** Homer (1, 37, 45)

**PENS** Homer (24, 41, 58)

**IN** unseasonably hot October conditions at Kingsholm, Gloucester Rugby and London Irish served up a sizzler of an Aviva Premiership clash with Bryan Redpath's side keeping their cool in the final stages to clinch a 33-30 win.

It was a game that ebbed and flowed from start to finish with both sides scoring three tries and plenty of other incidents to enthrall the 10,864 supporters.

In fairness, neither team really deserved to lose. The Exiles came to Kingsholm and played with an ambition not often seen from a visiting team.

Toby Booth's men were gifted seven points in the very first minute

as Alex Gray intercepted a wayward pass and strolled under the posts. However, they later scored two fine tries without any help required.

Gloucester overcame the early setback and moved into what seemed to be a very handy 23-10 lead. A superb break from Henry Trinder gave Olly Morgan the chance to put Tom Voyce into the corner for the first try.

And the pack took full advantage of the sinbining of Chris Hala'ufia to force a penalty try as the Exiles couldn't legally defend a 5 metre scrum.

Topsy Ojo's try shortly before half time served notice that the Exiles weren't out of this just yet however and so it proved.





Steven Shingler's try early in the second half stunned the Gloucester faithful as London Irish completed their comeback and took a shock lead.

Importantly, Gloucester hit straight back and a flowing blindside move saw hooker Darren Dawidiuk throw

a dummy and blast his way over to restore the lead.

The final quarter was surprisingly low on points scored but high on tension. Freddie Burns' penalty on 62 minutes proved to be the game winner and ensured Gloucester took the points.



#### CHAMPAGNE MOMENT

Darren Dawidiuk's try was an instant response to London Irish taking the lead in the second half. Had Irish held the lead for a while, the final outcome may have been completely different. However, the hooker's outrageous dummy finished off a flowing move to get Gloucester back on top.



#### KEY QUOTE

"We made it pretty hard on ourselves at the start with an interception and seven easy points but we clawed our way back into the game pretty well after that. I would have liked to have finished the game with another try and more intensity but the boys were pretty tired by then."

**Bryan Redpath**

### GLOUCESTER RUGBY

- 15 FB Olly Morgan
- 14 W Charlie Sharples
- 13 C Henry Trinder
- 12 C Jonny May
- 11 W Tom Voyce
- 10 FH Tim Taylor
- 9 SH Nick Runciman
- 1 P Nick Wood
- 2 H Darren Dawidiuk
- 3 P Rupert Harden
- 4 L Tom Savage
- 5 L Will James
- 6 F Peter Buxton (c)
- 7 F Luke Narraway
- 8 N8 Brett Deacon

#### REPLACEMENTS

- 16 H Matias Cortese
- 17 Dan Murphy
- 18 Dario Chistolini
- 19 David Lyons
- 20 Gareth Evans
- 21 SH Dave Lewis
- 22 FH Freddie Burns
- 23 W James Simpson-Daniel

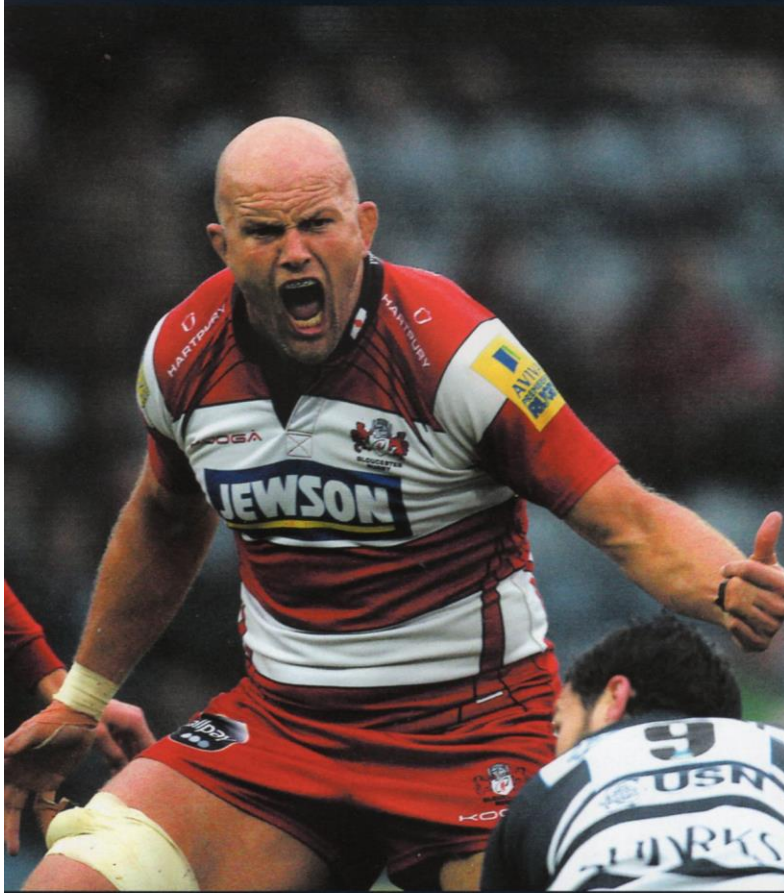
### LONDON IRISH

- 15 FB Tom Homer
- 14 W Topsy Ojo
- 13 C Jonathan Joseph
- 12 C Steve Shingler
- 11 W Adam Thompstone
- 10 FH Dan Bowden
- 9 SH Darren Allinson
- 1 P Clarke Dermody (c)
- 2 H David Paice
- 3 P Max Lahiff
- 4 L Nick Kennedy
- 5 L James Sandford
- 6 F Bryn Evans
- 7 F Alex Gray
- 8 N8 **Chris Hala'ufia**

#### REPLACEMENTS

- 16 H James Buckland
- 17 Mark George
- 18 P Faan Rautenbach
- 19 L Declan Danaher
- 20 N8 Jamie Gibson
- 21 C Guy Armitage
- 22 Adrian Jarvis
- 23 SH Paul Hodgson





SALE SHARKS 13  
GLOUCESTER RUGBY 11

Aviva Premiership Rugby, Edgeley Park, 8 October 2011, 15:00 KO

#### SALE SHARKS

**TRY** Seymour (17)  
**CONS** Macleod (18)  
**PENS** Macleod (40, 59)

#### GLOUCESTER RUGBY

**TRY** Trinder (68)  
**PENS** Taylor (41, 53)

**FRUSTRATION** is a word that can sum up Gloucester's recent visits to Edgeley Park. 2009-10 saw a 28-23 reverse while last season the Sharks triumphed 36-31.

And last weekend saw the trend continue as Steve Diamond's men edged a wet weather arm wrestle by 13 points to 11.

With the benefit of a few days hindsight, it was a game that Gloucester should have won and that's taking nothing away from their hosts.

Sale are light years removed from the sorry rabble that suffered a 50 point drubbing at Kingsholm at the tail end of last season.

They worked hard for each other, were tremendously physical and

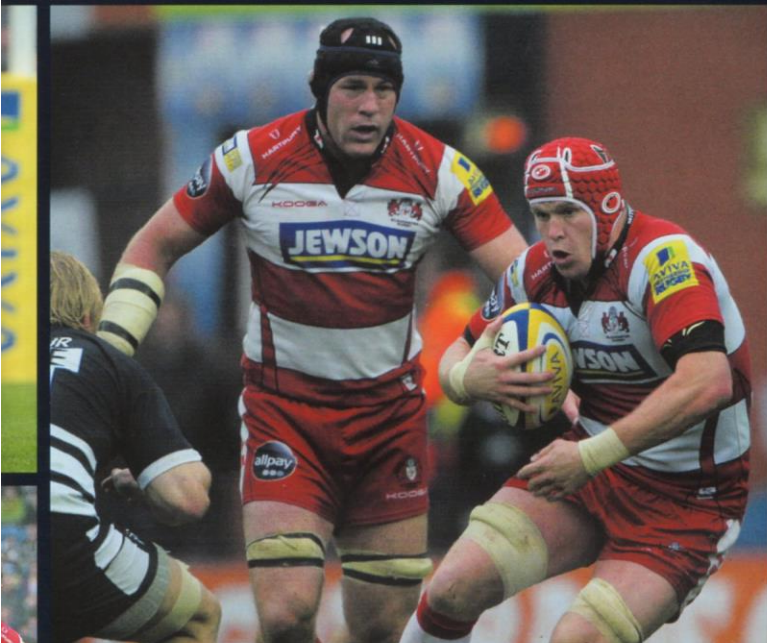
committed in defence and played the percentages well.

However, the excellent Sam Tuitupou apart, there wasn't much creativity in attack and it appeared that the main tactic was to try and engineer goal kicking opportunities for Nick MacLeod.

Tuitupou, unsurprisingly, was the driving force behind David Seymour's first half try but there was precious little else to talk about before half time.

Gloucester did enjoy plenty of possession and a superiority up front but couldn't spend enough time in Sale territory to make it count. Keeping it tight was understandable in the conditions but, too often, they were doing it





from too deep.

MacLeod's penalty with the last kick of the half made it 10-0 and the Cherry and Whites had a mountain to climb in the second half but the pack in particular set about the task with gusto.

Tim Taylor chipped away at the lead with a couple of penalties but MacLeod responded with one of his own from a rare outing into Gloucester territory.

Henry Trinder finished well as Gloucester pounced on a Sale

error of judgement. Nick Wood stripped Will Addison of the ball as he ill advisedly tried to run a kick out from near his own lines rather than clear to touch and Lewis and Dawidiuk set up Trinder.

The conversion would have levelled matters but the ball hooked across the face of the posts and that was it for the scoring.

There were fleeting opportunities as time ticked away but Gloucester couldn't capitalise and were left to ponder on what might have been.



#### CHAMPAGNE MOMENT

In such a tight encounter in poor conditions, there were few moments of individual excellence. One notable contribution was Henry Trinder hitting Darren Dawiduk's short pass at pace before breaking a tackle and diving over for Gloucester's try.

#### KEY QUOTE

"We disrespected field position and conditions in the first half to go 10-0 down and you can't do that. Away performances are about playing in the right areas of the pitch which we didn't do, we gifted them most of the points."

*Bryan Redpath*

#### SALE SHARKS

- 15 FB Rob Miller
- 14 W Tom Brady
- 13 C Will Addison
- 12 C Sam Tuitupou
- 11 W Joaquin Tuculet
- 10 FH Nick Macleod
- 9 SH Scott Mathie
- 1 P Lee Imiolek
- 2 H Marc Jones
- 3 P **Henry Thomas**
- 4 L Fraser McKenzie
- 5 L Kearnan Myall
- 6 F James Gaskell
- 7 F David Seymour (c)
- 8 N8 Mark Easter

#### REPLACEMENTS

- 16 H Joe Ward
- 17 P Alasdair Dickinson
- 18 N8 Vadim Cobilas
- 19 Tom Holmes
- 20 L Richie Vernon
- 21 Will Cliff
- 22 W Andrew Higgins
- 23 C Charlie Amesbury

#### GLOUCESTER RUGBY

- 15 FB Olly Morgan
- 14 W Charlie Sharples
- 13 C Henry Trinder
- 12 C Jonny May
- 11 W Tom Voyce
- 10 FH Tim Taylor
- 9 SH Nick Runciman
- 1 P Nick Wood
- 2 H Darren Dawidiuk
- 3 P Rupert Harden
- 4 L Tom Savage
- 5 L Will James
- 6 F Peter Buxton (c)
- 7 F Luke Narraway
- 8 N8 Brett Deacon

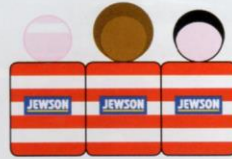
#### REPLACEMENTS

- 16 Matias Cortese
- 17 Dan Murphy
- 18 Dario Chistolini
- 19 L David Lyons
- 20 Matt Cox
- 21 SH Dave Lewis
- 22 FB Freddie Burns
- 23 W James Simpson-Daniel



Teams were correct at time of print

# TODAY'S Line-UPS



**GLOUCESTER  
RUGBY**



**SALE  
SHARKS**

15 CHARLIE SHARPLES

14 JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL

13 HENRY TRINDER

12 LESLEY VAINIKOLO

11 TOM VOYCE

10 FREDDIE BURNS

09 DAVE LEWIS

01 DAN MURPHY

02 MATIAS CORTESE

03 DARIO CHISTOLINI

04 JIM HAMILTON

05 TOM SAVAGE

06 BRETT DEACON

07 MATT COX

08 LUKE NARRAWAY (C)

15 ROB MILLER

14 TOM BRADY

13 WILL ADDISON

12 SAM TUITUPOU

11 JOAQUIN TUCULET

10 NICK MACLEOD

09 SCOTT MATHIE

01 LEE IMIOLEK

02 MARC JONES

03 HENRY THOMAS

04 FRASER MCKENZIE

05 KEARNAN MYALL

06 JAMES GASKELL

07 DAVID SEYMOUR (C)

08 MARK EASTER

16 SCOTT LAWSON

17 YANN THOMAS

18 RUPERT HARDEN

19 WILL JAMES

20 ALASDAIR STROKOSCH

21 RORY LAWSON

22 TIM TAYLOR

23 RYAN MILLS

16 JOE WARD

17 ALASDAIR DICKINSON

18 VADIM COBILAS

19 TOM HOLMES

20 RICHIE VERNON

21 WILL CLIFF

22 ANDREW HIGGINS

23 CHARLIE AMESBURY

## THE OFFICIALS



**REFEREE:** Neil Hennessy  
**ASST REFS:** Ashley Rowden and Paul Dix

## TOP SCORERS 2010/11



48 Nick Evans

40 Nicky Robinson

40 Charles Sharples

39 Jimmy Gopperth

37 Matthew Morgan

35 Matthew Jones



## WHAT ARE THESE ALL ABOUT?

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