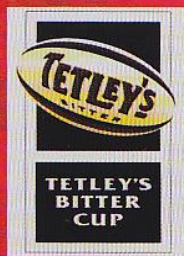
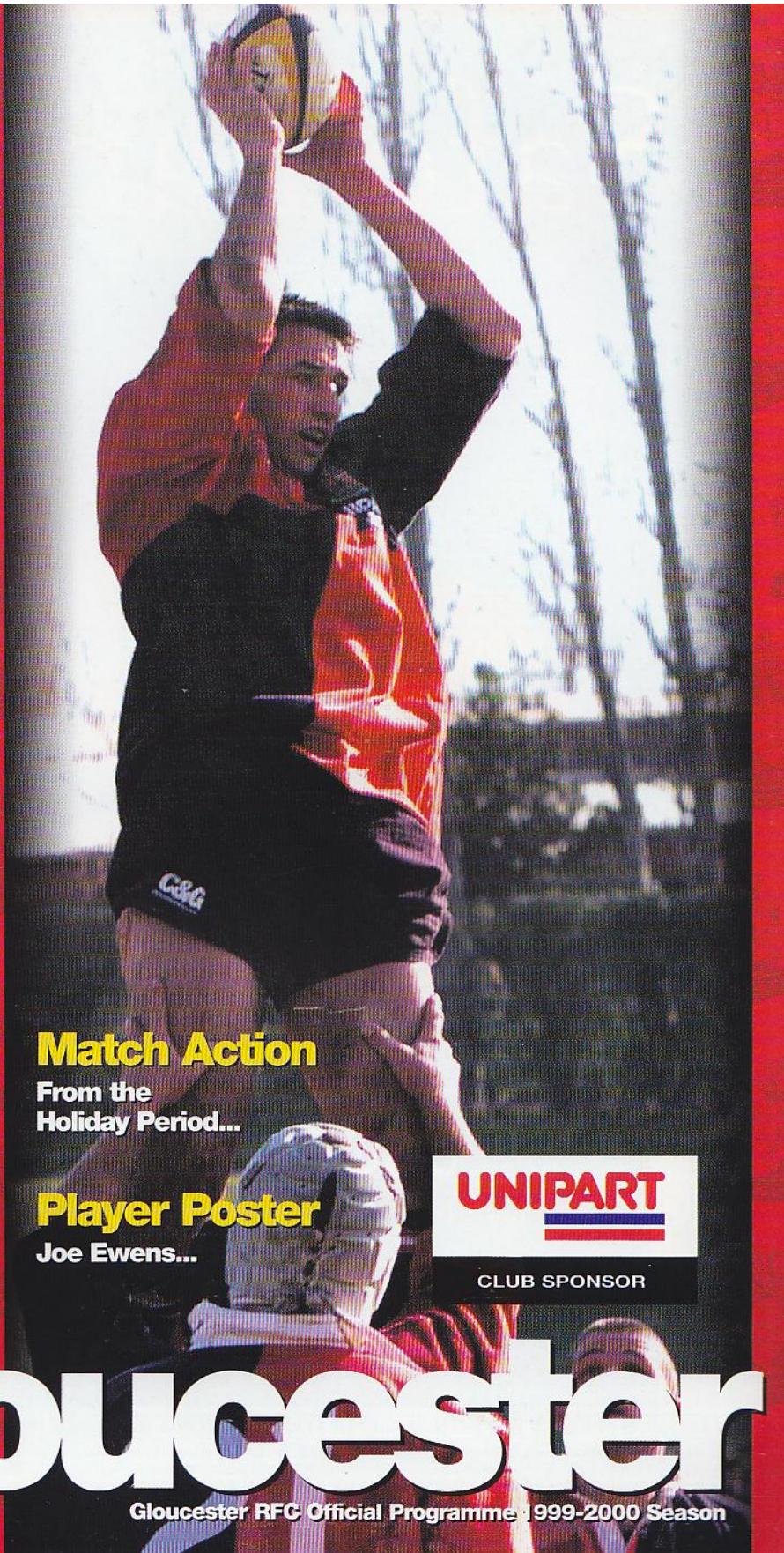




**GLOUCESTER**  
**V**  
**BATH**  
**RUGBY**



**Monday 3**  
**January 2000**  
**Kick-off 7.45pm**



**Match Action**

From the  
Holiday Period...

**Player Poster**

Joe Ewens...



CLUB SPONSOR

# Gloucester

Issue 9 - £2.00

Gloucester RFC Official Programme 1999-2000 Season



# Welcome from The Editors

A Warm Welcome

It could only happen in rugby! After the Bridgend game just before Christmas, the Scottish referee Malcom McEwan was supping a pint in the clubhouse along with the supporters.

It was a most convivial occasion enjoyed by both the handful of supporters and by Mr. McEwan. "You have a great asset here," said. "Of all the English clubs, Gloucester is the best known among the Southern Hemisphere - Kingsholm is a ground known the world over. "Jim Fleming is always saying in Scotland that you are not a referee until you have refereed in front of The Shed at Kingsholm.

"I know now just what he means," McEwan said. "I was a pleasure to come here and be among people who are passionate about rugby." McEwan hails from Hawick where they are also passionate about their rugby!

## CHARITY OF THE MATCH

From time to time, we "adopt" a charity for a specific match. This afternoon, at the request of one of our players, Brian Johnson, we have selected the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust.

And to highlight the work that the Trust does, we ask you to turn your attention to 44 years-old Paul Collins, a former Staff

Sergeant in the Royal Corps of Signals and a renowned Army and Corps rugby player.

Paul is suffering from leukaemia and urgently needs a life-saving bone marrow transplant. A world search on the Anthony Nolan Trust's bone marrow register has failed to find a match. Male donors aged between 18 and 40 are urgently required.

Although Jamaican-born Paul could accept a bone marrow transport from any donor with the right tissue match, his chances would be greatly improved if more afro-Caribbean donors were identified.

Paul served with our own Brian Johnson, who is currently serving as a Captain in the Royal Signals. And Brian played rugby with Paul in the early Nineties when both were serving in Germany.

"Despite his situation, Paul is very cheerful and optimistic," Brian told us. "The bone marrow

register is being added to all the time and we need young fit people under 40, especially males, to volunteer to be on it.

"Even if volunteers can't help Paul, there may be someone else whose life can be saved," Brian said.

Anyone who feels that they may be able to help Paul or anyone in his situation by joining the register - or by making a donation - should contact:

Kay Carol, The Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust Donor Recruitment on 0171 284 1234  
Or, WO2 Jenny Ingleton, Army Welfare Service Donations on 0171 414 3459.

And by the way Paul, get "BJ" to bring you to a match at Kingsholm one day!

Finally...

... it is a good job that the Gloucester Rugby Supporters Association "spys" never ventured into the South Western outskirts of Madrid when researching their "Reign In Spain Awards" (page 41).

They missed a band of "media types" waiting at a bus stop on the Saturday evening. While the bus stop was right opposite the bus stop where they had got off, they reckoned without the Madrid Bus Company!

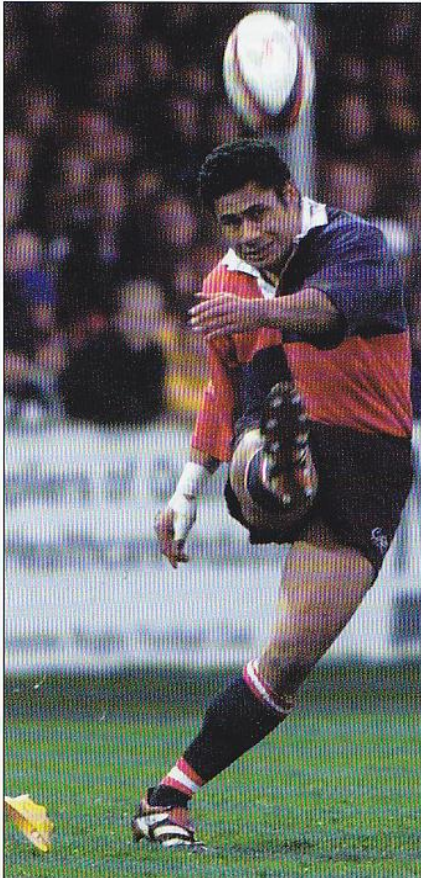
The bus on the return journey into Madrid went a different route - and they were waiting for a Monday-Friday only service!





# Match Action

Gloucester 23 Bridgend 6



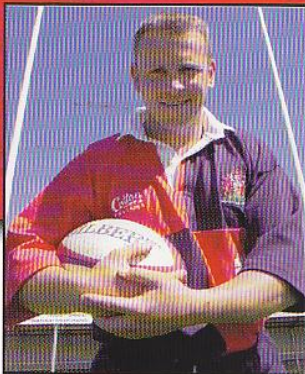
Match Action

Read The News And Air Your Views on the Official Gloucester RFC Website  
[www.kingsholm-chronicle.org.uk](http://www.kingsholm-chronicle.org.uk)



# Captain's Comment

Kingsley Jones



**"I am sure it will be a great game - a game full of passion. And all we went at the end is for Gloucester to have scored more points than Bath!"**

This is a game that I am really looking forward to! I cannot tell you how disappointed I was last year - what was it, 366 days ago - standing at the side watching when I was injured.

Now I look forward to playing in front of a full Kingsholm, providing that no injury comes along over the Christmas games.

Of course it is a tough eight days for us - and for Bath it's seven days. Both of us have three games,

including this one. That is not easy, but we are professionals.

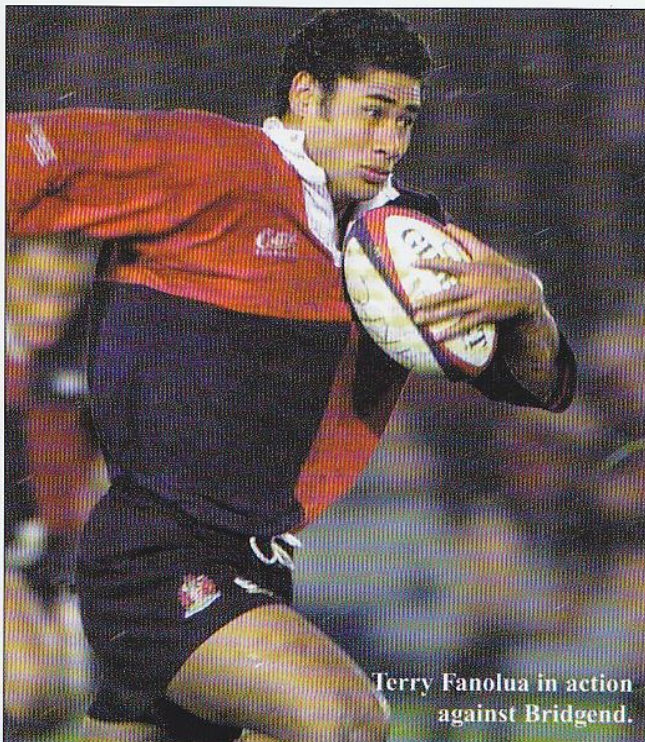
Today is a massive game for both clubs. And as we approached Christmas there was less than 1,000 tickets left. From what I am told, the last time that Kingsholm sold out was eight years ago when the All Blacks played USA in the World Cup!

So we all know how the people of Gloucester feel about today's match! Now, the talking is over

and it is up to fifteen of us on the field to give 110 per cent in our effort to deliver!

I am sure it will be a great game - a game full of passion. And all we went at the end is for Gloucester to have scored more points than Bath!

I made no secret of the fact that I want to play in front of as many people as I can. And you cannot get much bigger than a full Kingsholm in club rugby.



Terry Fanolua in action against Bridgend.

In many ways, this is the halfway stage of the season. And having to prepare these thoughts before I have got around to buying the family Christmas presents prevents what might be called a "half term report".

But as I write, we are top of the Premiership and the hope is that we will still be top by the time you read this. There was a disappointment for us down at Bridgend when we dropped a point in the European Shield, but I am confident that we will have picked up both points on the return match at Kingsholm just before Christmas.

On behalf of all the lads in the playing squad, may I thank you for your terrific support and we all wish you a happy 21st century! And what a way to start the century - Gloucester vs Bath at Kingsholm!

Read The News And Air Your Views on the Official Gloucester RFC Website  
[www.kingsholm-chronicle.org.uk](http://www.kingsholm-chronicle.org.uk)



# Mike Weaver Reviews....

**If there is one thing that the Gloucester coaches are disappointed with so far this season it must surely be the team's apparent lack of discipline.**

If we take last week's victory against Sale, our visitors should have been well and truly shut out of the game before they got a whiff of a half-time orange.

Yet they were given fresh hope by Gloucester's failure to learn from the referee who had shown himself to be totally unforgiving of hands in the ruck and the slightest hint of offside.

Because of that, Steve Davidson was able to maintain the weak pulse of the Cheshire side with some good penalty kicking, topped off with a try following a series of Gloucester infringements.

Of course it was a convincing result in the end - and a fair reflection of the gulf between the teams. But I think most of us, including the coaches, came away thinking we should have done better against a team who could only name 20 fit players from a squad of 30. Nevertheless, for an all-to brief 18 hours we were top of the league!

Heady stuff, I know, but as John Brain commented after

the match, we'll have a much clearer picture of how the Premiership lies by Christmas.

The Gloucester players should need no reminding that they cannot commit the same amount of mistakes today and hope to get a result. If fit, Mark Mapletoft would surely relish the chance to put one over on his former club at the first time of asking.

After all, I can't think of any other player who, in recent seasons, would have spent more time staring down the twin barrels of the Kingsholm posts to line up vital penalty points!

I hope that Tofty receives a similarly warm welcome as that afforded to 'New Slimline' last Friday night! Over the years we built up a large debt of gratitude to the diminutive number ten - his composure in front of the posts together with the odd dash of brilliance and arrogance in open play brought us back from the brink on far too many occasions to mention.

But the bright lights of London Town became too much for him to resist in the end and after refusing the offer to stay at Kingsholm as full-back he declared himself willing to swap over the Sarries' number 10 jersey with Thierry 'ave a good fun' Lacroix.

These days, of course, you wouldn't catch him anywhere

near a number 15 shirt! The prospect of emerging as league leaders after this game should spur both sides on to massively committed performances.

Saracens have managed to maintain some good form during the World Cup, hammering Bedford and Newcastle at home, as well as Northampton and Sale away.

On a final note, I really hope that we haven't seen the last of our bearded Gallic talisman, Monsieur Simon. It has been reported that he has now played his last game for the club having provided valuable cover during the World Cup period. John Brain was still hopeful of maintaining his services when speaking after the Sale game, but acknowledged that Serge's inability to train with the squad during the week was a significant problem not likely to be overcome.

It was fantastic to see how he immediately captured the hearts of the Shed with his 'back-to-basics' style of rugby, together with the camaraderie he displayed towards his team-mates whenever any one of them became isolated from the pack and was surrounded by studs and fists!

I'm sure that when we end up at the top of the pile come May, few will forget his unique contribution to the squad's success!



# Graham Day

of BBC Radio Gloucestershire

**What a way to begin the new Millennium! Who would have thought a couple of years ago that we would be able to talk about Gloucester going into a Cup match against their West Country rivals with both vying for a place at the top of the table.**

However, let's temper this enthusiasm with the memory of 1990, and my introduction to covering the Cherry and Whites for BBC Radio Gloucestershire. I got the job as Gloucester were chasing a league and cup double. I arrived at the Radio Station after the Nottingham defeat, but somehow that was tempered by the prospect of the Cup Final - and how I enjoyed the build-up.

The pre-match interviews with Mike Hamlin, even chasing Tim Smith and Kevin Dunn across the scaffolding of the construction site of the Beechwood Shopping Centre in Cheltenham; for remember these were still amateur days, where in the week of the showpiece game of the season, players were still busy with their day jobs. But I will never forget my feeling after being on the wrong end of the biggest winning margin in a Final, when like most supporters I

just wanted to go home, but had to stay and present the final hour of the Sports Programme. Twickenham's a lonely place at 6 o'clock when your team's just lost a final!

A chance for revenge came in that epic semi-final in 1992, Tim Smith's kick made it 18-15, they levelled, but Dave Sims had to go off injured and Bath stole the game - even now Radio Gloucestershire's sports team can recite by heart Tim's after match comment; "We had them, we thought we had them - how did we let them slip out of our grasp?"

It was another four years before there was another semi-final - and again defeat, but at least this year, three weeks later, was to come that famous victory under lights at Kingsholm. I can still replay in my mind Scott Benton's try in that 16-10 win.

And, of course, leaving aside the games, there's the people connections. I can remember after one Bath game wondering why Richard Hill was reading so intently from a notebook to John Fidler. When next game he was at Kingsholm, again making notes, it didn't take too long to put the two's together! Whilst Richard may have

gone, other significant links remain; Steve Ojomoh, Ed Pearce, Ian Sanders, Neil McCarthy, Joe Ewens and Audley Lumsden.

So for the second year running, Gloucester start their year with a game against Bath; last year at a wet and windy Kingsholm, a 23-7 win was the last league game Richard Hill was to win before his eventual demise. Back in 1971, the inaugural Cup competition started with a Gloucester-Bath game, a 12-3 victory in a campaign without a home game, which took them all the way to a final against Moseley, and the honour of being the first club to win the cup.

If you share this same sporting sentiment as me, the bad times will be consigned to the back of the mind and you'll look forward to a repetition of some of the glorious encounters of the past, with maybe the winning try scored by one of the ex-pats!!!!??

Graham Day is a news producer at BBC Radio Gloucestershire and was the one-time "Voice of Gloucester Rugby" on the BBC, providing commentary on matches home and away to local listeners.



# Peter Arnold

## Déjà Vu

Peter Arnold

You'd be pardoned for experiencing that 'I've been here before' feeling today. This time last year, almost exactly to the day, Gloucester entertained Bath and, contrary to the pundits' expectations, won the game handily.

That, of course, was a Premiership game, while today's Cup encounter is a different kettle of fish entirely. You won't need reminding that Bath has stopped our merry gallop in the Cup an indecent number of times over the past few seasons, although sometimes they've struggled to do it. And those games have been played at The Rec. The other difference between today's encounters and its recent predecessors is that, at the time they were played, Gloucester were having to work hard to hang on to a mid-table Premiership position, while Bath have been happily sitting on top of the table, or near to it. Makes a change for them to come here as on-paper underdogs, doesn't it? One thing's for sure, however. If we had all got down on our benders and prayed for the fixture we would most wish to open a new Millennium for Gloucester RFC, it's all Nike to a discarded jock-strap that we would have picked Bath at Kingsholm in the Cup. So, just for once, the gods of rugby have smiled on us.

### NEW YEAR'S HONOURS

If it's good enough for Her Majesty, it's good enough for me. Here are my nominations for this year's Honours List. You are, of course, perfectly entitled to disagree with my selections,

and probably will. You may even think of some Awards I haven't considered. Anyway, I hope the following gives you a talking point while we wait for hostilities to commence.

### MAN OF THE YEAR

To my mind there is only one possible recipient of this Award. My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, I present to you 'Le Patron' himself, Philippe Saint André. He became our playing guru at a most difficult time, and has turned a struggling, under-achieving side into one of the most feared outfits in the land. He has made some extremely shrewd signings and has had the strength of character to shed some popular players, calling down the wrath of many supporters by so doing.

Through it all he has retained and enhanced the respect and even affection we have all felt for him. If we have a criticism it would be that we haven't seen enough of Philippe Saint André, wing three-quarter, but you can't have everything. With his well-known insistence on 'the collective', Philippe himself would probably point out that he's had a lot of help from a fair few people, but there can only be one guy at the top, and that's Philippe. We all owe him a great deal, whatever happens from here on in.

### PLAYER OF THE SEASON (SO FAR)

Quite a contentious one, this. Elton Moncreiff has made an enormous impact, and must come into the reckoning. Terry Fanolua will have his supporters, as will Chris Yates and Kingsley Jones. My vote, however, must go to Simon Mannix. He didn't have a good season last time round. He was labouring under the shadow of

Mark Mapletoft, and certainly wasn't playing as well as those of us who had watched him over the seasons knew he could. Everyone has an off year, now and then, and that was Simon's.

This season, however, he has put all that behind him and has put in a series of cool, clinical performances with hand and boot which have even earned the approval of such acknowledged experts as Dewi Morris and Stuart Barnes. And all this against a background where the lack of high-quality cover at No.10 has piled an undesirable workload on his shoulders.

I suspect he even prefers it that way.

### MOST PROMISING YOUNG PLAYER

Another arguable one. Andrew Hazell, for example, has come on like a bomb. However, I would give my accolade to Adam Eustace for his ability to slot right in at either lock or in the back row.

### AND THE REST

If space permitted I could go on like this for some time. My 'Back from the Dead' award would go to Kingsley Jones for his feat in recovering from a long-term injury and bouncing back to become, not just an effective player, but a storming, motivating Captain. I'd also award my 'Most Welcome Visitor' title to Serge Simon, a prop with attitude if ever there was one.

And the 'Golden Oldie' title must go to Andy Deacon, still creating mayhem against some of the best front rows in England.

Have a great 2000, everyone.





# Today's Officials

**Referee:**  
Ed Morrison  
(RFU)

**Touch Judges:**  
Geraint  
Aston-Jones  
David Matthews

## Today's Mascot:

### LUCY MEREDITH

Lucy, who is seven years old, lives in Gloucester with her Mum and Dad. She is a pupil at Calton Road Junior School.

Her interests include swimming, reading and playing her recorder. Lucy also loves rugby - and her favourite player is Chris Fortey.



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Monday January 3, 2000

# Today's Line-Ups

**Gloucester** 13 **Bath** 6

15	Byron Hayward	1c2PG	15
14	Chris Catling		14
13	Terry Fanolua		13
12	Chris Yates		12
11	Tom Beim		11
10	Simon Mannix		10
9	Elton Moncrieff		9
1	Trevor Woodman		1
2	Chris Fortey		2
3	Phil Vickery		3
4	Rob Fidler		4
5	Ian Jones		5
6	Steve Ojomoh		6
7	Kingsley Jones (C)		7
8	Ed Pearce		8

PEN. TRY

## Replacements

16	TBA	16
17	TBA	17
18	TBA	18
19	TBA	19
20	TBA	20
21	TBA	21
22	TBA	22

Please note that this programme was printed two weeks ago and the teams are subject to considerable alteration following the two Allied Dunbar Premiership matches last week.