

Gloucester Rugby Football Club Official Matchday Magazine | 2004/05 Season | Issue 8 | Price £2.50

GRFC

vs **Leicester Tigers**
Sunday 2nd January
Zurich Premiership
Kick Off 5.00pm



Round-up:
The Season
So Far...



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“Happy New Year and welcome to Kingsholm for our opening fixture of the New Year”



Happy New Year and welcome to Kingsholm for our opening fixture of the New Year against our old rivals Leicester. It is only a few weeks ago we met at Welford Road in the Powergen Cup, not a pretty game, but a valuable win for Gloucester and the reward of a home quarter final against Wasps (sorry Bristol).

As we prepared for today's game, there was no point making comparisons from that particular performance. To begin with, Leicester have one of the largest Premiership squads, it is unlikely that they will field the same team today. John Wells may have

talked up his under strength side a few weeks ago, but there was no hiding his priorities of Europe and the Premiership. One thing we can be certain of today is a physical game against one of Europe's top sides, there can be no better way to start the New Year!

I must admit that saying goodbye to 2004 was not difficult for me. In terms of injuries to key players I have never known a year like it. The medical department tell me that with the New Year will come a flood of new faces fresh, fit and raring to go, no face could be more welcome back today than

and have certainly helped us win the odd game when our resources have been well down and confidence a little low. Behind the scenes it has been refreshing to see so much positive support for the team, from the ticket office to the Boardroom everyone has pulled together to get us through to the New Year. Remarkably we now face the New Year, still competing in three competitions and getting stronger all the time!

Next week we return to the final group stages of the European Cup, so far the Cup has not disappointed. Leicester's epic double over Wasps was fantastic to watch, whilst our double over Cardiff was a typical tough Anglo-Welsh affair. Winning in Cardiff for the first time in 68 years certainly brought a smile to a few older faces!

Last week we were all delighted to hear that we had been granted planning permission for further ground developments at Kingsholm. As the popularity of the game continues to grow and gates throughout the Premiership continue to rise, we have to make sure we cater for those that want to support.

Finally, I would like to wish both sets of supporters a happy New Year, games against Leicester are always special, what better way to start 2005!

Nigel's notes



Nigel Melville
Director of Rugby

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Phil Vickery. Let's hope we can now put the injuries behind us and enjoy the rest of the season.

Off the field, our fans have been absolutely fantastic, as usual. Home and away they have lifted the team

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“I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. We had a lot of messages sent to us over the holiday season and I’d like to thank everyone for those.”

Welcome back to Kingsholm, it’s been a few weeks since we were all last here, beating Cardiff in the Heineken Cup, but today we return to Premiership action.

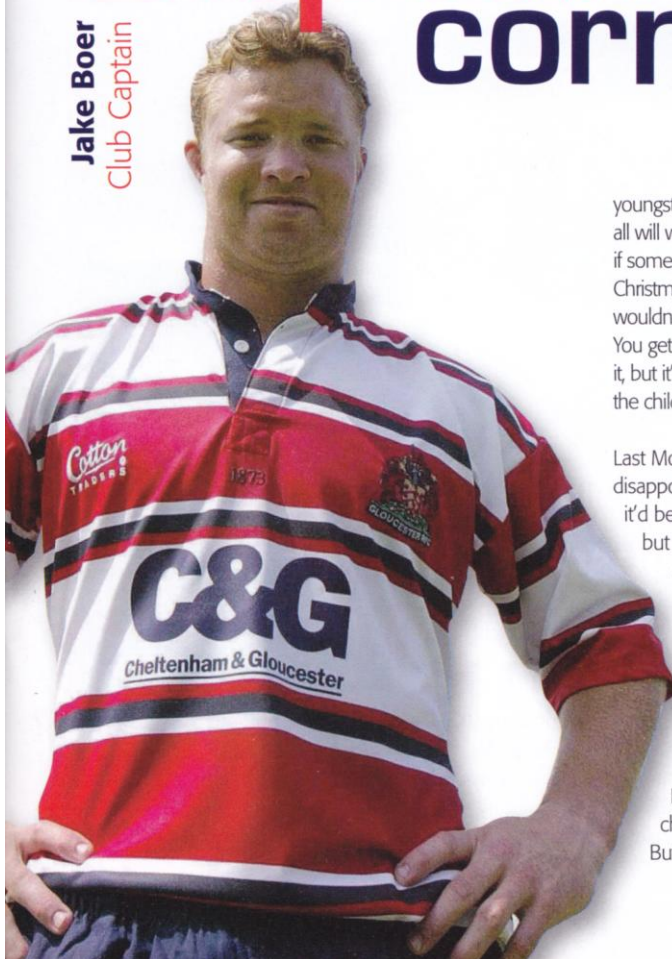
I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. We

had a lot of messages sent to us over the holiday season and I’d like to thank everyone for those.

As a professional rugby player you don’t get to enjoy the festive period as much as you did when you were a

Captain’s corner

Jake Boer
Club Captain



youngster, or as much as we all will when we retire. In fact, if someone had told me it was Christmas only a week ago, I wouldn’t have believed them. You get very little time to enjoy it, but it’s still a good time for the children and the family.

Last Monday was a huge disappointment. We knew it’d be tough against Wasps, but there were a few difficult decisions to deal with, and we gave away a soft try early on. You can’t go chasing a game against them so early on. They’re not Heineken and Zurich champions for nothing. But we’ve looked at it

this week and re-grouped and got on with things.

Today is the next step. We’ve got some almighty games coming up, starting with Leicester this evening.

The Tigers are an established side, and have been for some time now. But having the likes of Martin Johnson and Neil Back with them all the time now is key. You can’t compare their experience to anyone else. The younger players come in and who better than to have next to you than these guys. It’s certainly starting to show in their performances.

Playing against Leicester always brings the best out in us. The rivalry goes back years, and with a full-house here at Kingsholm today, I know it’s going to be a good game.

Today will also be the first chance for our new guys to sample the home atmosphere. Both Mefin Davies and Noel Cumier have come in to replace the injured Chris Fortey and Olivier Azam, and I hope you give them both a very special welcome.

Mefin has been superb for us in the last two games. He’s been very influential and has shown why he is an international hooker.

Once again, I hope you’ve all had a good holiday, and enjoy the game today. We’re looking forward to your support over the next few weeks, with games like today, then Ulster away, Stade Francais at home, and then two local derbies against Bristol and Worcester.

It certainly promises to be a busy month! All the best.

This evening **John Wells** visits **Kingsholm** in the capacity of head coach of Leicester Tigers. There will be a number of Gloucester supporters who will recall the devoted Welford Road club servant visiting the West Country on a winter's afternoon in 1992 as the Tigers captain. Club historian **Dave King** looks back more than 10 years ago.

REMEMBER when?

Gloucester Vs Leicester, 1992



John Wells

In the 1992-1993 season Gloucester had already visited Leicester Tigers in the Courage League where they had been narrowly defeated 21-20. Supporters may readily recall that only one match was played between clubs in those days.

So Leicester Tigers' visit to Kingsholm was termed as a 'friendly'. So revenge was the operative term for all connected with Gloucester. Both clubs were deprived of key players due to the fact that the superfluous Divisional Championships were taking precedence. The previous season had seen Gloucester complete a double winning 22-12 at



Leicester and 21-3 here at Kingsholm.

In 1992 the Kingsholm faithful were rewarded with a six-try fiesta, five of those tries coming in a rampant second half display. The game suffered somewhat as a spectacle due to the boggy conditions under foot and there were some physical clashes.

Leicester took a 21st minute lead with a dropped goal by fly half Jez Harris. Two minutes later Wayne Kilford missed a penalty and the opportunity to increase the Tigers lead.

Minutes before the interval Gloucester took the lead when they won a scrum against the head and sent Martin Roberts over for a try to give the home fifteen a narrow lead.

Six minutes into the second half Gloucester ran a penalty from fifteen metres and Paul Ashmead went close, but it was Bobby Fowke who crossed. Martin Roberts converting.

Two minutes later Peter Miles scored the third

try but was then guilty of passing to Tigers winger Robert Sandford in the visiting club's 22, who ran seventy five metres for a sensational touchdown. Simon Deveraux and Tony Windo scored tries in the 68th and 74th minutes. Martin Roberts converted Deveraux's try to take the scoreline to 29-8.

A second half try from Pete Sandford stemming from a quick tap penalty and an excellent three quarter move brought an air of respectability to the score-line for the Tigers. The game ended with Peter Miles scoring his second try, when he rounded off a driving attack by the home pack. Martin Roberts converted to give Gloucester a convincing 36 points to 13 victory.

Gloucester were left to reflect on their powerful pack, proving their superiority in emphatic fashion, to the extent that they left the Tigers somewhat toothless. It was the tenth successive defeat for Leicester at Kingsholm.

Dave King

Where are they now?

Martin Roberts, Ian Morgan and Peter Miles are now with Cinderford RFC. Jeremy Perrins with Stroud RFC, Paul Holford with Chosen Hill RFC while Julian Daves is with Lydney. Tony Windo is now a try-scoring prop with newly promoted Worcester Warriors.

Gloucester:

M.Roberts;
C.Deer,
I.Morgan,
J.Perrins,
P.Holford;
D.Cummins,
J.Davis,
J.Hawker,
P.Miles,
S.Deveraux,
P.Ashmead,
A.Stanley (Captain),
R.Fowke.

Sale:

W.Kilford;
T.Reynolds,
L.Boyce,
I.Bates,
P.Sandford;
J.Harris,
D.Grewcock;
D.Eagland,
R.Wareham,
D.Hopper,
P.Grant,
M.Pooler,
J.Wells (Captain),
S.Povoas,
W.Drake-Lee

Referee: D.Taylor
(London Society)

DID YOU Know?

That James Forester's grandfather Michael played for Leicester Tigers. He made one appearance as a centre for the first XV in 1938.

Leicester have held Gloucester score-less on nine occasions at Kingsholm. Two of those matches in 1894 and 1900 ended in nil-nil draws.

In the seasons 1965-66 and 1966-67 Leicester triumphed with an identical score-line of three points to nil.

Gloucester had a ten-season span from 1983 to 1993 where they remained unbeaten against Leicester at Kingsholm.

There have been four draws between the clubs at Kingsholm, 0-0 in the 1894-95, and in the 1899-00 season, 5-5 in the 1910-11 season and 13-13 in the 1972-73 season.

Leicester have failed to score in 13 of their 90 matches played at Kingsholm. The last occasion was in the 1988-89 season when they encountered 28 points to nil reverse.

Leicester have never managed more than a two match winning sequence at Kingsholm in the 113 years since they first visited Kingsholm in 1891.

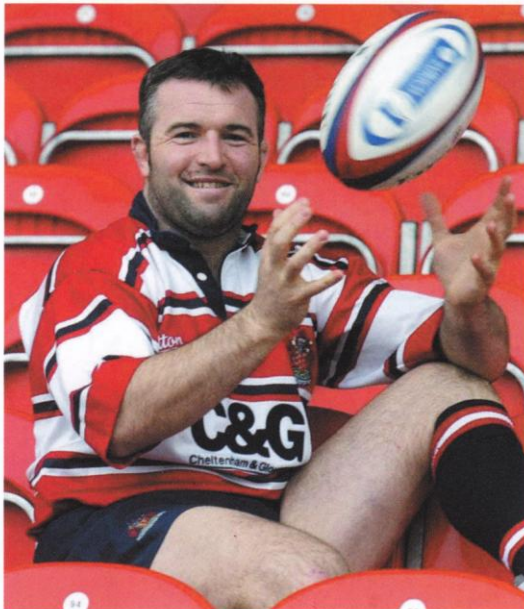
The biggest winning margin for Gloucester came in the 1986-87 season by 46 Points to 6. A season when Malcolm Preedy captained the Club.

Adam Balding made four Zurich Premiership appearances and one Powergen Cup appearance for Leicester Tigers against Gloucester.

Text ALERT GLOUCESTER to 80092

BBC radio gloucestershire

This week's BBC Radio Gloucestershire spotlight is on new signing Mefin Davies. Ian Randall looks behind the scenes on the Welsh international's life.



particularly as I was growing up, and my wife through the ups and downs in rugby. Her support has been fantastic. They put things in perspective and you realise how good they are to you.

BBC IR: What can you cook to impress people?

MD: Burnt toast! I find that quite easy. In fact I've developed a high degree of skill when it comes to the degree of burn on the bread. The first time you turn the toaster on I can generally catch it right but if the toaster is hot I can do some severe damage.

BBC IR: What's the last thing that made you laugh out loud?

MD: Two fish in a tank - one said to the other "how do you drive this thing?"

BBC IR: What's your worst habit?

MD: Nobody's been kind enough to tell me what it is yet.

BBC IR: What's the best thing about rugby?

MD: Playing. You can't beat it. I was given an opportunity to play at a very young age, and I've enjoyed it ever since. To do it professionally, and to be at a great club with great players is fantastic.

BBC IR: What was your first job?

MD: I worked for a security systems company in West Wales. I thoroughly enjoyed it - going into posh houses and installing house alarms.

BBC IR: What would be your preferred alternative career?

MD: Probably doing what I was doing until I came to Gloucester, which was engineering. The job is still open for me too, at the moment....

BBC IR: Who has been the biggest influence on your life?

MD: My parents and my wife. My parents,

BBC IR: If you had to go on Mastermind, what subject would you choose?

MD: Life. It's a big category but something you can go into in depth and I'd probably lose myself in answering the questions!

BBC IR: What's the one piece of advice you would give to a young player?

MD: Enjoy the game. Life is hard enough



The Honour

whatever you do, and if you play rugby you want to come away from every training session feeling as if you've learned something. When you play, try to take something positive out of every game. To win is obviously even better.

BBC IR: What's been your favourite Christmas present?



MD: I think the best gift is being with family and friends and seeing happy faces rather than anything you are given. I enjoy the build up and giving presents to people who want something special.



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Going into another year as contributor to the matchday programme Peter Arnold looks at the recent arrivals at Kingsholm and the Powergen Cup game between Leicester and Gloucester two weeks ago.

Peter ARNOLD

GETTING HOOKED

As I sit down at my keyboard, there is still over a week to go before Christmas, and therefore over a fortnight before my immortal prose appears in print. The reason for this is quite simple: people working in the printing and allied trades are as entitled to their festive break as anyone else, and I would be the last man in the world to begrudge them that.

Fortunately, quite a lot has happened since the home Cardiff game, so I have a fair

amount to get my teeth into.

The first thing which occurs to me is that, at the moment, there seems to be more hookers at Kingsholm than they have in Soho. At least six at the last count. You know the reason, of course: nasty injuries to Ollie Azam and Chris Fortey have left us dangerously exposed in the hooking department, and some cover had to come from somewhere.

Obviously, we extend a big welcome to Messrs Davies and Cumier who are filling the gap. I'm sure that both of them will come out of the

experience the better for it, and will look back at their time with us as blood and sweat well spent. Of course, I have no way of knowing if either or both of them will feature today, but however that turns out, it will be the first run out either of them will have had in front of a Kingsholm crowd, and that's a life-enriching experience for anyone.

Neither of them qualify to play in the Heineken Cup games, and that gives me the chance to say how nobly I think James Parkes has acquitted himself since 'Four-O' broke his leg. Quite a baptism of fire,

that, and no one could ask more of him than he has delivered. The forthcoming games against Ulster and Stade Francais will give him opportunities to enhance his claims further, and ensure that Ollie and Chris face some serious competition for the Number 2 shirt when they return to fitness.

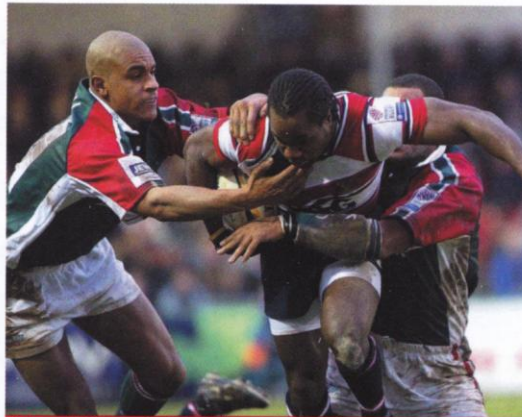
So there's a silver lining to most clouds, and it's nice to see an aspiring player grab his chances with both mitts when the opportunity arises.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

New Year, they tell me, is a time for looking to the future, but it's nice to know that some things don't change as the years roll on. You can professionalise the game, have all the leagues you want and virtually abolish Anglo-Welsh fixtures, but Gloucester v. Cardiff still seems to stir that certain something which results in a moderately terrifying encounter.

Our recent back-to-back fixtures in the Heineken Cup prove that, if nothing else. When they came to Kingsholm I think most of us were expecting a fairly easy ride and there was much glib talk about bonus points. Nothing happened to change that expectation when the game started and Terry Fanolua went over before you had time to get your hip flask out.

We should have known better. After that, normal service, in terms of Gloucester Vs Cardiff, was



Marcel Garvey is tackled by Leicester's Tom Varnell and Leon Lloyd

resumed. Of course, losing our entire back three and having to endure long periods with a patchwork back division, didn't help, but the Blues pack were playing like demons, and particularly nasty ones at that. Bonus points rapidly went out of the window, although, as things turned out, we might well have gained one. Frankly, in the end, we were glad to win.

The return fixture was similar: a big boys' game if ever there was one. Predictably, tempers became frayed, and I'm sure everyone who set foot on the pitch knew they'd been in a match at the final whistle.

In the end, there were eight points well won. However, those of us with long memories will be shaking our heads with wonderment at how the old Gloucester Vs Cardiff ethos can have survived and resurfaced after all this time. Perhaps we're a bit reassured, too.

Talking about blasts from the past, it's good too see that Bristol seem to be well on course to regain their rightful

place in the Premiership next season. Furthermore, with a fair wind and the bounce of the ball, Worcester have a good fighting chance of staying up, too. If those things were to come to pass, then four of the best teams in England would come from our region. Now that really would be a happy new year!

EARNING THEIR STRIPES

We always enjoy the company of Leicester players and supporters when they come to Kingsholm, so perhaps I should apologise in advance for harking back to the pre-Christmas Powergen Cup match, in which they came second. In fact, I run the risk of offending both parties when I say that I thought Nigel Melville's reported remarks after the game were a bit hard on the Gloucester players.

Even the most diehard Shedhead couldn't claim that it was a sweet, flowing game. Cup matches rarely are, but let's take a

closer look at the facts. To start with, the conditions were lousy. It was a dark, drizzly day and neither handling nor seeing the ball can have been easy, which probably accounted for many of the errors perpetrated by both sides.

Second, we should take a look at the two sides. Much has been made of the fact that Leicester, for very understandable reasons, left out a whole clutch of first-choice players, but replacements such as ex-Harlequin, Scott Bemand, would be regarded as more than adequate, and aspiring Tigers would be (a) out to earn their stripes, and (b) nervous. Anyway, Messrs Back and Rowntree were both on the bench and could have been brought on at any time.

On the other side of the equation, Gloucester were without their first choices at left wing, outside half, tight head and hooker. In fact, the chap who did play at No.2 had only met his teammates the previous Tuesday.

Finally, this was Welford Road, where only one English club had won for almost exactly twelve months, and that was Gloucester. The support is massive and the atmosphere intimidating, but we're the last people in the world to complain about that.

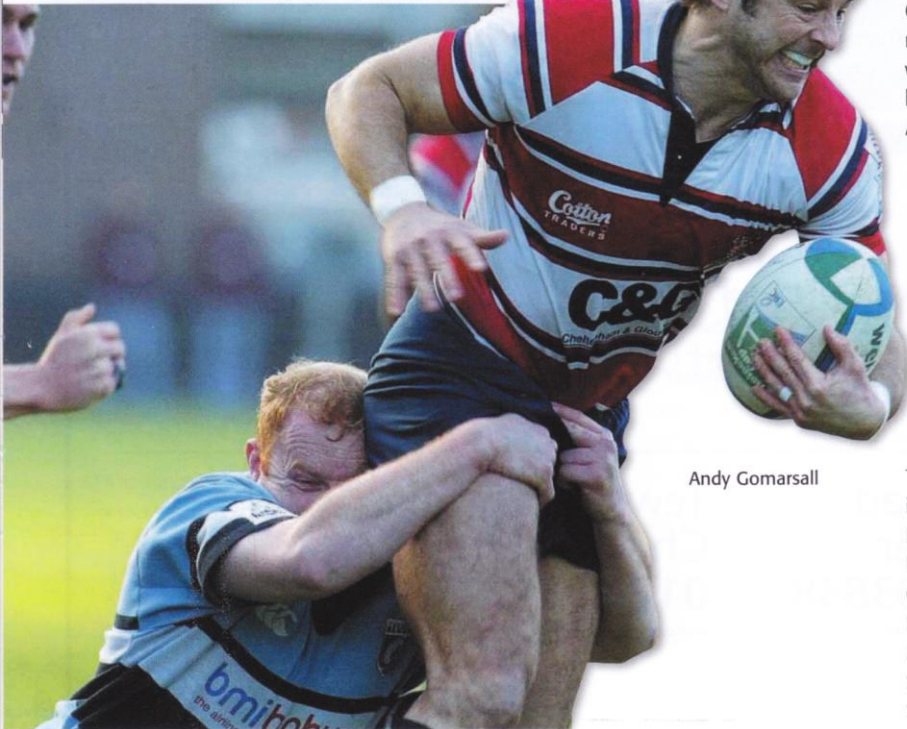
All in all, I thought it was a praiseworthy performance.

Have a great New Year, everyone.

Winning international honours for England as a schoolboy, representing Gloucester Rugby Club at first team level, and then progressing to play for the full England side is every young rugby player's dream. Resident club historian Dave King looks at those that have.



A SPECIAL tribute



Andy Gomarsall

Of course, the majority do not achieve this boyhood wish but just how many have reached this pinnacle? And how many have hailed from within the boundaries of Gloucestershire?

A close look at the records available shows that 15 players have achieved this coveted record, eight of whom have hailed from other counties and were educated elsewhere.

The 15 names in the Club's illustrious history are Tom Beim, Scott Benton, Harold Boughton, Rob Fidler, Andy Gomarsall, Phil Greening, Peter Kingston, Mark Mapletoft, Neil McCarthy, Steve Ojomoh, James Simpson-Daniel, Phil Vickery,

Tom Voyce, Chris Williams and Trevor Woodman.

The eight players who come from other counties and were educated elsewhere were Scott Benton, Andy Gomarsall, Mark Mapletoft, Neil McCarthy, Steve Ojomoh, James Simpson-Daniel, Phil Vickery and Trevor Woodman.

Andy Gomarsall represented Bedford School and Bedfordshire. Andy had played senior rugby for Bedford, Bath and Wasps before moving to Kingsholm.

Scott Benton hailed from Yorkshire and played previously for Morley. James Simpson-Daniel was educated at Sedburgh and played for Yorkshire Schools. Phil Vickery attended Bude Haven School and represented Cornwall while Trevor Woodman went to Liskeard School and also represented the Duchy. Mark Mapletoft was educated at Lawrence Sheriff School and played for Warwickshire Schools. Mark played senior rugby for Rugby RFC before



Phil Vickery

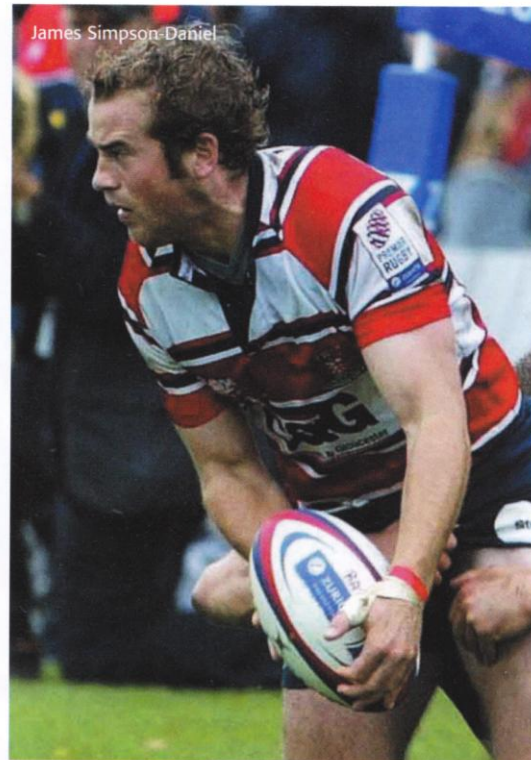
moving to Gloucester. Neil McCarthy went to Cotswold School while Steve Ojomoh was educated at West Buckland School and represented Devon Schoolboys. Both players had played for Bath prior to their move to Kingsholm.

Of the players that grew up in the area Tom Beim and Rob Fidler attended Cheltenham College and Phil Greening attended the local school of Chosen Hill and played for Gloucestershire Schools. Peter Kingston and Chris Williams were former pupils of Lydney Grammar School and represented the county at schoolboy level.

Of course both Harold Boughton and Tom Voyce appeared before the Second World War. Harold appeared for England Schoolboys in two successive years in 1924 and 1925. Once at full back, his favoured position and also at centre three quarter the following year.

Although not the first Gloucester schoolboy to represent England, Tom Voyce was the first Gloucester native to play for the England Schoolboys, the Club XV at first team level and ultimately the England senior team. Tom was an outstanding wing forward, in his mature years was capped by England Schoolboys at fly half in 1911! His scrum half partner was Albert Langford from Gloucester.

Tom Voyce was not the first Gloucester Schoolboy to represent England at



James Simpson-Daniel

school level because both H.Barnard and F.Rigby preceded Tom in 1905 and became the first schoolboys selected from Gloucester. However, Tom reached prominence when he was selected to gain his first senior cap versus Ireland in Dublin in February 1920. As we are aware Tom Voyce served this Club in an administrative position when his playing days were over until his untimely death in 1980. A former president of the RFU, he was also awarded the OBE. for his services to the game. Tom attended the Old National School.

The only player of the fifteen named who captained England at junior level is Andy Gomarsall. The number nine led England to a coveted 'Grand Slam' in 1992. There are a batch of players

currently on the Kingsholm playing staff who could achieve the 'treble' of England schoolboy international, first team recognition for Gloucester and the pinnacle of a senior cap.

Adam Balding, Marcel Garvey, Jon Goodridge, Peter Buxton, Rory Teague, Luke Narraway and Rob Elloway have achieved the first team status following schoolboy recognition. It should not be forgotten that Ollie Morgan, Nick Runciman and Jack Adams have reached the first hurdle.

Tom Voyce set the mark all those years ago. Today someone, somewhere, out on the playing fields of Gloucestershire and England will be hoping to follow in his footsteps.

David King



Shed regular **Bob Fenton** is in festive mood for this issue and talks about Leicester and the recent planning permission for a new stand at Kingsholm.

Fanzone

BOB FENTON

First of all, happy 2005 to you all, may all your New Year resolutions hold true for the year, and best wishes to everyone – even the Leicester supporters here today.

I played safe on the New Year resolution front this year. After a series of non-starters (only two pints after the game, getting home when I said I would, not leading the boy astray, being kind to Bath supporter etc...) I'm playing safe this year, and have resolved not to become hooked on silly superstitions.

So today all the lucky everything has been relegated to normal stuff status, and if I happen to be wearing any, or all, of it today it's a coincidence because it just happened to be the first

thing to hand. Okay...

Anyway, some month this is... January was always supposed to be a bit of a restful period after Christmas – well apart from being dragged around the sales – you know, feet up and sleep off the excesses of the festive season.

That's not quite how it's turned out this time, because of the way the fixtures have worked out, three home games in the month means that I am going to have to spend an inordinate amount of time in front of the computer bashing out articles for your delectation in this mighty fine publication.

But on the bright side, I only have to do two pages, poor

old Justin has to manage the other sixty odd. No wonder he sounded a bit stressed when he rang the other day to remind me that the deadline was heading my way at a rapid rate of knots – either that or it was his baby giving it plenty in the background.

With lungs like that at such a young age a place in the Shed surely beckons – at long last a rival to Whispering John. Even now she would probably make more sense than WJ does, and that has to be a bonus ...

And on an even brighter note, it means that we are still in the Powergen Cup, which brings us on nicely to today's visitors – Leicester.

To hear the comments of the

Leicester fans after the game up there before Christmas you would have thought they had given their under nines a run out against us, not a team comprising of many first team players.

If I heard the "... it was only our second team..." once I heard it a dozen times – though quite what Lewis Moody, Leon Lloyd et al think about being relegated would be worth knowing – but try telling them that we were shorn of a complete front row and an handful of backs and the deaf ear was turned.

And when you mention the fact that the league win in November when we had a team deprived of too many first team regulars through injury you got the other deaf ear as well. Still it's nice to know that we are not the only one-eyed supporters in the Premiership!

Leicester supporters though are used to success, and if they had watched the two previous games in the Heineken Cup against Wasps then you could understand why they felt a little peeved at their early cup exit.

I don't think I have ever seen a team reach the level of performance that Leicester did in those games. Commentators are often given a lot of well deserved stick for their over the top comments on the most mundane games, but those two matches fully deserved the plaudits they received.

In fact I don't think that there are many international teams that could have withstood the onslaught of the first 20 minutes of the second leg of the tie. Awesome is about the only word you could use to describe them as they took club rugby to a



Henry Paul takes a penalty.

new height. So having said that, fingers crossed that they have an off day today!

Either that or let's hope that the Leicester New Year's Eve party was a thoroughly alcoholic affair and that all the players are feeling a little fragile today, while our boys stuck to the orange juice and are feeling as fresh as daisies today.

That must be one of the worst things about being a professional in any sport, the thought that while everyone else is piling in to the turkey and mince pies over Christmas, then hitting the beer on New Year's eve all they have to look forward to is another high carb, low fat delight, washed down with buckets of mineral water or similar.

Should we feel sorry for them? Nah, cos most of us dreamt – or in the case of younger readers still dream – of taking their place.

This year promises all sorts of exciting developments, not just on the field, but off it as well. According to the local paper the other day we can look forward to the development of a new stand

which will lift the capacity of Kingsholm up towards 16,000.

This is great news, already this season we have seen a real jump in attendances that used to be our capacity. At the last few games we have seen crowds of 11,000 plus, but have still had room to breath in the shed – a real bonus!

Unless I am mistaken, a 16,000 capacity will make us one of the largest proper rugby grounds in the country. Our visitors today will rightly look at us as small fry compared to their average attendance – 9,000 at a reserve team game a few months ago is truly staggering.

But they seem to be victims of their own success and are now talking about the possibility of moving just down the road to the Walkers Stadium to share the facilities with Leicester City FC. The proposal has raised some anguish with the Tigers fans, and I can understand their reluctance to leave Welford Road, but imagine having 20,000 plus supporters at a club rugby game – and if there is one team that could

do it at the moment, it would be them.

One other thing in their favour would be the fact that they could probably manage the move to a new stadium without losing the fell of a proper rugby club. Unfortunately the same cannot be said of Saracens or London Irish who have lost something in their move to bigger stadiums. The facilities are great, but it's like watching rugby in a soulless cavern.

So let's look forward to the New Year with good spirits and high hopes. We have already seen one development and hopefully have another in the pipeline that will further cement our club as one of the best – if not the best – supported clubs in the country.

We have a great squad of players, some of the most exciting youngsters to be found at any club, our injured players are all starting to come back and we have a great coaching set up.

The Gloucester glass is not just half full, it's starting to overflow.

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MATCH action



Gloucester
23

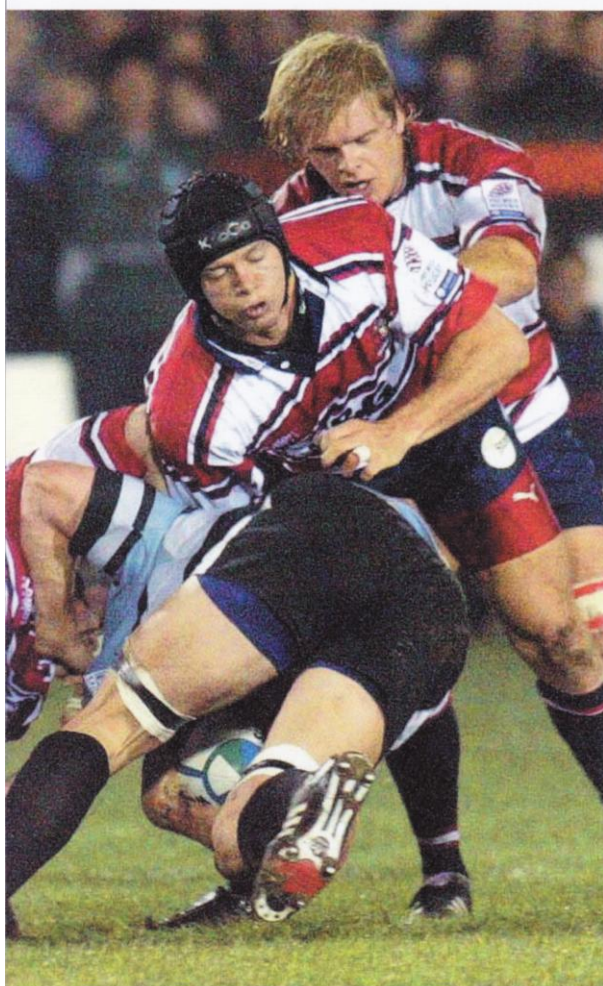
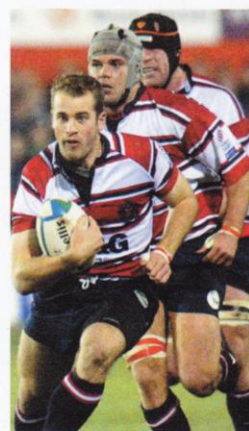


Cardiff Blues
19

Saturday 4 Dec 2004, Kingsholm

Attendance: 11,795

Gloucester kept their Heineken Cup quarter-final hopes alive with a thrilling come-from-behind win over the Blues at a foggy Kingsholm. The Blues looked to have produced one of the upsets of the tournament when they led with 10 minutes to go, but Gloucester centre Terry Fanolua's second try sealed it for the home side.



Name	Tries	Conv	PK	DG	Points
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Gloucester Scorers

Henry Paul	0	1	2	0	8
Terry Fanolua	2	0	0	0	10
James Bailey	1	0	0	0	5

Cardiff Scorers

Tom Shanklin	1	0	0	0	5
Lee Thomas	0	1	3	1	14





Cardiff Blues
16



Gloucester
23

Saturday 11 Dec 2004, Cardiff Arms Park

Attendance: 10,186

Tries from Marcel Garvey and Jon Goodridge, and 13 points from Henry Paul secured the four points for Gloucester in the Heineken Cup.

Garvey on 34 minutes, and a touchline conversion from Henry Paul saw Gloucester go in 7-6 up at half time.

Goodridge's try after 49 minutes extended the lead and was followed by three penalties from Henry Paul, with Lee Thomas landing one successful kick to see Gloucester lead 23-9 after 74 minutes.

The closing minutes were ferocious with a yellow card for Gary Powell, which denied Gloucester's Jon Goodridge his second try, and a yellow for Cardiff's lock Deiniol Jones, who was sin-binned for punching.

Man of the match was Adam Balding, who has just got better and better over the last few weeks.

Other positives included Duncan McRae, who lasted the entire 80 minutes, after his first start for six weeks, and Alex Brown, who came on shortly after half time, also for his first game time in the last six weeks

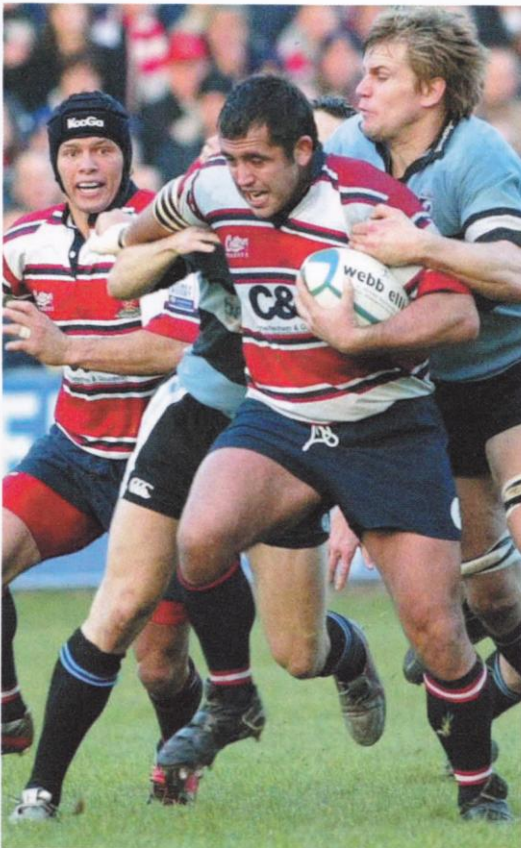
The win at the Arms park sees Gloucester just one point behind Stade Francais who lost 18-10 to Ulster in Belfast.

Gloucester started with Aussie Duncan McRae at stand-off. The fly-half passed a late fitness test on his neck after missing six weeks through injury. Brad Davies moved to the bench, and Andy Hazell missed out on the matchday 22.

The Anglo-Welsh encounter was a superb rugby occasion. Thousands of Gloucester supporters made the journey over the Severn Bridge to create a West Country atmosphere in the Welsh capital.

The Blues took the initiative early on through six points from fly-half Lee Thomas.

A superb try from Marcel



Name	Tries	Conv	PK	DG	Points
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Cardiff Scorers

Craig Morgan	1	0	0	0	5
Lee Thomas	0	1	3	0	11

Gloucester Scorers

Jon Goodridge	1	0	0	0	5
Marcel Garvey	1	0	0	0	5
Henry Paul	0	2	3	0	13



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MATCH action



Leicester Tigers
13



Gloucester
20

Saturday 18 Dec 2004, **Welford Road**

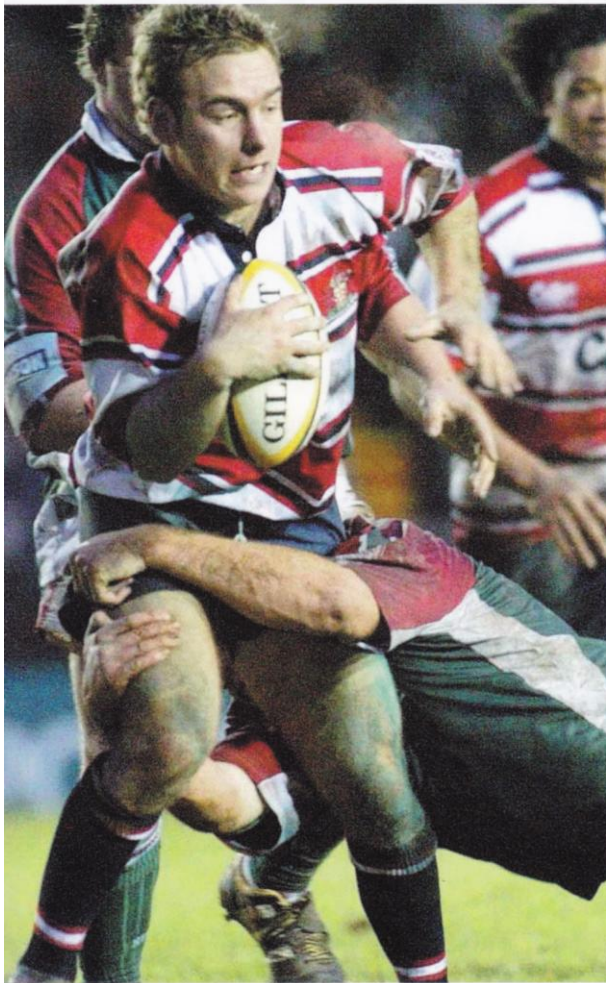
Referee: **Ashley Rowden**

Attendance: **9,902**

Gloucester booked their place in the quarter-final of the Powergen Cup with a 20-13 win over Leicester Tigers at Welford Road. It was a close first period that saw the Tigers take the lead with a Tom Vardell try, but a good talking to from coach Dean Ryan at half time, saw Gloucester

come out at full power.

A penalty try after a lengthy period of forward domination on the Leicester line saw the Kingsholm club take the lead. Nathan Mauger's try soon after secured the points that saw Gloucester see their name go into the hat for the quarter-final draw.



Name	Tries	Conv	PK	DG	Points
Leicester Scorers					
Tom Vardell	1	0	0	0	5
Ross Broadfoot	0	1	1	0	5
Sam Vesty	0	0	1	0	3

Gloucester Scorers					
Henry Paul	0	2	2	0	10
Nathan Mauger	1	0	0	0	5
Penalty Try	1	0	0	0	5



MATCH action



London Wasps

33



Gloucester

20

Monday 27 Dec 2004, **Welford Road**

Referee: R. Maybank

Attendance: 10,000

Some decisions by the referee and his officials left Gloucester down to 13 men in the final periods of the game as they lost 33-20 away at Wasps on Monday.

The Kingsholm club had both Christo Bezuidenhout and Henry Paul sent to the sin-bin, and both Henry Paul and Jake Boer (who had been replaced for front row cover) struggled

to return to the field after more than 10 minutes in the sin-bin, as the officials refused to allow the players back on, despite a break in play.

Henry Paul's 15 points and James Forrester's try weren't enough for Gloucester to keep close to Wasps come the final whistle. Tries from O'Connor, Lewsey and Shaw saw the London side take the points.



Name	Tries	Conv	PK	DG	Points
Wasps Scorers					
Jonny O'Connor	1	0	0	0	5
Josh Lewsey	1	0	0	0	5
Simon Shaw	1	0	0	0	5
Mark Van Gisbergen	0	3	4	0	18

Gloucester Scorers

James Forrester	1	0	0	0	5
Henry Paul	0	0	5	0	15

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Gloucester					Leicester Tigers				
T	C	P	D		T	C	P	D	
				Jon Goodridge	15				Sam Vesty
				Marcel Garvey	14				Dan Hipkiss
				Terry Fanolua	13				Ollie Smith
				Henry Paul	12				Daryl Gibson
				Seti Kiolo	11				Geordan Murphy
				Simon Amor	10				Andy Goode
				Andy Gomarsall	09				Harry Ellis
				Christo Bezuidenhout	01				Darren Morris
				Mefin Davies	02				George Chuter
				Terry Sigley	03				Julian White
				Adam Eustace	04				Martin Johnson (c)
				Alex Brown	05				Louis Deacon
				Jake Boer (c)	06				Lewis Moody
				Andy Hazell	07				Neil Back
				Adam Balding	08				Martin Corry
				replacements					
				Noel Curnier	16				James Buckland
				Phil Vickery	17				Michael Holford
				Peter Buxton	18				Ben Kay
				James Forrester	19				Will Johnson
				Alex Page	20				Scott Bemand
				Nathan Mauger	21				Matt Cornwell
				James Bailey	22				Ross Broadfoot

Zurich Premiership 2004/05

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	TB	LB	PTS
Leicester Tigers	12	9	2	1	361	178	6	1	47
London Wasps	12	8	1	3	281	232	1	3	38
Sale Sharks	12	8	0	4	292	206	2	2	36
Bath Rugby	12	7	1	4	268	248	1	1	32
Gloucester	12	7	0	5	237	242	2	1	31
Newcastle Falcons	12	6	1	5	277	289	3	1	30
London Irish	12	6	0	6	234	243	0	3	27
Saracens	12	4	2	6	184	242	1	2	23
Leeds Tykes	12	4	0	8	223	270	0	5	21
NEC Harlequins	12	3	1	8	209	247	1	5	20
Northampton Saints	12	3	0	9	211	245	2	4	18
Worcester Warriors	12	3	0	9	186	321	1	4	17

Today's Match Officials

Referee: Dave Pearson
 1st TJ: Stuart Terhegge
 2nd TJ: Huw Jones-Williams

Replacement Ref: Ashley Rowden
 4th Official: Mark Tovey
 Assessor: Ed Morrison

Today's Result

Gloucester
 Leicester Tigers

design: paul watkins

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