

GLOUCESTER RUGBY



£3 | 29.11.13
AVIVA PREMIERSHIP RUGBY
vs. **LEICESTER TIGERS**

WWW.GLOUCESTERRUGBY.CO.UK FACEBOOK.COM/GLOUCESTERRUGBY RUGBY TWITTER.COM/GLOUCESTERRUGBY



EXCLUSIVE NEW FEATURE

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

with **FREDDIE BURNS**
ON PAGE 56



EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW WITH
ROB COOK
ON PAGE 40

**READY
STEADY
COOK**
ADEY
MagnaClean

THE PRIDE ~ THE PASSION ~ THE HONOUR ~ THE HISTORY





CAPTAIN'S CORNER

TOM SAVAGE

Good evening and welcome to Kingsholm for tonight's match with Leicester Tigers, a fixture which has provided so many close, enthralling games over the years.

Last weekend's defeat was disappointing in many ways, especially as we acquitted ourselves superbly and matched Harlequins in so many departments.

But, unfortunately, we let ourselves down with poor discipline at crucial times, and a team like

that we displayed to keep battling in that second was commendable and I felt we deserved a losing bonus point at the very least.

Unfortunately, we're not quite firing on all cylinders at the moment. We're doing a lot of good things, but we're not quite as accurate as we know we can be and it's those small margins that are costing us.

To compete against Leicester, we know that we have to eradicate those errors. They are

"THE ATMOSPHERE GIVES THE PLAYERS SUCH A BUZZ..."

Pushing hard Our pack will be looking to compete against the Leicester forwards tonight

Quins will punish you if you give them a sniff of an opportunity and that's exactly what they did.

We came away with nothing to show for our efforts, but the spirit

also a team who will ruthlessly exploit any opening.

Last season, when we welcomed the Tigers it was a real highlight of the campaign. After a fast start the game was a real classic, and our boys showed exactly what we can do when playing with confidence.

Playing under the Kingsholm lights is a feeling that you can't describe, the atmosphere rises an extra 25% and there is a real buzz around the city as I wander around.

The atmosphere gives the players such a buzz and we will be doing our level best to perform and give all supporters a big smile on their face going into the weekend.

It will be a hugely tough challenge, but training this week has shown a good intensity and with your continued support we'll be hoping for the result to go our way tonight.

Enjoy the game,

Sav



NIGEL DAVIES DIRECTOR OF RUGBY



"IT'S ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIXTURE CALENDAR, AND BEING PLAYED UNDER THE LIGHTS WILL GIVE IT THAT EXTRA BIT OF ATMOSPHERE."

COACH'S NOTES

On behalf of everyone at Gloucester Rugby, I'd like to wish the players, staff and supporters of Leicester Tigers a very warm welcome to Kingsholm this evening.

Falcons and secure our first LV= Cup win of the season.

It was a bittersweet victory because, of course, Ryan Mills and James Simpson-Daniel both suffered injuries which will keep them out for

we're trying to achieve as a team.

Ryan had patiently worked his way back from his knee operation the previous season, and was definitely starting to look like a quality performer in the back line. He has a real talent for bringing others into the game.

And I don't really need to say that much about James. He's simply one of the most natural talents that I've had the pleasure of working with and, to see him sidelined, is desperately disappointing.

I was, however, pleased with how the team knuckled down and stuck to their task against the Falcons. It wasn't easy. We introduced a couple of our younger players, had to reshuffle but ground out the win.

It gave us some confidence and momentum but, unfortunately, we took a step backwards at the Stoop last weekend which was very frustrating as we contributed hugely to our own downfall.

We lacked a bit of accuracy on the day, and then had three men yellow carded during which time Harlequins scored the majority of their points.

There were aspects of our game which I was quite pleased with, we competed well on several fronts. But we simply made too many errors against a team like Quins.

It's something we're more than aware of as a group, and we know that we'll have to better than that this evening against Leicester, who will punish us similarly if we're below par.

It's one of the highlights of the fixture calendar, and being played under the lights will give it that extra bit of atmosphere.

We hope to rise to the occasion and make you all proud to be Gloucester supporters.

Cheers,

Nigel



As is usually the case, it's been an eventful couple of weeks since I last penned these programme notes.

We've played two matches – one won, lost one – welcomed back a number of our international players, announced a new signing but lost a couple of players to injury. Life's never dull!

On the playing side of things, it was good to defeat the Newcastle

some considerable time.

Injuries are part and parcel of the modern game, and we'd actually been managing quite well on that front until the last couple of games with player availability much better than last season for example.

But these two were very unfortunate because both players were performing very well and contributing considerably to what

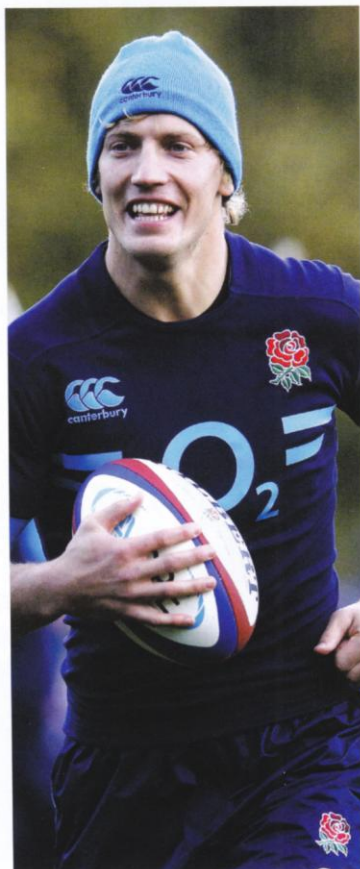


VIEW FROM The Citizen

with **STEVE IMPEY**

Steve talks to Billy Twelvetrees about what it is like to play against his former club and how he is looking forward to playing alongside fellow centre Henry Trinder again.

CENTRE OF ATTENTION



Billy Twelvetrees doesn't want to give his former colleagues the warmest of welcomes to Kingsholm – but it's a fixture he always has ticked on his mental calendar.

Leicester Tigers – for different reasons to Gloucester – require a win on Friday night to keep them in the running for the top four berth come the home straight.

Richard Cockerill's reigning champions come to Kingsholm off the back of a 20-11 victory over London Irish at Welford Road last Saturday.

But they have stuttered thus far in the Aviva Premiership, and have fallen 10 points off the pace with four wins, three defeats and one draw to their name.

Gloucester are suffering. The talent is there, but the gel that moulds a winning team together simply cannot set.

The best teams hang on in there, however.

The season is long and the difference between finishing 10th and fourth is usually a matter of a couple of wins at this stage of the campaign.

And it's that champion grit that Twelvetrees, the ex-Tiger, recognises in Friday's visitors.

"It's always a good fixture and one that anyone would look forward to," said the 25-year-old playmaker.

"They are at the pinnacle of English rugby and they have been for the most of the professional era.

"To play any time against them is always a big game and, having played there before, I know what they are all about and how much passion they have for the game.

"I still have a lot of friends there and will be nice to play against them again.

"Obviously, there were a few of the guys in the England team that I mixed well with and got to talk about the game coming up. It's one I really can't wait for."

Twelvetrees returns to Kingsholm this week for the first time since Gloucester sprung a European surprise against Perpignan in the Heineken Cup.

His assault on the international stage has given Twelvetrees confidence that oozed from

his fingertips against Harlequins last Saturday.

Defeat was inevitable with three sin-bins in 80 minutes, but Gloucester at least regained some stealth and composure with ball in hand and, for the most part, it came via the England centre, who scored two tries.

The Kingsholm side has – and still is – dealing with injuries.

The ideal midfield match-up of Henry Trinder outside Twelvetrees has long been out of action, while Trinder's autumn ambitions have been upset by injury.

It's a cocktail Twelvetrees hopes, however, that can take Gloucester forward.

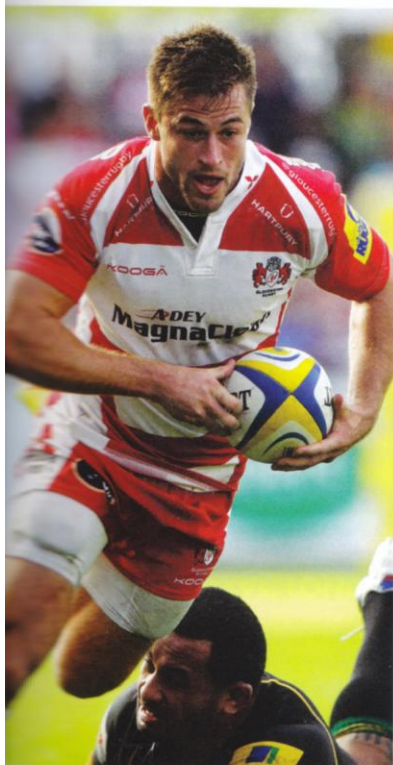
"I am really looking forward to getting back and I am really eager to get back to Kingsholm," he continued.

"I love playing for Gloucester – we have a great style of play and it can bring the best out of any player.

"Both Henry and I are very



"PLAYING AT KINGSHOLM IS SUCH A GREAT THING TO DO. IT'S A GREAT FACILITY AND JUST AN EXCITING STADIUM TO PLAY AT. I CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK OUT THERE."



comfortable playing together and we have a good relationship going.

"Hopefully we can get him back fit so we can start playing together again along with Freddie Burns at fly-half.

"We've got a good platform to play off in the pack and we have some very exciting backs, which just makes it easier for guys

like myself.

"Having the likes of Charlie Sharples, Jonny May and Rob Cook outside you who all want the ball, it just makes your job easier.

"Playing at Kingsholm is such a great thing to do. It's a great facility and just an exciting stadium to play at. I can't wait to get back out there."

GLOUCESTER RUGBY
HERITAGE

www.gloucester rugbyheritage.org.uk

BILLY JOHNS A GLOUCESTER HERO

Billy Johns played for Gloucester, Gloucestershire and England, and would have played for the Lions if he'd had the time. He was born in Gloucester in 1882, the son of a ship repairer and ship owner. He went to Sir Thomas Rich's School where he first played rugby and captained the school team for two seasons, 1894-95, whilst playing half-back. He went on to play for Rich's Old Boys and St Catharine's, before graduating to the City team.

A DRIBBLING MAN

He made his debut for Gloucester in a mid-week fixture at Kingsholm against Cheltenham in April 1902, and scored a try in the 28-0 win. The Club converted him to the front row, where he played as both hooker and prop. Billy was 5ft 9in tall, and weighed in at 12st 6lb, and was described as a sterling scrummager, and deadly tackler. He was renowned for his skill at dribbling the ball, but he was not one to carry the ball in hand very often.

season was to captain Gloucester against New Zealand at Kingsholm on 19th October 1905. The match was hard going as the All Blacks delivered a crushing 44-0 defeat. However, Billy's fine form caught the attention of the County selectors who awarded him his first cap. That summer Billy got married and gave up the captaincy.

ENGLAND CALLS

He handed over the reins at Gloucester to Dai Gent, but Billy's representative career was just taking off. He was the finest forward in a formidable Gloucester pack, he became a regular for the County, and played for them against the touring Australians in 1908. He won his first cap for England against Wales in Cardiff in January 1909, and retained his place for the next international against France at Leicester, scoring a try in the last minute. By the time he had completed the set with appearances against Ireland and Scotland, he was regarded as a lynch pin of the England pack. Gloucester celebrated his success with a dinner in his honour at the New Inn. By this time Billy also had the concession to produce the

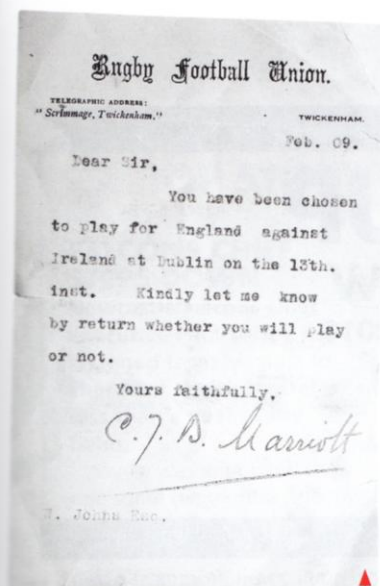
POPULAR CAPTAIN

When George Romans stood down, the players elected Billy as their new captain in 1904. The players had made an excellent choice – Billy proved to be a great leader and one of the most popular men ever to have captained the Club. The results reflected this, with the County Cup won by defeating Cheltenham, Stroud and Bristol along the way, and only 11 matches lost out of 36.

The following season was even better with 8 losses out of 37 matches, and a points difference of 661-165. The highlight of Billy's



Billy in his playing days



Invitation to play for England

Gloucester match programmes, for which he paid the Club one guinea per season.

The 1909-10 season provided Billy with many more wonderful memories. In January 1910, he played in the very first international in the new stadium at Twickenham, when England defeated Wales 11-6. Billy was the only England player retained from the team which had played Wales the previous year. The next international, when France were defeated 11-3 in Paris was to be Billy's last. However, Billy was invited to join the British Isles tour to South Africa that summer,

departing in June and returning in September 1910, but was only given a few days' notice and was unable to make the trip.

COUNTY HEROICS

In April 1910, Billy was one of the Gloucestershire heroes who defeated Yorkshire 23-0 at Kingsholm to secure the County's first County Championship, and was a stalwart in the team which won their second County Championship against Cumberland at Carlisle in March 1913, the season in which the match against South Africa completed his tally of appearances against Southern Hemisphere teams – "in this match the veteran gave a wonderful display on the treacherous ground, and was generally acclaimed one of the best forwards on the field."

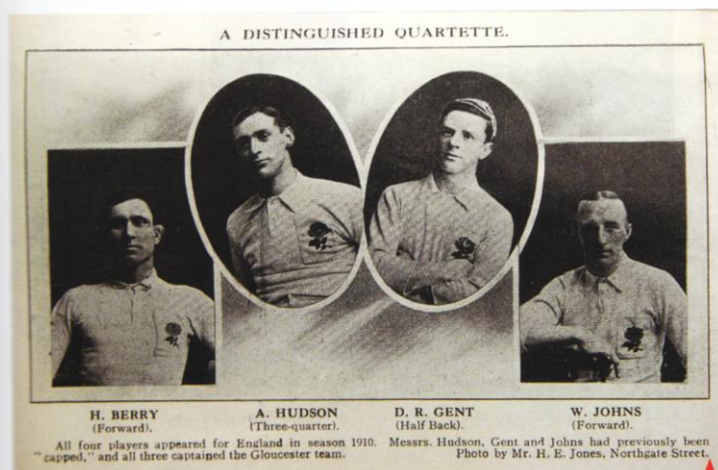
Injury and the demands of his job as a ship's chandler finally forced his retirement. He finished with 265 appearances for the Club and 24 tries. Even at the peak of his career, Billy was not only turning out for Gloucester whenever he could, but also played for the Gloucester Thursday XV – he loved his rugby and Gloucester in particular.

Billy signed up as a private in December 1914, and during the Great War rose to the rank of

Second Lieutenant. After the war he ran several hotels in Gloucester before retiring to Weston-super-Mare where he died in 1965. Billy left his interesting collection of memorabilia at the Club, which can now be viewed at the Gloucestershire Archives.



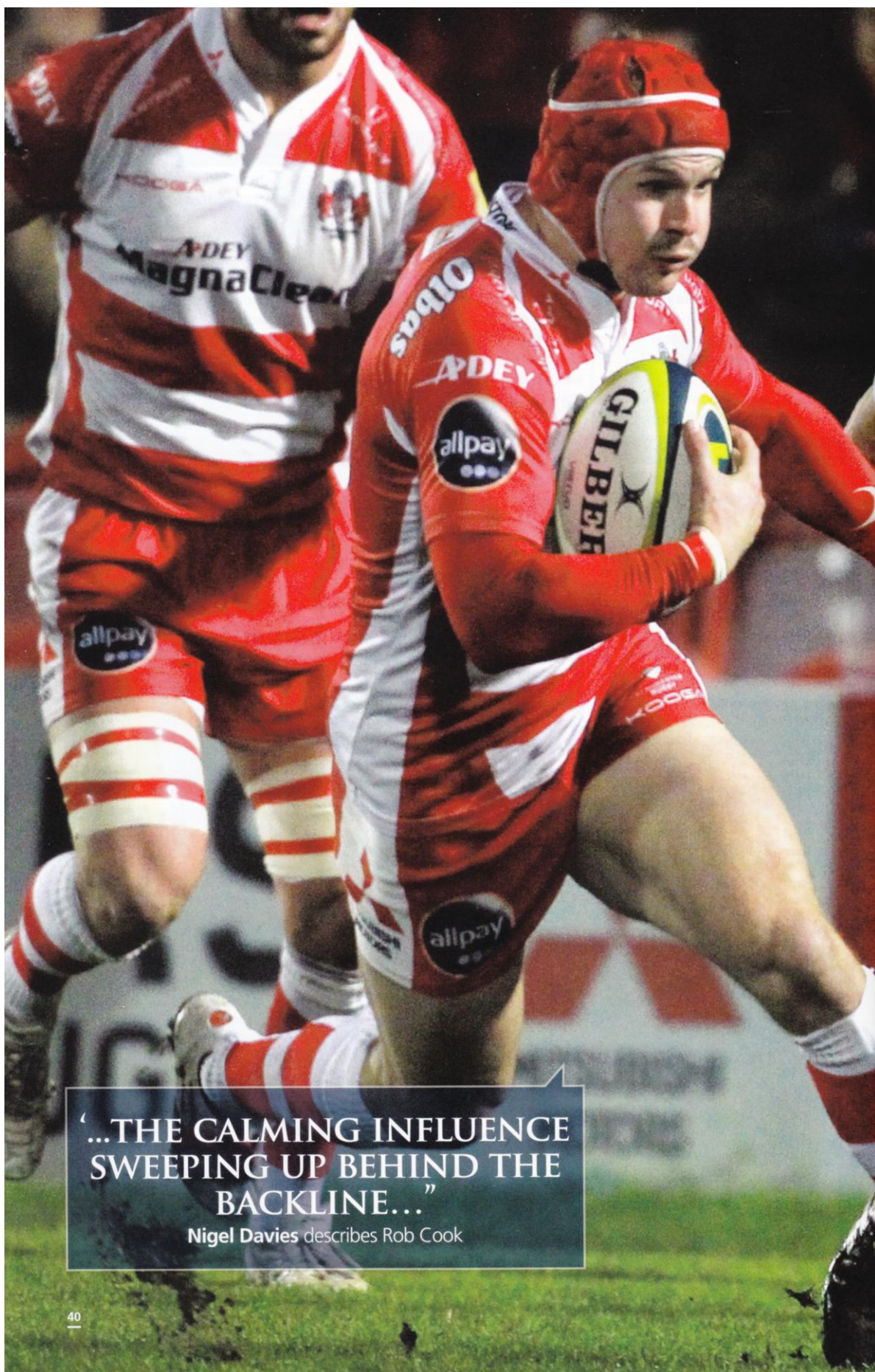
Billy in retirement



The four Gloucester men who played for England in 1910

BE GENEROUS TO THE GLOUCESTER FAN IN YOUR LIFE

As a present for Christmas, any Kingsholm regular would be delighted to receive a copy of the Gloucester Rugby Heritage book, which is a richly illustrated summary of the people and matches which have lit up the history of the Club. And/or they would be interested in "They Played for Gloucester and Fought for their Country" by Martin and Teresa Davies, a recent publication which honours those Gloucester players who died or were honoured in wartime, and which gave rise to the new war memorial which can be seen on the wall outside the Club reception. Both books can be purchased in the Club shop, at Hudson's Sports or on-line.



‘...THE CALMING INFLUENCE
SWEEPING UP BEHIND THE
BACKLINE...’

Nigel Davies describes Rob Cook



COOKY CRISP

DESPITE GLOUCESTER HAVING ENDURED A MIXED START TO THE CAMPAIGN, ONE OF THE STAND OUT PERFORMERS HAS BEEN FULL BACK **ROB COOK**, WHO HAS HIT THE GROUND RUNNING, QUITE LITERALLY, IN HIS SECOND SEASON WITH THE CHERRY AND WHITES.

// It started alright personally for me, not great for the team. But we feel now that we're building a little bit of momentum now after a good pair of performances against Japan and Newcastle.

"We're back in the Premiership now, followed by a couple of rounds in the Heineken, so it's a perfect chance for us to start building".

Director of Rugby Nigel Davies has described Cook as '...the calming influence sweeping up behind the backline...', and for the Lincolnshire born player, praise like that is appreciated.

"I suppose I do value that a little bit. I haven't got the X Factor that the other lads have, the likes of Jonny, Charlie, Henry and Freddie. It's good to be able to play in a team with those boys.

"It's good that Nigel views me like that but also playing with those boys can only help me."

Cook was one of the first

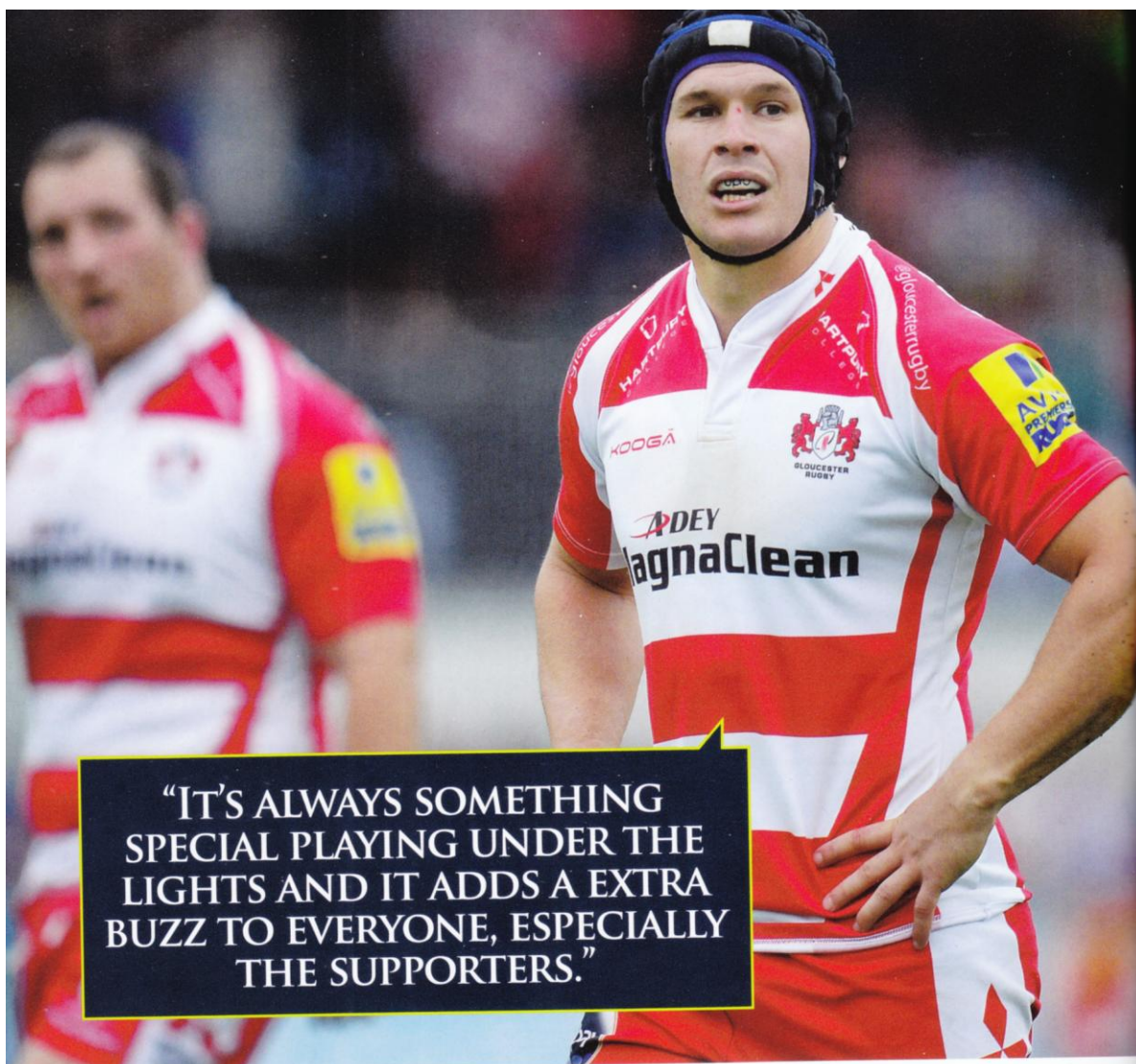
players in the squad to put pen-to-paper on a contract extension this season, and he explained that it was an easy decision to make.

"Yeah I love it here. I always said that when I got here that I was simply just happy to be here. But once I've been given the chance, I'd like to think I've put my foot in the door and performed well.

ExtraMEDIA



PRE-SEASON 2013
vs Scarlets
- The Highlights



→ "It's a great club and I've loved every minute being here. The supporters have been ace and I've been loving life really".

Having already surpassed his try scoring total last year, with a brace against Wasps and tries in both meetings with Newcastle Falcons, Cook is pleased with having crossed the whitewash so frequently.

"Scoring two in one game helps, but I've been happy with how things have gone on that front although, obviously, I'd prefer the results to have gone our way."

With the Tigers in town this evening, Cook speaks of his admiration of tonight's opponents and recognises the challenge they will pose.

"They're always a huge

challenge. Even when I was younger they were a side that I kind of followed more than anything.

"It's always a massive game and last year when we played them at home it was probably the best game of the year, even though I did get sin-binned.

"We set out at the start of the year to turn Kingsholm into a bit of a fortress, and so far this season we haven't done that at all. So we need to start soon and, although it'll be a huge challenge, we're up for it.

"It's always something special playing under the lights and it adds a extra buzz to everyone, especially the supporters. The game versus Perpignan was a hell of a game and the atmosphere was special and the fans really got

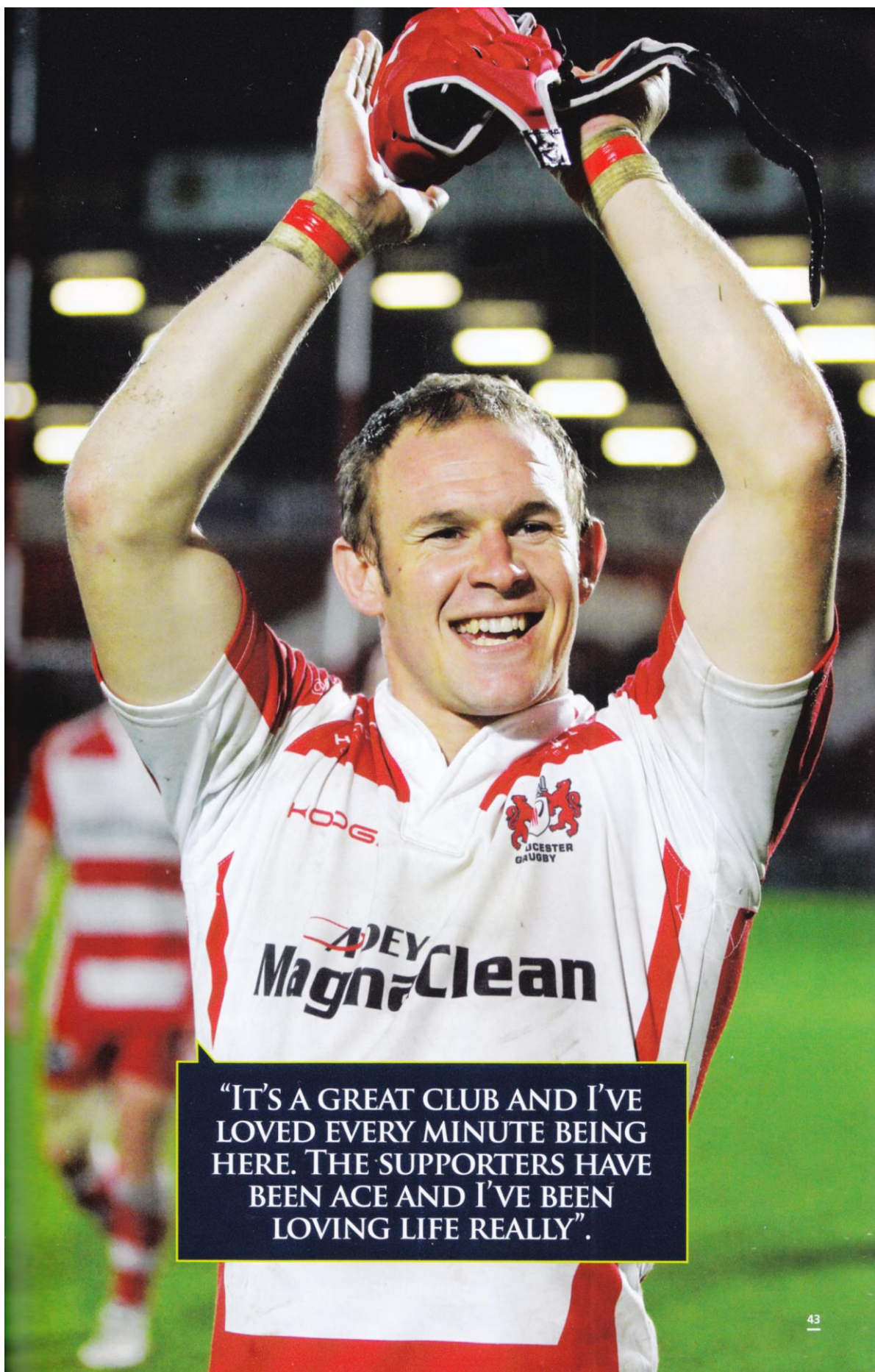
behind us."

A multi-talented sportsman, Cook is a keen cricketer and with the Ashes just kicking off, he is expecting plenty of banter from resident Aussie Huia Edmonds and is tipping England to come out on top Down Under.

"Yeah I think we should be okay. We've got a settled bowling line up which will give us the platform to go out and play. Beating Australia in Australia is never easy and it's all about building momentum in the sport.

"Whoever starts well should do well and then push on from there and be the successful team and I'm hoping it'll be England.

"The chat from Huia hasn't started yet to be fair, but it will do. The Aussies have made a good start, so he'll be piling it on."



**"IT'S A GREAT CLUB AND I'VE
LOVED EVERY MINUTE BEING
HERE. THE SUPPORTERS HAVE
BEEN ACE AND I'VE BEEN
LOVING LIFE REALLY".**



KINGSHOLM NEWS with BOB FENTON

So, come on Stan, conjure up those mad dogs from all those years ago and inject that spirit into this squad tonight.

Here's something we haven't been able to say for what seems like an age – we're coming into the game on the back of a two game home winning record. Actually that sounds pretty dire, so let's not say that at all. Let's say this is the game that is going to turn our season around.

I really enjoyed the game against Japan, even though it was a hugely one sided affair. It was, at times, quite competitive and showed how far Japan have come as a rugby playing nation.

In a few years time they will be back at Kingsholm for the World Cup, and will have gained themselves a few supporters on the strength of their visit. It was also the first time I have ever seen a player bow to all four sides of the ground after being replaced!

Then Newcastle in the 'Noone-cares-very-much-until-these-semifinal' cup. Apparently we won that game too, but events on the field took the gloss well and truly off that one.

So it's been a bit of an odd few weeks - great to win a couple of games against Japan and Newcastle as mentioned above, great to see Henry Trinder put pen to paper on a new contract, but absolutely devastating to see the terrible injury to James Simpson-Daniel and, to a thankfully lesser extent, Ryan Mills.

Both those players have suffered more in the way of injuries than most, and Sinbad... well his injury list looks like a script for a whole

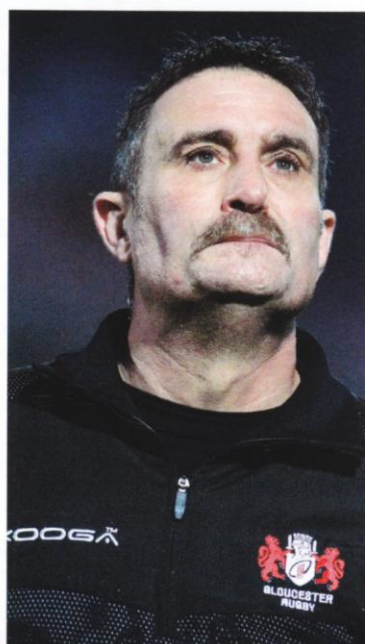


series or two of Casualty. There's been a lot of conjecture in the press of late about injuries in rugby, it's a competitive game with collisions and 'hits' at its very core, so injury

goes part and parcel with it.

But when something happens to player as it did to James a week or two ago, it really brings home the risks these guys take every time they step onto the park. Let's not dwell on the injury – and the conjecture on whether he will play again is unseemly – but, if that had happened to one of his horses, I reckon someone would have been wandering out prepared to put it out of its misery.

The rights and wrongs – ok they are all wrongs – as to how JSD doesn't have to climb over a hundred or so international caps every time he goes into his house are well documented. That apart, he is simply one of the greatest players of the modern era. It seems like several decades ago that I sat in the stand watching Andy Gomarsall working one to one with this very young lad – just the two of them out in the



middle of the Kingsholm pitch.

After about 30 minutes Gomars trotted over and apologised. I asked him what he saw in Sinbad who, at the time, was being talked about as a potential stand off. He said that he didn't think he would make it as a ten, but reckoned he was destined to become one of the great outside backs. He said something along the lines of, 'He has it all, speed, strength, agility'. Wasn't wrong, our Andy...

But tonight, then - Leicester Tigers under the lights... April 1997... Last play of the game... Phil Greening crashes over in the corner... 30 - 30... Mark Mapletoft converts from inside the Shed (or so he claimed)... 32 - 30... Final whistle... Pandemonium... Ok, I know I've probably done that one to death now, but boy could we do with some of that spirit tonight.

And maybe, just maybe, tonight of all nights, the bloke who can give us that inspiration is right here in the thick of it. Step - or hobble - forward Mr Andrew Stanley.

In that game of legends from yesteryear, Stan's role is somewhat overlooked but he injured - and



may indeed have broken - a bone in his foot during that game. He told skipper Dave Sims that he had to go off but, with no replacements left to come on, Simmo told him to tough it out and he saw it through to the end.

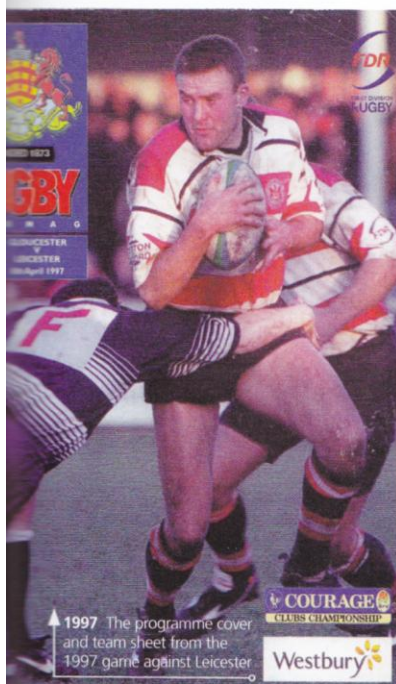
Call it Gloucester Dog, call it complete madness, or call it

ultimate team spirit. But, whatever it was, Stan the Man saw it through to the very end - go find the picture in the bar somewhere, his huge grin (probably as much relief that it was all over, as the win itself) is front and centre, right there where it should be.

So, come on Stan, conjure up those mad dogs from all those years ago and inject that spirit into this squad tonight. If we can get just a bit of that cussedness, never say die belligerent attitude, we'll win this game - and that will be forever seen as a turning point in our season, and the best early Christmas present that any of us could wish for.

As Rod Stewart - that great icon of rugby (Ok, I admit that's stretching it a bit) - once said, 'Tonight's the night, it's gonna be alright'. Yes, he may have been talking about something else back then, but really he was thinking about this moment, this Friday night, this game.

Bring it on Leicester, the Gloucester Dog is going to bite yer!



1997 The programme cover and team sheet from the 1997 game against Leicester

GLouceSTER		LEICESTER	
Cherry & White		Scarlet, Green & White	
15 Audley Lumden	Full Back	John Lilley	O
14 Mike Peters	Right Wing	Steve Mackney	N
13 Craig Emmerson	Centre	Niall Maloney	M
12 Martin Roberts	Centre	Craig Jenner	L
11 Mike Lloyd	Left Wing	Leon Lloyd	K
10 Mark Mapletoft	Outside Half	Joel Stronsky	J
9 Scott Benton	Scrum Half	Andel Kardous	I
1 Terry Winda	Prop	Graham Ravenstree	A
2 Phil Greening	Hooker	Richard Cockrell	S
3 Andy Dawson	Prop	Darren Garforth	C
4 Rob Fidler	Lock	Martin Johnson	D
5 Dave Sims	Lock	Matt Poole	E
6 Andy Stanley	Flanker	Eric Miller	F
7 Nathan Carter	Flanker	Nail Beck	H
8 Simon Devereux	Half	Dean Richards	G
Replacements		Replacements	
Laurie Beck		Rory Underwood	
Dan Caskin		Roly Edwards	
Peter Hart		Rob Liley	
John Hawker		Dorian West	
Trevor Woodman		Nail Fletcher	
Mark Cornwell		Bill Drake-Lee	
Referee		Scorers	
G Hughes (Manchester/RFU)		D May (RFU)	
(1) International Captain		J Theodan (RFU)	



LEICESTER TIGERS. A JUGGERNAUT IN ENGLISH RUGBY. A TRADITIONAL CLUB WHERE CHANGE IS MEASURED, AND ONE MOST OTHERS WOULD ASPIRE TO BE.

THEY may no longer play in letters rather than numbers, and the red, green and white hoops may have been temporarily dispensed with (for this season, anyway) but Leicester's visits to Kingsholm are always an occasion to relish.

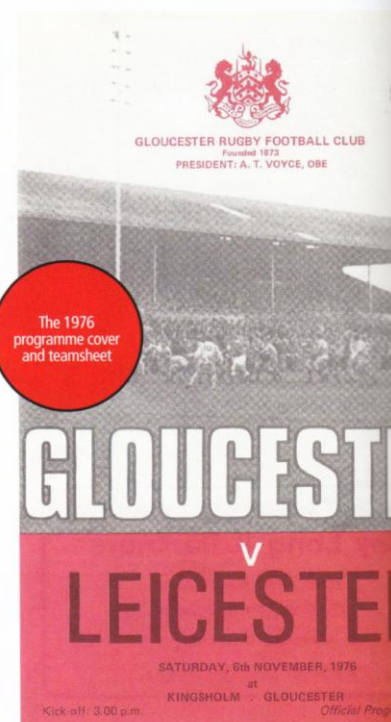
The Tigers of 2013 was moulded in no small measure by "Chalkie" White, who coached the club between 1968 and 1983. Within

that time, Welsh fly half Bleddyn Jones played for nearly a decade with Steve Johnson, more often than not a blindside flanker, also a fixture for more than 200 matches.

The programme from 1976 you see here was among the collection in my loft, and the first I could find with both men in the Leicester team. For the record, Gloucester won 14-12.

For the last 26 years, Bleddyn has

been commentating on the Tigers matches for BBC Radio Leicester, with Steve, in the professional era, as his summariser. Understandably, both know the Leicester club inside out and acknowledge the role White played at Welford Road.



"He was ahead of his time" Bleddyn told me. "His attitude created the Leicester Tigers of today. You ask people like Peter Wheeler, Paul Dodge and Les Cusworth about Chalkie and they'll tell you he was not only the biggest influence on their rugby careers, but also a huge influence on their lives as a whole."

"In the early 70's we were an average side, but Chalkie maintained he could make an average side into a good side and a good side into a great side.

"We used to play in front of crowds of 2,500 other than when the Barbarians came to Welford Road every Boxing Day but that game used to keep the club afloat for the season. They covered the pitch with straw to make sure the game was played and it was always



a full house.

"Gradually we brought players in - particularly Dusty Hare from Nottingham and Les Cusworth from Moseley - and when Dodge and Clive Woodward came through that turned us into a great side. I tend to think of the 1978 Cup final against Gloucester as the start of that period."

Bleddyn played that day, as did Steve Johnson, who remembers a "collision" (sic) with John Fidler that saw Johnson lose his front teeth. The irony was that both served as policemen, and had played together in the same side for the national force's XV.

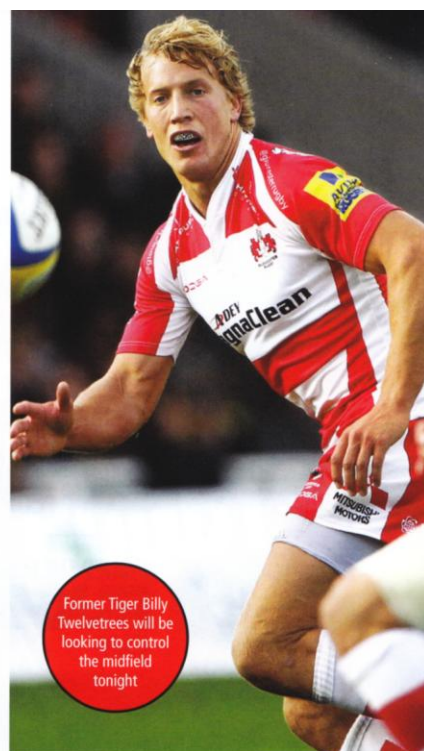
Steve also holds Chalkie White in high regard, particularly with his ability to look at the individual skills of each player - and then knit those skills together into a team unit. Ultimately, it's the example Richard

been numerous close encounters between the teams here at Kingsholm.

Most memorably for me, Joel Stransky won a Cup semi final here for Tigers in 1997, only for Gloucester to exact revenge in a league match 10 days later, when Richard Hill's programme notes hinted that Gloucester would shortly be announcing the sale of a controlling interest in the club.

Tom Walkinshaw, of course, was the buyer, and the family are still actively involved through son Ryan. Andy Goode's dropped goal in 2008 in the Premiership semi final could hardly have been more dramatic either, but Tigers recent record isn't great with three defeats in their last four visits.

"How you do at Gloucester is a benchmark for how good you are, and it was the same when I was



Former Tiger Billy Twelvetrees will be looking to control the midfield tonight

happened for 10 years.

"They've really only played 40 minutes of outstanding rugby, the last 20 against Northampton to rescue a draw and the first 20 away at Exeter. I think this is a must win game for Tigers, even at this stage."

Steve Johnson points to injuries as a major factor as to why Tigers come here 6th in the table.

The Leicester treatment room has been frenetically busy with lock Geoff Parling the latest to need surgery, and Matt Smith compounded the problems at centre having only managed 18 minutes last Saturday.

Johnson says the guile of Anthony Allen and power of Manu Tuilagi have been missed in a position where Leicester have failed to add real strength in depth, despite regular recruitment at full back and on the wings.

That said, Gloucester are hardly laden with centres either after Tim Molenaar's departure and Ryan Mills breaking a bone in his foot in the LV= Cup win over Newcastle.

It's sure to be a key area in deciding tonight's result.

NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE (INSURANCE BROKERS) LTD.
 1 BARTON STREET (corner of Clarence Street) GLOUCESTER
 Telephone: 32088 and 34920

Free Advice
 on all
 Insurances

GLOUCESTER
Cherry and White

Full Back
W. Etheridge *

Three Quarters
J. Clewes
J. Pointon *

Light
R. Mogg *5

Half Backs
G. Williams *†
J. Kingston *†

Forwards
J. Richardson *†
G. F. Mills *
A. Burton *†
J. Brinn *†
B. Soyle *
A. Watkins (Capt.) *†
F. Simonett *
H. Haines *

REPLACEMENTS
J. Hamman

Referee: A. A. WELSBY (Manchester Society)

† International
§ Under-23 International
* County
|| England Trial

First XV Fixtures

1976
Sept. 4 (S) Broughton Pk. H 31-6
8 (W) Stroud ... H 22-3
11 (S) Coventry ... A 12-11
15 (W) Newbridge ... H 18-13
18 (S) Worcester ... H 14-10
28 (S) Bristol ... H 6-9
29 (W) Cheltenham A 62-7

Oct. 2 (S) Bedford ... H 35-14
6 (W) Ebbw Vale ... A 4-22
9 (S) Harlequins ... H 9-14
13 (W) Pontypool ... A 18-0
16 (S) Newport ... A 4-30
22 (F) Clifton ... H 28-0
27 (W) Wales Police H 43-17
30 (S) Oxford Univ. A 24-13

Nov. 3 (W) Bridgend ... H 10-11
6 (S) Leicester ... H -
10 (W) Cambridge Univ. H -
13 (S) Stroud ... A -
20 (S) Aberavon ... H -
27 (S) London Irish ... A -

Dec. 4 (S) Moseley ... H -
11 (S) Bath ... H -
18 (S) Coventry ... H -
26 ... H -
(Boxing Day)

1977
Jan. 1 (S) London Scott. H -
8 (S) Leicester ... A -
15 (S) Wasps ... A -
19 (W) Army ... H -
22 (S) Moseley ... A -
28 (W) St. Lukes Coll. H -
29 (S) Loughborough H -
Feb. 4 (F) Bristol ... A -
12 (S) Bath ... H -
18 (F) Swansea ... A -
28 (S) Aberavon ... A -
Mar. 2 (W) Newport ... H -
5 (S) Northampton H -
9 (W) Cheltenham H -
12 (S) Richmond ... A -
19 (W) Aberystwyth ... H -
19 (S) Guy's Hospital ... H -
26 (S) Saracens ... A -
30 (S) Newbridge ... A -
Apr. 2 (S) Cardiff ... H -
7 (T) Llanelli ... A -
9 (S) New Brighton H -
(Easter Saturday)
11 (M) Fylde ... H -
(Easter Monday)
16 (S) Sale ... H -
19 (T) Nottingham A -
23 (S) Exeter ... A -
30 (S) Plymouth ... H -

WESTGATEmotorhouse

DAIMLER • JAGUAR • ROVER • TRIUMPH

Telephone: 34581

Cockerill and Nigel Davies try to follow now.

I was at Twickenham in '78, but remember little other than Richard Mogg's try. In a 6-3 game, one might argue that's not a surprise. In the intervening 35 years, there have

playing" said Bleddyn, who worked as a primary school teacher before retiring.

"The form has been patchy this season. Before the victory against London Irish, Tigers hadn't won for three games, and that hasn't

ExtraMEDIA

Follow Ian on Twitter: @ian_randall1

In each and every match programme, we'll be offering Gloucester Rugby supporters the opportunity to provide the questions which will form the basis of an interview for that week's chosen player.

Simply keep an eye on the official Gloucester Rugby Twitter feed, @gloucesterrugby, in the weeks leading up to a game to see which player we'll be featuring and how you can submit your questions.

Do you want to know what they have for breakfast? Find out who has the worst dress sense, who has the best banter and who is the biggest moaner?

#AskFreddie



@bryyyyyyony – Bryony Wood

Who's the most famous person that you've met? Dynamo, Jonathan Ross and they were just in the last week! Clang. But it has to be Lord Mike Tindall.



@Meeker316 – Daniel Meek

Hi Freddie, just wondered who has been your biggest influence? Probably my old man, he played for my local team and it gave me the influence to start playing.

@thomashoward18 – Tom Howard

What's the best moment you've had as a Gloucester player? There's been a few, Premiership debut against Leicester was special, the Heineken Cup win over Toulouse was up there but I'd probably say the week just gone, playing with my little brother. To play for such a special club and one that I love like Gloucester, alongside my little bro is special and pretty cool.

@tm_hartley – Tom Hartley

Why don't you have a funky kicking technique like Jonny Wilkinson or Rob Cook? I'm just kicking a ball, I get the need to be in a comfortable position for you but for me it's just kicking a ball with a mate and giving it a good strike and chilling out without squatting down.

@Burrows19 – Tom Burrows

Who has the best dog in the squad? I like Sinbad's dog, Bertie. He's a French Bull Mastiff and he's massive. I could never get one, I can't even look after myself! But Bertie is just a big, mean dog and he's great.



NEXT TIME...

We have Gloucester and England number 8, **Ben Morgan**, poised and ready for your tweets to feature in the matchday programme against Edinburgh Rugby

[@GlawsSuperFan25](#)

– Peter Smith

What made you prouder, playing for England or appearing in a Gloucester shirt with your brother?

The manner in which I made my England debut against the All Blacks is something you can't top. I'll look back and tell the grandkids that I was involved in beating the best team in the world. And I can also say that I made over 100 appearances for such an amazing club and, to do it with my little brother as well, is so special. It's a tough one and I probably couldn't pick between them and I'm lucky to have done both.

[@rugbyloving](#) – Mitchell Clark

Who first coined your nickname 'Gaddafi'?

It was a combination of Nick Wood and Tom Voyce. There was a picture of him in the papers, and I was on the back of the Citizen. Unfortunately I do pull some horrible faces and the boys reckoned they I looked similar. It's a bit of banter after all!



[@Meeker316](#) – Daniel Meek

What was the best advice you ever had? Cheers

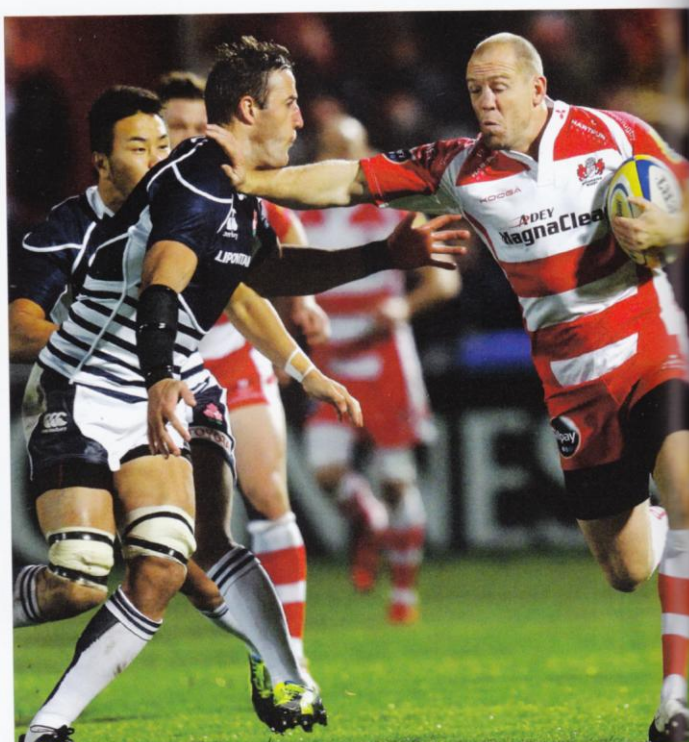
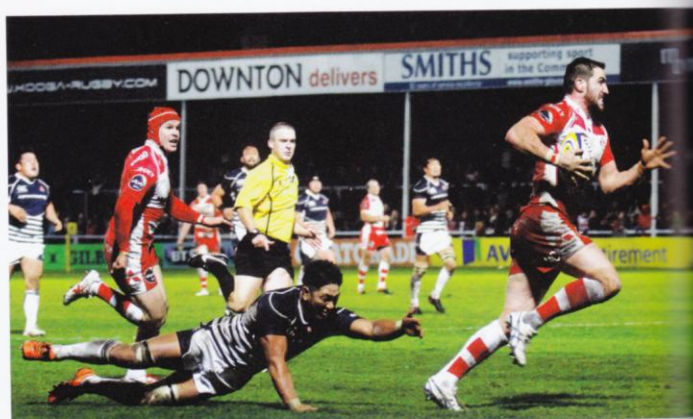
Kick it! No, just all about enjoyment and playing the game with a smile on my face, and doing what is best for me. Just playing with my mates really, and enjoying my rugby.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Rob Cook
14	W	Charlie Sharples
13	C	Jonny May
12	C	Mike Tindal
11	W	James Simpson-Daniel
10	FH	Ryan Mills
9	SH	Jimmy Cowan
1	P	Yann Thomas
2	H	Darren Dawidiuk
3	P	Rupert Harden
4	L	Elliott Stooke
5	L	James Hudson
6	F	Tom Savage (c)
7	F	Andy Hazell
8	N8	Matt Cox
16	R	Koree Britton
17	R	James Gibbons
18	R	Shaun Knight
19	R	Lewis Ludlow
20	R	Ross Moriarty
21	R	Dan Robson
22	R	Billy Burns
23	R	Steph Reynolds

JAPAN

#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Yoshikazu Fujita
14	W	Akihito Yamada
13	C	Seeichi Shimomura
12	C	Yasuki Hayashi
11	W	Yuta Imamura
10	FH	Yu Tamura
9	SH	Atsushi Hiwasa
1	P	Yusuke Nagae
2	H	Yusuke Aoki
3	P	Hiroshi Yamashita
4	L	Shinya Makabe
5	L	Shoji Ito
6	F	Justin Ives
7	F	Kyusoke Horie
8	N8	Takashi Kikutan
16	R	Shota Horie
17	R	Hisateru Hirashima
18	R	Takuma Asahara
19	R	Hitoshi Ono
20	R	Michael Broadhurst
21	R	Kosei Ono
22	R	Kotara Matsushima
23	R	Kirlyong So



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY Match Details: 12th November 2013 19:45 Attendance: 6,988

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

40

TRIES: Sharples (3), Simpson-Daniel, Reynolds, Cox CONS: Cook (5)

JAPAN

5

TRY: Ives

GLOUCESTER'S REPUTATION FOR HOSTING INTERNATIONAL RUGBY WAS FURTHER ENHANCED WHEN JAPAN STOPPED IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE FOR THE SECOND LEG OF THEIR AUTUMN EUROPEAN TOUR.

The Japanese, fresh from an impressive performance at Murrayfield the Saturday before, arrived at Kingsholm with a youthful and exciting squad, yet featuring plenty of international experience throughout their ranks.

With Head Coach Eddie Jones still absent with health problems, Australian Scott Weismantel took the helm for the Cherry Blossoms as they attempted to acclimatise themselves to Kingsholm ahead of their probable arrival in Rugby World Cup 2015.

In front of a healthy 7000 strong crowd at Kingsholm, the tourists made the best possible start, fierce work at the breakdown and good handling saw flanker Justin Ives crash over with a mere two minutes passed.

The Gloucester response was swift and relentless; the Japanese defence was brave and organised with several home attacks firmly repelled. With twenty minutes gone however, neat hands and angles from Mills and Simpson-Daniel gave Charlie Sharples an easy route for his first try.

This gave the Cherry and Whites plenty of encouragement and they upped their game and blew away their visitors. First, with Japanese fly half Yu Tamura intercepting a rogue pass and looking odds on to dot down, Matt Cox and Jonny May raced back to catch and themselves set off on an attack from deep.

The ball was well recycled and a perfect pass from Mills gave Andy Hazell a clear run. The ball was worked inside to Simpson-Daniel who had an easy run to the line for what

was a breathless score.

Minutes later, Jimmy Cowan scampered around the back of the scrum and through the back peddling defence to feed Sharples

physical and fast paced encounter, the tourists refused to relinquish their tempo and the tackle count for the Cherry and Whites was growing.

When Gloucester did have the ball,

"THEY KEPT ON COMING AT US, THEY'RE THE FITTEST TEAM I'VE EVER PLAYED AND THEY WERE RELENTLESS. WE DID WELL AND TOOK OUR CHANCES WELL AND FOR ME, IT'S ALWAYS NICE TO FINISH OFF WITH A HAT TRICK."

CHARLIE SHARPLES



who raced away.

The Japanese however were impressing greatly under the Kingsholm lights, the relentless attacking round the corner kept the home defence busy and the basic skillset displayed by every Japanese player was there to see.

But Gloucester had the final word of the first half. Mills' kick was perfectly judged for Sharples to gather and dot down for a first half hat trick.

The difference between the two sides was just the clinical way tries were finished off, Japan were brave and ambitious with number eight Takashi Kikutani a hugely physical and prominent attacker.

The breakdown was fierce, with Japan getting fast ball from every phase, Tamura and his half back partner Atsushi Hiwasa were very busy, but plugging away for little reward.

The second half was an equally

they were industrious, and this was rewarded when Tamura's ambitious pass was picked off by Simpson-Daniel who unselfishly fed inside for Steph Reynolds to race away from half way for a fifth try.

With plenty of eye-catching tries scored on the evening, the Cherry and Whites saved arguably their best for last and through an unlikely source.

Lurking on the right wing, Matt Cox picked up a flat pass from Dan Robson and set off, down the 5 metre channel. After a herculean hand off, the back rower stepped through the cover and jinked past the last man to race in for a fantastic score.

The game served yet again to prove Gloucester and Kingsholm's ability to host International rugby and, with the Japanese set to return for the business of the World Cup in 2015, the Cherry and Whites will welcome back the Cherry Blossoms with open arms.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Rob Cook
14	W	Martyn Thomas
13	C	Mike Tindall
12	C	Ryan Mills
11	W	James Simpson-Daniel
10	FH	Freddie Burns
9	SH	Dan Robson
1	P	Nick Wood
2	H	Huia Edmonds
3	P	Shaun Knight ■
4	L	Tom Savage
5	L	Elliot Stooke
6	F	Ross Moriarty
7	F	Andy Hazell
8	N8	Matt Cox
16	R	Dan George
17	R	Yann Thomas
18	R	Rupert Harden
19	R	Will James
20	R	Lewis Ludlow
21	R	Jimmy Cowan
22	R	Billy Burns
23	R	Steph Reynolds

NEWCASTLE FALCONS

#	POS	NAME
15	FB	Alex Tait
14	W	Noah Cato
13	C	Danny Barnes
12	C	Adam Powell
11	W	Ryan Shortland
10	FH	Rory Clegg
9	SH	Warren Fury
1	P	Rob Vickers ■
2	H	George McGuigan
3	P	Scott Wilson
4	L	Carlo Antonio del Fava
5	L	Dominic Barrow
6	F	Richard Mayhew
7	F	Will Welch
8	N8	Ally Hogg
16	R	Grant Shiells
17	R	Gary Strain
18	R	Kieran Brookes
19	R	Scott Macleod
20	R	Mark Wilson
21	R	Mike Blair
22	R	Zach Kibirige
23	R	Phil Godman





Match Details: 16th November 2013 16:30 Attendance: 11,168 Referee: Gwyn Morris

GLOUCESTER RUGBY

20

TRIES: Cook (8), Tindall (61) CONS: F. Burns (10, 63) PENS: F. Burns (30, 42)

NEWCASTLE FALCONS

3

PEN: Clegg (18)

GLOUCESTER'S 20 POINTS TO 3 VICTORY OVER NEWCASTLE FALCONS WAS A BITTERSWEET AFFAIR. THE CHERRY AND WHITES SECURED THEIR FIRST LV= CUP POINTS OF 2013-14, BUT LOST THE SERVICES OF RYAN MILLS AND JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL IN THE PROCESS.

It was a real blow for Gloucester as the pair had both been in fine form, but now face lengthy spells on the sideline.

It took the gloss off a workmanlike performance from Gloucester who, following the midweek win over Japan, clinched their second victory in five days at Kingsholm.

The outcome was never really in doubt, although the match itself completely lost its momentum following the two lengthy breaks in play as Mills and Simpson-Daniel received treatment before being stretchered off.

Rory Clegg got Newcastle off and running with an 18th minute penalty, but the two injuries then well and truly took the steam out

regathering and cantering home. Tindall had put in a superb shift, prominent in both attack and defence and inspiring those

Champagne Moment:

Rob Cook's early try was the highlight of the evening. The way Ryan Mills angled his run before unleashing a perfectly timed inside pass to Cook, made it even sadder to see him depart shortly afterwards.

of the encounter.

Referee Gwyn Morris was also struggling to adjudicate the set

around him.

His leadership on the evening was crucial. The early injuries

"WE STARTED OFF ENERGETICALLY IN THOSE FIRST 20 MINUTES AND CREATED A FEW OPPORTUNITIES BUT THOSE INJURIES AND THE BREAK IN PLAY DISRUPTED OUR FLOW.

"NEWCASTLE BROUGHT DOWN A PRETTY STRONG SIDE FOR THIS COMPETITION BUT, AFTER THE INTERVAL, WE REFOCUSED AND STARTED AGAIN WITH ONE OF THE REAL PLUSSES KEEPING OUR LINE INTACT."

ANDREW STANLEY, FORWARDS COACH

A try in each half was enough to see off a dogged Newcastle outfit, who had opened their LV= Cup campaign with victory over London Irish and who travelled south hoping to make it two from two.

Rob Cook's eighth minute try hinted at a more profitable evening for Gloucester. It was beautifully crafted. Tindall's strong run set up the position from which to strike, Mills drew the defence and his inside pass sent Cook scampering to the line.

piece and, apart from a penalty from Freddie Burns on the half hour, the next action of note was yellow cards to Shaun Knight and Rob Vickers.

It was more of the same after the half time interval. Burns slotted his second penalty of the evening, but multiple replacements on both teams didn't help the flow of the game.

As the final quarter dawned, Mike Tindall settled the affair, charging down Mike Blair's kick,

had left Gloucester's back line reshuffled and with several players out of position. In hindsight, they did a sterling job.

Gloucester's LV= Cup fate for this season remains unclear. The win keeps them in the hunt for a semi final place with rounds three and four yet to play.

For now, however, the focus returns to the Aviva Premiership and Heineken Cup. An important phase of the season lies in wait for Gloucester.

Teams correct at time of print: 28th November 2013



TODAY'S TEAMS



GLOUCESTER RUGBY

<u>ROB COOK</u>	FULLBACK	15
<u>SHANE MONAHAN</u>	RIGHT WING	14
<u>HENRY TRINDER</u>	CENTRE	13
<u>BILLY TWELVETREES</u>	CENTRE	12
<u>JONNY MAY</u>	LEFT WING	11
<u>FREDDIE BURNS</u>	FLY HALF	10
<u>DAN ROBSON</u>	SCRUM HALF	9
<u>NICK WOOD</u>	PROP	1
<u>DARREN DAWIDIUK</u>	HOOKER	2
<u>SHAUN KNIGHT</u>	PROP	3
<u>LUA LOKOTUI</u>	LOCK	4
<u>JAMES HUDSON</u>	LOCK	5
<u>TOM SAVAGE (C)</u>	FLANKER	6
<u>MATT KVESIC</u>	FLANKER	7
<u>BEN MORGAN</u>	NO.8	8
<u>HUIA EDMONDS</u>	REPLACEMENT	16
<u>YANN THOMAS</u>	REPLACEMENT	17
<u>RUPERT HARDEN</u>	REPLACEMENT	18
<u>ELLIOTT STOOKE</u>	REPLACEMENT	19
<u>MATT COX</u>	REPLACEMENT	20
<u>JIMMY COWAN</u>	REPLACEMENT	21
<u>MIKE TINDALL</u>	REPLACEMENT	22
<u>MARTYN THOMAS</u>	REPLACEMENT	23

LEICESTER TIGERS

<u>SCOTT HAMILTON</u>	FULLBACK
<u>NIAL MORRIS</u>	RIGHT WING
<u>MATT SMITH</u>	CENTRE
<u>DAN BOWDEN</u>	CENTRE
<u>MILES BENJAMIN</u>	LEFT WING
<u>TOBY FLOOD (C)</u>	FLY HALF
<u>BEN YOUNGS</u>	SCRUM HALF
<u>BORIS STANKOVICH</u>	PROP
<u>TOM YOUNGS</u>	HOOKER
<u>DAN COLE</u>	PROP
<u>LOUIS DEACON</u>	LOCK
<u>GRAHAM KITCHENER</u>	LOCK
<u>JAMIE GIBSON</u>	FLANKER
<u>JULIAN SALVI</u>	FLANKER
<u>JORDAN CRANE</u>	NO.8
<u>NEIL BRIGGS</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>TOM BRISTOW</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>FRASER BALMAIN</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>SEBASTIAN DE CHAVES</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>THOMAS WALDROM</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>DAVID MÉLÉ</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>OWEN WILLIAMS</u>	REPLACEMENT
<u>ADAM THOMPSTONE</u>	REPLACEMENT

**IN CHARGE
TODAY:**

Referee: Greg Garner
Assistant Referees: Paul Burton and Gareth Copsey