



G. E. WRIGHT, Hon. Secretary

A Welcome from the President of the R.F.U.



It is with very genuine pleasure that we welcome the Management and Members of the Zimbabwe Touring Team to these shores. May your visit be fruitful and the first of many. The modern Zimbabwe like the previous Rhodesia clearly does not intend to hang about as a rugby force – perhaps for fear that the prowess of the hockey girls in Moscow might affect the recruitment for the game. It takes some countries decades to reach Twickenham: you have made it in a few months.

Last Autumn I was pleased to entertain Ian Smith at Twickenham, for he came to take a breather from his deliberations and to enjoy watching London Counties v New Zealand. In the future I'd be equally pleased to welcome Robert Mugabe because it would cement our belief that Rugby Football stands above politics and holds no brief for class distinction – other than the wholly justifiable belief that all forwards know that they are a higher class than backs.

In my playing days for Cornwall and for England I had a stalwart chum from Rhodesia called Robert Kennedy – a fit and fast centre and wing threequarter who began his distinguished mining career at Camborne School of Mines. Sadly he became an accidental casualty and did not survive the recent fighting, but we have now instituted in Cornwall an annual Kennedy match and award, for it is the memory of the man and his playing skill that we wish to perpetuate.

By that same token it is as players of a game that means so much to so many people throughout the world that we most warmly welcome our friends from Zimbabwe.

Kendell - Canpentin

John Kendall-Carpenter President

Welcome, Zimbabwe!

I turned, albeit tentatively, to Moss Keane, Ireland's own, to glean some first-hand information about the likely strength of the first-ever Zimbabwe national touring team in Britain. He'd taken part in two high-scoring games for Public School Wanderers against Zimbabwe during the recent summer. The reply was enigmatic: "They're good; but they won't be too hectic". He did not elaborate. So I await today's game a little puzzled, but with my anticipation even more heightened than it would otherwise have been.

Zimbabwe are indeed very welcome visitors – and how pleased Surrey are to reciprocate, if possible, the warmth of the hospitality that they received in Salisbury last year.

For my own part, I have fond memories of a whistle-stop visit there in 1969 with the Barbarians, a narrow, exhausting victory on the Police Ground against the then provincial side, to be followed by an even more exhausting and hectic farewell celebration, curtailed only on account of the fact that the plane back to the U.K. left a few hours after the final whistle. It was the day I learnt what being "poured" onto a plane meant. In fact there were several amongst us (or maybe it was all of us) who would willingly have extended our sojourn at least a few more days.

In 1974 I'm sure the all-conquering British Lions regarded their brief stay in Rhodesia as one of the tour highlights – an epic river boat trip, the incomparable magnificence of the Victoria Falls, and for me, a share of the commentary on the match itself for the local television service – an unparalleled broadcasting experience! I'm sure many touring teams have similar fond recollections, since the first international encounter between Great Britain and Rhodesia, as long ago as 1910.

Nor should we forget that in pure rugby terms, the tourists come here with a proud playing legacy, especially in recent years when, as a provincial side, they reached as high as 4th in the South African ranking lists. Earlier days are recalled not least for some outstanding individual players who contributed significantly to Springbok teams. Their first South African "caps" were to become substantial figures in the game – Ryk van Schoor, who created a famous centre partnership with the mercurial Tjol Lategan and flanker 'Salty' du Rand, who went on to make 21 international appearances. Those were the days of 'Okey' Geffin, Hennie Muller and Hansie Brewis, and Springbok victories over the All Blacks in the 1949 Test Series.

Then there was R. A. Hill, who toured Britain with that magnificent side of Avril Malan, in 1960–61, D. C. van Jaarsveldt and A. W. Macdonald also of the early sixties, before the arrival of one of the most gifted footballers of the seventies, full-back or centre lan Robertson – who's rugby ability was only matched by his charm.

Now two new Zimbabwean names have burst onto the International scene with a flourish; the two young threequarters who were part of the Springbok victories this summer – David Smith, who sadly is unable to make this trip, and Ray Mordt, of the famed Old Hararians Club, who is bound to impress with his fearsome running on the wing, especially on the counter attack, as he did against the Lions. Watch out, too, for lain Buchanan and Chris Rogers, two who also came close to the Test side, as scrum-half and hooker, respectively. I shall long remember Buchanan's outstanding game alongside the brilliant Hugo Porta, for the South African Barbarians in Durban.

It was disappointing for many that the Lions were unable to visit Salisbury on their recent tour. But now we in Surrey have the chance to witness Zimbabwe's first sortie abroad, as they stand on the threshold of establishing themselves as a fully-fledged international side. I am naturally very pleased, especially as a Surrey man, that highlights of today's game will be shown on BBC 2's Rugby Special on Saturday evening.

We hope that this is just the beginning of an ever-increasing exchange of visits between our countries, and that the already close ties between Surrey and the visiting union will be ever strengthened. It is, I think, appropriate that this inaugural visit should begin here at Twickenham.

To the visitors, I trust your 6 match tour in England will be memorable for all the right reasons. That Surrey are not as generous hosts as they were visitors on the rugby field last time, but that off the pitch you enjoy our hospitality at least half as much as we have enjoyed yours!

Welcome!

Nigel C. Starmer-Smith

Welcome Zimbabwe

On behalf of the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union it is my pleasure to welcome the tour party from Zimbabwe to Gloucester.

We hope the weather will be kind to us so that both teams may be enabled to play the type of game which we all enjoy watching.

We had a very enjoyable opening match against Rhodesia when Gloucestershire undertook their first ever major tour to South Africa in 1976. A lot of changes have taken place since then. We sincerely hope that these changes will eventually prove to be beneficial to all the people of Zimbabwe.

To be involved in Rugby Football is a way of making friends. I am sure many friendships will be renewed during your short stay and many new ones made. I sincerely hope that the wonderful hospitality we received in your Country will, to some extent, be repaid during your visit, and that when the time comes to leave you will have many happy memories of Gloucestershire.

Goddey Collerine

PRESIDENT G.R.F.U.

Ever had any difficulty getting a ticket for a seat at Twickenham? A problem with car parking? Then buy a Debenture and be free of worry for the next ten years.

Some of the best seats have already gone, but, sad to say, there are plenty of good ones left. They will go on a first-come-first-served basis, so don't delay too long.

Now is the time to do it to ensure good seats for this season's internationals. There are two Debenture prices. A centre stand seat costs \pounds 299 plus V.A.T., and all other stand seats cost \pounds 199 plus V.A.T.

With current rates of inflation, when the Debenture Scheme ends in ten years time, these prices will look dirt cheap. Today they are good value for money, especially when linked to deferred payments over 12 months.

Buy a block of four, and you get a free Car Park label for the West Car Park up to the limit of the available space.

If you require further information I will be pleased to help, but every Club Secretary should be able to give you details.

You can help build the South Stand at Twickenham and support England rugby whilst saving yourself a lot of trouble over the next ten years.

J. V. Smith.

Gloucester v. Zimbabwe

GLOUCESTER White		<i>Referee:</i> R. Quittenton	ZIMBABWE Green and White	
15	P. E. Butler (Gloucester)	FULL BACK	J. Peltzer 15	;
14	R. R. Mogg (Gloucester)	RIGHT WING	R. Mordt 14	ŀ
13	C. J. Williams (Bristol)	CENTRE	R. Smith 13	3
12	A. Thomas (Bristol)	CENTRE	N. Mellett 12	!
11	A. J. G. Morley (Bristol)	LEFT WING	D. Delport 11	
10	D. P. Sorrel (Bristol)	STAND OFF	F. Inocco 10)
9	R. M. Harding	SCRUM HALF	I. Buchanan S)
1	G. A. F. Sargent (Gloucester)	PROP	J. de Wet 1	
2	S. F. Mills (Gloucester)	HOOKER	C. Rogers 2	2
3	A. Sheppard (Bristol)	PROP	R. Halsted	3
4	N. Pomphrey (Bristol)	LOCK	M. Martin	ŀ
5	J. H. Fidler (Gloucester)	LOCK	S. Barton	5
6	M. Rafter (Capt.) (Bristol)	FLANKER	K. Eveleigh 6	6
7	P. Wood (Gloucester)	FLANKER	K. Schlachter	7
8	R. Hesford (Bristol)	No. 8	N. Jenkinson	3
	Replacements: P. Howell (Gloucester) K. Bogira (Bristol) P. Cue (Bristol) P. Kingston (Gloucester) M. Preedy (Gloucester) S. Gorvett (Bristol)		Replacements: R. Gibbison K. Delport G. Mordt L. Lachenicht I. Marais J. Locke	
		Touch ludered		

Touch Judges:

M. J. Morgan (Bristol Referees' Society) A. M. J. Fisher (Gloucester Referees' Society)