

# GLOUCESTER

*The Cherry and Whites*

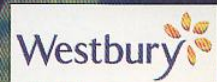
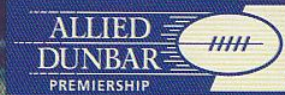
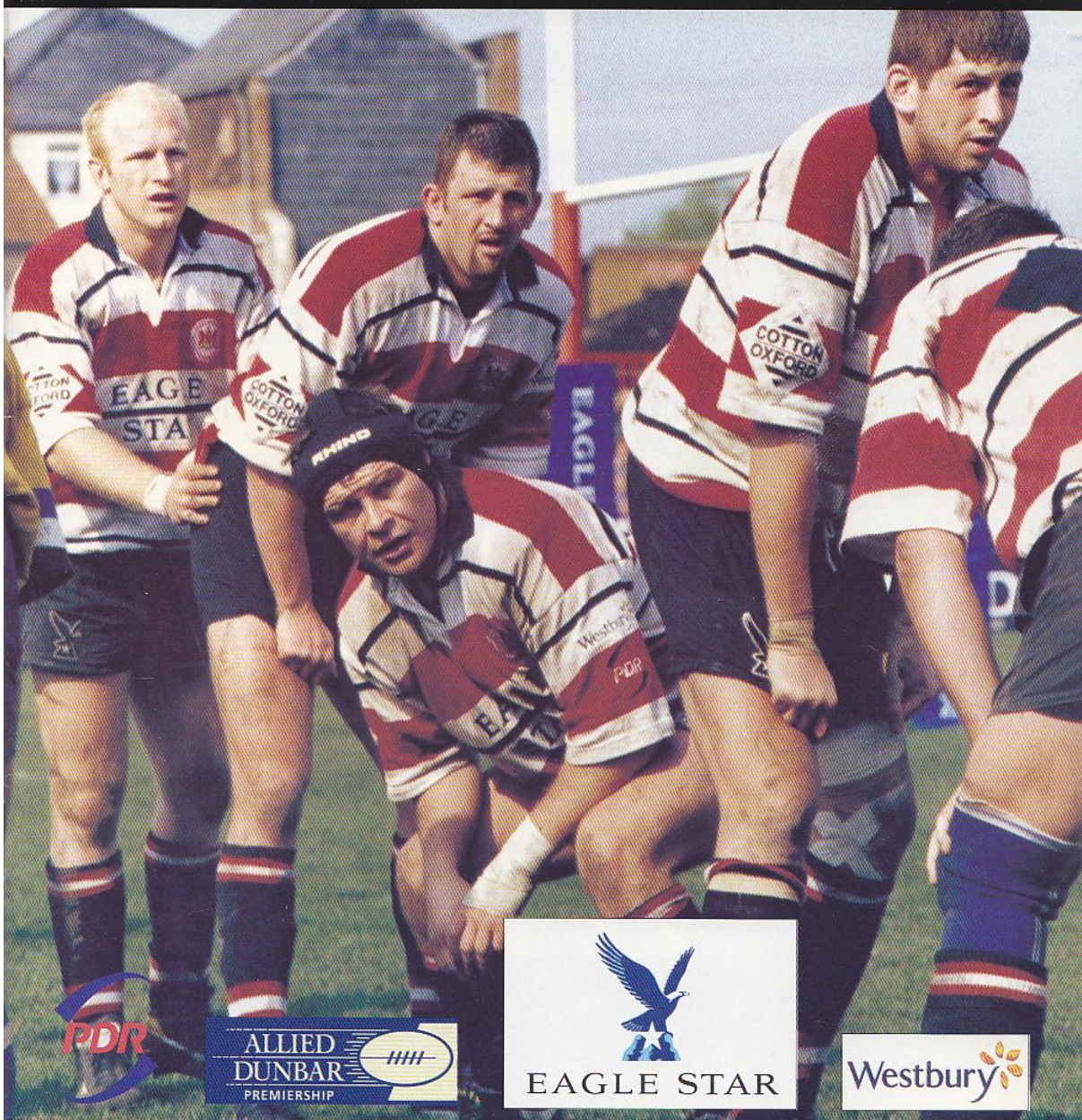


GLOUCESTER V SALE

£2.00

2ND MAY 1998 KO 3.00pm

Vol 2/18



# WELCOME TO



## Gloucester Rugby Football Club

It seems almost impossible to believe but today's visit of Sale to Kingsholm signals the end of another Rugby season in Gloucester. With a trip to Northampton in the Allied Dunbar Premiership still to come we certainly won't be easing off just yet, but this afternoon we are determined to give the Kingsholm crowd something to remember over the summer months. A massive amount of effort has been put in by all concerned over the last nine months, but despite all the hard work, or maybe because of it, the season seems to have flown by. And what a season it's been! There have been many highlights, right back to day one of the ADP when Philippe Saint-Andre ran in those two magnificent debut tries in front of the shed against our old rivals Bristol. Our victory here against Saracens was outstanding and despite the end result, the match against Newcastle last month was one of the greatest games of club rugby I've ever seen. Beating Bath in the league always gives Gloucester fans a warm feeling and then of course there was our victorious campaign in the Cheltenham and Gloucester cup.

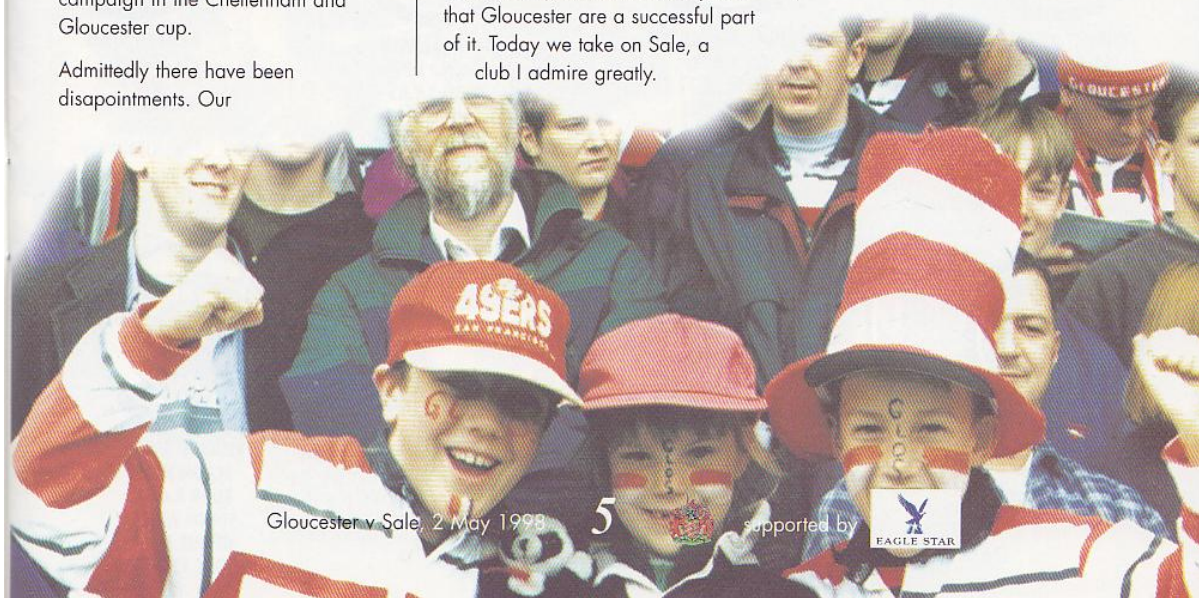
Admittedly there have been disappointments. Our

early exit from the Tetley Bitter cup against Northampton is still "bitter" to contemplate. I still don't know how we lost our unbeaten home record in the ADP to Harlequins back in November, and most disappointing of all has been our away form, winning just once away from Kingsholm all season.

You'll make your own conclusions I'm sure, but in my mind there's no doubt, that since the start of the season back on August the 23rd, Gloucester RFC has taken strides forward. We are a better side on the pitch, we have a stronger squad because everyone has improved, whilst behind the scenes we have a structure here at Kingsholm to compare with any in the country. Victory today, and at Northampton will mean we finish the season in the top half of the Premiership. That is no mean achievement, as the competitiveness of the competition becomes fiercer and fiercer. There's no doubt in my mind that the ADP is the Premier club Rugby competition anywhere in the world, and you should be all proud that Gloucester are a successful part of it. Today we take on Sale, a club I admire greatly.

You'll rarely see them headlined on the rugby pages of the press, but you could say that for us as well. They are a real rugby club, and a bit of a bogey side for us, and today we want to make sure that bogey is laid to rest. But don't underestimate them, that win against Bath at the Rec only last weekend shows that they aren't just cruising to the end of the season. And in hooker Graham Dawe they have a player who doesn't know what it is not to give everything on the rugby field. How much he must have enjoyed beating Bath on the Rec. If war was declared tomorrow, I know I'd want Dawsey in the trenches with me. He's been a great servant to West country rugby over the years, and has built up a special relationship with the Kingsholm crowd. And to that crowd may I offer the sincere thanks and appreciation of the management, the players and backroom staff, for all your support this season. Here's to next season, let's make it an even better one!

**By John Fidler**



Gloucester v Sale, 2 May 1998

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# TODAY'S OPP



## END OF SEASON SALE



I always think that Sale don't really get the attention they deserve. For the past few seasons they have consistently proved to be a right handful for anyone who has to play them, and over that period, have always managed to add some notable scalps to their impressive collection. Yet all the commentators seem to prefer to devote their deathless prose to higher-profile outfits - who sometimes don't deserve the publicity they get half so much.

Perhaps Sale prefer it that way. There is, after all, something to be said for simply getting on with the job, amassing Premiership points when they're needed, and concentrating on beating which ever set of victims happen to be in their sights at the moment.

This time round hasn't been any different. They have come good - extremely good - at just the time it's most needed: at

the end of the campaign when the scramble for points is at its most frenetic. Even at Kingsholm, they're going to take a bit of beating.

In a nutshell, Sale are a straightforwardly good all-round side. Even the mid-term loss of as fine a player as Simon Mannix doesn't seem to have bothered them too much, and one is inclined to speculate that John Mitchell's influence may be crucial in that respect. After all, he has done, and is doing, a fine job with his coaching duties at England level.

It's to be hoped that he can be persuaded to join the summer tour, in spite of his misgivings about the strength of the likely party. His experience of Southern Hemisphere rugby would be invaluable, and I'm sure Clive Woodward wouldn't want to be without him on this most demanding of all tours.

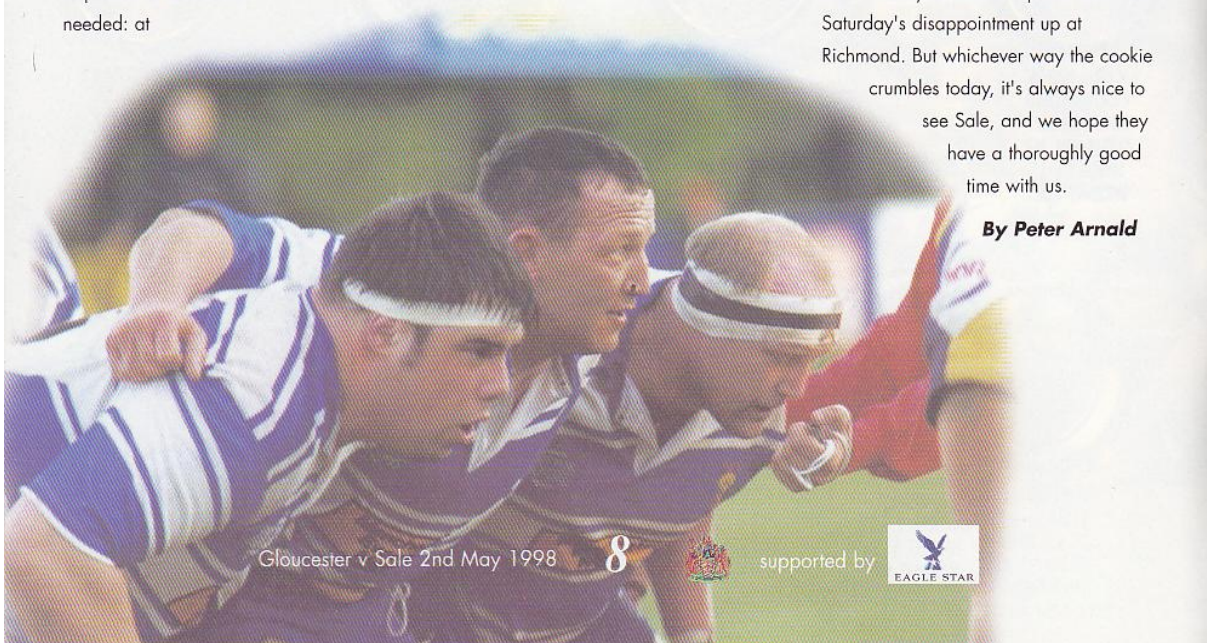
Speaking of England, one chap we'll be very glad to see return

to Kingsholm today is Tom Beim, who has had a superlative season for Sale. A lot of us were sorry to see him leave Gloucester, judging him to be a young winger of considerable promise. Our estimation has certainly been vindicated over the past few months, and we wish him well for the future. When you see an England side which features a scrum-half and a full-back-cum-outside-half on the two wings, with a performer like Tom Beim not even in the reckoning, you begin to wonder who's doing what and to whom.

We've had some right old ding-dongs with Sale in the past, going right back to the days of Steve Smith, and not excluding the tied away game earlier this season. We have no reason to think that today's encounter will depart significantly from that norm, and we could hardly have a better prospect to finish our home season.

I have a feeling that this game is going to go to the side which wants it most, and we can certainly do with the points after last Saturday's disappointment up at Richmond. But whichever way the cookie crumbles today, it's always nice to see Sale, and we hope they have a thoroughly good time with us.

**By Peter Arnald**



Gloucester v Sale 2nd May 1998

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# NENTS – SALE

## A LOT IN COMMON



Ask most rugby fans to name the top four sides in the country and few would include Sale. The Greater Manchester club is one of rugby's Cinderella outfits, but despite this under both Paul Turner, in previous seasons, and under the direction of John Mitchell this campaign, Sale have shown that they are capable of recording the most impressive of results.

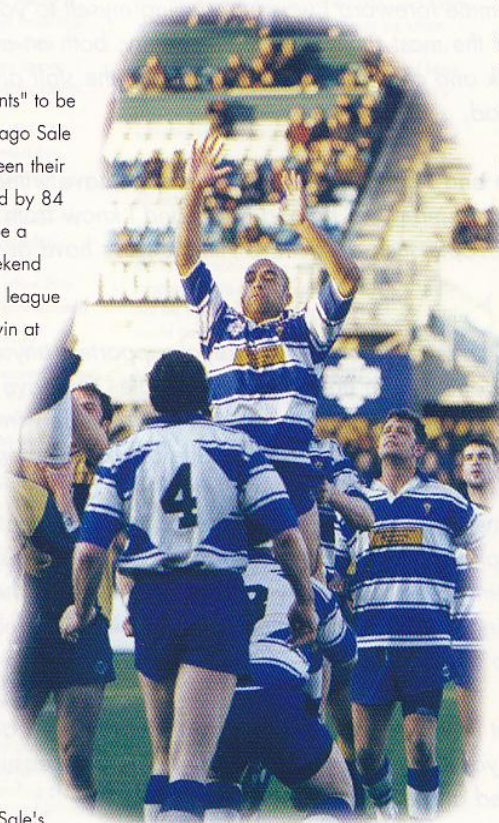
The most recent of rugby's "Giants" to be felled by Sale are Bath. A year ago Sale left The Rec with their tails between their legs after being soundly thrashed by 84 points to 7. But what a difference a season can make, and last weekend Sale inflicted a fourth successive league defeat on Bath with a 29 - 19 win at The Recreation Ground.

That win means today's opponents, Sale and Gloucester are neck and neck in midtable, and a finish in the top four is still a possibility for both.

The similarities between these two clubs don't end with their current league standings. Both are coached by men very much involved in the England set up. As Richard Hill works to nurture talent in his England A squads, Sale's John Mitchell is assisting Clive Woodward with the senior players.

Comparison can also be drawn between the philosophies running through Sale and Gloucester. Neither has so much money

washing around the club that they can afford to buy success. The money each do have has been spent wisely, with both clubs bringing in a scattering of foreign talent to complement the local players. Excepting Sale's Kiwi coach Mitchell, their most important import today has been another



New Zealander Shane Howarth. The former All Black has had the difficult task of taking over many of the responsibilities on the pitch that were recently held by the clubs ex-coach Paul Turner. Even his most

fervent fans wouldn't claim he's another "Welsh Wizard", but on many occasions this season, it's been Howarth's performances, and more particularly his points, that have guided Sale to victory.

Another Sale player to reckon with is that warhorse of a hooker Graham Dawe. Amongst the frenzy of all the close season transfer activities his move from Bath to Sale went by almost unnoticed. But as Bath, by their own admission struggle to believe in themselves at the moment, how Messrs Robinson and Callard must have rued the departure of the veteran hooker when he played his part in Sale's victory at The Rec a week ago. For Bath and for Cornwall Graham Dawe has often played here at Kingsholm over the years. Although few will be surprised if he continues to play for at least another season, today's game just could be his last here in Gloucester. So let's give him and the 1997/98 season the sort of send off only the Shed can muster.

**By Keith Malcolm**



# A MESSAGE FROM TOM WALKINSHAW



## GLoucester RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

*It is incredible to think it is now a year since my involvement with Gloucester Rugby Club was announced and to look back and see what everyone involved has achieved in that time. When I wrote my first programme foreword I was introducing myself to you and setting out my aims to make the Club one of the most successful in the country, both on and off the pitch. I feel, due to a lot of hard work and commitment by the players, the staff and supporters, we are a long way down that road.*

*We have had a great season and I am personally able to say I have witnessed some great games of rugby. Everyone on the team has trained hard, and I know from what I see on the pitch and what I am told by people such as Richard Hill the boys have given us their total commitment.*

*It is a matter of pride that we have some of the most loyal supporters any club can wish for, and your encouragement and enthusiasm have been invaluable. You have been there at both home and away matches, and hopefully gained as much joy from the winning of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Cup as the players and all the board members did.*

*The improvements to our 'home' at Kingsholm have included refurbishment of the Members and Sportsman bar, new hospitality boxes, a new computerised ticketing system and pre-match entertainment. This seems to be well received if the comments on the questionnaires we asked you to fill in are anything to go by. We value your views on all areas of the Club and hopefully we shall continue to satisfy you.*

*I am sure you have read a lot in the papers about the future of the sport and the way it is run. On this subject, I can assure you I am trying hard at national level to ensure you our supporters get a well structured and entertaining rugby season.*

*Thank you all for your continuing support for Gloucester and I now look forward to seeing you all here again next season.*

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Walkinshaw', written over a faint background watermark.

## A Word From Director Of Rugby Richard Hill and Club Captain Pete Glanville



First may I thank all the supporters who travelled to Richmond last Saturday and provided such terrific support for our team. It was a remarkable sight to look around and see the whole of Richmond displaying Cherry & White scarves, hats and shirts with hardly a

Richmond supporter in sight. I would think that the Gloucester supporters outnumbered the Richmond supporters by a least three to one and provided their usual vocal encouragement for the team.

All the players and management on the playing side were bitterly disappointed that they were unable to provide the supporters with the victory they so deserved.

Unfortunately, the 10 minute spell between the 17th and 27th minute where we conceded four sloppy tries cost us the match.

We have seen this problem before when Eric Peters scored three tries against us in 9 minutes at Bath away and we also saw it against Harlequins away when after leading 16-8 with 20 minutes to go, Harlequins then scored three tries in an 8 minute spell. Although we made as many uncharacteristic handling errors throughout the remaining 70 minutes of the Richmond match, we still dominated them and evidence of this was the fact that Gloucester won the 2nd half effectively 10-5 and had two tries disallowed. Richmond only got into the Gloucester 22 metre area once although they did score on this occasion for their 5 points. The club has come a long way in the last three seasons. From being a side battling against the threat of relegation to Division Two during the season 1995/96 and 1996/97, we have now built up a squad of players capable of playing a more varied 15 man type of rugby. There is no doubt that our players are more skillful, physically stronger and more powerful this season and there is no doubt that our players now have a better understanding of the game in general and how it should be played.

There is also no doubt that in front of the terrific home support at Kingsholm, our players produce their best rugby. However, most players in whichever club they play, can perform well in front of their own crowd and

on a familiar ground. We are just lucky here at Gloucester that our players respond exceptionally well to playing on their own ground and we have such a fantastic support which gets right behind the side.

The task at Gloucester now is to take the club on the next step in preparation for next season. In order for Gloucester to mount a serious challenge in the next two seasons for a genuine top 4 place in English Rugby, we need to prove to ourselves and to supporters that we can produce our best rugby away from Kingsholm. This is not an easy task for a young and particularly inexperienced side, and I think when judging Gloucester this must be taken into consideration. Players who have played for their country on many occasions and have travelled around the world with their country and who have played club rugby for many seasons will find it more easy to adjust to unfamiliar surroundings when playing away from home. The large majority of the current squad at Gloucester have played very few seasons of club rugby due to the fact that most of them are still very young yet and certainly the vast majority have very limited representative rugby experience. This should not be used as an excuse any longer although could perhaps have been the reason over the last two seasons why we have found it difficult to beat sides away from home.

All the players now have had the experience of playing at least two years in Division One except perhaps Brian Johnson and we must now be ready to take on the next challenge to take Gloucester a further step towards the top. The start of our new challenge begins today against a confident Sale side but there is absolutely no question at all that Gloucester must win today against Sale and away against Northampton on May 17th. All the players have enjoyed the current season as it has been a massive relief after having battled against relegation for the last seasons. We all realise that we need to get back down to hard work and not be content with our current position but to move the club forward once again. Just as it took some while to battle our way out of the relegation zone in Division One over the last two seasons, this challenge to produce away performances worthy of the club will take some while to overcome but I can assure you that everyone on the playing side has now one thing on its mind and one thing only. That is to prove to everyone that the side has the ability to win whenever it plays and next season in my opinion, Gloucester's ability both individually and as a team will be judged upon the way in which it plays away from

home and the success it has away from home. We all hope that we can enjoy Gloucester's final home game of the season against Sale and that we can put the disappointments of the Richmond game behind us with a performance by the players worthy of its support.

Dear Peter,

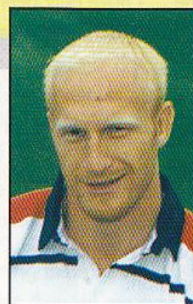
*As this is the last home game of the season, I would like, on behalf of all the players, to thank all our magnificent supporters for the wonderful backing they have given us ever since last August. I notice that the press has taken to calling us 'Fortress Kingsholm', and that reputation is due, to a very large extent, to the support we receive, not just from the Shed, but from every part of the ground. It really does make a difference, especially when we need to dig deep and put in every scrap of effort to win a hard match. The fact that, up until today, we have lost only two Premiership games at home all season speaks for itself, and those were only by two points and one point respectively.*

*All season we have been doing our best to win every match, obviously, but we have also been trying to play good, exciting rugby at the same time. I hope you agree that, by and large, we have succeeded in doing that. This side still has a long way to go before it realises its full potential, and I believe that we can be the best team in England within a season or two. Your help in achieving that will be invaluable.*

*Thanks again, everyone. We hope you have enjoyed the 1997/8 season, and we look forward to seeing you all again in August.*

*Yours sincerely,*

**PETE GLANVILLE**



Gloucester v Sale 2nd May 1998

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# The Player Profile



## Chris Catling



For our final player interview of the season, Chris Catling. And conducting the interview, undertaken at the end of March, two young regular supporters from Stroud, Melissa and Stacey Jago ...

**Melissa and Stacey:** *Have you always wanted to be a rugby player?*

**Chris Catling:** No, not really. There hasn't always been an opportunity for me ... I have only been a professional for two years and when I was growing up, going through school, I didn't really think that it would be a viable option. I went to university to get a degree and I kept my rugby going as a hobby. It has all blossomed from there. What professionalism has given me is brilliant. I am in a very lucky position.

**M&S:** *What would you be doing if you were not a professional rugby player?*

**CC:** I'm not really sure. I kept my options open and went to university to do a management science degree and a lot of my friends that also did that degree course have now gone into finance in the City (of London). I don't think that I would be too keen to pursue. I never really had to think about what I was going to do because it became obvious when I was in my second year and I joined Gloucester and I being a full time professional player was a possibility.

**M&S:** *What made you decide to move to Gloucester?*

**CC:** I was at Exeter University and Richard Hill contacted me and invited me to come to Gloucester and see what it was like. I also spoke to Bristol. So I came up here, I knew Phil Greening very well as I had played England representative rugby with him. He had sold Gloucester to me a lot. I was very impressed with the set-up, with what Richard Hill was trying to do. I decided that even though Gloucester was a little bit further up the M5 travelling from Exeter than was Bristol, Gloucester seemed to be the better choice, giving me more potential.

**M&S:** *Do you think that the Kingsholm atmosphere help to improve the way that you play?*

**CC:** Definitely! From all the victories

we are having at home, it is something that really lifts the whole side. Even though we get good support that travels to away matches, it's a little different at those other grounds. When The Shed gets behind you, it's really awesome and brilliant to play in front of!

**M&S:** *Do you ever have dreams about forthcoming games, and if you do, have they ever come true?*

**CC:** I have a re-occurring nightmare! It always seems to be about Harlequins.

I run out onto the pitch and I have forgotten my boots or I'm wearing the wrong shirt. I then have to go back into the dressing room ...

I must have had this dream three or four times. Fortunately, this dream has not come true it would be awful and embarrassing if it ever happened!

**M&S:** *Do you ever get nervous before a game?*

**CC:** Yes, I do! Its from the evening before or the morning of a game when we meet up and have the team meeting. Richard Hill is there focusing everyone. Its then that I start to feel edgy. After that, I'm fine for the next hour or so and then I get nervous just before the game. I actually think that when I feel less nervous, I play worse. So, I think, for me, feeling a little more nervous is a good thing.

**M&S:** *Do you have a special routine that you go through before a game?*





# Interview

**CC:** Not really. The warm-up is pretty much routine and the preparation is the same. Personally, I don't do anything special before each game.

**M&S:** *Does anyone in the team do anything special?*

**CC:** I'm sure they do. I don't know of any quirky things!

**M&S:** *Can you remember scoring your first try for Gloucester?*

**CC:** Um, first try for Gloucester ... I haven't scored that many so I should be able to remember! The try that sticks out in my memory is the one against Wasps last season when we beat them at Kingsholm that was a big game because they came here unbeaten in the league and we were going through a rocky patch, so it was important to beat them. I scored at the beginning of the second half and that was probably one of my best tries for Gloucester. I don't think that it was my first one ... that could have been in the European Conference.

**M&S:** *Is it hard playing against people you are friends with?*

**CC:** No, I don't think it's hard. It's quite good fun. I'm not the sort of person, especially playing in my position, that has a big physical confrontation. There's the odd comment here and there which is often funny. But I don't think it's hard.

**M&S:** *What does it feel like when you loose?*

**CC:** When I first came to Gloucester, we lost a lot at the beginning of my

first season. We went through a big losing patch, which was bad. I think that the team got to accept losing, especially last year. Now, when we play badly ... and lose badly, the feeling is a lot worse than it was last season. This is a good thing because it proves that we are getting a bit more used to winning! Personally, I feel it really depends on the way I have played. If I have played well, then I am reasonably happy. But if I have played badly, then I am really annoyed with myself and I am a bit grumpy.

**M&S:** *After a loss, how do you get your spirits up for the next game?*

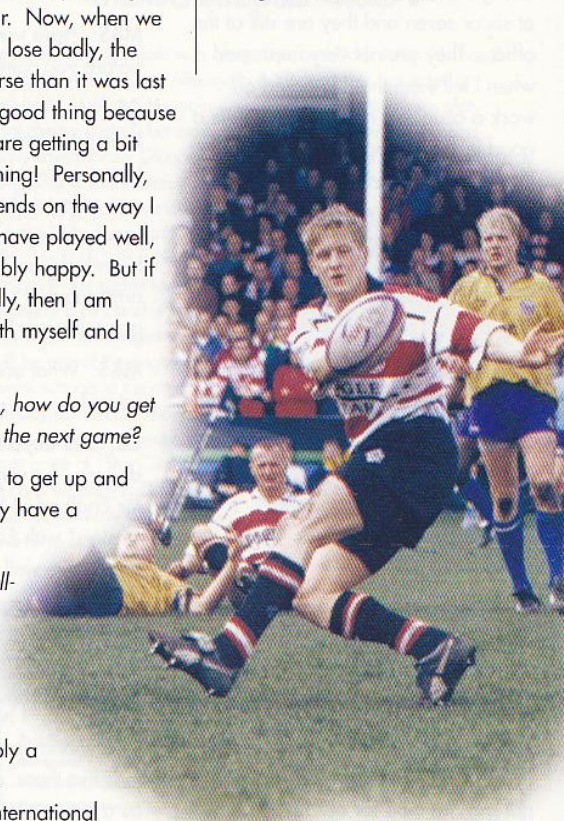
**CC:** You just have to get up and do it. I don't really have a special method.

**M&S:** *You play full-back. Have you played in other positions?*

**CC:** No I haven't and that is probably a weakness of mine, especially in the international sense. Clive Woodward is looking to play his best rugby players, no matter what position they are.

At the moment, I think that he looks on Matt Perry favourably as he is a utility back, he (Perry) can play centre, he can fit in anywhere. I haven't really played any other position. I feel my game is moving on a little bit and I can slot in anywhere in the back line in "phase" play. I did play on the

wing at University on one occasion. But I got stuffed out there so I went straight back to full-back!



**M&S:** *How often do you train?*

**CC:** We train twice a day for four days a week. Then we get a rest day before a game. It's not too bad. I speak to my friends from university who have just got jobs and because they are starting these new high-flying jobs in London they tell me they are





# The Player Profile

## Chris Catling



working quite ridiculous hours from nine in the morning through to seven or eight at night. I might phone them at six or seven and they are still at the office. They are not very impressed when I tell them that I knocked-off work a couple of hours ago. I have a good job, and I have to make sure that I train hard when I am at the club.

**M&S:** *Is Richard Hill strict?*

**CC:** He can be, yes. He knows what he wants and he's not impressed when he doesn't get it.

**M&S:** *Is there a team that you really look forward to playing against?*

**CC:** No, not really. But I really enjoy league rugby, but I wouldn't say that there was a particular team that I like playing against.

**M&S:** *When you are not playing, do you stand in The Shed and watch?*

**CC:** I have done. The only league game that I've missed at Kingsholm was against Leicester last season and I was in The Shed for that win. My parents are mad for our home games ... they are always right in the front of The Shed and love it. I was with them for that game and it was brilliant to watch in The Shed, with the comments. The banter between The Shed and the Leicester front row was just awesome when Leicester went ahead three or four minutes into injury time. Then we went on to win it by a couple of points with a Tofky kick. It was brilliant. But, touch

wood, I haven't had too many opportunities to get into The Shed to watch.

**M&S:** *Have you had any bad injuries before you came to Gloucester?*

**CC:** No. When I was younger, I had knee problems, growing pains really. I have six weeks out, which at that age seemed like ages. I was really upset about it at the time. But I have been lucky and I have not had anything that has kept me out of the game for any length of time.

**M&S:** *What are your goals for the future?*

**CC:** Like anyone playing in the first division, the ultimate goal is to play for England. I have had a couple of "tasters" with England A and have done quite well.

**M&S:** *Who are you most friendly with in the club?*

**CC:** Whenever we go out, we go out in a group. I have just moved to Cheltenham and quite a few of the lads live there, and we tend to go out as a group. When I first came to Gloucester, I lodged with Tofky for a couple of months that was good fun. And I room with him when we go to away games. So, he's a very good friend. But the atmosphere at the club is excellent, and I've made a lot of friends just by being here for the last couple of seasons.

**M&S:** *Do you play any other sport in your spare time?*

**CC:** When I was younger I used to play everything at school, rugby, hockey and cricket. I played football on Sundays from when I was about six until I was 16 or 17. Actually, I do miss playing these sports. I would like to play cricket more ... the last three summers I have been touring and completely missed the cricket season.

**M&S:** *Have you got a girl friend?*

**CC:** Yes. We've been together for about four and a half years now. A long time. And she'll love it that I've mentioned her in this interview. She always goes on about how I never mention her!

**M&S:** *Who would you most like to be stranded with on a desert island?*

**CC:** Blimey! Seeing as how you've just asked me about my girl friend, if I said anyone else, then she'd absolutely kill me! So I'll have to say ... Sharon Stone. No, I'm joking!



# Today's Referee & Mascot

## TODAYS REFEREE TONY SPREADBURY

Tony has been a member of the International panel of Referees since 1990 and has taken charge of 8 full Internationals. He is married with two boys aged 2 and 4. He works for the Avon Ambulance service NHS Trust as a paramedic on 12 hour shifts and is based in Bristol ambulance station. During the Summer of '95, Tony went to the USA, on a seven state tour, holding clinics and refereeing various territorial tournaments which concluded in Austin, Texas, by refereeing the National Championship Final. Tony has a simple philosophy on refereeing by having fun and enjoyment.



## TODAY'S TEAM MASCOT THOMAS BOZZARD - AGED 9

Tom lives in Hucclecote with Mum, Dee and Dad, Andy. He has 3 sisters (Harriet & Twins Alexandra & Eleanor). He is a pupil at Hillview school and his main interests are supporting from afar - Manchester United, but most of all Gloucester. Tom & Granddad (Tony Laver) follow Gloucester every week - Home & Away. Hardly surprising is Tom's interest in Rugby as his Granddad was for many seasons a prop forward with the County Police and Cinderford RFC. He is also an enthusiastic prop with the highly successful Matson's U10's and is hoping that when he changes schools it will be one of the Rugby playing senior schools in the city. He has already achieved some fame when his photo appeared on the front page of "The Citizen" whilst in Paris supporting Gloucester, much to the envy of his friends and team mates.



## GLoucester Rugby Football CLUBS CHERRY PICKERS

The aim of the Club is to provide its members with all the usual benefits of full membership, but also the opportunity of entertaining business guests in the exclusive Cherry Pickers Business Club. The Club will be available to members at all Gloucester Rugby Football Club's home matches and will offer a private bar, buffet and the chance to network with other business people.

Benefits of membership will include:

- Exclusive use of the Cherry Pickers Business Club lounge in the Centenary Suite.
- Two Company Grandstand seats for you and your guest which will be reserved for your use only.
- Opportunity to meet Gloucester Rugby Football Club players and management after the match and discover the Club news behind the scenes.
- Complimentary finger buffet and use of a private bar.
- Opportunity for your company to be Match Host for the Business Club at one match per season. As Match Host you will receive 6 extra Grandstand seats plus the option to display any literature/products and make a 10 minute presentation to other members.
- Opportunity to have your company logo on the Cherry Pickers Business Club honours display board.
- Priority booking for additional Grandstand seats.
- Priority booking for car parking, 51.07 + V.A.T. (£60) per season.
- Discount Card for the Gloucester Rugby Football Club shop.

Plus

- Cherry Pickers Business Club tie or ladies scarf.
- Mailings of the newsletter.
- Invitation to the Cherry Pickers Golf day.

Cost: £850 plus V.A.T. Subject to 1998/99 price increases

Please note: As with all categories of membership the fee does not include touring sides and quarter/semi-finals.

Entertain your guests away from the  
crowds

### Application For Membership

Full Name

Company

Position in Company

Company Address

Postcode

Tel No

Fax

YES - I wish to apply for membership of

the Cherry Pickers Business Club and enclose a cheque for £850 + VAT (£998.75).

YES - I wish to apply for car parking season ticket £51.07 + VAT (£60).

Total Cherry Pickers Business Club and car parking season ticket (£1,058.75)

Total

or please debit my Credit Card

Card No

Expiry date

Signature

Date



Saturday 2nd May 1998 Kick-off 3.00pm

**GLOUCESTER** 31  
Cherry & White

**SALE** 19  
Blue & White

15	CHRIS CATLING	Full Back	JIM MALLINDER	16
14	BRIAN JOHNSON T	Right Wing	MATT MOORE	15
13	TERRY FANOLUA (I) T	Centre	JOS BAXENDALE	14
12	RICHARD TOMBS (I)	Centre	CHRIS YATES	12
11	PHILIPPE SAINT-ANDRE (I) T	Left Wing	TOM BEIM	11
10	MARK MAPLETOFT (I)	Outside Half	SHANE HOWARTH	10
9	SCOTT BENTON HCP	Scrum Half	KEVIN ELLIS	9
1	TONY WINDO	Prop	PAUL SMITH	1
2	NEIL MCCARTHY T	Hooker	STEVE DIAMOND	2
3	PHIL VICKERY	Prop	DUNCAN BELL	3
4	ROB FIDLER	Lock	DAVE BALDWIN	4
5	DAVE SIMS	Lock	SIMON RAIWLUI	5
6	STEVE OJOMOH	Flanker	DYLAN O GRADY	6
7	NATHAN CARTER	Flanker	DAVE ERSKINE	7
8	SIMON DEVEREUX	No. 8	DION O CUINNEAGAIN	8
16	AUDLEY LUMSDEN	Replacements	STEVE DAVIDSON	16
17	LAURIE BECK		RICHARD SMITH	17
18	ANDY DEACON		DANNY WILLIAMSON	18
19	CHRIS FORTEY		GRAHAM DAWE	19
20	MARK CORNWELL		PATRICK SANDERSON	20
21	ANDREW HAZELL		CHRIS MURPHY	21
22				22

Referee

TONY SPREDBURY



supported  
by



Touch Judges

CHRIS REEKS  
LAURIE BRYANT



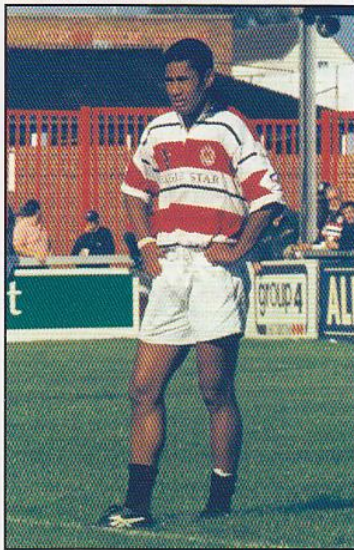
# CLUB

# NEWS

## NICE ONE TERRY !

I'm pleased to be able to announce that 'Shedhead's' Player of the Year is Terry Fanolua. For visitors, and anyone else who, for some strange reason, doesn't know it, 'Shedhead' is our remarkable fanzine, widely regarded as the best publication of its type in the country, frequently emulated, but never equalled.

All readers of the publication are given a chance to vote for their Player of the Year, and they do so in their thousands. The Award is therefore well worth the winning, because it is an accurate reflection of the views of the supporters, who, even our deadliest rivals will admit, are among the most knowledgeable in the country.



This year, 3,300 supporters cast their votes: slightly down on last season, but still a slightly mind-boggling total, all things considered.

Our trenchant and lively Western Samoan import has certainly impressed everyone this season - not least those unfortunates who have been on the receiving end of his ferocious tackle - and the Award is a well

deserved one.

As it would have been if won by any one of several other players.

Terry edged out Pete Glanville and Mark Mapletoft in the final accounting, I'm told, and I don't suppose anyone would have grumbled if either of those two had come out on top in the end.

Terry Fanolua received his Award, which takes the highly appropriate form, given the known proclivities of your average Shedhead, of an engraved tankard, after training last Thursday evening. I'm told the Citizen photographer was around at the time, so I assume the event will be recorded for posterity in today's Pink 'Un.

Well done 'Tezzer' ! And, while we're on the subject, all the best for your involvement with the Western Samoan side in August and September.

## AND WELL DONE SHARON!

Just to tell you the whole story, 'Shedhead' offers, each season, a free Ground season ticket to some lucky soul who sends in a nomination for Player of the Year.

It's drawn completely at random (So Bob Fenton insists, but you know what these Shedheads are like), from the whole heaving mass of entries received.

This season's lucky entrant is Sharon Jones from Quedgeley, and I hope she thoroughly enjoys it next season. Isn't it nice to have a lady coming up with the goods!

No male chauvinist pigs around here. There is no truth in the rumour that Shedheads don't get married. Some of them can even tell you the number of the shotgun.

Anyway, good on you, Sharon !

## WE GET LETTERS

I've had an interesting query from Graham Adams of Charfield, near Wotton-under-Edge, and I must apologise to him for being so slow in answering it. For some reason I

haven't been able to fathom, it took his letter exactly one whole calendar month to reach me.

His question relates to "the regulations regarding the fielding of non-European Community players in the Allied Dunbar Premiership, and seems a fair one to me.

He understands, correctly, that the maximum limit is two per team, so that if Gloucester field Richard Tombs and Terry Fanolua, then they can't play Andrew Gibbs.

Then come the punchline: He wants to know how Saracens could "include in their team Ryan Constable and Michael Lynagh (Australia), Gavin Johnson and Francois Pienaar (South Africa) Roberto Grau (Argentina) with Brendan Reidy (New Zealand) as a replacement."

Well, Mr.Adams, it appears that the answer is contractual. If players had contracts with their clubs before the date when the regulation was applied, then they can continue to play until those contracts run out. I understand that it's a matter of employment law, and that you can't make such restrictive practices (which they are, however well intentioned) retrospective.

You may remember that the cricketers had similar problems. For several seasons after the one-per-County rule came in, quite a lot of counties played more than one overseas player while contracts worked their way through. Which then poses the question: how are Saracens going to get along when all those contracts do run out, which I imagine, must be around the same time. There may be some lucrative offers floating around about then.

One more thing. There appears to be a residential qualification of some sort, too. I read somewhere that Sale's former New Zealand outside-half, Simon Mannix, qualifies for England in 1999. In time for the World Cup? Now there's a thought.



# CLUB

# NEWS



## May 13: Royal Air Force vs Army WE'RE SORRY BRIAN, BUT...

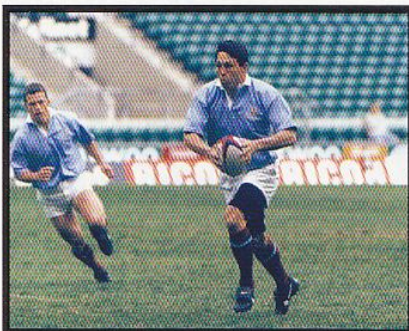
Two of the club's officers will have to decide who to cheer for when the Royal Air Force takes on the Army at Kingsholm on Wednesday May 13 in the final "inter-services" game of the season. Will it be for their "service" or for the team that boasts a Gloucester player?

Director Doug Wadley and press officer Andrew Harley were both "Brylcream Boys" back in the days when most RAF aircraft still had propellers. Doug, as we all know, has been a servant of this fine club for more years than any of us care to remember he was secretary and treasurer before becoming a director when things turned professional. So, as the RAF is the home team and they are hiring the ground and that means income, we reckon the Doug will be cheering on the RAF. Turning to Andrew who has been cajoling the national press to write nice things about Gloucester for the past seven or eight years. We reckon that the "story" of the match, no matter what the result, is that the country's favourite rugby-playing jet pilot, Rory Underwood, will be setting a new "services" record with his 29th cap for the RAF (no mean feat when you consider that a maximum two caps can be earned a season!). Our guess is that Andrew will also be rooting for the RAF. Former "squaddies" will be able to cheer on an Army team with Tim Rodber and Gloucester's winger Brian Johnson among its ranks. We are told that the RAF is hoping to "adopt" Kingsholm as their home ground, as Twickenham with 5,000 spectators or even 10,000 looks empty!

Oh yes, the Wingco, or was it the Groupie, did mutter something about the Kingsholm "tradition" and the atmosphere in the ground! So, book the date ... the evening of Wednesday May 13 at Kingsholm: Royal Air Force vs the Army.

It appears that the RAF is so worried about possible tampering of the match ball by the opponents that they will be flying it in by Hercules aircraft, the RAF Falcons parachute display team charged with the custody of said ball from 3,000 feet above the ground to the sacred turf of Kingsholm.

Tickets for the match are on sale at the club office and cost just £8 (grandstand) and £4 (ground). If you've got nothing to do that afternoon, why not come along and watch the inter-service "veterans" game? Who knows, Doug and Andrew might be turning out for the RAF if there are any cry-offs!



### ST JOHNS AMBULANCE

Many thanks again to the generous supporters at Kingsholm for raising £1,195.18 for St Johns Ambulance at the Gloucester Vs Saracens match, on 15th March, 1998.

### MIKE METTERS CANCER RESEARCH APPEAL

A big thank you to everyone for their support of the Mike Metters Appeal at the Gloucester V Bath game, £1187.32 was raised

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT KINGSHOLM

#### MAY

Sunday 10th

#### NEW IMAGE RUGBY

All Day Event

Spectators Welcome

Monday 11th

#### Junior Cup Final

Kick Off 7.00pm

Adults £2 Children £1

Wednesday 13th

#### RAF v Army

Kick Off 2.15pm & 7.00pm

Adult £8 Children £4

Saturday 16th

#### Senior Cup Final

Kick Off 7.00pm

Adult £4 Children £2

### Cherry & White 1st Annual Golf Challenge

Tuesday 22nd September 1998

at Puckrup Hall Hotel and Golf Club, Tewkesbury



For More Information  
Call Barry Preece  
of Gullivers Chilcott  
Marketing Consultants  
Tel 01654 273400

Gloucester v Sale, 2nd May 1998

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supported by



# WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT SO FAR?

By Peter Arnold

There was a time when the final match of the season was a happy, end-of-term affair, usually against fairly minor opposition with something of a carnival atmosphere about the whole proceedings. There was always an element of melancholy about it, intensified by the post-match valedictory quaffing of ale, until everyone stumbled off into the night, swearing undying friendship, and vowing to be back in September.

I say 'everyone', but I still harbour suspicions that there were those who decided to stay right where they were, and simply had dust sheets thrown over them until the trainers turned up at around the end of the following July.

Times do change more than somewhat. This time last year we were still breathing a collective sigh of relief at having avoided the dreaded play-off zone - just. Bristol, of course, hadn't, even though we did do our best for them by awarding them one point by tying with them at Kingsholm.

End of season isn't what it was. Nowadays, as the poet said, "Life is real, life is earnest" and although the grave may not be the goal, Premiership points assuredly are. The campaign goes right down to the wire, and there's simply no room for the sentiment we used to express at around this time of the year.

Starting in August, this has been the longest season most of us can remember. Yet, somehow or other, it all seems to have started only the other week. I suppose that's a mark of the fascination the campaign has held for us.

Remember August 23rd? We all showed up, full of hope and anticipation, but not really knowing what to expect. The team looked good on paper, but that isn't usually where the game is played.

How would a three-quarter line consisting of two Frenchmen, one Australian and a Western Samoan cope at Kingsholm? How would the traditional 'Glawster' front eight adapt to being expected to co-operate with such a multi-coloured swap shop of a back division?

We needn't have worried. The side put 35 points on the Old Enemy from Bristol, Philippe St. Andre announced his arrival by leaving scorch marks on the turf, scoring two searing tries in five minutes, and Terry Fanolua did likewise by knocking over everything in sight and then bouncing up looking for a second helping.

Since then everything at Kingsholm has gone pretty much according to plan. We've only lost two home Premiership games to date, both of those by the narrowest of margins, and both of which we could and should have won.

Wish we could say the same about the away games. Our truly awful form on other people's turf is quite inexplicable. A whole handful of those games were in the bag when, for some weird esoteric reason, the boys froze and let the opposition in. Sometimes very badly.

Far better rugby brains than mine have attempted to solve the mystery, without, as far as I can see, much success.

Sure - you don't get the phenomenal support when performing in the vast, impersonal tundra of a London soccer ground, but that can't be the whole, or even the main reason.

Sometimes, levels of stamina have been questioned, but again, that can't explain everything.

Something appears to be going on somewhere between the players' ears - what Terry Pratchett would call 'Headology' - and I wish I knew what it was.

One thing's for sure. The problem is going to have to be solved if the side is to achieve the potential it undoubtedly has. And I can't think of a bloke more likely to solve it than Richard Hill. I'm inclined to agree with him. One day it's all going to come right, and some luckless home team won't know what hit them.

The sooner that day arrives, the better for all our incipient coronaries.

All that apart, we've had a fascinating season, and I'm not going to single out any particular player, because they have all contributed, at one time or another, to the enjoyment we have revelled in all season. Pity it all has to end, for a while.

There used to be a saying in educational circles that there are three things in life you shouldn't run after: a bus, a girl, or a new educational theory. Because there will be another one along in a minute.

It's like that with rugby seasons these days. See you in August.

