GLOUCESTER V NEWCASTLE FALCONS

Saturday 11 September 1999 Kick-off 3.00pm

Coach's Viewpoint
Philippe gives us an insight into today's match...

On the Grid
A look at the Allied Dunbar Premiership Division One....

Team Poster
Gloucester RFC Squad Season 1999/2000...

Gloucester
Issue 1 - £2.00
Gloucester Rugby Club Official Programme 1999-2000 Season
This is indeed a very big day, not only on a personal level but also for the club as well. Firstly, it is the start of a brand new season - a season that takes us into a new century.

Then, we welcome a new club sponsor, Unipart International and their managing director Paul Forman who just happens to live in Gloucestershire and is a dedicated follower of rugby! We would like to offer our sincere thanks to Paul and Unipart for their support of the club.

We also welcome, of course, along with all the corporate hospitality box holders and "Cherry Pickers", you, the Gloucester fans.

And talking about the fans, I would like to take this opportunity to apologise to every season ticket holder. Firstly, there was a delay in announcing details of season tickets simply because the fixtures were late due to the decisions over the number of teams in the Allied Dunbar Premiership Division One. This, unfortunately, was out of our control.

Then, we compounded the situation by letting some of you down - the processing of your applications left a lot to be desired. There are no excuses, we simply let you down... and we are sorry. I will ensure that this never happens again.

Looking back at past matches between Gloucester and the Falcons, they have all been big-scoring matches - more than 50 points in each of the four matches played since Newcastle adopted their current nickname. Everyone here at the club - both on and off the field - has a warm, fuzzy feeling about this one!

We know that this will be a watershed season for Gloucester Rugby Football Club.

On a personal level, I am hungry for a win today. Could it be that the reason is that before I came to Kingsholm in the summer, I was with the Falcons? So a massive game this afternoon in every sense of the word.

As they say, the talking finishes here and now it is time for action!
Gloucester RFC
1999/2000


Middle row (L to R): Peter Finch (Fitness coach), Ed Archer (Fitness coach), Tom Beim, Chris Cutting, Richard Ward, Rob Fidler, Mark Connolly, Phil Vickery, Mike Horgan, Simon Markey, Philpe Southworth (Head coach), John Fisher (Team administrator, manager).

Front row (L to R): Steve Kynoch, Ewan Moncrieff, Lennie Bobb, Andrew Hallett, Chris Farmer, Yingjiao Jones (Captain), Trevor Woodman, Andy Deacon, Adey Packes, Jon Bevoor, Chris Yates.
We had four good wins in
the friendlies starting with
Begles-Bordeaux who are a very
good team. All the players are fitter
than before and it is good to have
players like Pete Glanville back
from injury. It is good for the
players' confidence to win
these matches.

It is very important for the team
to make a good start to the season and I
want at least five wins out of the
seven games played during the
World Cup. We must be in the top
four after the World Cup. It might
only be 2 points for a win but when
you are top of the table it is easier to
keep going. It's the same when you
eat dinner!

Although we will be
missing five players
during the World
Cup we will
have a good
start for the
start of the
season. Some
guys will be
disappointed.
People think
that because
I am French I
don't want to
see the team
play Barbarian
style rugby, but
I firmly believe
that good defence,
discipline
and territorial control
are the most important
parts of the game.

This is my culture. If you
have these three then after
that you can play good rugby.
We must have good discipline
and we must get into the habit of
playing the game in the opponents'
half and not our own. I do want
to see Barbarians' rugby but first I want
to win.

The first thing is to win. After that
you can play more complicated
rugby and I want to see just one team
and not 15 selfish players. I'm not
used to losing!

The match here at the end of last
season with Manchester Stile was
terrible and after this 3 or 4 players
had to leave the club because I
cannot accept such mistakes. The
team must learn to work hard with
a good spirit and a strong heart
and you need pride and you
need solidarity.

We have worked very hard on the
organisation in defence because
this is important. We must have a
compact defence and we must cover
our lines well. We need the guys to
focus on this and we need them to be
very fit. The team is fitter than last
year and I do have competition in
every position in the squad.

The team spirit is very good and it
is my job and the players' job to play
good. If we win our matches then I
hope to see more people at
Kingsholm so that the ground
becomes very, very full.

Philippe Saint-André was talking
to Steve Hankey.
Gloucester Newsround
by Peter Arnold

TERRY CLOSE

It’s sad to have to pen an obituary in the first programme of the season—
even more so when it concerns the death of an old friend. Many old
Kingsholm hands will remember Terry Close as a long-serving member
of the old Social Club Committee, which ran the facilities of the
Clubhouse for many years. For a good few of those years Terry acted as
Treasurer, which seems fairly appropriate for a man who spent his
working life teaching the intricacies of mathematics to scholars of the
Cry School. It was a considerable shock to learn that he had died
suddenly at the unreasonably early age of 54. Terry was always very
much his own man, and had some trouble in suffering fools gladly.
Matters transpired he may have been, but most harps from the Crypt will recall him
best as an ardent and demanding rugby and cricket coach, a role he
undertook with great relish.

His attitude to discipline was, shall we say, pragmatic. Any lad who
failed to produce his maths homework was quite as likely to find himself
picking up wet leaves from the rugby pitches as he was sitting in the
traditional detention. I well remember sitting on a coach returning from
an away fixture (Coventry in the Cup, I think), with Terry Close acting as
the Committee Man in charge. One of his students, there with his father
and grandfather, had paraded rather too many marbles for his
bladder’s comfort, and was whining somewhat as a consequence.
Eventually, he plucked up enough courage to ask Mr. Close to stop the
coach so that he could relieve the situation. Terry smiled sympathetically,
and then worked, "for a bit at least," and made the lad suffer for a few
minutes longer until the coach pulled into a prearranged bistro for
refreshment.

"Well," said Terry, "that’s one mistake he won’t make again!" Terry
Close was also a very useful cricketer. I played with and against him on
several occasions, and found him could hit the ball hard and was quite
a quick and nasty bowler. But he was always great company before, during
and after the game. Terry Close will certainly be missed. Many of us are
glad to have known him, and send our sincere condolences to his
family and friends.

WELL DONE GCCC !

Terry Close would have been the first person to remind us to
congratulate our friends at Gloucestershire County Cricket
Club on winning the two most important one-day trophies of the
season. Now we hear that ‘Boo Boo’
has skipped Mark Allckeys – is it to
lead the England A tour to New
Zealand and Bangladesh?

Great stuff! It would be nice if
we could emulate their success
when the various rugby trophies
start to roll around.

BIT OF A HOOT !

What a great pre-season story !

In case you missed it, young David Hartley, who acts as the
unofficial ball boy for club training
sessions, came up with an ingenious
solution to the perennial problems created by seagulls and pigeons
nesting and defecating all over the
Kingsholm ground. He suggested
acquiring some plastic owls, and
sitting them in strategic spots to
keep the feathered nuisances away.

"Fine," said the Club. "Where do we get them from?" Thereupon
young David went on the prowl and
found out that life-sized models
were available from Attaincorp in
Evesgate Street. A couple was
purchased, duly positioned, and to
date, the rue seems to be working.

Apparently, there is a hunt on to
suggest names for the plastic
hooters. My own suggestion would
be "Teauny" and "Giddy" in
recognition of two of the most
prevalent rugby players I
ever saw. However, we could take
the thinking a little further. If plastic
owls frighten off seagulls and
pigeons, could we not think of
similar replica to scare away
other pests?!

I’ll gladly buy a pint for the
Gloucester fan who suggests the best
tartaric models for repelling
Bath supporters.

Contact me on 01452 337280,
write to me at 74 Victoria
Street, Gloucester GL1
4EW, or send me an E-mail
at PeteArnold@aoi.com.

In fact, I’d be glad to hear from
you with any thoughts on this
hokey horse on any subject you
may feel to be appropriate for these
pages. Can’t promise to include
everything, of course, but I’ll
certainly consider anything I get.

Gloucester Rugby Chronicles, considered widely to be the
best fan-oriented website in the
Premiership, is now official. Good
thing too! I’m told that the
independence of the site won’t be
compromised in any way at all by the
move, and that more and more
up-to-date information will now be
available, on a daily basis, from that
source.

www.kingsholmchronicles.org.uk
It's an old writers' saying: 'the most frightening thing in the world is a blank sheet of paper'. I know the feeling. It just sits there, sneering at you, daring you to try and fill it up with something worth remembering.

The first game of the Premiership season is like that. We all have high expectations, anxious to see a much-changed side which looks good on the face of it, but also aware that all the opposition has new faces too, and that they expect just as much from their players as we do.

This time around, that aspect of today's game has been diluted by the imminence of the World Cup, which will deprive both sides of some of their more formidable performers. Nevertheless, you can have all the coaching, all the fitness training, all the scheming and all the pre-season 'brush-ups' you like, but no one really knows what it all adds up to until the thirty blokes are out there doing the business on the field. Dress rehearsals are one thing, opening nights quite another.

In fact, there is a sense of deja vu about today's foray. It was very early in the season last year that our respected and welcome guests from Newcastle last favoured us with a visit, after a highly controversial game the season before. In the event, we saw what was to be one of Gloucester's best performances of the campaign, with a fine victory in a genuinely high-quality match. Pity about the rest of the season, but all that is history now.

It's also a shame that we shall not be able to see Gloucester's vastly changed side trying against the likes of Jonny Wilkinson, Doddie Weir, Gary Armstrong and the rest of the Newcastle World Cup aspirants. However, they are sure to be a considerable challenge in any event, oozing talent and busting the proverbial to start off their Premiership campaign with a win at Kingsholm. There should be plenty to admire, and possibly quite an element of tension and first-game nerves.

Ever since the great Rob Andrew, who could still do a good job for England at No.10 in my humble opinion, launched the Newcastle revolution, there has been something a bit special about the Northerners' visits to Kingsholm. They're certainly worthy successors to the formidable Gosforth sides of the past.

It is therefore very good to welcome them to Kingsholm at this formative point in the season, and I have no doubt that the pundits will be drawing all sorts of conclusions for the future from today's result.

Meanwhile, we will just sit back and enjoy it. Good to see you Falcons. Hope you have a thoroughly enjoyable visit.
Captain's Comment
Kingsley Jones

"It has been a good pre-season – a positive build-up with some good wins which I am sure has helped our confidence."

While it is nice to win pre-season games, there are no Allied Dunbar Premiership points for pre-season!

We have to go into the league season very positively. It all starts today! I am still a relative "new boy" at Kingsholm, but I cannot emphasise too much the lift that any player playing for Gloucester gets from an on-song Shed!

The support we have had in pre-season has been fantastic, and all of us would like to thank you for that! I must, however, say a special thank you to those of you who packed the "Cherry and White" jerseys and set off for France to join us in Biscarrosse.

And talking about support, I have to also thank all my teammates - especially the new players who have fitted into the "Kingsholm way" very well.

There are a lot of Gloucester boys who have left us during the summer. I know this has been difficult for many of you - obviously its good to see local boys playing for Gloucester. But everyone has been very supportive of the way that Philippe has gone about everything.

There are still Gloucester players here at Kingsholm - and the way that these local boys have welcomed the new players has been exceptional. They have gone out of their way to make the new signing feel at home. With the spirit we have here, once we get as a team and we get used to the way we play, we will be a winning team. We have to get into the winning habit!

And I would like to ask everyone to be patient. Up to the end of the World Cup, we have seven games that are very important to us. I would like to think that we could win most of those seven games - if not all of them!

As you must all know by now, we have a target - a top five finish in the Allied Dunbar Premiership so that we play in the European Cup next season. I think that it is a realistic target - maybe we could do better, but I feel that it is wrong to set targets too high and too early!

The support of Tom Walkinshaw and all the people behind the scenes, along with Philippe, John Fidler, Audley Lammin and John Brain, has been tremendous, both to me and to all the players.

And I would like to single out John Brain. He is often the unsung hero of the coaching staff. He is a very good coach to work with and he has the knack of being able to put his point across very well. He drills us forwards, with passion and he will see to it that as the season goes on, we will progress as a team and build a confidence from playing together that will turn us into a winning team.

Oh yes! Another target that we all have is to dispel this myth that we cannot win away from home as soon as possible.

So we hope to see as many of you as possible at London Wasps in two weeks time and at Bath on October 9.

Kingsley Jones was talking to Andrew Harley

John Brain - Unsung Hero

Gloucester RFC Hotline - 09068 333040
Valid from 20th September 1999 - *Calls cost 60p per minute at all times
To play in a World Cup must be the absolute pinnacle of every player's ambitions, and it is nice to be able to congratulate a whole quintet of Gloucester squad members on achieving that distinction. The downside is the dent made in team selection over the period of the competition, but we must not let the manger about it. Let us just send our heartiest best wishes to all of them.

Phil Vickery

looked a racing certainty as soon as he was able to put his injury worries behind him and prove that he had done so. Personally, I thought that his performances against the USA Eagles and Canada were mind-boggling. He put his opposite numbers under apocalyptic pressure in the tight, made yards of ground with the ball in hand while, in true Kingholm fashion, always making the ball available and tackled like an avalanche. His presence was certainly missed when he was replaced, even bearing in mind the quality of the players called upon to fill his capacious boots.

Neil McCarthy's
case was far less certain, and probably depended on the play-off-decision to select three hookers. Phil Groening's emergence as a very real alternative to Richard Cockerill as the first-choice hooker, rather than the perennial bridesmaid certainly did Neil's chances a considerable nasy. Whether the new 'Groening Mark II' - faster, leaner and fitter than ever before having suffered under the tender loving care of John Mitchell at both club and national level, can really perform against the sternest defences in store remains to be seen. Nevertheless, if called upon, Neil won't let England down.

Terry Fanolua

was probably always a certainty for Samoa - again, once he had proved his recovery from the nasty knock he took against Wasps last season. He will also do his country proud, and looks as daunting as any in the competition. Our other two World Cup representatives have not played for Gloucester yet, but they're ours nevertheless, and we are looking forward to seeing both of them in cherry and white in a few weeks time. Not that

Junior Paramore

is any stranger. 'Tozer's' cousin has performed against us for Bedford quite painfully in recent seasons, notably in the Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup, and we would much rather have him playing for us than against us. Again, there was an injury problem, but with that resolved, he was probably an automatic choice for Samoa.

Ian Jones

is an interesting case. His vast experience at lock for New Zealand did not, apparently, guarantee him a spot in the All Blacks squad. In the end he made it. Ian's arrival at Kingholm might just prove to be the shrewdest close-season signing of all. Remember the job that 'Black' Sheldrake did for Northampton for a couple of seasons? The situation is certainly similar, and if Mr. Jones can supply the same sort of nous, physical presence and sheer low-down cunning to the Gloucester pack, then we'll all be well pleased.

Terry Fanolua races away to score against Wasps in January 1996

(photo by SudeSoccer)
The "Old Boys" (the ‘Gloucester’ bit is superfluous in these parts) has, of all the old boys’ clubs within the city boundary, perhaps the closest ties with Gloucester RFC. It was George Romans who, when captain of Gloucester, suggested another ‘old boys’ club might be a good idea. The Citizen of March 12, 1904 carried the following announcement in the ‘Football Notes’ (in those days soccer was reported in ‘Association Notes’):

“A meeting of the Old Boys of Sir Thomas Rich’s, Croydon Grammar and College Schools will be held at Northgate Mansions on Tuesday evening, 15th March, to consider the question of forming a Rugby Club for next season. Mr. George Romans hopes to see a good attendence.” It should be remembered that the three schools mentioned were “Associate” schools! In 95 years, there have been more than sixty Old Boys players who have put on the Cherry and White shirt – including John Allbar, Dai Jenkins, John Gidd, Andrew Hazzell, Bill Hook, Roy Long, George Romans, Eric Stephens, Alan Townsend, Vic Welley and George Vear. The club’s most celebrated field match was the 1928 win over Glamorgan and Exiles vs Gloucester Old Boys RFC. Played on neutral ground in Cardiff in front of a Vat Tribunal, Old Boys fielded just two players - chairman Bill Boucher and treasurer Alan Leach - against the entire of the Vat office, who insisted that the club had “underdeclared” their VAT. The club won the match and the two club officials even got £5 travelling expenses awarded by the members of the tribunal.

That is all in the past. What about today? Andrew Harley paid a visit to the clubhouse last weekend...

When the "league structure" was introduced for English rugby some 12 years ago, there were more that a few raised eyebrows locally when Gloucester Old Boys were placed in Gloucestershire Division Four - the lowest division possible for a Gloucestershire club.

The first league fixture for the Old Boys turned out to be a disaster - beaten by Old Bristolians, thanks to 15 points from a certain Simon Hogg who stopped-off at the Bristolians on his way from the Memorial Ground to Clifton's Cribbs Causeway ground. But that shock defeat was shrugged off and soon forgotten as Gloucester Old Boys climbed from the very bottom of the league pyramid to the top of the Divisional structure by gaining promotion every season - a feat that no other club has done in English rugby.

If it were not for losing out on promotion to the Jewson League by virtue of points difference - Henley got the promotion from South West One - who knows where Gloucester Old Boys would be now. Perhaps even in Allied Dunbar Premiership Two in place of Henley? But Old Boys chairman Gordon Brown is not despondent, even after a somewhat disastrous season (by Old Boys standards) last term. "We were at a very low ebb last season," he admitted over a pint in the clubhouse last Saturday. "While we were never struggling, in the middle of the season we suddenly realised that we had a job on our hands." There are no hopes that the "millennium" season will end with promotion to the "national" tier - the Jewson League. "Players were looking for a big name coach," Brown explained. "And we appointed Bobby Fowke - he fitted the bill.

"He has the total respect of the players - and he wanted to come here," Brown explained. As it turned out, last Saturday evening was not a good time to visit the Old Boys clubhouse. The club had just opened their season - and it was a 44-10 defeat by Cinderford at Doleham Road. Everyone, including captain Adam Lott, was naturally feeling a bit down.

"So" this way from Kingsholm said to Lott: "I've just been told by your chairman that when you played your first ever league game you were beaten, but then went on to get promotion at the end of the season!"
The defeat at Cinderford was put to one side."

We are proud of the fact that two of our former players are now professionals in the Premiership," he said. The name Andrew Hazell — signed to a full time contract at Kingsholm by Philippe Saint-André in the spring — springs readily to mind. But the second one? "Paul Knight — he's at Sale," Lott said. Then there is Andy Robinson who is here at Kingsholm in the United set-up. Does Gloucester Old Boys have a "player to watch"? Someone who one day might just wear a Gloucester jersey and run out onto Kingsholm one Saturday afternoon?

Lott said that he could name quite a few youngsters who have both potential and ambitions. "But I think, if I could only name one, it would have to be George Barker," he said.

Barker came through the junior sides at Spartans between the ages of 11 and 15 as a full back. Now, at the age of 17 he is a second team player at Old Boys after being at the club for two years.

But the Old Boys have seen his potential as a fly half and have switched him to number 10. I am really enjoying my rugby here," he said. "I found the transition relatively easy and I am learning a lot. How about ambitions?" Yes, I have ambitions to one day be a professional player — and of course to play for Gloucester. But that is a few years off yet. "Maybe in a year I can look at the possibility of Gloucester Colts."

"As an 11 year old, I had the aim of turning out for Gloucester," he said.
October 17, 1998
Gloucester 41, Newcastle 32
Allied Dunbar Premiership

Gloucester avenge defeat

Gloucester took the honours in a ninety-minute thriller against last season's champions Newcastle. A hat-trick for Catling, they scored 16 points from Simon Mannix, starting his first game at Kingsholm wearing the number 10 jersey. Five tries for Gloucester capped a sparkling game which continued strongly with the error-strewn home defeat by Wasps a fortnight ago.

The game was notable for two runs of unanswered points, one for each team. The first went to Newcastle who scored 17 points in the first quarter of the second half, but the most important was the 13 points scored by the Cherry and Whites to take the game by the scruff of the neck in the second half. Former England fly-half Ken Andrew went 63 yards straight into touch to give Gloucester an immediate advantage. The resulting scrum produced a stunning move by the backs which almost led to a try, but it indicated that Gloucester's game plan was to move the ball wide and at speed. The Cherry and Whites dominated the opening exchanges and when Barry Cunliffe split the defence with one of his trademark runs, Philippe Saint-André was on hand to finish the move in the corner. Mannix kicked accurately with the conversion attempt.

Wanderkind Jonny Wilkinson and Mannix exchanged penalties before Gloucester allowed a try, by which Wilkinson failed to convert. Halfway through the half Catling brought the game back together with a try, but a penalty by the Cherry and Whites put the ball out wide for Saint-André to flip the ball out to Catling who dived in for his first try in the corner to tilt the advantage in his favour. Munster's third try which saw Gloucester home with just minutes left on the clock.

Full-time:
Gloucester 41, Newcastle 32

Ripley's Believe it or not section: Richmond Steelhead was excellent. He allowed the game to flow, which was key to Gloucester's advantage, and remained mostly anonymous throughout the game. If only he had been at Kingsholm two weeks ago!

The whole team executed Richard Hill's game plan to perfection.

They only went to sleep for 15 minutes instead of the usual 40! Scrum-half Ian Sanders played his part well and moved the ball out quickly and accurately enough to give Mannix the time to fully assess his options. Mannix took the opportunities well and gave the ball plenty of play, only kicking when it was the last option. Hill will have a hard time dropping him! The back row were superb. Nathan Carter had a typically robust game, getting to the breakdown quickly, disrupting Newcastle's attempts to spread the ball, and even popping up at times as an extra back. O'Sullivan was a rock in defence and made many storming runs from the base of the scrum.

But Chronicle Man of the Match Ed Pearce was a revelation. He was everywhere and used his wide hands to good effect when in possession. As long as the young back row can stay injury free, an England outing looks on the cards.

Gloucester
Newcastle
First Half: 16 7
Second Half: 25 25
Final: 41 32
**Gloucester:**

**Replacements not used:**

**Scorers:**
Tries: Calling (3), Saint-Andre, Lumsden. Conversions: Mannix (2).
Penalties: Mannix (4)
Kicking Percentage: Mannix. 2 conversions from 3 attempts - 66 per cent, 4 penalties from 4 attempts - 100 per cent.
Cards: nil

**Newcastle:**

**Scorers:**
Penalties: Wilkinson (2)
Kicking Percentage: Wilkinson. 3 conversions from 4 attempts - 75 per cent, 2 penalties from 2 attempts - 100 per cent.
Cards: nil

**Scoring Sequence:**

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<th>Min</th>
<th>Gloucester</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Newcastle</th>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Saint-Andre</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Wilkinson (p)</td>
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<td>Mannix (p)</td>
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<td>Callin (t)</td>
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<td><strong>HALF TIME</strong></td>
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**Referee:** Steve Landers  **Attendance:** 6,915

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

Rob Jewell
### Today's Line-Ups

**Gloucester** 31  
15 Chris Catling (Full Back)  
14 Brian Johnson (Wing)  
13 Joe Twens (Centre)  
12 Chris Yates (Centre)  
11 Tom Beim (Wing)  
10 Simon Mannix (Fly Half)  
9 Elton Moncrieff (Scrum Half)  
1 Trevor Woodman (Prop)  
2 Chris Fortey (Hooker)  
3 Andy Deacon (Prop)  
4 Rob Diller (Lock)  
5 Richard Ward (Lock)  
6 Adam Eustace (Flanker)  
7 Kingsley Jones (Flanker)  
8 Steve Ojomoh (No. 8)  

**Newcastle** 16  
15 Stuart Legg  
14 Jim Naylor  
13 Martin Shaw  
12 Tom May  
11 Tony Underwood  
10 Rob Andrew  
9 Allen Chilton  
1 Ian Peel  
2 Richard Horton  
3 Marius Hurter  
4 Craig Hamilton  
5 Hugh Vyvyan  
6 Stephen O'Neill  
7 Richard Arnold  
8 Ross Beattie

### Replacements

16 Serge Simon  
17 Jawad Djoudi  
18 Adey Powles  
19 Andrew Hazell  
20 Pete Glanville  
21 Ian Sanders  
22 Richard Tombs

Peter Massey  
Jamie Noon  
Hall Charlton  
Mickey Ward  
Billy Balshen  
Howard Quigley  
James Cartmell

(*) Denotes International