



ENGLAND

v WALES

Saturday 2 February 2008

Twickenham

Referee: Craig Joubert (South Africa)

Touch judges: Alan Lewis (Ireland), Romain Poite (France)

TMO: Simon McDowell (Ireland)

Assessor: Douglas Kerr (Scotland)

Last match

2007 RWC final, 20.10.07, Stade de France

v South Africa Lost 6-15

15-Robinson 14-Sackey 13-Tait 12-Catt 11-Cueto 10-Wilkinson 9-Gomarsall 8-Easter 7-Moody 6-Corry 5-Kay 4-Shaw 3-Vickery © 2-Regan 1-Sheridan

Subs used: Stevens, Hipkiss, Flood, Chuter, Worsley, Dallaglio, Richards

PG: Wilkinson 2

TEAM v Wales

Gloucester No 8 Luke Narraway wins his first cap in a team that shows seven changes from the team that lost the RWC final. There are three more uncapped players on the bench with Richard Wrigglesworth, Dan Cipriani and Lesley Vainikolo poised to win their first caps.

There are recalls for Iain Balshaw, Mike Tindall and David Strettle, who all missed the RWC through injury, but no place in the 22 for Mathew Tait

Retirements from the international scene include former captains Lawrence Dallaglio, Mike Catt, Jason Robinson and Martin Corry

Injuries ruled out Nick Easter (right knee ligament sprain), Louis Deacon (left groin strain), Tom Croft (left shoulder), Joe Worsley (neck) and injured Peter Richards' cover Paul Hodgson (left knee ligament sprain)



15 **Iain Balshaw (Gloucester Rugby)**

- **14.04.79** **6-1** **14-2**
- **31st cap – 13T = 65pts**
- **Debut: 2000 v Ireland**
- 2nd test v Wales – no pts (played in 2001)
- Missed RWC2007 through injuries, and played in only 2 of England's 17 tests in 2007 v Italy in 2007 Six Nations and first SA test on 2007 summer tour.
- Had earlier been recalled for the 2006 summer tour to Australia, playing both tests at full back, after missing 2006 Six Nations. Then played first two tests in autumn 2006
- RWC2003 winner – played 3 games, scored 1T v Samoa, 2T v Uruguay and came on as sub in final.
- His first 5T were in 2001 Six Nations – equal 2nd top scorer to Greenwood. His last 8T have come in his last 12 tests
- Appeared at fullback, centre and wing for England.
- All 3 Lions tests 2001 (as sub) – missed 2005 tour through injury
- Bath debut in 1998 with 13T in first full season. 2005 Powergen Cup medal in first season at Leeds, now in second season at Gloucester.

14 **Paul Sackey (London Wasps)**

- **08.11.79** **5-11** **14-5**
- **11th cap – 5T = 25pts**
- **Debut: 2006 v NZ**
- 1st test v Wales
- Played in the last 6 games of RWC2007 with 2T v both Samoa and Tonga – now recovered from mumps
- Into the team v NZ 2006 after Mark Cueto withdrew with ankle injury, but missed 10 tests himself in 2006-07 with a knee injury, originally owed his new chance to David Strettle's injury (broken foot in training) just before RWC2007
- First test try in 2006 loss to Argentina
- England tour to USA in 2001, England A squad, and Elite squad in 2005-06
- Withdrew from 2006 Churchill Cup with toe injury
- One of 4 players to score 50T in the Premiership, was at Wasps Academy, then returned to Wasps from Bedford and London Irish in 2005
- Has business finding and selling top-of-the-range cars for clients

13 **Mike Tindall (Gloucester Rugby)**

- **18.10.78** **6-2** **16-1**
- **54th cap - 13T 2C = 69pts**
- **Debut: 2000 v Ireland**
- 7th test v Wales – 1T = 5pts (in 2006)
- Last test was v France in 2007 Six Nations – missed the last 13 tests – had broken leg
- Had played all Six Nations games in 2006, but missed 2006 summer tour and autumn series (6 tests) with calf injuries before return for 2007 Six Nations (first 4 games)
- 50th start for England, 4 tests from bench
- 3rd season at Gloucester, after a move from Bath where he was in the first XV from 1997-2005.
- RWC2003 – 6 games (inc final) and 1T v Georgia
- Vice captain to Jason Robinson in autumn 2004. Kicked 2C v Australia in 2004.
- Has had ankle, foot and shoulder injuries in the last four seasons. Had earlier suffered from a thighbone injury in 2001.

12 **Toby Flood (Newcastle Falcons)**

- **08.08.85** **6-2** **14-7**
- **13th cap – 1T 2C 5PG 1DG = 27pts**
- **Debut: 2006 v Argentina**
- 3rd test v Wales – 1C 1PG 1DG = 8pts in 2007 Six Nations loss
- On as sub in England's three RWC2007 knock-out games
- Joined Falcons Academy from Alnwick and Morpeth clubs in 2003, made Falcons first team debut in February 2005 and improved with Falcons while Jonny Wilkinson recovered from his injuries
- From the England U21 Grand Slam XV in 2006
- Also studying at Northumbria University (business management)
- 64 first team games for Falcons

11 **David Strettle (NEC Harlequins)**

- **23.07.83** **6-0** **12-4**
- **5th cap – 1T = 5pts**
- **Debut: 2007 v Ireland**
- 3rd test v Wales – no pts
- Missed RWC 2007 through injury (broke bone in foot in training for RWC), last cap in 62-5 RWC warm-up win v Wales in August 2007. His last 3 caps will have come against Wales.
- Called up for Ireland 2007 after Jason Robinson received a neck injury in training and scored try on debut.
- Played for England Saxons v Italy A and Ireland A (1T) earlier in February 2007
- First season at Quins in 2006-07, he scored 11T in 33 senior games for the club.
- Formerly with Rotherham after leaving Sheffield Hallam University, he joined Quins in summer 2006 and has also starred for England on the IRB Sevens circuit in 2005-06, scoring 5T in first half of sevens debut Papua New Guinea
- Played RL in early days in Warrington, switched to RU mini-rugby with Lymm



10 Jonny Wilkinson (Newcastle Falcons)

- **25.05.79** 5-10 13-5
- **66th cap - 6T 140C 198PG 27DG= 982pts (also 47pts for Lions)**
- **Debut: 1998 v Ireland**
- 8th test v Wales – 1T 24C 25PG 4DG = 140pts...1T in 2002
- Records beckon – he has 982pts for England and 47 for Lions for 1,029 international points. Leader is Neil Jenkins (Wales) with 1029pts for Wales and 41 for Lions for 1,090 international points
- Please also note Diego Dominguez with 983pts for Italy and 27 for Argentina for 1,010 international points – these are the three players to have passed 1,000 international points overall
- Also has RWC all-time record of 249pts
- And passed 2,000 pts for Falcons in January 2008
- Returned for 2007 Calcutta Cup after missing 30 tests (England won 12, lost 18) since previous game at RWC 2003 final, 1,169 days previously
- 27pts v Scotland 2007 in comeback test, and now passed Neil Jenkins all time Home International Championship record total of 406pts. Has an ongoing record of 429pts to date.
- Is second on all-time drop goal record with 27DG and new English record – and world record holder Hugo Porta has 28DG (26 Argentina, 2 South America)
- Test debut v Ireland aged 18y 314d - sub for Mike Catt. England won 43 of 52 games when he played 1998-2003.
- Championship record 89pts in 2001 Six Nations. Top again in 2003 with 77pts.
- Captain of England v Italy 2003. Home International record 35pts v Italy 2001

Jonny Wilkinson injuries and illnesses

2003

December Fractured facet in right shoulder

2004

October Haematoma in upper right arm

2005

January Left knee damaged medial ligaments

March Left knee damaged medial ligaments again

July Shoulder 'stinger' injury

August Appendicitis

November Hernia surgery

2006

February Groin

September Right knee torn medial ligament

November Lacerated kidney

2007

March Cramp and rib injury

9 Andy Gomarsall (NEC Harlequins)

- **24.07.74** **5-10** **13-8**
- **34th cap - 6T 2C 1DG = 37pts**
- **Debut: 1996 v Italy**
- 3rd test v Wales – no pts
- Played in the last 6 RWC2007 games, starting the final 5 games including final
- Rescued by Quins after falling out with Worcester on leaving Gloucester,
- His 33 caps have been spread over 12 years – he returned in May 2007 on the summer tour to SA after a 30 month gap
- Capped with 4 clubs - also capped at Bedford and Wasps. Member of 10 clubs since mini rugby days.
- 5 seasons with Gloucester and won 1999 and 2003 Powergen Cup medals.
- 2C in autumn 2002 test v S Africa, England record four players converted tries (plus Wilkinson, Simpson, Dawson) and DG v France in RWC2007 warm-up test

8 Luke Narryway (Gloucester Rugby)

- **07.09.83** **6-3** **17-0**
- **First cap**
- Replaces Nick Easter, who withdrew with knee ligament injury, was not in initial 32-mean training squad
- Gloucester debut in May 2003 v Leeds after being at Worcester Warriors Academy, and also went on brief loan to Birmingham-Solihull
- 18 games, 12 starts, for Gloucester in 2007-08
- From Kings, Worcester, and graduated via England U18 and in 2004 in the U21 squad
- Played at Twickenham for England at U18 level v NZ
- Father played in back row for Worcester, and coached Luke at mini-rugby, family have a butcher's shop in Worcester.

7 Lewis Moody (Leicester Tigers)

- **12.06.78** **6-3** **16-8**
- **53rd cap - 9T = 45pts**
- **Debut: 2001 v Canada**
- 6th test v Wales – 1T = 5pts (in 2006)
- All 7 games in 2003RWC win, (sub in final), and all 7 games in RWC2007 (started in final)
- After RWC2003 success, a foot injury in late 2003 ruled him out for 10 months and 8 tests.
- Appeared in 10 of England's 11 tests in 2006 – but only one in 2007 (Wales 62-5 as sub) before RWC comeback
- First England player to be dismissed at Twickenham in autumn 2005 v Samoa
- Full England squad to Southern Hemisphere in 1998, first capped on summer tour to North America in 2001. England Young Player of Year 2002.
- Tigers youth team in 1995, first team in 1996 and junior rugby at Bracknell and Oakham. Heineken Cup win in 2001 and 2002 with Leicester colleagues, and two Lions tests in New Zealand in 2005.

6 James Haskell (London Wasps)

- **02.04.85** 6-3 17-7
- **3rd cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2007 v Wales**
- 2nd test v Wales – no pts
- Previous tests v Wales 2007 in Six Nations and France in 2007RWC first warm-up match, but not in RWC2007 squad
- Formed an all-Wasps back row at Cardiff 2007 with Tom Rees and Joe Worsley
- Played for England at U18, U19 and U21 levels, won U21 Grand Slam in 2006
- Churchill Cup win 2007
- England XV v Barbarians in May 2006, and this season has played for England Sevens at Dubai and George, and for England Saxons in wins v Italy and Ireland in February 2007
- Educated at Wellington College, Wasps debut v Quins aged 18

5 Steve Borthwick (Bath Rugby)

- **12.10.79** 6-6 17-9
- **33rd cap - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 2001 v France**
- 5th test v Wales – 1T = 5pts (in 2007)
- 3 games at RWC, started v Tonga
- Recalled for 2005 autumn tests after injury to Alex Brown, he then played 10 successive tests through to Ireland 2006 loss at Twickenham and like Shaw was dropped – missed 13 tests – recalled v Wales in August 2007 (62-5) and went on to RWC
- Beneficiary of the Danny Grewcock ban – punched Thibault Privat in 2007 European Challenge Cup final, suspended until 15 September
- Not in RWC2003 squad, Simon Shaw replaced injured Grewcock.
- Frequently England A captain, joined Bath in 1998 as Bath University student from Preston Grasshoppers (10th season at Bath and over 200 games). Now has degree in Economics and Politics.
- Impressed on England's 2000 tour to SA, then capped from 2001.
- Bath captain since 2005

4 Simon Shaw (London Wasps)

- **01.01.73** 6-7 19-1
- **44th cap - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 1996 v Italy**
- 6th test v Wales – no pts
- Recovered from ankle tissue injury v Munster a fortnight before Wales match
- Started 6 of the & RWC2007 games, rested v Tonga
- Before recall for 2007 Summer Series, he was last capped by England in Ireland's win at Twickenham in 2006 – like Borthwick he had missed 13 tests
- RWC2003 – late call-up for Danny Grewcock (broken hand v Uruguay) but did not play in finals.
- Had previously just missed selection in 1995 and 1999 RWC
- 2004 and current 2007 Heineken Cup medals. 2003, 2004, and 2005 Premiership medals, and 3 Powergen Cup medals
- 2004 Premiership Player of Year.
- First team debut for Bristol v Wasps at the age of 17, then joined Wasps in 1997 and has played for England at all levels. Overcome career threatening back and ankle problems.
- 1997 Lions tourist
- Both test tries in same game v Canada in 2001

3 **Phil Vickery (London Wasps)(captain)**

- **14.03.76** **6-2** **19-0**
- **61st cap - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 1998 v Wales**
- 8th test v Wales – no pts
- 5 games at RWC – missed 2 group games (SA and Samoa) through suspension
- RWC 2003 – one of 6 Englishmen to play all 7 games and scored his first test try v Samoa during tournament. Was England captain against Uruguay.
- Had 2 previous England captaincies before getting the job from 2007 Calcutta Cup (Argentina 2002, Uruguay RWC2003). Was England's 5th captain inside 10 tests back in 2002 (Bracken, Dawson, Back, Johnson, Vickery)
- 11th England captaincy at 2007RWC final
- England tries v Samoa at RWC2003 (in 34th international) and SA in autumn 2006
- Had eye socket, arm, and a third back operation, but moved in summer 2006 from Gloucester to Wasps on 3yr contract and now fit again
- Made test debut after just 34 Gloucester club games and 81 days after England A debut.
- 11 seasons at Gloucester, ex Bude and Redruth.
- Played all 3 Lions tests in 2001

2 **Mark Regan (Bristol Rugby)**

- **28.01.72** **5-10** **15-2**
- **44th cap - 3T = 15pts**
- **Debut: 1995 v South Africa**
- 5th test v Wales – no pts
- Was the big beneficiary of the tour to SA in summer (10-58, 22-55) but faced up to the opposition, and has deserved more chances – played the last 5 internationals in a row before RWC2007 and started five of the games at RWC, including all the knock-out phase
- Oldest forward in England RWC2007 squad
- The SA 2007 tour games were his first tests since summer 2004 tour to Southern Hemisphere
- Barbarians captain v SA in November 2007
- RWC 2003 – played v Georgia (1T) and Samoa as back-up to Steve Thompson
- Has returned to Bristol since 2005 in two seasons of excellence after being away for 8 years at Bath and Leeds since 1997
- First capped in 1995 after Brain Moore retired, he played for the Lions in the third test in SA in 1997 in place of Keith Wood
- Was at Bath from 1997 to 2002, Leeds from 2002-05

1 Andrew Sheridan (Sale Sharks)

- **01.11.79** **6-5** **18-10**
- **21st cap – no pts**
- **Debut: 2004 v Canada**
- 3rd test v Wales – no pts
- Outstanding RWC, started all 7 games along with Kay
- Had played only 4 matches in England's last 16 internationals after injuries before RWC2007
- Lions in NZ in 2005, but fractured fibula before tests.
- 6th season as prop, after converting from lock at Bristol under NZ coach Peter Thorburn.
- Toured SA with England in 2000, England XV v NZ Barbarians in 2003, also played in Churchill Cup games. England squad for 2004 autumn tests, making debut in opener v Canada
- Joined Sale in June 2003 from relegated Bristol.
- Played for England also at U21 level and in the England National Academy.

Substitutes

16 Lee Mears (Bath Rugby)

- **05.03.79** **5-9** **15-10**
- **19th cap (if he plays) – no pts**
- **Debut: 2005 v Samoa**
- 3rd test v Wales – no pts
- Just one game behind Regan and Chuter at RWC2007 – sub v Tonga
- Had played in 17 of England's last 22 internationals before RWC2007, with three starts – 15 of his first 18 caps have been as sub
- Premiership record number of substitute games also
- Played in 2005 Churchill Cup win, and then elevated to full squad for 2005 autumn tests.
- Devonian, who joined Bath in 1997, from Colston's, Bristol, and formerly with hometown Torquay Athletic (as was former England lock and coach Mike Davis).
- England Schools and Sevens, he took over hooking role at Bath from former Wales captain Jonathan Humphreys.
- Also formerly an understudy to Federico Mendez (Argentina) and Mark Regan (England) at Bath

17 Matt Stevens (Bath Rugby)

- **01.10.82** **6-0** **19-3**
- **22nd cap (if he plays) – no pts**
- **Debut: 2004 v NZ**
- 3rd test v Wales – no pts
- Played all 7 games at RWC2007 – starting the last 3 group games in place of the suspended Vickery
- Returned for 2nd test v SA in summer 2007 after being called up from holiday – had missed 13 tests and been a Reality TV singer in Celebrity X-Factor
- 2005 Lion – six games on tour
- England XV v NZ Barbarians in Dec 2003 then into full squad on 2004 summer tour to Australasia.
- Joined Bath in Sept 2002 after playing for S Africa at U18 and U19 levels, and played for Western Province and SA Universities.
- Born at Durban, had British passport.

18 Ben Kay (Leicester Tigers)

- **14.12.75** **6-6** **18-2**
- **54th cap (if he plays) - 2T = 10pts**
- **Debut: 2001 v Canada**
- 6th test v Wales – no pts
- RWC2007 – started all 7 games along with Sheridan
- RWC2003 winner – 6 games, all starts, rested for Uruguay, and dropped pass near line in final v Australia.
- Started every game in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 Six Nations, but then missed all 2005-06 season internationals until recall in 2nd test of 2006 summer tour.
- Back in RWC2007 squad after 2 years of in-and-out of squad after Tigers Premiership and EDF Cup wins
- England A from 2000, was captain in 2001-02 then promoted to full honours.
- Joined Leicester in 1999 from Waterloo, where he played 69 Premiership games. Heineken Cup wins 2001 and 2002 with Leicester colleagues.
- 2005 Lions in NZ

19 Tom Rees (London Wasps)

- **11.09.84** **5-11** **15-10**
- **9th cap (if he plays) – 1T = 5pts**
- **Debut: 2007 v Scotland**
- 2nd test v Wales – no pts
- Played first 2 games of RWC 2007 with first test try v USA
- Youngest forward in England squad for RWC 2007
- RBS Man of Match v France 2007, in first test start
- Into the 22 v Scotland 2007 for Lewis Moody (shoulder injury) and then capped during game as a sub for Joe Worsley (neck injury).
- Sub in first three 2007 Six Nations games before first start v France. Had become No 1 openside at end of tournament
- He had to withdraw from 2006 autumn series through injury himself, and was with the England Saxons squad in 2007
- Educated at RGS High Wycombe, started rugby with Basingstoke, then joined Wasps Academy
- Wasps debut aged 19 v Harlequins
- Played for England at all levels from U16 to England A, and U21 captain
- His brother David was in England U16 squad with Andy Farrell's son Owen. Father played for Swansea Schools and is a Welsh-born psychiatrist.

20 Richard Wrigglesworth (Sale Sharks)

- **09.06.83** **5-9** **13-8**
- **First cap (if he plays)**
- Progression after being with England at U19, U21 and Saxons levels and RWC2007 training squad
- Peter Richards withdrew from Six Nations with bicep injury and Shaun Perry is also injured
- Joined Sharks in 2002, and attended Kirkham GS (as did Pat Sanderson, former England captain). Family have a farm.
- Sharks debut v Bourgoin in 2002 – Bryan Redpath and Sililo Martens were ahead of him at the time
- Accomplished goal kicker



21 Daniel Cipriani (London Wasps)

- **02.11.87** **6-0** **14-2**
- **First cap (if he plays)**
- Has come through at Wasps after the departure of Alex King to Clermont Auvergne
- Progression after being with England at U19, U21 and Saxons levels and RWC2007 training squad
- From Roehampton, educated at Wimbledon College prep school, Oratory (Reading) and Whitgift, played at Rosslyn Park (10-15yrs), venue for the famous schools sevens tournament, and joined Wasps Academy in summer 2006
- Useful footballer on QPR youth books, and academy. Mother drives a London black-cab.

22 Lesley Vainikolo (Gloucester Rugby)

- **04.05.79** **6-2** **17-9**
- **First cap (if he plays)**
- First season at Gloucester, previously played RL for Canberra Raiders from 1997-2002 and Bradford Bulls from 2002-07
- Scored 149 tries in 152 games for Bulls
- Born in Tonga, RL international for NZ (14 caps, 12 tries) after growing up in Auckland and playing RU, switching to RL aged 11
- Could have played RU for Tonga (birth), NZ (parents) or England (residence)
- 4th Bradford Bulls player to join Gloucester
- 10 games to date for Gloucester, 9 tries, scored 5T on debut v Leeds – but sadly lost his brother in December (heart attack) and father in January (organ failure) either side of Christmas

COACH

Brian Ashton **03.09.46**

- Succeeded Andy Robinson on 21.12.06
- Coach at Bath from 1989 and won 4 League and Cup doubles from 1991-96. Took the Ireland job 1996-98 before returning to England assistant coach in 1998.
- In 2002, he moved to the National Academy until 2005, when he returned to Bath from Jan-May 2006. Was England attack coach from May-December 2006, when he took the England post
- Former scrum half for Fylde, Orrell, Montferrand (Clermont Auvergne), Roma, Milan and Lancashire. Played for North of England and was in the 1975 full England squad