



## BATH RUGBY SUPPORTERS CLUB

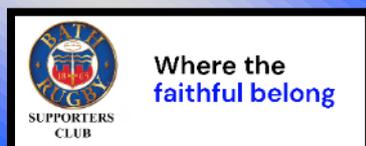
# Special Edition

I am delighted to be able to send you a short 'interim' newsletter to introduce our new ambassadors.

We are very fortunate that Chris Lilley and Richard Hill have agreed to become patrons of Bath Rugby Supporters Club. They bring with them experience, contacts, a willingness to 'spread the word' and will benefit BRSC in many ways.

After the 'introductions' please take a look at our next event which will take place before the game against Saracens on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March We hope this will be as or even more popular than the one we held before the Edinburgh game.

Janeen





## Chris Lilley

A year since he was appointed the first Patron of Bath Rugby Supporters Club, Chris Lilley has more than proved his value in helping us to connect with our members, especially among the grass roots.

Most recently, he was instrumental in the choice of former England scrum-half Richard Hill as a second Patron.

Chris's connection to Bath Rugby stretches even further back than his ex-teammate's arrival at the Rec. It is more than more than 45 years since his own first team debut at prop, a 28-6 victory away to St Mary's Hospital on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1979.

He eventually made more than 100 appearances on both sides of the scrum over nine seasons and also captained the United but his finest moment was undoubtedly in the 1984 John Player Cup semi-final at Nottingham.

Captured for posterity on YouTube, it shows Chris taking a pass from his scrum-half and delivering a deft little chip for David Trick to run on to for the clinching score. That also secured his place in the victorious matchday squad against Bristol at Twickenham.

Born and raised in the village of Colerne where his involvement in the game began as a youngster, Chris is a champion of community rugby and the pathways that yield stars of the future.

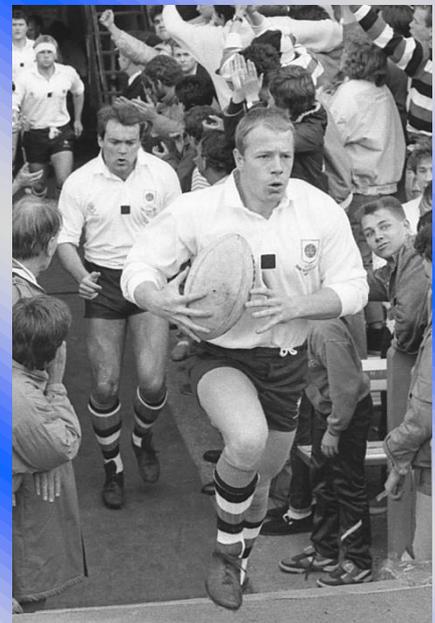
With unrivalled connections throughout the game, his infectious enthusiasm these days is channelled into talent-spotting skills on behalf of the Bath Rugby Academy where his son, Mark, is Lead Academy Coach.



### 1986 (the Glory Days)

**Back row:** Roger Quittenton (official), Dr Tom Hudson, Laurie Prideaux (official), Chris Stanley, Jack Rowell, Graham Dawe, **Chris Lilley**, Roger Spurrell, Nigel Redman, David Egerton, John Morrison, John Hall, Chris Martin, Richard Lee, Paul Simpson, Gareth Chilcott, Brian Jenkins, Dave Robson, Mike Bees, Fred Howard (referee), David Jenkins

**Front Row:** Peter Pothecary, Barry Trevaskis, Gregg Bess, Tony Swift, Simon Halliday, John Palmer, David Trick, Stuart Barnes, **Richard Hill**, Phil Cue, Gareth George (physio)





## Richard Hill

Rec legend Richard Hill becomes a Patron of Bath Rugby Supporters Club. Former Bath scrum-half and captain Richard Hill, who collected eight cup winners' medals and played a major role in securing five league titles, has accepted our invitation to become a Patron of Bath Rugby Supporters' Club.

Richard, who won 29 England caps and also captained his country, made his debut for Bath in April 1983 a month after impressing for Exeter University in a 6-6 draw at the Rec.

When he retired in 1994, he had made 248 appearances in the Blue, Black and White, always first choice in the No 9 shirt in the games that mattered. If not the biggest on the field, he was a combative, consistently excellent scrum-half with a world-class service.

Initially paired with England fly-half John Horton, Richard is best remembered for his hugely successful partnership with Stuart Barnes. In an England shirt he teamed up with Rob Andrew before retiring from international rugby after the 1991 World Cup final.

On hanging up his boots for good he applied his astute understanding of the game to coaching, cutting his teeth with Gloucester, Harlequins, Ebbw Vale and Newport. He then became head coach at Bristol guiding them back into the Premiership, and did the same for Worcester during a three-year spell.

The experience of a foray into French rugby with Chalon-sur-Soane between those latter appointments prompted Richard to head back across the Channel when his three-year tenure at Sixways ended in 2013.

Over eight seasons at Rouen Richard oversaw four promotions as they became the first team from Normandy to reach Pro D2. He took on a similar project at Périgueux in the Dordogne and his last appointment before moving back to Bath last year was at Floriac in Bordeaux.

Mike Elliott, chairman of BRSC, said: "We're delighted that Richard has become a Patron of our club, joining his former teammate Chris Lilley in an important ambassadorial role. Older members will remember him as a true legend of Bath rugby and the whole club will benefit from his rugby knowledge and connections, especially at the events we organise in support of the Bath Rugby Foundation."



## Entertaining @ Rengen

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March from 5pm

BRSC hosted a member exclusive — pre-match drinks at Rengen House. Our members were able to have a drink in comfortable warm surroundings at one of BRSC discount partners! It was very well received with 73 people taking up the offer – so much so that we are leaving our beloved gazebo again on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

Come and meet up with the committee, other members **and** our two ambassadors, **Richard Hill** and **Chris Lilley** who will be reminiscing about the 'good old days'. There will also be 'Rugby Special' archive videos of matches from their era to get you in the mood for the match versus Saracens.

You will also be able to meet the co-author of Before/After the Lemons Kevin Coughlan who will have a few of the book which he will sign and be selling on the night!

At Rengen with the Edinburgh crowd January 2026

