

28 Colchester Avenue
Cardiff
Oct 12th 1947

Dear Mr Jones,

Mr Morgan Joseph handed me a copy of Rugby News – an All Black Souvenir in which I read an article by E. B. Jones a brother of yours I believe. I enjoyed the article but I want to put him wise on one particular item in it.

Teddy Morgan, who was wing to me and scored from a pass I gave him, seems to have written – re Deans effort – “How it happened I cannot exactly, but it was I who tackled him to prevent him running behind. As I tackled him a few yards etc etc” - Rubbish!!!

Teddy did nothing of the sort. It was I who brought him down. Teddy was on the left of the field.

I quote from a broadcast made on Dec 20th 1935 when Gwyn Nicholls (now deceased), Teddy Morgan, Willie Llewellyn, Cliff Pritchard and myself took part – five of the backs.

Please note what Teddy said at that broadcast and compare with what he wrote. Teddy did score a try but he was endlessly carried away so much that he really thought he had done as such.

I am sorry that I did not meet you when over here.

That note you wrote in the Rugby News about Oxford House, King St, Sydney June 1904 brought back many happy memories of that wonderful hospitality of the whole population of Sydney.

Those memories are my “roses in December”

Kindest regards

Yours very sincerely

Rhys T. Gabe

From Broadcast Script Page 12

- Old Stager – And now let us hear something about the try Deans was supposed to have scored. Was it a Try?
- Gwyn Nicholls }
Rhys Gabe } No No
Cliff Pritchard }
- Teddy Morgan – I say yes.
- Old Stager – And the reason, Teddy?
- Teddy – I was close by at the time, when I got to the actual spot, Deans was over the line with the ball. But by the time the referee reached there, he had been pulled back.
- Old Stager – Fairly convincing. But, let us hear the other side. Rhys Gabe should know best. Perhaps he will tell us.
- Rhys Gabe – I certainly ought to know. It was I who tackled Deans. As you know a try can be scored on the line. Nowadays a player who is brought down outside can score a try if he can scramble the ball on to or over the line. In 1905, a player who grounded the ball outside was not allowed to continue his effort to get to the line. A scrummage has to be awarded instead. Well I brought Deans down outside the line, that is definite. Do you agree Gwyn?
- Gwyn Nicholls – Yes. I was standing over you at the time. Deans did wriggle his way after you had brought him down outside, and he ought to have been penalised for doing it. Go on Rhys.
- Rhys Gabe – In the pavilion later Deans claimed that he had scored in the presence of Duncan, the trainer, I asked Deans about it and he said “why did you pull me back?” I replied “why did you struggle to go forward after you had been tackled outside? If you had reached the line why didn’t you leave the ball there?” To that there was no answer.
- Old Stager – What do you say, Cliff?
- Cliff Pritchard – I was near enough to be able to say that it was not a try.
- Old Stager – What about you, Willie?
- Willie Llewellyn – Wallace, the N.Z. wing has asserted it was a try. Well, he couldn’t know whether it was or not. He was playing opposite me & it was he who passed to Deans. Our orders were that any man who has been tackled had to be brought down and be put out of action in that manoeuvre. I obeyed that instruction. As Wallace was parting with the ball, I brought him down before Deans reached Rhys Gabe. Wallace and I were on the ground and neither he or I saw what was happening with sufficient clearness. How could we form an opinion on a matter in which an inch or two was involved and that some yards away from us?