

GOULD, ARTHUR JOSEPH (1864-1919), Rugby footballer

Name: Arthur Joseph Gould
Date of birth: 1864
Date of death: 1919
Gender: Male
Occupation: Rugby footballer
Area of activity: Sports and Leisure Pursuits; Sports and Leisure Pursuits

Born at Newport, Monmouthshire, 10 October 1864. One of a family of athletes and footballers, he was in first class football from 1882 till 1898, playing his first game for Newport, as a fullback, at the age of sixteen. He played in the Newport XV for three seasons as a full-back, and it was in that position he got his first ' cap ' for Wales. But it was as a centre three-quarter that he became famous. Between 1885 and 1897 he represented Wales on twenty-seven occasions.

Gould was gifted with tremendous speed and was always a prolific scorer and, for some time, held the record with forty-four tries in one season against the principal Welsh clubs. He played for Newport during the greatest part of his career, but he had also played for Richmond (1886-7) and Middlesex (1887-8). In his day Gould was also one of the greatest runners in Wales. He died 2 January 1919; to perpetuate his memory a memorial bed was endowed at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport.

He had an elder brother ROBERT GOULD (1864? - 1932), a Rugby forward who played for Newport from 1879 to 1889, and represented Wales on eleven occasions between 1882 and 1887; he died 29 December 1932.

Sources

W. J. T. Collins, *Rugby Recollections* (1948), 9-10

The Times, 3 January 1919

Western Mail, 3 January 1919

Further reading

Carolyn Hitt, Arthur Gould, the first true celebrity face of Welsh rugby, *Western Mail*, 5 January 2019

Wikipedia Article: [Arthur Gould \(rugby union\)](#)

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