

# MUD, MINES & MELODY

SOUTH AFRICA'S RUGBY RIVALRY WITH WALES



## SYNOPSIS

MUD, MINES & MELODY is a short story developed as a curtain-raiser for Wales, South Africa test matches.

The story briefly explores Welsh history in order to provide context around their famous colours and symbols, together with the origins of their tradition for singing.

Most notably, it identifies similarities in our modern histories, both of which came to be dominated by massive mining industries.

For those mines were to provide the basis for a deeply divided societies, but also a love of rugby which was to emerge as the emotional pastime of both countries.

On the field, Wales was the original rugby giant. South Africa, the contender. And yet, through a bizarre sequence of events, the Springboks (often in diabolical weather) managed to hold off the mighty Welsh for nearly a century.

In that time, as John Billot observed, "*the only thing the Springboks lost were the toss, ... and Boy Louw's teeth in the mud at Swansea.*"

But with the opening of the Millennium Stadium in 1999, a famous victory established a new era in the rivalry.

This is a story about the rise of Wales as a rugby giant, and the Springbok habit of taming them – very often against all odds.

## DETAILS

LENGTH:	35 MINS
PG:	14
INTERVAL:	NO
IMAGES:	YES
SOUND:	YES
Q&A:	OPTIONAL

## CORE MESSAGE

A story exploring the relationship between Wales and South Africa, centered around our mining industries and a shared passion of rugby.

NEW  
STORY

