

# 1937

## A STORY OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SPRINGBOK TOUR TO NEW ZEALAND



### SYNOPSIS

Through an unlikely sequence of events the first two series between the Springboks and the All Blacks (in 1921 and 1928) had been tied. And considering the ongoing global dominance of both teams, there was near unanimous recognition by 1937, that this was to be a world championship bout.

Predictably then, the tour captured the imagination of New Zealand, where rugby had transcended the chalk lines to emerge as a function of their national identity.

By implication rugby tours to New Zealand are the toughest test in all of rugby: the challenge put to Philp Nel his 1937 Springboks.

It was to emerge as a wonderfully human story, involving a motley crew of farmers, students, bankers and teachers. For in being freed from the throttling political narrative in South Africa, they were allowed to express themselves both as rugby players and as human beings.

They did so famously, and in the process they captured the imagination of a generation of New Zealanders.

A celebration of the chivalry associated with the amateur era and a powerful reminder – through an emotional sense of nostalgia – what is truly important in life and legacy.

### DETAILS

LENGTH:	80 MINS
PG:	13
INTERVAL:	YES
IMAGES:	YES
SOUND:	YES
Q&A:	OPTIONAL

### CORE MESSAGE

Balancing this most brutal of rugby rivalries is a code of values, which leap out at you through its characters. A nostalgic reminder of what is truly important in life and legacy.

### TESTIMONIALS

**A MOST INCREDIBLE, INSPIRING, MOVING, EIGHTY MINUTES.** | MICHAEL, BRAVISSIMO! I COULD WATCH IT AGAIN AND AGAIN! | SIMPLY PUT, IT IS QUITE BRILLIANT. | IT DEFINITELY LIVED UP TO THE HYPE! | HE IS SIMPLY AMAZING! BRILLIANT IN FACT. WHAT A JOY | I FIND YOUR TALKS INCREDIBLY WELL PRESENTED, RESEARCHED, AND BALANCED AND IT'S FANTASTIC TO HEAR ALL THESE LESSER KNOWN STORIES. | WHAT A RACONTEUR, WHAT A TALE TO TELL! **YOU BROUGHT TEARS TO MY EYES A FEW TIMES BUT MOST OF ALL YOU PAID WONDERFUL TRIBUTE TO EACH AND EVERY PERSON WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE ALCHEMY THAT WAS THIS TEAM.** THANK YOU AGAIN. | THANKS SO MUCH FOR SETTING UP THE DAY SO TERRIFICALLY WITH YOUR INSPIRATIONAL TAKE ON THE STORY OF THE 1937 SPRINGBOKS. ON JUST ABOUT ALL THE THANK YOU NOTES WE RECEIVED, MENTION WAS MADE OF HOW MUCH EVERYONE ENJOYED YOUR TALK. | **MICHAEL IS AN AUTHORITY AND AN INSPIRATION.** HIS COMMANDING PRESENCE WILL HAVE YOU ENTHRALLED. HE SPEAKS ABOUT THE 1937 SPRINGBOKS WITH A PACE AND PASSION THAT MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE YOU WERE ONE OF THE GREEN AND GOLD. **NEVER HAVE I FELT SO PROUDLY PATRIOTIC AS I DID LISTENING TO MICHAEL, JOYFULLY RELIVING ONE OF THE GREATEST EVER RUGBY CONTESTS PLAYED OUT BEFORE I WAS EVEN ALIVE.** | THE BEST PRESENTATION I HAVE EVER SEEN. | MICHAEL CHARTON'S UNIQUE ABILITY TO BRING TO LIFE THE WONDERFUL CHARACTERS OF THE 1937 SPRINGBOK RUGBY TOUR TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IS THE CORNERSTONE OF HIS PRESENTATION. **HOLLYWOOD HAS SELDOM, IF EVER, HAD ME MORE RIVETED.** | HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE TOPIC IS EXTRAORDINARY, AS IS HIS SENSE OF EMPATHY WITH THOSE SPORTING LEGENDS NOW LONG DEPARTED. BY THE END OF THE EVENING I FELT AS IF DANIE CRAVEN, BOY LOUW AND A MERCILESS TACKLER (BUT OTHERWISE GENTLEMAN) KNOWN AS "JIMMY THE KILLER" WERE AT LEAST DISTANT RELATIVES OF MINE. | **THE BEST STORYTELLER I HAVE EVER HEARD. MICHAEL HAS A RARE TALENT.** | MICHAEL CHARTON HAS DONE OUR SPRINGBOK HERITAGE AND LEGACY A MASSIVE FAVOUR BY DIGGING DEEPLY INTO FACTS AND ANECDOTES OF AN AMAZING ADVENTURE THAT TOOK PLACE IN 1937. IT WILL NOW REMAIN ETCHED INTO THE HISTORY BOOKS AND SOUTH AFRICAN HEARTS FOREVER. **I LAUGHED AND CRIED, BUT MOST OF ALL I FELT AN OVERWHELMING SENSE OF PRIDE THAT THESE YOUNG MEN WERE OUR YOUNG MEN.** | OUTSTANDING! REMINDS ME OF DAVID RATTRAY AND HIS TAKES ON THE ZULU WARS.