

When the New Zealand All Blacks played the South Western Counties in 1963, the County Ground was filled to capacity with 20,000 spectators, one of those being Terry Barrett of Exeter.

He is the very proud owner of an All Black tie which was presented to him, unofficially, in the evening after the match. The All Blacks were given a reception at the Rougemont Hotel in Exeter and Terry was there “socialising” with two of the team and their girlfriends. When the time came for the New Zealanders to return to their hotel in Torquay, they realised that their coach had gone without them and that they were stranded in Exeter! Terry offered to drive them back to Torquay but warned them it would be at a cost! They willingly offered to pay for the petrol but Terry said he would rather have the All Black tie and he has treasured it to this day.

Terry has also kept the original and very yellowed copy of the Express & Echo newspaper from that day, Saturday, November 30th 1963, CITY FINAL, priced THREEPENCE, which contains the match report and photographs of a packed County Ground.