

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 2nd January 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, Vice-President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treas., T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., R. Morris, J. G. A'Bear, F. Wadley, T. H. Millington, R. H. James, S. F. Taylor, S. Smart.

Apologies were received from Messrs. A. Hudson, Hon. Sec., L. Middleditch, S. H. Davies, and H. Boughton.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed, signed.

Matters arising:-

Concreting.

There was nothing further to report.

The president suggested in view of the delay which was probable before the necessary permit was obtained, ashes might be put down in the Enclosure for the time being. Agreed to arrange for this to be done.

Stroud.

It was reported that although it could be assumed that Stroud would now agree to the match on Thursday April 5th, official intimation to this effect had not yet been received by the Hon. Sec.

Film.

Arrangements made to show film on Tuesday Jan. 9th 7:30 p.m. Players to be notified.

Committee Rota - Local Clubs.

Complete list of local clubs' fixture lists not yet received, and further efforts would be made to obtain others.

County Championship Semi-Final.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported that United Services had agreed to the transfer of the Club game on February 3rd. to Portsmouth so that semi-final could be played at Gloucester. It was proposed Kick-off 3:00 p.m.

Gatemen.

The Hon. Treasurer in reporting one or two discrepancies which had been disclosed recently expressed the wish for a number of Committee men to be appointed to make observation at the London Scottish match. This was agreed and four of the Committee were delegated for this purpose.

Touch Judges.

London Scottish	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes
Army	-	Mr. J. G. A'Bear
Leicester	-	Mr. R. H. James

It was agreed to ask the Supporters' Club to provide a number of helpers for the purpose of clearing the snow from the playing pitch if this was considered necessary and practicable for next Saturday's game. The use of a snow plough was considered and the Hon. Treasurer was deputed to approach the Corporation official concerned. Emergency Committee to meet on ground at 12 noon on Friday to examine position if necessary.

Harlequin F.C.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported that the Harlequin Hon. Sec. had written to say that Twickenham ground was not available on April 5th, 1952 and asking if possible for game arranged for that date to be played at Gloucester, and for the game on April 18th 1953 to be played at Twickenham. This was agreed.

Catering.

It was agreed in view of difficulty experienced in keeping beer in barrel in good condition to revert to provision of bottled beer.

Mr. Millington reported that he had watched the Coney Hill v. R.A.O.C. game on Saturday last. He was unable to put forward the names of any players for consideration.

In reply to question raised by Mr. A'Bear it was stated that the matter of any permits necessary for alteration etc. of the building recently purchased by the Ground Co. was in hands of the Hon. Sec. to make an appointment with Mr. Jones to view and report.

The President raised question of posting teams selected in players changing room and it was agreed this should be done for future.

Meeting closed 8:55 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

16 Jan. 1951

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 16th January 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, Messrs. H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treas., T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, R. H. James, T. H. Millington, F. Wadley.

Apologies were received from Messrs. A. Hudson, S. F. Taylor, and L. H. Middleditch.

The Chairman made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. W. A. Thomas and members present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed, signed.

Matters arising:-

Concreting.

It was reported that it was expected that a load of ashes would be delivered by the Gas Co. this week. The question of tarmac to be kept in mind for action in "Close Season."

Stroud.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported that he had seen Mr. R. J. Mills, the Stroud Hon. Sec., who confirmed the message conveyed to the Hon. Sec. by a Stroud Committee man to the effect that it had been settled that the match on our card for April 5th would be played on that date.

Local Clubs - Committee Rota.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. said he had received fixture lists from Spartans, Fiddings, and Gordon League clubs. Messrs. F. Wadley, R. H. James and G. A'Bear volunteered to watch the matches on the grounds of these clubs on Saturday next.

Gatemen.

The Hon. Treasurer said he was satisfied that the observation exercised by members at the London Scottish match had had some effect.

County Championship - Semi-Final.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. read a letter received by the Hon. Sec. from the B.B.C. regarding arrangements to be made for the Commentator's Box. This was to be placed on the concrete steps in Enclosure at the left hand side of the centre gangway.

Mr. Millington confirmed Kick-off would be 2.45 p.m.

Mr. Balchin said he had interviewed Mr. Lister, Corporation Highways Supt., who had informed him that a snow plough would [be] available if required at any time. The charge would be 10/- per hour. On proposition of Mr. Millington, Mr. Balchin was thanked for trouble he had taken in this matter.

Catering.

Mr. Balchin said he had been requested by Mr. Middleditch to ask for a ruling as to the quantity of beer to be provided at home games. After consideration Mr. Balchin proposed and Mr. Millington seconded that a supply of 5 dozen bottles be maintained at Kingsholm. This was agreed.

Ball Boy.

The activity of the boy appointed for duty last Saturday was commended.

Mr. A'Bear said he had made an inspection of the wire netting erected to trap balls and found it in good condition. He considered however it was fixed in wrong position. On the suggestion of Dr. Alcock any necessary alteration of position of the wire was left for consideration during "close" season.

Touch Judges.

Bristol Aero	-	Mr. Burns
Bristol	-	Mr. S. H. Davies

Mr. S. H. Davies was appointed member of Selection Committee to travel for Wasps match.

Programmes.

It was agreed that programmes with names of both teams be published for United game with Bristol Aero.

Mr. Morris raised the question of unauthorised persons in Players Changing Room at home games. It was suggested that this might be dealt with by the policeman at the entrances and by posting of notice "*Officials & Players Only*" in a prominent position. It was also suggested that the Players' Dressing Room doors be locked during the game.

Tour.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. drew attention to the necessity for making preliminary arrangements.

It was proposed by Dr. Alcock seconded by Mr. Morris that the trip be made by motor-coach. This was agreed. The Hon. Fix. Sec. was asked to draw up a tentative itinerary and write hotels for tenders for accommodation, etc.

W. A. Thomas.

It was proposed by Mr. S. H. Davies seconded by Mr. Balchin that a wreath be sent on behalf of Club or, if "no flowers" requested, a donation to any charity named. After discussion it was decided that in lieu of a wreath a letter of sympathy be sent to the widow and that the Club be represented at the funeral.

It was also decided that Club be represented at funeral of Mr. Ballinger, an old player.

Supporters' Club.

The Hon. Treasurer reminded Committee of its promises to provide accommodation for occasional use and urged that action be taken to ensure that the building recently purchased by Ground Co. be adopted for use as early as possible. The President said he and Mr.

Loveridge acting for Ground Co. were awaiting appointment with Mr. D. Jones who had been on sick list.

Mr. James suggested that announcements over Loud Speaker before games be made a little earlier. In order to leave the Chairman free for talks with players before games Mr. Burns was deputed to make announcements re. team changes etc, from Saturday next.

Mr. A'Bear again asked for consideration to be given to a Club Dance. It was agreed that this be placed on Agenda for next meeting.

Meeting closed 9:35 p.m.

[Signed] H . M. Hughes.

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Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, Jan. 30th, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, H. Boughton, R. Morris, F. Wadley, L. H. Middleditch, S. Smart, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor.

Apologies were received from Mr. R. H. James.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Concreting, etc.

It was reported some ashes had been delivered and the work in the Enclosure started.

Local Clubs.

Reports were made by members of the Committee who had watched local club games on Jan. 20th.

County Semi-Final.

The Hon. Sec. reported on arrangements made for the Commentator's Box for the B.B.C. broadcast. Some concern was expressed that the box would interfere somewhat with the view of a number of club supporters who habitually occupy the position in which the box was being placed. It was suggested someone might be present when the box was being fixed to ensure as little interference as possible.

Mr. Millington stated that the Gloucester City Band had been engaged for the match.

Gates and Programmes to be covered by the Club's usual arrangements as regards staff.

Light tea to be provided.

Changing Rooms.

In further discussion of this matter it was agreed to make observations at next home match to see what action necessary. Players to be asked not to encourage friends inside.

Tour.

The Hon. Sec. reported terms offered by one hotel which were very high. It was agreed further hotels be asked for terms not necessarily at Penzance. Mr. Day said the question of means of travelling had been discussed among the players the majority of whom preferred the journey by train.

Points in favour of travelling by motor coach were put to Mr. Day who was asked to consult players again and report at next meeting. It was stated the motor coach was some £40 less than the train fares.

Late Mr. W. A. Thomas.

The Chairman reported that a wreath had been sent after consultation with the Hon. Sec. who had not been present at previous meeting. This was done in view of Mr. Thomas' active

interest in Rugby in the County over a long period,. A letter of sympathy had also been sent to Mrs. Thomas. This action was approved.

Mr. Millington reported that he had made enquiries with a view to representing the Club at Mr. Ballinger's funeral only to find that the burial had already taken place. He asked that members of Committee should report earlier on such matters in future.

Joe Harris.

The death of this old player was reported and it was agreed that a letter of sympathy be sent to the widow on behalf of the Club.

Supporter's Club.

The President reported some little delay was being experienced in the completion of the purchase of the land and building by the Ground Co.

Touch Judges.

United Services	-	Mr. A'Bear or Mr. S. H. Davies
Old Luctonians	-	Mr. S. H. Davies or Mr. H. Boughton
Bath United	-	Mr. Smart

Public & Secondary Schools.

The Hon. Sec. reported that the date of the match Glos'shire v. Monmouth Schools had now been agreed for Weds. evening April 4th. The date originally asked for was April 12th.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received a letter from the Hon. Sec. of the County Schools' Committee asking if it would be possible to provide Stand accommodation for two Junior Teams from South Harrow to see the Guys Hospital game on March 17th. These teams were playing Marling School on Friday afternoon March 16th, and Lydney Grammar School on Saturday morning, March 17th. Mr. Voyce supported this as he had had something to do with the arrangements. This was agreed.

A further letter from the Hon. Sec. County Schools asked for permission to stage the annual match v. Somerset at Kingsholm one Saturday during January 1952. Agreed to suggest week day during Xmas week in view of importance of United XV matches in January.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had at last received a letter from Mr. Pritchard, Hon. Sec. of the English Public and Secondary Schools giving the financial position for the period covering the game v. Welsh Boys at Kingsholm on April 22nd 1950. Mr. Pritchard intimated that a grant of £10 was being made to the Gloucester Rugby Memorial Fund.

Community Council.

On the proposition of the President it was agreed to increase subscription due to £1. 1s. 0d.

Mr. Owens.

The Hon. Sec. said he had received a letter from Mr. W. Owens apologizing for his failure to officiate in match at Kingsholm on Dec. 27th due to missing train at Birmingham.

Club Dance.

Mr. A'Bear said he had made preliminary enquiries. Mercer's Hall could be hired for £5 5s. 0d. and a good band (4 members) for £7 10s. 0d.

He estimated printing would cost £2.

He suggested the price of tickets be fixed at a moderate figure and the Dance confined to Players and Officials.

It was agreed to sound the players to see if they would support such an event.

Club's Diamond Jubilee Year.

The President drew members' attention to the fact that this was the Club's Diamond Jubilee Year at Kingsholm. He had been informed by "W. B." that the first match was played v Burton on Oct. 10th 1891, and suggested a Dinner to celebrate such an important event. It was agreed to place this matter on the Agenda for next meeting; possible dates and arrangements with Cadena to be considered in meantime.

Film - New Zealand Tour.

Mr. Millington reported film would be available in week after 10th July. It was agreed to ask Mr. Millington to inquire for loan of film for Thursday, February 15th.

Finances.

The Hon. Treasurer gave a short report of the season's finances to date:-

Season Tickets:	£1,531	as against	£1,809	for 1949/50.
Gate Money:	£2,839	" "	£2,711	" "
Total Receipts:	£4,480	Expenditure	£3,087	

There were several outstanding accounts to be met including Income Tax £415.

In view of position disclosed it was decided to ask the Hon. Treasurer to prepare a fuller statement for next meeting.

Programmes.

Mr. Joyce reported the result of enquiries he had made regarding the insertion in programmes of a cross-word puzzle. He considered it would create an interest, the names of players forming a feature. Mr. Taylor said he had ascertained that the additional cost of printing would be £1 10s. 0d. as a special block would be required each match. It was agreed to give it a trial for a period of 4 weeks. Appreciation was expressed of Mr. Arthur Russell's offer to furnish the puzzle.

Festival of Britain - Hockey.

Mr. Joyce informed Committee that an application would probably be made for the use of Kingsholm for Hockey Games which would be arranged as part of Festivities. £100 would be spent on ground to prepare it for the games. It was agreed to await application.

Meeting closed 9:55 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes.

13 / Feb. / 1951

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 13th February, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, S. Smart, R. Morris, L. Middleditch, R. H. James, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor, J. G. A'Bear, F. Wadley.

Apology from Mr. H. Boughton.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting members examined the effect of the three lights which had been installed on the main stand with a view to assisting practice.

County Semi-Final.

The Hon. Treas. gave figures for the "gate" £1,058 6s. 6d. Entertainment Tax £100 10s. 3d. Gloucester Club's percentage £142 2s. 6d.

The takings at the gate in Schools match v. Cardiff Boys were reported to be £58 18s. 9d. A full balance sheet had been promised.

Changing Rooms.

Mr. Boughton was appointed to make observation at the Cardiff match.

Tour.

It was reported that the Captain had sounded the players as to whether they wished to travel by motor coach or train, few of whom had expressed any preference. Mr. Balchin said a very good coach would be available. Mr. Voyce proposed and Mr. Davies seconded that the party travel by motor coach and this was agreed. It was agreed that Mr. A'Bear Committee man i/c, the Hon. Sec. and Hon. Treasurer should make final arrangements and report to Committee.

J. Harris.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received a letter from this old players' widow expressing thanks for the letter of sympathy received from the Club.

Supporters' Club.

The President said that he had unfortunately to report that the purchase by the Ground Co. of the building and land adjoining the ground had fallen through owing to impossible conditions imposed by present owners. It was agreed to discuss alternative plans at next meeting.

Diamond Jubilee.

It was reported that the Cadena room would be available and it was provisionally agreed to engage it for Thursday, October 11th. The President stated that he had invited Surgeon Capt. Osborne as his guest and it was agreed to invite him officially and to ask him to speak.

Film.

It was reported that the film of the New Zealand Tour was available for Thursday, February 15th at 7.30 p.m.

Finances.

The Hon. Treasurer reported he had been unable to prepare his statement. It was agreed to have a meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee on Tuesday, 20th, when statement to date would be presented.

Programmes.

It was reported first cross-word puzzle would appear in programmes for Cardiff match.

Festival of Britain - Hockey.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had now received a letter from the Town Clerk regarding the Hockey matches it was proposed to stage as part of the City's programme for the Festival of Britain. The idea was to play some matches at International level in June and Mr. Voyce gave further details as to what was in view. The Town Clerk asked for conditions on which the use of Kingsholm could be granted. Discussion ensued as to the effect the necessary preparation of the ground for hockey would have on our own work in preparing the ground for next season. Mr. Millington supported the application in view of the object for which made. It was agreed to grant use of the ground, changing rooms and stands, terms to be arranged.

The Chairman suggested the Club might do something in support of the Festival and it was decided to think the matter over and discuss it again later.

Touch Judges.

Swansea	-	Mr. L. H. Middleditch
Malvern	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
Cardiff	-	Mr. R. Morris
Cardiff Ath.	-	Mr. F. Wadley

Cardiff Match.

The question was raised as to necessity for reserving seats for ticket holders. Gates to be open at 1:30 p.m. and Committee members were asked to be on duty at Stand to assist.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received application for seats from Cardiff supporters who were being accommodated inside rails as last year.

Public & Secondary Schools.

The Hon. Sec. reported receipt of a letter thanking Club for providing seats for South Harrow boys at Guys Hospital match.

Mr. Millington raised question of late start of Motor Coach for Bath match on February 10th. It was agreed to endeavour to start on time for future journeys.

Local Clubs.

Referring to visits already made to matches on local club grounds, Mr. S. H. Davies suggested further visits be made to other clubs.

Mr. Morris suggested thanking local players who had at short notice assisted United team v. Old Luctonians. It was agreed this be done at next meeting of N. G. Combination Committee.

7-a-Side.

The President reminded Committee of decision to provide a trophy for 7-a-Side Tournament.

Club Dance.

Mr. A'Bear reported that players favoured the idea. He has seen proprietors and would arrange a date.

The Hon. Treasurer asked for permission to purchase a case for storing records used over Loud Speaker and this was granted.

Gloucestershire Association of Boys Clubs.

A circular letter from this organization asking for renewal of subscription made two years ago was allowed to lie on table.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

27 / Feb / 51

Minutes of Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held at Kingsholm, Tuesday 20th February 1951 at 8 p.m.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President.
Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman.
H. J. Balchin, T. Burns, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor.

Apology from A. Hudson, Hon. Sec.

The Hon. Treasurer gave details of the financial position for this season to date with comparative figures for 1949/50.

Total Receipts	£4,629 7s. 9d.
Expenditure	<u>£3,726 16s. 5d.</u>
Balance	£ 902 11s. 4d.

Two accounts of approximately £235 not yet paid.

Some items of expenditure were:-

- Rates £355
- Income Tax Sch. D. £415
- “ Sch. A. £167
- Entertainment Tax £161
- Guarantees £340
- Repairs £538. (including replacements in Tea Room)
- Printing & Adverts £275
- Away Matches £430
- Home Matches £200

The position was considered very satisfactory, particularly in view of home matches for remainder of season from which the Hon. Treasurer anticipated receipts of £2,000 and a useful balance at the end of the season.

Consideration was given to question of provision of a building for Social purposes and certain suggestions were made. It was agreed to recommend this for consideration by the General Committee on Tuesday next.

The Hon. Treasurer was thanked for his report.

Meeting closed 9:20 p.m.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, February 27th 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, R. Morris, F. Wadley, J. G. A'Bear, L. Middleditch, T. H. Millington, S. Smart, R. H. James, S. F. Taylor.

An apology was received from Mr. H. Boughton.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Tour.

The Hon. Sec. reported that preliminary arrangements were completed. Accommodation had been booked for 2 nights, Friday and Saturday at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Plymouth, and for 2 nights, Sunday and Monday, at the Western Hotel, St. Ives.

Supporters' Club.

The Hon. Treasurer reported he had made enquiries regarding the hut he had referred to at the meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee on 20th February but had found this was not now available. His Company's architect, Mr. Perry, was visiting Gloucester shortly and if desired he would be pleased to make arrangements for this gentleman to meet members of the Committee on the ground to give his advice on the erection of a hut similar to that erected on the Company's premises in London Road. The cost of this hut was stated to have been approx. £2,000 including equipment.

Discussion ensued on the possibilities of acquiring a hut suitable for the purpose required; the question of developing the space under the Stand was again considered. It was finally agreed to accept Mr. Balchin's suggestion to bring Mr. Perry to the Ground with a view to obtaining his advice on the matter. Mr. Balchin thought this might be possible on the afternoon of the Oxford Match.

Programmes.

It was agreed that the cross-word puzzle had created interest and the hope that some increase in sales might accrue.

Festival of Britain - Hockey.

Mr. Voyce reported that this matter had been discussed by the Festival Committee who had accepted the Club's offer of the use of the ground. 3 matches were to be arranged and suggested dates were 14th, 15th, and 16th June.

Cardiff Match.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that results from provision of ring-side seats were very satisfactory. The Hon. Sec. added that members of the Cardiff Committee had expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made. He said enquiries had already been made from Newport and it was agreed to make similar arrangements for the game on April 14th.

7-a-Side Trophy.

Mr. Middleditch said he would mention this matter at the North Glos. Combination meeting on Monday next.

Club Dance.

Mr. A'Bear gave approx. figures of cost and thought that sale of 60 tickets at 5/- would cover. A free buffet was suggested and Mr. A'Bear agreed to enquire as to cost. In view of probable preponderance of men it was suggested a number of nurses be involved as guests. This and other matters were left to Mr. A'Bear's discretion.

Touch Judges.

Oxford University	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
Northampton	-	Mr. R. H. James
Bristol Aero	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes
R.A.F.	-	Mr. F. Wadley
Berry Hill	-	Mr. H. Boughton

Fireworks Display.

The Hon. Sec. reported cheque for £50 towards Memorial Fund had been received.

Cardiff Match.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received a letter from a member who had complained he had been unable to obtain a seat in the stand. The Hon. Treas. said that the Stand was not quite full at 8 minutes to kick-off time and he had instructed stewards to direct any members shut out to seats at ring-side.

The Hon. Sec. said that he thought that a small number of seats could be reserved for members who came late at future matches and that if necessary use might be made of vacant seats in Press Box.

The supervision exercised by members of the Committee at the Stand had been most helpful and it was agreed that this should be carried out at future matches in which capacity crowds anticipated.

London Welsh.

The Hon. Sec. reported this club had asked for 3 o'clock kick-off on March 24th. It was decided to adhere to 3:15 but to provide a bus to take the visitors to the station after the match.

Mr. Voyce notified the meeting that the 1953/54 season would be extended to May 1st.

Meeting closed 9:15 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

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Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, March 13th 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, R. Morris, F. Wadley, L. Middleditch, T. H. Millington, R. H. James, S. F. Taylor, J. G. A'Bear.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Matters arising:-

Club Programmes.

It was agreed to continue the issue of programmes with cross-word puzzle until the end of the season.

Festival of Britain.

It was stated that the dates for which the hockey matches would be arranged were June 22nd and 23rd, with perhaps a further date for a Ladies Match.

7-a-Side Trophy.

Mr. Middleditch reported acceptance by the North Glos. Combination Committee of Club offer to present a trophy and expressed that Committee's thanks. The matches would be arranged for April 17-19th. The Hon. Sec. produced a specimen of a Shield which was approved.

Club Dance.

Mr. A'Bear presented accounts which disclosed a loss of £3 15s. 0d. This was accounted for by the provision of the free Buffet, otherwise a profit of £3 5s. 0d. would have resulted. It was agreed loss be met by the Club.

Cardiff Match - Member's Complaint.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had replied to the letter from a member who had complained that he had been unable to obtain a seat in the stand at the Cardiff match. Mr. Morris stated he had discussed the matter with the member concerned who had expressed satisfaction with Hon. Sec.'s letter.

Newport Match.

The question of accommodating the large crowd expected was discussed and the possibility of erecting temporary stands was explored. In the general discussion which ensued the question arose as to whether it might not be possible to obtain permits for extensions to the stand. It was agreed that an opportunity be taken to seek the advice of the Architect in this matter.

Touch Judges.

University College S.W.	-	Mr. L. H. Middleditch
Guy's Hospital	-	Mr. S. H. Davies
London Welsh	-	Mr. R. H. James
Drybrook	-	Mr. R. Morris
Sale	-	Mr. J. G. A'Bear

Lydney - Mr. S. H. Davies
Llanelly - Mr. S. H. Davies

It was agreed to ballot for Newport match.

It was confirmed that the match between United XV and Stroud Nomads would be played on same date as 1st XV game, viz. April 5th.

W. Hook.

The Hon. Sec. reported that on behalf of the Club he had sent a letter of congratulation to W. Hook on his selection for England. This action was confirmed.

St. John's Ambulance.

In reply to letter asking for permission to make Annual Collection it was agreed to offer the Coventry match on April 28th.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had arranged for use of Kingsholm for the following games:-

North Glos. Combination

Junior Cup Final - Easter Tuesday
Senior do. - April 19th.
v. Glos. United - April 18th.

7 A Side Final - April 26th.
v. Forest of Dean - April 30th.
Combination

These dates were agreed.

Lighting - Practice.

In reply to question raised by Mr. James it was pointed out that the new lights had not been used in view of the state of the ground consequent on recent heavy rain.

Schools' International Match.

The Hon. Sec. reported there had been a good sale of tickets.

Mr. Morris asked whether Club could not now provide towels for the players. This matter was deferred until next season.

Meeting closed 9.10 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

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Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, April 3rd, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., L. Middleditch, S. Smart, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, F. Wadley, T. H. Millington, R. H. James, S. F. Taylor.

In the absence of the Rev. H. M. Hughes Dr. Alcock took the chair.

Apologies were received from Messrs. H. Boughton, and S. H. Davies.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Matters arising:-

7-a-Side Trophy.

The Hon. Sec. reported that this matter was in hand. He had received a request from the N.G.C. Committee for a member of the Club Committee to present it and it was agreed that the President, Dr. Alcock, should perform the ceremony.

Newport Match.

The Hon. Sec. stated that he had received many enquiries for tickets from Newport and he had arranged for seats inside rails for this game.

It was agreed that seats available for members should be reserved up to 2:55 p.m. and to advertise this in Citizen and Cheltenham Echo.

W. R. James was drawn in the ballot for Touch Judge for this match.

Messrs. Morris, Wadley, Middleditch and Davies volunteered for duty as Stewards and they were asked to be at the ground at 1:30.

The quotation for temporary Stand accommodation was not accepted, the cost being regarded as too high in view of its capacity.

Mr. T. Middleton volunteered to do duty as the Committee man in charge of the United XV at Newport.

New Lighting for Practices.

The Committee inspected the lighting system as altered and it was agreed that the effect was still not satisfactory, and that the contractor be informed accordingly.

Touch Judges.

Stroud	-	Mr. J. G. A'Bear
Harlequins	-	Mr. R. Morris
Worcester	-	Mr. F. Wadley
Cheltenham	-	Rev. H. M. Hughes

Tour.

The Hon. Sec. read list of players available to make trip and it was agreed that the party should number 27, to include Messrs. A'Bear, Committee-in-Charge, the Hon. Sec., Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Fix. Sec., and Mr. S. F. Taylor.

English Schools R. U.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received a letter of thanks to the Club for the assistance rendered to make last Saturday's game a success.

Harrow Schools.

The Hon. Sec. reported receipt of letter thanking the Club for the invitation extended to the boys to see the game with Guy's Hospital which had been greatly enjoyed.

Bristol Club Dinner.

The Hon. Sec. reported an invitation had been received to the Bristol Club Dinner on April 30th. It was agreed that Mr. Balchin represent the Club if the Chairman was unable to do so.

Referees Society; North.

In reply to a request for a deputation from this Society to meet the Club Committee with a view to discussing the system of appointment of officials for 1st XV matches at Kingsholm it was agreed that the Hon. Sec. should suggest that the matter be raised again early next season.

Late Eric Keys.

The Chairman made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. Eric Keys, a former player and member of the Committee, and members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Photographs.

It was agreed that 1st XV group be taken at Coventry match and United XV at game with N.G.C. XV on April 18th.

Building.

The Hon. Sec. reported that further to previous correspondence regarding the offer for sale to the Club of a building which has been inspected by members of the Committee he had received another letter from the Contractor who stated he could not now erect the building as he was unable to obtain a builder's licence.

Considerable discussion followed and it was the general feeling that professional advice should be sought as to whether a licence for the erection of the building could be obtained and to ensure there would be no objection by the Local Authority.

It was finally agreed on the proposition of Mr. Millington seconded by Mr. Morris that this action be taken and a further meeting held as soon as possible to decide on purchase of the building.

School Boys International Match

Mr. Balchin reported he had not yet received a statement of accounts which had been promised and suggested deferring further discussions until statement received. This was agreed.

The Hon. Treasurer mentioned that the Customs Officer had spoken to him regarding tickets for the Hockey Festival which had been issued without his knowledge. Mr. Voyce said that the Town Clerk's office had this matter in hand; suggested Hon. Sec. had a word with Town Clerk to ensure the matter was in order.

The Hon. Sec. also asked that Mr. Balchin discuss the question again with the Customs Official.

Arising out of discussion in the previous matter, Mr. Millington suggested that a set of conditions for the letting of the ground be drawn up and printed for future use. This was agreed.

Mr. James suggested that holes along Worcester Street stand which had formed puddles during recent rain should be filled with ashes. This was agreed.

Meeting closed at 9:55 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

1 / 5 / 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, May 1st, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President. Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, S. Smart, H. Boughton, F. Wadley, L. Middleditch, R. H. James, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor, J. G. A'Bear.

The Rev. H. M. Hughes was unable to be present at the commencement of the evening and the President took the Chair.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Matters arising:-

7-a-Side Trophy.

The Trophy had been presented to the President of the North Glos. Rugby Combination who expressed great appreciation of the Club's action and interest taken in the tournament.

Tour.

The Hon. Sec. reported that the Tour had been a great success socially although disappointing from a results point of view due to hard grounds and injuries.

Bristol Club Dinner.

Reported postponed owing to sudden death of Bristol Club President. It was agreed on the President's suggestion to send a letter of sympathy to the family.

Referee's Society.

Hon. Sec. reported letter had been sent as directed but there was no reply at present.

Schools' International.

Hon. Treasurer reported that the promised statement of accounts had not yet been received.

Festival of Britain - Hockey.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the matter of the issue of tickets for the Hockey Games had now been put in order, the procedure having been agreed between the Customs and the Local Authority. The Hon. Treasurer also stated that there were no outstanding matters between the Club and Customs officials.

Mr. Millington referred to a previous decision of the Committee to have some form of agreement drawn up for future use in the letting of the ground. It was agreed that a suitable agreement be drafted by the Club's Solicitor for consideration at a later meeting.

Mr. Millington, who had been Committee man in charge of the United XV in the game against Newport Athletic at Newport referred to the fact that the team had travelled without a baggage man. He urged that a suitable man be found for this job and it was agreed to bring this matter up at a later meeting.

Proposed Building.

Referring to the resolution at the last meeting to take professional advice the President reported on the interview between members of the Ground Committee and Mr. Morgan, the City Architect, who had agreed to give advice in a private capacity.

Mr. Morgan had advised against the purchase of a building but had suggested after looking at the plans of the proposed extensions of the Stand, as shewn in the original drawing, that the Club adopt a long term policy and a short term policy.

He suggested that the original plans could be modified with a view to providing the Social Room which the Club required immediately and that the plans could provide for the necessary space for other extensions for which it might not be possible to obtain permits for some time to come.

He mentioned Mr. Ravenhill, a former asst. in his Dept., now retired, who might be prepared to draw up a new plan with the necessary modifications, and to see to question of permits.

After lengthy discussion Mr. Balchin proposed and Mr. Davies seconded that Mr. Ravenhill be approached with a view to preparing plans and to go ahead with the new Social Room as soon as possible. This was agreed unanimously.

Mr. Voyce suggested that the possibility of providing a skittle alley might be considered and it was agreed that this be mentioned to Mr. Ravenhill.

St. John's Ambulance.

The Hon. Sec. reported letter received thanking Club for permission to make collection at Coventry match.

Tennis.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received application from Major Milman of Cheltenham for permission to stage a Professional Tennis Exhibition on a date prior to Festival of Britain Hockey Matches.

In discussion which followed it was pointed out that the ground had been handed over as from 30th April for the Hockey Matches, and permission therefore could not be given for the exhibition until the Hockey Matches had been played.

It was agreed that permission be granted for the exhibition on a date subsequent to the Hockey Matches and that the charge be £25 subject to safeguards against damage.

Stroud.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received a letter from Stroud Club thanking Gloucester Club for cheque from gate at match played April 5th.

Taunton & Camborne.

It was decided that applications from Taunton & Camborne for the Gloucester team to play in Festival of Britain games could not be entertained in view of the already heavy fixture list.

An application from Hereford County R.U. for Gloucester Team to play in match on Saturday May 19th in aid of St. Dunstan's was reported by Hon. Sec. Mr. Voyce had ascertained from English R.F.U. that permission could not be given. Hon. Sec. to reply accordingly.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received an enquiry from Co-Op. Society as to terms on which Ground could be let for Sports, etc., on August Bank Holiday. On proposition of Mr. Boughton seconded by Mr. S. H. Davies it was agreed charge be £50 subject to safeguards against damage.

It was agreed that the Club's representatives should support the Resolution under which it was proposed to amend the Rule regarding representation of Districts. Under the proposed new Rule, Senior Clubs would have direct representation as follows:-

Gloucester	2
Bristol	2
Stroud	1
Clifton	1
Cheltenham	1
Lydney	1

Districts:- Gloucester 2, Bristol 5, Stroud 1, Clifton 1, Cheltenham 1, Lydney 1.

Grants to Local Clubs.

It was suggested by the Hon. Treasurer that Grants might be dealt with at this meeting and these were agreed as follows:-

Gordon League	
Atlas	
Widden O. Bo.	
Old Centralians	
Spartans	
Tredworth	
Coney Hill	
All Blues	
Civil Service	
Student's Union	
Old Boys	
Old Cryptians	£10 each
Old Richians	
Shire Hall	£5 each

In agreeing increases in the grants to the Old Boys and Old Cryptians the hope was expressed that better relations with North Glos. Combination would result.

The Hon. Sec. read a letter from the Gordon League Secretary asking for financial support for their Junior Club whose expenses had been very high owing to the cost of travelling to Districts outside Gloucester for their games.

It was agreed on proposition of Mr. Balchin to grant £10 and to increase this to £20 if thought advisable after consultation with the Gordon League Secretary.

St. John's Ambulance	£ 5 5s. 0d.
Gloucester Cripples	£ 5 5s. 0d.
Hospital Welfare Fund	£10 10s. 0d.
Memorial Fund	£150 0s. 0d.

Honoraria. W. Cole	£15
W. H. Keeble	£10

Annual General Meeting.

It was agreed to arrange for the meeting to be held at Cadena on either Monday 25th or Friday 29th June.

County R. U. Representative.

On proposition of Mr. Balchin seconded by Mr. Wadley, Mr. Hudson was elected unanimously.

Diamond Jubilee Dinner.

Mr. Balchin said he had seen the Manageress regarding provisional arrangements and she had asked for confirmation of date and probable numbers as early as possible.

Next meeting agreed for Tuesday 22nd May.

Meeting closed 9:55 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

22 May 1951

Minutes of Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held at Kingsholm, Tuesday, May 22nd, 1951 at 7:00 p.m..

Present: Dr. Alcock (President).

Messrs. A. Hudson, H. J. Balchin. T. Burns, Rev. H. M. Hughes, T. H. Millington, and S. F. Taylor.

The Hon. Treasurer gave a report of the accounts to date, which were complete with one account under enquiry, that for the lighting installed over the Stand, for practice.

Some of the main items were:-

Total receipts	£7,291 - 5 - 6
Total expenditure	<u>6,107 - 18 - 6</u>
Balance	1,183 - 7 - 0
Investment Income	£350 approximately
Bank Interest	£400 do.
Number of Season Tickets Sold	1528
Previous Season	<u>1814</u>
A drop of	<u>286</u>

This was offset by gate takings which were

1 st XV	£5,113	(for 29 games)
last season	<u>4,513</u>	
Increase	<u>600</u>	
United XV	£ 79	(for 13 games)
Last season	<u>98</u>	
Decrease	19	

Full details of all items which would appear on the final account were read, and after discussion on some points Mr. Millington proposed and Mr. Burns seconded that the accounts as read be recommended to the Committee for acceptance, subject to audit. This was passed unanimously.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

19 June 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, May 22nd, 1951, at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Dr. Alcock (President), Messrs. A. Hudson (V. Pres. & Hon. Sec.), H. J. Balchin (Hon. Treas.), Mr. T. Burns (Hon. Fixture Sec.), Rev. H. M. Hughes (Chairman), L. Middleditch, F. Wadley, R. H. James, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor, S. H. Davies, H. Boughton.

Apology from Mr. A. T. Voyce (V. Pres.).

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

(Mr. Boughton had raised the question of the words:- “.. the ground had been handed over... for the Hockey matches” but on a vote it was decided to leave the Minute as recorded).

Matters Arising.

Referees - Society Letter.

There was nothing further to report.

Schools International.

The accounts had still not yet been received as requested.

Festival of Britain - Hockey.

It was reported that work on the ground to prepare it for the Hockey Festival had been delayed owing to the weather but had been started that day.

Proposed Building Scheme.

This was left to be discussed in an item later in the Agenda.

Tennis.

No further communication had been received from Major Milman.

Co-Operative Society Sports.

No further communication had been received in reply to the Committee's letter.

Grants.

The Hon. Treas. reported he had used the discretion the Committee had authorised him on the Grant to the Gordon League Juniors and had decided on £20, for which Mr. Lovell had expressed grateful thanks. Cheques for the other Grants had been sent.

Annual General Meeting.

This was fixed for Friday June 29th, 1951 at the Cadena Café, Eastgate Street, Gloucester, at 7:30 p.m.

Jubilee Dinner.

The Hon. Sec. reported that he had agreed the final date with the Management of the Cadena Café as October 11th 1951, a Thursday, and had given the probable number as 120.

Representation of Clubs on County Union Executive - Alteration of Rules.

The Hon. Sec. reported on the Meeting of the N. Glos. Combination, which, under the proposed new rule could appoint 2 (their present number) and local clubs were then asked to support the proposed alterations at the Annual General Meeting of the County Union on June 15th, at the Technical College, Gloucester. The Chairman was chosen (on the proposal of the President, seconded by Mr. Boughton) to represent the Club at the County meeting.

It was reported that Mr. T. Millington had been nominated to serve as President for a second year and he was congratulated by the Committee on this honour, to which he suitably replied.

It was resolved that his nomination and those mentioned below should be supported by the Club's representative:-

Vice President	-	Mr. A. F. B. Ham
Hon. Treasurer	-	Mr. K. Williams
Hon. Secretary	-	Mr. C. Humby

Other Matters:

1. Record Boards.
On the proposal of Mr. Millington, seconded by Mr. Boughton, it was agreed that the 17 players who had put in the greatest number of appearances in the 1st XV in 1949/50 and 1950/1 should be included in the lists on the Record Boards.
2. Photographs.
The Hon. Sec. stated that [he] had not yet obtained the quotation for the photos (framed and unframed).
3. Accounts.
The Committee approved the Finance Sub-Committee's resolution accepting the accounts subject to audit. This was on the proposition of Mr. Wadley, seconded by Mr. Boughton.

Mr. W. V. Eggleton was re-appointed Auditor on the proposition of Mr. S. H. Davies, seconded by Mr. Middleditch.
4. Nominations for Officers and Committee.
The following nominations were approved by the Committee:-
 - (a) President. The Chairman proposed the nomination of Dr. Alcock. He spoke in eulogistic terms of Dr. Alcock's long period of service in this office and expressed the hope that he would be able to continue for many years to come. Mr. Millington seconded and added his tribute to the President's service to the Club.
The Committee passed the nomination with acclamation and in reply Dr. Alcock thanked them and expressed his intention to do all in his power to continue to carry out to the full the duties which the office demanded.

- (b) Vice Presidents. Mr. Millington proposed and Mr. Wadley seconded the nomination of the existing two Vice Presidents, Messrs. A. Hudson and A. T. Voyce. The President mentioned that Mr. Voyce had undergone an operation, but that he would see him as soon as possible and advise him of his nomination. Mr. Hudson expressed his thanks to the Committee.

The Chairman reminded the Committee that last year Mr. Millington did not accept nomination as Vice President, and asked him for his views on the matter now. Mr. Millington re-stated his views of last year, that the Vice President position should, in view of the high standing of the Gloucester Club, be kept on the present high plane by restricting the number to 2 as heretofore. Mr. Balchin concurred, reminding the Committee that as V.P.'s serve as members, to increase their number might increase the Committee unduly.

Mr. Davies and Mr. Boughton spoke of the possibility of amending the Rules of the Club to limit the number of V.P.'s, but after discussion it was thought that such a proposition might give undue prominence to the matter, which might have an undesired effect at the Annual General Meeting.

- (c) Hon. Treasurer. Mr. S. H. Davies proposed the nomination of W. H. Balchin and bore testimony to the value of his services to the Club. Mr. Millington seconded and Mr. Balchin thanked the Committee for their renewed confidence.
- (d) Hon. Secretary. The Chairman pointed out that this would be the 50th year of Mr. Hudson's connection with the Club and that he would like to have the privilege of making the nomination. Mr. Boughton suggested that perhaps a more fitting tribute to mark the special occasion would be for the nomination to go down in the joint names of the whole Committee and this was agreed to. The President was asked to announce this at the Annual Meeting.

Mr. Hudson said he was touched by the way the nomination had been made. He spoke of his years with the Club and his election as Secretary in 1920, since when the Club had never had a bad financial year. He voiced his pleasure at being associated with such a famous club. He expressed his thanks to Mr. T. Burns for the help he had been to him in the last few years in the secretarial work.

- (e) Hon. Fixture Secretary. Mr. T. Burns' nomination was proposed by Mr. Millington who spoke of the difficulties of the task, which Mr. Burns had managed with great success. Mr. Middleditch seconded and asked for an expression of thanks to Mr. Burns to be recorded in the Minutes, which was agreed.

Mr. Burns, in thanking the Committee, said he also felt it an honour to belong to such a Club. The work was irritating rather than difficult, and had not been helped by the extension of County fixtures, which upset static dates with leading clubs, and these had been very difficult to re-arrange.

- (f) Committee. It was resolved to have nominations entered for all retiring Committee-men who wished to be re-nominated, this to be arranged by the Hon. Sec.

5. Building Scheme.

With regard to the long term overall plan, the Hon. Sec. read an estimate by Mr. Ravenhill, the Architect, of the probable cost which was:-

For the full scheme	-	£15,700	plus development charge
For a curtailed scheme	-	£11,700	---- do. ----

The schemes were indicated on a plan which was shown to the Committee. Mr. Ravenhill pointed out that the Schemes depended on the obtaining of licences, which was doubtful. The Hon. Sec. thought the estimates beyond consideration at present and had asked Mr. Ravenhill if he could suggest a partial project, under the centre portion of the Stand only, for a Social Room, but the answer had been that even such a temporary partial scheme would involve a large sum, as it would need to include the laying on of water, lighting and heating, and in any case, it was his opinion that even this modified scheme would not stand much chance of being passed at present. He gave his estimate as £4,000 for such a modified scheme.

Considerable discussion took place on this report, after which Mr. Millington pressed for the adoption of the long term plan, with the commencement of work by such stages as could be afforded and licensed. It was finally agreed that the Ground Sub-Committee should meet M. Ravenhill to obtain further information regarding the possibility of immediate work on part of the plan, and the cost thereof. The President suggested having Mr. Wm. Jones present to give advice, especially in view of his connection with the Corporation Planning Committee, but it was decided to approach Mr. Ravenhill first. Mr. Millington suggested that Mr. Ravenhill be asked also to inspect the existing tea-room with a view to obtaining any suggestions for improvement which he could offer.

6. Numbering and Reserving of Seats for Season Ticket Holders.

With regard to the proposal by a member to include an item on the Agenda at the Annual Meeting re. the numbering and reserving of seats for Season Ticket holders, it was agreed to ask the President to mention the matter and explain that such an arrangement had been given much consideration by the Committee, and the suggestion had been found too difficult of operation, apart from the increased cost in the provision of extra stewards and in other directions. It was felt that the arrangements for the Cardiff and Newport matches were a much more satisfactory solution of the problem. The President made the suggestion that, as he thought the Committee's report to members at the Annual Meeting should be presented by the Chairman, this matter could be mentioned at that time.

7. Draft Application Form for use of Ground.

The consideration of the draft application form was deferred until a later meeting.

8. Players Meeting.

This was fixed for Friday June 22nd, to be followed by a Committee Meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:25 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

19 June 51

Minutes of Meeting held at Kingsholm, on Tuesday, June 19th, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Alcock President, A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice Presidents, H. J. Balchin, (Hon. Treas.), Rev. H. M. Hughes, (Chairman), Messrs. T. Millington, R. H. James, L. Middleditch, S. H. Davies, J. A'Bear, S. F. Taylor.

An apology was received from Mr. T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., whose absence owing to an accident was regretted.

The Chairman welcomed the players of whom 23 were present and attributed the successes of the past season to their will to play their best for the Club. He congratulated the Captains and thanked them for their efforts. He reminded [the players] of the reason for this meeting - to elect a 1st XV captain, and thought the method of the choice was the best one. The captaincy of a club like theirs was a great responsibility and he urged the players to give serious thought to their choice, and the captain, when chosen, to give the same serious thought to his duties.

Nominations:	Jack Watkins	Proposer:	V. Davies	Seconder:	D. Ibbotson
	Gordon Hudson	“	Roy Sullen	“	J. Watkins
	R. Hodge	“	H. Wells	“	D. Humphries

Ivor Jones and R. G. Nicholls were appointed Scrutineers. The result of the ballot was that Jack Watkins was elected. Mr. Watkins thanked the players and promised to do his best to carry out the duties of the office. The Chairman promised him the support of the Officers and Committee in every way.

Ivor Jones and R. G. Nicholls were nominated as United XV Captain but Mr. Nicholls withdrawing, Mr. I. Jones was declared elected.

H. Wells, R. Hodge, and Roy Sutton were nominated as Players' Representative and Mr. H. Wells was elected on a show of hands.

The Chairman paid tribute to the retiring captain, Tom Day, who was also retiring from the game. He said that in his interest, enthusiasm and support of the Club, Mr. Day had been a fine example, and he did not miss one game last season. He was sure that his year of office would be a memory to him all his life and would rank him worthily with the great captains of the Club of the past. Mr. Day, in response, thanked all those who had helped him on and off the field to make the season a successful one.

The Chairman then asked the players for any remarks or suggestions, and among these were

- H. Wells - provision of a scrummage machine.
- J. Watkins - provision of towels for players.
- J. Jones - requested that anything done as a result of these suggested should include United players. He asked for the fullest co-operation and support of all players and committee for the United, particularly of players omitted from 1st XV. He suggested that the United should have some recognition similar to the award of Badges to the 1st XV. He thought some improvement in the

standard of fixtures might be made, and some regard given to the better spacing of home and away fixtures.

- D. Ibbotson - Earlier start to training.
- D. Humphries - Some further sign of recognition of playing service, beyond the badges.
- H. Terrington - better quality of shorts, for the sake of the appearance of the team.
- W. Hook - someone to look after and clean players' kit, as had been done previously.
- D. Humphries - talks on Tuesdays over the next Saturday's game.
- G. Hastings - further players meetings to re-discuss these suggestions after the Committee had reviewed them.
- D. Ibbotson - an Annual Dinner.
- G. Hudson - a better social effort by players after matches.
- H. Terrington - provision of a club-room and bar.
- H. Terrington - whether Ground would be open to players before recognised practice began.

The Chairman thanked the players for their suggestions which would be duly considered. He announced that practice would start on August 21st but suggested that meanwhile players might improve their technique merely by getting a ball and passing and throwing it to a colleague.

Mr. Millington (President of the County Union) hoped the Club would have a happy season and that they would supply many County players.

The President (Dr. Alcock) referred to his re-nomination and thanked the Club for it. This was the Diamond Jubilee season at Kingsholm and congratulated the Captain on the honour of leading the Club on this special occasion, which was to be marked by a Dinner in October. He thought that this players' meeting was the best he had ever attended.

Mr. Hudson urged the players to put in all they knew to keep up the high position of the Club.

The Chairman thanked the players for their attendance and they withdrew.

Committee.

The Committee went into session at 8:45 p.m.

Matters Arising:-

County Meeting.

The Hon. Sec. reported that as a result of a resolution the Club would, as from 1951/2 season have two direct representatives on the County Union Committee.

Photos.

The Hon. Sec. reported quotations of 15/- each without frames, plus an extra 22/- for frames. It was agreed that this cost was too high and that frames would not be ordered unless any [player] requested one personally.

Nominations for New Committee.

As a further meeting was not considered necessary, it was agreed that the Officers should be empowered to check that nominations were in order.

Draft Form of Application for Use of Ground.

This was deferred for consideration by the new Committee.

Other Matters:

Price of Season Tickets.

Arising out of discussion at earlier meetings it was reported that the price of season tickets at

Bristol was	£3. 0s. 0d.	Centre Enclosure
	£2. 0s. 0d.	Stand

Rugby Union Meeting.

Friday June 22nd. Mr. Voyce would be attending as a R.U. Committeeman but no volunteer was forthcoming from the Committee to represent the Club.

North Glos. Combination.

Intimation was received [that] the N.G.C. had expressed thanks to the Club for all they had done to assist them during the past season.

Committee's Report to Annual Meeting.

On the proposal of Mr. Millington seconded by Mr. Middleditch, the Report as drafted was adopted (copies were available at the meeting). It was noted with regret that Mr. Sid Smart had stated he would not stand again for Committee and as this might affect the wording of the report as printed it was agreed that the Chairman should mention this in his remarks, if necessary.

Vote of Thanks to Chairman.

Mr. Millington proposed a Vote of Thanks to Rev. H. M. Hughes for the able way he had conducted the meetings. The President seconded and this was passed with acclamation.

The Chairman thanked the Committee for the help they had given him, particularly Mr. Millington. He had done his best and the resolution was greatly appreciated by him.

Building Scheme.

The Chairman referred to a draft plan for the reconstruction of the Gymnasium, which would be discussed by the new Committee when completed.

The Meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.

GRFC ANNUAL MEETING

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR SEASON 1950-51

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

ANNUAL MEETING

CONNAUGHT ROOMS, EASTGATE STREET

On Friday, June 29th, 1951, :: At 7-30 p.m.

Committee's Report for Season 1950-51.

THE COMMITTEE, in presenting the Report and Balance Sheet for 1950/51, are happy to report that the season has been a very successful one both from the financial point of view and the playing record; although the number of members was slightly less than last season this was off-set by an increase in gate receipts.

The first team record was as follows : played 45, won 23, drawn 6, lost 15; points for 373, against, 248. It may be of interest to note that, on only eight occasions have double figures been recorded against the Club, the lower number of wins, during the second half of the season may be due to the strength of the fixture list and the heavy state of the grounds, the result of extreme weather conditions.

The importance to the Club of the United Side cannot be over-emphasised, especially as, during the season, it was necessary to call upon 43 players to represent the 1st XV, and we offer our congratulations to the United upon many excellent performances.

Our grateful thanks are due to the Captains of both sides : to Tom Day who represented the Club in every match - a wonderful record - and Ivor Jones, who was untiring in his efforts to assist the Committee in fielding the best available United Team and in giving every encouragement to local talent, in this respect - over 60 players have been tried during the season.

The leadership of the Captains both on and off the field has been much appreciated and has greatly contributed towards that happy spirit which has been a feature of the Club. We congratulate Bill Hook on gaining well-deserved International Honours, Michael Baker on gaining an R.A.F. cap and those players who have represented the County.

In spite of the exceptional weather conditions the playing pitch was maintained at that high standard which is associated with Kingsholm.

Certain improvements have been carried out, although it will be realised that under present conditions it has not been possible to proceed as far as the Committee would wish with regard to the additional comfort, accommodation and amenities of members. With regard to this matter a long-term policy of improvements and an increase of seating accommodation has been agreed upon, and as permission is granted improvements will be carried out within the plan (first priority is being given to the provision of a Social Club and Tea Room for the use of players and members).

The Committee have given much anxious thought to the problem of reservation of seats for Season Ticket Holders in the wings. It was felt that if this were done it would necessitate an increase in the price of the Season Ticket upon the present charge of 30s. 0d. This ticket enables members to see 29 First home matches and about 15 United matches under the best conditions for a charge of less than 1s. 0d. per match. It was decided to let things stand as they are at present and to continue to make the extra arrangements for the important matches.

The Committee wish to record their thanks to: the President, Doctor Arnold Alcock; the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Hudson, who next season will be starting upon his fiftieth year of outstanding service to the Club as player and administrator; Mr. H. J. Balchin, the Hon. Treasurer; Mr. T. Burns, the Hon. Fixture Secretary, for their unfailing interest and unstinting service for the good of the Club, and we are sorry to report the retirement of Mr. Sidney Smart after 40 years of loyal service as a player and official of the Club.

They desire also to thank the following organisations without whose interest and assistance Rugby Football could not carry on: The Referee's Society, the Local Clubs and Schools Unions, the St. John's Ambulance, the Supporters Club, and the Press.

Finally we would like to thank all those who, in their thousands, have supported the Rugby game in Gloucester.

We look forward with confidence to the coming season in the sure knowledge that the traditions of Kingsholm, of the finest and most sporting Rugby in the Country under the most ideal conditions, will be continued through another season.

EXTRACT FROM THE CITIZEN NEWSPAPER DATED SATURDAY, JUNE 30TH 1951

GLO'STER RUGBY CLUB HAVE £16,000 TO SPEND

Kingsholm Diamond Jubilee year

DR. ARNOLD ALCOCK, president of Gloucester Rugby Football Club, stated at the annual meeting in the Connaught Rooms last night that the club could spend anything up to £15,000 or £16,000 on work which it was desired to carry out at Kingsholm.

But he added: "We cannot do it yet, because we cannot get the licences and permits."

The balance sheet presented by the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. J. Balchin) showed that the assets of the club now amounted to £18,890.

Opening the meeting, Dr. Alcock said that during last season there was no sign whatever of any diminution of interest in rugby football in Gloucester and district.

"I think we can claim truly that Gloucester Rugby Football Club and Kingsholm continue to add lustre to our city," he declared.

Home-raised

Dr. Alcock went on to mention that of the 17 names which would be put on the board showing the players who had turned out in the biggest number of matches, 14 were Gloucester men, bred and born, two had professional and business appointments in the city and might stay for some years; and only one resided outside the city.

"I think that is a grand thing," commented the president.

Dr. Alcock went on to say that this proved what great value the local clubs were to the Gloucester Club.

"We have been criticised in the past for not having fostered the local clubs more" he said. I am perfectly certain that that no longer exists.

"Our relationship with the local clubs in the North Gloucestershire Combination could not be better."

Diamond jubilee

The President pointed out that next season would be a very notable one.

Although the Gloucester club was now 78 years old, it had played for 60 of those years at Kingsholm and the committee had decided to celebrate this event on October 11 with a Diamond Jubilee dinner.

Finally, Dr. Alcock congratulated Mr. Tom Millington on being elected for the second year as president of the Gloucestershire County Union.

Presenting the Committee's report the chairman (the Rev. H. M. Hughes) appealed to members to give every support to the United team.

Supporters thanked

The committee's report thanked those who, "in their thousands had supported the rugby game in Gloucester."

The adoption of the report was proposed by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Charlie Williams.

The revenue account presented by the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. J. Balchin) who described it as "a very excellent financial statement," showed that the balance of expenditure over income during last season amounted to £959 - £598 more than the corresponding figure for the previous season.

Gate receipts from First Team matches totalled £5,113, compared with £4,513 in the 1949-50 season, but receipts from Second Team matches showed a drop from £98 to £79.

Income from members' subscriptions amounted to £1,534.

Expenditure

On the expenditure side the biggest items (corresponding figures for previous season being shown in parenthesis) were as follows: expenses - away matches £896 (£1,020); income tax on interest and profits £864 (£398); repairs, renewals and improvements £580 (£1,163); refreshments, canteen expenses and teas £538 (£432); guarantees to visiting teams £540 (£460); local rates £385 (£378); printing, advertising and billposting £349 (£368); amusement tax £336 (£297).

Grants to local clubs totalled £205 (£162); £150 (£150) was given to the Memorial Fund; and donations to charitable causes amounted to £21.

Proposing the adoption of the balance sheet, Mr. C. Norman Smith referred to the healthy condition of the club and expressed particular thanks to Mr. Balchin who, he said, had been hon. treasurer for 30 years.

Alderman S. A. Stoddard seconded.

Officers re-elected

The officers were re-elected en bloc as follows: President, Dr. Arnold Alcock; vice-presidents, Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson; hon. secretary, Mr. A. Hudson; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. J. Balchin; hon. fixture secretary, Mr. T. Burns.

The following were elected to serve on the committee (number of votes being shown in parenthesis):- R. N. Loveridge (121), Rev. H. M. Hughes (120), J. G. A'Bear (114), S. H. Davies (98), F. Wadley (95), T. Day (93), R. H. James (92), R. Morris (87), T. H. Millington (85), S. F. Taylor (85), and A. D. Carpenter (76).

The Rev. H. M. Hughes and Messrs. A'Bear, Davies, Wadley, James, Morris, Millington, and Taylor were all members of last season's committee.

A tribute to the work of Mr. L. H. Middleditch, who had not been re-elected, was paid by the president.

Talent-spotters

Mr. Charlie Williams expressed the opinion that there must be some talent in Gloucester "not tapped," and said he would like to see a small sub-committee appointed to watch local clubs and see if they could unearth some talent.

The president stated, in reply, that this procedure was already being followed.

The question of whether all grandstand tickets should be numbered and reserved - as urged by a number of members - caused considerable discussion.

The committee chairman (Mr. Hughes) stated that the matter had been discussed in committee year after year. The committee would have liked to adopt the suggestion but there were many arguments against the idea.

After members had raised a number of points Mr. Hughes said it might be possible to deal with the matter if all season ticket holders who wanted to have their seats reserved, would notify the hon. secretary.

He also gave an assurance that the new committee would go into the whole question again.

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB. Season 1950-51.

REVENUE ACCOUNT

1949-1950	1950-1951	1949-1950	1950-1951	
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
<p>297 4 9 Amusement Tax</p> <p>250 0 0 Ground Company - Annual Rent</p> <p>54 18 0 Income Tax - Schedule "A"</p> <p>2 2 0 Subscriptions to County and R.F.U.'s</p> <p>378 10 1 Local Rates</p> <p>1,020 2 11 Expenses - Away Matches</p> <p>236 9 1 " - Home Matches</p> <p>368 8 0 Printing, Advertising and Billposting</p> <p>87 3 0 Insurance of Players</p> <p>432 12 7 Refreshments, Canteen Expenses/Teas</p> <p>32 15 7 General Insurances</p> <p>33 8 1 Referees' Expenses</p> <p>162 13 10 Equipment, Footballs, etc.</p> <p>20 1 3 Postage and Telephones</p> <p>271 19 5 Wages to Groundsman</p> <p>52 8 3 Special Ground Expenses</p> <p>1,163 8 0 Repairs, Renewals and Improvements</p> <p>25 13 0 Photographs</p> <p>74 13 6 Police Charges</p> <p>460 0 0 Guarantees to Visiting Teams</p> <p>19 16 0 Chemist's Account</p> <p>162 17 6 Grants to Local Clubs</p> <p>98 10 3 Lighting and Fuel</p> <p>11 11 0 Audit Fee</p> <p>12 13 10 Sundry Expenses</p> <p>45 0 0 Club Ties and Blazer Badges</p> <p>398 5 6 Income Tax on Interest and Profits</p> <p>21 13 9 Corporation Duty</p> <p>106 12 4 Architect's Fees</p> <p>202 5 0 Installation of Loudspeaker Equipment</p> <p>105 0 0 Purchase of Club's Records</p> <p>- " " " Shield</p> <p>16 1 0 Medical Grant</p> <p>42 15 6 Laundry</p> <p>150 0 0 Memorial Fund</p> <p>Donations -</p> <p>5 5 0 Gloucester Cripples</p> <p>5 5 0 St. John's Ambulance</p> <p>10 10 0 Gloucester and District Hospitals Welfare Fund</p>	<p>336 8 7</p> <p>250 0 0</p> <p>54 18 0</p> <p>2 2 0</p> <p>385 13 10</p> <p>896 16 8</p> <p>319 4 1</p> <p>349 2 1</p> <p>39 7 6</p> <p>538 8 2</p> <p>38 9 1</p> <p>39 6 3</p> <p>197 13 6</p> <p>23 18 1</p> <p>270 16 8</p> <p>34 15 4</p> <p>580 16 7</p> <p>22 19 0</p> <p>63 14 5</p> <p>540 0 0</p> <p>22 9 9</p> <p>205 1 0</p> <p>69 14 5</p> <p>11 11 0</p> <p>30 13 6</p> <p>83 6 1</p> <p>864 12 9</p> <p>23 13 3</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>17 17 0</p> <p>-</p> <p>55 2 6</p> <p>150 0 0</p> <p>£ s. d.</p> <p>5 5 0</p> <p>5 5 0</p> <p>10 10 0</p> <p>21 0 0</p>	<p>252 0 0</p> <p>717 0 0</p> <p>111 6 0</p> <p>570 0 0</p> <p>159 0 0</p> <p>5 2 6</p> <p>4,513 13 6</p> <p>98 17 9</p> <p>45 0 0</p> <p>70 0 0</p> <p>112 5 6</p> <p>154 14 7</p> <p>39 13 0</p> <p>63 10 0</p> <p>148 10 0</p> <p>59 11 4</p> <p>36 6 9</p> <p>43 18 6</p>	<p>INCOME</p> <p>Subscriptions -</p> <p>74 Members at £3 3 0</p> <p>391 " " 1 10 0</p> <p>97 " " 1 1 0</p> <p>607 " " 15 0</p> <p>304 " " 10 0</p> <p>43 " " 2 6 (Players)</p> <p>Gate Receipts -</p> <p>First Team Matches</p> <p>Second " "</p> <p>Grant from Teignmouth RFC</p> <p>" " Penzance RFC</p> <p>Hire of Ground -</p> <p>County Union</p> <p>English Trial Match</p> <p>Motor Car Park</p> <p>Investment Income -</p> <p>Defence Bond Interest</p> <p>Loan Interest</p> <p>Treasury Stock Interest</p> <p>Trustee and other Bank Interest</p> <p>Savings Bonds Interest</p>	<p>233 2 0</p> <p>586 10 0</p> <p>101 17 0</p> <p>455 5 0</p> <p>152 0 0</p> <p>5 7 6</p> <p>1,534 1 6</p> <p>5,113 4 6</p> <p>79 16 0</p> <p>45 0 0</p> <p>70 0 0</p> <p>253 16 9</p> <p>-</p> <p>253 16 9</p> <p>47 4 0</p> <p>63 10 0</p> <p>148 10 0</p> <p>59 11 4</p> <p>40 16 9</p> <p>43 18 6</p> <p>356 6 7</p>
<p>361 16 5 Balance, being Excess of Income over Expenditure</p>	<p>959 18 3</p> <p>£ 7,499 9 4</p>	<p>£ 7,449 9 4</p>	<p>£ 7,449 9 4</p>	

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB - FIXTURES 1951-52

Hon. Secretary : A. Hudson, The Chestnuts, Kingsholm, Gloucester

1951							
Sept.	8	Lydney	H	Dec.	26	Old Merchant Taylors	H
"	13	Stroud	A	"	27	Universities Ath. Union	H
"	15	Moseley	H	"	29	Richmond	H
"	17	Waterloo	H	1952			
"	22	Neath	H	Jan.	5	London Scottish	A
"	27	Blackheath	H	"	10	Army	H
"	29	Bristol	H	"	12	Leicester	A
Oct.	2	Cheltenham	A	"	19	Wasps	H
"	6	Bedford	A	"	26	Bristol	A
"	10	Cardiff	A	Feb.	2	United Services	H
"	13	Old Paulines	H	"	9	Bath	H
		<i>(Glos. v. Somerset, Away)</i>		"	16	Swansea	H
"	20	Birkenhead Park	A	"	23	Cardiff	H
"	27	Old Blues	H	Mar.	1	Northampton	A
		<i>(Glos. v. Devon, Bristol)</i>		"	8	Royal Air Force	H
Nov.	3	Leicester	H	"	15	Guy's Hospital	A
"	10	Newport	A	"	22	Coventry	A
		<i>(Glos. v. Berkshire, Cheltenham)</i>		"	29	Newport	H
"	17	Devonport Services	H	Apr.	5	Harlequins	H
"	24	Stroud	H	"	10	Cheltenham	H
		<i>(Glos. v. Cornwall, Away)</i>		"	12	London Welsh	H
Dec.	1	Oxford University	H	"	14	Bradford	H
"	8	<i>(Glos. v. Dorset & Wilts, Kingsholm)</i>		"	15	Lydney	A
				"	19	Llanelly	H
"	15	Coventry	H	"	26	Exeter	A
"	22	Bath	A	"	28	Penzance & Newlyn	A
				"	29	Teignmouth	A

Hon. Fixture Secretary : T. Burns, 27 Tuffley Avenue, Gloucester

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, July 10th, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Pres., H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fixture Sec., Rev. H. M. Hughes, T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, A. D. Carpenter, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, S. F. Taylor, R. H. James, F. Wadley, J. G. A'Bear.

An apology was received from Mr. R. Morris.

The President took the chair and welcomed Mr. Loveridge on his return to the Committee, and the new members, Messrs. T. Day and A. D. Carpenter.

He said he thought the first duty of the new [Committee] was to give consideration to the matters raised by members at the Annual General Meeting. -

- (1) Numbering and reserving of seats
- (2) Improvement in Players' kit.

Election of Chairman.

On proposition of Mr. S. H. Davies seconded by Mr. F. Wadley the Rev. H. M. Hughes was elected Chairman. He thanked the Committee for the honour conferred on him and asked for their full support.

The President said he thought that a Deputy Chairman should be appointed. The Chairman suggested that members might consider the matter with a view to nomination later.

Election of Sub-Committees.

Selection.

Mr. Millington proposed and Mr. James seconded that the number be 7 as last season.

An amendment by Mr. Balchin seconded by Mr. A'Bear that the number be reduced to 5 was, after discussion, withdrawn.

The Ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. S. H. Davies, F. Wadley and R. N. Loveridge, with the President, Chairman, Hon. Sec., and Captain.

Finance.

Messrs. R. N. Loveridge, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor, with officers.

Ground.

Messrs. F. W. James, T. H. Millington, S. N. Smith, T. Day, R. Morris, L. H. Middleditch, with officers.

Emergency.

Messrs. J. W. James, S. H. Davies, S. F. Taylor, C. R. Smith, T. H. Millington, with officers.

Representative North Glos. Combination.
Mr. F. Wadley.

Baggage Man - 1st XV.
Mr. W. Cole.

United XV.
Mr. W. H. Keeble.

Canteen Steward.
Mr. R. H. James.

Programmes.
Mr. S. F. Taylor.

Insurance of Players.
The Hon. Sec. suggested this might be effected as for last season and this was agreed.

Reserving of Stand Seats for Members.
Discussion took place on the question of reserving Stand Seats for members which was raised at the Annual Meeting. Suggestion was made that a block of seats be reserved and that a booking fee of 12/- be charged. Doubt was expressed as to the legality of this in view of fact that prices of season tickets were fixed by Rules and the Hon. Sec. was asked to obtain the Clubs' Solicitor's advice in this matter.

Loud Speakers.
Mr. Voyce suggested it would be more convenient if Loud Speakers were transferred to the Gymnasium side of the ground. It was decided to discuss this later and in the meantime to get a quotation for the removal to include any extra equipment necessary.

Old Cryptians.
Mr. A'Bear made a request on behalf of this Club for permission for their players to train at Kingsholm until their ground was available. It was decided that permission could not be given.

Lighting.
The Hon. Treasurer was authorised to pay the outstanding bill.

Training.
The official date for the start of training was fixed for Tuesday, August 21st.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] A. T. Voyce

21 / 8 / 51

Minutes of Special Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Wednesday, August 8th, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon., Fix. Sec., T. Day, J. G. A'Bear, R. N. Loveridge, R. H. James, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor.

Apologies were received from Rev. H. M. Hughes, and Messrs. R. Morris and F. Wadley.

In the absence of the Rev. H. M. Hughes, the President took the chair.

On the proposition of Mr. Balchin, seconded by Mr. A'Bear, it was agreed that the meeting be regarded as a special one and minutes of the previous meeting were not read.

Reservation of Seats.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the Club's solicitor had given his opinion that the Club was unable to make any extra charge without amendment of rules. After some discussion it was agreed that this question, raised at the Annual General Meeting, be tabled for further consideration at next full meeting of committee.

Referees.

Agreed to apply for officials as follows:-

Lydney	-	Bristol official
Moseley	-	do.
Waterloo	-	Parfitt or Gouldsworthy
Neath	-	London official
Blackheath	-	A. Crostin
Bristol	-	London
Leicester	-	Ivor David
Devon Services	-	Midlands official
Stroud	-	Leicester

Diamond Jubilee Dinner.

It was agreed that a Sub-Committee composed of the officers of the Club with Mr. A'Bear be formed to make preliminary arrangements and report to full committee as early as possible.

Repairs, etc.

It was agreed to ask Mr. F. Goodwin to carry out necessary decorations of bath rooms.

Memorial Ground.

Mr. Voyce reported on the enquiries he had made regarding House and Land, Longford. This had turned out to be unsuitable owing to the irregular shape of the land.

Mr. Voyce said he had made further enquiries as to the land at Hempsted and had been given to understand that it was possible that 5½ acres might be available for purchase. 22 acres of the original holding had been sold and it had been suggested some portion of this might also

be available for re-purchase. It was agreed that Mr. Loveridge make enquiry in quarter mentioned and if possible to make offer on behalf of Club.

Building Scheme.

Final plans for alteration of gymnasium etc. prepared by Mr. Ravenhill were inspected. It was proposed by Mr. Balchin, seconded by Mr. Loveridge, that the plans be approved and to be forwarded to the Architect with instructions to submit to Corporation and make application for necessary permits.

[Signed] A. T. Voyce

21 / 8 / 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office Tuesday August 21st 1951.

Present: A. T. Voyce (Chairman), R. H. James, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, R. Morris, T. Millington, S. H. Davies, A. Hudson (Hon. Sec.).

Apologies received from the Chairman, Rev. H. M. Hughes, and the President, Dr. Alcock; J. G. A'Bear, A. D. Carpenter, S. F. Taylor, T. Burns, H. J. Balchin.

Mr. A. T. Voyce was proposed, and taken to the Chair.

Minutes of the Meeting July 10th, and the Special Meeting August 8th, were read and confirmed.

Players Kit - Shorts.

The Secretary referred to the point raised about the players' shorts, and said any complaint would be due to the dye in Navy Blue knickers after hard washing, against Newport who wear Black Shorts. After hearing the technical statement it was agreed to give a trial to the wearing of Black Shorts this season.

Loud Speaker.

Awaiting Messrs. Smith & Lamerton's report and quotation.

Members' Grandstand Wing Seats.

Agreed to defer discussion until next meeting.

Memorial Ground, Hempsted.

Mr. Loveridge reported he had seen Mr. Keith Scott, solicitor to the owner who had written his client and was awaiting his reply. Mr. Davies of Hempsted Parish Council was away on holiday and he was awaiting his return.

Late Mr. R. Kasley - Cheltenham Hon. Secretary.

Secretary reported he had sent letter of sympathy to the Cheltenham Club and read acknowledgement received from Col. Eager, the Cheltenham Chairman.

United Baggage Man - Mr. Keeble.

The Chairman invited Mr. Keeble to meet the Committee. Mr. Keeble said he would be pleased to look after the United XV and also to supervise the training of both teams. He was thanked for agreeing to assist the Club in these directions.

Teas.

Mr. Walker to provide as last season. It was unanimously agreed to write Mr. L. H. Middleditch to supervise the Teas for the coming season. Mr. Voyce said he would be meeting Mr. Walker tomorrow.

Vice Captain.

As Mr. Jack Watkins had left the Ground, it was agreed to obtain official information for next meeting as to his choice of his Vice Captain.

George Bird - Training at Kingsholm.

Mr. Ken Williams wrote asking permission of Mr. George Bird to train at Kingsholm. Agreed.

Builders' Scheme.

The Secretary reported he had seen Mr. Ravenhill who would give the matter urgent attention.

Cyril Thomas.

Agreed training facilities be given to Cyril Thomas and stated he would be returning to Gloucester Division shortly.

Lecture at Winston Hall.

The President, who apologised for arriving late, mentioned the lecture on Rugby Football to be given by Mr. C. G. Clutterbuck on Sept. 16, and hoped the officials would give it their support.

Diamond Jubilee at Kingsholm.

The Secretary reported on the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on Monday August 13th, *[sic]* and approved of the list of names to be involved and in addition that of the Forest of Dean Combination Chairman. After discussion it was agreed (at this stage) impracticable to invite other than those on Hon. Secy.'s list but could be reviewed as time progressed.

Invitation Card.

Was submitted to Meeting and approved.

Meeting closed at 8:25 p.m.

Next Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 4th.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

18 Sept 1951

EXTRACTS TAKEN FROM THE CITIZEN NEWSPAPER SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

SEPTEMBER 7, 1951

The Citizen

1891-92

Kingsholm

1951-52

SALUTE !

THROUGHOUT the length and breadth of the British Isles, and in far-flung outposts of the world, Gloucester is famous for its Rugby Club and Kingsholm enclosure.

Not without justification has the club earned an indelible place in the annals of the great amateur winter game... and in the hearts of all lovers of the code.

Thus, on the eve of launching the 60th playing season at Kingsholm, the President of the E.R.F.U., leading public figures, rugby and soccer clubs, associate in saluting a club of which Gloucester and the whole of the County can well be proud.

The general public will endorse the tributes contained in this special jubilee supplement... and join in extending the hope that the Club will continue to prosper and add more splendid pages to the lustrous rugby story of Kingsholm and Gloucester.

- Sports Editor

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF THE TWICKENHAM OF THE WEST COUNTRY

**TO-MORROW WILL MARK THE ADVENT OF ANOTHER GREAT MILESTONE IN THE
ILLUSTRIOUS AND PROUD STORY OF KINGSHOLM RUGBY GROUND -
GLOUCESTER'S TWICKENHAM OF THE WEST AND ONE OF THE BEST IN BRITAIN.**

When the whistle shrills for the kick-off in the customary opening-of-season clash between Gloucester and Lydney, it will, coincidentally, signalise the start of Gloucester Rugby Football Club's 60th year on the now famous enclosure.

These 60 years, studded with unforgettable examples of triumphs over adversity... of courage and initiative on and off the field... of rousing battles and thrilling victories interwoven with heart-breaks and set-backs... have earned for Kingsholm and the Club an ineffaceable place in the history of rugby.

Sixty years ago a small band of pioneers stood on the open space that was once Kingsholm and dreamed of building one of the finest rugby stadiums in the West. The path was not easy. Many disappointments and blows were endured.

**BUT IN THE END THE DREAM OF THE PIONEERS AND SWORTH GENERATIONS
OF SUCCESSORS CAME TRUE.**

Kingsholm, the West's own Twickenham, is not only one of the finest grounds but one of the greatest rugby bastions in the country.

An overdose of salt

The long, intriguing story of Kingsholm had its origin in... some humble loads of common salt.

When Gloucester R.F.C. was founded in September, 1873, the first-ever game was staged on land in Deans Walk where Kingsholm Stadium was later to grow.

The following year a move was made to the Spa where the Club remained until season 1890-91, when the Corporation, for the second time, issued a notice to quit.

This notice was the consequence of pre-match preparations for a memorable clash against Swansea which ended in a famous win for the City fifteen.

Fearing that the frost-bound Spa might be too hard to permit play, officials and members acquired loads of salt and liberally sprinkled the pitch.

THE GROUND WAS THAWED AND THE FROST DISPERSED BUT THE RUGBY ENTHUSIASTS HAD BEEN TOO ENTHUSIASTIC... AND TOO LIBERAL WITH THE SALT.

As a result the salt ruined the grass... and the Club quickly received notice to quit.

Company formed

This was a severe blow to all concerned. But it proved to be a blessing in disguise. Lovers of rugby soon launched a move to form a company for the purpose of purchasing a ground; meetings were called and various sites were inspected and considered. The site ultimately chosen was on what was known as Castle Grym [*sic*] estate in Deans Walk.

Negotiations were opened; the new ground company quickly closed the deal; work was immediately started preparing a pitch and so expeditiously did the preparations proceed that the formal opening of Kingsholm took place on October 10, 1891.

Before the official opening two matches were played on a ground near Denmark Road.

First match

The first match at Kingsholm was staged in atrociously wet conditions. But rain did not damp the enthusiasm of spectators and players.

Cheered lustily and encouraged by hundreds, Gloucester made it an auspicious occasion by defeating a strong Burton side by 18 points to nil.

The victorious Gloucester team were: A. F. Hughes, T. Bagwell (capt.), T. B. Powell, W. Jackson, W. H. Taylor, W. George, S. A. Ball; H. V. Page, A. Cromwell, A. E. Healing, C. Williams, A. Collins, J. Williams, A. E. Henshaw, and T. Collins.

Of the famous fifteen who made rugby history in Gloucester only two survive - Charlie Williams, popular host of the Theatre Vaults in Westgate Street, and Walter Taylor.

Prophetic words

Official opening of Kingsholm was followed by a commemorative dinner given at the Spread Eagle Hotel - the club's H.Q., at that time by the directors of the Ground Company.

They were Messrs. A. W. Vears (chairman), G. Cummings, C. H. Dancey, T. Gurney, S. Davies, A. V. Halton, and S. S. Starr.

Speaking at the dinner, Mr. Vears predicted that the day would stand in the annals of Gloucester as a red letter day. When the new ground was completed it would be second to none as the finest football ground in the West. How prophetic those words have proved.

Heavily in debt

Until 1900 covered and open stand accommodation on Kingsholm was very limited. But selection of the ground for an international match against Wales prompted the Club Committee to embark on a scheme to build stands practically all round the ground.

IT WAS EXPECTED THAT RECEIPTS FROM AN ESTIMATED CROWD OF 20,000 WOULD MORE THAN COVER THE COST, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THE BIG CROWD DID NOT MATERILISE. THE WORK ON THE GROUND HAD COST £1,600; THE GATE RECEIPTS CAME TO £984.

Though the Rugby Union made an allowance, the Club was left heavily in debt... a debt which was not wiped out for nearly 20 years!

The Club's spacious gymnasium was officially opened before the first match of the record-breaking 1905-6 season. Many improvements were afterwards effected and amenities added.

Fire set-back

One of the major set-backs suffered by the Club was at the beginning of season 1933-4. This blow was struck by fire.

The usual opening match of the season against Lydney had been postponed owing to the hard state of the ground.

LATER IN THE DAY, FIRE, WHICH HAD STARTED IN A CIRCUS BEING HELD IN THE CLUB'S CAR PARK, SWEEPED THROUGH AND DESTROYED THE GRANDSTAND.

But such was the energy and enterprise displayed by officials and committee that the existing stand was planned, erected and completed for use in nine weeks from the day of the disaster.

Another great milestone in the history of Kingsholm was season 1937-38.

The famous enclosure was then virtually acquired by the club - and the dream of the 1891 pioneers to secure it as a permanent home for rugby was realised.

This achievement was in itself a magnificent tribute to the unselfish, untiring efforts of a long line of officials and committee members.

Further improvements to Kingsholm were carried out during the summer of 1949. Stands were repainted and new concrete steps laid at Deans Walk end and in front of the gymnasium to give hundreds of spectators a better view.

PRAISE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THIS IS SURELY THE TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH GRATEFUL THANKS THE FORESIGHT OF THOSE RUGGER ENTHUSIASTS IN GLOUCESTER WHO IN 1891 SECURED KINGSHOM GROUND, AND TO THOSE OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS WHO, AS YEARS WENT ON, BOUGHT AND PAID FOR IT SO THAT IT BECAME THE HOME OF THE GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL CLUB FOR ALL TIME.

Not only have they served the Club but they have served the boys of Gloucester, giving them the opportunity by using their own efforts, of playing for their town and club, which should be the ambition of every boy in Gloucester who takes up the grand old game of amateur Rugger.

The future of the game has never been more promising than to-day. The Rugby Union and its Clubs have maintained and secured that it shall be a game for amateurs, and for those who love the game for itself.

I am sure officials and members of Gloucester Club, with their fine traditions secured by their fine home at Kingsholm, will see to it that the boys of Gloucester and district are given every opportunity to play the game and play it in the right spirit.

So I send on behalf of Rugby Union and its 1,300 Clubs in membership, congratulations to Gloucester on its fine record since its formation in 1873.

For providing so many players to represent England in International matches; the grand games it has provided for Clubs in their fixture list; for the great contribution made to the game itself; and finally for possessing so magnificent a home as Kingsholm.

H. CLEAVER

(President, E.R.F.U.)

Well-known figures, whose names have for generations been synonymous with rugby football not only in Gloucester but throughout a much wider field, turn back the pages of memory, explain why ...

I LIKE TO REMEMBER...

SOME OF THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE

By Tom Voyce, famous England international

THE THRILLS OF VICTORY AND DEFEAT... HERCULEAN BATTLES AGAINST ODDS... THE SUBTLE CHANGE OF TACTICS WHICH TIPPED THE SCALES... THE ROARS WHICH HAVE SHAKEN KINGSHOLM TO SIGNALISE AN OUSTANDING FEAT AND, ABOVE ALL, THE GRAND COMRADESHIP WHICH SHINES LIKE A JEWEL IN THE HISTORY OF GLOUCESTER RUGBY.

These are but a few of many corners in my own particular treasure-house of memories of never-to-be-forgotten years on and off the field of play.

To reminisce is, of course, one of the joys of a rigger man, particularly when he has put away his boots and jerseys and has to confine himself to... memories.

Of all games, rigger must be the greatest of all for cementing those friendships which are so valuable in later life.

And my wonderful experiences in Gloucester R.F.C. have provided me with some of the happiest days of my life.

First game for Glo'ster

I vividly remember the first game I played for Gloucester. That was in 1920 when I was selected to as a wing threequarter. But, eventually, owing to Tart Hall crying off one day, I played forward and was immediately selected for Major Stanley's side - the first step to County and England caps.

I have so many memories that it is difficult to select those which call for special mention.

But I like especially to recall our unbeaten home record for seasons 1920-3-4 and our defeat of the invincible Newport fifteen.

I remember great games against Bristol, Cardiff and other fine sides - and one game at Kingsholm which gives me a laugh to this day.

“I’ll report you”

There was also the occasion when the referee was going to take some drastic action. That great tactician, George Holford, immediately shouted to me: “I’ll report you to the committee next week!” and the astonished referee said: “Play on, men!”

Of many fine men I met, I like to remember the grand play of “Father” Dix and Tom Millington (what a pity they played at the same time as Kershaw and Davies!); that great warrior Frank Ayliffe and that fine wing artiste, Kit Tanner.

AND IN MORE RECENT TIMES, GORDON HUDSON, WHO HAS DONE SO MUCH FOR THE CLUB AND WHO, HAD HE STAYED IN THE CENTRE, WOULD, I THINK, HAVE PLAYED MANY TIMES FOR ENGLAND.

And I treasure the memories of scorers of others who played noble parts in bringing glory to Gloucester rugby.

But I have sad memories, too... of the sorrow caused by the deaths of Stanley Bayliss and Sid Brown... and the dismay when the big stand was engulfed by fire.

Looking back over 78 years of the club’s existence, no one can deny that Gloucester R.F.C. has a proud and magnificent record.

And its future - aided by a background of splendid traditions - by resolution to continue playing the open game - and with continued support of local clubs - is in my view very bright indeed.

This hallowed ground, the best in the world

By D. R. GENT, Rugby Editor "Sunday Times"

TO ME, KINGSHOLM IS THE BEST CLUB GROUND IN THE CONTRY; YES, AND IN THE WORLD! THERE IT WAS THAT I BEGAN MY PLAYING DAYS IN FIRST-CLASS FOOTBALL IN 1903.

Stories of what great games had been played on "the Spa" I used to hear from dear old "Tommy" Bagwell and George Romans - both Rugby mentors of mine - and that keen enthusiast and honoured citizen, Alderman S. J. Gillett, still my close friend.

But that was past history. The live Kingsholm ground was for seven years part of my being, and has ever since been the core of the memories of my active playing days, which have been revived at least once every year by visits to the grand old City.

Again I say it - this is the ground, a fair nut for anybody with no idiosyncrasies to give the home side an advantage, that every real Rugby man the world over knows and which the many Gloucester men that I met in New Zealand asked after at once.

Perhaps they would not all have felt quite the same affection for it now, with its added stands and other amenities, all so different from what it was in my days, with just one small homely stand; the dressing room for the players in the little inn opposite the entrance; the walk from the inn to the ground in our caps and blazers, and the little run about on the sacred turf before the kick off.

From every walk

I see all that now, as I do my fellow-players, drawn from every walk of life, and forming as happy a party as any club ever had, with George Romans, Arthur Hudson, Jimmy Stephens, Gordon Vears, Billy Johns, Ginger Wood, George Holford, Harry Berry, Whacker Smith, Willie and Ernie Hall, Bert Parham, Fred Pegler, "Shanter" Dix (my successor at half-back and a great little man), and Jimmy Wyburn among them.

Nor must we forget their admirable chronicler, Bill Bailey, still happily with us.

All this is a long time ago, though, and many, alas, of these grand fellows have gone. But there still stands this almost hallowed ground, Arthur Hudson still watches over it, and its name is still Kingsholm. May its traditions continue, and may those young fellows who play on it be conscious, at least now and then, of their goodly heritage!

HOOKING FOR 28 YEARS

By A. D. ("Bumps") CARPENTER, one of the greatest hookers in the country

I like to remember that after playing rugby continuously from the time I was 15 until I was 43, I felt so fit that if war had not intervened I would have had two or three more seasons!

I am proud, too, of the fact that I was the first and only player from the Forest to get his international cap - although I'm sure others merited the honour.

I like to recall the fine sportsmanship I met and the many friends I made. We had some tough games in those days with hard knocks given and taken, but off the field there was always the ready handshake and the friendship of true sportsmen.

I am proud of the fact that from the 1928/9 season up to the outbreak of the war I was picked for Gloucester and that I played in five county finals, my team winning four of them.

It is good to remember that I played twice for the Rest against England - we beat them once - and that a number of times I played in trial games and was reserve for England when I was 38 years old.

I am proud to have been associated with such players as Wilfred Wooller and Cliff Jones - one of the finest outside halves ever to put on a rugby jersey ...and players like Tom Voyce and Wakefield, of Cinderford, who could run through the teams of to-day without having a hand put on them.

Fine Forest Players

While it is good to recall the honours which came my way I think of the many fine players in the Forest who, because of one reason or another, never came under the spotlight. Stan Weaver of Cinderford, for example, would not have been outclassed by the best.

And to-day? I like to think that the Carpenter tradition is being carried on by two of my sons, George for Lydney and Denzil for Cheltenham.

GLO'STER'S FOURTEEN MEN IN COUNTY FIFTEEN

By CHARLIE WILLIAMS

MY STORE OF MEMORIES OF GOUCESTER R.F.C. WOULD FILL A BOOK. BUT, I LIKE TO REMEMBER IN PARTICULAR...

The occasion in 1891 when I was one of 14 Gloucester players who were presented with County caps - the first ever awarded officially by Gloucestershire - for playing in the championship final against Lancashire.

At no time since have so many Gloucester players appeared at the same time in the County team.

The fourteen were: A. F. Hughes, G. Witcombe, A. Cromwell, A. Collins, A. C. Williams, C. Jenkins, Tom Collins, E. T. Bagwell (capt.), H. V. Page, W. George, S. Ball, W. H. Taylor, W. Jackson and C. A. Hooper.

S. Nicholls was the only non-Gloucester man in the side.

We were beaten in that memorable final 14 points to nil - but what a battle it was.

Trip by horse-brake

There are many other battles I like to recall, but two which gave me the greatest satisfaction were our wins over Cardiff in 1902 and 1903.

Another victory which stands out in my memory was that over the Newport "invincibles," when the Gloucester side were so grandly led by Tommy Graham.

Looking back it's hard to realise that Kingsholm was opened as long as 60 years ago.

I still retain vivid memories of the players' trip by horse brake to the ground... incidents during the game with Burton... and the celebration dinner.

Highlights of unforgettable golden jubilee season

By Dr. ARNOLD ALCOCK, President Gloucester R.F.C.

ON MY PART I LIKE TO REMEMBER... THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF GLOUCESTER R.F.C. ON NOVEMBER 13, 1924.

It has vivid memories for me as it took place in my first year of office as President of the Club. Yes, I like to remember...

The great match against the team of Capt. W. S. Donne, the then president of the E.R.U., which Gloucester - captained by Tom Voyce - just lost after a most exciting game.

The international, H. C. Catchside, who was one of the winning three-quarters and who is now chairman of the English selection committee.

Many thrilling games at Kingsholm, notably perhaps some of those against Oxford University, which stand out in my memory as the most brilliant. They were unrivalled in skill, open play, team-work and good sportsmanship.

Cheeky tries

Of individuals imprinted in my memory stand out "Father" Dix and his cheeky tries (how seldom a scrum half scores now!); Tom Millington and his deadly tackling and versatility in playing in any position in the back division; and Tom Voyce and his amazing try against Newport when he received the ball in the centre of the field and without wavering ran straight through the Welsh side and put the ball down between the posts.

In more recent times my memory is thrilled with the match winning kicking of Harold Boughton and Willie Jones. The latter I regard as the best handler and kicker of a Rugby ball I have ever seen.

And I do not think I shall forget Charlie Crabtree picking the ball off the ground at full-back and scoring against Leicester.

I look back with pride on many team achievements... that unexplained atmosphere, good fellowship and sportsmanship in Gloucester rugby circles... the outstanding service of Arthur Hudson... the loyalty of officials, committee and supporters... the conscientious referees.

And I like to look forward to the time when we shall be allowed to carry out all the improvements we envisage to make Kingsholm the best equipped ground in the British Isles.

A FAMOUS player and official who is to retire at the end of the season after 50 year distinguished service, tells of a

FIGHT AGAINST THE SNOW

By Club Secretary, Arthur Hudson

KINGSHOLM has provided me with a rich harvest of 50 years of memories... for I have seen it grow from a meadow with a barn which served as a stand to the present magnificent stadium.

I like to remember the scores of fine players, officials and committee members who have helped to make the Club what it is to-day... the great struggles and magnificent feats... the humorous little incidents which form an integral part of the history of the club and ground.

Cheese-cutter hat

I wonder how many people can recall Fred Rowlands and his band of instrumentalists who played in the streets and on the ground before games... and who fiddled with greater glee to celebrate a triumph ?

And I wonder how many can recall Harry Dyke, immaculately dressed and complete with a cheese-cutter hat, who tolled a bell to signalize the start of play and other occasions ?

At that time Gloucester players changed in the White Hart and the visitors in the Ram in Southgate Street, from where they travelled to Kingsholm by wagonette.

When club was hard-up!

In those far-away days it was not unusual for the club to be hard up.

In fact, officials and committee-men were required to act as guarantors to the bank.

REVENUE AT THE FIRST MATCH AT KINGSHOLM CAME TO ONLY A FEW POUNDS. ON FEBRUARY 6, 1949 WHEN THE FAMOUS CARDIFF SIDE WERE VISITORS, THE GATE RECEIPTS WERE £831 !

This attendance at that game was 15,000 - a club match record - although over 20,000, the highest ever, saw the England and Wales boys international in 1947.

Biggest receipts came from the Services internationals during the war when over £10,000 was raised for charities. One match alone produced £2,100.

Spade commandos

It is intriguing to go through the records to note how few games have been cancelled owing to the weather.

As a result of the great flood in 1948 - when Kingsholm was invaded by water for the first time - our home match with Newport was switched.

But a great fall of snow one Christmas in the early 1920's nearly caused cancellation of the meeting with the O.M.T.'s. On that occasion, however, we bet the elements.

Snow covered Kingsholm to a considerable depth and I had the shock of my life when I came back from a visit to Hereford to see how much was on the ground.

An S.O.S. was sent out and within a short time hundreds of people carrying shovels made their way to the ground.

These spade commandos worked hour after hour clearing the ground and their work was completed to enable the match to start only 15 minutes late.

This was a magnificent achievement and an example of the fine spirit of Rugby followers.

Labour of love

Looking back over 50 years as a player and official, I do not begrudge one minute of the time I have devoted to Rugby.

To me it has been a labour of love; it has given me some of my richest memories.

REPORTING MATCHES FOR NEARY HALF-A-CENTURY

By “W.B.” one of the West’s best-known critics

GLOUCESTER’S Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the establishment of Rugby headquarters at Kingsholm has a particular personal interest for myself for it marks another stage in the close and intimate association I have enjoyed with the famous City club for well over 60 years.

As a youth I was a keen follower of the team in the eighties and nineties at the Spa, and I retain happy memories and vivid recollections of memorable games played with leading English and Welsh clubs.

The players of days long past who did duty under the leadership of such famous captains as the late J. F. Brown, H. J. Boughton, T. Graves Smith and Tom Bagwell set up a standard of Rugby which captivated the local football public and placed Gloucester among the foremost clubs in the country.

This proud position has been well maintained at Kingsholm with ever increasing support - a tribute to the splendid co-operation of a loyal and enthusiastic set of officials and a succession of players who have worthily upheld the brilliant achievements of their predecessors.

HAPPY MEMORIES

From 1892 (the second season at Kingsholm) until the outbreak of war in 1939, I had the distinction of reporting Gloucester’s home and away matches for the Football “Citizen.”

And here I might mention that the popular “Pink Un,” which has now reached a circulation never contemplated in the old days, has contributed not a little to the undoubted popularity and advancement of Rugby football in the City and county, and the West of England generally.

Of my own humble efforts in the same direction I will leave to the judgment of the supporting public.

FIREWORKS IN THE STREETS

By **WALTER TAYLOR, now 80**

PERHAPS my most outstanding memory did not take place on the field of play. It was in Northgate Street, Gloucester.

We had just returned from beating Llanelly at home in 1898. What a welcome we were given - the first English club to beat all four Welsh teams (Cardiff, Swansea, Newport and Llanelly) in one season.

There were thousands of people at the station. Somebody snatched my bag - it turned up next week at Kingsholm with all my kit washed and ironed - and they chaired us through the city.

In all the big business houses they were showing coloured lights and letting off fireworks...

Those were wonderful days. I should like to see them all again.

SCORED 44 TRIES IN SEASON

NO ONE HOLDS A MORE DISTINGUISHED RECORD FOR THE CLUB THAN ARTHUR HUDSON, WHO COMPLETES 50 YEARS' SERVICE AS A PLAYER AND OFFICIAL THIS SEASON, AT THE END OF WHICH HE WILL RETIRE.

He captained Gloucester five seasons (1908-13); appeared eight times for England; represented Gloucestershire on 28 occasions; led the fifteen which won the 1920 County championship against Yorkshire; became secretary when he gave up playing in 1920 and has served in an official capacity ever since.

At his best one of the most dangerous wing three-quarters in the country, he scored 236 tries for Gloucester - an amazing record.

In season 1905-6 Arthur Hudson scored 44 tries to establish a record which has never since been approached.

THEY HELPED TO MAKE THRILLS, RECORDS OF 78 YEARS

The history of Gloucester R.F.C. is studded with enthralling stories of triumphs over difficulties... set-backs... and magnificent achievements by a long line of men, on and off the field, who have made outstanding personal contributions to the undying glory of the Club.

It is clearly impossible, in these days of newsprint restrictions to publish a comprehensive history of the club... to give in detail all the stories which enrich it... or to quote the names of all who have helped to make the club famous throughout the land.

But here, in potted form, are some of the highlights which punctuate the story of 78 history-making years.

September 15, 1873. At a meeting at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Gloucester for the purpose of enrolling members of a Football Club for the City, about 45 gentlemen joined. Mr. Frank Hartley was elected captain and Mr. J. P. Riddiford, Hon. Sec. Thus was Gloucester R.F.C. founded.

First-ever captain was a solicitor, Frank Hartley, who led the team against College School, Hereford and Worcester in their initial matches.

The first balance sheet reveals there were 35 members... and total income from all sources £11.

Pioneers of passing

When the Club moved to the Spa in 1874 there was a rise in membership and interest... and the fixture list grew in length and importance. By 1883 the team's bag had mounted to 21 goals and 62 tries in the season.

In those far-off days Gloucester pioneered the passing game. Said "The Citizen:" "It is a matter of notoriety that Gloucester has taught all whom it has met the value of the passing game."

Towards the end of the season 1878-79 the club, in the hopes of filling their coffers, played a match by artificial light. Unfortunately one of four lights failed; the other was uncertain!

As a result the spectators did a great deal of damage to the shrubs and walks and the Corporation gave the Club notice to quit.

This was subsequently withdrawn following a petition signed by 3,000 citizens. After playing a few games at Deans Walk the Club returned. But the days of Rugby at the Spa were numbered.

One of many names revered in the history of the Club is that of Vears.

A. W. Vears, affectionately known as “Commodore,” was associated with the Club from the early days at the Spa; was chairman of the directors of the Kingsholm Ground Co., and also chairman of the Club committee.

Two of his sons, Lindsay and Gordon, were members of the team for several seasons.

Supreme fifteen

The only season through which Gloucester went undefeated was in 1882-3 under the leadership of J. F. Brown. But in that period only 14 matches were on the card.

Teams led by H. J. Boughton (1883-4) and T. Bagwell (1890-1), facing longer programmes, suffered only two defeats.

Brown led the team for seven years... afterwards rose to become Postmaster General of South Africa.

Some old followers still remember the occasion in season 1893-4 when the Club were suspended for a month for playing W. Shewell (Stroud) against Newport without having secured an official transfer.

J. HANMAN, CAPTAIN AT THE TIME, WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON - A HARSH PUNISHMENT.

Worst season was probably in 1895-6 when 12 defeats were suffered and only eight games won.

A great-hearted little player, Tom Bagwell, who died in 1943, had 60 years association with the club as player, captain and “baggage man.” Under his leadership Gloucester achieved some of their best playing results.

Captain of the team from 1894 to 1900, W. H. Taylor was one of the fleetest three-quarters in the country.

During Walter Taylor’s captaincy the team earned the title of the “record smashers.”

Lydney’s first success at Kingsholm was in 1904-5 when they won 8-6. Cheltenham had their first win there in 1906-7 (by three pts. to nil).

George Romans, captain for four seasons and part of another, converted 344 tries and kicked 29 other goals for the side. He led the City XV which beat Bristol in a County Cup final in 1904-5.

Famous triumphs

From 1910-11 until 1921-2 Cardiff failed to record a win at Kingsholm and Gloucester recorded some of their most famous triumphs

One of the most famous captains, George ('Biddy') Holford played for over 11 years, and appeared in 34 County matches.

IN JANUARY, 1921, NEWPORT CAME TO KINGSHOLM UNDEFEATED IN 25 GAMES... AND WENT BACK BEATEN 12-9 AFTER AN EPIC BATTLE.

Sid Smart, captain of the City XV in 1921-2 was capped 12 times for England - made 26 appearances for Gloucestershire.

Among many notable figures who played under his inspired leadership were Fred Meadows, A. J. Kerwood, of Lydney, Tom Millington and W. Dix, held by many to have been one of the finest attacking scrum-halves in the country.

An outstanding season was in 1922-3 when the team, under the captaincy of Frank Ayliff, A forward scored 516 points against 273.

Leading scorer was Sid Brown, who flashed over for 22 tries.

Present County President, Tom Millington, a Gordon League recruit, scored 717 points for Gloucester, mainly by goal-kicking; captained the County in the only win secured over the 1926 touring Maoris. In three seasons he topped a century of points - a very fine achievement.

Quartet of England 'Caps'

One of the high spots of the Club's history of contributions to the England team was the selection in 1909-10 of four Gloucester players, A. Hudson (threequarter), D. R. Gent (half-back), H. Berry and W. Johns (forwards).

This famous quartet established a Gloucester club record.

GLO'STER, COUNTY, ENGLAND CAPS IN ONE SEASON

IN HIS FIRST SEASON WITH THE CLUB, TOM VOYCE, FORMER SCHOOLBOY INTERNATIONAL, GAINED GLOUCESTER, COUNTY AND INTERNATIONAL CAPS.

He went on to create an amazing record by appearing in 18 consecutive games for England, thus beating Frank Stout's record of 14.

Voyce, one of the most famous players produced by Gloucester, captained the team three seasons, played in 28 County engagements, 28 internationals and was a member of the British touring XV which visited South Africa in 1924.

He has been Gloucestershire's representative on the Rugby Union Committee since 1931.

Dr. Arnold Alcock, the Club's popular President, has been connected with Gloucester Rugby for over [a] quarter of a century.

A player of distinction, he appeared for Guys Hospital in company with his brother, F. Alcock; played for Surrey 11 times; was capped for England against South Africa in 1906-7.

One of the youngest

One of the youngest players ever to captain the City XV was John A'Bear, a recruit from the Old Cryptians.

Under his leadership in 1937-8, the team won 29 games - equaling the record set by Fred Wadley's side - lost six, drew one and scored 413 points against 228.

With another heavyweight, Roy Morris, he performed brilliantly in the second row.

SECOND BEST AGGREGATE OF POINTS WAS RECORDED BY THE 1947-8 TEAM LED BY GORDON HUDSON, COUNTY PLAYER AND WAR-TIME INTERNATIONAL.

During the season the team compiled 588 points and Willie Jones established a new individual record with 214.

Until the advent of Willie Jones after the second world war, the record for scoring most points for the club was held by Tom Millington (154 in 1921-2), followed by George Romans (152 in 1905-6).

W. Johns made 238 appearances for Gloucester; 22 for the County and seven for England.

Now Rugby Editor of the Sunday Times, D. R. Gent played for Gloucester for six seasons; was captain 1906-7; had trials for England and Wales and appeared five times for England.

Revenue at the opening game at Kingsholm 60 years ago was £47 7s. 3d.

Don Meadows, captain of the 1936-37 team was held by most people to have been most unlucky not to have been selected for England.

Tragic feature of Gloucester's memorable 1924-5 jubilee season was the death of Stan Bayliss, who met a fatal injury in a game with the All Blues.

The most talented and yet the most controversial figure in Gloucester post-war rugby, fly-half Willie Jones, holds the distinction of having scored more points for the club in a single season than any other player.

His record total of 214 points, compiled in 1947-48, was made up of 43 conversions, 19 penalty goals, 17 dropped goals and one try.

This sticky-fingered, goal-kicking wizard was a war-time Welsh international. He joined the club in 1945 and subsequently his half-back partnership with Danny Evans became an outstanding feature of Gloucester rugby.

Among brothers who have played for Gloucester, none were more famous than Frank and Percy Stout, who made their debut under the captaincy of Charlie Williams.

Frank, a forward, appeared 14 times for England; Percy, a three-quarter, made five appearances.

At different times seven members of one family - the Halls - played for Gloucester.

They were the brothers George, Charlie, Jim, Ernie, Albert, Harry, and Willie - sons of Charles Hall.

And no old Gloucester followers will forget the fine services rendered by Tom Cook and his family.

Meeting Clifton for the first time in 1900-1, Gloucester won 66 points to nil! In the return the City won 72pts to 3!

In the same season, Gloucester lost to Leicester at Kingsholm this being their first defeat at the hands of an English team since 1898!

Some of the facts and figures quoted in this page are based on material compiled by Mr. William Bailey during his long association with the club.

BEST CLUB SIDE OF THE YEAR

In their diamond jubilee year, Gloucester gained the distinction of being the “best club side of the year.”

IT WAS A SEASON OF OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES. LED BY FRED WADLEY THE TEAM WON 29 GAMES; LOST 9; DREW 2 AND SCORED 556 POINTS AGAINST 205.

A new record was established in the number of wins; the second highest aggregate of points was recorded.

During Fred Wadley’s three years captaincy from 1932-34 Gloucester gained the double victory over Newport - the first achieved over the Usksiders for 50 years.

Fred Wadley played in all matches in consecutive seasons from 1933-35 and established a record of 78 consecutive appearances.

“Digger” Morris had 47 consecutive appearances to his credit in one spell; Roy Parry topped 60 and Tom Day 50.

Former Gloucester international full-back, Harold Boughton, scored about 3,500 points in first-class rugby in 21 seasons.

A powerful and accurate goal-kicker he compiled more than 3,000 points for the Gloucester club alone, retiring at the end of the 1945-46 season.

One of the unluckiest players ever to miss an England cap was Roy James, who captained the City team in 1930-1 and made 27 appearances for Gloucestershire.

HIGHSPOT OF HIS TERM LEADING THE TEAM WAS A DOUBLE OVER CARDIFF FOR THE FIRST TIME FOR 40 YEARS.

Previous “double” had been in 1890-1 under the captaincy of Tom Bagwell, one of Gloucester’s finest ever players.

A recruit from Hereford, L. E. Saxby, was one of Gloucester’s most distinguished players. He appeared 24 times for Gloucestershire, and captained one of the championship teams; in 1932 he was appointed to lead the England pack against South Africa and Wales and was honoured by selection for the Barbarians.

“Kit” Tanner and A. D. Carpenter gained England caps the same season.

Under the captaincy of J. C. Brooks in 1935-6, Gloucester ended with 23 wins, five draws and nine defeats - the second occasion in 21 years the Club had gone through the season with less than 10 reverses.

In the fifth season of a fine career, international Harold Boughton topped 1,000 points for the Club - a record in English rugby.

HE SCORED FIRST TRY FOR LYDNEY AGAINST GLO'STER

Mr. George Powell, who is now nearly 84, had the distinction of being the first man to score a try for Lydney against Gloucester.

This was the first match between the two clubs in season 1887-88, when Lydney were victorious. Mr. Powell was also one of the original Lydney players who appeared in the first match (against Studbrook) on the Lydney ground.

END OF EXTRACTS TAKEN FROM THE CITIZEN NEWSPAPER SPECIAL
SUPPLEMENT

SEPTEMBER 7, 1951

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday Sept. 18th, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, Messrs. A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Pres., Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., R. H. James, T. H. Millington, R. Morris, F. Wadley, R. N. Loveridge, T. Day, A. D. Carpenter, S. H. Davies, S. F. Taylor, J. G. A'Bear.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Players Kit - Shorts.

It was reported these had proved satisfactory.

Loud Speaker.

Hon. Sec. reported the estimated cost of transferring equipment to the office side of ground had been given by Mr. Lamerton and included by Mr. Ravenhill in his estimates in the figure of £13 15s. 0d. It was agreed however in view of satisfactory working of the system at present not to carry out the work involved.

Members' Grand Stand - Wing Seats.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the census taken on purchase of season tickets on the question of reservation of seats was about evenly divided.

Memorial Ground.

Mr. Loveridge reported the result of his interview with owner of 22 acres of land at Hempsted. Owner was willing to sell if price agreeable. Mr. Millington proposed an offer be made and Mr. Balchin seconded. The Hon. Sec. said the officials of the North Glos. Combination were in favour of purchase of this land. In further discussion the general view was in favour of purchase and it was unanimously agreed that Trustees proceed with negotiations for purchase.

Vice-Captain 1st XV.

The Chairman reported that the Captain had definitely stated that he had appointed H. L. Harrington as Vice-Captain.

Catering.

The opinion was expressed that the quality of the teas had deteriorated and this had been mentioned to the Caterer who had asked for ideas on question of improvement. It was agreed to ask the Players' Rep., to obtain views of Players.

Mr. Morris raised the question of congestion in the Players' Room and the Tea Room due to the presence of unauthorised persons. It was agreed to put up notices "*Players & Officials Only*" at entrance to building and at the Players' Room door and note effect.

Diamond Jubilee Dinner.

The Hon. Sec. reported that invitation cards had been issued and the estimated number at present was approx 160. The issue of invitations in a few special cases mentioned was left to discretion of the Sub-Committee. Mr. Balchin reported arrangements made for entertainment.

Further discussion took place on question of running the Bar, number of speakers, and other matters on which decision was deferred pending the Hon. Sec. report on procedure etc., at the Cardiff Club's 75th anniversary Dinner which he was attending.

Hon. Sec. read a letter from the Minister of The Tabernacle, Derby Road, inviting members of Club to attend a special service in celebration of their Jubilee Year on Oct. 7th. Mr. Millington said he would attend and Chairman asked that as many members as possible might attend.

Gloucester Police.

It was agreed that permission to play at Kingsholm on Thursday 17th January be given to Gloucester Police for match v. Birmingham Police.

Schools R.U. - 15 Group.

Permission to use ground was granted for a match on April 26th 1952.

Permission was also granted for a game preceding United XV game on Oct. 20th., and for Thursday Jan. 3rd.

It was decided that permission to view matches from his car in car park allotted to officials and players could not be given to a disabled pensioner who applied for this privilege.

Glos. Assoc. of Boys Clubs.

It was agreed that an appeal from this organisation for financial assistance be dealt with when dealing with other grants at end of season.

Supporter's Club.

Hon. Sec. reported he had received a letter from the Sec. asking for further consideration of previous requests for accommodation on ground.

Fixtures.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported that he had received an offer from "Saracens" to play Gloucester in London on Dec. 8th., which was an open date. It was agreed that the fixture be not accepted.

Touch Judges.

Neath	-	Mr. Loveridge
Blackheath	-	Mr. A'Bear
Bristol	-	Mr. S. H. Davies

Mr. Morris raised question of insurance of linesmen against accident while officiating. It was agreed to make enquiries with a view effecting insurance.

Committee Rota - Away Matches.

1 st XV		United XV	
Cheltenham	Mr. A'Bear	Malvern	Mr. Loveridge
Bedford	Rev. H. M. Hughes	Old Luctonians	Mr. Taylor
Cardiff	Mr. R. N. Loveridge	Stratford	Mr. Carpenter
Birkenhead Park	Mr. F. Wadley	Malvern	Mr. Morris
Newport	Mr. T. Day	Old Bristolians	Rev. Hughes

Bath	Mr. T. Burns	Bristol Aero	Mr. Carpenter
London S.	Mr. A'Bear	Drybrook	Mr. Wadley
Leicester	Mr. Morris	Worcester	Mr. Day
Bristol	Mr. James	Berry Hill	Mr. James
Northampton	Mr. S. F. Taylor	Newport H.S.O.B.	Mr. A'Bear
Guy's Hospital	Mr. S. H. Davies	Hereford	Mr. Taylor
Coventry	Rev. H. M. Hughes	Cleeve	Mr. Davies
Lydney	Mr. S. H. Davies	Stroud Nomads	Mr. Burns
Tour	Mr. A. D. Carpenter	Stothert & Pitt	Mr. James
		North Glos. Rugby Combination	Mr. Carpenter

Building Scheme.

It was decided in view of late hour to defer discussion of plans for alteration of gymnasium.

North Glos. Rugby Combination.

Mr. Wadley raised question of evening game between United XV and N.G.C. It was agreed; date to be arranged.

Mr. Balchin said he was not satisfied that things were as they ought to be and asked for supervision by Committee men at next match. 3 members volunteered for this duty.

At Hon. Sec.'s suggestion it was also agreed to keep a gateman on duty at each end of ground until nearly end of matches, an extra payment of 5/- to be made.

Meeting closed 9:55 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

2 / Oct. / 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 2nd Oct., 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, A. T. Voyce, Vice-President, A. Hudson, Hon. Sec., and Vice-President, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. H. James, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor.

Apology from A. D. Carpenter.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Reservation of Stand Seats.

Reports made by the Committee members on duty at the Bristol match indicated that the arrangements made had generally proved satisfactory. There had been one or two minor complaints. It was agreed that similar arrangements be made for all big matches during season.

Also agreed to have Committee man on duty at White Hart entrance to stop entrance of unauthorised cars.

Memorial Fund.

Mr. Loveridge reported that owner of land had not called at Solicitor's office for discussion as arranged and matter was held up accordingly.

It was reported that notices posted re. admittance to Players' dressing room had had desired effect. The Tea Room however was still too congested.

Schools.

Hon. Sec. reported the Under 15 Group were unable to get London team to come to Gloucester on Thursday Jan 3rd., and over 15 Group had asked for Ground on that date. This was agreed.

Fixtures.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported he had not yet been able to arrange suitable fixture for 1st XV on Dec. 8th.

Match with North Glos. Comb. had been arranged for United XV on Oct. 13th., to be played on Civil Service Ground.

Touch Judges.

Cheltenham	-	Mr. A'Bear
Bedford	-	Rev. Hughes
Worcester	-	Mr. Wadley
Old Paulines	-	Mr. Wadley

Supporters' Club.

Letter read at last meeting was further considered and it was agreed to view the room at back of stand referred to by Hon. Sec. of Supporters' Club and report as to suitability.

R.F.U. - 40 Minutes Each Way.

The Hon. Sec. read a circular letter from Rugby Football Union recommending clubs to play 40 minutes each way. After discussion it was agreed that Gloucester Club asks opponents in both home and away games to play 40 minutes each way.

County Championship Re-Grouping.

The Hon. Sec. reported receipt from Secretary Rugby Football Union of details of the Re-organisation of County Championship Competition. The new scheme would commence in 1952/53. Discussion took place as to the effect of the change on the Club fixtures and the Hon. Fix. Sec. was asked to furnish the Club's County Representatives with copies of next two seasons' fixtures for their reference at next County Committee Meeting.

Referees.

Oxford University	-	A. Gost
Coventry	-	W. J. Parfitt or Goldsworthy
O.M.T.'s	-	Bristol Official
U.A.U.	-	do.

Diamond Jubilee Dinner.

The Hon. Sec. reported arrangements by Sub-Committee practically completed. The proposed menu was agreed. It was agreed that Toast List be limited to

- (1) The King
- (2) Gloucester Rugby F. C. Proposed by President, E.R.F.U.
Responded to by our President
- (3) The Visitors Proposed by our Chairman
Responded to by:-
 - (1) The Mayor
 - (2) F. D. Prentice, Sec. E.R.F.U.
 - (3) D. R. Gent

It was agreed invitations be sent to following:-

A. Russell, Willie Jones, F. Abbey, and V. Jenkins.

Club Cheques.

To conform to Bank requirements it was agreed that cheques be signed by the Chairman, Hon. Sec., and Hon. Treasurer.

Building Scheme.

The Hon. Sec. gave details of Mr. Ravenhill's estimates amounting to £1,405 for the complete work as specified in plan. It was proposed by Mr. Voyce, seconded by the Hon. Sec. that the

proposed plan and estimated cost be accepted and that Mr. Ravenhill be asked to apply for the necessary permit for work up to maximum cost of £1,500.

Meeting closed 9:50 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

16 Oct. 1951

EXTRACT TAKEN FROM THE CITIZEN NEWSPAPER, FRIDAY 12TH OCTOBER 1951

NOTED PERSONALITIES AT GLO'STER RUGBY DINNER

Mr. H. CLEAVER (President of the Rugby Football Union), representatives of leading English and Welsh clubs, and many other famous personalities in the rugby world were among the guests at the Gloucester Club's Kingsholm diamond jubilee dinner at the Connaught Rooms, Gloucester, last night.

The gathering included members of Gloucester's 1st XV and the United and a strong muster of former captains. Local rugby clubs and organisations were also represented.

The King, Patron of the Rugby Union, was toasted at the bidding of Dr. Arnold Alcock (President of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club), who presided at the dinner.

The Rugby Union President proposed the toast of "The Gloucester Rugby Football Club" and, in doing so, confessed that although he had played on every other ground in the Midlands, Gloucestershire and Somerset, he had never had the pleasure of playing at Kingsholm.

"I could describe the Gloucester club as one of the strongholds of this great amateur game of ours but surely it is part and parcel of the great city and county of Gloucester," he declared.

"Of the records of the club, you know more than I do," he continued, "We know it is magnificent. We know you are one of the first club's in the country."

The President paid tribute to Gloucester's contribution to England in providing good internationals and said that outstanding among those whom he knew personally were Tom Joyce, A. D. Carpenter, Dai Gent and Arthur Hudson, the latter having served the club for 50 years.

He also thanked the club for raising over £10,000 for Navy, Army and Air Force charities as a result of the Services International matches held at Kingsholm during the war.

In conclusion, Mr. Cleaver told the gathering: "All I have to say to you Gloucester people is 'carry on in the same way, maintaining the great traditions and glorious heritage that you have inherited in the good old game of rugby football.' "

Responding, Dr. Alcock said it was a very great honour to him to think that he had presided not only at the jubilee dinner of the Gloucester Club in 1924 but also at the Kingsholm jubilee dinner.

Dr. Alcock went on to mention that there was a time when the club's finances were so low that they thought of selling the whole of the Kingsholm ground's frontage in Worcester Street for shops, but after Mr. Arthur Hudson became secretary the club never look back.

The ground had been used for all sorts of purposes besides rugby football. Even baseball had been put on there.

During the war it had been used as a first aid depot, among other things, and one side of the ground became the main ambulance station for Gloucester.

Dr. Alcock also had a word of praise for the present players.

Stating that the club had already played 10 matches this season he added: "May I take this opportunity of thanking the players for their loyalty to the club in turning out twice a week." (applause).

The local clubs

Proposing "Our Guests" the Chairman of the club (The Rev. H. M. Hughes) said he hoped that Gloucester's civic representatives would continue to show interest in the club as it continued to put Gloucester to the fore.

Mr. Hughes also emphasised the importance of the local teams to the Gloucester club. "We would not be a club of any standing unless we received the full support of the clubs round about," he added.

Responding, the Mayor (Counc. W. J. Smith) said that throughout the years the Gloucester Rugby Football Club had brought credit and honour to the city.

"We in the city are proud of the fact that, win or lose, the game is played in the grand sportsmanlike manner which one always associates with rugby football," he declared.

Col. F. D. Prentice, hon. secretary of the Rugby Union, who also responded, recalled that he played at Kingsholm in the Gloucester club's jubilee match and that the game was refereed by Mr. Adrian Stoop, another of the guests at the dinner.

He emphasised that whenever the Union or the International Board altered a law of the game it was done for one reason only, the benefit of the player.

Col. Prentice said that when he became hon. secretary of the Union in 1947 there were 860 affiliated clubs. To-day the number was well over 1,300.

Col. Prentice gave a warning that in a few years time there was going to be a great shortage of referees, and he appealed to players to take up refereeing after they had finished playing.

The last speaker to respond to the toast was Mr. Dai Gent, ex-Gloucester captain and international.

“You have at this very representative gathering more famous people in British rugby football than I have seen assembled at the same table for a very long time.” He said.

Mr. Gent referred to the time when he was one of the four Gloucester players who set up a record by all playing for England at the same time in the 1909-10 season and declared: “It reflected very great honour and credit on one provincial city in days when provincial club players - I say this with bated breath - had to be mighty good players to get a cap.”

Mr. Gent added that Kingsholm “where they play rugby football” was not far behind the Cathedral in spreading the name of the city in various parts of the world.

Guests

Among other guests at the dinner were the City High Sheriff (Mr. P. D. Clarke), the City Member (Mr. M. Turner-Samuels, K.C.), Mr. A. D. Stoop (member of the Rugby Union Committee), Mr. Tom Millington (President of the Gloucestershire County R.F.U.), Mr. C. J. Humby (Hon. Secretary of the Gloucestershire County R.F.U.), Mr. A. Hurrin (Chairman of directors of Gloucester City A.F.C.), Alderman S. J. Gillett, Mr. G. J. J. Robertson (Editor of “The Citizen”), Mr. A. H. Carter (Assistant Chief Constable of Gloucestershire) and Chief Supt. W. E. Wakefield.

Other officials of the Gloucester club who attended were Mr. Arthur Hudson (Hon. Secretary and Vice-President), Mr. A. T. Voyce (Vice-President), Mr. A. H. Balchin (Hon. Treasurer) and Mr. T. Burns (Hon. Fixtures Secretary).

Among the apologies was one from “W.B.,” who reported the club’s games for “The Citizen” for 50 years.

Rugby clubs represented included Bristol, Cardiff, Leicester, Swansea, Cheltenham, Stroud, Lydney, Bath, Blackheath, Harlequins, Burton, Richmond, Bedford, Moseley, Clifton, Old Blues, and Devonport Services.

Music and entertainment were provided by the Buff Woolton Trio, Phil Barker (banjoist), and Bill Seldom (comedian with piano).

They played in opening match

Mr. Charlie Williams and Mr. Walter Taylor, the only two surviving members of the Gloucester team which beat Burton in the first match at Kingsholm 60 years ago were both at the dinner.

Two representatives of the Burton club were also among the guests. After mentioning that they had presented him with a bottle of beer laid down in 1929, Dr. Alcock said he hoped that Burton would be represented at Kingsholm’s “Double Diamond Jubilee” in 60 years’ time.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 16th Oct., 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, A. Hudson, Vice-President, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, R. Morris, R. H. James, J. G. A'Bear, S. F. Taylor.

Minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:-

Reservation of Stand Seats.

The Hon. Sec. read a letter from a non-member criticising arrangements made at Bristol match. It was agreed reply be sent explaining action taken was due to complaints by members.

Memorial Fund.

There was nothing further to report.

Supporters' Club.

This matter, raised at last meeting, was deferred until next meeting to give opportunity to look at accommodation available under Stand.

Diamond Jubilee Dinner.

The Hon. Treasurer reported all bills had been received, giving details of these amounting to approx. £200. It was agreed to give waitresses a gratuity of 5/- each, and the Manageress £5 5s. 0d. The Hon. Sec. read a letter from Secretary Rugby Football Union thanking Club for hospitality. On proposition of Mr. Loveridge seconded by Mr. Wadley, a Vote of Thanks was passed to Sub-Committee for arrangements with particular reference to Hon. Sec.'s work in a most successful function.

Building Scheme.

Mr. Ravenhill attended. In reply to a question, he said that the granting of the permit was by no means a foregone conclusion but that application had a good chance if supported by a letter from the Club stating reasons for the alterations. It was agreed letter be prepared, such points as congestion, health, bad state of electrical fittings etc., to be mentioned. Mr. Ravenhill was thanked for his explanation. ¹

Fixtures.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. raised the question of the Easter Saturday date in 1953/54 vacated by London Welsh and reported that Cheltenham were prepared to accept the date subject to adequate guarantee. After discussion it was agreed that this offer be not entertained at present and Hon. Fix. Sec. was requested to try to fix up with a club from Northern Counties.

It was agreed to play Teignmouth in the third match of the Annual Tour in 1952/53.

¹ Pencilled insert reads: (see [below] re. rescinding of minute re. tenders).

Touch Judges.

Birkenhead Park - Mr. Wadley
Bristol Aero - Mr. R. H. James
Old Blues - Mr. Morris
Old Luctonians - Mr. Wadley

Painting Worcester Street Hoarding.

Mr. Goodwin's estimate was deferred for discussion at next meeting.

In view of Mr. Ravenhill's statement of position the President pointed out that part of previous minute of 2/10/51 relating to obtaining of competitive tenders should be rescinded. On proposition of Mr. Loveridge seconded by Mr. Millington this was agreed.

Meeting closed 9:30 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

30 / X / 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 30th Oct., 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, R. H. James, S. F. Taylor.

An apology was received from Rev. H. M. Hughes.

Dr. Alcock took the Chair.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:-

Memorial Fund.

Mr. Loveridge said there was nothing definite to report. Indirectly he had understood that while not anxious to sell, the owner of the land might be persuaded if price offered were high enough. After discussion of possible price, the contingent liability of development charges being mentioned, Mr. Loveridge proposed and Mr. Davies seconded that the President, Hon. Sec., and Mr. Loveridge be appointed to negotiate with the owner and that they be given a free hand in the matter. This was carried.

Supporter's Club.

The President reported that he, with several other members of Committee, had inspected the store room beneath the Stand. After discussion it was decided that representatives of Supporter's Club be asked to meet the Committee at next meeting with a view to ascertaining what their requirements were.

Building Scheme.

The Hon. Sec. reported that a letter to be sent in support of the application for a Licence had been drafted and discussed with Mr. Ravenhill. It was agreed letter be forwarded with the application.

Fixtures.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported he was corresponding with New Brighton and Birkenhead Park with a view to filling the Easter Saturday [fixture] from 1953/54.

Painting Worcester Street Hoarding.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had discussed estimates with Mr. Goodwin who was quite willing for this work to be deferred pending result of the application for the Building Licence.

The Hon. Sec. also reported he had been approached by another Contractor who had asked for permission to tender for this work. In the circumstances he had agreed. Hon. Sec.'s action was approved.

Touch Judges.

Leicester - Mr. S. H. Davies

Leicester "A" - Mr. K. Morris
Newport - Mr. T. Day
Newport Ath. - Mr. R. H. James

Club's Trustees.

On proposition of Mr. Loveridge, seconded by Mr. A'Bear, Dr. Alcock, President, and Messrs. A. T. Voyce and A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, were re-appointed Trustees of the Gloucester Rugby Football Club. This was done in compliance with Banker's requirements.

Referee's Society.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had received a further letter asking that Committee receive a deputation from the Referee's Society North. It was agreed to receive deputation at next meeting.

Cinderford Town Band.

Hon. Sec. reported letter from Cinderford Town Band offering their services at County match on Dec. 8th. Mr. Millington stated the question of engagement of a band had not yet been discussed by County Committee but was usually left to Club staging the match.

St. Mary de Lode Youth Club.

Hon. Sec. reported receipt of a letter from the Secretary of this organisation inviting members of Gloucester R.F.C. to Exhibition and Sale of Work at Mount St. School on Nov. 8th in aid of 'Kit Tanner Foundation.'

Tea Room.

Mr. Morris reported that the individual previously mentioned was again in Tea Room after last weeks' game. Mr. Millington asked if Mr. Middleditch had been given authority to exclude unauthorised persons. It was agreed that Tea Room door be kept locked until players were ready for their meal.

The President suggested that team changes should be given through Loud Speaker at half time for benefit of late-comers and that music was not necessary during interval.

Mr. Balchin raised question of lighting for training and said system at present was not giving desired results. It was agreed to ask Contractor to make necessary adjustment.

Hon. Treasurer asked for help of Committee Members at Leicester match to watch and supervise at gates and Stand.

Meeting closed 9:30 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

13 / Nov. / 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 13TH November, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Pres., Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, T. H. Millington, T. Day, R. H. James, R. N. Loveridge, R. Morris, F. Wadley, J. S. F. Taylor.

Apologies were received from Messrs. J. G. A'Bear, A. D. Carpenter, and H. J. Balchin.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Referee's Society.

Messrs. J. Blackwell, Secretary, H. Waldron and ? Scott attended on behalf of the North Glos. Referees' Society.

Mr. Scott first addressed the meeting. He deprecated the practice under which first class clubs in making application for officials requested the appointment of particular individuals. He contended that this practice deprived lesser known officials of the opportunity to obtain the necessary experience to prove their efficiency. He pointed out that while the Gloucester Club asked for the appointment of certain officials from Wales and elsewhere, the North Glos. Society received little recognition for first class games. Mr. Waldron spoke in support and suggested that the Gloucester Club might use its influence with Bristol and other clubs in asking them to reciprocate by appointing officials of the North Glos. Society.

In reply the Chairman drew attention to the fact that it was not the Clubs' practice to name the official to be appointed in more than a few matches during the season.

Quoting from a list of matches from the beginning of the present season up to the Christmas matches he pointed out that in 6 out of 9 games the choice of the official to be appointed was left to the Referees' Society.

Mr. Blackwell asked whether when making application for an official for a match at Kingsholm he might have the Gloucester Clubs' permission to request the appointment of an official from North Gloucester in return. It was stressed by Mr. Millington that it was necessary to have the best known officials for certain games. The Chairman said that he saw no reason why the Club should depart from its present policy with regard to their requests for officials. The North Glos. Society case would however be discussed with other Clubs if the opportunity arose.

The deputation thanked the Committee for hearing their case and withdrew.

Matters Arising from Minutes:-

Memorial Fund.

The President reported that he, with the Hon. Sec. and Mr. Loveridge had made an inspection of the land at Hempsted. They had interviewed the owner who was not prepared to sell below a figure of £150 per acre for the whole of the land, with a reservation of the grazing rights at a nominal figure. After discussion it was agreed that the terms were unacceptable and that the owner should be informed to that effect and asked to reconsider the matter.

Supporter's Club.

The Hon. Sec. reported that he had seen the Sec. of the Supporter's Club who said that his Committee thought that the room under the Stand would serve their purpose. He would see Mr. Hudson again regarding any necessary adjustment of stock and implements at present stored in the room.

Building Scheme.

There was nothing to report.

Fixtures.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. reported New Brighton had accepted the Easter Saturday date in 1954/55. Birkenhead Park were trying to re-arrange a fixture in order that they might be able to accept this date for 1953/54.

Painting - Worcester St. Hoarding.

In view of weather conditions it was decided to defer the painting until the Spring.

St. Mary de Lode Youth Club.

Reported Mr. Millington had attended Exhibition and Sale of Work.

Tea Room.

It was reported that locking of door had produced the desired effect.

Music - Loud Speakers.

It was agreed that no music was required at half-time and that Loud Speaker be used in the interval to announce changes and names of scorers.

Lighting.

It was reported Mr. Lamerton would be coming to Ground on Thursday to make necessary adjustments.

Touch Judges.

Devonport Services	-	Mr. R. H. James
Stratford	-	Mr. F. Wadley
Stroud Nomads	-	Mr. T. Burns
Stroud	-	Mr. R. Morris

Referees.

Army	Jan.	10 th	-	Mr. Walters
Wasps	"	19 th	-	Leicester Socy.
United Services	Feb.	2 nd	-	Midlands Socy.
Bath	"	9 th	-	Welsh Socy.
Swansea	"	16 th	-	London Socy.
Cardiff	"	23 rd	-	do.

North Glos. Rugby Combination.

The Hon. Sec. reported letter thanking Club for the arrangements made for game with United XV on Oct. 13th, and expressing the hope that these games would continue.

Application by Lt. Col. Shakerley, R. G. Hussars, for use of Ground v. Gloucester Police on April 21st, in aid R.G.H. Memorial Fund was granted.

Poppy Day - Mayor's Appeal.
Donation of £5 5s. 0d. was agreed.

Old Blues R.F.C.

The Hon. Sec. read letter from [LEFT BLANK] apologising for his Club's poor showing in game on Oct. 27th.

Reference was made to the "Eye-Witness" account from Cardiff Studio of the Newport v. Gloucester game on Nov. 10th, and to the remarks derogatory to the Gloucester team made by the Commentator. It was agreed Hon. Sec. endeavour to contact Newport Hon. Sec. and obtain his observations on the matter.

Meeting closed 9:55 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

27 / XI / 51

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, 27TH November, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, J. G. A'Bear, T. H. Millington, S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. H. James, J. S. F. Taylor.

In the absence of Rev. H. M. Hughes, the President was voted to the Chair.

Apologies were received from Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, and Mr. R. Morris.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:-

Memorial Fund.

On behalf of Sub-Committee Mr. Loveridge gave particulars of a letter he had sent to the owner of the land at Hempsted. The owner had replied suggesting that the Club make him an offer. The Sub-Committee did not propose to come to a hasty decision. The Sub-Committee's action was approved.

Supporter's Club.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had heard nothing further.

Building Scheme.

The Secretary reported on letter from Mr. Ravenhill, Architect, who, as the result of correspondence with the Dept. concerned, was of opinion that any permits would be delayed indefinitely. It was agreed that an electrician be asked to make an inspection of the switches in bathroom on grounds of safety.

On proposition of Mr. Millington seconded by Mr. Loveridge it was agreed to pay the Architect £50 on account of work done; this amount to be set against his final account when work covered by his specifications undertaken.

Loud Speaker.

Mr. Balchin reported Mr. Lamerton had visited the ground last week and regulated the speaker. The results on Saturday were however still not satisfactory and it was decided to ask for a further test to be made.

Newport Match - Radio Commentary.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had had a conversation with the Newport Secretary, whose views on the game did not in any way coincide with those expressed in the eye witness account broadcast. It was agreed no action necessary.

Touch Judges.

Oxford University - Rev. H. M. Hughes

Malvern - Mr. R. Morris

Old Bristolians - Deferred

Oxford University Match.

It was agreed to make the usual arrangements for reservation of stand seats for members up to approx. ¼ hour of kick-off. Gates to be opened 1.30 p.m. Seats for inside rails to be left to discretion of Hon. Sec. and Hon. Treasurer pending suitable weather.

City General Hospital.

The Hon. Sec. reported letter from Med. Regr. of City General Hospital expressing appreciation of the way her request on behalf of disabled patient, to be allowed to see matches from inside rails, had been dealt with. The Hon. Sec. had sent a complimentary ticket.

Hoarding Adverts.

It was decided that Hoarding Adverts was a matter for the Ground Company.

St. Mark's Church.

Mr. A'Bear asked if permission could be given to St. Mark's Church to purchase one of the old goal posts unfit for future use as posts to replace the flag pole belonging to the Church. It was agreed to present the pole to the Church if one available.

Meeting closed 9:00 p.m.

[Signed] H. M. Hughes

Dec. 18, 1951.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Office, Kingsholm, Tuesday, December 18th, 1951.

Present: Dr. Alcock, President, A. T. Voyce, A. Hudson, Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. M. Hughes, Chairman, H. J. Balchin, Hon. Treasurer, T. Burns, Hon. Fix. Sec., S. H. Davies, T. Day, R. N. Loveridge, F. Wadley, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris R. H. James, T. H. Millington, S. F. Taylor.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:-

Memorial Fund.

There was nothing further to report. It was decided to discuss this matter at next meeting with a view to arriving at a price to offer.

Building Scheme.

The Hon. Sec. reported he had written Mr. Ravenhill the Architect who had replied promising to watch the position and make a further application for a licence in March.

St. Mark's Church.

Reported a suitable pole found and presented.

Touch Judges.

Bath	-	Mr. T. Burns and Mr. T. Day
Bath United	-	Mr. F. Wadley
O.M.T.'s	-	Mr. J. G. A'Bear
U.A.U.	-	Mr. R. Morris
Richmond	-	Mr. R. H. James
Cleve	-	Mr. S. H. Davies

Army Match - Jan. 10th.

Agreed kick-off 2.45 p.m.

Wasps F.C.

It was agreed Mr. Voyce accept as Club's Repr. invitation to 85th Anniversary Dinner on February 14th.

Boxing Day Match.

It was decided to arrange for reservation of stand seats for season ticket holders and for seats inside rails.

London Scottish.

It was reported a request to play in morning of England v. S. Africa match had been received. It was agreed to sound London Scottish Sec. on the matter.

Finances.

The Hon. Treasurer gave a report of the financial position which showed an appreciable increase in receipts to date as compared with last season. The question of the investment of surplus cash was deferred for time being.

United XV - Local Players.

The Chairman drew attention to the fact that the United XV had travelled short to Coventry, last Saturday, local players called on having refused to play. He suggested this was a matter which should be dealt with by the North Glos. Combination Committee. Mr. Wadley suggested a "round table" conference with local club representatives. Finally agreed to have further consideration pending article reported to be appearing in next Saturday's 'Football Citizen.'

Fixtures.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. read letter from Bristol - Bordeaux Committee who are anxious to arrange a tour in the West Country for the Stade Bordelair R.F.C. Suggested games with Bristol on Saturday, Bath on Monday and Gloucester on Tuesday. The Hon. Fix. Sec. was instructed to reply that Gloucester Club favourably interested and ask for further details.

Mr. Millington drew attention to match with Clifton on Nov. 22nd 1952, a date now vacated by the County. He suggested it might be considered desirable to endeavour to get Clifton to release this date in favour of a stronger Club. The Hon. Fix. Sec. was asked to make tentative enquiries with first class clubs including Cambridge University.

The Hon. Fix. Sec. asked that members of Committee might consider the question of the Annual Tour in 1953/54 season with a view to determining whether change of venue desirable.

Meeting closed 9:45 p.m.

[Signed] Arnold Alcock

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