

COVENTRY  
FOOTBALL  
CLUB  
RUGBY UNION



PROGRAMME  
10p

On the home front a sincere welcome back to all of you and in turn many congratulations to Ian Darnell and David Duckham following their respective appointments as Captain and Vice Captain. We are certain they would have preferred to start the season with victory at Newport, but whilst this was not the case, we were certainly not disgraced, with the team defending very well indeed. A particular word here for hooker Bob Hobson who came into the side at the last minute as replacement for the injured Caspar Weston. To step straight from Barker Butts to Rodney Parade is an awful lot to ask of anyone, but Bob came through with considerable credit. Undoubtedly during the summer, everyone connected with the club was sorry to see the departure for assorted reasons of Peter Preece, Keith Aitcheson and Stuart Hamilton, which certainly has stretched our resources in the backs a little, but the players have been training extremely hard, with excellent attendances for weeks and will now be looking for the rewards where it really counts. We wish them well.

A word or two here for the Extra First XV, who opened their season in fine style last Saturday by crushing Oldham. They really do deserve to enjoy better support than is generally the case, so please remember there are plenty of opportunities in the next week or so, starting with Cardiff Athletic, here next Saturday.

#### **FROM THE SECRETARY:**

At the start of a new season, we should surely remind ourselves that the prime aims of our game must surely be enjoyment and the spirit of friendship to our visitors both on and off the field, which is so often lacking in other sports. Certainly let us always play hard to win, but not to win simply at all costs!

The close season has seen a lot of activity on the ground. The loudspeaker system has been renewed, together with part renovation of the floodlighting system. Further work has also been carried out to the boundary fencing. Both goalposts were also in need of urgent attention and in addition have been re-painted. Particular thanks here must be given to the Wheatley Bros., Eddie Timmins and Geoff Dipple, but also without assistance from Committee members and other helpers, much of this work could not have been completed.

The Fixture Secretary has made considerable strides towards completing the fixture list for the newly formed Youth XV and details of this will be published within the next few days. We should mention in advance of this information that for the time being, the Youth XV matches will mainly be played in mid-week and on Sundays.

#### **500 CLUB:**

At the start of another new season, we appeal to you all, old members and new, to come along and support us again. Over the past few seasons, the "500 Club" has donated considerable amounts to the club for betterment of facilities generally. This can only continue with your support, £10 for the season, payable either as a lump sum or by monthly payments. Draws as in previous years will take place at the end of each month, the final big draw taking place at the Cheese & Wine Party on May 11th.

Please see Frank Walton or one of the Committee today in the foyer of the Clubhouse.

#### **FUND RAISING COMMITTEE:**

Under the Chairmanship of Peter Jackson, events have already been planned for this season, which it has to be said, we hope will be rather better supported than last year.

Starting on Friday 22nd September, the first venture is the "Coundon Race Meeting". For those who did attend, the meeting last year was most enjoyable, so we appeal to you all to come along in large numbers, to ensure the evening is a success. Entrance to the meeting is by ticket, price 50p, and these are already available from Peter Jackson, Frank Walton, John Butler, Charles Prescott or indeed any Committee person.

We hope also to organise another Sponsored Walk in October, details to be confirmed, but we can tell you that on Friday 27th October, a Barn Dance is to be held, with music being provided by the English Folk Dance & Song Society. Please note the date, further details and tickets available shortly.

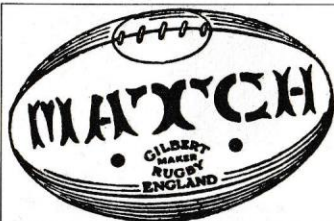
#### **SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES:**

Following a request from today's match sponsors, E. Timmins Engineering Ltd., the Committee recently decided at a meeting to suspend today the usual Tote, which will however continue at the same price, 3p per go, at future games. Today, thanks to the generosity of the sponsors, a prize draw is being held, first prize £60, second £30, third £10. Tickets, price 20p each, are available from tote positions and from around the ground, with the draw taking place after today's game. Please support this excellent scheme, which will in the final analysis help us to help the club in these difficult financial times.

Last season, our Shop in the Clubhouse got off the ground in a big way and is open again today before and after the game. Please come along and see our stocks of sweaters, shirts, ties, pens etc.

We are also after all of you again to renew your membership or join for the first time. Charges are unchanged 25p for adults, 10p O.A.P.'s and children, so please call at the Office, Shop or see a Committee person. Our aims as before are simple, to assist the parent club and Rugby Football locally as much as is practically possible. Without your support this is difficult. One final word to the people who criticised us for not running a coach to Newport; we will run them anywhere providing enquiries and numbers are high enough, so please call and discuss this.

Your programme editor is John Butler.



TODAY'S MATCH BALL PRESENTED BY:

**E. Timmins Engineering Ltd.**

TODAY'S MATCH EXPENSES SPONSORED BY:

**E. Timmins Engineering Ltd.**

SATURDAY  
9th SEPTEMBER 1978

# TEAMS

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

## Coventry

No.	Name	
15	P. A. Rossborough*	<i>Full Back</i>
14	P. F. Knee	<i>Right Wing</i>
13	G. W. Evans*	<i>Right Centre</i>
12	D. J. Duckham*	<i>Left Centre</i>
11	S. Maisey	<i>Left Wing</i>
10	A. R. Cowman*	<i>Stand Off</i>
9	C. Grimshaw*	<i>Scrum Half</i>
1	T. Dingley	<i>Forwards</i>
2	R. Hobson	
3	F. Melvin	
4	I. R. Darnell (Capt.)	
5	B. F. Nannes*	
6	J. Shippides	
8	G. Robbins	
7	R. Cardwell	

Replacements:

P. Evans  
M. Scott

## Gloucester

Name	No.
P. Butler*	15
R. Mogg	14
B. Vine	13
R. Rooney	12
R. Clews	11
C. Williams*	10
P. Kingston*	9
G. Sargeant	1
S. Mills	2
M. Curran	3
S. Boyle	4
J. Orwin	5
J. Watkins*	6
J. Simonette*	8
P. Wood	7

Replacements:

S. Baker  
J. Gadd

**Referee:**  
**Mr. B. Head-Rapson**  
**(Notts., Lincs. &**  
**Derby Soc.)**

\*International

It is difficult to think of a more arduous yet more attractive way of commencing our home campaign than by welcoming the "John Player Cup" holders, Gloucester, to Coundon Road today. Congratulations to them on their Twickenham success over Leicester in April, we might have been there ourselves, but this factor alone will act as a further spur today to our team, should in fact they need it.

Our visitors arrive fresh from a home 33 points to 4 success last Saturday against Broughton Park. "Activity" during the close season at Kingsholm would appear to be very much a case of a senior player retiring, namely the redoubtable Mike Burton, but on the credit side, a seasoned international joining them. Lewis Dick, the former Scottish cap, has arrived in Gloucester from Swansea. During last season's successful campaign, full back Peter Butler again led the country's points scoring list with 451 points and wingers Bob Clewes and Richard Mogg between them touched down for 36 tries, 19 to Clewes, 17 to Mogg. Even not allowing for the arrival of Scotsman Dick, Gloucester certainly have plenty of wing power. Indeed with the traditional West Country forward power to go with it, we know that we are in for a very stiff encounter today.