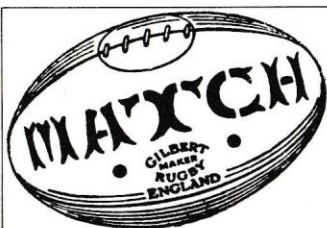




COVENTRY
FOOTBALL
CLUB
RUGBY UNION

PROGRAMME

15p



TODAY'S MATCH BALL & MATCH EXPENSES
SPONSORED BY:

Ansells Limited

SATURDAY
15th DECEMBER 1979

TEAMS

Kick-off 3.00 pm.

Coventry - 3

Gloucester - 9

No.	Name		Name	No.
15	R. Grant	<i>Full Back</i>	P. Butler	15
14	P. Knee	<i>Right Wing</i>	R. Clews (Capt.)	14
13	M. Woodhead	<i>Right Centre</i>	D. Pointon	13
12	P. Coulthard	<i>Left Centre</i>	R. Mogg	12
11	M. Clifford	<i>Left Wing</i>	P. Tunstall	11
10	H. Davies	<i>Stand Off</i>	B. Russell	10
9	C. Grimshaw	<i>Scrum Half</i>	S. Baker	9
1	S. Wilkes	<i>Forwards</i>	P. Breakway	1
2	A. Farrington		S. Mills	2
3	F. Melvin		M. Preedy	3
4	B. Ninnes		S. Boyle	4
5	S. Brown		J. Fidler	5
6	S. Oliver		J. Watkins	6
8	S. Gregory		P. Wood	8
7	J. Shippides		A. Turton	7

Referee:
P. Hughes
(Manchester Society)

Replacements:

D. Foulks
P. Thomas

Replacements:

To be Announced

THE VISITORS:

For our last home game this decade, we extend a warm welcome to Gloucester, once again enjoying a successful season.

On Monday of this week, our visitors became the first English club side this season to lower Bath's colours, when they triumphed at Kingsholm by 10 pts to 3, six points from Peter Butler's prolific boot ensuring a victory that must have given them immense satisfaction in a local derby. Last Saturday seven Gloucester players, Butler, Mogg, Russell, Kingston, Sargent, Mills and Fidler were all part of the victorious county side that defeated North Midlands, whilst an eighth, Turton came on as replacement forward.

Following their game against Bath, Gloucester's record this season shows 17 wins, 2 draws and 6 defeats, with 503 points already in the bag and 249 against. During the "70's" we have met 9 times at Coundon Road, 6 of the games ending in Coventry victories, 2 to Gloucester and in 1971/72 a six all draw in the Cup competition, when of course the West Countrymen went on to win the title in the first year of its operation. Last season Gloucester gained the double over us, our last victory on home soil was two years ago, when on this corresponding Saturday, we triumphed by 16 pts to 10. We should also not forget that we have the encouragement of a 13 pts all draw at Kingsholm in September. For the benefit of the statisticians, our biggest victory was in season 1964/65, by 45 pts to nil, although Gloucester will probably be quick to point out county football was being played that day!

THE COVENTRY FRONT:

Since our last home game and the success over Bedford, results for our 1st XV have again been rather disappointing. The form shown down at Richmond was not some we shall wish to remember, in a game which overall is probably better forgotten. However to last Saturday and Llanelli, whilst we lost, the lads certainly played with character and courage and were in no way disgraced. A win at Stradey Park though must be overdue for us, although we must wait at least another two years.

The home success over Bedford, being our last Midland Merit table game of the season was most welcome and ensured a final tally of 5 wins and 3 defeats. Leicester or possibly Moseley look the likely winners of the table, with ourselves virtually assured of 4th place and of course entry into next season's "John Player" Cup.

It is good to see some of our injured players returning to action, Geoff Evans, David Bailey and Robin Cardwell to name but three. Steve Hall has of course also been sidelined for the same reason, but in addition has recently returned from honeymoon. Steve was back in the action for the "Extras" last week, congratulations from us all on his recent marriage.

Belated congratulations should also be extended to Jim Broderick and Huw Davies, following their appearances for Steele-Bodger's XV against Cambridge University. To Jim in particular if Huw will forgive us, may we particularly say, in the "evening" of your career, well done, a truly well deserved honour for services to the game.

Our Extra First XV, playing some magnificently entertaining football march on, their victory last Saturday during which time 350 pts were passed for the season, was their 11th on the trot. Assuming the "Extras" avoid defeat here next Saturday against Rochdale, the game the following week against their Cardiff counterparts should be quite something, remembering the "Extras" have not been beaten at home since October 1978.

FIXTURE ALTERATIONS:

The Club Committee would like to make it known that with the away fixture with Swansea in January being lost due to "John Player" Cup commitments, every attempt will be made to honour this fixture later in the season.

Several games have now been re-arranged in the New Year, because of "live" television, these being: NEW BRIGHTON to SUNDAY 20th JANUARY Kick off 3pm. WATERLOO to SUNDAY 3rd FEBRUARY, Kick off 3pm. NORTHAMPTON to FRIDAY 15th FEBRUARY, Kick off 7.15pm.

In addition, discussions have commenced with Harlequins, regarding the possibility of altering the game on 15th March. More news as soon as possible.

"500 CLUB"

The November draw was made after the Bedford match and details of winners were as follows:

£100 No 240 W. D. Taylor	£50 No 203 L. C. Sinclair	£25 No 231 A. R. Hodge
£25 No 198 F. Walters	£10 No 228 M. R. Phillpot	£10 No 288 N. S. Tipple
£10 No 460 D. Foulks	£10 No 490 S. J. Thomas	£10 No 251 W. E. Pugh

LADIES COMMITTEE CHRISTMAS DRAW:

All counterfoils should be returned by today please, with the draw itself taking place next Saturday. Tickets may be purchased from the Clubhouse foyer, come along and see the many attractive prizes.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS:

You will probably have read in the Press, several members have suggested they would like to see the Clubhouse open on Friday evenings between the hours of 5.30 - 7.30 pm as a gathering place at the end of the working week and also once a month on Wednesday lunchtimes. The Committee before making any definite decisions are anxious to gauge possible support, so if you would like to see these developments please let Social Secretary Tony Millerchip know and we will take it from there.

Tickets for the Christmas Supper Dance on Friday 21st December price £3.00 each and also the New Years Eve Buffet Dance, price £5.50 each are now available. Please see John Gardiner and enjoy the festivities in your own club.

DATES TO NOTE:

CLUB DINNER Thursday 31st January 1980, tickets available shortly.

CLUB DINNER DANCE: Friday 9th May 1980, at the Manor Hotel, Meriden.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS:

Today is the last opportunity for you to make Christmas purchases of ties, shirts, sweaters etc from the shop. If you're still trying to solve a present problem, call and have a look in the Clubhouse before or after the game.

A new supply of Club Centenary ties by popular demand are available from today from the shop, price £3 each, what about one of these for Christmas?

A coach will run to Fylde for the "John Player" Cup on Saturday 26th January, providing there is sufficient support: Departure 9 am, back in Coventry by midnight, return fare £3.50, with a deposit of £1 with your booking. Names and enquiries please to either Diane Pell at the shop or Asst Secretary, Robert Bromfield in the office.

Your programme editor is John Butler, Press & Publicity Officer.