

# THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1962

CLUTTERBUCK THE STAR OF GREAT WIN

TORQUAY FESTIVAL XV 9PTS., GLOUCESTER 21PTS.

Rarely can Gloucester have started a new season with greater confidence and will-to-win than they did at Torquay Athletic ground last night.

The programme described the home side as Torquay Athletic; the posters billed them as a Festival XV. Whoever they were, they were certainly a fast, fit and powerful side, as indeed they should have been with seven physical training instructors in their ranks.

Gloucester will meet fewer teams any faster or more determined. The delighted home crowd unstintingly applauded the fifteen weary but happy Gloucester men for providing the finest Rugby of this highly successful festival week.

And the hero of the evening was undoubtedly "new boy" Richard Clutterbuck at outside-half!

Clutterbuck was superb! His safe hands, remarkable acceleration, and elusive running often left bewildered defenders with little to do but pause and admire.

Another newcomer, Gordon League's Ron Pitt, fitted in so admirably with John Bayliss that Gloucester supporters began thinking in terms of strength in the centre – an unknown quantity in Gloucester Rugby for so long. Rarely have two centres tackled so devastatingly as did Pitt and Bayliss.

Mickie Booth gave every appearance of revelling in the cares – or joys – of captaincy. He was full of tricks.

The forwards, as expected of a Gloucester pack, were a formidable force.

## DOMINANT IN SECOND HALF

The sparsely-thatched frontispiece of the irrepressible Peter Ford seemed to be in the van of every attack, while up with him were Roy Long, Alan Brinn, Tony Davies and Alan Townsend, each giving their all in the loose exchanges.

Gloucester, indeed, were so dominant in the second half that the home side rarely left their own territory.

The third newcomer, hooker Mike Wetson, did everything one would expect from such a talented player, though from the first scrum, within 30 seconds of the kick-off, he was penalised – and Bowen promptly gave Torquay the lead with a beautiful 40 yards kick.

However, a brilliant break by Bayliss gave Gloucester a foothold in enemy territory. Ford charged down an attempted clearance, crossed near the posts, Russell Hillier converted – and Gloucester were ahead.

## BAYLISS CROSSES

Torquay regained the lead when right-winger Lewis rounded Hillier to score wide out, but soon John Bayliss crossed for a try, which Hillier again improved.

In one of their sporadic raids Torquay reduced the arrears right on the interval with a snap dropped goal by Bowen.

In the second half Bayliss gained his second try and Hillier once more converted. Then came a brilliant run by Clutterbuck, who swerved his way through for the finest try seen on the ground throughout the week.

The home line underwent several narrow escapes before Peter Ford appeared from nowhere to plunge over for the final try. This time Hillier's conversion attempt hit the upright.