



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v SOUTH WALES POLICE

**Wednesday, 12th November, 1980
Kingsholm, Gloucester**

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

174

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

A Policeman's lot . . .

. . . is not a happy one, as the song says. But that's not always the case, as the lot of policemen visiting Kingsholm tonight can testify.

South Wales Police must have the distinction of being about the youngest team Gloucester play. Not in terms of the age of their players, we hasten to add, but with reference to the age of their Club, which was founded as recently as 1969, according to the Rothmans Rugby Handbook.

Tonight's visitors record may be — variable, let us say, but any eleven-year-old Club which can already point to a fixture list which includes Swansea, Llanelli and Gloucester, has a lot to be proud of.

Perhaps we should point out to tonight's visitors that we reckon to know something about Rugby-playing policemen in these parts. Sid Dangerfield, Richard Jardine, John Fidler have all performed sterling service for Gloucester over the years.

Last year's match was played at Kingsholm on October 23rd, and resulted in Gloucester's tenth win of the Season. John Watkins helped himself to two tries, while Richard Mogg and Lewis Dick got into the act as well. Peter Butler converted one of them, and the final score was 18-10.

South Wales — we think your policemen are wonderful.

No Semi-Final after all!

It might seem like jumping the gun, when the Quarter Finals haven't been played yet, but we do have to report that we shall not, after all, be staging the Thorn County Championship Semi-Finals here at Kingsholm on November 22nd.

When we reported to you, a match or two ago, that we were in for three successive Saturdays of County Rugby, we did so in good faith, because that was the arrangement at the time. However, it was pointed out that our friends at Bristol have not had a Semi-Final for some time, and that perhaps they ought to have a crack of the whip. The County Officers saw the justice of this point of view, and agreed.

Pity, from our point of view. However, perhaps three on the trot was being a bit greedy.

At the time of writing, we don't have any information about tickets for the Semi-Final, should Gloucestershire progress that far. It's possible that Terry Tandy may be able to announce something this evening, but in any case, we'll give you full details at the Aberavon match next Tuesday — which still gives a day or two, should you wish to go down to Bristol. Meanwhile — watch the press.

. . . and no tickets for the Quarters

As was announced immediately after last Saturday's Somerset match, shortage of time has prevented the provision of tickets for the Quarter Finals against Buckinghamshire, here, next Saturday. Prices will be the same as for last week — £2.00 Centre Stand, £1.50 Wing Stand, £1.00 Ground. The system will be the same as for any normal Gloucester match, although obviously, on this occasion, season ticket holders will have to pay.

If you like the luxury of sitting down, pay £1.00 at the gate, and then transfer to the stand with the appropriate extra charge. Arrangements are being made for an additional transfer kiosk on the day.

Incidentally, it will be nice to see Buckinghamshire. With the greatest of respect to John Orwin, it will make a change from Oxfordshire, who seem to progress to the top of their group with almost the same regularity as we do to ours.

Round Dozen

And speaking of that, congratulations to the County for winning the Group for the 12th time in succession. You may remember that the last team to stop us doing that was Cornwall who proceeded to the Final where they were beaten by Lancashire.

And our own Tom Palmer was playing at outside half for the Oggy Men.

Cambridge 'Fiver'

Just one lucky programme number to report this week. At the Cambridge University match, it was won by programme no. 171, which was bought by Mr. Llewellyn. In spite of his foreign sounding name, he lives at no. 29, Denmark Road — almost on our doorstep.

It must have warmed up the coldest Rugby-playing evening of the year so far.

No Merit in the Plymouth win

That was an excellent win at Plymouth by the depleted Gloucester side last Saturday. Five tries in a 26-6 win was, under the circumstances, very creditable.

Unfortunately, it won't do us any good in the South West Merit Table. We had enough faith in our side to be happy that it should be a Merit Table match, although, under the rules, we could have opted out with so many players on County duty. Plymouth, however, were also hit by Devon calls, and exercised their privilege under the same rule. And we don't play them again this year.

The Front Door's shut again

Just to remind Social Club Members, that they'll have to get into the Ground before having a drink again on Saturday. We're continuing the experiment of relieving congestion at the Ticket Holders turnstile just before the game by keeping the Worcester Street doors of the club closed before the match, and allowing entrance from inside the Ground.

There are added advantages this week, however. As everyone has to pay, it could be quite a scrum if Members decided to come out of the Club a few minutes before kick-off, and all try to get into the Ground at the same time. So come early and have a pint while you're waiting.

Early start again

Just a reminder that the County match on Saturday starts at 2.45. We repeat TWO FORTY FIVE!

Nearly another Methusaleh!

The 'Daily Telegraph' announces that the Gloucester team was only just pipped at the post for a second mighty Methusaleh of Champagne in the 'Team of the Week' Competition.

Apparently, the Judges were a little torn between the Gloucester claim staked during the wonderful win over Leicester, and the equally worthy feat of Pontypridd in lifting Bridgend's unbeaten record. In the event, the Ponty side got it.

Well — the Welsh don't have much to celebrate, at the moment, do they?

And we believe there is no truth in the rumour that Alan Brinn is staging a sit-in at the 'Telegraph' offices, in protest.

Tailpiece

I had the pleasure of meeting Colonel William Brown, Commanding Officer of the American Air Force at Fairford the other evening with his attractive wife Jean, who it transpires, is an English girl.

During the evening, it became clear that Col. Brown is a tremendous sports fan, and I naturally extended an invitation for him to come along to Kingsholm with me at some time, which he accepted.

At that point, a mutual friend asked "What's Jean supposed to be doing, while you're getting her husband into bad habits?" I answered, tactfully I thought, that there might be certain aspects of the Rugby social scene that might not commend themselves to delicately brought-up young ladies.

"What do you mean?" bridled Jean, "I'll have you know that I used to be Secretary of a Rugby Club in Carlisle. I used to scrub the boys backs, and I know the words of all the songs!"

Excellent taste some of these Americans.

PETER ARNOLD.

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GLOUCESTER - 19

Cherry & White

Full Back
15. P. Ford

Three Quarters
14. P. Conway
* 13. P. Howell
* 12. P. Taylor
* 11. R. Clewes

Half Backs
10. C. Pryce
9. S. Baker

Forwards
1. A. Dix
* 2. S. Mills (Capt.)
*† 3. M. Burton
*§ 4. S. Boyle
* 5. J. Orwin
* 6. P. Wood
8. M. Teague
7. M. Longstaff

REPLACEMENTS
A. Durkin
A. Turton

SOUTH WALES POLICE - 6

Red

Full Back
15. D. Holt

Three Quarters
14. B. Parry
13. L. Handley
12. J. Jones
11. M. Brinkworth

Half Backs
10. J. Davies (Capt.)
9. P. Noble

Forwards
1. G. Hiscocks
2. C. Brooks
3. D. Price
4. P. Prygodzicz
5. H. Casey
6. S. Balzano
8. P. Bassett
7. P. Davies

REPLACEMENTS

Referee: C. LEEKE (East Midlands)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



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