GLoucester  
(Red and White)

FULL BACK
1 E. STEPHENS

THREEQUARTERS
2 J. GROVES (C)  B.W.
3 R. JARDINE  R.C.
4 R. RICE (C)  NOOK  L.C.
5 R. MORRIS  L.W.

HALF BACKS
6 J. BAYLIS  (Captain)  B.H.
7 J. SPALDING  WILLIAM

FORWARDS
8 R. COWLING  FOLKE
9 M. NICHOLLS  (C)
10 M. BURTON
11 J. JARRETT  (C)
12 N. JACKSON
13 G. WHITE  (C)
14 C. HANNAFORD  (C)
15 R. SMITH  (C)
OUR VISITORS

It is, perhaps, most appropriate at this festive season to welcome to Kingsholm our near neighbours and friends, Stroud, this afternoon, and as usual when they are the visitors we look forward to a bright, open game of rugger.

Supporters will readily recall that at the beginning of last season, sandwiched between two magnificent victories over Northampton and Coventry, our lads came a cropper at Fromehall Park, where Stroud gained a narrow win. Revenge was forthcoming in the return encounter at Kingsholm on the evening of Wednesday, April 19th, however, when Gloucester romped home to a comfortable victory by 21 points to 5.

John Dix, Don Rutherford, John Bayliss, Nick Foce and Gary White scored Gloucester's tries, three of which Rutherford converted. Russell Hillier added the extra points to a try by Graham Phillips for Stroud.

KINGSHOLM KACKLE

We realise that there are many keen rugger enthusiasts, in view of their jobs, or because they are playing themselves, or maybe for other reasons, who cannot get to Kingsholm as often as they would wish. We make no apology, then, for another reminder of some of the midweek matches ahead which supporters, not always free on Saturdays, may like to see.

There is, of course, the annual game with the Army on Thursday, February 8th; then on the following Wednesday (Feb. 14th) Gloucester have the attractive floodlit fixture with Loughborough Colleges, newcomers to their list, when the kick-off is at 7-15 p.m. It is also hoped that our friends from Bath, whose fixture with us at Kingsholm earlier this month was “snowed off”, will agree to meet Gloucester, also under the floodlights, early in the New Year.

The regular Saturday afternoon supporters – and many others – will need little reminding that this coming Saturday, December 30th, brings the famous Cardiff side to Kingsholm, with the kick-off, as usual, at 3-15 p.m.

A gentle hint has been dropped that no mention has been made in these programme notes for a considerable time of the fortunes of Gloucester R.F.C. cribbage team. In view of their somewhat indifferent performances of recent weeks, one would have thought it diplomatic to have side-stepped publicity, as it were. However, thanks to a splendid start to the season the rugby club’s “card sharpers” share top position in the North section of the Gloucester Cribbage League. A commendable performance in their first season in the League.

Further details may soon be known of Coventry’s invitation to Moseley, Leicester, Northampton and our own club to play extra matches among themselves under floodlights. It is a proposition that would be welcomed by our own supporters, and no doubt by those of other clubs. The venture may even start next season, and while the Rugby Union would frown on the merest suggestion of a “league” among these leading clubs, there would be considerable prestige attached to these extra games, with due honours being accorded to the side which finished as “top dogs”!

A.R.