

GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

EXETER UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 24th, 1992
Kick Off 7.00 p.m.



FOUNDED 1873

President:
Canon H. M. Hughes BA

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Official Programme

Peter Arnold

BACK TO THE FUTURE!

After the hype and eventual euphoria surrounding the Transvaal game, the needle at Moseley engendered by hasty remarks concerning the assumed quality of the side we were sending there and the tension of the vital League match against Saracens, it's nice to get back to a simple friendly against traditional and welcome opposition.

Indeed, it's 'back to the future' you might say, because Exeter University, bearing in mind its former incarnation of 'St. Luke's', has always been one of the country's most important training grounds for eventual International players. Only Loughborough Colleges can point to a comparable record in that respect, if you don't count Oxbridge, which is a special case.

If you want a good recent example of an old Exeter man who made it all the way, I give you David Sole, who was born in Aylesbury — not exactly the first town one thinks of in rugby terms — and learned the game at Exeter University. He had a distinguished spell at Bath, as we have good reason to remember, went North to Edinburgh Academicals, and became the most charismatic captain Scotland has had in living memory.

When Scotland, against the odds, beat England to win the Grand Slam in 1989, Rothman's Yearbook made him one of their Five Players of the Year, and, after commenting on his pivotal role in the victorious Lions tour of Australia, wrote of him:

'Sole cut an astonishing figure in the Grand Slam match itself. He played with a staggering intensity, he was the very heart of the win, the rock on which England foundered. His familiar white headband bobbed up all over the field in the loose, and he became only the third Scot ever to lead his country to the Grand Slam.'

That's the guy we're all hoping will be succeeded by Peter Jones in the Scottish front row, and I repeat, he learned his rugby with Exeter University. Wonder if 'Joner' will be up against another such this evening.

For that matter, I wonder if we'll see another Phil Cooke? He's another man who played for Exeter University, and appeared just once at Kingsholm, where he found himself marking John Watkins in all

his pride and glory. ('An interesting experience', says Phil, wryly.)

Philip went on to play on the flank for Harlequins, had a distinguished coaching career notably at Thurrock where he presided over a creditable Cup run, and eventually arrive in Gloucester as Tourism Officer; a new post for the City.

Phil is now regarded as one of the leading promoters of tourism in the country, so Gloucester has something to thank Exeter University for which doesn't have a lot to do with rugby. Although I must say, having been present at the time, his rugby pedigree was duly noted when he was interviewed for the job. Well — we're in Gloucester, aren't we.

There's another good reason why we're very pleased to see the students here this evening. Last season they didn't come at all, although in the event, they could have done. The problem was that it had peed down with rain all day, conditions were frightful, and a decision had to be made about whether we should allow them to start out on a journey which might prove to be fruitless. It was decided to call the game off, a phone call was made, and as soon as the phone went back on its cradle, the rain stopped, a drying wind developed, and by 7.00 p.m. the ground was perfectly playable. Everyone had acted in good faith, but it was a pity, nevertheless.

So we have two years to make up for. I've no doubt we shall do that, and we hope they have a thoroughly memorable visit.

THANKS TO CARTERS BUILDERS

To talk about a shy and retiring builder sounds like a contradiction in terms, and a shy and retiring sponsor is certainly an oxymoron* of the worst kind. This we have this evening, however, as Alan Carter of Carters Builders of Newent has been too modest to reveal enough about his respected company for me to give you my usual breakdown of the whys and wherefores of our generous benefactors.

However, it does strike me that the building industry, as we all know, has been just about the worst hit in the everlasting recession in which we find ourselves, so for a member of that embattled trade to

(cont. on page 5)



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BEST FOR THE 1992/1993 SEASON
AND WELCOMES ITS GUESTS
TO KINGSHOLM

Peter Arnold (cont.)

sponsor a game shows generosity of the highest order.

We thank him most sincerely for that, and hope that when the long-promised recovery comes, his firm takes off like a rocket. His devotion to Gloucester RFC deserves no less.

**Before anyone, without the benefit of a Crypt School education, accuses me of being rude to Mr. Carter, or anyone else, I should point out that the word 'oxymoron' has nothing to do with 'morons' or 'moronic'. It's a technical, English Grammar sort of word, meaning, simply, 'a contradiction in terms'. As in 'terribly good' for example, which would be, I'm sure, a highly appropriate way to describe Carters Builders, and the services they provide.*

Anyway, with a University side here, I had to do something erudite, didn't I?

NEXT OF THE BREED?

I wonder if, in a quarter of a century or so, someone might be writing a potted biography of 10 year-old Tom Dix in the same terms as I have just eulogised David Sole? He's certainly started on the same road, and if there's an Exeter University recruiter here this evening, I recommend that he notes the name for a possible follow-up in seven or eight years time.

Tom is this evening's Match Mascot, and he already has an impressive track record. At the moment, he is playing hooker for Old Richians Under 11's, and he has been playing mini-rugby there since he was a member of the Under 8's.

In fact, he has been skipping them for the past two seasons, and already has some highly significant scalps under his belt, notably on tour.

First of all, he took a side to the Bath Mini Tournament, and they finished as runner's up, a not inconsiderable achievement when you consider that the eventual winners were Bath, who had home advantage, of course, and that's a big bonus at mini level.

Not satisfied with that, he then went with Old Richians to the prestigious Fylde Tournament, and that time they won the trophy, taking it out of Lancashire for the first time.

It also occurs to me that the name 'Dix' is a familiar one at Kingsholm. As many people will recall with some nostalgia, John Dix was a forthright winger, who I once saw blot Gerald Davies out of a game against Cardiff, and the younger Stewart was about as quick a player as ever scorched down the Kingsholm touchline. I don't know if young Tom is related, but it seems likely that the Dix genes have been passed along by some route or other.

Young Tom Dix is, at present, attending St. Paul's Primary School, and tells us that his dearest ambition is to play for Gloucester. I certainly wouldn't like to take money that he won't.

Father Rob Dix runs his own car transport business, and Mum, Norina, works at Asda. See you on Friday Morning, Norina. I'm the large one with a big bottle of cheap plonk (for the Lady Wife), and a bemused expression.

RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

Having a little space available this time round, it's worth running down the programme between now and the holiday period. Just so's you can work out when to dodge giving a hand with the shopping.

Saturday, of course, is the day of the next round of the Pilkington Cup, and we have to make the long journey to Newcastle Gosforth. I'll expand on that a little later. However, if you're not going up, you could come here and watch United play Hereford, hoping that news from up north filters around the ground from time to time. It usually does in such circumstances.

Tuesday, 1st December sees the visit of Cheltenham to play United, then on Saturday 5th December, we have a home fixture against the ever-attractive Leicester side. It's not a League engagement, but that never yet prevented a highly entertaining game between the 'Tigers' and the 'Elver Eaters'.

United at home again the following Wednesday — December 9th — trying to put it across the grand old St. Paul's College side, and they also provide the entertainment on Saturday the 12th, when Saracens pay them a visit. That day the Firsts are away to Exeter.

They're away on the Saturday before Christmas, too, paying a visit to Coventry, whose second string arrive here on the same day to face United, which could well be worth coming along for. ("Last minute shopping Dear? Oh, dear me no. Coventry's at Kingsholm!" Well, it's got to be worth a try.)

That brings us to the holiday season proper — if you ignore the First XV's daunting trip to Neath on Tuesday 22nd. Then, Boxing Day falling on a Saturday this year, we have the traditional visit from Lydney.

I'm also delighted to point out that, on Saturday, January 2nd, 1993, we are expecting Moseley to be our First Footers. As you may well remember, it was always Moseley over the New Year period, either at Kingsholm or The Reddings, and it's very gratifying that Mike Nicholls has been able to restore that other holiday tradition.

(cont. on page 8)

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WHO'S DOING WHAT (and to whom)

Club Officials and Committee Members for 1992/3 are as follows:

President: Canon Mervyn Hughes.

Vice Presidents: Tom Day, Gordon Hudson, Roy 'Digger' Morris.

Chairman: Peter Ford.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Doug Wadley, 'Byeways', Belmont Avenue, Hucclecote, Tel: 617202 — but please note, Doug is 'in residence' in the Office at the Ground from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. every Monday to Friday throughout the Season. Tel: 381087.

Hon. Fixtures Secretary: Mike Nicholls, 90, Kingsholm Road. Tel: 301879.

Hon. Team Secretary: Eric Stephens, 1, Court Gardens, Hempsted. Tel: 529000.

Chairman of Selectors: Mickey Booth, 5, Insley Gardens, Hucclecote.

Hon. Colts Secretary: Reg Collins, 11, Gilpin Avenue, Hucclecote. Tel: 614335.

Committee: John Beaman, Mickey Booth, Alan Brinn, Bob Clewes, Terry Close, Mervyn Elway, David Foyle, Jim Holder, Brian Howells, Richard Jardine, Jim Jarrett, Andy Mitchell, Cecil Pope, Trevor Pritchard, Eric Stephens, Alan Townsend.

Players Representative: Jeremy Bennett.

Captains: First XV: Ian Smith. **United:** Andrew Stanley.

Coach: Keith Richardson.

... **And I nearly forgot:** Programme editor, Peter Arnold, 74, Victoria Street. Tel: 380481, who welcomes news, stories, anecdotes from any supporter, from Gloucester or Opponents. Although the laws of libel or obscenity may deter him from printing them.

Peter Arnold (cont.)

As you know, Britain closes down for around a fortnight over the Festive Season, and the print industry is no exception. I'm not complaining, but it does mean that I have to have two programmes up and running at the same time, a few days before Christmas. That's my problem, but I mention it because, should you be thinking of dropping me a line for inclusion in either of the Lydney or Moseley programmes — and, as always, I'd welcome it — then I really do need to hear from you by about the 14th or 15th of the month. Seems early, but that's the way the scrum collapses at this time of the year, I'm afraid.

PREZZIES

While on the subject, don't forget that the Club Shop has a whole Santa's Grotto of goodies suitable for right-minded friends or relations. Putting it that way, I suppose Alan Townsend could double for Father Christmas, given the right costume and make-up, and John Beaman would make a fair Santa's helper-type Elf. Fairly mind-boggling mental picture, that.

Even if they do take me up on that, I am quite sure you won't be expected to sit on Alan's knee when you pay them a visit, so don't let that put you off patronising the establishment, will you?

(cont. on page 9)

NOBBY'S NEWSDESK



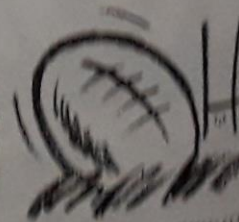
Hello Everyone,

Welcome to Kingsholm for the second time in 3 days. Tonight we entertain the lads from Exeter University, a game which should provide our boys with a nice friendly match after the tough encounter with Saracens on Saturday.

As you know I am the mascot for the Gold Bond lottery and I think it is time for a progress report. At the moment we have more paying members than we have had since the launch of the Bond in September 1991. We have also increased the number of Agents working for the benefit of the club, and themselves. So all in all it is going very well, but there is still plenty of room for members and Agents so JOIN US NOW AND BUY THE BOND.

See you soon, NOBBY

Always room for more Gold Bond Agents and Members. Find out how you can help the Club, and make a little money too, by contacting Andrew Benzle on Gloucester 419666



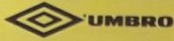
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GLOUCESTER

(Cherry/White)

T	G	Pts
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- 15. T. Smith
- 14. J. Perrins
- 13. I. Morgan *RANGER*
- 12. C. O'Donoghue
- 11. P. Holford
- 10. P. Morris
- 9. J. Davis
- 8. R. Fowke
- 7. A. Stanley (Capt.) *KNOX*
- 6. P. Glanville
- 5. S. Devereux
- 4. S. Bryan
- 3. R. Phillips
- 2. G. Mann
- 1. P. Jones

Replacements:
 M. Wadley *CURTIS*
 G. Reayer *MARTIN*

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

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Cumulative Match Score

EXETER UNIVERSITY

(Green/White Hoops)

T	G	Pts
/	/	/

- 15. M. Beauchamp
- 14. P. Drury
- 13. J. Moffatt
- 12. I. Muir
- 11. G. Thomas
- 10. J. Dance
- 9. R. Kitchen (Capt.)
- 8. A. Brotchie
- 7. R. Murphy
- 6. J. Polglaze
- 5. R. Smith
- 4. T. Bennett
- 3. A. Harrison
- 2. R. Holt
- 1. R. Towner *KNOX*

Replacements:
 S. Winkworth
 O. Chadholt

26	10
H/T	

62	15
F/T	

Referee: P. FACEY (WILTSHIRE SOCIETY)

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Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire

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Ed Martin

The Exeter University fixture is one of the newer clashes on the Gloucester card. The two sides have met seven times — all of them at Kingsholm where the Cherry and Whites are unbeaten in the series. Having said that, there is a "problem" as Gloucester had an annual fixture with St. Luke's College, Exeter, which was started in 1967-8 and lasted until 1977-8 when the college was swallowed up as part of Exeter University, the Varsity then taking over the fixture. So, these notes concern the visits of the students playing as Exeter University.

It was on Wednesday November 15, 1978 that Exeter University first came to Kingsholm. They returned south that night after scoring 20 points against the Cherry and Whites who, up at the other end helped themselves to 46 points.

Interestingly, Exeter University ranks very high on the list of the clubs scoring against Gloucester at Kingsholm in the 1978-9 season. Harlequins also scored 20 to beat the Cherry and Whites by 11 points — and no other English club scored more that season. The "all star" team from three clubs in Bucharesti, Romania, paid a visit on October 7 and pipped the Cherry and Whites by two points to post the top score of 30 points by a visiting team that season.

Since that opening fixture, the University has been given a torrid time, though they have got points on the board in all but one match. In 1982 they got into double figures as they recorded their closest-ever game against Gloucester who won 17-10.

Two of the matches have been blowouts, Gloucester winning by 69 points in 1979 and in 1985 posting their biggest score in history when 87 points were on the board at the end of the encounter, a John Player Cup match. The only shut-out of Exeter University in the series came on October 3, 1990 (the last visit) when Gloucester scored 46 points without reply.

The students will rightly claim that there has been one victory against the Cherry and Whites — and they have drawn a match as well. This was back

before the "amalgamation" that heralded the Michaelmas term of '78 when the St. Luke's College team became part of the Varsity.

In the autumn of 1967 — and in the very first fixture between the two clubs, St. Luke's beat Gloucester 22-6. Then in the following season in the second match of the series, the students held Gloucester to a 9-9 draw.

All told, St. Luke's played 12 matches against Gloucester (see table).

COMPLETE RECORD v ST. LUKE'S COLLEGE/ EXETER UNIVERSITY FROM 1967-8 TO DATE

	P	W	L	D	PF	PA
Exeter Un.	7	7	0	0	342	44
St. Luke's	12	10	1	1	245	108
Total	19	17	1	1	587	152

Recently re-discovered is a short reflection on "my most outstanding rugby memory" by Walter Taylor, who played for Gloucester in the very first match at Kingsholm. The incident that stood out in the memory of the then 80 years-old former Cherry and White "star" in 1951 was what came after Gloucester had clinched the first-ever clean sweep in one season by an English club against the mighty Welsh four — Cardiff, Llanelly (as it was spelled then), Newport and Swansea.

There were thousands at Central Station to meet the team on their arrival after pulling-off what was then, in 1898, the impossible dream — four wins against the big four. [Local folk lore has that train arrival as anytime between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., depending on the pub you drink in.]

"They chaired us through the City," Walter Taylor wrote. In all the big business houses they were showing coloured lights, and they were letting off fireworks in the street.

"Somebody snatched my bag — it turned up next week at Kingsholm with all my kit washed and ironed."

Ah, those were the days!

**WHY NOT JOIN THE SCRUM
AT THE Y.M.C.A. SEBERT STREET?**

The King's Home Christian Fellowship

Peter Arnold (cont.)

PILKINGTON CUP

As you probably know by now, tickets for the Newcastle Gosforth game are available from the Office — at least, they are if there are any left by the time you read this, and that's by no means certain. There are stand tickets only, at £5.00; ground tickets at £3.00 may be bought when you get there. I'm told that there is another small stand at £4.00, if you're lucky.

Geraldine will also be glad to sell you coach tickets at £12.00 each, and don't forget that there's an unconscionably early start at 8.00 a.m. from Kingsholm.

Newcastle Gosforth will not be an easy team to beat on their own ground. I'm told that they're going very well this season, and are playing their best rugby for years. In other words, the boys can use all the support they can get, and would be grateful for your own decibel contribution if you can possibly get there.

Anyway, we all wish them the brightest of good fortune. Play like they did against Transvaal, and there won't be a problem.

DOUG'S DOING FINE

I'm pleased to be able to tell you that our respected Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, the kindly Doug Wadley, is well on the way to recovery. In case you hadn't caught up with things, he was rushed into Gloucester Royal around ten days ago in a considerable amount of pain, with what was eventually diagnosed as appendicitis.

He is full of admiration for the treatment he has received, not only from the surgical and medical staff, but from the various ancillary services too. For example, without his having to ask, he received a whole bunch of rugby books from the patients Library. The fact that the lady in charge of that particular service happens to be my Missus did have something to do with that, but the fact is that the service exists. For the moment, anyway, but you may have read in the 'Citizen' that the library is under a threat of closure, so at least Doug timed things right to that extent.

I'm also told that anesthetic was administered by an Australian lass. Just as well Doug comes from Gloucester and not Llanelli.

Anyway, we all miss Doug, and the sooner he gets back into his usual form, the better. Knowing Mr. Wadley, that won't be very long.

BALL BOYS

Earlier on in the season, I was able to accede to the RFU's request, and give you some information, which they supplied, about the duties of Touch

(cont. on page 28)

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Peter Arnold (cont.)

Judges. They've also sent me similar fact sheets about the duties of ball boys, always such a prominent feature of the Kingsholm scene.

Again, I'm happy to pass along the information to you. You'll rapidly realise that it isn't just a matter of turning up and retrieving the ball from time to time. Things are never as easy as that in this game, are they?

First of all, the RFU state that 'it is an advantage if the ball boys have a knowledge of the game'. Gee, thanks. Our lads would never have thought of that.

Ball boys must also be of smart appearance, although the RFU don't get into any description of what they consider 'smart'.

Before the game, the Referee and Touch Judges should be informed by an official of the home team that boys are available, and that one boy on each side of the pitch has been made responsible for sand or soil, or approved kicking tees. So there's no question of a scramble to do the honours.

If the ref. has any special instructions for ball boys, he should communicate them at the same time as he instructs his Touch Judges. Alternatively, he can delegate that responsibility to the Touch Judges.

'Ideally' says the RFU 'There should be two teams of ball boys, spread out on either side of the pitch'. I should hope so. Otherwise you wouldn't be able to have one on each side to dispense sand and stuff, would you?

The RFU also consider it 'advantageous' to have a minimum of three balls available, one on each side of the pitch, and one in play. Of course, that has never been a problem at Kingsholm. So many balls have, over the decades, disappeared over the 'Shed' in the direction of St. Mark's Street, that there should be enough to stock a large sports shop by now.

Then there's an odd one which I didn't know about, and which is probably honoured more in the breach than in the observance. Apparently, when the ball goes into touch, it should be retrieved as soon as possible, and the spare ball placed at the feet of the Touch Judge, 'and NOT thrown to the player' they emphasise, Hmm . . .

When kicks at goal are being taken, one boy from each side of the pitch should go behind the goal post, on the dead-ball line, *standing still*, ready to retrieve the ball after the kick. I can see that. A keen youngster, bobbing up and down behind the goal, could even put Tim Smith off his stroke.

After that, the spare ball held on one of the touch lines, should be kicked into the centre of the field for the restart.

The RFU also warn, sternly that spare balls should not be kicked or thrown by the ball boys during play, as this could cause a distraction.

Ball boys should keep abreast of the game, without getting too close to the Touch Judge, and always have the spare ball available. You can just see the poor old Touch Judge going base over apex over a too-enthusiastic ball boy, can't you.

Ball boys are now allowed to go on to the playing area, encroach beyond the line of flags — unless, presumably, called on with a bucket of sand, although the fact sheet doesn't actually say that — speak to players, or supply withem with any items unless under the instruction of the referee. Not even a polo mint.

There is also a final note, exhorting club officials as follows:

'If there is a danger of spectators invading the playing area after the match, ball boys should be brought in from the far side of the pitch five minutes before the end of the match, leaving those on the near side to supply the spare ball.'

Obviously, very sensible. The only problem is that our lot of lads are probably the ones doing the invading.

The notes finish with a reprint of Law 23(9), Quick Throw-in.

A quick throw-in from touch without waiting for the players to form a line-out is permissible provided the ball that went into touch is used, it has been handled only by the player throwing it in, and it is thrown in correctly.'

The notes make no comment, but the intention is obviously to point out that an alert ball boy, with a knowledge of the game, can't whip the ball to his own winger and gain advantage for the home side that way. Pity.

TAILPIECE

Talking of Newcastle Gosforth, if you're driving up, don't do what (I'm told but find difficult to believe), one carload from Gloucester did last time round. Namely, turn the wrong way when you leave Kingsholm, and charge off down to Gosport, then ring back to find our where the ground is.

After all, you can't get much further away from where you're trying to go, and still remain in England.

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