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Official Programme - Price 2d.

Gloucestershire Rugby Football Club



**GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

v.

**SOMERSET**

AT

KINGSHOLM, GLOUCESTER

ON

SATURDAY, DEC. 8th, 1945

KICK-OFF 2-30 p.m.

Printed by Ford & Branch, Ltd., Stroud Road; and  
Published by the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Club.

# TEAMS

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(Colours—All White)

### Full Back

- (1) S. T. J. WALTER (Cheltenham)

### Three-quarters

- (2) C. D. HOBSON (Cheltenham)  
(3) W. A. HANDLEY (Cheltenham)  
(4) L. HAMMOND (Bristol)  
(5) J. TAYLOR (Lydney)

### Half Backs

- (7) W. E. JONES (Gloucester)  
(6) G. CULLIMORE (Stroud)

### Forwards

- (8) T. PRICE, **Captain** (Gloucester)  
(9) J. HOPSON (Gloucester)  
(10) F. J. CHERRINGTON (Cheltenham)  
(11) R. MORRIS (Gloucester)  
(12) D. MORAN (Cheltenham)  
(14) T. ROSE (Stroud)  
(15) J. E. ENDACOTT (Stroud)  
(16) W. MILLS (Stroud)

## SOMERSET

Colours (Red, White & Black Hoops)

### Full Back

- (A) E. COLEMAN (Bath)

### Three-quarters

- (E) S. W. COLLETT (Weston)  
(Z) M. CORBETT (Bristol)  
(L) L. G. MEAD (Malvern)  
(H) G. H. EDWARDS (Bath)

### Half Backs

- (R) D. ROBERTS (Somerset Police)  
(C) J. BAILEY (Bath)

### Forwards

- (M) W. HOLLEY (Weston)  
(X) R. DAVIES (Somerset Police)  
(T) H. STONE (Watchet)  
(J) J. FRENCH (Taunton)  
(V) A. HIGGINS (Bath)  
(B) A. BEAZLEY (Bath)  
(G) D. STEER (Somerset Police)  
(O) D. NORTON (Somerset Services)

Referee : Mr. FRANK MANSELL



### GLoucestershire NOTES

To-days "Friendly" with our neighbours from Somersetshire is bound to set us thinking of great County Championship matches of the past, and of the high place held by Gloucestershire in the long history of the County Championship matches.

Perhaps it is not generally known that the present system of deciding the County Championship has been in existence since 1921 and is the fourth system which has been devised to determine which County has achieved the distinction of being Champion County of England. It was in 1890 that the Counties were first grouped in an organised competition. This was actually the beginning of the second system, as, for two seasons prior to 1890, Yorkshire having won all matches was declared by the R.U. the Champion County of a purely informal competition, in which each County arranged its own fixtures. The second system, under which, Yorkshire, four times, and Lancashire, once, secured the honour, lasted until 1895.

The third system remained until 1920, the first full season after the Great War, and during this period Gloucestershire were finalists four times, losing to Durham at Gloucester in 1902, and defeating Yorkshire at Gloucester in 1910, Cumberland at Carlisle in 1913, and Yorkshire at Bradford in 1920.

Under the fourth system, Gloucestershire went on in 1921 and 1922 to complete a trio of County Championship successes by defeating Leicestershire at Gloucester by 31 points to 4 (a glorious exhibition of Rugby Football by a really great side) and North Midlands at Birmingham by 19 points to 0. In 1925 Gloucestershire disappointed their supporters by losing to Leicestershire at Bristol by 14 points to 6, but in 1930-31-32 Gloucestershire again secured the unique distinction of winning three finals in a row, the results of these games being :-

Gloucestershire 13 points Lancashire 7 points, at Blundellsands

Gloucestershire 10 points Warwickshire 9 points, at Gloucester

Gloucestershire 9 points Durham 3 points, at Blaydon-on-Tyne

Gloucestershire appeared again in the final in 1934 but had to admit defeat at the hands of East Midlands at Northampton by 10 points to 0, but the Home County turned the tables in 1937 when Gloucestershire secured the County Championship for the ninth time by defeating East Midlands at Bristol by 5 points to 0.

This is a great record and inevitably recalls to our minds such great and consistent players as "Bumps" Carpenter with 56 appearances for the County, F. M. Stout (44 appearances) A. Hall of Cinderford (43 appearances) and a host of other grand players among whom such names as Dai Gent, Tom Voyce, A. Hudson, Tom Millington, "Father" Dix, G. Halford, S. Smart, H. Boughton, Sam Tucker, W. R. Johnston, Len Corbett, Reg Pickles, Don Burland and Mervyn Shaw leap readily to the mind.

"Rugger" has got very well off the mark after the lean years of the war period, and with the resumption of the County Championship all good Gloucestershire Rugby folk will hope to see the old County add new triumphs to her unequalled record.

S.L. & A.H.

### Combined Services v. New Zealand

(Touring Side)

AT KINGSHOLM ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 12th, 1946  
KICK OFF 2-30 p.m.

Prices of Reserved Seat Tickets

Grand Stand 10/- Seats Inside Rails 5/- (Numbered & Reserved)  
Grand Stand Enclosure (Standing only) 4/-

Application for Tickets must be accompanied by remittance and Stamped Addressed Envelope and should be sent immediately to  
A. Hudson 58, Northgate Street, Gloucester.