OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

GLOUCESTERSHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION



3d.



Lancashire Rugby Football Union

Gloucestershire v. Lancashire

KINGSHOLM, GLOUCESTER. SATURDAY, APRIL 26th, 1947 Kick-off 3-30 p.m.



OUR VISITORS

We welcome to-day, Lancashire, whom we first met at Manchester on March 14th, 1891, when we suffered defeat by 4 goals, 2 tries, to nil! thus Lancashire proving County Champions for that season. We next met them at Liverpool (Blundellsands) on March 8th, 1930, and reversed the decision, winning by 13 points to 7, we thus becoming Champions for that season. The next time we had the pleasure of meeting Lancashire was on April 12th, 1947, when, as you are aware, the match resulted in a draw - 8 points each, thus causing to-day's re-play. This is, therefore, the first opportunity we have had of welcoming our visitors to Gloucestershire.

Our visit to Blundellsands on April 12th proved most enjoyable, and much of the success was due to the untiring efforts of the Waterloo club, whose members undertook all ground arrangements, including car parks, programmes, tickets, stewarding, etc. They also provided opportunities for our team to visit, amongst other places, the Docks, where the Mauretania was inspected, Birkenhead, Southport, New Brighton or Seacombe, the drive including two trips through the Mersey Tunnel - a unique experience much appreciated by our party, who enjoyed a journey of nearly six miles underground.

Lancashire's Record in Finals, 1928 onwards

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Semi-Final	v. North Midlands	Lost	Jan. 1928
Semi-Final	v. Warwickshire	Won 13-3	Feb. 1929
Final	v. Middlesex	Lost 8-9	Feb. 1929
Semi-Final	v. East Midlands	Won	Feb. 1930
Final	v. Gloucestershire	Lost 7-13	March, 1930
Semi-Final	v. Warwickshire	Lost 10-22	Feb. 1931
Semi-Final	v. East Midlands	Won	Jan. 1933
Final	v. Hampshire	Lost 7-18	March, 1933
Semi-Final	v. East Midlands	Lost 18-19	Feb 1934
Semi-Final	v. Warwickshire	Won 16-14	Feb. 1935
Final	v. Somerset	Won 14-0	March, 1935
Semi-Final	v. East Midlands	Lost 0-5	Feb. 1937
Semi-Final	v. East Midlands	Won 14-0	Feb. 1938
Final	v. Surrey	Won 24-12	March, 1938

Lancashire's Record and Remarks Northern Section, 1946/47

In their County Championship games in the Northern Group, Lancashire, in five matches, have scored 149 points to 35 points. Chief try scorers being R. H. Guest 9, C. B. Holmes 6, J. Heaton 4. Heaton has kicked 8 goals.

Lancashire also played a friendly match against Ulster, who had been unbeaten in their Championship games, and won 8-6. In that match, Ulster had 10 Irish International players.

Six of Lancashire's players have taken part in all their matches.

Our visitors will be here from Friday night until Sunday afternoon. Their headquarters will be the New Inn Hotel, where both teams and officials will dine together after the match. It is our intention to endeavour to return the hospitality so generously extended to us, by taking them, weather permitting, on Saturday evening for a drive to Eldersfield and district, and on Sunday morning for a visit to our lovely Cotswolds, including Painswick and Birdlip. The party returns to Lancashire on Sunday at 2-54 p.m.

Distinguished Visitors

We are honoured to-day by the presence of Col. J. C. Hartley, President-elect of the Rugby Football Union, who has, on many past occasions, visited our ground, and we extend to him a true Gloucester welcome. In addition, we welcome the following notable figures in the Lancashire rugger world: J. Hunter (President), J. Bradley (Treas) J. B. G. Whittaker (Sec), H. G. Periton, S. S. C. Meikle, E. Ogden T. J. Bradburn, H. Fry, J. H. Roberts, A. Brettargh.

TEAMS

Backs J. BRADBURN 16 Wigan Old Boys
Three-qts. R.W. L.W. C. B. HOLMES Manchester and England
R.C. L.C. A. C. SHUKER 12 Broughton Park
L.C. R.C. J. HEATON (Capt.) Waterloo and England
L.W. R.W. R. H. GUEST 15 Waterloo and England
Fly Half W. B. CARTMEL 10
Serum Half G. RIMMER 9 Waterloo
Forwards R. LOGAN 8
T. N. REYNOLDS 7
E. EVANS Sale
J. MYCOCK Sale and England.
S. V. PERRY Waterloo and England
P. M. RHODES 3 Manchester
H. F. LUYA Waterloo
J. J. CAIN 1 Waterloo
R.W. L.W. R.W. L.W. R.C. L.C. A. C. SHUKER Broughton Park L.C. R.C. J. HEATON (Capt.) Waterloo and England L.W. R.W. R. H. GUEST Waterloo and England Fly Half W. B. CARTMEL Waterloo Scrum Half G. RIMMER Waterloo Forwards R. LOGAN Sale T. N. REYNOLDS Fylde E. EVANS Sale J. MYCOCK Sale and England S. V. PERRY Waterloo and England P. M. RHODES Manchester H. F. LUYA Waterloo J. J. CAIN Waterloo J. J. CAIN Waterloo

Referee: Mr. C. H. GADNEY (R.F.U.)

Linesmen: Mr. T. MILLINGTON (Glos. R.F.U.) and Mr. H. FRY (Lancs. R.F.U.)

County Championship. Holders of Title

Yorkshire has won the distinction of being County Champions nine times, and Gloucestershire ties with them, thus, if we win to-day a new record will be set up. It has been our previous experience to have visited and defeated Yorkshire, Cumberland, Lancashire and Durham, but we have never encountered Cheshire or Northumberland.

Reserved Seats

The applications for Reserved Seats for to-day's match have exceeded all expectations, and thousands of extra seats could have been sold had the accommodation existed. We are extremely grateful to Mr. A. Hudson, Hon. Sec. Gloucester R.F.C. and his Committee for their tremendous efforts in endeavouring to cope with the spate of applications – it proving impossible not to disappoint many faithful members of the Gloucester Club, in addition to the many keen supporters of other Gloucestershire clubs.

Australians' Visit. Sept. 20th, 1947

A combined Gloucestershire and Somerset team will play the Australians at Gloucester on the above date. We should like to give a warning, here and now, that an even greater difficulty will arise in the distribution of Reserved Seats for this match. On this occasion Somerset are entitled to, and will definitely ask for, their quota - viz. One Half of All Seating Accommodation. The Australians will require about 200, thus leaving, out of the full total of seats numbering 1300 Stand Seats - 500 only for the whole of the clubs in Gloucestershire. These seats will be proportionally allocated by the County Committee.

Congratulations

We should like to congratulate most heartily, G. A. Gibbs, Bristol R.F.C., in obtaining the position of a front-row forward in the successful English team against France on Saturday last, April 19th. He has played in all our County matches this season.

Referees

In this County during the present season, over 2000 appointments of Referees have been made, and they have freely given their services Saturday after Saturday. Many have travelled hundreds of miles to carry out their obligations for the good of the game, and we are deeply grateful to them – some are on ground duty here to-day as Stewards. It must be remembered that, generally, the Referee is better positioned to see what actually happens in the various phases of the play, than are we, scattered around the ground. The incidents during our last meeting with Lancashire were heartily cheered, which ever side deserved them, by a good sporting crowd, to whom the actual result mattered less than the spirit of the game, and we pride ourselves that we are, at least, the equal of any sporting audience in England. So show your appreciation of all good play!

OUR REFEREE. It is kind of Mr. C. H. Gadney, who has travelled hundreds of miles to give us his unbiased services in our two games with Lancashire, having to make the long journeys from London.