

GLOUCESTER
RUGBY

3^{d.}

FOOTBALL
CLUB

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

KINGSHOLM, GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY, DEC. 19th, 1953. Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

GLOUCESTER

versus

COVENTRY



OUR PLAYERS

No. 9: GEORGE WILLIAM HASTINGS (front row forward) was born at Dursley on November 7th, 1925. He went to Cheltenham Grammar School, but curiously did not play for the School XV. — one reason, George was then living at Tewkesbury. He made a start with the Old Patesians' side, and in the 1949-50 season he came into the Gloucester side after one game with the United. Has played for the County and is now in his second year as players' representative on the City Club's Committee. Weighing 15 stone 2 lbs. George is a very capable front row man, and a strong player in the loose.



Next Week at Kingsholm :

GLOUCESTER v. O.M.T. Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

First XV. Dec. 28th—UNIVERSITIES ATHLETIC UNION

COMPLETE YOUR DAY'S PLEASURE by Visiting
GLOUCESTER HIPPODROME

GLOUCESTER
 (RED and WHITE)

TO-DAY'S REFEREE

COVENTRY
 (BLUE and WHITE)

- Full Back
- 1 **T. HALLS**
- Three-quarters
- 2 **J. TAYLOR (Capt.)** R.W.
 3 **R. SUTTON** R.C.
 4 **M. BAKER** L.C.
 5 **E. TURNER** L.W.
- Half Backs
- 6 **W. CARTMELL** O.H.
 7 **J. HOBBS** S.H.
- Forwards
- 8 **G. HASTINGS**
 9 **C. THOMAS**
 10 **R. PARRY**
 11 **D. BOWDEN**
 12 **A. WADLEY**
 14 **P. FORD**
 15 **G. HUDSON**
 16 **D. IBBOTSON**

is
Mr. W. J. EVANS

- Full Back
- 1 **B. SAVILLE**
- Three-quarters
- 2 **H. F. GREASLEY (Capt.)**
 3 **A. B. VYVYAN**
 4 **J. MAUCHLEN**
 5 **A. E. SUTTON**
- Half Backs
- 6 **B. P. BRIGHTON**
 7 **L. D. ASHCROFT**
- Forwards
- 8 **G. H. TURNBULL**
 9 **E. BLACKBURN**
 10 **P. JUBB**
 11 **N. R. JONES**
 12 **B. O'DONNELL**
 14 **R. F. BATSTONE**
 15 **W. T. MEAKIN**
 16 **W. I. GRAHEN**

FIRST XV. FIXTURES 1953-54			
Played 16, Won 12, Lost 4.		Points for 160, Against 107	
1953 Sept. 5	12 Lydney H 24-0	1954 Jan. 2 London Scottish ... A	7 Army H
	17 Stroud A 15-0		9 Leicester H
	19 Moseley H 13-0		16 Wasps H
	23 Cheltenham A 11-9		23 Bristol A
	26 Bristol H 11-3		30 Neath H
	Oct. 3 Bedford A 13-6	Feb. 6 United Services ... A	
	10 Old Blues H 11-6	13 Bath H	
	17 Newport H 8-3	20 Swansea H	
	24 Coventry A 6-9	27 Cardiff A	
	(Glos. v. Cornwall, Away)	Mar. 6 Llanelly H	
	31 Oxford U. H 9-8	13 R.A.F. H	
	Nov. 7 Leicester A 8-13	20 Guys Hospital A	
	(Glos. v. Devon, Gloucester)	27 Newport A	
	14 Moseley A 3-0	Apr. 3 Northampton H	
	(New Zealand, at Bristol)	8 Cheltenham H	
	21 Blackheath H 13-5	10 Harlequins H	
	28 Cardiff H 3-19	15 Stroud H	
	(Glos. v. Somerset, Away)	17 Birkenhead Park H	
	Dec. 5 Neath A 3-20	19 Bradford H	
	12 Bath A 9-6	20 Lydney A	
	19 Coventry H	24 Exeter A	
	26 O.M.T.s H	26 Torquay Athletic A	
	28 U.A.U. H	27 Teignmouth A	
		May 1 Devonport Services ... H	

To-Night

Valerie Hobson, Philip Friend, Norman Wooland
BACKGROUND (a)
 Joel McCrea, Barbara Hale, Alex Nicol
LONE HAND (Technicolor) (u)

Next Week

Clifton Webb, Edmund Gwen, George Winslow
MR. SCOUTMASTER (u)
 Jeanne Crain, Dale Robertson
CITY OF BAD MEN (a)

GREAT MIDLAND SIDE

WE are always glad to see Coventry at Kingsholm. Not only are they one of the famous English sides in rugby but we always remember with gratitude how they kept the flag of the amateur game flying in the Midlands. We have another reason for welcoming Coventry to-day, for we have a little score to settle—if we can! We remember that we went to Coventry back in October with an unbeaten record—eight good wins in a row. And despite the brave show put up by a weakened side we lost by 6 points to 9.

Now our ground record has gone, too, so we have no anxieties in our game to-day. We have but one fly in the ointment—three of our stalwarts are missing, two “on special duty” but we hope to give the great Midland XV a real run for their money.

Coventry’s record to date is:—Played 14, Won 5, Lost 9, points for 143, against 121.

CONGRATULATIONS.

FIRST to John Gwilliam, that great forward, who is missing from our ranks to-day because he is playing for WALES (his 22nd cap) against the ALL BLACKS at Cardiff. Cardiff’s victory and Swansea’s draw with the New Zealanders, Wales’ chances look excellent and we all wish John a very good match.

Perhaps even more so the wish will go from all of us for Bob Hodge, given his great opportunity in the English Trial to-day. He is playing in the Probable English XV and we trust he will have a “blinder,” so that, at long last, he can join the honoured ranks of those Gloucester players who have won International Caps. We all think he richly merits one.

It is a pity that today is not up and coming wing forward Peter Ford on his selection as a reserve for the English Trial match. All Gloucester supporters wish it were more: but that day will come, we believe.

SEASONABLE.

BEFORE we all meet again at Kingsholm, the turkey and plum pudding will have been attacked, so the Club sends to players, spectators and all those who love the Rugby game its heartiest wishes for a most enjoyable Christmas.

There are two holiday matches in prospect—one against our traditional rivals on Boxing Day, the Old Merchant Taylors and on Monday, December 28th, the Universities Athletic Union again will be here. This side has given the Gloucester XV a shock or two in recent years and it is hoped there will be a good crowd to support them, even though the fixture is on the Monday after Christmas.

TWICKENHAM MATCHES.

THOSE of you hoping to get to Twickenham will have seen the announcement that one-third of the applications for Stand Tickets for the Wales match have been granted and one-quarter for the All Blacks game. ALL APPLICATIONS FOR GROUND TICKETS HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN MET.