

GLOUCESTER
RUGBY



FOOTBALL
CLUB

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

KINGSHOLM, GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY, DEC. 26th, 1953. Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

GLOUCESTER
versus
OLD MERCHANT TAYLORS



OUR PLAYERS

No. 10: DENIS MICHAEL IBBOTSON (wing forward) was born on November 13th, 1930. He is a true Gloucester man and learned his football at the Central School to very good purpose. Was captain there and played for Gloucester Boys' and the County Public Schools' XV. He next played for the Old Centralians and made his debut in the Red and White Jersey in the 1948-49 season, playing for both United and First XV in the same season. He has also been honoured by the County. Few players have a more destructive tackle than Denis and he has saved many scores. He is a self-employed sheet metal worker. His weight is 12 stone 2 lbs.



Next Monday at Kingsholm:

GLOUCESTER v. U.A.U. Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

**COMPLETE YOUR DAY'S PLEASURE by Visiting
GLOUCESTER HIPPODROME**

GLOUCESTER
(RED and WHITE)

TO-DAY'S REFEREE

O.M.T.s.
(WHITE)

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

is
Mr. O. D. F. GARDNER, Bristol Society

- Full Back
1 **J. PODGER**
- Three-quarters
2 **G. R. BROUGHTON** L.W.
3 **J. G. BANWELL** L.C.
4 **G. W. PAGE** R.C.
5 **D. I. S. HINTON** R.W.
- Half Backs
6 **D. G. S. BAKER** O.H.
7 **J. DUPRE** S.H.
- Forwards
8 **R. A. HUSKISSON (Capt)**
9 **A. F. COWPER**
10 **T. P. R. LANT**
11 **R. H. KING**
12 **J. FINDLAY**
13 **A. C. GARDINER**
14 **C. G. HOLMES**
15 **D. WHITE**

FIRST XV. FIXTURES 1953-54		Points for 174, Against 110	
Played 17, Won 13, Lost 4.			
1953	1954		
Sept. 5	Jan. 2 London Scottish ... A		
" 12 Lydney H 21-0	" 7 Army H		
" 17 Stroud A 13-0	" 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 13-8	Feb. 6 United Services ... A		
" 10 Old Blues H 11-6	" 13 Bath H		
" 17 Newport H 8-5	" 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 Cuy's 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 Hartlequins H		
" 28 Cardiff H 3-10	" 15 Stroud H		
(Glos. v. Somerset, Away)	" 17 Birkenhead Park ... H		
Dec. 5 Neath A 3-9	" 19 Bradford H		
" 12 Bath A 9-8	" 20 Lydney A		
" 19 Coventry H 14-8	" 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
Clifton Webb, Edmund Gwen, George Winslow
MR. SCOUTMASTER (u)
Jeanne Crain, Dale Robertson
CITY OF BAD MEN (a)

Next Week
Susan Hayward, Robert Mitchum
WHITE WITCH DOCTOR (Tech.) (u)
Louis Hayward, Naomi Chance
SAINT'S RETURN (u)

FOR AULD LANG SYNE.

BOXING DAY without the Old Merchant Taylors at Kingsholm would be like Christmas Day without the brandy sauce to the plum pudding! Every Gloucester supporter has a soft spot in his heart for an old boys' side and the finest of them all for us are the O.M.Ts. Our applause to-day will be sincere for our friendship has stood the test of time, for it goes back, almost, to "time immemorial!"

What a grand job these old boys' sides do! O.M.Ts. run no fewer than seven fifteens and anyone who has had anything to do with running a team realises what a headache that can be. O.M.Ts. have been fortunate for many years in the stalwarts it has in the Huskissons. Their secretary, T. K. Huskisson, was capped for England eight times; and the present captain is R. A. Huskisson, another grand player who has been captain of the Eastern Counties side.

The record of the O.M.Ts. last season did not make very good reading with only six wins and twenty defeats, but results don't matter a great deal to such a side. It is the game and the spirit of the game and we can very confidently expect to-day to see a full-blooded, open encounter. And for Auld Lang Syne, we shall welcome the 1953 O.M.Ts. as heartily as their predecessors.

COUNTY'S OPPONENTS.

SOMEWHAT unexpectedly, Hertfordshire will provide the opposition for Gloucestershire in the quarter final of the County Championship which will be played in all probability at Kingsholm on the first Saturday in February.

Hertfordshire are to be congratulated on their Group success, for this is but their second season in championship football. They won the replay against Berkshire in a storming finish and were always playing throughout the game the more intelligent and constructive rugby. Hertfordshire has a fine attacking player in S. J. Macdermott, of the London Irish, and the whole side is not one to be taken cheaply. Nevertheless we shall all fancy Gloucestershire's chances in the quarter final and in any case we shall wish the side the best of luck.

OUR HOPE.

BOTH John Gwilliam and Bob Hodge received appreciative notices in the Press for their parts respectively in Wales' fine win over the All Blacks and in the English Trial match.

It has been a matter of great surprise and very marked disappointment that Bob Hodge has not been selected for the Twickenham trial.

A belated apology to George Hastings on our omission to congratulate him on being a reserve trialist. At the time the notes were prepared for the previous programme, this fact was unknown to the writer. George showed us how fine a player he is by a grand display in the Coventry match—and all through the game too.