
GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

(Founded in 1873)

TO-DAY'S GAME IS VERSUS

BATH

(Kick-off 2-45 p.m.)



Saturday Next—Kick-off 2-45 p.m.

COVENTRY

We extend a hearty welcome, to-day, to BATH, those worthy warriors from the West. So far this season they have failed to strike a consistent run of success, rather like ourselves, the ball has not run for them. With the return of J. Kendall-Carpenter to the helm, they will surely attempt to steer a straight course for victory. They will founder, we hope, upon the rock of our defences. Their main power lies in a strong pack supported by lightning attacks from the three-quarters. The records of the two clubs compare equally—Bath have won 6, drawn 2 and lost 7, while Gloucester have won 6, drawn 1 and lost 10, with Gloucester having so far, had the stronger fixture list.

Official Programme: Price Threepence

GLOUCESTER

Red and White
Full Back

- 1 B. SIBERY
Three-quarters
- 2 P. LEWIS R.W.
- 3 R. SUTTON R.C.
- 4 M. BAKER L.C.
- 5 R. A. BLAIR L.W.
- Hall Backs
- 6 A. HOLDER O.H.
- 7 B. READE S.H.
- Forwards
- 8 G. W. HASTINGS
- 9 C. THOMAS
- 10 R. PARRY
- 11 R. A. CLARK
- 12 B. GREENE
- 13 P. FORD (Capt.)
- 14 R. HODGE
- 15 D. IBBOTSON

TO-DAY'S REFEREE

is
Mr. R. JEFFERIES, Warwickshire Society.

THE FIRST AID SERVICE ON THIS GROUND IS VOLUNTARILY PROVIDED BY
THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER DIVISION ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE

FIRST XV. FIXTURES

1955		1956	
Sept. 10	Lydney H 16-6	Jan. 7	London Scottish ... A
13	Dublin Wanderers ... H 12-3	14	Leicester A
17	Mosley H 13-6	21	Wasps H
21	Cheltenham A 4-3	28	Army H
24	Bristol H 6-14	Feb. 4	Cardiff H
29	Stroud A 8-3	11	Bath A
Oct. 1	Bedford A 3-5	18	Swansea H
8	Old Blues H 6-14	25	Guys Hospital ... A
	(Glos. v. Devon, at Bristol)	Mar. 3	Northampton ... A
15	Newport H 11-6	10	R.A.F. H
22	Coventry A 9-28	17	Cardiff A
	(Glos. v. Somerset, Away)	24	Newport A
29	Oxford University ... H 6-11	31	Bradford H
Nov. 5	Leicester H 23-11	Apr. 2	Birkenhead Park ... H
12	Mosley A 0-20	3	Lydney A
	(Glos. v. Cornwall, Away)	7	Harlequins H
16	Cambridge University A 3-37	12	Cheltenham H
19	Aberavon A 6-6	14	Bristol A
26	Llanely H 3-6	21	Exeter A
Dec. 3	Neath A 3-6	23	Penzance and Newlyn A
10	Bath H	24	Teignmouth A
17	Coventry H	28	Devonport Services ... H
24	Stroud H		
26	O.M.T.'s H		
27	U.A.U. H		
31	Neath H		

BATH

Blue, White and Black
Full Back

- 1 P. D. SULLIVAN
Three-quarters
- 2 J. O. REES R.W.
- 3 G. TRENCHARD R.C.
- 4 A. E. ASQUITH L.C.
- 5 A. H. GUEST L.W.
- Hall Backs
- 6 J. H. THOMAS O.H.
- 7 A. N. OTHER S.H.
- Forwards
- 8 J. W. P. ROBERTS
- 9 G. H. CLEMENTS
- 10 E. BETHELL
- 11 E. J. THOMAS
- 12 E. G. HOPTON
- 14 D. G. NAYLOR
- 15 J. MacG. KENDALL-CARPENTER (Capt.)
- 16 M. J. SMITH

REFLECTIONS

Aberavon 6 points each, Llanelly 3 points to 6 points, Neath 3 points to 6 points . . . a fairly satisfactory record for any side. More especially so, since both against Aberavon and against Neath, most critics gave Gloucester as being unlucky not to win. Certainly it seems that the many youngsters, mainly local lads, injected into the team, are made of the right stuff. Given the support and encouragement they deserve, Peter Ford and his lads are shaping up to become a really powerful force. The selectors appear now to have produced just the right blend of experience and youth. There are of course many rough corners to be polished up. But all in all this team, now fairly settled in its make up, only need to have the run of the ball and they will soon wipe out the deficit of points and games appearing on the wrong side of the line.

AT HOME

We now have a run of five home games in the course of the next three weeks. In addition on December 29th the Gloucestershire Schoolboys play Bristol Boys. A feast of rugby, indeed, before and after Christmas. Next week Coventry, the most successful club in the country so far this season, provide the opposition.

INTRODUCING

Scrum-half, 23 year old BRIAN READE, 10 stone in weight and 5 feet 2 inches in height he is nevertheless a veritable pocket Hercules, tough as they make 'em.

A product of Hatherley Road School, Brian's introduction to ruggar was with Coney Hill Juniors along with Roy Blair. He subsequently joined the Gordon League Club. In 1952-53 he played a number of games with the Lydney Club, but became a Gloucester Club player prior to serving his period of National Service part of which was spent in the jungles of Malaya with the Royal Hampshire Regiment for whom he played. His return to civilian life was timely as the Gloucester Club was badly in need of a scrum-half to take the place of John Hobbs.

A very nippy player Brian stands up to the heaviest of packs and given a chance rarely fails to get his outside-half on the move. Perhaps a tendency to turn into the ruck rather than seek the open spaces might be checked. In this respect he would do well to copy Brace the Oxford scrum worker. Brian has a promising future and his selection for the County against Cornwall was fully merited.