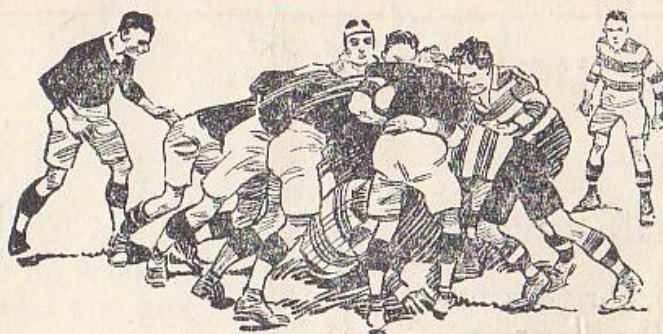

Gloucester Rugby Football Club

Founded
1873



Season
1956-57

TO-DAY'S GAME IS VERSUS

NORTHAMPTON

Kick-off 3-15 p.m.

It is our great pleasure to welcome Northampton to Kingsholm to-day for the first time for three years. Northampton are one of the most consistent teams in the country, and have for many years been one of the most difficult teams to defeat. Among their regular players are numbered three of this year's highly successful England team - (C. R. Jacobs, prop forward, (unfortunately not playing to-day owing to a family bereavement); J. F. Butterfield, centre-threequarter; and that inimitable scrum-half, R. E. G. Jeeps. Northampton have a well-balanced team - strong, virile and intelligent forward, they have a fast, hostile back division to take advantage of any opportunities given them. It should be a grand struggle to-day. Let's hope that it will also provide a spectacle of real Rugby Football.

If Racing's theory of "Horses for Courses" could be applied to rugby, we would start to-day's match as firm favourites, in spite of the strength of the opposition; in the 31 appearances the "Saints" have made at Kingsholm since fixtures were commenced in season 1900-01 they have only won once, in 1934-35, when the score was 6-5. There have been two draws, 0-0 in 1948-49 and 6-6 in 1952-53 (our present pack-leader, Vic Leadbetter, played against us that day). Conversely, we have failed to win at Northampton since the 1932-33 season. Our 19-6 defeat there last season was the highest score the "Saints" have recorded against us, while our best performance was at Kingsholm in season 1904-05, when we won 29-3. On Northampton's last visit, in season 1953-54, we won 5-3.

| Records to date : | Won | Drawn | Lost | Pts. For | Agst. |
|-------------------|-----|-------|------|----------|-------|
| NORTHAMPTON | 19 | 3 | 7 | 341 | 173 |
| GLOUCESTER | 11 | 6 | 12 | 231 | 225 |

Official Programme: Price Threepence

NEXT HOME GAME

GLoucester v. ROYAL AIR FORCE

Kick-off 3-15 p.m.

GLoucester 12
Red and White

TO-DAY'S REFEREE

NORTHAMPTON 6

- Full Back
1 S. INGRAM
- Threequarters
2 P. HAWKER R.W.
3 J. J. CORBETT R.C.
4 A. HOLDER L.C.
5 X.J. M. JENKIN L.W.
- Half Backs
6 XD. W. JONES O.H.
7 M. BOOTH S.H.
- Forwards
8 *G. W. HASTINGS (Capt.)
9 X.C. THOMAS
10 XB. J. LANE
11 XB. J. GREEN
12 R. LONG
13 B. JONES
14 *V. H. LEADBETTER
15 M. CRAIG
* International x County

Mr. H. R. KING (London Society)

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

FIRST XV. FIXTURES

| 1956 | | 1957 | |
|---------|------------------------------|--------|--|
| Sept. 8 | Lydney H 15-8 | Jan. 5 | London Scottish ... H 3-3 |
| 15 | Bucarest (Rumania) H 6-10 | 10 | Army H 3-6 |
| 20 | Moseley H 5-6 | 12 | Leicester H 0-6 |
| 22 | Exeter H 28-5 | 19 | Wasps A 6-22 |
| 27 | Cheltenham H 0-0 | 26 | Cambridge University H 11-0 |
| 29 | Bristol A 17-20 | 31 | Royal Navy H 16-0 |
| Oct. 6 | Bedford H 8-3 | Feb. 2 | Bristol H 21-3 |
| 15 | Old Blues H 16-3 | 7 | (S.W. Counties v S.African Univ. at Kingsholm) |
| | (Glos. v Som., at Bristol) | 9 | Bath A 0-11 |
| 20 | Newport A 8-6 | 16 | Swansea A 0-0 |
| 27 | Coventry A 11-9 | 23 | Neath H 3-3 |
| | (Glos. v Cornwall, Kingsh.) | Mar. 2 | Northampton H |
| Nov. 3 | Leicester A 8-14 | 9 | R.A.F. H |
| 10 | Moseley A 3-12 | 16 | Guy's Hospital H |
| | (Glos. v Devon, Away) | 23 | Cardiff A |
| 17 | Aberavon H 9-9 | 30 | Newport H |
| 24 | Llanelli A 3-31 | Apr. 6 | Harlequins A |
| Dec. 1 | Oxford University ... A 8-14 | 10 | Cheltenham A |
| 8 | Bath H 27-6 | 13 | Cardiff H |
| 15 | Coventry H 3-3 | 16 | Stroud H |
| 22 | Stroud A 0-3 | 20 | New Brighton H |
| 26 | O.M.T.s H 0-1 | 22 | Sale H |
| 27 | L.A.U. H C. | 23 | Lydney A |
| 29 | Neath A 3-0 | 27 | Devonport Services ... A |
| | | 29 | Teignmouth A |
| | | 30 | Weston-super-Mare ... A |

- Full Back
1 J. G. HETHERINGTON
- Threequarters
2 *J. P. HYDE L.W.
3 *J. BUTTERFIELD L.C.
4 R. W. HOSEN P R.C.
5 *F. D. SYKES R.W.
- Half Backs
6 H. J. C. BROWN O.H.
7 R. E. G. JEEPS S.H.
- Forwards
15 A. L. CANHAM
14 A. JOHNSON K. DAVIES
13 P. HADDON
12 R. H. SMITH
11 *P. J. TAYLOR
10 A. R. TURNELL
9 D. COLEY
8 *D. F. WHITE (Capt.)
* International

Next Saturday our visitors will be the ROYAL AIR FORCE, who last year produced the most thrilling handling movements seen at Kingsholm that season to beat us 22-3. This year the R.A.F. have another useful side, as shown by their victories over Cambridge

University and the Harlequins, and we look forward to the game with high hopes of seeing such another display of rugby at its best.

The Band of the Royal Air Force (Innsworth) will be in attendance, by kind permission of the Officer Commanding.

TRIPLE CROWN HOPES

In welcoming George Hastings back to the team to-day, we also extend our congratulations on his outstanding display against France. George undoubtedly played a "blinder", thrilling us all with his splendid all-round work. He is certainly a worthy member of an England team which is one of the best we have had, at least since the war. It is as a team that England have been so successful. The team work on Saturday against France was magnificent and a continuance of this form should be good enough to bring the triple crown back to England for the first time since 1936-37.

WHY THE WHISTLE WENT (or didn't!)

Discussion after the Neath match brought out a point of law which has obviously baffled many spectators this season. On several occasions players have been seen to be clearly offside at a scrum or line-out, yet the referee (despite no doubt well-intended advice to consult his oculist) has allowed play to continue. He is in fact bound to do this if the non-offending side gain a greater advantage from, say, an open handling movement or a kick ahead than they would do from a penalty at the place of infringement. Should no such advantage be gained however, the referee must bring play back and award the penalty, in other words, *he's got to wait and see.*

THIS SEASON'S SCORERS

The list of scorers is headed by Alan Holder with 49 points (2 tries, 8 conversions, 1 drop goal, 8 penalty goals), followed by Mike Jenkin with 30 points (4 tries, 3 conversions, 2 drop goals, 2 penalty goals).

Try scorers are R. Blair (7), P. Hawker, M. Jenkin, D. W. Jones (4), M. Booth, P. Ford, G. Hastings, A. Holder, B. Lane, V. Leadbetter, P. Lewis (2), M. Craig, K. Ibbotson, B. Jones, D. A. Jones, D. Perks, I. Sheen, C. Thomas (1).

SOCIAL CLUB

The Club is open from 2-30 p.m. Cups of Tea and Snacks may be obtained in the Tea Room adjoining the Club Room after the game.
