Gloucester Rugby Football Club

Season 1956–57

TO-DAY'S GAME IS VERSUS

GUY'S HOSPITAL

Kick-off 3-15 p.m.

It is with pleasure that we welcome our visitors, GUY'S HOSPITAL, to-day, on their 25th appearance at Kingsholm - the more so in that our President, Dr. A. Aleck, is himself a former Guy's man.

Guy's are the oldest existing rugby club, having been formed in 1843, and they are also founder members of the Rugby Football Union. The style of football they play is in keeping with this grand heritage, as is evident from their record in the Hospitals' Cup Tournament, which they have won 27 times - almost twice as many times as any of the other hospitals. We look forward to-day to another contest fought out in the true sporting spirit of the game.

Our visitors last won at Kingsholm in season 1930-31, beating us on that occasion 7-5, and completed the double by beating us at Honor Oak Park 9-3. Gloucester won the last two matches played here by 18-0 (1954-55) and 20-10 (1952-53), but lost in London 8-14 in the intervening season. Although their record this season is not as good as it usually is, our visitors have been in good form in the last two games they have played, with victories over London Welsh and Nuneaton.

Records:

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<th>Guy's Hospital</th>
<th>Gloucester</th>
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<tr>
<td>Won</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drawn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Points for</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>249</td>
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<td>Against</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>239</td>
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Official Programme: Price Threepence
Next week we have two attractive matches in the same afternoon. First there is the English Schools' replayed Final Trial in which Gloucester has two representatives, M. Pickard (Crypt) and R. Underwood (St. Thomas's), the kick-off is 2-15. Following this the United meet the strongest and most attractive of their opponents - Cardiff Athletic.
REFLECTIONS

Last Saturday the weather once again did its worst to try and spoil another eagerly-awaited match, but thanks to the determination of the Royal Air Force XV to play open rugby, and, in the second half, some stirring work by the Gloucester pack, a grand, exciting and enjoyable game resulted. The R.A.F. policy paid early dividends with two sparkling tries from their speedy backs, and on the day it was fitting that the Red and Whites’ two tries should come from forwards Brian Lane and Peter Ford, celebrating his return to the side. That in the end the R.A.F.’s successful conversion should have proved to be the winning points may have been a little disappointing to the home supporters, but it certainly lent excitement to the closing stages of the game.

Next week the 1st XV cross the Black Bridge once more - this time to see whether they can accomplish at Cardiff the same feats that they have already brought off at Newport, Neath and Swansea. It is 21 years since we last won at the Arms Park, although we came very near to it in the mud in season 1954-55, when we lost 8 pts. to 9 pts. We wish the Red and Whites all success in their endeavours to repeat the achievement of 1935-36 when we won 3-0. The following week sees the return with Newport, and a chance of our first double over this redoubtable side since 1932-33.

SCHOOLS’ RUGGER

The proceeds from next week’s home matches will go to the Gloucester Schools’ Rugby Union. Here is the source to which we look for many of our senior players in the years to come; such stars as Tom Vyce, Harold Boughton, Don Meadows and many others started their rugby career with this team, and it is hoped that our supporters will be here in force next Saturday to ensure that this nursery for players will not fail for lack of financial support. The Schools’ Union greatly appreciate the co-operation of the Gloucester Club in allowing the use of Kingsholm for the Final Trip Game.

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.