GLoucester v. Merchant Taylors

Kingsholm - Gloucester

Monday, December 27th, 1971
Kick-off 3.15 p.m.

Official programme - Price 3p

No. 47
WELCOME TO THE TAYLORS!

Boxing Day and Old Merchant Taylors, of course, are, one might say, synonymous in Gloucester rugger circles, and once again at the festive season we extend a very cordial welcome indeed to them on their time-honoured annual visit to Kingsholm.

Occasionally the Cherry and Whites have been able to record resounding victories over the Taylors, but we can assure them that they are among the most popular visitors to Kingsholm, for we know that they will provide entertaining fare to suit the holiday season, whatever the result. Last Boxing Day, it will be recalled, Gloucester romped home in a thoroughly pleasant game by 50 points to 3—but let us not forget that the unfortunate Taylors had only 13 men for much of the match. Full-back Gwyn Jones broke a small bone in his leg and flanker Richard Burt went off with a serious hand injury. The odds, then, were overwhelmingly against them. Eric Stephens, Des Diamond, John Dix, John Spalding and Keith Richardson each scored two tries, and Richard Jardine, Ron Etheridge, Jeff Gage and Dick Smith one apiece, though Stephens could make only four conversions.

KINGSHOLM KACKLE

It seems that at long last the selectors have realised that the cream of British rugger is in the West, and we congratulate Mike Burton and Alan Brinn on being selected for the final England trial at Twickenham next Saturday. While we feel that the selectors could well have recognised two or three more of our great Gloucester side, we sincerely hope that Mike and Alan, at least, will at last enable us to add the coveted “I” after their names on the programme in the New Year.

Let’s not forget, either, our intrepid little auburn-haired full-back, Ron Etheridge, who won his place last week-end in the Scottish trial at Murrayfield. (Another “I” on the programme teams?)

Next week-end the lads travel to the metropolis for their annual Hogmanay match with London Scottish, while at Kingsholm the United meet Cheltenham United, kick-off 3.15 p.m. On the following Saturday there is the South-Western group replay between Gloucestershire and Somerset at Kingsholm and stand tickets for this important game are available at the office on the ground this afternoon, or from the Gloucester R.F.C. secretary, Mr. Harold King, at 126, Podsmead Road, Gloucester. Tickets are 60p and it should be duly noted that the kick-off is at 2.30 p.m.

Finally, the officials committee men and the players wish you all the compliments of the season and thank you for your continued interest and support. May you all have a very prosperous New Year. A.R.

LUCKY PROGRAMME WINNER — THE BATH GAME
No. 943 Mr. E. R. Nicholls, Harrow Hill, Drybrook, Glos. who won £5.

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