



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

A. T. VOYCE, O.B.E.

GLOUCESTER V CHELTENHAM

**Wednesday, 21st September, 1977
at
Kingsholm, Gloucester**

Nº 600

Kick-off 7 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

Warm Welcome to Town

It was with great delight that every rugby supporter—except those whose loyalties lie with Weston-super-Mare—heard that Cheltenham, our old rivals and close neighbours who visit us this evening, had ended that depressingly long run of defeats with a narrow but deserved victory over the sea-side club a week ago.

We offer them congratulations, though that satisfaction turned again to disappointment after their heavy defeat by Broughton Park last Saturday. It would be hypocrisy, then, to deny that the Town's fortunes are at an extremely low ebb, yet they reflect nothing but credit and admiration for their gallant skipper, Maurice Hamlin, and his gallant lads for their determination and dedication.

Sweet are the uses of adversity, Duke Senior tells us in "As You Like It", and our neighbours can take considerable comfort from the fact that they at least have the majority of the rugby enthusiasts watching for their results eagerly each week, almost willing them to win.

Cheltenham are still in the process of re-building and have several young players of promise; it was a blow when one of their most experienced players, County full-back David Hughes, moved from the town and is no longer available to help in the reconstruction.

In the corresponding game at Kingsholm last season Gloucester romped to a resounding win by 52 points to nil on Monday evening, March 7; but again, Cheltenham can console themselves with the thought that they were only one of four sides—Bath, Abertillery and Guy's Hospital were the others—against whom the Cherry and Whites amassed over fifty points in successive home matches.

Despite their misfortunes the Town, perhaps mindful of the poet's words, "Say not the struggle naught availeth," have always insisted on contributing to an entertaining game. We wish them good fortune in the future and meanwhile look forward to the usually enjoyable tussle with them this evening.

Kingsholm Kackle

Splendid Wins

Congratulations to the lads on two more convincing victories, over Stroud—who surprised many by their excellent play which suggests they will have an outstandingly successful season—and Fylde at Ansdell. As expected, Gloucester make a liberal contribution to the Gloucestershire side to meet Monmouthshire next Monday and no doubt will provide even more players when the more serious business of the county championship campaign starts next month.

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International Tickets

All our members are given an early intimation that applications for tickets for the two home internationals, against Wales on February 4, and Ireland on April 18, must be made by October 15 at the latest.

Application forms may be obtained from club secretary Terry Tandy on the ground or at his home, 17 Ogbourne Close, Longlevens, (telephone 23049). It is emphasised that applications will be considered *only on this official form* by the new sub-committee formed at the annual meeting.

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"Fiver" Going Begging

One zealous supporter at the Stroud match last week may have a programme worth five pounds at home or in his pocket. For the winning number, 257, was not claimed although the programme was definitely sold. Should the holder still have it and can produce the programme at the office he will be paid that crisp "fiver"!

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U.S.A. Match

A further reminder that tickets for the match between the national Civil Service side and the U.S.A. tourists at Kingsholm next Wednesday, September 28, kick-off 7 p.m., are now on sale and may be obtained from Terry Tandy at the office on the ground or his home. Prices are: Centre Stand (Reserved) £1.00; Wing Stand (Unreserved) 75p; Ground 50p, but no tickets will be issued at this price.

- RUGBY BOOTS ● JERSEYS AND SHORTS ● BALLS ● CLUB DISCOUNTS
- INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CLUB MEMBERS

● Personal attention always available at:

ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

GLOUCESTER

Cherry and White

Full Back

* **15. R. Etheridge**

Three Quarters

14. P. Williams

13. M. Longstaff

* **12. D. Pointon**

* **11. J. Dix**

Half Backs

10. R. Corriea

9. S. Baker

Forwards

* **1. G. Sargeant**

* **2. S. Mills**

3. M. Curran

* **4. J. Orwin**

* **5. J. Fidler**

*† **6. J. Watkins (Capt.)**

8. J. Simonett

7. V. Wooley

Replacements

P. Tunstall

F. Reed

CHELTENHAM

Red and Black

Full Back

15. B. Bartlett

Three Quarters

14. N. Jones

13. R. Fenner

12. S. Thompson

11. G. Owen

Half Backs

10. P. Binding

9. M. Jones

Forwards

1. C. Sinclair

2. M. Hamlin

3. P. Ginty

4. D. McPherson

5. N. Smart

6. P. Coles

8. R. Sutton

7. D. Page

Replacements

S. Donaghue

S. Lewis

Referee: A. R. GIBB (Warwickshire Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



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BRANCHES AT GLOUCESTER MARKET, TETBURY AND NAILSWORTH

(SPACE RESERVED FOR SPONSORS)

First XV Fixtures

1977			
Sept 3	Broughton Park	A	27-0
9	Coventry	... H	27-0
14	Stroud	... H	40-16
17	Fylde	... A	30-12
21	Cheltenham	... H	
24	Bristol	... A	
27	Newbridge	... H	
Oct 1	Bedford	... A	
5	Pontypool	... H	
8	Harlequins	... A	
12	St. Lukes College	H	
15	Newport	... H	
19	Loughboro. Coll.	H	
22	Nottingham	... H	
26	S. Wales Police	H	
29	Oxford Univer.	H	
Nov 5	Leicester	... A	
9	Cambridge Univ.	A	
12	Plymouth	... H	
17	Clifton	... H	
22	Aberavon	... A	
26	London Irish	... A	
Dec 3	Moseley	... A	
10	Bath	... H	
17	Coventry	... A	
24	Newport	... A	
26	Lydney	... H	
31	Bridgend	... A	

First XV Fixtures

1978			
Jan 2	Moseley	... H	
7	London Scottish	A	
14	Leicester	... H	
21	Wasps	... H	
28	Lydney	... H	
	J.P.C. 1st Round		
Feb 3	Bristol	... H	
11	Bath	... A	
13	Army	... H	
17	Swansea	... H	
25	Aberavon	... H	
Mar 4	Northampton	A	
8	Abertillery	... A	
11	Richmond	... H	
15	Cheltenham	... A	
23	Lydney	... A	
25	Headingley	... H	
27	Birkenhead Park	H	
Apr 1	Cardiff	... A	
8	Ebbw Vale	... H	
15	Sale	... A	
22	Camborne	... A	
24	St. Ives	... A	
25	Plymouth	... A	
29	Exeter	... H	

*The First-Aid Service on this ground is provided voluntarily by
The City of Gloucester Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade*

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GLOUCESTER 24884

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"Big Sam"

It was with profound sorrow that rugby followers everywhere heard of the death last week-end in a Birmingham hospital of Sam Doble, the former Moseley and England full-back, at the tragically young age of 33. Although he invariably became the target for light banter from the Kingsholm crowd Sam was held in great respect by them as a very accomplished rugby full-back.

Sam first came into prominence when at St. Paul's College, Cheltenham, where he often played as a No. 8 forward and appeared in the pack against Gloucester United. But he soon took over the full-back berth and it is mainly as a prodigious place-kicker that he will be best remembered.

It is believed that his last game for Moseley was at Kingsholm on Wednesday, October 1, 1975, when he came into the side at the last minute in place of Richard Akenhead, who switched to fly-half when Martin Cooper dropped out of the side to play Gloucester.

Our supporters join with thousands of others who have watched Sam over the years in extending deepest sympathy to his family and to the Moseley club he served so faithfully.

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Diary Dates

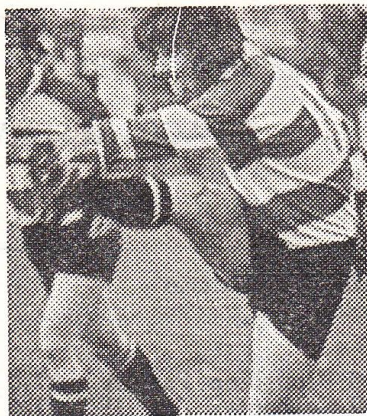
Next Saturday, September 24, Gloucester make the trip down the M.5 to meet county rivals, Bristol, and all supporters will hope for such another superb performance as that at the Memorial Ground last April, when the Cherry and Whites romped to a remarkable victory—the highest-ever between the two clubs. A coach is being run for the game, leaving Kingsholm at 12.30 p.m. and as bookings have already been heavy, anyone wishing to take advantage of the cheap trip should contact Mervyn Elway or Terry Close in the Social Club as soon as possible.

Gloucestershire meet Monmouthshire at the Athletic Ground, Cheltenham, next Monday evening, September 26, kick-off 7.30 p.m., then the following evening Newbridge will be the visitors to Kingsholm, with a 7 p.m. kick-off.

ARTHUR RUSSELL.

Club Personalities

No. 2 Peter Butler



Countless opponents over recent years have, like Hamlet, wished that "this too, too solid flesh would melt" as they have watched the prodigious goal-kicking feats of PETER EDWARD BUTLER, the club's vice-captain, dash all hopes they may have cherished of victory over Gloucester.

Married in August of last year—on the day that West Indies played Gloucestershire, he recalls—Peter, a production service manager at a local chemical factory, created a record in Great Britain by scoring 574 points in a season. And in that season, 1973-74, he was rested from the Gloucester side that trounced Old Merchant Taylors on Boxing Day by 80 points!

Peter has made 21 championship appearances for Gloucestershire, missing all but two of last season's matches because of a prolonged thigh injury, and has played twice for England—against France in Paris and, again as he fondly recalls, against Australia on the famous Sydney Cricket Ground!

Educated at Crypt School, the nursery for so many great players, he began with Old Cryptians before studying at Birmingham University, where he soon became the rugby captain and news of his remarkable place-kicking ability came trickling through. Since then he has bestrode the rugby world like a Colossus.

In the summer, when he is not committed to a rugby tour, Peter plays cricket for Old Cryptians, as do several of his Gloucester colleagues, past and present.