



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

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

GLOUCESTER

V

LYDNEY

Monday, 26th December, 1977

at

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Nº 052

Kick-off 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

- 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. P. Butler

Three Quarters

14. P. Delaney

* 13. R. Jardine

12. E. Rooney

*§ 11. R. Mogg

Half Backs

*† 10. C. Williams

*† 9. P. Kingston

Forwards

* 1. G. Sargeant

* 2. S. Mills

*† 3. M. Burton

*† 4. A. Brinn

* 5. J. Fidler

*† 6. J. Watkins (Capt.)

* 8. E. Pinkey

* 7. J. Haines

Replacements

P. Howells

J. Herniman

LYDNEY

Black and White

Full Back

15. M. Howell

Three Quarters

14. P. Saunders

13. W. Morris (Capt.)

12. P. Biddle

11. A. Eagles

Half Backs

10. C. Price

9. K. Rodway

Forwards

1. J. Scrivens

2. P. Price

3. A. Brookes

4. T. Croker

5. K. Lindley

6. J. Cooke

8. S. Collins

7. A. Wyman

Replacements

M. Wyman

J. Weech

Referee: R. MAYO (Bristol Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

1 BARTON STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Welcome to the "Severn-Siders"

With county and other "representative" matches occupying almost every Saturday for the past two months supporters have seen little of a full-strength Gloucester side this season; but this afternoon, at the height of the festive season, we look forward to seeing some of our "missing" stalwarts in action as we welcome our annual Boxing Day visitors, old friends and neighbours, Lydney.

Last Boxing Day the "Severn-siders" contributed handsomely to a thoroughly enjoyable game—as indeed they have since taking over the traditional fixture from Old Merchant Taylors—and the riot of scoring ended in victory for Gloucester by 47 points to 10.

Unlike last season Lydney have certainly not suffered from the weather; in fact, with so many mid-week fixtures this afternoon's match is their 27th so far—believed to be a club record. Unfortunately this hectic first half of the season has brought a heavy toll of injuries to Lydney, though they are hoping to be back at near full strength for today's game.

With the national money-spinning John Player Cup competition having been put back by the Rugby Union until the New Year, some of our supporters may like reminding that first round matches are due to be played on Saturday, January 28.

Few will need reminding, however, that although the draw was made several months ago—and on a regional basis for the first round—Gloucester are home to Lydney.

This afternoon's game, then, is a "full dress" rehearsal for the important Cup tie and we look forward to another entertaining and absorbing tussle with our old friends.

Kingsholm Kackle

Trains to Final

As already announced coaches are being run for the county championship final between North Midlands and Gloucestershire at the Reddings and tickets—though only a few are

left—may be obtained from the office on the ground this afternoon or in the Social Club after the match.

We make no apology for repeating the times of the special trip being run by British Rail, particularly as information is now to hand on the train being run from Lydney.

For our own supporters the train will leave Gloucester at 10.55 a.m., arriving at New Street Station, Birmingham, at 11.36 a.m. It returns from New Street at 5.15 p.m., and is due back at Gloucester at 6.15 p.m., leaving ample time for New Year celebrations back home.

The train from Lydney will leave at 10.10 a.m., but will return after the match at 6.15 p.m., arriving back in Lydney at 7.40 p.m. Buses Nos. 35 and 48 run regularly from New Street Station to Moseley and the journey to the Reddings takes about 20 minutes.

"Rugby Post"

Copies of "Rugby Post", the official quarterly magazine of the Rugby Union, are now on sale at the office or the Social Club. The current issue will be of particular interest to Kingsholm supporters as "Doc" Durkin, the club's doctor, has contributed a first-class article on rugger injuries.

But it is packed with informative and interesting reading, with many features in an excellent production of 16 full-size pages and is well worth 20p.

Doble Memorial Fund

At Gloucester's next home match, against Moseley on the New Year Bank Holiday, January 2, kick-off 3 p.m., a collection will be made in aid of the late Sam Doble Memorial Fund.

Diary Dates

Although the traditional New Year fixture with London Scottish is at the Richmond Athletic Ground this season, on Saturday week, January 7,

the remaining matches next month are all at Kingsholm.

Leicester are the visitors on January 14, followed by Wasps on the next Saturday, with Lydney, of course, rounding off the month's programme in the John Player Cup.

Our Advertisers

It seems an appropriate time to thank once again our advertisers in both the programme and around the ground. We look forward to seeing many of them at this afternoon's game and assure them of our deep appreciation for their support. We in turn ask our own members and friends to support our advertisers who do so much to help the club. Thank you, gentlemen all!

Seasonal Salutations

In conclusion Gloucester R.F.C. officials, committee men and the players join in wishing you all the compliments of the season and thank you sincerely for your continued support!

ARTHUR RUSSELL.

Club Personalities No. 14 Chris Williams

Despite the apparent myopia of national selectors, whose strange thinking invariably causes the omission of some of the country's great players, there can be few, if any, better fly-halves in the game than CHRISTOPHER GARETH WILLIAMS, who has made such an impact on affairs in the Gloucester back division over the past two years.

As his second name suggests Chris was born in Pontypridd, but he regards himself very much an Englishman, for it was only force of circumstances that took his parents to Wales. It is perhaps fitting that he should be "spotlighted" for today's game, as it was with Lydney that he learned much of his early rugby.

As a junior Chris was educated at Magdalen College School at Oxford before attending Lydney Grammar



School, where he began his half-back partnership with his fellow international, Peter Kingston, with whom he played later at St. Paul's College.

Formerly a physical education officer in the Royal Air Force, which he left this year, Chris now runs the "C.D.'s" Bistro in Tewkesbury with his wife. "Open every night at 8 p.m. for good food and wine," is his advertising plug.

Chris played for Lydney, St. Paul's College, R.A.F. and Headingley before joining Gloucester two seasons ago, making his debut at Kingsholm against Oxford University in November, 1975, under the captaincy of Mike Burton.

Since then he has played nearly 100 games for the senior side and the county championship final against North Midlands next Saturday will be his 18th appearance for Gloucestershire. It seems ridiculous to Kingsholm supporters that he has gained only one England cap, against France in 1976, though he has played for Western Counties against the Australians.

Chris has "got some in" overseas, having toured South Africa with Gloucestershire, though having to drop out of Gloucester's successful tour of America last summer. England's loss is undoubtedly Gloucester's gain and we hope that now all the "representative" matches are finished he will be appearing regularly to cause havoc among opponents with his thrustful running and smother tackling.