



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

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

GLOUCESTER

V

LEICESTER

Saturday, 14th January, 1978

at

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3 p.m.

Nº 0820

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. R. Clewes

* 13. R. Jardine

* 12. B. Vine

*§ 11. R. Mogg

Half Backs

*† 10. C. Williams

* 9. P. Howells

Forwards

*† 1. M. Burton

* 2. S. Mills

* 3. G. Sargeant

*§ 4. S. Boyle

* 5. J. Fidler

*† 6. J. Watkins (Capt.)

* 8. J. Simonett

* 7. J. Haines

Replacements

J. Delaney

K. White

LEICESTER

Scarlet, Green and White

Full Back

*† O. W. Hare

Three Quarters

* N. T. Barnwell

* M. B. Hall (Capt.)

*§ L. P. Dodge

* K. R. Barker

Half Backs

* J. B. Jones

* I. T. Walley

Forwards

*§ A. S. Redfern

*§ B. J. White

* C. R. Needham

* D. N. Joyce

E. S. Newsome

* F. J. Kemplin

*† G. G. Adey

* H. S. Johnson

Replacements

B. Pitt

Referee: P. E. HUGHES (Manchester Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE

(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

1 BARTON STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Welcome to the Tigers

Our supporters have rightly been somewhat indignant in recent months over the weakened sides that Gloucester have constantly been forced to field because of the seemingly endless county championship matches and district trials — in more senses than one! — though it is of course a misfortune over which the club has no control.

But, as the Walrus said, the time has come to talk of many things, not the least important of which is the fact that with all these frustrating commitments behind them the Cherry and Whites, like their supporters, look forward to fielding a settled side and now have a series of four home matches, commencing with the visit this afternoon of our old and valued Midlands friends, Leicester, the famous "Tigers".

Like our own club Leicester have been weakened for several games by the regional and district trials, though county championship demands do not worry them as these matches are played in mid-week. In the event, the Tigers arrive here with a very impressive record of having won 17 and drawn one of their 24 games this season.

Although well below strength last Saturday because of the final England trial Leicester retaliated so strongly and played such excellent rugby against Bath in the second half at the Recreation Ground that they were unlucky to lose by 28 points to 16.

Nevertheless, during that game they took their total for the season to 603 points, having conceded 337. This afternoon, except for hooker Peter Wheeler and prop Robin Cowling — (that name sounds familiar!) — who are taking part in the England squad training, Leicester are back to full strength.

In the corresponding fixture last season Gloucester emerged narrow winners by 14-12 on Saturday, November 6, 1977. On their visit to Welford Road last November the Cherry & Whites were defeated

by 28 points to 15, and with our visitors in such tremendous form the lads will have to produce that mysterious "something extra" to avenge that hiding, perhaps bearing in mind the exhortation of Henry V to "imitate the action of a tiger" and stiffen the sinews.

We look forward, then, to another exciting and absorbing game against our powerful rivals and trust the Leicester lads enjoy their brief visit to our fair city.

Kingsholm Kackle Great New Year Victories

It has been a magnificent start to the New Year with successive victories in the space of five days over Moseley and London Scottish, two of the country's leading clubs. The crushing defeat of Moseley on the Bank Holiday Monday was indeed a memorable occasion; the weather was ideal, Gloucester were at their brilliant best, and the crowd the largest of the season.

The officials and players wish to thank everyone for the tremendous support while, despite their bitter disappointment over the result, the Moseley officials wish to convey their deepest gratitude for what they termed the truly remarkable response to the Sam Doble Memorial Fund collection at half-time. As most supporters know, it reached £468, far more than has been contributed by any other club or single source.

Apologies

The committee wish to extend profuse apologies to all Patrons who were unable to occupy their usual seats for the Moseley match. Secretary Terry Tandy admits that the size of the crowd, particularly with so many returning to work on Bank Holiday after the long Christmas holiday, took everyone by surprise. Patrons are assured that every step will be taken to ensure that their seats will be reserved for future matches.

Patrons' Evening

The highly popular "Patrons' Evening" will be held in the Social Club on Wednesday, February 1. Admission of course is free, *but will be by ticket only*. It is important that tickets are obtained to enable the necessary arrangements to be made and all our Patrons are respectfully requested to apply as soon as possible to Terry Tandy, Cecil Pope or Mervyn Elway.

Well Done, Robin!

Although he will not be here this afternoon to renew acquaintance with his ex-colleagues and many friends in the club, we offer heartiest congratulations to our former prop, Robin Cowling, on his selection for England in their match against France in Paris next Saturday. May he play a "stormer"!

But we can extend a cordial welcome this afternoon to another old friend, former England fly-half Richard Sharp, who was happy memories of Kingsholm. This time, however, his visit takes him to the Press box, where he will be covering the game for the *Sunday Telegraph*.

Next Match

Gloucester will be home again next Saturday, when Wasps are the visitors with the usual kick-off at 3 p.m.

ARTHUR RUSSELL

Club Personalities No. 16 Steve Boyle

It is not generally known that STEPHEN BRENT BOYLE who, like Richard Mogg, has been one of Gloucester's outstanding "discoveries" in recent years and duly became an England Under 23 international, was born in Warrington.

Still, he admits that it wasn't his fault and that he didn't even play rugby until moving to Gloucester in 1969, when he learned "a thing or two" at Sir Thomas Rich's School. Now this veritable Falstaffian of a man has become one of the finest lock forwards in the country and very much in the national selectors' minds.

Married only last year, "with two



Burmese cats", as he puts it, Steve is a representative with Lloyd's and Scottish Finance Ltd. He played for Old Richians immediately on leaving school and joined Gloucester R.F.C. five years ago, making his debut against Newport.

Despite his considerable avoirdupois Steve has played cricket, basketball and — whisper it softly! — soccer for Herefordshire Schools. Since taking to the more virile winter sport he has made such tremendous strides that representative calls by county and country have reduced his appearances for Gloucester's senior team to little more than 100.

But now an automatic selection, so to speak, Steve had played 11 championship matches for Gloucestershire and has three England Under 23 "caps", against Canada (twice) and Japan, though his career in that sphere is over, for he was 24 a few months ago.

Again like Richard Mogg, he missed the club's trip to America last summer for the simple reason that he was touring Canada with the England Under 23 party, and in fact, skippered the side against Alberta. He has also, of course, won recognition in trial matches at senior level for England this season.

Gloucester are indeed fortunate to have such an accomplished young lock forward to take over from that popular and long-serving stalwart, Alan Brinn, and surely it will not be long before Steve wins a rightful place in the England senior side!