



# **GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

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

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# **GLOUCESTER**

**V**

# **BIRKENHEAD PARK**

**Monday, 27th March, 1978**

**at**

**Kingsholm, Gloucester**

**Nº 0767**

**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. R. Etheridge

Three Quarters

14. P. Conway

13. K. Conway

12. M. Longstaff

11. J. Delaney

Half Backs

10. D. Pointon

9. P. Howell

Forwards

1. G. Poole

2. K. White

3. M. Curran

4. A. Brinn

5. P. Winnel

6. P. Wood

8. E. Pinkney

7. V. Wooley

Replacement

P. Williams

### BIRKENHEAD PARK

Full Back

15. A. Donkor

Three Quarters

14. B. Elkerton

13. C. Whitehead

12. J. Whitehead

11. M. Jones

Half Backs

10. A. Done

9. M. Price

Forwards

1. R. Swain

2. R. Knight

3. R. Fairbrother

4. J. Kerrigan

5. A. Smith

6. N. Powell

8. R. Locke

7. M. Ryder

Replacement

R. Whalley

Referee: J. WILLIAMS (Notts., Lincs. & Derby Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

\* County



**NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE**  
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

1 BARTON STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

## Hearty Welcome To The Park!

To round off our holiday programme we extend a very warm welcome this afternoon to Birkenhead Park, our traditional visitors every two years on Easter Monday. The Park always contribute richly to the seasonal entertainment and last weekend gained a splendid win over Harrogate by 13 points to 4.

We look forward to another entertaining game this afternoon and trust our Northern friends will enjoy their short visit to our fair city.

## Kingsholm Kackle Up For T' Cup

The main topic of conversation among our supporters is naturally the John Player Cup and the fact that they had an away draw in the last round means that the lads have not been seen in action at Kingsholm since early this month. But their rigorous training sessions have continued unabated in readiness for the important semi-final match against Harlequins next Saturday.

The decision to play at Twickenham, while a little surprising, will eliminate all worries about tickets for the semi-final. Indeed, it is not proposed to issue any, for there will naturally be room for all our fervent supporters. And to ensure that the famous Kingsholm roar of "Glawster, Glawster!" is heard at its loudest in such a large arena it has been suggested that all supporters concentrate on the West side. By so doing we can at least be certain that that awe-inspiring roar of encouragement is concentrated in one area and let the Harlequins know that the "Gloucester boys" have arrived.

## Train and Coaches

Knowing the insatiable appetite for rugby of Gloucesterians, of course, British Rail will be running the usual special train. This will leave Gloucester at 9.50, arriving at Twickenham station at 12.02. It will depart from "Twickers" after the match at 18.37 and is due back at Gloucester at 20.50, leaving ample time to celebrate or drown one's sorrows in the usual way. The cost—and it is advisable to book in advance—is £3 for adults and £2 for children. The restaurants at Twickenham, incidentally, will be open after the match.

The usual fleet of coaches—known as Close's "chariots and cohorts"—will be running at a cost of £2 per seat. Bookings should be made as soon as possible with Terry Close in the Social Club and he will gladly provide any other further details required.

## Patrons' Coach

In addition to "Close's chariots" a special Patrons' coach to Twickenham will be run and this will include an evening meal on the return journey. The cost is not yet known as this will depend upon the price of the meal, still under negotiation, but, as Cecil Pope is on holiday, all details may be obtained from Jim Bennett or from the club secretary, Terry Tandy at the office on the ground this afternoon. Again, patrons are asked to book their seats as soon as possible.

## Schools' International

There are few events more eagerly awaited at Kingsholm than the annual Schools (19 group) international matches. This season England's opponents are Scotland and the game is on Tuesday evening, April 4, kick-off 7.15 p.m. Stand tickets are £1 and

*continued overleaf*

may be obtained from Terry Tandy or Hudson & Co., sports outfitters, Northgate Street. Admission to the ground is only 50p.

The match is being sponsored by Messrs. Phillips' Petroleum, Ltd., and the hosts for the evening will be Messrs. Whitbread's Ltd., the famous brewers. Both companies between them have already purchased 300 stand tickets for their many guests and as most of our own supporters will be eager to see the lads in action again they are advised to obtain their tickets as early as they can.

## Other Announcements

Supporters will readily appreciate that because of the Easter holidays these notes had to be in our printers' hands earlier than usual, which is why we make no apologies for repeating the various arrangements for next Saturday's John Player Cup semi-final at Twickenham.

But any changes in the teams, of course, and other items of interest will be duly announced over the loud-speaker system by our worthy newscaster, Jim Hickey, or one of the committee.

## Diary Dates

Gloucester's next home match will be on Saturday, April 8, when Ebbw Vale will be the visitors to Kingsholm with the usual kick-off at 3 p.m. But next Thursday, March 30, the United meet Cardiff Athletic at Kingsholm, kick-off 7 p.m.

As most of our supporters know, United are having a tremendous season under the leadership of that wonderful old war horse, Alan Brinn. They are unbeaten at home this season and have won 27 of their 31

matches, their victory over Cheltenham United last week taking their points' tally to 837!

And their four away defeats, against Coventry Extra 1st, Moseley United, Leicester Extra 1st and Pontypool Athletic, have all been amply avenged in resounding manner at Kingsholm in the return games. But Cardiff Athletic promises to be their greatest challenge in maintaining that proud ground record and Alan Brinn and his lads will be grateful for your support.

## South-West Table

Gloucester currently lead in the Rugby Union's South-West merit table and have two more matches remaining in this somewhat nebulous creation. They meet Plymouth Albion on Tuesday evening, April 25, at Beacon Park — the final match of their Cornwall and Devon tour — and complete the season with the match at Kingsholm against Exeter on Saturday, April 29. To make absolutely certain of qualifying for next season's John Player Cup competition they must win one of these, but will be determined to record victories over both these Devon clubs.

## Club Personality

Again it is regretted that demands on space has meant the omission of the "Club Personality," but it is hoped to resume the feature for the Ebbw Vale match programme.

## Happy Holiday

In conclusion the officials, committee and players join in wishing you a happy Easter holiday and again thank you sincerely for your continued support!

ARTHUR RUSSELL.