

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
RUGBY  
FOOTBALL  
UNION**

**CENTENARY  
MATCH**



**GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
v  
PRESIDENTS XV**



**Price 15p**

**Wednesday  
September 27th 1978  
at Kingsholm 7.00 pm**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As President in this centenary year, it is my privilege and pleasant duty to welcome both teams to Kingsholm this evening, to celebrate the Centenary of Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union.

The record of our County, over 100 years is second to none, and with 13 County Championship wins, we in Gloucestershire can be justly proud of our contribution to Rugby Football.

Our special thanks to Mike Burton, for his fine efforts to raise a side of such talents for this centenary game, and to all the players who have travelled from near and far to mark this very special occasion.

To all our supporters, who, over the years have given us such splendid support, and to everyone who has contributed to the success of this game our very warmest thanks.

Finally may we all look forward to an entertaining game, in keeping with this grand occasion.

S. T. Day  
G.R.F.U.  
President.

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## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(White)

15. P. E. Butler (Gloucester and England)
14. R. J. Clewes (Gloucester)
13. A. J. G. Morley (Bristol and England)
12. R. Jardine (Gloucester & England B)
11. R. R. Mogg (Gloucester, England under-23 & England B)
10. C. J. Williams (Gloucester and England)
9. P. Kingston (Gloucester and England)
1. G. A. F. Sargent (Gloucester & England under-23)
2. S. G. F. Mills (Gloucester)
3. A. Sheppard (Bristol)
4. N. Pomphrey (Bristol and England B)
5. S. B. Boyle (Gloucester, England under-23 and England B)
6. M. J. Rafter (Bristol and England) Capt.
7. J. H. Haines (Gloucester)
8. D. M. Rollitt (Richmond and England)

### Replacements

A. J. Hignell (Bristol and England) J. F. Simonett (Gloucester)

### Touch Judge

Mr. M. R. Longney (Gloucester)

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE – TRULY ENGLAND'S CHAMPIONS!

Some rugby critics in recent years have been advocating the discontinuance of the English county championship in the interests of the game nationally. They give no logical explanation for such a viewpoint and one suspects that what they really mean is that they have become frustrated over the years because of Gloucestershire's domination of the competition.

Some have grudgingly admitted that it has become a question, not of which counties will reach the final, but which county will meet Gloucestershire in the final.

True, something went sadly wrong last season, for much to the amazement of the critics, who loudly proclaimed that, after all, it was good for the game, Gloucestershire actually lost.

But those criticisms – and eulogies – become pointless when one considers Gloucestershire's records over the past century and their vast contribution to Rugby football.

Since their "birth" in 1878 Gloucestershire, apart from a strange unsuccessful spell following the Second World War when Warwickshire had the temerity to gain temporary control, have generally dominated the championship scene.

They have appeared in 32 semi-finals, have reached the final on 23 occasions and have won the title 13 times – three more than any other county, despite those disastrous post-war years! Their ranks have always bristled with English internationals, but in addition they have supplied players to Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

Truly, then, have Gloucestershire earned the proud title of England's rugby champions, with two of the country's leading clubs, Gloucester and Bristol, invariably supplying nearly all their players.

May they in this, their centenary season, under the presidency of popular Tom Day, revert to their accustomed role of County Champions!

ARTHUR RUSSELL.



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

**P. E. BUTLER** — The Gloucester vice-captain and country's leading goal-kicker who created a Great Britain record five years ago by scoring 574 points in a season — and in that season he was rested from the Gloucester side that thrashed Old Merchant Taylors by 80 points! Has, oddly enough, made only two appearances for England.

**R. J. CLEWES** — One of the unluckiest wingers never to have won an international cap. Has made over 400 appearances for Gloucester since making his debut ten years ago and, barring injury, seems certain to beat the late Arthur Hudson's record of 236 tries for the club, for his current tally stands at 224.

**A. J. G. MORLEY** — The mainspring of Bristol's highly successful back division for several years. A brilliant, elusive winger, such is his versatility that he is equally at home in the centre. Has won six "caps" for England.

**R. JARDINE** — One of the Gloucester club's four police officers. Learned his rugby at Chipping Sodbury and has played 27 times for Gloucestershire, missing last season's championship games because of a fractured cheek-bone. Has played for British Police against the French Police in their "internationals".

**R. R. MOGG** — Still a mere stripling at 21 is a typical example of "local boy makes good". A speedy and side-stepping winger he has made four appearances for England Under 23 and played in 16 championship matches for the County.

**C. J. WILLIAMS** — Has played for Lydney, St. Paul's College, Royal Air Force — with whom he was an officer — and Headingley. Won an England cap against France two years ago. Has formed a fairly regular partnership at half-back with Peter Kingston since schooldays.

**P. KINGSTON** — Although dogged by injury and illness last year has quickly struck top form this season. First choice for Gloucestershire in recent years he was forced to miss last season's final because of 'flu. Has won two "caps", both against Australia on tour.

**G. A. F. SARGENT** — Played for Lydney for nine seasons, two as captain, before joining Gloucester two years ago. Like his two front row colleagues, Steve Mills and Austin Sheppard, meets with considerable success on the cricket field during the summer months.

**S. G. F. MILLS** — The latest in a long line of accomplished Gloucester hookers, he has been near to international honours over the past two seasons. A native of Cirencester he claims to swing 'em both ways on the cricket field.

**A. SHEPPARD** — An industrious prop forward and excellent scrummager who would undoubtedly have made many more County appearances but for Mike Burton. Equally capable at cricket, it appears, as he amasses high scores with remarkable regularity for Downend, his local Bristol club.

**N. POMPHREY** — One of Bristol's greatest "discoveries" for many years. Shows an amazing turn of speed for his size and is a difficult man to stop in full flight. Equally at home in the second row or at No. 8 and must surely be in line for his full England cap, having already played for England "B".

**S. B. BOYLE** — Though rightly proclaiming that it wasn't his fault, was born in Warrington and knew nothing about rugby until moving to Gloucester. But he has learned quickly, for he is an England Under 23 and "B" international.

**M. J. RAFTER** — The County skipper who occupies the blind-side berth, but is the England regular at open-side. A stalwart in the Bristol pack he is an outstanding "killer" of the ball in what the South Africans call the "tight loose", supposedly round the back of the scrum, but is up in attack whenever the opportunity presents itself.

**D. M. ROLLITT** — Truly the "grand old man" of Gloucestershire rugby, having made over 70 appearances for the County — a record! Was the first capped for England more than a decade ago. Severed his long and valuable connection with Bristol when he moved two years ago to Richmond, where he is now a player-coach.

**J. H. HAINES** — "Happy Henry", as he is known, has been dogged by occasional injuries over the past two years, but has a turn of speed in both defence and attack that surprises opponents who are not accustomed to his attributes.

## Replacements

Gloucestershire are indeed fortunate to have two such replacements as **A. J. (Alistair) HIGNELL** and **J. F. (John) SIMONETT**.

Hignell, like Butler, is an England international full-back and accomplished goal-kicker. He is a Cambridge double blue — rugby and cricket — and plays cricket for Gloucestershire.

Simonett, who shot to the forefront last season as a No. 8, has been earmarked for a Scottish trial this season — though he was born in Trinidad!

## **PRESIDENT'S XV**

(Green)

15. W. H. Hare (Leicester & England)
14. J. J. Williams (Llanelli & Wales)
13. P. C. Dodge (Leicester & England)
12. S. P. Fenwick (Bridgend & Wales)
11. G. L. Evans (Newport & Wales)
10. A. G. B. Old (Sheffield & England)
9. B. Williams (Newport & Wales)
1. C. Smart (Newport & England under-23)
2. P. J. Wheeler (Leicester & England)
3. J. Dixon (Abertillery)
4. C. W. Ralston (Richmond & England)
5. W. J. McBride (Ballymena & Ireland) Capt.
6. G. J. Adey (Leicester & England)
7. R. J. Mordell (Rosslyn Park & England)
8. A. G. Ripley (Rosslyn Park & England)

### **Replacements**

- S. J. W. Baker (Gloucester)
- M. A. Curran (Gloucester)

### **Touch Judge**

- Mr. K. T. Gerrish (Bristol)

### **Referee**

- Mr. R. F. Johnson (London Society)

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