

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

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

GLOUCESTER V CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, 8th November, 1978

at

Nº 0991

Kingsholm, Gloucester

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

Warm welcome to the Light Blues!

When the poet Rupert Brooke wrote of Cambridge people being urban, squat and packed with guile his thoughts, of course, were far removed from its famous University's rugby team. Yet no doubt most of them are urban, some perhaps even squat; but there is certainly no lack of guile and skill in the Light Blues' side, whom we warmly welcome to Kingsholm this evening, particularly as they only visit us once every two years.

The Light Blues' reputation for playing constructive rugger scarcely needs any elaboration here. Sometimes, no doubt, their opponents have felt, like Cassius of old, they think too much; and as Caesar duly pointed

out, such men are dangerous.

"Comparisons are odorous", said Dogberry, his etymology pathetically below par but his sentiments admirable, and past results can be very misleading. For many of our sup-porters will recall that they saw little of the match in the Light Blues' last visit here, on Wednesday evening, November 10, 1976.

It was played throughout in thick fog, which shrouded most of the spectacular exchanges from view, but it is understood-and confirmed by the referee afterwards-that the result

was a draw of four points each.

There was no need for fog dispersal units at Grange Road last season, however, as Cambridge University won a high-scoring game by 24 points to 19 on Wednesday afternoon, Nov-

ember 9.

Effort being the highest common factor in every successful enterprise, both teams will be determined to assert their authority this evening, when we look forward to another exciting game of top quality rugger with the Light Blues, whom we trust will enjoy their brief visit to our famous ground and fair city.

Kingsholm Kackle Apology

An apology is hardly an auspicious way of embarking on these notes, but one is certainly due to many of our supporters who were unable to purchase a programme for the Leicester

match last Saturday. We make no secret of the fact that it was expected the televised international match would seriously affect the "gate" and

only 1,200 were printed.

It was obvious that we have a loyal band of supporters who do not fall for the lure of television when Gloucester play at home, and on a much happier note we thank them very sincerely for shunning the "goggle box" and giving their vocal encouragement to the lads. We give an assurance that we shall not under-estimate their fervent support again.

London Irish

Although it is not shown on the the fixture lists Gloucester's away game with London Irish on Saturday, November 25 will have a morning kick-off, as this, of course, is the same day that England meet the All Blacks at Twickenham.

For our supporters who would wel-come a day out in London, giving Gloucester their usual encouragement at Sunbury in the morning, then moving on to Twickenham for the international, let it be whispered softlyour worthy secretary, Terry Tandy, has a supply of tickets, including Stand ones, for the All Blacks' game!

Not an unlimited amount, mark you, but enough for those who wish to see both matches. They may be obtained from him in the Office on

the ground this evening.

Children Inside Rails

We are pleased that the appeal last week for children not to encroach on the playing area during matches did not go unheeded and there was, in-deed, a marked improvement, for which we thank all concerned.

But there were a few, quite big lads, who sat on the rails and they had to be moved last Saturday. So please, keep the right side of the rails and do

not even perch on them!

Lucky Programme Winner

The lucky programme, No. 150, for the Leicester match last Saturday, was purchased by Mr. W. A. Jeyes, of 31 Barley Close, Hardwicke, near Gloucester, who was a trifle wealthier by

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Referee: Mjr. P. LILLINGTON (Army Society)

† International

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The Colts

Like the unfortunate fellow in Sir Walter Scott's poem Gloucester Colts, if not unwept, have been comparatively unhonour'd and unsung. They have certainly not received the praise and publicity they deserve, though there is a large band of spectators who give them support and are invariably delighted with what they see.

From the Colts' team emerge the senior players of tomorrow, and already five of last season's team, Steve Baker, Mark Calver, John Gadd, Mike Teague and Kevin White, are vying for regular places in the Cherry and Whites' first XV or have played several games for them.

Behind the scenes the back-room boys, working assiduously in the interests of the Colts and, of course, the club, have certainly been unhonour'd and unsung, and their unselfish efforts

are known to only a few.

We make no apology, then, for giving space, at least once in a while, to these stalwarts. Former Gloucester United skipper, Reg Collins, is the general secretary, and the other dedicated workers are Roley Gabb, match secretary, who ensures the lads are fully aware of training sessions and that replacements are available for matches; Ray Smart, who gives so much of his leisure time in coaching, ably assisted by Chris Hayward, of All Blues, and Roley King, of Spartans.

Looking after the kit and making sure the Colts are the acme of sartorial elegance is Peter Bennett, and, if we may be permitted to use the age-old expression, last but by no means least, Mrs. Di Long, who attends to all the succulent refreshments after each

match.

The Colts have made a splendid start to the season with victory over Coventry; may we ask our members to support the lads for their future matches, which will be announced in the Press and over the loudspeaker!

Diary Dates

Exeter provide the opposition at Kingsholm on Saturday, when Gloucester will be supplying a large majority of regular players to the County for their all-important South-West group decider against Cornwall at Bristol.

Next Wednesday, November 15, the visitors will be Exeter University, formerly St. Luke's College, with the usual evening kick-off at 7.00 p.m. Another chance, perhaps, for the avid enthusiasts to "make a day of it", as in the afternoon, of course, it is the long-awaited game between the South and South-West Counties and the All Blacks at Bristol.

Match Date Changes?

Although at the time of going to press, as we say, no definite decisions have been reached, it is possible that both the Bath and Coventry matches next month will be switched. They are scheduled for December 9 and the following Saturday, December 16, but on both these days two important New Zealand matches are being televised—the international against Scotland and their final game, which never fails to stir the imagination, with the Barbarians at Cardiff.

Current plans are that the Bath game at the Recreation Ground will be switched to the following Monday evening, December 11, and that Coventry will visit Kingsholm on Friday evening, December 15, with the

usual 7.00 p.m. kick-off.

Turnstiles

The club is to spend more than £4,000 on installing new turnstiles, eleven in all, at Kingsholm, and it is hoped they will be in full use by the New Year at the latest.

At present attendances are largely a matter of guesswork, but these new turnstiles should make it possible to publish completely accurate figures, as everyone who enters the ground—even ticket holders—will be counted.

Personality Parade

Yet again the copious notes have taken up so much space that the "Club Personality" feature has had to be omitted. Apologies, but it will be resumed as soon as possible.

ARTHUR RUSSELL.