GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873
PRESIDENT
A. T. VOYCE, O.B.E.

GLOUCESTER
v
Loughborough Colleges

Wednesday, 6th December, 1978
at
Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p
GLOUCESTER
Cherry and White

Full Back
*† 15. P. Butler

Three Quarters
14. P. Williams
*§ 13. R. Mogg
12. E. Rooney
† 11. L. Dick

Half Backs
* 10. I. Wilkins
  9. S. Baker

Forwards
* 1. G. Sargent
  2. R. Daldry
  3. A. Brooks
*§ 4. S. Boyle
* 5. A. Turton
*† 6. J. Watkins (Capt.)
  8. J. Simonett
  7. P. Wood

REPLACEMENTS
D. Pointon *
K. White

LOUGHBOROUGH COLL. XV

Full Back
15. R. Bodenham

Three Quarters
14. A. Stanniland
13. C. Woodward
12. D. Lauffer
11. K. Williams

Half Backs
10. G. Glyn
  9. I. Wright

Forwards
1. C. Collins
  2. S. Hardy
  3. R. Sellers
  4. L. Jones
  5. M. Grindle
  6. G. McFadden
  8. H. Thomas
  7. G. Rogers

REPLACEMENTS
B. Friddy
S. Graham

Referee: B. SOAMES (East Midlands)

† International  § Under 23 International  * County
Welcome to the Students!

The great source of pleasure is variety, wrote Samuel Johnson some 20 years ago; and while he was obviously not referring to rugby these are sentiments which can still be echoed this evening as we extend a very warm welcome to our popular visitors, Loughborough Colleges.

Their insistence on constructive rugby, allied to fitness and fitness, is synonymous with an entertaining and exciting game. And matches with the Students invariably produce high scores as both sides contribute richly to the proceedings, fully aware that thinking is a prelude to production, not a substitute for it.

Last season, on Wednesday evening, October 19, Gloucester defeated the Colleges in a spectacular game by 46 points to 6, but it will be of particular interest to our supporters to hear that this season our visitors have not been beaten.

They have played ten matches and scored 271 points—an extremely high average per game!—while conceding but 102. We look forward, then, to another absorbing tussle with the Students this evening.

Kingsholm Kackle
Where are they now?

This season is the 75th anniversary of the English Schools’ Rugby Union, the first international having been played at 14 group level in 1904 between England and Wales.

Among the celebrations planned is a very special function at Twickenham on Wednesday, April 4, of next year and the Rugby Football Schools Union, as it is now called, is to issue invitations to all former Schools’ international players, irrespective of what group they represented their country.

Should any of our supporters know of players in Gloucester and district—and there are obviously many—who have represented England at Schools level we should be grateful if they would pass on this information which is being circulated via the press and rugby clubs’ programmes throughout the country.

There must be a number who attend Kingsholm regularly and it does not matter whether they played in the old days under the England Schools Rugby Football Union or the current title of Rugby Football Schools Union.

Wherever you are, to obtain your invitation to the “big do” write to Mr. R. R. Tennick, secretary, Rugby Football Schools Union, Twickenham, TW2 7RQ, giving your name and address, the county or countries against whom you played, together with the age group and year(s) when you played.

It seems almost superfluous to add that the oldest known former Schoolboy international is our own President, Mr. Tom Voyce, who played for England Schools as long ago as 1911. Many congratulations, Tom!

The First “250” Club Winners

Portia, that worthy lady in The Merchant of Venice, volunteered the wise remark that he is well paid that is well satisfied. Which undoubtedly accounts for the beaming, bounteous smile on the genial face of the Gloucester R.F.C. secretary, Terry Tandy, last Friday night.

Yes, you’ve guessed it—T.R.T. was the main winner, with £25, of the first “250” Club monthly draw, made in the Social Club to what sounded suspiciously like “Twist”, “Fiddle”, “Cooked”, etc. from the assembled company. But seriously, congratulations to Terry, whose number was 202, and the four other successful members who each won £10.

They were K. Claridge (Ticket No. 66); I. Pitt (91); K. J. Perkins (15); Ron Jones (181).

Lucky Programme

The winning programme, No. 0701, for the Aberavon match, was held by Mr. B. Bundy, of 65 Sebert Street, Gloucester, who left the richer by £5. Well done!
Bath Match

It has already been widely announced that the match with Coventry, due to have been played on Saturday week, December 16, has been brought forward to the previous evening, Friday, December 15, at Kingsholm, with the customary kick-off at 7.00 p.m.

Now confirmation has been received that the scheduled game with Bath next Saturday, on the semi-final date, will be played at the Recreation Ground next Monday evening, December 11, kick-off 7.15 p.m. On the same evening, for those who prefer to stay nearer home, Gloucester United defend their ground record when they meet Bath at Kingsholm, kick-off 7.00 p.m.

New Opponents

Bitter disappointment was expressed when it became known that Gloucester’s return match with Newport, due to have been played at Kingsholm on Saturday, December 23, had to be called off because the famous Gwent club are engaged in a Welsh R.F.U. Cup match.

But, we hope, all’s well ... For taking Newport’s place on that day are Glamorgan Wanderers, who will be making their first-ever visit to Kingsholm. They were left with a vacancy and were obviously delighted to have the opportunity of playing on our famous ground—and against our John Player Cup winners.

Moreover, further heartening news is that the Newport game will be re-arranged, hopefully on an evening in the first week of the New Year. The actual date will be announced as soon as it is confirmed.

Best Wishes

Best wishes to Gloucestershire in their semi-final championship match against Middlesex on Saturday, and particularly to our own lads who, we trust, will be playing a leading part in taking the County through to the final yet again.

But special congratulations to two of Gloucester’s talented young players, fly-half Brian Russell and flanker Paul Wood, who have been named as two of the replacements for this vital game. It is a great honour for them and the club considering their comparatively brief, but successful, experience at top-class level with the Cherry and Whites.

The other four replacements for Saturday are two more Gloucester players, full-back-cum-fly-half Ron Etheridge and hooker Fred Reed, together with Trevor Davis, the Stroud scrum-half, and Clifton’s lock forward, Peter Brown.

Diary Dates

With the two re-arranged dates for the Bath and Coventry fixtures now, we trust, made perfectly clear, and Glamorgan Wanderers appearing in place of Newport, the first half of the season ends with two home games.

As usual on Boxing Day our county neighbours, Lydney, will be the visitors to Kingsholm, to be followed by the exceptionally attractive match with those brilliant Welshmen, Bridgend, on Saturday, December 30.

Unfortunately, as last season, if the County reach the final again Gloucester will be sadly weakened for the visit of J. P. R. Williams and his illustrious colleagues.

The Semi-Final

Our members are reminded that there are still a few Stand tickets, price £2.00, left for next Saturday’s county championship semi-final between Gloucestershire and Middlesex at Kingsholm, kick-off 2.30 p.m.

A reminder, too, that no ground tickets are being issued. Admittance to the ground is through the turnstiles and gates, and the price is 80p—juniors and senior citizens 50p.

John Player Cup

A reminder, as it seems such a long time since the draw was first announced, that Gloucester start the defence of their John Player Cup winners’ title when they meet Richmond at Kingsholm on Saturday, January 27, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

And, not for the first time, the city will have two representatives in this opening round of the money-spinning competition, for our powerful local club, Matson, travel to East Anglia to meet Ipswich.

ARTHUR RUSSELL.