



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

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

GLOUCESTER v **PLYMOUTH**

Saturday, 24th February, 1979

at

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3 p.m.

Nº 0164

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. Mogg

12. E. Rooney

11. P. Williams

Half Backs

10. B. Russell

*† 9. P. Kingston

Forwards

* 1. G. Sargent

* 2. S. Mills

3. A. Brooks

*§ 4. S. Boyle

* 5. J. Orwin

*† 6. J. Watkins (Capt.)

* 8. J. Simonett

7. P. Wood

REPLACEMENTS

R. Ellis

K. White

PLYMOUTH ALBION

Cherry, White and Green

Full Back

* 15. L. Ware

Three Quarters

*§ 14. M. Triggs

* 13. I. Perkins (Capt.)

* 12. R. Pellow

11. K. Turton

Half Backs

10. P. Carter

*§ 9. N. Coombs

Forwards

1. R. Lawry

* 2. D. Fuge

* 3. B. Steer

*§ 4. G. Lovell

* 5. C. Hocking

* 6. R. Catchpole

8. D. Venables

7. M. Yeo

REPLACEMENTS

K. Prosser

A. Frowde

Referee: A. UNWIN (Staffordshire)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE

(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

1 BARTON STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Welcome to the Devon "Cherry and Whites"

We extend a particularly warm welcome to Plymouth Albion this afternoon as they have, loosely to quote Henry V, stepped into the breach on a day when Gloucester, after their disappointment in the John Player Cup and the fact that their original opponents, Aberavon, are engaged in the Welsh R.F.U. Cup, might have been without a match.

In a colourful manner of speaking Plymouth Albion and Gloucester have very much in common, for our Devon visitors also have as their predominant colours the renowned cherry and white, plus an additional narrow green strip.

The Albion's visit to Kingsholm last season will not readily be forgotten by our supporters, for they were the only club to beat Gloucester in the South-West merit table. True, most of our own lads were on duty for Gloucestershire in the quarter-final of the county championship against Oxfordshire on that day, Saturday, November 12, 1977, when Plymouth won by 20 points to 13; but with no other commitments this afternoon Gloucester will be eager for revenge.

With so little rugby played this year because of the wretched Arctic weather no up-to-date South-West merit table has been published recently. Albion, alas, have lost all their three matches so far, though they will no doubt improve on that record, while Bath currently head the table. The positions are:

Bath (played 4; percentage 75.00); Gloucester (5; 70.00%); Bristol (4; 62.50%); Camborne (5; 40.00%); Exeter (3; 33.33%); Plymouth Albion (3; —).

This afternoon's matches could alter these positions, for apart from Albion's visit to Kingsholm, Bath are hosts to neighbouring Bristol at the Memorial Ground.

Meanwhile, we trust our Devon visitors enjoy their brief stay in our fair city and we look forward to another absorbing and entertaining game.

Kingsholm Kackle Well Done, Peter!

Belatedly perhaps we extend hearty congratulations to Peter Kingston on his selection for England—his second home international cap—against France at Twickenham next Saturday. Due recognition of his selection in the game with Ireland last Saturday was impossible in these notes as the Richmond match was postponed and the original programme printed too early for appropriate congratulations. However, we all sincerely trust he has a "stormer" against the French next Week!

Best Wishes to Matson

It is hoped to keep our supporters informed this afternoon of the progress being made by our local champions, Matson, in their tough John Player Cup second round tie against Richmond at the Athletic Ground.

They undoubtedly start as the underdogs, but they will lack neither determination nor support as Gloucester enthusiasts in their hundreds have travelled to London by road and rail to urge on the local lads. We all extend our very best wishes to them and hope they can bring off what is popularly known as a "giant-killing act." Good luck, Matson!

The Taranaki Match

Supporters are asked to note that the long-awaited match against Taranaki, the star New Zealand club, will be played at Kingsholm in the evening of **Tuesday, March 13**—not the previous day, March 12, as appears on all the fixture lists and membership tickets.

This is an "all pay" match, but the only tickets being printed are for the Centre Stand, price £1.00. This will ensure that Patrons will be able to book their seats in advance and all applications should be made to the club secretary, Terry Tandy, at 17 Ogbourne Close, Longlevens, enclosing remittances and stamped addressed envelopes.

The main reason for the issue of Centre Stand tickets only is the poor demand for same for the recent Cup tie with Richmond, when the bitter weather undoubtedly kept many supporters away. For the Taranaki match there will be the normal prices for the Wing Stands, enclosure and ground.

Complaints Corner

Reverting to the Richmond game several complaints were made over charging members and patrons for use of the car park. Our secretary respectfully points out that the club had no option, for the John Player rules lay down firmly that the two competing clubs share all gate receipts, including those for the car park and the sale of programmes after expenses have been deducted. But it is also emphasised that there will be no car park charges to members for the visit of Taranaki, for this is a normal club game.

Patrons' Evening

The annual Patrons' evening will be held at the Social Club on Wednesday, March 14, reception from 7.30 - 8 p.m. Admission will be by tickets only and patrons may obtain these from Cecil Pope, Mervyn Elway or club secretary Terry Tandy.

The Patrons' committee, which apologises for the delay in making the arrangements, caused by the lack of matches and consequent close association with patrons during the weeks of Arctic weather, also proposes to run a trip to Exeter for Gloucester's last match of the season on Saturday, April 28.

This will be subject to sufficient support, but it is proposed to have lunch at a suitable hotel en route, stay at the Exeter club for a while after the match, with another stop on the way back, reaching Gloucester around 9 p.m.

Diary Dates

After this long "winter of discontent" with rugby at a premium supporters will have a full quota of appetising fare next week. For on Wednesday, February 28, Abertillery will be the visitors to Kingsholm and

two evenings later, Friday, March 2, Gloucester meet Northampton, also at home. Both these matches will have the usual evening kick-off of 7 p.m.

Prize Winners

With the monthly draw of the popular "300 Club" having been made only last night it is of course impossible to announce the winners in today's programme, though the list of successful participants may be seen on the notice board above the bar in the Social Club. The holder of the lucky programme, No. 947, for the Richmond game, however, was Mr. T. A. Haffenden of Westley Road, Whitecroft, nr. Lydney, Glos., who won £5.

Well, What D'you Know!

If anyone thinks that floodlighting is a fairly recent innovation of the last few decades then it will come as a big surprise to know that less than a month ago Gloucester celebrated the centenary of their first floodlit match.

The murmurs of disbelief are plainly audible as supporters digest this remarkable statement. Yet we are indebted to that diligent rugby and cricket statistician, Gordon Cooke, of Tuffley, well known to most of us, for some amazing data.

Having apparently delved into the archives, as he has so often done, he serves up the following information. It was on Thursday, January 30, 1879, that Gloucester, who then had the Spa ground, played Rockleaze, of Bristol.

There were four electric lights, one in each corner, powered by four dynamo electric machines supplied from Manchester and driven by steam engines. It was no doubt a noisy affair, not dissimilar from the Barton Fair held in the nearby Park. At this match, incidentally, says Gordon, there was an estimated crowd of 3,000.

... No doubt the dynamos and electric lights, both comparatively new inventions at that time, roused the curiosity of spectators as much as the rugger match!

ARTHUR RUSSELL.