



**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

**GLOUCESTER
v
LONDON IRISH**

Saturday, 24th November, 1979

at

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3 p.m.

Nº 361

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

Welcome to the Irish Lads!

"Rarely, rarely, comest thou," wrote the poet Shelley, and this could well apply to London Irish, our popular visitors this afternoon, whom Gloucester, unfortunately, meet only once each season on the home and away basis, making their appearance the more welcome.

Even more frustratingly the Cherry and Whites have so often in recent years been forced to meet the powerful Irish when their ranks have been decimated by Gloucestershire calls or other representative matches.

On their last visit here, on Saturday, November 26, 1977, the Irish won a closely-contested game by 9 - 6, one of several successive victories for them. But Gloucester were able to put the overall picture into better focus last year when they won at Sunbury by the equally narrow margin of 12 - 10.

This afternoon, however, with no County demands, Gloucester are able to field at nearly full strength; but while mindful of the admirable sentiments of Prospero in "The Tempest" that the rarer action is in virtue than in vengeance the lads will be determined to erase a few memories of those defeats by the Irish, to whom we extend a very warm welcome.

Kingsholm Kackle

The Semi-Final

Gloucestershire, as most supporters know, meet North Midlands at the Reddings, Moseley, in the semi-final of the county championship on Saturday, December 8; and they will have a score to settle, for it was North Midlands who defeated them in the final two seasons ago.

As Gloucester have no match on this day—(see "Bath Change" below)—the Reddings will no doubt be reverberating to the famous, "Kingsholm roar." Raucous, even frightening to the opposition, but highly efficacious as far as Gloucestershire are concerned!

Visitors to the Oxford City By-pass ground for last Saturday's quarter-final again had it brought home forcibly to them that Kingsholm supporters are spoiled; in other words,

there are few clubs with such a magnificent ground and splendid accommodation. We mention this because some of those who require grandstand tickets for the semi-final may be disappointed.

Tickets will shortly be available at £2.00 (reserved) for the Centre Stand and £1.50p for the Wing Stands and the smaller stand on the other side of the ground.

Applications, together with remittances and **stamped addressed envelopes**, should be sent to our club secretary, Terry Tandy, at 17 Ogbourne Close, Longlevens, Gloucester.

But please note that all members applying are respectfully asked to state in their applications if they are willing to accept £1.50n tickets in the event of there being insufficient Centre Stand ones. We need scarcely state, of course, that all applications will be treated as fairly as possible

Bath Change

An important fixture change brings Gloucester without a match in a fortnight's time, Saturday, December 8, the date of the County championship semi-final. As supporters will know from their lists, the Cherry and Whites were due to meet Bath—unbeaten by an English club this season—at Kingsholm.

But this would not have counted as a South-West merit table match as Gloucester will certainly have more than three players—the number stipulated under the new Rugby Union ruling—in the County team to meet North Midlands.

Bath kindly agreed to postpone the fixture and travel to Kingsholm for a mid-week match and this, pending confirmation, will now be played on the following Monday, December 10 with the usual kick-off at 7.00 p.m.

New Cup Final Date

With what Macbeth's witches termed the "fog and filthy air" making a thoroughly unwelcome appearance last Tuesday, the Gloucestershire R.F.U. County Cup Final between

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GLOUCESTER

Cherry and White

Full Back	
*†	15. P. Butler
Three Quarters	
*	14. R. Clewes (Capt.)
*§	13. R. Mogg
*	12. D. Pointon
*†	11. L. Dick
Half Backs	
*	10. B. Russell
	9. S. Baker
Forwards	
	1. M. Preedy
*	2. F. Reed
	3. A. Brooks
*§	4. S. Boyle
*	5. A. Turton
*†	6. J. Watkins
	8. J. Herniman
	7. P. Wood
REPLACEMENTS	
	M. Durkin
	J. Gadd

LONDON IRISH

Full Back	
	15. D. Leopold
Three Quarters	
	14. J. Bates
†	13. A. McKibbin
	12. R. McKibbin
	11. C. Meanwell
Half Backs	
†	10. P. Parfrey
	9. B. Murphy
Forwards	
	1. A. Newbury
	2. G. Beriner
	3. L. White
	4. M. Smythe
	5. G. McCarthy
	6. W. Jones
	8. K. Short
	7. N. Gilbert
REPLACEMENTS	
	J. Casalapro
	T. Hennessy

Referee: V. SCHWARZ (Liverpool)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



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First XV Fixtures

1979			
Sept.	1 Broughton Park A	16-9	
	5 Stroud ... H	22-6	
	8 Coventry ... H	13-13	
	12 Cheltenham ... H	16-13	
	15 Fylde ... A	3-9	
	19 Moseley ... A	12-21	
	22 Bristol ... A	9-16	
	26 Glam'gan Wan H	22-6	
	29 Bedford ... A	9-4	
Oct.	3 Clifton ... H	62-0	
	6 Pontypridd ... H	14-22	
	10 Abertillery ... A	16-12	
	13 Harlequins ... A	15-6	
	17 Newbridge ... H	9-9	
	20 Newport ... H	31-12	
	24 S. Wales Police H	18-6	
	27 Nottingham ... H	23-16	
Nov.	5 Leicester ... A	Post.	
	7 Cambridge Un. A	25-13	
	10 Plymouth ... H	45-3	
	14 Exeter College H	73-6	
	21 Aberavon ... A	6-12	
	24 London Irish H		
	28 Loughboro Col. H		
Dec.	1 Oxford Un. ... H		
	8 Bath ... H		
	15 Coventry ... A		

First XV Fixtures — contd.

	22 Newport ... A	
	26 Lydney ... H	
	29 Bridgend ... A	
1980		
Jan.	1 Moseley ... H	
	5 London Scot. A	
	12 Leicester ... H	
	19 Wasps ... H	
	26 J.P.C. 1st round:	
	Richmond ... A	
Feb.	1 Bristol ... H	
	9 Bath ... A	
	15 Swansea ... H	
	23 Aberavon ... H	
Mar.	1 Northampton A	
	8 Richmond ... H	
	12 Cheltenham ... A	
	15 Exeter ... A	
	19 Pontypool ... H	
	22 Saracens ... H	
	29 Orrell ... A	
Apr.	3 Lydney ... A	
	5 Headingley ... H	
	7 Birkenhead P. H	
	12 Ebbw Vale ... H	
	19 Sale ... A	
	26 Exeter ... H	

UNITED FIXTURES

1979		1979		1980	
Sept 1	Broughton Park ... H	27	Pontypool Athletic A	Jan. 26	J.P. Cup, 1st Round
8	Coventry Ex. 1st VX A	Nov. 3	Leicester Ex. 1st XV H	Feb. 2	Bristol United ... A
10	Pontypool Athletic H	10	Kidderminster Car. A	9	Bath United ... H
15	Brixham ... H	17	Newport H.S.O.B. H	16	Moseley United ... H
17	Cheltenham United A	19	Ebbw Vale Athletic A	23	Newport H.S.O.B. A
22	Bristol United ... H	24	Nottingham Corsairs A	Mar. 1	Northampton Wan. H
24	Berry Hill ... A	Dec. 1	Moseley United ... A	8	Nottingham Corsairs A
29	Bedford Wanderers H	8	Bath United ... A	10	Berry Hill ... H
Oct. 1	N. G. Combination H	15	Coventry Ex. 1st XV H	15	Cheltenham United H
6	Cleeve ... A	22	Newport United ... H	22	Kidderminster Car. A
13	Richmond Vikings H	29	Ebbw Vale Athletic H	29	Salisbury ... H
15	Lutonians ... H	Jan. 5	Wasps Vandals ... H	Apr. 12	Llantwit Major ... A
20	Newport United ... A	12	Leicester Ex. 1st XV A	19	Blaenavon ... H
23	Hereford ... A	19	Cleeve ... A	26	Exeter ... A

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Matson and Stroud had to be postponed, though both clubs thank those avid supporters who braved the elements and turned up optimistically in the hope that the wretched weather might clear—as indeed it did later in the evening.

However, in anticipation of our unpredictable weather proving much kinder, the big match will now be played at Kingsholm next Wednesday week, December 5, with the kick-off at 7.00 p.m.

"Rugby Post"

As those supporters who have already purchased their copies will know, the current issue of the "Rugby Post" is now on sale, price 25p. They are obtainable from Terry Tandy and in the Social Club, while lads will also be around the ground acting as budding newsvendors for the excellent magazine, which is full of interesting snippets and stories—just for the rugger enthusiast! And this season the "Rugby Post" will be published monthly.

To use the old advertising catch phrase—"Get your copy now to avoid disappointment!"

"250" Club

Trevor Pritchard, its genial and industrious treasurer, announces that the "250" Club is rapidly running out of vacancies. With so many handsome monthly prizes to be won each month, may we respectfully suggest that any regular members—or intending new ones—who have not yet paid their first month's subscription, contact "T.P." or one of the committee as soon as possible, as the first draw will take place in the Social Club next Friday evening at 9.00 p.m.

Congratulations, Steve

Warmest congratulations to our popular hooker, Steve Mills, on his selection as an England replacement for the international match against

the All Blacks at Twickenham this afternoon. We trust it will lead to the "consummation devoutly to be wished"—the place as England's first-choice hooker!

Christmas Draw

As in previous years there will again be a bumper Christmas draw run by the Social Club committee. Entries are already coming in "thick and heavy" as the prizes are numerous and it is only 5p per shot. But there is no restriction on the number of entries—the more there are, the more prizes there will be—so you do not have to queue to "have a go". Supporters will find the appropriate entry sheets in the Social Club and they should contact any member of the Social Committee.

Forthcoming Attractions

Though this looks like a cinema advertisement, it is an admirable description of the rich fare to follow at Kingsholm next week.

On Wednesday, kick-off 7.00 p.m., Loughborough Students—(note that they, too, have changed their name from Loughborough Colleges)—will be the visitors to Kingsholm.

This is followed next Saturday, kick-off 3.00 p.m., by the long-awaited visit of Oxford University, when Gloucester will be anxious to complete the "Varsity double," having already defeated Cambridge University at Grange Road earlier this month.

Programme Winner

The winning programme, No. 136, for the match against Exeter University last week, was purchased by Mr. S. High, of 205 Bilford Road, Worcester, who left the richer by £5.00.

Well done, Sir! It is extremely gratifying to know our supporters come from far and wide!

ARTHUR RUSSELL.