



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v CLIFTON

Wednesday, 29th October, 1980
Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

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GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. P. Ford

Three Quarters

14. P. Conway

13. S. Parsloe

* 12. P. Taylor

* 11. R. Clewes

Half Backs

10. C. Pryce

9. S. Baker

Forwards

* 1. G. Sargent

* 2. S. Mills (Capt.)

*† 3. P. Blakeway

*§ 4. S. Boyle

* 5. J. Orwin

6. J. Gadd

8. M. Teague

7. M. Longstaff

REPLACEMENTS

P. Kingston *†

K. White

CLIFTON

Full Back

* 15. P. Pearce

Three Quarters

14. M. Wilcox

13. M. Collett

12. B. Lovering

* 11. S. Cooke

Half Backs

10. J. Masters (Capt.)

9. J. Jeffrey

Forwards

1. C. Mills

* 2. D. Bennett

3. S. Peters

4. P. Brown

* 5. N. Williams

6. P. Cumber

§ 8. M. Patching

7. K. Rafter

REPLACEMENTS

A. Watson

K. Lloyd

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



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CLIFTON — MORE THAN JUST A BRIDGE

Tonight's visitors are living disproof of those Pundits who always regard Gloucestershire as nothing more than Gloucester and Bristol. Together with Stroud, Lydney and Cheltenham, and 'emerging nations' like Berry Hill, they serve to remind us that there is a great deal of good Rugby played away from the two major grounds.

Indeed, the existence of such Clubs adds strength to those people who oppose the formation of Leagues and Super Leagues, on the grounds that sides such as Gloucester would lose their local links under such a system. And surely — such links must be for the wider good of the game in the long run.

So it's good to see Clifton here tonight. Perhaps they may persuade some people that there is more to Clifton than a Bridge, a Gorge and a few excellent pubs.

Last year's game proved to be something of a romp for Gloucester who won 62 - 0. The try list looks like a Gloucester 'Who's Who', with Peter Butler and Bob Clewes scoring two each, and others being added by Messrs. Mogg, Jardine, Baker, Brooks, John Gadd, Herniman, Russell and Turton. Peter Butler converted four and Brian Russell three.

Since then, however, Clifton have been doing extremely well in the Bass South West Merit Table, and with Gloucester's form oscillating like an epileptic pendulum, anything could happen.

Welcome 'Severn Sound'

Tonight sees the first Gloucester home game since our new, and long-awaited local radio station went on air. We take it very kindly that, for this first exercise in reporting Gloucester at home, Nigel Dean, the Sports Editor, has decided to cover the game himself.

We suspect, however, that it isn't too much of a chore for Nigel. He is a Gloucester man himself, and attended Sir Thomas Rich's School, so he might be expected to know a bit, both about the game, and the scene in general.

He also worked on the 'Citizen', and after a spell with Radio Derby, has now returned to his native heath.

Welcome Nigel! We're all a bit tired of being regarded by the big media as part of the Midlands, and of the odd commentator who, it sometimes seems, would rather catch dysentery than say something good about Gloucester.

Glos. v. Somerset

Just to remind you that tickets for the game to be held here on November 8th will be on sale in the Office after the game tonight. It isn't an all-ticket match—unless you want to sit down, that is, in which case Centre Stand tickets cost £2.00 and Wing Stand seats £1.50. Ground admission will be £1.00. And don't forget—Kick-off is at 2.45, and not at our usual 3.00 p.m.

Two down, and one to go!

So now the County have beaten both Cornwall and Devon. Just. But, bearing in mind the number of injuries, and players 'otherwise engaged' and also remembering that we have about the toughest Group to get through — have had for years — it isn't a bad achievement. Perhaps the inspiration of Kingsholm will lead to better things for the Somerset game.

Congratulations to the 'Squaddies'

It's good to see no less than five Gloucester players in the first England squad of the season with Richard Mogg the sole representative in the backs. The others are Phil Blakeway (obviously!), Steve Mills, Gordon Sargent and Steve Boyle — and we all hope that this is the first step to higher things for all of them.

How are the Mighty fallen?

It's been a funny old fortnight hasn't it. A beating by Moseley, and a regular hammering at Newport was followed by a wonderful win in a tremendous cliff-hanger at Pontypool.

A win against 'Pooler' is always an achievement. In fact, we are told that the last English team to win at Pontypool did so back in September 1978. It's amazing how many people I've met, during the last week, who 'meant to go, but didn't at the last minute'. There must be a moral there somewhere.

But isn't this one of the charms of supporting the 'Gloucester Boys'? You never know what they're going to do!

A good win by Kent

Mr. B. T. Kent actually. He was foresighted enough to buy programme no. 219 at the Moseley game, so he went away £5 richer.

Mr. Kent lives at 'Highbridge', Malvern Road, Cheltenham, so our fiver went winging down Golden Valley after the game

Leicester on Saturday

Saturday sees one of the Season's most attractive matches — Leicester at Kingsholm. It's quite unnecessary to enlarge upon the achievements of Peter Wheeler's 'Tigers' over the last few years; indeed the last team to stop them in the John Player was Gloucester in the final in that famous year.

Spice is added to the occasion by the fact that the two Captains will be hooking against each other as rivals for the England spot. That alone must be worth the entrance money.

Incidentally, in spite of a minor fracas down the road at Cardiff on the same afternoon, when Wales take on the All Blacks, the game will start at 3.00 pm on Saturday as usual. Over the past few years, it has become the practice to play such club games on the Friday evening immediately preceding. From remarks passed and overheard, it seems that a fair few supporters don't like this arrangement at all, so it will be interesting to see what difference the Welsh match makes to our gate — if any.

Next Wednesday sees the biennial visit of Cambridge University, who are always worth watching, and frequently difficult to beat. And, of course, on Saturday 8th, the County match v. Somerset is here. So there's plenty to look forward to.

If you really want to see the ball thrown about, come along and see the Colts take on Brixham on Thursday November 6th. They've started well, and deserve your support. Who knows — you may be watching the Moggs and Mills's of the future.

Tailpiece

One of my lasting memories of the first day of 'Severn Sound' will be the reaction of Max Boyce — a guest during the morning. He hadn't heard the result of the Pontypool game, until the Presenter, obviously with great pleasure told him. Even the loquacious Max was reduced to a 'Did they really?' and a moment of silence.

Perhaps we shall have a few extra verses to 'The Pontypool Front Row'.

PETER ARNOLD