

Rugby Football Union



THORN

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
V
SOMERSET

Saturday 8th November 1980

**Kingsholm Ground, Kingsholm Road,
Gloucester**

KICK OFF 2-45p.m.

(Programme 10p)



MESSAGE FROM MR. J. A. SIBLEY

This is the second year that Thorn have sponsored the Rugby Union County Championship. As this was a completely new involvement for the Company, we had to feel our way before deciding how best to help the competition and to help create more interest in rugby football. The attraction to me is the involvement of players and spectators from as far apart as Cornwall and Northumberland.

I sincerely hope that this 1980-81 season will have its memorable moments and can reach a climax comparable to that marvellous final last year between Lancashire and Gloucestershire in the mud at the Vale of Lune. Whichever team you support, I wish you success – and by the way, I hope you will also continue to support the many Thorn products shown elsewhere in this programme.



THORN EMI DIRECTOR &
COMPANY SECRETARY

MESSAGE FROM MR. T. BODLEY

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT DAILY EXPRESS

Thorn could not have picked a better year for their initial financial involvement in the Rugby Football Union. English Rugby took fire for the first time in 23 years. They swept the board by winning the Grand Slam, Triple Crown and the Calcutta Cup. If there had been any further honours up for grabs, they would have won those too because of the team spirit and confidence all directed to the best possible use by the coaching of Mike Davis.

And, to a large extent, that success was built on the solid foundation of the Thorn County Championship.

The injection of real money into the county scene allowed the teams to prepare far more efficiently than in previous years and none put the cash to better use than the eventual champions Lancashire.

The spin-off of their total Rugby, preached so fervently by their coach Des Seabrook, was vital to England as they provided seven members, including the captain Bill Beaumont, of the national side.

Thorn helped also to inspire a major international success as they helped with the four Divisional matches against the New Zealand touring team.

The North – like Lancashire – made canny use of the extra money. They were the only side to beat the All Blacks. The 21-9 score at Otley on November 17 represented the biggest hiding New Zealand had ever suffered in England.

But Thorn's biggest contribution was to the County Championship. The final between Lancashire and Gloucestershire at the picturesque Vale of Lune ground on February 9 was one of the highlights of a memorable season.

This season, in addition to the Thorn County Championship, there will be the Thorn Divisional Championship. This competition was suspended for the last two years because of touring sides. It will start on December 13 when the North, the holders, meet the South and South West and London tackle the Midlands. All four teams will be in action a week later at Twickenham to decide the 1, 2, 3, 4 order.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

President: G. E. Cullimore

Vice-President: J. E. Taylor

Hon. Secretary: G. E. Wright

Hon. Treasurer: R. T. Phillips

Hon. Team and Match Secretary: D. J. Walter

Representatives on the R.F.U. Committee:

J. V. Smith and J. E. Taylor

Selectors: G. E. Cullimore (Chairman), J. E. Taylor, S. T. Day,
D. J. Walter, G. E. Wright, E. J. Stephens, D. J. Watt.

SOMERSET RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

President: W. R. G. Pearse

Hon. Secretary: R. A. M. Whyte

Hon. Treasurer: M. J. Wood

Representative on the R. F. U. Committee:

B. A. Tuttiett

Selectors: F. J. Thomas (Chairman), G. C. Barrett, T. H. Smith,
A. H. Trott, County Coach. J. Davies

Ever had any difficulty getting a ticket for a seat at Twickenham? A problem with car parking? Then buy a Debenture and be free of worry for the next ten years.

Some of the best seats have already gone, but, sad to say, there are plenty of good ones left. They will go on a first-come-first-served basis, so don't delay too long.

Now is the time to do it to ensure good seats for this season's internationals. There are two Debenture prices. A centre stand seat costs £299 plus V.A.T., and all other stand seats cost £199 plus V.A.T.

With current rates of inflation, when the Debenture Scheme ends in ten years time, these prices will look dirt cheap. Today they are good value for money, especially when linked to deferred payments over 2 months.

Buy a block of four, and you get a free Car Park label for the West Car Park up to the limit of the available space.

If you require further information I will be pleased to help, but every Club Secretary should be able to give you details.

You can help build the South Stand at Twickenham and support England rugby whilst saving yourself a lot of trouble over the next ten years.

J. V. Smith.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Colours—White

15	P. E. Butler	X	Gloucester	Full Back
14	R. R. Mogg		Gloucester	Right Wing
13	P. Taylor		Gloucester	Right Centre
12	J. Carr		Bristol University	Left Centre
11	L. Dick	X	Cheltenham	Left Wing
10	D. Sorrell		Bristol	Stand Off
9	P. Kingston	X	Gloucester	Scrum Half
1	G. A. F. Sargent		Gloucester	Prop
2	K. Bogira		Bristol	Hooker
3	P. Blakeway	X	Gloucester	Prop
4	S. P. Boyle		Gloucester	Lock
5	J. Fidler		Gloucester	Lock
6	M. J. Rafter (Capt.)	X	Bristol	Flanker
7	P. Wood		Gloucester	Flanker
8	R. Hesford		Bristol	No. 8

Replacements:

16	G. Kouzaris		Bristol
17	I. Paterson		Bristol University

Touch Judge:

A. M. J. Fisher Gloucester Referees' Society

Referee:

C. J. High Cumbria Referees' Society

SOMERSET

Colours—Red, White, Black Narrow Hoops

15	N. Hopkins		Bath	Full Back
14	J. Lane		Bristol	Right Wing
13	G. Williams		Avon and Somerset Police	Right Centre
12	C. Bird		Bath	Left Centre
11	D. Trick		Bath	Left Wing
10	J. Palmer		Bath	Stand Off
9	D. Murphey		Bath	Scrum Half
1	G. Chilcott		Bath	Prop
2	S. Luxmoore		Bath	Hooker
3	J. Meddick		Bath	Prop
4	P. Stiff		Bristol	Lock
5	M. van der Loos		Bath	Lock
6	R. Spurrell		Bath	Flanker
7	G. Parsons		Bath	Flanker
8	R. Lye (Capt.)		Bath	No. 8

Replacements:

16	J. Jeffrey		Clifton
17	E. Liddiard		Avon and Somerset Police

Touch Judge:

M. Peters Somerset Referees' Society

X Indicates International

WELCOME TO SOMERSET

We welcome the officials, players, and supporters of the Somerset Rugby Football Union to the Kingsholm Ground, Gloucester.

They are our oldest County opponents, our first ever County game was against Somerset at Weston-Super-Mare on Thursday, January 2nd 1879 which ended in a draw 3pts each. In those days Bath R.F.C. supplied only two players H. G. Miller at scrum-half and A. Lysaght a forward, a great contrast to to-days game when they supply no fewer than twelve players. There can't be much wrong with County rugby when you can remain such good friends for over a 100 years.

We are all looking forward to a delightful game, as both teams are capable of playing open running rugby on their day.

The South West Group Championship depends on to-days result, three Counties are involved, Cornwall, Devon, and Gloucestershire and either can go through to the Quarter Final, so nothing less than a draw will do for us.

We thank Thorn EMI Industries for their continued support and sponsorship in what is now known as the Thorn County Championship, not only has it been a good thing for sport in general it has also produced a camaraderie between business and sport as never before, which we hope will long continue.

Rugby followers everywhere will be sorry to hear that Dai Walter our Hon. Team and Match Secretary is in hospital in Cheltenham, and we wish him a steady recovery.

The referee for to-days game is Colin High who has travelled all the way from Barrow in Furness, Cumbria to be with us, and we extend a warm welcome to him.

To the Gloucester R.F.C. Officers, and Committee we thank them for the ground facilities, and help in staging this match, and also the Ladies for refreshments, and to everyone who have supported the game.

FUTURE GAMES ON THIS GROUND

12th November 1980	Gloucester v South Wales Police
18th November 1980	Gloucester v Aberavon
26th November 1980	Gloucester v Loughborough Colleges
3rd December 1980	Gloucester v Exeter University
20th December 1980	Gloucester v Coventry
26th December 1980	Gloucester v Lydney
27th December 1980	Gloucester v Newport