



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v NEWPORT

Saturday, 27th December, 1980
Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

1037

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

- 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 & White

Full Back

15. P. Ford

Three Quarters

*§ 14. R. Mogg

* 13. P. Taylor

* 12. P. Howell

* 11. R. Clewes

Half Backs

10. C. Pryce

9. S. Baker

Forwards

* 1. G. Sargent

* 2. S. Mills (Capt.)

*† 3. P. Blakeway

* 4. J. Orwin

* 5. J. Fidler

6. J. Gadd

8. M. Teague

7. M. Longstaff

REPLACEMENTS

P. Williams

S. Ashmead

NEWPORT

Full Back

15. P. Rees

Three Quarters

† 14. R. Acherman

† 13. G. L. Evans

12. P. Bollard

11. J. Robinson

Half Backs

10. J. Robinson

9. A. Billhurst

Forwards

1. J. Dale

2. S. O'Donough

3. R. Morgan

4. J. Manders

5. D. Walters

6. A. Aubin

8. R. Barrell

7. P. Merritt

REPLACEMENTS

J. Churchill

N. Hughes

Referee: J. A. F. TRIGG (London Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Time to sit up and take notice!

Well now, and how are we feeling today?

A little lethargic perhaps? A trifle fractured after a Boxing Day party? Having stopped gazing into the old port, in favour of a look at Newport, you could well consider that the omens all point to a game to start the turgid blood flowing again, today. This being the Season of Goodwill, perhaps Newport will forgive us for drawing something of a veil over our last meeting with them, apart from readily admitting that they gave us a good, old-fashioned hiding.

You'll recall, however, that the backlash which the experience generated descended on the heads of Pontypool and Leicester, so perhaps we owe them something for showing us the error of our ways.

In one way, it was almost pleasant to be on the wrong end of that game. Newport haven't been their normal selves for a Season or two, and even before our visit to Rodney Road we had heard that a revival was in progress, which is always pleasant to hear, in such time-honoured and respected opponents as Newport.

Last Season, our first game, at Kingsholm, resulted in a worthwhile 31-12 win for Gloucester. Steve Baker, Alan Brooks and Paul Wood all scored tries, while Brian Russell chipped in with a drop goal. Peter Butler added another drop goal, converted two of the tries and kicked three penalties.

We were supposed to meet them again on December 22nd, but the match had to be called off — due, if memory serves, to the weather.

So, welcome and Season's Greetings, Newport. We're looking forward to the game.

... and lang may y'r lum reek!

New Year's Day sees our return visit to Moseley, which won't be an easy way to start 1981. But however that turns out, it would be hard to think of more appropriate visitors for the first match after Hogmanay at Kingsholm, than London Scottish, who are here next Saturday.

You'll remember that we have had some great matches with them over the past year or two, and indeed, they have been something of a bogey side for us, although hopefully, that bogey is now laid. Perhaps you'll also recall that rarity, a pointless draw a year or two ago — which sounds dull but was, in fact, anything but. Must be worth a visit.

Before that, however, there's one for the connoisseurs. South West Colts are entertaining the Spanish National Colts Team, here on Tuesday December 30th. Stand tickets are on sale now at £1.00, or you can come into the ground for 60p.

One word of warning — please remember that the match kicks off at 3.00 p.m. Many people are still away from work that day, but if you're not one of the lucky ones — well, perhaps your grandmother could have a funeral.

Time's ticking on!

Grandstand Season Ticket holders are reminded that, if you haven't yet applied for your tickets for the County Final, you ought, perhaps, to get your skates on. Applications — to Terry Tandy, 17, Ogbourne Close, Longlevens, — have to be received by January 7th. And, if you don't enclose your cheque, or whatever, plus a stamped Addressed envelope, Terry isn't very likely to look kindly on your application. Sorry about that, but times is 'ard.

Stand Ticket prices are £3.50, with Ground tickets at £1.50, 80p for Juniors and old age pensioners. And the allocation made to us by the County only allows one ticket per grandstand ticket holder.

Want to go to Cardiff?

Another good reason for coming to the London Scottish match next Saturday, is that the draw for four tickets for the England and Wales Match on the 17th will be made during half time. As you probably know by now, we felt that the fairest way of finding good homes for the two stand tickets and two standing tickets was to hold a raffle for them, and give the proceeds to the Players Tour Fund.

Raffle tickets are 20p each, and you can buy your handful in the Office, or the Social Club right up to kick-off next Saturday.

Is this your bag?

There's quite a nice job going for some keen supporter or other. How would you like to join our team of Baggage Men? Duties, in brief, are to look after the kit at both home and away matches. The 'perks' which go with the job include a free seat on coaches, with the players, for away games, and presumably you get into the ground free too.

It would be nice to have a big enough team so that a species of rota could be devised — that way the job needn't be a burden for anyone.

Interested? See Terry Tandy or Mike Nicholls.

Keep your dates in order

Have you noticed that diaries are very expensive this year? Anyway, you'll be lucky if you can find very much in that line in the shops by about now.

All Is Not Lost, however. As a Gloucester Supporter you can buy a very fine diary for the derisory sum of 60p. It has notes on 1980, and other useful information as well.

No kidding — it's a genuine bargain. Why not make a date to pop along to the Social Club and buy yourself one?

That Pontypridd Trip

This is about the first opportunity I've had to pay tribute to the reception players and supporters received when we descended on Pontypridd on December 6th. This I'm very happy to do, hoping that someone from Newport has contacts at Pontypridd, and will pass our grateful thanks along.

From the moment we arrived, the welcome was tremendous. When the usual 'Welcome to Gloucester' announcement was made over the loudspeakers, the whole crowd — and it was considerable — clapped, shouted and stamped in great enthusiasm. The players stood back and clapped our lads off the ground after the game, and the hospitality in the very fine clubhouse afterwards was overwhelming.

If we run a similar trip in two years' time, I thoroughly recommend strain a ligament to get there.

Note to Peter Ford: Whatever you do with the Fixture List, this is one we simply mustn't lose.

Thanks Richard!

Almost last, but by no means almost least, our most grateful thanks to valued Patron Richard Hulbert, who has made the magnificent gesture of presenting the ball for today's game.

It's this sort of thing which makes Gloucester such a great Club to be part of, and we do appreciate such generosity.

Thanks again Richard — you're a Scholar and a Gentleman!

Tailpiece

Came across a note about a Russian publication on sport the other day. It seems that Rugby is described as a "nasty, nasty game", and instills bad habits as well as inflicts injury on the Young. The article goes on to state that evil capitalistic businessmen have been offering lavish sums of money to persuade youngsters to take part in the brutish game. Wish we knew one or two.

Perhaps the editors have changed their tune now that the Soviet National Team has been achieving some good results against opposition such as Poland and Romania.

Happy New Year, everyone. See you here in 1981.

PETER ARNOLD.