



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER V PONTYPRIDD

MATCH SPONSOR TODAY

DUCK, SON & PINKER

52-56 Southgate Street, Gloucester.

Saturday, 19th September, 1981
Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

0617

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

MATCH SPONSOR TODAY –

DUCK, SON & PINKER

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. A. Durkin

Three Quarters

* 14. R. Clewes

*§ 13. R. Mogg

12. S. Parsloe

11. P. Pritchard

Half Backs

10. L. Jones

§ 9. S. Baker

Forwards

1. M. Preddy

*† 2. S. Mills (Capt.)

3. S. Ashmead

*§ 4. S. Boyle

*† 5. J. Fidler

§ 6. J. Gadd

§ 8. M. Teague

7. M. Longstaff

REPLACEMENTS

B. Russell

P. Wood

PONTYPRIDD

Full Back

15. B. Bolderson

Three Quarters

14. A. Rose

13. J. Poole (Capt.)

12. S. Flynn

11. M. Lewis

Half Backs

10. M. Hodgkinson

9. R. Dyer

Forwards

1. M. Orsi

2. A. Witts

3. J. Newland

4. K. Thompson

5. B. Pemberty

6. M. Shellard

8. G. Jones

7. D. Jones

REPLACEMENTS

M. Alexander

W. Brooklands

Referee: C. HIGH (Manchester Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE

(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

'Ponty' are back!

Sometimes, for no easily definable reason, two clubs just seem to be on the same wavelength — and never was this more true than in the case of Gloucester and today's invaders, Pontypridd.

Our visitors will forgive a mention of the fact that, a few years ago, they were not generally regarded as in the top rank of Welsh clubs. However, their progress, over recent seasons, has been phenomenal, and now no opponents can regard them as anything less than a tremendous challenge.

This is partly due, in our experience at any rate, to the way they play their Rugby. Certainly, like any decent side, they're out to win, but you'll seldom see a side which so obviously enjoys its Rugby as Pontypridd.

As far as we are concerned, it all started two seasons ago. We regarded them as worthy replacements for Cardiff, who had decided that they had better things to do than play Gloucester, but as soon as they arrived on the ground, surrounded by happy cohorts of supporters, we discovered that Ponty were Ponty, and not to be considered as substitutes for anyone. In the bar, after the match, one genial supporter told me that we were the only club they'd visited where the home crowd out-shouted them. We can well believe it.

They won that game in fine style. Gloucester scored 14 points, with tries by Alan Brooks, Paul Wood and Steve Mills, but were still eight points adrift at the close.

Last season we visited their fine ground for the return, and took a rowdy crowd with us. I can say that I've never had a warmer welcome from any home club, anywhere. At one point in the clubhouse, I was surrounded by a circle of 'Ponty' regulars, all singing "We are the Gloucester Boys!", and I'll bet you've never seen that on a Welsh ground!

That game started with Pat Conway running the length of the field to score a remarkable try, but we still lost by 34 points to 14, in one of the fastest games the boys played all season.

And the whole crowd stood and cheered Gloucester off at the end.

One reason for the size of that defeat won't be with us today. As you know, the great Tommy David has joined the ranks of the Cardiff Rugby League organisation, and is proving as much of an attraction there as he was at Pontypridd.

Pity. We shall miss him.

But then — we always did.

Thanks to Lansford

You'll probably notice a new light alloy scaffolding tower at one end of the ground today. I should point out that it isn't a crafty ploy to get our kickers close to the cross bar, it's been lent to us for the season to enable our generous sponsors, Duck, Son and Pinker, to make video recordings of the games.

The donors — no less generous — are Lansford Hire Services Limited of India Road, Gloucester, and we're very grateful to them for enabling Duck Son & Pinker and ourselves to undertake this unique addition to the Gloucester Rugby scene.

Lansford have been in business in India Road for some 10 years now, and are, at the moment, preparing for a move to larger premises, elsewhere in the City. They describe themselves as 'Specialists in High Level Working Platforms', a field which covers such useful items as stairway and span towers, airlifts, Topdecks, ladders, trestles, staging boards and chimney scaffolds, among other things, so if you are in the market for that sort of gear, you'll know where to go.

The company has had a board on the ground for some time now, and are very regular advertisers in the programme, so you can believe them when they say they are pleased to be associated with our new venture.

So if you need to operate on a higher plane, at any time, ring Gloucester 20144. Stephen or Keith Pitman will be glad to look after you.

... so what about the video then?

This is the second match which Duck, Son & Pinker have sponsored, and there are twelve more to go. This is the first one, however, when they have been able to bring their expertise in video to bear — you'll understand that floodlit matches could cause problems.

The intention is that the video film will be shown at Duck, Son & Pinker's showrooms in Southgate street, during the coming week. You know where to go — just below the New County, Hickie's as was.

The idea is that, after the company has finished showing the films, they will be made available to the Club for training purposes. You can imagine how handy that would be, if we get drawn against someone we've already played, when the John Player rolls around.

I've got a feeling that I'm going to be saying 'Thanks' from all of us, a fair few times this season, but I make no apology for that. We'll all be fascinated to see how the video works out.

Get in quick!

Just to remind you that you only have about 10 days to get your application for International tickets in. Members can obtain the appropriate application form from the Office.

The closing date is September 20th, and Terry Tandy simply can't accept applications after that, however much he'd like to help out. He also points out that there's simply no point in applying for more than one England v. Wales ticket.

Bargain of the Season

If you haven't got a Season ticket yet, you might be interested to know that, if you were to attend every home first team match played after today, a Ground Season would cost you just 40p per game, which just goes to show what a bargain it is.

That's just the Ground Season, of course. Patron, and Wing Stand Seasons are correspondingly more expensive, and there are very substantial reductions for OAP's and Juniors.

They're all available at the Office, so why not start saving money.

And, incidentally, Patrons are reminded to pick up their receipts and their membership cards for the Social Club from the Clubhouse. See Cec. Pope or Peter Denham.

And — for our next trick . . .

The next home game takes place on Wednesday, when we entertain Newbridge, who are usually a toughish proposition. Did you notice that they gave Bridgend all they could handle, over the weekend?

Next Saturday, the lads are trotting down the A38 to play Bristol, but there's no reason in the world why you can't come here to see how the United get on against their opposite numbers.

United are at home again on Tuesday 29th, playing Llantwit Major, and the following night — Wednesday 30th — we have a visit from the vastly improved Cheltenham side. Most people wouldn't want to miss that traditional Derby fixture, anyway, but it will be interesting to see if the Cheltonians' luxurious new Stadium has softened them at the edges at all. Somehow, I doubt it . . .

On the Boyle

At the time of writing, (before the Rosslyn Park game), Steva Boyle has scored five tries, in the first three games of the season. That's a start that any flying winger, darting outside half or bustling centre would have very good reason to be proud of. For a lock forward, it's almost indecent.

Certainly, it must be some sort of a record. Or do you know better?

Tailpiece

There was a nasty moment for all concerned at the Coventry match last Saturday — concerning Steve Mills, who is surely the last man we would want to see injured at this stage of the season.

He was charging after the ball, and suddenly pulled up short, clutching the back of his thigh. "O dear!" said the wisecracks among us — "he's done a hamstring!"

However, after mysterious ministrations from, I think, Steve Boyle, all was well, and the 'Skip' carried on.

I can now reveal, as they say in the tabloids, that the cause of the trouble was a bloody-minded bee, obviously a passenger from Coventry, who had decided that the sight of Steve's rear elevation, moving at speed, was too good to resist.

Obviously a bum rap.

PETER ARNOLD