



# **GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

## **GLOUCESTER v NOTTINGHAM**

MATCH SPONSOR TODAY

**DUCK, SON & PINKER**

52-56 Southgate Street, Gloucester

**Saturday, 24th October, 1981**

**Kingsholm, Gloucester**

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

0383

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

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### Match sponsor today **DUCK, SON & PINKER**

#### GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

	Full Back
15.	P. Ford
	Three Quarters
14.	P. Pritchard
13.	R. Ellis
12.	P. Williams
* 11.	R. Clewes (Capt.)
	Half Backs
* 10.	P. Taylor
* 9.	P. Howell
	Forwards
*† 1.	P. Blakeway
	2. K. White
	3. A. Brookes
	4. J. Brain
* 5.	A. Turton
§ 6.	J. Gadd
§ 8.	M. Teague
* 7.	P. Wood

#### REPLACEMENTS

M. Longstaff  
 P. Conway

#### NOTTINGHAM

	Full Back
15.	M. Drane
	Three Quarters
* 14.	S. Holdstock
* 13.	M. Northard (Capt.)
* 12.	T. Bennett
* 11.	C. Pitts
	Half Backs
* 10.	S. Hodgkinson
* 9.	D. Hunt
	Forwards
* 1.	R. Lucas
* 2.	B. Moore
* 3.	J. Rankin
* 4.	P. Nixon
* 5.	N. Grindle
* 6.	P. Cook
* 8.	B. Salmon
* 7.	G. Rees

#### REPLACEMENTS

M. Litton  
 G. Murphy

Referee: B. RILEY (Liverpool)

† International

§ Under 23 International

\* County



**NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE**

(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

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### **An English club at last!**

It might surprise you to learn that today's visitors are the first English club to visit Kingsholm since Cheltenham, at the end of September — United fixtures apart, of course.

Not that we're grumbling about the procession of Welsh teams who have arrived, and been sent empty away, as it says in the Book of Common Prayer, but it's a nice change to see a side who qualify for selection for the England team. And let's not underestimate them, just because they don't eat leeks and sing 'Land of my Fathers'.

In fact, Nottingham have been showing signs of building a more-than-useful side. I notice that they managed a very creditable win over Waterloo last weekend, playing away at that, and Waterloo aren't anybody's pushovers.

Last season Gloucester won the game at Nottingham by 22 points to 15, and the score was much the same when they visited Kingsholm two seasons ago — 23-16, as a matter of fact, with Steve Baker, Bob Clewes and Lewis Dick scoring tries, with Brian Russell converting one and kicking three penalties.

Nottingham will be doing their best to reverse the score line this year, and the fact that they have caught us on a County day won't do anything to discourage them. Time, as they say, will tell.

So a hearty welcome to you Nottingham. Hope you enjoy your visit.

### **On the Boyle**

Steve Boyle's try against Newport was his ninth of the season. We thought he was doing well — for a lock — when he scored a dozen last year, but, blimey Steve, we're not out of October yet!

It's getting positively greedy!

### **Is your number up?**

Next Saturday sees the start of this season's 250 Club run, and Andy Mitchell asks us to point the fact out to you.

We know that quite a lot of people like to hang on to the same numbers from year to year, be they selected by birthdays, house numbers or mother-in-law's weight, so if you want the status quo to be maintained this season, better snap your number up before someone else snaffes it.

For the uninitiated, the 250 Club runs from October 31st to April 29th, next year. Draws take place on the last Friday in the month, which means that the first draw will take place on Friday November 27th.

This gives us six monthly prize draws into which your number(s) enter automatically. Each month there will be five prizes — one of £25, and four of £10.

At the end of the six months comes the big one. The first prize wins £300, the runner-up gets £100, and two other lucky punters will receive £50 and £25 respectively.

Now that's not a bad gamble. Especially when you consider that it will only cost you a derisory 25p.—half a pint of bitter—a week to join the club. Andy Mitchell will be glad to take your cash weekly, monthly, or as one remittance of £6.50, all in one fell swoop.

So why not have a go this season? Your cash will support the Club, and you could be quite a bit better off at the end of it all.

### **Coming shortly**

Those of you whose schooldays are a dim, equivocal memory might like the opportunity to see if educational standards are dropping on the Rugby front, these days. If so, two prime opportunities are on the horizon.

Next Wednesday, the keen, fit students of Loughborough are visiting Kingsholm—always worth watching—while next Saturday's visitors are our traditional ones at this time of the year, Oxford University, toughened up, no doubt, by their encounter with the Wallabies.

Following that, the Welsh Rugby Football Union, having heard alarming reports of mayhem inflicted on some of their member clubs, are sending the fuzz down to see if we can Help Them With Their Enquiries. Which is just a snide way of saying that South Wales Police will be here on November 4th.

Meanwhile, the United will also be doing their thing. On Tuesday next, Kidderminster are the visitors, while on Monday October 2nd, the lads face a strong challenge from Newport High School Old Boys.

So, there's no need to complain about a shortage of good Rugby over the next ten days or so.

### **That Wallabies match**

We can now give you some information about tickets for the Australia v. South and South West Counties match at Kingsholm on December 22nd.

We don't know much about stand tickets, as yet, apart from the fact that they'll cost £4.00 each, for both Wing and Centre stand. As soon as we know what our allocation is, we'll let you know. What is certain, is that they're going to be hard to come by. You'll appreciate that they have to be split between eight Counties, on this occasion, which makes it hard to make a fair split.

Obviously, they will only be available to Club Members, and the likelihood is that there will have to be a ballot, even for them. When we've got them, we'll let you know the arrangements.

Ground tickets are a different story altogether. In fact, we have them NOW.

They'll cost you £2.00 each, unless you can kid us that you're a scholar, in which case they cost £1.00.

Nip over to the Office after the game today, and you'll be fixed up.

More seriously, we feel that the Gloucester Club should apologise to all our loyal and respected OAP supporters, who are not entitled to a reduction on the price of tickets for this game. To be fair, if it were left to us, they would be, but we don't make the rules, on this occasion, and we have to abide by the arrangements made by the Rugby Football Union. So, if you feel aggrieved — put the blame where it lies.

### **NO! to Leagues**

Terry Tandy and Peter Ford represented the Gloucester Club at the meeting in Birmingham which gave a unanimous thumbs down to the idea of Leagues, due to come in during 1982/3.

Gloucester's reasons for joining the opposition were just about the same as the other 21 major clubs which attended the meeting. Having just beaten five Welsh teams on the trot, we're obviously worried about the decimation of our Welsh fixtures which would probably occur under a league system. Quite apart from our own parochial considerations, surely it's important that the best English clubs continue to have regular fixtures against the Old Enemy, as one of the most effective ways of improving playing standards on the English scene.

But there's another point too. What would happen to our valued fixtures against the Cheltenham and Lydney's of this world? In my view, they're entitled to games with Gloucester, and our own season would certainly be less interesting without them.

Where we go from here isn't certain, but the major Clubs would support a strengthened merit table system, as being more flexible than the League idea. Reportedly the RFU might go along with that idea, if a fair promotion and relegation system could be incorporated, and I don't see much wrong with that.

### **See the action replay**

Our generous friends from Duck, Son and Pinker are recording the match on video tape again today, and don't forget that you can see the results at their Southgate Street branch.

And while I'm on the subject, we ought to thank our benefactors, (as if they weren't doing enough for the Club), for the invitations which some of the players got to the Sony evening at the New County on Wednesday last. It was a pity that most of them were involved at Clifton, but the people who did attend say it was a very interesting evening.

Thanks again.

### **Tailpiece**

Did you notice that Gloucester are now second only to Pontypool in the 'Daily Mail' Merit Table? One interesting point that comes out of it is that Gloucester have only conceded 57 points in Merit Table matches, so far this season. Only Richmond (54) have let in fewer points, and they have only played 4 games to our 7.

Of course, that 'Nap hand' of Welsh results makes a big contribution. For the record, and to give you ammunition, should you wish to do a little honest gloating over your Welsh acquaintances, the score line so far is as follows:

Wales 15 (1 try), Gloucester 78 (9 tries).

Now for Leicester!

PETER ARNOLD