GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDEE 1873
PRESIDENT
CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER V
S. WALES POLICE

Wednesday, 4th November, 1981
Kingsholm, Gloucester
Kick-off 7.00 p.m.
GLOUCESTER
Cherry & White

Full Back
15. A. Durkin

Three Quarters
14. P. Pritchard
* 13. S. Parsloe
* 12. P. Taylor
*§ 11. R. Mogg

Half Backs
* 10. L. Jones
* 9. P. Howell

Forwards
1. M. Preedy
*† 2. S. Mills (Capt.)
§ 3. S. Ashmead
4. J. Brain
* 5. A. Turton
§ 6. J. Gadd
§ 8. M. Teague
7. M. Longstaff

REPLACEMENTS
G. Thomas
K. White

SOUTH WALES POLICE

Full Back
15. J. Davies

Three Quarters
14. M. Brinkworth
13. N. Thornton
12. R. Davies
11. B. Parry

Half Backs
10. R. Milne
9. P. Noble (Capt.)

Forwards
1. G. Hiscocks
2. P. Richards
3. D. Hathway
4. P. Prygodzicz
5. N. Rooper
6. P. Davies
8. R. McAllister
7. D. Price

REPLACEMENTS
S. Balzano
A. David

Referee: D. HEAD (Cornwall)

† International
§ Under 23 International
* County
A bit different from Lady Diana!

You can't really compare the standards of beauty of the Princess of Wales to those of — say — John Orwin, but it must be a positive pleasure for tonight's visitors to have to worry about fifteen other prominent residents of our fair County in the shape of our squad of hairy Rugby Players.

Tonight, of course, sees the representatives of South Wales Finest, having discarded truncheons and breathalysers (we hope), and seeing if their own particular brand of police brutality is any more effective than the various other methods of persuasion practised by various Welsh sides this season.

Well — if they can succeed, good luck to them, and Gloucester certainly won't be taking their challenge lightly.

Recent records don't give them much encouragement. In fact there is a remarkable consistency about the results of this fixture over the past season or two.

Two years ago, Gloucester won by 18 points to 6 with Johnny Watkins scoring two tries, (one round the front of the line, I remember), and Lewis Dick and Richard Mogg adding one each. Peter Butler converted just one of them.

Last year, inflation took the score up by just one point, the final result being 19-6.

Still — it doesn't do to read too much into previous seasons' results, as who should know better than Gloucester? Like all Welsh sides, South Wales Police will beat you, given half a chance.

It's always good to see a team from over the Severn at Kingsholm, and we certainly value our long-standing association with South Wales Police.

Hope you have a good evening shape! See you in the bar, afterwards.

Those Australian Stand Tickets

Afraid we don't have any new information about Stand tickets for the South and South West Counties v. Australian match on December 22nd. What we have found out is that they aren't even making the allocation until next week, which considering we've had Ground tickets for a fortnight now, does seem like an inordinate delay.

We can be sure, however, that there simply won't be enough to supply everyone who wants one. It looks as if it will be a 'Members Only' job, and will probably entail a ballot at that.

After all there are a lot of Counties to keep happy.

To recap, we do know that Stand tickets will cost £4.00 each, and that Ground tickets — on sale at the office now — cost £2.00. Juniors can get in for £1.00, and there is no reduction for OAP's. We're sorry about that, but the decision doesn't lie in our hands.

As soon as the Stand tickets are available, we'll let you know, by whatever method seems most suitable at the time.

Cheating

It seems incredible, but we have evidence that some Members — or others — are actually getting into the ground, and then passing their membership cards out to their mates waiting outside.

No — I'm not going to tell you how it's done. I know you wouldn't be so despicable, but you never know whose hands these programmes get into.

Now, you have to admit that Membership of Gloucester RFC represents excellent value for money, and I'd have thought that anyone keen enough on seeing the game to resort to that sort of cheating could well afford to pay for their own membership.

The Club is quite firm about this. Anyone discovered allowing their card to be used in this way will have their Membership cancelled — and good riddance, in my view.

Please — if you see this sort of thing going on, tell one of the Committee about it. I don't think you need have any conscience about 'shopping' anyone. After all, the more Members we have, the lower the Membership fee — so it's your money they're stealing.
Yes, that’s right — stealing. It would probably be quite possible to make a court case out of it, should the Club feel so inclined.

Sorry to strike a discordant note — but it’s something we all ought to feel strongly about.

All the threes

I don’t know if Mr. Roy Thompson of 35, Hurran Gardens, Churchdown, is a Bingo fan or not, or if he is, how he managed to use enough influence to buy ‘all the threes’ — No. 333 — when he bought his programme at the Loughborough match last week. However, it was certainly a call of ‘house’ for him, as that was the number which came out of Terry Tandy’s voluminous bowler, that night.

So Mr. Thompson is a fiver richer! Good on you Mr. Thompson!

Why no broadcasts during the match?

Three or four times, this season, I have been asked why we don’t have the sort of in-match information broadcast that many grounds produce, these days. You know the sort of thing—

“...the try was scored by Steve Boyle, after a 75 yard dash down the touchline!”

I consulted the Powers that Be, and the answer is that before you can give this information, you have to be able to see the match. And our loudspeaker system is controlled from somewhere in the bowels of the office building, from which you can barely hear the game let alone see it.

Obviously, the financial implications have been investigated. At the time of asking — and that was some time ago — it would have cost upwards of £500 to move the equipment. That, in itself, might not have been too much of a barrier, but allied to the dangers of the sort of mindless vandalism, which we’ve had to put up with, from time to time, it just isn’t, at the moment, an economic proposition.

Not that the subject is closed. If a solution presents itself, the idea will certainly be looked at again.

Into November

You’ll know that the lads are away to Leicester on Saturday, so we have to wait until the following Saturday before we can see another home First XV game. The visitors that day (Nov. 14th) will be Plymouth, a fine old Club, who can always be relied upon to give of their best.

After that, there’s another two week wait before we entertain London Irish — who, John Player apart, have been something of a bogey side for us of recent seasons.

Still — there’s no need to stay home and watch the Lithuanian Volley Ball Tournament on the telly. On Saturday, the United will be taking on their opposite numbers from Leicester, and if you’re one of the people who can’t get up to Leicester that day, (I can’t, blast it!), you’ll find that there will be at least as much commitment right here at Kingsholm.

Also next week — Wednesday November 11th — you could see some really sparkling Rugby by dropping in to watch the Colts, who are playing Brixham Colts. The youngsters have made a superb start to the season by beating Moseley, away, and obliterating Nineaton, so the Brixham match should be well worth watching.

Tailpiece

Had a nasty shock the other day. There it was, in black-and-white headlines in the ‘Daily Mail’.

BOYLE FOR BRISTOL?

True, the question mark did seem to leave room for doubt — but old Kamikaze Steve defecting to the Old Enemy? Impossible!

Rapid examination of the article stilled my throbbing ventricles. It appears that some Welsh gentleman, also called Boyle, who apparently plays some round ball game for a Welsh club, was rumoured to be receiving an inordinate amount of money for moving to Bristol City.

It was nasty for a minute though.

PETER ARNOLD.