



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

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

GLOUCESTER v MOSELEY

MATCH SPONSOR TODAY

DUCK, SON & PINKER

52-56 Southgate Street, Gloucester

**Friday, 1st January, 1982
Kingsholm, Gloucester**

Kick-off 3.00 p.m

1424

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

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

GLOUCESTER 27

Cherry & White 2G; 3T; 1Pc

- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| | Full Back |
| | 15. P. Ford |
| | Three Quarters |
| *§ | 14. R. Mogg |
| * | 13. S. Parsloe |
| * | 12. P. Taylor |
| | 11. P. Pritchard |
| | Half Backs |
| * | 10. L. Jones |
| § | 9. S. Baker |
| | Forwards |
| *† | 1. P. Blakeway |
| *† | 2. S. Mills (Capt.) |
| | 3. M. Preedy |
| *§ | 4. S. Boyle |
| * | 5. J. Orwin |
| § | 6. J. Gadd |
| § | 8. M. Teague |
| | 7. M. Longstaff |

REPLACEMENTS

MOSELEY 21

3 GOALS; 1 PENALTY

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| | Full Back |
| | 15. I. Metcalfe |
| | Three Quarters |
| | 14. A. Thomas |
| | 13. R. Lawson |
| | 12. M. Perry |
| | 11. J. Goodwin |
| | Half Backs |
| | 10. N. Archer |
| | 9. S. Sutherland |
| | Forwards |
| | 1. K. Astley |
| | 2. G. Cox (Capt.) |
| | 3. S. Acaster |
| | 4. R. Tockwood |
| | 5. J. Davidson |
| † | 6. N. Jeavons |
| | 8. I. Bowland |
| | 7. R. Barr |

REPLACEMENTS

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

Sept.	5	New Brighton	...	A	58-4	12	Bath	Home
	9	Stroud	...	H	22-3	19	Coventry	Away
	12	Coventry	...	H	21-15	26	Lydney	...	...	Home
	16	Rosslyn Park	...	H	25-0	28	Newport	...	...	Away
	19	Pontypridd	...	H	16-12	Jan. 1	Moseley	...	...	Home
	23	Newbridge	...	H	6-0	2	London Scottish	...	...	Away
	26	Bristol	...	A	6-12	9	Leicester	...	...	Home
	30	Cheltenham	...	H	19-3	16	Wasps	...	...	Home
Oct.	3	Bedford	...	A	19-9	23	J.P.C.	...	...	Away
	7	Pontypool	...	H	14-3	30	Bridgend	...	...	Home
	10	Harlequins	...	A	3-3	Feb. 5	Bristol	...	...	Away
	14	Ebbw Vale	...	H	23-0	13	Bath	...	...	Home
	17	Newport	...	H	19-0	27	J.P.C.	...	...	Away
	21	Clifton	...	A	36-3	Mar. 5	Northampton	...	...	Home
	24	Nottingham	...	H	20-7	13	Richmond	...	...	Away
	28	Loughborough	...	H	34-0	17	Cheltenham	...	...	Away
	31	Oxford University	...	H	46-6	20	Orrell	...	...	Home
Nov.	4	S. Wales Police	...	H	24-4	27	Saracens	...	...	Home
	7	Leicester	...	A	12-9	31	Abertillery	...	...	Home
	11	Cambridge University	...	A	12-20	April 8	Lydney	...	...	Away
	14	Plymouth	...	H	58-0	10	Headingley	...	...	Home
	21	Broughton Park	...	A	13-7	12	Birkenhead Park	...	...	Home
	28	London Irish	...	A	18-3	17	Sale	...	...	Home
Dec.	5	Moseley	...	H	19-6	24	Exeter	...	...	Home
	9	Exeter University	...	...	Home	28	Pontypool	...	...	Away

UNITED XV FIXTURES

Sept.	5	Broughton Park	...	...	Home	19	Coventry	...	...	Home
	12	Coventry	...	...	Away	28	Newport	...	...	Home
	14	Cheltenham	...	...	Away	Jan. 2	Wasps	...	...	Home
	19	Pontypool	...	...	Away	9	Leicester	...	...	Away
	26	Bristol	...	...	Home	16	Cleve	...	...	Away
	29	Llantwit Major	...	...	Home	30	Ebbw Vale	...	...	Home
Oct.	3	Bedford	...	...	Home	Feb. 5	Bristol	...	...	Away
	6	Glamorgan Wanderers	...	...	Away	13	Bath	...	...	Home
	10	Richmond	...	...	Home	20	Moseley	...	...	Away
	12	Luctonians	...	...	Away	27	Newport H.S.O.B.	...	...	Away
	17	Newport	...	...	Away	Mar. 6	Northampton	...	...	Home
	20	Berry Hill	...	...	Home	13	Nottingham	...	...	Away
	27	Kidderminster	...	...	Home	16	Cheltenham	...	...	Home
	31	Fullerians	...	...	Away	20	Bridgend Sports	...	...	Home
Nov.	2	Newport H.S.O.B.	...	...	Home	22	Luctonians	...	...	Home
	7	Leicester	...	...	Home	27	Pontypridd	...	...	Away
	21	Bianavon	...	...	Home	30	Berry Hill	...	...	Away
	28	Nottingham	...	...	Home	April 14	Pontypool	...	...	Home
Dec.	2	Glamorgan Wanderers	Home	17	Salisbury	Away
	5	Moseley	Home	24	Exeter	Away
	12	Bath	Away			

JAS N

HIRE TOOLS

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Long time, no see!

It's odd that, although today's game has acquired the status of a match that no right-minded Kingsholm man would willingly miss, it hasn't, in fact, been played for four years!

Certainly, Moseley have been here since then, and we've been to The Reddings, but the New Year's Day fixture has been bedevilled by the frost, and has not taken place.

You'll remember that 1976 match. Just a couple of days beforehand, a Moseley team, thinly disguised as North Midlands, comprehensively beat a Gloucester side masquerading as Gloucestershire. (All right — so there were some interlopers from other clubs playing, but don't let's quibble).

On New Year's Day, an excellent Moseley team came to Kingsholm, and found themselves on the wrong side of the score sheet, so honours were about even.

Since then, much has happened. We owe a vote of thanks to Moseley, in a back-handed sort of way, because it was a 27-11 thrashing, on their last visit to Kingsholm, which, together with an even worse hiding from Newport, jerked the side out of the doldrums, and started us off on the highly successful road we have been travelling ever since.

Even without that sort of consideration, however, our favourite Midland opponents would always be welcome here. Last year's home defeat was avenged amply a bit later on, and we have already had the better of a game at the Reddings this season. Not that that means anything, necessarily today.

As usual, it will be a hard, committed, good game. And what more can you ask for the first match of a new year?

So welcome Moseley. We couldn't ask for better visitors on New Years Day.

1981 Revisited

Let's face it, we can't grumble about the standard of entertainment we've had at Kingsholm in 1981. There were some excellent wins at the end of last season, and this year — well, you know all about that.

I suppose, if one had to pin-point the most satisfying achievement, so far this year, pride of place must go to the defeat of five Welsh teams, in four weeks, including the mighty Pontypool and a very big Newport side.

Taking Leicester's scalps on their own patch also has to be a highlight, as does the defeat, and taking of the unbeaten record, of London Irish.

Undoubtedly, the biggest disappointment must be defeat by Bristol, but the last word on that subject hasn't been said yet.

1981 must also be the year when more Gloucester players got some sort of representative recognition than any in living memory. Steve Mills and John Fidler won full International Caps on the demanding Argentine tour. John Gadd, Phil Blakeway, Gordon Sargent, Malcolm Preedy, Mike Teague, Richard Mogg, and John Orwin all received recognition in one sphere or another, and I wouldn't be surprised, although I would be apologetic, if you told me I'd forgotten someone.

Looking forward, it must be the John Player competition which stirs the imagination most. One hardly dares to breathe about it, remembering Gloucester's abominable luck, in various ways, in Cup matches, but the thought that this could just be Gloucester's year does keep intruding into the mind.

One way and another, we live in interesting times. Long may they continue.

After all, one does have the suspicion that the side has not yet reached its full potential. If that's so, then the sky's the limit. In 1982 and afterwards.

Spare a thought . . .

At the time of writing, we don't yet know the England team for tomorrow's match against Australia, and it's not beyond the bounds of possibility that today's team may be weakened for that best of all possible reasons.

If so, then hearty congratulations to whoever-you-are—and 'bad luck' to the near-misses. Speaking of which, it seems to me that this is an appropriate occasion to state our commiserations to the considerable band of players who haven't quite got the recognition which, I believe, they deserve, so far. In some cases, no doubt, their turn will come.

I'm thinking, for example, of Mike Longstaff. John Gadd and Mike Teague have had all the publicity, and deservedly so, but today's back row operates as a unit, and Mike has added immeasurably to it with his own brand of flank forward play. He certainly doesn't suffer by comparison with his two illustrious partners.

Also, spare a thought for Steve Boyle. Surely, it's only the fact that he is at his peak in the era of the great Bill Beaumont that deprives him of a chance for International honours. After all, any lock who scores as many tries as Steve, must have something going for him.

Steve Baker couldn't be blamed for feeling a little aggrieved, either. Last season, he was approaching the status of heir apparent to Steve Smith — England reserve, stand-by for Argentina. This season, however, he seems to be the forgotten man, not even, for no good reason which most of us could discern, winning further County caps. Let's not get into that, however; not while we're still technically in the Season of Goodwill.

Never mind, chaps. Whatever the powers-that-be think, we appreciate you, and you can take comfort from the thought that the actions of Selectors are frequently like the Peace of God, They Passeth All Understanding.

Great start to 1982

You won't need telling that next Saturday's match (January 9th), is the day of the most eagerly-awaited game of the season so far. The visit of Leicester. After the efficient win up there, the 'Tigers' will be seeking to regain their stripes, and who could blame them?

The following week (January 16th) we welcome Wasps, who beat us at Sudbury last season. Wasps have been quietly building a very impressive record, this season, and they certainly shouldn't be regarded lightly.

Then, of course, on January 23rd it's the John Player. High Wycombe may not, exactly, be a side which makes one slaver in anticipation, but as Southend showed us last year, anything can happen in a Cup match, and there's a Giant Killer most years. Certainly, it's not a day to deprive the lads of your invaluable support.

And don't forget the United. If you're not so weak as to prefer TV Rugby, you could come and see them take on Wasps, tomorrow.

All of which isn't a bad start by anyone's standards. I shall be here most of the time — hope to see you.

Club Diaries

The Gloucester RFC Diary is available again this year. It's got all the information about the Club which you need, plus all the more mundane attributes which you expect from a decent diary.

Perhaps its biggest feature is its price, however. At a miniscule 60p it has to be the best bargain in the diary field you're likely to get. Look around any stationers, and you'll see what I mean.

1982 Club Diaries can be acquired for cash over the bar in the Club.

All the best

I would be failing in my duty if I didn't pass on the Club's best wishes for a happy, prosperous and Rugby-mad New Year to everyone. You can take it that the wishes come, with all sincerity, from the Players, from the Officers, and the Committee, plus everyone else who lends a hand in any capacity at all.

Without you, and many like you, there wouldn't be a Gloucester RFC. We all appreciate your continued support, and look forward to seeing you regularly whenever Rugby is in progress, throughout 1982.

Tailpiece

I've deliberately excluded myself from the above wishes, because I thought I'd like to add a personal word of my own, since I took on this job — if you can call something so enjoyable, a 'job' — I have been pleased and surprised by the level of support I've had, often from people I've never laid eyes on, as far as I know.

May I please thank everyone who has sent me suggestions for 'Tailpieces'. I couldn't possibly use them all, because there simply aren't that many matches, and because some of them aren't printable in polite company — and we all know how polite a Kingsholm crowd is. Anyway, some of the contributions I get make me look like an amateur, and I'm not about to put ideas about my replacement in anyone's mind.

So, from me to you, all you might conceivably wish yourselves for the New Year. I shall be available to receive pints in the Bar after the match.

PETER ARNOLD.