



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER V EXETER

John Player Cup—4th Round

Saturday, 27th February, 1982

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

1456

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

- RUGBY BOOTS • JERSEYS AND SHORTS • BALLS • CLUB DISCOUNTS
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ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

GLOUCESTER 34

Cherry & White 3G; 4T

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

EXETER 3

1PG

Full Back	
* 15.	J. Mears
Three Quarters	
* 14.	N. Harris
* 13.	S. Donovan
* 12.	S. Webb
	11. P. Loder
Half Backs	
	10. J. Poustie
* 9.	K. Sumner
Forwards	
	1. G. Retter
* 2.	B. Friday
* 3.	T. Harris
* 4.	T. Woodrow
	5. G. Bess
* 6.	S. Day (Capt.)
	8. M. Cathery
	7. S. Lewis
REPLACEMENTS	
	G. Willis
	M. Bleasdale

Referee: J. R. A. WILLIAMS (Warwickshire Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

There's no place like home

Here we are again — wonder of wonders — the second home draw in a row in the John Player Cup. Our luck, in this respect, has never been all that good, so perhaps the Law of Averages is working on our side at last.

The other reason why it's such a pleasure to be writing these notes is that our opponents today are our old, and respected friends from Exeter. Mind you — there would have been something to be said for keeping the West Country sides apart for a little while longer.

You probably won't need reminding that the last time today's two teams met, it wasn't Gloucester who won. It was a bitter cold day down in Exeter, just about the last match of the season, but nevertheless, on the day, the better side won — and good luck to them.

What you can do once, you can do again (as no doubt our other friends from Northampton are telling themselves about now), so there's no doubt that there won't be any complacency in the Gloucester dressing room at the moment.

It has to be admitted though, that of recent years, the Cherry and Whites have had the better of things when today's two clubs have met. Two seasons ago, for example, Gloucester won by 36 points to 12, here at Kingsholm. John Orwin got a hat-trick of tries that day, and Steve Boyle, Richard Mogg, Colyn Price and Paul Wood all crossed the line, with Paul Tunstall kicking two penalties, and adding one conversion.

Not that it matters. All past results are so much confetti once the kick-off whistle goes, and there's something a bit different about the John Player, anyway. No doubt, Exeter will be shrugging off the memory of the unceremonious treatment they received at the hands of Swansea last week, and will be doing their damndest to uphold the honour of Devonshire in the forthright way they usually do.

It's a pleasure to see you on such an important occasion, Exeter. We are well aware that you'll be living up to the reputation you've gained as formidable Cup fighters, over the past season or two, and we hope you enjoy your visit to Kingsholm as much as we enjoy having you here.

Dig deep!

When one of our St. John's Ambulance men runs on to the field to attend to an injured warrior, he may have to run the gauntlet of irreverent comments from the crowd, but we're all perfectly well aware of the vital part they play, and any remark is only really an expression of affection.

Well, some of you — now's your chance to put your money where your mouth is. Today's the day St. John's are making their annual collection, and they deserve a bumper one.

You all know how effective our Ambulance men are. Just the sight of that wet sponge has been known to get 17-stone lock forwards on their feet and rarin' to go, before it gets within yards of them. So dig deep, all of you, and let's show the chaps how much we appreciate them.

Congratulations again

For anyone who saw the French match — live or 'on the box' — it was a great pleasure to see Phil Blakeway doing his Rock of Gibraltar act again last Saturday. I'm told that after shave and tonic is not one of his favourite tipples.

After his performance, it can't be any surprise to anyone that he has retained his place for the Welsh game — surely the one, above all, that he wouldn't have wanted to miss.

Also at Paris, Steve Mills eyebrow must have twitched when Peter Wheeler lost one against the head, and we're delighted that the Skipper has, once again, beaten off the Northern challenge, and resumed his rightful place as heir apparent to the indomitable Wheeler.

Many congratulations to both lads — and all our best wishes go with them to Twickenham.

Archdeacon W. T. Wardle

A great many people, throughout the Diocese of Gloucester, and beyond, will have been saddened by the news of the death of Walter Wardle, Archdeacon of Gloucester for the past 34 years.

Walter was an absolute pillar of the City, a superb raconteur, and, for years, the best after dinner speaker in Gloucester. Although he was never a Kingsholm regular, he had a keen interest in the game, and always kept himself informed about the doings of the Club. Certainly, whenever I saw him, during the season, he would ask me about the latest news, and what I thought the prospects were.

He was a fair player himself, in his day, having captained his College at Oxford. Once, when I asked him what position he played, he replied, "Well, Peter — actually, I was a rough, uncouth, second row forward." As he stood six-foot three, with the bulk to go with it, he was probably a bit of a handful at that.

The Venerable W. T. Wardle, Archdeacon of Gloucester, and the senior Archdeacon of England, was a character, a gentleman, who was also a 'gentle man', and a great doer of good by stealth. With his passing, we see the end of an era in Gloucester, and none of us will be lucky enough to see his like again.

Gloucester won't be the same without him.

Coming shortly

Next Wednesday, Kingsholm sees a match which will have our respectable contingent of Colts connoisseurs drooling in anticipation. Gloucester Colts are taking on their opposite numbers from Moseley, a return match for the one played at the Reddings in September, and for which the Birmingham lads will be looking for revenge. Certainly one for anyone who wants to see what the future holds for Gloucester RFC.

Next Saturday is, of course, the England v. Wales game, but for anyone who prefers the real stuff to televised tarradiddles, there's an attractive United fixture against Northampton, who are, as a club, beginning to show signs of emerging from their black patch which has bedevilled them for a few seasons.

On the following Saturday, March 13th, we are down to meet our old bogies Richmond, here at Kingsholm. However, according to my Gloucester RFC Diary, that is also the date for the next round of the John Player Cup, so if the boys can pull it off today, we shall have to wait for the draw before we know where we're all going that day.

Naturally, we'll keep you posted about arrangements via the Press, and our good friends at 'Severn Sound'.

I also notice that the programme for the Bath game, down there, a couple of weeks ago, has a reference to a possible rearrangement of the fixture we lost during the bad weather. I haven't heard anything yet, but no doubt Peter Ford will let us all know if anything transpires.

Scott's wae hae!

This particular Scott hae won himself a fiver. By having programme number 1072 at the Bristol game, Mr. C. Scott of 24, Havelock Road, made himself that much richer. And, no doubt, like any good Hucclecote man, spent it in the 'Oak' the 'Waggon' or the Community Centre.

Tailpiece

Had a letter from my old mate Ernie Colcombe, who played scrum half for Cainscross, at one time, and has a severely dented hooter to prove it. He's now working, for four years, just outside Houston, Texas, and he tells me that the things he misses most are "Rugby, beer, bread and sausages — in that order." He doesn't think that American gridiron is quite the same as he's been used to, and he'd love the chance to see some real football.

Now, I know that there are some Rugby clubs, in that part of the States, and if anyone knows of any names and addresses, you'd be doing a favour to a Gloucester exile, thirsting for culture, if you'd let me know about them.

Just leave a note behind the Bar. It'll find me.

PETER ARNOLD.