



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v BIRKENHEAD PARK

BALL PRESENTED BY
DUTSTONE MOTORS LTD.

Monday, 12th April, 1982
Kingsholm, Gloucester
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

472

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

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. P. Ford

Three Quarters

* 14. P. Pritchard

13. C. Dyke

* 12. P. Taylor

11. N. Price

Half Backs

* 10. L. Jones

*† 9. P. Kingston

Forwards

1. R. Phillips

2. K. White

§ 3. S. Ashmead

*§ 4. S. Boyle (Capt.)

* 5. J. Orwin

§ 6. J. Gadd

8. J. Herniman

7. M. Longstaff

REPLACEMENTS

P. Webb

P. Wood *

BIRKENHEAD PARK

Full Back

15. P. Dobbing

Three Quarters

14. P. McShane

13. S. Liptrott

12. D. Oliver

11. P. Kolokotroni

Half Backs

* 10. D. Newman

9. J. McHugh

Forwards

1. J. Cairns

* 2. R. Tinsley

3. R. Bold

4. C. Plummer

* 5. D. Reynolds

6. M. Malone

8. K. McGovern

7. N. Powell

REPLACEMENTS

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE

(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Getting away with something

Coming to Kingsholm on a Monday afternoon gives one a feeling of getting away with something. Even if you can persuade yourself that you shouldn't really be gardening, or taking the family up Painswick Beacon, there is the vague impression of playing truant — as if, like every other — Monday — you ought to be earning an honest crust, somewhere or other.

However, if you need an excuse, surely today's visitors provide sufficient justification. Our honoured visitors from Birkenhead Park have a long association with Gloucester, and long may it continue.

Having said that, it might seem discourteous to mention their last visit to the Sacred Turf. I'm sure, however, that they would be the first to admit that it was not one of their more glorious occasions.

In fact, (Birkenhead Park supporters are advised to avert their eyes at this point), they came in second by 51 points to 6. Bob Clewes and John Watkins scored two tries apiece. Messrs. Boyle, Delaney, Kingston and Mogg all added one each. Peter Butler must have been a bit off that afternoon, because he only converted six of them, while also adding a penalty.

Past records are fickle things to put your faith in, however, and the rather odd period we find ourselves in, at the moment, could have all sorts of effects on the players from both sides. Certainly, our Northern visitors would love to lift the scalps of the side that's only 80 minutes away from winning the John Player Cup, and who can blame them for that?

So we can expect an entertaining encounter this afternoon.

Welcome to Kingsholm 'Park'. Have a thoroughly good game, and a very pleasant visit all round.

What price Twickenham?

Not everyone here this afternoon will have seen the Headingley game last Saturday, so the ticket situation for the Final on May 1st bears repeating — as, indeed, it will on every occasion between now and the Big Day.

You certainly have a choice of tickets:

Reserved Stand Seats — West and East Lower Centre: £5.00

Unreserved Stand Seats — West and East Upper — £4.00 (Under 14, £2.00)

North and South Stands, East and West Wing Stands, Upper Ringside: £3.00

Ground Enclosure — £2.00 (Under 14 50p)

As one would imagine, there shouldn't be a problem about quantities of tickets available, and they will be on sale in the Office after this game, and, indeed, after every game from here on.

Alternatively, write to Terry Tandy — enclosing the loot, and SAE please — at 17, Ogbourne Close, Longlevens, Gloucester.

Terry also asks me to point out that this is the only game in the year where we get a commission on Twickenham tickets sold, so, even if your brother-in-law does know Budge Rogers' wife's cousin, please get your tickets from the Club. The Boys worked hard to get to the final, so we might as well make as much profit on it as we can.

If you know a whole group of people who want tickets, or are perhaps, running a coach of your own, Terry would obviously appreciate it if you would buy all your tickets in one fell swoop. It's obviously easier for all concerned to deal with a bigish order than in penny numbers.

How are you getting there?

Details of Club coaches, etc. had not been worked out at the time of writing, however, Terry Close and Andy Mitchell will be doing their usual thing for Social Club Members and Patrons respectively, and we'll give you news of any other arrangements as we hear about them.

As I sit typing this, Severn Sound, encouraged by the success of the coaches they ran to Coventry, are holding a meeting with British Rail with the object of running a special train— how this will affect BR's usual system has yet to be revealed, but we'll keep you posted.

We've also heard of several private ventures — including one possible coach from — of all places — Cardiff, and I'm told that the supply of suitable vehicles is rapidly running out, so if you're thinking of doing your own thing, but haven't yet secured a coach — better do something about it smartish.

On the Ball

Our thanks to Dutstone Motors, who are again presenting the ball today. It's a very generous gesture, and perhaps, if you're in the market for a new set of wheels (and you wouldn't want to break down on the way to Twickers, would you?), then perhaps you ought to consider giving our friends a chance, and looking into the fine range of Datsun cars available from the Datsun centre on Eastern Avenue.

Next Week (and after)

While we must all be preoccupied with the John Player Cup Final, there are plenty of other good things on the menu over the next week or two.

Next Saturday sees the return of Sale, who gave us all we could handle in the JPC Quarter Final. They proved, that day, what a fine side they are, and will be out to reverse the score-line achieved on that day. It would, after all, be a great consolation to them if they could take Gloucester's ground record.

The following Wednesday (April 21st) sees tough opposition again. The Bath match, snowed off, you'll remember, has been rearranged for that date, and Bath are obviously still very interested in Merit Table matters.

And don't forget the United. On Wednesday they take on Pontypool, which makes up, somewhat, for the sad necessity to cancel the planned First Team fixture, scheduled for the Wednesday before Twickenham.

Hark back to Coventry

I've also been asked to repeat thanks to the locust-swarm of supporters who went to the epic game at Coventry.

Steve Mills made his appreciation of the support given to the side on that occasion very clear on Rugby Special, the day after the game. 3,500 voices all shouting 'Glawster!' is bound to have a big effect on the lads, and the backing the team gets does not go unappreciated by anyone concerned.

Incidentally, Twickenham is a lot bigger, and a lot emptier than the Coudon Road ground, so we're going to need all the shouting we can get on that day so get the vocal cords lubricated.

Butler's Break

It's an example of somebody-or-other's law that Peter Butler, after all his herculean efforts to get back into the side, should break a thumb, quite early on in the Semi-Final. We all send him our sympathy for that. It would be heartrending if he couldn't make the Final after all that.

I'm told, however, that there isn't too much chance of that — although one can never tell on these occasions. Peter expects to be in plaster for a couple of weeks, and fit to play about a week afterwards.

We all fervently hope that all goes well. Peter proved that you do need a kicker at this stage of the Competition, and there's that man Perry to counteract.

Tailpiece

Talking about the Rugby Special programme, do we have any lip readers in the Club?

As Steve Mills was walking away from the Referee, after that odd second linesman's intervention, he only said one word, out of microphone range, naturally.

I'm not absolutely sure, but the Skipper did seem to be speculating on the parentage of someone or other.

Obviously some personal matter. He couldn't have been referring to any officials could he now?

PETER ARNOLD.