GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

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

GLOUCESTER
v
SWANSEA

MATCH SPONSORS TODAY
W. J. MORLEY (ROOFING) LTD.

Saturday, 4th September, 1982
Kingsholm, Gloucester
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p
Match sponsor today W. J. MORLEY (ROOFING) LTD.

GLOUCESTER
Cherry & White

Full Back
15. P. Ford

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

Half Backs
* 10. L. Jones
§ 9. S. Baker

Forwards
*§ 1. M. Preedy
*½ 2. S. Mills
§ 3. S. Ashmead
*§ 4. S. Boyle
* 5. J. Orwin
§ 6. J. Gadd
* 7. P. Wood
* 8. A. Turton

REPLACEMENTS
D. Pounton
N. Scrivens

SWANSEA
White

Full Back
15. M. Wyatt

Three Quarters
† 14. P. Gallagher
13. D. Richards
12. K. Hopkins
11. H. Rees

Half Backs
10. M. Dacey
9. H. Davies

Forwards
† 1. C. Williams
2. J. Herdman
3. G. John
† 4. B. Clegg/G. Wheel
† 5. R. Morlartty
† 6. M. Davis
7. M. Ruddock
8. G. Roberts

REPLACEMENTS
R. Blyth
S. Davies

Referee: R. QUITENTON (London Society)

† International § Under 23 International * County

NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)
2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920
As I was saying . . .

. . . before I was so rudely interrupted by the cricket season, 1981-82 was a helluva campaign. We won't easily forget it, and we enter this season's festivities with the pining feeling that the side which did so much to entertain, gratify, and occasionally infuriate, us, has by no means reached its true potential as yet. However, laurels are for winning, not resting on, and it would be most unwise to take anything for granted.

I hope you've all summered well (I have), and that you're all refreshed, and fit to give the boys your usual level of vocal support. Remember the old adage — whatever happens on the field, you can always beat them in the bar, afterwards.

Swans song

One's 'Swan Song' is proverbially the last thing one does. In our typically bloody-minded ever-eating way, we have the famous 'Swans' as our first home match. Which can't be bad. You'll remember that the reason we didn't play Swansea last year was that Peter Ford wanted to achieve precisely this result, I suppose that in the Army, they'd have called it 'creating a blank file'.

There were two points to be considered. First of all, we had, over the years, suffered badly at the hands of the weather, which seemed hell-bent on preventing fixtures between (whatever Leicester and Cardiff might say) we all know to be the two best sides in England and Wales respectively. The other point was that we didn't want the fixture to be endangered by the proposed, but now happily petrified, league system.

However — absence, they say makes the heart grow — well, perhaps 'fonder' isn't quite the word, but you know what I mean. Therefore, we extend an even warmer welcome to Swansea than we might otherwise have done. And that's saying a bit.

It's great to see you again, Swansea. Best wishes for a great season from all of us at Kingsholm — as long as it doesn't start here. May we say that your co-operative attitude over fixtures is in marked contrast to some other sides we could mention?

No, perhaps that would be churlish. Let's just say that last season wasn't the same without you.

Local lad

It's entirely appropriate that today's game should be sponsored by the Morley Group of Companies, who, have, over the past years, established a reputation of being the leading roofing specialists in the West of England. Bill Morley, who founded the original Company is a Swansea lad by birth, and has become a naturalised Gloucester man, with strong allegiance to his adopted City, so the sponsorship of today's match makes a happy combination for him.

We don't really have the space to go into detail about the full structure of the Morley Group, which is based at Morley House, in Hempsted Lane. However, we can say that whatever type of roofing job you want done, from conventional felt roofing, to the specialist restoration and conservation of the roofs of ancient buildings, Morley can handle it — and as I happen to know from personal experience, do a very good job, as well.

You would be amazed if you knew just what proportion of the roothing around Gloucester owes its excellent state of repair, or indeed, its very existence to the Morley Group, And that includes domestic properties, schools, and just about every sort of building, including some of our cherished warehouses in the Docks. Not that they're parochial about it — their field of influence spreads all over this part of England, and a good proportion of Wales.

So, the next time water drips down your neck, while you're watching 'Rugby Special', think of Morley. The number is Gloucester 26680.

Why fiddle about?

Why queue up at the turnstiles, when you could have a Season? If you intend to see a dozen or so games this season, it makes good economic sense, and the price (except for Juniors) includes membership of the Social Club.

This year, just in case Terry Tandy wastes away any further, we have split the secretarial duties, and David Poyle has taken on the job of Membership Secretary. He will be sacrificing good drinking time, for the next few matches, by attending the Offices for about an hour before the hands of the clock hit the hour after, each home game, so you can gear up your Membership of the Club through him. 
If you want to become a Patron (and I recommend it), it will cost you £25.00 for the season, which includes car parking. Or you could buy a Wing Stand Season for £15.00, or a Ground Season for a mere £12.00.

If you happen to be an ex-Player for the Club, a Senior Citizen, or a Scholar (under 17) you’ll only be asked to cough up £12.00 for the Centre Stand, £8.00 for the Wings, or £6.00 for the Ground. Which is an excellent bargain.

Changes at the Top

David Boyle isn’t the only chap to have acquired a new job this season. After an eleven-year stint, Gordon Hudson has decided it’s time to leave the Chair, but we’re delighted to say that we’re not losing his experience and expertise at Committee level.

A decade and more is a long enough period of time to give to the Club in such an onerous capacity, for any man. The healthy state of Gloucester RFC is, in considerable measure, due to Gordon’s time and efforts. He has steered us through periods of considerable change, and his comments are always worth taking seriously.

Thank you, Gordon, from all of us, for all you have done. But don’t expect to take life too easily. We appreciate your worth too much for that.

Gordon’s job as Chairman has been taken over by another glut for punishment, Peter Ford, who is to combine the office with that of Fixture Secretary — quite a workload. Our thanks are due to him too.

International Tickets

We’ve hardly started, yet, but here we are, imploring you to get your applications for International tickets in quickly. Although Jan 15 (France) and March 5 (Scotland), seem to be a very long way off, we have to have our applications in to Twickenham by October 1st, which means that we must have you to get your application form, complete with remittance and membership number, in by September 25th, at the latest — just three weeks from now.

Forms are available from the Office, and should be returned to Terry Tandy, or David Boyle, to be handling international ticket applications this season, as well as Membership. Full addresses when you get your form.

Thanks to the ‘Citizen’

If you haven’t been into the skittle alley yet, I advise you do so — just to take a look at our latest acquisition, which is another blow-up of a superb action picture of the whole pack in action at last year’s John Player Final. We are really very grateful to the ‘Citizen’ for making this picture, like the other one, available to us. It must rank as one of the best Rugby pictures ever.

And talking about ‘Citizen’ photographs, although it seems early to mention it, we are producing a fine 1983 calendar, with 12 action pictures of Gloucester on the rampage. It’s a snip at £1.50.

The reason for bringing it up now, is that advertising space is available, on an exclusive basis — special printings which bear your company’s message, and yours only. The amazing thing, is that you can have a supply of these specially printed calendars, for your firm, or organisation, at the same price as if you were just buying one for your wall — £1.50 a copy. Which is a bargain, in advertising terms.

I’ve seen the design for the calendar, and it looks superb to me. See Peter Denham.

And for our next trick . . .

Tuesday night, as ever was, we have an excellent local Derby, here at Kingsholm, when Lydney are our visitors. This is one to savour, bringing with it the prospect of Gordon Sargent, propping against his old mates in the Gloucester front row, Should be interesting.

After that, the United take over, for a week or two, and the beginning of the season is surely the time to take a look at any new talent which may have emerged during the close season. Next week they entertain Coventry and the week after, the visitors are Pontypool. Well worth a visit, both of them.

Tailpiece

Please — can we now call a halt to the question ‘If I pull your Chain, do you flush?’ And that’s the first and last time I shall refer to the subject, all season.

PETER ARNOLD.