



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

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

## GLOUCESTER v BEDFORD

Saturday, 2nd October, 1982

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

460

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p



- RUGBY BOOTS • JERSEYS AND SHORTS • BALLS • CLUB DISCOUNTS
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- Personal attention always available at:

## ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

### GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back	
15.	<b>P. Ford</b>
Three Quarters	
* 14.	<b>P. Pritchard</b>
* 13.	<b>S. Parsloe</b>
* 12.	<b>P. Taylor</b>
11.	<b>N. Price</b>
Half Backs	
* 10.	<b>L. Jones</b>
9.	<b>W. Hall</b>
Forwards	
1.	<b>R. Phillips</b>
2.	<b>K. White</b>
3.	<b>R. Pascall</b>
§ 4.	<b>J. Brain</b>
*† 5.	<b>J. Fidler</b>
§ 6.	<b>J. Gadd</b>
7.	<b>M. Longstaff</b>
8.	<b>J. Herniman</b>

REPLACEMENTS

**D. Pointon \***  
**A. Turton \***

### BEDFORD

Full Back	
* 15.	<b>A. Key</b>
Three Quarters	
* 14.	<b>W. Barker</b>
* 13.	<b>E. Forester</b>
* 12.	<b>S. Kerridge</b>
11.	<b>K. Canning</b>
Half Backs	
10.	<b>S. Smith</b>
* 9.	<b>I. Peck (Capt.)</b>
Forwards	
* 1.	<b>J. Ashton</b>
2.	<b>S. Micklewright</b>
3.	<b>G. Mansell</b>
4.	<b>K. Albone</b>
*† 5.	<b>R. Wilkinson</b>
* 6.	<b>S. Binnington</b>
* 7.	<b>A. Whitehouse</b>
* 8.	<b>R. Eales</b>

REPLACEMENTS

**R. Thompson**  
**R. Baker**

Referee: J. WILLIAMS (Coventry)

† International

§ Under 23 International

\* County



**NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE**  
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920



### **Welcome to the two blues**

During a recent visit to RAF Innsworth, I was introduced to a sergeant whose face was vaguely familiar. When they told me what his name was, I knew why.

Many of you will remember Billy Steele as an aggressive and speedy winger in the Scottish side of a few seasons ago. Some of you—like me—will probably have sharper memories of him being a confounded nuisance, here, in the days when he played for Bedford.

Indeed, he remembers those days with affection, as do most players who have had the honour of wearing the only shirt in the English First Class game which combines the two blues of Oxford and Cambridge.

I don't know if Billy is here today — he's still playing a little, by the way — but if he is, I'm sure all of us, including both teams, would wish me to wish him a warm welcome.

In Billy's days, we couldn't always anticipate beating Bedford by the margin of 19-9, as we did in the only encounter last year. These things go in cycles, however, and there is some indication that the palmy days may be returning for our old and valued friends from the East. They certainly look as if they can provide quite a handful for a Gloucester team decimated by injury and by the call from the South West Counties team playing Fiji, today.

If that sounds patronising, it isn't meant to. Bedford is one of those attractive sides which no one who knows his Rugby would write off. Which is one reason why we're always so glad to see them.

### **Here we go again!**

It's congratulation time again. Earlier than usual, this year. Phil Blakeway, Steve Mills, Steve Boyle, John Orwin and Mike Teague are certainly to be congratulated on being given the chance to impress the Powers That Be this early, and it's particularly nice to be able to say 'Good Luck' to Phil on retaining the Captaincy of a South and South West side, which was so abruptly brought to a standstill by an Australian fist, last season.

After last week's performance, Steve Baker, who is a replacement, and Les Jones, who isn't must be desperately unlucky not to have made the side. Never mind chaps — your turn will come. Perhaps next week, against Yorkshire.

### **Good old Wycombe!**

Did you notice that High Wycombe, whose enthusiasm and level of support impressed all of us in the John Player, last season, handed out a fair old thrashing to Exeter, in the first round of the same competition. It couldn't happen to a nicer bunch. Although we could have wished that it wasn't our old friends from Devon who were on the receiving end.

### **Harlequins next week**

Next Wednesday, the lads have a tough assignment at Pontypool — and you'll remember that 'Pooler's' visit here last year was just about the most nerve-tingling game of the season.

Those fellows will be gasping for revenge, and with Gloucester's injury and selection problems at the moment will just about cancel out any fall from their previous high standards which Pontypool are, at the moment, experiencing.

Pontypool isn't so far away that you couldn't get there, and the boys will need all the support they can get. Why not?

Next Saturday, we welcome the 'Quins, for the first time for two years. We seem fated to play them on County days, and even the new system hasn't precluded that, but we have always managed to hold our own against them, nevertheless, even registering an honourable draw, last season at Twickenham.

Incidentally, that game is the first one which our generous friends from Duck, Son and Pinker are sponsoring this year.

Of course, if you'd rather go all the way to Headingly to see the County play, don't forget that British Rail are running a train at the knock-down price of £5.00. Details from them.

United are going to be as active as usual too. On Monday October 11th, you could come along and watch them play Luctonians. The following Saturday (16th), while their Seniors are making a foray to Rodney Road, United take on Newport seconds at Kingsholm.



Finally, I note that on October 19th, (Tuesday) United have an intriguing fixture against a team called 'Yugoslav Sports Club', who apparently come from New Zealand. Now that must be worth a visit!

#### **Got that receipt yet?**

Just a gentle reminder, to Patrons, that this season's Patrons Night will take place on Thursday, October 21st, and you'll need a ticket to get in. Furthermore, Terry Tandy, David Foyle and Cecil Pope won't be happy handing out the aforesaid ticket unless you can show a Patrons Card bearing the appropriate receipt. In other words, unless you've paid up and and looked comparatively happy, you'll have problems getting in.

And you wouldn't want to miss a social event second only to the Royal Garden Party, would you?

While I'm about it, I may as well remind you that you need a Social Club Membership card — available free, gratis and for nothing — if you are to stick strictly to the rules. See someone in the Bar.

#### **That elusive fiver**

Only one lucky programme winner to report this week, and it's very nice to report that it went to one of our younger supporters.

P. D. Coley of 7, Fernleigh Crescent, Up Hatherley, Cheltenham shelled out 15p for a programme, numbered 1529, and came away with a five-pound note for his trouble. Good for him!

#### **Pick of the Pennants**

You may have noticed that the City Fathers are to ask everyone in the centre of the City to hang a flag out during the Quincentenary Celebrations, next year. The way we're going, we'll be able to decorate a fair-sized street on our own.

Last week, you'll remember, we — in the formidable person of Steve Mills — were happy to receive the coveted 'Daily Mail' Anglo-Welsh Pennant for last season. This week, we move on to the Sunday press.

It appears that we also won the 'Sunday Telegraph' English Pennant, and the same august journal's English-Welsh Pennants. Both of which, will be presented to us today.

I don't mean to sound facetious. Awards like this from journalists who see more teams in a season than you and I do in ten, must be a fair measure of the side we supported last year, and it's nice to have our opinion confirmed from professional sources.

Thanks 'Sunday Telegraph'. Don't be misled by results so far. We'll be there or thereabouts by the end of this season.

#### **'Sorry J.V.!**

Space, and availability of programmes, has prevented me, until now, from tugging my forelock and congratulating J. V. Smith on his well-deserved elevation to the Presidency of the Rugby Football Union. Which I now do, with the greatest of pleasure.

Many of you will remember John Smith in his playing days for Stroud, although not so easily remembered is the fact that he played most of his Rugby at outside half, in spite of his five England Caps at wing three-quarter.

Since then, he has been an effective administrator, and also a frequent visitor to Kingsholm, and the licenced premises connected thereto. Which must be a recommendation. Best wishes for a bumper — and Grand Slam — year J.V.!

#### **Tailpiece**

Mr. Tom Clarke, Sports Editor of the 'Daily Mail', endeared himself to me from the word 'go', last week. He was here, of course, to present his paper's pennant to us, and just about the first thing he said to me, after the introduction, was:

"I didn't think I'd better bring Terry O'Connor with me!"

Well — he said it.

PETER ARNOLD.