



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v HARLEQUINS

MATCH SPONSORS TODAY

DUCK, SON & PINKER

52 - 56 Southgate Street, Gloucester

Saturday, 9th October, 1982

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

361

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54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

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

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

| | |
|-----|---------------------|
| | Full Back |
| 15. | P. Ford |
| | Three Quarters |
| 14. | P. Conway |
| * | 13. P. Taylor |
| | 12. C. Dyke |
| | 11. G. Thomas |
| | Half Backs |
| * | 10. L. Jones |
| § | 9. S. Baker |
| | Forwards |
| | 1. P. Jones |
| *† | 2. S. Mills (Capt.) |
| | 3. R. Phillips |
| § | 4. J. Brain |
| † | 5. J. Fidler |
| | 6. |
| * | 7. P. Wood |
| § | 8. M. Teague |

REPLACEMENTS

I. Roberts

HARLEQUINS

| | |
|-----|--------------------|
| | Full Back |
| 15. | R. Dudman |
| | Three Quarters |
| 14. | A. Dent |
| | 13. D. Hodgkiss |
| | 12. A. Thompson |
| † | 11. G. Birkett |
| | Half Backs |
| | 10. G. Gilbert |
| | 9. R. Gorge |
| | Forwards |
| | 1. T. Claxton |
| | 2. I. Thomas |
| | 3. A. Barker |
| | 4. M. Rocks |
| | 5. N. Ebel |
| | 6. R. Best (Capt.) |
| | 7. G. Merrison |
| | 8. E. Weekes |

REPLACEMENTS

C. Preston

N. French

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Fingers crossed!

At first sight, the omens for Gloucester, today, don't look all that good. Harlequins had a very praiseworthy win over Swansea, last Saturday — and you'll remember what the 'Swans' did to Gloucester early on in the season.

Furthermore, as usual, on Harlequins day, we have to manage without the County contingent doing duty in Yorkshire today.

A closer look, however, relieves the gloom somewhat, from the Gloucester point of view. To start with, our involvement at Headingley is confined to the pack, plus Richard Mogg. We're quite used to playing with half a pack, these days, and there's more than adequate cover on the wings.

But, perhaps Gloucester's trump card lies in the record. Year after year Gloucester has had to take on the challenge of the 'Quins on a County day, and has usually come off creditably. Even last year, when County calls were more insistent than ever, we managed a 3-3 draw, away from home. And this year, we're at Kingsholm.

So, as always, everything looks set fair for a cracker of a game for the Harlequins visit. I can't remember a boring game between the two sides, and I don't suppose that today will be any different.

Always good to see you, 'Quins. Have a good day.

Who's he shouting for?

Comes to something, doesn't it, when your Valued and Amiable Sponsor doesn't really know whose side he's on. We can sympathise, in this case, however.

Laurence Hull, Manager of Duck, Son and Pinker, spent his formative years around the Twickenham area, and used to be a regular at the famous 'Billy Williams Cabbage Patch'. In those days, the 'Quins were very much 'his' team, and that of his father before him. Naturally when he moved to this part of the country, he shifted his allegiance to the 'Elver Eaters' which, when the opportunity for sponsorship came around, was to the great good fortune of all of us.

Quite a quandary, but I don't suppose that worrying about it has interfered with his other major interest, that of supplying a very wide range of musical equipment and materials to people in Gloucester and the surrounding area.

You'll remember, with appropriate gratitude, I'm sure, that Duck, Son and Pinker were generous enough to sponsor several matches, throughout the season, last year, and this is the first of a similar series, this season.

You'll also know that the grand old West Country company is famous for its pianos, guitars and other musical instruments. However, in this day and age, it has to be said that the field of hi-fi, TV, video recorders and similar electronic marvels is at least as important to the well being of Duck, Son and Pinker.

Having had some personal experience — before the days of Rugby Sponsorship — of the service which the Southgate Street branch gives, I can readily recommend that the next time you find you need something in that line, that you give Duck, Son & Pinker a try. If you're a Kingsholm regular, you'd probably do that anyway (wouldn't you?), but you'll find that today's sponsors have a lot to offer, even without the gratitude of the Rugby fraternity.

Thanks very much Duck, Son and Pinker. We all appreciate your generosity. And Laurence — if you feel you can't shout for Gloucester, do us a favour. Keep you b****y mouth shut!

County count-up

Naturally, we're pleased to see all five Gloucester representatives in today's County side to travel to Headingley. I think, however, the other four would forgive me if I give pride of place, this time, to Phil Blakeway. Anyone who has seen him skippering a side over the past few years, knows what an excellent choice he is to lead Gloucestershire — and we're all rooting for him.

It must be some time since Gloucester provided both locks to the County, and it's particularly pleasant to see that Steve Boyle is joined by John Orwin, who apparently, could have chosen either side today, plus Oxfordshire, who he has represented before.

John Gadd's injury must have cast doubts on his representative chances this season, so it's very nice to see him back where he belongs, and, we hope, resuming the road to higher things.

Richard Mogg is — well — Richard Mogg, and no one who saw him grab his chance against Bristol, a couple of weeks ago, would have considered anyone else for the wing spot.

Congratulations also to Kevin White, who deserves recognition, albeit only as replacement. He's certainly good enough to take the top spot in his own right. One of those 'always the bridesmaid' characters — but where would Gloucester have been without him, a week or two ago?

Paid-up Patrons only.

Today is October 9th. So I'd remind Patrons that they only have 12 days — to Thursday, 21st — to pay up, get their cards receipted, and pick-up tickets for the Patrons Evening, which is a sort of cross between the Gloucester Old Boys Dinner, and a TUC Conference.

Please do get tickets. It helps no end with the arrangements beforehand.

Away the lads!

No — I haven't gone all Geordie on you; it's just that the lads do seem to have a fairly rough set of away engagements over the next couple of weeks. On Wednesday they travel to Ebbw Vale — never easy — and next Saturday they go to Newport, which is probably even harder.

Neither venue is very difficult to get to, however, and the boys would be glad to receive all the support they can get. Indeed, I already know of one little gang who are making complicated arrangements to get to the Newport game, taking in various watering places on the way there and back.

Mind you — there's a very good case for staying right here. The United are playing some delightful Rugby, at the moment, and their encounters with Newport are always worth a couple of hours of your time. So combat your withdrawal symptoms with a trip to your usual Kingsholm spot, next Saturday.

On the Monday after that, there's a United offering which shouldn't be missed — if only for the novelty value. The Opposition are to be provided by the Yugoslav Sports Club, who do in fact, come from New Zealand. And you can't sell any Kiwi club short.

Moving right along, as they say, our sparkling Colts team are at home to Nuneaton on Wednesday next. Do go along and have a look. You'll be amazed!

That blank date

You'll have noticed that Saturday, October 23rd is left blank on the fixture lists — for both First Team and United. There's a good reason for this, and it isn't that Peter Ford couldn't find fixtures, that letters have gone astray in the post, or that our Friendly Printer was drunk at the time.

On the list there are already 54 First XV matches (not counting John Player Cup games) and 38 United fixtures. This is an awful lot in a purely Amateur game, where fellows play for fun, have to earn a living occasionally, and do have a right to some family and/or social life. And I don't have to remind you that there are very few easy games on the list, these days.

It seems sensible — in my humble opinion — to give everyone a day off when you can. Which isn't often.

Saturday, October 23rd is the day of the County match at Bristol, against North Midlands; the only home County game we have this season. It's probable, therefore, that many supporters will be trotting down the road to that match, and that the greatest good for the greatest number could best be served by having a breather on that day.

I certainly think that's reasonable thinking. Hope you agree. There is just a chance of a United game that day. As Peter Ford says, "We'll have to see!"

Tailpiece

When Phil Blakeway's appointment as County Captain was announced, did the cheers make the rafters ring?

PETER ARNOLD