

# **GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT
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## GLOUCESTER

MOSELEY

MATCH SPONSORS TODAY

# DUCK, SON & PINKER

52 - 56 Southgate Street, Gloncester

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

590

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

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# Match sponsor today DUCK, SON & PINKER

	GLOUCESTER Cherry & White			MOSELEY hashboyn		
	15.	Full Back P. Ford	*	15.	Full Back C. Meanwell	
*§	14.	Three Quarters R. Mogg	*	14.	J. Goodwin D. Shorrock	
*	13. 12. 11.	S. Parsloe C. O'Donoghue N. Price	*	13. 12. 11.	11/11	
*	10.	Half Backs L. Jones W. Hall	*8	10.	Half Backs The Text	
*+	1.	Forwards R. Phillips	*	1.	Forwards K. Astley	
*	2. 3. 4.	S. Mills (Capt.) R. Pascall J. Orwin	* *	2. 3. 4.	G. Cox (Capt.) S. Acaster R. Tuckwood	
†	5.	J. Fidler J. Bennett	*	5.	J. Davidson D. Warren	
*	7.	P. Wood A. Turton	*	7. 8.	B. Clarke D. Nutt	
		REPLACEMENTS G. Thomas G. Mann	*	M	REPLACEMENTS A. Thomas J. Beale	
			*	α.	0 11	

Referee: Mr. L. HOWARD (Liverpool Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE (INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

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#### The Final Solution

It was inevitable, I suppose, The Press, including our friends from BBC TV, who we welcome here today, have been portraying today's game as a 'replay' of last season's John Player Cup Final.

Which is alright as far as it goes, but doesn't give an entirely accurate picture of the

situation.

In fact, Gloucester played Moseley three times last year, including that epic encounter at Twickenham. On November 5th, Gloucester won by 19 points to 6, and on New Year's Day, by 27-21. Then came the tense May Day match - and everyone knows what happened then.

Our relationships with the famous Birmingham Club are too valuable to us, and go back too far to be summed up in one match, however important. It can't be said that either side has ever had a decisive advantage, not within living memory, at any rate. And sometimes, the continuing saga crops up in the most surprising places.

Remember the County Final when a North Midlands side, largely composed of Moseley players, hammered a Gloucestershire side made up principally of Gloucester players? And how the situation was reversed, only a few days later when the sides met at Kingsholm?

A lot of balls have passed over the crossbar since those days, but our rivalry with Moseley is as intense and friendly as it ever was. Today's game is the sort of encounter which is what English first-class rugby is all about. We couldn't do without it.

So, as always, Moseley are thoroughly welcome. It's great to see you again, chaps!

Well done the County!

To have reached the County Final (so they tell me - no one actually saw very much of the game at Bristol!) in the first season of the restructured Championship is a very significant achievement. It also vindicates the opinion of those of us who have always said that the old regional system gave a false picture, because any side which won the South West group would be in with a good fighting chance of winning the title.

The last hurdle is going to be a high one, however. Yorkshire are a great side — one which

has improved out of all recognition, and which continues to do so.

Where to play the Final. Don't know yet. Bristol's claims are impressive, but so is the contention — which I've heard stated — that this is a new competition, and that all bets are off as regards whose 'turn' it is. On the other hand, we wouldn't want to lose the Bridgend game again, so it's a thornier problem than appears at first sight.

Watch this space . . . .

Duck, Son, Pinker, Gloucester and the Gloucesters

Thanks are due yet again to our generous sponsors from Duck, Son and Pinker. At the time of writing, it is frosty, and the Wednesday game against Leicester is in genuine doubt, but assuming that the weather gods relent in time, this is the second game that Gloucester's leading music, audio and video firm have sponsored this week, and to secure both the Leicester and Moseley games can't be bad for anyone. Naturally, you'd expect me to urge you to do your Christmas shopping where our friends are,

but after Monday next there's an extra reason for so doing.

The Southgate Street showroom have got together with the Regimental Museum in Commercial Road to provide a fascinating window display during the weeks leading up to Christmas. Should be well worth a visit on that account alone.

The reason that the Museum people were so keen, is that their grant from the Ministry of Defence depends directly on the number of people who pass through the museum in the year. With the good offices of Duck, Son and Pinker, they hope to stimulate more interest in—and I speak from experience—what is one of the most interesting establishments we have in the City.

Of course, any resemblance between today's match and the Battle of the Imjin River is purely co-incidental. At least — I hope it is — but it just goes to show how our valued sponsors are interested in the City in general.

Anyone with that attitude is worth your custom. Why not go into Duck, Son and Pinker and do your shopping, then nip round the corner for a haven of comparative peace from the

hurly-burly of Christmas preparation?

#### The days before Christmas

And those just after it, for that matter. Certainly some light will be shed on our darkness by some bright rugby. First of all, we welcome Loughborough Colleges next Wednesday, and as I've said before, college rugby is worth watching for its non-stop fitness and enthusiasm. Next Saturday, the lads travel down to Bath, and it's not so far away that you couldn't give

yourself a treat and visit that most pleasant ground (I can recommend the grub at the Royal

Oak, just round the corner).

On the Saturday before Christmas, we have another toughie right here, when we're expecting an invasion from Coventry. Then on Boxing Day — Monday, this year — we have the most welcome return of Old Merchant Tailors. Many of you will remember when OMT were our traditional Boxing Day game, and this one has been arranged to help them celebrate their Centenary. Great idea, in my humble opinion.

Then, on Wednesday 29th, we have Newport dropping in to exchange seasonal greetings and that will get the post-Christmas bloodstream moving again, if anything can. London Scottish conclude the holiday entertainment of New Year's Day — if they've recovered from

Hogmanay, that is.

So you'd better start rehearsing your Christmas excuses now. You have to find some way of getting out of the shopping, and entertaining great aunt Mabel. On the other hand — you could bring her with you. She might learn some words she doesn't know.

#### It's a date!

... 365 of them, no less! I've just seen the proofs of our 1983 calendar, which should be on sale in the Bar before very long. In my opinion, it has twelve of the best action Rugby pictures that I've ever seen collected together in one publication. Of course, they all feature Gloucester RFC, so I could be biased.

All the photographs were taken by photographers from the Gloucester 'Citizen', and we owe the management of the newspaper our thanks for letting us use them.

It's a useful experiment, this. Only 1500 are being printed, so it's my contention that they'll go very quickly. In fact, I have a bet on about it, so don't let me down, will you? At £1.50 a time, you can't lose.

#### Good listening

I was talking to Nigel Dean, Sports Editor of 'Severn Sound' the other evening, and he tells me that the listening figures for Mike Burton's 'Touchdown' programme on a Monday

evening are reaching very healthy proportions.

Unfortunately, pressure of other matters doesn't allow me to listen regularly, but what I have heard prompts me to advise you to desert early evening telly, and give it a try. It's certainly worth your attention. If only to hear the dulcet tones of Michael Alan Burton, once again. With or without his boots.

#### **Brothers in arms**

One intriguing thing about the Gloucester v. Leicester match, last Wednesday, was that it saw John Orwin and Nigel Gillingham jumping against each other. Intriguing? Certainly. John and Nigel are the current RAF locks, and usually jump in tandem.

### Tailpiece

I was in a pub in the wilds of Cornwall, a while ago, and was introduced as a Gloucester man. Not as a rugby man, just as a Gloucester man. "O yes!" said the landlord "How's Micky Booth?"

Notice the bland assumption that everyone in Gloucester must know Micky.

Come to think of it, he wasn't far wrong.

PETER ARNOLD.