



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v. ABERTILLERY

Wednesday, 16th March, 1983

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

- RUGBY BOOTS • JERSEYS AND SHORTS • BALLS • CLUB DISCOUNTS
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ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

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GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

	Full Back
15.	T. Smith
	Three Quarters
* 14.	P. Pritchard
*§ 13.	R. Mogg
	12. C. Dyke
* 11.	N. Price
	Half Backs
* 10.	L. Jones (Capt.)
§ 9.	S. Baker
	Forwards
	1. P. Jones
	2. K. White
§ 3.	S. Ashmead
	4. N. Scrivens
§ 5.	J. Brain
* 6.	P. Wood
	7. M. Longstaff
	8. D. Spencer

REPLACEMENTS

G. Thomas
I. Roberts

ABERTILLERY

	Full Back
15.	S. Havard
	Three Quarters
14.	K. Meredith R. WESPDALE
* 13.	A. Thomas
* 12.	D. George
	11. S. Bainton
	Half Backs
10.	R. Crane
9.	R. Moon
	Forwards
	1. P. Jones
* 2.	M. Cairns
	3. H. Gilson
	4. M. Greaves
5.	M. Baker J. EVERETT
* 6.	P. Crane
	7. T. Flower
	8. R. Clark

REPLACEMENTS

M. Bevan
D. Went

Referee: T. DOOCEY (New Zealand)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Last lap!

We may be getting into the finishing straight for the season, but there are a few good matches coming our way yet — and one of them takes place tonight. In fact, Abertillery have been coming here for so long that some of their players must almost qualify for Gloucester on residential grounds!

Which does not, of course, make them any less welcome. There's always something special when a Welsh side comes to Kingsholm, and as this is the season which works out so that we have many of our fixtures with Principality sides away from home, we're especially glad to welcome the Abertillery lads tonight.

Our visitors don't usually have the glamour that the Swans and the Cardiffs of this world have, and it must be admitted that they have usually come in second at Kingsholm, but you can expect full value for money in terms of effort, and good, honest Welsh fire.

It certainly wouldn't be wise to take money on the result of this evening's fun and frolics, but then — that's what rugby's all about.

It seems a long time since we had a Wednesday evening game at Kingsholm, which is another indication that the season is gradually coming to its inevitable close. That being so, we couldn't wish for more worthy opponents to help us usher in the Spring.

Nice to see the green and whites again! Hope you have a most enjoyable evening, chaps.

... and welcome to the ref.

We don't usually give the man with the whistle much credit in this programme, but tonight is a very welcome exception.

To tell you the truth, I'm still not quite sure how he spells his name. Terry Tandy swears it's 'Dooce', but I know darn well that I saw it spelled 'Ducey' in one of the national papers. However, if I tell you that he is the same guy who controlled the England and Scottish match, and that he hails from New Zealand, you'll know who I'm talking about.

We should also wish him well in his next big assignment, which is to referee the France game — which could, in the end, be vital to the International Championship.

So, even if we are discourteous enough to spell your name wrong, Sir, we'd like to give you a traditional Kingsholm welcome, and hope to see you again, sometime — with or without whistle.

(All right you blokes — leave out the tar and feathers, just for one night, will you?).

Support the lads

Advance notice for you that one of the most attractive games of the Kingsholm season is looming on the horizon. On April 16th we have a Colts International between England and Wales — who else?

I gather that the Welsh boys have an attractive squad, this season and that the English lads are showing considerable promise too. Colts rugby is always worth watching, and this should be one of the highlights, even by those standards.

I don't see any good reason why you can't come. Gloucester are away to Sale, that day, which is a fair old trek for the most ardent supporter, while the United are down to play at home against Salisbury. I gather that negotiations are under way to play the United game that same evening, and if that comes off, you could see a double bill, for once — which can't be bad.

Terry Tandy tells me that stand tickets for the Colts International are already available, and that you simply pay at the gate as usual, if all you want is to get on to the ground.

Prices weren't known at the time of writing, but they will be by the time you read this. Listen for the PA system.

Welsh are out

Did you notice that our old bogies London Scottish knocked London Welsh out of the JPC last Saturday? Perhaps our vulnerability to the Scots is contagious.

One thing that I didn't know is that, when we get knocked out of the Cup, we always send a telegram of good luck wishes to the people who beat us on each of their succeeding matches in the Competition. This game was no exception.

"Just to show there's no hard feelings" says Tandy.
Whatever gave him that idea?

Steve's still in!

Congratulations to big Steve Boyle in keeping his England spot for the Ireland game. Not that there was any doubt about it — or shouldn't have been, but you never know with selectors.

I see that Steve also scored a try in the Mobbs Memorial match when turning out for the Barbarians against East Midlands. I didn't see any description of how he did it — but then, we don't need one, around here, do we?

We know perfectly well how 'Boyley' scores his tries, without yards of purple prose to spell it out for us.

Exeter coach

It has become something of a tradition for Andy Mitchell to run a Patron's coach to Exeter, every other year, and Andy feels that there is no good reason not to do so this season.

Indeed, even if the interest is somewhat academic this time, the game is still a Merit Table one, and we do have a point or two to prove on that front. If that isn't enough, then everyone who has been on that trip agrees that it's a very good day out, and that the Exeter lads are always very glad to see us.

The date, this year, is April 23rd, and the cost a mere £3.50. It seems like a long way ahead, but we don't have that many home games to remind you about it. Places on this coach normally get filled very quickly so, if you're interested, get in touch with Andy Mitchell in the Clubhouse, after the game.

See you Friday

There's no game on Saturday, due to the Ireland v. Steve Boyle match, but you can avoid withdrawal symptoms by coming along on Friday when we are expecting an expeditionary force to drop in from Orrell.

The northerners haven't been here all that often, and people who have attended on those previous occasions have been impressed by the quality and spirit of the games which have resulted. So we recommend you to come along.

After that, you could well take a trip to Cheltenham on Wednesday 23rd and if you fancy a visit to Lydney, don't forget that the game has been brought forward to Tuesday 29th, to allow more time for the Lydney lads to get packed for their trip to the States.

Gloucester are away to Saracens on the 26th, but you could profitably spend time, on that day, by coming along to watch the United take on Pontypridd.

Finally, advance warning that Easter is almost upon us, and we are confidently expecting New Brighton to drop in on Saturday April 2nd, and Fylde on Easter Monday.

Yet another Steve!

We do seem to be hearing a lot about Steves these days. Boyle, Mills, and now Kent! Kent? He's the guy who lives in Longford Lane and had the good taste to buy programme no. 178 at the Northampton match, whereupon we fell on his neck and showered a whole fiver on him.

Tailpiece

Don't know whether you listened to Brian Johnston's 'Down Your Way' on Radio 4 last Sunday, but if you did, you'll have heard the dulcet tones of Bill Hook, recalling the old days. Nice to hear him.

It was also nice to hear Brian Johnston calling Gloucester RFC 'The Elver Eaters'. Wonder who could have told him that?

PETER ARNOLD.