



# **GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

## **GLOUCESTER v. NEW BRIGHTON**

**Saturday, 2nd April, 1983**

**Kingsholm, Gloucester**

**Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**

115

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p



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### GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. P. Ford

Three Quarters

\*§ 14. R. Mogg  
13. C. O'Donoghue  
\* 12. P. Taylor  
\* 11. N. Price

Half Backs

10. M. Hamlin  
9. W. Hall

Forwards

\*† 1. G. Sargent  
\*† 2. S. Mills (Capt.)  
§ 3. S. Ashmead  
4. N. Scrivens  
§ 5. J. Brain  
\* 6. P. Wood  
7. M. Longstaff  
8. D. Spencer

REPLACEMENTS

### NEW BRIGHTON

Full Back

15. G. Jones

Three Quarters

14. M. Doyle  
\* 13. R. Johnson  
12. R. Taylor  
11. P. Walker

Half Backs

10. A. Duncan  
\* 9. G. Williams

Forwards

1. S. Hatton  
2. M. J. Healey (Capt.)  
3. K. Pollard  
\* 4. F. Lloyd  
5. M. Parker  
\* 6. K. Calligan  
7. J. Couborough  
8. P. Hesketh

REPLACEMENTS

16. P. Billington  
17. M. Cannon

Referee: R. HARDING (Devon Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

\* County



**NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE**  
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### **All the way from Wirral**

Welsh clubs we know about (none better!). London clubs pass each other on the M4 with unflinching regularity. Midlanders, fellow West Countrymen, all beat a well trodden path to Kingsholm, but apart from Sale, we don't get many clubs from today's visitors' precise home area in these yer parts. So New Brighton from Moreton, Wirral are particularly welcome.

There are possibly one or two sides around who can claim to have better playing records than New Brighton, but for honest commitment and traditions going back well nigh as long as our own, our welcome guests can hold up their heads with anyone. They've been coming here for a very long time, and we wouldn't have it any other way.

New Brighton do have one claim to fame which they may not even have thought of themselves. When J. P. Quinn played for England against Wales, France, Scotland, Ireland and New Zealand in 1954, he gained the distinction of becoming the only player to win a Cap whose name begins with the letter 'Q' — according to Rothmans 'Rugby Yearbook', anyway. Any puns about Phil Cue of Bristol one day achieving that honour will be treated with the contempt they deserve.

New Brighton have usually been runners-up in their encounters with Gloucester, but — as we know only too well — that should not be taken as an immutable law of nature, and there's certainly no reason in the world why this afternoon's game should be taken as a foregone conclusion. In any case, Easter games have a habit of being slightly eccentric in their outcome, so we're all looking forward to a hearty and forthright game, with a lot of entertainment for anyone who knows his rugby.

Glad you could foresake your hot cross buns, New Brighton. It's good to see you again.

### **Well done 'Boyley'!**

It is nice to be right, occasionally. Come on now, admit it. When, on a couple of occasions recently, I have commented that I thought that S. Boyle Esq. had a chance of going with the Lions to New Zealand, you've thought I was just being nice to Big Steve, haven't you? I promise you — that wasn't so. On looking around at the likely contenders I realised that Steve is just about the only specialist front-of-the-line jumper in the Bill Beaumont mould, and with Willy John McBride involved in the selection, I thought he might well be looking for just that.

End of the 'I told you so' department.

Nevertheless, it's a source of great delight for all of us, especially in a season when we could do with a morale booster or two. And who can deny that, after his long spell with England 'B', and having to contend with the great Beaumont as his obvious rival, Steve really deserves it. What a season he's had! England, three times. Barbarians, and now the greatest accolade of them all — representing Great Britain in, of all places, New Zealand.

He has, of course, a pedigree to live up to. Anyone following in the illustrious footsteps of Don Rutherford, Mike Burton and the terribly unlucky Phil Blakeway must have a sense of the responsibility of it all.

I remember talking to Mike Burton just after his return from the Lions tour of South Africa. He told me then that he had gained two stone in weight, over the tour; a result of training, rather than tipping, I hasten to add, and all of it muscle. It's the sort of thing which happens when you're training every day, under the eye of exceptional coaches.

It that happens to Steve Boyle — God help anyone who's on the end of his crash ball next season!

And, we must add, surely there's no one here who will criticise Steve for his decision to call it a day, for the rest of the season. Wouldn't you, in his position?

So Steve, the very best of British Lions luck for an amazingly successful tour. It couldn't happen to a nicer fellow.

### **Coming along nicely**

Anyone who wanders around the back of the main stand will have seen how well the new developments are coming along. Terry Tandy tells me that he has no doubt that it will all be complete by next season, and that those companies and individuals who have made their contributions will have their special bar facilities in action by then.



I'm also told that the Appeal has now passed the £12,000 mark, and that John Bick knows of still more money in the pipeline. There's still a long way to go, however, and any Company or organisation wishing to make an interest free loan of £600 will be greeted with tears of gratitude. Similarly, individuals with £250 to lend will be welcomed effusively. It's also worth pointing out that the list of contributors will be published in a few weeks' time, so any company which sees the loan (or donation) as part of their public relations operation (and whyever not ?) would be well advised to finalise matters fairly soon, if they are to maximise the effectiveness of their efforts.

And don't forget — as they say — any contributions will be gratefully received, even if you don't think you can run to the recommended amounts. See John Bick. Or just about anyone, for that matter.

#### **Fylde on Monday**

The sands of time are running out, but the season still has a kick or two in it yet. Monday sees the continuation of the Northern theme over Easter with a visit from the Tough Fylde side, who are not to be taken lightly, and must be worth taking a gander at. On Saturday next Neath are our visitors, a welcome return after some years, and a very fitting game to end the home season on.

The United have one home game left, that against Salisbury, I am told that a 6.00 kick-off has been agreed, which, with the Colts International in the afternoon, could be a very good 'double header' to end the season's festivities.

So, before we have a sudden attack of the cricket seasons, might as well see the season out in style. Hope to see you along the way.

#### **... and talking about the Colts**

I'm told that Stand tickets for the England and Wales Colts International on April 16th are available at £2.00 from the Office. Furthermore, contrary to previous expectations, there are some Ground tickets, at £1.20, which is the usual price, but might save you waiting at the turnstiles.

This change of mind was apparently instigated by the system which enables schoolmasters, and other organisers of youth organisations, to buy blocks of tickets, and receive one free one for every 15 tickets applied for. Which ought to put ideas in the heads of anyone who has anything to do with schoolboy rugby, colts rugby, or even mini rugby.

But even if, like me, you don't qualify by a year or two, I would certainly recommend that you come along and see the game. The standard and entertainment value of these Colts Internationals is proverbial, and don't run away with the idea that the game is likely to be less hard fought than any International at Twickenham or the Arms Park. And anyone who has muttered, recently, about the apparent dearth of world-class players on view this season, would be advised to come along to see where the next crop is coming from.

See you there.

#### **Don't forget St. Johns**

Just a word of appeal for you not to stuff all your loose change (or loose notes) into the fruit machines next Saturday. The Neath game has been picked as the one where we take a collection for the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, in recognition for all the stirring work they do for us, year in and year out.

#### **Let's back Bristol!**

Congratulations to our friendly enemies from Bristol on reaching the JPC Final. Judging by the way they saw off Coventry, they must be in with a fine chance of pulling it off — particularly as Dusty Hare says he's not going to play in case of injury taking him out of his hard-won Lions place. If we can't win it, I'm sure we'd want Bristol to do so. Best of luck all you lads down the A38!

#### **Tailpiece**

There's a story about that if Bristol win the Cup, Gloucester will slip back into the Competition next year because the Champions are automatically included. Sorry to have to shatter illusions, but it doesn't work that way. After all, Bath didn't get back in when Gloucester won it, did they?

PETER ARNOLD