



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v. LAUNCESTON

TONIGHT'S MATCH SPONSORS

CIVIC CATERING CO., TEWKESBURY

Wednesday, 14th September, 1983

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

0227

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 20p

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

ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

Tonight's Match Sponsors Civic Catering Co., Tewkesbury

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. T. Smith

Three Quarters

14. D. Morgan

* 13. P. Taylor

*§ 12. R. Mogg

11. P. Tunstall

Half Backs

10. M. Hamlin

§ 9. S. Baker

Forwards

1. P. Jones

*† 2. S. Mills

*† 3. P. Blakeway

* 4. J. Orwin

§ 5. J. Brain

*§ 6. J. Gadd

7. D. Spencer

*§ 8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS

M. Durkin

K. White

LAUNCESTON

Full Back

15. J. Braidwood

Three Quarters

14. J. Gower

13. T. Pearn

12. I. Goodman

* 11. R. Mitchell

Half Backs

10. D. Vanstone

9. P. Dennis

Forwards

1. F. Goodman

* 2. G. Dawe

3. P. May

4. P. Bloomfield

5. R. Gerry

6. G. Strout

7. M. Yeo

8. D. Mason

REPLACEMENTS

R. Dinnis

M. Crago

Referee: A. SPREADBURY (Somerset Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Coming up to England

To the best of my knowledge, we haven't had the pleasure of welcoming Launceston before, so I can't claim to know very much about them. But we know about Cornish rugby, all right!

Gloucester have made quite a few memorable tours of Cornwall, and we certainly know about Camborne (who have also been to Kingsholm), and have experience of Hellfire Corner at Redruth.

And, of course, the Kingsholm crowd remember, with affection, the many tussles against the tough Cornwall sides in the old-style County Championship. There were certainly times when, if the South West Group hadn't been the toughest in the country, Cornwall might have had a very good run indeed — and as a matter of interest, I know a Cornish pub which has a copy of the programme for the last County Final which Cornwall featured in. The outside half was Tom Palmer of Gloucester, and I'd be surprised if he isn't around somewhere today.

So, if we don't actually know Launceston, experience has given us a lot of information about what to expect. With such unyielding opposition, down in the Duchy, our visitors must have a lot going for them to have done so well in last season's Merit Table. They'll be out to spring a surprise, and we won't want to lose either, so, with Merit Table points at stake, and thoughts of next season's John Player at the back of everyone's mind, we shan't lack for effort on either side tonight.

But, all those thoughts apart, it's always good to welcome a side from over the Tamar. We hope their first visit is an enjoyable one, and we'll certainly be doing our best to see that it is.

Socially inclined?

If you're the sort of character who likes a convivial chat and a drink, before and/or after the match, don't forget that you really ought to be a member of the Social Club to be able to indulge yourself in the Clubhouse.

Let's face it — you're not actually going to have to take out a hire-purchase agreement to be able to have that privilege. The membership fee is still only 50p.

Early days yet, of course, but as the season progresses, there are going to be matches where the size of the crowd will necessitate cards being produced before you can get in at all. And we'd hate to see you go home in a state of raving teetotalism.

Nudge for Patrons

Pardon me for mentioning it, ladies and gentlemen of the Patron's Mafia, but you would do the club a favour if you would pay up as soon as the wife's housekeeping can stand it.

Obviously, it helps if Patrons' fees are paid early, expenditure and cash flow being what it is. They'll gladly accept cheques, cash or other legal tender in the office behind the Grandstand, after the game.

Incidentally, the foregoing remarks about the Social Club also apply to Patrons. Not that anyone's going to demand 50p, because Social Club membership is part of the Patrons' package, but you will need a membership card, nevertheless.

It's a good deal!

Having started, I might as well finish the financial stuff before proceeding further.

Members will already know the advantages of taking out a season ticket, but there are a lot of people who come along on a match basis, regardless of the fact that they could be losing quite a lot of hard-earned cash by doing so.

This is a good year for season tickets, because, even though this is the year when we have more home than away games, prices haven't gone up. Patron's membership — which includes car park and social club membership, plus freedom to stand and sit in any part of the ground — is still only £25. Wing stand seasons cost £15, and ground membership £12. Senior Citizens and Juniors get reductions of around half the rate.

The money-saving calculations are interesting. At those prices you only need to attend 10 games before breaking even on ordinary admission charges, and you can rattle up that many attendances without really noticing it.

Looked at another way, it's perfectly possible to have broken even before the end of October, with another 24 home games to go. Which has to be the bargain of the year.

There are other advantages too — as you'll find out if you decide you want to apply for International or County tickets, for example. There are also the away coach trips to think about.

You know — you could be doing yourself a favour. Why not nip along to our palatial new Office and Do something about it.

Invaders from Wales

First team matches at Kingsholm are set to have a decided Cambrian flavour, for the next few weeks.

The invasion starts next Saturday, when our friends from Pontypridd make their bi-annual visit. Ever since Tom David's old club took over fixtures vacated by Cardiff, a few years ago, the Pontypridd match has been a memorable occasion — on the field and socially. They always look after us well down there, and it would be nice to have an excellent turn-out for them on Saturday.

Ironically, the next team to pay us a visit will be the mighty Cardiff themselves — on Wednesday 21st September. This match is billed as the one which officially marks the opening of our new facilities, but whatever the reason, you won't want to miss Cardiff's return after their regrettable absence.

The following Saturday, the boys are away to Bristol — surely the team to watch, this season, whatever Leicester and Bath might say. It helps a lot if — as usually happens — a goodly contingent of cheery cherry-and-whites show up to support the team.

That's followed by another long-awaited fixture on the 27th, when Llanelli are, at last, coming to Kingsholm. Surely a must for the aficionado.

So there's plenty to look forward to — and that's only September!

United

While all that's going on, the United won't be sitting around doing nothing. There's the extra game against the North Gloucester Combination, next Monday, which has intriguing possibilities. While the first team is entertaining Llanelli, United have a tough assignment at Pontypool, and then on Tuesday 20th of September the local Derby against Cheltenham takes place at Kingsholm, and that's always worth watching.

If you can't get down to Bristol on the 24th, then the two United teams will be testing each other's mettle at Kingsholm, which would be a great consolation.

United have started the season with a flourish, and they're obviously going to be well worth supporting. Why not do just that?

Well done Derek!

While on United matters, it was good to see young Derek Morgan playing for the firsts last Saturday. The fact that it was injury to Phil Pritchard that let him in is not really relevant, because there are plenty of established wingers in the ranks of the United.

Derek joined us from Longlevens at the start of the season, and immediately scored four tries in his first two games. So it seems right that he got his chance.

Quite an achievement. And holds out hopes for the future — and Derek has a long future ahead of him.

Tailpiece

A headline caught my eye the other day. 'RUGBY MEN TO SIGN PLEDGE'

Of course, they were talking about the professional 'circus', but it gave me a nasty shock, for a moment.

PETER ARNOLD