



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v. PONTYPOOL

Wednesday, 12th October, 1983

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

119

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 20p

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

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

	Full Back
15.	T. Smith
	Three Quarters
14.	D. Morgan
*§	13. R. Mogg
*	12. P. Taylor
*	11. N. Price
	Half Backs
10.	M. Hamlin
§	9. S. Baker
	Forwards
*§	1. M. Preedy
*†	2. S. Mills
*†	3. P. Blakeway
*	4. J. Orwin
*†	5. J. Fidler
*§	6. J. Gadd
	7. D. Spencer
*§	8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS

R. Wilmott
K. White, R. Phillips

PONTYPOOL

	Full Back
15.	S. Paul
	Three Quarters
14.	G. Davis
13.	L. Faulkner
12.	L. Jones/S. Hutchins
11.	B. Taylor
	Half Backs
10.	D. Thomas
9.	P. Stadden
	Forwards
†	1. R. Windsor
	2. S. Jones
†	3. G. Price
†	4. J. Perkins
	5. K. Moseley
†	6. J. Squire
	7. C. Huish
†	8. E. Butler (Capt.)

REPLACEMENTS

C. James
D. Muir

Referee: **A. TRIGG** (London Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Pick of the packs

Perhaps we can claim to understand Pontypool's rugby better than virtually any other side. After all, the simple virtues that have brought them so much success, over the past decade or so, have been so much like the traditional pattern at Gloucester that it would be surprising if this were not so.

We like to think that things are changing at Kingsholm, in this respect, but we can still appreciate the difficulty of beating a team which relies heavily on a tremendously powerful pack, a strong and bustling scrum half and an excellent goal kicker.

However, we mustn't fall into the trap — so often a pitfall for the press — which disregards the merits of the backs, and makes scathing reference to 'ten man rugby'. We, of all people, know how unjust that can be, and how it fails to acknowledge so much which is good about the game. A genuinely fearsome set of forwards on the rampage can be just as exhilarating to the spectator who really knows his rugby, as the more obvious skills of the dashing three-quarters.

Certainly, some of the matches between Gloucester and Pontypool, during the last few years, have been as mind-bending as you could wish to see.

Three years ago, on the very day when Severn Sound went 'on the air', for the first time, Max Boyce was greeted to Gloucester with the news that Pontypool had lost to the 'Elver Eaters' on their own patch. The year after, here at Kingsholm, Gloucester won again, in an epic encounter that will take a bit of forgetting.

Unforgettable too — I'm afraid — is the fact that Gloucester came home from Pontypool having succumbed to a hiding by a cool 50 points or so.

This season too, Pontypool have been going well, having beaten the same Swansea side which put 40 points on both Gloucester and Bristol.

So anything can happen tonight. To welcome Pontypool having tried conclusions with both Cardiff and Llanelli may seem little short of masochistic, and we doubt if anyone has had such a tough couple of weeks as Gloucester has, especially if you add Bristol to that trio.

Welcome back 'Pooler'. It doesn't matter who else we play, it's always good to see you.

Thanks to the Skipper

You'd have thought that taking on the Captaincy of Gloucester was quite enough for any man, Not Gordon Sargent, however. In an act which is surely above and beyond the call of duty, he, together with his partner Michael Porter, actually sponsored the Llanelli match. The fact that this generosity wasn't reported in that particular programme doesn't imply inefficiency on anyone's part; it was simply that 'Sarge' didn't make the decision until the last minute, when the programme had already gone to the printer.

The firm of Sargent and Porter operates from 69 Newerne Street, Lydney, and is described as 'Insurance Consultants'. They don't, however, cover the whole spectrum of insurance, preferring to the things they know a bit about, which in this case is life assurance, pension plans and investments.

In this uncertain world, it's only prudent to try to put a bit away for the time when you qualify for a half-price season ticket, and if you're going to ask advice on the subject, it's just as well to entrust your resources to someone you know something about. If Gordon Sargent applies the same sort of control and drive that he does in the front row, then you might consider that he's a good man to talk to on these matters. You'll get him on Dean 41681.

Nearly all in . . .

You might like to know that we have a record list of Patrons, this year, and applications are still coming in. David Foyle is even more delighted to announce that very nearly everyone has now paid. Of those who haven't we know very good reasons in some case — being away from Gloucester, and that sort of thing.

There are still one or two subscriptions outstanding, however, and we'd be extremely grateful if that small thing could be attended to as soon as possible. Just because the Patron's card is no longer valid without a receipt, it doesn't mean that it's too late for the omission to be rectified.

... but nearly too late

It is almost passed time, however, for Members to apply for International tickets. Unless David Foyle gets applications in on Saturday next, they won't be able to be considered.

The number of applications has been very high, this year, so inevitably, someone's going to be disappointed, but if your application isn't filled in and returned — with remittance, please—within the next couple of days, you won't even be in the ball-park. The answer is to get a form from the new Secretary's Office, under the stand. They will be available tonight.

Incidentally, from here on in, all ticket matters — including season tickets and the like — will be attended to from that new Office. This evening, David Foyle will be there himself.

South West v. All Blacks

Just for starters, both Ground and Ground Enclosure tickets for the South and South West v. New Zealand match will be available from that Office this evening.

Patrons Evening

As previously announced, this season's Patrons Evening will be held in the new complex on October 27th. Tickets for that — which are free, of course — can be obtained from the new Office tonight, on production of your Patron's Card.

Incidentally, you have gone along and got your Membership Card for the Social Club haven't you? If not, then John Beaman will have Patrons Evening tickets — I'm told — at the entrance to the Social Club, this evening, so you could attend to both matters at the same time. All Patrons Committee Members have some too.

250 Club

The message from Brian Howells, and his henchman Terry Close, is that the 250 Club is filling up fast, so if you would like to invest a mere £6.50 against the chance of winning considerable beer money, then it's worth seeing one of them right away.

The big draw

You'll remember that the big prize in John Bick's Christmas Draw is a chauffeured limousine trip for two to the England - Wales match, stand tickets and an appropriately filled hamper included.

John Bick could do with some more people to sell tickets for him, and therefore qualify for a chance to win a bottle of Scottish nectar as seller of the winning ticket.

Don't be put off, either, by thoughts that your chances of winning the big prize are fairly slim. There is also a whole range of excellent runner-up prizes, including a voucher for a gourmet meal for two at a well-known Ross-on-Wye hostelry. So, seller or buyer or both — you're in with an excellent chance of some Christmas cheer.

And still they come ... !

Just in case you were thinking that we are about running out of Welsh opposition, after tonight's little argument, I would point out that the next first-team home match is Newbridge, a week tonight, and our old friends/foes from Newport on the following Saturday.

Before that, however, you could take advantage of British Rail's excursion to Paddington which costs £6.50 return, leaves Gloucester at 9.15, and gives you plenty of time to get across, either to Sunbury-on-Thames to watch the County against Surrey, or to Twickenham to watch Gloucester and the enigmatic Harlequins side.

On the other hand, you could stay home, and come along to watch the United take on Richmond.

Congratulations ...

To Messrs Mills (especially), Blakeway, Preedy, Fidler, Orwin, Mogg and Price in making the first County Championship side of the season. There's a few more candidates waiting in the wings too ...

Tailpiece

Quotation from the new City of Gloucester Guide, just published:

"Gloucester Rugby Football Club is famed throughout the world — or at least, wherever two teams of 15 men face each other over an oval ball.

The Club can justifiably claim a pre-eminence among England's Rugby protagonists — and even commands a grudging respect from the Welsh!"

No — you're quite wrong. I didn't write it myself. But I might well have done!

PETER ARNOLD.