



GLoucester RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLoucester v. NEWPORT

Saturday, 15th October, 1983

Kingsholm, Gloucester

kick-off 3.0 p.m.

0160

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

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. G. Mann
	3. R. Phillips
*†	4. S. Boyle
§	5. J. Brain
*	6. P. Wood
	7. D. Spencer
*§	8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS

M. Hannaford

M. Longstaff

NEWPORT

	Full Back
15.	A. Wainfur
	Three Quarters
14.	M. Batten
	13. C. Williams
	12. P. Blight
	11. J. Robinson
	Half Backs
10.	A. Phillips
	9. A. Billingham
	Forwards
	1. J. Rawlins
	2. M. J. Watkins
	3. R. Morgan
	4. J. Widdecombe
	5. D. Walters
	6. D. Fryer
	7. R. Powell
	8. W. Rendall

REPLACEMENTS

C. Watkins

A. Pocock

Referee: J. LOWRY (Notts, Lincs & Derby Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Welcome, neighbour!

Not so long ago, our nearest neighbours, in the rugby sense, were Bristol and Lydney. The Severn Bridge changed all that, and now, if you leave Kingsholm and point your nose vaguely West, then the first major rugby ground you'll pour yourself into is Rodney Road, Newport. So you could almost call tonight's encounter a local derby.

Certainly, games between Newport and Gloucester have always had something of that flavour about them. If, as someone from Pontypool said, last week, Gloucester is the nearest approach to a Welsh club which there is in England, then Newport could claim to be the nearest thing to an English club in Wales.

I don't honestly know whether our visitors would be flattered by that remark, dual qualification, or not, but it would certainly be true to say that there has always been something special about matches between our two clubs, which go back for over a century.

The other piece of evidence, on the local derby theme, is that you can never be sure quite what the result is going to be. Two years ago, when Gloucester were carrying all before them, Gloucester won fairly comprehensively at Kingsholm, by 19-0, but came badly unstuck at Newport, to the tune of 29-10.

Conversely, when we were stuttering, last season, and Newport looked stronger than they had the season before, we only lost by 10 points to 6 at Newport, and held them 12-12, here at home.

So the form book doesn't tell us very much, and as both sides results have been a bit variable this season, so far, the stage seems set for an intriguing drama.

So — as always — welcome Newport. Now let's settle back for Act 1, Scene 1.

Where are you parked?

Sorry to have to start on a somewhat admonitory note, today, but we've had the Law in.

It appears that some supporters haven't been all that considerate about where they leave their cars. In fact, the Police describe it as 'indiscriminate', and they've had complaints from householders around the area.

Let's face it — you wouldn't like it if you couldn't get your car out to come to Kingsholm, or anywhere else for that matter, because someone had parked across your entrance and proceeded to disappear for a couple of hours or more. Now would you?

We know it can be difficult, especially if you've been held up and can't get here until a few minutes from kick-off. We probably have more parking space than most major rugby clubs, but even that can get filled on a big match day, although not very often.

I never come by car, myself, but I have noticed that there has been room in the car park, even on evenings, recently, when we've had very attractive matches.

Perhaps that's one good reason for becoming a Patron. Free car parking.

The last thing we want is trouble with the neighbours, who are usually pretty tolerant of the undoubted disturbance a big crowd can cause. We don't want trouble with the Rozzers, either, and at the moment, they're just giving us a friendly warning. We wouldn't want that to escalate to the point where they have to take some action.

Anyway, if you're going to have a drink or two after the game, it's not a bad idea to leave the car at home, if that's practicable.

Point taken?

Patrons Evening

On Thursday October 27th there are likely to be a fair few cars about too, as our record number of Patrons take advantage of the Patrons Evening, to be held in the new complex. Tickets — free of course — will be available tonight, either from the Office under the main Grandstand, or from Patrons Committee members. On production of your Patron's card, of course.

Thanks Nigel

I haven't had space before now, to comment on the departure of our old friend from Severn Sound, Nigel Dean, who has departed for the greener pastures of Southern Television at Southampton. Knowing Nigel, he'll probably go into withdrawal symptoms at being deprived of his first class rugby, down there.

Nigel has always given us a fair crack of the whip, and at least had the virtue of appearing to watch the same game as I did, which can't always be said about pressmen. (Sorry, Peter West — didn't mean you!).

We've always been happy about the coverage that Severn Sound has given us, and we're grateful to them for that. Nigel Dean was responsible in large measure for the excellent relationship which has grown up between our two organisations, and we wish him well in his new venture.

I do notice that Anne Stogdale has been doing some of the sports bulletins lately. Hope she comes along. It would be nice to see a lady in the press box, and we don't suppose she'd learn any words she doesn't know.

Train to Gosforth

We now have details about the special train to the County game against Northumberland on next Saturday, October 22nd. As follows:

Leaves Gloucester station at 6.52 a.m. Cheltenham 7.01. Arrives Newcastle 11.30 a.m. You then have to catch the Metro to Gosforth — takes about 15 minutes, and there's one every 5 minutes or so.

You then have a walk of about 5 minutes to the ground.

Coming back, the train leaves Newcastle at 5 minutes past 5, gets to Cheltenham at about 9.16, where you have to change to get to Gloucester.

The fare is £9.00, and British Rail tell us that advance booking is necessary — you won't be able to pay on Saturday morning. Worth remembering that — it would be a shame to stagger out of bed in the middle of the night, get to the station at about quarter to seven, and then find you can't get on the train.

As for tickets — I just don't know. Ask David Foyle, or listen for announcements on the loudspeaker.

Recap

There are several things I have reported lately, and don't particularly want to hammer away at to the point of boredom. Here's a brief summary to jog your memory.

Patrons — have you paid up yet?

Christmas draw — trip to Twickers for England and Wales game as top prize. Lots of other goodies too. John Bick is looking for ticket sellers, who could win a bottle of Caledonian Nectar.

Have you obtained your Social Club Membership card yet? If not, you could go home thirsty.

250 Club — still vacancies for them as likes a flutter.

Take a breather

Today is our last game in the string of very hard fixtures we've had at home since early in the season. Next Saturday we're away to Clifton, but, of course, the County are trying conclusions with Northumberland, and that's no doddle, with ten Gosforth men playing on their own patch.

In rapid succession after that, we have Oxford University, Glamorgan Wanderers, Rosslyn Park, the unbeaten South Wales Police and Cheltenham, all at home.

Meanwhile, you could do a lot worse, on October 26th, than to come along and watch the Colts in action. Always worth a visit.

Tailpiece

It's a terrible thing when we hear of a player being seriously injured in a rugby match, and the news that Gloucester Old Boys, Dave Gribble will probably never walk again will strike a chord with all of us who have ever stepped on a rugby field. Doctors can be wrong, and we fervently hope they are this time.

The thoughts and sympathies of all rugby people — not least, here at Kingsholm — go out to Dave and his family, and we should also spare a moment for his Old Boys colleagues who were playing with him, and for the Wootton Bassett lads who were playing against him, and to whom no shadow of blame attaches.

I was very interested to read that a Dave Gribble fund is being set up, and that several local clubs are to run events to support it. No more than I would have expected from our rugby community, actually.

I don't know which other clubs or individuals are concerned, but perhaps I could take this opportunity to offer any help I can give, either with my typewriter, or otherwise. Anyone who wants to get in touch can get me on Gloucester 68726.

PETER ARNOLD.