



GLoucester RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLoucester v. LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGES

Wednesday, 30th November, 1983

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

The Winner of today's
Official
Programme
Draw will
receive £5 from

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GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

	Full Back
15.	P. Ford
	Three Quarters
14.	D. Morgan
*§	13. R. Mogg
*	12. P. Taylor
*	11. N. Price
	Half Backs
	10. M. Hamlin
§	9. S. Baker
	Forwards
*†	1. G. Sargent (Capt.)
	2. K. White
	3. R. Phillips
*†	4. S. Boyle
*†	5. J. Fidler
*§	6. J. Gadd
	7. I. Smith
*§	8. M. Teague
	REPLACEMENTS
	R. Wilmott
	P. Wood

LOUGHBOROUGH COLL.

	Full Back
15.	W. Hayward
	Three Quarters
14.	I. MacMillian
13.	S. Burnhill
12.	C. Allen
11.	S. Reid
	Half Backs
10.	D. Llewellyn
9.	C. Williams
	Forwards
1.	M. Frear
2.	A. Rogerson
3.	M. Hayes
4.	S. Heaven
5.	J. Morrison
6.	J. Wells (Capt.)
7.	D. Johnstone
8.	N. Castleton
	REPLACEMENTS
	A. Buchanan-Smith
	N. Blofeld

Referee: C. LEEKE (E. Midlands Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



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Loughborough — having to make do for two

One of the features of this part of the season — in my opinion, anyway — is the close proximity of the games against the two 'College' sides who do so much to promote the game, and, incidentally, are always likely to produce a future star or two. It looks likely that the importance of these two matches will increase, as time goes on, bearing in mind the relative decline of 'Oxbridge' rugby.

Unhappily, our old friends from Exeter University were deprived of their run-out at Kingsholm by last week's brass chimpanzee weather, which produced a playing surface hard enough to play snooker on. This means that we shall be looking to the Loughborough lads to show us what college rugby is made of, this season, without the aid of their traditional rivals from the West Country.

The fact that Loughborough tends to come in second on these occasions is less important than the style and enthusiasm they bring to the game. Sure — they lost 35-3 last season, (Exeter University held us to 16-10), and 34-0 the season before that, but we all thoroughly enjoyed the game, on both occasions.

In a season when Oxford University has decided that they're not really good enough to give us a game any more — and we're all sorry about that — this match becomes more important. Long may the fixture continue.

So, as always, we wish our fit young visitors from way out East the very heartiest of welcomes. We hope they enjoy their post-graduate course in the gentle art of rucking and mauling, and that, equally, they have a good time in our new complex afterwards.

As I was saying

. . . . before I was so rudely interrupted by such incidentals as frost and the County Semi Final, we have a couple of good matches to look forward to, in the very near future. We're away to Leicester on Saturday, of course, but next Wednesday Ebbw Vale will be arriving, full of sound and fury, and wanting to show that their defeat by Cheltenham, a week or two ago, was a mere momentary lapse of concentration.

Then, on Saturday, December 10th, we have one of the most attractive propositions of the whole season when Bath make their annual visit. You'll probably remember that last season's game resulted in a 7-7 draw, and had quite a bit to do with the fact that Gloucester isn't in the John Player this season. They can certainly make a claim to be the leading club in England, at the moment, even including Leicester, so it's a game you won't want to miss.

Of course, if you can't wait until next Wednesday, without going into withdrawal symptoms, and you can't make the trip to Leicester, then a visit to Kingsholm won't go unrewarded on Saturday, when the United take on their equivalents from Leicester.

Why don't you do just that?

Just a few left

Talking about Leicester, when I walked into the bar, last Saturday, I was greeted by the news that there were just about a dozen seats left on the Social Club coach. That was before the game, so some of them will have gone, but you might just board the coach if you get on your bike — if you see what I mean.

'Twickers' in March

We must give all our congratulations to the County for reaching the County Final yet again, even if the one-point margin did terrible things to finger nails and various coronaries, around the ground.

For years we've been saying that the old South West Group was by far the toughest of them all, a fact evinced by the number of times that Gloucestershire squeaked through by the odd decimal point, and then didn't raise a sweat in getting to the Final. Now, with Somerset joining us at Twickenham, the point has surely been proved.

Should be quite a West Country occasion, and quite a match. Bath v. Gloucester and Bristol at Twickenham? There's a thought for you.

The Winners!

Bob Clewes always was quick off the mark, and he's demonstrated that again by becoming one of the first winners of the season in the 250 Club Draw — which should now, I suppose, be more properly described as the '300 Club'. Here is the full list of lucky winners:

£25 — L. G. Tovey, No. 287

£10 — W. Spire, No. 112

£10 — R. Clewes, No. 36

£10 — P. James, No. 274

£10 — G. W. Bearman, No. 158

I don't wish to add a note of dissension into such a happy announcement, but Brian Howells tells me that one or two people who hold numbers haven't yet been able to find the time to hand over their £6.50.

We know the money will show up, of course, but fair's fair, and anyone who doesn't see Brian, or Terry Close, or any other member of the 250 Club committee and do the necessary, won't be in the next draw — which is less than a month away. And that could be an expensive omission.

Don't get worried!

The recent spate of ticket negotiations has, to David Foyle's relief now come to an end. The relative lateness of England's games at Tickenham this season means that those tickets will not be issued until after Christmas, so if you've made an application and not yet heard anything, don't worry—it's early days yet.

Andy has taken a flyer!

One very familiar face will be missing from the Press Box, from here on in, Andrew Wise, of the 'Citizen' has left us, after, would you believe, a three-and-a-half year stint

You may remember that Andy became the first 'full time' rugby reporter after the sad loss of dear old Arthur Russell, who was my predecessor in writing these scribblings, so to that extent, we are contemporaries.

Personally, I always thought that Andy was a concise, accurate reporter, and although I have been known to say rude things about various press reports in these programmes, you never heard me complaining about Andrew Wise's literary efforts. We disagreed sometimes — of course — but never on the basics. Andrew always concentrated on the game, and not on the more sensational aspects which seem to bedevil all sports reporting these days.

So what's Andy doing? Of all things, he's joined the RAF, and has departed for Officer Training at Cranwell. When I spoke to him about it, he told me that he intends to 'get stuck in' to all the sports he can, during his RAF career — a nugget of information which will gladden the heart of one senior RAF officer, who is a Patron, is probably in the Stand now, and who is very much involved with the organisation of both the RAF and Combined Services sides. And don't forget — Andy is a fair cricketer too.

I hope some one sends a copy of this programme to Andrew Wise, because I would like him to know that he will always be welcome at Kingsholm.

Bad luck Gaddy!

I can't let this first opportunity pass without congratulating England on their win over New Zealand, and by saying 'bad luck!' to those Gloucester regulars who must have thought they were in with a chance of making the side.

That particularly applies to John Gadd, of course. He's always turned up trumps, whenever Selectors have called on him, and must, in Colin Jeavons' absence, have been greatly disappointed at not being given his first full Cap.

I suppose all we can say is tell John to keep his head down, keep plugging on, and wait for his chance to come again. Which it most assuredly will.

Big day for big draw

John Bick tells us that the Christmas Draw winners will be decided on Friday, December 16th, when the draw will actually take place, so that's when you'll know whether you're aboard that limousine for the England v. Wales match.

The state of fixtures being what they are, that means that John would like all outstanding money and unsold tickets, counterfoils etc. to be handed in on or by the evening of the Ebbw Vale game, that is next Wednesday, December 7th. So you still have time to buy — or sell — a few more.

Tailpiece

Did you note that, out of the four sides which contested the County Semi Finals, only three players played in the England v. All Black game? And one of those only came on as a replacement.

Makes you think.

PETER ARNOLD.