



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

## GLOUCESTER v. LYDNEY

Monday, 26th December, 1983

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

The Winner of today's  
Official Programme 366  
Draw will  
receive £5 from

**Tyre Sales**  
Tyre Sales (B'ham) Ltd.  
KINGSHOLM RD

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 20p



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### GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back	
15.	P. Ford
Three Quarters	
14.	D. Morgan
13.	C. Dyke
* 12.	P. Taylor
* 11.	N. Price
Half Backs	
10.	M. Hamlin
9.	R. Wilmott
Forwards	
*§ 1.	M. Preedy
2.	K. White
* 3.	R. Pascall
§ 4.	J. Brain
*† 5.	S. Boyle
*§ 6.	J. Gadd
7.	I. Smith
8.	L. Cummins
REPLACEMENTS	
T. Smith	
P. Wood *	

### LYDNEY

Full Back	
* 15.	I. Wilkins
Three Quarters	
14.	M. Howells
* 13.	J. Saville
12.	K. Price
* 11.	A. Richards
Half Backs	
* 10.	C. Price
* 9.	P. Howell (Capt.)
Forwards	
1.	R. Trafford
* 2.	P. Price
* 3.	A. Brooks
4.	J. Weech
* 5.	C. Martin
* 6.	K. Davis
7.	P. Jones
8.	A. Elley
REPLACEMENTS	
A. Howell	
R. Davis	

Referee: D. MATTHEWS (Liverpool Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

\* County



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### **Keeping it in the Family**

Boxing Day is the occasion when we all emerge, like hibernating hedgehogs, from the pit of over-indulgence that we happily dig for ourselves each year. Stomachs tend to be unsteady, heads a little larger than usual, and there tends to be a craving for an honest-to-God pint, rather than the strange and wonderful potions we have been assimilating over the last couple of days.

Boxing Day also tends to be the day when families get together, and in rugby terms, surely, the nearest approach to that sort of occasion is the game between Gloucester and Lydney.

Indeed, so many players have been trekking backwards and forwards over Westgate Bridge, over the past few years, that the relationship is almost incestuous.

So it's good to see the chaps from 'down the road', especially as Lydney gracefully stood aside, on Boxing Day last year, to allow us to re-stage an even older tradition, when Old Merchant Tailors came along as part of their Centenary celebrations.

No doubt, this game will be less of a seasonal romp than that one was. No team should take Lydney lightly, as Sale found out last season, and as we profoundly hope a few others will during the course of this year's Cup campaign. I well remember that, two years ago, although Gloucester beat them 27-7 at Kingsholm, we were hard pushed to hold on at Lydney, and if 'Bumble' Jones had not had his kicking boots on, there would have been what the press would inevitably have called one of the 'shock results of the season'.

Last season saw a similar story. Although Gloucester won handily enough at Kingsholm (having already lost to Stroud), Lydney beat a struggling Cherry-and-White side by the odd point in 13 in the return fixture.

So we're very happy that normal Boxing Day service has been resumed. We hope that the Lydney contingent have a seasonably good time, and that everyone enjoys themselves, thoroughly.

Just one thought crosses my mind. If Lydney win today, we won't dare show our faces around Berry Hill for months!

### **And for our next trick . . .**

. . . the whole team is going to disappear to Bridgend next Saturday which seems a great way to work off the remains of the cold Christmas pudding.

Work it off, they'll have to, because next Monday, January 2nd, the traditional match against Moseley takes place. That's one that none of us will wish to miss, and it's a great way to round off the Festive Season.

That game sees the start of quite a tough period for the boys. After a visit to London Scottish on January 7th — always easy to come unstuck there — we shall all be here to see what Leicester can manage at Kingsholm on January 14th. That's followed by the visit of Wasps the week after, and you won't need telling that they are very much a team to be reckoned with, this season (I believe there's no truth in the rumour that the Dalai Lama is joining them).

And talking of Wasps, if you would like to come along on January 7th, while the Firsts are away to London Scottish, you could get a preview of the Senior game by watching the United take on their counterparts from Sudbury. Which might well be worth watching.

So the New Year looks to be starting with the proverbial bang. See you along the way.

### **A rose by any other name . . .**

For the half-dozen or so of you who weren't here last Saturday, (seems weeks ago, doesn't it?) it's worth repeating the lucky Winners of the Club's Grand Christmas Draw — the first three of them, anyway.

First of all, the Mr. P. Arnold who won the First Prize wasn't me, so there isn't much point in plying me with refreshment, in the hope that I will donate you with the second ticket for the luxury limousine trip for two to the England v. Wales encounter at Twickenham.



I suspect that Mr. Greedy, (unfortunate name for a chap who's just won a magnificent meal for two at a local hostelry), would say much the same. He's probably got someone much better looking, that the average Kingsholm regular, already sorted out to share his good fortune with him.

At least Mrs. McKay can keep her nice new transistor radio to herself, with all our good wishes.

The Club's thanks go to John Bick, for organising the whole thing, which, as anyone who has ever tried to handle anything similar will know, isn't as easy as it looks. John, in turn, would like to thank everyone who sold tickets for him, and therefore ensured a very satisfactory financial outcome for the Club.

#### **New way in**

A major innovation such as our new complex, must have its teething problems, and the one which has become fairly obvious over the first few months, is the way you get in and out of the place.

As from now, therefore, we're trying something different. The entrance will now be via the double doors leading from the ground into the Social Club lounge bar. This will avoid the hike around the stand to get in, and will also mean that anyone wants to go from the Social Club to the complex, or vice versa, won't have to trot all the way round the car park to do so.

Worth trying. We'll see how it works out.

#### **Bridgend coach**

As I said earlier, we're away to Bridgend, next Saturday, and the Social Club is running a coach. The Christmas holidays have, as you might expect, got in the way of normal printing arrangements, which meant that this programme has had to be prepared earlier than usual, so I'm not sure how many seats are left, although they were going well last time I heard.

Of course, that's New Year's Eve, so most people will have their local celebrations to attend. Not to worry — the coach will leave Kingsholm at 11.30, giving time for a noggin before the game, and will leave Bridgend promptly at 6.30, so there will be plenty of time to get back to Gloucester and see the New Year in, in your usual way.

To be quite honest, I forget whether they told me the price was £3.00 or £3.50, but it's a fair old offer, either way.

#### **The Dave Gribble Game**

There's a very special game, here, on Sunday, January 8th. It's for the Fund set up in aid of Dave Gribble, who so tragically, broke his neck while playing for Gloucester Old Boys Seconds against Wotton Bassett.

John Watkins has got together an International side to play the Old Boys on that date. Naturally, he'll be playing himself, and he's to be joined by the likes of Andy Ripley, Chris Ralston, and John Horton. I think it's magnificent of such people to travel all the way to Gloucester to take part.

Being Sunday, admission will be by programme only, costing £1.00, and Norman Partridge tells me that supplies of such programmes are available through most local rugby clubs.

It should be a super occasion. And you couldn't have a better cause to support.

#### **Tailpiece**

Did you notice that Treorchy had three blokes sent off in their Welsh Cup match against Cardiff? Terry Tandy suggests that there must have been an early choir practice, that night.

PETER ARNOLD.