



# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

## GLOUCESTER v. MOSELEY

Monday, 2nd January, 1984

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

The Winner of today's  
Official  
Programme 0035  
Draw will  
receive £5 from

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### 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. G. Sargent (Capt.)
*†	2. S. Mills
*†	3. P. Blakeway
*	4. J. Orwin
*†	5. J. Fidler
*§	6. J. Gadd
	7. D. Spencer
*§	8. M. Teague
	REPLACEMENTS
	K. White
	R. Wilmott

### MOSELEY

	Full Back
15.	I. Metcalfe
	Three Quarters
14.	S. Hunter
13.	C. Smith
12.	R. Holman
11.	J. Goodwin
	Half Backs
10.	M. Perry
9.	G. Viney
	Forwards
1.	M. Head
2.	G. Cox (Capt.)
3.	P. Gisborne
4.	R. Tuckwood
5.	A. Racardo
6.	R. Barr
7.	D. Warren
8.	P. Lockyer
	REPLACEMENTS
	A. Parsons
	C. Black

Referee: G. SEDDON (Manchester Society)

† International

§ Under 23 International

\* County



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### **And a Happy New Year to you, too!**

This New Year game — indeed, any game — against Moseley, has become something a bit special in recent years. I suppose one thinks of the year that North Midlands, largely composed of Moseley players, (including Les Cusworth, then), thrashed Gloucestershire at The Reddings, on the Saturday, came, in the guise of Moseley, to Kingsholm two days later, on the Bank Holiday, and got beaten in a cracker of a match.

Of course, we don't forget that much maligned John Player Cup Final, two years ago, when only the committed would have bet on Moseley, but they came away with an honourable draw. I've never subscribed to the widely-expressed view that that game was a stinker. Hard it may have been, spectacular it probably wasn't but it was a good game, nevertheless.

In fact, today's visitors had already come in second to Gloucester, twice during that season, the scores being 19-6 during December, and 27-21 on New Year's Day. Last year, Gloucester won 15-13 at Kingsholm, and drew 9-9 at Moseley, so you could say that things were a bit tight.

This year's results auger well for a good game this afternoon. Moseley registered a good win over Bristol, a week or two ago and you won't need reminding that Bristol then went on to beat Leicester at Leicester. On the Saturday before Christmas, while Gloucester were comprehensively taking care of their old rivals, Coventry, Moseley were putting 24 points on Bedford. So anything could happen today.

Just one disturbing thought. Gloucester are scheduled to play Moseley at The Reddings on March 31st. Which is County Final day. Oh dear.

Anyway, Moseley are very welcome to Kingsholm, as they always have been. There has never been a weak Moseley side, in my memory, and it doesn't look likely that there will be. Have a good time chaps. And we hope your rugby at both ends of 1984 is exactly what you would want it to be.

### **Just hold your horses!**

Terry Tandy tells me that David Foyle and he are already being besieged by enquiries about County Final tickets, which looks hopeful for the level of support which Gloucestershire are likely to get at Twickenham. He asks me to tell you that arrangements are in hand, but that nothing is really decided yet. As soon as we know just what is going to happen, don't worry, we will soon let you know about it, by one means or another. Anyway, I can't imagine there will be much difficulty in getting hold of tickets, remembering the game is at Twickenham.

### **The Dave Gribble Game**

You probably won't have forgotten that we have a special extra attraction for you on Sunday, January 8th, in aid of the Dave Gribble Fund.

Dave, you will remember, had the tragic misfortune to break his neck, playing for Gloucester Old Boys Seconds against Wotton Bassett, early in the season. Your entrance money will therefore be very well spent.

The game consists of an Old Boys XV against an International side organised by John Watkins. I hear that everyone John approached to play gave an immediate and unequivocal 'Yes' to the invitation, and when you consider that includes such stars as Andy Ripley and Chris Ralston, coming all the way from London, and Dave Trick and John Horton from Bath — not to mention the evergreen Alan Morely from Bristol — that says a lot for the spirit which exists in Rugby Union Football.

Old Boys Secretary, Norman Partridge tells me that programmes are available from all local rugby clubs, and will also be on sale at £1.00 in the Social Club, today. At that price, you could afford to buy more than one, surely.

If you don't get yours today, you could also buy one by dropping in to Norman Partridge's office, on the corner of Clarence Street, or at Beacham and Harris, in the same building.

Norman also asks me to give public thanks from the Old Boys to the Gloucester club in providing the use of Kingsholm, and enabling them to sell programmes, and to Johnny Watkins for so readily agreeing to take on the onerous task of getting a side together, worthy of the occasion.



### **In two weeks — the Big One!**

The next First Team home game will be the visit of Leicester on January 14th. Several of the players have told me that they consider themselves desperately unlucky to have lost at Leicester and that they intend to put things right at Kingsholm, so I'm sure you won't want to miss that occasion.

The Saturday after that sees some visitors who, on the record, look to be just as difficult to beat as Leicester. Indeed, at the time of writing, Wasps are said to be the only unbeaten English First Class side, this season. But then, they haven't played Gloucester yet.

On Saturday next, the lads are away to London Scottish, but you could, perhaps, get an idea of the comparative strengths of Wasps and Gloucester, in depth, by coming along on Saturday, to see United take on their opposite numbers from that famous club.

Well — it's better than being dragged round the January sales.

### **When one door closes . . .**

. . . another opens, so they say. In this case, it's the entrance to the Social Club lounge bar, leading directly off the ground. This is now being used as the way into the new complex, thus saving the trek around the stand, or the trudge along the car park, if you want to switch from the Clubhouse to the complex.

The same arrangements about who and when can gain admission to the complex obviously still apply, but the new system should make intercourse (if you'll pardon the expression) between the two organisations quite a bit easier.

### **Thanks for 1983**

This is a good time to say thanks to quite a lot of people who do so much for the Club, and some of whom, you probably don't even notice.

I'm thinking of the people who keep the pitch up to scratch. The team who clear up litter. The lads on the turnstiles, and who sell programmes. The chaps, and girls, behind the bars. The brave souls who wash kit, provide nosh for the players, clean up the clubhouse etc.

And, of course, our old friends from St. John Ambulance, who can always be relied upon to give excellent service, whenever it is required.

At that, I've probably forgotten someone important, but if so, please put it down to incompetence rather than malice.

We couldn't manage without any of these good-hearted people. They contribute so greatly to the Kingsholm scene, that no thanks are really quite enough. We hope they all have a cracker of a 1984.

### **Tailpiece**

This is the time for New Year resolutions. May I make a few suggestions?

JOHN ORWIN — Never tackle anyone without saying "Excuse me!", and tugging your forelock to the Ref.

THE ENGLAND SELECTORS — Each night, before you go to sleep, repeat 20 times, "I will not ignore Gloucestershire."

RUGBY SPECIAL — Remember not to screen Maesteg v. Abercynan, when Gloucester are playing Coventry, and Bristol are playing Leicester.

THE MAIL ON SUNDAY — Forget the phrase 'ten man rugby', when Gloucester score three tries, all scored by three-quarters.

And me? My New Year's resolution is to stop saying rude things about Selectors, the Rugby Football Union, London referees, and Welsh lock forwards. And that's likely to last just about as long as most such Resolutions do.

PETER ARNOLD.