



GLoucester RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

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GLoucester v. AUCKLAND

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Tuesday, 14th February, 1984

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

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MATCH SPONSOR
THIS EVENING



GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. P. Webb

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. R. Pascall

* 4. J. Orwin

*† 5. J. Fidler

*§ 6. J. Gadd

7. D. Spencer

*§ 8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS:

S. Parsloe*, M. Pready*§, R. Willmott,
S. Boyle*†, K. White, J. Brain§

AUCKLAND

Blue & White

Full Back

15. L. Harris (Waitemata)

Three Quarters

14. J. Kirwan (Marist)

13. J. Stanley (Ponsonby)

12. H. Matapo (Ponsonby)

11. G. Cunningham (North Shore)

Half Backs

10. G. Fox (University)

9. T. Burcher (University)/

G. McCurrach (Ponsonby)

Forwards

1. J. Borich (Marist)

2. I. Abercrombie (Takapuna)

3. J. Drake (University)

4. A. Hayden (Ponsonby)

5. G. Whetton (Grammar)

6. A. Whetton (Grammar)

7. A. Harvey (Takapuna)

8. G. Rich (Suburbs)

REPLACEMENTS from:

R. Fry (Univ.); G. Dickson (Univ.)
J. Collinson (Univ.); P. Bevin (Univ.);
S. Fitzpatrick (Univ.)

Referee: A. RICHARDS (Wales)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

No hearts and flowers

It may be St. Valentine's Day, but tonight's celebration looks about as likely to conform to the usual image as did that other fixture, 55 years ago, when a side coached by a Mr. Alphonse Capone took apart B. Moran's team in Chicago.

No tommy guns will be in evidence this evening — although they would provide one means of coping with a pack likely to Contain Messrs. Haden and Whetton.

At the time of writing, Auckland have just put 30 points on Swansea, which, following wins over the French sides, Bezier and La Rochelle, must surely put paid to any impression that their tour is one of those Rugby safaris, more notable for pints than punts.

O course, tonight's distinguished visitors are by no means the first New Zealand side to grace Kingsholm in recent times. You may well remember that the 1972/3 All Blacks started their tour here, comprehensively beating the Western Counties side, which was almost Gloucestershire under a different banner.

On the other hand, Gloucester did a good job of demolishing the Taranaki team, here, a few seasons ago. Auckland, however represents a different dimension of New Zealand Rugby, and any side which can beat the Lions — even with Steve Boyle playing — must be expected to provide y'r average English Club side more than a stern challenge.

However, Gloucester at Kingsholm are not an average Club side, and rugby being the odd game it is, anything can happen, and quite often does.

We're honoured to have you here, Auckland. Don't take any notice of what the lads at Twickenham say — THIS is where you come to learn about English rugby, the blokes who play it, and the characters who support it. We hope you have a whale of a time finding that out for yourselves. And we hope that the British section of your tour has been as memorable as you have made St. Valentines Night 1984 for us.

Welcome APD Insulations!

A special game deserves a special Sponsor, and what could be more appropriate than to welcome one of the largest and most respected UK companies in their field, tonight of all nights?

Most people will have heard of APD Insulations, probably under their trade name, 'Sparplas', but it could well come as something of a surprise to learn that they have now been operating for ten years.

The whole thing started, in 1974, when husband and wife team, Martin and Christine Hancock, started selling Aluminium patio doors. When UPVC windows and doors became available from the Continent, the company was one of the first in the UK to appreciate the potential advantages and benefits to the user.

1977/8, a whole restructuring and expansion programme got under way, and the first branch was opened — in our own Westgate Street, where it still is.

Nowadays, APD supply UPVC windows, doors and patio doors to developers, architects and other specifiers, as well as providing the Sparplas range to householders. They also supply to smaller companies in the same field, and sell UPVC profiles to some 15 fabricators all over the UK.

There are now 10 Sparplas branches, around Central and Southern England, and it's remarkable that their eminence and reputation in the trade, has been achieved, largely, in a mere 6 years.

We're very grateful for their generosity in sponsoring tonight's great event, and we hope that, together with their guests, they have as enjoyable an evening as we intend to.

Friday, this week

Do you realise that it is exactly a month ago, if you go by the date, that we last had a first-team game at Kingsholm? You could be pardoned for going into withdrawal symptoms, having lost Wasps, to the frost, Sale to the John Player, and Bristol to the bog, all in rapid succession.

However, you won't have to wait until Saturday, this week, to come along again. On Friday evening we entertain Nottingham, who don't always get the publicity, but aren't a bad side at all.

You could say much the same sort of thing about Liverpool, who arrive on the following Saturday. Not being an International day, I suppose that Mike Slemen will most likely be here, and he's always worth watching, whether he's in the England side or not.

I haven't yet heard if the Bristol game has been rearranged or not, but there will be announcements, by the usual methods, when there's something to tell you.

Now we know

By the time you read this, we'll know the England side. At the moment, I don't know if any congratulations are in order or not. The ways of Selectors are frequently like the Peace of God — they passeth all understanding; but surely to goodness, after the Murrayfield experience, one or two of our lads deserve a crack of the whip.

The annoying thing about the Scotland match was that England lost in exactly the way that most of us feared they might. By now, we'll know if the Selectors agree with us.

County Final

Things having now been sorted out, tickets for the County Final on March 31st will be available shortly. We don't know about prices, but there could even be an announcement about that aspect tonight.

Terry Tandy is keen that you do get your tickets via the Club rather than waiting until you get to 'Twickers', because, quite frankly, we do get a cut of the revenue, and it's a case of 'any to come, glad of it'.

The Social Club will (naturally), be running coaches — however many it takes, and British Rail (whom God preserve) are, of course, running a train.

More detail as it emerges.

Thanks to Moseley

While, as I say, there is no news yet about a revised date for the submerged Bristol game, and it looks very unlikely that we shall be able to rearrange the brass-monkeyed Wasps match, I can give you some information about yet another change of date.

We were due to visit Moseley on March 31st, which is, of course, the date of the Gloucestershire v. Somerset Final.

It has now been decided to play that game on the following Wednesday, which is April 4th, and will give you nice time to sober up between returning from Twickenham, and setting off for the Reddings.

It's especially pleasing to record that this suggestion came, initially, from the Moseley club: not so much in order to give us free rein to go to the County Final, but because they would much prefer to entertain the full Gloucester XV.

If there are any Moseley supporters here, this evening, (and there well may be), please relay our thanks to your highly respected club.

Got your Membership Card?

I hope you've got your Social Club Membership Card with you this evening, because if not, you'll have problems getting into the Clubhouse after the game. You probably assumed that, anyway, and I'm sorry that the various cancellations haven't given me a chance to warn you of it beforehand.

Tailpiece

Talking of the England side, did you notice that Kevin White took five strikes off Peter Wheeler, a few weeks ago?

That's probably what's known as a White-wash.

PETER ARNOLD.