

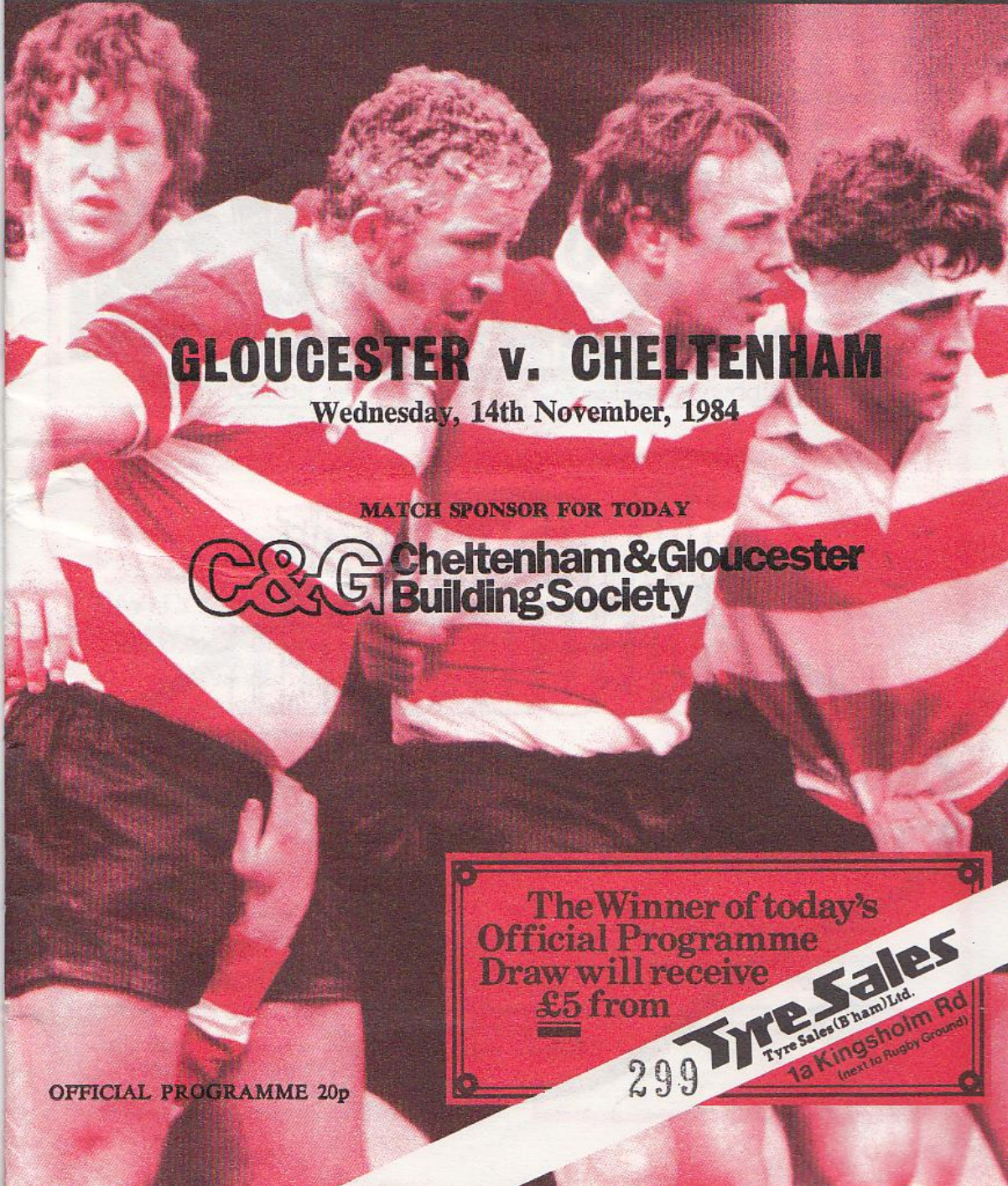


FOUNDED 1873

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Kingsholm

PRESIDENT: CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.



GLOUCESTER v. CHELTENHAM

Wednesday, 14th November, 1984

MATCH SPONSOR FOR TODAY

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester
Building Society

The Winner of today's
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C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back
15. P. Ford

Three Quarters
14. D. Morgan
13. C. Dyke
12. D. Pointon
11. J. Breeze

Half Backs
10. M. Evans
9. R. Wood

Forwards
† 1. G. Sargent
2. G. Mann
3. R. Pascall
4. J. Orwin (Capt.)
5. J. Brain
6. J. Bennett
7. I. Smith
8. L. Cummins

REPLACEMENTS

M. Hamlin
D. Burn

CHELTENHAM

Full Back
15. P. Boyle

Three Quarters
14. M. Withecombe
13. A. Kitching
12. P. Keegan
11. M. Rafferty

Half Backs
10. C. Williamson
9. J. Little

Forwards
1. A. Tornoniak
2. S. Everall
3. N. Smart (Capt.)
4. P. Geenty
5.
6. P. Ahern
7. M. Doulton
8. C. Scott

REPLACEMENTS

M. Pope
M. Cotter

Referee: A. REAY (Bristol Society)

† International

Good luck to one special team from another!



Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire



When you've got friends and neighbours . . .

" . . . the world is a happier place," the song says, and I don't see why the adage shouldn't apply as much to Rugby Clubs as to domestic arrangements.

Certainly, the Gloucester season would not be the same without the visit of Cheltenham, who have been coming to Kingsholm just about as long as the ground has been here, Tonight's visitors may not immediately spring to mind as imminent challengers for the status of the Leicesters and Cardiffs of this world, but that does not mean that they aren't at least as welcome as any team you can think of.

I've said before that when two sides are based as closely together as Cheltenham and Gloucester, the form book isn't necessarily a reliable guide to the results between them. Although Cheltenham are going through one of their leaner periods, there are signs that brighter days may not be so far away.

I'm told, for example, that Cheltenham United are showing some very encouraging results, and in that context, you'll remember that, while our own United are gorging themselves on points won from such sides as Swansea, Pontypool and Bristol, they had to try hard to come away from Cheltenham with a 10-6 win.

Be that as it may, many of us value our games against local opposition. If the much-discussed league ever materialises, I hope it doesn't lead to the exclusion of such fixtures. Such an eventuality would, I am sure, do no good to the game at all.

So it's 'Welcome Cheltenham' once again. And I hope we have the pleasure of saying the same thing for many seasons to come.

Players' Disco on Saturday

Just to remind you that this is your last-but-one chance to buy tickets for the Players' Disco next Saturday evening in the Complex. The tickets cost a miserly £1.50, and the whole thing should be quite a knees-up.

If you fancy indulging yourself in a fling with the lads, then Jeremy Bennett will be happy to take your money — but for that matter, any of the players will gladly accommodate you.

Man — even if he happens to be a prop forward — does not live on Rugby alone, and it will be interesting to see if the boys are as nippy on the dance floor as they are on the Sacred Turf.

Thanks to C & G

Tonight sees the first leg of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society's Rugby Double. As far as I know, they are the only Sponsors who support home and away matches between the same two clubs.

This isn't the first time that tonight's benefactors have operated in this way, of course, but that only makes us the more grateful for their continuing generosity.

There seems to be some controversy as to whether C & G are now the eleventh or twelfth-largest building society in Britain, but either way, it's a good record, and the Society could certainly argue a case for being the most successful and go-ahead in their field, over the past few years.

Big they may be, Impersonal, they are not. You may be aware that they are active in several ways in the local community, and you've probably seen their Fun Buses and the Home Check Safety Scheme van that tours the area regularly. In Gloucester, we're particularly grateful to them for preserving the Tudor Room on the first floor of their Westgate Street branch. It is surely the most beautiful room in the City, and C & G have gone to considerable lengths to keep it that way.

But their most recent headline grabber has been their successful tender to take a long lease on the ground floor of the Guildhall, the receipts from which will finance the City Council's intended centralisation of its scattered offices in the Docks. This should be good for the ratepayer, and at the same time, act as a stimulus for the Dock Redevelopment.

I've had the privilege of seeing their first drawings of how they intend to treat the Guildhall area, and I must say, I am impressed. Diehard Gloucesterians — of whom I count myself one — needn't have any fears about the sensitivity with which they intend to treat the building. Indeed, if all goes as planned, you'll be able to see far more of the dear old place than you can at present.

So thanks again to C & G, and particularly to our valued Patron, Peter Bicknell who is hosting tonight's effort. Not that he wouldn't have been here anyway . . .

Two weeks to go!

Brian Howells slipped me a note the other evening asking me to remind you that the 300 Club's first draw of the season takes place on November 30th, which is only just over two weeks away.

There are still a few numbers left, and you could still be winner on that first occasion, if you join now. Brian will be in the bar after the game, and indeed, he and other members of his committee would be glad to see you any night in the clubhouse.

As Brian says "if you don't join, you can't win!" and let's face it, a little windfall about now wouldn't half help out with the Christmas expenses!

Christmas comes but once a year . . .

And when it does, it brings Christmas raffles. That being so, you might turn your attention to the Club's Christmas Draw, which is imminent. If you take a look on the Clubhouse notice board, you will find a list of prizes which looks as if it's a refugee from stocktaking at Asda. With a list of that length, your chances of winning must be improved enormously.

See John Beaman.

Broughton Park next

For our next trick, we are entertaining Broughton Park on Saturday. They had an excellent season, last year, and it will be nice to see how Manchester Rugby is faring, these days.

One week tonight, we have the first of our pair of 'academic' games, when Exeter University are here, followed by Loughborough Colleges, one week after that.

United are next displaying their wares at home on November 24th, when the opposition is to be provided by London Irish. That, however, is the day of the County Semi Final, which could, I suppose, upset things. Tell you more when someone tells me.

Congratulations to the Counties

I can't let this first opportunity slip without congratulating both Gloucestershire and Yorkshire for the superb exhibition they staged here last Saturday. Even such a well-qualified observer as Richard Sharp was moved to write that it was the finest County match he'd seen.

I do wish the entire panel of England Selectors, indeed, the whole of the Twickenham hierarchy had been here to see it. It was a magnificent advertisement for County Rugby, and would have shown them where to look for England talent, without having to resort to such artificial expedients as Divisional matches, which don't really breed any loyalty or commitment in anyone.

We do, of course, have home advantage as a result of Saturday's win. But I wouldn't mind betting that Glos. v. Yorks. will be the line-up at Twickenham on March 30th. However, I wouldn't take money on who would win that one.

Tailpiece

Patron Roger Gibbons handed me a copy of a page from the magazine 'Micro Decision' the other day. The headline reads 'TANDY SHUNS THE CLONE APPROACH'.

"Is this," Roger enquires, "the Gloucester answer to Max Boyce's outside half factory?"

Fair comment, but what Roger hadn't noticed, or was too polite to mention, was that the caption to the picture on the same page reads: 'The Tandy is a large, somewhat cumbersome machine, but very fast.'

There's no answer to that.

PETER ARNOLD.

Front Cover by John Darling, courtesy of 'Rugby Post'