

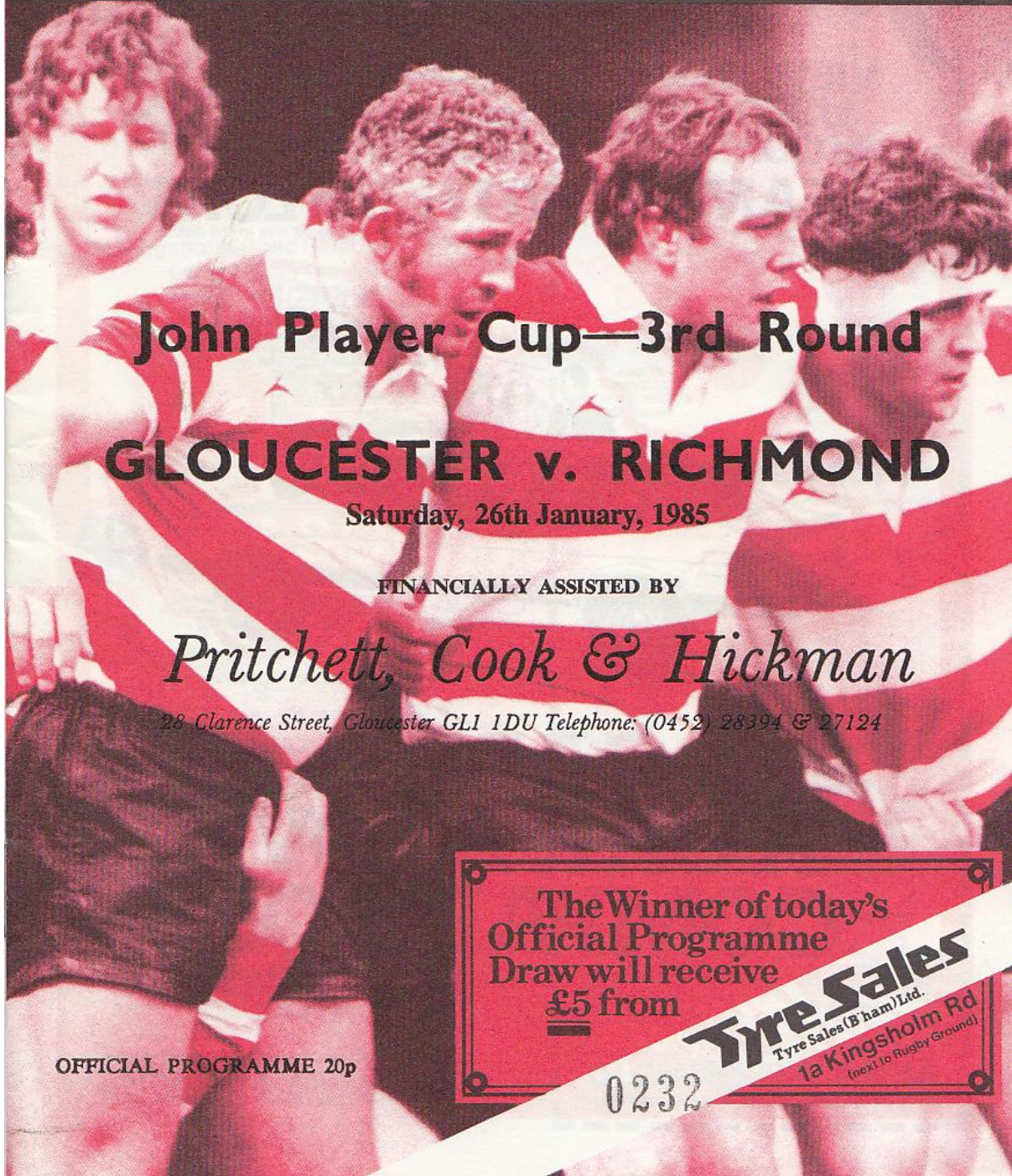


FOUNDED 1873

# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Kingsholm

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



## John Player Cup—3rd Round

# GLOUCESTER v. RICHMOND

Saturday, 26th January, 1985

FINANCIALLY ASSISTED BY

### *Pritchett, Cook & Hickman*

28 Clarence Street, Gloucester GL1 1DU Telephone: (0452) 28394 & 27124

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 20p

The Winner of today's  
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## ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

FINANCIALLY ASSISTED BY

# *Pritchett, Cook & Hickman*

### GLOUCESTER 29

Cherry & White (3G; 2T; 1PG)

#### Full Back

15. T. Smith (3C; 1PG)

#### Three Quarters

14. D. Morgan 1T

13. R. Mogg

12. P. Taylor

11. N. Price 1T

#### Half Backs

10. M. Hamlin

9. M. Hannaford 1T

#### Forwards

1. R. Pascall 1T

2. K. White

† 3. M. Preedy

† 4. J. Orwin (Capt.)

5. J. Brain

6. J. Bennett 1T

7. I. Smith

8. M. Teague

#### REPLACEMENTS

R. Wood

G. Mann

### RICHMOND 0

#### Full Back

16. A. Hampel

#### Three Quarters

15. S. Pennock

14. J. Heaton

12. D. Guyatt

11. P. Southern

#### Half Backs

10. S. Smith

9. S. Kelly

#### Forwards

1. C. Mills

2. T. Evans

3. J. Thorn

4. W. Biddell

5. M. Slater (Capt.)

6. J. Smith

7. J. Mapp

8. M. James

#### REPLACEMENTS

M. Conner

A. Moren

Referee: D. W. MATTHEWS (Liverpool Society)

† International

**Good luck to one special team from another!**



# Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire





### **Round Three!**

While today sees the third round of the John Player Special Cup for everyone involved, of course, it's 'Round Three' for Gloucester and Richmond in a rather special sense. You probably won't need reminding that the two sides have met twice before in the Competition, and that neither team won either of the previous encounters!

Both games were draws, and under the rules of the Competition, the away side went through.

You may also remember that there was something odd about our visit to Richmond on that previous occasion, too. The game was, in fact, played on a Sunday, London Scottish having had to dispose of Matson at the same ground, the day before. There was a weather problem that day, as well, with a lot of frost about, and we weren't sure whether the game would be played until just before kick-off.

A lot has happened since then, however. As you know, the John Player Special Cup did not have the advantage of our participation, last season, for reasons we won't dwell on, while Richmond admit to having to struggle to beat Nuneaton at this stage, and went out to Waterloo in the fourth round.

In March, last year, Richmond came here and had to go home on the inhospitable end of a 28-14 scoreline. Both sides scored three tries that day, which may auger well for today.

It has to be said that our visitors haven't had their best season ever, so far, but they have shown indications of returning to their own high standards over the last few weeks. You may also feel that their defeat of Gosforth last Saturday represents a plus point too, because they, at least, had a run out, while our lads were languishing in limbo. But that's the way the cookie crumbles — or perhaps 'squelches' is a better word, under the circumstances.

Nevertheless, Cup Rugby is something different. No doubt both sides will be playing their socks off, and it would be a brave man who indulges in prophesy today.

Whatever the occasion, however, Richmond are always welcome, and we're glad that the luck of the draw has enabled us to see them at Kingsholm two years on the trot.

Have a good day, chaps.

### **Congratulations**

Belated congratulations to Phil Blakeway and John Orwin on making the England side against Romania, and on keeping their places for the ill-fated Ireland game. Surely, it was only natural justice for the Selectors to keep faith by naming the same side to meet France.

Romania may have been a disappointment, in some ways, but it does represent a first Cap for John Orwin, and if ever a man deserves it, 'J.O.' does.

### **Thanks to John Player**

We at Kingsholm, of all people, ought to know how long the John Player Cup Competition has been with us, but it's still something of a surprise to learn that this is the tenth year in which Imperial Tobacco has been involved. Visitors from Richmond, or wherever, may need reminding that Gloucester won the very first competition — before sponsorship came along — and have lifted the Cup one-and-a-half times since.

When you come to think about it, an awful lot of money has come into the game, thanks to Imperial Tobacco Company. This year, for example, a total of £100,000 will be going to the 130 Clubs represented in the Competition. Next season, that figure will go up by £5,000, with another £5,000 due to be added in 1986/7.

That will result in a total investment by the company of £872,000 in Rugby Union Football. Surely, any Rugby man must be sincerely grateful for that. The Cup has certainly added a new dimension to the English club game, and long may it continue.

I'm afraid I can't go along with the anti-smoking lobby's contention that participation in sports sponsorship by tobacco companies should be banned. My view is that the more a sport thrives, the higher its standards become. The higher the standards, the fitter the players. The fitter the players, the less likely they are to smoke at all heavily.

Anyway, that's my story.

### **. . . and to Pritchett, Cook and Hickman**

But John Player aren't the only people financially assisting today's game. Naturally, the contribution made by solicitors Pritchett, Cook and Hickman of 28 Clarence Street, Gloucester, isn't in the same league as that provided by the Sponsors, but their generosity is none the less appreciated for that.

It is only a few months since the rules of the Profession allowed solicitors to advertise in any way at all, and we must congratulate Stan Pritchett and his two partners, Jim Cook and Jim Hickman on being first off the mark.



All three are Rugby men, which isn't surprising when you realise that the two Jims are Old Cryptians, and Stan went to the Kings, but perhaps the other two would forgive me for stating that Stan is probably the best-known of the three in that respect. Indeed, he had what he calls a "modest flirtation" with Gloucester, a fair while ago — he admits to the fact that Harold Boughton was still around at the time.

However, Stan is probably best known as a pillar of Gloucester Old Boys, where he was noted as the sort of gentlemanly lock forward who always said 'Excuse me!' before unscrewing your head.

I suppose that solicitors are the sort of professionals who you don't need very often, but when you do, you really do. Pritchett, Cook and Hickman have the advantage of being very local in their background and inclinations, and of being very centrally placed. They can provide all the legal services which you would expect.

Thanks again, Stan, Jim and Jim. We're very grateful to you, and we hope that your Kingsholm affiliation will endear you to an increasing list of clients.

#### **United on Monday**

Fans of the United will be glad to hear that they're not missing out because of today's game. The scheduled fixture against old and respected opponents Newport High School Old Boys has been rearranged for next Monday evening at 7.00 p.m. Might see you there.

#### **Two big ones**

There may be a new National Merit Table in the offing, but we still have to cope with the old one, and you won't need telling that we aren't exactly in the most happy position in that respect. All will be well, of course, if we can beat Bristol away, and Bath at home, and we have our chances to do just those two small things in the next couple of weeks.

Next Friday (February 1st) we play Bristol at the Memorial Ground and there's no doubt that the lads will need all the help they can get in this latest meeting with the Old Enemy. Do try to get along if you can — after all, we can't let them get away with beating us twice in a season.

The home match against Bath on February 9th is, of course, equally important. We could have so easily beaten them on their own patch, and that's another record we have to set straight.

Next Saturday, there is an attractive alternative to the England and France game, when Bristol United come here to take on our United side. If the 'box' doesn't attract you, then come and cheer the lads on.

#### **More pressure**

Mention of the proposed new Merit Table prompts the thought that, if implemented, it will add fuel to the controversy about the current ideas on the County Championship and the Divisional games.

The Club's views, and those of the County have been well aired in the press, and can be summed up by the phrase 'we're agin it.' It seems to me that if major clubs have Merit Table matches over the period of the County and Divisional games, then the pressures on the players to put the interests of their clubs first will be that much greater.

It wouldn't do the table any good, either. If the four or five leading clubs lose players to County and Divisional requirements, you could end up with the situation where worthy, hardworking sides with no star players could end up in a much higher position than they merit — and the vice would be versa. Consider Nottingham, for example, who virtually are the Notts, Lincs and Derby side.

#### **Tailpiece**

Four valued patrons of ours had planned a trip to Dublin for the Irish game, and had booked into the St. Jude's Guest House, not far from the ground.

Some hilarity ensued when they discovered that St. Jude is the Patron Saint of Lost Causes, indeed, I am told, of all things lost. Just about right, all things considered.

PETER ARNOLD.