

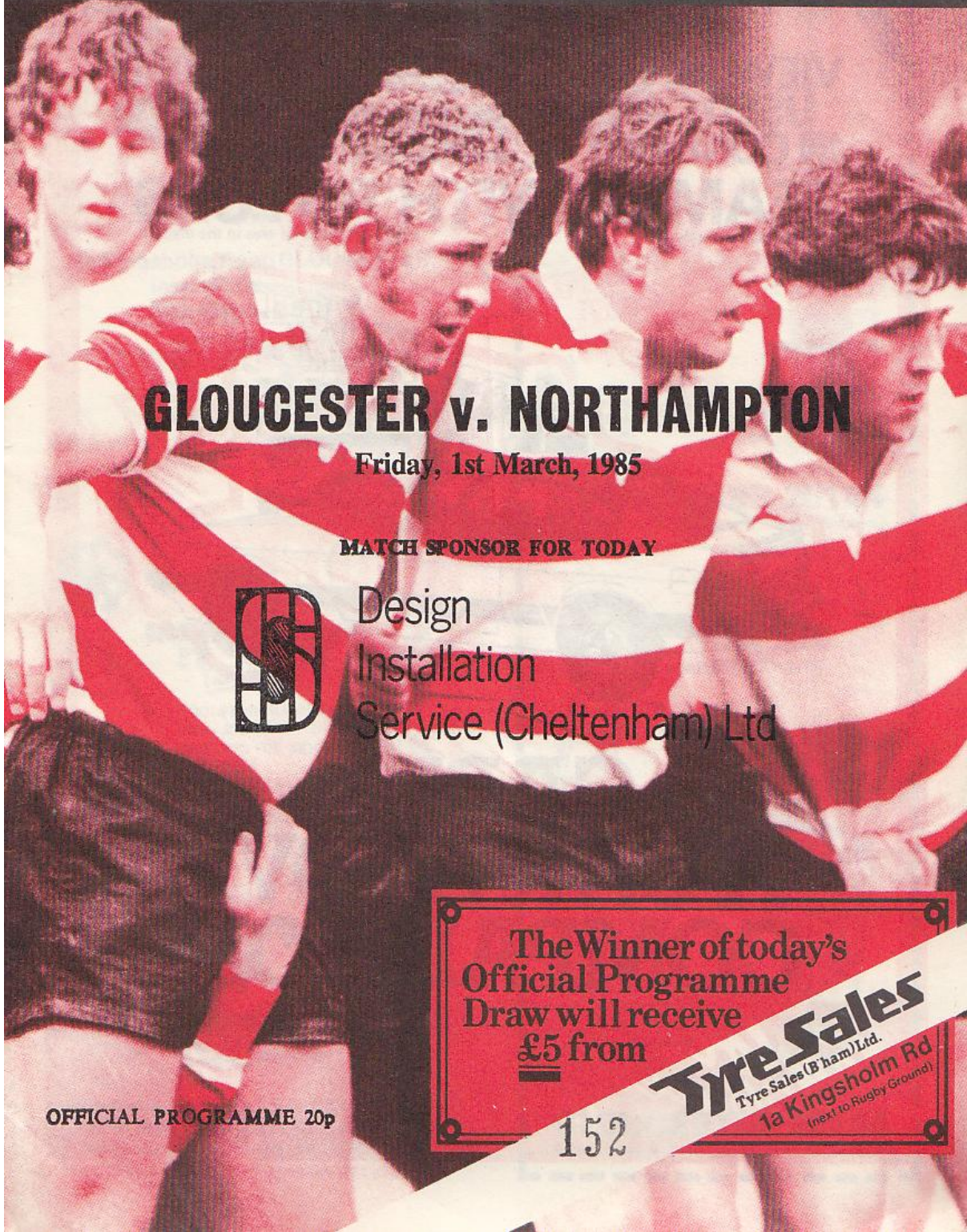


FOUNDED 1873

# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Kingsholm

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



## GLOUCESTER v. NORTHAMPTON

Friday, 1st March, 1985

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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. M. Hannaford

Forwards

† 1. P. Blakeway

2. K. White

3. R. Pascall

† 4. J. Orwin (Capt.)

5. J. Brain

† 6. M. Teague

7. I. Smith

8. L. Cummins

REPLACEMENTS

D. Pointon

G. Mann

### NORTHAMPTON

Full Back

15. J. Cubitt

Three Quarters

14. N. Grecian

13. D. Woodrow

12. P. Larkin

11. M. Greenhalgh

Half Backs

10. A. Johnson

9. R. Field

Forwards

1. I. Heyward

2. R. Gardner

3. G. Pearce

4. D. Newman

5. V. Cannon

6. J. Lambden

7. I. White

8. R. Eales

REPLACEMENTS

A. Griffith

R. Cox

Referee: R. G. JAMES (Leicester Society)

† International

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



# Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire



### **For all the 'Saints' . . .**

The biennial visit of Northampton is one of those occasions which gives the Kingsholm season its unique flavour. They have been playing us for as long as anyone can remember, and we all hope that they will continue to do so for at least as long again.

Two years ago, I remember writing that the 'Saints' weren't having the best of seasons, but things have changed a bit since then. Indeed, that 1982-83 season was one of the worst they have ever had to endure, and as a matter of fact, we weren't covering ourselves with glory, either. Last season, however, they bounced back to record their best playing record for eight years — including, it pains me to record, a 17-14 win over Gloucester at Franklins Gardens.

They've been stringing some good results together this season too. Did you notice that they put an even half-ton on Birkenhead Park last Saturday?

Of course, their most eminent player, at the moment, is Gary Pearce. I haven't seen the side at the time of writing, but we all very much hope that England's absence from tomorrow's round of Internationals means that he can make the journey to Kingsholm. It would be interesting to see him pitting his skills against the Gloucester props, whatever combination of Messrs. Blakeway, Preedy, Pascal and Jones that turns out to be.

As I started out by saying, it's always good to see Northampton. After the tensions of the John Player and the problems over the Merit Table, it will be good to see a game with nothing on it, apart from the paramount consideration of producing a good game of Rugby.

So — a hearty welcome from us all to the green, gold and black. Have a great evening.

### **Thanks to Design Installation Service**

The range of generous Sponsors we have nowadays is immense, but I don't recall we've ever had the valuable support of any company which describes itself as being in the 'environmental engineering' field. We have tonight, though, and we are all grateful to the D.I.S. Group of Cheltenham for their gesture.

Ray Bell, who with co-founder John Kentfield and Paul Bolton, makes up the Board of the Group tells me that 'environmental engineering' consists of 'heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and so on' and it's obvious that the Group has gone from strength to strength since its foundation in 1972. In fact, the Group has established two colonies, in the shape of D.I.S. Northern, in Manchester, and D.I.S. South West in Plymouth.

What is more, in order to provide an integrated service to their customers, yet another company — D.I.S. Electrical — was founded in 1975. "They do the electrical bits that we Mechanical Engineers don't properly understand," says Mr. Bell, but points out that they have now built up a very substantial electrical contracting business in their own right.

But nothing stands still, and ever since 1978 yet another D.I.S. company, Cheltenham Electrical Control Systems, has been specialising in automatic controls, switchgear and control panels.

Mr. Bell also points out that, despite difficult trading conditions, the Group now has turnover of around £5 million, and employs some 150 people.

Many of the Group's customers are household names, ranging from Harrods to Argos, would you believe, and from Birds Eye Walls to British Shoe Corporation.

Ray Bell admits to being a 'backwoods Lancastrian', and rather oddly for someone from that area, had hardly watched a game of Rugby before he came here. "The rules are still a total mystery to me", he says.

Well, Mr. Bell, someone once said that to know you know nothing is half way to wisdom, and anyone who has become a Kingsholm regular must have his fair share of that commodity.

You certainly have your share of generosity, and we're grateful for it.

### **So it's Harlequins again!**

There's no such thing as an easy game in the Quarter Finals of the John Player, but we still couldn't have asked for a better draw than to have Harlequins at home.

As you'll know, we have already beaten them this season, by 19-6 on October 13th, but they can justly claim to have fielded a weakened side. On the other hand, we can make the same claim, being one or two short, especially in the front row, which, nevertheless, gave Ian Milne a torrid time.

So it looks as if we shall have some intriguing confrontations, with Blakeway, Orwin and Teague opposing Milne, Cooke and Butcher. Surely that must be one for the Selectors to attend.

And we mustn't forget that John Gadd and Steve Mills are now back in contention. Should be quite a day.

### **JPC Tickets**

Tickets for the 'Quins game on Saturday week are, of course, on sale tonight. In order to try and abbreviate the queues as much as possible, Stand tickets can be had from David Foyle in the caravan, behind the Stand, while Ground tickets will be on sale in the Secretary's Office, under the Stand, and at the old office on the St. Mark's Street side.

Terry Tandy asks me to point out that we're expecting a big crowd, partly because the gate increases as one progresses further in the competition, and partly because, for the first time this season, there is no competition. In the previous two rounds, the demands of Berry Hill and Lydney have proved to be counter attractions, but that doesn't apply, this time. So he's strongly advising you to get your tickets tonight, or failing that, at the United v. Cheltenham game on Tuesday.

Must give you the customary couple of warnings, too. First of all, John Players are 'all pay' games, which means that there will be a charge for everyone to get into the car park. Second, you'll need your Social Club card and/or a Complex admission card to get a drink after the game.

### **Well done Tom!**

Peter Ford ambushed me last Saturday, and asked me to give a public word of thanks to Tom Oakes.

Tom is the man who has the unenviable task of getting the pitch into playing condition, and after all the trouble we've had, together with two uncharitable spells of weather, that must have been a job-and-a-half.

Yet, if you were here, you'll agree that the pitch stood up to the Saracens game magnificently, all things considered.

Thanks Tom. We're all grateful to you.

### **Coming shortly**

I don't have to remind you about next Saturday's game, but if you want to get in good voice for it, you could do worse than coming along on Tuesday for the United v. Cheltenham encounter, which features some of our returned convalescents.

Don't forget, either, that Orrell will be here on Friday March 15th. They've just put it across Bristol, so there's some West Country pride at stake.

Following that, on Tuesday March 19th, we're staging the much-delayed County Cup Final between Berry Hill and Coney Hill. Which has gotta be worth a visit.

### **Tailpiece**

The traditional little bird tells me that a Harlequins espionage team is lurking on the premises this evening. Have a good evening chaps, and we hope you don't go home too depressed.

PETER ARNOLD.