

RUGBY BOOTS JERSEYS AND SHORTS BALLS CLUB DISCOUNTS
INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CLUB MEMBERS

Personal attention always available at:

NEW ADDRESS)

## **ALAN BRINN SPORTS**

52 Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

# Sponsored Barclays Bank PLC

## GLOUCESTER

(Cherry & White)

Full Back

15. T. Smith

Three Quarters

14. P. Tunstall

13. M. Smith

12. P. Taylor

11. J. Breeze

Half Backs

10. M. Evans

9. M. Hannaford

Forwards

1. P. Jones

2. S. Mills

+

3. R. Pascall

4. J. Orwin (Capt.)

5. J. Brain

6. J. Bennett

7. D. Spencer

8. D.Burn

REPLACEMENTS

S. Baker

K. White

**STROUD** 

Full Back

15. S. Weekes

Three Quarters

14. P. Mead

13. D. Bowery

12. T. Parsloe

11. P. Williams (Capt.)

Half Backs

10. S. Parsloe

9. T. Davis

Forwards

1. D. McGill

2. G. Trott

3. A. Dix

4. M. Glanville

5. A. Wynter

6. C. Acock

7. D. Morrisey

8. J. Garner

REPLACEMENTS

D. Strain

A. Fowler

Referee: A. SPREADBURY (Somerset Society)

† International

# Good luck to one special team from another!



### There's no place like home!

Must be quite a long time since we've had to wait until the third game of the season before seeing the lads perform on their own patch. Which makes our old friends from just

up the road all the more welcome.

In these days of so-called "leading" clubs, and Yorkshire charges of "elitism" (comes well from a county whose cricket club goes through the antics they do!), it's well worth remembering that the less-fancied teams can spring surprises. After all, you only have to go back three years since Stroud beat Gloucester by 21 points to 16, admittedly, at Stroud. In the early days of the season, anything can happen, and without any prior knowledge, I suspect that, having fielded reasonably full-strength sides against Exeter and Swansea, the Selectors might be wanting to look at one or two different faces this evening, if only for future reference.

It would be great to be back, whoever the Opposition were. Having old friends and rivals

to open our home reason simply adds spice to the event.

Nice to see you again, Stroud. But please don't take my remarks about 'surprises' too literally!

### Deathly silence

At least I've no need to start the season by apologising for any lack of quality in the

public address system this year. For the simple reason that there isn't one.

What it all amounts to, is that the Club are in the throes of purchasing a completely new system, and some of the vital gubbins haven't turned up yet. All should be Well, however, within a week or two, and everyone hopes that the delay will result in a much improved service for everyone concerned.

This also explains why there is no Lucky Programme Number tonight. To redress the balance, when the system is installed, we shall be awarding two crisp fivers for the price of one for the first couple of matches. So when everything is sorted out, your programme will, for a short period, be even better value for money. After all, your chances of winning some extra beer money will be doubled over that period.

While I'm on the subject, our thanks, once again, to our old friends from Tyre Sales Limited for continuing this unique form of sponsorship.

### Thanks to Barclays

This really is a night for old friends. Barclays Bank have been generously sponsoring games at Kingsholm for a year or two now, and we're most grateful to them for supporting

us in this way again this season.

Barclays are, of course, so well-known that I hardly need to extol their virtues here You'll be well aware that they were the first Bank to institute Saturday opening, which means you can get extra pocket money from a real person, rather than from a tin robot, peering through a hole in the wall. After all, you can't talk rugby to a cash dispenser, can you? At least, you

could, but you'd get some funny looks from any passing traffic warden.

You'll also be aware that Barclays have branches all over the City — including one at the Cattle Market — and this year, their sponsorship is being donated by three of them. As always, Norman Gooch and Simon Culliford from the Southgate Street branch are well and truly involved, but this year John Markwell's Bristol Road outfit, and Vic Oliver's Hucclecote branch have also got into the act. And who can blame them?

More to the point, Doug Stewart, who manages the Stroud branch has also grabbed a part of the action, so it's a highly appropriate home and away affair.

Thanks everyone. Hope you have a great evening.

#### John Smith's

This, of course, the first year of the John Smith's National Merit Table Should be fascinating, especially as every game, regardless of clashes with representative games, count towards the final placings. I'm told, incidentally, that that decision was made ages ago, and I don't really understand why the press suddenly commented on it, only last week.

Part of the deal is that a John Smith's advertisement should appear in the programme

of all participating clubs. We haven't got one, this season.

The reason is that, by the time the Powers That Be had made up their mind whether such a table is the Done Thing, or not, our programme was already full, so Courage agreed to waive it, this time round.

Shows how efficient we are.

Coventry on Saturday

Talking about the National Merit Table, our game against Coventry on Saturday is not one of those games. Surprisingly, 'Cov' are in the Second Division of the Table, while we are basking in the Upper Reaches. So Terry Tandy didn't make a mistake by not putting an asterisk against the game in the Season Tickets. He's been inundated by people who think he's slipped up for once, and is getting a bit fed up by people who have buttonholed him about it.

We certainly did Coventry a favour when we put half-a-ton on them last season. The resulting night of the long knives rapidly established them as one of the most formidable outfits in England. And they'll be out to prove it on Saturday.

Not to be missed, I would have thought.

#### Whitbread

This is the earliest opportunity we've had to thank Whitbread for their historic sponsor-ship arrangement with the Club. No need to go into details — they've already provided a first-class talking point during the summer (what summer?).

If you're interested, Terry Tandy has arranged a photo-call for the Press before the game

on Saturday, so that the new strips may be displayed in all their glory.

#### John Player

If you're foaming at the mouth to get tickets for the John Player game against Exeter University on the 28th, don't bother. There won't be any. Not even for the Stand.

The Competition rules haven't changed though, so it's still an all-pay situation — and

that includes the Car Park.

I know we're a couple of weeks away yet, but it would be as well to arrange to get here early, on that day, otherwise our turnstiles will have a bad case of strangulated hernia.

Brian Howells is, as always at this time of year, ready, willing and anxious to receive loot from anyone who wants to take part in the 300 Club this year. Don't take that '300' figure too literally, if it's exceeded, it just means that the prizes will be that much bigger. He, or some of his co-conspirators, will be available to take your money in the Clubhouse. And, while you're at it, don't forget that you need a Social Club Membership ticket, even if you have a Patron's Card or Season Ticket. John Beaman will be happy to oblige.

### **International Tickets**

Applications for International Tickets have to be in, complete with remittance by the end

of the month. Seems to get earlier every year.

Patrons should have already received an Application Form, but if you've used yours for writing down your racing selections, or didn't have one anyway, then Terry Tandy and David Foyle will be pleased to supply you with one. Best not to hang about, though.

Unreceipted Patrons Cards will cease to be valid at the end of the month Nothing unusual in that. However, as the game on September 28th is the John Player against Exeter University, which is 'all-pay', the last game for which they can actually be used is against Newbridge on Wednesday 25th. A glance at the fixture list will show you that after tonight, there are only two home games before then.

Why not pay up now — and get it over with?

There's a tourist magazine called 'Out of Town', which during June, printed an article by Richard Cavendish, about Gloucester I quote: Gloucester has "something of the air of genial toughness for which its famous rugby club is known. A prop forward's town, you might say, which has been holding its own for 1,000 years and more."

Nice to know that there's at least one travel writer who gets his priorities right.

PETER ARNOLD.