

GLOUCESTER V. COVENTRY

**SATURDAY
14th SEPTEMBER, 1985**

Kick-off 3 p.m.

Sponsored by



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GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Kingsholm

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CANON H. M. HUGHES B.A.**

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 20p

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193

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GLOUCESTER

(Cherry & White)

Full Back
 15. **T. Smith**

Three Quarters
 14. **J. Breeze**
 13. **R. Mogg**
 12. **P. Taylor**
 11. **P. Tunstall**

Half Backs
 10. **M. Hamlin**
 9. **M. Hannaford**

Forwards
 † 1. **M. Preedy**
 2. **K. White**
 3. **R. Pascall**
 † 4. **J. Orwin (Capt.)**
 5. **J. Brain**
 6. **J. Gadd**
 7. **I. Smith**
 8. **D. Burn**

REPLACEMENTS
 S. Artus
 J. Bennett

COVENTRY

Full Back
 15. **M. Fairn**

Three Quarters
 14. **E. Saunders**
 13. **C. Medford**
 12. **D. Jones**
 11. **S. Hall**

Half Backs
 10. **C. Ralston**
 9. **S. Thomas**

Forwards
 1. **L. Johnson (Capt.)**
 2. **A. Farrington**
 3. **S. Wilce**
 4. **A. Gulliver**
 5. **B. Kidner**
 6. **M. Trumper**
 7. **R. Travers**
 8. **G. Robbins**

REPLACEMENTS
 J. Cooke
 M. Malik

Referee: J. A. F. TRIGG (London Society)

† International

Good luck to one special team from another!



Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire

Certainly not 'second class citizens'!

It came as a considerable surprise to me — and I'm sure to most other people — to discover that today's game does not feature in the list of John Smith's Merit Table matches, on the grounds that Gloucester are in the 'First Division' of the Table while Coventry languish in the second echelon. Anyone who believes that this accurately reflects the respective strengths of the two clubs has either been living in the Gobi Desert for the last 30 years or so, or has been unduly influenced by last season's 58-12 scoreline, here at Kingsholm.

I suppose that such anomalies are bound to arise in the first year of a new system, and I'm sure that this is one which will iron itself out very quickly indeed.

Last season's shellacking of 'Cov' was a one-off, and perhaps we would do better to remember that Gloucester only squeaked it by 10 points to 6 at Coundon Road. Equally to the point, I've heard the opinion that Gloucester did Coventry a favour that day by stimulating a root-and-branch overhaul of the Midlands side which resulted in a later John Player Cup run which was as good as our own.

In any case, 'Cov' are the last side in the world to lie down under that sort of result. It's certainly a blot on their proud escutcheon which they will be hell-bent on eradicating today. Which means that all seems set fair for a memorable encounter.

All such considerations apart, no team in the rugby calendar are more welcome at Kingsholm than Coventry. A book could be written about the history of matches between our two clubs, even though parts of it would not be suitable for people of a nervous disposition.

Nice to see you 'Cov'. Great to have you along so early in the season.

International tickets

Talking about things being early, perhaps it's my imagination, but the 'due date' for applications for International tickets seems to get earlier every year. This season, they have to be returned to Twickenham by the end of the month. So if you want some, you'd better get on Norman's proverbial bike (Tebbit's not Partridge's).

Terry Tandy and David Foyle both have supplies of Application Forms, which have full details of prices and dates, and they'd be glad if you could pick one up and return it, complete with remittance, as soon as poss. To David Foyle, naturally.

Season Tickets

David also tells me that Season Tickets, (all varieties) will be available before the game, and for about half-an-hour afterwards, today. You can acquire any sort you want from the caravan behind the main Stand, but for the happy band of pilgrims who foregather under the clock, Ground Seasons only may be had at the old Secretary's Office in the old changing room buildings. So if you intend to watch more than about 10 games this season, you could save yourself both money and hassle by availing yourself of the opportunity presented.

Thanks to DIS

Design Installation Services was founded in 1972, the selfsame year that Gloucester won the first National Knock-Out Competition, before it became the John Player. So it's entirely appropriate that the Cheltenham-based company should have become regular sponsors of the Club. As the Coventry match in that campaign was one of the more memorable occasions in the Club's history, it's equally appropriate, and our own great good fortune, that DIS have chosen to support today's game.

Ray Bell has been with DIS since the early days. And he doesn't miss many Kingsholm matches, either — when supplying industry and commerce with a wide range of services, including heating, ventilation, air conditioning, complex electrical installations and other necessities allows him. He'll certainly be here today, and we all thank him and his colleagues for their continuing support.

The company started modestly enough, but has now grown into a £5 million group with premises in Cheltenham, Bath, Plymouth and Manchester. This gives them genuinely national coverage, but their roots are still firmly in the local scene. As witness today's generous support. Thanks again DIS!

Patron's Cards

Patrons will be well aware that unreceipted Patrons Cards won't be valid after the end of this month. It's worth pointing out, however, that September 28th being the John Player, and therefore all-pay, the last game for which they will be usable will be Newbridge, on the 25th. And there's only one home First XV game between now and then. So why not pay up, look happy, a feel righteous about it?

And, talking about cards, don't forget that, whatever sort of season ticket you hold, you'll still need a membership card for the Social Club.

John Player

Everyone is straining at the leash to know about tickets for the John Player against Exeter University on September 28th. Well, you can relax, because there won't be any; not even for the Stand. Everyone, but everyone, will pay at the gate.

This means that it might be as well to get along a bit earlier on that day, or you might find yourself trying out the new Laws about front-row scrummaging when you try to get through the turnstiles.

Don't forget, either, that car-park sticker holder or not, the rules make us charge for everything on that day, so don't be too hard on the poor carpark attendant when he demands a small fee for the service. It isn't his fault.

£6.50 could get you £300

That's the top prize in the 300 Club — and there are also prizes worth £160 and £50, plus three of £25 with other £25 and £10 awards scattered throughout the season. This simply has to be worth a flutter, and Brian Howells will be delighted to accept a once-for-all sub of £6.50 or pledges for 25p per week.

For years now, the 300 Club has been a great success, and a very useful contribution to Club funds. It's also bought a fair amount of beer for the lucky winners.

Go on — treat yourself.

We apologise for loss of sound. Normal service will be resumed shortly.

In fact, we hope that a darned sight better than normal service will be resumed within a week or two.

No one was very happy with the quality — not to mention the volume — of the PA system, and we have now decided to take the plunge and buy a new one. Some of the essential nuts and bolts haven't actually arrived yet, so we don't have a loudspeaker service just at the moment, which gives Graham Spring an early holiday.

If you'll pardon the 'plug', this does make your programme your only source of news, but it also does us a nasty as far as the Lucky Programme Number is concerned. To make up for it, there will be two lucky fivers awarded to make up the numbers when the new installation is complete. And while I'm on the subject, our thanks, yet again, to Tyre Sales Limited for continuing this imaginative form of sponsorship.

The Welsh are coming!

Next Saturday, Pontypridd pay us a visit, the first Welsh Club to have applied for visas this season. They will be closely followed by the highly attractive Newbridge side, on Wednesday, September 25th, and following the John Player on the 28th, we have the eagerly-awaited visit of Llanelli on Wednesday, October 2nd. And that's without thinking about Pontypool on October 9th.

So the Celtic Hordes are on their way. And that's the best argument for buying a season ticket I've heard.

Gala Dinner

Quick piece of 'hot off the presses' information for you. On October 28th, at Pineholt, the Club's holding a Gala Dinner starring Bill Beaumont. This is to help raise funds for the proposed Florida Tour, scheduled for May next year. There's a brochure available — see Terry Tandy — which tells you all about this and other sponsorship opportunities. More details next week.

Tailpiece

The last I heard, Terry Tandy had arranged a photo session before today's game, to show off the new Whitbread-inspired strip. So that's why the lads have all been turning up with their hair combed. I'm told that even the prop forwards shaved this morning.

PETER ARNOLD.