



GLOUCESTER V. ROSSLYN PARK

SATURDAY
2nd NOVEMBER, 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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GLOUCESTER

(Cherry & White)

Full Back

15. **T. Smith**

Three Quarters

14. **D. Morgan**

13. **C. Dyke**

12. **P. Taylor**

11. **J. Breeze**

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. **M. Longstaff**

8. **J. Bennett**

REPLACEMENTS

P. Kingston †

G. Mann

ROSSLYN PARK

Full Back

15. **J. Graves**

Three Quarters

14. **C. Carr**

13. **A. McGahey**

12. **J. Ager**

11. **D. Osbourne**

Half Backs

10. **M. Jermyn**

9. **G. Henderson**

Forwards

1. **J. Kingston**

2. **D. Barnett**

3. **S. Henderson**

† 4. **A. Ripley**

5. **N. Edwards**

6. **C. Schuler**

7. **C. Mantell**

8. **T. Brooks**

REPLACEMENTS

A. Hobbs

C. McGawley

Referee: R. G. JAMES (Leicester Society)

† International

Good luck to one special team from another!



Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire

Unbeatable or Just Unbeaten?

Rosslyn Park arrive with the enviable record of being the only unbeaten side in England, so far this season. To which we can reply, with no fear of contradiction, that we have an unbeaten record too — in Sussex, at any rate.

Of course, Kingsholm has been the graveyard of many proud reputations, and it is only fair to state that today's visitors have suffered in that category. Two years ago, they came here with a big advance Press, some big names, and equally big forwards, but went away contemplating a 30-10 defeat. Last season, for some odd reason, they fared even worse, on their own Patch, losing 34-12.

Not that any such consideration will cut much ice today. Any side with Rosslyn Park's fixture list, who can get this far without losing, ain't nobody's pushovers. It also occurs to me that the publicised involvement in special training with Eddie Butler could hardly arrived at a better time for them. After all, Eddie, with his local connections, knows as much about Gloucester as anyone who doesn't actually play here.

So one way and another, we might be in for a memorable confrontation today, and it's certainly a game which I, to name but a few, have been looking forward to, especially following such a string of Welsh games at Kingsholm.

It's certainly nice to see the 'Park' again. They've always been good to watch, and great value in the Clubhouse afterwards.

They're heartily welcome, and we all hope they thoroughly enjoy their bi-annual visit.

Thanks to Westbury Homes

I suppose that, if you were asked to name the best-known locally-based firm of house builders, the name 'Westbury' would trip lightly off your tongue. With every justification.

Note the phrase; 'locally-based'. Westbury Homes can hardly be dismissed as a purely 'local' company these days, if only for the fact that they will build some 1700 houses this year, on sites from Berkshire to Swansea, from Oxfordshire to Fareham.

But Westbury didn't get big by being faceless. They've always helped out on the community scene, when asked, and their continuing involvement with Gloucester City is too well known to document here.

Their generous sponsorship of today's game is, of course, gratefully appreciated, and I'm resisting all temptations to draw comparisons between the round-ball game and our own tribal festivals.

I'm told that Martin Donahue, who we particularly welcome, has taken the opportunity to invite guests from all over the increasingly far-flung Westbury empire, today. We certainly hope that they all enjoy the occasion as much as everyone did when they performed the same generous gesture at the away game at Glamorgan Wanderers, earlier on this season.

So, when travelling the country on your lawful occasions, you might keep an eye open for the distinctive Westbury style in housing, and tip a mental hat to them for giving us the valuable support which they do.

Our Cup Runneth Over . . .

You can't say we don't get the good ones. Bath in the Cup last season, and Bristol this — both at Kingsholm.

And are the lads from the Memorial Ground really going to be happy about coming here twice in six days? But that's the way the cookie, as they say, crumbles. Of course, we would normally have visited Bristol on the day we played Exeter University, so at least we see the Old Enemy twice this season, and at Kingsholm at that. The Cup giveth, and the Cup taketh away . . .

It'll be one helluva match though. A natural, I would have thought, for 'Rugby Special' — but I'll bet Nigel will go to Orrel v. Bath or Coventry v. Leicester.

Thanks to the Intrepid Voyagers

Terry Tandy asks me to say 'thanks' to everyone who made the long trek to Lewes, last Saturday. I couldn't go myself, but am told that it was a super trip, and that the Sussex lads did all they could to make the visit a memorable one.

Even more to the point, Terry asks me to thank, publicly, our old friends from British Rail for their great support. Not only did they lay a train on, but they arranged for tickets to be sold on the ground the week before. Even more, the Players went as the guests of British Rail, which everyone — including the Club Treasurer — highly appreciates.

Not only are British Rail 'getting there' — they're making sure that we do too!

Quite a Thrash!

Again, I couldn't get there, but I'm told that the Gala Stag Dinner in aid of the Florida Tour Fund, was an enormous success. It's many years since the Club attempted such a venture, and it was highly gratifying to note that the affair was an absolute sell-out with some 270 hardy souls attending.

Our thanks, too, to Bill Beaumont, Mike Burton and Phil Blakeway for adding immeasurably to the occasion — but then, they always were going to be value for money.

Just one more thought, I don't suppose that Jim Jarrett would actually turn away money if anyone wanted to make a donation.

Evenin' All!

We could hardly have a more contrasting triple of matches coming up than we have. Next Wednesday, the formidable outfit from South Wales Police are asking us to help with their enquiries, while on Saturday, you won't need reminding, that we're in for an early Bath.

By way of dessert, Cheltenham are here on Wednesday, November 13th. All three matches should be worth seeing, for widely varying reasons.

See you along the way.

Division on December 14th

December 14th sees the South and South West game against the Midland Division.

Whatever your feelings about the Division v. County controversy — and mine are well known — it should be a game worth queuing to see. And unless you get here early, you might have to do just that.

There won't be any tickets — all pay at the gate.

Even so, if we get as good a game as we did against the Romanians, last season, we won't grumble.

Can You Hear Me

I'm told that the PA system ought to be in operation today. Hope Springs eternal, you might say.

If the technological bugs have all been sorted out, that means that you have not one but TWO chances to win a crisp fiver today, via the Lucky Programme Number route. Thanks to the generosity of Tyre Sales Ltd.

So don't groan and tear up your programme after the first number has been announced.

Blowing Their Own Trumpet

The Gloucester RFC Regiment of the RAF (CO, Air Commodore Tony Mason) ask me to announce that not one of them plays the trombone. Which is just as well, because if he did, he wouldn't be available for the South Wales Police match next Wednesday.

On the evening (Nov. 6th) the Western Divisional Band of the RAF are giving an important concert at the Guildhall, one of the last events to take place there before all the renovations start.

The Concert is in aid of the Prince Philip Appeal for Commonwealth Veterans, which is a well worthwhile cause.

It occurs to me that, if you have a husband, wife, girl friend or whatever, who would prefer you to escort them rather than coming to Rugby next Wednesday, then a trip to the RAF Information Office, near the Bus Station to buy the odd ticket, would occupy them for the evening, and free you for your weekly religious observance.

Tailpiece

My favourite humourist, Frank Muir, made a comment, recently which I thought worth passing on.

"A Pack of Rugby forwards", he said, "Eight minds with but a single thought."

"If that!"

PETER ARNOLD.