



**GLOUCESTER**  
**V.**  
**LONDON IRISH**

**SATURDAY**  
**23rd NOVEMBER, 1985**  
Kick-off 3 p.m.

Sponsored by  
**STOATE & BISHOP**  
(Printers) Ltd.



FOUNDED 1873

**GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

Kingsholm

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

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 20p

The Winner of today's  
Official Programme  
Draw will receive  
£5 from

**Tyre Sales**  
Tyre Sales (Bham) Ltd.  
1a Kingsholm Rd  
(next to Rugby Ground)

104



- 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 by

**STOATE & BISHOP (Printers) Ltd.**

**GLOUCESTER**  
(Cherry & White)

Full Back  
 15. T. Smith

Three Quarters  
 14. D. Morgan  
 13. R. McLean  
 12. M. Hamlin  
 11. S. Long

Half Backs  
 10. M. Evans  
 9. M. Hannaford

Forwards  
 † 1. M. Preedy  
 2. K. White  
 3. R. Phillips  
 † 4. J. Orwin (Capt.)  
 5. J. Brain  
 6. J. Gadd  
 7. M. Longstaff  
 8. J. Bennett

REPLACEMENTS  
 S. Artus  
 H. Godsell

**LONDON IRISH**

Full Back  
 † 15. H. McNeill

Three Quarters  
 14. S. Campbell  
 13. P. Davidson  
 12. M. Davidson  
 11. R. Anderson

Half Backs  
 10. J. Lavery  
 9. B. Murphy

Forwards  
 1. D. McGauley  
 2. M. Leonard  
 3. P. Murphy-O'Connor  
 4. C. Martin  
 5. M. McDonagh  
 6. S. Marty  
 7. B. Black  
 † 8. B. McCall

REPLACEMENTS  
 T. Shearan  
 P. Byrne

Referee: J. DENHAM (Durham Society)

† International

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



**Richard Cound**

BMW in Gloucestershire



### **Did you hear the one about . . .**

. . . the fifteen Irishmen who all ran out on to Kingsholm together? Well, if you didn't, you'll have ample chance to learn the punchline within the next couple of hours or so.

But, like the man said, it isn't the joke, it's the way you tell it, and we certainly have no reason to complain about the way London Irish set about their individual brand of entertainment. In fact, over the past decade or so, I don't remember a dull match between our two great Clubs.

The Irish are particularly welcome today, of course, because it's the first time we've seen them at Kingsholm for four years. Two seasons ago, the home fixture fell victim to some particularly foul weather, depriving us of one of our more valued afternoons out.

I didn't see last season's game in London, but with a scoreline of 19-16 to the Irish, it must have been a close-run and absorbing encounter. As today's game could very well be.

Two Gloucester v. London Irish matches readily spring to mind. One was a John Player fixture on the London Irish ground. Gloucester won it, handily enough, but the sheer ebullience of the hospitality after the game makes you wonder what would have happened had the Irish won. I doubt if we'd have got home before the following Tuesday.

The other one was actually played here on a Sunday, a rapid reorganisation of fixtures, following a rearrangement of a John Player match due to frost. London Irish came here, that day, with an unbeaten record, and went home without it. Again, it didn't seem to be a disaster.

"Ah well!" said one committee member to me, "I'd rather it was you than some (expletive deleted) Welsh club!"

So London Irish come here to a very warm welcome. We hope they have a real blockbuster of a day.

### **Thanks Stoate and Bishop**

Today's 'thanks to sponsors' section comes very close to home, both geographically and figuratively. Not only are Stoate and Bishop based within a long drop goal of the Ground, but they are also the people who print our programme for every home match.

Think about that for a moment. I'm writing this on Thursday morning. Stoate and Bishop will probably get the results of my labours round about lunchtime. So they've got from then until Friday evening to get the copy into type, print several programmes, fold them and bind them. And remember, every single programme has to bear a different number, if only for the sake of the lucky so-and-so's who are going to win a fiver today.

Of course, they don't start from scratch each time. The advertisement sections and the cover, for example, can be kept standing. Nevertheless, it's quite a proposition when you think about it.

They can't have a set, regular schedule, either. This week, for example, the sudden cancellation of Wednesday's game forced me to have a re-think about what I was going to say. This delays things and doesn't make life any easier for the poor old printer.

Not that our programme is Stoate and Bishop's only, or even major, job. Their branches here and in Cheltenham are notable for the sheer variety of work they do. In an area which is certainly not remarkable for the scarcity of its printers, Stoate and Bishop have a fine reputation, and a very praiseworthy track record.

So we're grateful to today's sponsors for more than the usual reasons. We value the excellent relations between our two organisations, and hope they will continue for many years yet.

Thanks again, Ladies and Gentlemen.

### **Well done Trevor and Co.**

There was I, contemplating a modest Guinness after the Cheltenham game (about the most exciting thing I'd done all evening) when the door opened and in came our revered and forthright Patron, Trevor Cruttwell, the uncrowned Squire of Northleach.

His invariable good humour was even more evident than usual, a circumstance which arose from the fact that he had won a Fiver by purchasing programme number 651 that very evening. "First one ever!" he beamed. "I shall expect a write-up for that!" And who am I to argue?

The balance was redressed by Mr. R. White of 'Lalurette', Haywards Lane, Cheltenham, who bought number 89.

Going back a bit, Mr. J. Steele of 14, Mount Street was £5 richer after the South Wales Police game, having acquired programme no. 611 — joined in that good fortune by the holder of No. 287, Mr. D. Morgan (no relation) of 23, Alders Green, Longford.

I can't quite understand events at the Bath game, though. No problem about mine own local host, Mr. D. Beeson of the 'Waggon and Horses', Hucclecote, who bought programme



No. 1107, but mystery surrounds the fate of the other Lucky Programme 'Fiver' at that game, which was unclaimed.

Perhaps the purchaser's hand was trembling so much he couldn't read his number. There were a few of us like that around, that day.

#### **May I be the first . . .**

. . . to wish you a Merry Christmas? Let's face it, it's the last time I shall have the opportunity to do so, this year, because we're now entering an arid period, as far as First XV home fixtures are concerned.

Not that that need deter you from visiting Kingsholm. There are two or three excellent United games during December, and I am told that our highly respected 'other' team are particularly worth watching at the moment.

See you on Boxing Day!

#### **The Amblings of Andy**

Also on December 7th, Andy Mitchell is running his usual coach to Leicester for the First XV match there.

They may have been eclipsed by the doings of Bath, recently, but they're still a mighty intimidating prospect for any side, especially on their own turf. If you fancy the trip, see Andy Mitchell with £3 in your grubby little paw.

#### **Division**

One thing about the South West v. Midlands game here on December 14th. There won't be any problem about tickets, simply because there won't be any tickets. So, better get here early.

And I do mean early. The kick off is at 2.15, which is almost breakfast time on a Saturday.

#### **And not before time**

Those of us who have been around a while will need a lot of convincing that John Gadd is not the best No. 6 in the country — simply because we've seen him up against all the rest. Which makes us all the more delighted that — albeit belatedly — he has been drafted into the South West Divisional Squad. It's richly deserved, as indeed, would a full Divisional and even England Cap.

It's a different story for Mike Hamlin, who has at last achieved some recognition in the same Squad. Great to see that, too.

Congratulations to both of them — and commiserations to Richard Mogg, whose injury has deprived him of the chance to add to his impressive list of representative honours.

#### **Just the ticket!**

Unless you are a regular in the Bar on non-match days, your opportunities to win prizes in the Grand Christmas Draw are becoming limited. The answer is to see John Beaman and buy a few today.

#### **Patrons' Night**

Patrons will be happy to know that tickets for the famous Patrons' Night are available right now. Several people have them, but one easy way to get yours is to drop into the Caravan after the game.

#### **Tailpiece**

Looking at some old records, the other day, I was struck by how things change. Did you realise, for example, that Gloucester played precisely 100 seasons before the Club topped the 1,000 points mark for the season? It's still a feat, of course, but not that unusual.

Incidentally, at the other end of the scale, in 1895 Gloucester scored just 116 points in 26 matches!

PETER ARNOLD