



**GLOUCESTER**

**V.**

**BRISTOL**

**JOHN PLAYER CUP**

**SATURDAY**

**25th JANUARY, 1986**

**Kick-off 3 p.m.**

Financially supported by

**CHELTENHAM  
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### Cheltenham Electrical Control Systems Ltd.

#### GLOUCESTER 7 PTS (Cherry & White) (1T; 1PG)

Full Back	
15. T. Smith PG	
Three Quarters	
14. D. Morgan	
13. R. McLean	
12. P. Taylor	
11. T. Ford T	
Half Backs	
10. M. Hamlin	
9. M. Hannaford	
Forwards	
1. P. Jones	
2. K. White	
3. R. Pascall	
† 4. J. Orwin (Capt.)	
5. J. Brain	
6. J. Gadd	
7. M. Longstaff	
† 8. M. Teague	
REPLACEMENTS	
16. R. Williams	
17. G. Mann	

#### BRISTOL 4 PTS (1T)

Full Back	
A. J. Webb	
Three Quarters	
† B. A. Morley	
C. R. Knibbs	
D. D. Sorrell	
E. J. Carr T	
Half Backs	
† F. J. Horton	
† G. R. Harding	
Forwards	
H. P. Stiff	
I. K. Borgira	
† J. A. Sheppard	
K. A. Blackmore	
L. N. Pomphrey	
M. P. Pollerdri	
N. M. Wyatt	
† O. A. Dunn	
REPLACEMENTS	
P. D. Palmer	
Q. P. Jeffrey	

Referee: C. HIGH (Manchester Society)

† International

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



# Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire

### **A tough act to follow!**

There's always something special about a John Player game. There's always something special about a Gloucester v. Bristol match. Mix those two ingredients and add the fact that last season's Semi-Final against Bath was one of the best occasions which this old ground has ever seen, and one can't help thinking that today's two sides have an enormous amount to live up to.

The omens, however, are good. As everyone knows — or should know — Gloucester have, this year, disposed of Moseley, London Scottish, Leicester and Wasps in considerable style, while after a stuttering start by their own standards, Bristol have been stringing some good games together. In any case, Gloucester v. Bristol has a habit of being an epic game, whatever the current form of the two sides concerned. Very rarely do we see a dull match between the two sides.

In fact, last year was a quiet one by those standards, Bristol winning both games, by 16-9 at Kingsholm, and by just 3-0 at Bristol. Gloucester, therefore, have pride to play for, as well as Cup ambitions.

Everything else apart, however, it will be good to see such old adversaries as Alan Morley, Austin Shepherd and Dave Sorrell back on Kingsholm — selection and injuries permitting. There will also be the odd raised eyebrow at the presence of Mr. Horton, now wearing Bristol colours rather than those of Bath, which he donned to become the villain of the piece, as far as Gloucester were concerned in last year's epic Bath encounter.

### **Chapter III!**

There's a certain amount of justice about the fact that Bristol are our opponents in the Cup. It was, after all, the John Player First Round commitment against Exeter University which deprived us of our trip down the A38 in September.

This wrong will be righted next Friday evening when Bristol again visit us for an important John Smith's Merit Table match. Hardly worth their while going home, really.

The following Saturday is something of an unknown quantity. February 8th is the next JPC Day, much to the displeasure of Peter Ford, who has been trying to rearrange Aberavon fixtures for years, only to see the reward for his patient efforts endangered by a late change of Cup Competition dates.

If we lose, or draw, today there's no problem, of course. If we win, however, we don't know who or where the opposition will be.

### **Thanks to Cheltenham Electrical Controls**

Who are Financially Assisting today's game and are of course, extremely welcome, and to be thanked for their generosity. They are also an extremely interesting company in their own right.

To start with, they are a member of the DIS Group, and Design Installation Services, the parent company, are also regular Kingsholm sponsors. In fact, CEC might be called the electrical arm of the Group, specialising in the more sophisticated forms of electrical control.

Their areas of expertise are many and various, but one of the most important of these is the design and supply of Energy Management Panels, which take all the 'spaghetti' out of mains supply and distribution, and can also be used to control such things as security and fire systems.

Quite apart from that, CEC are active in instrumentation and switchgear, as well as heating and ventilation and computer controlled systems.

A little bird also tells me that Cheltenham Electrical Controls are providing an autographed ball to be raffled for the Florida Tour Fund, which seems a noble gesture.

One way and another, we have a lot to thank Paul Bolton and his colleagues for. We hope that they, and their guests, have a very fine time today.

### **Always providing we win!**

We don't wish to count any chickens, but David Foyle and Terry Tandy do have to have initial thoughts about the supply of tickets for the next Cup round, should they be necessary. The Fourth Round day is only two weeks away, after all, and we only have one match between then and now, and that on a Friday evening.

Should we win today, and then get drawn at home on Monday (all fingers and other anatomical points crossed) then tickets will be on sale, at the same prices as today, Stand Only, at the Bristol game next Friday, and from the Monday following from Sandoe Luce Panes in Brunswick Road.

If anything different happens, watch the press, and listen to the PA system on Friday.

#### **Bad luck, and welcome back!**

I feel I must say a few words of commiseration to Jeremy Bennett, who has been asked to make way for the return of Mike Teague, today. From where I sit, Jeremy has done nothing wrong, and I hope he doesn't take the decision as any reflection on his own form and ability. Indeed, Mike Nichols implied that he shouldn't in the Press when he was announcing the decision.

It must have been a terribly difficult one for Alan Brinn and his colleagues to handle. However, Jeremy is a very good club man, and I'm sure he understands the position.

It is nice to see 'the old firm' back in the back row though. Welcome back 'Teagucy'!

#### **And another wanderer returns!**

Welcome, also today, to our MP, Mrs. Sally Oppenheim-Barnes. Over the years, she hasn't missed many Cup games, and has, indeed, proved to be a lucky mascot for the Club.

Perhaps, all being well, we might again hear the strains of 'Gloucester Boys' echoing around the Palace of Westminster!

#### **Want to go to Florida**

Don't forget the Draw for the Florida Tour Fund. Tickets are just 50p apiece, and could win you a trip to the revolting colonies with the Lads when they venture westwards.

Plenty of people have tickets for sale, or you could visit the Club Shop and treat yourself there.

It's gotta be worth a gamble.

#### **Totting up**

Trying out a new calculator, the other day, I used it to tot up the points scored by the First XV, so far this season. One statistic which seems to have been missed in the welter of post mortems following the Wasps game, was that the lads passed 700 points for the season on that stirring occasion. My impression is that a high proportion of them have come by the tries route, which is what the game is about, after all.

We should be set fair for the magic 1,000 points this time round. But there's many a slip . . . . .

#### **Tailpiece**

It was nice to see an old friend at Kingsholm, last week. For the first time this season, distinguished journalist Alan Gibson was able to make the trip to see Gloucester.

The reason why Alan hasn't made it this season until now, is that he hasn't been too good, and has been in hospital for some time, and indeed, still isn't walking too well.

We all hope he gets back into form quickly. Sports journalism isn't the same without his golden prose.

He did make one comment about the programme though. "Not as good as in Arthur Russell's day," he said, "No Shakespearian quotations!"

PETER ARNOLD.

*Front Cover Cathedral Photograph reproduced by Courtesy of Gloucester City Council.*