



GLOUCESTER
V.
S. WALES POLICE

WEDNESDAY
5th NOVEMBER, 1986
Kick-off 7 p.m.

Sponsored by

The Citizen



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)

220

- RUGBY BOOTS
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ALAN BRINN SPORTS

52 Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

Sponsored
by **The Citizen**

GLOUCESTER

(Cherry & White)

Full Back

15. N. Marment

Three Quarters

14. D. Morgan

13. R. Mogg

12. P. Taylor

11. J. Breeze

Half Backs

10. M. Hamlin

9. R. Williams

Forwards

† 1. M. Preedy (Capt.)

2. G. Mann

3. R. Pascall

4. P. Wallace

5. J. Etheridge

6. B. Fowke

7. I. Smith

† 8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS

L. Gardner

K. White

SOUTH WALES POLICE

(Red)

Full Back

15. M. Hembry

Three Quarters

14. H. Griffiths

13. K. Jones

12. C. Gupwell

11. C. Barber

Half Backs

10. I. Stevens

9. P. Noble

Forwards

1. M. Pugh

2. S. Davies

3. H. Williams-Jones

4. D. Rees

† 5. S. Sutton (Capt.)

6. S. Morris

7. R. Collins

8. M. Lynch

REPLACEMENTS

C. Millman

R. Donovan †

Referee: P. J. DRAKE (Bristol Society)

† International

Good luck to one special team from another!



Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire

Fireworks Tonight?

The Law, as Mr. Bumble said, may be "A Hass", but it probably wouldn't be wise to echo that opinion when it comes in the formidable shape of tonight's visitors. Indeed, some of the pyrotechnic displays of rugby that South Wales Police have been producing during recent seasons, make them a highly appropriate side to entertain on November 5th.

Not, strangely enough, that they have always reflected their best form when visiting Kingsholm. Their status as the most improved side in Wales began to become apparent in 1983, when they deservedly beat us, 13-9. The following year they brought a sadly depleted side, largely due to injury, as I remember, and went down 32-10. Their visit last season, however, was a much closer-run thing and Gloucester, needed every spot of muscle and technique they could muster to win by the odd point in 29. And that was the week after we'd passed our 400 points for the season.

But it is the manner in which S.W. Police rugby has developed which is impressive. From being a good, honest side, playing rugby not unlike the traditional 'Glawster' style, they have become a team which, on its day, can be compared with any side in Wales for the attractiveness of their running.

As for 'off-the-field' activities, the Club which numbers Richard Jardine, Jerry HERNIMAN and John Fidler among its distinguished alumni, doesn't need reminding about the convivial temperaments of off-duty policemen, so there may be a hot time in the old Complex tonight. And very welcome too.

Evening All!

West Where?

West Hartlepoons might not trip lightly off the tongue when one is discussing rugby teams — but any side which qualifies for the John Player Special Cup by winning its local Merit Table six years in a row isn't one to be taken gently.

Their reputation as the Pride of the North East has been growing steadily for some time, and although direct comparisons are difficult owing to the disparity in our respective fixture lists, my information is that they aren't a bad outfit at all.

Our history of visits to that part of the world is a little against us, too. Do you remember the period when we had to travel to Gosforth on successive seasons, and weren't quite able to win in spite of the fact that we were demonstrably the better side on at least one of those occasions?

One way and another, it's going to be a difficult safari for the boys, and they're going to be grateful for all the support they can get. And that may not be so difficult as the mileage would suggest. I already have it on good authority that British Rail will be running a train, although, obviously, there are no details yet.

Plenty of time to make up your mind, anyway.

Come in No. 136

The generosity of Tyre Sales Limited was extended, yet again, at the Plymouth match. The holder of Programme no. 136 duly produced it and went away £5 richer.

Good on you Sir — or even Madam, the uncertainty being engendered by the fact that we had trouble reading the signature. We *think* it reads 'R. J. Spargow', but can't be absolutely sure. What isn't in dispute is that the fortunate fellow (or filly) lives at 39, Paygrove Lane, and we offer our felicitations.

Not Wanted at Kingsholm

Just occasionally, it is necessary to raise a topic which I wish hadn't arisen. Like now.

After the Plymouth game, Terry Tandy received complaints about a group of spectators whom even our mild-mannered and charitable Secretary felt moved to describe as 'jobs'. It appears that one little gang were drinking heavily on the terraces, and directing abusive and foul language in all directions.

We've never had that problem before, we don't want it, and we jolly well aren't going to have it. Kingsholm has always been a place where fellows can bring their wives, girl-friends and kiddies, without any hesitation whatsoever. And that's the way it's going to stay.

A nip from a hip flask to keep the cold out is one thing. Swigging directly from bottles of port and cider quite another. A sudden expletive when something goes wrong on the field is excusable. Lengthy and consistent obscenity isn't.

The Committee asks me to issue a warning that anyone acting in this manner will be banned from the ground, and if circumstances warrant it, reported to the police.

The legal position is now quite clear, as a couple of Portsmouth footballers found out a week or two ago. Kingsholm is now covered by the provisions of the new Safety at Sports Grounds Act, and insulting behaviour comes under Section 8 of that Act.

And I hope I never have to write in that vein again.

Never on Fridays and Saturdays

It's much more pleasant to be able to report that business in the Social Club is booming. So much so, in fact, that, for the moment anyway, Friday and Saturday evenings have been designated 'Members Only' nights. This has become necessary to make sure that our regulars can get a quiet drink in reasonably comfortable surroundings, without an excessive crush at the bar.

So, when you're around on those evenings, make sure you have your Social Club Membership card with you.

You *have* got one haven't you?

. . . And For Our Next Trick

Next Saturday, the First XV visit Newbridge, always an attractive side, and not so far away that the trip becomes a chore. On the other hand, the unbeaten United side are at home to Caerleon on the same day, so you have a choice.

One week tonight, we entertain our friends and neighbours from Cheltenham, and on the following Saturday, the visitors are Broughton Park — although I must mention that the County are playing Berkshire on that day, at Cheltenham.

Wouldn't it be nice to see Steve Boyle and John Orwin in harness again?

Read All About It!

We have valued Sponsors from all branches of Commerce, Industry and the Professions. But it would be true to say that no Sponsor is so well-known to everyone in Gloucester as the good old 'Citizen' newspaper, who are generously supporting tonight's game.

This is their first venture in this field, and it seems highly appropriate that just about the only local paper in England who regularly lead their sports reporting with rugby coverage should be so involved.

Everyone thinks of the 'Citizen' as Gloucester's paper — and so it is, but they can also point to highly significant readership in the Forest and the Stroud area. I'm told that the nightly circulation of the paper is now some 40,000, which means that around 120,000 people read the 'Citizen' every night. This goes some way to explain why, in spite of the advent of local radio and the 'freebies' our local paper is the first medium anyone thinks of when considering taking advertising space.

Tonight's Sponsorship also gives us a chance to say 'Thanks' to a whole dynasty of rugby reporters who have served us so well over the years. From the pioneering 'W.B.' through dear old Arthur Russell of the Shakespearian quotations, Andrew Wise, who left to join the RAF, and, nowadays, Terry Phillips who can hold up his head even in that formidable company, they all seem to have seen the same match as I did. Which I can't always say of some of the Press.

So thanks for everything 'Citizen'. Long may you flourish.

Tailpiece

I'll bet the 'Alternative Boxing Day' at the Old Cryptians Ground was quite an occasion. You probably read that, two Sundays ago, O.C.'s took on Old Richians at Over 35 level, and I suppose that with such promising youngsters as Peter Butler, Dick Smith, Eric Stevens and both elder Hannafords playing, the result was fairly predictable. One story I did like, however.

It appears that the game was played in four periods of 20 minutes, and that two referees were employed, one for each half of the field. At one period, Cryptians were penned in their own 25 for quite a long time, and one prop forward was heard to suggest that they get down into the other half, because "The ref's a bit better down there!"

That resulted in an instant penalty for Richians, "What for ref?" came the chorus.

"Telling the truth!" replied the ref.

You can't argue with that.

PETER ARNOLD.

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