



GLOUCESTER
V.
CHELTENHAM

WEDNESDAY
12th NOVEMBER, 1986
Kick-off 7 p.m.

Sponsored by

C&G



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 (B'ham) Ltd.
1a Kingsholm Rd
(Opp. Kingsholm Rugby Ground)

561

- RUGBY BOOTS
- JERSEYS AND SHORTS
- BALLS
- CLUB DISCOUNTS
- INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CLUB MEMBERS
- Personal attention always available at:

ALAN BRINN SPORTS

52 Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

GLOUCESTER

(Cherry & White)

Full Back

15. N. Marment

Three Quarters

14. J. Breeze

13. R. Mogg

12. P. Taylor

11. M. Smith

Half Backs

10. M. Hamlin (Capt.)

9. R. Williams

Forwards

1. P. Jones

2. K. White

3. R. Phillips

4. C. Guest

5. J. Etheridge

6. J. Gadd

7. M. Longstaff

† 8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS

L. Gardner

K. Dunn

CHELTENHAM

(Red & Black)

Full Back

15. M. Roberts

Three Quarters

14. A. Hennessey

13. J. Cropper

12. P. Keegan

11. R. Hughes

Half Backs

10. P. Cooper

9. M. Hyde (Capt.)

Forwards

1. A. Torkoniak

2. D. Eyre

3. N. Smart

4. S. Paggett

5. R. Prewer

6. P. Holmyard

7. P. Lodge

8. C. Kelly

REPLACEMENTS

D. Phillips

D. Kearsey

Referee: A. SAVAGE (N Midlands Society)

† International

Good luck to one special team from another!



Richard Cound

BMW in Gloucestershire

Welcome, Neighbours!

We get excited when Leicester or Bath come to Kingsholm, go spare when we have a John Smith's Merit Table game, and go positively doolally when a John Player Cup match is in prospect. But, in spite of all that, there's something special about a straightforward match against old opponents.

This is especially true when those opponents are friends and neighbours, and we have no one more neighbourly than Cheltenham. Cup matches come and go, the County Championship bobs up and down like a pendulum, and the Divisional Championship lumbers its fruitless, elephantine course across the scene, but the Cheltenham game is one fixed point in a changing world — and long may it remain so, whatever happens elsewhere.

This has very little to do with the relative playing strengths of the two sides. Although tonight's visitors have not been the power in the land that they once were for a little while now, we could also admit that they could say the same about Gloucester if we compare this season's results to date with last year.

Things can change very rapidly. Gosforth used to beat everyone, but how are the Mighty fallen? Conversely, whoever heard of West Hartlepoons until a few years ago? Yet we are regarding our trip there, next January, as a very real test. We can all remember the time when we regarded Bath as a gentle run-out.

All such considerations apart, only the visit of Bristol generates as much 'local derby' flavour as the Cheltenham game, and it's important for that alone. Gloucester without Cheltenham would be like tomato juice without Worcester sauce — acceptable, but certainly lacking a certain personality.

So welcome to the lads from down the road, Let's face it, the away game is the only one from which you could, if pushed, walk home if your alcoholic libations reached the extent where a breathalyser became a distinct danger. And that could just happen, in reverse, this evening.

Have a great night, 'Chelt'.

Thanks to C. and G.

Our gratitude is due, once again, tonight to Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society, now one of our longer-standing Sponsors. It is, of course, highly appropriate that they also sponsor the reverse fixture at the Prince of Wales Stadium, and have done so for some seasons.

Normally, at this point, I give some information about their eminence in their chosen field (which is considerable) plus some details about performance since they visited us last. This time, however, it's only right that I should take a different tack.

Yesterday, I was invited, with others, to take a look around their newly completed branch in Eastgate Street. Unless you are a newcomer, or have been hibernating for the past couple of years, you'll know that it occupies the ground floor of our revered Guildhall.

When the decision was made to lease off part of our most important Civic building to commercial interests, there was some quite understandable criticism flying around. We don't hear so much of it nowadays. Anyone who has taken a walk into the Docks recently, taken a look at the City Council's North Warehouse offices, and observed the general air of rebirth which pervades the whole area, will admit that the deal, which provided the vital finance for that project, was thoroughly justified, and will have incalculably far-reaching effects on the whole City.

Cheltenham won the Guildhall project, fair and square, in a classic tendering exercise. I attended the meeting where that decision was made, and quite properly, none of us knew the name of the successful tenderer until after the vote had been taken. I can say, however, that all my Council colleagues were delighted when the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society was announced as the winner of the lease.

The fact that C. and G. are a financial organisation had certain fiscal advantages, but more important, in the minds of many of us, was that we felt we could trust Cheltenham and Gloucester — that they would do a good job, and would not destroy the character of our much loved Guildhall.

On the strength of yesterday's visit, I can say that our confidence has been completely justified. Quite simply, they have done a magnificent job, practical yet elegant, modern yet thoroughly in keeping.

Naturally, Gloucester RFC owes a considerable and continuing vote of thanks to C. and G. for their support. But so, in my humble opinion, does all the rest of the City of Gloucester.

Thanks again, C. and G. — from all of us.

Christmas is Coming!

Which means that, so also, is our regular Grand Christmas Draw. In fact, John Beaman tells me that it is already in operation.

There isn't any super-doooper, gold plated, show-stopping Grand Prize this year. This isn't because Ebenezer Scrooge has joined the Social Club Committee, but because everyone thought that a large number of smaller prizes would give more chance for more people to win a little largesse. Which can't be bad, and when you consider that John is quite confident that the prize list will exceed the magic hundred, then obviously your chances are pretty good.

But if you don't buy any tickets, you don't win anything. And the more you buy, the more you bend the odds in your favour.

Nudge, nudge, know what I mean?

Couple of Weeks To Go

There is just about a fortnight until the first 300 Club Draw is made for this season. It's not too late to enter, if that small thing has been slipping your mind. See any member of the Social Club Committee, and he'll be glad to accommodate you.

Same as before. If you don't join, you can't win.

Good to Hear

Last week, I had occasion to reprove a certain (small) section of our supporters for yobbish behaviour; something I've never had to do before, and for which I regretted the necessity. There is another side to the coin, however, and I'm delighted to be able to record it.

Nick Thomas, of 22, Rowham Road, Bridgend, made the trip to support South Wales Police last Wednesday evening. He thoroughly enjoyed himself — until, that is, he found that he'd dropped his wallet containing a considerable sum of money.

Today's climate being what it is, he could have been pardoned for writing the whole thing off, but it turned out not to be like that. On application at the Office, he found that wallet and contents had been handed in, intact.

I know who the honest finder was, but he's not keen on Nick Thomas knowing. Neither would I do him any favour by revealing his name here. Nevertheless, Nick wants the incident made public, and he wants to say an equally public 'Thankyou'. Which I'm glad to help him do.

This is the third time that something similar has happened this season. So we can't be all that bad, can we?

'Browton' or 'Brawton'?

It's 'Brawton' actually. So when you come along to the Broughton Park game next Saturday, you can now pay our visitors the compliment of getting it right. Which apparently, I never have done until now. After which, we have the United against London Irish — always a convivial occasion — on Saturday 22nd, followed by the First XV against Camborne on the 29th.

All good, interesting stuff. See you along the way.

Patrons Night

David Foyle had a quick word, the other evening, to tell me that, this season, the Patrons Evening will be held in the New Year. No date yet, but perhaps the advance warning will enable you to concentrate on Christmas. Full information when I have it.

Tailpiece

Scanning my 'Rothmans Handbook' I note that the unnamed correspondent who wrote on last season's Divisional Championship commented: "The Championship provided entertainment".

Lucky fellow. He must have watched different games to the ones I did.

PETER ARNOLD.