

O Personal attention always available at:

ALAN BRINN SPORTS

52 Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

Sponsored Barclays Bank PLC

MOSELEY GLOUCESTER (Red & Black) (Cherry & White) Full Back Full Back 15. I. Metcalfe (Capt.) 15. N. Marment Three Quarters Three Quarters 14. J. Goodwin 14. D. Morgan 13. R. Mogg 13. C. Arntzen 12. C. Allen 12. P. Taylor A. Parsons 11. N. Price Half Backs Half Backs 10. G. Smith 10. M. Hamlin 9. S. Robson 9. M. Hannaford Forwards Forwards M. Linnett 1. M. Preedy (Capt.) 2. K. Dunn C. Barbor G. Smith 3. R. Pascall 4. N. Scrivens R. Denhardt 5. J. Brain A. Ricardo 6. J. Gadd 6. R. Barr S. Masters 7. I. Smith 8. K. Hickey 8. M. Teague REPLACEMENTS REPLACEMENTS G. Grist R. Williams P. Shillingford G. Mann

Referee: C. MARRISON (E. Midlands Society)

† International

Good luck to one special team from another!



Not Dead Yet!

This season's tumult and shouting may have died, as far as today's two sides are concerned, but anyone who thinks the Gloucester—Moseley game at Kingsholm is just another club match, probably regards a trip to the World Cup as comparable with a wet weekend in Scunthorpe.

The reasons are, of course, historic. Some of the best Rugby around has been seen, over the years, in games between our two great clubs, and the match has always featured some of the best players in England, regardless of the opinions of gentlemen in selectoral roles. There is always a determination to win by both sides, and I suppose, honours at the moment are

fairly even.

Last season, Gloucester won a hard home fixture by 8 points to 3, in a game which eventually had a significant bearing on the John Smith's Merit Table Championship. Nothing daunted, the Birmingham lads took revenge at The Reddings by 18 points to 13 - and it was a well-deserved win at that.

The first half of home advantage has duly taken effect this season, even though Gloucester were unlucky with injury, and this afternoon will tell whether the home-win syndrome is

still in operation.

Be that as it may, the Season would be incomplete without the visit of Moseley, and we hope they all have a helluva good time while they're with us. Nice to see you chaps!

Thanks to Barclays

Today we are extremely grateful to Barclays Bank for again sponsoring an important Kingsholm occasion. The problem arises — what can I say that is new about such a familiar financial institution?

"Easy!", said David Pagett of Barclays when I asked him, "Barclays is the home for your mortgage!"

He's right, you know. These days we have more alternatives to the traditional building society mortgage than we've ever had, and the clearing banks' versions are certainly to be considered. As befits the first bank to provide cash dispensers, and the first to start Saturday

opening, Barclays are well in the forefront of this particular endeavour.

So what are the advantages? Rates are certainly competitive, and that can't be ignored, but the factor which impressed me is the sheer speed of response. At Southgate Street, for example, Norman Gooch, Dave Pagett and their colleagues can give immediate approval (subject to valuation, naturally) for mortgages up to £200,000, which isn't exactly a onebedroom bungalow.

The other point that David made to me is that they don't have any axes to grind about the necessary life insurance. If you already have a suitable policy which can be amended or extended, then they won't expect you to take out another one with their own tame insurance company. Similarly, if you have a friendly, neighbourhood insurance broker who you drink beer with now and then, Barclays are quite happy for you to give him the business.

And you don't have to be a Barclays customer, before, during or after the mortgage transaction. If you're thinking of a new mortgage, it could be well worth dropping in to see

Dave Pagett.

Incidentally, I hope he's here tonight. Last I heard, he was at home suffering from some vile variation of the East Albanian Influenza, or something. With or (sadly) without Dave, however, we certainly hope everyone in the Barclays party has a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Wouldn't like to take over my overdraft, would you chaps?

Come On Now — Fork Up For St. John

Tonight, we have our usual collection for the Gloucester City St John Ambulance Brigade, who have done such a great job, over the years, in attending to the ills that Rugby players are heir to. You'll certainly want to show your appreciation in terms of hard cash, or even folding money.

We'd particularly like to make the collection a big one this year, because it's the Brigade's Centenary Year. Surprisingly, the Brigade has been straightening out buckled Gloucester lock forwards at Kingsholm since 1912, which means that this is their 75th year at Kingsholm. We certainly hope that they'll be trotting on and off the Sacred Turf for at least

another 75 years.

Sadly, that may not be the case. Frankly, they're having trouble raising recruits, which seems a great pity. As Divisional Superintendent, Alan Hawker, himself a Kingsholm Regular for 50 years, says "I'm sure there must be some Gloucester supporters who would like to join us. Come along and see me after the match, or give me a ring on Gloucester 22595.

As a footnote, it was Alan's father, Ben Hawker, who started the tradition of a Kingsholm collection, around 1950. That first effort raised £30. Last season we shelled out over £300. Let's see if we can do even better tonight.

All the Winners!

The distribution of home fixtures hasn't allowed me to list 200 Club winners lately, however, you'll be pleased to note that, last month, Messrs. A. and B. Mitchell won £25, and that Ben James, Roger Daw, Peter Bicknell, John Bick and — the needle man himself — Roger Rollaston won £10 each.

While on the subject, Mr. Cottell of 25, Tenby St. Bristol bought lucky programme no. 621 at the Orrell game. It's always nice to see our friends from Bristol along, but isn't it

stretching hospitality a bit far when they walk off with our free fivers?

Coming Events

We don't have a home First XV game until the two Easter matches, and the United's final run at an unbeaten season all takes place away as well, but you needn't go short of Rugby.

run at an unbeaten season all takes place away as well, but you needn't go short of Rugby. On Wednesday, April 15th Lydney and Longlevens contest the Final of the County Under 17 Cup, which must be worth watching, followed one week by the North Gloucester Combination Senior Cup. On the 28th, the Juniors have their day in the NGC Cup Competition. But you needn't go short of Gloucester RFC football either. On Thursday, April 16th, we're away to Lydney — always a tough one — and, perhaps even more fascinating, next Wednesday, April 8th, the United travel to Berry Hill, a game which Dave Pointon regards as the toughest they have to face, including today's foray to Bridgend Sports, and next Saturday's trip to Pontypool. I don't know if Andy Mitchell has any seats left on his coach to that game, but it could be worth enquiring.

Change of Game

The forecast for this weekend is fairly 'orrible, and it would be a shame if Sunday's charity floodlit cricket match at Hempsted were rained off. The idea of watching the likes of Nick Marment and Nick Price cavorting in pyjamas with Sarah Potter rather appeals to me. The start isn't until 4.00, so they might just get away with the weather. Only costs a quid.

Stupid Bastards!

I make no apology for the bad language. Anyone who breaks into Kingsholm, or anywhere else, kitted out to cut through every cable in sight must be a terminal case of congenital

The point which I'm asked to make, however, is that the vandalism unfortunately occurred just before the Pontypridd Second XV were delayed in arriving, forcing a late kick-off. To make things worse, the visitors held a minute's silence in memory of a club stalwart who had died, and no one on the ground had the opportunity to learn about it.

The Club asks me to relay apologies for the inconvenience and discourtesy.

Patrons Night Next Week

Don't forget, it's Patrons Night on Thursday next. Any Patron without a ticket can probably get one by demanding same of David Foyle.

Tailpiece

Anyone who was at last season's memorable John Smith's Merit Table Dinner will be Anyone who was at last season's memorater form sinters Merit Table Differ with be saddened by the news of the tragically early death of Peter Robbins, of England, Oxford University, Coventry and Moseley. He was the undoubted star of that occasion, with one of the funniest speeches I have heard at any Rugby function.

P. G. D. Robbins was a No. 8 of the highest class, winning 18 caps between 1956 and 1962.

More than that, he was a great lover of the game, and above all, a gentleman.

He wouldn't want us to be marelling boyever. The best thing we can do is make sure that

He wouldn't want us to be maudlin, however. The best thing we can do is make sure that tonight's match is worthy of his memory.

PETER ARNOLD.