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# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

# 30p

## OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



# GLOUCESTER v COVENTRY

Saturday  
 12th September, 1987

Kick off 3 p.m.

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### **HALF A LEAGUE, HALF A LEAGUE, HALF A LEAGUE . . .**

To most Gloucester Rugby people, 'The League' simply means the one which was named after General Gordon – and *they've* given us plenty to talk about over the years. Nowadays, however, we're going to have to get used to an entirely different League concept.

Not that all is cut and dried. Divisions I and II are still to be worked out along Merit Table lines, for this season anyway, and what will happen in 1988/9 is anyone's guess. You might say that we still only have Half a League.

We shall just have to see how it all turns out. Of course, leagues have proved very popular in Scotland, but then – so has haggis.

All this makes it even more pleasant than usual to greet Coventry here today. It doesn't seem to matter whether we're meeting them in the Cup, a Merit Table or, for that matter, the Little Wittering Women's Institute Sevens, we can always count on a good game, with no quarter asked or given. And very rarely is there more than a few points in it.

The one recent exception to that is the occasion when we put 50 points on them a couple or three years ago. Even that seemed to do 'Cov' a favour, inspiring wholesale changes in a side which had been going through some doldrums. Since that day Coventry have beaten Gloucester four times, even doing the 'double' over us during the season when we won the John Smith's Merit Table. Of course, it was never right that they were in the Second Division of that competition, and it's good to see them back among the leaders where they, most assuredly, belong.

Welcome back to Kingsholm 'Cov'. We couldn't wish for better opposition so early.

### **SEASON TICKETS**

If you notice a cheerful-looking estate agent comfortably established between the double doors in the Clubhouse Lounge, don't be surprised. It's David Foyle, ready and eager to sell you a Season Ticket. He hasn't actually said so, but I'm sure he'll also be glad to receipt your Patron's card in exchange for the appropriate remuneration.

Seasons represent excellent value, whether you like to sit down to your Rugby, or stand on our rearranged terraces. Why not treat yourself and not have to worry about paying at the turnstiles for the rest of the season.

And after you've finished your negotiations with David, don't forget to drop off at John Beaman's table and acquire your Social Club Membership card. The Law, in any case, forbids you to use the Clubhouse without one, and as the big games come along, you may find occasions when you need a card to get in as things get crowded.

Having done all that, it would be worth your while seeing any member of the Social Club Committee and signing up for the 300 Club. You never know - it could pay for your season ticket and supply beer money too.

### **SEPTEMBER 30th**

I don't know what it is about September 30th this year, but it seems to be Judgement Day in a couple of respects. First of all, it's the final day when Patrons Cards will be valid without the appropriate receipt, and secondly it's the deadline for International Ticket applications.

On the latter subject, David Foyle has application forms, as does the ubiquitous Terry Tandy. And it's only just over two weeks away, so don't let either consideration slip your mind.

### **THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN**

One of the objections raised to the proposals to institute a league structure was that the increased importance of those matches could lead to increasing crowd hooliganism problems. It's to be hoped not, although some evidence arises from Cup games which suggests there may be something in the thought.

As you came in today, you should have been handed a letter from Peter Ford on that very subject. We haven't suffered badly from the 'yob' element in the past, but there were enough incidents towards the end of last season to cause a little concern.

As far as Gloucester is concerned, that's as far as it goes. We simply ain't going to have it at Kingsholm.

Of course, I don't expect anything that either Peer or I write will make any difference to the yobs themselves. They probably can't read anyway. However, if you see any examples of bad behaviour in the Ground don't hesitate to tell any Club Official who will see that the appropriate action is taken.

And if any potential hooligan *has* had this spelled out to him – you have been warned.

#### **ALL CHANGE**

The story about the enforced structural changes to the Ground is now old news, but there must be a lot of people here today who haven't seen the actual effects. This being the first big game of the season, there's one aspect which isn't obvious, but which could become important today.

The stand which parallels Worcester Street is now limited to 400 people, and if the weather is good and we get a large crowd, this could just come into force today. If so, and you're a Worcester Street regular, then I hope you won't find yourself excluded from your traditional pitch, but if so - sorry, but there isn't a thing in the world we can do about it.

Similarly, for the same reasons, the old bench-type seating at the rear of the Centre Stand area has been replaced by red chair-type seats. In the old days, the benches counted as Wing Stand seats, but the enforced removal of the partition has resulted in the whole area now being regarded as Centre Stand. This increases the number of Centre seats, but reduces available Wing seats. Sorry again, to anyone affected.

#### **GREAT START!**

What a marvellous result for the Lads down at Swansea! Bit of a contrast from last season's pre-Christmas traumas, wouldn't you say? The question now is - can they keep it up?

Glamorgan Wanderers, away next Wednesday will provide a stiffish test, and remember that Pontypridd, who visit Kingsholm next Saturday, beat us down there last season. After that, on September 23rd, we have Exeter leading up to the away trip to the Old Enemy at Bristol on the 26th. And that's in the League.

United attempt to continue last season's all-conquering form with three away matches, and the next time we see them here is against Bristol, also on the 26th.

Before that, you can see the Colts against Lydney next Wednesday. So we have an intriguing opening campaign. See you along the way.

#### **TELECOM KNOW THEY AREN'T PERFECT!**

Maybe so, but any organisation which sponsors Kingsholm games as regularly as they do must have a lot going for them. And our thanks are due to them again today.

The point about Roger Lindsey's "not perfect" remark was that Telecom went through a bad patch earlier this year as a result of industrial action. Apparently, some maintenance work was taking over a week to accomplish, and it was taking six weeks to install a new phone.

However, Telecom staff have been working their - well, ears - off to put things right. They have now succeeded to such an extent that most faults are cleared the day they're reported, and new phones are being installed in three weeks. Which is quite an achievement in just a few months - especially when you consider that the original demand was about 20% above forecast.

And if you've been hearing horror stories about incorrect bills. Roger tells me that only 2% are subject to query. Which is better than most penalty tries.

All right - so they're not perfect. But they do try, and they're certainly the best in the world.

Thanks Telecom. Grateful Gloucester RFC are among your devoted fans.

#### **TAILPIECE**

They tell me that they've stationed lock forward Doctor Craig Guest in the Accident and Casualty Unit at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.

Physician, heal thyself!

PETER ARNOLD



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## TALKING RUGBY with Terry Phillips

The Citizen rugby writer Terry Phillips takes a look at the Gloucester club scene - in every Cherry and White match programme.

Derrick Morgan, Gloucester's 25-year-old winger who scored four tries in the 46-9 win against Stroud in midweek, has a remarkable strike rate for the first XV.

For Morgan, who is a product of the Longlevens coaching system, passed the 100 mark with those four against Stroud - and he has played only 136 XV matches.

It is an outstanding achievement for Morgan, who joined Gloucester four years ago and made his first appearance in the Cherry and White strip for United against Broughton Park 'A' at Kingsholm during early September.

He scored a hat-trick in a 29-12 victory that night and made his first XV debut a few days later - against today's opponents Coventry, also at Kingsholm.

He did not score in Gloucester's 19-14 success, but he turned in a useful performance and his speed helped create a try for Richard Mogg, who was playing on the other wing.

Morgan was selected to play against Launceston in the next match - a South West Merit table encounter at Kingsholm - and opened his first team account with four tries in a 50-0 victory.

Since then Morgan has been a regular in the Gloucester side and this season he has looked sharp and eager. On occasions Morgan has been accused of lacking defensive bite, but against Swansea and Stroud he showed a new appetite when Gloucester were under pressure and launched himself into several vital tackles.



Derrick Morgan

And against Stroud on Wednesday Morgan's best try came after 38 minutes when he was caught a few yards short of the line, but wriggled through the attempted tackles to go over.

Morgan's main strength, though, is his natural speed which has carried him to many tries for the club.

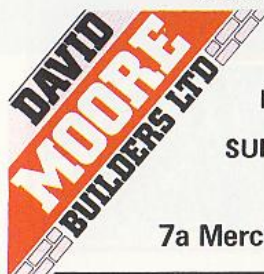
Morgan's record	Apps	Tries
1983-84	43	26
1984-85	33	29
1985-86	31	27
1986-87	27	16
1987-88	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>102</b>



Action from the midweek victory against Stroud - Lloyd Gardner waits at the back of the scrum as number eight Keith Jeavons, making his debut, controls. Watching is Stroud scrum half Steve Baker - one of several former Gloucester players in the Stroud team.



Keith Jeavons, the 24-year-old former Nuneaton and Cheltenham player who made his debut at number eight for Gloucester against Stroud in midweek. Jeavons, a radiographer at Cheltenham General Hospital, is the brother of Moseley and England player Nick Jeavons.



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## PLAYING RECORDS

### FIRST XV FIXTURES

1987							
SEPT.	5	Swansea	...	A	W 19 - 6		
	9	Stroud	...	H	W 46 - 9		
	12	*Coventry	...	H			
	16	Glamorgan Wander's	...	A			
	19	Pontypridd	...	H			
	23	Exeter	...	H			
	26	*Bristol	...	A			
OCT.	3	Bedford	...	A			
	7	Pontypool	...	H			
	10	*Harlequins	...	A			
	14	Ebbw Vale	...	A			
	17	Newport	...	H			
	24	*Nottingham	...	H			
	31	*Waterloo	...	A			
NOV.	4	South Wales Police	...	H			
	7	Rosslyn Park	...	H			
	11	Cheltenham	...	H			
	14	Newbridge	...	H			
	21	Broughton Park	...	A			
	28	London Irish	...	H			
DEC.	1	*Bath	...	H			
	5	*Leicester	...	A			
	12	Plymouth	...	A			
	19	Coventry	...	A			
	21	Newport	...	A			
	26	Lydney	...	A			
1988							
JAN.	1	*Moseley	...	H			
	2	London Scottish	...	A			
	9	Leicester	...	H			
	16	*Wasps	...	H			
	23	John Player Special	Cup3rd Rd.				
	30	Bridgend	...	A			
FEB.	5	Bristol	...	H			
	13	Aberavon	...	A			
	20	Bath	...	A			
	27	Liverpool	...	H			
MAR.	5	Northampton	...	A			
	12	Richmond	...	H			
	16	Cheltenham	...	A			
	19	*Orrell	...	A			
	26	Saracens	...	H			
	31	Lydney	...	H			
APR.	2	Moseley	...	A			
	4	Birkenhead Park	...	H			
	9	Neath	...	H			
	16	*Sale	...	H			
	23	Llanelli	...	A			

\* Courage Club Championship Fixture

### UNITED XV FIXTURES

1987					
SEPT.	5	Swansea	...	H	W 34 - 3
	12	Coventry	...	A	
	15	Cheltenham	...	A	
	19	Pontypool	...	A	
	26	Bristol	...	H	
	30	Glamorgan Wander's	...	A	
OCT.	3	Bedford	...	H	
	5	Berry Hill	...	H	
	10	Richmond	...	H	
	17	Newport	...	A	
	24	Crediton	...	A	
	31	Saracens	...	H	
NOV.	7	Plymouth	...	A	
	14	Caerleon	...	A	
	21	Newport H.S.O.B.	...	H	
	28	London Irish	...	A	
DEC.	5	Leicester	...	H	
	12	Bath	...	A	
	19	Coventry	...	H	
	21	Newport	...	H	
1988					
JAN.	2	Wasps	...	H	
	9	Leicester	...	A	
	16	Cleve	...	A	
	23	Newport H.S.O.B.	...	A	
FEB.	6	Bristol	...	A	
	13	Bath	...	H	
	20	Moseley	...	H	
	27	Rosslyn Park	...	A	
MAR.	1	Cheltenham	...	H	
	5	Northampton	...	H	
	9	Glamorgan Wander's	...	H	
	12	Nottingham	...	A	
	19	Orrell	...	H	
	21	Berry Hill	...	A	
	26	Pontypridd	...	A	
APR.	2	Bridgend Sports	...	H	
	9	Pontypool	...	H	
	16	Moseley	...	A	

	P	W	D	L	F	A
FIRST XV	2	2	0	0	65	15
UNITED XV	1	1	0	0	34	3

**Leading Points Scorers**

First XV — N. Marment 22 pts. (1T 6C 2P); D. Morgan 16 pts. (4T); M. Hamlin 11 pts. (2T 1DG)

United — T. Smith 14 pts. (4C 2P); R. Philips 8 pts. (2T)

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