WELCOME TO GLOUCESTER

We extend a very warm welcome to the Gloucester Club, its players, committee men and supporters.

Today’s game between the Blues and the famous Cherry & Whites will be the forty-eighth game played between the clubs without a single fixture ever being cancelled or postponed.

Bedford first played Gloucester at Kingsholm in 1905 when Ronnie Maclean, was captain of the Bedford club. However according to the “Bedfordshire Times” he could not play as he had twisted his ankle changing trains at Temple Meads Station in Bristol. One can hardly think he would have made a great deal of difference to the score of 52s-5s in their favour!

No other fixture was arranged until 1937 but for the last fifty years (apart from the war years) they have been on our fixture list.

Playing records to date:

**Home**

1905
1937-39 2 1 1
1945-1987 20 9 2 0
1985 10 2 10

1905
1937-39 3 2 1
1945-1987 23 3 2 16
85 5 2 18

**Total**

1905
1937-39 5 3 2
1945-1987 41 12 4 28
47 15 4 28

In recent years Gloucester have usually proved the stronger side, particularly up front but most games have been closely fought. Four seasons back our pack played magnificently in our 14pts-8pts win at Goldington Road. We actually scored a push over try with Ian Peck touching down. Bedford’s other try scorer was Richard Eales, with Simon Smith adding two penalties.

For a little nostalgia the Bedford team that day was: A KEY, B HOPKINS, B MACKAY, J MOSES, K CAINING, S SMITH, I PECK, A RATHIE, A

WALFORD, G BYARVES, P CATLING, R WILKINSON, N BENNETT, R EALES & A WHITEHOUSE.

During the war a number of Gloucester players were stationed in the Bedford area for a time and played for the club.

More recently Richard Pascall gave excellent service to both clubs. However it must be fairly unique case for John Grinn who has had the honour of captaining both clubs.

The Gloucester Club was formed in 1875.

**Women’s Rugby at Goldington Road**

Directly after the Bedford v. Gloucester game today you will have the opportunity to see, for the very first time at Goldington Road, Bedford, women’s rugby football on the 1st XV pitch (subject to weather). This game is very much in the form of an experiment in addition to helping the Cutter Hammer Women’s XV raise funds towards their RFU affiliation fee.

Their opponents today come from the Richmond club, who won a 1st and 2nd Women’s XV. There are several women’s teams in the London area, Waps being another senior club who are actively involved in women’s rugby.

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TODAY’S TEAMS

Saturday, 3rd October 1987
K.O. 3.00 pm

**Bedford**

15 Andy Finnie
14 David Jancey
13 Cameron Glenvill
12 Peter Ellam
11 Jim Chandler
10 Phil McCarthy
9 Brian Gabriel
1 Bob White
2 Mark Howe
3 Richard Porter
4 John Orwin (Cpt)*
5 John Davidson
6 Jez Keats
7 Steve Binnington
8 Glyn Wood

Replacements:
16 Steve Purdy
17 Stuart Gilbert

**Gloucester**

15 N. Marment
14 D. Morgan
13 P. Taylor
12 R. MacLean
11 J. Breeze
10 M. Hamlin
9 M. Hammond (Capt)
1 M. Preedy*
2 K. Dunn
3 R. Pascall
4 J. Etheridge
5 J. Brain
6 D. Spencer
7 I. Smith
8 J. Bennett

Replacements:
16 P Kingston
17 C. Mann