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# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

**30p**

**OFFICIAL  
 PROGRAMME**



## GLOUCESTER v NOTTINGHAM

Saturday  
 24th October, 1987

Kick off 3 p.m.

SPONSORED BY

**SERCO**  
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The Winner of today's  
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557







## **DECIDER?**

In spite of what 'Rugby Special' may think, today's Kingsholm game is certainly the most important match in the English calendar. In fact, when we come to look back on the events of the 1987/8 Season, it could well work out that the first Courage Clubs Championship was, in effect, decided today.

Consider the evidence. Nottingham are riding high at the top of the table, partly because their season makes them play all but one of their games before Christmas. This means that they're going to have an anxious few months, waiting to see if their lead is large enough not to be whittled away by other contenders during the second half.

Gloucester, on the other hand, have played just two matches, and won them both, and indications are that we'll be there or thereabouts come next April.

Of course, there's a long way to go yet, and a very useful dark horse has entered the race. Waterloo have been impressing everyone for the past few seasons, and they started their campaign by beating Nottingham, albeit by a single point - and remember, we have to visit them next week, which ain't going to be no walkover.

League considerations apart, Nottingham would have been very welcome visitors today in any case. Two of our last three fixtures have been weathered off, the other one being won by Gloucester, handily enough, at Kingsholm, and it's nice to see them again.

You'll also remember that it was Nottingham who had to sweat out the final week of the John Smith's Merit Table, when the eventual result depended on the Gloucester-Sale game at Sale. No need to remind you how that worked out.

One way and another, everything points to a thoroughly intriguing afternoon. Neither side has been free from injury, and that aspect could be the deciding one in the end.

All will be resolved by about 4.30. But meanwhile, let's wish our visitors a warm welcome, and hope they enjoy themselves, whatever happens.

## **THANKS TO SERCO-SECURICOR**

An unfamiliar name for old friends, but you may recall that RCA-Securicor have been generous enough to sponsor games at Kingsholm a few times before.

There's more than a name change involved here, however. The company still run important storage and distribution contracts for the Ministry of Defence, and are still based at 7MU, RAF Quedgeley. What is different, is the result of the events of January, 1987.

We seem to hear of 'workforce buy-outs' of companies with some regularity, these days. As far as I can remember, however, this is the first time that any such exercise has affected one of our regular sponsors. On January 29th, this year, the old company was acquired by the Staff, with the backing of a major financial institution. Everyone working for the firm at the time of the purchase became shareholders of the new company. The Securicor involvement hasn't changed in any way, hence the format of the new name.

After all that, you might expect that Manager, Ray Pocock would have too much on his mind to worry about Kingsholm, but as he writes: "We are the same people operating in the same style, and this includes the same enthusiasm for Rugby."

Good on you, Ray. We sincerely wish the new venture every success in the world, and hope that Serco-Securicor goes from strength to strength to strength.

And, of course, that all your colleagues, customers and guests have a memorable day with us.

## **?00**

I've been plugging the '300 Club', as usual, this season, and perhaps I've overdone it. John Beaman tells me that there are now 320 members.

Not that that worries anybody. It just means that we're raising more money for the Club, and that the prizes are better. In fact, the target is now 400 members, and indications are that the ambition may well be realised.

There's one very good reason why you may be tempted to participate. Bass-Charrington have generously got into the act by donating no fewer than eight bottles of Scotch to the cause, and these will be distributed by the way of a Preliminary Draw on October 30th, in the Clubhouse. Next Friday, as ever was.

Naturally, if you're not a paid-up Member, your number won't go into the hat.

That can be rectified in plenty of time, however. Just see Don Jefferies, John Beaman or Terry Close after the game.

## **YOU GOTTA PICK A TICKET OR TWO!**

While we're on the subject of Games of Chance, don't forget about our brand-new major Lottery, which is now in full swing. Usual thing — rub-off cards with instant prizes and some very big ones. Attractive young ladies will be attempting to catch your attention in this worthy cause around the Ground and in the Clubhouse today, and at every home game.

There's another dimension to this project however, and it's one which could make some worthwhile loot for any club or organisation to which you may belong. Quite simply, we're looking for more Agents - operating on a percentage basis.

If you think you can sell a few tickets, as a regular thing, then why not consider getting involved? Full details are available from the Secretary's Office, and you could find the whole thing very useful for your own club funds. Get the details and give the proposition some thought. Could be good for everyone involved.



### LUCKY PROGRAMME

Having used some space by asking you to participate in our various fund raisers, it's nice to be able to report a success for someone who did. Even if Terry Tandy does admit that it made him feel the onset of old age.

The Tyre Sales Lucky Programme number for last week's Newport game was No. 724, and it was held by a Miss Price of 47 Merevale Road. Terry was duly impressed, but the gilt was taken off the gingerbread for our genial Secretary, when she arrived to claim her £5, accompanied by her grandfather, who happens to be an old friend of his.

Never mind, Terry. It comes to us all. *Tempus fugit!*

### PLEASE STAY OFF THE TUMP!

If you're thinking of sneaking on to the Tump, in spite of the current prohibition, please, don't. Not today.

HIV cameras are covering the game, and we'd hate to have that sort of evidence thrown at us, if the Fire Officer happens to be watching.

Similarly, do remember to keep the stairs and gangways clear.

### HARLEQUINS

You may like to know that the drowned Harlequins game - also a League match - has been rearranged for Saturday, November 21st, which was when we were originally down to visit Broughton Park. Don't know whether it's at Twickenham or the Stoop yet.

Incidentally, that's also the day that the County play Cornwall at Kingsholm.

### UNITED NEXT WEEK

While the lads have their tough trip to Waterloo, next Saturday, the United will be entertaining Saracens, right here. The following Wednesday, November 4th, sees South Wales Police paying us a visit, followed by Rosslyn Park on the 7th. See you along the way.

### BEST OF LUCK!

Just to wish Berry Hill and Gordon League all the best for their John Player Cup games today. Both at home, which helps.

Incidentally, I suppose we'll know who we're down to play on Monday.

### TAILPIECE

Following the piece I wrote a week or two ago, our revered Patron and Divisional County Librarian, Gwyn Hiatt has taken me at my word, and purchased 7 copies of J. V. Smith's book *'Good Morning President'* for the Library stock, so you should be able to borrow a copy. He also volunteers the information that they now also have copies of Colin Deans' *'So You're a Hooker, Then.'* Thanks for the info, Gwyn.

He also tells me that he is trying to arrange for the Library to receive a copy of every Gloucester programme, "For the Local History Collection."

I'm flattered. Historical, I've never claimed to be. *Hysterical* yes!

PETER ARNOLD



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## TALKING RUGBY with Terry Phillips

The Citizen rugby writer Terry Phillips on the news from Kingsholm - in every Gloucester RFC programme.

### Courage Clubs Championships:

National Division One	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottingham	6	4	1	1	104	64	19
Leicester	3	3	0	0	68	38	12
Moseley	4	2	0	2	59	60	10
Bath	4	2	0	2	59	60	10
Gloucester	2	2	0	0	60	19	8
Coventry	4	1	0	3	58	110	7
Waterloo	1	1	0	0	10	9	4
Bristol	3	0	1	2	37	48	4
Orrell	2	0	1	1	22	40	3
Sale	3	0	0	3	34	60	3
Wasps	1	0	1	0	12	12	2
Harlequins	1	0	0	1	9	12	1

With only six weeks of the new rugby season gone, Gloucester have already used a total of 61 players in their two teams.

Simon Cuff, a scrum-half who joined the Cherry and Whites from Gordon League recently, is the 61st player to appear this season. He is playing for Gloucester United against Crediton away this afternoon.

Gloucester have used 38 players in their 11 first XV matches with another 23 who have played only for United so far.

The selectors at Kingsholm are always landed with a tough task during the early months of the season with so many players wanting games and only two teams available to accommodate them.

Those 11 first team matches have produced 37 tries with Derrick Morgan leading the way on eight - taking his total for Gloucester to 106 tries in 144 appearances.

United have scored 36 tries in their nine matches with scrum-half Lloyd Gardner the top scorer with five in six appearances.

Gloucester's third team - the Colts - have completed the first half of their programme for the season and will not play again until after Christmas.

They have won all four matches played - beating

Moseley 20-13, Lydney 33-3, Nuneaton 12-6 and Bath 26-3.

They scored 17 tries in those four matches with Mike Foyle, son of Gloucester committee man David Foyle, claiming three and Billy Parry on 31 points with two tries, three penalties and seven conversions.

It was good to see the former Gloucester back-row of John Gadd, Mike Teague and Mike Longstaff back in action together during the week.

They played for the Gloucestershire President's XV against Lydney at Regentsholme - a match to celebrate Lydney's centenary season.

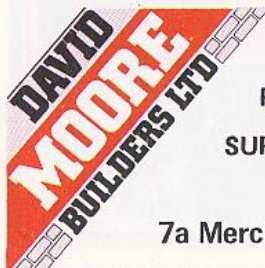
And the understanding between the three - who have a total of more than 600 first XV matches for Gloucester between them - was a key factor in the 38-10 win for the President's XV with Teague scoring twice and Longstaff once.

Gadd now plays for Stroud, Longstaff is still with Gloucester and Teague hopes to return to Kingsholm soon.

Gordon Sargent was another Kingsholm player included, while Steve Baker, Steve Parsloe and Phil Wallace were ex-Gloucester players involved.



Lloyd Gardner . . . five tries in six United appearances.



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