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# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

**30<sub>p</sub>**  
**OFFICIAL  
PROGRAMME**

## GLOUCESTER v ROSSLYN PARK

**Saturday  
7th November, 1987**

Kick off 3 p.m.

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### **COME WEST, YOUNG MAN**

It hasn't been a good couple of weeks for people living in the Great Metropolis. The stock market dived faster than Marcus Hannaford on a loose ball, yuppies are down to their last dozen crates of Champers, and Kew Gardens got uprooted in a hurricane.

Even London Rugby has been suffering; first of all when our Harlequins match was postponed because Twickenham was giving its impression of the Barton Pool, and again, last weekend, when British Rail managed to strand the entire Wasps side somewhere at the back of beyond when they should have been fulfilling an engagement at Gosforth.

Looked at that way, perhaps we should be grateful that Rosslyn Park are here at all, but assuming that the malign fates have decided to take a Saturday off, there isn't a side more welcome as the first visitors to Kingsholm from the big City this season.

On their last visit, two years ago, they found Gloucester in a no-nonsense mood, and had to be content with the unfortunate end of a 25-6 scoreline, and I also have to report that they haven't fared much better at home, where they've lost to Gloucester 16-6 and 34-12 on our two most recent visits.

That's all history, however, and I, for one, am not going to write off such a respected institution as Rosslyn Park Rugby Football Club at this stage. They are certainly quite capable of giving us more than a run for our money today.

The occasion also has the advantage that it's a straightforward 'friendly', with nothing on it other than pride. And that's no bad thing in our increasingly more competitive scene.

'Park' — we're very happy to see you. Hope you have a thoroughly enjoyable day, away from the stresses and traumas of life in the Great Wen.

### **THANKS, PRIESTLEY'S**

There aren't many names, around Gloucester's commercial scene, where are better known than Priestley's. Remember when they used to operate from right next door, in the old 'Jammy' Stephens factory?

Those buildings, like so many other Gloucester institutions, have gone now, but the City's premier display company is still alive and very well indeed.

Priestley Studios Limited have specialised in the design and production of screen printed display material for many years, and are very well known throughout the country for so going. That's a very wide field, of course — posters, showcards, vinyl stickers, counter displays, leaflet dispensers, individual signs — you name it. Priestley Studios can supply it. What's more, nothing comes from stock: everything is custom-made to precisely the customer's requirements.

They have full-scale manufacturing facilities for the construction of timber displays, showroom interiors, acrylic units, and just about anything really, and are always coming up with novel ideas.

All of which explains why such diverse organisations as British Coal, advertising agencies, electricity and gas boards, building societies and insurance companies, to say nothing of major retailers and manufacturers, tend to turn to Priestley Studios when they want to make an impact in their chosen marketplace.

We thank them for their generous sponsorship of today's game, and hope that their representatives and guests have a great day at Kingsholm.

### **THE NAVY'S HERE!**

Among those guests, again through the generosity of Priestley Studios, are the Captain and various other matelots from HMS 'Gloucester'. Not the first time they've been to Kingsholm, of course, but all the more welcome for that.

The sailors are in Gloucester to take part in tomorrow's Remembrance Day ceremonies, and if you're out and about, you'll probably see them marching in the traditional parade.

It's nice that they've been able to get here a day early, and we do assure them that we're intensely proud of 'our own' destroyer, here in the ancient City. And none more so than the Kingsholm contingent.

### **DOWN THE HATCH!**

No — not another naval item. Just a sneaky way of introducing the fact that the eight bottles of whisky, kindly donated to the 350 Club by Bass Charrington have been duly drawn for and won.

Now, I don't see that the lucky participants should be allowed to keep their good fortune all to themselves, so I'm going to reveal their names, just in case we have any Scotch drinkers with a persuasive turn of phrase and a thirst who might be able to talk a convivial tot or so out of them.

They are, in no particular order: Roger Woodard (or it might be 'Goddard' — can't read Terry Close's writing), A. J. Anderson, Ernie Hamer, Tony Lane, D. Clifford, Jom Newman, Mrs. Ruby Nicholls and Mike Potter.

Good on you, you lucky people!



### **... AND THERE'S ROOM FOR MORE**

The 350 Club, in fact, have 370 members, so the ambition to make it a '400 Club' looks likely to be realised, which means a real bonanza in terms of prizes. Why not make up the numbers yourself? Now would be a good time to do it, because the next draw takes place on Friday, November 27th, for a £25 prize and five more of £10 each.

And I'm also asked to tell you that the highly-popular Christmas Draw opens this week. Good Lord — is it that time already?

While I'm on the subject of games of chance, don't forget that we're still looking for Agents to sell our new Lottery Tickets. And that could be worth a bob or two, if you're interested.

### **CHELTENHAM AND NEWBRIDGE**

Next Wednesday Cheltenham visit us, and Newbridge follow on Saturday. With the greatest of respect to both of them, we do have stronger opposition to contend with, and no Leagues or anything are involved. This will probably give the opportunity to rest one or two players, and to give the impressive list of young hopefuls, performing so nobly for the United, a chance to reveal their talents.

That, in itself, makes life sufficiently interesting to warrant your attendance.

### **QUINS**

As reported earlier, our rearranged Club Championship game against Harlequins will take place on Saturday, November 21st. At Twickenham, as ever was.

That's the day we should have been visiting Broughton Park, and we're grateful to them for their understanding and co-operation in the matter.

If you can't get along and give your much-needed and appreciated support, then United have a highly attractive fixture against the tough Newport High School Old Boys side, which should be worth watching.

As a matter of fact, I shall be in London that day myself, and I'm looking for an excuse to leave my Lady Wife to her West-End peregrinations and trot off to 'Twickers'. Don't suppose I shall get away with it though. Anyone got any ideas?

### **NAUGHTY NIGEL!**

Did anyone hear Nigel Starmer Smith, a 'Rugby Special' or two ago, referring to the Moseley programme as "the best in the country"? Of course, he hasn't seen ours yet, but for that matter, we haven't seen the Moseley one.

We're trying to get hold of a copy, but if anyone has been along to the Reddings this season, and still has his programme, Peter Gould or I would be glad of a sight of it — just for comparison purposes. We're not proud — we'll pinch ideas from anyone.

Of course, if Nigel's opinion appears to be erroneous, we'll have to think what to do about it, won't we?

### **TAILPIECE**

The Leader of Gloucester City Council, Councillor Mike Pullon, had the temerity to enliven a full Council meeting, the other week, by referring to Norman Partridge and I as a couple of sporting 'has-beens'.

He's probably right. But, as I said at the time, I'd much rather be a has-been than a never-was.

PETER ARNOLD



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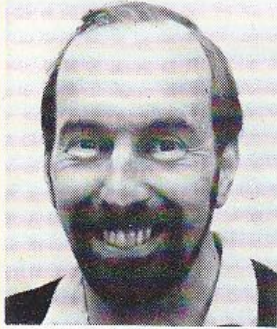
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## TALKING RUGBY with Terry Phillips

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

Keith Richardson, the Wycliffe College master who took over as Gloucester Rugby Club coach this season, believes the squad is making good progress.

After 14 matches this season Gloucester have won nine and lost five. They stand well placed in the Courage Clubs Championship National Division One and face Orrell at home in the third round of the John Player Cup.

"There is an awful lot of potential in this Gloucester squad," says Richardson, "And we must work to bring out the best in them.

"There are an excellent bunch of players, prepared to give everything for the club. And the spirit among the players is excellent.

"Perhaps we could do with a little more bulk in the squad, a few players with a big physical presence, but we are coming on well.

"The aim has to be for success in the League and the John Player Cup for they are important competitions and at the end of the season we will be judged on how we fare in them.

"But we have to strike a balance and ensure we put out good sides in the matches that do not count in League or Cup.

"Luckily we have good strength in depth and, as in today's match against Rosslyn Park, we are able to make changes and still maintain a high standard."

Richardson is currently being helped with the coaching by Fred Reed, the ex-Gloucester hooker, and Garth Cromwell. They are joined on a regular basis now by 'Chalkie' White, the South and South West coaching administrator for the Rugby Union, and former England Fly-half Ian Wright.

"Chalkie and Ian are a great help to me," says Richardson, "It makes a change for the players to listen to somebody new and their experience is invaluable in our training sessions."

Three tries against Rosslyn Park this afternoon would take the Cherry and Whites past the 50 mark

for the season — with winger Derrick Morgan leading the way on ten.

And three points would mean Gloucester top the 300 points mark.



*Action from Wednesday's Gloucester v South Wales Police match at Kingsholm — prop Peter Jones and lock John Etheridge jumping for possession. Gloucester emerged 27-6 winners, scoring five tries.*

*Full-back Tim Smith made his first appearance of the season for the Cherry and Whites, stepping up after playing five times for United. The start of the season was disrupted for Smith by a chest injury, but he is now fully fit.*

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