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# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

# 30<sub>p</sub>

## OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

# GLOUCESTER v CLIFTON

Tuesday  
20th September, 1988

Kick off 7 p.m.



Programme supported  
by the City of Gloucester

The Winner of today's  
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Draw will receive  
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309

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**GLOUCESTER**

(Cherry & White)

T	G	Pts




H/T		

15. N. Marment
14. J. Breeze
13. S. Davis
12. R. Temple
11. C. Dee

10. N. Matthews
9. L. Gardner

1. P. Jones
2. G. Mann
3. R. Phillips
4. C. Guest
5. C. Bishop
6. P. Ashmead
7. A. Stanley
8. J. Bennett

Replacements:  
A. Kitchin  
P. Wallace

(I) — International

Cumulative  
Match  
Score


**CLIFTON**

T G Pts

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F/T		

15. M. Wellstead
14. D. Cotterel
13. J. Lane
12. A. Thomas
11. B. Roxborough

10. R. Gilbert
9. M. Baker

1. S. Hucker
2. M. Williams
3. H. Davies
4. D. Wiggin
5. D. Mason
6. N. Morgan (Capt.)
7. M. Crook
8. R. Ellerby

Replacements:

M. Trott  
N. Walker

Referee: K. RICKETTS (Hampshire Society)



## WELCOME BACK!

It's amazing how quickly one forgets. When considering games between Gloucester and Clifton, the tendency is to think of them in the same breath as old opponents like Old Merchant Tailors or Guy's Hospital — gone but not forgotten. Nevertheless, we entertained our old County friends as recently as 1985, and were inhospitable enough to beat them 36 points to 12.

Clifton would be the first to admit that they make no claims to be rivals to Bath or Leicester, but the fact remains that they are one of the most ancient and honourable of the Gloucestershire clubs — and they are still Gloucestershire, in Rugby terms, whatever the thrice-cursed Local Government Act, 1971 says. Even when the County Championship was at the height of its prestige, the odd Clifton player was likely to crop up, now and again.

The last time I saw Clifton play, as a matter of fact, it was on their own ground, and if the welcome we got on that occasion is anything to go by, I'd certainly recommend you to make the trip, if we find ourselves playing there, next season.

Clifton, this evening, do us a very valuable service. The pressures exerted by the League system mean that you can't expect top players to turn out, twice a week, every week. The spirit may be willing, but the flesh is inclined to get a bit bent, now and then. Furthermore, there are now so many young hopefuls knocking on the First XV door, that you have to give them a crack of the whip now and then. It is obviously necessary to play a settled side as often as possible on the big occasions, but that doesn't alter the fact that we have the future to think of. Naturally, I haven't seen tonight's side at the time of writing, but I wouldn't mind betting that it will be one which could show most teams in the country a thing or two.

Anyway, it's nice to see old friends back again, and we hope that their return will be a memorable occasion for them.

## WHY TUESDAY?

Seems odd to be watching Gloucester play on a Tuesday evening, rather than foregathering on the traditional Wednesday. The reason, I'm told, is not unconnected with one or two things I've written already. We have the epic visit to Bath on Saturday, and the Powers That Be thought it wouldn't be a bad idea to allow an extra day between this game and Saturday's important encounter.

Seems reasonable to me.

## THANKS TO TYRE SALES

This is one of the very rare matches which doesn't have the benefit of a major Sponsor. Clifton shouldn't take this as any reflection on their attractions; it's simply that the noble band who were originally 'booked in' for this evening had to withdraw, through no fault of their own. Never mind chaps! Another time, eh?

The situation does, however, give me the opportunity to thank Tyre Sales of Kingsholm Road for their imaginative and continuing Sponsorship, which takes the form of supplying the 'Fortunate Fivers' awarded to holders of Lucky Programmes.

Quite a crafty little ploy, if you think about it. The generosity means that Tyre Sales get their name right on the front of the Programme at every home match. I see nothing wrong in that whatsoever — it's nice when genuine support for the game can go hand-in-hand with commercial advantage.

We're all very grateful for the gesture — not least those happy souls who find their beer money unexpectedly augmented. And I'm quite sure that Kingsholm regulars who need a new tyre or three will remember who their friends are.

## YEAR BOOK

Just an advance warning that we intend to publish our first Gloucester RFC Year Book this season. It should be available early in October, and at £1.00 will be an excellent bargain, as well as a unique record of the 1987/8 season.

There will be pen pictures of the players, records of the season, a number of photographs, a profile of a distinguished past player, and several other goodies, including a quiz to get your cerebral juices flowing.

Our thanks to Terry Phillips for helping to compile it, and I've even supplied an illiterate scrawl or two myself.

The idea is to make the Year Book an annual event (it wouldn't be a Year Book if it wasn't) and get any bugs ironed out before the production of a GT Model for 1991, when we celebrate the Centenary of the Ground.

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We'll keep you posted.

#### **THAT POSTER**

The Poster, which has been on sale at our nice new shop, is proving a great success and in considerable demand. Which isn't surprising, when you consider that for 75p. you can have a team photograph, a great deal of information, and a rather nice display piece if you have a youngster with a bedroom to festoon. As Graham Spring announced at the Moseley game, if nothing else, it's "excellent for covering a damp patch on the wallpaper."

You might like to know that the whole purchase price goes to the Club. The costs of production have been defrayed by our old friends Avonprint of Cirencester, Kingsdale Morris, and Sport in Business of Harescombe.

We thank them all for their help, and they'll be as pleased as everyone to note that the whole thing looks like being a considerable success. But don't let that put you off buying one. We're quite happy to consider a reprint if necessary.

#### **COMING SHORTLY**

Have you noticed that we arrived at September 17th without one defeat for any Gloucester side — First XV, United or Colts? Of course, I've no idea what happened last Saturday, but the omens are good.

This means that the comparative lack of First XV Rugby at Kingsholm for the next couple of weeks needn't deprive you of some excellent football. United are at home to Moseley — who will be smarting at the indignities suffered by their seniors — on Saturday, and to the never-to-be-underestimated Glamorgan Wanderers on the following Wednesday.

Of course, you will be only too aware of the crunch League game at Bath on Saturday, and I'm told that quite a contingent of the Faithful intend to make the trip to see how the First XV get on against that much vaunted outfit.

The omens are good there, too. On our last two visits to Bath we've come away with a win and a tie, not having been given a light by the pundits on either occasion.

On October 1st the lads return to Kingsholm to face Bedford, and as that happens to be my birthday, I'll be looking for a runaway win, otherwise, I don't buy any beer.

See you at any or all of them.

#### **300 CLUB**

It's about time I gave a plug to our so-called '300 Club'. I put it that way, because we always get more takers than the magic 'Three Ton'. And that's good for everyone, because the more punters, the bigger the prizes. Last season, for example, we were able to provide Final Draw prizes of £300, £200, and £100, plus two at £50 and seven at £25. That doesn't include the monthly prizes of £25, and five at £10.

It only costs you 25p per week, or one whole-season sub. of £6.50 to have a chance to share in the winnings, which is a fair bet.

Any member of the 300 Club Committee will be glad to talk to you about it all, and the whole thing starts to operate on October 31st.

#### **LOTTERY**

Don't forget that we have vacancies for Agents in our major Club Lottery. It's a way of making money for any other organisation in which you may have an interest, and does the Club a whole lot of good anyway.

If that's not your bag, as they say, there's still nothing to stop you buying a few tickets, is there?

#### **TAILPIECE**

Old Pals spot. There was I, strolling round a Craft Exhibition during the summer, when I espied a familiar face. Remember Tony Osman, who played on the wing during the early Sixties? A big, bustling runner, who studied Karate before many other people had heard of it, and one of the last fellows you would have thought of in connection with delicate glass-blowing.

Yet such he is, based somewhere out Stroud way, and operating as a full-time professional. Excellent work he does too.

He sends his regards.

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.*

Gloucester Rugby Club have opened the new season with four successive wins and their performances so far have been highly impressive.

Coach Keith Richardson has instilled a 'Keep it simple' approach and the Cherry and Whites have responded with teamwork and support play which has proved too much for Swansea, Stroud, Moseley and Pontypridd.

Gloucester have scored 131 points in their victories and conceded 40. They have gone over for 19 tries, while full-back Tim Smith has a total of 42 points.

And skipper Marcus Hannaford has worked hard to maintain team discipline even when tempers begin to fray as they did at times during Saturday's 25-18 victory against Pontypridd away.

Hannaford moved in quickly to push the players back whenever a penalty or free-kick was awarded against them.

But, while the start has been outstanding, the true test will come this Saturday against Bath away in a

Courage Championship National Division One clash.

Bath may have missed out on the honours last season, but they are still a formidable side and the selection of the South West Divisional side last week will add spice to an already potent local derby.

For Gloucester's Malcolm Preedy, Kevin Dunn and Richard Pascall have been named as the front-row for the South West match against Leinster at Bath next Monday. They have been chosen ahead of the Bath trio of Gareth Chilcott, Graham Dawe and Richard Lee, while the other five forwards are all from Bath.

South West coach Mike Rafter has said the South West team to face Leinster is an experimental side, but he has not told the Bath players and Chilcott has said: "We will have to make our point in Saturday's match against Gloucester."

Bath have started with three wins and they have scored 116 points, conceding only 21. That includes a 50 points win against Pontypool, a 26-7 success against Harlequins and a 40-3 victory against London Welsh.

But Bath will be without scrum-half Richard Hill, who was sent off against Harlequins and is suspended. Steve Knight will step in to replace him.

But, whatever happens at Bath on Saturday, it will not be a place for the fainthearted with Courage Championship points at stake plus front-row reputations.

*Gloucester Rugby Club full-back Tim Smith*



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