

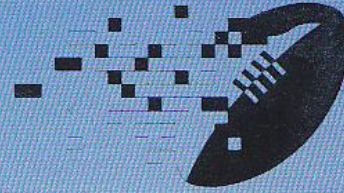


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 CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

# GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

**30p**  
**OFFICIAL  
 PROGRAMME**

THE   
**PILKINGTON  
 CUP**



## GLOUCESTER v WATERLOO

Saturday  
 11th February, 1989

Kick off 3 p.m.

FINANCIALLY ASSISTED BY



Programme supported  
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The Winner of today's  
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## FULL CIRCLE

It really is strange how things work out. For several years our proposed fixture against Waterloo had to be called off because of John Player Cup commitments, and now, here we are, in the first season of the Pilkington Cup, drawn against Waterloo. Natural justice, really.

There may be those among us, simple West Country Folk that we are, who get a little confused about Waterloo, but I can categorically state that the famous club has little to do with a London railway station, or an away fixture against France in 1815. (It has *something* to do with both, actually, but it's a bit remote).

If that leaves you even more confused, may I suggest that you simply remember the name 'Blundellsands', which, to anyone who knows anything at all about the game, should make everything instantly clear. Indeed, if you are as venerable as I am, that name will conjure up a whole series of Homeric encounters between Gloucestershire and Lancashire in the days when the County Championship was a County Championship.

But if we are a little uncertain about the location of Waterloo, we are under no illusions about the club itself. Every side has its ups and downs, of course, but like Gloucester, Waterloo has always been there or thereabouts, a power in the land, and certainly no team to be taken at all lightly. You shouldn't be misled by their relatively modest position in the Clubs Championship table — remember that we drew with them, on their own ground, last November, sharing 30 points between us.

Indeed, if it hadn't been for that result, Gloucester would now have been free and clear in the second spot in the table, rather than occupying that position on mere points difference, as we are at the moment.

If Waterloo's visits to Kingsholm have been relatively infrequent, then their presence here today is just that much more welcome. We're very conscious of the fact that they were giving top teams trouble long before most people had ever heard of Liverpool, let alone Liverpool St. Helens, and that, along with Orrell, they can well claim to be one of the two leading clubs in the North.

We all hope that everyone who has come along today has a thoroughly enjoyable game, on the field and off it.

## PILKINGTON THE FIRST

We can claim that no one knows more about Cup Rugby than Gloucester RFC. After all, we did win the very first such competition, even before John Player came upon the scene.

And don't things change? The feared Opposition that we had to beat to achieve that distinction included, of course, Coventry, London Welsh and Moseley, a trio which can hardly be said to be striking terror into anyone's hearts these days. Yet Gloucester, after all these years, still goes marching on.

Today, we see a new chapter in the Cup saga. This is the first time that we've had the pleasure of staging a Cup game under the generous auspices of the Pilkington organisation. I'm told that the competition Sponsors have sent a very healthy contingent along today, and we certainly hope that they all enjoy their first official visit to Kingsholm something immoderate.

Of course, there is a commercial aspect to all this. The investment required to support such a major competition, on a nationwide basis, is slightly mind boggling, and any benefits which may accrue to Pilkington for such an endeavour are undoubtedly well deserved. The game obviously benefits immeasurably from such generosity, and we'd be the last people to deny Pilkington's right to receive advantage from the whole affair.

This is, of course, the Fourth round of the Pilkington Cup, which means that the 80 sides which started out on the trail have now been whittled down to 16. The unique aura which the Cup generates has been experienced on more grounds than ever before, has inspired at least 1500 players (if you take into account injuries and replacements) and has enthralled an incalculable number of spectators. And it's impossible to say how many youngsters have been enthused into taking up the game as a result.

On that subject, I was interested to note that Pilkington have made arrangements with the RFU enabling their Cup logo, to be used on a variety of merchandise. All proceeds from this project will go directly to Junior and Mini Rugby, which, with so many schools apparently opting out of the game — regrettably — can be nothing but very good news indeed.

The Draw for this afternoon's games was made live on the radio, for the very first time. I understand that the same process will apply on Monday next, so get your ears tuned to Radio Two at around midday, if you want the earliest possible news about who's doing what and to whom in the Fifth Round.

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DAVID I. ROBINS M.Inst. T.T.

Meanwhile, we're delighted that so many Pilkington people, and guests, are here today. That fact, together with the news that we are to be televised, must make today's game the match of the Round.

And we wouldn't argue with that.

#### **ANY TO COME . . .**

. . . glad of it! That was, no doubt, the immediate reaction of the lucky souls whose number came out of the hat at the January '400 Club' Draw. My thanks to Terry Close, who with his usual, rather intimidating, efficiency, has supplied me with the names of the lucky winners.

They were: R. R. Pottinger, who won the £25.00 prize with number 253, Richard Bailey (394), Vince Apperley (257), D. Henley (329), G. L. Billings (26) and J. R. Melhuish (315), who all receive £10.00. Well done chaps — don't drink it all at once.

#### **WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

Quite a lot, actually — especially when it involves an organisation which has supported Gloucester RFC nobly, over a period of years, and who show every indication of continuing to do so.

You'll almost certainly remember that the mighty, multinational Honeywell computer organisation has provided financial assistance for Gloucester's home Cup games on several previous occasions. By the start of last year's campaign they had become 'Honeywell Bull' — you've probably seen their TV commercials — and this year the transition is completed by the adoption of the name 'Bull HN Information Systems' to be known simply as 'Bull' in general conversation. But their generosity still extends to Kingsholm, for which we are profoundly grateful.

Now, Bull is the ninth-largest computer organisation in the world, and can claim to be the only truly international one, with feet firmly planted in both the USA and Europe. The major European influence is French, which seems fairly appropriate for a company which supports Rugby.

One of the reasons why they have backed us so regularly is that the company does a great deal of business in the Gloucestershire Local Government scene. Both the County and the City Councils are good customers, just like over 100 other local authorities, 52 Police Forces and a significant number of Health Authorities.

That sort of involvement ain't peanuts, and the business is now so important that Bull have set up a special Public Authorities Unit to service that particular market. That should make things a bit easier for chaps like City Treasurer, Howard Baker, who misses few important games at Kingsholm, and who, I have no doubt in the world, is here today. At least, if he isn't, Words will be Said in the North Warehouse on Monday.

However, we're honoured to have one of the world's most important and successful computer organisations as benefactors, and to have been one of the very first publications to announce their most recent news. Makes us feel quite important.

So we hope everyone who has come along with Bull has a splendid day.

#### **BATH NEXT FRIDAY**

The species of Cup Fever which has been preoccupying all of us for the past couple of weeks has rather eclipsed the anticipation which we always feel when Bath are to visit us. In case, you'd forgotten, they are due to arrive next *Friday* evening, so as to avoid clashes with the Internationals.

England, have, of course, announced an unchanged side for the Ireland game, so at least we have a fair idea who *won't* be playing. Do you remember, some seasons ago, we got drawn at home in the Cup to Bristol, just a few days before we were due to entertain them anyway? We won both of those.

Wouldn't it be strange if history repeated itself, in the reverse order, as far as Bath were concerned? It's the sort of thing that happens.

#### **WELL DONE MIKE**

Don't know what you thought, but I reckon that Mike Teague was one of the most impressive players on view in the unsatisfactory Calcutta Cup game. He won a great deal of ball, and always seemed to be in the right place at the right time.

That didn't surprise us at all, of course. If he goes on for the rest of the season in that style, he must be a contender for a Lions place next summer. After all, it's useful to have a chap who can perform well at both No. 8 and No. 6.

#### **TAILPIECE**

I believe that there is no truth in the rumour that Malcolm Preedy is to take the drop-outs today.

PETER ARNOLD



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**TALKING RUGBY with . . .**  
*The Citizen sports editor Terry Phillips*

Waterloo players and officials, at Kingsholm today for the Pilkington Cup tie, were shocked at the reaction after their 16-10 victory against Gloucester Rugby Club in the Courage Championship last season.



Jim Syddall

"We were criticised for Out-Gloucestering Gloucester," says club official Ian Hamilton-Fazey.

"We had a big pack and used it well to earn victory in the style which Gloucester became famous for over the years.

"The match was televised on BBC Television and later some people knocked us for playing it that way."

Today, though, Waterloo are unlikely to rely on their pack to keep them in contention.

The retirement of lock Jim Syddall has taken a lot of the bulk and power out of the second-row and Waterloo also have the quality of backs to test the best.

"We still have a useful pack, but our game does not revolve around their performance," says Hamilton-Fazey, "We have changed our style and we have some excellent backs.

"After a poor start to the season the team has settled down and, while we know the task we face at Gloucester, we travel South with a reasonable amount of confidence.

"And after all we did draw 15-15 against Gloucester in the League this season."

Waterloo have reached the Knockout Cup final once — in 1977 when they lost to Gosforth — and are a useful Cup team.

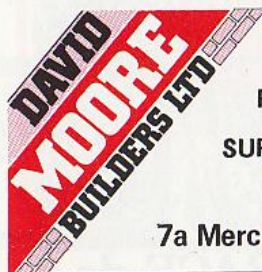
When today's Waterloo match is behind them, Gloucester will turn to next Friday's clash with Bath at Kingsholm.

Bath come to Kingsholm still unbeaten this season and with a 19-9 win against Gloucester in the Courage Championship behind them.

But after the win against Bristol away last week, Gloucester are full of confidence and that clash with Bath should be a cracker.

**COURAGE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**National Division One**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Bath	8	8	0	0	191	58	16
2 Gloucester	8	5	1	2	175	74	11
3 Nottingham	8	5	1	2	108	87	11
4 Orrell	8	5	1	2	117	112	11
5 Bristol	8	5	0	3	107	69	10
6 Wasps	8	4	1	3	140	109	9
7 Leicester	8	4	1	3	148	153	9
8 Harlequins	8	3	0	5	130	146	6
9 Rosslyn Park	8	2	0	6	97	169	4
10 Moseley	8	2	0	6	66	179	4
11 Waterloo	8	1	1	6	97	144	3
12 Liverpool	8	1	0	7	80	156	2



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