



FOUNDED 1873

THE
**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB**

President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

V

BIRKENHEAD PARK

Monday, April 16th 1990
Kick-Off 3.00pm

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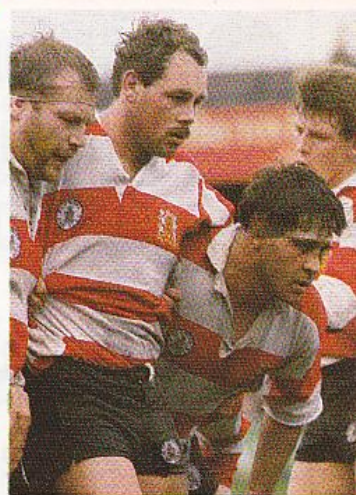
1a Kingsholm Rd

40p.

Official Programme

488

Lucky Number



Gloucester Rugby Club use GILBERT MATCH BALLS

GLOUCESTER

(Cherry & White)

| T | G | Pts |
|---|----|-----|
| 3 | 7c | 26 |

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| 3 | 3c | 18 |
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42 H/T 0

15. T. Smith
N. MARMENT
14. ~~J. Breeze~~
13. D. Cummins
12. D. Caskie
11. C. Dee

10. J. Roberts
9. ~~L. Gardiner~~
R. FOWKE

1. P. Jones
2. J. Hawker K, Dunn
3. R. Pascall
4. J. Etheridge
5. J. Brain (Capt)
6. J. Gadd
7. A. Stanley
8. P. Ashmead

Replacements:

- A. Deacon
M. ROBERTS

Cumulative
Match
Score

| | |
|----|---|
| 6 | 0 |
| 10 | 0 |
| 16 | 0 |
| 22 | 0 |
| 28 | 0 |
| 34 | 0 |
| 38 | 0 |
| 42 | 0 |
| 46 | 0 |
| 50 | 0 |
| 56 | 0 |
| 62 | 0 |
| 66 | 0 |
| 72 | 0 |
| 78 | 0 |
| 84 | 0 |
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BIRKENHEAD PARK

| | T | G | Pts |
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| 15. P. Davis | | | |

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| 14. J. Welch | | | |
| 15. J. Welch | | | |

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|-----|-------------|--|--|--|
| 13. | D. Wadham | | | |
| 12. | B. McNerlin | | | |

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|-----|-------------|--|--|--|
| 12. | P. McNerlin | | | |
| 11. | N. James | | | |

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|-----|----------|--|--|--|
| 11. | N. James | | | |
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|-----------------|--|--|--|
| 10. R. Bradbury | | | |
| 9. H. Davenport | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| 1. M. Davis | | | |
| 2. E. T. | | | |

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|--|
| 2. | E. Thomas | | |
| 3. | J. Cairns | | |

| | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| 3. J. Cairns | | | |
| 4. B. McCrone | | | |

| | | | | |
|----|------------|--|--|--|
| 4. | P. McCrane | | | |
| 5. | M. Magee | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| 5. M. Magee | | | |
| 6. P. Tarleton | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| 6. P. Jarleton | | | |
| 7. T. Grannan | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| 7. T. Glanville | | | |
| 8. C. Wainwright (Capt) | | | |

Replacements:

- P. Lewis
J. Wilson

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| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

84 F/T 0

Referee: A. FARMER (Staffordshire Society)

84 F/T 0

TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

MEMORABLE MONDAY

One good reason for being here today, is that one always thinks one is getting away with something by coming along to a game on a Monday afternoon. Generally speaking, it's only people like our respected President who have Mondays off, although he'll probably excommunicate me for saying so.

Another excellent motive for being here, is to see our old friends from Birkenhead Park, for long members of that select coterie of clubs who come along to Kingsholm for the Easter games.

Although highly respected opposition in their own part of the country, no one seems to know very much about 'Park' in this neck of the woods. Nothing to their discredit — it's just that our paths don't cross, all that often.

Nevertheless, they're a club with a long and honourable history, actually founded two years *before* Gloucester RFC. Their Park Road North ground, at Birkenhead, accommodates about 8,500 people — most of them standing, admittedly — but that's larger than the present official capacity of Kingsholm, and approaching twice as large as either Nottingham or Northampton, who have featured so critically in Gloucester's League and Cup season.

Their most-capped player was J. R. Patterson of Scotland, who won 21 caps, not so far behind our own Tommy Joyce's 27.

Interesting, isn't it? Birkenhead Park can certainly hold up their heads in any company, not excluding that in which they find themselves this afternoon.

At the time of writing, I haven't seen today's Gloucester side, but if things go as seems likely, I would imagine that the two teams should be pretty evenly matched. Time will tell.

But anyway, we're in for an enjoyable afternoon, and we all hope that the lads from the Mersey find their visit memorable.

CLOSING DOWN SALE

Our home season closes next Saturday with the visit from Sale, always forthright opposition, and a team worth watching. Did you notice that ex-England Captain and scrum-half, Steve Smith, came out of retirement to help his old club out of an injury crisis a week or two ago? It would be nice to see him at Kingsholm again.

However, the point of these remarks is that it would be nice to have a packed ground next Saturday, to give the lads a great send off for the two 'crunch' matches, and to thank them for one of the most enthralling seasons which any of us can remember. See you then.

RING 0898 122 971

Rugby is going to be the major talking point in Gloucester for the next couple of weeks. And we only have one more match programme to keep you in touch with events. All is not lost, however, as the telephone number quoted above illustrates.

Don't forget to ring for all the latest information, just as soon as its available.

TYING 'EM UP IN NOTTS

As you will know by now, Nottingham have elected to make our final League game, on April 28th, an all-ticket affair. Seems sensible to me, and as there are no regulations laid down about such matters in the Courage Clubs Championship, they're quite entitled to do what they like.

They are also perfectly at liberty to restrict us to ground tickets, reserving their very small

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

amount of Stand space for their own regulars. After all, we did very much the same thing when Bath came, under similar circumstances, at the beginning of the season.

Anyway, they have sent us 2,000 Ground Tickets, which is just about half of their capacity, so that's reasonable. These will go on sale — to Members only, on production of Membership Card tomorrow evening, Tuesday, in the Social Club at 7.30. They cost £3.00.

That same Members-only exercise will be repeated on Thursday — same time, same place — and then, any which have not been sold will be available at the Sale game on the 21st.

Coaches, as ever, are in the capable hands of the amiable Trevor Pritchard, and I suggest you contact him in the Clubhouse for full details.

It was Liverpool Football Club who always used to maintain that winning a League was more difficult, and more important, than winning the Cup. Don't know how you feel about that, but it's an argument which has some force.

In our case, of course, it's irrelevant. We're going to win both. Aren't we?

CUP FINAL TICKETS

Take 15,000 tickets, at four different prices. Take 5,000 applications for same. Take one, hard-pressed Terry Tandy. Mix thoroughly and serve with some trepidation. The results will be seen any time after today.

By the time you read this, all tickets will have been sent to applicants, who should be receiving them within the next few days. If yours isn't on your doormat when you stagger out of bed tomorrow morning, don't panic. They'll be along soon.

Similarly, don't be tempted to ring Terry and chase him. He simply doesn't have any more tickets to allocate, and in any case, sorting through 5,000 applications to try and resolve a query is a task which would tax even the vastly-experienced Mr. Tandy.

As you will have gathered, there's no point in making, or changing, an application now. If you haven't made an application, however, there's still a ray of hope.

There isn't a coach to be had for Saturday, May 5th, within an umpteenth-mile radius. Tickets will have been sent, as block bookings, to the various organisers of the parties concerned. That doesn't mean that they've filled all their coaches yet.

So, if you know a club, a community association, a Women's Institute, or just a bunch of happy lads, who are running their own safari, then I suggest you talk to them. Never know your luck.

Of course, some people can't go. I was having my ear bent by the Manager of one of our larger department stores, the other day, who was bemoaning the fact that he had to work on that day. I told him not to bother to open. Gloucester will be closed, that afternoon.

THANKS

I think that, just for once, I should offer a public vote of thanks to Terry Tandy, David Foyle, and others who have been involved in the various ticketing operations in the second half of the season. Wasps, Nottingham (twice), Northampton and Twickenham, all in rapid succession. I shouldn't think our secretary would worry if he never saw a piece of coloured cardboard again.

It really is a horrendous job, and from where I sit, anyway, it seems to have been conducted with admirable fairness and efficiency. Thanks, again, to all concerned.

TAILPIECE

I am indebted to well-known local referee, now sidelined by injury, Tony Williams, for pointing out to me a lovely piece of misediting by no less a public sheet than the 'Times' itself.

Apparently, the reporter covering the Northampton Semi-Final thought it right to point a finger at the Northampton programme for getting Mike Teague's name wrong. They spelled him 'M. League' apparently.

And then, just a few inches away, when listing the scorers, they gave the credit to one 'Mike Teage'.

What's that about glasshouses and stones?



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TALKING RUGBY with Steve Fraser



What if Gloucester end up with nothing?

The possibility of a League and Cup double is so attractive that the danger of defeat at both Beeston and Twickenham has been rather overlooked.

Yet an improving Nottingham and a Bath side desperate to salvage something this season are a formidable prospect.

Despite recent indifferent performances, Gloucester should win at least one of the trophies they are chasing.

But even if the unthinkable happened and they did finish empty handed, this has been a season to savour.

The first match of the League campaign gave little hint of what was to come. The result, a 16-12 win at Moseley, was the right one but the performance left a lot to be desired.

It was the second League match where it all came together. Mighty Bath had won all the important meetings between the two sides in recent seasons but this time they did not get a look in, going down 13-6.

The Cherry and Whites have won all the important matches they have played at Kingsholm but it is their away wins which have been the most memorable this season.

No one who was at Sudbury will forget Richard Mogg's last minute try against Wasps in the first round of the Pilkington Cup.

But equally spectacular in other ways were the League wins against Leicester and Bristol.

When Gloucester went to the Memorial Ground in November, Bristol had emerged as one of the title favourites. But the pack were devastating that day and there was only ever going to be one winner.

When Gloucester went to Welford Road, Leicester had not been beaten for 13 months. For 40 minutes they looked capable of preserving that record but an outstanding solo performance by Marcus Hannaford helped Gloucester turn the tables.

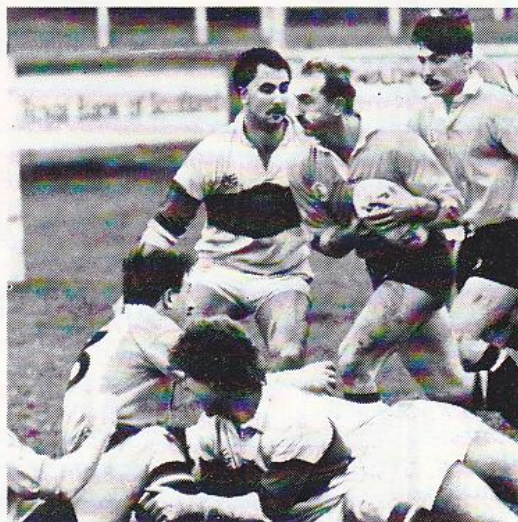
The Cup quarter-final with Nottingham also produced a cracking match with Gloucester again coming back from behind.

Everyone will have their own favourite

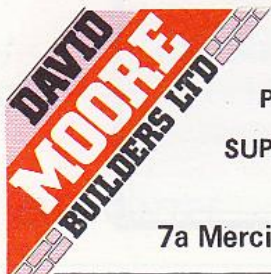
matches. For me, the most enjoyable — probably because there was no pressure on either side — was the anniversary match with British Police.

Those who went along to Kingsholm that night saw a supremely entertaining exhibition of open rugby crowned with an avalanche of tries.

It is a pity the season does not leave room for more matches like that.



Richard Mogg... try against Wasps is one of the seasons highlights



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