



FOUNDED 1873

THE GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

v
SALE

Saturday, April 21st 1990

Kick-Off 3.00pm

KINDLY SPONSORED BY

**RICHARD MOGG
SUPPORTERS**



PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY
THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER

The Winner of today's
Official Programme
Draw will receive £10 from

Tyre Sales
Tyre Sales (Bham) Ltd

1a Kingsholm Rd

40p.

Official Programme



697

Lucky Number

ALAN BRINN SPORTS

- RUGBY BOOTS
 - JERSEYS AND SHORTS
 - BALLS
 - CLUB DISCOUNTS
 - INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CLUB MEMBERS
- 52 Eastgate Street, Gloucester Telephone 303722

COOMBS & RIDGEON

* GLOUCESTERS USED CAR SPECIALISTS *

Established for over 25 years

333 BRISTOL ROAD

Tel: 25933 & 24884

Hudson & Co.
sports
outfitters

SPECIALISTS IN RUGBY
CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR
AND EQUIPMENT
FOR OVER 80 YEARS

SUPPLIERS TO
GLOUCESTER RFC
AND MANY
LOCAL CLUBS

COMPETITIVE PRICES
ON CLUB STRIPS

LARGE SELECTION OF
REPLICA JERSEYS

58 NORTHGATE STREET
GLOUCESTER
TEL 22978

Today's game sponsored by
RICHARD MOGG SUPPORTERS

Gloucester Rugby Club use GILBERT MATCH BALLS

GLOUCESTER 16 (16; 17; 20)

(Cherry & White)

T G Pts

15. T. Smith

14. D. Morgan

13. R. Mogg (Capt)

12. D. Cummins/D. Caskie

11. J. Breeze

10. M. Hamlin

9. M. Hannaford

1. M. Preedy (I)

2. K. Dunn

3. R. Pascall

4. N. Scrivens

5. J. Brain

6. J. Gadd

7. I. Smith

8. M. Teague (I)

Replacements:

J. Hawker

H/T

(I) — International

SALE 21 (21; 22; 23)

(Royal Blue & White)

15. J. Mallinder

14. J. Powell

13. P. Stansfield (Capt)

12. S. Burnhill

11. D. Crompton

10. P. Jee

9. R. Booth

1. I. Buttress

2. D. Taylor

3. N. Wheeler

4. A. McFarlane

5. D. Baldwin

6. S. Morrison

7. S. Maskrey

8. M. Kenrick

Replacements:

G. Jenion

K. Broadbent

F/T

Referee: K. GRIFFITHS (London Society)

Stoate & Bishop

Stoate & Bishop (Printers) Ltd.

Lithographic and Letterpress
Printers Phototypesetting
and Design

St. James's Square
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire GL50 3PU
Telephone: (0242) 236741
FAX: (0242) 222032

St. Catherine Street
Gloucester GL1 2BS
Telephone: (0452) 22880
FAX: (0452) 301535

Good luck to one special team from another!



Richard Cound
BMW in Gloucestershire

PARTS
SERVICE
CAR HIRE

P&H MOTORS
PRIORY ROAD · GLOUCESTER
Telephone (0452) 24912

NEW CARS
USED CAR
SPECIALISTS



VAUXHALL MAIN DEALER

TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

LAST TIME HOME

Doesn't time fly when you're having fun? It hardly seems possible that we've reached the final home game of the season already, or that so much has happened since I sat down to write the notes for the Programme for the Stroud game, way back on September 5th.

Yet, here we are, welcoming our old friends from Sale, and very happy to do so.

Everyone has been understandably preoccupied with matters concerning League and Cup, but a straightforward encounter with such tried and respected Opposition doesn't need any consideration of that sort to provide a thoroughly enjoyable occasion.

A glance at the records will show you that the Sale club can hold up their heads with anyone. True, they haven't fared all that well in games against Gloucester in recent times — we won at Heywood Road by 19 points to 7 in the equivalent fixture, last year — but 'twasn't always so. Remember Fran Cotton, Steve Smith, Tony Bond — not to mention the stratospheric Peter Stagg, who had 28 Caps for Scotland, 3 for the Lions, and made Orrell's Mr. Kimmins look like Ronnie Corbett.

And did you notice that the vastly entertaining Steve Smith helped his old club along by turning out, just recently, when he had an injury problem at scrum half? I gather he's retired again now, but since the relaxation of the 'amateur' Laws, he, and Fran Cotton have been allowed to coach, and, I believe have been doing so, so perhaps one or both of them will be paying us the honour of a visit today. A consummation devoutly to be hoped.

We shan't see a repetition of the Birkenhead Park cricket score today, that's for sure. What we shall see is a highly respected club side doing their damndest to beat us, and nothing was ever wrong with that.

We have our own preoccupations this afternoon, of course. We'll want to give the lads a good send-off before they tackle their final challenges at Nottingham and Twickenham, and there's also the matter of Richard Mogg, about which, more later.

Nevertheless, it's always good to welcome Sale, and I'm sure they'll enjoy their visit no end.

THANKS TO JUST ABOUT EVERYONE

Today's the day when we provide a little modest hospitality to Companies and individuals who have sponsored matches, advertised in the Programme, placed sign boards on the Ground, and otherwise supported Gloucester RFC during the season. And very grateful we are too.

These days, just about the only games which aren't sponsored are the two Easter weekend matches, for fairly obvious reasons. No club in the country has better support, in this respect, than we do, and very few have as much. This makes a very significant difference to the Club's finances, and therefore to the amount you pay at the gate, or shell out when you're buying your season ticket. So it isn't just the Club Officials who have reason to be grateful to our generous Sponsors, but all us 'ordinary' supporters too.

STOP PRESS TREDWORTH

Very much a last-minute piece of information, this. Having already finished these notes, I have just been informed that Tredworth Rugby Club are supporting today's game. You'll guess the reason, and can you think of a nicer way to pay tribute to one of their most famous sons — Richard Mogg, for the sake of Sale supporters — than support his 500th game in this way?

It's a great gesture, and we thank the boys from the Lannet for making it. What a good idea.

GREAT COMPANY

If you were watching a Gloucester side which included Alan Brinn at lock, Peter Ford and Dick Smith in the back row, Richard Mogg in the centre with Bob Clewes outside him, you'd reckon that we were well on our way to a resounding win before the game ever started.

Distinguished company indeed, and today, as everyone knows, the great 'Moggy' qualifies to join

D.I.R. International

FOR THE RUGBY TOUR OF A LIFETIME

PERSONAL ATTENTION AND SERVICE • ALL TOURS TAILOR MADE

D.I.R. INTERNATIONAL LTD

Halas House, Holywell Road, Malvern WR14 4LE, England.

Tel. (06845) 60247 & 64826 (24 Hours) Telex 335626 Fax (0684) 892275



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

it. In fact, those five are the complete list of players who have ever played 500 games for Gloucester.

To have appeared that many times for our demanding Club, where there is always keen competition for places, you have to have two overriding characteristics. You have to be an outstanding Club man. And you have to be a very, very good player.

Richard Mogg certainly qualifies on both counts. He's always there when he's needed, he's never let us down in his long and distinguished career, and he must surely be one of the best three-quarters never to have played for England. Everything else, he's done: England Under 21, England 'B', Barbarians — you name it, but that full Cap has eluded him, and I, for one, can think of lesser players who have pulled on the white shirt.

Nevertheless, to those in the know, up and down all the clubs in the country, he's a respected and formidable opponent. He would tackle Goliath of Gath, sidestep the six-armed Goddess Kali, and then go on to score under the posts, given a foot or two to move in.

More to the point, he typifies the spirit of Gloucester RFC. A genuine 'Elver Eater', if ever there was one. It didn't come as much of a surprise when he elected to play his 500th game at Kingsholm, rather than in the vital League game at Nottingham, or at Twickenham in the Cup Final. The gesture is quite typical: a Kingsholm man, first, last and always.

We hear he's thinking of giving up at the end of the season. That is a matter for regret, because, personally, I think he still has a lot to offer. If that does turn out to be his decision, However, we must respect it. And I've a sneaking feeling that Gloucester's loss could be Tredworth's gain.

'Moggie', old mate, we all owe you a resounding vote of thanks. Few players have ever given us so much sheer pleasure, over so long a period.

NOTTINGHAM TICKETS

After the session in the Social Club last Tuesday, Terry Tandy still had 800 Ground tickets for the Nottingham game — which, you'll remember, is all-ticket. I have no information about the number sold on Thursday, but it seems very likely that there will be some left for sale before and after the game today. And, incidentally, Nottingham tell us that the car parking arrangements will be the same as for the Cup match.

PARKING THE COACH

You can hardly have missed the information that every coach for miles around has been booked to take happy souls to Twickenham on May 5th. Which is fine, and ensures incredible support for the lads at the Cup Final. However, the matter of coach parking when you get there still needs to be resolved.

Terry Tandy tells me that he has supplies of coach parking tickets, which he's ready, willing and able to dispense to anyone who's running a coach trip, in exchange for £25.00.

If you are organising such a safari, it would be well worth while getting geared up with one before you set out. Past experience shows that you could save yourself some hassle on the day.

GOT YOURS YET?

All tickets for the Cup Final have now been despatched, so you should have received yours by now. Either that, or your money back, or a combination of tickets and refund if it hasn't proved possible to meet your exact requirements.

If you haven't heard a thing, then you'd better ask the Post Office about it, because the books are clear as far as the Club is concerned.

UNITED NEXT SATURDAY

The United game against Nottingham is definitely on, next Saturday. There was a suggestion, briefly, that the date and time might be changed, so that players from both clubs could watch the match at Beeston, but in the end, nothing materialised, and in any case, 'Spanner's' boys wanted to finish their season on a Saturday afternoon at Kingsholm, which is perfectly reasonable.

So, if you're not going to Nottingham, but can't face the prospect of chewing your nails all by yourself at home, then come along and watch the United, and chew them in company. We'll keep you posted on events as they occur.

TAILPIECE

Just about the most frequent question I'm asked is "How do you keep thinking up 'Tailpieces' week after week?" The answer is that I don't. People tell me things, write to me, or send me cuttings.

I am eternally grateful to everyone who has provided ammunition for this 'nonsense' spot, which I simply couldn't keep going without such a flow of anecdote.

My thanks for that. Meanwhile, enjoy the cricket season, see you at Twickenham, if not, next September.



HARTLAND RENTALS CAR & VAN HIRE

St. Oswalds Road · Gloucester 305051

TALKING RUGBY with Steve Fraser



There is a revealing entry under the name Richard Mogg in the Gloucester Rugby Club players' handbook.

Where each player was asked for his hobbies, the replies included everything from "Breeding bull terriers" (Pete Jones) to "Looking after my children" (Nigel Scrivens).

Mogg, who today joins a select group by making his 500th first team appearance for Gloucester, listed just one hobby: "Training".

At the age of 33, Moggy jokes that he needs to train harder than his team-mates just to keep up. But there are precious few players around with the dedication it takes to stay at the top as long as he has.

The Gloucester-born three-quarter arrived at Kingsholm from Tredworth Rugby Club at the age of 18. He made his debut against Cheltenham at the tail-end of the 1974/75 season and scored the first of his 155 plus first team tries in his third outing in the Cherry and White shirt, against Clifton.

Three years later he scored what proved the winning try as Gloucester beat Leicester 6-3 at Twickenham to lift the John Player Cup in 1978. They don't come much more important than that but his match-winning last minute try against Wasps in the third round of the Pilkington Cup earlier this year comes close.

He has gained nearly every honour during his 16 seasons at Kingsholm but an England cap has eluded him. He played at under-19, under 23 and B team level but the closest he came to a full England outing was a trial match in early Eighties.

The high-point of his career — in his own view — was being selected for the Barbarians' Easter tour two years ago. He played against Cardiff and Swansea, dashing 50 yards for a memorable try in the latter match.

In appearing today he becomes only the fifth player in the club's history to pass the 500 games mark. The others are the current chairman of selectors Alan Brinn (572), the chairman Peter Ford (506), all-time top try scorer Bob Clewes (530) and Dick Smith (533).

The nature of the game has changed to such an extent that Mogg is probably the last to join

the "500 Club". The modern player has fewer games per season because of the need to concentrate on the League and Cup campaigns.

Mogg has yet to decide whether to continue at this level next season.

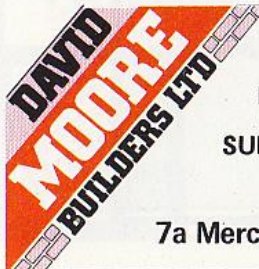
The temptation to retire or return to Tredworth will be all the greater if Gloucester succeed in a League and Cup double over the next fortnight.

But his single-minded dedication to the game may not let him call it a day just yet.

After all, he is only 100 games away from his 600th appearance.



Richard Mogg — probably the last player to make 500 appearances for Gloucester



ALL TYPES OF BUILDING & REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
PLUMBING AND CENTRAL HEATING DECORATING
SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS OF MOST KITCHEN FURNITURE
& APPLIANCES

7a Mercia Road, Gloucester.

Tel: 0452 414000