THE
GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB
President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA
v
LONDON SCOTTISH

Saturday, January 5th 1991
Kick-Off 3.00pm
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### Gloucester Rugby Club

**15. T. Smith**

**14. N. Price**

**13. D. Cummings**

**12. S. Morris**

**11. J. Perrins**

**10. M. Hamlin (Capt.)**

**9. M. Harnettford**

**1. P. Jones**

**2. K. Dunn**

**3. R. Paskell**

**4. N. Scrivens**

**5. J. Brain**

**6. J. Gadd**

**7. A. Stanley**

**8. B. Clark**

**Replacements:**

**1. D. Hutt**

**1. M. Hillys**

**2. J. MacDonald**

**3. D. Desham**

**4. N. Provan**

**5. A. Hobbs**

**6. N. McEwen**

**7. E. Dixon**

**8. G. Macklin**

**Replacements:**

**Referee:** V. WILLIAMS (Notts, Lincs and Derby Society)

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### London Scottish

**15. M. Applesea**

**14. A. Campbell**

**13. F. Harnettford**

**12. A. Warwood**

**11. N. Grecian**

**10. R. Cramm (Capt.)**

**9. D. Millard**

**1. M. Hillys**

**2. J. MacDonald**

**3. D. Desham**

**4. N. Provan**

**5. A. Hobbs**

**6. N. McEwen**

**7. E. Dixon**

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TOUCH LINES
by
Peter Arnold

THEM AND US

Came across a little poem, the other day. It's by someone called Lils Emslie, and seems highly appropriate for this particular occasion:

One open years
For the land of Burns —
The only snug is
The huggis!

A good ditty for exiles — not that I have anything against the succulent haggis, about which, more later. And we do have Exiles today — and then some. Not only do we welcome a whole team of London-ensnared Scots, but we can also produce our own sept (can't quite call them a clan) of would-be Scots, amounting almost to a fifth column.

If memory serves, we first saw Don Caskie when he was wearing the famous blue jersey with emblazoned red lion. Damian Cummins Caledonian antecedents are undoubted, and with Peter MacLunes and Ian MacSmith both opting for the Tartan Army, one wonders if today's game shouldn't qualify for the SRU McEwan's League.

Perhaps not. London Scottish are doing very nicely, thank you, in our own Courage League, having gained promotion from Division 3 last season. With the advent of several International and University players, they could well join us in Division I before too long.

Last season, at Richmond, Gloucester won the equivalent fixture by 19 points to 4, but one shouldn't read too much into that. The Scots have always travelled well, and been good value for your entrance money. I've no doubt things will be just the same today.

A brae welcome to you laddies. Lang may yer lum reek!

THANKS TO STOATE AND BISHOP

It's always a personal pleasure to welcome today's generous Sponsors, because of all the happy band of organisations which support us in this way, Stoate and Bishop are the company with whom I have most regular, week-to-week contact. As most people will know, Stoate and Bishop are our neighbours, running a print facility at the top of St. Catherine's Street, almost a drop-goal from the turnstiles. Moreover, they are the company which prints this programme — and have done so for many years.

That's not a simple job, and it doesn't get any easier as season follows season. The strong pressure on the fixture list combines with an increase in the number of representative games to make life difficult for our own selection committee, so that, quite often, the teams for Saturdays and Wednesday evenings can't be established until the last moment.

This, in turn, communicates itself to the poor old printer, who has to emulate the proverbial blue-tailed fly in order to get your programme to you in time for kick-off.

Stoate and Bishop do as proud, in this respect. Were it not so, Graham Spring would have a lot more team changes to announce than he already does, and he wouldn't like that any more than you would.

This time last year, Stoate and Bishop were in the throes of a massive reorganisation, which has concentrated much of their work in efficient new premises on Cheltenham's Kingsditch Trading Estate. The move is now complete, and the company can now be proud of new full-colour presses which helps them handle just about any kind of print job you like to mention. My own experience — in fields far removed from the affairs of Gloucester RFC, I may add — enables me to recommend them as a friendly, efficient company which will get a job done for you on time if humanly possible.

As far as today is concerned, as usual, Stoate and Bishop have invited a clutch of their clients. By coincidence, this year's list seems to include a
healthy number of auctioneers, so if you’ve got anything you want flogged, the right ears may be here for you to bash.

Furthermore, Messrs. Stote and Bishop are as alive to the Scottish flavour of today’s shindig as anyone else — to such an extent I’m told, that they intend to serve their guests with haggis. Genuine wild ones, I’m told, shot only yesterday on the Moors of Drumlochotchicke. None of your battery-farming rubbish for these guys.

All adds spice to the occasion. Thanks for past services, S & B. Looking forward to continued associations with you. Hope you have a great day with us.

TODAY’S THE DAY...

... when tickets are on sale for two important matches scheduled for the next few weeks. One is the England ‘B’ game against Spain on January 20th — a Sunday, you’ll note — and the other is the Fourth Round Pilkington Cup encounter with Harlequins on Saturday, January 26th. Ticket details are as follows.

Taking things in chronological order, prices for the Spain game are £7.00, Centre Stand, £5.00 Wing Stand, (unreserved) and £3.00 Ground. In addition, the RFU has offered a highly meritorious deal for Youth organisations — schools, clubs, whatever. Tickets for such group bookings (and being from around Gloucester they’re bound to be bona fide), can be had for just £1.00 a head, which seems a jolly good idea to me.

For the Pilkington, prices are as follows:

Centre Stand, £5.00. Wing Stand (unreserved) £4.00. Ground £3.00. You’ll remember that the Competition Rules force us to make this an all-pay match, but not necessarily an all-ticket affair. However, although you might be all right if you turn up on the day without a Ground ticket, possession of same will speed up the turnstiles no end.

Stand tickets are another matter altogether. Harlequins are entitled to one-third of all such tickets, and have snapped up their entire allocation without a second thought. This imposes restrictions on us.

Until Monday, January 21st, Stand tickets will be available to Stand Season Ticket holders only, at the rate of one ticket per member. If you want to buy yours today, you’ll need to produce your ticket to prove you’re who you say you are.

Of course, you can write to David Foyle, enclosing your Membership Number and a Stamped Addressed Envelope if you don’t want to queue up today. Same goes for the Spanish match.

AWAY NEXT WEEK

Of course, it’s ‘business as usual’ apart from all that. Next Saturday, while the Firsts are hunting League points at Liverpool St. Helens, United are, ironically enough, playing Harlequins at Kingsholm. The following Saturday we have an interesting ‘friendly’ fixture against Blackheath. Then it’s That Cup Match.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

As usual, my wife, being a properly brought-up Lady, bought me the current copy of Rothman’s Rugby Union Handbook for Christmas. One section of it is worth reporting to you.

The Editor’s Review of the Season contains the following passage:

“We are constantly being reminded of the team ethic in rugby and rightly so. Yet the capacity of individuals to delight is endless. So it was in the case of England Captain, Carling, of his breathtaking co-centre, Jeremy Guscott, of Paul Ackford and Mike Teague.”

Further on in the same article the Editor writes:

“There were others, outside the International arena whose contributions were beyond praise.”

He then goes on to illustrate this with a list of worthy people, including Les Cusworth and Floyd Steadman, and ends;

“Richard Mogg, the Gloucester warhorse of the centre, passed 500 games, but was still up with the action in a losing cause in the Cup Final.”

I don’t know whether Richard will be too happy about the ‘warhorse’ bit, but it was well meant, and it’s nice to get a mention from such a prestigious source.

TAILPIECE

I’m told that the music was so cacophonous at one local New Year party that when the fire alarm went off, everyone got up to dance. Be that as it may, have a thoroughly productive, enjoyable, prosperous and generally never-to-be-forgotten 1991, everyone.
Gloucester will be looking to extend their winning run to nine matches against London Scottish today.

With the league trip to struggling Liverpool St Helens next week and the eagerly awaited fourth round Pilkington Cup match against Harlequins at Kingsholm a fortnight later, the Cherry and Whites have discovered some consistently good form at just the right time.

The exiles will be given a particularly warm welcome this afternoon given the current Scottish connections at Kingsholm.

And after the game both sides are sure to want to know how their players got on at the Scottish trial in Murrayfield this afternoon.

London Scottish have four players involved in the trial including two members of the Grand Slam winning team, Paul Burnell and Derek White.

Gloucester are also well represented with Ian Smith playing for the junior Reds side and Don Caskie one of seven back replacements who can be used by either the Reds or the Blues.

Smith will be competing in the trial against Selkirk’s Gary Marshall for the openside flanker place.

And with Mike Teague currently involved in the England squad’s training weekend in Lanzarote there is a real prospect of seeing the two Gloucester back-row men on opposing sides in an international, if not in the Calcutta Cup match on February 16, then hopefully in the not too distant future.

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Leading Points Scorers: Gareth Fenwick 46 (12C 6P 1T), Bruce Harris 36 (9T), Leigh Hastings 16 (4T), Chris Theyer 16 (4T).

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TALKING RUGBY with Mike Harris