



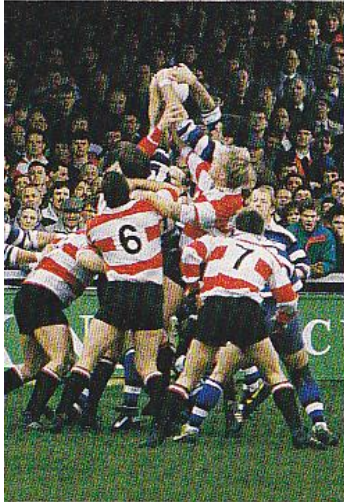
FOUNDED 1873

THE  
**GLOUCESTER  
RUGBY FOOTBALL  
CLUB**

President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

v

**RICHMOND**



Saturday, February 23rd 1991  
Kick-Off 3.00pm



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Official Programme

**424**

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 (Cherry & White)

**GLOUCESTER**  
**RUGBY FOOTBALL**  
**CLUB**

**RICHMOND**  
 (Old Gold, Red and Black)

T	G	Pts
	10	2

2		8
1		4

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1		4
8	H/T	0

15. T. Smith
14. N. Price
13. D. Caskie
12. S. Morris
11. N. Marment
10. M. Hamlin (Capt.)
9. M. Hannaford
1. P. Jones
2. K. Dunn
3. R. Phillips
4. N. Scrivens
5. D. Sims
6. J. Gadd
7. I. Smith
8. B. Clark

Replacements:  
 R. MOGS  
 PENALTY TRY

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Cumulative  
 Match  
 Score

4	0		
8	0		
14	0		
18	0		
18	4		
18	8		

16. Martin Radford
15. Ian Keary
14. Mike Hutton
12. Rob Rydon
11. John Fenn
10. Martin Livesey
9. Mark Hancock (capt.)
1. James Foster
2. Jim Ashworth
3. Ian Grundy
4. John Fowler
5. Mike Tanner
6. Dave Roberts
7. Andy Evans
8. Sean Williams

Replacements:  
 Will Davidson  
 Matt Yeldham

T	G	Pts


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18	F/T	8

Referee: G Davies (Liverpool Society)

# TOUCH LINES

by  
Peter Arnold

## AS YOU WERE — WELL, ALMOST

Who'd be a programme writer? I was originally gearing myself to write a piece about London Irish, this week, and then realised that the Pilkington Cup might change all that. Indeed, if the ref. had played any significant injury time, four weeks ago, then we might well have been entertaining just about anyone today.

That wasn't to be, however, and I was rather pleased at the thought of welcoming London Irish after all — only they went and won their Cup match, so we were back to square one.

"Not to worry", says Mike Nichols, "We'll find someone else!" And he did, providing us with the pleasurable prospect of watching our old bogey team from Richmond.

Michael Fish then got into the action, calling down snow and frost — and earthquakes and typhoons, for all I know — to the extent that the Bath game was postponed (after the programme notes had been written, incidentally), and the suggestion, from Bath, that the game be rearranged for today. Which it was. For a while.

Then the Avon lads had second thoughts, leaving us without a game again. It therefore seemed sensible to revert to the Richmond idea, only, quite understandably, they'd been looking after their own interests meanwhile, and it could have been Ebbw Vale running out today.

No, as you were, it's Richmond, after all.

So I do, at last, know who I'm writing about. And if I think I had problems, spare a thought for Fixture Secretary, Mike Nichols, whose recent spell of tortuous diplomacy makes the Gorbachev Gulf Peace Proposals look like an exercise in French knitting.

Now, however, all is very well indeed. Though Richmond may have slipped a little, since the days when they always seemed to be standing frustratingly between Gloucester and the John Player Cup — remember that frosty trip to Old Deer Park, one Sunday, the day after Matson had played London Scottish on the same pitch? — they are still a team which is good to watch. Richmond, after all, featured in the very first recorded club match,

against Blackheath, and the history of meetings between our two ancient clubs is a very long and honourable one. It's a shame that the modern League structure gets in the way of such meetings, sometimes, and it's very good to see hostilities resumed in this way.

Welcome Richmond, we all hope it won't be too long before you pass this way again.

## IT'S NICE TO SEE HIM BACK WHERE HE BELONGS

No, not Dolly; Mike Teague.

I'm sure you'll agree that 'Teaguey' had an excellent Calcutta Cup game; one which, following his blinder against Wales, should now go far towards ensuring he keeps his place for the rest of the Five Nations Championship.

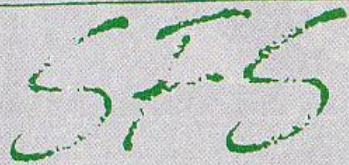
Of course, that's just me talking, and the Selectors (whom God preserve) don't necessarily take much notice of my opinions. John Hall is back in the Squad, together with John Buckton of Saracens, and there isn't any doubt that he will be busting a gut to regain his England spot, and we wouldn't blame him for that. After all, he'd been fairly impressive before injury sidelined him.

Nevertheless, Mike Teague has, in the opinion of many good judges whose opinions I respect, done enough to stay in an England side which is now going for Triple Crown and Grand Slam. If the Selectors, who must pick the side they think is most likely to win any particular game, don't agree, then it will represent a considerable injustice.

Well done Mike! You've done Gloucester proud, once again.

While we're on that sort of subject, we must also extend congratulations to Kevin Dunn on retaining his representative spot, as a replacement for the England 'B' side. I've written that sentence so often that I'm thinking of having a rubber stamp made. At least, old supersub 'Dunny' is sitting on a very respectable class of bench these days, but it would be nice to see him get another run out, if only for loyalty and services rendered.

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### THANKS TO TYRE SALES

The game of 'musical scrums' that has been going on today has ensured that, unusually, we don't have a major match sponsor. Which does, at last, give me space to thank Tyre Sales for their continuing and imaginative support in supplying the Tantalising Tenners awarded for the Lucky Programme number.

I don't know how many seasons they have been doing this now, but the period must be beginning to stretch out a bit. We're certainly grateful for their support, and hope they find it reaps the commercial rewards which it deserves.

Perhaps you'll remember them, next time you need a tyre or two.

### UNITED TAKE CENTRE STAGE

What with weather, fixture changes, and whatever, you may, like me, be suffering from an acute case of the 'well, now, where were we's'. Here's the situation as I understand it, but as they say, watch this space.

The Bath game has now been fixed for April 6th, which gives us an extra home game, but does our proposed visit to Bedford a nasty. The next three First XV matches are all away. Next Saturday there's a tough visit to Pontypool, just the right warm-up for a vital, and by no means easy, trip to a Courage League match at Northampton, presumably featuring 'Buck' Shelford and John Etheridge. Then, on Tuesday, March 12th, we go down the road to Lydney, which is always worth a trip.

The advantage to all this is that we now have some chances to support United, whose considerable achievements have been somewhat eclipsed of late.

Nuncaton may not be the first team you think of when you're considering strong Rugby teams, but at their level, they are certainly a team to be reckoned with. Indeed, our Colts side reckon them to be the toughest opposition they have. The point is, that their First team is here next week to play United, and that should be a confrontation to be savoured. Highly recommended for a Saturday afternoon out.

Before that, however, on Wednesday evening,

United are expecting a visit from Moseley, and I hardly need to say any more about that.

Then, on March 8th, while the Firsts are playing at Northampton, we have the reverse fixture here, which could well be worth a visit.

Plenty to look forward to.

### GOOD LUCK LADS!

Virtually as I write this programme, the news arrives that the two stalwarts, Richard Pascall and John Brain are upping stakes and moving to Bedford — who can certainly do with them.

Terry Tandy suggests that I tell you that the whole matter is perfectly amicable, with no hard feelings anywhere. There's no suggestion of under-the-counter approaches, no infighting in the Gloucester club, nothing to raise an eyebrow at all. Just two experienced players who have taken a chance to help out a grand old club which has fallen on hard times.

With Dave Sims, among others, injured and the odd suspension, it does give us something of a problem in the second row for the next week or two, but nothing that can't be handled. We wish 'Pasc' and 'Brainer' well, and thank them for the sterling services they've done us in the past.

I well remember Richard's press comment of some years ago, when he stated "It's nice to hear the crowd shouting 'Come on Pasc!' rather than 'You Bedfordshire pooffer!' " Well, now he's going back to Bedford ....

Perhaps the last word should be with one of our lady supporters, who said "Well, at least the Gloucester pack will be better looking now!"

### TAILPIECE

One chap who's sorry that London Irish aren't with us is Mike O'Connell, one time player for Cheltenham, and presently Mine Host at that splendid Hibernian hostelry, 'Mollie Malone's' in Barton Street. He'd intended to invite the London Irish lads down there for a drop of Liffey Water after the game.

Shame to spoil a good idea. Why not don an Irish accent and go down and ask for a pint of Guinness? Mike won't know the difference.

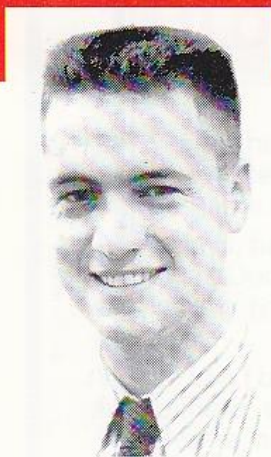
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## TALKING RUGBY with Mike Harris



Conversation at Kingsholm this week has been dominated by the surprise decision of John Brain and Richard Pascall to join Bedford.

Two of Gloucester's most experienced and reliable tight forwards, John and Richard have been excellent servants of the club over a number of years.

Their departure is a blow to Gloucester especially as it comes in the middle of the season and without any prior warning. One feels the move would have been much better timed at the end of the season leaving the club with plenty of time to adjust the squad accordingly.

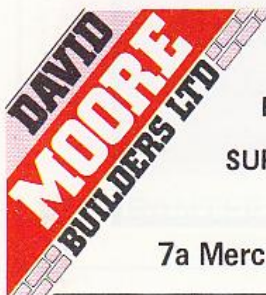
But Gloucester are fortunate in having plenty of proven cover in the front-row front five forwards so their loss will not be felt so greatly as it would be at most other leading clubs.

And with Gloucester safely positioned in a mid-table league position and out of the cup their departure is not nearly as great a blow as it could have been.

Now that they have moved we can only wish them the best of luck at their new club and hope they will be able to boost Bedford as John Orwin did when he joined the East Midlands club from Gloucester five years ago.

This afternoon's match with Division Two side Richmond gives Gloucester their first opportunity to prove they can cope with the loss of two of their most seasoned campaigners.

Ironically the Cherry and Whites will now be relieved that Bath decided not to play their postponed league game at Kingsholm today. Without wishing any disrespect on Richmond, the Surrey club will provide a much less demanding test than Bath would have done and are therefore more suitable opponents for a club shaken by the loss of two of its players.



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