SWANSEA CRICKET & FOOTBALL CLUB
Founded 1873
St. Helens Ground Swansea

SWANSEA
v.
GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER, 1991
K.O. 2.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME 50p DONATION TO CLUB
FOREWORD

On Tuesday evening in the match against Shannon one could have thought that it was an end of season encounter rather than the first game of the new term such was the apparent lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Whites. Basic mistakes were made and there appeared to be no urgency in the play. The fact that Swansea scored three tries against one indicates that the standard of opposition should not have proved a difficulty. The fact that Shannon scored all but four of their 21 points by the boot suggests a lack of discipline on the part of the Whites.

The early season games are of course, non-league, but a winning sequence is important in order to develop confidence. This is not going to be easy since Robert Jones, Anthony Clement, Paul Arnold and Richard Webber will not be available due to Welsh World Cup commitments while Stuart Davies and Chris Higgs are injured. Geraint Davies in Australia until the end of the month and Kevin Hopkins away on honeymoon. I’m sure therefore that Mike Ruddock realises the enormity of his task and we wish him well as he embarks on moulding the team into his way of thinking and playing.

Another coach with similar problems of course is Alan Davies. He must have seen some hope however after the display of the Welsh team against France at the National Stadium on Wednesday evening. Although losing 22-9 Wales did at last show some commitment and pride. Indeed it must be said that Davies seemed to have achieved much in a short space of time. Although the scrumming leaves much to be desired there was a vast improvement by the forwards in the line-out and in the loose. The backs showed their attacking possibilities with strong performances by Robert Jones and Arthur Enyr. With better finishing a few more tries could well have resulted. At least it now appears that a platform has been established upon which we can build and possibly qualify for the World Cup Quarter Finals.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the club intend introducing a car lottery draw, details of which appear in the club notes.

Today we welcome Gloucester to St. Helen’s. Personally I prefer the away fixture which enables me to visit the Cotswolds on the morning of the match and perhaps also do some apple-picking. However as we only play our Kingsholm visitors once a season this year it is their turn to visit us. They are particularly welcome visitors since, unlike many of the other English clubs these days, they invariably field a strong side against us. They will of course be minus Mike Teague because of World Cup duties, but I am sure today will be no exception. The encounters between our two clubs are always exciting. Two years ago at St. Helen’s we lost a high scoring contest by 32-29 while last year at Kingsholm after an exciting game which seemed to indicate a good season ahead the Whites ran out winners by 14-3. We look forward to another entertaining game today.

GLYN ELLIS

NEXT HOME GAME

BRISTOL

Saturday 21st September, 1991
K.O. 2.30pm