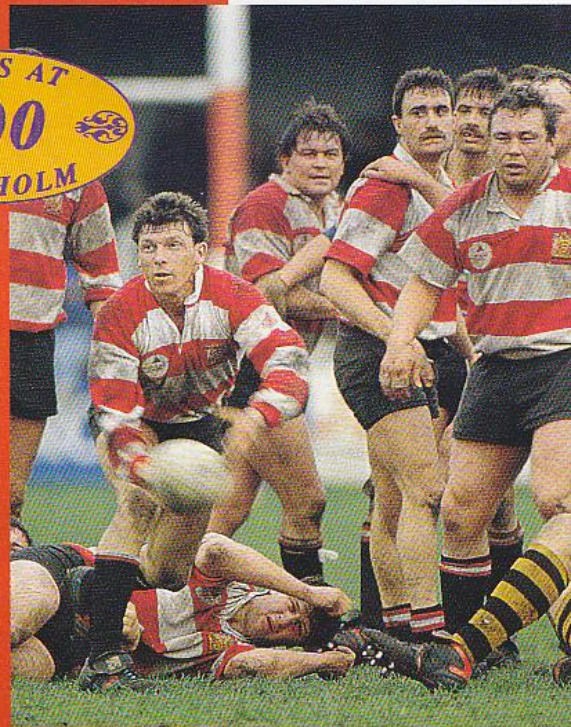
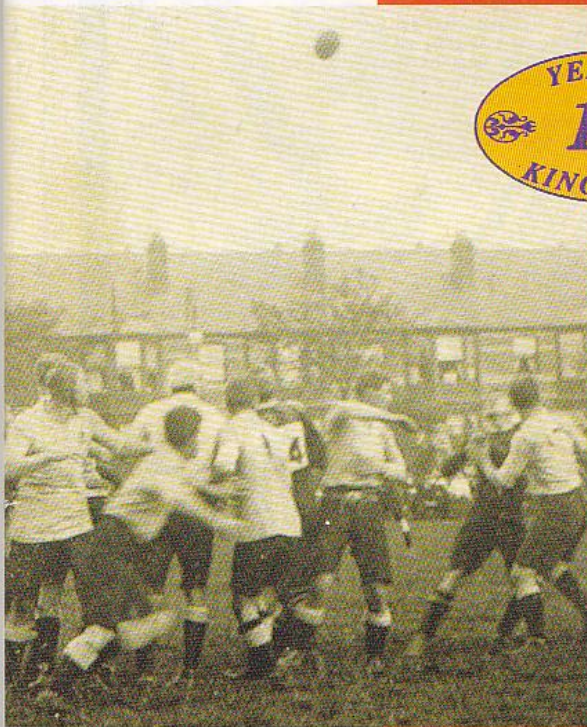


THE
GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB

V
CHELTENHAM

YEARS AT
100
KINGSHOLM



80p.
Official Programme



FOUNDED 1873
President:
Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

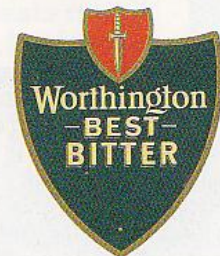
Monday, November 4th 1991
Kick-Off 7.00pm

MATCH KINDLY SPONSORED BY



M) **WARNER**

OFFICIAL SPONSORS



There were rare reviews about several of the Gloucester players, including Watts and Scot Skirling. Bartlett, the wing three quarter, was magnificently described as having scored after 'a *splendidly dodgy* run.' How the language changes in 100 years!

TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

WELCOME TO MONDAY

Don't know about you, but I always feel as if I'm getting away with something when I come along to Kingsholm on a Monday. After all, that's the day when one is supposed to shrug off one's hangover and get one's nose firmly stuck to the grindstone for another week. Mondays are supposed to be horrible, especially at this dark time of the year, and there's a tinge of guilt about actually enjoying them.

I don't know whether things are the same over in elegant Cheltenham, although my experiences around various hostelrys and Rugby Clubs in our Regency neighbour make me inclined to believe that they are. I know at least one ex-steward of a Cheltenham club who probably wouldn't have closed from Sunday night yet, but that was in less puritanical times. Cheltenham Rugby Club have always been noted for their hospitality, and it's a traditionally integral part of the Kingsholm season that we have a regular opportunity to reciprocate.

I may be in a minority, but I happen to think that games such as this evening's are important. Time was when Cheltenham could give most sides a run for their money, and these things being cyclical, they'll probably be in the same position again, one of these days. Fixtures against relatively strong opposition can only help to advance that date, which must be good for the Gloucestershire game in general.

There is also the thought that we can't spend the whole season playing 'hard' matches. New and younger players need First XV experience, and it doesn't do any good to have the preferred side turning out week after week. Injuries are bound to occur, and there are going to be occasions when second-string players are going to be thrown into the fray, possibly in very important matches. When that happens, nerves are bound to be frayed, and the more that can be done to alleviate that, the better for both the individual concerned and the side as a whole.

Anyway, it's nice to see Cheltenham once more. The season wouldn't be the same without them.

THANKS TO WARNERS

When you're thinking about buying a car, the chances are that, in this area, the name 'Warners' is one of the first which will occur to you. It's nice to know that the name of the respected old Gloucestershire

family can now be associated with Sponsorship at Kingsholm, and we thank the firm for its generosity.

Nowadays it's 'Warners Trust plc', which is a far cry from the Tewkesbury bicycle shop opened by grandfather Harold Warner in 1925. From those beginnings, the company has grown into one of the largest privately owned vehicle franchises in the country, and that sort of thing doesn't happen without a great deal of hard work and imagination.

Warners of Gloucester, based in Bristol Road, won their Peugeot franchise in 1986. Managing Director, Ian Davies heads a team of 55 people — which is a lot for such enterprises — who offer a well-qualified, personal and friendly service to anyone who wants it. There are cars to suit all requirements, with highly competitive finance deals to match. Because the company is a fleet specialist, these deals embrace everything from hire purchase, through leasing, to contract hire. The recipe obviously works because, even in these hard times, sales top 600 new and 350 used cars a year.

Warners Service Department is worthy of mention too. Staff includes Gloucestershire's only Peugeot 'Master Technician', and he is supported by a team of factory-trained technicians who can call upon the latest diagnostic equipment, should you need it. Naturally, this combines with a highly efficient Parts Department and the latest Stock Control System. There's also a newly-opened Bodyshop and Accident Repair Centre.

M. J. Warner, based at Quedgeley until new purpose-built facilities are available, is a horsepower of a very different colour. It provides Warners Trust plc with a specialist marque, having won a Mercedes-Benz franchise almost exactly one year ago. So South Gloucestershire has a genuine luxury car supplier.

The full Mercedes-Benz range is on offer, together with a variety of previously-owned models, and a selection of demonstration cars which you are cordially invited to try for yourself. Service is provided by Mercedes-Benz trained technicians, and as ever, is based on a personal, friendly way of going about things, including a collection and delivery service from your own premises, with a courtesy car loan system should you need it. Obviously, all cars are fully valeted before their return.

And all that's just for starters. Warners Trust plc also

S • E • L • E • C • T

SFS

FEEDS & SEEDS

By appointment to GRFC and also
suppliers of grass seed to
Cinderford and other Rugby Clubs

* Suppliers of all lawn seeds *

* Large or small orders catered for *

Contact Bob Osborne on 0452 760511
or 0860 590330 (Car)

MORE TOUCH LINES

have a Peugeot dealership at Shannon Way, Tewkesbury, and Esso and Gulf Service Stations. The whole thing really is an impressively complete motoring package, and we're delighted to welcome it to Kingsholm. Thanks again!

POST MORTEM

It seems a long time ago now, but the cancellation of the South Wales Police match means that this is the first chance I have had to comply with a request by Terry Tandy to thank everyone for their co-operation and general good humour on the day of the World Cup game. We're not used to the sort of restrictions placed upon our movements on that day, but all the supporters understood the reasons for them, and everything went off very well.

And that's not just us talking. Apparently, the World Cup organisation were impressed by the facilities provided for them, and were very happy with the organisation of the whole thing.

It was also very nice to receive a letter from Ed Schramm, the Manager of the USA 'Eagles' squad expressing the Americans' thanks for the way they were received and generally looked after during their stay. They enjoyed Gloucester — not just the Rugby ground — very much, and were appreciative of the hospitality shown them wherever they went.

Can't be bad. They'll probably tell their friends and relations when they get home, and you never know — it might bring a few dollars into the City in the long run.

Thanks again, everyone.

GOLD BOND

Wouldn't you just know it. The first lucky so-and-so to win £100 in our nice new 'Gold Bond' lottery was none other than our own, our very own, Doctor Tom Durkin, who for so many years, was the Club's medical advisor, and who earned himself a well-merited international reputation for his awesome expertise in sports injuries. I saw him just a few days ago, and he was in great form, rolling off reminiscences of his old friend and patient, the great Tommy Voyce.

I can't think of anyone I'd rather have seen win it, but of course he's only the first in an increasingly long line of winners. By the time you read this, only five weeks into the scheme, over £2,500 will have been

handed out in prizes, and that trend will continue at a rate of over £500 a week.

Spare a thought, too, for the Agents who are selling the system. Danny McLellan, for example, has over 100 investors on his books, and so do the proprietors of newsagents Seymour News in Gloucester's Seymour Road. That means that they are in receipt of a handy few akkers by way of commission, and David Golder, who runs the scheme for the Club's commercial management tells me that they're not alone in that.

There's always room for more, of course. 'Gold Bond' can represent a useful way to provide funds for any club or organisation in which you have an interest. Or there's nothing to stop you using it as a way of supplementing your own income, and we could all do with that, these days.

Why not get some more information on the subject, no obligation at this point? David Golder, a very pleasant fellow who doesn't go much for hard-sell tactics, will be happy to let you have full details. Ring him on Gloucester 419666.

BROTHERS BARNETT

Scotland may have their Hastings brothers, New Zealand and Western Samoa share the Bachops, but we can top them all. We have the Barnetts.

This evening's Match Mascot is Ryan Barnett, aged 7, and his brother performed the same service at the Gloucester v. England match. Ryan goes to Heron School, and is limbering up by playing mini-rugby for Old Richians.

I well know how unbearable it can be for parents when one brother has something another wants. At least we have solved that one for the Barnett family. Both siblings now have their own official Gloucester strips, and we fervently hope they both wear the full-sized one in a few years time.

BATH NEXT SATURDAY

Nuff said.

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



Lloyds
Bank

THE THOROUGHbred BANK.

ED MARTIN'S FACT FILE

This afternoon's meeting with Exeter could well be the 50th fixture between the two clubs. But then the half century might well have been reached last season.

The reason for the uncertainty is the country-wide newspaper strike of April 1980.

In the 70s and early 80s, the Exeter fixture was late in the season each year. In fact it was usually on the last Saturday of the season.

And in 1980, the newspapers took their enforced sabbatical after the Cherry and Whites had squeezed past Cheltenham 13-10 on April 24. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any results at the end of the 1979-80 season.

Also proving to be a problem are, would you believe, the 1987-88 and 1988-89 seasons! It is proving difficult to check results from these two seasons. Again, I would like to hear from anyone who has results from these two seasons.

It's called Sods Law, I'm told. Results from 100 years ago right up to the 1980's have been easy to record — and to undertake the checks with three other sources. But get into recent years

Now to Exeter and what is certain about the fixture. The first visit by the Devon club to Kingsholm was in the first season. Exeter were the 12th club to play on the hallowed turf.

Cardiff had just made their first visit to Kingsholm to provide the ground with its first drawn game — a scoreless affair. But the Cherry and Whites got back to winning ways against Exeter with a 13-0 verdict. Earlier in the season, Gloucester had visited Exeter and returned with a 2-0 win.

It took Exeter six matches to score against Gloucester. In 1906-7, Exeter recorded their first points against the Cherry and Whites in the 6-6 draw down in Devon. It was the 20th game between the two sides that brought Exeter's first win — a 5-3 result, again down in Devon, in 1962-3.

The data base says that Gloucester has never lost to Exeter at Kingsholm. And asking around the Kingsholm faithful the other night, no one can remember an Exeter win here. But having said that, the missing result from April 1980 was more than likely a Kingsholm fixture!

TAILPIECE

by
Peter Arnold

'TAKE THE BALL AND RUN'

With the recent World Cup Semi-Final in mind, it's worth quoting a passage I came across in a book given me for a recent birthday. The reference is to last season's Grand Slam Calcutta Cup match at Twickenham, and it runs 'When England cut their line to three it was a cop-out rather than a line-out'. The allusion was to the fact that Messrs Dooley, Ackford and Richards are all policemen.

I do recommend you to read the book concerned. It's an anthology compiled by Godfrey Smith, entitled 'Take the Ball and Run', and includes pieces — fact, fiction and apocrypha — by a real galaxy of players and writers, including a thesis on the dark and mysterious art of propping by Mike Burton, and printable excerpts from Cirencester RFC's song book.

It isn't surprising that there is a local flavour to the book. Godfrey Smith lives in Malmesbury and admits to being a Vice President of Minety RFC, who describe themselves as the smallest club in England with the ugliest colours. Apparently, the latter circumstance arose because, when they were building their clubhouse, the only cheap paint available came in green and mauve.

Usually, when I publicise a book it's because Gwyn Hiatt of the County Library has sent me details of new ones, recently acquired. However, I found this one on my own, and if the Library feels like acquiring a copy or two for the delectation of the Kingsholm Faithful, then I can tell him it's published by Pavilion Books.

ENGLISH LESSON

You may have read a paragraph or two in the 'Citizen' about a group of Mexican journalists who recently visited the City. I can amplify the story a little.

The whole thing was organised by Philip Cooke, Gloucester's tourism supremo. Having played on the flank for Harlequins in his time, he obviously knows the Rugby scene, and regards Gloucester RFC as a useful weapon in his endeavours. When the Mexicans arrived, he arranged to bring them around to see the Moseley game, and begged a hospitality box for the purpose.

None of them had ever seen a Rugby match before, but they all soon cottoned on. The rest of the story

comes from Derek Brown, who was there, and who I thank for the information.

Apparently, among the number, was a very attractive Mexican lady who did not know one word of English, and who had to be translated to at all times. She now knows just one phrase, which she quoted enthusiastically all through the second half. I can't imagine that it would have impressed the Shakespearians of Stratford-on-Avon, which was the party's next port of call. Can't you just picture the conversation?

Shakespearian: "Once more into the breach, dear friends, once more. Or close the wall up with our English dead!"

Mexican Lady: "C'mon Glos!"

The rest, as it says in Hamlet, is silence.

LOST AND FOUND

Heard at a Probus Club meeting last week:

"Did you hear that they've found Lord Lucan?"

"No. Where?"

"The safest place imaginable. The last place anyone ever looks. He's turned up playing on the wing for Wales!"

PLAY THE GAME

Another quotation from the book 'Take the Ball and Run', which I mentioned earlier. It's by I. B. M. Stuart, writing at around the turn of the Century.

"So far as kicking the man on the ball is concerned, always remember that, played cleanly, rugby football is quite dangerous enough for most people's liking, and that a man who kicks another man intentionally is a blackguard and a coward."

"Recently, a well-known international, in his book on rugby, said that a gentleman kicks another with his instep, rather than his toe. Personally I think that no gentleman ever kicks another."

There's no answer to that.