

GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

v **SALE**

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 12th, 1992
Kick Off 3.00 p.m.



FOUNDED 1873

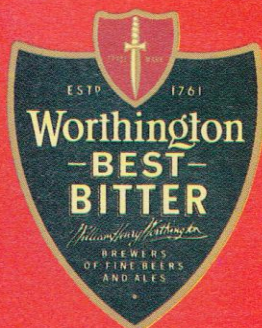
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GLOUCESTERSHIRE



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Peter Arnold

AUTUMN SALE

You may have considered that Gloucester struggled to beat Blackheath last week, but spare a thought for Orrell. Our old stumbling-blocks from Wigan were beaten by Sale — on their own ground, and, as we know, that's not an easy thing for any visiting side to achieve.

Which all makes today's game very interesting. If our welcome and too-infrequent visitors retreat towards the Arctic Circle this evening with a win under their belts, they will have started the Season with a very notable Autumn Double, on two of the most feared grounds in the country.

All of which puts me in mind of legendary England and Sale scrum half, Steve Smith, who played here during one season in two County games and one Cup match and lost the lot. As he left, I remarked "See you in a couple of weeks, Steve!", referring to the straightforward 'friendly' we had yet to fulfill.

He stopped as if he'd been shot. "Oh God, no!" he groaned. "Not Kingsholm four times in a season!"

Nevertheless, last week's result will have brought Sale here on something of a 'high'. Their confidence will be soaring, and their determination likewise. Gloucester, on the other hand, with the necessity to click into gear before the two up-and-coming League games at London Scottish and Leicester, will have to pull the stops out. It doesn't look an easy game to win, but a convincing victory could set the pace for the whole season.

Those are just some of the reasons why we are pleased to see the lads from Brooklands back here after too long an absence. There are others, including the fact that they're always good company. We certainly hope they have an enjoyable visit, win lose or draw. And that they don't stay away so long, this time.

THANKS TO BBC RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE

One thing about John Hawkins. When I hear him comment on a match, it always seems to be the same one I've been watching. So when Gloucester are playing away, and I can't make it, it tends to be BBC Radio Gloucestershire that I tune in to, in the knowledge that I'm going to hear an accurate and informed account of proceedings. Which makes it all

the more pleasurable to be able to thank, most sincerely, our local BBC station for sponsoring today's game.

Of course, the team from London Road are quick to point out that we don't have exclusive rights to their services. They reckon to follow the whole local Rugby scene. As they say in the notes they sent me, 'from Tewkesbury to Tetbury, from Cirencester to Cinderford — and all clubs in between.'

This season, that means coverage of the centenaries at Berry Hill and Drybrook, and seeing if the stiffening provided by Malcolm Preeedy and Richard Mogg can pull Cheltenham out of South West Division One.

Furthermore, there are one or two people who prefer other sports to Rugby, and BBC Radio Gloucestershire also feel it incumbent upon them to support and inform such eccentric minorities by covering, for example, Gloucester City and Cheltenham Town, (in fact, they reckon to have reporters at every F.A. Premier League game), as well as golf, racing, tennis, motor racing, cricket and athletics between 2.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. every Saturday.

Local radio is a competitive old business, these days, so I can't blame them for stating, 'only BBC Radio Gloucestershire cares enough about local sport to cover such a wide variety. Action from Cheltenham's racing and cricket festivals, karting and powerboat racing in the Cotswolds ...' and so on.

I must admit that I didn't realise quite how widespread our local BBC station's network is, these days. They now have studios in Gloucester, Cheltenham, Stroud, Tewkesbury and Cirencester, 'offering an up-to-the-minute package of stories and features reflecting life in Gloucestershire'.

Not least, life at Kingsholm, for which we are eternally grateful. Any major club needs comprehensive media coverage, and BBC Radio Gloucestershire certainly do their fair share — and more — to help us achieve that. I, and many other people, will be tuning in to 104.7FM regularly during the season, and that doesn't include the people from Stroud who use 95FM, or Cirencester whose dial setting is 95.8FM.



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WISHES GLOUCESTER R.F.C ALL THE
BEST FOR THE 1992/1993 SEASON
AND WELCOMES ITS GUESTS
TO KINGSHOLM

Peter Arnold (cont.)

Best of luck, Radio Gloucestershire. And thanks again.

RICHARD'S ON THE BALL

Today may be the first match where you'll see the Gloucester strip worn with a woggle. That's just a sneaky way to inform you that, in addition to being a keen Gloucester supporter, today's Match Mascot, 8 year-old Richard Morgan, is also a devout and practicing Wolf Cub.

I'm afraid my 'Dib, dibs!' are a bit rusty, these days, and the nearest approach I have had to a Brown Owl is my Lady Wife, but I do know that Richard, who is kind enough to bring his Dad along, doesn't miss many of Gloucester's home matches. His father is a Senior Surveyor at Barnwood Shopfitting Ltd. and his Mum is a clerical assistant.

Thanks for doing the job Richard. Just because we already have two Morgans playing at Kingsholm, it doesn't mean there isn't room for a third.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT SO FAR?

Not the Rugby — the programme. Personally, I think that the modernised layout, typeface and even the paper it's printed on, has given the whole thing quite a lift. It has always been our ambition to produce the best match programme in the country, and I think this year's effort helps us to achieve that. My thanks to Brian Ward Ellison and everyone at **Stoate and Bishop** printers for their wholehearted co-operation.

However, there are bound to be teething problems, and we have a couple of apologies to make. First of all, Ed Martin didn't get any acknowledgement for his fascinating 'In Perspective' piece, which is to be a regular feature. He, himself, (if you'll pardon the tautology) really couldn't care like anything, but it's only right that his meticulous research should be recognised, and the situation has now been rectified.

Second, I got one or two complaints that supplies ran out early, and that a lot of people who wanted to buy a programme couldn't get one. Doug Wadley really doesn't know why: they were supplied at the usual rate, and there should have been enough to go round. This week, he's asked for extra supplies, so everyone should be all right.

NOTHING CHANGES

Last week, I commented that the Membership Secretary post was redundant, and that David Foyle was out of a job. Nevertheless, the first bloke I laid eyes on when arriving at the ground was David,

sitting in the Office, dispensing Season Tickets, just as he has done since the year dot. In fact, so many people wanted to buy tickets that he only just made the kick-off, and he didn't get a drink at all.

He'll have the same problem this week. Season Tickets will be on sale before the match, or if you don't think you want to deprive Mr. Foyle of his pre-match corpse reviver, then Doug Wadley, or the Beautiful and Talented Geraldine Peake, will be glad to supply you with one anytime between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m., from the Office from Monday to Friday for as long as is necessary.

Talking of Geraldine, if you hear someone call her 'Jennifer', then blame Doug Wadley. He's having difficulty remembering that she's a 'Gerry' and not a 'Jenny'. Happens to all of us on occasion. You should hear the things people call me, sometimes.

INTERNATIONAL TICKETS

While on the subject of tickets, don't forget your application for International Tickets. If you're wanting to go to England v. South Africa or Barbarians v. Australia, then applications have to be with Doug Wadley by October 1st, and for the Home Championship games by November 1st.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!

That's a plea from Alan Townsend, and it refers to the superb new Gloucester RFC Rugby Jerseys, available soon. He does ask that, to be safe, and certain of a top-quality 100% cotton article, you buy direct from the Club.

They really are rather good, coming in a 'Home' and a 'Change Strip' version. If you want to see samples, they will be on view in the Office when you drop in to buy your Season Ticket, or of course, you can see one at the Club Shop at the Club house end of the Worcester Street stand.

Alan has been told that supplies will be available in the middle of the month, which is about now. He thinks October 1st is more likely. However, Alan or John Beaman will be very happy to give you an order form, and arrange for delivery to your home address if you pay £2.00 postage and packing.

Prices are reasonable for a high-quality item at £21.00 for a child's size, £29.00 for reasonable people, and £31.00 for one large enough to hold a small wedding reception in. It would be as well to get an order in, rather than wait until supplies arrive, because Alan is expecting a big demand.

And, of course, there are all the other goodies available from the Shop. Now's the time to stock up for the Season.

(cont. on page 8)

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



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WHO'S DOING WHAT (and to whom)

Club Officials and Committee Members for 1992/3 are as follows:

President: Canon Mervyn Hughes.

Vice Presidents: Tom Day, Gordon Hudson, Roy 'Digger' Morris.

Chairman: Peter Ford.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Doug Wadley, 'Byeways', Belmont Avenue, Hucclecote, Tel: 617202 — but please note, Doug is 'in residence' in the Office at the Ground from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. every Monday to Friday throughout the Season. Tel: 381087.

Hon. Fixtures Secretary: Mike Nicholls, 80, Kingsholm Road. Tel: 301879.

Hon. Team Secretary: Eric Stephens, 1, Court Gardens, Hempsted. Tel: 529000.

Chairman of Selectors: Mickey Booth, 5, Insley Gardens, Hucclecote. Tel: 610856.

Hon. Colts Secretary: Reg Collins, 11, Gilpin Avenue, Hucclecote. Tel: 614335.

Committee: John Beaman, Mickey Booth, Alan Brinn, Bob Clewes, Terry Close, Mervyn Elway, David Foyle, Jim Holder, Brian Howells, Richard Jardine, Jim Jarrett, Andy Mitchell, Cecil Pope, Trevor Pritchard, Eric Stephens, Alan Townsend.

Players Representative: Jeremy Bennett.

Captains: First XV: Ian Smith. **United:** Andrew Stanley.

Coach: Keith Richardson.

... **And I nearly forgot:** Programme editor, Peter Arnold, 74, Victoria Street. Tel: 380481, who welcomes news, stories, anecdotes from any supporter, from Gloucester or Opponents. Although the laws of libel or obscenity may deter him from printing them.

Peter Arnold (cont.)

WE GET LETTERS

Last week we heard from Harlequins, this week from Bath. We must be doing something right. The following letter is self-explanatory:

THE EARLY BIRD SHOW from BATH FOOTBALL CLUB (RFU)

One of the great features of Bath Football Club (RFU) is the large number of supporters who assemble at the Recreation Ground, Bath, very early in the day, in anticipation of the match to come.

To address this, the Club has decided to provide pre-match entertainment at all First Team matches this coming season, under the title of "The Early Bird Show", and I have been honoured to accept the invitation to anchor this.

The show will involve dedications and requests, conversations and comments, quizzes and puzzles, all linked by music aimed to keep everybody happy.

Our two great Club are scheduled to meet in combat at the Recreation Ground, Bath on:

SATURDAY 17 APRIL 1993

and I am writing to you now to invite your Club to contribute any items you may wish to "The Early Bird Show" being broadcast on that day.

Are there any loyal supporters of yours who have birthdays, anniversaries etc., to celebrate on or around that date? Do any of your first team players

(cont. on page 9)

NOBBY'S NEWSDESK



Hello Everyone,

Nobby here again with the second Newsdesk for the 92/93 season.

Last week my two helpers walked through the crowd selling our FIND THE BALL cards. This proved to be a great success and as a result three lucky Gloucester supporters went home £10 richer. My young friends, Gareth Rea and Andrew Gifford, will be selling the cards here at Kingsholm for every 1st XV match. Please have a go!!!

Last week we raised £125 which was great for such a new venture but we hope to increase that amount as it becomes more popular.

After today's game against Sale there are no 1st XV matches at Kingsholm until October 3rd. That will be our first league match against Rugby, look forward to seeing you then. Cheers, Nobby

Always room for more Gold Bond Agents and Members. Find out how you can help the Club, and make a little money too, by contacting Andrew Benzie on Gloucester 419666



Peter Arnold (cont.)

have something worthy of a mention, representative honours, new babies and so on?

Please let me know, via my home address, if there is anything you would like included in the Show. I will be only too happy to use whatever is submitted.

Also, as part of the programme, I am intending to have a Sports Quiz at around about one hour before kick-off between two youngsters representing Bath and two representing yourselves. Do you have a couple of juniors (or minis) who would like to take part? If so, let me have their names, and ask them to make themselves known to me on the day. I will be using the room immediately under the Clubhouse clock, adjacent to the players' tunnel.

I do hope that you will be able to let me have some input. My aim is to cement relationships and provide a little bit of light relief before the match, so the more information the better.

I look forward to hearing from you, and to the match between our two great Clubs.

Yours faithfully
Tony Thresher

So there you are. Quite an enterprising idea, although I don't know whether our slightly eccentric loudspeaker system could stand the strain — feedback in the Stand last Saturday would have shaken the filling from your teeth.

Of course, we don't visit Bath until well into April, but if you know of anyone celebrating a birthday, wedding anniversary, some more informal arrangement, or just about anything really, round about that time, you can contact Tony Thresher at 2, The Butts,

Crudwell, Malmesbury, Wilts. SN16 9HF. Telephone 0666 577 393.

I'll remind you closer to the time.

LAYING DOWN THE LAWS

Don't know what you thought, but my opinion was the most of last week's problems stemmed from the fact that all 30 players, not to mention the ref., were a bit tentative, even nervous, about the new Laws. I commented on some of them on the occasion, but here goes with another batch.

Line-outs

If ever there was a bag or worms, it's the Laws governing line-outs. Whether this season's changes will help, remains to be seen, but some of them are interesting, to say the least, and it's worth noting that all but one of them are still classed as 'Experimental Variations', so it looks as if the legislators aren't too sure, either.

The space between lines of players goes out from ½ metre, to 1 metre, but the requirement for players on the same side to be 1 metre apart has been scrapped.

When jumping for a ball, a player must use both hands or his *inside* arm only. I did notice that the Blackheath locks didn't seem to be observing that

(cont. on page 28)

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GLOUCESTER
 (Cherry & White)

T	G	Pts
---	---	-----

15. T. Smith

14. J. Perrins
 13. S. Morris
 12. D. Caskie
 11. D. Morgan

10. N. Matthews
 9. M. Hannaford

1. P. Jones
 2. J. Hawker
 3. R. Phillips
 4. S. Devereaux
 5. D. Sims
 6. P. Ashmead
 7. I. Smith (Capt.)
 8. M. Nicholls

Replacements:
 P. Salter D. Kearsey
 M. Sysum A. Deacon
 I. Morgan A. Knox

H/T

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RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE

GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

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Cumulative Match Score

Referee: R. C. REES (London Society)

Gloucester Rugby Club use **GILBERT MATCH BALLS**

SALE
 (Blue/White)

T	G	Pts
---	---	-----

15. P. Mallinder

14. J. Powell
 13. G. Stocks
 12. P. Stansfield
 11. K. Young

10. P. Jee
 9. M. Warr

1. P. Smith
 2. S. Diamond
 3. M. Whitcombe (Capt.)
 4. D. Baldwin
 5. B. Finley
 6. M. Kendrick
 7. I. Marshall
 8. D. Erskine

Replacements:
 A. Clark
 A. Smith

F/T



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Ed Martin

IN PERSPECTIVE

April 1933 has gone down in sporting history as the month when one Wally Hammond scored an unbeaten 336, made up of 10 sixes and 33 fours, during the Test against New Zealand in Auckland to beat Don Bradman's 'world record' 334 set in Leeds three years previously.

The same month saw Betty Compton, a former chorus girl at the well-known hangout of the New York sporting set Texas Guinan's, in France and getting married to the disgraced mayor of New York Jimmy Walker.

Oh yes, April 1933 saw the first match in the series between Gloucester and Sale.

The talk about the bat-swinging exploits of one Gloucestershire cricket star on April 1 in the sporting hangouts of Gloucester was shared with the City's rugby club who on All Fools Day had beaten Harlequins 28-21 at Twickenham to complete a thrashing of London clubs over the season.

As the legendary 'W.B.' commented in the Pink 'Un of April 8: 'Gloucester accomplished one of their finest performances of the season in defeating a powerful Harlequins team . . . It was the City's fifth engagement against London clubs, and all have been won, with an aggregate of 81 points for and 39 against.'

Saturday April 8 saw the start of a two-match swing through Devon when Devonport Services were dispatched 10-5. Two days later, Gloucester edged-out Torquay by a 5-3 margin.

Then came the much-heralded visit of Sale with a handful of 'stars'. The club was on an Easter Tour and stopped-off at Kingsholm on Saturday April 18.

The Pink 'Un billed the match report as a Special by 'W.B.' and the headline screamed about a 'brilliant win' and 'Cheshire Champions Well Beaten in Points'.

'Gloucester', W.B. wrote, 'opened their holiday programme at Kingsholm against Sale, one of the leading North clubs, who came with the splendid record of 22 wins, 7 defeats, and 2 drawn games, and aggregate of 556 points for and 298 against.' [By comparison Gloucester went into the game with 22 wins, 9 defeats and 3 drawn games, and 373 points for and 226 against.]

'The visitors . . . were strongly represented at three-quarter, the line being composed of Claude Davey and W. Wooler (the Welsh internationals (sic.)), A. J. Croston (Army), and H. S. Sever (English trial).'

Gloucester were far from being at full strength. Tanner and Brooks (the backfield pair that produced fireworks on the right wing) together with Horden and Williams from the forwards division were all absent.

Also not playing was Grahame Parker, who was to go on to play for Cambridge University, Blackheath and England (Peter Arnold has a delicious story about Parker and a Gloucester fan in Dublin). Parker had hung up his boots for the season and deserted to the leather and willow, no doubt hoping to emulate Mr. Hammond!

Early in the game, a Don Meadows pass ten yards from the Gloucester line went to ground and the ball was picked up by Wooler who brushed aside Brookes to run the short distance for a Sale try. Several came close to stretching the Sale lead, but he touched the corner flag before touching down.

Howard Boughton kicked Gloucester out of trouble and then levelled the score with a penalty kick from the 25-yard line after an offside decision against Sale by referee Mr. Hanks from Bristol.

Gloucester's first try came when Meadows fed Sheppard who shook himself free of three tackles before crossing the Sale line. While Boughton missed the conversion, Gloucester had a commanding 9-3 lead at halftime.

An obstruction decision saw Boughton kicking his second penalty and then "with a glorious burst of speed, Sheppard cleared Davey and, rounding Hart, finished a glorious run by scoring behind the posts.' Boughton added the three conversion points and Gloucester led 18-3 and the game was effectively won.

But Sale refused to give up. "With vigour, Wooler led off with a run across the field and play was taken to the city half. Here Croston received possession, and with a fine kick dropped a goal.'

Gloucester went through a disastrous patch in
(cont. on page 28)

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Peter Arnold (cont.)

one too regularly last week, which explains some of the problems Messrs. Devereaux and Miles were having.

Furthermore, the act of jumping doesn't give any excuse for crossing the line of touch.

The one which isn't experimental concerns the quick throw in. It can now be taken from any point along the touch-line, between where the ball went into touch, and the goal line of the side doing the throwing in. However, contrary to some earlier reports which I read, the throw must be straight along the line of touch. The ball which went into touch must be used, and it must only have been touched by the player doing the throwing.

Interesting possibilities. Does this mean that a player can take the ball in touch, and then run like mad — while still in touch — back towards his own line, until he gets opposite to a player he wants to throw the ball to? And, while he's doing it, being in touch, can he be tackled? I'd be glad of enlightenment from someone who knows more than I do.

Kicking for touch

You'll be aware that a player can no longer run back into his 22 and kick directly for touch, but there's more to the new Law than that. In fact, a player may not gain ground after such a ploy, even if he bounces the ball into touch.

Tim Smith seems to be alive to this one. There was one occasion last week where he deliberately left the ball to Derek Morgan while he ran back into his 22. Derek then passed the ball to him — over the 22-metre line — and Tim kicked directly to touch.

Free kicks

Several changes here, too. For example, if a free kick goes directly into touch, the kicker's side may not gain ground.

They've also abolished the placed free kick. Nowadays, it may only be dropped or punted.

It's worth remembering these, because it looks as if we're going to see more free kicks and less penalties. No fewer than twelve penalty provisions have been changed to free kicks, including the intentional knock-on, using another player in the line out for support in jumping, moving beyond the end of the line-out, handling or picking up the ball in a scrum or ruck, and cases of deliberate delay or waste of time.

Foul play

If a linesman detects a spot of malpractice, then, for the first time, he may now enter the field of play, at the next stoppage, to tell the referee what he's seen. No more standing there like a wally with your flag raised aloft for endless minutes.

In addition, you haven't necessarily got away with if neither the referee nor the linesmen notice what you've been up to. A Player's 'Union or affiliated organisation' may now cite a player for foul play which has not been detected by match officials.

And talking about coming on to the field, coaches may now come on to the field and advise their sides at half time at Under 19 level, or in such domestic matches as a Union may authorise.

TAILPIECE

Two comments tickled my fancy last week. One was heard before the game, when, during a discussion of the new Laws, someone remarked "Ah! Rugby is a young man's game, these days!"

"Oh?" came the reply "Has anyone told Phil Blakeway?"

The other one may be construed as being racist, and I hope I don't offend our Asian brethren by reporting it.

Tim Smith, not for the first time, had seen a kick at goal swing late, just wide of the left-hand post. Shout from the Worcester Street end: "The fast bowlers have been doctoring the ball again!"

... and finally,

*"On the chest of a barmaid from Sale,
Was tattooed the price of pale ale,
While one her behind,
For the sake of the blind,
Was the same information, in Braille"*

Sorry — couldn't resist it.

Ed Martin (cont.)

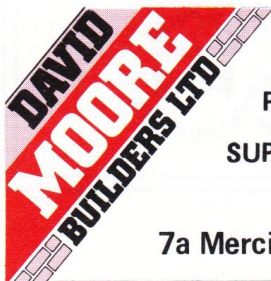
their 34-game series against Sale. Of the seven encounters between 1950 and 1960, Sale won six — five of them at Kingsholm.

That Easter weekend at Kingsholm, Gloucester went on to beat the Yorkshire Cup holders Halifax 18-5 on the Tuesday after a 19-14 loss against London Welsh on Bank Holiday Monday.

The biggest win against Sale at Kingsholm was the 61-7 wipeout in the Courage game on April 16, 1988. But Sale came back to Kingsholm on April 21, 1990 and inflicted a 21-16 defeat on Gloucester — and that was the last time that the two sides met.

COMPLETE RECORD AGAINST SALE

	P	W	L	D	PF	PA
Home	24	16	8	0	469	243
Away	10	6	4	0	139	107
Overall	34	22	12	0	608	350



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