

**GLOUCESTER**  
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

**v LEICESTER**

**SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 5th, 1992**  
**Kick Off 3.00 p.m.**



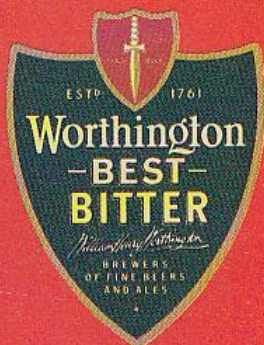
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(36;37) **GLOUCESTER 36**  
 (Cherry/White)

T	G	Pts
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5 H/T 3

15. M. Roberts

14. C. Dee  
 13. I. Morgan  
 12. J. Perrins  
 11. P. Holford

10. D. Cummins  
 9. J. Davis

1. T. Windo  
 2. J. Hawker  
 3. A. Deacon  
 4. P. Miles  
 5. R. West  
 6. P. Ashmead  
 7. A. Stanley (Capt.)  
 8. R. Fowke

Replacements:

A. Curtis  
 D. Kearsey

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Cumulative Match Score

0	3
5	3
12	3
17	3
17	5
24	5
29	5
36	13

Referee: D. TAYLOR (LONDON SOCIETY)

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**LEICESTER 13** (27;100)  
 (Scarlet/Green/White Hoop)

O.	W. Kilford			
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Replacements:

I. Harris  
 N. Martin


36 F/T 13

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Peter Arnold

## TIGER BY THE TALE

When you get into one of those 'do you remember when ...' sessions, endemic to, and beloved of, any decent rugby clubhouse, you find that stores featuring the same clubs and players weave in and out of the conversation like coloured threads in a Fairisle pullover. If you carry that fanciful metaphor a little further, you could say that, in the case of Gloucester RFC, said woolly-pully would be coloured scarlet, white and green.

We have no opposition we respect more than Leicester. No opposition we like playing against more. And no side more welcome to Kingsholm. The wealth of stories about Gloucester v. Tigers provide that 'remember when' jaw session with enough material to keep us going until someone closes the bar, and even longer.

'Do you remember when Dusty Hare ...'

'Do you remember when Lloyd Gardener ...'

'Do you remember that Cup Final ...'

And so on. The fact that I don't even have to complete those three examples speaks volumes. In some ways, it's a pity that the League system has got in the way. It adds a spurious tension to a situation which always had us on the edge of our seats without any adventitious aids. Not that we're worried about points today. We have what is termed, accurately in this case, a 'friendly', Leicester having already beaten us in the Courage League.

Today's event is none the worse for that, nor for the fact that the superfluous Divisional Championship seems likely to deprive both sides of some key players. Both clubs have enough strength in depth, and enough respect for the other's pride and prowess to provide us with an excellent game in any circumstances. Do you remember when injuries forced Gloucester to play Tim Smith on the wing, and Mike Hamlin at centre? But there I go again.

Last season we subjected the Tigers to a double, beating them at Aylestone Road by 22 points to 12, and in the League fixture at Kingsholm, 21-3. Leicester have already achieved the first half of a similar achievement this season and would, I've no doubt, be extremely happy to complete the job today. Our lads won't be prepared to let them do that if they can possibly help it. So the signs are good.

It's always grand to entertain the Tigers. I hope and believe that they like coming here. The Kingsholm

season wouldn't be the same without them, Leagues or no Leagues.

Do you remember when ... ?

### THANKS TO HAZELWOODS

"There is only one firm of substantial independent accountants in this area, and that is Hazelwoods, who are today's generous sponsors."

Couldn't have put it better myself, but what the notes with which I have been supplied don't say is that Hazelwoods are not only generous but *regular* sponsors, and that means a great deal in these hard times.

One of the sad things about that is that we make friends who, in the natural order of things, move on and deprive us of their company. We have a typical case today in the retirement of former Managing Partner, Don Cattermole. We certainly hope that his leisure time is all that he would wish it to be, and that he still finds time to visit Kingsholm, now and then.

Not that we're being deprived of expertise at the top. Don's successor is Chris Mourton, who is described as a 'rugby fanatic'. He certainly played for Cheltenham Grammar School in his day, and went on to represent both Gloucestershire Schools and West of England Schools. Nowadays, I'm told, he can be found supporting both Cheltenham and Gloucester, and is a regular at Twickenham, Lansdown Road, Parc des Prince — 'wherever there is a rugby match', my notes say.

His job certainly gives him opportunities. Not only do Hazelwoods maintain five offices in Gloucestershire — at Cheltenham, Gloucester, Stroud, Tewkesbury and Staverton — but the firm is a leading member of an international group of independent accountants, providing representation and information to clients from over 370 countries, worldwide.

Wonder if they have a contact in Western Samoa? Chris Mourton is probably working on it.

It's reassuring to note that, in spite of this multinational capability, Hazelwoods insist on retaining friendly, personal contact. As Chris Mourton writes, 'We have developed substantially since the firm was founded in the 1920's, but our philosophy is

(cont. on page 5)



THE  
SOCIETY  
THAT  
TRIES  
HARDER



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

## Peter Arnold (cont.)

still to provide a cost-effective, high quality service with particular emphasis on the relationship between client and partner.'

'In rugby terms, we try our best, and do not penalise our clients who are often overwhelmed by the scrummage of red tape, tax, VAT, company law etc. In fact, we are always looking to assist clients to convert their opportunities.'

You'd expect that Hazelwoods would provide a very wide range of services to both corporate clients and individual clients, covering accountancy, audit, tax, corporate finance, computers and financial services generally. However, it's only possible here to give you a very quick summary. No doubt, any of the eighteen partners would be delighted to elaborate if you get in touch with one of the offices.

Chris Mourton's final shot at goal says 'Following the successful sponsorship of Gloucester v. the Irish Presidents XV last season (which Gloucester won), I welcome the opportunity for the firm to be sponsors today for this prestigious, and very important, match between Leicester and the Cherry-and-Whites.'

Nice to know. We hope you continue to feel that way, Mr. Mourton. What's more, we hope you and your guests have a whale of a time today. And that you tell all those 370 countries about us.

### BIFF'S THE BOY!

Matthew Grove is twelve years old and goes to Dean Close School. His father runs Hazelwoods Gloucester office.

That's a fairly bald statement, and needs elaborating.

Young Matthew plays on the wing for his school twice a week, and his nickname is 'Biff' which may say something about the trenchancy of his tackling. Perhaps Messrs. Morgan, Perrins, Morris *et. al.* should start looking over their shoulders, especially as there are also two other Grove lads who are avid rugby men.

Biff's the boy who got the nod from the selectors this afternoon, however, and will be running out in his Gloucester strip as today's Match Mascot. Wonder if Ian Smith will be able to keep up with him?

But Biff is more than a rugby man. He also enjoys riding his trotting pony, and canoeing, as well as indulging in the round ball game from time to time. Quite an all rounder.

Biff's Mother is called 'Lone' (what a lovely name), and doesn't only have to contend with three rugby-mad boys, but also with an artistic daughter, which is enough for any Mum to handle at any one time.

It occurs to me that the drawings of Gloucester

players, past and present, which adorn the walls of the Committee Bar and the Hospitality Suite were also created by a lady — from Hucclecote, if memory serves, so perhaps the outnumbered Miss Grove can also get into the rugby act.

Didn't there used to be a TV series call 'The Grove Family'? One of the earliest soaps, I believe. Well — now we have our own, and very welcome they are, too.

### CUP MATTERS

So there's no trip to Twickenham for us this year. In fact, none of the West Country's formidable trio of Gloucester, Bath and Bristol are in the Fourth Round, and I doubt if that has ever happened before.

The upbeat side of the equation is that now we have nothing to concentrate on but the Courage League, and we shall need all our powers to make sure that we're still in Division One next season. A Cup defeat, while disappointing, bruising to the ego and unwelcome to the Hon. Treasurer, is really no big deal, but relegation is a much more disastrous prospect, from several points of view. Cup distractions wouldn't have helped.

Last Saturday's results to expose the question about whether Wallabies v. Barbarians should have been played on a Cup day. I know that the season is overcrowded — thanks, in my view, to the Divisional Championship — and that the Australians needed to get home, but the game could have been played in mid week, without, I'm sure, any chance that Twickenham would not have been filled to capacity.

I don't honestly think that we can blame the absence of Ian Smith from the Gloucester side at Newcastle Gosforth for the defeat. After all we did have more than adequate cover in Andrew Stanley, both as flanker and Captain, but I'm not sure that Bath will be taking the same view.

One would normally have expected Bath to have eaten Waterloo for breakfast, and then come back hollering for a second helping. However, the north country side have always been bonnie fighters, especially on their own turf, they played out of their skins, and defended like demons in the frenetic last quarter. They deserved their win, on the day, and good luck to them.

The thought at the back of my mind, however is that, as we know to our cost, Stewart Barnes is a creative, inspirational player who could, if anyone could, have conjured something in the last few minutes. With Jon Webb not on top form, his goal kicking could have been crucial, too I wouldn't

(cont. on page 8)

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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, 90, Kingsholm Road. Tel: 301879.

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

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

**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.)

normally say that one player can make all that much difference, but we're talking about Barnes, here, and his influence could well have upset that one-point difference.

So, have the Barbarians and the Australians combined to deprive Bath of yet another Cup? We shall never know, but I do hope the lesson has gone home in the quarters that matter.

Meanwhile, congratulations to the Tigers on putting it across our old bogies, London Scottish. There's no clubhouse in which we would rather see the Pilkington Cup come to rest apart from our own, of course — and I'm sure that many Gloucester supporters will be rooting for them from here on in.

Although I did like Ian Smith's comment on the radio the other morning: 'It's not worth winning without Gloucester in it!'

That's my boy.

### DIVISIONAL MATCH

Whatever you may feel about the ADT Divisional Championship in principle, you do have to admit that there are an awful lot of good players on view in the Divisional matches. So you'll probably want to come along to Kingsholm next Saturday to see the South and South West take on the formidable London squad in the only home fixture the Division has this season.

(cont. on page 9)

## NOBBY'S NEWSDESK



Hello Everyone,

Today we welcome Leicester to Kingsholm in a match that always produces some fine open rugby. Although it isn't a League game followers of the Cherry and Whites will be keen to see our lads put one over the Tigers from Welford Road.

I often hear the supporters of G.R.F.C. say that "I would love to be in the Gold Bond but I don't know where to pay my money in". Well now you have no excuses for not becoming a member, because as from today you can join the Bond by simply leaving your Name, Address and your weekly 50p with Geraldine Peake at the club office. Your membership card will be sent to you immediately and you can then pay your money to Geraldine before most 1st XV and United matches.

Remember that being a member of the Gold Bond not only gives you a chance to share over £500 in prize money every week, it also entitles you to discount places such as Ebley Tyres and Exhausts and Gloucester Sports of Worcester Street. I would hope that this move will encourage many more of into what is proving to be a highly successful scheme.

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.)*

I don't know whether we shall see many Gloucester players in the side: I suppose it largely depends on how the squad performs in today's game against the North — and while I'm at it, we must certainly congratulate Dave Simms and Simon Morris on being selected.

Perhaps it's also pertinent to commiserate with Neil Matthews, True, it's an achievement to make the replacement benches, but one of the weaknesses of the system is that, in the absence of a 'real' County Championship, we have no opportunity of seeing Barnes oppose the other genuine class outside half in the South West at representative level. Only one fellow can actually play at a time, after all.

But I digress. What I'm supposed to be doing is telling you about tickets for the game. Stand tickets are on sale now at £6.50, from the Office, and will continue to be so from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. each day for as long as they last. Ground entrance will be £4.00 — no tickets, pay when you get here.

Worth coming along to. You'll be seeing the best players from half the country, after all.

### **PROGRESS REPORT**

The last I heard, our cheerful Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Doug Wadley was at home and doing nicely. As you'll remember, he's had a nasty bout of appendicitis, but has come through everything with his usual aplomb, and has had all the stitches out. Just as well: I can't imagine that fancy needlework is at all in Doug's line.

Geraldine, who has been holding the fort at the Office valiantly in Doug's absence, tells me that he's

rarin' to go, and is, in fact, taking care of a few bits and pieces at home. You know how it is — there's nothing worse than being confined to the house with nothing but a steady diet of daytime TV to sustain you. Especially if you're feeling a bit sore.

One beneficial side effect, I'm told, is that the whole contretemps has left him a stone in weight lighter than he was before it all started. All in all, it shouldn't be too long before we see Doug Wadley back where he belongs, and would dearly love to be — here, steering the ship at Kingsholm.

### **LAST CHANCE BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

Do you remember my story about John Awford, printed a few games ago? Probably not, put that way, so I'll summarise.

John was the chap I ran into in the bar on, of all places, Lundy Island, which is smack in the Bristol Channel, and has a population of 23. He wan't a visitor, but a member of staff, but there he was, happily wearing a Gloucester RFC shirt. An official one, too, purchased right here at Kingsholm.

Apparently, John comes from just outside Bath, and I gather attended that palpitating Cup Semi last

*(cont. on page 28)*

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or write for full colour brochure "Entertaining at Kingsholm" to Bastion House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester, GL1 1JJ.

## Ed Martin

You might remember that when *The Tigers* paid their annual pilgrimage to Kingsholm last season, mention was made of how Leicester tops the table of visiting clubs who have held Gloucester scoreless on this ground since the Second World War — the computer can now splurge out the complete match-by-match records of all Kingsholm matches and it shows that of the 104 occasions in history when *The Cherry and Whites* have failed to score at Kingsholm, nine of the games have been against Leicester.

This means that Leicester is ranked top amongst the English clubs to “slam the door in Gloucester’s face” at Kingsholm. Wales can claim three clubs that better *The Tigers* — Newport and Swansea (both 13 times) and Cardiff (12). Lanelly/Llanelli have held Gloucester scoreless on six occasions and Old Merchant Taylors five times. The list continues: Cheltenham (4); Bristol, Coventry and London Scottish (3 each); and Army, Cinderford, Devonport Albion, Devonport Services, Lydney, Oxford University and Pontypool (all twice). Nineteen other clubs have managed to prevent Gloucester from scoring on one occasion each.

By all accounts, Gloucester can be more than proud of the fact that there have been only 104 occasions when, at home, they have failed to score any points (there have been 2,166 matches played to date by the club at Kingsholm).

Turning back to Leicester, but keeping the Gloucester record book open, the rivalry between the two clubs is ranked fourth in terms of home and away matches played and sixth in terms of total wins.

Bristol heads the list of most meetings with 189 matches, with Cheltenham (181) and Newport (175) taking second and third spots. Leicester checks-in at fourth with 158 meetings against Gloucester, two more than Bath and eight more than sixth-placed Lydney.

Leicester’s sixth place in the Gloucester table of most wins is by virtue of the 87 *Cherry and White* victories rather than the overall Gloucester 56.96 winning percentage!

The list of clubs providing Gloucester with most overall (home and away) wins is: Cheltenham (143), Lydney (111), Stroud (108), Bath (98), Bristol (95), Leicester (87), Moseley (74), Clifton (67), Northampton (62) and Coventry (60).

Leicester only figures in one other “list” in the record book — *The Tigers* ran up the 10th highest score ever against Gloucester at Kingsholm.

**And this “number” (or statistic) is really for the doom and gloom merchants from the Media .**

. . . The 10th highest score run up IN HISTORY at Kingsholm by an opponent is a massive 30 points (four clubs have done this: Leicester, Bucharesti, Newport and Headingly).

When Leicester reached their 30 points on this ground (December 3, 1983), they won the match by just 10 points!

The top 50 highest scores by an opponent at Kingsholm is one of the two “easiest” lists for an opponent to get into — if Leicester scores 22 points today, they go into the chart in joint 40th!

When it comes to the top 50 for heaviest defeats of Gloucester at Kingsholm, then it is probably easier. A 14-point winning margin would put an opponent in at joint 43rd — or a 24-point win would see a club in the list the 12th worst defeat ever suffered by Gloucester at Kingsholm.

Now all these numbers today are effectively by special request of a couple of the “Kingsholm faithful” whose spirits were raised a little after the West Hartlepool match. The tears were watering down the fine efforts of Mr. Worthington and I thought that perhaps they would become more morbid when I mentioned (without thinking) that the 15-point defeat puts West Hartlepool in the list of the 50 worst defeats of Gloucester at Kingsholm.

They found it hard to believe . . . but then realised just how good a record Gloucester has on the hallowed turf of Kingsholm. The promise was made that some of the Kingsholm facts, now that the database of all the results is complete, would appear on this page before the end of the year . . . A pint of Worthington — and hold the tears!

Merry  
Christmas.

**TODAY’S MATCH IS THE 2,167th TO BE PLAYED AT KINGSHOLM  
AND IS THE 4,047th IN GLOUCESTER CLUB HISTORY**

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*Peter Arnold (cont.)*

season the one we lost in extra time. He liked our shirts, and took something home to remember us by.

The point I'm making is that if a fellow who comes from one of the more remote spots in England and supports our most torrid opposition feels that our Club Shop is worth patronising, then it must have something going for it. Combine that thought with the fact that this is our last home First XV game before Boxing Day, and the conclusion is clear. Now's the time to go along and see if there isn't a prezzie for someone or other who's normally difficult to choose for. Including yourself.

After all, it beats trawling around the gift shops any day. Alan Townsend and John Beaman will be glad to assist in any way they can. And that goes for Leicester supporters, just as much as our home-grown variety. If Bath fans find the Gloucester Emporium worth the once over, then I'm sure Tigers followers won't be far behind. For any collector of such things, a cherry-and-white shirt still has a great deal of prestige.

Here's another thought for you. If you're really stuck for a suitable gift for someone who likes a gamble, why not buy a subscription to the Gold Bond Draw? At £100 a day prize money, it does represent the chance to win a great deal of money.

There's an appropriate ad. on page 8 on this programme. (Could even be on this page — I haven't checked how many words I've written), but to save you looking it up, the number to ring is 0452 419666. Ask for Andrew Benzie who'll help, I'm sure.

#### TENS

I wonder if you've caught up with the fact that the National Tens Tournament, sponsored by Bass, to whom we have reason to be grateful anyway, is to be played right here at Kingsholm on Monday, May 3rd. The top sixteen clubs in the country are to be invited to participate. And that obviously includes Leicester.

Tens? Never 'eard of 'em!

That's not really surprising, because I'm told that this is the first serious attempt to organise a major tournament of this form of the game in this country.

Intriguing isn't it? And an undoubted feather in our caps, to boot.

The prospect must be especially interesting to anyone who, like me, has never really taken to the

Sevens game. While I readily concede the entertainment value, I find that a day-long diet of non-stop running does tend to satiate the appetite, somewhat. Rather like eating the pickled onions without the cheese.

It may be that the new Tens version will provide a happy compromise between the stern application of the real game, and the more frenetic candy floss of the Sevens spectacle.

But, of course, I'm talking from a level of blissful ignorance. I've heard that the game is played over ten minutes each way, but how the sides line up, and whether there are any amendments to the usual rules, I simply don't know, because no one has, as yet, been able to tell me.

I have my tentacles out, seeking information, and will let you know the full score as soon as I can. Meanwhile, if anyone out there has actually seen — or even played — the game on their travels, I'd be delighted to hear from them.

But the whole thing sounds like an excellent way to spend Spring Bank Holiday Monday. Watch this space.

#### TAILPIECE

I think that this is the first time I have ever penned a 'Tailpiece' specifically aimed at Opposition supporters. Not that it won't be of interest to that happy band of Gloucester followers who make a point of travelling up to Leicester, when the occasion arises.

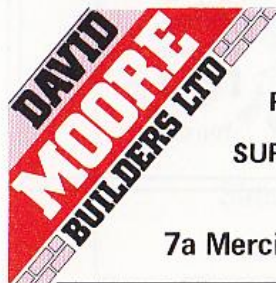
Among that coterie there must be folk who have patronised the pub called the 'Victory', hard by the Leicester ground, and also convenient for the hospital, which may or may not be significant.

The news is that, as of this week, the 'Victory' has a new landlord and landlady. And they've taken up residence after a spell in Gloucester.

They're Dave and Mary Holmes, who have moved on after making 'Butlers' in Eastgate Street, a far better pub than it was when they arrived. And if anyone knows the background, that was quite an achievement.

Both Dave and Mary, independently, have told me that they'll be delighted to entertain any rugby people whenever they care to drop in. They're looking forward to making the acquaintance of the Tigers clan, and can promise a warm welcome to anyone wearing Gloucester colours too.

Gloucester's loss is, in this case, undoubtedly Leicester's gain.



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