

Championships

1992/93 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP GLOUCESTERSHIRE V HERTFORDSHIRE

Saturday, December 12th, 1992
Regent Street, Lydney
2.30 p.m.

Programme 50p

ADT Sponsors of English Rugby at Divisional, County and Under 21 level

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

A sincere welcome to the Hertfordshire Players, Officials and Supporters to Lydney in the Forest of Dean on this our 1st home game in this seasons ADT County Championship.

Both sides are somewhat unknown to each other and this should hopefully produce an interesting and entertaining encounter.

It is a great personal pleasure to see so many former County Schools, Colts and Under 21's playing today. Both counties work extremely hard to select, coach and encourage future players for top class rugby.

We are yet again extremely grateful to Lydney RFC. for staging another Championship Match and making all the necessary arrangements. The Lydney Club are always excellent hosts and most helpful in all areas of Gloucestershire Rugby particularly allowing their ground and facilities for training and coaching at all levels, especially the County Colts.

Thanks are due to ADT Security Systems as sponsors of the County Championship and also for their generous support to rugby in general.

We must thank todays referee and officials and hope that all who take part will enjoy themselves.

Let everyone do their utmost to show that Rugby Football is the best team game in the world and the one in which real life long friendships are made.

All the best to everyone, have a grand day and enjoy the remainder of the season.

MIKE SHORE, PRESIDENT, Gloucestershire RFU.

THERE IS LIFE OUTSIDE GLOUCESTERSHIRE

We do tend to get a bit arrogant, sometimes. In the same way that the Victorians were quite convinced that God is an Englishman, we are inclined to believe that the Great Referee in the Sky comes from somewhere around the River Severn.

We do sometimes nod in the direction of such Counties as Lancashire and Cornwall, admitting that, like Oscar Wilde's Liberals, 'at least they come after dinner', but generally speaking, we never had much truck with what we always regarded as lesser breeds without the pale.

Times change though, and one thing which the experiences of recent years has taught us is that there are quite a few Counties who do know a thing or two about the game which the true Gloucestershire man came to regard as his own throughout the decades of pre-eminence. Today's welcome visitors from Hertfordshire provide an excellent example of that.

Anyone who has been following the fortunes (and misfortunes) of Gloucester in Division One of the Courage League will have heard that the game played at Kingsholm on November 21st was described by Coach, Keith Richardson as, 'probably the most important game in the history of the club.' Whether you agree with that or not, the fact remains that he was referring to Saracens – who are a Hertfordshire club, of course.

(Digressing for a moment, I was sorry to learn that it appears they will have to move from their Southgate ground, and that they haven't found anywhere suitable to go to yet. If anyone here today has ideas about that, I'm sure 'Sarries' would be delighted to hear from them.)

There are also Old Merchant Tailors, of course, and no Club has a more honorable and respected lineage than them. Tabard also seem to be a perennial name in the Pilkington Cup, these days, and are a fine example of a club which, a comparatively few years ago, were regarded as easy meat by many of their neighbours, but who now show significant signs of becoming a power in the land.

Harpenden, another fine old Herts. club, are famous for quite another reason. As anyone into such things knows very well, Harpenden is the home of the National Pub Sevens, which had its origins at the renowned (in rugby circles) Cross Keys inn, not far away. I know of at least one Harpenden Sevens tankard sitting on a mantlepiece near Stroud, and if you've never been along to that extraordinary event, then I earnestly recommend you to do so one Sunday in September. But be warned: it can be very hard on the liver.

Another pleasant Hertfordshire clubhouse in which I have been entertained, is the one belonging to Old Verulamians at Cotlandswick, St. Albans. Their hospitality is enormous, but I suppose that 'O.V's' main claim to fame lies in the exploits of one Mick Luckhurst, who never aspired to play at a higher level than the club's second XV. One day, while in the USA, he was persuaded to try kicking the smaller American football. He was offered a contract by, I believe Atlanta, signed on as a field goal kicker, and was a millionaire within months. Never having played for more than about eight minutes per game.

Such is life, and if you want proof of what I say, watch the Gridiron game on Channel Four, where you will see Mick doing duty as a commentator.

So Hertfordshire rugby has a colourful background. Rather like today's host club, Lydney. Gloucestershire RFU are very grateful for the opportunity to use the famous ground again, and sincerely hope that 'Lyd', who have been making significant progress themselves, over the past few years, achieve everything they set out to achieve. It's delightful to be here again, and I'm sure that our respected visitors, together with supporters and officials, will have a thoroughly enjoyable day.

PETER ARNOLD.



Colours: Red Jerseys, White Shorts

Referee: Mr. TREVOR HARVEY (R.F.U.)



HERTFORDSHIRE

Colours: Green

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15	TIM SMITH(Gloucester)	Full Back	15	A. DALWOOD(Saracens)
14	DERRICK MORGAN(Gloucester)	Right Wing	14	L. SAMUEL (Letchworth)
13	BEN MASLEN(Bristol University)	Right Centre	13	I. PARKHOUSE(Letchworth)
12	LEE OSBORNE (Berry Hill)	Left Centre	12	M. MORGAN (Letchworth)
11	ANDY WILLIAMS (Bristol)	Left Wing	11	P. HUGHES(Saracens)
10	MIKE HAMLIN [Capt.] (London Welsh)	Outside Half	10	S. HANCOCK(O. Kingsburians)
9	RICHARD REES (Northampton)	Scrum Half	9	N. BEYTELL(Askeans)
1	ADEY POWLES(Berry Hill)	Prep	1	G. REYNOLDS(Cheshunt)
2	STEVE RATCLIFFE (Cheltenham)	Hooker	2	A. BULLARD [Capt.] (Cheshunt)
3	SIMON BALDWIN (Gloucester O.B.)	Prop	3	D. WARNER(Tabard)
4	NIGEL SCRIVENS (London Welsh)	Lock	4	R. MALONE(Tabard)
5	CHRIS BLAKE(Clifton)	Lock	5	G. BROWN (Wasps)
6	IAN PATTEN(Bristol)	Flanker	6	J. McBRIDE (Cheshunt)
7	RHODERI LEWIS (Lydney)	Flanker	7	G. TAYLOR (London Irish)
8	JULIAN HORRABIN (Berry Hill)	No. 8	8	I. HOLMAN(Hertford)
	Replacements	Touch Judges:		Replacements
16	JOHN DAVIS (Cheltenham)	Mr. PETER WILLIAMS (R.F.U.)	18	N. STEWART(Letchworth)
17	PETER HOLMYARD(Cheltenham)	Mr. PAUL McDERMOTT (R.F.U.)	17	G. CLEMENTS(Fullerians)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE R.F.U. would like to thank the following for their assistance in staging this match:

MARCHANT'S COACHES • Mr FRED MANSFIELD • Mr CYRIL BAILEY
KB PRINTING SERVICES • LYDNEY R.F.C.