

GLOUCESTER v RICHMOND

RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 27th, 1993
Kick Off 3.00 p.m.



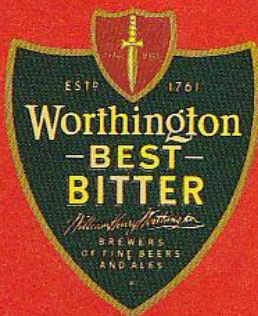
FOUNDED 1873

President:
Canon H. M. Hughes BA

**Match Kindly Sponsored
By:**

*Hugh Davies
Associates*

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS



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£1.00

All kit used by Gloucester Rugby Club is supplied by



Game sponsored by
HUGH DAVIES ASSOCIATES

Gloucester Rugby Club use
GILBERT MATCH BALLS

GLOUCESTER

(Cherry/White)

T	G	Pts

15. M. Roberts

14. T. Smith
13. D. Caskie
12. S. Morris
11. P. Holford

10. D. Cummins
9. J. Davis

1. A. Windo
2. G. Mann
3. A. Deacon
4. D. Sims
5. R. West
6. P. Glanville
7. I. Smith (Capt.)
8. M. Nicholls

Replacements:

L. Beck
B. Phillips

H/T		

**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB**

SPONSORED BY



Cumulative Match Score

Referee: A. J. Spreadbury (SOMERSET SOCIETY)

RICHMOND

(Old Gold, Red & Black)

T	G	Pts

16. J. Clark

15. M. Hutton
14. D. Elliott
12. R. Rydon
11. P. Greenwood

10. M. Livesey
9. C. Hornung

1. J. Foster
2. J. Allan
3. K. Boroovich (Capt.)
4. D. Cooper
5. P. Carr
6. G. Taylor
7. P. Della-Savina
8. H. Lamb

Replacements:

J. Hoad
D. Sinclair

F/T		

Ed Martin

Back in January 1980, they had a busy weekend at the Athletic Ground as Cup fever took over the fair metropolis of Richmond.

It was not just two clubs from the West Country, nor two clubs from the Gloucestershire Union playing in Richmond, but two clubs from Gloucester. Could London (well, anything east of Reading is London to us yokels in these 'ere parts) possibly be ready for this?

The ping pong balls used in the John Player Cup draw were not kind to the grass on the Athletic Ground — London Scottish v Matson and Richmond v Gloucester, matches to be played on Saturday January 26.

Whoops . . . both London Scottish and Richmond, as we all know, play on the same turf. So, as Johnny Mercer once wrote, something hadda give.

The "irresistible force" was Matson (founded 1956), while Gloucester took the role of the "old immovable object" was Glawster (1873). The old immovable object gave way . . .

On Saturday (the 26th according to the gizmo on the computer) the exiles from t'other side of Hadrian's Wall took on Matson, and Gloucester played one of its rare Sunday matches on the following day.

Matson fell to the Exiles 25-9 on the same day that Wasps were dumped out of the Cup 6-3 by Bedford.

Legend has it that some of the lads from Matson who stayed overnight to cheer on the Cherry and Whites managed to pour some beer over the referee.

The problem was that they chose the referee of the Richmond v Gloucester match — and the soaking came BEFORE kick off.

All was not lost, Richmond never lost the match, but Gloucester's ping pong ball went into the hat for the quarter final draw after the 6-6 tie at The Athletic Ground by virtue of the "gee-lads-you-travelled-a-long-way-and-the-bus-driver-says-you-should-have-your-name-in-the-hat" rule (sometimes known as the "tough-you're-the-home team" rule).

Gloucester then squeezed past Coventry 10-9 at Coundon Road and were then dumped out of the proceedings when Rosslyn Park came up from

SW15 for an infamous 6-3 verdict at Kingsholm.

Today is the 35th meeting between Gloucester and Richmond, one of the founding member clubs of the Rugby Union. Of the 34 previous encounters, Gloucester has won on 21 occasions, and Richmond, eleven. There have been two drawn matches.

(In the interests of complete accuracy, this is the 35.5th match and Gloucester have won twenty one and a half matches. This is because the second fixture on the Gloucester card when resuming play after World War II was the 9-5 win against a combined Blackheath/Richmond fifteen.)

Fixtures with Richmond were first established in 1900 with a date in Surrey on Saturday November 10. Richmond won the encounter 3-0, their try being the only score of the match.

The loss turned out to be a bitter blow for Gloucester, who posted an unbeaten Kingsholm season. Richmond were the only English club to beat the Cherry and Whites in 1900-01 (OMTs played in a scoreless draw and it was 3-3 against Bristol at the Memorial Ground to add to the 18 wins).

And the Richmond try was one of only four scored against Gloucester by English clubs who managed, over those 21 matches, to score a measly 24 points as opposed to the 432 points by the Cherry and Whites!

* * * *

As most of you will know, the Gloucester club reached something of a milestone last Tuesday night. It was the club's 2,500th win in history.

The 42-7 win against Newport was 2,499 — and, let's be honest, it would have been a momentous occasion had the two and a half grand come against Bath.

Last Tuesday was the 4,059th match played by the club since it was founded by Frank Hartley, the former captain of the Flamingoes club in London. Gloucester has an overall 65.39 per cent winning record, having posted 1,250 losses and 309 ties.

Peter Arnold

UNEXPECTED PLEASURE

It's always nice when old friends drop in unexpectedly, and the pleasure is compounded when someone else has had to cry off, so Richmond are doubly welcome today.

Of course, we're sorry that Swansea couldn't come, and we wish them well in their efforts to lift the Welsh Cup. However, if you simply take the recent record as your criterion, then today's guests will give us a stiffer test than the lads from St. Helens would have done. Just look at the figures: Bath beat Swansea a week ago by 79 points to 3, when they could only put 20 points on Gloucester. In contrast, the very next day, London Irish scraped a win over Richmond by the odd point in 37, and you know how we had to struggle to win up at Sunbury.

All right, so I'm being facetious, but it does show the folly of relying on figures on paper. Anyway, I'm quite sure that we're in for an evenly matched contest today, which is nothing new for matches between our two ancient clubs.

There's another factor to reckon with today. You'll be well aware of the tremendous run which the United are having, but memories do tend to be selective in such matters, and it may have slipped your mind that they started the season by going down by a horrendous 70 points to 7 at Richmond's Athletic Ground. So the senior side may well be looking to set the record straight. Almost an 'I'll tell my big brother of you!' situation.

At the time of writing, I haven't heard the Gloucester side for today, but I expect that, having been deprived of a game last weekend by the defection of Pontypridd, and the climatic matches in the Courage Clubs Championship looming on the horizon, we'll be wanting our leading squad to begin to create some momentum. The ways of selectors being dark and mysterious, I could well be wrong, but the omens are certainly good for a highly entertaining game between two respected and well-matched sides.

Finally, leagues and cups are all very well, but it is nice to have an old-fashioned friendly with nothing on it but pride and love of the game. No side in England is more likely to participate more wholeheartedly than Richmond in that respect, and we

extend the warmest of welcomes to them. Nice to see you back at Kingsholm.

THANKS TO HUGH DAVIES ASSOCIATES

'Investment and finance is now so complex that only those with considerable experience and specialist skills can hope to make informed choices.'

They can say that again, and Hugh Davies Associates undoubtedly will. They may even be making the point in the hospitality suite this afternoon, although it is to be hoped that the FIMBRA-registered independent financial services company who are extending their generosity to us by way of sponsorship today are concentrating on enjoying the occasion at least as much as they are on profiting from it.

Not that there is anything wrong with improving the shining hour, so to speak. Sponsorship is a two-way business. We hope that today's generous benefactors get just as much commercial benefit from tonight's proceedings as they do entertainment.

They certainly deserve to. I remember writing some literature for Hugh Davies some years ago, when they were a very small company just setting out in this most sensitive of areas. Now they have grown to the point where they have offices in Bath Street, Cheltenham, Foregate Street, Worcester and at 100 Northgate Street, Gloucester. That's almost directly opposite the end of Worcester Street, so there wouldn't seem to be any problem about combining a trip to Kingsholm with a session receiving informed, professional advice from financial experts who are totally independent. That means, as their literature says, that 'the only people we are tied to are our Clients'. They don't have to push the products of any particular financial institution, and can give you genuinely impartial advice on a whole range of subjects, including pensions, mortgages, tax planning, investments, retirement plans and business and life assurance.

Not only is the whole field extremely complex, but everything keeps changing. The markets vary rapidly, and legislation seems to change with

(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.)

increasing regularity. The best laid plans can be blown off course all too easily in these volatile days.

In these circumstances, it's as well to have a genuine specialist at your elbow; one whose only job is to get you the best deal he can. The Hugh Davies Associates record speaks for itself. You can't become one of the local leaders in such a demanding field unless you have helped a great many people along the way, and you may well feel that a company which has the initiative to sponsor a match at Kingsholm is one which also has the imagination to do a good job for you in the financial field — whatever your requirements.

Meanwhile, we are extremely grateful to Hugh Davies Associates for supporting us this afternoon. We hope they have a thoroughly enjoyable time, and that the business continues to go from strength to strength.

COMING OUT OF THE WOODWORK

I'm sometimes asked where our Match Mascots come from. Today's holder of the office has, almost literally, come out of the woodwork.

At least, James Atkinson lists that most satisfying of occupations as one of his hobbies, along with cycling, tennis, cricket and computers.

Plus, of course, rugby. As a comparatively experienced player — he's all of twelve years old — he combines a talent for playing both No. 8 and on the flank, just like Mike Teague, in fact. He's playing for Chosen Hill FP, which isn't too surprising because he attends Chosen Hill School which has turned out a fair few good players and obviously continues to do so.

To complete the family picture, James has a brother of 15 whose name is Ian. His father, John, is an engineer at Dowty, and Gwyneth, his mother, is one of those inestimable people who works in home care for the elderly.

At twelve years old, James Atkinson isn't that many years away from qualifying for Gloucester Colts, and I'm sure that Reg Collins will have noted that fact. Best of luck for the future, James. Both in your rugby and in your woodworking. I'm sure we must need a 'chippy' around the ground at times.

CONGRATULATIONS COACH!

I haven't had a chance before now to congratulate Club Coach, Keith Richardson, on being appointed as one of the coaches on the England tour of North America this summer. At least, that's what it was originally billed to be, but I notice that the USA half of the tour has been called off because the home union

has financial difficulties. Nevertheless, the Canadian section of the tour will be testing enough. Recent experience, during the World Cup and since, proves that the home side aren't by any means the pushovers they once were.

Canada did, after all, beat Scotland during their World Cup warm-up tour. Mr. Wyatt does now hold the record for most penalties kicked in an International, and England won't be at full strength because of Lions commitments. These factors combine to give Keith Richardson and his coaching colleagues a very considerable challenge. One which our favourite Geordie from Wycliffe College will no doubt relish enormously.

Good luck Keith! Show 'em how you took the South West to the Divisional Championship.

... AND TO PHIL AND ROBERT

Mention of Chosen Hill School, which he attends, reminds me also to congratulate Phil Greening of Spartans and Gloucester Colts on being selected as hooker for the England 18 group game against Wales. The selection follows, I'm told, an absolutely storming performance in the trial game against Rosslyn Park Colts.

I'm also informed that one or two other Gloucester Colts must have come very close to getting into the frame, and that augurs well for the future too. If you can't make the 18 group, lads, then keep on plugging. After all, the Under 21's aren't that far away.

While on the subject, we mustn't forget to offer felicitations to Robert Fidler who has been selected for the same match. He plays for Cheltenham Colts, but if the name is familiar — it should be. He's the son of Gloucester and England lock John Fidler. Young Robert's position is — wait for it — second row forward, where else?

But it makes me feel awfully elderly to realise that 'Fid's' son is now old enough to play for England.

COACH TO NORTHAMPTON

Trevor Pritchard asks me to tell you that he's running a coach to the Northampton game on March 13th. Absolutely vital match, of course, and you'll want to get along if you can.

I say 'coach', but at the time of writing, Trevor tells me that he's almost got a coach load already, and while he's perfectly willing to run a second one, he does need to know pretty soon, so that he can commit himself to hiring it.

The cost will be £6.00, leaving Kingsholm at 11.00

(cont. on page 8)

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



Lloyds
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THE THOROUGHbred BANK.

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.)

am. Book your seats in the Clubhouse, or trot into the office any weekday between 10.00 am and 2.30 pm. The lads would appreciate your support on the occasion.

FYLDE ON EASTER MONDAY

We lost two games to the weather over Christmas and New Year, and one last week when Pontypridd cried off for their own good reasons. So it's nice to be able to tell you what we now have an extra one, not appearing on your fixture card.

The date is April 19th, which is Easter Monday, and the opposition is to be our old friends from Fylde. New Brighton on Easter Saturday and Fylde on Easter Monday. Quite like old times.

2,500 UP

Did you realise that, according to Ed Martin, with those encyclopaedic records I wouldn't dare argue, when Gloucester beat Clifton last Tuesday evening, they recorded the Club's 2,500th victory?

The odd thing is that I found more Clifton people aware of that fact after the match than I did Gloucester supporters. Must be a moral there somewhere, although I'm blown if I can think what.

Of course, it has taken almost 120 years to get this far, and over that period, Gloucester have played 4,059 games. If my calculator isn't on the blink, that's

(cont. on page 9)

NOBBY'S NEWSDESK



Well here we are again back at Kingsholm for the second time in less than a week. Today we entertain Richmond in a match that had to be arranged after our original fixture against Swansea was cancelled.

As we draw close to the end of the season it seems like an ideal time to remind you all that the Gold Bond Scheme is an all year round operation that continues running right throughout the summer months. In fact this period provides us all with a great chance to concentrate on increasing membership and awareness of the Lottery, so all of you that aren't involved in the Gold Bond in one way or another I will be after your subscriptions soon.

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.)

a win rate of 61.6%, which is a fair old record when spread over that length of time.

Wonder how many other clubs can claim as much?

LIGHTNING STRIKING TWICE

The old Jungian psychiatrists would have called it 'synchronicity', simpler souls would dismiss it as sheer coincidence, and the cynics among us are probably shouting 'Fiddle!' but the draw for the Worthington National Tens Competition has thrown up a couple of striking examples of the lightning-strikes-twice syndrome.

As you'll have gathered, the intriguing new competition has been arranged for May 3rd, which is a Bank Holiday Monday, and is to be played right here at Kingsholm. Among the first round draws, you will find that Gloucester is to play West Hartlepool (ouch!), and that Bath are to face Waterloo, who, of course put them out of the Pilkington Cup this season.

For your information, the complete draw is as follows:

Wasps v Newcastle Gosforth
Bristol v London Scottish
Gloucester v West Hartlepool
Wakefield v Northampton
Bath v Waterloo
London Irish v Saracens
Orrell v Rugby
Nottingham v Harlequins

If Gloucester survive their encounter with West Hartlepool — and it's difficult to make predictions about a form of the game which is unfamiliar to everyone — then we play the winners of the Wakefield/Northampton match in the second round. It would seem that we've avoided Bath until the latter stages of the competition.

The tournament was designed to include the fourteen First Division sides, plus two from Division Two. However, Leicester, for their own good reasons, have decided not to participate, which is a pity because the 'Tigers' are always a welcome ingredient in any rugby occasion. That decision is obviously good news for Wakefield, who I don't recall ever visiting Kingsholm before.

It should be a highly entertaining day out. The first match kicks off at 11.00 am, and the final is scheduled for 6.00 pm, but there could, of course, be a little slippage.

It's a marvellous festive, way to end the season, particularly as the vast majority of us will be watching a game we haven't seen before. I'm sure you'll want to keep May Day Bank Holiday, 1993, free for the

(cont. on page 28)

GLOUCESTER RFC IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER RESPECTFULLY REQUEST PATRONS TO EXERCISE EVERY CARE IN THE DISPOSAL OF CIGARETTE ENDS AND OTHER INFLAMMABLE MATERIAL

Peter Arnold (cont.)

occasion, and I'll let you know about tickets and other arrangements as soon as I can.

FRIDAY NEXT WEEK

Don't forget that our game against Bridgend is to be played on Friday evening next week, so you can watch that plus England v Scotland on the box.

On that Saturday, United are travelling to Rugby which is part of their Second XV Championship, and they'll be trying very hard indeed to win that one.

Speaking of which, as they say, while we sit here watching a happy friendly against Richmond, Andrew Stanley's lads are in a sterner test altogether, visiting Bedford in that same competition. I had hoped to be able to give you a definitive statement about just how things stand in that League, with details just what United have to do to secure their third title in three years.

Unfortunately, no one is quite sure just how many games everyone has played in the competition so far, so until we get the next official league table, which is due about now, I can't be really specific about the matter. Perhaps Dino Phillips made the most apposite remark when he told me 'We've just got to win the lot.'

Anyway, I've asked Eric Stephens to let me have a copy of the table when it arrives. When I get it, I'll print it for you.

WELL, DO THEY?

I don't really know what I'm letting myself in for here, but I'm requested to ask Mike Burton the question 'Do Mercedes float?'

Apparently, it all has something to do with the recent floods at Sandhurst.

TAILPIECE

My old friend Norman Sayers is sunning himself in Lanzarote as I write this: sleeping in the bed Mike Teague occupied earlier on this year, he maintains. No accounting for taste, I suppose.

But he did leave me with the following story.

It appears that a fervent Cinderford supporter went along to the Recreation Ground the other day, only to watch his team lose. He eventually set off for home, kicking stones into the ditch, snarling at innocent children, biting the heads off thistles, and generally doing the things we all do to indicate severe frustration and disappointment after an unsuccessful rugby match.

Half way home, and not unusually for the Forest, he found himself confronted with a sheep (or perhaps I should say 'one of they ship') occupying the middle of the road. Being in no mood to argue the right of way, he summarily picked up the offending ovine and hurled it through the nearest shop window.

Immediately, all hell broke loose. Alarms went off, hooters hooted, whistles blew, bells rang, and our discontented traveller found himself completely surrounded by a posse of Gloucestershire's Finest, truncheons akimbo.

He was just about resigning himself to a night or so in the cells of Cinderford Police Station, when a polite but stern-looking Inspector came up to him and asked him:

"Excuse me, Sir, but we've just had a call. Have you seen anything of a ram raid around here?"

Don't blame me. It was Norman.

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP						1992 - 1993				NATIONAL DIVISION 1				
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM													
	BA	BR	GL	HA	LE	LI	LS	NO	OR	RU	SA	WA	WH	
Bath				22-6		42-19	3-Apr		39-3	61-7		13-Mar		
Bristol	8-31		3-Apr		13-Mar				23-11		12-7		19-17	
Gloucester	0-20			24-Apr					27-Mar	21-12	19-5		6-21	
Harlequins		16-0				47-24	22-22	7-12		3-Apr		13-15		
Leicester	3-13		22-21	27-Mar					9-0		30-3		21-8	
London Irish		9-7	6-18		14-30			12-3			3-Apr		13-Mar	
London Scottish		8-11	8-3		11-18	27-Mar		24-Apr					10-15	
Northampton	11-8	16-3	13-Mar		12-13						21-17		3-Apr	
Orrill				8-16		8-12	13-10	9-10		13-Mar		3-Apr		
Rugby		27-Mar			24-Apr	0-14	20-45	7-13	13-Mar			3-34		
Saracens	24-Apr			3-18			13-Mar		6-9	14-9		9-13		
Wasps		24-Apr	14-9		14-13	18-9	10-6	27-Mar						
West Hartlepool	27-Mar			9-12					24-Apr	5-6	3-10	6-19		

Source: MH + P

Table: A. Marley / R. Stevenson