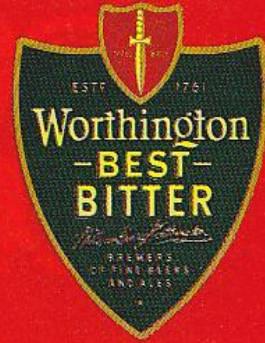




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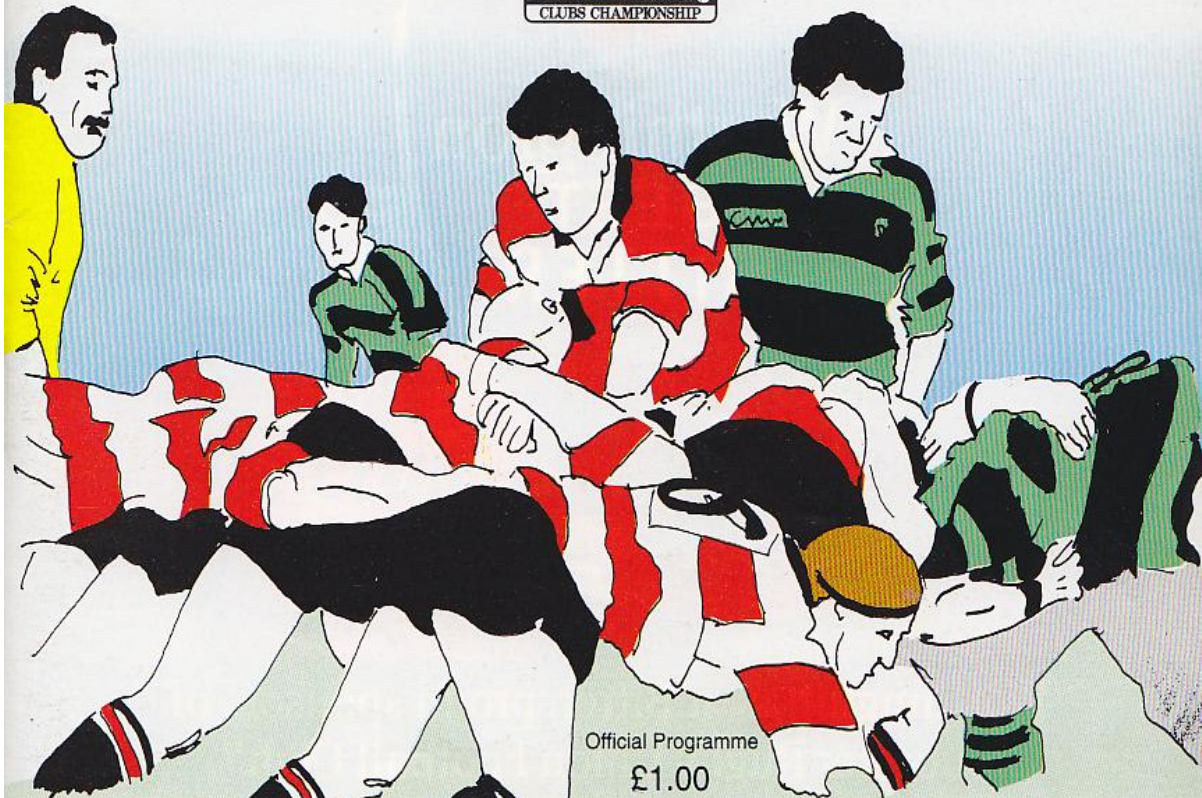
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ORRELL



SATURDAY APRIL 23rd, 1994

KICK OFF 3.00 pm



Official Programme
£1.00

Peter Arnold

RED ROSE OR WHITE?

Today is St. George's Day, when, by tradition, the Mayor of Gloucester is presented with a red rose by the Gloucester Mumpers.

Which raises a point. Orrell hail from Wigan, so they obviously owe their allegiance to the red rose, Gloucester was Yorkist during the Wars of the Roses — Richard III and all that — so we should properly wear the white rose. Is this an omen? I ask myself.

On present evidence, such considerations are just about all that separate the two sides today. We won a very tight game up at Wigan fairly early in the season, but the Cup match held here was even closer. You may remember that it all came down to three over-the-line bounces in the end. Two bounced wrong for Paul Holford, and one bounced right for the Orrell winger, whereof we suddenly lost.

So anything could happen this afternoon. Our very welcome visitors were on a considerable roll until last week, when they had a weakened side overturned by Newcastle Gosforth. Conversely, Gloucester has looked to be a little off the pace in recent games — partly due, I suspect, to some fiendishly strategic injuries - but the affair against last-minute replacements, Torquay last week may perhaps have served as a confidence booster.

Gloucester could do with a win today. Although relegation fears have subsided, we're not quite out of the wood. I have niggling feeling that both Bath and Leicester, who have a Cup Final to worry about, may rest a few players for their games against London Irish. If they do, as Wasps discovered a week or two ago, anything could happen. And did you notice that Sale put 50 points on Leicester last weekend?

Quite apart from all that, Orrell are very welcome today. We couldn't wish to end the

Kingsholm season in better company.

HARLEQUINS NEXT WEEK

No rest for the wicked. Our final match is the away League fixture at Harlequins, not exactly a happily little end-of-season runabout. I'm told that, for reasons not unconnected with experiences last season, Trevor Pritchard doesn't intend to run coaches. Apparently, he has been quite underwhelmed by the interest in the trip this time round, so has decided to give it a miss. Unless enough punters can persuade him otherwise. . .

The game will, of course, be played at the Stoop, not far from Twickenham and quite easy to get to, so if you fancy taking your own transport, the directions are as follows.

Coming from our direction, watch the signposts for the A316 into London, it's called CHERTSEY ROAD. Watch the turnings on your right, and turn down EGERTON ROAD, which I don't believe is named after the Bath No. 8, and turn right into CRANEFORD WAY at the bottom. The Stoop Memorial Ground is right at the end of the road.

I would remind you that the Gloucester-'Quins game at Kingsholm this season was quite the best we've seen for a year or two. And we won it. It would be nice to finish on a similar note.

TENS ON BANK HOLIDAY

Talking about the tendency to rest players before big games, it will be interesting to see what sort of squad Bath send along for the Worthington National Tens tournament to be held right here on Monday, May 2nd. It won't have escaped your notice that the competition precedes the Pilkington Cup Final by just five days, and as Bath are also away to London Irish in the League on the previous Saturday, they're

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TO KINGSHOLM**

going to need to consider the matter a bit carefully.

The same considerations don't apply to Leicester. Although they have a tricky old trip to Bristol on April 30th, so would be unwise to rest a few people on that day, they are the only First Division side to turn down the invitation to play in the Tens.

Pity about that. I'm certain that the way the 'Tigers' have been playing their rugby in recent seasons would fit right in with the Tens format, but as they refused the invitation last season as well, I'm sure they have their own good reasons for setting their faces against the tournament.

Everyone else is coming, however, and the required total of sixteen sides is made up by the inclusion of guests from Melrose — famous for their prowess at Sevens, of course — and Cardiff, who may yet also have a Cup Final to worry about. It would be nice to see Nigel Walker on the charge though, wouldn't it?

The sides from Division Two are Moseley, always welcome at Kingsholm, Sale, who have been going well all season and who look favourites to join Division One next season, along with West Hartlepool who are also coming to the Tens. So are Wakefield, who impressed everyone last season, and Saracens, who you will undoubtedly remember, accounted for Bath last year, to the huge delight of the Kingsholm Faithful.

To fill the inevitable gap between the Semis and the Final — one side obviously needs a breather — the organisers have to arrange a 45-minute fifteen-a-side 'England v Wales Classics' game, which should be fun. (Hint to the selectors; I saw Peter Kingston and Phil Blakeway the other day, and they're both looking fit.)

I gather that the Welsh side is likely to include Alan Phillips, Gareth Williams and Alan Martin, while those trenchant England props, Geoff Probyn and Paul Rendall will be holding up the front row for 'England', joined by Wade Dooley and — would you believe — Mike Rafter. Big Wade has just announced his retirement, of course, so it would be nice to give him a real Kingsholm send-off. And how about 'Rafter the Grafter's, return to Kingsholm then? that's one to savour.

The whole wing-ding starts at 11.00 am, with the Final scheduled to kick off at 6.00 pm, so if

we get anything like the weather we had last season, then it should be a magnificent day out. Especially if Gloucester win once again, and who's to say they can't? After all, no one gave them a light last year, including the players who went on record on TV as having expected to be in the bar by 11.30.

There's one piece of news which I find intriguing. The draw has, I'm told, thrown up Newcastle Gosforth as Gloucester's first round opposition. Now you could say that we owe the northerners a couple of favours for taking out London Irish and Orrell in successive weeks, but I doubt if our magnanimity can be expected to extend to going easy on them on this occasion.

That just leaves the delicate matter of prices. Tickets are on sale now at the office, and will be on every week day from now on — while stocks last, as they say. Stand tickets, Grand and Temporary, are priced at £8.00, but you can get on the ground for just £5.00. Concessions for OAP's and Juniors (Under 16 rather than 17 which is Gloucester's own practice) for ground only, are £3.00.

When you consider that there have been 'plum' occasions this season when you pay that for 80 minutes play, it isn't bad value for an all day affair.

Hope to see you there.

QUATORZE JUILLET!

City Under Sheriff, Roger Eggleton, may claim to be the only *Agent Consulaire de France* in Britain not to be able to speak French, but at least he knows that much. And I wonder if the fact that he has been invited, once again, to Chair Gloucester RFC's AGM had any bearing on the choice on July 14th — Bastille Day — as the date for the occasion this year.

Like last year, the AGM will be held at the Bird's Eye Walls Club at Barnwood, which proved highly suitable for the event, with 'kick-off' at 7.30, so don't be late if you want to vote for the new Committee members.

Seems a long way away, but time does have a knack of slipping by, so make a note in your diary, tie a knot in something, carve it on your bedpost, or do whatever you usually do when you need to remember something essential. If you're a Member, that is. If you're not, you won't get in anyway. It would also make it easier if you

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With the departure of Peter Ford as Chairman, Barrie Corless' first season as Director of Rugby, an influx of new players next season, and sundry other topics, this looks to be one of our more important AGM's. I always feel that the strength of any club can be measured by the number of people who turn up for the Annual Meeting, and we've never had any complaints on that score yet. Indeed, the move of the event to Barnwood was partially prompted by the need to supply more space.

I don't suppose things will be any different this year, and I hope you can get along. After all, *Quatorze Juillet* was the day they stormed the Bastille. Who knows what bastions of tradition may find themselves under attack on that day this year at the Walls Club? Including me, I shouldn't wonder.

UN 'APPY 'ENRY

I had the pleasure, on Tuesday last, of introducing our Euro MP, Lord Plumb, to the hostelries of Barton Street. (That was my bit. Others showed him round the shops, etc. Wonder why I always get picked for that sort of job? Ah well. It's tough, but someone has to do it.)

Anyway, by the time we reached the Barton Tavern, His Lordship, a rugby man from way

back, who has played to a very good standard in his time, was expressing his displeasure at the short-notice switch of the Portuguese Presidents XV game from Easter Monday to Easter Saturday. With his European hat on, he considered that a game with Portuguese connections would be a highly appropriate one for him to attend.

At least, that was his story. Knowing Henry of old, I suspect he just fancied coming along to Kingsholm for a game of rugby.

Unfortunately, the switch left him with a clash of engagements that he just couldn't resolve. So he couldn't come, which was a shame.

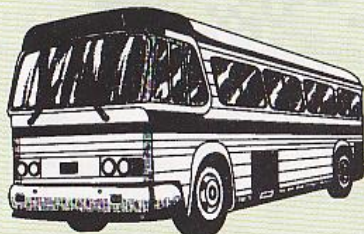
However, he promises us he'll be along next season, and I have suggested to him that he puts in an appearance at the Tens. He's going to consult his diary, but I hope he makes it. After all, I could always meet him in the Barton Tavern again, couldn't I? At least he knows where it is.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GEORGE!

A little mole tells me that George Holder celebrates his 86th birthday next Wednesday. Not bad for a chap who helps out on the car park for every First Team match, mans the turnstiles for United games, and has more than a passing interest in the distribution of some 150 posters around the town every week or two. I'm also told that his wife is just a couple of years younger, and while she doesn't feel she can quite get along to games these days, sits with her ear glued

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THIS MONTHS SPECIALS

Date	Destination	Departure Time:			— Fare:—	
		Chelt	Glos	Others	Adult	Child Snr Cits
<i>* Child Only</i>						
MAY						
Sun 1st	Torquay & Paignton	8.30am	9.00am		£7.25	£6.25
	Weston	8.30am	9.00am		£4.00	£3.50
	Snowdonia	8.30am	9.00am		£9.75	£8.75
	Thorpe Park	8.00am	8.30am	C	£13.50	£9.50*
	Watchet, Dunster & Minehead	8.30am	9.00am		£5.75	£4.75
Mon 2nd	Weston	8.30am	9.00am		£4.00	£3.50
	Blackpool	7.30am	8.00am	T	£9.75	£8.75
	Cricket St. Thomas	8.00am	8.30am		£7.25	£6.25
	Eastbourne	7.30am	8.00am	C	£9.75	£8.75
	Teddy Bears Picnic	9.00am	9.30am	C	£4.50	£4.00
<i>Littlecote (Children under 14 accompanied by a Teddy Bear admitted free)</i>						
Tues 3rd	Abergavenny	9.15am	9.45am		£3.75	£3.25
	Cadbury World	9.00am	9.30am		£8.20	£6.50*
Wed 4th	Coventry/Warwick	9.00am	9.30am		£4.50	£4.00
	Weston	8.30am	9.00am	S	£4.00	£3.50
<i>* Includes Admission</i>						
C=Cirencester (Beeches Car Park) T=Tewkesbury S=Stroud						

61 Clarence Street, Cheltenham Spa, Glos GL53 3LB

Peter Arnold cont.

to the mellifluous tones of John Hawkins on BBC Radio Gloucestershire every Saturday afternoon. And good luck to her.

Happy Birthday George. And many of 'em! We hope you'll be able to continue your valuable services to the club for a lot of years yet.

George's happy event gives me an excuse to lead into the cheerful duty I should perform at this time each season: namely, to thank all those people who help, week in and week out, in so many ways around the club. It's this sort of support which makes Gloucester the 'family' club that it is, and we'd have great difficulty in managing without them.

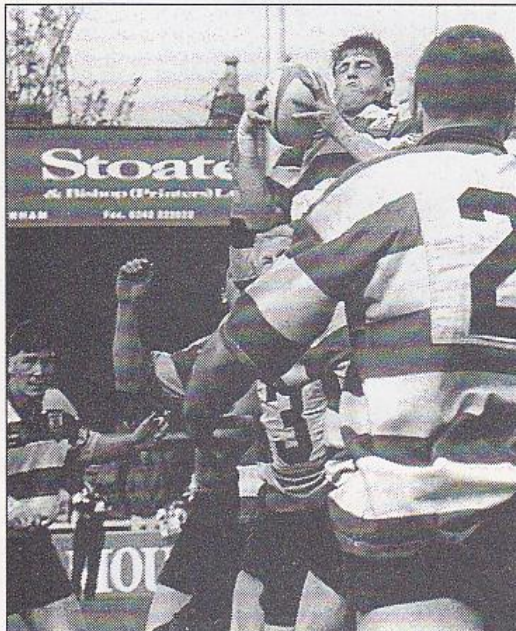
Think about it. This season, we've had cause to thank everyone from 86-year old George Holder to 5-year old Match Mascots, so no one can say we don't appeal to all age groups.

PICTURE IT — GLOUCESTER, APRIL 1994

Do you like our action picture this week? It was taken at the Torquay game last Saturday.

The happy snapper was Tony Hickey of Churchdown, who having been made redundant a while ago, decided to set himself up in the ranks of the self-employed by offering his services as a specialist sports photographer, a breed which has been thin on the Gloucester ground since the sad death of our old mate Terry Beckett.

This shot, together with several others, was taken by way of a dummy run. Tony's ambition is to supply such pictures on a regular basis for us, and I hope we can arrange something to our mutual advantage.



Tony is already making his mark. Did you notice the fine colour spread of pictures in last Saturday's 'Pink 'un', taken at the Jersey Festival of Youth Soccer? Mr. Hickey claims credit for some, if not all, of those.

So if you need coverage of a sporting event of any sort, you know who to contact. Tony Hickey on Gloucester 862897.

LADIES DAY

And here's our third 'two for the price of one' for the day. We have a pair of Match Mascots, one for each side, and what's more, they're both of the feminine persuasion.

Samantha and Jessica Coleman, nine and seven years old respectively prefer to be known colloquially as 'Sam' and 'Jess'. They both go to Beech Green school at Quedgeley where they are known for playing a ferocious game of netball. Which doesn't stop them following in their father, Ian's footsteps as avid Gloucester fans, helped along by the fact that Tim Smith is a family friend.

You've probably studied Ian's work before, actually. He works at the Citizen's hi-tech printing plant at Staverton. Mum Julie stays fractionally closer to home by working in the offices of the Co-op.

Welcome Sam and Jess. Hope we see a lot more of you.

DIG DEEP

Today's the day when St. John Ambulance hold their Annual collection. I'm sure you'll want to support them generously, not least because I hear that they find themselves treating spectators more often than they do players. Although, one must immediately add, the St. John Ambulance itself is often used to transport injured players to hospital.

And that ambulance costs over £5,000 to equip, so your generosity will be much appreciated.

Gloucester's Division of St. John Ambulance actually opened for business in 1904 — and immediately started duties at Kingsholm, so they're in their 90th year of helping us in times of tribulation.

Incidentally, they're always looking for volunteers to train for this demanding, but satisfying, pursuit. Interested? Ring Tony Clarke on 0452 303143.

TAILPIECE

Long time and fanatical supporter, Rod Green (Remember his brother, Brian who played at lock for the County back in the '50's?) showed that he has a lively sense of priorities today — which is the day when a lady friend from Washington DC arrives for a visit.

Rod lives in Shropshire, but doesn't miss many Kingsholm games for all that. So, what else can a good supporter do but drive from home to Heathrow, pick up the lady, and drive home again via Kingsholm to Shropshire? Hope it isn't too much of a culture shock for our fair, and welcome, Transatlantic visitor.

See you at the Tens. Summer well.

Ed Martin – IN PERSPECTIVE



In Memoriam

Sidney A. Brown

THE FOOTBALL FINAL of the Citizen eighty-eight years ago paid tribute to Sid Brown, one of two players with this club who has died as a direct result of injuries sustained while playing for the First XV.

Sid Brown, the club vice-captain for the 1924-25 and 1925-26 seasons to captain Tom Voyce, took his usual position for that season in the threequarter line at centre for the Cherry and Whites at Kingsholm on Saturday April 3, 1926 when Aberavon were the visitors.

Short of five regulars in the forwards, Gloucester had a tough battle and, as Bill Bailey reported at the time, "it was no surprise to find the City beaten by the Welsh Club Champions...but only a point separated the teams - the difference between a dropped and penalty goal." (Aberavon won the encounter 9-8).

Sid Brown was highly regarded as a very strong defensive player and for most of his Kingsholm career he was also a noted winger for six seasons (he had switched to centre at the beginning of that season) who had scored 94 tries for Gloucester.

It was late in the match when Brown made what was a try-saving tackle of the Aberavon right winger.

At the inquest on the afternoon of Tuesday April 6, Albert Brown - Sid Brown's father and a vice-chairman of the Gloucester RFC committee - told the Coroner that he saw his son "make a splendid tackle of an opponent."

Both players fell to the ground. Mr. Brown told the Coroner that he saw his son "lying on his right side - I thought then that something was amiss."

Not only did ambulance men attend Sid Brown, but Dr. John Greene came onto the field to attend the injured player. But after a few minutes Brown was back on the field to play the final eight minutes.

Father and son walked back to Bloomfield Road, where Albert Brown lived. Nothing appeared to be wrong with the 29 years old player. But in the early evening, Sid Brown walked to Dr. Greene's house in Stroud Road.

After an examination, the doctor drove Brown to the Royal Infirmary in Southgate Street where the senior surgeon, Dr. C.V. Knight, diagnosed a

Cont. on pg 28

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rupture of the kidney at 7pm. Dr. R.L. Haynes agreed that an operation was, at that time, "not desirable."

At 6am the following morning - Easter Sunday - Dr. Knight was called. He found Brown "in a desperate condition" and ordered an immediate operation to remove the ruptured kidney. Sid Brown never regained consciousness and died about 7.30am.

Dr. Knight told the Coroner that there was evidence of an extensive haemorrhage. "The deceased was watched very carefully all through the night," Dr. Knight said. "Death was due to haemorrhage and shock following a ruptured kidney, which might have been sustained in tackling an opponent."

The verbatim record of the inquest shows that there were no suspicions regarding the accident - or the treatment in the hospital.

The Coroner (to Mr. Brown): You are quite satisfied it was a pure accident and that there was no question of foul play?

Mr. Brown: I am quite satisfied it was a pure accident.

Coroner: What you have told me about the accident is borne out by Mr. Millington and Mr. Ayliffe, who played in the match?

Mr. Brown: Yes, there is no controversy.

When Dr. Knight had given his evidence, the Coroner, Mr. Trevor Wellington, had one question...

The Coroner: Here is a man who meets with this injury, finishes the game, changes, walks to his home, walks to a surgery and several hours later is showing an improving pulse-rate. This hemorrhage (sic) must have been very sudden?

Dr. Knight: It is what we call delayed hemorrhage (sic). A ruptured kidney is not uncommon, an unless there is some sign of sever hemorrhage (sic) we do not operate. The majority go out without any interference at all.

At this stage the Coroner said he did not consider it necessary to call any further evidence and he recorded a verdict that death was due to haemorrhage and shock following a ruptured kidney. He went on to say it was particularly distressing that for the second time in just over a year he should have to hold an inquest "upon one of our own players ... the family will have the sympathy of every decent sportsman, and I can only offer my own heartfelt sympathy."

The other inquest mentioned by the Coroner was on forward Stan Bayliss who died as a result of

injuries received during the Old Blues in January 1925. Ironically, the fatal injury on Bayliss came in his 100th appearance.

Sid Brown made his debut for Gloucester against Abertillery in September 1919. He scored two tries in the match, helping Gloucester to a 13-0 win. Five matches later he was injured, breaking a bone in his ankle in the match against Swansea at St. Helens. But he managed to make 14 appearances that season.

All told, Sid Brown scored 115 tries and made 182 appearances. As a schoolboy, he played for England and other representative rugby included senior appearances for Lancashire and Gloucestershire. In addition to rugby, he was also a sprinter of local note, winning many prizes at 100 yards for the Gloucester Amateur Athletic Club, where his father was chairman.

In his tribute in the Football Final of the Citizen of April 10, 1926, Bill Bailey wrote: "It was not only on the field of play that Sid Brown was of value to the Gloucester Football Club. Of a singularly happy disposition, he had the gift of making and retaining friends..."

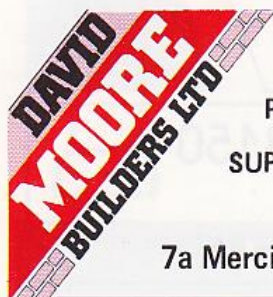
"Sid Brown had more than his share of hard knocks during his football career, and, of course, his disappointments. But never a complaint was heard. It was the same when things were not going well with the team. "Get at it lads," and with his cheery optimism and encouragement many a game has been pulled round."

At the time of his death, Brown was widely considered - both within the club and throughout the city as well - to be the natural captain of Gloucester for the 1926-27 season.

The funeral was held on Thursday April 9 at All Saints Church (Barton Gates). "In addition to about 1,000 mourners in the church itself, the streets around were lined with reverent crowds," the Citizen reported.

Sid Brown was buried in Gloucester Cemetery alongside his playing colleague Stan Bayliss. Both graves are to the rear of the Cross of Sacrifice.

Among the hundreds of wreaths was one with a card inscribed: "To Sid, from his greatest chum Stan Bayliss - Mrs. Stanley Bayliss."



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