



FOUNDED 1873

President:  
Canon H. M. Hughes BA

Welcome  
to  
Kingsholm



Official Club Sponsors

# GLOUCESTER

RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

v

# LONDON SCOTTISH



SATURDAY MARCH 5th, 1994

KICK OFF 12.15 pm



Official Programme  
£1.00

All kit used by Gloucester Rugby Club is supplied by



Gloucester Rugby Club use  
**GILBERT MATCH BALLS**

**GLOUCESTER**  
(Cherry & White)

T	G	Pts





H/T

- 15. Tim Smith
- 14. Paul Holford
- 13. Don Caskie
- 12. Ben Maslen
- 11. Mark Nicholson
  
- 10. Damian Cummins
- 9. Bruce Fenley

- 1. Tony Windo
- 2. Dave Kearsey
- 3. Andy Deacon
- 4. Simon Devereux
- 5. Dave Sims
- 6. Pete Glanville
- 7. Andy Stanley †
- 8. Mark Nicholls

Replacements  
Pete Jones  
Greg Keyse  
Julian Davis

Referee: Richard Bullock — Leicester Society

**GLOUCESTER  
RUGBY FOOTBALL  
CLUB**

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Cumulative Match Score


†Captain

**LONDON SCOTTISH**  
(Blue/White)

T	G	Pts





F/T

- 15. Steve Wichary
- 14. Nick Grecian
- 13. Mark Sly
- 12. Ronnie Eriksson
- 11. Crawford Henderson
  
- 10. Murry Walker
- 9. Kevin Troup

- 1. Doug Signprini
- 2. Jamie McLellan
- 3. Barry Millicks
- 4. Damian Cronin
- 5. David Orr-Ewing
- 6. Craig Brown
- 7. Iain Dixon
- 8. David Leckie

Replacements:  
Magnus McDonald  
Tom Gray  
Steve Pearson

## WHO'S DOING THE JOB THIS SEASON?

It isn't easy running Gloucester RFC. And it gets harder all the time. Here are the people in the hot seats for 1993/4.

**President:** Canon H. M. Hughes B.A.

**Vice Presidents:** Roy Morris, Tom Day

**Chairman:** Alan Brinn.

**Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:** Doug Wadley.

**Hon. Fixtures Secretary:** Mike Nicholls.

**Director of Rugby:** Barrie Corless.

**Hon. Colts Secretary:** Reg Collins.

**Team Secretary:** Eric Stephens (0452 529000)

**Committee:** John Beaman, Mickey Booth, Bob Clewes, Terry Close, Mervyn Elway, John Fidler, David Foyle, Jim Holder, Jim Jarrett, Andy Mitchell, Cecil Pope, Trevor Pritchard, Fred Reed, Eric Stephens, Alan Townsend, Peter Ford.

**Players' Representative:** Jeremy Bennett.

**Captains: First XV:** Ian Smith.

**United:** Andrew Stanley.

**Coach:** Keith Richardson.

**Commercial Management:** Mike Burton Mangement Ltd.

**Programme & Lottery Manager:** Andrew Benzie (0452 419666).

**Programme Editor:** Peter Arnold, who is happy to receive contribution, comment, anecdote or insult on 0452 380481, or at 74 Victoria Street, Gloucester GL1 4EW.

**Telephones:** Complex: 520901.

Social Club: 528385

Office: 381087

**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**

## NOBBY'S NEWSDESK



Hello everyone,

And welcome once again to Kingsholm for this afternoons visit of London Scottish. This will be our second early kick-off of the season, following our morning match against Sale before the England v New Zealand game in November last year.

An early kick-off means that we should all have time to get home and watch the international in Paris later on. There will be no Golden Gamble tickets on sale today as I felt that today we would struggle to raise enough to give away a worthwhile prize. The clubhouse bar will be open to all members from 12.00 noon and will stay open throughout the game and afterwards if you wish to stay, have a few drinks and watch the international in the bar. See you soon.

Cheers, NOBBY



Peter Arnold



# WHAT A RELIEF!



After the dramas, traumas (traumae?) and disappointments of the past few weeks, it's a relief to be contemplating a plain, straightforward game with nothing on it but the final scoreline, the promise of some entertaining rugby and the chance to welcome old and valued friends to Kingsholm. A glance at the London Scot's current position in the League table probably indicates that they would probably reciprocate that sentiment quite happily.

So let's not dwell on the matter: better simply to extend a hearty and heartfelt welcome to the Scottish Exiles while reflecting that it's good to see that the depredations of the League structure don't necessarily have to deprive us of the pleasure of their company.

You'll probably remember that, not so long ago, London Scottish tended to visit Kingsholm around the New Year period, sharing that spot with Moseley in alternate years, which meant that Gloucester could always rely on a tough match to blow away the Christmas cobwebs. How times change! You don't hear the pundits describing either of those two grand old clubs as among the leading sides in England these days, more's the pity, but I'm a great believer in the cyclic theory of history, when it comes to rugby, and I've no doubt that they'll be back one of these days.

In one way, I always felt it a little hard on the Exiles to have to face the fire and fury of a Gloucester pack while Hogmanay was still wreaking its havoc, but that never seemed to deprive us of a good game of rugby. Indeed, Ed Martin can probably tell you the exact season concerned, but I well remember that one of the most entertaining games I ever saw, was, that rare animal, a completely pointless draw against London Scottish on, I believe, one cold New Year's Day. As a matter of fact, I don't recall seeing a 'no-score draw' at Kingsholm since.

And I also believe that it was on another of those New Year occasions that we had our first

sight of Don Caskie, buzzing around at centre for London Scottish. Gloucester won that game handily enough, but much of the talk in the bar afterwards was about this blond young dynamo, bouncing around like a tartan table tennis ball, and causing even the likes of Richard Mogg to wonder where on earth he'd got to.

The London Scottish fixture also has a place in the mythology of the Arnold family. It was at one of those games that my son, Andrew, celebrated his eighteenth birthday, being brought along to fulfil that ancient rite known as buying his first official round. As I recall, poor old Dad actually had to provide the money, but I suppose that's par for the course.

One thing led, inevitably, to another, and quite a party ensued. I recall that Mike Biggar, who I believe lives in Cheltenham these days, joined the throng at one point. The culmination of the proceedings was that I had my beer spiked with a very large vodka in an attempt to ensure that Son took Father home p\*\*\*\*\*d that evening. I never did find out who the culprit was, but I have dark suspicions regarding the then Mayor of Gloucester who had gatecrashed the proceedings at an early stage. Aided and abetted, I may say, by another past Mayor and a past Sheriff.

So I have happy memories of Gloucester v. London Scottish at Kingsholm, and I'm absolutely certain that I'm by no means alone in that. It's great to see the Exiles here again, and I hope that everyone concerned enjoys their welcome and has a highly enjoyable visit.

## LONDON IRISH

From one Exiles side to another. It won't have escaped your notice that Gloucester visit London Irish next Saturday fulfilling a league fixture that we absolutely have to win if our First Division status is to remain secure. I notice that Irish lost to Wasps last week, playing their game post-

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**THE  
SOCIETY  
THAT TRIES  
HARDER**



**Chelsea**  
BUILDING SOCIETY

WISHES GLOUCESTER R-F-C ALL THE  
BEST FOR THE 1993/1994 SEASON  
AND WELCOMES ITS GUESTS  
TO KINGSHOLM

*Peter Arnold cont.*

poned from earlier in the season. That eases the situation slightly for Gloucester, using up one of the two games they had in hand over us, while still keeping them four points adrift.

But a win for the Exiles at Sunbury over Gloucester would erode those four points, and put the cat amongst the pigeons and no mistake. And remember, they've beaten us once this season already.

Of course, Gloucester win, it's all a different ball game. In summary there has never been a fixture where the lads could use your support more. We all remember what the vocal support at Northampton and Bristol achieved last season, and it would be nice to think that the same oracle can be worked again.

As you would expect, coaches have been arranged at £6.50 a throw, and tickets are available right now from the office. I can promise you a good day out, if for no other reason than the London Irish welcome is legendary. It's about the only ground I know where the clubhouse actually overlooks the pitch from over the top of the main stand, so if weather or alcoholism dictates, you can watch the match without leaving the bar. But then, the lads wouldn't be able to hear you shout then, would they?

If you don't fancy the coach, or are coming from somewhere else, then there is a half-hourly train service from Waterloo.

If you're taking your own transport, then the thing to do is to make for the infamous M25. At JUNCTION 12, take the M3, and continue until it terminates at a large roundabout. Look for the A308, signposted KINGSTON, after which the London Irish ground at SUNBURY-ON-THAMES is signposted, but if you watch out for a turning to the RIGHT after you've crossed a bridge, you'll find yourself in a road called THE AVENUE, which is the home of the London Irish ground, so you're home and dried.

**50 YEARS AGO**

I don't know whether, like me, you're a regular reader of the Citizen's 'Bygone Gloucester' feature which appears every Monday evening. If you are, you'll know that there's a section called '50 Years Ago', which offers snippets from the paper which appeared exactly half a century ago that week. This week, one such squib caught my eye, and I quote.

*"Corporal Gordon Hudson, the Gloucester and RAF forward, played a great part in*

*England's defeat of Scotland in the Services International at Murrayfield. England won by 3 goals (1d.) 3 tries, 23 points, to 3 goals (1p.), 13 points. He had the distinction, believed to be without precedent, for a forward, of scoring four tries in an international match."*

For visitors, who may not be completely aware of the relevance of the piece, Gordon Hudson was a distinguished past Chairman of Gloucester RFC, who, sadly, died just a few weeks ago.

And for youngsters — and some people not so young — who may be having trouble adding up the points totals, I should explain that, in those days, a try counted 3 points, as did a penalty, with 2 points for a conversion. A drop goal scored 4 points. Indeed, a near contemporary of Gordon's, the legendary Willie Jones, who played for Neath and Gloucester, is often given the credit for causing the value of the drop goal to be reduced to its present level, so accurate was his diminutive boot.

**BEST OF LUCK SKIPPER —  
AND BAD LUCK TO THE REST**

Before leaving things Scottish, it wouldn't be right to let the occasion pass without congratulating Skipper, Ian Smith, on being recalled to the Scottish side for today's International I imagine that the fact that it took a couple of injuries — to Messrs. Morrison and Wainwright — to allow him his place back will only make him all the more determined to show everyone concerned what he can do. And with the Irish going the way they are, he'll have plenty of opportunity. Best of luck, Ian!

And did you notice that Pete Jones is back in the Scottish reckoning? I read that he's been drafted into the Scottish 'A' squad, again as a result of injury.

For the rest of the Gloucester hopefuls, it isn't such a happy story. I don't suppose anyone would argue with the case for changes after a couple of disappointing England displays, but the problem is that the chaps who have been demoted have been snapped up by the England 'A' selectors.

The arrival of Martin Bayfield and Tony Underwood at that level means that there's no room for Dave Sims and Paul Holford, our own lock-cum-No. 8 and winger having dropped off the bottom, so to speak. Consequently, the likes of Richard West and Andy Deacon have also

pushed that much further down the pile.

All we can do is to commiserate and advise the lads to keep plugging, because changes are in the wind. With Geoff Cooke retiring from the Manager's post, at the end of the season, and the urgent necessity to build a credible World Cup squad, anything could happen.

#### DOUBLE FEATURE ON WEDNESDAY

As you will have noted from the fixture list, we have our regular visit from Exeter University next Wednesday evening. That's always an entertaining event, featuring a visiting side which always runs its collective legs off, and a home team often featuring some of our own up-and-coming young hopefuls. The game may not have the charisma of a League or Cup match — or one against London Scottish, for that matter — but is always worth coming along for. I imagine that Barrie Corless will be interested in casting his informed eye over the Student side, too.

This year, however, we have an added attraction. You may recall that we were to stage the Schools Under 14 Final sponsored by the Midland Bank and Terry Warner Sports, a couple of weeks ago, as a pipe-opener to the game against Pontypool. Unfortunately, both games fell victim to a waterlogged pitch, so the schoolboy match has been rearranged for next Wednesday, kick-off 5.30, immediately before the University game.

That means that we can offer you a very attractive double feature that evening. The players of the future are always worth watching,

so that in times to come one can say, "I remember him back when . . ."

For your information, the Under 14 match pits St. Peter's and Crypt against each other. As an Old Cryptian who is also a member of the St. Peter's Club, I have a foot in both camps, and will be very interested to see what happens.

Having eavesdropped on a couple of conversations over the past couple of weeks, I gather that St. Peter's are quite convinced that they are going to stuff the Crypt side rotten, while the lads from Podsmead have no doubt at all that they are going to run St. Peter's off the park, so feelings are running high, and we should be in for a highly competitive game.

Not one to be missed if you can help it.

#### CLANG!

It may not have escaped your notice that this is Saturday. It also did not escape the notice of a pile of people who rang the office to check, that, in the Orrell programme, I said that this match was to take place last night.

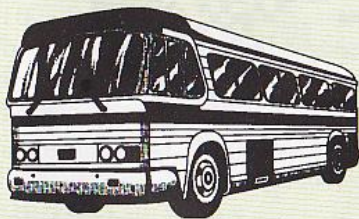
For that, I apologise. It was entirely my own fault, having assumed that, because this is an International weekend, the game would, as is usually the case, take place on the Friday evening. I should have checked the dates, and I didn't.

Could have been worse, I suppose. If I'd said the game was on Saturday, and it actually took place on Friday, then you might have missed it altogether.

Still, it just goes to show that you can't

*Cont on page 20*

## MERCHANT'S COACHES of Cheltenham Spa



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### THIS MONTHS SPECIALS

Date	Destination	Departure Time:			— Fare:—	
		Chelt	Glos	Others	Adult	Child Snr Cits
<i>*Child Only</i>						
<b>MARCH</b>						
Sat 12th	Crufts Dog Show, NEC or Birmingham Shopping	8.30am	9.00am	8.00amC+	£3.50	£3.00
Sun 13th	Mothering Sunday (Tour & Tea)	12.30pm	1.00pm		£6.00	£5.50
Sat 19th	Ideal Home Extn or London Shopping	8.30am	8.00am	9.00amC	£6.50	£6.00
Thurs 24th	Ideal Home Extn or London Shopping	8.30am	8.00am	9.00amC	£6.50	£6.00
Sun 20th	Daffodil Sunday (Tour & Tea)	12.30pm	1.00pm		£6.50	£5.50

C=Cirencester (Beeches Car Park) + Additional 50p charge for Cirencester Passengers

#### — HOLIDAYS —

**APRIL 1st**  
5 days/4 nights  
**PAIGNTON**  
**EASTER HOLIDAY**  
Park Lodge Hotel From £96.00

**APRIL 25th**  
5 days/4 nights  
**EASTBOURNE**  
Stanley House Hotel  
From £94.00

*Details of our Continental Holidays available on request*

61 Clarence Street, Cheltenham Spa, Glos GL53 3LB

*Peter Arnold cont.*

assume anything in this business.

### TENS IN MAY

There isn't really much doubt that the most memorable event to take place at Kingsholm last year was the inaugural National Tens Tournament which was sponsored by Bass and which took place on the May Day Bank Holiday Monday. The weather was great, the ground looked a picture, and the whole thing provided Gloucester with the best hour's television publicity the old City has had for years.

What's more, against all expectations, Gloucester won the thing, against opposition which included all the top English clubs bar Leicester.

Very few of us had actually seen Tens rugby before, and as someone who has never really been a great fan of the Sevens game, I loved it. The combination of Sevens skills with a spice of the sterner stuff provided by the presence of pack of five forwards, appeared to give us the best of both worlds.

Almost immediately after the tumult and the shouting died, we began to hear whispers that Kingsholm could well be asked to stage this year's event, and is great to hear that this has now been officially confirmed.

There are intentions to change the format slightly. Although confirmation has yet to be received, it seems very likely that Cardiff, and the famous old Scottish club, Melrose, will be here to try conclusions with the best of the English clubs. It's to be hoped that Leicester may now realise that they made something of a misjudgement by not participating last year, and will come along this time round.

There is one possible fly in the ointment. Last season's Pilkington Cup Final took place on the Saturday before the tournament. This year it's booked for May 7th, which is the Saturday following the May Day Bank Holiday on May 2nd. So the two Finalists may feel they can't take part, or that they will have to field second-string sides. I'm speculating, but it's a point.

One interesting project has emerged. By the very nature of such tournaments there has to be something of a hiatus before the Final takes place: the winners of the second Semi Final obviously need a breather before running out again. My mole tells me that there is a move to run a Classic England v. Classic Wales game — 'Golden Oldies' to you and me — to fill up the hole. Names like Geoff Probyn and J.P.R. Williams are being bandied about. As I say, this is still very much in the planning stage, but it's a great idea.

More about the Worthington National Tens as details emerge. However, it might not be a bad idea for you to make a diary note about Monday, May 2nd. If it's only half as good as last year's event, it will still be a superb day out.

### MASCOT ANONYMOUS

We had a bit of a kerfuffle with our Match Mascot, this week. The lad who was going to do us that honour unfortunately had to cry off, through no fault of his own, and we had to do a bit of a rush around to find a short-notice replacement.

The result of this is that I know practically nothing about him, and didn't have time to find out. All I can tell you is that his name is Reece — or it might even be 'Rees', and that he plays his rugby in some junior section of Saintbridge.

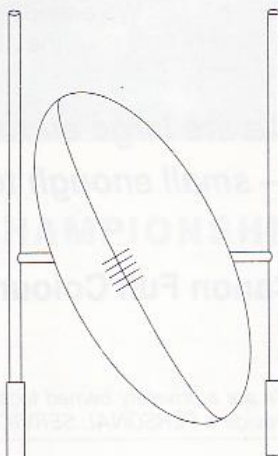
In fact, that last piece of information is an assumption, because he was found for us by Graham Anderson who, I believe, organises that stratum of rugby for the Saintbridge club.

When I do get the full story, I'll let you have it. Meanwhile, our grateful thanks to young Master Reece (or Rees), and also to Mr. Anderson for his somewhat frenetic efforts on our behalf.

### TAILPIECE

I had an approach, last week, from a chap who, more in sorrow than in anger, pointed out that in Ed Martin's couple of pieces about Bidy Halford, that grand old forward's name was misspelled. Ed had him down as 'Holford' as in Paul, rather than 'Halford' as in Bidy. I hasten to add that in my own reference to the same player I'd got the spelling right.

It's not like the meticulous Ed. It's an easy mistake to make, but I did think that Ed is one chap who does know his 'Ahs!' from his 'O-boes'.



## *Ed Martin* — IN PERSPECTIVE

IT WAS against London Scottish that a Cherry and White winger scored five tries at Kingsholm back some 57 seasons ago.

Bob Hook's achievement on New Year's Day 1937 was by no means a record for the Gloucester club — "Whacker" Smith breached the Clifton line an astonishing eight times in Gloucester's legendary 74-0 against Clifton in the 1901/2 season opener at Kingsholm — Smith went on to gain his first England "cap" that season. (This eight-try feat remains an individual match record at both the club and Kingsholm).

Hook's five tries against London Scottish, a fairly regular New Year's Day visitor at Kingsholm over the years, was seen as something for the headline writers at St. John's Lane. The front page of the Football Final — under the scoreline *Gloucester 29, London Scottish 13* — screamed:

**"Riot of Scoring In Fine, Open Game at Kingsholm  
Phillips and Hook In Splendid Form  
Five Tries for Gloucester Winger"  
Special by W.B.**

But Bill Bailey's introduction tended to dwell on the fact that this was Gloucester's fifth victory against a London club that season.

*"Gloucester opened the New Year with a splendid victory over London Scottish — the City's fifth success against a leading Metropolitan club this season. Blackheath, Guy's Hospital, and Old Merchant Taylors had previously been defeated at Kingsholm, and Richmond away,"* is how Bailey opened.

By half time, R. E. Hook, as he was always called in print, had scored four tries. And he claimed his fifth late in the game.

The following week Bailey wrote in his "From W. B.'s Notebook" column: *"Hook's five tries against London Scottish is his best performance in first-class football. He ran splendidly for all his scores, but Hook would be the first to recognise how greatly*

*indebted he was to his centres, Phillips especially, for the opening made."*

Hook was, of course, the older brother of Bill Hook. At the time of the London Scottish match, young Bill was some 15 months away from his Gloucester first team debut as a 15 year old Sir Thomas Rich's schoolboy against University Athletic Union when his goal-kicking got Gloucester out of trouble and the Cherry and Whites squeezed home 11-10 in the final Kingsholm match of the 1937/8 season.

Talking of full-backs, but back to the London Scottish match . . . which saw the return to form of Grahame Parker who had been, according to Bailey, *"a bit off colour in his two previous games."*

Parker, the Old Cryptian, *"was subjected to intense pressure by the Scottish forwards, but he was equal to every emergency. His kicking, too, was of the best, and all-round was far in advance of Currie, on the opposite side."*

For the record, the team for the match were as follows:

GLOUCESTER — G. W. Parker; R. E. Hook, S. Boseley, E. L. Phillips and A. L. Warr; Don Meadows (captain) and E. R. Day; A. Carpenter, C. Harris, K. Smith, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, A. Welshman, P. Holden and E. Bayliss.

LONDON SCOTTISH — D. Currie; J. Learmont, M. C. Lucas, J. Wilson and P. G. Grant; N. E. Robbie and D. A. Thorn; S. D. M. Mercer, R. Storer, J. F. Feet, G. B. Horsburgh, D. H. Gordon, H. O. D. Richards (sub), J. L. Young and A. Oglivey.

Referee: Mr. S. H. Budd (Somerset RU).

Bob Hook made 154 first team appearances for Gloucester between 1928 and 1946, while brother Bill turned out on 139 occasions between 1938 and 1952. Bob scored a total of 90 tries, with 21 conversions, five penalties and three drop goals (516 points by today's reckoning). Bill scored just two tries, but kicked 68 conversions, 58 penalties and six drop goals (338 points by today's reckoning).



*From the Pink 'Un of Saturday April 23, 1938*