LONDON WELSH RFC

TETLEY’S BITTER CUP

LONDON WELSH

v

GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 3rd, 1998
Kick-off 2.15 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £2.00

FOUNDED 1885

OLD DEER PARK KEW ROAD RICHMOND
PATRON: HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES
**London Welsh v Gloucester**

**LONDON WELSH**
(Colour - Scarlet)

15 Matt Vines
14 Scott Roskell
13 Nick Marval
12 Michael Dawes
11 James Reynolds
10 † Craig Brown
 9 Tom Lawsey
 1 Garry Holmes
 2 Alfie Harbinson
 3 Richard Thomas
 4 David Ruffell
 5 Miles Hayman
 6 Graeme Peacock/Dai Harries
 7 Luke Jones/Dave Muckalt
 8 † Rowland Phillips

**GLOUCESTER**
(Colours - Cherry & White)

Chris Catling 15
Audley Lumsden 14
Terry Fanoia † 13
Richard Tombs † 12
Robert Jewell 11
Mark Mapleton † 10
Scott Benton 9
Tony Windo 1
Chris Fortey 2
Phil Vickery 3
Mark Cornwell 4
Dave Sims 5
Pete Glanville* 6
Nathan Carter 7
Simon Devereux 8

**REPLACEMENTS**

16 Darren Edwards
17 Steve Pilgrim
18 Andy Tucker
19 Simon Emms
20 Mark Langley
21 Dai Harries/Graeme Peacock

**REPLACEMENTS**

Ian Sanders 16
Nick Osman 17
Chris Hall 18
Adey Powles 19
Richard Ward 20
Craig Emmerson 21

*Captain † International (RU/RL)

Referee: Mr. A. Rowden (Berkshire /RFU)

Touch - Judges: Mr. P. Dickens & Mr. B. Suttle (RFU)

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**Touchlines**

* Our very warm thanks are due this afternoon to our good friend Jerry Hughes who, together with a number of other former players and business colleagues, are supporting this afternoon's cup-tie. This is a handsome gesture, and we hope that all concerned have a great day at Old Deer Park.

* Next Saturday we turn our attentions once again to the league, when we hope to achieve our second double of the season. Our visitors will be Lydney, whom we beat by 28-10 down at Regentsholme in November, and kick-off will be at 2.15 p.m.
For the last couple of weeks we have been living out a fairy tale: “Little Jack Horner sat in a corner, eating his Christmas pie. He put in his thumb and pulled out a plum, and said what a good boy am I”. Well, for Jack Horner read London Welsh, and for plum read Gloucester. By any yardstick, this tie is the very stuff of cup rugby, and the fact that most of us have been growing old and grey since Gloucester were last with us, only enhances the occasion. With Gloucester modestly holding their own in Premiership One, making good progress in the Cheltenham & Gloucester, and having cut a very impressive figure in the European Conference, our visitors will obviously start today’s game as clear favourites, notwithstanding our good position in National One. But whatever the outcome, it is simply a great pleasure to be able to welcome this grand old club to Old Deer Park after so many years away.

We doubt if anyone will remember now - well, perhaps some older members will - but for roughly fifty years Gloucester was one of our chief ports of call on our much-loved Easter tour. And how Kingsholm was packed for a game which invariably produced a feast of open rugby. ‘Club Notes’ wasn’t actually there, you understand, but if you come across the yellowing pages of The Citizen, or any of Fleet Street’s finest, you soon come to realise that this was a very special fixture. And then, in 1953, we started visiting Aberavon on Easter Saturday - another wonderful tradition which has gone by the board - and that was that. So nostalgia is in the air this afternoon. How could it be otherwise when we meet so rarely?

There may be many in today’s crowd, however, who will recall three games - two of them in the cup. In the inaugural year of 1971-72 we quietly fancied our chances of winning the competition. In the event, it was Gloucester’s year - and largely because of their 9-4 quarter-final victory in a fevered atmosphere at Old Deer Park, watched by a crowd of 7,500. A few years later we were down at Kingsholm for a friendly, with Gloucester leading by ten points going into injury-time. Cue a tour-de-force by John Taylor, whose try and touchline conversion helped us escape with a draw. But our cup revenge came in 1983 when, with Clive Rees and Bob Ackerman at their magnificent best, we were 14-3 winners at Kingsholm. And just as Mike Burton, no less, declared that Gloucester’s cup display here was the finest in which he had ever taken part, we, for our part, felt much the same about our triumph in Gloucester.

Kingsholm is, for many, one of the most powerfully emotive grounds in the British Isles. All-seater grounds and executive boxes are all very nice, of course, but to savour the very essence of Gloucester rugby, you should stand in the shed or Tanner Bank of this Westcountry citadel. And isn’t it nice, too, that big-time rugby returns this afternoon to Old Deer Park - the oldest senior ground in the country, with a seductive and timeless quality all of its own. Who are we to argue with those who declare it to be the most appealing in London? So, a quarter of a century since they were last with us, let us give Gloucester a rousing welcome, and hope for a great afternoon of cup football.
### Gloucester’s Great Cup Record

Gloucester bring with them to Old Deer Park the fourth best cup record in the country. They were, indeed, the first winners of the cup in 1972, won the competition again in 1978, and shared the honours with Moseley in 1982 - the only time in 26 years that a game has ended in a bona-fide draw. Their other appearance in the final, in 1990, ended in a heavy defeat by Bath. The Welsh also have a good cup record, but will be well aware that Gloucester’s form away from home is just about the best in the business - only nine defeats in 35 ties.

### London Welsh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ties</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>For</th>
<th>Agst</th>
<th>Pct</th>
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<td>65-17 v Clifton (Old Deer Park, 1997)</td>
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<td>Biggest Away Win:</td>
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<td>Worst Home Defeat:</td>
<td>3-43 v Leicester (Old Deer Park, 1990)</td>
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<td>Worst Away Defeat:</td>
<td>8-36 v Bristol (Memorial Ground, 1984)</td>
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### Gloucester

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* includes one game drawn

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<td>Cup Winners:</td>
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<td>Finalists:</td>
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<td>Biggest Home Win:</td>
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<td>Biggest Away Win:</td>
<td>36-10 v Nottingham (Beeston, 1996)</td>
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<td>Worst Home Defeat:</td>
<td>13-26 v Leicester (Kingsholm, 1997)</td>
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<td>Worst Away Defeat:</td>
<td>6-48 v Bath (Twickenham, 1990)</td>
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In the second-round tie at Old Deer Park, Andy Currier (facing page) surges over for the 11th Welsh try against Clifton. Andy scored a hat-trick in the 65-17 victory.
The GLOUCESTER File

Formed: 1873

Colours: Cherry & White

Ground: Kingsholm, Gloucester
Capacity: 12,000 (seated 1,250)

League Record:

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<td>370</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>23</td>
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</table>

Cup Record:

Last Season: Semi-Finals (lost 13-26, home to Leicester)

League Highs & Lows:

Biggest Home Win: 61-7 v Sale (Kingsholm, 16.4.88)
Biggest Away Win: 49-3 v Orrell (Edgehill Road, 16.11.96)
Worst Home Defeat: 29-45 v Bath (Kingsholm, 21.9.96)
Worst Away Defeat: 19-75 v Harlequins (Stoop MG, 31.8.96)

Leading League Scorer:

Most Points 1996-97: Mike Mapleton (fly-half) - 269 points
Most Tries 1996-97: Mike Lloyd (wing) - 7 tries

Prior to last Saturday, Mark Mapleton had scored 70 league points, and centres Terry Fanoula and Richard Tombs, each 3 tries.

London Welsh Connection:

First Game in London: January 7th, 1905 (Queen's Club)
First Game in Gloucester: March 28th, 1902 (Kingsholm)
Biggest London Welsh Win: 14-3 (Kingsholm, 22.1.83)
Biggest Gloucester Win: 40-8 (Kingsholm, 13.4.25)
Old Deer Park Record: Games 1, Gloucester 1 win