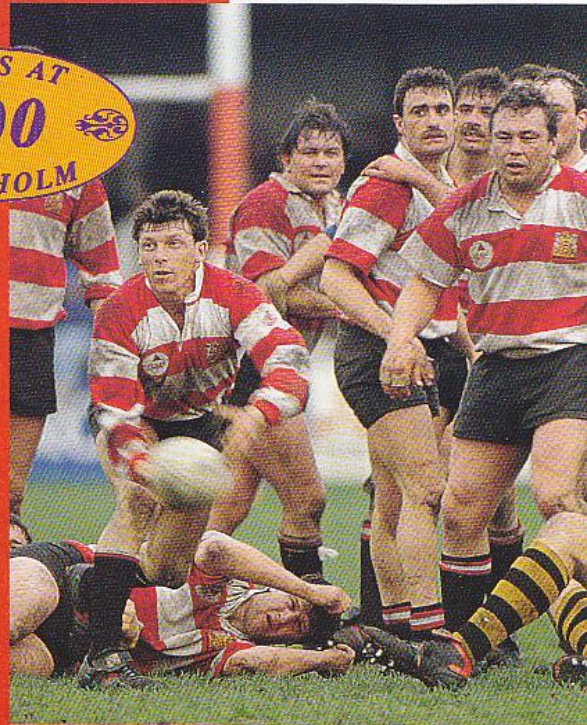
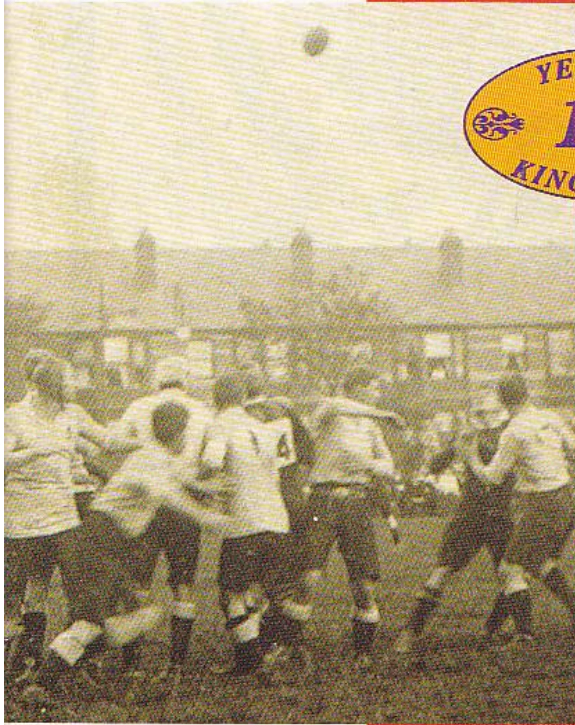


THE
GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB

v
LEICESTER

COURAGE
CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP

YEARS AT
100
KINGSHOLM



80p.
Official Programme



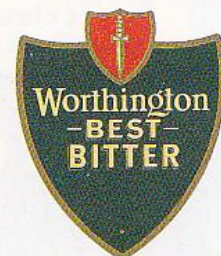
FOUNDED 1873
President:
Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

Saturday, November 16th 1991
Kick-Off 3.00pm

MATCH KINDLY SPONSORED BY

 **Dauntton Cider**

OFFICIAL SPONSORS



TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

THIS IS WHERE THE SEASON REALLY STARTS . . .

It's been a funny old season, so far. With the World Cup, and our own participation in it, and the Ground Centenary matches against the English and Irish squads, it's been all caviar and no meat and potatoes. That state of affairs comes to an abrupt end today, thanks to Leicester who, of course, also had the honour of staging a World Cup game.

Of course, between whiles, Gloucester have secured a valuable pair of scalps in beating Cardiff and Bath on successive weekends, and to win today would constitute a notable hat-trick. The snag is that the 'Tigers' will be busting a gut to insert a fly in that particular pot of ointment, and if you can mix more metaphors than that in just two sentences, then you're a better man than I am.

There have been some odd results so far this season already. Leicester, Harlequins, Wasps — and Bath — have all lost to English opposition, and at first sight, everything is wide open, but today sees the start of the Courage Clubs Championship, and all bets are off. The fact that we have already beaten Leicester cuts no ice at all, because there's no more dangerous opponent than a wounded Tiger, they want League points as much as we do, and the history of real cliff-hanging games between Leicester and Gloucester is a very long and honourable one.

Last season, those honours were even. Leicester won the League encounter at Welford Road, by 18 points to 6, but the record was evened up by a home win at Kingsholm, 18-15. So now we look forward to the next episode in one of the more intriguing rugby thriller serials.

Relationships between our two clubs have always been extremely cordial. There are no more welcome visitors to Kingsholm, in any season, than Leicester, and the red, white and green shirts always get a very warm reception. One of several familiar faces who won't be here today will be that of the mercurial Les Cusworth, who has hung up his boots. We shall miss him.

But then, we usually did.

THANKS TO TAUNTON CIDER

Today strikes a blow for the large contingent of

Kingsholm scrumpy drinkers. For the first time, Taunton Cider are generously sponsoring the game, and we thank them, most sincerely, for that.

After a period under the Bass wing, The Taunton Cider Company Limited are now an independent company, and today's occasion has been arranged through Bass Brewers who, as you know, are Gloucester RFC's major sponsors

The Taunton story goes back to 1911, when Arthur Moore, a famous cidemaker from Heathfield — Queen Victoria drank cider made at Keathfield Rectory back in the 1840's — joined forces with two local businessmen to found a new enterprise at Norton Fitzwarren, near Taunton, to the great good fortune of devotees of the fermented apple, everywhere.

Cider's not brewed in the same way as beer. The secret is in the blending, which allows the experts to experiment until they find exactly the flavour they're looking for, and that accounts for the wide and fascinating variety which you can find in the Taunton range. It means you can find something which suits your taste, whether you like your liquor in cans, bottle or on draught.

You'll certainly know about Dry Blackthorn, nowadays a leader among the dry ciders. If your taste is a little sweeter, then you'll probably prefer Autumn Gold, but the area in which today's benefactors are really making a name for themselves is the one of new and stylish cider. Red Rock may not, as Leslie Neilson says in the famous TV commercials, neither red, or have rocks in it, but it has won an enthusiastic following in both bottled and draught varieties.

Diamond White is also a recent best seller, with a 'different' appeal. Diamond Blush is a cider cooler with a unique pink colour. Or you could rapidly develop a taste for the strong, smooth Special Vat. The get back to basics with Traditional Draught, from the cask available in either dry or medium varieties.

It's certainly a fruitful field for research and I look forward to pursuing it in the company of Brian Jenkins, Taunton's Regional Director, and John Wigglesworth, Regional Sales Director, who are both here today. In return, we'll try to make sure that they enjoy their visit to Kingsholm something immoderate.

S · E · L · E · C · T

FEEDS & SEEDS

By appointment to GRFC and also suppliers of grass seed to Cinderford and other Rugby Clubs

* Suppliers of all lawn seeds *

* Large or small orders catered for *

Contact Bob Osborne on 0452 760511
or 0860 590330 (Car)

MORE TOUCH LINES

Thanks again, Taunton Cider. We must do it again some time.

THE BALLOON GOES UP FOR MARK

The aforementioned John Wigglesworth has brought his young son here today. His name is Mark, he's seven years old, and makes his Kingsholm debut as today's match Mascot.

Mark attends Hinton St. George School in Somerset, which is a bit too close to Bath for comfort. When the time comes for him to choose a club, I hope he remembers who his friends are.

Apart from being an avid rugby fan, Mark has an ambition to be a hot air balloon pilot, and has already made three flights. He should feel right at home here. With around 5,000 referees on the ground, there will be enough hot air generated to get him airborne, no trouble.

RUGBY IN THE CUP

We do seem to get some peculiar draws, these days. As you'll know by now, we are away to Rugby for the Pilkington Cup Third Round, having already contracted to play them, on their own ground, on the previous Saturday. Terry Tandy tells me that there's no way out of it — both matches will have to be played, and there's no way they can be combined into one game.

I'm told that the ground is in Webb Ellis Road, appropriately enough, which is to the South West of the town centre. If you're driving, the thing to do is take the A4071, which is the Bilton Road, and Webb Ellis Road is within 500 yards, second turning on the right.

Not the best of draws, actually. Rugby are newcomers to the League First Division, and it's one of those games where we'll be expected to win, but where it would be all too easy to slip up. Any side which was in the Area League North just four years ago, and has now reached the top rank, has giant-killer written all over it. Should be exciting.

TICKETS

Printing schedules being what they are, I wasn't able to wait any longer for Rugby to send us any details

about tickets for the Pilkington Cup game. What I can say is that seating capacity is only around 200, and that the ground is advertised as holding only 3-4,000, so sitting down is going to be a problem, and in any event, there seems likely to be a fair old crush.

Terry Tandy will certainly know about tickets by the time you read this, so I can only suggest you listen for any announcement. Next week, the office will be open as usual between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m., and no doubt any tickets available after today will be on sale there.

Likewise with coaches. See Trevor Pritchard in the Clubhouse for firm information, but there's no doubt at all that coaches will be running.

All a bit vague, but it's the best I can do at the moment.

GOLD BOND GET-TOGETHER

There was a very pleasant little occasion in the Hospitality Suite last Tuesday. 47 people were invited to drinks and refreshments with our Gold Bond Agents to the fore.

The only problem was that we didn't actually have a rugby match to watch, the decision having been made at about 3.30 to call off the Exeter University game, because of the high winds and pouring rain attacking us at the time. Of course, as soon as the fatal phone call was made, the rain stopped and the wind started to drop. It was all rather like the poor old ref. who sees the ball pop out of the loose just as he's blown his whistle for a set scrum.

So we all drank rather more beer than we would otherwise have done, but a good time was had by all. It was all just one more reason for becoming a Gold Bond Agent, and if you fancy the idea, ring David Golder on 410666.

One interesting idea was mooted. Gold Bond Membership from Christmas to the end of the season would only cost about £6.00. It would make a great present for someone you have difficulty in finding gifts for, and would give the lucky recipient the chance to win £100 on a regular basis. Again, if you ring the amiable Mr. Golder, he'll tell you who your local agent is.

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



Lloyds
Bank

THE THOROUGHbred BANK.

BACK THEN

The little bit of history this week shows just how things can change in the course of almost a century. On 20th November, 1897 Gloucester visited Cheltenham, and won by one penalty goal to nil. Gloucester Secretary Fred Lovesy wrote: 'A good game, but Gloucester were let down by their half back, or would have scored at least three tries.'

The unfortunate half back was a Mr. G. Hall, but Fred Lovesy goes on to explain: 'Gloucester were very weak, being without Hipwood, P. Stout, F. Stout, Pitt and Hall, who were playing for the County, while Cummings and Stephens were on the sick list. Cheltenham had their best team out, bar Hailing.

Nearly 800 went over from Gloucester, the gate being £33'.

So there you have it. 800 people travelled to watch Gloucester v. Cheltenham, which makes you think.

The County match referred to was Gloucestershire v. Devon at Bristol, and Gloucestershire lost it 5-13, the home side's try being scored by a player called Mudway, one of three Cinderford players in the side.

Without explaining how he could be in two places at once. Fred Lovesy writes: 'A good, open game but Devon the better team all round, especially forward.'

Just four days later, the Stout brothers, Percy and Frank, both Internationals, were in action again, as far away as Richmond. They played for London and The South against a combined Oxford and Cambridge

University side, which must have been one of the highlights of the season.

The Varsities won 13 points to 3, and Percy Stout distinguished himself by scoring his side's only try, and a very notable effort it was, by all accounts.

Isn't it interesting? Cheltenham attracting a Gloucester following of 800, Cinderford supplying three players to the County, and an Oxbridge side handily beating a team equivalent to two of today's Divisional sides.

Those were the days!

McGOLDRICK'S

The Food People

Whatever the event, we are the specialist caterers:

- SPORTS CATERING
- BUFFETS
- BARBECUES
- BIRTHDAY PARTIES
- CHILDREN'S PARTIES
- DISCOS

For further information and assistance in planning your events please call

GLOUCESTER (0452) 721742

or call at our shop in School Lane, Quedgeley

ED MARTIN'S FACT FILE

It is difficult to find an English club that can better the successes of Leicester at Kingsholm. The Tigers have visited us on 79 occasions in the last 100 years. They have won on 17 occasions, Gloucester winning 58 times.

Of all the Cherry and White match-ups that started last century and are still going strong, Leicester is THE one in terms of simple competition. For some reason, Gloucester finds it hard to win at Leicester — only 28 and two draws from 76 visits for the lowest away winning performance (38%) against any English club on the regular fixture card.

While the Courage "League" is now firmly established, this is only the second occasion that Leicester have visited Kingsholm in the competition (the Cherry and Whites won 28-0 in 1988-9), while Gloucester have made the trip to Leicester three times, winning the 1989-90 clash 26-16. So after four Courage games, all is square, both sides having two wins, but Gloucester is ahead 72-53 on total points scored.

Among the things Leicester can brag about concerning the Gloucester fixture is the number of times that they have held the Cherry and Whites scoreless at Kingsholm. There have been 29 occasions since World War II when Gloucester have failed to score in front of the home crowd (nine of those times were 0-0 draws). Leicester tops the list of clubs by slamming the door in Gloucester's face five times. Second is Cardiff who

have done it three times and then there are a string of clubs, including Cheltenham and the Army, who have done it twice. The last time Gloucester was held scoreless at Kingsholm was on January 22, 1977 when Moseley won 28-0, and Leicester's last big occasion was their 6-0 win in the 1968-9 season.

RECORD AGAINST LEICESTER FROM 1891-2 TO DATE

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA
Home	79	58	17	4	1129	561
Away	76	28	46	2	670	822
Neutral	1	1	0	0	6	3
Overall	156	87	63	6	1775	1386

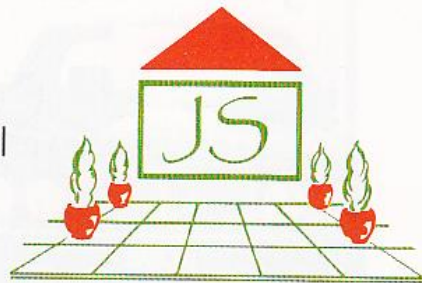
PATIOS * BLOCK PAVING * SEEDING * TURFING * FENCING * WATER FEATURES * STONE

BLOCK PAVING

SITE CLEARANCE * PLAY AREAS

5% "CENTENARY" OFFER
A GENUINE 5% DISCOUNT
ON ALL LANDSCAPE PROJECTS
ORDERED THROUGH THIS ADVERT

- * Professional Quality Service
- * Design, Build and maintenance
- * Private and Commercial - Local Authority Approved
- * Suppliers of Old York Stone Paving, Bark Mulch and all Fencing Materials, etc.
- * FREE Estimates and Site Visit Service



WALLING * PLANTING * SITE CLEARANCE * PLAY AREAS

JEREMY SIMMONS
LANDSCAPE & FENCING CONTRACTOR
30 Sapphire Close
Tuffley
Gloucester GL4 0RR
Tel. Gloucester 0452 503291
Fax 0452 380644
Mobile Tel. 0836 737373

BLOCK PAVING * SEEDING * TURFING * FENCING * WATER FEATURES * STONE WALLING *

TAILPIECE

by
Peter Arnold

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON BOXING DAY?

The 'Citizen' are sponsoring the traditional Boxing Day match against Lydney, and intend to turn the occasion into a 'Family Day'. Nothing loth, MBM, who run our commercial management these days, intend to get into the spirit of the thing.

The idea is to throw all available Hospitality Boxes open for the day. For around £12.00 a head, you can have ground admission and a good buffet, with a bar handy, while watching the game from behind glass, if the weather is unkind.

Personally, I think it's a great idea. You know what Boxing Day is like — all cold turkey and washing up. Here's a chance to get away from it all, and perhaps get 'er indoors along too, providing her with a Christmas meal she doesn't actually have to prepare herself. Or perhaps it's a better notion to get everyone else out of her hair so she can get her feet up in front of the telly in blissful solitude.

Having visitors for Christmas? Here's something different to do with them.

SLIGHTLY SPOOKY

My old friend Mike Price, Turf Accountant of this parish, has a rather spooky tale to tell about the World Cup Final. It appears that he was approached by a local rugby fan, and asked what odds he'd give on England winning 26-12. Taken slightly aback, Mike offered 100/1, was accepted, and took a £5.00 bet.

It appears that the chap in question had had a dream, wherein he saw the Twickenham scoreboard with that score on it.

Just think about it for a moment. He was only one figure out. It was just that first '2' which let him down. Had it not been for that, Mike Price would have been down by £500.

Strange things, dreams.

And incidentally, I'm told that, before this match, you could get odds of 20/1 against Gloucester winning the League. Not a bad bet, I would have thought.

While I'm about it, I now have a contact who promises to keep me abreast of such matters. If you're a betting man — watch this space.

COLTS

What with one thing and another, I haven't had much chance to keep you abreast with doings of our super Colts side this season. My thanks to Reg. Collins for the following information, which shows just how well they've been doing.

September 4th	Solihull	Cancelled
September 10th	Coventry (H)	Won, 23-10
September 18th	Moseley (A)	Lost, 13-15
September 24th	Worcester (A)	Won, 43-0
October 2nd	Forest of Dean (A)	Won, 44-3
October 8th	Clifton	Cancelled
October 16th	Northampton (H)	Won, 27-10
October 23rd	Lydney (H)	Won, 38-0
October 30th	Nuneaton (A)	Won, 15-3
November 6th	Bath (A)	Won, 24-8

So the record to date is,

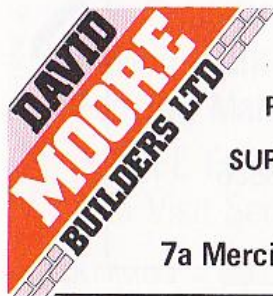
Played 8, Won 7, Drawn 0, Lost 1, Points for, 227,
Points against 49.

And just note the final result, above. It means that, in a space of three days, First XV, United and Colts secured a remarkable treble over the much-admired Bath set-up. I'll bet no other club in the country can claim that.

To complete the picture, the leading points scorers for the Colts are: Goran Antonijevic, 2 tries, 8 conversions, 7 penalties (45 points); Bruce Harris, 9 tries (36 points); Chris Theyer, 9 tries (32 points); Daffyd Farr, 6 tries (24 points).

That's a fair old record by any standard, and if it doesn't encourage you to come along and see Gloucester Colts play Forest of Dean at Kingsholm on November 27th, then nothing will. They then play their final match of 1991, away to Lydney, on December 4th.

It looks as if the future is in good hands!



ALL TYPES OF BUILDING & REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
PLUMBING AND CENTRAL HEATING DECORATING
SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS OF MOST KITCHEN FURNITURE
& APPLIANCES

7a Mercia Road, Gloucester. Tel: 0452 414000