BRISTOL



FOOTBALL

RUGBY CLUB FOOTBALL UNION.

25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE MEMORIAL GROUND

SPECIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

PRICE 34.



BRISTOL V. CARDIFF

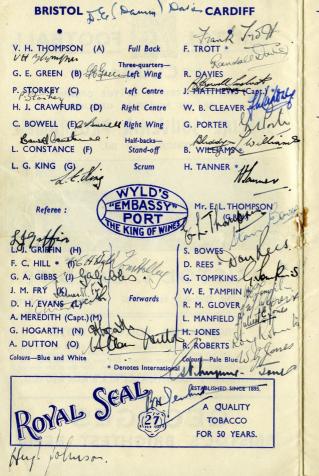
Wednesday, October 16th, 1946

Kick-off 4.15 p.m.

PROGRAMME EDITOR'S NOTE.

We hope that our supporters and our friends from Cardiff will like this programme, and will keep it as a souvenir of a unique and happy occasion. We treasure our friendship with Cardiff and wish that they will always retain the pleasantest memories of their visit to Bristol to-day. Our thanks are due to Mr. I. T. Austin, of Cardiff, for his kindness in sending us blocks and information, and to our old friend and Honorary Life Member, Mr. A. G. Powell, of the Western Daily Press, for his article.

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GEORGES' BEERS.

Reprinted from the "Western Daily Press," Saturday, 12th October:

CARDIFF-GOOD FRIENDS.

"It is well that those who have seen Bristol defeat the best clubs in the kingdom, should remember what we owe to Welsh teams, Cardiff especially.

"They gave Bristol the encouragement of a fixture—yes, encouragement, despite their score of 5 goals and 9 tries to nil. Other clubs followed suit, and after four seasons Bristol had the privilege of a fixture with Gloucester!

"Not only did Cardiff give Bristol a game but, a bit later on, an old captain of the famous club, Charlie Arthur, who had played for Wafes, came over and helped B. W. L. Ashford to drill Bristol men in the science of open play.

SILVER JUBILEE MATCH.

"Fifty years ago (10th October, 1896) Cardiff drew what was then the record gate at the County Ground. They had a great side, with Norman Biggs, R. F. Elliott, E. Gwynn Nicholls, and Selwyn Biggs, all internationals behind the scrum; but they won only by a narrow margin.

"Two of that team afterwards played for Bristol—Jack Bowley and Jim Driscoll. The great Arthur Gould, prince of three-quarters, and the equally famous Gwynn Nicholls, were also not above giving Bristol a helping hand. So did other Welshmen in the early days. The idea does not seem so popular now.

"It was Cardiff, too, that Bristol chose from all the other clubs in the kingdom to open the Memorial Ground 25 years ago. How appropriate, therefore, that Cardiff should join with Bristol in celebrating the silver jubilee of the Memoria Ground, set up to keep in remembrance Rugby players of Bristol town who had fallen for their country.

THE BEST EVER ?

"Which was the best ever match with Cardiff? Old stagers, perhaps, would vote for the game which gave Bristol the first victory. That was in October, 1901, after thirteen years of pegging away.

"What a scene there was on the ground to be sure. That was the occasion when a notable Bristol alderman threw his silk hat in the air and had it returned to him as flat as a pancake!

"It was only a try to nil, but the victory was clear cut. Bristol backs were Dick Vaughan, Eddie Baker, Charles Adamson, George Eberle, with Billy Needs and Sid Foster at half.

THE GAME OF 1932.

"Others with not such a long memory, would probably say the victory on 31st December, 1932, by five points to nil was the best game, and produced the finest footbal.

" Cardiff had a great team that season, with no fewer than ten men who had wortheir Welsh caps; Bristol had five internationals—Tom Brown, Don Burland, Jim Barrington, A. T. Payne and C. G. Gregory, and on form was the best side in England, having won fifteen matches in succession.

"Well, it is good to look back upon these great occasions, and even though Bristol, just now, is not at the top of the grade, it is only a passing phase and there will be just as many thrills in the future as in the past."

A. G. P.





President: Mr. George Babbage, Hon, Treasurer, 1927-1945. President, 1946



Chairman: Mr. P. J. Down. Captain, 1908. International, 1908. Toured New Zealand, 1908.



Captain Ist XV : Alun Meredith. Born Ystra, Glamorganshire, 1919. Captain Bristol University R.F.C. Graduate of Bristol University, now doing a post-graduate course on Education



Vice-Captain 1st XV: Vic Thompson, Born at Publow, 1918, Educated at Colston's School. Captain, 1945-46

CARDIFF.

CAPTAIN. Dr. Jack Matthews, Educated Bridgend County School

and Cardiff University Medical School. Played occasionally for Bristol Supporters' XV. during the war. First International against England at Gloucester, 1940. Elected Captain of Cardiff last season—inspired the best side in the four countries.

VICE-CAPTAIN.

Les. Manfield, a product of Mountain Ash. Educated at Mountain Ash County School and Cardiff University. Now Science and Games Master at Cowbridge Grammar School. Played twice for Wales before the war and in all Welsh Internationals last year.



A GREAT CENTRE.

Bleddyn Williams, considered by the Kiwis last season as the outstanding centre three-quarter of the day, and that at the age of 23. Educated at Taffs Well School and Rydal. Played for Cardiff first in 1941. Joined R.A.F., thence to U.S.A. for training and Pilot's Certificate. Last season played for R.A.F., Combined Services and Wales.



A HAPPY MEMORY The opening of the Memorial Ground, 24th September, 1921 Cardiff. v. Bristol Result: Bristol 19 points; Cardiff 3 points

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25th ANNIVERSARY DANCE.

After the match there will be a Dance at the Victoria Rooms, from 8 p.m. till midnight, which the Bristol and Cardiff players will attend. The price of tickets is 7s. 6d. each, and they can be obtained at Harris' Sports Depot, at Duck, Son and Pinker's, Queen's Road, and from the Pavilion. The music will be played by Raloh Bright's Full Broadcasting Band.

SUPPORTERS' ANNUAL TRIP.

The Supporters' Club will be running their annual trip to London on Saturday, 2nd November, for the Harlequins v. Bristol game at Twickenham. The all-in price is 37s. 6d. including rail fare, reserved Coaches on the 9 a.m. Temple Meads, Lunch at Paddington, Motor Coach to Twickenham, Grand Stand seat, Tea after match, Coach back to Central London for Dinner, reserved Coaches on the 11.50 from Paddington. Remittances, which can only be accepted from members of the Supporters' Club (membership is 1s.), must be sent to the Hon. Secretary, 55 Downend Road, Horfield, Bristol 7. The tickets will be strictly limited.

The Public Address Equipment is supplied by the Grosvenor Electrical Co., 115 Grosvenor Road, Bristol I.