



CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB

SEASON 1974-75

CARDIFF

V

COVENTRY

SATURDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1974

KICK OFF 3 p.m.



Official Programme 10p

Cardiff v. Coventry

SATURDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1974

K.O. 3 p.m.

Coventry will be the fourth English side we have played in three weeks, which might upset some of the more militant members of the F.W.A., but proves that not only are we open-minded but also that we like living dangerously. Moseley, Bristol, Blackheath and Coventry with Pontypool slung in for variety is a hefty start to the season. The trouble with these English packs is that they are so big. They seem to have an over-abundance of line-out forwards, a commodity we find as short as Conservatives in Maerdy. Most of the Club selectors in Wales would give their eye-teeth for some of the towering talent that spend their Saturday afternoons playing for the Extra 'A's across the border. Any entrepreneur with vision could make a fortune taking his 10% on trading 5½' of Welsh Fly Half for 13' of English second-row forwards. Perhaps we should try cross-breeding, the likely outcome could be a six foot Welsh Fly Half who could take his scrum half's pass two handed above his head or an English lock-forward who can side step and sing Myfanwy.

Our encounters with our visitors from England have given us mixed results this season. A formidable Moseley side was eventually well beaten, and we had a remarkable win against Blackheath last week, when we were ten players short. In between times we were soundly thrashed by a Bristol side that completely overwhelmed our pack. If Brian Clough had been the manager of that Cardiff side his forty days at Leeds would have appeared a long term engagement.

We have been playing Coventry since 1891, during that time we have played 83 fixtures, winning 52 and losing 26 with 5 drawn. Last season we performed the almost traditional feat of losing at Coventry and winning at Cardiff. We lost at Coventry 16 pts. - 20 pts., and won 36 pts. - 13 pts. at Cardiff.

Coventry appear to have started well by beating Gloucester on Saturday 29 pts. - 15 pts. That is no mean feat, and with their formidable array of talent it can be assumed that it was achieved with style and flair.

WELCOME COVENTRY.

D.J.H.

CENTENARY SEASON

As a part of the centenary season preparations the club is endeavouring to trace any person who has played for Cardiff in order to compile an old players list. If you have any information that could help, please contact Peter Goodfellow or Stan Bowes at the Athletic Club.

Another item of great interest to all Rugby men is the Film Show at the Sherman Theatre, Cardiff. This will be the first showing of the film of the BRITISH LIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA. Following the film will be a discussion by a panel including Gareth Edwards and Barry John on the respective merits of the last two great Lions sides. Admission 75p.

CARDIFF YOUTH

Peter Goodfellow, who with Weldon Davies as general factotum have started this season's campaign with the Youth, report a fine start with a good win over St. David's Youth by 29 pts. - 0. They lost 12 players of last season's exceptional side so they start this year with a remarkably young team. However, they have recruited some promising newcomers including four or five of last year's Cardiff Schools XV. They would like to thank club members for their kind support of their efforts to raise money for themselves. As you may know they usually finance their own tours. Since they have been to Belgium, Cork and this year they will tour Scotland, they have done very well for themselves. A part of their total comes from a self-imposed system of fines for not wearing the appropriate club ties and blazers. Quite something in these days of weird and wonderfully garbed youngsters. Anyway why not pop along to Sophia Gardens one Saturday and watch these grand lads playing. They usually kick off well before the First team which means you not only get two games of Rugby, you get plenty of exercise as well.

D.J.H.

Know the Laws

By FRED CROSTER

After, I trust, clearing up the controversial last minute Lions try in Ellis Park, in Wednesday's programme, it was so good to be there, back to essentially mundane matters and the rest of the law changes made by the International Board when they, themselves made a bit of rugby history, by meeting for the first ever time, in Australia, as part of that country's 75th anniversary celebrations. In the programme for the first home game, sent all the way from Johannesburg, I dealt with the field plan, replacements and the clarification of the line out spacing.

One other directly fits in with last Wednesday's notes.

Now, if, at a scrummage or ruck, a defending team is pushed over its goal line, and, before the ball has emerged, first grounds it, a scrum five must be awarded opposite the place where the ball crossed the line, with the ATTACKING side putting the ball in.

A bit more on line out.

A new note on 'jumping for the ball' states that, 'the act of jumping for the ball can include a step if it is a simple movement in trying to catch the ball.' 'Reasonable distance' for the furthest player in the line has also been clarified. If the referee decides that the furthest player is in a relatively isolated position, he can be deemed NOT in the line out.

Did you enjoy the Tongans? So different from the grimness of South African rugby. They know the laws too.

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A. Finlayson en route to scoring the first Cardiff try of the season at the Arms Park.

Picture — Western Mail & Echo

ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Sept. 4	Llanharan	H.....	
7	Maesteg Celtic ..	A.....	
11	Bristol Utd. ..	H.....	
14	Neath Ath. ..	A.....	
18	Pencoed	A.....	
21	Coventry Ex. 1st XV	A.....	
25	Pontypool Utd. ..	A.....	
28	Cardiff H.S.O.B.	H.....	
Oct. 2	Barry	H.....	
4			
5	Newport Utd. ..	A.....	
10	Welsh Guards	H.....	
12	Quins Wanderers	H.....	
19	St. Pauls Chelt. ..	H.....	
26	Bridgend Sports	H.....	
30	Treherbert	A.....	
Nov. 2	Newport H.S.O.B.	A.....	
9	Taibach	H.....	
16	Treorchy	A.....	
23	Llanelli Wands ..	A.....	
30	Senghenydd.. ..	A.....	
Dec. 7	Swansea Athletic	H.....	
14	Llantwit Major ..	A.....	
21	Neath Athletic ..	H.....	
28	Pontypool Utd. ..	H.....	

1975

Jan. 4	Aberaman	A.....	
11	Coventry Ext. 1st XV	H.....	
18	Mumbles	H.....	
25	Aberavon Quins..	A.....	
Feb. 1	Maesteg Celtic ..	H.....	
8	Bristol Utd... ..	A.....	
15	London Welsh		
	Druids	H.....	
22	Llanelli Wdrs. ..	H.....	
Mar. 1	Merthyr	A.....	
8	Abercynon	A.....	
15	Cilfynydd	H.....	
22	Newport	H.....	
29	Chepstow	H.....	
Apr. 5	Gloucester Utd.	H.....	
12	Swansea Ath. ..	A.....	
19	Ebbw Vale Ath.	A.....	

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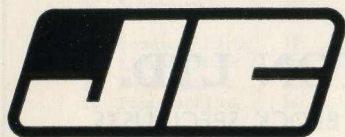
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2. G. DAVIES
3. R. BEARD
4. I. ROBINSON
5. P. KALLONAS
6. R. LANE
8. C. SMITH
7. M. JOHN (Captain)

Referee: J. C. KELLEHER (Llantwit Major)

Full Back
Right Wing
Right Centre
Left Centre
Left Wing
Outside Half
Inside Half
Forwards



Coventry

- P. A. ROSSBOROUGH 15.
- D. J. DUCKHAM 14.
- P. S. PREECE 13.
- B. CORLESS 12.
- S. MAISEY 11.
- A. R. COWMAN 10.
- C. GIFFORD 9.
- K. E. FAIRBROTHER 1.
- J. GALLAGHER 2.
- J. M. RODERICK 3.
- I. N. DARNELL (Captain) 4.
- D. SIMPSON 5.
- R. CARDWELL 6.
- B. F. NINNES 8.
- P. BRYAN 7.

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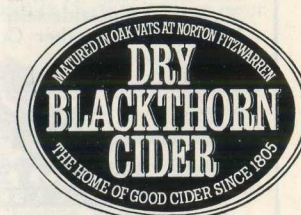
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Know your Committee

CHAIRMAN — Mr. KEITH ROWLANDS

This year's Chairman is the titian haired Keith Rowlands. Keith hails from Aberdare, and was educated at the Grammar School there. He played for the Welsh Secondary Schools, before doing his National Service in the 1st Battalion of the Welch Regiment as a First Lieutenant. After flirting with London Welsh and Llanelli he eventually joined Cardiff, and became Captain of the Club in 1964. His career was curtailed when he broke his leg playing against London Welsh in 1966, by which time he had played for Wales, the Lions, and the Baa Baas.

Keith went on to committee almost immediately, and has since held various positions ranging from selection, Fixture Sec., Coach and Chairman of the Youth.

After leaving the Army, Keith joined U.D.T., a finance company, and then joined Arthur Guinness Sons Co. Ltd. as a representative. Recently he has transferred his attentions to the Taunton Cider Company for whom he works as a Sales Manager in South Wales. Keith lives in Whitchurch, Cardiff, with his wife Jean and his daughter Joanne.

VICE-CHAIRMAN — Mr. MALDWYN JAMES

Maldwyn joined Cardiff from Cilfynydd RFC and became hooker of the remarkable side that represented the club in the immediate post-war years. It is a noteworthy fact that he has a Welsh trials cap dated 1938 and a full Welsh cap dated 1948. He played in 8 wartime internationals and 5 full internationals. One of his fondest memories was kicking 5 goals in a 28 pts. - 17 pts. win over Newport. Maldwyn and his team mate, Billy Cleaver, were both Colliery Managers at this time, two of the youngest in the NCB. It is unlikely that will ever happen again. Maldwyn had been on committee some time when another promotion caused him to retire from the committee. He was by this time a Group Manager, he then became Divisional Mechanical Engineer for S.W. Division. When he retired 18 months ago he rejoined the Cardiff committee and was appointed Vice-Chairman this year. Outside of Rugby his sporting aspirations lie in his membership of the Whitehall and Mountain Ash Golf Clubs. He is the President of Cilfynydd RFC, and still lives in the area at Abercynon with his wife. His only daughter lives at Efail Isaf with her Welsh speaking family.

HON. SECRETARY — Mr. ALUN PRIDAY

Alun played full back for Wales and the Baa Baas. At various times he held not only the Club scoring record, but also the record for the highest number of appearances. After joining the Committee he served in various capacities, such as selector, Programme Editor, Secretary of the Youth, before taking over the Secretary of the Rugby Club from Haydn Wilkins.

Alun's first job was working in the drawing office of a local factory. He then took the road as a representative with Cardiff Brick before joining Watneys in the same capacity. He is now a Director of G. N. Hunter & Co. Ltd., Engineering Merchants. Outside of Rugby, Alun has captained Cardiff Cricket Club during one of their two invincible seasons, and is now Chairman of the Greens at Cardiff Golf Club. He plays off 5. When at home he lives at Rhiwbina with his wife Peggy and two children Joanne and Ruth.

Captain's Comments

(By Mervyn John)

January 1969, Cardiff v. Coventry, sixty minutes of rugby and I am a patient at Coventry General Hospital with a dislocated shoulder. A Pakistani Doctor, an Arc light and Cardiff committee man, Gwyn Porter, I have just been "sent to Coventry" and this is my salvation as I emerge from that wonderful anaesthetic dream land. What could have been further from my mind than being captain of Cardiff v. Coventry in 1974.

It is a coincidence that my first programme comments appear when we are playing a team that heralds so many memories for me. What greater penalty could Coventry inflict upon me than to cause an injury that would necessitate my being driven to work for six weeks by a woman whose driving techniques were surely gained whilst driving a tractor through a cabbage field. Perhaps Dave Duckham was attempting to avoid a similar injury when he ran around the touch judge to score Coventry's winning try in our 1972 encounter at the old Arms Park.

Pain is so often followed by pleasure and nothing has pleased me greater as a player embedded with many of the techniques of the old open-side wing forward than to see the resurgence of that style of play within the last five years. Many wing forwards in this mould shuddered at the sight of the Welsh Rugby Union "White Paper" on left and right flankers that was introduced in 1969. "The day of the small flanker was doomed", "it enables us to select men who are generally bigger and more suited to the rigours of the all-round forward game". What has to happen to the small will of the wisp loose forward with unrelentless energy?

However, the great Welsh victories of the 70's and the two historical Lions tours has seen the constructive "small" flankers of the Taylor, Slattery, Neary and Cobner mould, play the old open side forward game in all but the scrummage. How well Dixon and Quinnell played their respective blind-side roles in New Zealand, as did Slattery and Uttley as open and blind in South Africa.

The many changes of recent years have certainly improved the game of Rugby Football, but it would appear that the back-row intricacies have survived the hangman's noose with a splendid dignity and set the platform for many a historical victory. Although we have seen many other changes in our rugby laws I would like to see the introduction of the differential penalty and greater use of substitute at all levels. Perhaps association football does have a little to offer us in the latter respect.

Every captain's aims and ambitions must be for a successful year and I'm no exception. I enjoy the fluid open style of rugby that is so attractive to both the layman and the connoisseur and I intend to harness an efficient forward machine to provide as much ball as possible for what I regard as the most exciting three-quarter line in Welsh club rugby. Every Cardiff fixture list looks so formidable and 1974/75 proved to be no exception. So often we have been the bridesmaid and not the bride but with good away victories at Gloucester, Northampton, Llanelli, Bridgend and Coventry I'm sure we could soon achieve the No. 1 spot.

MERVYN JOHN



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that I would wed...

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FIRST XV FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
1974			
Sept. 4	Glam. Wanderers	A
7	Moseley	.. H	.....
11	Bristol	.. A	.....
14	Blackheath	.. A	.....
18	Pontypool	.. H	.....
21	Coventry	.. H	.....
25	Pontypridd	.. A	.....
28	Aberavon	.. A	.....
Oct. 2	Penarth	.. H	.....
4	Newport	.. H	.....
5	Univ. Coll. Cork	A	.....
12	Northampton	.. A	.....
16	Devon	.. H	.....
19	Cambridge Univ.	A	.....
23	Pontypool	.. A	.....
26	Harlequins	.. A	.....
30	Bridgend	.. H	.....
Nov. 2	Oxford Univ.	.. H	.....
9	Newport	.. A	.....
16	Wasps	.. H	.....
23	Llanelli	.. H	.....
30	Ebbw Vale	.. A	.....

Dec. 4	Neath	.. H	.....
7	Swansea	.. A	.....
14	Maesteg	.. H	.....
21	London Welsh	.. A	.....
26	Pontypridd	.. H	.....
28	Ebbw Vale	.. H	.....
1975			
Jan. 1	Bath	.. H	.....
11	Coventry	.. A	.....
25	Aberavon	.. H	.....
Feb. 1	Neath	.. A	.....
8	Bristol	.. H	.....
14	London Welsh	.. H	.....
22	Llanelli	.. A	.....
28	Heriots F.P.	.. A	.....
Mar. 8	Newport	.. H	.....
14	Bective Rangers	H	.....
22	Newport	.. A	.....
29	Barbarians	.. H	.....
31	Harlequins	.. H
Apr. 5	Gloucester	.. A
12	Swansea	.. H
16	Bridgend	.. A
19	New Brighton	A
21	Orrell	.. A

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Sept. 25	Pontypridd
28	Aberavon
Oct. 12	Northampton
23	Pontypool
26	Harlequins
Nov. 30	Ebbw Vale
Dec. 7	Swansea
21	London Welsh
Jan. 11	Coventry
Feb. 1	Neath
22	Llanelli
April 5	Gloucester
16	Bridgend

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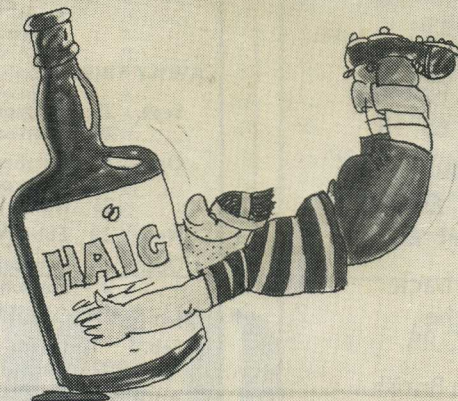
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