

Penarth Rugby Football Club

# PENARTH (1879)

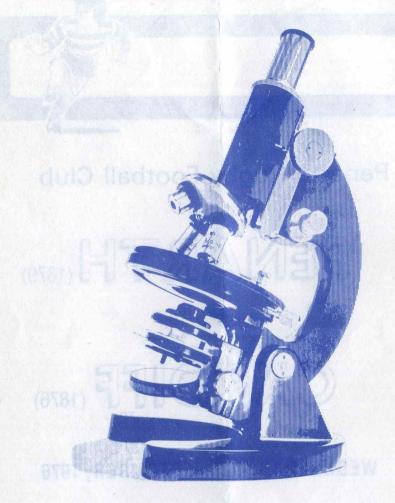
V.

CARDIFF (1876)

WEDNESDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 1976

Kick-Off 7.15 p.m.

PROGRAMME 10p.



## Nothing's so hard but search will find it out.

ROBERT HERRICK





JOHN EVANS

Penarth player and Coach 1970 to 1973. Currently Cardiff's Coach



JOHN JAMES
Former Cardiff Captain, now
Penarth's Captain.

The first thing that has to be said is a sincere "Thank you!" to the Cardiff Club for this evening's arrangements. The ban on the use of the ground at Penarth is a severe blow to the seasiders' hopes for a successful start to the new season, particularly as eight home 1st XV games were scheduled for September and October. No more mention of that, however, because in relation to what has gone on before, it will surely prove to be nothing but a minor hiccup. Particularly when we realise that tonight's encounter is the 90th anniversary of the fixture — the first reported exchange taking place on Monday 9th in the season 1886/87 (21pts to nil, win for Cardiff). Incidentally the fixture ranks 12th in seniority on Cardiff's current list, with seven Welsh clubs and four English clubs able to claim a longer lineage. Throughout those nine decades the clubs have shared a very close relationship, partly because geography made this so, but also because the history of the respective clubs is woven together by a succession of players who have worn both clubs'



CARDIFF	15.	M. OWEN	Full Back	K. CASTREE	15.	PENARTH
	14.	T. R. G. DAVIES (Capt)	Right Wing	M. CHINNOCK	14.	
	13.	P. BOLLAND	Centre	A. STAMP	13.	
	12.	M. MURPHY	Centre	J. DAVIES	12.	
	11.	D. THOMAS	Lef Wing	P. HELMORE	11.	
	10.	G. DAVIES	Outside Half	A. PAUL	10.	
	9.	G. O. EDWARDS	Inside Half	D. JOHN	9.	
	1.	G. WALLACE	Forwards	J. HENNESSY	1.	
	2.	M. WATKINS	2.	L. BURRUP	2.	
	3.	B. G. NELMES	3.	A. HILL	3.	
	4.	P. RAWLINS	4.	C. OWEN	4.	
	5.	I. ROBINSON	5.	S. SIDFORD	5.	
	6.	T. WORGAN	6.	J. JAMES (Capt)	6.	
	8.	R. DUDLEY-JONES	<b>1</b> 3.	R. McPHERSON	8.	
	7.	S. LANE	r.	D. MORGAN	7.	

Referee: Mr. D. E. Parry-Jones

colours. It would need hours of intensive study of Danny Davies's book to uncover an exhaustive list of these players—Danny of course is a typical example, having joined Cardiff from Penarth in 1921, leaving behind him a neat dropped goal which ensured a draw for Penarth against the 1920/21 Barbarians. A much earlier "defector" from Penarth was Reggie Gibbs, Penarth's Captain in 1903/04, who subsequently captained Cardiff (1910/11), gained 16 caps for Wales, creating a try-scoring record for Wales which was only broken by Gareth Edwards last season.

Ralph Thomas was another player who served both Clubs with distinction up to the First World War, but it was his brother Len who made the most lasting contribution—in Cardiff's "unbeaten" 1905/06 season. Len was on loan to Cardiff for their match at Leicester in March that season, and scored the equalising try in the most dramatic circumstances to maintain Cardiff's invincibility (Danny Davies's book supplies the details).

The process of "exchange" continued through the 20's and 30's with perhaps Jack Bassett and Bob Barrell being the most famous personalities. Jack is easily the most outstanding player produced by Penarth, yet this giant of the game, a Penarth Captain, Welsh Cap, Wales' Captain and British Lion, saw his playing days out with Cardiff "Rags".

Bob Barrell secured his Welsh caps with Cardiff, but subsequently transferred to Penarth and became the Club Captain in 1935/36.

Immediately after the Second Word War, Frank Trott (Penarth Captain 1938/39 and 1939/40), tried his luck with Cardiff and gambled correctly, picking up eight caps in 1948/49. John Price continued the process of Penarth Captains transferring to the Cardiff club, and of course went on to Captain the Rags. More recently this process has been re-dressed with Lyn Baxter joining the seasiders in 1974, and John James becoming only the second player to captain both clubs.

Interesting also, John Evans, Cardiff's Chief Coach, was Penarth's Coach up to 1973.

This selection of personalities, by no means a complete list, serves to underline the closeness of the two clubs throughout their respective histories.

This season has all the ingredients of being a great one for the Cardiff Club and Penarth hope to contribute to a fitting 100th Birthday celebration this evening.

J.W.M.



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