CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB CENTENARY YEAR





CARDIFF V LLANELLI

(W.R.U. CHALLENGE CUP)
SATURDAY, 8th JANUARY, 1977

KICK OFF 2.30 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

Cardiff v. Llanelli

(W.R.U. CHALLENGE CUP)

SATURDAY, 8th JANUARY, 1977

K.O. 2.30 p.m.

It is barely six weeks since I sat down to write the last Cardiff v. Llanelli editorial. Having made the point in that edition that it was more than two years previously since we had seen the Scarlets at the Arms Park, due to conflicting interests in the W.R.U. Cup, I must now comment on the swings of fortune that brings them back so soon. That's Cup Rugby for you.

Not that it makes life any easier for me, since I can't repeat the same platitudes that I used then, and after they beat us 17pts. to 4 it's difficult to think of new ones to say about them. Incidentally, that was the last game we lost. Since then we have beaten Swansea, Newport, Moseley, Crawshays and the Cardiff College of Education. Perhaps I should do a Pat Searle and point out to some of the more gloating of my West Wales acquaintances that Cardiff were short of one or two players on that occasion. However it appears that both teams will be at full strength today and it should be a momentous battle. Both sides had a rest last Monday due to the frost, with Llanelli making the most of the opportunity to have a run-out and to indulge in secret 'peaking' activities. I have a strong suspicion that when our boys talk about 'peaking' it's not quite the same thing.

Due to the fact that the printers are breathing down my neck for copy, and also that if I were allowed ample time I would be hard pressed to make an adequate article today — due to the thought-clogging effects of cold germs and hangover vapours — I am exceedingly grateful to Mr. Lynn I. Rees of Howard Road, Llanelli. Mr. Rees has put forward an application for our Best Post-war XV Competition, but he has gone one better than that: he has put forward his best Llanelli XV of the same period. I am sure you would like to ponder on Mr. Rees' selections, and I am delighted to put them before you:

Llanelli: Terry Davies; J. J. Williams, Lewis Jones, Ray Gravelle, Robert Morgan; Phil Bennett, Onllwyn Brace: John Warlow, Norman Gale, Barry Llewellyn; Delme Thomas, R. H. Williams; Tom David, Derek Quinnell, Gareth Jenkins.

Cardiff: Billy Cleaver; Gerald Davies, Jack Matthews, Bleddyn Williams, Maurice Richards; Barry John, Gareth Edwards; Cliff Davies, Maldwyn James, Howard Norris; Keith Rowlands, Danny Harris; Dai Hayward, Les Mansfield, Gwyn Evans.

I would travel anywhere to see that game, particularly if I could guarantee to get a seat.

To date we have played Llanelli 186 times, winning 103 and losing 67.

CROESO SCARLETS.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Following on the Christmas notes, more of the signals which may be used by referees in the interests of uniformity. Not to be used as drill, but if signals are to be used, the International Board suggest that they must conform. Not a bad New Year resolution. See how many you recognise.



Knock-on



Forward Pass



Penalty Kick



Offside

More to follow. Keep these for reference.

Centenary Banquet at Cardiff Castle

SATURDAY, 16th APRIL, 1977

We are aware that certain members have not as yet applied for tickets for themselves and their guests for what will be the greatest occasion in the history of the Club.

THIS IS THE LAST NOTICE YOU WILL HAVE

Applications must be submitted to Haydn Wilkins at the Club by the 31st January, 1977.

The tickets, costing approximately £10, will be dealt with in strict rotation.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!

NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Sat., 22nd January: CARDIFF v. NEATH
Sat., 29th January: CARDIFF v. ABERAVON
Sat., 12th February: CARDIFF v. PONTYPRIDD

3 p.m.

3 p.m.

D.J.H.

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FRANCE v. WALES

PARC DES PRINCES, PARIS SATURDAY, 5th FEB., 1977

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CARDIFF AND THE LLANELLI HORDES

By KEITH ROWLANDS (Ex-Hordesman, Class of 59)

When Henry Tudor unfurled Cadwalladers ancient banner at Dale in 1485 to march out of the west, to win his Triple Crown at Twickenham, or was it the Crown at Bosworth, little did he realise that he was setting a precedent that would be repeated over and over again for the next five hundred years. He had unleashed the Scarlet Horde of the West. Indeed, Scarlet Hordes have come out of the West with ever-increasing ferocity ever since, and with increasing fervour, especially since 1872 (yes, they are older than us) and have created greater fear, admiration and respect than olde Henry ever imagined. Scarlet Hordes change like the tides but in changing remain the same. Tough, exciting, skilful and brave. Only the individual names change. Between 1958 and 1961 I was part of the Horde myself along with Carwyn and Onllwyn and R. H. Williams (a veritable Horde in himself). We were led by Howard Ash Davies, a neanderthal man who I believe invented lan McLauchlan. At St. Helens he once called for not an extra shove, but for "more blood, Scarlets". The packs went down with yet another mighty crash, all four props by now suffering head wounds. The Swansea hooker, Norman Gale (a Swansea Jack! Well I never!) struck firm and fast, the scrum locked. Mr. W. A. Gilbert's ball became the focus of attention and soft blood pitter-pattered on its golden panels. Came Ash's immortal call, a Scarlet surge and we had won just one more scrum in that encounter. Such men come surely from Samarkand, not Stradey. Little Cyril and Big Dennis. Little Cyril, brimming with talent, flair and creative ability, was later to become, like me, a *Fid Def**. Big Den, the scourge of hoteliers and Police Inspectors from Aberystwyth to the Dyke and yet now serving on the H.M. Commission into Crime and Corruption in Hong Kong Colony. A man who could have set the Tong Wars alight single-handed.

Some talk of Alexander and some of Hercules, of Victor and Lysander . . . and some of J.P.R. But of all the world's great full backs there's none that can compare . . . with Terry Davies. A kick like a self-homing torpedo and a tackle as lethal as an 88 millimetre. And what of Wynne Evans, who keeps a watering hole in Llandeilo, a well known stop-over for the Horde on its way west. And Aubrey Gale, who's girlfriend was a beautiful Tartar princess from Pwll who incidentally married my best pal from Aberdare. A skilful fly half who, speaking French like Guy de Maupassant, was sent to Aberaeron and now teaches and coaches some of the younger members of today's Hordes. But enough of this. The names change but the Horde remains unchanged. Talent, flair, creative ability, toughness and bravery. Bennett, Gravelle, Bergiers, Selwyn Williams, Roy Thomas and Quinnell. The names change but the Horde remains.

Today, who knows? Maybe one of the great epic battles of modern times will be fought and remembered for its quality and indeed for its historical significance.

Gerald Davies, an ex-Hordesman himself, may yet stand alongside Charlemagne and Saragossa, Gustavus Adolphus and Breitenfield, John Sobieski and Vienna Zukhor and Stalingrad, Nimitz and the Coral Sea, Slim and Kohima. Gerald Davies and Arms Park. It may be halted. It may taste defeat today. The Scarlet Horde may retreat to the West like Napoleon and Von Paulus — in disorder. But one thing is certain, like MacArthur they will return, with different names maybe, but with the spirit of the Scarlet Horde of Llanelli intact.

* Fid Def - Defender of the Faith, or Member of Cardiff R.F.C.

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Cost per Person 1977
Feb. 15 Llanelli £1.50
19 Ebbw Vale £1.00
April 2 Gloucester £1.50

Social Events

Dec. 10 Annual Dinner

* A limited number of tickets will be available on this trip for the Festival of 1,000 Voices at the Albert Hall. Tickets £1.75.

Cardiff 50 Oxford University 16



Cardiff prop Mike Knill charges towards the Oxford line.



Cardiff captain Gerald Davies is tackled as he mounts an attack.

Photographs by courtesy of Western Mail and South Wales Echo

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Cardiff

- 15. M. OWEN
- 14. T. G. R. DAVIES (Captain)
- 13. M. MURPHY
- 12. A. FINLAYSON
- 11. C. CAMILLERI
- 10. Gareth DAVIES
- 9. G. EDWARDS
- 1. B. NELMES
- 2. A. PHILLIPS
- 3. G. WALLACE
- 4. I. ROBINSON
- - -----
- C. SMITH
- 6. T. WORGAN
- 8. R. LANE
- 7. R. DUDLEY-JONES
 - B. WILLIAMS
 - P. EVANS
 - J. DAVIES
 - M. WATKINS
 - M. KNILL
 - S. LANE

Full Back Right Wing Right Centre

- Left Centre Left Wing
- Outside Half Inside Half
- Forwards



Replacements

Today's match ball donated by E. RABAIOTTI

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Referee: C. NORLING (Swansea)

Llanelli

- C. GRIFFITHS 15.
- J. J. WILLIAMS 14.
 - R. GRAVELL 13.
 - R. BERGIERS 12.
- D. NICHOLAS 11.
 P. BENNETT (Captain) 10.
 - S. WILLIAMS 9.
 - C. THOMAS 1.
 - 2 8 from
- H. THOMAS, B. LLEWELLYN, J. WILLIAMS, P. MAY,
- H. JENKINS, D. QUINNELL,
- R. POWELL, R. HYNDMAN,
 - S. THOMAS

K. COSLETT C. THOMAS

We regret that we are unable to give you a complete Llanelli team as it will not be finalised until Saturday morning. This will be announced over the tannoy. We apologise for any inconvenience that may be caused

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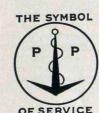
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MIKE MURPHY
MEURIG OWEN
TREVOR WILLIAM WORGAN

Over the last two seasons the selectors have gradually introduced into the team such a leavening of the magnificent crop of youngsters that exists in the Club that on occasions Brynmor Williams has been the senior player in the backs by a couple of seasons. We have already introduced you to the likes of Gareth Davies, David Thomas, Chris Camilleri, Alun Phillips and others. Today, we give you the background of three other outstanding youngsters in the Cardiff team.

MIKE MURPHY

Mike was born in Llanrumney on the 8th of February, 1957. Educated at St. Peters, St. Cadocs, St. Illtyds and now Cardiff University, where he is studying Civil Engineering. Mike made his mark at all levels of schoolboy Rugby. He had 3 caps for Wales at the Under 15 level, and 9 caps for the Welsh Secondary Schools. In order to show his virtuosity, he also represented Glamorgan Schools at soccer. Apart from his Rugby, he takes his relaxation from the strain of studying by indulging in all forms of sport, mainly basketball and table tennis. Unlike most youngsters, Mike respects the delicacy of his auditory mechanism by indulging his musical tastes in the softer forms of the art. He shows less respect for his digestive system by eating vast amounts of curry, alternating with the inevitable steak. As one would expect from a born centre three-quarter, he rates Mike Gibson as the greatest player he has seen. Apart from the usual ambitions of a young Rugby player, his greatest unfulfilled ambition is to keep his socks up for a whole game.

Once Mike is over the depressing series of hamstring failures that has dogged him over the last two seasons, his chances of gaining a senior cap to complete the golden hat-trick must rate very highly. The hallmark of a class centre lies in the timing and accuracy of his distribution of the ball. There is no one in Wales who has more of this ability than young Mike. Unlike the dinosaurs whom it is now fashionable to parade at the top level, he can carve up his opposite number by sheer skill, being armed with a deceptive change of pace and a devastating side-step. We shall be seeing a lot more of this

youngster.

MEURIG OWEN

It is a long time since our traditional nursery of talent — the Rhondda provided us with a youngster with the talent of Meurig Owen. Following in the footsteps of Gareth Griffiths and Gordon Wells, Meurig came down from Penygraig to make his mark as a centre with Cardiff Youth and the occasional game for the Rags. However the real position for this 6' 3", 14½ stone youngster is at full back. After returning to Penygraig last year, Meurig came back to Cardiff to challenge for the full back position in the Club, and has retained it against the strong challenge of John Davies and Paul Rees. He made a dramatic debut against Bridgend and has played consistently ever since, although his goal-kicking has not been quite as accurate as we would like. Once he has grooved his goal kicks, it will be impossible for the selectors of Wales and the Lions to ignore him. In the meantime he continues to learn the basics of his trade and is gaining experience to add to his natural running flair and mighty kicking. Meurig was born in Penygraig on the 22nd of July, 1955, and was educated at Graig-yr-Eos Secondary School. He works as an electrician for the N.C.B. at Coed Ely, Tonyrefail. When he is not playing Rugby he spends most of his time at Gelli Sports Centre where he plays squash and badminton. He no longer indulges the talent in athletics that brought him the Glamorgan Schools Championship at 400 metres hurdles, but he is right to concentrate on what he does best. He likes most modern music, and reads avidly - mainly the sports page of the Western Mail and the Dandy and Beano. It could be said that a lad of his age and size might have weight problems, particularly since his favourite indulgence is eating Chinese foods and anything with chips - but he is a growing lad. Growing better and better I hope.

TREVOR WILLIAM WORGAN

"Clever Trevor the Red Haired Fury from Llanharry". Trevor Worgan has become a firm favourite with both players and supporters since he joined us two years ago from Llanharan Youth, where he created a record for the Welsh Youth by gaining 8 caps. He also captained a Welsh Youth team, which included Steve McGann, Mark McJennett and Alun Phillips. He has already played in a Welsh Trial, and one of his ambitions is to add to the number of touring sides that he has played against since joining Cardiff. He has played to date against Tonga, Australia, the World XV, Italy and Argentina. Not bad going for a 22 year old. Trevor has endeared himself to the Club by his unfailing cheerfulness, and his unflagging guts and effort. A real valley dog of a forward, with surprising speed and stamina and ample footballing ability, he is a formidable flank forward. Whilst he retains his speed and mobility there are no fears of Trevor adding more scalps to his belt against touring sides, and it must be reassuring to know that he has the size and strength to carve a completely new career for himself, should the need arise. He could, with little effort, follow the footsteps of Kingsley Jones, Howard Norris and John O'Shea in moving from the Cardiff back row straight into the Lions front row. Trevor, outside of Rugby Football, has a go at anything including playing soccer for the South Wales and Mon. Club Union Brewery, where he works as a Brewery supervisor. A touch of arrogance and confidence is essential in the best players and Trevor displays this when he says the best player he ever saw was Trevor Worgan. Apart from steak and chips, Trevor enjoys eating goldfish, which he claims is essential to the colour of his hair

D.J.H.

Pick your post-war best XV from these 50 great names

The competition will be adjudicated by a panel of sports writers. A prize will be given for the first winning entry.

Beckingham, Geoff Bevan, John C. Bowes, Stan Cleaver, W. B. Collins, Malcolm Davies, Cliff Davies, Cyril Davies, T. G. R. Edwards, G. O. Evans, Gwyn Evans, J. D. Evans, W. R. Finlayson, A. J. Griffiths, Gareth Harris, D. E. J. Hayward, D. J. Howe, Colin

James, Maldwyn John, Barry John, Mervyn Jones, D. Ken Jones, Keri Jones, Kingsley Jones, P. L. Judd. Sid Knill, Mike Manfield, Les Matthews, Jack Morgan, Cliff Morris, Haydn Norris, Howard O'Brien, D. J. O' Shea, J. P. Phillips, Alan

Priday, A. J. Richards, Ken Richards, Maurice Roberts, Meirion Robinson, lan Rowlands, Keith Tamplin, W. E. Tanner, H. Thomas, Alun Thomas, W. J. Trott, R. F. Wells, Gordon Williams, Bleddyn Williams, C. D. Williams, Lloyd Willis, Rex

The prize will be a free ticket for the Club's Centenary Dinner at Cardiff Castle, when 1,000 people will be present under canvas to attend the dinner of a life-time. Entries to D. J. Hayward at the Club, marked "Best Post-War XV".

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FIRST XV FIXTURES

	JOI VA	LIVIANES
1976 SEPTEMBER		Sat. 18 Cardiff Coll. (Cup) H 42-16 Mon. 27 Crawshays XV H 40-16
Wed. 1 Llandaff Sat. 4 Sevens Tournament	H 40-3 H A 24-3	1977 JANUARY
Wed. 8 Bristol Sat. 11 Wolfhounds XV Wed. 15 Penarth	H 9-20 H 62-15	Mon. 3 Pontypool H P Sat. 8 Llanelli (Cup) H
Sat. 18 Coventry Wed. 22 Sat. 25 Overseas	Н 25-12	Sat. 15 Sat. 22 Neath H Sat. 29 Aberavon H
International XV*	H 24-13 A 10-14	FEBRUARY Sat. 5 Coventry A
OCTOBER Sat. 2 Argentine Sat. 9 Northampton	H 25-29 A 20-16	Sat. 12 Pontypridd H Wed. 15 Llanelli A Sat. 19 Ebbw Vale A Sat. 26 W.R.U. Cup
Wed. 13 Bristol Sat. 16 Cambridge Un. (am) Wed. 20 Bridgend Sat. 23 Harlequins Wed. 27 Neath Sat. 30 Italy*	H 26-0 H 15-6 A 21-7 A 29-11 A 13-19 H 54-22	MARCH Sat. 5 London Welsh H Sat. 12 Scot. Co-optimists* H Sat. 19 Wed. 23 Bridgend H
NOVEMBER Wed. 3 Pontypool Sat. 6 Oxford University Sat. 13 Ebbw Vale Sat. 20 Aberaman (Cup) Sat. 27 Llanelli	A 4-15 H 50-16 H 25-7 H 54-3 H 4-17	Sat. 26 Newport A APRIL Sat. 2 Gloucester A Sat. 9 Barbarians H Mon. 11 Harlequins H Sat. 16
DECEMBER Sat 4 Swansea Wed. 8 Newport Sat. 11 Moseley	A 28-13 H 14-12 H 24-18	Wed. 20 Swansea H Sat. 23 Sydney* H Sat. 30 W.R.U. Cup MAY/JUNE World Tour

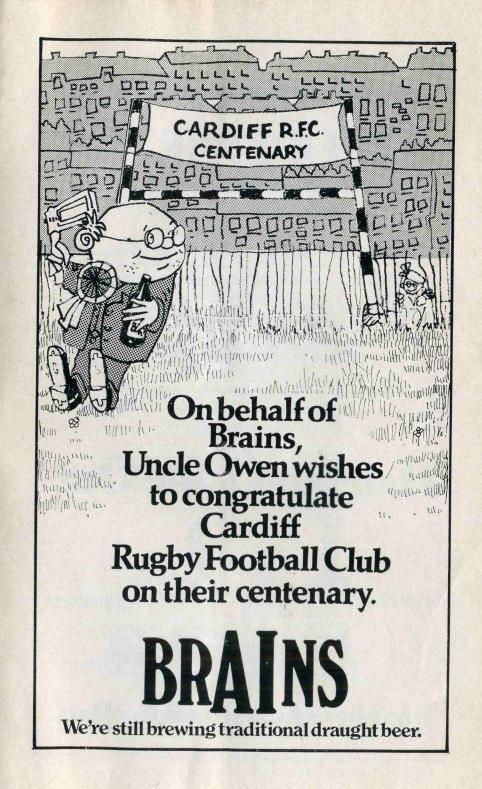


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