

# CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB CENTENARY YEAR



**CARDIFF v NEATH**

SATURDAY, 22nd JANUARY, 1977

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

**Official Programme 10p**



# Cardiff v. Neath

SATURDAY, 22nd JANUARY, 1977

K.O. 3 p.m.

How much more punishment can the human body take. First the government and the astrologers combined to give us a Christmas and New Year that, because of various factors, lasted for almost three weeks. Then, when all the excesses of that Bachanalian orgy were being sweated and deprived from the inflated jowls and waistlines of the faithful, we are confronted with a Cup match against Llanelli. The grief and tension of the first half of that game took so much combined weight from the Cardiff season ticket holders in the South Stand that the ground staff had to sit on the roof of the stand to retain its stability. The euphoria and excitement of the second half created a corporate Club thirst that equalled the combined inbibing of the Christmas epoch. As soon as we recovered something approaching normality — about Wednesday afternoon — it started snowing — and created anxiety about the forthcoming international against Ireland. The relief that swept us all after we realised that not only would the international be played — but that after about an hour's play Wales were going to win — not only did Heath Hospital close its emergency anxiety neurosis and its Cardiff Arms Park coronary wards, but the local hostellers sent urgent notices to their suppliers to put back the hops and remove the bromide.

By comparison with all the high excitement of recent weeks at the Arms Park, it is something of a relief to relax in the comparative serenity of a normal domestic fixture against Neath — assuming, of course, that any game against Neath could ever be described as a normal domestic fixture.

They have appeared on our fixture lists since the earliest days of the Club's existence. Since 1878-79 to be precise, and the fixture seems always to have had more than its share of drama. Apart from diplomatic breaks in continuity, we also lost the home fixture in 1901, because of the death of Queen Victoria. For the sake of the historically meticulous, that was eleven days short of seventy-six years ago. One of the earliest mentions of Neath in C. S. Arthur's book occurs in the chapter covering 1897-98. It runs as follows: "In the match we played against Neath at Cardiff in the beginning of the season we scored 54 points to nil. It is difficult to account for our loss at Neath, as we had our best team out, but probably the loss of our full back, T. J. Williams, in the first five minutes of the game partly accounted for it, and Joe Davies, the Neath full back was a big stumbling block to our men, whilst they had a good half-back named Powell." That defeat by 9 pts. to nil, was one of the only three losses suffered by that great team. Neath have been upsetting Cardiff teams ever since, and are just the team to topple our lads from the crest they are riding at the moment, should they allow any slackness or complacency to come into their play. We lost at Neath in October by 13pts. - 19pts. after having had most of the game, but allowing Neath to snatch the verdict by brilliantly capitalising on some loose Cardiff play. So beware today lads, these boys in black haven't come to Cardiff to get an early viewing of Hubert Johnson's daffodils. They have some redoubtable players in their ranks, and it would be appropriate at this point to congratulate Glyn Shaw on regaining his place in the victorious Welsh XV, as well as bestowing the annual accolade on Gerald Davies and Gareth Edwards.

CROESO CASTELL NEDD.

We have played Neath in total 159 times, winning 94 games and losing 48 games.

After the game against Llanelli a fortnight ago, the Cardiff Club made a presentation to Phil Bennett in recognition of his appointment as captain of the Welsh National XV. On the surface that should seem sufficient justification for the presentation, but in reality it represents a much deeper appreciation of one of Wales' great fly halves. For some seasons now I have held the belief that Phil's contribution to the great Llanelli team of recent years is much more than that of a highly accomplished individual. In a side full of international players, it has been his Rugby intellect and genius that has made the other fourteen players display their gifts to the maximum of their ability and for the benefit of the team. His fetching, carrying, distribution, prodding and probing are underrated assets of a man whose abilities as a line-kicker and place-kicker are taken

for granted. Andre Prévin means less to the London Philharmonic than Phil Bennett does to the Llanelli Orchestral XV. May he soon wield the baton as successfully over the Welsh XV, particularly if the players in that band accept defeat with the grace that most of the Llanelli members did on the 8th of January.

D.J.H.

## KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

A few more referees' signals again this week. May I suggest that you keep them by you for reference. See how many you manage to spot actually being used. They have been issued to all referees on the list and it is hoped that they will become universal throughout the world. Anything to make life easier.

If you are looking out for a signal to indicate TWO players being sent off, don't bother. They don't exist. Doesn't happen often. I cannot remember it happening at any level, leave alone international level. Can you?



Penalty or Scrum back



Line-out obstruction

## FRANCE v. WALES

Saturday, 5th February, 1977

A limited number of tickets will be available for the above game. Will Members/Season ticket holders wishing to take part in a ballot, please submit post card, one name per card, giving name, address, membership or season ticket number, to the office before 26th January.

## 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!



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## FRANCE v. WALES

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SCOTLAND v. WALES — 19th March, 1977

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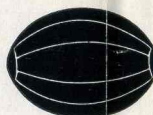
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## Cardiff

- |  |                   |              |
|--|-------------------|--------------|
| 15. M. OWEN                              | <i>D. Thomas.</i> | Full Back    |
| 14. <del>T. G. R. DAVIES</del> (Captain) |                   | Right Wing   |
| 13. M. MURPHY                            |                   | Right Centre |
| 12. A. FINLAYSON                         |                   | Left Centre  |
| 11. C. CAMILLERI                         |                   | Left Wing    |
| 10. Gareth DAVIES                        |                   | Outside Half |
| 9. B. WILLIAMS                           |                   | Inside Half  |
| 1. G. WALLACE                            |                   | Forwards     |
| 2. M. WATKINS                            |                   |              |
| 3. M. KNILL                              |                   |              |
| 4. I. ROBINSON                           |                   |              |
| 5. C. SMITH                              |                   |              |
| 6. R. DUDLEY-JONES                       |                   |              |
| 8. R. LANE                               |                   |              |
| 7. T. WORGAN                             |                   |              |
| P. REES                                  |                   |              |
| R. NEWMAN                                |                   |              |



Replacements

Today's match ball  
donated by  
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CLUB, CAERPHILLY**

Referee: D. LLOYD (Nantyffyllon)

## Neath

- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| W. DAVIES          | 15. |
| E. REES            | 14. |
| J. POOLE           | 13. |
| D. COLE            | 12. |
| A. ROSE            | 11. |
| P. DAVIES          | 10. |
| <i>P. REES</i>     | 9.  |
| G. SHAW            | 1.  |
| M. RICHARDS        | 2.  |
| R. LEWIS           | 3.  |
| R. HUGHES          | 4.  |
| <i>R. MORIARTY</i> | 5.  |
| <i>S. WILLIAMS</i> | 6.  |
| W. LAUDER          | 7.  |
| M. MESSENGER       |     |
| D. DAVEY           |     |
| M. JENKINS         |     |
| D. DAVIES          |     |

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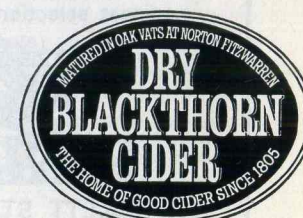
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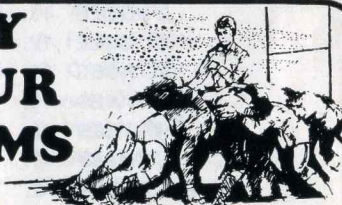
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19	Ebbw Vale	£1.00
April 2	Gloucester	£1.50

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## FIRST XV FIXTURES

1976		
SEPTEMBER		
Wed. 1	Llandaff	H 40-3
Sat. 4	Sevens Tournament	H.....
Wed. 8	Bristol	A 24-3
Sat. 11	Wolfhounds XV	H 9-20
Wed. 15	Penarth	H 62-15
Sat. 18	Coventry	H 25-12
Wed. 22		
Sat. 25	Overseas	
	International XV*	H 24-13
Wed. 29	Aberavon	A 10-14
OCTOBER		
Sat. 2	Argentina	H 25-29
Sat. 9	Northampton	A 20-16
Wed. 13	Bristol	H 26-0
Sat. 16	Cambridge Un. (am)	H 15-6
Wed. 20	Bridgend	A 21-7
Sat. 23	Harlequins	A 29-11
Wed. 27	Neath	A 13-19
Sat. 30	Italy*	H 54-22
NOVEMBER		
Wed. 3	Pontypool	A 4-15
Sat. 6	Oxford University	H 50-16
Sat. 13	Ebbw Vale	H 25-7
Sat. 20	Aberaman (Cup)	H 54-3
Sat. 27	Llanelli	H 4-17
DECEMBER		
Sat. 4	Swansea	A 28-13
Wed. 8	Newport	H 14-12
Sat. 11	Moseley	H 24-18

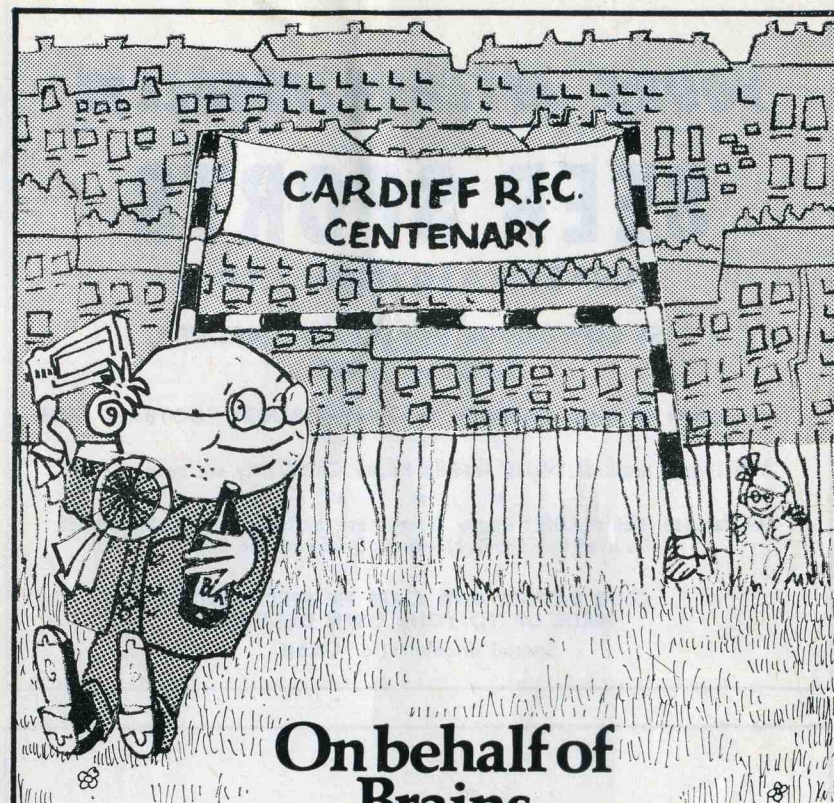
Sat. 18	Cardiff Coll. (Cup)	H 42-16
Mon. 27	Crawshays XV	H 40-16
1977		
JANUARY		
Mon. 3	Pontypool	H P
Sat. 8	Llanelli (Cup)	H 25-15
Sat. 15		
Sat. 22	Neath	H.....
Sat. 29	Aberavon	H.....
FEBRUARY		
Sat. 5	Coventry	A.....
Sat. 12	Pontypridd	H.....
Wed. 15	Llanelli	A.....
Sat. 19	Ebbw Vale	A.....
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup	
MARCH		
Sat. 5	London Welsh	H.....
Sat. 12	Scot. Co-optimists*	H.....
Sat. 19		
Wed. 23	Bridgend	H.....
Sat. 26	Newport	A.....
APRIL		
Sat. 2	Gloucester	A.....
Sat. 9	Barbarians	H.....
Mon. 11	Harlequins	H.....
Sat. 16		
Wed. 20	Swansea	H.....
Sat. 23	Sydney*	H.....
Sat. 30	W.R.U. Cup	
MAY/JUNE	World Tour	

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