



# Cardiff Rugby Club

## Cardiff v Llanelli

WEDNESDAY, 17th DECEMBER, 1980

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

# Cardiff v. Llanelli

WEDNESDAY, 17th DECEMBER, 1980 KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Tonight, we take the opportunity of extending a very special welcome to our great West Wales rivals, Llanelli. Why such a special welcome you may wonder. Well the first game ever between our clubs took place on 12th March during the 1880/81 season, so the current campaign heralds 100 years of rugby between us\*. So hearty congratulations to two very healthy centenarians, may our next hundred years be as productive and friendly as the previous century.

We also offer special thanks to the Scarlets for their very ready co-operation in coming tonight to fulfil the postponement of the original date of November 22nd, which was earmarked for playing Cup games postponed from the previous Saturday due to the diabolical weather. The task of re-arranging postponed games is not as easy as it may appear to an outsider and fixture secretaries have nightmares over the thought of such situations. The word postponement is the most offensive in their whole vocabulary and one they would like to see expunged from the English Language. In fact this is the second time in two years that we have had to re-arrange our home game against the Scarlets. You may well remember that we were due to play them last year at home on Saturday, March 29th. The Scarlets were unsuccessfully involved in the semi-final of the Cup on the day, however, so they fulfilled their commitment on Friday, 25th April, on the night prior to the Cup Final. Again you may remember we struck rather a purple patch during the second half of that game and ran out winners by a record score of 45-12 to give us another record of 1090 points in a season.

That's all history now though so tonight, hopefully, we will have the weather to suit the centennial occasion and also a game up to the high standard that has become the norm for Scarlet—Blue and Black clashes. The one which readily comes to mind from a Cardiff point of view was the magnificent win in the 3rd round Cup tie of season 1976/77 (our Centenary year) when we won 25-15 on the Park after being behind 12 nil at half time. It was a game to enthuse the most cold blooded spectator and one which was a tremendous credit to both sides. On the converse side of the coin, however, the Scarlets can look to some great wins over us too. Their triumph in the Cup Final of season 1972/73 by 30 pts to 7 was a right hammering particularly when we were expected to be too strong for them in the scrum — how the mighty fell. That was their centenary season, however, so shall we say we were gracious enough to let them have the Cup to suitably celebrate the occasion (which was more than Newport did for us in our centenary year).

Tonight's game will bring the series up to 195 games. The statistics at the moment see us with 107 wins, 71 to Llanelli and 16 game drawn. We have scored some 1,858 points against 1,299 by Llanelli. This year the West Walians are having rather an in and out season by their own high standards. Under the leadership of the most scarlet of Scarlets Ray Gravell, they are still searching for the best combination of youth and experience and the style of rugby we know they are capable of. They, like us, geared all their pre and early season preparation for the New Zealand game and, again like us, came out of that game defeated by a small margin. They must have spent some time reflecting on the fact that they should have nailed the All Blacks down in the first half when they had Mourie's men reeling. They beat New Zealand in the first half while we, of course, beat them in the second half. Using these games as a yardstick I suppose we could say that our respective strengths are very similar so tonight should see a good competitive game of Welsh club rugby.

The Scarlets certainly have a crop of very good youngsters coming up and they must be delighted to see Geraint Bowen back in action after injury. With David Nicholas also back in the harness the Scarlets certainly aren't short of talent. Their big talking point currently must be who will eventually succeed the great Phil Bennett. With Peter Morgan concentrating on the central position it could well be either one of two young players Martin Gravell or Kevin Thomas. Time will answer this question but speaking of Phil Bennett, if he plays tonight it must be on the cards that it will be his last appearance

Cover picture by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

on the Arms Park. This will give us an opportunity of saluting a great player of his club, country and British Lions. Welcome so span may you enjoy your visit.

Our own season has certainly taken off of late beginning with that excellent Pontypool win and then the even better one at St. Helens. London Welsh, although not the side they were some years ago, was another good away win. On the debit side of that game, however, was the injury to Terry Holmes which looks as if it will be an operation to remedy. This when Terry was back at his incomparable best is a tragedy. Great credit for those fine wins must be given to the pack in general and John Scott in particular who is now playing his best ever rugby with Cardiff and is providing inspiring leadership.

Finally, commiserations but best wishes to young Stuart Butcher who as a touch line spectator at last Saturday's Rags game at Sophia Gardens cracked his fibula when a maul fell on him.

P.N.

\* This particular date was also very historic from another point of view and I'll give you more details in our next programme.

## KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Offside in general play has always been one of the major problem areas in our game. One aspect in particular which has been looked at very hard by the special I.B. committee under the chairmanship of our Hermas Evans to re-write the laws, is the 10 metre ruling whereby players, within the law, as performed to diabolical perfection by Australia on our tour there in 1978, ahead of a kicker of their own side would run to that 10 metre line, and often line-up thereon with the specific intention of preventing a counter attack by the full back or other player after he has caught the ball. The book says nothing wrong; the spirit of the game says that it is all wrong.

That brings me to the means whereby a player who is off-side in general play, including an off-side player who is within that 10 metre mark of an opponent waiting to play the ball and is retiring as required can be put on side by the actions of his own team. This can be:

- a) when the off-side player has retired behind the player of his team who has last kicked, touched or carried the ball, or
- b) when one of his team carrying the ball has run in front of him, or
- c) when one of his team has run in front of him after coming from the place or from behind the place where the ball was kicked.

In order to put the off-side player on-side, this other player must be in the playing area but he is not debarred from following up in touch or touch-in-goal.

For some strange reason many players seem unaware, despite media comments thereon by Carwyn James in particular, that 'c' as above is a perfectly legitimate method of putting players on-side. It often applies when a full back or flyhalf kicks ahead. Not only the kicker but a centre or wing or any other player behind or in line can tear ahead and, bearing in mind that 10 metre ruling, all the players otherwise off-side are 'played on' and legally permitted to take part in what develops. A good, sensible ruling which players should take more advantage of.

# BIG D

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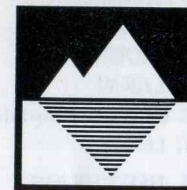
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### Cardiff

15. C. WEBBER	Full Back
14. D. PREECE	Right Wing
13. D. BURCHER	Right Centre
12. D. BARRY	Left Centre
11. S. EVANS	Left Wing
10. W. G. DAVIES	Outside Half
9. T. LEE	Inside Half
1. J. WHITEFOOT	Forwards
2. A. PHILLIPS	
3. I. EIDMAN	
4. K. EDWARDS	
5. A. MOGRIDGE	
6. R. LAKIN	
8. J. SCOTT (Captain)	
7. B. LEASE	
N. HUTCHINGS	
H. STONE	



Replacements

Referee: W. O. DAVIES

Tonight's match ball donated by KEN JONES (Turf Accountant)

### Llanelli

M. GRAVELL	15.
J. J. WILLIAMS	14.
R. GRAVELL (Captain)	13.
P. MORGAN	12.
D. NICHOLAS	11.
P. BENNETT	10.
C. WILLIAMS	9.
D. COADY	1.
D. EVANS	2.
C. THOMAS	3.
D. DARCH	4.
P. MAY	5.
A. DAVIES	6.
D. QUINNELL	8.
P. RINGER	7.
K. THOMAS	
D. PICKERY	



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### NEXT HOME FIXTURES . . . .

Sat., 20th December:	CARDIFF v. BRITISH STEEL (W.R.U. Cup)	3 p.m.
Friday, 26th December:	CARDIFF v. PONTYPRIDD	3 p.m.
Saturday, 27th December:	CARDIFF v. NEWBRIDGE	3 p.m.
Thursday, 1st January, 1981:	CARDIFF v. BRIDGEND	3 p.m.

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December

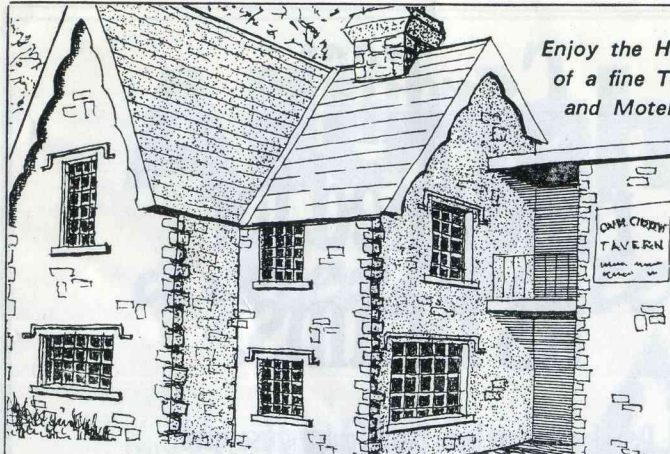
Sat. 6 Swansea

Sat. 13 London Welsh

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December

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### FIRST XV FIXTURES

#### 1980 SEPTEMBER

Wed.	3	Glamorgan Wands.	H	25-15
Sat.	6	Nice	H	68-25
Wed.	10	Bristol	A	8-28
Sat.	13	Neath	A	14-20
Wed.	17	Penarth	H	34-0
Fri.	19	Coventry	H	35-9
Wed.	24	Maesteg	H	22-3
Sat.	27	Aberavon	A	0-18

#### OCTOBER

Wed.	1	Bridgend	A	12-18
Sat.	4	Newport	H	21-19
Wed.	8	Pontypridd	A	3-11
Sat.	11	Northampton	A	13-7
Sat.	18	N. Zealand (All Pay)	H	9-16
Sat.	25	Harlequins	A	31-12

#### NOVEMBER

Wed.	5	Oxford University	H	25-13
Sat.	8	Ebbw Vale	A	10-10
Sat.	15	Tonyrefail (Cup)	A	15-0
Sat.	22	Bristol	H	26-7
Fri.	28	Moseley	A	7-11

#### DECEMBER

Wed.	3	Pontypool	H	32-15
Sat.	6	Swansea	A	23-18
Sat.	13	London Welsh	A	22-12
Wed.	17	Llanelli	H	.....
Sat.	20	British Steel (Cup)	H	.....

Fri.	26	Pontypridd	H	.....
Sat.	27	Newbridge	H	.....

#### 1981 JANUARY

Thurs.	1	Bridgend	H	.....
Sat.	3	Moseley	H	.....
Sat.	10	Schwepes Cup 3rd Round		
Fri.	16	London Welsh	H	.....
Sat.	24	Aberavon	H	.....
Sat.	31	Llanelli	A	.....

#### FEBRUARY

Fri.	6	Heriots F.P.	A	.....
Wed.	11	Neath	H	.....
Sat.	14	Bristol	H	.....
Sat.	28	Schwepes Cup 4th Round		

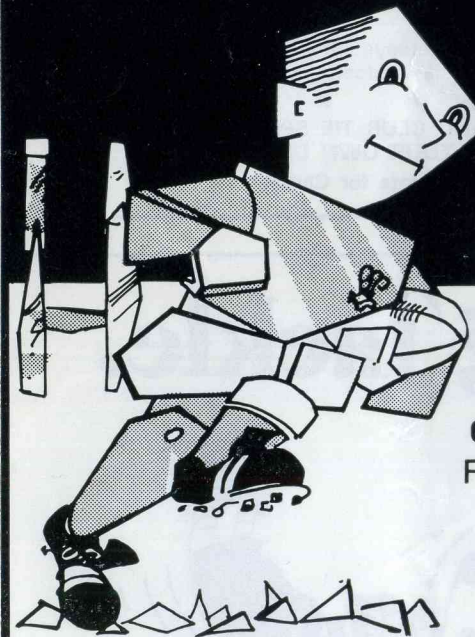
#### MARCH

Sat.	14	Pontypool	A	.....
Sat.	21	Ebbw Vale	H	.....
Sat.	28	Newport (Schwepes Cup Semi-final)	A	.....

#### APRIL

Sat.	4	Bedford	H	.....
Tues.	7	Bath	A	.....
Sat.	11	Schwepes Cup Final		
Wed.	15	Swansea	H	.....
Sat.	18	Barbarians	H	.....
Mon.	20	Harlequins	H	.....

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