

# CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB



**CARDIFF v NEATH**

SATURDAY, 21st APRIL, 1979

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

**Official Programme 10p**



# Cardiff v. Neath

SATURDAY, 21st APRIL, 1979

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

As I write these notes, the weather is still marvellous so I sincerely hope that all the moaning and groaning about the diabolical elements I've made in previous notes are a thing of the past and the sun continues to shine. Today of course would have seen the close of the 1978/79 campaign for us had we not had such bad weather however. A glance at your fixture lists would reveal that today's game was originally the last scheduled for this season. Now, of course, we have Aberavon to look forward to next Friday evening and hopefully on the Monday following, 30th April, Moseley will be our visitors. This is in the balance however because the Midlanders are playing at Twickenham this afternoon in the final of the English Cup competition against Leicester. They want to get that game out of the way before any final arrangements can be made for a visit to the Arms Park, so here's hoping.

Today, however, the Cardiff Rugby Club extends a warm welcome to this afternoon's visitors, the All Blacks of Wales, Neath. The famous Black shirt with the white Maltese Cross has stalked the rugby grounds of the land since the club was formed in 1871. In fact, Neath are the oldest of the so called first class clubs in Wales. They celebrated their centenary in grand style by winning the W.R.U. Cup competition when it was reintroduced into the Welsh rugby calendar in 1971/72 season, after being in cold storage for many, many years. On their way to that notable victory, they accounted for Cardiff in the semi-final at Bridgend by 16 pts. to 9, then in the final they overcame Llanelli by 15 pts. to 9.

I'm sure the Neath club would dearly love to be contesting this year's final on April 28th, as would we of course, because things have changed dramatically since that 1972 final. For a start it clashed with the televised F.A. Cup final and consequently it didn't produce that good a gate. Since then it has always taken place on the last Saturday of the season in order to avoid this clash. In contrast, this year's final looks a sell-out and will gross a probable £100,000 plus. With the finalists each receiving £10,000, this is a far cry from Neath's shore although only seven years have elapsed since their victory in the competition. This is a dramatic sign of our inflationary times.

This afternoon's game will be the 164th in the series and Neath are fourth in the list of our most played opponents with Newport in front, Swansea second and Llanelli third. Of the previous 163 games Cardiff have won 97, Neath 49 and 17 games have been drawn. The points total shows 1,601 to Cardiff and 930 to Neath. Today's game is also quite a milestone in the series because we first played the Gnock club on the 4th January, 1879 so this year sees the association reach 100 years. Traditionally the games have ended with low scoring results and a quick fingering on my Japanese calculator shows a series average result of just under 10 pts to 6 to Cardiff. In fact of the 163 games already played Neath have managed double figures on only 33 occasions. Of these, they have registered 20 pts. on two occasions, but then last year the All Blacks inflicted their heaviest ever defeat over us by 31 pts. to 13 during the last game of the season played at the Gnock. This was the highlight in what for Neath was rather a disappointing season.

During their long history Neath have provided their fair quota to the national side. Perhaps the most famous names to emerge from the Gnock are the father and son combination of Glyn and Rees Stephens. Glyn gained 10 caps for Wales and became president of the W.R.U. in 1956-57. Rees gained 32 caps between 1947 and 1957 and remains the All Blacks second most capped player. Their caps honours list is headed by that great back row forward who gained 34 caps between 1967 and 1974, the indefatigable Dai Morris. He was an absolutely tireless player and a credit to his club. After these come names like Brian Thomas, Roy John, Tom Arthur, Graham Hodgson, Courtney Meredith, Arthur Lemon and Glyn Shaw who all won more

than 12 caps. In the early days it was players like D. H. Davies, Howell Jones, J. Birch, Howell Davies, G. Gethin, T. C. Lloyd, F. Perrett, J. Pullman, D. R. and Glyn Prosser, Harold Thomas, E. Watkins, D. C. Thomas, A. McCarley, C. Challinor, Harold Jones, A. Hickman, Eddie Williams, D. Jones, Tom Hollingsdale and finally Dai Hiddlestone who helped to forge the tradition in which the Neath club is so steeped. So to the present day Neath players we say welcome to the Arms Park on this your 86th visit to Cardiff.

On the home front it's congratulations to the team's magnificent performance against the Barbarians — what an afternoon of entertainment, and also to Alan Phillips on being made a Baa Baa by playing against Newport on Easter Tuesday.

P.N.

## KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

'SIN BIN'. Doesn't sound like rugby football does it? Most of us will welcome the news that the Welsh Rugby Union has rejected the opportunity to experiment with the decision of the International Board that member Unions may implement same by dint of the dispensation clause. It works well with ice hockey and I do know that it has been used with a degree of success in some schools games periods for the younger age group in order to 'teach them a lesson'.

No! Not for us, BUT, not all supporters may know that for some time now within the laws our own committee has operated their own disciplinary system which is far more effective. It works quite simply thus: during any game, if a committee member observes any misdemeanours by any player, whether or not the referee has noticed and pulled him up, then that player may be called before the club's own disciplinary sub-committee consisting of the chairman, secretary and committeeman in charge on the day.

The resultant action would then depend on the outcome of that meeting. Other clubs operate a similar system it is pleasing to note and, surely, in the interests of the game it would benefit all if it became common practice. The French Rugby Federation have done just this for many years, even at international level and, in some regions it is felt to be such an important aspect that disciplined players have to serve a period of time as a referee, under observation, before they are allowed to play again. That makes me shudder a little bit. You also?

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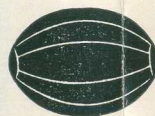
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14. A. YEANDLE
13. H. DAVIES
12. P. DANIELS
11. C. CAMILLERI
10. Gareth DAVIES
9. T. HOLMES
1. B. NEMES (Capt.)
2. A. PHILLIPS
3. J. DIXON
4. P. RAWLINS
5. R. NORSTER
6. C. SMITH
8. J. SCOTT
7. S. LANE
- A. THOMAS
- M. WATKINS

Referee: A. W. BEVAN (W.R.U.)

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



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## Neath

- K. ROBERTS 15.
- A. N. OTHER 14.
- D. COLE 13.
- P. WOODLAND 12.
- B. TAYLOR 11.
- M. DACEY 10.
- C. GNOJEK 9.
- R. RATTI 1.
- P. HITCHINGS 2.
- D. MILLS 3.
- D. LEWIS 4.
- S. DANDO 5.
- N. MESSENGER (Capt.) 6.
- R. HUGHES 8.
- P. JONES 7.



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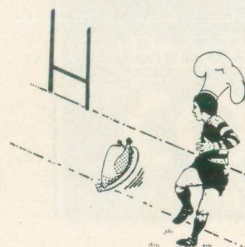
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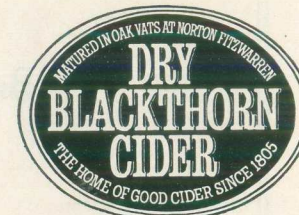
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### NEXT HOME FIXTURES ....

Fri., 27th April: CARDIFF v. ABERAVON

7.15 p.m.

### FIRST XV FIXTURES

#### 1978 SEPTEMBER

Fri.	1		
Sat.	2	East District	H 38-17
Wed.	6	Glamorgan Wands.	H 55-13
Sat.	9	Neath	A 13-11
Wed.	13	Bristol	A 42-14
Sat.	16	Coventry	H 76-9
Wed.	20	Penarth	H 62-0
Sat.	23	Aberavon	A 14-13
Wed.	27	Pontypridd	A 9-23
Sat.	30	Moseley	A 9-3

#### OCTOBER

Sat.	7	Newport	H 7-0
Sat.	14	Northampton	A 10-3
Sat.	21	New Zealand (All pay)	H 7-17
Wed.	25	Bridgend	A 10-12
Sat.	28	Harlequins	A 36-12

#### NOVEMBER

Wed.	1	Pontypool	H 14-16
Sat.	4	Maesteg	H 10-7
Sat.	11	Ebbw Vale	A 10-13
Sat.	18	Whitland (Cup)	H 65-6
Sat.	25	Llanelli	H 9-15
Wed.	29	Oxford University	H 47-12

#### DECEMBER

Sat.	2	Swansea	A 4-10
Sat.	9	London Welsh	A 25-23

Sat.	23	Crumlin (Cup)	H 12-0
Tues.	26	Pontypridd	H 18-0
Sat.	30	Coventry	A 36-10

#### 1979 JANUARY

Mon.	1	Bath	H P
Sat.	6	Moseley	H P
Fri.	19	Heriots F.P.	A 4-3
Sat.	27	Aberavon	H P

#### FEBRUARY

Wed.	14	Bristol (Abandoned)	H 3-10
Sat.	24	Pontypool (Cup)	A 23-12
Tues.	27	Llanelli	A 6-12

#### MARCH

Sat.	3	Pontypridd (Cup)	A 7-9
Tues.	6	Bridgend	H 10-12
Sat.	10	Pontypool	A 36-10
Fri.	16	London Welsh	H 23-3
Wed.	21	Ebbw Vale	H 13-0
Sat.	24	Newport	A 21-10
Sat.	31	Swansea	H 22-10

#### APRIL

Sat.	7	Gloucester	A 3-6
Sat.	14	Barbarians	H 40-22
Mon.	16	Harlequins	H 21-15
Sat.	21	Neath	H
Fri.	27	Aberavon	H.....



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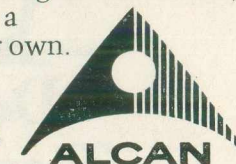
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