



Cardiff

rugby club



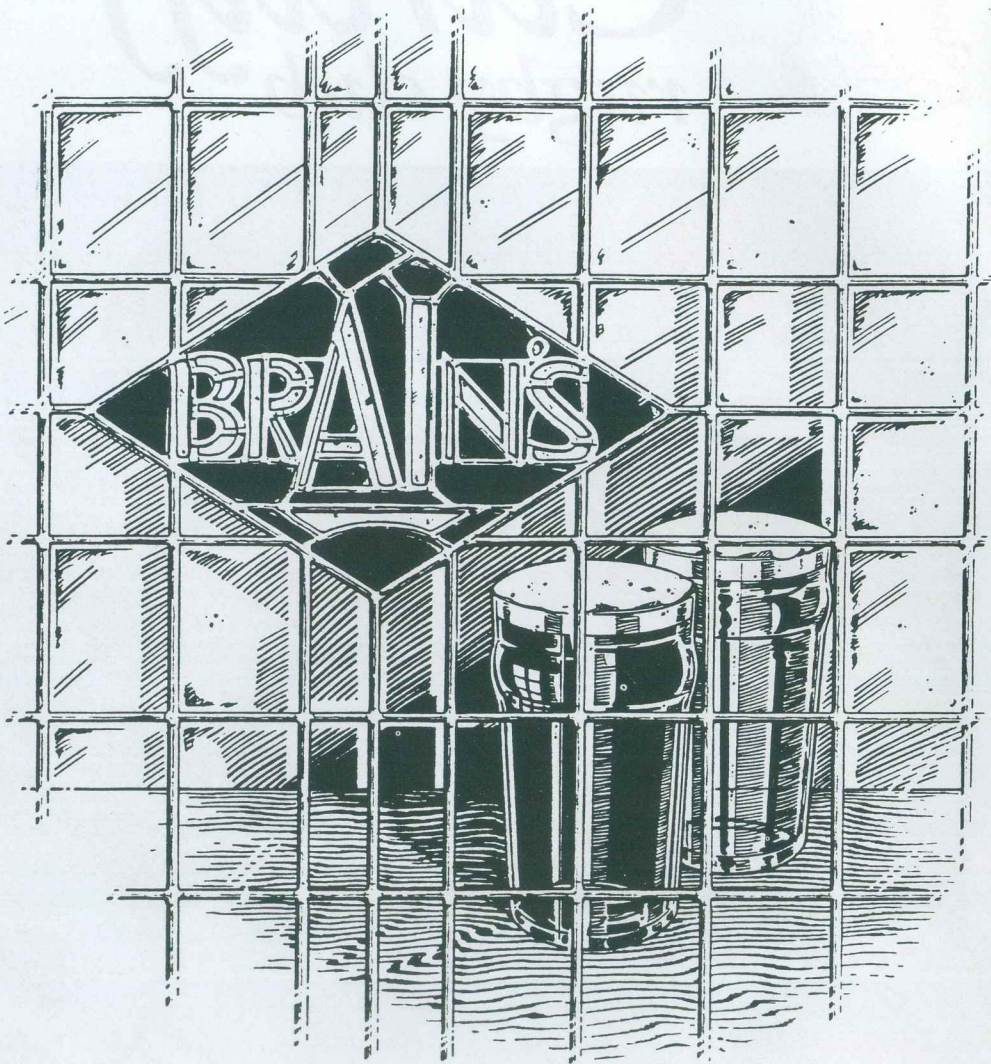
at The Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon . . .

NEWPORT

Wednesday, 14th March, 1990

Kick-Off 7.15 p.m.

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME
40p



A name on everyones lips.



LOOKING FORWARD FROM A PROUD PAST.



Cardiff v. Newport

WEDNESDAY 14th MARCH, 1990

KICK-OFF 7.15 p.m.

A rugby match between Cardiff and Newport could well be the most frequently contested of games in any team sport throughout Wales. In all we have crossed swords on no fewer than 359 previous occasions since the very first game at Newport in December 1876. This information of course is the gospel according to the likes of Charlie Arthur and Danny Davies who chronicled the first 100 years of Cardiff's history. Journalist Jack Davies of Newport however preaches a different gospel and according to his deliberations on the Black and Ambers' history they would maintain that we have met on 367 previous occasions. What can we say of that situation then. Well to use another expression from the good book — and so be it.

Whoever is right it is an inordinate amount of games to have been played and puts Newport way out in front of our most played opponents. Swansea are a poor second with a mere 259 games on record. During a run of such longevity the occasion has inevitably built up a great tradition of pride and passion and that still holds to this day when the Blue and Black clashes with the Black and Amber. The stories and memories of past encounters are legendary. For instance the game has always been a bit of a crowd puller and on 17th February 1951 a mega busting 48,500 fans crowded into the Arms Park to witness the game on that day. The gate taking on that day amounted to, a then astronomical £2,587. Apart from club sides competing in cup finals, this massive gate will probably stand the test of all time as far as a normal domestic encounter between any two clubs is concerned.

It is also highly appropriate that a Cardiff-Newport encounter should also figure in another milestone in Cardiff's history. The sides met in the South Wales Challenge Cup on March 8th 1879 at Sophia Gardens. You can see the photograph of the Cardiff team of that day elsewhere in this programme. The game had aroused great interest and many thousands, including at least a thousand from Newport, stood several rows deep behind the ropes enclosing the field. For the first time ever, a charge was made for admission and the regal sum of £72 odd ensued. It was reported at the time that some people were not very happy with the idea that they should actually pay to see a game. I wonder if the Cardiff and Newport players of that dim and distant era could have had any idea of the sort of financial foundations they were laying down for the lucrative situation in which the game is enjoyed these days. Can you imagine the smile on the face of any club Treasurer counting the receipts of a 48,500 gate in this day and age? It would make a Cheshire cat look positively glum. Incidentally Newport won both those games that were record breakers of their particular time.

The series record at the moment stands at 173 wins to Cardiff, 129 to Newport with 57 games drawn. Points-wise we have scored 3063 to Newport's 2299. During the series there has been much cut and thrust in terms of domination. The best winning sequence of games belongs to Cardiff who won 8 on the trot in the 1890's. Newport's best sequence is 5 which they have done on 3 occasions. The largest score in the series also belongs to Cardiff with the 38-14 victory on the Arms Park in November 1973. Newport's highest ever came at their ground in October 1983 with a 32-21 victory. Drawn games constitute quite a large portion of the overall number of games too. Nearly all of these resulted in the 3 point try era. Since upgrading to 4 points in season 1971-72, of 47 games played only one of them has ended with honours even.

Of the 359 games played in the series, 4 of them came in the Schweppes Cup Competition. Our first meeting came in the 1977 final. It was quite an occasion for us because it was the last game of our centenary year and we were firm favourites to put the icing on our cake of celebration. The Black and Ambers had other ideas however and the cup was dashed from our lips when flanker Keith Poole brought off a fantastic tackle on Gareth Edwards when the famous scrum half was on what seemed to be an unstoppable run to the Newport line. Stop him he did however and the Black and Ambers took the spoils by 16-15 in what must rank as one of their best victories ever over their oldest rivals. We met again in the 1986 final and in the quarter finals of the following two years, all three of which we won.

As we all know, Newport, like ourselves, are going through a period of rebuilding. Indeed they have had a few seasons now which have been more unsuccessful than our own. Like the great club they are however they are clawing their way back to where they belong and that's at the top. This season they set up a management team which consists of famous former players. The response of the players seems to have been very encouraging and some good results have started to come their way. If you go by the old adage that you are as good as your last game, the Black and Ambers come to the Arms Park tonight in cock-a-hoop fashion. Last Saturday they played Llanelli at Rodney Parade and really sent the Scarlets home with their tail tucked between their legs in defeating them by a resounding 22 points to 9. It was a great fill-up for the Gwent side as Llanelli had most of their big guns on the field. This victory, coming after their creditable performance at Swansea in the cup must be a source of great satisfaction to all concerned at Rodney Parade. When on song their pack can be as good as most in Wales and veteran David Waters with a massive record-breaking 551 games to his credit is playing better than ever.

Unfortunately it appears that this revival has not come about in time to ensure Newport a place in the Premier Division in next year's league set up. On this sort of form however it appears that their tenure in that division will be of the shortest duration and Newport will then be among the tops in Welsh Rugby which is exactly where they belong.

They will certainly be in good heart coming here tonight in looking for a victory. That would certainly reverse the current trend because Newport's last win in Cardiff was indeed on the National Stadium in that 1977 Cup Final. Their last win on our ground came in March 1976 when they ran out winners by 17-15.

To Newport then we say welcome to Cardiff once again and after tonight we wish you every success for the rest of the season. Perhaps we can give our visitors a word of advice to the fact that a certain A.D.S.B. will be keeping a celestial eye on "Those Black and Amber B*****".

With Newport tonight then the trip to Swansea on Saturday to be followed by a visit from Bristol a week tonight means its all go and we are back to a grinding eight matches in March. This means we will certainly have to be on our toes and hope that the injury situation doesn't get any worse.

Although last week's visit to Penarth produced the inevitable result, they certainly didn't throw in the towel and kept slogging on throughout the game. Off the field the Penarth hospitality is second to none and the fighting spirit of the whole club is to be much admired.

A very sad result last Saturday was the defeat of London Welsh at Exeter. It means that the Welsh are now virtually doomed to drop off out of the National Division 3 of the R.F.U. League into the far lesser known Area League South. A very sad day indeed for a club who have previously scaled such heights.

Finally we gratefully acknowledge the generous sponsorship of tonight's game by **David Jones and Associates**, we trust that they and their guests enjoy the occasion.

P.N.

try stopping

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Rugby Quiz – No. 16

Let's test our knowledge of The Black and Ambers today

1. Ken Jones is Newport's most capped player, who comes next?
2. In how many Schweppes Cup finals have Newport competed?
3. How many times have they won the Welsh Club Championship since World War II?
4. How many times have they won The Snelling Sevens?
5. Who is their record points scorer?



NO QUESTION.

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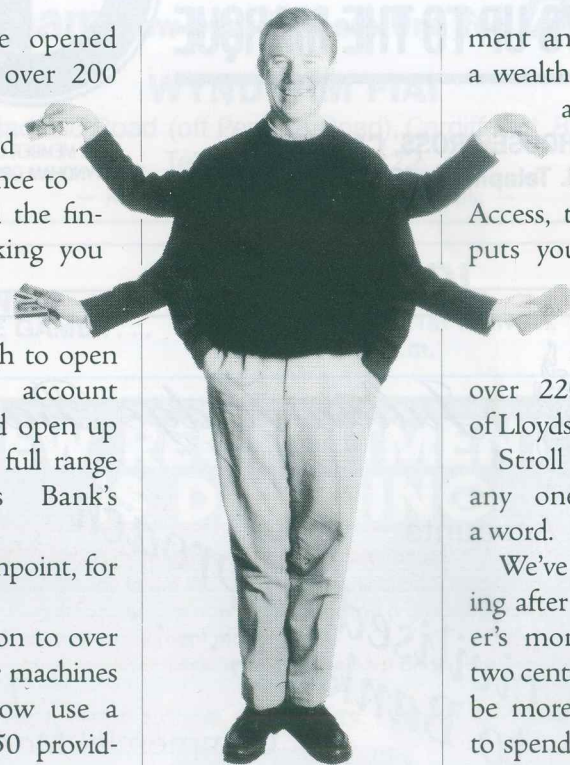
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HOME GAME

v. BRISTOL

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Kick-Off 7.15 p.m.

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QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

SHARP-EYED OBSERVERS of the passing scene may have noticed the changes that have occurred in the programme this season in the dresswear of Mr Michael Rayer. On another page, you will find him cavorting, cartoon-wise, in his business suit and with briefcase as he projects the insurance, mortgage and sporting injuries aspects of his employer, David Jones Associates, the sponsors, incidentally, of this evening's match.

Earlier in the season, he was to be seen on that page in rugby gear but Quidnunc, minding his own business in the clubhouse one evening, was approached by a member of the International Board no less (yes, I do move occasionally in exalted circles). Knowing that I "had something to do with the Cardiff programme", he warned me that Mike was in fact offending the rules of the sport and jeopardising his amateur status by advertising in rugby gear.

Because that was neither the place nor time – nor, indeed, is the column – to go in detail into the pros and cons of amateurism, cartoonist Derek Stears was asked to clothe Mike in suitable attire.

Derek Stears, a rugby fanatic, enjoys cartooning the players but, if there is one whom he has difficulty in caricaturing with great accuracy it is the afore-mentioned Mr Rayer and it was therefore with a groan that he learned of the intention to discuss the subject once more. But, because it is purely rugby gossip, he is allowed to blend sport with work and other aspects of Mike's lifestyle this time.

Why the table? Well, I have it on very good authority that, after a recent international, Mike was prevailed upon to sing a song from such a table at his home club of Llandaff North where his employer, Mr David Jones, captains the second team as well as sponsoring that club and Cilfynydd and junior soccer teams. David, a former South Wales Police player, also tells me that Mike's client list on the sporting injuries side reads like an international side – a rugby league international side, that is.

Which only partly explains why Mike was this past weekend up north staying with Adrian Hadley and watching Gerry Cordle run in his twenty-something try of the season for Bradford Northern as they hammered Widnes (J. Davies went off injured).

Looking at this paragraph again, and lest there be some misunderstanding, no, there is no chance of Mike Rayer going north; indeed, Quidnunc is still trying to discover why, on his last trip into England, Mike, David Jones and Swansea coach Lonnie Donagan Donovan had to leave Sutton Coldfield in a hurry after playing for a beaten Woolwich Building Society side against the Birmingham Business Centre. Maybe it had something to do with England's success at the highest level.

Going back to sporting injuries, Mike, alas, has become something of an expert on the subject this season, thereby possibly robbing him of a cap. You will recall that he received badly bruised ribs playing for Wales B in France and then, the Saturday before Christmas, pulled a hamstring – injuries which have kept him out of the game for about three months.

He has, by his own admission, not always been at his best since his return but is now beginning to enjoy the game again.

"We need to get a little consistency into our game," he says, "and we have the chance in the next few matches to get a number of things right. Given the luck of the cup draw, we could have been good enough to reach the final. We could indeed have won at Neath if the ball had gone to hand at the crucial moments.

"But it is coming together and I believe that Cardiff will be in the top three sides next season." At 24, Mike Rayer's rugby career can still move on to greater heights. And, if you see the speed at which he is racing away from a Munchy monster in an advertisement at his employer's premises in Llandaff North, you may well think that he is fully fit again to make that bid for both Cardiff and Wales next season.



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- 11. Kevin MORGAN
- 10. David EVANS
- 9. Mathew de MAID
- 1. Mike GRIFFITHS
- 2. Ian GREENSLADE
- 3. Steve BLACKMORE
- 4. Stuart NUNNERLEY
- 5. Andrew SUTTON
- 6. A.N. OTHER
- 8. Howard STONE
- 7. Richard COLLINS

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



Replacements

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- 17. Mark EDWARDS
- 18. Jason PARFITT

Referee: Mr. W.D. BEVAN

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Newport

- Gary ABRAM 15.
- Mike PUDDY 14.
- Lee JONES 15.
- Anthony EVANS 12.
- Andrew LEWIS 11.
- Paul TURNER 10.
- Nigel CALLARD 9.
- Frank HILLMAN 1.
- Keiron GREGORY 2.
- Alun WILLIAMS 3.
- Paul BOOTH 4.
- David WATERS 5.
- Chris COTT 6.
- Andrew POCOCK 8.
- Glen GEORGE (Capt.) 7.

- Gareth FINNEY 16.
- Andrew JEWITT 17.
- Julian BURT 18.

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FLEMING S. THOMAS, B. E. GIRLING, R. H. FOA (*capt.*), T. W. REES, W. D. PHILLIPS, J. A. JONES,
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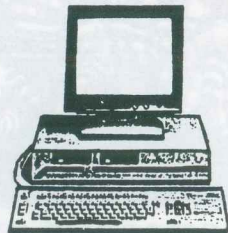
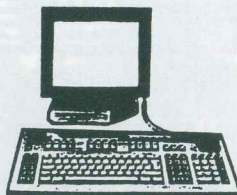
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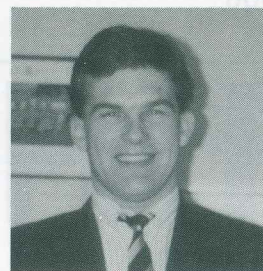
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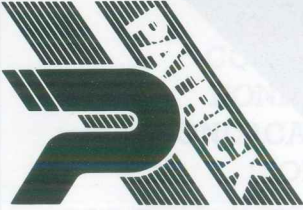
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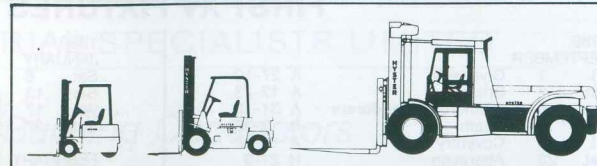
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Rugby Quiz No. 16 – Answers

1. *Bryn Meredith – 34.*
2. *3, beat Cardiff 16-15 in 1977; lost to Swansea 13-9 in 1978; lost to Cardiff 28-21 in 1986.*
3. *3, 1955-56, 1961-62, 1968-69.*
4. *10 times, a record for the tournament.*
5. *Paul Turner – 368 in 1986-87.*



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1989
SEPTEMBER

Fri. 1	Glynneath	A 27-10
Sat. 2	Bristol	A 12-23
Wed. 6	Glamorgan Wanderers	A 31-10
Sat. 9	Neath	H 13-36
Fri. 15	Coventry	A 16-10
Sat. 23	Aberavon	H 21-9
Wed. 27	Pontypridd	A 15-27
Sat. 30	Moseley	H 28-3

OCTOBER

Sat. 7	Newport	A 29-16
Sat. 14	New Zealand	H 15-25
Sat. 21	Wasps	H 22-25
Wed. 25	Pontypool	A 21-13
Sat. 28	Cambridge University	H 17-28

NOVEMBER

Fri. 3	Leicester	A 15-28
Wed. 8	Oxford University	H 18-3
Sat. 11	Ebbw Vale	H 56-13
Sat. 18	Cilfynydd (Cup)	A 26-13
Sat. 25	Llanelli	A 12-37

DECEMBER

Sat. 2	Swansea	H 27-29
Sat. 9	London Welsh	H 60-14
Sat. 16	Bridgend Athletic (Cup)	H 38-16
Sat. 23	Bridgend	A 10-21
Tue. 26	Pontypridd	H 27-6
Sat. 30	Harlequins	A 31-43

1990
JANUARY

Sat. 6	Bath	H 10-10
Sat. 13	Aberavon	A 24-10
Wed. 17	Bridgend	H 10-17
Sat. 27	Llanelli (Cup)	H 15-4

FEBRUARY

Sat. 3	Ebbw Vale	A Post.
Sat. 10	Llandovery	H 52-13
Mon. 12	S. Wales Police	H 21-17
Sat. 17	London Welsh	A 6-20
Sat. 24	Neath (Cup)	A 6-22

MARCH

Fri. 2	Maesteg	A 29-9
Wed. 7	Penarth	A 58-12
Sat. 10	Pontypool	H 25-25
Sat. 17	Swansea	A.....
Wed. 21	Bristol	H.....
Fri. 23	Bective Rangers	A.....
Sat. 31	Llanelli	H.....

APRIL

Sat. 7	Nottingham (W.R.U. Cup Semi-Final)	H.....
Sat. 14	Barbarians	H.....
Mon. 16	South Glam. Institute	H.....
Sat. 21	Neath	A.....
Sat. 28	Newbridge	H.....

MAY

Sat. 5	W.R.U. Cup Final	
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ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1989
SEPTEMBER

Sat. 2	Bristol United	H 20-39
Wed. 6	Glamorgan Wanderers II	H 4-21
Sat. 9	Senghenydd	A 16-19
Sat. 16	Coventry Extras	H 36-24
Wed. 20	Llandaff North	H 39-9
Sat. 23	Canton	A 14-10
Wed. 27	Pontypridd Athletic	H 12-19
Sat. 30	Moseley United	A 10-16

OCTOBER

Sat. 7	Pontypool Athletic	H 36-12
Wed. 11	Croesyceiliog	A 9-13
Sat. 14	Abercarn	H Post.
Wed. 25	Pontypool Athletic	H 22-11
Sat. 28	Cross Keys United	H 42-12

NOVEMBER

Wed. 1	Kenfig Hill	A 7-21
Fri. 3	London New Zealand	H 18-6
Sat. 11	Ebbw Vale Athletic	A 34-7
Sat. 18	Bridgend Sports	H 18-14
Wed. 22	Cardiff & District	H 31-13
Sat. 25	Swansea University	H 10-26

DECEMBER

Sat. 2	Swansea Athletic	A Canc.
Sat. 9	Neath Athletic	A 7-33
Sat. 16	Pontypool United	A 11-6
Sat. 23	Bridgend Ravens	H 12-13
Sat. 30	Rumney	A 12-13

1990
JANUARY

Sat. 6	Bath United	A 20-4
Sat. 13	Neath Athletic	H 43-3
Wed. 17	Bridgend Ravens	A Post.

FEBRUARY

Sat. 3	Ebbw Vale Athletic	H 60-0
Sat. 10	Newport United	H 20-12
Sat. 17	Maidenhead	A 26-19
Sun. 18	Bracknell	A 82-0

MARCH

Fri. 2	Pontypool United	H.....
Sat. 10	Pontypool Athletic	A.....
Wed. 14	Pontypridd Athletic	A.....
Sat. 17	Swansea Athletic	H.....
Sat. 24	Bristol United	A.....
Sat. 31	Mountain Ash	A.....

APRIL

Sat. 7	Llanharan	A.....
Wed. 18	Old Penarthians	H.....
Sat. 21	Garndiffaith	H.....
Sat. 28	Blackwood	H.....
Mon. 30	Llanharan	H.....

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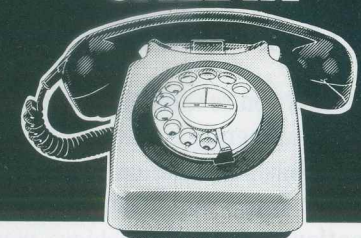
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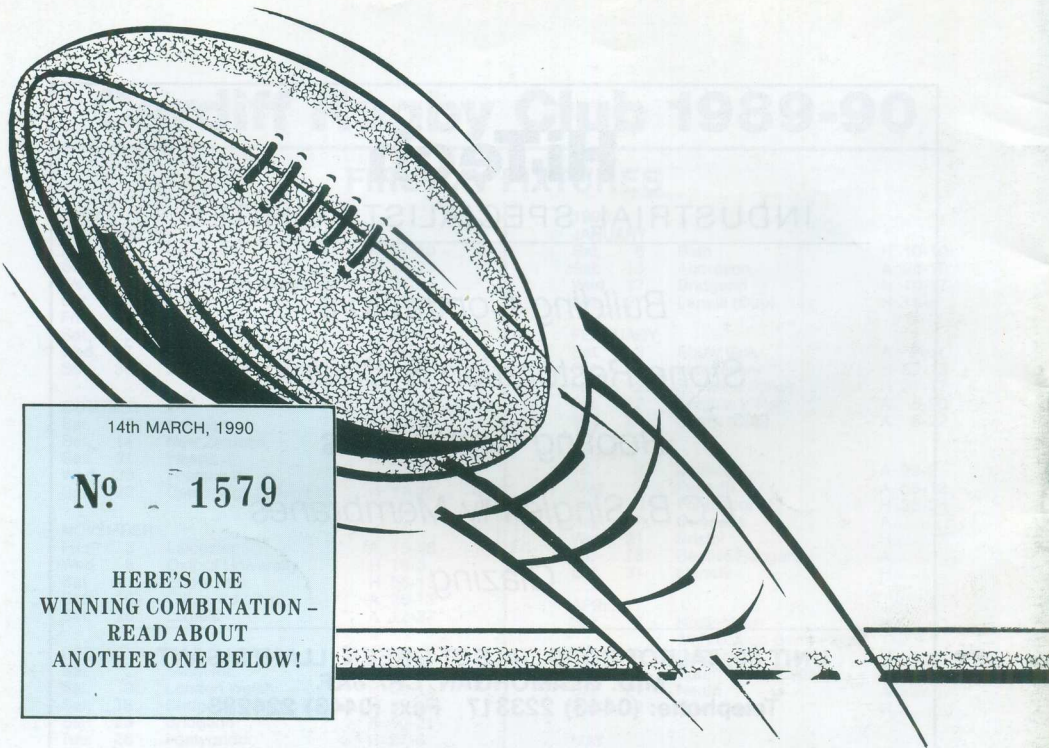
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