# CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB





# **CARDIFF V LONDON WELSH**

FRIDAY, 16th MARCH, 1979 KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

# Cardiff v. London Welsh

FRIDAY, 16th MARCH, 1979

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Once again the biennial meeting of Wales against the "Old Enemy" at Cardiff has come around and with it all the razzle-dazzle that international weekends conjure up. Many a Welsh exile will be back in the Principality for the occasion hoping to celebrate another victory for the men in red. This makes life far more tolerable for them in the Anglicised surroundings of their adopted abodes. Many of them must be very apprehensive over the outcome of tomorrow's game, however, as the English have what appears to be their best chance of success at Cardiff since they last won here in 1963.

The occasion of course gives us the pleasure of welcoming our exiled brothers from London Welsh to the Arms Park, and a pleasure it is indeed. The only regret is the fact that neither side can field at full strength, due to the big game tomorrow, with Cardiff perhaps being more severely hit. Tonight's game sees the 85th encounter between our clubs and of the previous 84, Cardiff have won 71, lost 11 and two have ended as drawn games. During the series which began in 1885, our visitors' year of foundation, Cardiff have registered some 1,368 points whilst the Welsh have chalked up 464. A glance at these records shows that victory for the exiles is a very rare distinction for them to savour. Behind these cold statistical facts, however, lie the warm memories of many a classic encounter. The type of play and the dedicated policy of both sides has always been one of open running rugby. It was during the early 1960's to early 1970's that the Welsh really hit their own golden era. They had so many marvellous players in their ranks and these were so expertly guided by their great captain John Dawes that the side was eagerly sought after by every fixture secretary in the land. They swept most before them with fast attacking 15 man rugby which was a joy to watch. The club was justly recognised and rewarded in 1971 when a record number of seven of its players, including John Dawes as captain, were selected to accompany the British Lions tour of New Zealand in the summer of that year, beating the previous record held by Cardiff with six players in the 1966 tour to South Africa. Of course, we all know what the Lions did to New Zealand on that tour and London Welsh can be very proud of the contribution it made to rugby during this golden era.

This year the Welsh are captained by Bill Davey, an ex-Cardiff player, and are having quite a good season. In our game at Old Deer Park earlier on in the season, we went off with a bang and had what looked like a fairly comfortable win on the board. However, the Welsh fought back tenaciously and we were glad to emerge as eventual winners by 25 points to 23. Last week the exiles scored a notable victory in very bad conditions with an excellent win over Coventry in the John Player Cup. Appropriately enough, the try of the match was a typical London Welsh effort with some great handling and running showing complete contempt for the bad conditions. They now advance to the quarter-finals of that competition with a game against Wasps. We wish them every success for that game and indeed in their efforts to win the cup. It would be very pleasing to see a W.R.U. side in possession of the John Player trophy, would it not?

On the home front our bogey team Bridgend managed to extend their run of victories at Cardiff to what is now becoming alarming proportions. On the credit side, however, we achieved a very praiseworthy victory at Pontypool. The Viet Gwent must have thought this was their year after scraping home by 16-14 at the Arms Park back in November. Their cup of joy was filled to overflowing but this was sadly dashed from their lips by the two crushing defeats we inflicted upon them on their own patch. 59 points in two games at Pontypool Park is no mean feat by any standards—well done the players involved.

Have you all been noticing the Rags results this season? If you haven't you may be pleased to know that as yet they are unbeaten. Bridgend Sports are the only side to have held them to a draw with all their other games being won. Space denies me the opportunity to relate some of their achievements so I will keep them for another occasion.

Finally, the Cardiff Rugby Club gratefully acknowledges the snonsorship of tonight's game by JOHN CORY TRAVEL LTD.

P.N.

## KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

I must refer back to the Irish match and the fine refereeing overall of Alan Hosie of Scotland, who, when seen previously had been criticised by me and others for a lack of flexibility, especially as far as advantage was concerned. In this match we saw the opposite extreme with advantage, according to some, overplayed. Referees can't win, can they?

We can all recall several occasions when play was carried on for a long time before the whistle was then blown and the game stopped.

One such occasion was when, after a ruck, we committed an infringement; the ball went to Tony Ward, he attempted a drop at goal which failed and only then did the whistle go for a penalty to Ireland from which he scored their first goal.

Referee Hosie decided that as advantage had not been gained when the drop goal failed, then the previous infringement had to stand. That is entirely up to the referee to decide. He is the sole judge of fact, BUT, the point at issue might well be that play, after the penalty goal, was re-started at the half-way line Otherwise, after the drop failure it would have been at the 22 metre line with undoubted resultant possession to Wales. Could have made quite a difference. The advantage law does state that:

"An advantage must be either territorial or such possession of the ball as constitutes an obvious tactical advantage. A mere opportunity to gain advantage is not sufficient."

Was the drop attempt an "obvious tactical advantage"? The referee must have decided 'Yes'. That must be the final decision.

#### NEXT HOME FIXTURES ....

Wed., 21st March: CARDIFF v. EBBW VALE 7.15 p.m.
Sat., 31st March: CARDIFF v. SWANSEA 3 p.m.
Sat., 14th April: CARDIFF v. BARBARIANS 3 p.m.



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### Cardiff

- 15. Glyn DAVIES
- 14. D. PREECE
- 13. G. MEEHAN

- 9. A. THOMAS
- 1. B. NEWMAN
- 2. L. O'BRIEN

Referee: CORRIS THOMAS (W.R.U.)

### London Welsh

- 12. P. DANIELS
- 11. C. CAMILLERI
- 10. H. DAVIES

- 3. D. LLEWELLYN
- 4. H. de GOEDE
- 5. R. NORSTER
- 6. B. DUDLEY-JONES (Capt.)
- 8. R. LANE
- 7. D. CHURCH
  - P. ELLIOTT
  - C. SMITH

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



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#### FIRST XV FIXTURES

1978 SEPTEMBER Fri. 1							
Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat.	2 East District 6 Glamorgan Wands 9 Neath 13 Bristol 16 Coventry	H 38-17 H 55-13 A 13-11 A 42-14 H 76-9					
Wed. Sat.	20 Penarth 23 Aberavon 27 Pontypridd 30 Moseley	H 62-0 A 14-13 A 9-23 A 9-3					
OCTOR Sat. Sat. Sat.	3ER 7 Newport 14 Northampton 21 New Zealand (All pay)	H 7-0 A 10-3 H 7-17					
Wed. Sat.	25 Bridgend 28 Harlequins	A 10-12 A 36-12					
NOVEN Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat. Wed.	MBER 1 Pontypool 4 Maesteg 11 Ebbw Vale 18 Whitland (Cup) 25 Llanelli 29 Oxford University	H 14-16 H 10-7 A 10-13 H 65-6 H 9-15 H 47-12					
DECEN Sat. Sat.	MBER 2 Swansea 9 London Welsh	A 4-10 A 25-23					

Sat.	23	Crumlin (Cup)	Н	12-0
Tues. Sat.	26 30	Pontypridd	H	18-0 36-10
1979 JANUA Mon. Sat. Fri. Sat.	RY 1 6 19 27	Moseley	HHAH	P P 4-3 P
FEBRU, Wed. Sat. Tues.			HAA	3-10 23-12 6-12
MARCH Sat. Tues. Sat. Fri. Wed. Sat. Sat.	3 6 10 16 21 24 31		A.	36-10
APRIL Sat. Sat. Mon. Sat. Sat.	7 14 16 21 28	Gloucester Barbarians Harlequins Neath	H.	



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