

# Cardiff Rugby Club

# Cardiff v. Ebbw Vale

SATURDAY, 10th NOVEMBER, 1979
KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

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Today we derive particular pleasure in extending to Ebbw Vale a most warm welcome on this their 24th visit to the Arms Park. This year is more special than most, of course, because the Steelmen of North Gwent are celebrating their centenary season having been founded in 1880. They share their celebrations with Penarth this year and follow eight other major Welsh clubs who have already seen their centenary season come and go, namely, Neath, Llanelli, Swansea, Newport, Cardiff, Aberavon, Pontypridd and Bridgend. Surprisingly, however, in their very distinguished history, the Vale have only provided six full Welsh caps in the international scene. Graham Powell, a very fine centre, was the first player capped from Ebbw Vale in 1957. This was followed by Dai Nash in 1960 (and what a player he would have become had he not been struck down by a serious neck injury), Graham Jones and Denzil Williams in 1963, Arthur Lewis in 1970 and finally Clive Burgess in 1977. Denzil Williams, of course, has the honour of being Vale's most capped player with 36. Clive Burgess and Arthur Lewis were also 'B' cap winners before winning their full honours while Gareth Howls and Alan Tovey were also 'B' side selections.

Besides the forementioned, Ebbw Vale has a long list of players who remained very faithful to their club. Many names come easily to mind but no man epitomised the club to me more than the late Wilf Hunt. Both as player and administrator he was Ebbw Vale up to his eyeballs. He formed a great half-back partnership with Roy Evans and it left a lot of people wondering how they never graduated to higher honours. Then there was the man who many considered to be the best forward in Wales never to win a cap, Eric Finney. He formed a real giant second row with our own Malcolm Collins, who also had a spell with the Steelmen. Arthur Lewis is still associated with the club as coach and is helped by Denzil Williams and Mike Grindle, another firm old favourite with Ebbw Vale. Neil Collins is another very dedicated and loyal player who left Cardiff some seasons ago and has rendered several years of faithful service. More recent acquisitions to the Vale from our own fair shores include Paul Rees and Gerry Wallace who have both worn the Blue and Black this current season. It also looks now as if Ashley Ellison will throw in his lot with the Steelmen.

Ebbw Vale are a tremendously friendly club, however, and they all enjoy themselves. I happen to know this, having spent a short holiday in Jersey some weeks ago when the Vale were playing the island side. They certainly made a weekend of it, and all are doing their utmost to eradicate themselves from the rather ordinary start they have made to their centenary year. Of the 15 first class games they have played to date they are on the debit side of the statistical record, as they have lost eight matches and won seven. They have been badly hit by injuries etc., but in true Ebbw Vale spirit they will be back and perhaps look forward to a good run in the cup.

Today, although the Vale are now 100 years old, sees only the 45th game in the series between us. Of the 44 games already played we have won 24, lost 16 and four have been drawn. We have scored 513 points against 317. Of these games, we have met twice in the cup: once in 1972 at Cardiff, when a Roger Lane try in injury time won us the game by 11-7, and secondly in 1978 when we won rather handsomely by 29-10. In our normal fixtures, however, we both appear to be homers. We have to go back to October 1973 to find our last win at Eugene Cross Park while the Vale have to dig deeper back in time for their last win at the Arms Park — September 1970, when they won 19 points to 11. In fact, a Vale win at Cardiff is very rare. Of the 16 they have won, only four have been on the Arms Park. Perhaps then the Vale may turn on something special for this year but whilst we cannot wish them too much

luck for today it does give us much pleasure to have them as our visitors for today, again congratulate them on their centenary and wish them luck for the rest of the season.

The Rags roll on merrily and their full results for the season to date read as follows:

L	lanharanH	16-15	Newport UnitedH	3-12
	edwasA		Pontypridd AthleticH	25-10
В	ristol UnitedA	13-23	Harlequins WandsA	21-10
C	Coventry ExtrasH	30-10	Neath AthleticA	9-8
	ardiff HSOBA		Pontypool AthleticH	28-0
В	ridgend SportsA	12-3	PenygraigH	29-3
	GarndiffaithH		Llantwit MajorH	29-0
N	Moselev AthleticA	10-15		

On the injury front, Stuart Lane trained last Monday and more good progress could see him fit for selection by the end of the month. Derek Preece is still nursing a shoulder complaint which could take some time to heal. John Davies is now fit for selection but Huw Jones is still out and Gerard Meehan is still suffering from muscular trouble. Our longest suffering individual, however, is Alex Finlayson who is still having trouble with his leg which he broke at Gloucester last April. He still hopes to resume again about Christmas. Finally Nick Ward had a bump last Saturday and could have a spell out with his knee.

P.N.

## KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

FREE KICK! PENALTY KICK!

After the Romanian game when we won thanks to Gareth's drop goal after Bobby Windsor charging Bucos' 'mark' illegally, I actually led up to this point, which applies, or should apply whenever a 'mark' is awarded and any of the opposing side do not retire the requisite 10 metres.

Originally, a premature charge would mean that the charger and the kicker would retire — the charger back to the place of the mark, the kicker back to where he chose to kick from as long as the ball then passed through the point of the actual 'mark'.

With the change which compelled the opponents to go back that 10 metres and allow the kick to be taken from the spot where the 'mark' was made, came the change to deter the charge from being made too soon.

In all cases now, if that does happen then, immediately, the 'free kick' becomes a penalty kick from the spot. If the charge takes place in in-goal, and that can happen, then a drop-out is awarded.



THE PACK
THAT'S BEST

BY

SNAKPAK CARDIFF



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14. N. HUTCHINGS

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9. T. HOLMES

1. B. NELMES

2. A. PHILLIPS

3. J. DIXON

4. P. RAWLINS

5. R. NORSTER

6. T. CHARLES

7. B. LEASE

# **Ebbw Vale**

P. REES 15.

D. HUSSEY 14.

P. BLIGHT 13.

D. PARRY 12.

W. BOW 11.

R. OWEN 10.

R. CLIFFORD

C. WILLIAMS 1.

R. HOLMES 2.

G. HOWLS

P. EVANS 4. D. FRYER

P. GARDNER (Capt.)

G. STILL 8.

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### Cardiff

13. P. DANIELS

12. D. BURCHER

11. A. YEANDLE

8. J. SCOTT

T. LEE

B. LAKIN

Replacements

Full Back

Right Wing

Right Centre

Left Centre

Left Wing

Outside Half

Inside Half

Forwards

#### Referee: Mr. YCHE (France)

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	(Tw	ickenham trip	
Apr.	12		£2.20

Apr. 12 Swansea £2.20 Apr. 19 Neath £2.00

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Dec. 19 Dinner/Dance



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#### FIRST XV FIXTURES

	1979					
SEPTEMBER						
	Sat.	1	East District	Н	66-8	
	Wed.	5	Glamorgan Wands.	A	26-9	
	Sat.	8		Н	28-3	
	Wed.	12	Bristol	H	17-17	
	Sat.	15	Coventry	A	15-16	
	Wed.	19	Canada		19-8	
	Sat.		Aberavon	Н	29-12	
	Wed.		Penarth		12-0	
	Sat.	29		Н	31-10	
					01 10	
	OCTOE					
	Wed.	3	Bridgend	H	9-17	
	Sat.	6				
		10		A	13-10	
	Sat.	13	Northampton	H		
	Wed.	17	Newport		21-12	
	Sat.	20			37-12	
	Wed.		Pontypool	A	10-28	
	Sat.	27	Harlequins	A	43-19	
	Wed.	31	Don Pill Memorial	H		
			Selected XV (All p	ay'	)	
	NOVEN	ARFI			BEST -	
			Munster	A	15 12	
	Wed.	7	Oxford University	H	15-13 C	
		10	Change of the street of the st	H	6	
	Cat.	17	Ebbw Vale			
	Sat.	24	W.R.U. Cup 1st Ro	una		
	Sat.	Z4	Llanelli	A.		
	DECEM	DEH	C	**		
	Sat.	-	Swansea Maesteg	н.		
	vved.	5	iviaesteg	A.		
	Sat.	8	London Welsh	Н.		
	Sat.	15	W.R.U. Cup 2nd Ro	und		

TOTILO				
	Sat. Wed. Sat.	22 26 29	Bridgend Pontypridd Coventry	A H H
	JANUA Tues. Sat. Sat. Fri.	1		H A
	Wed. Sat.	23 26	S. Wales Police Aberavon	H
	FEBRUA Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat. Fri.	9 16 23	Ebbw Vale Bristol	A A A Ind H
	MARCH Tues. Sat. Sat. Sat.	8 15 22	San Isidro (All pay) Pontypool Newport	H H
	Sat. APRIL Sat. Mon.	29	Llanelli Barbarians Harlequins	H
	Wed. Sat. Wed.	9 12 16	Swansea	A
	Sat.	19 26	Neath W.R.U. Cup Final	A

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