



CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB

CARDIFF v GALA

FRIDAY, 6th FEBRUARY, 1976 K.O. 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 10p



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Let's face it, you are the most spoiled set of supporters in Rugby Football. Last Saturday we brought you the only senior game to be played in Wales — and what a game (more about that later), and tonight as a pre-international warmer-up, we bring you our guests from the Borders of Scotland — the famous Galashiels Rugby Football Club, who have been pounding around the playing fields of Scotland for a year longer than we have been in existence as a Club in Wales. That means of course they are celebrating their Centenary Year and celebrating it in great style too. I attended their Centenary Dinner in Gala earlier this year, and a splendid occasion it was, graced by the great names in Scottish, English and Irish Rugby Football (I hesitated to add Wales to that list, for as far as I know, apart from Mr. Powell of Ebbw Vale R.F.C., I was the only other Welshman there). The quantity of Scotch on the table before me (wrong brand, but acceptable) was only matched by the quantity of speakers. It was a matter for conjecture whether the Scotch would run out before the speakers. As far as I remember, the bottle retained a small quantity of comfort, and the last speaker a small quantity of breath, as I sought my bed around about 2 p.m. There were some superb speeches made — but I must admit that, even if I could have understood the last speaker — which I couldn't — I am dubious of my ability to have retained the purport of his message until morning.

The team and officials of the club have already sampled the mixed joys of the Gala Centenary. Notwithstanding the great hospitality of the Gala club off the pitch — it didn't extend on to the pitch and with an uncharacteristic lack of consideration, they beat us 10-12. Serve you right if we are equally as mean this evening. According to the Club records, we first met a combined Gala-Hawick team as long ago as 1895, at Cardiff, in a game which we won 15-0. We then need to move to season 1968-69 to find the next fixtures, which were home and away in that year, and we won them both. So that makes the total games played four, of which we have lost one and won three.

It would not do to leave these programme notes without mentioning the Gala Sevens of 1964-64. This tournament, which we won, marked our return as a serious entity in the mini-game after some very lean years in the Sevens arena. It is worth noting that we have won six tournaments at the first time of entry — namely Snelling 7's 1955, Middlesex 7's 1939, Gala 1964, Newport (Everson/Griffiths) 1968, Newport (Croeso) 1969 and Harlequins 1969. The heroes of that Gala tournament in 1964 were Cliff Ashton (captain), Richie Wills, Maurice Richards, Billy Hullin, John Price, Graham Davies and Brian Perrins. After their victory they joined the rest of the club who were on tour in Paignton, and the story of their welcome on return would fill this programme with a hilarious episode.

To Galashiels, I would like to wish you, on behalf of the Cardiff R.F.C. and supporters, a very successful Centenary Year and many happy returns.

CROESO GALA.

A word about last Saturday's loss against Aberavon. When all is said and done it was a cracking game of Rugby Football, and I would like to congratulate the side on endeavouring to play attacking, constructive Rugby against a side devoid of any spark of initiative, and with every bit of luck and the fates on their side.

I have seen and heard some very seething comments about the Cardiff

players resultant upon that match, but I will defend their efforts and point out that it would have been a wretched game had they not played it the way they did. OK they lost, and our Cup chances went with it, but don't forget we knew we didn't have a goal-kicker of Alan Martin's range and accuracy before the game, and to score three excellently contrived tries against two that had as much science and art about them as Fred Flinstone's best suit is not so bad, surely. If in the moments of desperation, some of our youngsters tried too hard and lost chances, that is the fault of over-endeavour, not of 'glory-seeking' as some would have it. I for one would rather our boys play attacking Rugby in the true Cardiff image than to sit back and wait for the mistakes and the penalties to come. What's the use of having a cupboard full of silver in the museum and nobody in the stand — because that is what would happen, if I know the Cardiff supporters, and if we played all of our games so that we didn't make mistakes. Until we can play our game more accurately and until we unearth another Bill Tamplin, and ally the scoring qualities of both, then I feel we should press on with the difficult bit of Rugby Football. That is trying to play imaginative and attacking Rugby Football, against sides who are content merely to stop us and contribute only their presence to the spectacle.

D.J.H.

Know the Laws

By FRED CROSTER

The welcomed Wallabies have now completed a tour which belied what many critics said and made them many more rugby friends. They certainly learned a lot. They also taught us quite a bit.

Especially concerning their interpretation of the laws and how to adapt to the prevailing interpretations. You may remember that it was not so long ago that they conceded penalty after penalty. That pattern changed dramatically as the tour progressed. A pattern which has seriously deteriorated as far as our national XV is concerned.

For years I have conscientiously kept the penalty 'score' in internationals. It used to be frightening. Then it drastically improved. At 'Twickers' against England it was back to square one. 16 against; 6 for. Time for re-thinking again.

One particular Wallabies 'ploy' was to deliberately hold the ball when a tackle was on, and then, on falling to the ground, hold it at arms length to provide second phase possession for their supporting players. Did you notice it? A supporter from Lampeter, of all places, has written to ask whether this is in order.

Yes! That's the immediate answer. It goes back to the definition of a 'tackle'. As usual I quote:

"A tackle occurs when a player carrying the ball . . . is held so that while he is so held

- * the ball touches the ground, or
- * if he is on his feet he is unable to free himself without delay and cannot play the ball except by releasing it.

The law provides the answer. As it should.

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Cardiff

15. J. DAVIES *3 conv*
14. D. THOMAS *2 tries*
13. P. EVANS *1 try*
12. A. A. J. FINLAYSON
11. P. L. JONES *2 tries*
10. D. WILSON
9. T. EVANS
1. B. NEMES
2. A. PHILLIPS *2 tries*
3. G. WALLACE
4. I. ROBINSON
5. P. RAWLINS
6. S. LANE
8. R. LANE *2 tries*
7. M. JOHN

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



Referee: C. G. P. THOMAS (Tonteg)

Gala

15. A. R. BROWN
14. ~~A. D. GILL~~
13. J. N. M. FRAME *1 try*
12. A. G. HENDERSON
11. V. CHLEBOWSKI
10. C. GOSS *1 conv*
9. D. J. MILLAR
1. D. AITKEN
2. A. BRYSON
3. A. INEDDON
4. R. F. CUNNINGHAM
5. R. W. BROTHERSEON
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7. G. DIXON

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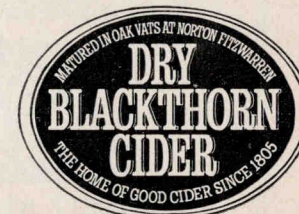
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	10 Swansea	.75

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FIRST XV FIXTURES

Date Opponents Venue Result

1975

Sept. 3 Glam. Wanderers H 36-6
6 Moseley ... A 16-17
10 Bristol ... H 9-3
13 Blackheath ... H 44-0
17 Bridgend ... A 12-3
20 Coventry ... A 18-21
24 Aberavon ... H 18-6
27 Gala ... A 10-12

Oct. 1 Penarth ... H 21-15
4 Newport ... A 0-16
8 Pontypool ... A 16-7
11 Northampton ... H 19-15
15 Ebbw Vale ... A 9-13
18 Cambridge Univ. H 19-12
22 Pontypridd ... A 17-15
25 Harlequins ... A 19-32

Nov. 1 Australia ... H 14-9
8 Newport ... H 14-6
12 Glam. Wanderers H 41-6
15 Wasps ... A 20-6
22 Llanelli ... A 13-18
29 Pontypool ... H 9-7

Dec. 2 Neath ... A 15-6
6 Swansea ... H 23-6
13 Bedford ... H 40-18
19 London Welsh H 33-4
26 Pontypridd ... H 22-12
27 Ebbw Vale ... H 43-10

1976

Jan. 10 Coventry ... H 29-12
17 London Welsh ... A 28-7
25 Neath ... H P

Feb. 7 Gala ... H.....
14 Bristol ... A.....
28 Llanelli ... H.....

Mar. 10 Bridgend ... H.....
13 Newport ... A.....
20 Italian Tour
27 Newport ... H.....
31 Gloucester ... H.....

Apr. 3 Gala Centenary
Sevens A.....
10 Swansea ... A.....
17 Barbarians ... H.....
19 Harlequins ... H.....
24 W.R.U. Cup Final



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Wing
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Prop



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