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(Rugby Football Union)



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BATH v. CARDIFF

SATURDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 1990

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Programme No. 787

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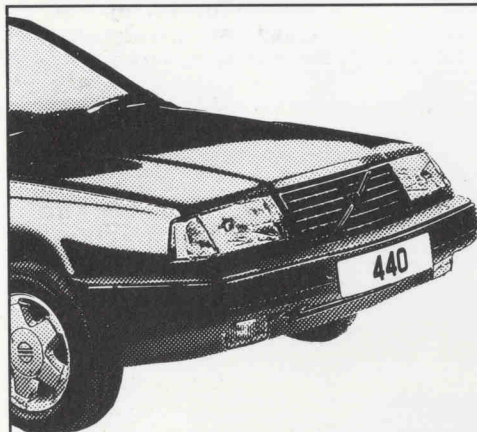
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BATH v. CARDIFF

It's a big day when Cardiff are in town. So welcome to 'one and all'.

Cardiff and Somerset . . . where lies the connection? Well may you ask. In fact one Frank Hancock of Wiveliscombe (it lies near to the Exmoor Hills) joined the new Cardiff club of the 1880's, and then introduced the modern three-quarter line formation of attack. He then played for his adopted Wales. Cardiff three-quarter formations? . . . merely some of the finest ever seen in club jerseys.

Now the successors of Hancock and Co. enter the 1990 season and into the newly established League of Welsh rugby. Much beckons. We wish them well in their new quest. And how fitting it would be if they were to capture the season's honours in the new League programme exactly one century since they electrified the rugby game with that original Hancock three-quarter line.

Meanwhile we on the Rec are settling into the home-programme since our tour Down Under. The results didn't go our way at 'Pool or Stradey park; but much was learned by less experienced players. And that was the chief value fielding some of The Family who might otherwise have been kept aside from such stiff opposition. Our own League matches start soon enough so, far better to warm-up the whole squad in the early weeks in the heat of Big games than make unnecessary errors later.

What we can do was superbly displayed against Romania and Toulouse. Running home six and then ten tries respectively, our Lads showed they are as hungry as ever. Now, records are not necessarily all that they are sometimes cracked up to be, but it is almost certain that ten tries against a Senior French side is indeed a record. Whatever, Barnsie' and the Boys put up a beautiful show.

There are two introductions to make this afternoon (well, not exactly 'introductions') in the persons of John Palmer and Simon Jones. John-Boy (Bath and England) and Simon (England Trialist and Barbarians) are now part of the Bath coaching panel. And what a panel it promises to be! 'Our Jack' we all know, and do not forget others such as John Kimberley too. But for sure the acquisition of John Palmer and Simon Jones is a tremendous boost. Both are hugely experienced in top rugby gained at Bath, and as a twosome they form amongst the youngest of coaches in senior rugby. Our best wishes to them both.

Cardiff we know are mustard keen for today's encounter. Who wouldn't be after overcoming Leicester to the tune of 35 - 9 as Cardiff did last weekend. News from our own dressing-room is equally interesting. Cardiff are something special and our Lads cannot wait to get out onto The Rec and get the ball into their hands for some action.

This clash is, we know, the top Anglo-Welsh match of the day. We wish both teams well.

Harry W. Barstow

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125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The coming season is the 125th Anniversary of our Club, and it is proposed to mark this further milestone in our long history, by holding a number of special events.

The first of these is in the shape of a '125 Get Together' at the beginning of the season—of players, officials and members, with of course, their wives and girlfriends at the Rockery Tea Gardens, North Road, Bath, on Thursday, 27th September from 7.30 pm to 11.00 pm.

A Buffet will be provided at a cost of **only** £2.50.

Admittance will be by ticket only, and these can be obtained from Peter Hall, Les Newton and Graham Webb.

A HISTORY OF 125 YEARS OF BATH RUGBY

A booklet commemorating this special 125th year, is now to be released. We are asking for a donation of £2.00, and any profits from sale, will go to the Stephen Roberts Trust Fund. The principal writer is Harry Barstow, and there are contributions from John Stevens, Sandra Hall and David Hall, John Roberts, Bath Ladies' RFC, Terry Knight, and the Old Players' Association. We will have them available in the Club Shop and with Peter Hall—as soon as published!

Our old and valued friends **GRAYSTON WHITE AND SPARROW** are sponsoring today's game. Their continued support of the Club, through our Chairman Roger Berry, is unwavering. Thank-you for this Roger. We hope that your guests will enjoy their time with us today.

Members are reminded that the Clubhouse is often available for hire and has proved to be very popular for Wedding Receptions and Parties, particularly in the close season.

Please 'phone (0225) 425192 for details.

John Allen, our Match Secretary, is looking for volunteers for stewarding and car parking duties. If you would like to help, please see him in his office at the Pulteney Street end of the Clubhouse.

Please note that there is now an admission charge of £1.00 (50p for Senior Citizens and Juniors) for non-members at all United XV games played here.

On September 29th we entertain Ulster here. This is an ALL-PAY game at normal non-member prices and tickets will be on sale in the Clubhouse between 7.30 and 9.00 pm on the following dates:

Mondays September 17 and 24 Wednesdays September 19 and 26

Comments have been made by members on the fact that there are three early season 'All Pay' games. What everyone may not be aware of is that the Club pays all the travelling and hotel costs of our visitors which are not inconsiderable. In the first two games, it is expected that costs will be covered although final figures are not yet available. Apart from this, those who watched the games against Romania and Toulouse will, I am sure, have thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed the high quality of rugby played.

Clive Howard

RUGBY HISTORY AT BATH

(Throughout this season an aspect of rugby history will feature in the Bath programme. Most articles, as is this story today, will be extracts from the Club's history, namely "Gladiators of a Roman City", and all will be directly or near directly connected with rugby at Bath. Much of the material for 'Gladiators' was researched by Harry W. Barstow in the library of The Bath & West Evening Chronicle, and we would like to give a due acknowledgement for the Chronicle's most welcome co-operation throughout the period of this research.)

TODAY'S STORY:

'THE LOOSE-HEAD? HE'S BEEN WITH US A LONG TIME'

Players referred to as 'loose-head' forwards were already in action by the 1880's, though there was general confusion as to the exact meaning of the terminology. For instance, 19th century players and followers up there in the North, Scotland or Ireland would quite likely not have heard too much about this loose-head business. But it was quite a different matter down in the West Country and Wales, though even here the term 'loose-head' could mean a multiple of front-row sins, depending on which area you played your rugby. One version known in Somerset involved a front row player literally standing upright in the scrummages, so ensuring him a clear view of the opposing team. Thus the player was actually free from the waist upwards, hence the term 'loose'.

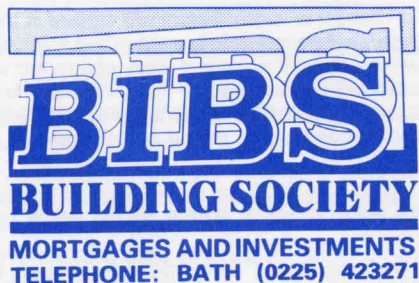
One wonders exactly what benefit was supposedly to have come from all this. However, in the 19th century teams frequently fielded at least ten forwards in their line-up, and with so much happening in that department of the game, a spot of spying was quite likely considered advantageous. Indeed, the matter certainly rattled opponents, whose usual counter-measure was to order a man from their own scrum to stand loose-head, smack-bang in front of the other fellow. On occasions, and much to the annoyance of the watching spectators, a tit-for-tat would start with two or even more forwards from each side standing as loose-heads.

Referees too did not like the ploy too much. It was after all a time-waster if teams wished it to be, and criticism of such tactics was common among rugby circles. And yet, the game was still learning about itself. It was the time of experimentation therefore, a period of trial and error. Moreover, the exponents of the front row game were to have their lesson soon enough with the arrival in 1905 of the first All Blacks, whose scrummaging technique and power was to send shockwaves through British rugby. After witnessing the New Zealanders in action, any fine ideas of actually standing up in the scrum rapidly disappeared from the face of the earth. Variations on a loose-head theme thus came to an abrupt halt, and by the Great War the prop 'at loose-head' was known throughout the game as that man in the front row nearest the put-in who thus packs down with one shoulder free and overlapping from the front of the scrum.



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FIRST XV FIXTURES AND RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Venue	Points	Date	Opponents	Venue	Points
1990				1991			
Sept 1	Pontypool	A	17 34	Jan. 5	Plymouth	A	
Sun 2	Romania XV (All Pay)	H	38 9	12	Moseley	*H	
Wed 5	Toulouse (All Pay)	H	44 9	19	Metropolitan Police	A	
8	Llanelli	A	12 28	26	Pilkington Cup	†	
Wed 12	Newport	H	Postponed	Feb. 2	Coventry	H	
15	Cardiff	H		9	Gloucester	*A	
22	Liverpool St. Helens	*H		Fri. 15	Newbridge	A	
Wed 26	Clifton	A		23	Exeter	†H	
29	Ulster (All Pay)	H		Wed 27	Ebbw Vale	H	
Oct. 6	Neath	H		Mar. 1	Llanelli	H	
13	Northampton	*A		9	Wasps	*H	
20	Orrell	*H		16	Newport	A	
27	Bristol	*A		23	Nottingham	*A	
Nov 3	Wasps	A		30	Bristol	H	
10	Harlequins	*H		Apr. 3	S.W. Police	H	
17	Leicester	*A		6	Bridgend	A	
24	Pilkington Cup	†		13	Rosslyn Park	*H	
Dec 1	London Scottish	**A		20	Gloucester	H	
8	Richmond	**A		27	Saracens	*A	
15	London Welsh	**H		May 4	Pilkington Cup Final	†	
22	Blackheath	A					
26	Clifton	H					
29	Swansea	H					

* Courage League
 ** Divisional Championship
 † Pilkington Cup

UNITED XV FIXTURES AND RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Venue	Points	Date	Opponents	Venue	Points
1990				1991			
Sept. 1	Pontypool Athletic	H	Cancelled	Jan. 5	Gloucester United	H	
8	Bridgend Sports	H	66 3	12	Croesyceiliog	A	
Wed 12	Newport United	A	Postponed	Fri 18	Ebbw Vale United	H	
15	Cardiff Athletic	A		26	Nuneaton 2nds	A	
22	Gloucester United	A		Feb. 2	Cwmbran	A	
29	Bedwas	A		9	Garndiffaith	H	
Oct. 6	Northampton Wands.	A		16	Nottingham United	H	
13	Coventry United	H		23	Wasps Vandals	A	
20	Bedford United	L H		Mar. 2	Rugby Wanderers	A	
27	Bristol United	H		9	Coventry United	A	
Wed. 31	Exeter University	H		16	Bedwas	H	
Nov. 3	Wasps Vandals	H		23	Rosslyn Park XXX Club	H	
10	Moseley United	A		30	Bristol United	A	
17	Leicester United	H		Apr. 1	Blackwood	H	
24	Plymouth Albion 2nds	A		6	Bridgend Sports	A	
Dec. 1	Harlequin Wanderers	H		13	Newport United	L H	
8	Richmond Athletic	H		20	Bargoed	A	
15	London Welsh Druids	A		27	Cwmbran	H	
22	Rugby Wanderers	H					
29	Matson	A					

L = Lambridge Ground

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SPARTANS XV FIXTURES AND RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Venue	Points	Date	Opponents	Venue	Points
1990				1991			
Sept. 1	Combe Down	A		Jan. 5			
8	Cheltenham United	A	19 3	12	Loughborough 2nd	A	
15	Moseley	H		19	Cleve	H	
22	Sherborne	H		26	Old Edwardians 1st	H	
29	Bedwas II	A		Feb. 2	Old Culverhaysians	A	
Oct. 6	Saracens	H		9	North Dorset	A	
13				16	Dursley	A	
20	Coventry 3rd	H		23	Hucclecote	H	
27	Swindon	A		Mar. 2	Devizes	H	
Nov. 3	Stow-on-the-Wold	H		9	Blackheath	A	
10	Moseley	A		16	Bedwas II	H	
17	Bristol	H		23	Cheltenham Saracens	A	
24	Clifton	A		30	Bristol	H	
Dec. 1	Stroud Nomads	A		Apr. 6	Cheltenham North	H	
8	Gloucester Old Boys	A		13			
15	London Welsh (3rd)	A		20	Weston Hornets	H	
22	Chippenham	A		27	Walcot	A	
29	Stothert & Pitt	A					

YOUTH XV FIXTURES AND RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Venue	Points	Date	Opponents	Venue	Points
1990				1991			
Sept. 1	Plymouth	A		Jan. 5	Cleve	A	
8	Clevedon	H	30 13	12	Ivybridge	H	
15	Moseley	H		19	Barnstaple	H	
Wed. 19	Somerset Youth	H		26	Aberavon	A	
22	Rosslyn Park	A		Feb. 2	Lydney	A	
29	Leicester	H		9	Newport	H	
Oct. 6	Llanelli	H		16	Cinderford	H	
13	Newport	A		23	Cardiff H.S.	H	
Wed. 17	Millfield	H		Mar. 2	Bedford	H	
20	Cheltenham Colts	A		Wed. 6	Gloucester	H	
Wed. 24	Gloucester	A		9	Taunton	A	
27	Cinderford	A		16	Nuneaton	H	
Nov. 3	Barnstaple	A		23	Orrell	H	
10	Clifton	H		30	Bristol	A	
17	Moseley	A		Apr. 6	Llanelli	A	
24	Bristol	H		13	Richmond	A	
Dec. 1	Wasps	H		20	Barkers Butts	H	
8	Coventry	A		27	Nottingham	H	
15	Davenport/Manchester	A					
22	Havant	H					
29	Winchester	H					

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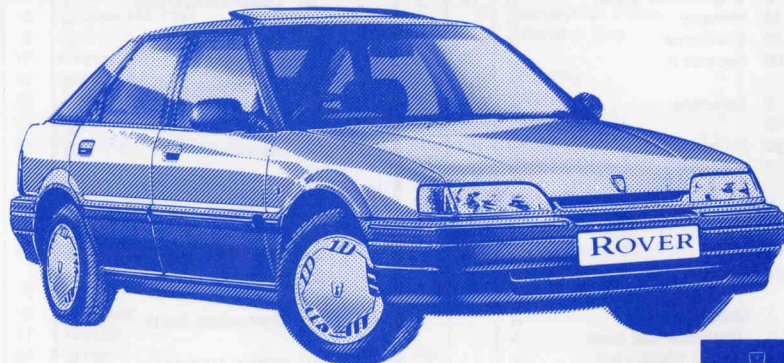
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Club Captain: STUART BARNES

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BATH v. CARDIFF

SATURDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 1990

BATH

Colours: Blue, White & Black

Full Back 16 JON CALLARD* T
Right Wing 15 TONY SWIFT* TT
Right Centre 14 JON BAMSEY TT
Left Centre 12 JEREMY GUSCOTT* T
Left Wing 11 ADEDAYO ADEBAYO

Outside Half 10 STUART BARNES* (Capt.) T/C P/C
Scrum Half 9 RICHARD HILL*

Forwards
1 VICTOR UBOGU
2 GRAHAM DAWE*
3 RICHARD LEE
4 MARTIN HAAG
5 DAMIAN CRONIN*
6 ANDY ROBINSON*
7 JOHN HALL*
8 DAVID EGERTON*

Replacements 17 NICK PRATT
18 COLIN ATKINS

Referee: Fred Howard (Liverpool Society)

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CARDIFF

Colours: Cambridge Blue & Black

Full Back 15 MIKE RAYER CC*
Right Wing 14 STEVE FORD* CEE THOMAS T
Right Centre 13 GERAINT JOHN
Left Centre 12 MARK RING* SWB M-DE MAID
Left Wing 11 DAMION GRIFFITHS

Outside Half 10 DAVID EVANS* (Capt.) P/
Scrum Half 9 PAUL JOHN

Forwards
1 MIKE GRIFFITHS*
2 IAN WATKINS* T
3 STEVE BLACKMORE*
4 STUART NUNNERELY
5 STUART ROY
6 MARK BENNETT
7 RICHIE COLLINS* T
8 MARK EDWARDS

Replacements 16 MATHEW DE-MAID
17 IAN GREENSLADE

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.



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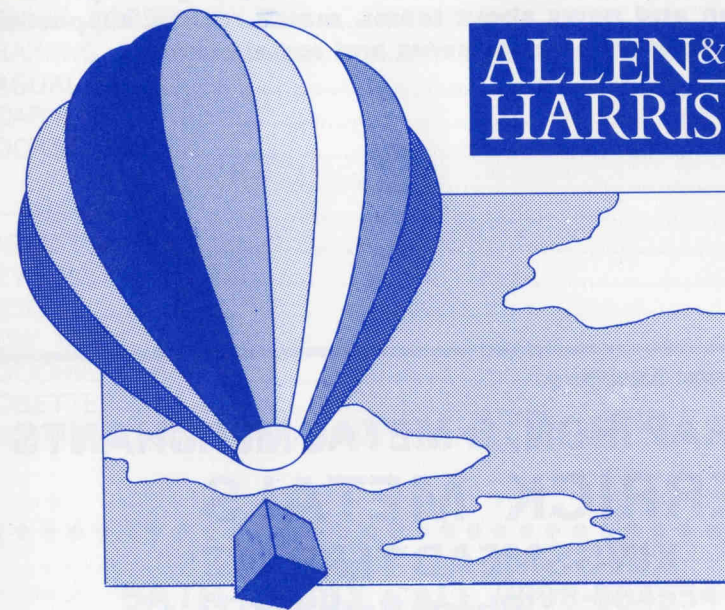
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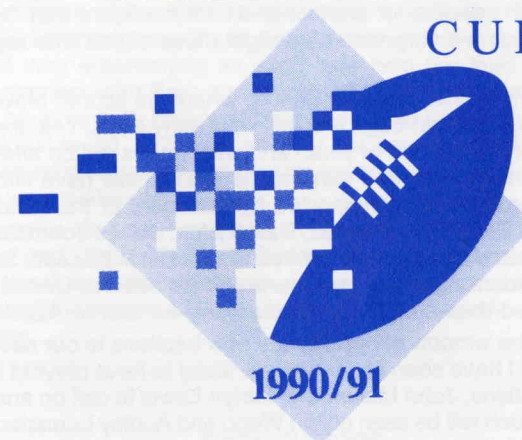
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ROUND 2	SATURDAY 3 NOVEMBER '90
ROUND 3	SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER '90
ROUND 4	SATURDAY 26 JANUARY '91
QUARTER FINALS	SATURDAY 23 FEBRUARY '91
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FINAL	SATURDAY 4 MAY '91 AT TWICKENHAM

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"UNITED WE STAND?"

Much has been made in the media recently of certain defections to other clubs and it is always sad when we lose players, for whatever reason. Apart from those who have attracted attention, we have also lost the likes of Jon Morrison, Peter Miles, Barry Trevaskis and Sean Williams and I have been asked for my views as the team on which these losses are likely to impact most, which is the United, whose record last season matched the First XV. What appears to have been forgotten is that the loss of one player is an opening for another and I am confident that the youngsters who will fill these spaces will surprise and delight those of you who regularly watch our games.

Last week's result against Bridgend Sports, where we scored eleven tries must surely answer that question, although it is still very early days. Yes, there has been a loss of experience and the blend of youth and wise heads will be altered—but this could provide a more fluid style and surprise us all. We still have Nick Maslen as Captain and he will be admirably supported by members of the "Old Firm" such as Steve Kipling, Clive Book, Tim Reeman, David Trick, James Johnstone and Steve Knight. When you consider that the likes of Mark Crane, Peter Blackett, Steve Ojomoh, Julian Olds, Gareth Adams and Jimmy Deane will be seen in United colours—all youngsters who proved themselves last season and on tour in Australia.

As I said earlier, the window of opportunity now beckons to our new arrivals this season and from what I have seen so far, we are lucky to have players of the calibre of Andy Reed, Colin Atkins, John Mallett and Iestyn Lewis to call on and in case you may have forgotten, much will be seen of Jon Webb and Audley Lumsden now happily back to full fitness and raring to go.

With the heavy demands on our first team squad we will see, at times, real demands made on our players and our strength in depth will be sorely tested. I am, however, very confident that our young players will come of age and as Jack Rowell said of the Australians, they have Test players at 20 and 21. Perhaps we will again be trendsetters? It is going to be an exciting season and the players of the United relish the challenge.

Steve Richards
Hon. Team Secretary, United XV

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BATH YOUTH

It is pleasing to report that the Youth Team has made a successful start to the new season with victories in their two opening matches.

In the first game, following a long and delayed trip to Plymouth, the players struggled to find their form against determined opposition. However, they stuck to their task and an improved second half display gave them an 18 - 7 victory.

The second match saw a repeat of last season's Somerset Colts' Cup Final, when Clevedon visited Lambridge aiming to avenge their defeat in that Final. The first half was hectic and very entertaining as each side held the lead three times as they alternated the scoring, with Bath just ahead 16 - 13 at the interval. After the break Clevedon had no answer to Bath's superior all-round game which enabled them to record a comfortable 30 - 13 win, scoring six tries in all. This much improved performance should give the players greater confidence in tackling the much tougher fixtures in the weeks ahead.

Last Saturday a 'flag day' was held in the City to officially launch the Stephen Roberts Trust Fund. Youth Team Chairman Terry Knight would like to take this opportunity to thank all those volunteers who took part in the event, but most of all would like to thank the people of Bath who responded magnificently and contributed most generously.

David Hulford

BATH JUNIORS

The section is now back in action with two squads having started training back in August with fitness and weight training sessions.

Training will be as last season, i.e. Thursday evenings 7.00 - 9.00 pm and Sundays 10.30 - 12 noon. Our fixture list this year involves some new and interesting fixtures with Maesteg, Pontypool and Saracens, as well as the batch of first-class Clubs played last season.

On the 17th March, 1991 we will be hosting a Tour Squad from Camborne R.F.C. as a reciprocal fixture for our trip to Cornwall last Easter. They will be bringing 12's, 13's, 14's and 15's. We hope that the Mini section can provide a team to make up the complement of fixtures.

Thanks to Dave Egerton for his assistance and coaching session last Sunday with 14's. This was a welcome and refreshing session, from which both trainers and boys derived much benefit.

The Under 16's are looking for two or three lads to increase the depth of the Squad for what promises to be an exciting and interesting season. So if you are a budding (we will train you) or aspiring front or lock forward looking to play good quality junior Rugby, then please contact the Club or Alan Clarkson on Bath 833107.

Our first matches are on 23rd September at Lambridge with the renewal of two old rivalries—16's versus Wimborne and 14's versus North Bristol. Meanwhile the 13's will be at Llandaff and the 15's at Weston super Mare. If you have an hour or so to spare on Sunday morning, please come and watch.

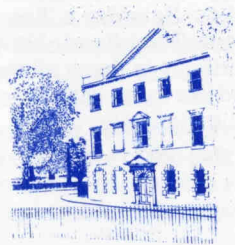
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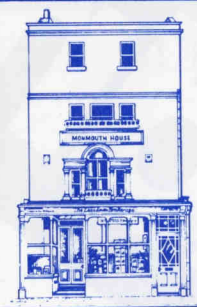


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So how about it? If you have anything that you wish to say,
why not drop a line to the Club as follows:

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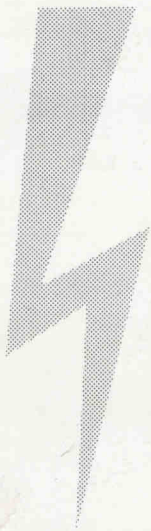
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