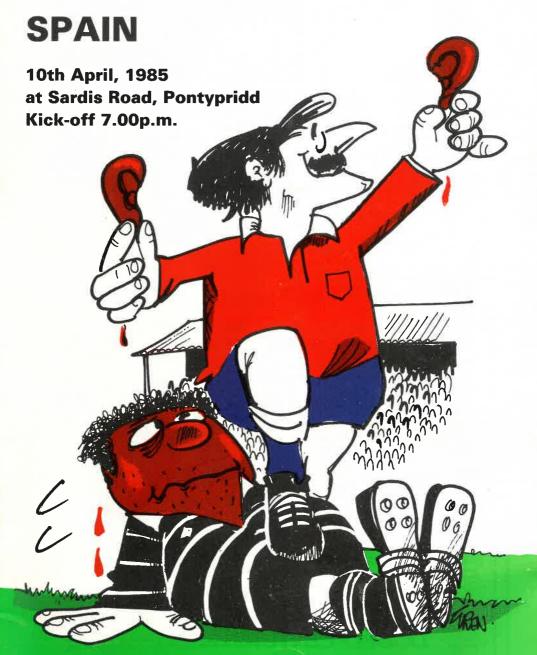
PONTYPRIDD

versus



Pontypridd R.F.C.

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Domecq Double Century is delighted to be involved with the sherry reception before tonight's match.

DOUBLE CENTURY FROM DOMECQ



On behalf of Pontypridd R.F.C. may I take this opportunity of welcoming to Sardis Road the Spanish National Team who are making their first official tour to Wales and we at Pontypridd are indeed privileged to be the only Club side to play the tourists.

Having managed the Pontypridd side on a short tour to Spain last year I can vouch from first hand the strength of the game in Spain which is well organised at Club level both administration and player-wise. The Spanish teams play very much in the French tradition having of course

been heavily influenced by coaches and adminstrators on south west France being of course the strongest area of French rugby.

I think therefore that spectators at this game can look forward to a fast and exciting match with good handling and strong tackling.

I hope that when you leave Pontypridd you will have enjoyed not only the game but also the hospitality and friendliness for which this Club is justly famous and that friendships will be struck today that will last for many years to come.

"Croeso" welcome is the theme of today's visit and may the best side win but more important may rugby football win.

Finally may I thank Memory Lane Cakes who once again have sponsored a Programme for the visit of a touring side. They have been great supporters of Pontypridd for some years past and I would like to thank them for all their help which thanks goes also to all our Sponsors, Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, Members and all those who help Pontypridd year in and year out. I would also like to thank Dent & Reuss Ltd., who sponsor the prematch Sherry Reception

SAM SIMON, President, Pontypridd R.F.C.



Memory Lane Cakes are proud to support the first full National Rugby side from Spain to Wales, and their first match of the tour.

There is no doubt that this well established game is maintaining its popularity - a game of physical contact and controlled aggression which is kept to the field of play and not on the terraces.

Memory Lane Cakes are pleased to be associated with a sport where you can watch a game with the whole family in safety.

We are sure that the Spanish players will enjoy the experience of playing in front of a dedicated and knowledgeable rugby crowd. We are certain they will be aware that in South Wales, rugby is not so much a game, but a way of life.

We hope that after having an enjoyable tour, they will return to their country determined to spread the "Rugby Gospel" and this will be the first of many visits to the U.K.

A. J MICHIE, MEMORY LANE CAKES

ALL THE BEST FROM







COURAGE WALES





"Sardis Road" must sound like one of those exotic cocktails to our Spanish guests, but just imagine if the game had been played 15 years ago - what would they have made of "Ynysangharad Park"?

Whatever, I can assure them that even if the home of Pontypridd R.F.C. has moved a few hundred yards, the club and it's people have remained the same and as loyal as ever, and is certainly a place I've enjoyed visiting be it as a player and now, as a member of the Press Gang.

Of course, my playing days were at Ynysangharad Park. In the red of Llanelli and

normally in mid week and if I remember rightly we came off second best in one marvellous high scoring game - the ref was probably from PORTH!! (Only joking).

Like all clubs Pontypridd is loaded with characters. Take President Sam Simon. Such is Sam's total one-eyed involvement in Pontypridd, he still insists on watching television in black and white!!

Sam will, as usual, plough his own furrow as he marches those few yards in front of the players entrance, gesticulating, urging and occasionally with the nonchalant wave of his arm and a shake of his head, has pointedly informed the ref that he didn't agree with his stupid decision.

To me, rugby is far more than up and unders, scrums and line outs, for those people on the periphery are as much a part of the script as those on the pitch - ask Max Boyce.

If Max has brilliantly portrayed an aspect of Welsh rugby in song and rhyme, then Ponty's John Hughes has done as much with his little fingers - I hate clever so-and-so's - don't you.

John in his own quiet way has and is a fine ambassador for the club, but what about Big Bob.

Bob Penberthy is synonymous not only with Pontypridd R.F.C. but also, with all that is good in the game. It's always a pleasure to bump into the ever cheerful Bob and I'm sure that the big fella will be singled out to the visitors, for he is a human landmark, as will be Tom David.

The Spanish party will, I know, enjoy their visit to the Valley's capital. It's a bit special. The rugby will be fast and open, but the pace on the field is nothing compared with that off - so don't claim you have not been warned!!



The Mid Glamorgan County Council has a very warm and cordial relationship with the Pontypridd R.F.C., and as an ex-player of this distinguished club it gives me much pleasure to personally associate myself with the visit of their Spanish friends.

Since 1957 the County Council has been in the forefront of establishing links of friendship with other European countries for the

purpose of strengthening the social, cultural and economic relations of our respective countries.

At the same time we have done our utmost to encourage and support, in all possible ways, contact of organisations and individuals, thus furthering the overall friendship, goodwill, and understanding between our peoples. In so doing we believe that this has contributed to a new and united Europe in which our peoples can live in mutual respect of each other and in an atmosphere of peace and freedom.

Particularly strong ties have been made with Germany, France and Italy with the exchange of teachers and students, choirs, sporting organisations and numerous other groups. With the forthcoming admission of Spain into the European Community it would please us immensely to see similar links being established with that country. I hope that this event will be the forerunner of many more.

In my opinion, there is no finer way of bringing people together in a spirit of goodwill and friendly competition than through sport, and I applaud the initiative and foresight of those responsible in arranging this programme.

During my lifetime rugby football has given me a wealth of satisfaction and pleasure, both as a player and as a spectator, and I hope that all those now involved in the game will experience the joy it gave, and still gives, me.

To our Spanish friends may I say, you will not receive a warmer welcome anywhere else in the United Kingdom and I have no doubt that you will return home with very happy memories of your hosts. Good luck for the future

T. I. W. A. DAVIES, Chairman of the County Council.

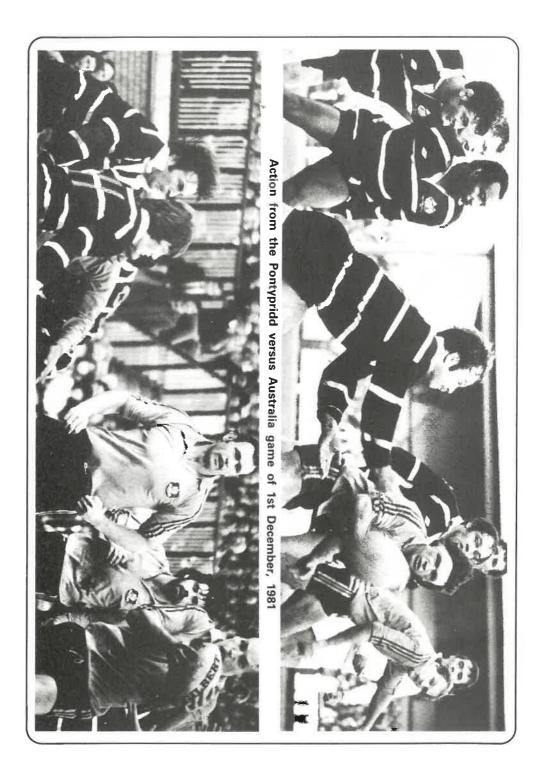


WELCOME BY THE MAYOR OF TAFF-ELY

(Councillor Emrys Pryce Lewis)

As Mayor of the Borough Council of Taff-Ely, I am most pleased and honoured to welcome our visitors from Spain to Pontypridd. The Council has a happy relationship with all rugby clubs within its area and takes pride in the fact that Pontypridd Rugby Football Club have been rewarded by being allocated tonight's prestigious fixture.

I trust that the match will prove most entertaining and, more importantly, lasting friendships forged between this area and our Spanish guests.



SPAIN





Lino Plaza



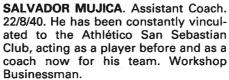
Angel Luis Jimenez



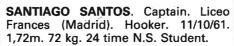
Salvador Mujica

LINO PLAZA. Manager. 4/9/39. Always belonged to the C.D. Arquitectura (Madrid) as a player, coach and Manager. And he obtained several Championships in every post. Architect.

ANGEL LUIS JIMENEZ. Coach. 17/12/47. He played at the National Side one time. As a player he played for the Olimpico R.C. (Madrid) and he was the coach for the same later on. Court Officer.



JOSEBA GEIJO. Physiotherapist. 7/12/54. Has been constantly vinculated to the Getxo R.T. (Bilbao).



JULIO ALVAREZ. El Salvador (Valladolid). Prop. 3/11/60. 1,86m. 97 kg. 9 time N.S. Student.



Joseba Geijo



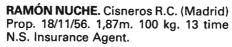
Santiago Santos

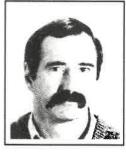


Julio Alvarez



Ramón Nuche





Ignacio Zabala



Tomas Pardo

TOMAS PARDO. Valencia R.C. Prop. 15/6/57. 1,85 m. 96 kg. 23 time N.S. Fireman.

DOMINGO BAEZA. C.D. Arquitectura (Madrid). Hooker. 9/1/63. 1,72 m. 75 kg. 3 time N.S. Student.

JOAQUIN URIA. Sporting de Gijón (Asturias). Prop. 16/5/57. 1,80 m. 95 kg. 4 time N.S. Electrician.



Bosco Abascal



Domingo Baeza

IGNACIO ZABALA. Atlético San Sebastian. Lock. 10/5/48. 1,92 m. 90 kg. 1 time N.S. Officer.

BOSCO ABASCAL. Ciencias (Sevilla). Lock. 23/1/58. 1,96 m. 110 kg. 4 time N.S. Agricultural Engineer.

JAVIER AMUNARRIZ. Atlético San Sebastian. Flanker. 22/9/59. 1,94 m. 91 kg. 13 times N.S. Officer.



Javier Amunarriz



Joaquin Uria

SERGIO LONGHNEY. F.C. Barcelona. Flanker. 5/4/62. 1,84 m. 90 kg. 18 time N.S. Student.



Sergio Longhney



Felipe Blanco



Javier Palacios



Jose A. Egido



Mikel Elizalde

FELIPE BLANCO. C.D. Arquitectura (Madrid). Flanker. 1/5/54. 1,88 m. 88 kg. 30 time N.S. Veterinary.

JAVIER PALACIOS. C.D. Arquitectura (Madrid). Flanker. 10/10/60. 1,83 m. 85 kg. 4 time N.S. Student.

JOSE A. EGIDO. Canoe N.C. (Madrid). No. 8. 21/7/62. 1,90 m. 96 kg. 9 time N.S. Student.

MIKEL ELIZALDE. Hernani C.R. (Guipuzcoa). No. 8. 9/7/57. 1,90 m. 92 kg. 2 time N.S. Officer.

ENRIQUE LOBO. F.C. Barcelona. Scrum Half. 15/7/60. 1,70 m. 72 kg. 10 time N.S. Technical Official.

JAVIER DIAZ. Getxo R.T. (Bilbao). Scrum Half. 17/1/60. 1,67 m. 64 kg. 8 time N.S. Student.

LUIS NUÑEZ. Ciencias (Sevilla). Outside Half. 19/9/61. 1,75 m. 74 kg. 17 time N.S. Student.

JORGE MORENO. C.D. Arquitectura (Madrid). Outside Half. 11/4/61. 1,83 m. 78 kg. 4 time N.S. Student.



Enrique Lobo



Javier Diaz



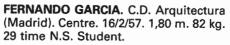
Luis Nunez



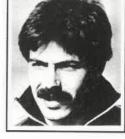
Jorge Moreno



Fernando Garcia



JON AZKARGORTA. Getxo R.T. (Bilbao) Centre. 3/5/63. 1,75 m. 70 kg. 15 time N.S. Student.



Salvador Torres



Jon Azkargorta

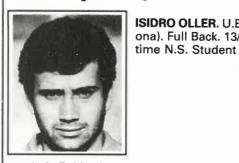
LUIS F. MARTIN. Teca R.C. (Madrid). Wing. 15/1/60. 1,82 m. 80 kg. 8 time N.S. Student.

SALVADOR TORRES. U.E. Santboiana (Barcelona). Wing. 22/8/56. 1,73 m. 72 kg. 33 time N.S. Gymnastics Teacher.

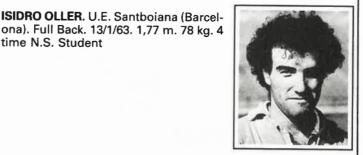
FRANCISCO PUERTAS. Canoe N.C. (Madrid). Full Back. 5/1/63. 1,80 m. 79 kg. 6 time N.S. Student.



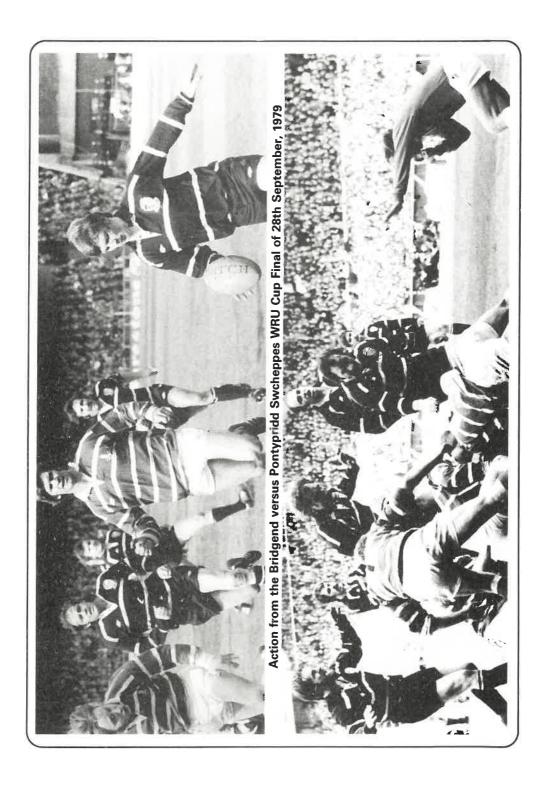
Francisco Puertas



Luis F. Martin



Isidro Oller



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THE SPANISH CONNECTION

Can the historian discover the Spanish-Welsh link in rugby which we celebrate today in the mists of yesterday?

On a cold, wet Sunday in 1872 George Santayana disembarked in Cardiff en route from Bilbao in North-West Spain to Boston. The next day this Spanish-American teenager resumed his journey and went on to become, in the U.S.A., a great philosopher, novelist **and** fanatical admirer of the new American game of baseball. If he had stayed in Wales there can be no doubt that he would have found his true love in the shape of the new Welsh game of rugby. If he had had the good sense to travel up the Taff, and wait three

years, he could have become a founder-member of our own Club and broadcast Ponty's glory to the world. But he didn't, and so the historian must look elsewhere.

The city of Bilbao itself may provide a clue. It lies in the Basque country and, as we all know, on the French side of the border the Basques mint forwards who look like bulls, run like rhinos and pass more times than Sam Simon would on Mastermind! Now, from Bilbao ships plied a trade to North Wales to pick up slate, and Welsh women, too. My own great-great-grandfather was one such sailor with good taste who made an early international connection. But he was long dead before the family trekked south to work the coal so I cannot claim him as a Welsh-Spaniard writing home to rave about our popular Victorian pastime (rugby, I mean!).

Bilbao still figures in our search, though. You see the Dowlais Iron Ore Company had owned the Orconero Iron Ore Company in Northern Spain since 1873. In 1907 hundreds of Spanish workers sailed with the ore ships to find work and settle, first in Dowlais, and with a later offshoot in Abercraf. Now these boys had landed slap bang in the middle of our first Golden Era. Surely, they must have written home to tell of the Welsh passion they had discovered (rugby, I still mean!). Well they may have, of course, but it was both too late and too early because the First World War was about to intervene and the European interchange would be in lead not iron, coal or leather for decades to come.

Some romantic spirits have agreed that rugby came to Spain via Patagonia where an intrepid bunch of the Welsh had settled, in the South Atlantic, in 1865. Here bilingualism would mean Welsh and Spanish and Gren's sheep would need translators. Could the language, yr heniaith, have passed on rugby lore to the Spanish-speaking world? Alas, it would have been pretty difficult - those who went to Patagonia, in the first wave, would have been more likely to have played 'cnappan' than rugby and no international game was even played in Wales until 1882. So we must discount that along with the surer fact that the original inhabitants of Wales had close tribal links with the inhabitants of the Iberian Peninsula. History draws a blank in close connections.

Maybe it's the right answer after all. The game lives in the present and for the future. When our Spanish friends hear the crscendo of 'Pon-ty! Pon-ty!' crash around Sardis Road this afternoon they will (Olé! Olé!) feel quickly at home. What I am sure we share with our visitors is a profound feeling for the grace and vitality of our particular game. And if they hear any of our older members, myself included, reminisce in the safety of the stand about "chewing some Spanish" then they may be re-assured that the explanation is entirely historical.

DAI SMITH

Allbright

The most popular pint in Wales

Welsh Brewers 🛕

By ROBERT COLE, WESTERN MAIL

Franco, bull fighting, paella, cheap package holidays and sangria have all played their part in making Spain famous.....but rugby?

The Iberian peninsula has thrown up its fair share of good footballers but so far they have all been devotees of the round ball game.

Not that you should expect the Spaniards to be any mugs at rugby. They have been playing the game for more than 50 years and in that time have made considerable advances.

Just how much they have developed is best gauged by their regular appearance in the first division of the much respected FIRA championships - along with France, Romania, Italy and the Soviet Union - and they are also being mooted as one of the countries likely to make up the numbers if a rugby world cup ever gets off the ground.

Strong in the northern Basque region and around Barcelona and Madrid, the game is played with a rare vigour and enthusiasm in Spain. What they lack in skill and expertise they certainly make up for in endeavour.

So what shouldd Pontypridd rugby fans expect from their visitors tonight? Certainly no forward orientated game, they are not well enough developeed yet for that, but they could provide a few surprises.

When the Wales B team visited Spain in 1983 they were struck by the spirit of adventure that marked their host's style and their tough tackling.

The scorelines achieved by Eddie Butler's team on that tour may have been heavy but they didn't come without a fight and the odd fright.

Welsh contact with the Spaniards was maintained last season when their national under 23 team played at the Brewery Field, Bridgend against Welsh county champions Glamorgan.

It proved a rather harrowing and damp experience for the young tourists who were greeted by torrential rain, driven by a gale force wind....and an unsympathetic Glamorgan side.

On this tour they will be wanting to put the record straight and prove not only to Welsh rugby fans, but also themselves just how good they are.

Wales, like all other International Board countries, has a key role to play in developing the game worldwide and this tour can only serve to help the evolution of Spanish rugby.

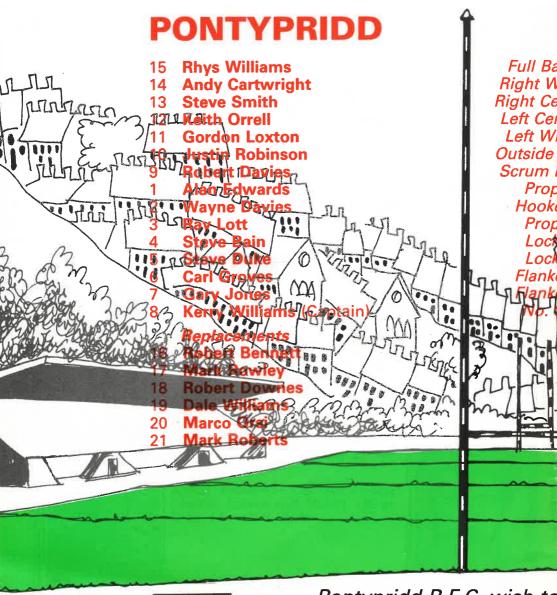
And for a first taste of Welsh club rugby, where better to start their four match tour than in one of the game's great hotbeds......Pontypridd. It is perhaps rather apt the tour should open at Sardis Road because the Club's players had such a splendid end of season tour to Spain last year.

There was just one slight hiccup, however, when one of the two scheduled matches had to be cancelled. A number of the players in the side due to meet the Welshmen were required to turn out for their district representative team in a crucial fixture.... against Glamorgan Wanderers.

But there will be no playing second fiddle tonight as John O'Callaghan and his men finally catch up on their missing Spanish match.

It is always nice to see touring teams playing in Wales, doubly so when they are new faces. The Spaniards will provide a breath of fresh air at the end of a long, hard season and even if we can't beat them at soccer we can at least try to redress the balance by teaching them a thing or two about our national game.







Pontypridd R.F.C. wish to Memory I for sponsoring this Match Pro

Illustration by Gren by k

Touch Judges: J. G. MORGAN, JERRY PRICE

Western Mail



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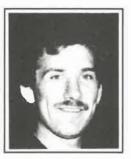
Referee: R. YEMAN



PONTYPRIDD RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



John O'Callaghan



lan Walsh



Rhys Williams

JOHN O'CALLAGHAN

Captain & Flanker - Age 23 6ft 2ins. 15 stone Occupation Leisure Centre Manager

IAN WALSH

Full Back - Age: 28 6ft Oins. 13½ stone Occupation Civil Engineer

RHYS WILLIAMS

Full Back - Age: 27 5ft 8ins. 13½ stone Occupation Supermarket Manager

DALE WILLIAMS

Full Back - Age: 20 6ft 2ins. 13 st 8lbs Occupation Bricklayer

GORDON LOXTON

Wing - Age: 26 6ft 0ins. 13¾ stone Occupation Television Operative

ANDY CARTWRIGHT

Wing - Age: 20 5ft 8ins. 12 stone Occupation Newsagent



Dale Williams



Gordon Loxton



Andy Cartwright



Justin Robinson



Mike Kellerher

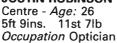


Robert Downes



Steve Smith

JUSTIN ROBINSON



STEVE SMITH Centre - Age: 21 5ft 8ins. 12 stone

Occupation Auto Mechanic

KEITH ORRELL

Centre - Age: 19
5ft 10ins. 14 stone
Occupation Quantity Surveyor



Outside Half - Age: 24 5ft 10ins. 11st 2lb Occupation Upholsterer

MIKE KELLERHER

Outside Half - Age: 24 5ft 7½ins. 11 stone Occupation Miner

ROBERT DOWNES

Scrum Half - Age: 19 5ft 8ins. 11st 10lb Occupation Miner

ROBERT DAVIES

Scrum Half - Age: 21 5ft 10ins. 12st 8lb Occupation Electricity Linesman

ALAN EDWARDS

Prop - Age: 24 6ft 1ins. 16st 7lb Occupation Storeman

MARCO ORSI

Prop - *Age:* 24 5ft 10ins. 15 stone

Occupation Restauranteur



Keith Orrell



Roddy Crane



Robert Davies



Alan Edwards



Marco Orsi



Neil Wilding



Andy Witts



Steve Duke

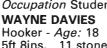


Mike Iles



Prop - Age: 19 5ft 8ins. 14¾ stone Occupation Labourer

MARK ROBERTS Hooker - Age: 22 5ft 10ins. 14 stone Occupation Student



Hooker - Age: 18 5ft 8ins. 11 stone Occupation Farmer ANDY WITTS

Hooker - Age: 24 5ft 8ins. 15 stone Occupation Timber Merchant



STEVE BAIN Lock - Age: 24 6ft 2ins. 16½ stone Occupation Scaffolder

MARK ROWLEY Lock - Age: 20 6ft 7ins. 16½ stone Occupation Electricity Linesman

Occupation Electricity Linesmar GARETH DAVIES
Lock - Age: 26
6ft 3½ins. 16½ stone
Occupation N.C.B. Fitter



Steve Bain



Mark Rowley



Mark Roberts

Wayne Davies



Gareth Davies



Robert Bennett



Andy Carpenter



Gary Jones



Don Jones

ROBERT BENNETT

Flanker - Age: 25 6ft 1ins. 13 stone Occupation Machine Engineer

ANDY CARPENTER

Flanker - Age: 23 6ft 1½ins. 14½ stone Occupation Miner

GARY JONES

Flanker - Age: 24 6ft 3ins. 15 stone Occupation Gas Technician

DON JONES

Flanker - Age: 32 5ft 11ins. 12½ stone Occupation School Teacher

MEIRION DANIELS

Flanker - Age: 20 5ft 10ins. 12¾ stone Occupation Joiner

CARL GROVES

No. 8 - Age: 26 6ft 4ins. 14½ stone Occupation Tool Maker

KERRY WILLIAMS

No. 8 - Age: 31 6ft 4ins. 15st 3lb Occupation Sales Representative

RAY LOTT

Prop - Age: 34
6ft 0ins. 16 stone
Occupation
Surface Worker N.C.B.



Meirion Daniels



Carl Groves



Kerry Williams



Ray Lott

twous Scrun

chilled & frozen resh cream cak



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