

GALA WILTON FC



v Broadwell FC

Saturday 21 January 2023

2022-2023 SEASON

Gloucestershire County League

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Gala Wilton was formed in 1952 when a group of friends from the Wilton Road area of Gloucester City created a side known as 'Wilton Rover'. Initially they played their football in the North Gloucestershire League gaining limited success winning the FJ Pope Cup in 1956/57 and Division 1 in 1959/60. In 1970 the club moved to their present home at The Gala Club and then, in 1971 at the third time of asking, they were elected to the Gloucestershire Northern Senior League.

They made an immediate impact in the League, winning Division 2 and beating local rivals Longlevens Star to the title. The following season they finished a creditable 5th in Division 1 and made an application to the County League. Initially they failed to gain membership losing out by one vote to Division 1 Champions Bishops Cleeve. However, it was consequently discovered that the Cheltenham side had misled the County League with regards to the distance from their changing rooms to the pitch and, on a second vote, Wilton Rovers gained membership. Although voted into the County League, the club still retained its membership of the GNSL courtesy of their reserves and, in 1978/79, they won Division 2 by a point from Walls United.

During their 12 seasons in the County League they achieved their best position of 3rd in 1980/81 behind Almondsbury Greenway & Shortwood United, but in 1984/85 they finished 18th and were relegated back to the GNSL. The following season they made an immediate return to the County League having achieved runners-up position to ICI Fibres in Division 1 of Gloucestershire Northern Senior League.

That same season they also won the

Diamond Jubilee Cup, a League Cup played for every four years at the time.

Having gained a return to the County League they remained in the League for just three seasons before they were relegated again. In 1989/90 they finished runners-up to St. Marks CA and, in the same season, they again won the Diamond Jubilee Cup but had changed the club name to Gale Wilton. After this second successive Diamond Jubilee victory, the club went on a downward spiral and, for one season, only fielded a single side.

The club reached a new low when they were relegated to the second Division of the North Gloucestershire League. The club met with limited success back in the North Gloucester League with the Reserve team winning Divisions 2 & 3 while the 1st XI reached the JO Roberts final only to lose to Westbury United. In 2002 the club transferred allegiances to the Cheltenham League and its fortunes started to change for the better. Several GFA cups and promotions later, the club regained promotion to the GNSL and in 2007-8 they won Division 2 by a clear 10 points from Dursley Town to enable them to return to Division 1 of Gloucestershire Northern Senior League.

Since that time the club has had tremendous success within its youth set up, with the Under 18s doing the League and Cup double in two consecutive seasons.

2017/18 season was another challenging season, although a definite improvement on recent seasons. Finishing in 13th place, there was a definite feeling of turning a corner and getting stronger from here on.

Recruitment within the Club, from our successful U16s squad, should be a real boost this season.

We are looking forward to further improvement and are very excited to develop our youth players.

The 2021/22 season has seen the introduction of a 4th Team made up of long serving players and players from last season's Under 16s.



Harry O'Connor (24) - CB

Harry has joined Gala for the start of the 2022/3 season having taken some time out of football. Before that 'H' flirted with Tuffley Rovers and Newent Town. Harry enjoys his Saturday 'cheat day' but normal duties are strict - 'Fish and a ricecake'.. It's a shame we haven't seen the body benefits yet :-)



Connor Harmer (28) 'Tin-man' - CDM

Connor has re-joined this season from local Cheltenham side Lakeside. He brings calmness & composure to the midfield to add another dynamic. 'Tin-man' is a reserved, chilled character who is booking to cement a place in the squad.



Callum Thomas (27) 'Lefty' - LB / LW

Callum broke into the first team last season after impressing for the reserves. Callum has a sweet left foot and an excellent set piece delivery. Definitely not one to stand next too in the shower.



Jordan Molyneux (24) - CM

Jordan is tipped to chip in with some goals this season! He had an impressive season last year, picking up the Player's Player award. Jordan is an engine in the midfield who covers every blade of grass on a matchday. Rumoured to be on Love Island next season too. 'What a man'.



Kieron Mace (29) - CB / LB

Kieron is a tough tackling, no nonsense defender with an abundance of footballing technique. 'Macer' usually pitches in with a worldie goal from time to time. One of the most senior players within the team. A true gent to have around the dressing room.





Alex Gayner (28) 'Maggie' - LWF / CAM

Magnet can usually be found after games trawling the Glos Vegas nightlife, shirt off, bits out, impressing the ladies. Alex is a class act on his day! A great dribbler of the ball who is arguably quicker with the ball than without. Alex is an animal lover, paying special attention to Sharks. 'Maggie' is set to be a threat this season... lock up your daughters!



Jon Antonio (22) - CB / CDM

Jon is a man mountain at the back offering great composure and distribution in passing range. He often enjoys a run out of defence and has an eye for goal from set piece situations. Jon is hoping to build on his 2nd season since re-joining Gala as a 17 year old.



Brad Loveridge (22) 'National league' - RB

Brad is Mr consistent! Cool & calm on the ball who loves a trick or three. The opposition should be weary as a nutmeg is Brad's speciality, 'National leagues' skills are a joke! Brad has been with the club a few seasons now and is looking to build on assists and goals this coming season.



Craig Howell (29) - CM (Vice Captain)

Mr Gala Wilton himself. Craig is the longest serving 1st team player. Craig wears his heart on his sleeve! Bags of energy, amongst other things! The schemer of the team. Craig loves a feisty game and is known by most ref's on a first name basis. A true 'Midder'.



Mike Baron (20) - CF

Probably the nicest man in football. He definitely has a Duracell battery as Mikey B does not stop running! Mike has an eye for goal. His workrate & tenacity are a defenders nightmare. Just a shame he is at uni some weeks and got rid of his mullet.



Martin Smith (28) 'Smithy' - CM

Smithy has had a great pre-season getting double figures. His third man running and timing is exceptional and he rarely misses a header - in attack or defence. Smithy was hindered by injury and holiday / stag do addictions. Gala are expecting a big season ahead for this young man.



Connor Walters (18) - RW / CM

Connor has raw pace! He is direct and doesn't mind putting his body on the line. Connor's twinkle toes are mainly down to his choice of boots / flippers. Connor is hoping to stamp down (excuse the pun) a place in the side now his school dance competitions have finished.



Dan McNally (33) 'Dmac' - CB & Club Captain

Dmac is a perfect role model to young players and embraces taking most 'under his wing'. His leadership skills are 2nd to none & Dmac loves to buy the sweets for the game and a round after. Solid organisational skills, great in the air, a proper centre half who would take a black eye for the team.... literally!



Ben Sluman (21) 'Sluey' - RW

Sluman is looking to build on last season's successes.. Well until his love life ended the footballing campaign. Sluey is quick & dynamic, he enjoys dribbling at the opposition and delivery is usually on point. Big season ahead for the new look Sluman (can of monster, bottle of fake tan and fresh trim at the ready).



Dan Gayner (28) - CF

Dan was voted Managers player of the year last season bagging 19 goals in the league. His 'Clinical' finishing was top notch, inspired by HT team talks. Like a camel, Dan works tirelessly for the team and often needs refreshments to get him through. 20 goals plus this season is the target for the better looking 'Gayner brother'.





Sam Webb (26) 'Webby' - CDM / Full back

Webby is a long serving player of Gala, the utility man who can rat out a performance wherever he plays on the pitch. Technically gifted... at football! Sam is a great lad to have around the dressing room. Webby will give his all for the club.. as long as his Mrs lets him!



Jay Dare (20) - RW

Jay is an incredibly talented football player, when he wants to be. Unfortunately Jay will probably be late to his own funeral.. For real! Quick, strong & skilful Jay offers ability all over the pitch. Got booked pre-season for wearing a Johnny dang necklace.



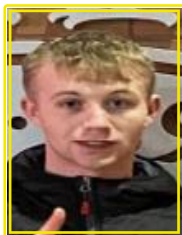
Brad Newman (22) - GK

Brad joined Gala this season having previously played at Tuffley Rovers & Gloucester Athletic. Brad's distribution is a joy to watch and matched by great shot stopping ability. We hope Brad settles in well and has a few clean sheets on his journey with Gala.



Lewis Skyers (38) - GK

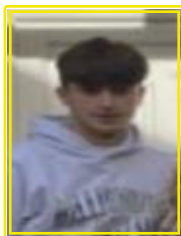
Lewis is the oldest player within the squad and well respected by all his teammates! Lew has previously played at a higher standard & even represented Great Britain in goal.. Arguably the best penalty saver in Gloucestershire. You will usually hear Lewis organising the team from the back in a relaxed and pragmatic style....not! Lewis has threatened to hang up the gloves...we have refused his request.



Kyle Gibbs (20) - CAM

Kyle has joined the club for the 20022/3 season after previously playing for Shortwood & Stonehouse Town. Massive Liverpool fan. Kyle is a true menace, his energy and passion is a real threat along with his technical ability. At 20 years old this lad has a big season ahead of him. Gala are excited to see this lad blossom!





Jacob Eakers (17) - LWB / RWB

Jacob is the youngest member of the squad but you couldn't tell with his workrate & tempo. Eakers is a naturally gifted footballer who will go a long way! He is currently playing u18's football for Gloucester City, so the progression into mens football is only going to make Jacob stronger and better. One to watch out for in the future. Learned everything he knows from his Dad.



Stu Griffith (35) 'Griffo' - 1st team Manager

Stu joined Gala for the 2021/22 season and guided them to a 5th place finish. 'Gaffer Griffo' spent his playing days mostly at Tuffley Rovers, reminding most about his goals in the FA Cup. His claim to fame was scoring against Joe Hart at the age of 11 for Glos primary schools. Stu is hoping to build on the foundations of last season and push this great bunch of lads to a successful season.



Jon Clay (35) 'Coch Clay' - 1st team coach

Jon is a long serving Gala player (CB) who joined the management team last season as 1st team coach. Jon has a steady head and a wagging finger (usually on nights out) Jon still thinks he has got it so we may see him lace those boots for a cameo appearance at some point this season. Coach Clay enjoys being social and gives the young lads a run for their money!



Andrew Moody (35) - Goalkeeping coach

Andrew 'Moodz' has a wealth of experience having played academy football at Aston Villa unfortunately retiring due to chronic knee injuries. Rumours speculate however it was because of the weight of his third leg. Moody supports man united (poor kid) and enjoys the odd guinness. 'Medic Moodz' has joined Stu & Jon on the management team this season.

UP THE GALA



BROADWELL AMATEURS FC HISTORY



Broadwell Football Club was formed in 1905 by the local working men and originally played at "The Purples" Coalway. In the 1930s Broadwell moved to play at "Wynols Hill" where they stayed until 1947, when they moved again to what is now known as "The Hawthorns". This was done with the help of the two late trustees, Mr Bert Ruck, and Mr Frank Haviland.

Over the years various facilities were used such as "the Rising Sun", church hall, and the local working men's club. However, in 1963 with the help of the chairperson, Mr Rube Kibble, Secretary William Smith and committee men Mr Cyril Hamblin, a new changing quarter was officially opened by referee Mr Tom Finney.

These new changing quarters were totally funded by the club's own money after refusal of a grant by both the G.F.A. and F.A.

In 1982, a bar facility was opened by the late president Mr. Hubert Smith and seven years later a new bar, skittles alley, kitchen, and referees changing room were added by a dedicated bunch of Broadwell supporters and sponsors.

The football social club has a skittles team which has won various trophies. And a strong golf society which plays twice a year open to all club members young or old regardless of ability.

The football club currently run three senior sides, which play on a Saturday. Broadwell won the G.F.A. Senior Amateur cup north in its inaugural year in 1925-26 and reached the final on two other occasions, losing to Charlton Kings in 1947-48 and Bishops Cleeve in 1964-65. Other honours over the years have been the northern senior league division one championship in 1925-26, 1946-47 and division two runners up in 1976-77. Runners up in the G.F.A. Challenge trophy season 1998-99. Winning the Northern Senior league again in 1993-94 enabled them to gain promotion to the county league, before being voted from the league three seasons later.

Broadwell's most famous player was the late Colin Hamblin who was also went on to play for the county; a trophy cabinet in his honour is proudly displayed in the club house.

2006-07 Season the first eleven finished as runners up to Tuffley Rovers in Northern Senior league Division 1. After a run of eighteen games without defeat a bad run of five defeats in the last eight games stopped them winning the league. Broadwell lost to Tuffley Rovers at Harrow Hill in the GFA senior county cup final the same season.

Broadwell were crowned senior north county cup winners in season 2008-09 beating Shortwood Res 2-1 in the final at Slimbridge Afc.

Season 2009-10 the first team lost in the semi-finals of the GFA county cup and finished third in the league. The club continually finished in the top five for the next five seasons.

2014-15 Season saw the first team win the northern senior league title, win the Reg Davies memorial league cup, and come runners up to Brockworth Albion in the senior north county cup.

The clubs committee committed to changing room improvements and without any funding built new away changing rooms along with referee/assistants changing rooms, completed in April 2015. After a good first campaign finishing sixth under Gary Hurcombe the first team were managed by Lee Williams and Scott Albon finishing 12th in the league season 2016-17, reaching the final of the Les James cup losing to AEK BOCO 3-0.

Season 2017-18 saw Broadwell in the top five of the league for most of the season only to fall away at the later part due to the high volume of games played eventually finishing in seventh place. Broadwell did however jointly win the Respect league with Frampton United with a remarkable 100% record of no bookings for dissent. Season 2018-19 proved difficult for the club Manager Lee Williams and Scott Albon jointly retired from Management but continue their close links with the club. Season 2019-20 the club moved out of their comfort zone and appointed a manager from outside the club. Simon Beardsell ex Cheltenham Town Youth academy coach who stood down October 2019. The club were lucky to appoint immediately local coach Stuart Liddington ex Lydney Town, his task to improve on season 2019-20 league position. The extended period away from football due to Covid saw Stuart leave the club and return to Lydney Town 2020. First Team duties are now in the very capable hands of Chris Brain, who's task is to blend our successful under eighteen team into first team players.

BROADWELL AMATEURS PLAYER PROFILES



GOALKEEPER: JACK WATKINS

Jack has progressed through our youth system becoming the reserve team Number 1. An 18-year-old with potential to be a first team keeper for years to come. A particularly good line keeper who in season 2020-21 saved three spot kicks in a penalty shoot-out in the league cup.

GOALKEEPER :BEN REED A goalkeeper with bags of experience. Ben learnt his trade at Cheltenham Town and Forest Green Rovers Academies before moving onto Yate Town (Southern League) and Cribbs FC (Western League)

Recently joined the Army who stationed him away from home for the first year, now back eager to go.

DEFENDER/MIDFIELD BEN SCHILLER

One of our few Senior players he brings a wealth of experience to the field having played for Lydbrook as a young boy Ellwood and Lydney Town in his senior years. Best position just in front of our defence or in the bar with the lads.

DEFENDER:JOEL BEESTON

A solid defender who can play anywhere in the back four. Played youth football at Pegasus Hereford. Last season with Ruardean Hill Rangers first team. Hopefully, he can chip a good ball down the wing, like his dad can with the golf club.

DEFENDER:DAN HUDSON

Started his career with local club Yorkley ,a pacey centre back who can dish out a tasty tackle when required. Played at English Bicknor last season. Proven to be vocal in the changing rooms when required.

DEFENDER: RYAN DAVIES

This lad has just come back to football after a 2-year absence due to a serious Knee injury. An 18-year-old no nonsense centre half who can make a telling pass. Another Product of the Cheltenham Town Youth Academy. Travels from Cardiff University every week to play.

DEFENDER:JAMIE KNIGHT

Joined us from Harrow Hill this season ,scored with his first touch of the ball coming on as a substitute.

Out for most of the season with an ankle injury returning at left fullback Quick on the ball strong in the tackle .

DEFENDER/ATTACKER: KIAN SKIDMORE

One of our youth products who have adapted to Senior football with ease. Tricky left -hand side player, one of the best left footed players in the club. If he's as good as his Grandad Eric, we have a class player on our hands.

MIDFIELD:NATHAN DAVIES

All action midfielder who gets around the pitch well and doesn't mind a tackle. Played for Cinderford Town Under 18s before moving onto Harrow Hill in the Senior League made the step up to County league this season and settled in well

MIDFIELD: BEN FISHWICK

Joined us from Soudley, strong and pacey player having played for Forest Green

Rovers at Youth level. Ben has been with the club for over six seasons , now established himself in midfield but can fill in at fullback if required ,good club man .

MIDFIELD: JORDAN LOCKE CLUB CAPTAIN

If you're looking for an allrounder in midfield "Locky's" the man, quick to break up play, just as quick to set up an attacking move. Dead ball specialist, this lad gives 110% during the game, pity he wasn't as quick in the bar after.

MIDFIELD: DAN BRAIN

Another one off the youth production line. Dan started at Cheltenham Town youth released at the age of 15.A serious knee injury saw the lad miss 18 months of football but now he is back. At 17 he is a steady influence in midfield always available to receive the ball. Chips in with a goal now and then which is bonus to the team.

MIDFIELD:JAMIE BELFITT

A 16-year-old mini-me copy of his dad Steve but with a bigger engine. Hard working midfielder who throws in the odd, tasty tackle .Graduated from Cinderford Town Youth already proving to be an asset to Chris Brains squad.

FORWARD/DEFENDER: KRISTIAN BURNARD

Pacey committed and skilful youngster product of Gloucester City Youth team also had trials with W.B.A. Five seasons here at the 'Well.' Starting to make the leap from junior player to Senior team member terrific addition to the club. Pre-season saw him play at centre half. Part time male model during the week, enjoys photography, strange so does his girlfriend.

FORWARD: KIEREN JAMES

Local Forest lad from Blakeney ,related to the well-established footballing James family. This lad scores goals on a regular basis at North Glos League level ,hopes are high he can do the same at County league level .

FORWARD: LIAM THOMAS

This will be Liam's fifth season at the club having joined mid-way through 2017-18. A young spontaneous footballer who can find the net from a number of acute angles. Pacey a centre backs nightmare , another player who may have his wings clipped with a little one at home.

FORWARD: AIDAN CRIEGHTON

Joined us last season from Senior League side Lydbrook Ath. Flying winger with bags of speed and an eye for goal. Good wide player who likes to take fullbacks on. Moved to a full back role by Chris excelling in his new role.

FORWARD: ETHAN WILKINS

Ethan has worked hard to become a first team regular, serving his time in Reserve football. Ethan has a quick turn of pace, happy to take defenders on in a one-on-one situation. He knows where the net is, will prove to be an asset again this season.

FORWARD: TAYLOR BLABY

One of our successful u18 players. Taylor is an established goal scorer who is maturing into a particularly good Senior player .A great attitude combined with an extremely high work rate makes him a highly rated talent for the future.



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Marc is a Gala Legend and is still an active player, having given many years' service to the First Team and now providing his experience to the Seconds. Gala Wilton FC are very thankful for his support.



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TODAY'S TEAM



GALA WILTON

BROADWELL FC

REFEREE: CALUM NEWMAN

Brad Newman	1	Jack Watkins
Brad Loveridge	2	Kian Skidmore
Kieron Mace	3	Danny Hudson
Dan McNally ©	4	Jordi Locke
John Antonio	5	Ben Fishwick
Jordan Molyneux	6	Dan Brain
Ben Sluman	7	Ethan Wilkins
Craig Howell	8	Aidan Creighton
Dan Gayner	9	Taylor Blaby
Martin Smith	10	Nathan Davies
Alex Gayner	11	Jamie Belfitt
Kyle Gibbs	12	Jack Morton
Connor Walters	14	Jack Knight
Marcus Foxwell	15	Matt Foxwell
Harry O'Connor	16	Kris Burnard
Connor Harmer	17	Liam Thomas
Jay Dare	18	
Mike Baron	19	
Jacob Eakers	20	
Sam Webb	21	
Callum Thomas	22	

SATURDAY 21 JANUARY 2023

2PM KICK OFF