

GALA WILTON FC

SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST 2024



v **Bromley Heath United FC**





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CLUB HISTORY



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 Gala 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.

After securing their status in Division 1 of the Gloucestershire Northern Senior League, the first team won the "Reg Davis Memorial" Cup and finished 3rd in the 2011/12 season. The following season they won the Northern Senior League by 13 points, gaining promotion to the Gloucestershire County League, and completed the double by winning the Reg Davis Cup again.

Since then the club has managed to consolidate their place in the County League with various solid finishing positions; finishing runners up in the 2013/14 season, and several top 10 placings.

Overall, the club as a whole has had quite a successful recent period to date; with the Reserve team winning the "Fred Gardiner Memorial Shield" in 2021/22, and consecutive promotions, up into Division 2 of the Gloucestershire Northern Senior League – the highest ever league placing for our Reserve side.

The 3rd team won their Stroud League Cup in 2021/22, with the 4th team also enjoying Stroud League Cup success in 2022/23 winning the "Derek Freebury Shield", beating Tuffley Rovers in the final.

Last season 2023/24 however was difficult throughout the club, but both our first and second teams managed to retain their league places; and with Josh Taylor and Tom Read taking the management helm of our 1st and 2nd team squads, we look forward to an new era at the club in 2024-2025. The Club now has 3 youth teams at Under 13's, 14s and 15s so making a clean pathway for the players in to adult football.

With planning permission also recently approved to improve the ground to host floodlit football, and an exciting partnership announced with Gloucester City to promote their U18 youth footballers, the future once again looks bright at Gala.

Bromley Heath United Football Club



BROMLEY HEATH UNITED

History

Established back in the World Cup winning year of 1966, Bromley Heath United Junior Football Club is the oldest youth football club in the Bristol area. Throughout their 50 year plus history they have provided football for thousands of children preparing them for the senior game. Some of the more famous ex Bromley Youth players include Louis Carey and Gary Mabbutt.

It wasn't until 2014 that the club decided to introduce a Senior Section to provide a progression for at least some of the youngsters when they finished playing under 16 or under 18 football. Initially there was one senior side playing in the Bristol and District League.

In 2015 Winford PH FC amalgamated with Bromley Heath United FC to triple the size of its senior section and provide the impetus for successive promotions through the divisions of the Bristol and Suburban League. The 2018/19 season saw the 1st team become Champions of Bristol & Suburban Premier Division 1 and gaining promotion to the Gloucestershire County League. A tremendous achievement in such a relatively short period of time. However, the first couple of seasons at this higher level were not all plain sailing with players and management having to adjust to a more physical and competitive type of football that required a much higher level of fitness. The disruption caused to football and life in general by the Covid pandemic over this period also made it difficult to maintain any form of progress or consistency. It was not until the 2021-22 season really that the Club started to look at home in the County Leagues, especially in the second half of the season. Team restructuring and creating a blend of young players and experienced players started to pay dividends. This all came to fruition during last season's County League campaign when we finished runners-up not far behind the winners Cribbs and 8 points clear of the third placed team.

Bromley Heath United Junior and Senior sections now operate as one football club with the same ambitions and hopes for the future. The Junior Section which was the first local club to open a Development Centre as an initial introduction to football for very young children is thriving. They now offer football for every Junior/Youth age group right up to under 18 level. The Senior Section offer a progression into adult football either into the 'A' team or the Reserves playing in the 4th and 1st divisions of the Bristol & Suburban League respectively. The aim is of course to produce players who will eventually become 1st team players.

Bromley Heath United Football Club is based at Pomphrey Hill Community Sports complex in Mangotsfield where all its teams play. The Pavilion offers fantastic modern facilities and includes a Club Sports Bar showing live football and function rooms.

Bromley Heath United FC Player Profiles 2024-25



Will Ferguson: Glos County golden glove winner 22-23 & 23-24. Excellent shot stopper with great hands.

Dan Adamson: Reserve team player manager who fills in capably as a defender or goalkeeper.

Fenn Willoughby: Tough tackling full back who likes to bomb up and down.

Joel Mitchelmore: Quick defender with a great engine who is a consistent and reliable performer.

Fletcher Cripps: Great left foot and consistently strong defender. Has real quality and can be a great attacking asset for the team.

Cam Gardiner: Winner of both player of the year awards last season. Physically strong and pacey centre back who loves defending. He has become a real leader in the team.

Nathan Rose: Vocal player with great technical ability and vision. Another strong leader who is a regular goal scorer.

Declan Mannion: New signing from Almondsbury this season. Dominant centre half who can play.

Ben O'Brien: New signing from Longwell Green this season. Centre back who rarely loses a physical battle and has good distribution.

Jake Millward: Another new signing this season. Strong player with a cultured left foot and great striker of the ball.

Charlie Snell: Vocal centre back who enjoys defending. Hoping to put injury problems behind him this season and push on.

Jack Withey: Club captain. Experienced box to box midfielder who is as good as anyone aerially. Leads by example and sets the tone for the team.

Luke Bessell: Vice-captain. Another experienced midfielder who has great technical ability and energy levels.

Liam O'Donoghue: Cultured and versatile footballer with excellent set play delivery.

Trai Elliston-Sackett: Dynamic midfielder who gives us great energy, breaks up play and pops up regularly in the final third.

Mason Lewis: Great new signing from Longwell Green. Play making midfielder who also wins the ball back from the opposition.

Cam Ford: Central midfield player with a great range of passing. Regularly pops up with goals and assists.

Aidan Noble: 23-24 golden boot for the club. Pacey front man who is comfortable through the middle or out wide. Improving all the time.

Ted Willoughby: Full back or wide player with great energy and will to win.

Ben Ackerman: Physical centre forward who relishes a battle and is a nightmare for opposition centre backs.

Olly Hanham: Pacey wide player who added goals to his game last season. On his day can be a match winner.

Cam Taylor: Young attacker who joins this season. Skilful with a real eye for goal.

Harry Cole: Left footed midfield player who is a good passer of the ball.

Tommy Andrews-Britton: Solid full back with great technical ability.

Management/coaching team: **Craig Britton, Ross Britton & Sam Iles**



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LOTTE

STARTED HER APPRENTICESHIP AT VITA NOVA IN APRIL 2024. WE WELCOMED LOTTE WITH HER LOVE FOR TRADITIONAL TATTOOS.

PLEASE GIVE LOTTE SOME LOVE ON HER PAGE AND FOLLOW HER PROGRESS AS AN ARTIST.

KATIE

RESIDENT ARTIST AT VITA NOVA.

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MDE Electrical Limited was formed in 2017 by Marc Edwards. After 15 years working for local companies he took the plunge and went solo starting up his own company.

MDE Electrical Limited are NICEIC Approved and cover all aspects of electrical work from small house extensions to extensive hotels.

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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Severn Sport is a website dedicated to covering all things non-league and grassroots football in Gloucestershire.

Matt Yates and Ryan Butler branched out from being part of Gloucester City's Tigers Radio in 2010 and began to cover football from National League down to the Stroud, Cheltenham and North Gloucestershire Leagues, the Cheltenham Youth U18s Floodlit League and more recently, the South West Regional and Gloucestershire County Women's Football Leagues.

Through match reports, interviews, live radio commentaries and podcasts, Butler now looks to continue to enhance the reputation of football within the local area.

For all the latest news and information on non-league and grassroots football within the county, head to:

SevernSport.co.uk

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GALA WILTON

BROMLEY HEATH

Adam Fenner	1	Will Ferguson
Brad Loveridge	2	Dan Adamson
Ryley Mace	3	Fenn Willoughby
Lewis Chance	4	Joel Mitchelmore
Tim Hill	5	Fletcher Cripps
Keiron Mace	6	Cam Gardiner
Rene Nistor	7	Nathan Rose
Marc Edwards	8	Declan Mannion
Jamie Creed	9	Ben O'Brien
Benjamin Sluman	10	Jake Millward
Archie Blacker	11	Charlie Snell
Jay Dare	12	Jack Withey
Jonathan Clay	14	Luke Bessell
Junior Mbika	15	Liam O'Donoghue
Harry O'Connor	16	Trai Elliston-Sackett
Shaun Smith	17	Mason Lewis
Harvey Sheridan	18	Cam Ford
Ira Thompson-Price	19	Aidan Noble
Ehren Wintle	20	Ted Willoughby
Daniel Tyreman	21	Ben Ackerman
Curtis Wilkins	22	Olly Hanham
Kieran Woods	23	Cam Taylor
Ishmael Kanneh	24	Harry Cole
Joshua Edelmann	25	Tommy Andrews-Britton
Archie Blacker	26	

REFEREE: JASON JAMES