

GALA WILTON FC



v Bromley Heath United FC

Saturday 18 March 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.



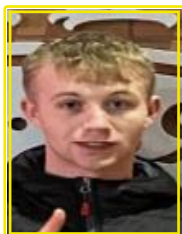
Brad Newman (22) - GK

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

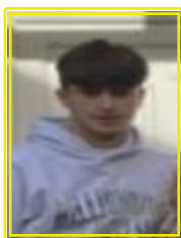
Lewis is the oldest player within the squad and well respected by all his teammates! Lew has previously played at a higher standard & even represented Great Britain in goal.. Arguably the best penalty saver in Gloucestershire. You will usually hear Lewis organising the team from the back in a relaxed 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





BROMLEY HEATH UNITED



BROMLEY HEATH UNITED

BROMLEY HEATH UNITED CLUB 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 an Adult Section to provide a progression for 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 to triple the size of its senior section and provide the impetus for successive promotions through the divisions of the Bristol and Suburban League. At the end of the 2018-19 season the first team had become the Bristol and Suburban League Premier Division 1 Champions. Having applied to the Gloucestershire County League in 2018 and subsequently passing their ground grading Bromley Heath were invited to join the League for the 2019-20 season.

Bromley Heath United Junior and Adult 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 Adult Section offer a progression into adult football at a reasonable level with the aim of producing 1st team players. The adult Reserve team and 'A' team (Colts) both play in the Bristol & Suburban League.

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

BROMLEY HEATH UNITED PLAYER PROFILES

Danny Evans – goalkeeper

Reliable, consistent, and experienced, Danny has a safe pair of hands and is a brilliant shot stopper.

Will Ferguson – goalkeeper

Young keeper who is improving all the time. He has firmly established himself as our number 1.

Mitch Greenaway – defender

Great left foot and bags of ability.

Ollie Amos – defender

Classy on the ball and reads the game brilliantly.

Tommy Andrews-Britton - defender

A very talented young player with an Academy Football background. Also played for Bromley at Youth level.

Cam Gardiner - defender

An uncompromising defender with a fantastic work rate who always defends properly. Players player in 21-22.

Charlie Snell – defender

Another talented young footballer who can play in several positions. Keeps it simple, always gives 100% and does his job fantastically well.

Toby Clayton – defender

A good addition to the squad. An intelligent, reliable defender who talks and organises.

Fenn Willoughby – defender

A strong and uncompromising defender who made the step up from our A team last year and flourished.

Dan Adamson – defender

Another player who came through the youth section. Reads the game well and defends properly with a great attitude.

Cam Ford – midfielder/defender

Another one of our teenage contingent who has talent in abundance. Cultured and skilful on the ball Cam turns opponents inside out in midfield at times. Looking for him to kick on this season adding goals and assists.

Nathan Rose – defender/midfielder

A mercurial talent who is a product of the US College Scholarship System. High quality from dead balls and a strong leader in the group. Can play in a number of positions.

Jack Withey – midfielder

Club captain and one of our most consistent performers. Wins everything in the air and chips in with his fair share of goals.

Trai Elliston-Sackett – midfielder

Trai has an engine like a Duracell and pops up with goals regularly. Tough to play against for any opponent.

Joel Mitchlemore – defender/midfielder

Versatile player who always performs wherever he plays. His pace and fitness are great assets.

Tom Shopland – midfielder/defender

Tom is a versatile and experienced player who is comfortable playing anywhere at the back or in midfield. Enjoys a tackle, reads the game exceptionally well and is a fantastic communicator.

Luke Bessell – midfielder/defender

A strong and cultured central midfielder who has matured into a dominating presence over recent seasons. Excellent technical ability and does the dirty work. Manager's player in 21-22. Vice-captain

Sam Edwards – forward

A vital player for the club who returned at the back of last season and looked as good as ever. Great technical ability and will always score goals. Will be like a new signing for us. Vice-captain.

Antonio Nurse – forward

Ant is a great personality around the club and his mercurial talent is a joy to watch when he gets on the ball. Looking to him to get more goals this season.

Alvin Nurse – forward

Alvin brings a wealth of experience to our squad and is always willing to share his knowledge, which is priceless for our younger players especially. Great in the air, quick and dynamic.

Olly Hanham - forward

An energetic, exciting young player who has progressed through from the Bromley Heath Youth section. Ollie has great pace and an eye for goal.

James Venton – forward

New addition to the squad. James has great feet and is very dangerous when running at full backs. Fitted in nicely.

Ben Ackerman – forward

Another teenager who has joined this season. Really strong technical player with an eye for goal. Also as good playing in defence or midfield.

Craig Britton - Manager

Ross Britton – Asst Manager

Rich Iles – Asst Manager

The Britton brothers have steered the team through successive promotions to get to the County League. Rich Iles brings many years of high-level experience and knowledge to the management team.



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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

BROMLEY HEATH UNITED

REFEREE: GRAHAM MCNULTY

Brad Newman	1	Danny Evans
Brad Loveridge	2	Will Ferguson
Kieron Mace	3	Mitch Greenaway
Dan McNally ©	4	Ollie Amos
John Antonio	5	Tommy Andrews-Britton
Jordan Molyneux	6	Cam Gardiner
Ben Sluman	7	Charlie Snell
Craig Howell	8	Toby Clayton
Dan Gayner	9	Fenn Willoughby
Martin Smith	10	Dan Adamson
Alex Gayner	11	Cam Ford
Kyle Gibbs	12	Nathan Rose
Connor Walters	14	Jack Withey
Marcus Foxwell	15	Trai Elliston-Sackett
Harry O'Connor	16	Joel Mitchlemore
Connor Harmer	17	Tom Shopland
Jay Dare	18	Luke Bessell
Mike Baron	19	Sam Edwards
Jacob Eakers	20	Antonio Nurse
Sam Webb	21	Alvin Nurse
Callum Thomas	22	Olly Hanham
	23	James Venton
	24	Ben Ackerman

SATURDAY 18 MARCH 2023

3PM KICK OFF