

# GALA WILTON FC



v Henbury FC

Saturday 8 October 2022

2022-2023 SEASON

Gloucestershire County League



**ACCREDITED**  
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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.

**R PROFILES** 2022-2023 SEASON



### **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**

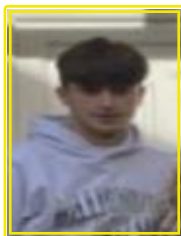
Lewis is the oldest player within the squad and well respected by all his teammates! Lew has previously played at a higher standard & even represented Great Britain in goal.. Arguably the best penalty saver in Gloucestershire. You will usually hear Lewis organising the team from the back in a relaxed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





# Henbury Football Club - History

## Club Motto – “Le Bon Vendra” (Good Will Come)

Henbury Old Boys was formed in 1962 playing in Division 4 of The Bristol Downs Association Football League.

Founder members included Chairman Bill Williams, Secretary Ron Excell, Treasurer Ron Crocombe and committee members Cliff Grffin, Jack Fisk, Fred Jones and Arnold Rogers, all of who served the club for a great number of years.

While the first team remained playing on the Downs, the second and third teams, along with their youth teams played on pitches at Arnall Drive Playing Fields. Players changed in the scout's hut in Satchfield Crescent and walked the two hundred meters to the pitch.

The committee decided to leave The Downs League after four seasons and joined The Bristol & District League. The dressing rooms were positioned in the Blaise Castle estate across the road to Arnall Drive Playing Fields. The single story changing rooms was an old R.A.F. concrete hut. All the work to erect this building and associated works was carried out by players and volunteers connected to the club. The first team finished in fourth position and the following season in 1968-69 played in Division 2 of the Premier Combination until the end of season 1985-86. After several failed attempts to progress through the Football League Pyramid System to join the Gloucestershire County League, the club realised this was only possible with a new clubhouse and changing rooms along side their pitch. This overcame the problem of crossing the road and the new changing rooms meeting the approval of the management committee. The club was voted into the County League in 9-87 and only Ellwood and Patchway Town are longer serving clubs in the league by one season.

We have enjoyed many seasons in the Gloucestershire County League, the most noticeable coming in the season of 1994-1995 in which we claimed our one and only Gloucestershire County League title under the captaincy of current club Chairman Bob Pritchard. We then endured a long 15 year drought in which we achieved minimal success, until the season of 2010-2011 where we became the winners of the Les James league cup trophy. Since the title winning season in 1994-1995 we have claimed the runners up spot on two occasions, these coming in the season of 2011-2012 and 2015-2016.

Since entry to the league, there have been several changes to the clubs facilities. The first team pitch has been moved closer to the clubhouse. Gone is the notorious sloping pitch, which proves very advantageous to the home team on many occasions. Improvements to both home and away dressing rooms to meet the current criteria of the league. during the 2012-2013 season plans were submitted for extension to the clubhouse which comprised of a larger referee changing room and toilet along with a kitchen facility, thankfully these were accepted and the build was completed during the 2013-2014 season. As well as this, the club still has ambitions to seek further progression through to the next higher level of football.



# Henbury FC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Player Profiles 2022-2023

**David Greaves** (Manager) – ‘Paul’ After getting too old and fat to play anymore he has taken to management like a duck to water. Motivated, enthusiastic, and hardworking with an ability to engage with players whilst holding the boundaries that his role requires. Works hard behind the scenes with both on field and off field development.

**Tim Seymour** (Assistant Manager) – ‘Barry’ A UEFA B qualified coach and proves it week in week out. A true gent with nothing but love and compassion for the game. A brilliant tactician with an endless supply of ideas. Loyal and Hardworking. Didn’t put a foot wrong last season apart from when he missed the kerb outside the blue lagoon and broke his ankle on a team night out.

**Damian Chlopecki** (Goalkeeper) – ‘Dragon’ New signing for 22/23, motivated and enthusiastic. Is fitting in well, has already put the chairman in his place for mocking his accent, with a ‘Brexit boy’ riposte.

**Lewis Jefferies** (Goalkeeper) – Great shot stopper and all-round keeper when he’s available! Plays too much cricket and goes on too many mid-season holidays. Stacks up more air miles than Ben Fogle.

**Ethan Roberts** (Defence) – ‘Trigger’ - Charlie Barron’s Nemesis, appears to be a bit daft but is incredibly clever at keeping hold of his money. Has the potential to do well at this level if he can take on board the guidance he is given.

**Toby Vosper** (Defence) – Fit as a butcher’s dog... apart from when he’s injured. A fantastic senior player with great ability and reading of the game. Special talent is his ability to sling the ball 40 yards. Favourite Band – The Doors.

**Sean Heal** (Defence) – ‘Shano’ Mr Henbury has played for the club forever, does lots off the pitch to help the club as well. Good feet for a fat lad, can’t run. Loves a beer but loses the ability to speak after 8.30pm. Special Talent – Shaking hands.

**Adam Thorne** (Defence) – Familiar face to the management team having played youth football under Tim’s stewardship. High hopes of him becoming an established Tangy.

**Arran Rosser** (Defence) – ‘Worm’ - A Top-class centre half, makes defending look effortless. A one club man who never seems to have a bad game. Special Talent – Never gets angry!

**Cameron Tarr** (Defence) – Retired Goalkeeper. Schooled in Henbury tradition by some of the best of the recent past. The club’s top contributor to the GFA’s fundraising efforts last season.

**Zemel Burton** (Defence) – Quality defender, recently took a break from the game but now looking to get back on track. Hamstrings tighter than Charlie Barron.

**Vinnie Coote** (Defence) – Experienced and talented. Looking to regain match fitness to make him the complete package.

**Ross Johnson** (Defence) - ‘Johno’ (semi-retired) Old school, no nonsense defender. Leader on the pitch and a great knowledge of the game. Passionate & Loyal Tangy.

**Dan Stevens** (Defence) – Quality footballer with a good pedigree having spent time at Forest Green Rovers youth system.

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**Andrew Dickinson** (Midfield/forward) – Dicky/Dee/Chicken is a winger with pace who constantly troubles defenders. Now that he is a dad of two, he doesn't have the energy to argue with refs anymore. Rarely flattens the grass on the training pitch.

**Ross Jones** (Midfield/Forward) – 'Jointy' is a one club man. Always puts in a shift and never lets anyone down but looks like he could seize up at any moment. Special Talent – Gay Icon.

**Sam Allen** (Midfield) – A new signing for this season, calm and collected on the ball. Getting involved in the banter from day one!

**Warren Collins** (Midfield) – 'Wazz' Scored arguably the goal of the 21/22 season with an unstoppable free-kick that 2 goalkeepers wouldn't have saved. (If those goalkeepers were Stevie Wonder and Ray Charles).

**Brandon Dack** (Midfield/Forward) – 'Bean' – Quiet and laid back off the pitch, busy and does his talking on it, growing into his number 10 role. Crap at drinking but loves a relaxing rollie!

**Danny Seymour** (Midfield) – 'Skinner' Likes to shoot early and finish the job asap. Had a great debut season in 21-22 but picked up a few injuries which interrupted his progress. Will be looking to kick on this year and prove his true value.

**Luke Coghlan** – (Midfield/forward) – 'Cogs' - Hard working player with good technique and physicality. A great addition to the team after spending the last few season at Portishead Town.

**Will Baldwin** (Forward) – Last season's young player of the year, great left peg on him. Never shuts up. Must learn not to post on twitter that he is watching C\*ty when he should be playing for Henbury.

**Harvey Sealey** (Forward) – Flirt with commitment issues. Will leave and re-join at least twice this season. Strong family connections with the club. A hard-working player who always looks knackered/injured/hungover.

**Shaquille Hunter** (Forward) – Back at the club after a short spell away. Quality footballer who has, and probably could still perform at a much higher level. Happy these days to play his football for fun.

**Rhys Iles** – (Forward) – New signing for this season. Strong and technically gifted with a burst of pace and an eye for goal. Has scored plenty of goals at the level below and will be looking to show his talent in his first season at County League level.

**Rian Vitor Sena Eliziarion** (Midfield) – Recent arrival at the club. We're hoping he can bring a bit of Brazilian flair to the squad.

**Tiago Mateus** – (Forward) – 'Lurch' – Recent arrival. Pocket rocket with a bag of tricks, sure to bamboozle a few opposition defenders.

**Shaun Baldwin** (Lino) - Club linesman and an absolute pleasure for the Management Team to have onboard. The most honest and polite linesman in the league. Even when "questioned" by opponents he gently replies with a smile on his face. Top bloke!





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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**

**HENBURY FC**

SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER 2022

REFEREE: NEIL HOLMES

Brad Newman	1	Damian Chlopecki
Brad Loveridge	2	Lewis Jefferies
Kieron Mace	3	Ethan Roberts
Dan McNally ©	4	Toby Vosper
John Antonio	5	Sean Heal
Jordan Molyneux	6	Adam Thorne
Ben Sluman	7	Arran Rosser
Craig Howell	8	Cameron Tarr
Dan Gayner	9	Zemel Burton
Martin Smith	10	Vinnie Coote
Alex Gayner	11	Ross Johnson
Kyle Gibbs	12	Dan Stevens
Connor Walters	14	Andrew Dickinson
Marcus Foxwell	15	Ross Jones
Harry O'Connor	16	Sam Allen
Connor Harmer	17	Warren Collins
Jay Dare	18	Brandon Dack
Mike Baron	19	Danny Seymour
Jacob Eakers	20	Luke Coghlan
Sam Webb	21	Will Baldwin
Callum Thomas	22	Harvey Sealey
	23	Shaquille Hunter
	24	Rhys Iles
	25	Rian Vitor Sena Eliziarion
	26	Tiago Mateus
	27	Shaun Baldwin

3PM KICK OFF