

# GALA WILTON FC



v Quedgeley Wanderers FC  
Saturday 27 August 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.



### **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**

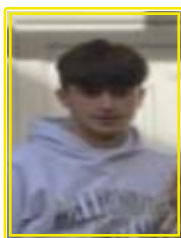
Lewis is the oldest player within the squad and well respected by all his teammates! Lew has previously played at a higher standard & even represented Great Britain in goal.. Arguably the best penalty saver in Gloucestershire. You will usually hear Lewis organising the team from the back in a relaxed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





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# Quedgeley Wanderers History

QWFC was formed in 1994, with just one boys under 14's team. It was started by Dave Mulrain and Ron Capper, who took on the roles of Secretary and Treasurer, positions they went on to hold for a further ten years. Dave has since returned to the club as Chairman and is in his fourth season. They laid the foundations for the club to grow to the present day where we have over 400 members across 23 competitive teams of all ages, including girls sides, 3 adult teams, walking football and Veterans. Many hours have been dedicated to the club by a number of volunteers to get to the point we are at today. In July 2021, we installed floodlights due to gaining a grant from Crest Nicholson. They were installed by MUSCO lighting who have installed lights in many Premier league sides.

Joining the club this season is Michael Mayes who will be taking the reins of the First Team. A few new faces have joined this season as well, so we have high hopes for a positive and successful season in the County League.

Our Reserve team are currently in Stroud League Division 1. James Mulrain (Mr Quedgeley) will be this season's manager alongside coach James Butler who has stepped up from the Third team management team.

Joining the Senior Section management this season is Rob Page who is also our U17s Reds manager. Chris Riley another long-standing player at the club will be working alongside him to gain some success in Stroud League Division 3. Rob will be integrating many of the U17s into Senior football and we aiming to be challenging the top spots this season.

We have a brilliant bunch of players/management both on and off the field and wish all three teams the best of luck this season.



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## QWFC Player Profiles

**Nathan Charnock** – An excellent goalie who came through the youth section who has also spent time playing in the Maltese Premier League.

**Sean Lawson** – Sean brings valuable experience on and off the pitch, he will add a real attacking threat to the front line. Our captain.

**Lewis Cook** – An accomplished and capable striker, Lewis always puts in the effort to score goals.

**Ryan Hunt** – A great addition to the seniors, who has come up through the youth section. Ryan is a skilled, rapid player.

**Luke Holder** – Reggie has been at the club for several years. He is a skilled player who gives 100% effort.

**Kenneth Kondji** – Kenneth is starting his first season in the senior section; he brings pace to the squad.

**Josh Page** – Another player starting his first full season in the senior section, Josh gives 100% effort in every game.

**Ben Didcote** – Although quiet, Ben is a solid hardworking player who is a reliable midfielder.

**Rich Lord** – New to the club this season, Rich brings experience and skill to the team.

**Jack Evans** – Ever reliable, Jack is another product of our youth section. Jack is a pleasure to have at the club and is a talented footballer.

**Harry Reynolds** – Harry is a very talented and skilled player who impressed everyone in his first senior season. Harry is an asset to the team.

**Christian Cooke** – Another new signing for this season, Krippy is a player that impresses with his skills and speed.

**Elliott Wright** – New to the club this season, Elliott brings a lot of skill and talent that will help strengthen the squad.

**Ollie Curtis** – Ollie is proving to be a very talented young striker who has settled well into the section.

**Joe Fisher** – A new signing, Joe is a skilled midfielder who will bring experience to the team.

**Ben Hunt** – Ben is a talented and creative player who gives 100% effort.

**Cameron Smith** - Cameron is confident on the ball and continues to build on his great ability.

**Luke Websper** – Starting his first season in the senior section, Luke is a young talented, quick player.

**Jamie Watts** – Jamie is a pleasure to have at the club and is a talented and dedicated young player.

**Connor Webb** - A player who can read the game well, Connor channels his skills to perform to a high standard each game.





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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

## QUEDGELEY WANDERERS FC

Brad Newman	1	Nathan Charnock
Brad Loveridge	2	Sean Lawson
Kieron Mace	3	Lewis Cook
Dan McNally ©	4	Ryan Hunt
John Antonio	5	Luke Holder
Jordan Molyneux	6	Kenneth Kondji
Ben Sluman	7	Josh Page
Craig Howell	8	Ben Didcote
Dan Gayner	9	Rich Lord
Martin Smith	10	Jack Evans
Alex Gayner	11	Harry Reynolds
Kyle Gibbs	12	Christian Cooke
Connor Walters	14	Elliott Wright
Marcus Foxwell	15	Ollie Curtis
Harry O'Connor	16	Joe Fisher
Connor Harmer	17	Ben Hunt
Jay Dare	18	Cameron Smith
Mike Baron	19	Luke Websper
Jacob Eakers	20	Jamie Watts
Sam Webb	21	Connor Webb
Callum Thomas	22	

REFEREE: GRAHAM MCNULTY

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST 2022

3PM KICK OFF