

GALA WILTON FC

SATURDAY 5TH APRIL 2025



v **Broadwell Amateurs**





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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.

BROADWELL AMATEURS FC

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 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.

Chris made a positive impact, with Guy Jones as his assistant, bringing in some top players but nurturing the existing squad members seeing them secure some great results during the season, not to forget mentioning the team winning the Les James Cup in a tough battle against Sharpness, seeing Broadwell secure a 3-1 win! A great game and a great achievement for everyone.

The 2022 season saw the team start with Chris but unfortunately a few weeks in Chris made the decision to step down from the Manager role which made way for Guy Jones to step up from Assistant Manager to Manager.

Guy had some big shoes to fill in what was his debut as a County League Manager but he took on the role and gave it his all. Working hard on keeping morale up and spirits high, Guy continued to work with the team he had, making sure each game was a positive vibe, setting small goals and always applauding the results, regardless of win or lose. The season proved to be a tough one for Broadwell and during the final weeks of the we found ourselves at the bottom of the league table and heading towards the relegation zone. It looked a tough gig for Guy and the team to pull through and remain in the County League but through sheer determination from everyone and the support of all at Broadwell they did it! The final matches gave them the points they needed to remain just above relegation and another season heading into the County League.

Over the past couple of years Broadwell Club have benefited from some dedicated and enthusiastic club members who work tirelessly to improve our facilities, look after our grounds and keep everything tip top. They are fondly known as "The Wednesday Crew" and they are very much appreciated by all involved at Broadwell AFC, so much so they were awarded Clubman of the year at the clubs annual presentation in 2024!

Going into the 2024/2025 season Guy Jones remains as first Team Manager but now with Chris Powell at his side as Assistant Manager.

Chris brings a wealth of positive energy, years of football experience and plenty of banter to the squad. The two together have high hopes and the club are excited to see what they can achieve.

The squad have been working hard at training pre-season and had some good friendlies to set them up and make some early changes where needed.

With some new faces in the firsts this season, including players who have moved up the ranks at Broadwell, along with some very loyal and trusty existing players it's looking to be a great season
UP THE WELL!



BROADWELL AMATEURS FC PLAYER PROFILES



Jack Watkins – Goalkeeper

A youth team product now starting his 4th season with BAFC Firsts. He is a great shot stopper who likes to throw an arrow or two.

Harri Nash – Defender

Harri is a big physical player who has progressed through the ranks from BAFC B team. He is a great lad to have around and we are hoping and expecting big things from Harri this season.



Jack Knight – Defender/Midfield

Jack joined us from Lydney Town with his great feet and he can beat the opposition. He always has something to say and offer in the changing rooms.



Harry Knight – Defender

This player stepped up from Cinderford U 18's last season and fitted in straight away. He is a strong and fit player but very quiet and rarely says anything in the changing rooms.



Aiden Creighton – Defender (TEAM CAPTAIN)

Mr dependable and reliable. Super fast and strong. A real pleasure to have around and be around. He has been the teams Player of the Season for the last 2 seasons.



Kristian Burnard – Forward/Defender

This season will mark Kristian's 8th Season "Up The Well". On his day this player is an unbelievable centre half. Always a live wire, both on and off the pitch. We are hoping for an injury free season for Kristian in 2024/2025.



Jordan Locke -Midfield

This will be "Lockey's" 4th season at BAFC. Another Mr Reliable in the team and as brave as a Lion. He's starting to bag a few big goals now making him even more valuable to the team.

Nath Davis – Midfield/Forward

Nath has now been with us for 2 seasons. He is an all action midfielder who is everywhere on the pitch and is a lovely lad to go with it.



Ben Fishwick – Midfielder

Ben is the longest serving player in the team, “Mr Experience”. He is always in the right place at the right time and he can always find a goal!



Jamie Belfitt – Midfielder

At just turned 18, Jamie had a great first season with BAFC Firsts and we are expecting big things from him this season too. He can always find the back of the net, unlike his Dad!

Connor Smith – Midfielder/Defender

Connor has joined us from Cinderford U18's. He is a lad full of energy and isn't afraid of a tackle or two.



Rio Burson-Stephens – Forward

Rio has risen through the ranks at BAFC and has stepped up to first team football well. He is a really lovely lad and a pleasure to have around, in the team and at the club.



Steve Belfitt – Forward

Bags of energy and bags of talent. Seems to have been around for years, Oh hang on, that's because he has!!



Ethan Wilkins – Forward

“Mr Goals” -Quick and entertaining player who always finds space and the Onion Bag!



Leighton Davis – Linesman

A dedicated team player being our First team resident Linesman. A fair, honest and reliable lad, making him a valuable BAFC member.



Guy Jones – Team Manager

Guy took on BAFC First team last season, midway through. He has quickly found his feet and built up a rapport with the team and we are looking forward to seeing what he can bring to the club in his first full season as first team Manager.



GALA 2024/25

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



KATIE

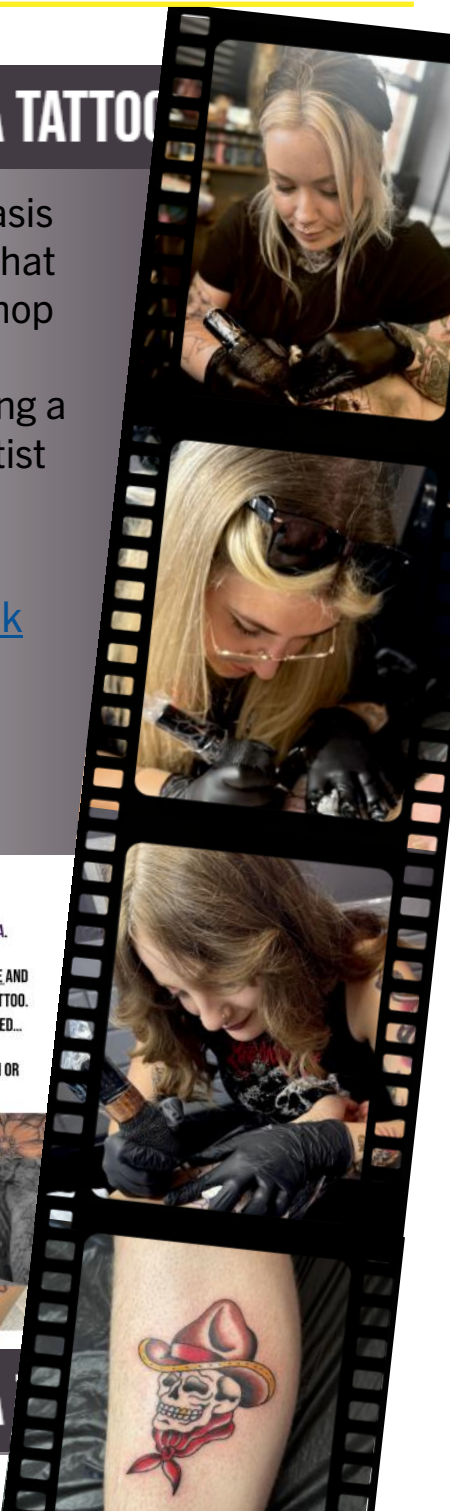
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KATIE LOVES FLORALS, NATURE AND ANY SURREALISM IDEAS TO TATTOO. OH, AND ANYTHING DOG RELATED...

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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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SEVERN SPORT

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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TODAY'S TEAMS



GALA WILTON

BROADWELL AMATEURS

Adam Fenner	1	Jack Watkins
Brad Loveridge	2	Harri Nash
Ryley Mace	3	Jack Knight
Lewis Chance	4	Harry Knight
Tim Hill	5	Aiden Creighton
Keiron Mace	6	Kristian Burnard
Rene Nistor	7	Jordan Locke
Marc Edwards	8	Nath Davis
Jamie Creed	9	Ben Fishwick
Benjamin Sluman	10	Jamie Belfitt
Archie Blacker	11	Connor Smith
Jay Dare	12	Rio Burson-Stephens
Jonathan Clay	14	Steve Belfitt
Junior Mbika	15	Ethan Wilkins
Harry O'Connor	16	Leighton Davis
Shaun Smith	17	
Harvey Sheridan	18	
Ira Thompson-Price	19	
Ehren Wintle	20	
Daniel Tyreman	21	
Curtis Wilkins	22	
Kieran Woods	23	
Ishmael Kanneh	24	
Joshua Edelman	25	
Archie Blacker	26	

REFEREE: JORDAN HARTY