

## ABERAMAN ATHLETIC FC PLAYER PROFILES-2011/12

**Glyndwyr Davies**, age 19. Previous Clubs: Bryntirion. Nickname: Twin 1 – Most Like: Rafael (Manchester United) Glyndwr is a young left back in his first year with the club and has huge potential at this level.

**Gareth Davies**, age 19. Previous Clubs: Bryntirion Athletic. Nickname: Twin 2 – Most Like: Fabio (Manchester United). Gareth is a young striker who joins from rival club Bryntirion. A bright and conscientious young player who is learning his trade and is a good addition to the squad. A bright prospect for the future.

**Mark Greedy**, age 33. Previous clubs: Cardiff City, Merthyr Tydfil, Haverfordwest, Dinas Powys. Nickname Groddy – Most like: Lothar Matthaus. Mark's major assets are that he adds experience and leadership to the team. A quality player in his own right, he can play anywhere on the park, except left back! Mark is one of few players remaining from last season and a player who has been, where he has in the game, is invaluable to Aberaman Athletic going forward. Best moment in football – marking Ryan Giggs.

**Phil Clarke**, age 34. Previous Clubs: Ton Pentre. Phil is the elder statesman of the squad after signing from Ton Pentre at the end of October 2010. Phil is a quality defender and his experience will add much to the squad.

**John Ross Phillips**, age 25. Previous clubs: Cardiff City, Newport County, Bath City, Yate Town, Llanelli. Most Like: Fernando Torres. John is an excellent footballer with real experience in the game. A goal scorer, first and foremost, John is the type of player you would drive 300 miles to sign. Technically, physically and mentally accomplished - A player with Aberaman Athletic in his blood and he will be major asset for the team and Aberaman Athletic in 2011/12. Memorable moment – playing at Villa Park.

**Mark Evans** – Previous clubs –Swansea City, Newport County, Luton Town, Ton Pentre, Cwmbran Town, Gloucester City, Merthyr Tydfil. Nickname –Minky Fullback – Vastly experienced. Has played and managed at the top level. Best moments in Football – Champions League with Barry Town Uefa Cup v Celtic Home and at Parkhead with Cwmbran and Inter Cardiff. Ambitions are – to obtain Uefa Pro Licence coaching badge and help Aberaman into the Premier League. Does not tolerate laziness and unfit players.

**Lee Jarman** Player/Manager. age 33. Defender. Previous clubs – Cardiff City, Exeter City, Oxford Utd, Barry Town, Weston Super Mare, Newport County, Haverfordwest and Llanelli. Wales U/15 up to full squad. Lee brings vast experience in this his first stint at Management. Has an eye for detail and meticulous in preparing the team.

**Michael Brooks** age 28. Defender -Previous clubs – Bridgend Street, Maesteg Park, Croesyceiliog, Dinas Powys and Cwmbran Town. No nonsense defender who gives 100%. Nickname- Brooksy. Another player with experience who will be an asset to the club.

**Ben Banks** age 27 – Previous clubs –Carteton Town, Nelson Cavaliers, Porthcawl Town, Cwmbran Town. Goalkeeper – Safe pair of hands. Always focused on the game. Another fine acquisition for the club. Nickname –Banksey/Banko. Best moment in football – playing in the FAW Cup and promotion from Div 3 in my first season in the Welsh League (with Porthcawl Town).

**Anthony Taylor**, age 25. Ex pro with Cardiff City. Signed for Aberaman in December 2006 from Port Talbot Town. A Wales under 19 international. Tayls broke his leg in a pre season friendly and could be out for the season.

**Lee Phillips** Player/Manager -age 32 – Defender – Previous clubs – Cardiff City, Barry Town, Newport County, Forest Green, Llanelli and Carmarthen Town.. classy defender. Hugely experienced player who has taken on the role of player/manager. Ambition is to take Aberaman up to the Premier Division.

**Bobby Briers**- age 22 -Defence/Midfield. –Previous clubs Swansea City, Haverfordwest ,Bridgend Town, Carmarthen Town and Aberaman. Studying for his Sports Studies Degree. Loves winning.

**Zaki Misbah** age 24 – Striker- previous clubs Barry Town and Taffs Well. Natural goalscorer. Holds the ball well to bring his teammates into play.

**Callum McKenzie** age 29 – Previous club Dinas Powys.

**Rikki Evans** age 20 – Previous club –AFC Llwydcoed. Talented player who has impressed in pre-season build up.

**Stephen Evans** –Age 30 – Midfield -Carmarthen Town. Strong in the tackle, a no nonsense player. Experienced and one of the senior players at the club and will be a major asset to the club.

**Joint Player Managers:-** Lee Jarman and Lee Phillips.

**Coach:-** Mark Evans

## **ABERAMAN ATHLETIC HISTORY**

Aberaman AFC. is one of the founder members of the Welsh League 1902-03. Like many clubs founded in the late 1800's our early history is lost in the mist of time. But it would be true to say that we established ourselves as one of the best sides in the valley earlier on.

For instant recognition regarding our early status is shown by the stark statistic that in 1902-03 season we were finalists in the Welsh Cup. 10 years later (1912-13) we were finalists in the Welsh Amateur Cup. We won the South Wales and Monmouthshire Senior Cup in 1902-03 and in the 1911-12 and 1912-13 seasons we were winners of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Amateur Cup.

In the year before the 2nd World War, we were finalists in the Welsh League Challenge Cup. Such was the standard shown of trying to play attractive and competitive soccer that during the 2nd World War years we were asked to join the Western Section of the Football League in order to help sustain the general rundown occurring in football because of the many players nation wide having to become members of the Armed Forces.

A record home crowd of 2.500 saw us lose a cup-tie against Bristol City 3-1. We managed to draw level in the second leg only to go out in extra time

One of our most famous players was Bryn Jones. Bryn began his professional career with Southend, before crossing to Ireland to join Glenavon in 1929 at the age of 17. Unable to settle, he returned after a season-and-a-half to play for us. He soon made his presence known to the extent that even this early in his career the Merthyr manager, Albert Lindon, who was also Arsenal's chief scout in Wales showed interest. But it was Wolves who snapped him up from us for £1.500, in a move that was to help launch him as the country's costliest player-Arsenal paying a world record £14,000 for him in 1938.

During the season 1935-36 we were runners-up in the Welsh League Championship. Four years later (1940) it was the young Alf Sherwood, born on the side of the mountain overlooking our ground namely North View Terrace, who was to bring the spotlight back to reflect once more on our team- he would turn out to be the finest left back of his day.

In 2008/09 we were the Welsh League Champions and lost out on appeal in our bid to get to the Welsh Premier League, our floodlights being ready 2 weeks later than the April 30th deadline!