

BRITON FERRY LLANSAWEL'S PROFILES 2011-12

Luke Probert (Goalkeeper)

A good organiser of the defence and a great shot stopper who possesses great distribution that suits our way of playing.

Carl Harris (Defender)

A very complete player, at home at right back but is versatile enough to play along the back four. A consistent, strong and skillful full back that is very comfortable on the ball.

Ross Howells (Defender)

Excellent in the air and reads the game extremely well. Ross is an old fashioned no nonsense centre half that never shirks a tackle and never likes coming out second best.

Josh Cockings (Defender)

A young defender, Josh possesses an outrageous amount of ability retaining all the attributes of a modern day centre half. Cockings is a big and strong defender who is good in the air and very comfortable with the ball at his feet.

Dan Kingdom (Defender - Captain)

A young left footed player and one of the club's marquee players who possesses unbelievable pace. Dan's energy and enthusiasm is second to none. Although a left back Dan is just as comfortable flying down the left wing and consistently provides the teams attacking impetus.

Owain Williams (Defender/Midfield)

A versatile player who can play pretty much anywhere along the back four but is just as potent when playing in midfield. A strong no nonsense, no frills player who gets on with his job and provides a solid foundation for the rest of the team.

Midfield

Ross Davies (Midfield)

Ross is a terrier of a midfielder who possesses a great engine with an unbelievable appetite for the game. Ross rarely lets the opposition dwell on the ball too long. A very comfortable, tidy player who is a typical modern day box to box midfielder.

Matthew Lewis (Midfield)

Chinky has he is known is the steel in our midfield. He is a player who loves the physical nature of the game and is also very accomplished on the ball with great skill and distribution.

John Jones (Midfield)

John is a traditional ball winning midfielder. He is very comfortable on the ball and retains the endeavor and appetite to always keep going.

Chris Gardner (Midfield/Forward)

A hard working player with pace to burn that can play on either wing or as a striker. Chris creates a lot of chances for the team and consistently gets on the score sheet.

Daniel Thomas (Midfield/Forward)

A good Welsh league pedigree Daniel is a strong, skillful and versatile midfielder who can also lead the line if required. Consistently creates and scores goals.

Scott Kenyon (Midfield)

Scott is another player with exceptional ability complimented by a hard working ethos. Scott possesses great vision and balance in possession and is a regular scorer from midfield.

Rory Healey (Midfield)

New to the club Rory is a no nonsense hard working powerful winger who possesses great pace and does not like coming off second best going forward or when called on to defend. Comfortable on the ball and provides accurate crosses from wide areas.

Forwards

Gareth Jones (Forward)

Gareth is a big and strong centre forward who is excellent at leading the line. Good in the air with great feet and on his day is a handful for the most experienced defender. Regularly our leading scorer.

Leighton Thomas (Forward)

Leighton is another big and powerful centre forward who is excellent at leading the line. Uncompromising at times Leighton never fails to let his marker know he has been in a game.

Sam Jones (Forward)

Sam is a graduate from the Youth team who filtered in and out of the first team last season. Now established in the senior squad Sam possesses lightening pace and great ability on the ball with ability to finish under pressure.

Richard Evans (Forward)

Richard is a very skilful forward with a great eye for goal and is an accomplished finisher. Although small in stature he is very powerful and as bags of pace which can cause major problems for defences.

BRITON FERRY LLANSAWEL FOOTBALL CLUB
TWO BECAME ONE – A BRIEF HISTORY OF BRITON FERRY
LLANSAWEL AFC

Briton Ferry Llansawel was born out of the merger of two clubs, but although our history in our current guise only dates back to the 2009 both Briton Ferry and Llansawel Football Clubs respectively both retain a distinguished albeit contrasting history. Briton Ferry Ex-Schoolboys (Founding name) being the elder club were formed in 1925/26 and became members of the Welsh League in the early 1930's. The team was re-named Briton Ferry Athletic A.F.C. in 1926 when playing in the Swansea and District Football League. Promotion was gained to the second division of the Welsh League in 1932. After the Second World War "The Ferry" gained promotion to the first division of the Welsh League in 1947, albeit for one season only.

Despite the Club's mixed fortunes in the 1950's and 1960's it built up a fine sporting tradition and produced three full Welsh Internationals in Roy John, Harold Williams and Carl Harris. In 1987 Mr. Graham Jenkins, a life president who played for the team between 1951 and 1955 and whose grand-father, Mr. James Taylor, was a founder member of the club became Chairman of the Club and between 1995 and 1997 he under-took the re-building of the clubhouse, dressing-rooms, the visitors' lounge and the installation of floodlights.

There is no doubt that the club's fine facilities were a factor when Mr. Carl Harris, the former Leeds United winger and winner of twenty four full Welsh Caps accepted the position of player-manager. The club enjoyed considerable success under Carl's leadership culminating in the team's promotion as runners-up to the new League of Wales. However the stay in the League was to be a short one when relegation followed at the end of the 1993-94 season.

Although the club preserved its status has one of the most established teams in the Welsh league by retaining their first division status for many years they were never able to reach the heights archived in their glory days and a succession of poor seasons culminated in their relegation in 2008/2009 to the third division of the Welsh Football League.

Comparative youngsters compared to their counterparts at the Old Road, Llansawel Football Club were only formed in 1985 by a group of fathers whose children were playing junior football for Giant's Grave Boys Club. Over a period of 20 years since they entered the then old Division Five of the Neath and District Senior League the club successfully rose through the ranks culminating in 2005/2006 by becoming the first team in the 75 year history of the Neath League to complete the treble twice.

2005/2006 proved to be a landmark season which saw the club win 6 trophies including the Premier League, Premier Cup, Open Cup, Borough Cup, Rose Bowl and Neath League 75th Anniversary Trophy. A great season was capped with Llansawel gaining promotion into the Welsh Football League. Llansawel spent three seasons in the Welsh League before the decision was made to amalgamate with Briton Ferry FC.

After extensive discussions in the summer of 2009 it was agreed that Briton Ferry and Llansawel Football Club would merge to form Briton Ferry Llansawel AFC. It has been evident during the past few years that everyone associated with the new club is determined to grasp the opportunities this merger provides and maximize its potential ensuring that the new infrastructure provides a foundation for controlled growth ensuring a bright future for everyone associated with **Briton Ferry Llansawel AFC**.

The 2011/2012 season sees Carl Shaw take charge for the first full season assisted by Leighton Thomas and Martin Parker. Latest news at www.britonferryllansawelafc.com or follow us on twitter @bflafc