

BETTWS FC PLAYERS' PROFILES - 2011-12

Steve Amos, Age 37, Striker

Combines playing with a coaching/management role. Club top scorer. A redoubtable opponent.

Damien Barnard, Age 23, Midfield/Centre Forward

Local Bettws boy who fought his way into the first team last season

Jonathan Brooks, Age 40, Left Back

Joined the club in 2011-12 after spending a few years playing six-a-side.

Jonathan Davies, Age 20, Goalkeeper

Honing his skills with every match. Will prove to be a worthy successor to Mark Elliott.

Rhys Dyke, Age 20, Defender

A good young fullback with great delivery of the ball and a long throw – tireless.

Mark Elliott, Age 42, Goalkeeper

Local Bettws boy – a vastly experienced keeper.

Chris Hale, Age 20, Defender

Seconds player of the year 2010-11. Looking to cement a place in the first team.

David Hodgson, Age 36, Midfield

Part of the side that won the League title in 2002-03. Vastly experienced.

Jason James, Age 20, Midfield

Part of the reserve team 2010-11. Well-deserved graduate to the first team.

Aaron Jeffries, Age 19, Midfield

A brave tall lad who has matured into a class player. Great timing and accuracy.

Chris Jones, Age 29, Midfield / Defender

Strong in the tackle, great in the air.

Kurtis Lake, Age 17, Midfield

Moving up from youth – first year in the senior team.

Karl Miller, Age 38, Midfield/Right Back

Enormously experienced – also first team manager.

Luke Miller, Age 20, Midfield

Another product of the youth system – full of running with limitless energy.

Gareth Morgan, Age 36, Midfield/Defender

Good distributor of the ball. Don't let his age fool you.

Max Morgan, Age 20, Defender

Signed from Bryntirion 2010-11. Good all rounder. Can also play in defence,

Rhys Morgan, Age 18, midfield/defender

Tough tackling player with great vision – continues to improve with every match.

Chris O'Neill, Age 20, Defender

Has progressed through the Youth Team and Seconds to gain a place with the first team.

Richard Ready, Age 31, Midfield/Striker

Dropping behind front two has become his strongest position but will still score plenty of goals.

Nathan Rose, Age 20, Defender

Started playing football at 13 with Bettws Juniors. Now a first team regular.

Andrew Sebburn, Age 35, midfield/defender

Part of the side that won the league title in 2002-03. A great example for the younger players.

Dean Simons, Age 28, Defender

Former Wrexham junior and schoolboy international. Can also play midfield if required.

James Svensen, Age 18, midfield/goalkeeper

A versatile youngster - 1st year in the senior game

Jack Thomas, Age 22, Centre Forward

Elder brother of Morgan. Returns after a break from football.

Jonathan Thomas, Age 22, Centre Forward

Seconds captain 2010-11 & Manager's Player of the Year.

Morgan Thomas, Age 18, Winger

Just returned from USA where he represented Wales youth. One to watch.

Jonathan Wile, Age 40, Midfield/Striker

Experienced Welsh Premier League player and former Aston Villa trainee. Coming back from injury.

Nicky Williams, Age 23, Striker

Joined from Gilfach this season. Making a great start at the club.

BETTWS FC - CLUB HISTORY

1957 – formation of Bettws Welfare by President Stan Epton. Played in the Llynfi Valley, Bridgend & District and Port Talbot & District Leagues. Bettws Welfare then became Bettws AFC.

1981 - Bettws Boys Club was formed. Played in Bridgend & District League before becoming Bettws Athletic, one of the founder members of the South Wales Senior League in 1990 as part of the new pyramid system formulated by the FAW.

1995 – Bettws FC (established from an amalgamation of Bettws AFC and Bettws Athletic) was formed, sponsored by Bettws Social Club. The immediate affect of the amalgamation was the return of Bettws born players from clubs like Garw, Llangeinor and Tondy. Bettws finished 5th in the 2nd Division and were promoted after reorganisation of the League. The target was Welsh League 2000, a 5 year plan.

1996-98 – was a turbulent period for the club. Regrettably, personal circumstances such as work relocation forced many changes both in management and sponsorship. Significant contributions were made by Kevin Edwards, Neil McEachen, Allan Selwood, Phil Sweeney, Steve Jones and Bobby Howe who took the club to 3rd and 2nd place in consecutive years. The Oddfellows Arms in the centre of Bettws became the main club sponsor.

1998-99 – Runners up in the Senior League once again.

1999-2000 – Senior League winners, South Wales Intermediate Cup winners but lost the play off for a place in the Welsh League to Dinas Powys.

2000-01 - During the summer Bettws successfully appealed against their exclusion from the Welsh League when there was space in the league and a play off was not necessary that season. Darren Dyke was appointed Manager, attracted some key players and brought the best out of some youngsters. Won the 3rd Division title at first attempt without any pressure from cup competitions that they were excluded from.

2001-02 - Followed on with a 2nd place promotion from Division 2, behind Garden Village.

2002-03 - Bettws went into the 1st Division hoping to consolidate at mid table. Darren Dyke had resigned due to work commitments, SWFA coaching and scouting for Sunderland. Kevin Edwards returned for his 3rd spell and guided an excellent bunch of players to

the title and almost won the cup only to be defeated by closest rivals Neath in the final.

This magnificent achievement came too early for Bettws to progress into the FAW Premier League due to inadequate facilities. Floodlights, seated stand, turnstiles and upgraded barriers were needed at an estimated cost of £80,000. However, some of these projects have now been realised, eg, barriers, fencing and seating the stand are completed. The youth system was put in place for 7 to 19 year old and the playing future is in safe hands with some good players in house especially at under 16 and 19 level.

2003-04 - saw a new player manager in Joff Wile, the former Aston Villa trainee and experienced Welsh Premier League player. Secretary Phil Sweeney had to resign due to relocation with his employers, but this saw the return of the very experienced secretary, Neil McEachen and his assistant Allan Selwood. It turned out to be a poor season by Bettws standards.

2004-05 - Kevin Edwards was coaxed out of retirement for his fourth spell and a rebuilt squad hoped for better things this year. Things did not work out for Kevin, and sadly he resigned at Christmas. Assistant and former player, Steve Amos, took over and took the club to its second highest position in the Welsh League.

2005-06 – With a host of youngsters making their way through the system, the future looked promising, but wouldn't be achieved without some hard work. Unfortunately relegation became a reality on the final day of the season.

2006-07 – Mark Sage (former Garw stalwart) and Jason Edwards (former club captain) successfully lifted the club to within two points of promotion.

2007-08 – Greater success followed with promotion back to the first division – by six clear points.

2008-09 – The aim was to consolidate in the first division with a top eight place. This was achieved with the team finishing 4th.

2009-10 – Joining the Welsh League Reserve League proved to be a positive move as, led by Karl Miller and Andrew Seburn, the reserve team finished runner up in both league and cup in their first season. The first team was unfortunately relegated to division 2. The youth team start their 3rd season in the Welsh League under the guidance of Marc Simmonds and Kevin Mullens.

2010-11 – Once again personnel changes bring some instability to the club but a mid-table finish in division 2 was achieved.