

## **CARDIFF GRANGE HARLEQUINS – PROFILES – 2010-11**

**Nathan Newbury**– Excellent shot stopper, looking to make a mark at this level. Goal Keeper

**Abdi Noor** – Wing wizard, plenty of tricks and pace, will work any fullback. Midfield

**Gareth Cawley** – Hard working midfielder will quietly go about his business with little fuss. Midfield

**Daniel Gibson** - Central defender who gives very little away, a plus for any side. Defender

**Matthew Tanetta** - Busy and skillful midfielder who has an eye for a goal. Midfield

**Nathan Johnson** - Tough tackling with plenty of experience. Defender/Forward/Midfield

**Carl Fitzgerald** – Competitive midfielder, never lacking commitment or bravery. Midfield

**Raju Khan** – Has an eye for goal, growing as a player with experience. Forward

**Rhys Richards** – Excellent defender, calm and plenty of experience for someone so young. Defender

**Rasul Abdul** – Tricky, diminutive striker, experienced at Welsh League level, an eye for a goal. Forward

**Andrew Rowley** – Tough tackling defender, valuable addition to the squad. Defender

**Abubakary Ndiath** - Strong and combatative midfielder who loves a challenge and can play a bit to. Midfield

**Tahir Deria** – Youngster with plenty to offer, skill and composure for someone so young. Midfield

**Matthew Flynn** – Strong and competitive with an excellent touch. Midfielder

**Ben Tingley** – Experienced, reliable and Quins through and through. Defender

**Rhys Yates** – Strong, combatative goal scorer with plenty of experience. Forward

**Andres Coll** – Spanish connection technically gifted with an eye for a pass. Midfield

**Joao Rodrigues** – Portuguese connection, brings flair and a competitive nature to the squad - Midfield

**Christian Montes** – Spanish connection – excellent shot stopper, will be looking to gain experience at this level – Goal keeper

**Clinton Findlay** – Tricky and skilful footballer looking to make a mark at this level. Midfield

**Dan Fitzgerald** – Competitive footballer who brings valuable Welsh League experience to the squad. Defender/Midfield

**Giles Smith** – Defender with plenty of experience – Defender

**Simon Gardner** – Will run all day for the team - Midfield

### **Management**

**Manager** – Mike Wadden

**Assistant Manager** – Ishy Akhtar

**Coach** – Nick Yates

## **CARDIFF GRANGE HARLEQUINS HISTORY**

The 'Quins' were formed in 1935, and came to prominence in the early 1990's becoming the first Cardiff club to progress from "parks" football into the Welsh League, through the FAW Pyramid system. Playing their football at Cardiff Athletic Stadium in Leckwith, the Quins won the Welsh League Challenge Cup in 1995, were first promoted to Division One in 1996, and returned in 2002 determined to make a big impact.

The club achieved Welsh Premier League status by finishing runners-up in 2004/05. Unfortunately the financial realities of competing in that league proved too much, and the Club was immediately relegated following the mid-season departure of the manager and the expensively assembled squad. However, the club was blessed with a talented group of youth players, and a new committee was formed in the close season of 2006, determined to keep Welsh League football in Grangetown, to develop a new generation of local players and to work within the club's budget. The tough decision to suspend its membership of Welsh League Reserve Division was taken to ensure survival in 2006-07, the cost of playing games at Leckwith being prohibitive.

Following relegation to Division 2 in 2006/07 and a turbulent few years on and off the pitch, the summer of 2008 saw the threat of the Quins dropping out of the Welsh pyramid become a very near reality. However thanks to a local group of individuals and business the dreams of restoring past glory lives on. The new committee is committed to developing all areas of the club by providing stability on and off the field. The club currently operates a no-pay policy to players while hoping to ensure the club maintains its community feel.

Although season 08/09 ended quietly the clubs aim of ensuring 2<sup>nd</sup> division status was met. Following the turmoil of summer 2008, season 09/10 started with an air of stability at the club, with the appointment of Gavin Price as manager, however due a disappointing start the club parted company with Gavin.

Unfortunately the season ended with the disappointment of relegation to Division 3 following the implementation of the FAW strategic plan.

For season 10/11 the club drafted in vastly experienced Mike Wadden as manager to work on returning the club to past glories. Mike brings with him experienced coach Nick Yates while Ishy Akhtar was retained as assistant manager. After a promising start, reaching the quarter finals of the Welsh Cup and topping the table in February, the push for promotion fell away and eventually a relegation battle was successfully fought.

For 11/12 several new signings have come on board and a solid management team retained, the club will hope to make a successful attempt at regaining its Division 2 status. The committee is sure the foundations are in place for the management team to build a successful side, playing a brand of football the club and its opponents have become accustomed to see.

The committee continues with its aim of developing a football club which evolves into a community club to which everyone can relate. Most importantly 95% of the first team lives locally, while the youthfully assembled squad of current players and new signings will no doubt push the club in the right direction for many years. Along with the Welsh League side the club also runs a reserve team in the Cardiff and District Reserve League.