

## **PONTYPRIDD TOWN PEN PICS 2012-13**

**Ian Davies** – 32 year old goalkeeper who was signed this summer from Ely Rangers to add experience to the defence. Known as Digger, he is also a part time cage fighter

**Peter Scammell** – 19 year old goalkeeper who recently joined the club in the summer from Taffs Well. Is a student at Glamorgan University. Following the trip to Newcastle Emlyn the lads have nicknamed him One Direction due to his baby face looks!

**Richard Jago** – 34 year old defender who rejoined the club in the summer following a tour of most of the South Wales clubs. In fact, he's had more clubs than Tiger Woods! Glad to be back at Ponty as he is a Ponty fans favourite (so he tells me!) Works as a Brewery Operative at SA Brains.

**Jamie Braddock** – 22 year old defender who joined the club from Cardiff Corries. Has also played for Cwmbran Town and Taffs Well. The lads have dubbed him Jaffa Cake on account of his orange hair. Works in Cardiff as an Education Consultant.

**Mark Dodds** – 32 year old veteran defender who joined in the summer from Bridgend Town. Mark brings a wealth of experience to the club after appearing for Carmarthen Town, Haverfordwest County and Newport County. He is also first team coach and can also be used as an occasional striker due to his tall imposing figure. Works as a Fireman in Barry.

**Lee Denner** – 31 year old defender who joined Ponty in early 2012 from Caerau Ely. Works as a Landscape Gardener.

**Nathan King** – 31 year old midfielder/defender who joined Ponty from Penrhiwceiber Rangers. Nathan is 6' 2" and a professional boxer. In fact, will fight anyone for a couple of quid! He works as a scaffolder and likes taking his dogs for a gentle walk in his spare time.

**David Hurley** – 26 year old left winger who joined in the summer from Risca United. His brother Ben still plays for Risca so sibling rivalry will be in order when the two teams meet. Dai works at EADS in Newport.

**Dale Raven** – 27 year old tricky right winger who joined Ponty from Bridgend Town in 2011. Can scare the life out of full backs when in full flow. Dale once spent two years out of the game due to a serious injury. Dale is a bit of a party animal and has been known to sink a whole bottle of Budweiser in one sitting! Works as a plumber for RB Plumbing.

**Barrie Gunstone** – 30 year old midfielder/striker who joined Ponty in 2011 from Cardiff Corries. Barrie absolutely adores bananas and can often be seen eating loads of them before a game! He is also the club's free kick and penalty specialist. Is self employed.

**Jonathan Butler** – 23 year old midfield dynamo who loves nothing more than breaking up opposition attacks. Known to the lads as JB, he joined the club in pre-season from Pontyclun. Works for Countrywide, a property law company.

**Shane Williams** – 20 year old left winger who joined Ponty in pre-season from Afan Lido. Currently unemployed but says he is open to offers.

**Duncan Culley** – 23 year old striker who joined Ponty in 2010 but then had a year out in America in 2011. Returned to Ponty and has become quite a prolific scorer. Has previously turned out for Swindon Town, UWIC and LA Galaxy (or was that he ate a galaxy while in LA????). Duncan is an entrepreneur and owns his own company. Just like the Queen he never carries cash (especially when it's his round!)

**Nathan White** – 23 year old striker who joined pre-season from Taffs Well. His other previous clubs were Afan Lido and Bridgend Town. Very quick in and around the box and can cause serious problems for defenders. Nathan is the club's resident Gigolo!!!

**Rameer Outlaw** – 22 year old attacker who joined the club in the summer from Bridgend Town. A dynamic forward who can create lots of chances. Can also play in midfield if required.

**Jack Kane** – 21 year old striker/winger who joined Ponty in August from Cardiff Corries. Works at a Tesco call centre.

**Allan Davies** – 39 year old defender/team manager. Spent 10 years at Burton Albion under Nigel Clough before moving to Worcester City. Took over at Ponty as manager in 2009-2010 with expectations of taking Ponty to higher levels in the Welsh pyramid.

**Simon Dyer** – 40 year old Assistant Manager who has vast playing experience at Manchester City, Coventry City, Barry Town, Merthyr Tydfil. Also played in Europe for Inter Cardiff and Cwmbran Town and has managed Port Talbot. Simon was capped at all levels up to and including the Under 21s. He is also a UEFA A Licence Holder. He works as a Financial Advisor.

**Abouzar Noghani** – 31 year old Assistant Coach. Originally from Iran, he is in his 3rd year at Ponty. He is currently on a Football Coaching & Performance course at Glamorgan University where he is studying for his UEFA B Licence

**Debbie Bate** – 41 year old Physio. Works full time as a Sports Therapist. Debs was previously at Swansea City where she spent three years. She is a housewife with 2 children.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF PONTYPRIDD TOWN**

The history of the modern Pontypridd Football Club began in 1991 when the failing Welsh League side of Ynysybwl amalgamated with local league side Pontypridd Sports & Social Club to form Pontypridd & Ynysybwl FC.

After one season of playing their home games at the Recreation Ground in Ynysybwl the club moved to their new home in Ynysangharad Park, on the site of the former Pontypridd RFC Ground, and changed their name to their current one, that of Pontypridd Town. With the help of the local council new changing rooms were opened, floodlights installed and the stand at Ynysangharad Park were upgraded making it one of the better grounds in the league.

The changes also brought some good fortune as a sixth place finish in Division Two was, due to reorganisation of the Welsh League following the formation of the League of Wales, enough to earn promotion to the top division for the first time in the club's history.

The 1992/93 season saw the club enjoy its highest ever league position when they finished in third place with just 3 defeats in 26 games. Fifth place was achieved in 1993/94, and eleventh in 1994/95, but the 1995/96 season brought mixed emotions. The season saw the club go on a memorable Welsh Cup run. Away victories over Llanwern (4-0), Newport YMCA (4-2) and Taff's Well (1-0) saw Anglesey based League of Wales team Cemaes Bay visit The Park and be defeated 1-0. The quarter finals brought a tie against eventual winners Llansantffraid of the League of Wales. Although leading through a Romano Bacchetta goal at half time, two goals from Tommy Morgan took the visitors through. But at the end of the season, after originally ending the season in eleventh place, Pontypridd were deducted seven points by the league for fielding an ineligible player, which resulted in the club being relegated to the Second Division.

The club hung on to Second Division status for three seasons before relegation back to the basement in 1998/99. 2000/01 season saw the club finally climb to safety after a season of struggle after former Ynysybwl player Brian Gibson was appointed as player/manager.

The 2001/02 saw the club clinch third place, and promotion back into the Second Division. The 2004/2005 season saw the club finish in 5<sup>th</sup> place with promotion back into the first Division being obtained the following season..

In 2007 Pontypridd challenged for the Welsh League title but had to settle for a third place finish. Financial problems saw relegation follow the following season and by 2008 the club were in talks with Treforest FC about a merger. Talks collapsed and the club played on although they finished bottom and were back in Division Three.

From where, under the Chairmanship of businessman Phil Gibb and manager Allan Davies they are striving to get back to the upper levels of the Welsh Pyramid. Last season saw them miss out on promotion yet again when, despite leading the table, they capitulated on the run in. It is hoped that 2012-2013 will finally see Ponty Town gain the holy grail of promotion to Division 2.