

Pen Pictures of Barry Town squad 2010-11

Daniel Bradley. Goalkeeper. Dan made his debut against Taffs Well in the first game of the 2006-07 season. An agile keeper who was player of the year for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 seasons. Dan is the longest serving current player.

Geraint Frowen. Defender. Geraint joined the club after having played at Bridgend last season. Geraint counts Everton and Leicester amongst his clubs and he was also part of the 2006 Wales University team whilst at UWIC.

Atif Bashir.. Defender. Atif was born in Berlin and played as a junior with Hertha Berlin and as a youth with Cardiff City. He has Welsh Premier experience with Afan Lido, Grange Quins and Haverfordwest County and experience of Welsh League football counting Taffs Well, Maesteg Park and Bridgend amongst his clubs.

Lewis Cosslett. Defender. Lewis is a product of the youth system. He made his senior debut towards the end of the 2006-07 season against Pontardawe Town. Lewis is the son of Coach and former player Mike.

Daniel Clare. Defender. Dan joined Barry Town after playing previously at Croesyceiliog. He has also played at Llanelli and Cwmbran Town.

Lewis James. Defender. Lewis signed from Bryntirion Athletic in December 2009 having previously played at Bridgend Town and Port Talbot.

Michael Hartley. Midfield. Michael is a former Cardiff City junior who played over 40 games for Haverfordwest County in the Welsh Premier. Michael has also played for Bryntirion Athletic and Bridgend Town in the Welsh League.

Ryan Jenkins. Midfield. Ryan returns to the Dragons having spent time at Pontypridd last season. He has been at Man City, Leeds Utd and Nottm Forest. Formerly at UWIC and was part of the Wales Universities squad.

James Saddler. Midfield. James was at Ely Rangers last season and is highly thought of at the Club.

Sam Hartrey. Midfield. Sam signed for the Club in September 2009. Sam is a former Cardiff City youngster who has Welsh League experience with Bryntirion and Cardiff Corries.

Robert Blatchford. Forward. Rob is another of last season's squad. Rob has previously played for UWIC, Ton Pentre, Aberaman and Bridgend Town.

Anthony Nagi.. Forward. Anthony signed for Barry Town in February 2011 after starting the season with near neighbours Caerau (Ely). He has also played for Ely Rangers.

Josh Bell. Forward. Josh is a product of Barry Town's youth team. He made his debut in December 2006 against UWIC.

Lee Baldock. Forward. Lee signed senior forms for Barry Town in March 2011 although he has been a member of the youth team for some time.

Leon Dennis (Manager). Former player Leon took over the reins from Gavin Chesterfield in December 2010. Leon has also played for Port Talbot and Briton Ferry. He retired from playing when receiving a serious injury at Jenner Park in November 2007.

Mike Cosslett (Coach). An 'A' licence coach who has been at Jenner Park for many years including as a player and manager of one of the Youth sides.

History of Barry Town

Barry Town has had a long and rich history since the club was formed as Barry FC in November 1912, although our history can actually be traced back to around 1892 when a club called Barry and Cadoxton District was formed. The suffix 'Town' was added in 1931. The Club were Welsh Southern League Champions in 1921 and were Welsh Cup winners in 1955 when they beat Chester. The Club played Southern League football in two spells for over 60 years (1913 to 1982 (less the War Years) and 1989 to 1993) before finally returning to Welsh football in 1993.

In the 1980's the club came to the fore as a footballing force in the Welsh League (National Division) with 6 championships between 1982 and 1989 (5 in succession) before rejoining the English pyramid system.

The Club has also won The Welsh League Challenge Cup on 6 occasions and were finalists on 4 other occasions. In 1993-94, Barry Town's first season back in Wales and with Andy Beattie at the helm, the Club won The Welsh League becoming Champions by a record 21 point margin and also won all Cups competed for (Welsh Cup, League Challenge Cup and FAW Trophy). The team beat Cardiff City 2-1 in the Welsh Cup Final at The National Stadium in front of a 15,000+ crowd.

The Club were promoted to the League of Wales for the 1994-95 season finishing 7th and competed in The UEFA Cup for the first time as a result of the previous season's Welsh Cup success, losing to Zalgiris Vilnius (Lithuania). In 1995-96 the club became the first full time professional team in the League of Wales and embarked on a remarkable period of success winning the Championship for the next 4 seasons. During this period the Club had Terry Boyle, John Lewis, Eddie May and Paul Giles as Managers.

Former Fulham player Gary Barnett was appointed Manager in Jul 96 and made history by leading Barry Town to becoming the 1st League of Wales club to progress in European competition. The Club reached the First Round proper of The UEFA Cup, beating FC Dinaburg (Latvia) and Vasutas Budapest (Hungary) in the Qualifying Rounds before losing out to Aberdeen (4-6 on agg.), however the Club went on to win the League Championship, Welsh Cup and League Cup to end a very successful season.

In 1997-98 continued the success when the club achieved another first by going through the league season undefeated and also retained the League Cup. They was no success in Europe as the club, as expected, lost over two legs to Dinamo Kiev in The Champions League qualifying round (Dinamo had Rebrov, Shevchenko and Lughny amongst their players). The Club retained their title but were unfortunate to be drawn against Dinamo again in 1998-99 Champions League Qualifying Round with the inevitable result.

The club won a third successive title in 1998-99 and went on to win both the League Cup and Premier Cup, beating Wrexham in the final at The Racecourse. Gary Barnett decided that it was time to step down and seek new pastures. Richard Jones was appointed Player-Manager in Aug 09 but it was to prove a difficult season for the Dragons. They managed to finish 2nd despite having a much depleted squad due to a string of injuries. The League Cup was retained with a magnificent 6-0 win over fierce rivals Bangor City. In 2000-01 the Dragons regained the title under new manager Peter

Nicholas, and completed the double with a Welsh Cup Final win over TNS at The Racecourse.

The reward was again a place in the Champions League for the 2001-02 season when the Dragons achieved yet another record by becoming the first League of Wales/Welsh Premier Club to win a Champions League tie, beating FC Shamkir (Azerbaijan) both home and away. Although going out to FC Porto in the next round the Dragons recorded a magnificent 3-1 home win against the 11th seeded team from Portugal. Porto's team included Jorge Costa, Ricardo Carvalho, Candido Costa and Helda Postiga.

Coach Kenny Brown, the former West Ham and Norwich City player took over the reins from Nicholas during the 2001-02 season when Nicholas joined Colin Addison at Swansea City. Kenny led the Dragons to a second successive League Championship and Welsh Cup double. The club were unsuccessful in Europe falling at the first hurdle to Latvian Champions, Skonto Riga. The Skonto team provided many of the players who were so successful at the European Championship in Portugal for Latvia.

A third successive double followed in 2002-03. Success in Europe, however, eluded the Dragons again in 2003 when although winning the second leg of their tie against FK Vardar Skopje of Macedonia 2-1, a disappointing 0-3 reverse in Macedonia saw them bow out.

Financial problems saw the club go into Administration in September 2003 with all the full-time players leaving. Matthew Case and his players from N & M Construction, a Vale of Glamorgan League team fulfilled the first few fixtures of the season before former Aston Villa, Cardiff City and Shrewsbury Town defender David Hughes was appointed manager. Despite financial restrictions he managed to keep the Club going by signing players who were willing to play for pride rather than money.

The Club was purchased by Stuart Lovering on 10th December 2003; the day the Club was due to fold. In February 2004 Colin Addison, the former Derby County, Atletico Madrid and Swansea City manager was appointed as Director of Football with responsibility for all team matters. David Hughes stayed on as Colin's Assistant. Despite improved performances the Dragons finished 4 points adrift at the bottom and were relegated to The Welsh Football League.

David Hughes, the former manager and Addison's Assistant retook the reigns in Jul 09 but resigned in Dec 04 along with the majority of the team due to ongoing financial restrictions. Former Barry Town player Gavin Price took over with another former player Ashley Griffiths as Assistant. A dispute with the local Council over inherited playing fees for Jenner Park saw the Club refuse to pay the debt which resulted in the Club being locked out of Jenner Park. The Club were given permission by The Welsh Football League to play at Port Talbot for 1 game and from Jan 05 to May 06 at the home of Treforest FC.

The Club returned to Jenner Park for the start of the 2006-07 season but the cost of repaying the outstanding debt with the local Council had a severe impact on the playing budget. The team struggled throughout the season and apart from a brief period in Dec were always in the bottom 3. Gavin left the Club towards the end of that season and player Jeff MacLean took the helm for the remainder of the season. Unfortunately as the deadline for signings had passed,

Jeff was unable to bring in any new blood and the Club eventually finished bottom of the Division and was relegated to Division Two, the Clubs lowest ever league status.

Former UWIC manager Gavin Chesterfield was appointed manager in June 07 with Jeff Shaw and Mike Cosslett as Coaches. They earned The Dragons promotion at the first attempt finishing Runners-up to Bettws. The trio then led the Club to 3rd position in Division One in the 2008-09 season despite the lack of funding and great credit must go to the Management Team, the Players and Supporters for this achievement. The Supporters Committee had in fact taken over majority of the financial responsibilities for the Football side of the Club in January 2009.

The 2009-10 season saw the team finish a creditable 7th position. With no playing budget Gavin persuaded players to play for the team but towards the end of the season injury problems mounted up and it was a struggle to field a fit starting eleven.

Damon Searle agreed to become Gavin's Assistant in July 2010 to further strengthen the Coaching side of the Club. The nucleus of the previous season's team have signed up along with a few new faces.

Whilst the past few years have been turbulent for the Club it is hoped that the success under the current Management Team will continue and the team will one day return to the Welsh Premier, a League they graced for so many years.

Former player Leon Dennis took over the reins from Gavin Chesterfield who left for Haverfordwest County in December 2010. Another former player, Mike Cosslett, continues his long association with the club as first team coach.