

Newport Civil Service - History

Newport Civil Service were founded in 1963 and initially worked their way through the Newport & District League system. After achieving Gwent County League status they started to make an impact at this standard in the late 1980's by winning Division 3 in season 1987/88 and Division 2 the following season. In the 1989/90 season the Civil followed up the 2 previous years successes with a 2nd place finish in the 1st Division as well as winning the Gwent Challenge Cup for the 1st time in their history. After finishing 3rd in Division 1 during season 1990/91, several years of mid-table finishes came along; the only success in this period was winning the Gwent Amateur Cup in 1994/95. Season 1996/97 saw Newport Civil Service finish bottom of Division 1 but failing to be relegated due to Chepstow Town being promoted to the Welsh League. This warning to the Civil took an immediate effect with a 4th place finish in season 1997/98. Towards the end of the 1998/99 season, the Civil were on course for an incredible 'Treble', only for disaster to strike as they were penalised 9 league points for unknowingly fielding an ineligible player, who was suspended from the Sunday football leagues. This ended the league challenge and was followed by a loss in the final of the Gwent Amateur Cup to local rivals Newport Corinthians. The only positive for a season that promised so much was a 1-0 Gwent Challenge Cup Final triumph over another Newport Side, Pill AFC. There was another period of mid-table finishes following this until the 2001/02 season which saw the club struggling for players all season and relegation to the 2nd division followed. This shook and hurt the club but with a new management team and players they achieved a 4th place finish in their 1st season back in division 2. Consecutive 3rd place finishes followed, with promotion being so close, but eventually poor results in the last few games of each season denying the Civil. Promotion back to Division 1 was finally gained in the 2005/06 season with a runners-up position to Monmouth Town. However there was change again then with a new management team and a loss of a vast amount of players for the assault on the 1st Division. The Civil ended up winning the 1st Division but failed to gain promotion, which was a huge blow, due to the Civil Service Sports Club being taken over and developed by Playfootball.net. History came after the 2007/08 season when Newport Civil Service retained their Gwent County 1st Division title. They did this by losing just 2 games throughout the whole season, one being the very 1st game and the second in early October. After a lot of hard work by players and officials they applied for Welsh League status but were rejected and also failed an appeal before a 2nd appeal was successful and promotion granted for the 1st time in the clubs history. The inaugural season in the Welsh League was a success for the club with a more than respectable finish of 5th. There was also a piece of silverware to celebrate as Newport Civil Service won the Gwent Senior F.A. cup in the first season of entering by beating 2nd division Cwmbran Celtic 4-3 in the Final after disposing of Newport County at the semi-final stage by of a score of 1-0. The following couple of seasons were exciting yo-yo seasons with a promotion challenge and relegation battle with neither materialising! 2011/12 saw Ian Burman join Ben Burrows as joint manager of the 1st team, but it was ultimately a disappointing season with inconsistency letting the club down, leading to a pretty meaningless campaign. There were changes again in the summer of 2012/13 which saw Ben Burrows step down to assistant player/manager with Martin Elwick returning to the club, after a six year absence, to join Ian Burman as joint manager. It was again an inconsistent season with a mediocre mid table finish. There have been yet more changes this summer with both Ian Burman & Martin Elwick stepping down from joint manager duties due to other commitments, although Ian will be staying on board in a part time assistant manager/coaching position. Ben Burrows has once more taken on the managerial reigns with the help of Simon Berry from Monmouth Town Youth and are hoping to build on the brilliant end of season form of 2013/14 to provide a more successful 2014/15 campaign!

Newport Civil Service AFC – Player Profiles

Chris Jones – Goalkeeper

Chris has served the club well over many years and has bags of experience in the Welsh League. Has been the No.1 for most of his time at NCS but in recent years work commitments have limited his appearances. A great all round goalkeeper who never fails to impress.

Jordan Cullen – Goalkeeper

Jordan is a young keeper who is showing he is more than capable playing at Welsh League level. He is a good in all aspects of goalkeeping and will challenge for a regular start this season.

Josh Griffiths – Goalkeeper

Another young keeper who we are confident has the ability to play at Welsh League level. Will be challenging for a regular start.

Fraser Soper – Goalkeeper

Another young keeper who also represents Monmouth Youth. A brilliant shot stopper and all round goalkeeper, Fraser is sure to have a very bright future in the game.

Steve Muir – Defender

A long serving NCS player who has served the Club well for over 10 seasons. Steve is comfortable playing on the left or right side of the pitch. Always full of energy with a never say die attitude.

Chris Thomas – Defender

Chris has returned to the club this season after a spell with Malpas United. He is full of energy and gives his all each time he plays. A very useful addition for us this season.

Matthew Palmer – Defender

An NCS veteran who seems to have been with us forever. A defender but Matthew is also comfortable playing in a midfield role when required. A very versatile member of the NCS squad.

Darren Woodcock – Defender

Woody is a long term fixture at NCS and is a player who can comfortably play at the back or in midfield. A great competitor with a great left foot and despite being five foot nothing can leap like a salmon.

Gareth Wysome – Defender

Gareth is back where he belongs at NCS after a short spell away. He has played for a few other Welsh League & Welsh Premier clubs in his career. Bags of experience, a quality defender and a great guy. He is a real leader and a key component of the squad.

Callum Hodges – Defender

A recent addition to the squad Callum also represents Monmouth Town at Under 19 level. A composed centre back with great positional sense he has the attributes to play at a much higher level in the coming years.

Lewis Coldrick – Defender

Lewis has joined us this season from AFC Porth. He is a giant of a defender he has brilliant ability on the ball also. A real coup signing for us and will give the defence the boost it has needed.

Luke Hughes – Defender/Midfield

Luke has returned to the club this season after a spell with Malpas United. An imposing figure on the pitch and a real threat at set pieces. Has the ability to be a Welsh League regular for many years to come

Ben Burrows – Defender/Midfield

An influential player with bags of experience at higher levels including youth internationals. Ben is a high quality player who can play at the back or in midfield with equal ability. He can even do a job up front if needed!

Nicky Lovell – Midfield

Nicky is a new signing this season with bags of skill and ability. He can beat a man and deliver a killer ball so could end up being a vital player for us this season.

Luke Williams – Midfield

Spooky is a gifted playmaker that has joined us this season. Comfortable on the ball and his ability belies his tender age! A real coup for us and should eventually go on to play at a much higher level.

Gareth Cleverly – Midfield

Clev has been with the club for many of years and is the midfield general. He just needs to learn to sit and pick things up instead of trying to do all the midfielder's jobs.

Thomas Hodge – Midfield

A recent addition to the squad Thomas also represents Monmouth Town at Under 19 level. A tireless worker in the middle of the park who maintains possession as well as anyone around.

Jac Hardman – Midfield

A recent addition to the squad Jac also represents Monmouth Town at Under 19 level. Jac beats people for fun and adds some much needed creativity when needed.

Conor Yeates – Midfield

Conor signed for us from Pill AFC this season and is a very welcome addition. He has bags of energy, great ability on the ball and can get put in tackles when needed. Will adapt to the step up with ease.

Sion Evans – Midfield

Sion is a new member of the squad this season. He has a great engine and workrate which makes him a valuable member of the squad.

Marc Gunter – Midfield

A welcome return to the club after an extended break from football. Marc has the ability to create something from nothing and is an essential member of the squad who is always likely to pop up with a goal.

Kyle Thomas – Midfield/Striker

A recent addition to the squad Thomas also represents Monmouth Town at Under 19 level. A really clever player who loves to be on the ball creating havoc for the opponents.

Lee Morgan – Midfield/Striker

Lee is looking to settle back at the club after spells at other teams over the past couple of years. A strong, powerful and skilful player he could make a real mark on the Welsh League this season.

David Mellon – Striker

A pacey and tricky striker who last season was dogged by a long term injury. Now on the road to recovery, David hopes to return to the form that netted him numerous goals in the previous campaigns.

Ryan Smith - Striker

Ryan only played a bit part last season due to circumstances. Has been impressive previously for us and he is a quick forward thinking player who has scored plenty of goals at reserve level.