



## Penybont FC Player Profiles 2014 / 2015



### Manager: Francis Ford -

Francis became the 1<sup>st</sup> ever manager of Penybont FC last season. A title winner in the Welsh Football League, will be looking to build on his past successes. A very good man manager, will have his players running through brick walls for him. Franny's half time talks have been known to strip the paint off the walls!!!!

### Sean 'Barney' Williams: Defender –

'Barney' is now one of our senior players at the club. Very dominant in the air, Sean has added a passing game to his repertoire this season and looks to play from the back, which suits our team.

### Richard French: Striker –

Richard has recently joined us from Aberdare Town and although he had a slight injury, he is now raring to go and will be looking to create a goal scoring partnership with Rawlings. Another astute signing by the manager.

### Joe Hopkins: Defender –

Joe has added consistency to his game and now has settled into the team this season. Another youth product, who has come through the ranks. Won Player of the Year.

### Anthony Rawlings: Striker –

Anthony was last season's top scorer with 25. An excellent striker, who will always score goals. A very good signing. Already scoring for fun.

### John Paul Budd: Defender –

John Paul is another highly rated youngster and has forged an excellent partnership with 'Barney' at the heart of our defense. Another Youth product.

### Nathan Jones: Midfielder –

Another Youth product, Nathan is a Welsh Boys Club International. Scoring goals this season, which has been a very welcome addition to his game.

### Craig Reddy: Midfielder –

Craig has been an excellent signing from Ton Pentre and has settled into life at Penybont easily. An all action midfielder who doesn't lose the ball often and likes to put in a big tackle. Now on his way back from injury, will be like a new signing.

### Dale Stephenson: Striker –

Dale has recently returned to us after a brief soiree to Llantwit Major, but he has come back and taken to the 1<sup>st</sup> Team with ease. Scored his 1<sup>st</sup> goal against Cambrian and we expect him to have a long and successful career with Penybont.

### Jake Roberts: Midfielder –

Jake Roberts has made the step up to our 1<sup>st</sup> team this season and will look to gain his chance for a place in the 1<sup>st</sup> team squad. A big talent and he just needs to be patient for his chance as we all have no doubts he will make it.

### Nathan Renfree – Midfielder

Nathan joined us from Llantwit Major and is an exciting prospect. He is a Welsh School Under 18's International and has looked very good in pre season. Has settled into the club very well, all action.

### Robbie Thomas: Midfielder

Robbie has recently signed from Taffs Well and is a strong athlete who works very well up and down the pitch. Robbie is looking to claim the right hand side as his own and make that side more solid.

### Paul Evans – Midfielder

Paul rejoins us after a brief spell away due to work commitments. An excellent midfielder who has come back looking very fit and has made a big difference straight away.

### Rhys Wilson – Goalkeeper

Rhys is another local talent. He is a former pro keeper as he was with Swansea City and Aberdeen at a young age. Still only 23 years old.

### Paul Wiseman: Assistant Manager –

Paul has a huge knowledge of Welsh League football and has won the title countless times. An excellent sounding board for Franny. Has a winning mentality. Also known for putting on the keeper gloves from time to time.



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### PENYBONT FC – A BRIEF HISTORY

Penybont FC was formed in 2013 with the merger of the two premier clubs in the Bridgend County in the form of Bryntirion Athletic and Bridgend Town. The Directors of both clubs put aside their rivalries and decided for the good of football in the borough, that the clubs should unite as one and push forward together in their pursuit of the higher echelons of the Welsh football pyramid and also become a club with its community at its heart.

Emlyn Phillips was voted as the first ever Chairman of the new Penybont FC club, with his deputy being Colin Mawer. With eight other directors, this off the field team has the highest visions for the newly merged club and will continue to push Penybont FC forward in its thinking and playing values.

Francis Ford was the outstanding candidate to be Manager of the new club and with his experience of playing and managing in the Welsh League, coupled with his professional experience as a former Cardiff City player; we know we have the right man for the job. Francis has again retained his coaching staff with Paul Wiseman as his assistant, Nigel Jordan as the 1<sup>st</sup> Team Coach and Tony Rawlings as his physio. With players from the old Bridgend Town and Bryntirion Athletic clubs at his disposal, coupled with other new signings, the squad looks very strong for its journey as a club in the Welsh Football League.

Coupled with turning Penybont FC into one of the top clubs in Welsh Football, our new Directors also wanted to make a bigger impact with our local community of the Bridgend County and decided a new 3G FIFA approved artificial pitch was to be installed on the old Bryntirion Park main pitch. This will minimize the impact of the harsh weather we receive in the winter months and allow the Penybont FC teams to continue to play their league matches and also be a place for other local teams of all sports to train / play through the winter months. This will be a fantastic aide to local community sports clubs and also the local schools who now have a top class facility to be able to use on their doorstep.

The Club House was next on the agenda and again the Directors have pulled out all the stops and have extended the Club House with a new 'Sports Bar' themed bar, which has allowed us to have a function room at the Club House. Already one of the places to go in Bridgend, our Club House will become even more welcoming to all and we can host all types of parties for the local community. We have also had a refurbishment of the original clubhouse and changing rooms. Our Club House has also become the home of Bryntirion Athletic Juniors and Bridgend Town Juniors and you can see all their achievements and news as you walk through the player's tunnel from the changing rooms.

On the playing side, we at Penybont FC have a whole host of sides playing from the top level of the Welsh Football League to Youth and Veterans sides. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Team plays in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Welsh Football League; our Reserve Team are members of the Welsh Football Reserve League and our 3<sup>rd</sup> Senior Team are members of the Bridgend & District Football League. We have an Under 19's Team which play in the Welsh Football Youth League, two Under 18's Teams which play in the South Wales Youth League, a Veteran's side who are members of the Welsh Veterans League and recently we have also formed a new Senior Ladies Team who play in the South Wales Women's League and a new FAW approved Academy that has five teams which we have formed in 2014.

To tie in with our Youth policy at the club, we have two feeder clubs to feed into the senior section of the Penybont Football Club pyramid in the form of Bridgend Town Juniors and Bryntirion Athletic Juniors. These two great junior clubs have supplied some fantastic talent in the past and present. We have also created a new partnership with Bridgend College and their top class sports department, which will provide excellent links to the College and also Penybont FC for its athletes. To tie in with this new partnership between ourselves and the college, we have installed another 3G artificial surface at their college headquarters to help their development process. We have also spent another £20,000 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> pitch at Bryntirion Park to aid the drainage issues we were having, and this will help our Penybont FC sides as well as the young junior and mini teams who play on this pitch. This was able to be brought about thanks to our excellent partnership with our local Laleston Community Council in which we are deeply indebted to.

We renamed Bryntirion Park in 2015 to the Kymco Stadium and also in 2015 our Reserve Team broke the Welsh League scoring record with a 25 – 1 win over West End. The Reserves also won the league in the 2014 / 2015 season.

Helen Jones is our Club Stewardess, and the clubhouse continues to shine and affords a warm welcome to customers old or new. Whilst our Chairman; Emlyn Phillips is as ambitious as ever and the life force behind this thriving club and takes us forward into our new exciting future.

Visit our web site for up to the minute news at:-

<http://www.penybontfc.co.uk>

**Vic Carpenter**