

TOPBINS



Pictures by **Ashley Crowden / FAW**

Hello There

Never dull in the domestic leagues of Wales

Preseason is not far away now. The transfers are starting to fly in, some shocks, some not so shocks. Promotions and relegations are sorted....well I think they are.

Loads to cover in this edition so we will get straight to it. As always thanks to everyone who contributes, there was loads of news coming out so not had time to sort out interviews this month but we'll have some big ones next month.

Enjoy the edition. Diolch,
Dan

The New Saints Fined After Illegal Approach

The New Saints have been fined after an illegal approach was made for Connah's Quay Nomads midfielder Callum West during the 2025/26 season.

An FAW Independent Appeals Panel recently considered the charge brought against TNS and found the club had breached FAW Rule 71.4. The charge was proven, with the Oswestry based club fined £180 in line with the FAW's disciplinary guidelines.

The rule states that a club wishing to approach or negotiate with a professional player who is under contract elsewhere must first inform that player's current club in writing before entering into discussions.

The disciplinary charge was originally issued to The New Saints on February 19, 2026, with reports elsewhere suggesting the approach related to the January transfer window.

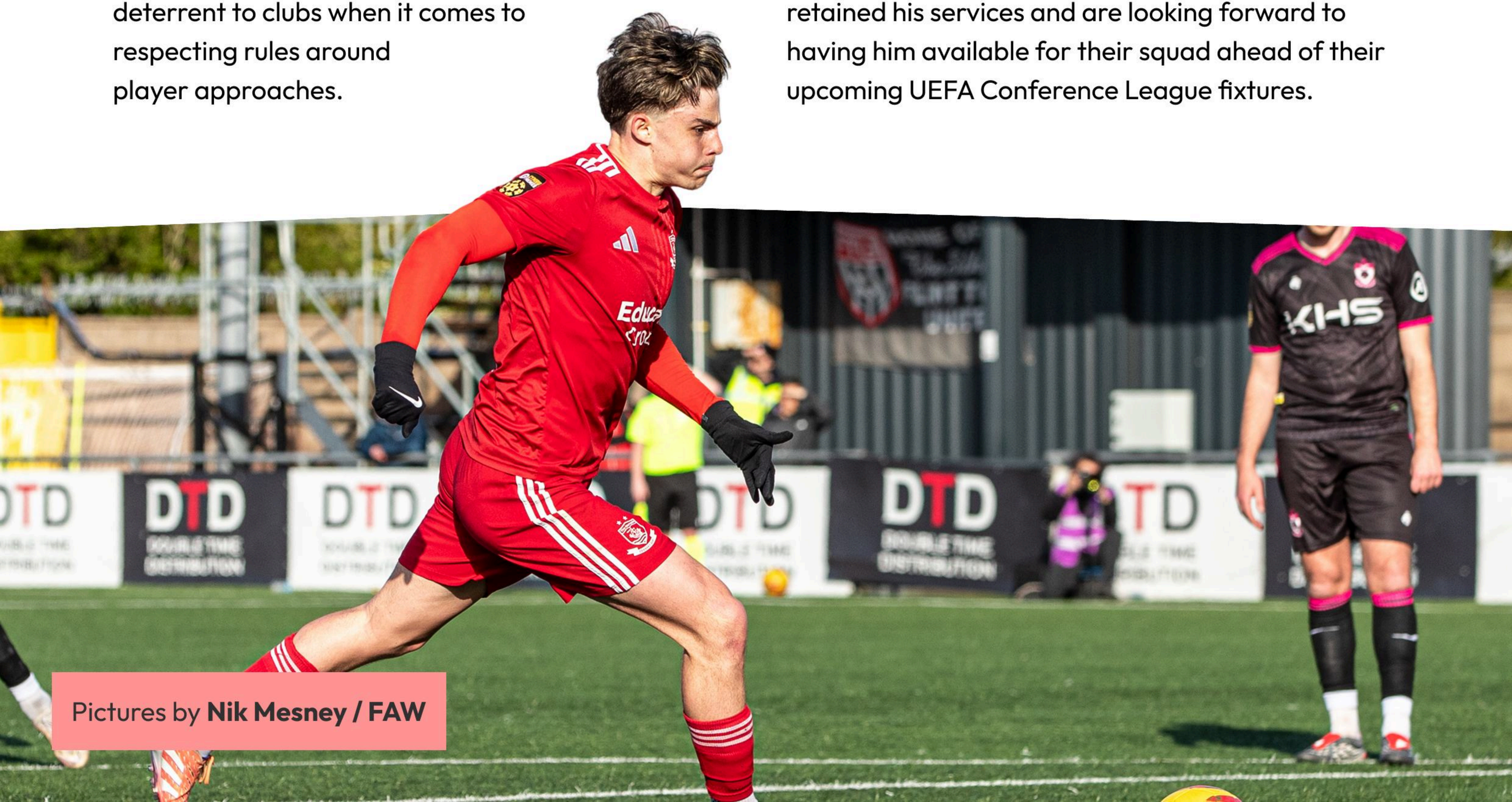
Connah's Quay welcomed the outcome of the case but made clear their frustration at the level of punishment, describing the fine as "extremely disappointing" and arguing that it offers little deterrent to clubs when it comes to respecting rules around player approaches.

The fine also reflects the level of sanction seen in previous FAW disciplinary cases involving similar player approach rules. Llanelli Town were fined £180 in 2025 for failing to notify Ammanford before negotiating with Tristan Jenkins, while Airbus UK Broughton were also handed a £180 fine, suspended in full, following a Rule 71.4 breach in 2023.

West joined Connah's Quay in the summer of 2025 after leaving Barnsley and quickly became an important figure in the Nomads side. The midfielder made 30 league appearances during the 2025/26 campaign, scoring nine times.

He also scored against The New Saints in Connah's Quay's 3 to 1 win on December 31, a result that stood out during the second half of the campaign.

Despite the approach, West remains with the Nomads. The club say they are pleased to have retained his services and are looking forward to having him available for their squad ahead of their upcoming UEFA Conference League fixtures.





Nathaniel MG Cup



Nathaniel

Nathaniel

Nathaniel

Cups Removed From 2026/27 Calendar

Two Welsh domestic cup competitions will not be contested next season after the Football Association of Wales confirmed changes to the 2026/27 Cymru Leagues calendar.

The Nathaniel MG Cup and the Welsh Blood Service League Cup have both been removed from next season's schedule as the FAW prepares for the relaunch of the domestic league structure.

The decision comes ahead of the Cymru Premier expanding to 16 clubs from 2026/27, a move which will increase the number of league fixtures and place further pressure on the calendar across the top tiers of Welsh football.

First contested in 1992/93, the Nathaniel MG Cup has been Welsh football's domestic league cup competition for more than three decades, featuring clubs from the Cymru Premier, Cymru North and Cymru South.

In recent seasons, the competition has also included wildcard under 21 sides from Cardiff City, Swansea City and Newport County, adding a different dimension to the tournament.

Barry Town United will now stand as the most recent winners of the Nathaniel MG Cup, having lifted the trophy this season.

The Welsh Blood Service League Cup, introduced for Tier Two clubs, has also been removed from the calendar. The competition gave clubs from the Cymru North and Cymru South another national trophy to compete for, with Airbus UK Broughton winning this season's final edition.

The FAW said the decision followed a period of research and consultation with clubs, with feedback aligning with the move to reshape the fixture calendar.

The governing body also placed on record its thanks to Nathaniel Cars and the Welsh Blood Service for their support of the competitions, adding that both organisations will remain valued partners of the association.

A confirmed fixture calendar for the 2026/27 Cymru Leagues season is expected to be announced in the coming weeks, as Welsh domestic football prepares for one of its biggest structural changes in recent years.



Caerphilly Athletic Promoted

Caerphilly Athletic will play in the JD Cymru South next season after being crowned Ardal South East champions, completing another major step in the club's rapid rise through the Welsh football pyramid.

The A's finished their league campaign in April and were left waiting to see if the chasing pack could catch them. That wait ended when Cwmbran Town's 2-2 draw away at Brecon Corries confirmed Caerphilly as champions and sealed promotion to the second tier.

For Ian Butterworth's side, it completes back to back promotions after winning the South Wales Premier League Premier Division in 2024/25. In their first season at Ardal level, Caerphilly adapted quickly, set the pace, and finished the campaign with a record of 21 wins, four draws and five defeats from 30 matches.

Their attacking numbers tell the story. Caerphilly scored a league high 98 goals, with forward Iwan John playing a key role after netting 36 times in 29 appearances.

Formed as Dynamo Aber in 2007 before becoming Caerphilly Athletic in 2017, the club's journey has been one of steady growth, with recent seasons bringing a sharp rise through the Welsh football pyramid.

Promotion to the JD Cymru South brings new challenges, bigger fixtures and a step up in standards, but Caerphilly have shown they are not simply passing through levels. They are building something with purpose.

From South Wales Premier League champions to Ardal South East champions, the rise continues. Next stop, the JD Cymru South.

Flint Mountain Relegated

Flint Mountain FC will compete in Tier 4 next season after the Football Association of Wales granted the club's request for elective relegation from the Cymru North.

Flint Mountain had written to the FAW to ask whether it would be possible to step down from Tier 2, with the matter later approved under FAW Men's Pyramid Regulation 4(b).

Flint Mountain finished 14th in the Cymru North this season, following a strong debut campaign at Tier 2 the year before, when they placed 7th.

The regulation gives FAW Directors discretion when dealing with applications of this nature. It allows the FAW to grant consent, place a club at a different level, refuse consent for a club to continue in Tiers 1 to 3, or order that a club plays below Tier 3.

Guidance within the regulation states that a club making such an application would ordinarily be expected to play in Tier 3, or two levels below the level at which it last competed, whichever is lower.

Flint Mountain will now move from the Cymru North to Tier 4 for the 2026/27 campaign.

The decision has also had an impact elsewhere in the pyramid, with Ruthin Town and Kerry both handed relegation reprieves.

Ruthin Town, who were among the relegated sides from the Cymru North in 2025/26, will now remain in Tier 2 for the 2026/27 season. Kerry FC have also been reprieved and will continue in the Ardal North East next season.

The New Saints Sign Winger

The New Saints have added further attacking depth ahead of the 2026/27 campaign with the signing of winger Jesurun Uchegbulam.

The 25 year old arrives at Park Hall having built up experience across the English non league and semi professional game, with spells at Chesterfield, Rochdale, Oldham Athletic, Chelmsford City and Buxton. Born in Lagos, Nigeria, Uchegbulam moved to Italy at a young age and was part of the AC Milan youth academy from the age of seven.

After relocating to England with his family as a teenager, he later made his way through the non league system, impressing at Stockport Town and Mossley before earning a professional deal with Chesterfield in 2022.

He went on to have spells with Rochdale and Oldham Athletic, and was part of the Oldham squad that won promotion back to the English Football League through the National League play off final at Wembley.

More recently, Uchegbulam featured for Chelmsford City, where he made an immediate impact by scoring and assisting on his debut in an FA Cup win over Braintree Town. He later spent time on loan at Buxton.

TNS head coach Craig Harrison said: "I've known Jes for a long time. I first spotted him when he was around 18 or 19 during my time at Connah's Quay, and even managed to get him in for a friendly, where he was exceptional. "Unfortunately we weren't able to get the deal over the line as he signed for Chesterfield, but he brings directness, power and pace, and the ability to play across a number of attacking positions which we're really pleased with."

Uchegbulam said he was delighted to join The New Saints and is looking forward to contributing to a side with a strong domestic record and regular European involvement.

His arrival gives TNS another attacking option as they prepare for the new campaign, with Harrison strengthening a squad that will again be expected to compete on multiple fronts.

Tier 2 Line-Up Complete After Ardal Play-Off Finals

The Tier 2 line-up has now been completed, with the final promotion places confirmed through the Ardal play-offs.

Porthmadog are heading back to the JD Cymru North after a two-season absence, with the Traeth club sealing their return through a 3-0 play-off victory over Ardal North East runners-up Knighton Town at Park Avenue, Aberystwyth.

Chris Jones' side were inspired once again by Caernarfon Town loanee Osian Evans, who scored twice to continue an outstanding spell since joining Port in December. His double took him to 22 goals in 19 appearances for the club.

Pontardawe Town also secured their return to Tier 2, earning promotion back to the JD Cymru South after a one-season absence. They booked their place with a 2-0 victory over Cwmbran Town in the southern play-off, with goals from Sammy Harrison and Jake Barrow sparking celebrations at Cambrian United.

However, their return to the second tier will begin under new management after Christian Evans stepped down from his role just days after securing promotion. The play-off final victory proved to be Evans' final game in charge at Parc Ynysderw, bringing an end to his tenure following Pontardawe's immediate return to the Cymru South.





Denbigh Town Retain Key Group

Denbigh Town have moved quickly to secure part of their squad for the new season, with Nathan Brown, Ben Lockley, Max Cooke, Dan Davies and Dan Flanders all committing their futures to the club.

The run of renewals gives manager Dewi Llion continuity at Central Park, retaining a blend of proven goals, defensive consistency, developing talent and further senior options as Town prepare for the campaign ahead.

Brown's new deal keeps one of Denbigh's most prolific modern day players at the club for a fifth season. The 27 year old has finished as Town's top scorer in each of the last four campaigns and now sits third in the club's recorded all time scoring charts.

Since arriving in the summer of 2022, Brown has scored 89 goals in 143 appearances, including 19 in all competitions last season. He also played a major role in Denbigh's Ardal North West title and Ardal Northern League Cup double during his first year at the club, scoring 30 times.

Brown said he was "proud to be part of this club" and is looking forward to "another season to try achieve this club's ambitions and my own".

Llion said Brown's goals had been "essential" since his arrival, adding that the forward had also developed into a leader at Central Park. Denbigh have also kept hold of Ben Lockley, who has become one of the club's standout performers since joining in 2022.

The 24 year old defender is set for a fifth season with Town, having already made 147 appearances and scored 15 goals. His reliability has been a major feature of his time at the club, with Lockley starting his 100th consecutive game for Denbigh in 2025 after more than three years without missing a match.

Lockley has also collected several individual awards during his time at Central Park, including Supporters' Player, Players' Player and Manager's Player of the Season. He said extending his stay was "an easy decision" after what he described as "a really good four years" personally and as part of the team.

Llion called Lockley "one of the most important players at the club in the last decade" and said the defender had grown from a raw young player into "one of the best players in the JD Cymru North".



Cooke's extension adds further depth and flexibility to Denbigh's squad.

The 19 year old joined from Chester in January 2024 and has since made 65 appearances for the club. Last season proved an important step in his development, with Cooke making 32 appearances and scoring his first senior goal against Ruthin Town on Boxing Day. Able to operate in midfield or at centre back, the Vale of Clwyd native has become an increasingly useful option for Llion.

Cooke said he had "grown as a player" since arriving at Central Park and described Denbigh as "a really special club".

Llion praised the teenager's progress, saying Cooke had taken "a real jump" last season after proving himself in both midfield and defence.

Dan Davies and Dan Flanders have also agreed to remain with Denbigh, further strengthening the sense of continuity around the squad. Their commitments add to a productive period of retention work at Central Park, with the club ensuring several familiar faces remain in place before further movement in the summer.

The renewals give Denbigh a strong platform heading into the new campaign, with Brown's goal record, Lockley's consistency, Cooke's development and the continued presence of Davies and Flanders all secured.

Alex Hughes Returns To Connah's Quay Nomads

Connah's Quay Nomads have confirmed the signing of 19-year-old defender Alex Hughes following his departure from Wigan Athletic.

The move marks a return home for Hughes, who previously played for the Nomads at U8 level before joining Wigan's academy in 2015.

Hughes spent the last decade with the Latics, progressing through the club's academy system and earning both a two-year scholarship and a first professional contract.

He also gained first-team experience at the DW Stadium, making his senior debut for Wigan in the EFL Trophy against Salford City last year.

After being released by Wigan this summer, Hughes now returns to his hometown club as John Disney continues to shape his squad ahead of the new campaign.

Speaking to the club, Hughes said: "As soon as I knew that Connah's Quay were interested I couldn't wait to speak to the manager. Playing for Connah's Quay where I grew up and still live is a huge honour and I will give my best to bring success to the club where it all started."

Nomads boss Disney said Hughes had been on the club's radar for some time, highlighting his athleticism, technical ability and desire to make an impact in a senior first-team environment.

Disney added: "With him being a local lad I know how much the club means to him. We are looking forward to working with Alex and welcome him back to the club."

The signing gives Nomads another young option in defence, while also bringing a local player back to Deeside after a lengthy spell in the professional academy system.



Group

Swindell Signs For Wellmen





Goalkeeper Alex Swindell has joined Holywell Town following his departure from Rhyl 1879.

The 25 year old made 34 appearances last season and was regarded as one of the standout goalkeepers in the JD Cymru North.

Swindell has built up good experience for his age, having previously represented Newtown, Vauxhall Motors, Saltney Town and Mold Alexandra before his spell at Rhyl.

His move to Halkyn Road adds another goalkeeper to Johnny Haseldin's squad as Holywell continue preparations for their return to the Cymru Premier.

It has already been a busy period for the Wellmen, who have also retained skipper Danny Sullivan, vice captain Ryan Edwards, wide player Jack Sonce and forward Fab Murtas, with further squad news expected.

Holywell are preparing for their first season in the Cymru Premier for 27 years, with the club continuing to shape the squad ahead of a significant step up.

A local player with experience across the Welsh system and beyond, Swindell now gets the chance to test himself back at the top level of Welsh domestic football.



Pictures by **Sam Eaden / FAW**

Rhyl Strengthen Squad After Impressive Cymru North Return

Rhyl have continued their preparations for the new season with four new additions confirmed so far this summer.

After finishing 5th in their first season back in the JD Cymru North, the Lilywhites have moved quickly to strengthen their squad ahead of the new campaign.

Joel Giblin has joined from Ruthin Town, with the versatile full back and winger adding pace, energy and attacking quality to Rhyl's options.

The club have also added striker Dan Cockerline, who arrives having previously played for Stafford Rangers, Nantwich Town, Warrington Rylands and Newcastle Town.

Attacking midfielder Brad Barnes has also made the move to the Lilywhites, bringing experience from Stoke City and Connah's Quay Nomads.

Rhyl have further strengthened defensively with the arrival of centre half Theo Farquharson, who was previously part of academy setups at Manchester United, Manchester City and Burnley.

The retained list also gives Rhyl plenty to build around. Archie Jones, who scored 11 league goals last season, remains with the club, while Jack Parry, who added 9 league goals, has also committed for the new campaign. Morgan Murray also stays after finishing high in the Cymru North assists table with 11 assists.

They are joined by Rocco Hewitt, Ben Lightfoot, Mo Ali, Ben Lawrence, Reece Fairhurst, Sam Duffy, Billy Holmes and James Farr in committing for the new campaign.

With new faces arriving and key players retained, Rhyl's summer business is beginning to take shape as they look to build on an encouraging return to the second tier.

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Cofis Sign Defender

Caernarfon Town have strengthened their squad with the signing of defender Jordan Piggott.

The 27-year-old arrives with a varied football background, having come through the academy system at West Bromwich Albion before spells with Dundee, East Fife, Bangor City, Halesowen Town, Solihull Moors, Gloucester City and AFC Telford United.

Piggott is primarily a centre back, but has also been listed as capable of playing in defensive midfield, giving the Cofis another experienced and flexible option ahead of the new campaign.

His move also marks a return to Welsh football, having previously had a short spell with Bangor City during the 2018/19 season.

For Caernarfon, it is another addition with senior experience as they continue shaping their squad for the season ahead. Piggott brings size, defensive knowhow and a career that has taken him through the Scottish Premiership, English non league football and the Welsh system.





Venables Signs On For Another Season

Chris Venables will remain with Penybont for the 2026/27 season after committing his future to the Cymru Premier club.

Now in his 40s and having recently reached 600 career appearances, Venables continues to be one of the most enduring figures in Welsh domestic football. His decision to stay at Penybont gives the club experience, leadership and proven quality as they prepare for another campaign in the top flight.

The forward has played a major role in Penybont's progress in recent years, contributing goals and knowhow to a side that has established itself among the strongest in the Cymru Premier. His influence has been felt both on the pitch and within the dressing room, where his experience remains a valuable part of Rhys Griffiths' squad.

Penybont have become regular contenders at the top end of the league, with European qualification now part of the club's recent story. Keeping Venables adds further continuity as they look to build again in 2026/27.

For Venables, the new season offers another opportunity to add to an already remarkable career in the Welsh game. For Penybont, it secures the services of a player whose standards, experience and goal threat continue to make him an important figure at the club.



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Parry Leaves Nomads

Jordan Parry has left Connah's Quay Nomads after bringing an end to a 10-year spell that saw him become a key figure in the club's academy and women's football setup.

The 34-year-old departs having worked across several areas of the Nomads pathway, including the boys' academy, scholarship under-19s, girls' academy and women's first team.

His most visible success came with the Nomads Women, where he oversaw a trophy-laden period after taking charge of the female section in 2021.

During his time with the team, Parry guided the side to back-to-back Genero Adran North titles and three NEWFA Cup triumphs, winning silverware in each of his five seasons in charge.

Parry also played an important role in the growth of the club's girls' pathway, helping develop the Girls Player Development Centre and contributing to the club achieving dual National Academi status.

Confirming his departure, Parry said the decision to leave had been difficult, but that the time was right to focus on his family and pursue new challenges.

"This has never simply felt like a job to me, it has always felt like home," he said.

"I grew up around the club, played on these pitches as a child, attended school here and then had the privilege of spending the last 10 seasons coaching and developing young players."

While Parry's time at the Nomads brought regular silverware, his wider impact was felt in the growth of the women's and girls' game at the club.

"To go from having only two players during lockdown to now seeing a complete pathway for girls, from U8s all the way through to senior football, is something incredibly special," he said.

"More importantly, young girls now know there is a place for them in the game and that means far more than trophies ever could."

Nomads Technical Director Jay Catton paid tribute to Parry's contribution, describing his impact across the club as "nothing short of exceptional".

Parry leaves having completed his UEFA A Licence during his time at the club and with a strong legacy across both academy football and the female pathway at Deeside.

His departure closes a significant chapter for Connah's Quay, particularly within the women's and girls' setup, where the structures he helped build are set to remain an important part of the club's future.



Kane Owen And Clayton Green Leave Penybont As Captain Joins Trefelin

Penybont have confirmed that long-serving captain Kane Owen has left the club, bringing an end to a hugely successful ten-year spell.

Owen has been one of the defining players in Penybont's rise, playing a major role in some of the biggest moments in the club's history.

Since joining the club, he has been part of an invincible promotion season, a first-ever Welsh Cup final appearance and three European qualification campaigns.

Across his time at Penybont, Owen made more than 250 appearances, scoring 24 goals and providing 51 assists from left-back. His influence went beyond the numbers. As captain, Owen became a consistent figure in the side and one of the players most closely associated with Penybont's progress in the Cymru Premier era.

Manager Rhys Griffiths paid tribute to Owen's impact, describing him as one of his most important signings.

"He's been an unbelievable player for the club. He was my first signing and, arguably, my best," Griffiths said.

"There have been times when he's carried the team. I've never known anyone dictate the way a team plays from left-back before. "I wish him all the best for the future, and I'll never forget what he's done for me and the club."

Owen has since completed a move to Trefelin, who will compete in the Cymru Premier after winning the Cymru South title and securing promotion.

Penybont have also confirmed that Clayton Green will depart the club this summer after two seasons.

Green added experience to Rhys Griffiths' squad during his time at the club and becomes another confirmed departure as Penybont begin shaping their squad ahead of the new campaign.



Brad Young Returns To New Saints



Brad Young's stay at Caernarfon Town has come to an end, with the striker returning to The New Saints on a permanent deal ahead of the new season.

The move brings one of the Cymru Premier's most talked about forwards back to Park Hall, where he previously enjoyed a prolific spell under Craig Harrison.

Young first arrived at TNS in 2023 after leaving Aston Villa and quickly became a key figure in a side that dominated domestically. His goals helped the Saints win the JD Cymru Premier title and the Nathaniel MG Cup, while he was also part of the squad involved in the club's historic UEFA Conference League campaign.

That form led to a move abroad in September 2024, when Young joined Saudi side Al Orobah in a deal TNS described at the time as a record transfer for a Welsh domestic club. He later moved to Baniyas in the United Arab Emirates before coming back to Welsh football with Caernarfon.

His spell at The Oval proved brief, but it still ended with silverware. Young was part of the Caernarfon squad that won the JD Welsh Cup in April, as the Cofis lifted the competition for the first time in their history.

TNS have now brought him back as they prepare for another European campaign and another season as the side everyone else in the Cymru Premier is trying to catch.

For Young, it is a return to the club where he produced the best scoring run of his senior career so far. For TNS, it gives Harrison another attacking option with a proven record in the Welsh top flight.



Pictures by **Craig Thomas / FAW**

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Jamie Breese Leaves Holywell Town

Jamie Breese will leave Holywell Town this summer, bringing an end to a hugely productive spell at Halkyn Road.

The forward departs after scoring an outstanding 72 goals in 89 appearances for the Wellmen, a record that underlines just how important he has been during one of the club's strongest modern periods.

Breese joined Holywell with the aim of helping the club return to the top level of Welsh football. Two seasons later, he leaves having played his part in that achievement.

He was part of the side that won the JD Cymru North title in 2023/24, before helping Holywell finally secure promotion this season as the club earned a long-awaited return to the Cymru Premier.

His final campaign proved to be one of his best. Breese finished as the Cymru North's leading scorer with 24 league goals, while also being named the division's Player of the Season.

Speaking after receiving the award, Breese admitted the recognition had taken him by surprise.

"Speechless, to be honest. I didn't really expect to win that one," he said. "I've got to thank everyone at the club for this, especially my teammates, because I'm not going to win this by myself."

Reflecting on promotion, he added: "It's a massive achievement. I said when I signed that I wanted to take this club back to where they belong, and I've done that.

"Last year I missed out on the Golden Boot by a goal or two, so I was determined to get it this year. Luckily, I've done it and achieved promotion as well, so it's been a great season all round."

While his goals naturally grabbed the headlines, Breese was also a major creative outlet for Holywell. Alongside his 24 league goals, he registered 14 league assists, giving the Wellmen a consistent threat both as a finisher and provider.

He also contributed in cup competitions, adding four goals and one assist in six appearances.

Replacing that level of output will be one of Holywell's biggest challenges as they prepare for life in the Cymru Premier, with Breese's departure leaving a sizeable gap in the attacking department.

Before his time at Holywell, Breese had already built up significant experience in Welsh football. He has featured for Newtown AFC, Llanidloes Town and Caernarfon Town, and has made 139 appearances in the Welsh top flight, scoring 15 goals and providing seven assists.

During his spell with Newtown, he helped the club qualify for Europe and scored against former side Caernarfon in the play off final. Breese leaves Holywell with a league title, promotion, individual honours and a goalscoring record that will take some replacing.



Danny Warren Leaves Airbus UK

Danny Warren will leave Airbus UK Broughton this summer, bringing an end to a hugely successful spell with the Wingmakers.

The forward departs after two seasons at the Hollingsworth Group Stadium, having established himself as one of the most reliable goalscorers in the JD Cymru North.

Warren joined Airbus in the summer of 2024 from Mold Alexandra, where he had spent seven seasons and built a strong reputation as a consistent attacking threat.

That form carried over to Broughton, with Warren quickly becoming a key figure in Mark Allen's side.

His figures speak for themselves. Across two seasons with Airbus, Warren made 78 appearances in all competitions, scoring 51 goals and contributing 17 assists.

During that spell, he also helped the Wingmakers win five trophies, secure promotion to the Cymru Premier and claimed a Golden Boot award.

His final campaign was another productive one. Warren was again among the Cymru North's standout forwards, regularly delivering in big moments and helping Airbus maintain their push near the top end of the table.

A standout moment came against Penrhyncoch, with Warren scoring a hat-trick in a 4-0 win as Airbus kept up their promotion push.

He also signed off in memorable fashion, scoring twice in the NEWFA Senior Challenge Cup final against Holywell Town as Airbus ended the season with silverware.

While his goals naturally took much of the attention, Warren also offered more than just finishing. His work rate, movement and ability to link play made him a constant problem for opposition defences.

His departure will leave a sizeable gap in the Airbus attack, with replacing his goals, creativity and experience now one of the club's biggest tasks heading into the summer.

Before joining the Wingmakers, Warren had been a major player for Mold Alexandra, spending seven seasons with the club before making the move to Airbus.

After two prolific years in Broughton, Warren leaves with promotion, silverware, individual honours and a superb scoring record.

Davies Joins Colwyn Bay

WINS



Colwyn Bay began their summer business by securing the signing of forward Adam Davies following his departure from Caernarfon Town.

Davies was among Mike Wilde's first additions ahead of the 2026/27 campaign, bringing proven Cymru Premier pedigree to Bay's squad as they prepared for another season in the top flight.

The experienced attacker left Caernarfon after three seasons at The Oval, where he became a consistent attacking presence for the Canaries. Across his time with the club, he scored 36 goals and registered 23 assists in 108 appearances.

His arrival at Llanellian Road represented a strong early move for Bay, with Davies offering experience, physical presence and a proven record of contributing goals and assists at this level.

Since then, Colwyn Bay have continued to strengthen, with further additions following as Wilde reshapes his squad for the new campaign.

Davies will now look to play his part as Bay build towards the 2026/27 Cymru Premier season.

Colwyn Bay Strengthen With Raid On Nomads

Colwyn Bay have continued their summer recruitment drive by bringing in four players from Connah's Quay Nomads.

Mike Wilde has added Callum Bratley, Dan Roberts, Declan Poole and Jack Kenny to his squad ahead of the 2026/27 campaign, giving Bay further Cymru Premier experience as they look to build for the new season.

Roberts, a 26-year-old centre back, was confirmed as the club's second summer addition, while Bratley also arrives from Nomads following his time at Deeside.

Poole has since followed, becoming Colwyn Bay's fourth signing of the summer and the third player to make the move from Nomads to Llanelian Road.

Kenny now joins that list, adding further experience in the final third. The forward arrives after leaving Connah's Quay and brings with him a strong knowledge of the domestic game, having previously played in the Cymru Premier with Nomads, Rhyl and Prestatyn Town.

His arrival gives Bay another proven attacking option, while also continuing a clear pattern in the club's early summer business.

The moves point to a strong and early recruitment push from Bay, with Wilde adding proven domestic experience to a squad preparing for another campaign in the Cymru Premier.



Declan Poole
MIDFIELDER



Callum Bratley
MIDFIELDER



Dan Roberts
DEFENDER



Jack Kenny
STRIKER

Jamie Reed Calls It A Day

Jamie Reed has announced his retirement from football with immediate effect, bringing an end to a playing career that spanned more than 20 years.

The 38-year-old bows out after helping CPD Dinas Bangor 1876 win the Ardal North West title and lift the Dragon Signs Amateur Trophy, ending his final season with 19 goals in all competitions.

His farewell could hardly have been scripted better. Reed scored with his final touch in Bangor's 2-0 win over Penmaenmawr Phoenix at Nantporth, signing off under the lights with one last goal.

It also completed a remarkable turnaround in his Bangor story. Twelve months earlier, Reed had scored the goal for Ruthin Town that sent Bangor down from the Cymru North.

Rather than allowing that moment to define his connection with the club, he returned to Nantporth and helped Bangor respond as champions, with his goals and experience playing a key role in their promotion back to the second tier.

Reed began his senior career with Wrexham, signing his first professional deal in 2004 before making his first-team debut the following year. He went on to represent clubs across the English and Welsh game, including York City, Chester, Aberystwyth Town, Rhyl, Bangor City, The New Saints, Llandudno, Newtown, Cefn Druids and Ruthin Town.

His time with York City remains one of the standout chapters, with Reed part of the side that won twice at Wembley in 2012, lifting the FA Trophy before securing promotion through the play-offs.



He also spent time playing abroad in Australia and Thailand, while in Wales he became one of the domestic game's familiar forwards.

Announcing his decision, Reed said he was bringing his playing career to an end after "more than 20 years, countless goals, and memories that will last a lifetime".

He added: "I couldn't have written a better ending, scoring with my very last touch on a football pitch."

Reed also said football had given him "absolutely everything", thanking the managers, teammates, staff, supporters and family who had supported him throughout his career.

Among the moments he reflected on were scoring a hat-trick for Aberystwyth Town against The New Saints, winning twice at Wembley with York City and taking the opportunity to play abroad.

But his final chapter brought him back to Bangor, where his goals helped the club return to the Cymru North and gave him the perfect ending at Nantporth.

Reed leaves the playing side of the game as a proven goalscorer, with league titles, cup wins, Wembley triumphs, overseas spells and one final goal under the lights.

Buckley Name New Manager

Dave Evans has been appointed as the new first team manager of Buckley Town.

The former Gresford Athletic boss replaces Asa Hamilton at The Globe, with Buckley moving quickly to confirm the next step in their senior football setup.

Evans will be joined by Gareth Lloyd, who also arrives from Gresford and previously worked alongside him at Ruthin Town.

The move brings further Cymru North experience to Buckley, with Evans having also managed FC Queen's Park and Ruthin before his time at Gresford.

Chairman Pete Edwards said the club had been impressed by Evans' plans, organisation and passion during discussions over the role.

Edwards said: "I can confidently say that Dave's experience in Tier 2 is massive for Buckley and I am overjoyed to have Dave on board to take the Club forward into our next era."

The appointment comes as Buckley prepare for a wider restructure, with further updates expected on the backroom team, reserves and Under 19s section later this week.

Evans arrives with the task of building on the work of Hamilton and the previous management team, who he credited for leaving strong foundations at the club.

Speaking after his appointment, Evans pointed to Buckley's ambition, facilities and support base as key reasons behind his decision to take the role.

He said: "Buckley Town is a football club with tremendous potential. The facilities are right up there with some of the very best in the league and it is obvious that there is a real desire throughout the club to continue progressing and moving forward."

Evans will now look to shape the next chapter at Buckley as the club prepares for the new campaign.



Penybont To Play In Cardiff In Conference League





Penybont will stage their home matches in next season's UEFA Conference League at the Cardiff City Stadium.

The Cymru Premier side are unable to use their DragonBet Stadium home for European fixtures as it does not meet UEFA requirements. It means Rhys Griffiths' side will play at the home of Cardiff City for the first time in their European history.

Penybont booked their place in the competition earlier this month with a 2-0 victory over Haverfordwest County in the Cymru Premier play-off final.

The draw for the first qualifying round will take place on 9 June, with the Bridgend-based club now waiting to discover their opponents.

It will be Penybont's third appearance in the Conference League. Last season, they hosted Lithuanian side Kauno Zalgiris at Cardiff International Stadium, drawing the home leg 1-1 before losing 4-1 on aggregate.

Their first European campaign came two years earlier, when they faced FC Santa Coloma of Andorra at the Brewery Field in Bridgend, losing 3-1 on aggregate.

Playing at the Cardiff City Stadium marks another significant step in Penybont's European journey as the club prepares for its latest taste of continental football.

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