

THE CORRIES versus

SEVEN SISTERS ONLLWYN FC



Ardal South West League Fixture



Saturday 2 March | 14.30

The Riverside Ground
Station Road, Radyr,
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Cardiff Corinthians AFC V Seven Sisters Onllwyn FC

Saturday 2 March 2024 | 14.30

Cardiff Corinthians AFC would like to welcome today's opponents Seven Sisters Onllwyn FC to The Riverside Stadium for today's Ardal South West Division fixture.

We wish the players, supporters and officials an enjoyable afternoon.

OFFICIALS

Referee: Matthew JOHN
2nd Asst Referee: Andrew WALLEN



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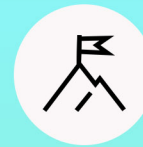
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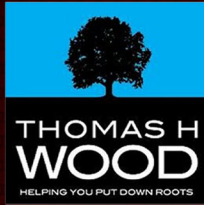
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CARDIFF CORINTHIANS AFC

Est 1898

37.381 BLACK-OUT 11.4 p.m.—6.6 a.m.

MOON rises 8.39 p.m. sets 5.6 a.m.

ONE PENNY



CARDIFF CORINTHIANS - THE BEGINNING

The early records of Cardiff Corinthians AFC, perhaps better known these days as The Corries, are held at The Glamorgan Archives. The records cover the first 7 years of the clubs long history with the team being formally constituted at a meeting held on 22 July 1898.



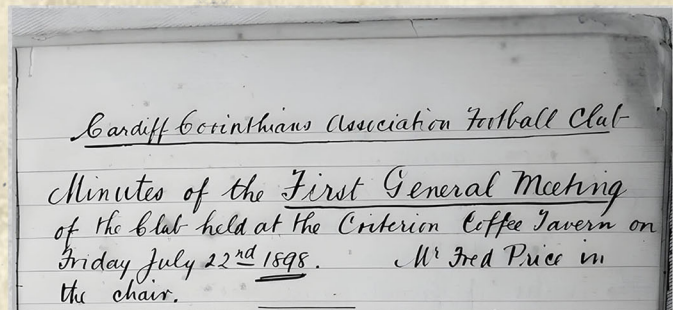
The team photo published is what we believe to be the first photograph of a Corinthians team, taken around 1898. The Corinthians did take to the field before July 1898. There are reports of Cardiff Corinthians, a newly formed team playing their initial match at Bonvilston on Boxing Day 1897. A team list was published in the newspaper with instructions for the players to assemble at 13.20 sharp at the Great Western Railway Station in Cardiff.

It is well documented that the Corinthians were formed by players from The Cardiff Alpha Cricket team as a means to keep fit and occupied during the winter season. Inspection of the team selected for the 26th December 1897 fixture confirms that it draws

heavily on those who had played for The Alpha Cricket team earlier in the summer.

As to the game itself, Cardiff Corinthians ran out comfortable winners by 10 goals to 1. A very brief report simply confirms that it was a 'very pleasant but by no means a one sided game'. The scorer for the home side was Parsloe, almost certainly the local Sub postmasters 16 year old son. Although details are not given it would have been surprising if the names of the local sporting stalwarts

Deere, Holley, Watts and Vaughan did not appear on the Bonvilston match report. So who scored the first goal for The Corries? We will never really be sure but the honour probably went to one of the Price brothers, with Phillip and Roger claiming 7 of the goals scored that day. The Corries in their early days were probably best known for the leadership shown, on and off the field by the Gibson brothers, Jack and Billy. However, in the initial years it was the 5 Price brothers who often provided the backbone of the team, with Fred Price as captain and a towering influence in defence.





CORRIE NEWS

CARDIFF CORINTHIANS AFC
Est 1898



So what prompted the the formation of the Corinthians?

The Alpha Cricketers were a tight knit group from the Canton area of Cardiff. Many had first come together as pupils at the Radnor Road Board School and in later years they often returned to play football for the Radnor Road Old Boys team against the masters. Three of their number became teachers, George Gallon, Bill Merrett and Philip Price, with Price teaching at Radnor Road. As a talented sportsman it was no surprise that in the winter months they formed The Cardiff Alpha Football team that played occasional games. Given their connections the opposition was provided, on a number of occasions, by the Cardiff Teachers team.

Even at this early point the Alpha team was clearly of a decent standard. Although the opposition was the reserve team of the Cardiff Teachers, in this period the teachers were a formidable side with their first team playing in the South Wales Association League. There is no definitive record of what prompted the decision to form The Corinthians but the plot may well have been hatched at the Alpha Cricket Club Annual Dinner held at The Philharmonic Restaurant on Wednesday 1st December 1887. As young, mostly single men they were no doubt keen on arranging a Boxing Day fixture, rather than their usual fare of local games at Thompson's Park and Sophia Gardens. Why they chose Bonvilston, other than it was in easy traveling distance from Cardiff by rail, is not clear. As to the team name, they may well have been inspired by the famous Corinthians team formed in London in 1882.

Committed to upholding the principles of sportsmanship and fair play, The Corinthians were seen as a glamorous team who brought together the best amateur players. Declining to enter league or cup competitions, The Corinthians played a series of friendly fixtures and engaged on extensive tours. possibly in their image The Cardiff Corinthians, a similarity styled 'Touring Side' was formed. In the following months The Cardiff Alpha Football team appeared on at least two more occasions in local matches in Cardiff. However, the same group of players also played a further fixture as The Cardiff Corinthians on 29th January 1898 and again at Bonvilston. on that day the backbone of The Alpha Cricket Club, the Gibson, Hill and price families, provided 9 of the players.

Was the photograph taken on the 29th January 1898?

Ten of the eleven players who turned out for The Corinthians at Bonvilston are in the photo. The team strip looks very much like the gold and green that The Corinthians used in their first season. However, the records show that 11th man at Bonvilston was ET Williams, while the 11th man in the photo is Bill Wynes.

It is, without a doubt a very early photograph of The Corinthians. However, given that the setting cannot be placed and Bill Wynes was not selected for the Bonvilston game, the evidenvce is far from conclusive that the photograph was taken on 29th January 1898. As the season drew to a close a decision had to be made. Should the Alpha Cricketers also establish a football team on a more formal basis and, if so, how best go about this?

Seven Sisters Onllwyn FC

HISTORY



Seven Sisters Onllwyn F.C. is a Welsh football team based in Neath, currently playing in the Ardal SW, which is at the third tier of the Welsh football pyramid.

The club played in the Welsh Football League until 1997. After a season out of the league they rejoined for the 1998–99 season in Division Three where they remained until the end of the 2009–10 season when they left the league. The club then joined the Neath & District League.

For the 2020–21 season the club joined the newly formed Tier 4 West Wales Premier League. The club merged with Onllwyn to become Seven Sisters Onllwyn AFC in a move announced by the club on 13 July 2020, with the first team to compete in the West Wales Premier League along with two teams in the Neath & District League.

On 9 June 2022, it was announced that the club had been promoted to the tier 3 Ardal SW League for the 2022–23 season via the vacancy route.

Honours

West Wales Intermediate Cup – Winners: 2021–22

Welsh Football League Division Three – Runners-up: 2003–04

Neath & District League Premier Division – Champions : 1930–31; 1997–98; 2019–20

Committee members

Secretary : Jeff Bloffwitch

Fixture Secretary: David Herdman

Treasurer : Andrew Loynes





CARDIFF CORINTHIANS AFC HONOURS LIST

Welsh Amateur Cup	Winners:	1914, 1929, 1930, 1934, 1962
South Wales FA Amateur Cup	Winners:	1922/23
South Wales Amateur League	Div 1 Winners:	1924/25
	Div 2 Winners:	1970/71
Welsh Youth Cup	Winners:	1955, 1974
Welsh League	Premier Div Winners:	1984/85
	Div 1 Winners:	1970/71, 1977/78
	Div 2 East Winners:	1955/56, 1959/60
Corinthian Cup	Winners:	1973
Welsh Intermediate Cup	Winners:	1985
W John Owen Cup	Winners:	2021/22
South Wales Alliance Premier Div	Winners:	2022/23



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Nathan
Lewis
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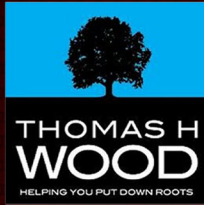
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THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF HOW BARCELONA'S JOURNEY TO BECOME EUROPEAN KINGS OF EUROPE STARTED AGAINST A LITTLE WELSH CLUB

The untold tale of Cardiff Corinthians AFC became the first British side to take on the Nou Camp giants and helped set them on the road to success. Deep in their history is a link with a little Welsh league club that played a significant part in Barcelona's rise to success. Here is the lost story of Barcelona & Cardiff Corinthians.

An unlikely football tale...

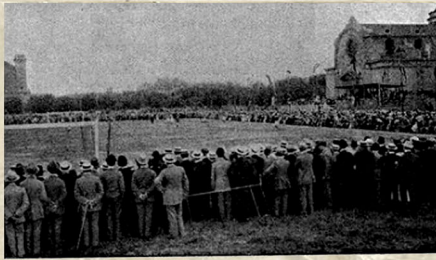
More than a century ago, crowds were gathering in huge numbers to watch the champions of Spain take on opponents from a foreign land in a bid to put their domestic dominance to the test. Only, unlike the moment when Barcelona take on other European giants in the UEFA Champions League, the club who challenged Barcelona's supremacy on the evening of June 5 1910 were not a European superpower whose name is still recognised throughout the continent, they were The Cardiff Corinthians AFC - and they were the first British club to play the rising force from Catalonia that Barcelona had become.



You could assume such a claim to fame would be something Cardiff Corinthians - or simply The Corries - would cling to and boast about as they play out their fixtures in The Ardal Southern league. It is a world away from the Champions League & El Clasico matches

where Barcelona players star. The story of how a team of amateurs from the Welsh capital broke new grounds and provided an impetus for Barcelona to go on and conquer the continent which had seemingly been lost in time.

It is perhaps understandable: there is no record in the Football Association of Wales' minutes housed at the National Library in Aberystwyth of any request from one of its member clubs, formed in 1896, to play a foreign side as of the norm. Initial searches of British newspaper Archives make no reference to the game taking place.



El match de foot-ball entre los «Cardiff Corinthians» y el «Barcelona» en el Parque de esta ciudad.



And, even at that time, it seems strange for a side playing in the Rhymney Valley Association League to be taking on the best team in Spain. But take place the game did on June 2nd 1910, as described by the south Wales Daily News, 12 members of Cardiff Corinthians left the Welsh capital via the London express for the game, having been invited by the Barcelona club. Quite why is something of a mystery, even to Barcelona themselves. There is one suggestion Corinthians of London had been invited but were committed to their football tour of Brazil, so they recommended their

name sakes Cardiff instead. In truth we do not know why Cardiff came" says Fernando Arrechea, Spanish historian, football history. The 1910 game against Cardiff Corinthians was Barcelona's first against a British club. That was the year Barcelona established themselves as one of the main powers of Spanish football. The theory is that Barca wanted to be tested, especially against what Britain - the self-appointed home of Football - had to offer.

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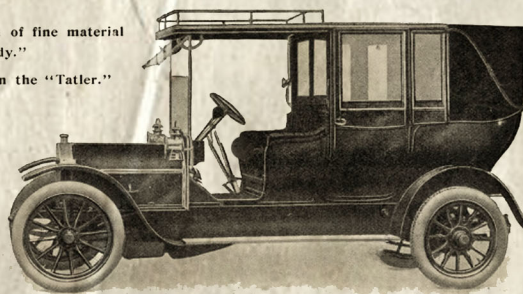
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CORRIE NEWS



CARDIFF CORINTHIANS - THE BEGINNING

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CARDIFF CORINTHIANS FOOTBALL CLUB, 1898-1899

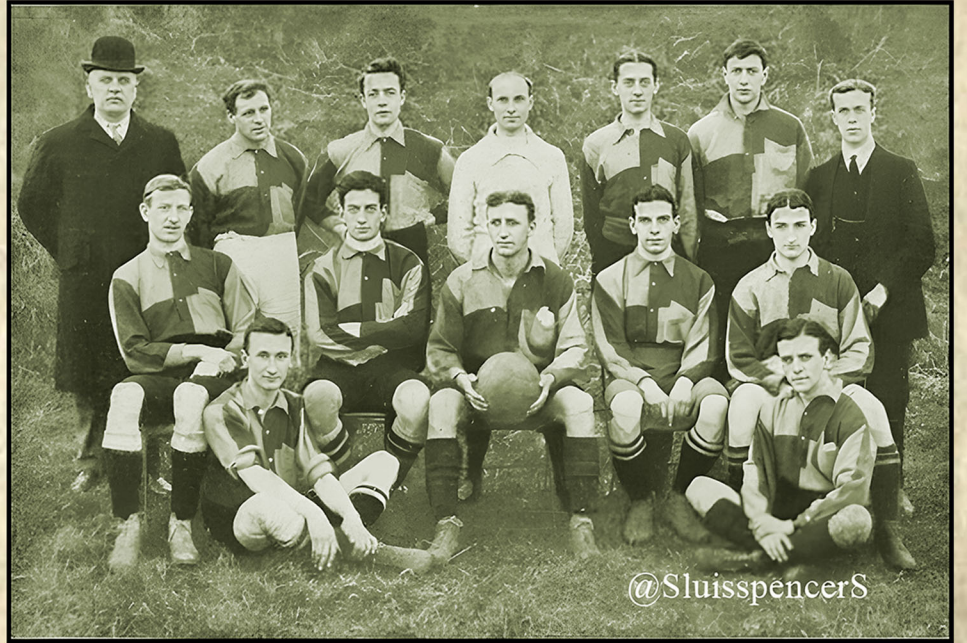
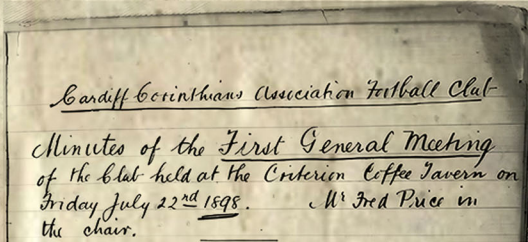


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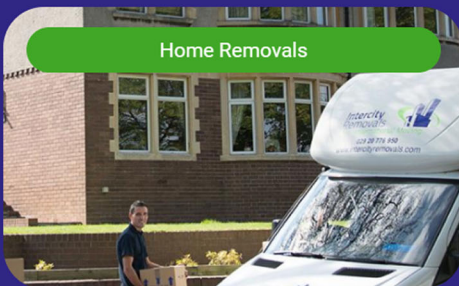


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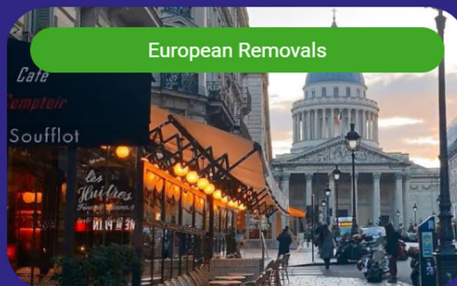
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COACHING Staff



Grant **THOMPSON**
First Team Manager

Grant a previous player of the Corries is the man responsible for the high standards the club is currently at. Well liked and respected by all. Leading the team to the Alliance Premier League Title ~ Season 22/23.



John **JONES**
First Team Assistant Manager

Grant has been accompanied by John Jones, a former goalkeeper and current Wales veteran goalkeeper, for a number of years. A fantastic personality who is well-liked. An integral member of the coaching staff that won the Alliance Premier League championship in season 22/23.



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Nathan **Cadette**
First Team Coach

Nathan a former professional at Cardiff City FC with plenty of knowledge of the sport. Nathan joined in the 22/23 season from Goytre United (Gwent) FC. Another great addition and another integral part of the 22/23 Alliance Premier league winners.





Sven **MARNOT**

Goalkeeper

Sven joins us for the 23/24 season and is a highly thought of goalkeeper.

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Chris HAWKINS
Committee
Member/ Corries
Groundsman



David **BIGGS** *Captain*

Defender

'Biggsy' joined The Corries in the 21/22 season from STM Sports FC. Also previously playing Cheltenham Town, Yate Town & Cardiff City FC.



Dominic **DWYER**

Defender

Dominic joins The Corries for the 23/24 season from Pencoed Athletic BGC also playing for STM Sports and Llanrumney United. Dominic is Cardiff City graduate and Wales Youth Player.

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Hermon **YOHANES**

Defender

Hermon joined The Corries for the 22/23 season from Goytre AFC (Gwent) also playing for STM Sports. Hermon was also part of the Alliance Premier League winning team in 22/23.





Ashraf **BOULAICHE**

Midfielder

Ashraf joins us for the 2023/24 season from local team Tiger Bay FC. Ashraf also played for Cogan Coronation FC



Will **HIGGS**

Midfielder

Will joins us for the 23/24 season from Aberbargoed Buds, previously playing for Goytre (Gwent) FC



Abu **SAMA**

Midfielder

Abu joins The Corries for the 23/24 season from Taffs Well. Previously playing for Merthyr Town Development and Goytre (Gwent) FC.



Hinchem Akim **POLVECHE**

Midfielder

Hinchem joins The Corries from fellow Ardal South West side Canton FC for the remainder of the 23/24 season





Lamin **CONTEH**

Midfielder/Striker

Lamin joined in the 22/23 season from Goytre United (Gwent) FC. Also previously playing for STM Sports. Lamin was a big part of the 22/23 Alliance Premier League squad.

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Mamadi **MANE-SANHA**

Midfielder/Striker

Mamadi rejoined The Corries in the 22/23 season from Goytre United (Gwent) FC. Also previously playing for Taffs Well FC & Bridgend Street FC. Mamadi was a part of the 22/23 Alliance Premier League squad.

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CARDIFF CORRIES CLUB CHAIRMAN

HOWARD SMITH



Sanna **JAWO**

Midfielder

Sanna joins the Corries for the 23/24 season, previously playing for Bridgend St & Ilanrumney United



Ben **THOMAS**

Defender / Midfielder

Ben joins The Corries for the 2023/24 season from Taffs Well FC also playing for Barry Town United.

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Neil THOMAS



driving schools





James **HILL**

Defender

James joins the Corries from Cymru South team Taffs Well.



Samuel **HARTREY**

Midfielder

Sam joins us from former South Wales Alliance Premier side Llanrumney United for the 2023/24 Season. Sam joins us with a wealth of experience that will be a good addition to the squad.

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Corries
Committee
Member

John Reynolds



Norton **FERREIRA**

Midfielder

Norton joins The Corries from Cymru South team Afan Lido. Norton has also played for Aberbargoed Buds & Abergavenny Town.

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Marco **TRUEL**

Midfielder

Marco joins The Corries from fellow Ardal West team Canton FC



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Elijah **CHILEKWA**

Elijah joins The Corries for a second time from Alliance Premier side Llanrumney United FC. Elijah is a former Bristol City FC Scholar and a Welsh Youth International.



Punit **VINOD KUMAR**

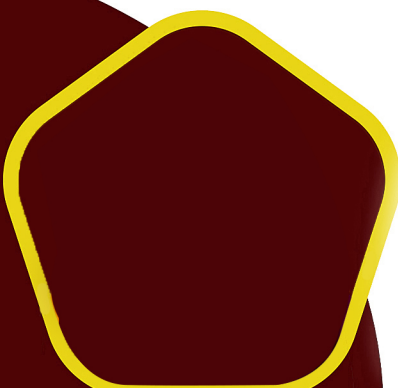
Midfielder

Punit joins The Corries from fellow Ardal South West side Canton FC



Aaron **FORBES**

Aaron joins The Corries from Colwyn Bay FC



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CARDIFF CORINTHIANS AFC

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Cardiff Corinthians AFC are members of the Ardal South West In our 125th year of being a football club, we have had our ups and downs and are now looking for long-term sustainability and are looking for commercial partners to join us in creating something special for Cardiff Corinthians AFC.

We currently run a website , Facebook Page & a Twitter page to maximise full exposure.

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If Interested please contact
Club Secretary

DAVE ELLIOTT on:

Tel: 07526 826731

Email: secretarycardiffcorries@gmail.com

CARDIFF CORINTHIANS AFC
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MAN OF THE MATCH

Lamin CONTEH

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