

## Stories from December 2007

Saturday 22/12/07 - 18.45

### Crows crash to a breakaway goal and extend barren run

Despite having the better chances, and having a greater share of possession, the Crows were unable to prevent their goal-less run reaching four matches. A quick counter attack, and a superb strike from sub Owens saw Pontardawe claim all three points. The Crows remain in fifth, and Pontardawe move out of the relegation zone.

Friday 21/12/07 - 13.40

### Crows head west in penultimate fixture of 2007

This weekend sees the Crows make their longest away trip of the season, to visit Pontardawe Town's Recreation Ground.

Pontardawe have the dubious honour of being the only side to lose to basement side Garw, although the Crows could have shared that honour last weekend if Garw had brought their shooting boots!

Pontardawe currently occupy sixteenth position in the league, one point behind Pontypridd Town, and are without a win in five league outings. They seem to struggle at home in particular, having picked up just two of their seven points and scoring two of their fourteen goals at their Recreation Ground base.

Despite holding on to a top five position going into the Christmas period, Cwmbrân's record is only slightly better than that of their hosts. With no wins in four matches, and no goals scored since the third of November (three matches without rippling the net), a victory of any sort this weekend would be most welcome.

For those of you who've had enough of trawling the shops, and fancy an away fixture, try these [directions](#) for size. The picture's not great, so here's an extract from last week's match programme:

"...exit the M4 via junction 45, and take the A4067 road for Pontardawe. Follow the road for about two miles, and go straight over the first roundabout. Keep on this road till the next roundabout, and take the first exit towards Pontardawe. After about 300 yards, you come to another roundabout. Go straight over and into the Alloy Industrial Estate. Follow the road to the top (it's a dead end), and park on the side of the road. Walk through into the Recreation Grounds, and the ground is on your left."

The number for the ground is **01792 862228**. Kick-off is **14.00**.

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Wednesday 19/12/07 - 14.10

### General News Round-up

Cwmbrân Town are one of four clubs to apply for promotion to the WPL from the Welsh Football League (compared to eight clubs from the Cymru Alliance) this season. The other three clubs are Afan Lido, Dinas Powys, and Aberaman Athletic. Both Dinas and Aberaman would need to arrange a ground-share whilst their grounds are brought up to WPL standard. Clubs wishing to go up must of course secure one of the top two positions in the league, which are currently occupied by Ton Pentre and Goytre United.

With Croesyceiliog's progress in the League Cup continuing into January, our fixture away to them on the 5th has been cancelled. However, to avoid an empty weekend, our away trip to Ton Pentre has been re-arranged for that date.

The semi final draw of the Gwent Senior Cup has given the Crows a tough tie away to Caldicot Town on a date yet to be arranged. Meanwhile in the other semi, second division Cwmbrân Celtic are at home to third division Aberbargoed Buds.

And finally...our former manager, coach, and player Sean Wharton has taken up an advisory role at third division Goytre. Good luck and best wishes in your new role Sean.

Sunday 16/12/07 - 19.30

### Understrength Crows scrape a point

Without a number of key players, a decidedly unfamiliar Cwmbrân eleven struggled to create clear cut chances against a Garw side that had previously conceded 97 goals in 14 games.

The Crows rallied late-on, but were unable to break down the Garw defence. The point gained does move the Crows up to fifth place though.

Full report available [here](#).

Friday 14/12/07 - 11.05

### Crows face basement boys this weekend at Cwmbrân Stadium

After a fortnight off, the Crows will hopefully welcome basement side Garw to Cwmbrân Stadium this weekend, weather permitting.

Although most will assume this to be an easy assignment for the Crows, Garw have actually been making slow progress on the pitch. After ten straight defeats - a lot of them heavy - last season's Division 2 champions finally chalked up a win last

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month, a 2-1 result away to Pontardawe Town.

The Bridgend club's record still reads like a horror novel though: one win in 14, six goals scored, and an astonishing 97 conceded! Unfortunately, Garw are not the first - and won't be the last - club to see its management team and players leave en masse.

As mentioned in previous match previews the Crows are currently without a win in three - conceding eight and scoring only two into the bargain. Hopefully the more-than-capable strikers in the squad will be able to find their shooting boots for this important encounter.

Kick-off is **14.00** - hope to see you there.

[Friday 07/12/07 - 14.20](#)

### Crows face the table-topping Rhondda Bulldogs this weekend

After a weekend off due to the weather, sixth-placed Cwmbrân Town face a trip to the current league leaders Ton Pentre this coming Saturday.

Up until mid-November, Ton Pentre possessed the only unbeaten record in the division. Defeat finally came in the form of a 2-0 home loss to Caerleon.

The Rhondda Bulldogs have won the Welsh League division one championship no less than six times since their resignation from the LoW/WPL in early 1997. Their European adventure in the InterToto Cup that season proved to be financially crippling, and a step down was required to ensure that the club didn't go out of existence.

For those looking to visit Ynys Park for this tasty-looking encounter, take a look at these [directions](#). However, depending where you're coming from, you may want to go via Nelson rather than use the M4.

Kick-off is at **14.00** - and use this number to check with staff if the game is on or not: 01443 442625.