

## Stories from February 2008

Friday 29/02/08 - 12.10

### Sad passing of Graham Reynolds

#### **Graham Edward Arthur Reynolds 1937 - 2008**

Football grounds across Gwent will fall silent tomorrow in tribute to a true sporting hero.

Cwmbran Town Football Club were saddened to here the news of the sudden death of our former player Graham Reynolds after a short illness.

Our sincere condolences go out to his wife Eira and daughters, Meryl and Sian and to the rest of his family.

As a mark of respect before the start of our home game against Bryntirion we will observe one minutes silence.

Born in Newport and educated at St Julian's High School, Mr Reynolds went on to play for County (becoming at the time their youngest player), Caerleon, Brecon Corries and Cwmbran Town, as well as playing for the Welsh amateur international side, first being capped in 1958.

However, Mr Reynolds' main love was cricket and he took every opportunity to play both for his club, Newport, and in the county championship with Glamorgan, as well as working as a teacher and later deputy head at Hartridge High School.

In 1969 he made his debut for Glamorgan's first XI at Worcestershire, playing in eleven one-day games and two first class games. He also skippered Wales' amateur side on many occasions.

Perhaps the highlight of his cricket career was in 1970 when he took the wicket of the great Sir Garfield Sobers, then playing for Nottinghamshire.

Even after retiring from teaching 21 years ago, Mr Reynolds continued to be hugely active in the world of sport.

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Kick-off for Saturday's fixture between Cwmbrân Town and Bryntirion Athletic is 14.30, and a minutes silence will be observed prior to kick-off.

Monday 25/02/08 - 11.45

### YM exact revenge

The Crows suffered their second defeat on the trot as a strong and experienced Newport side scored two second half goals that avenged their defeat at Cwmbrân Stadium.

Friday 22/02/08 - 16.45

### Crows eye derby double on Saturday

This Saturday the Crows will make the short trip to Newport to face Gwent neighbours Newport YMCA at their Mendalgief Road home.

YM are doing the Welsh League proud at the moment with victories over WPL opposition gaining them a place in the quarter finals of the Welsh Cup. After disposing of Carmarthen Town and Llangejni Town, the cup heroes next face Welshpool Town.

The hosts are doing quite well in the league too, sitting in eighth place and being undefeated at home since

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their 7-0 thrashing by Dinas Powys back in October. That defeat happened a week after Cwibrân last recorded a victory, which of course was against Newport!

That 6-3 victory in October is certainly a long time ago, and if this weekend's game is half as exciting, then we'll be in for a cracking match.

Monday 18/02/08 - 09.40

### Aber too strong as Crows crash down to eleventh position

A frantic opening half hour witnessed all four goals, which included a penalty kick per side. Neither side were able to muster up any real chances in the second half though, and the the visitors took all three points and climb to third place.

Friday 15/02/08 - 14.05

### Crows look to end winless run as Aberaman come to town

This weekend the Crows welcome Aberaman Athletic to Cwibrân Stadium, and they will look to build on the positive performance last week against Cambrian.

The reverse of this fixture back in October was a close affair, which saw Aber take a first-half lead before the Crows equalised early in the second. With the visitors riding high in the league and not having tasted defeat on their travels in four games, there's every reason to expect another close and competitive affair this time round.

Aber's title sponsors ENTO have been in news recently regarding issues with the local council over obtaining the use of a nearby sports complex which would allow the club to play in the WPL should they achieve a top-two finish.

Aberaman are not the first club nor will they be the last to have problems with their local council! The full story in documented on Aber's [website](#).

Kick-off in 14.00 - hope to see you there.

Tuesday 12/02/08 - 13.55

### Reserves on a losing streak as Under 16s go goal crazy!

Cwibrân Town reserves recorded their third straight defeat on Saturday with a 1-0 defeat away to Lliswerry. Despite picking up no points in 2008, the Reserves are still in the title hunt in third position, seven points off free-scoring (21 goals in their last three) leaders Newport Civil Service.

The Under 16s continue to do the club proud, and recorded their second consecutive victory of 2008. After the 8-4 win last weekend, the young Crows beat Griffithstown B with an amazing 6-5 verdict!

The goal scorers were Craig Bennett (3), Thomas Haggert (2) and Bobby Cundick. This was Craig's second hat-trick in two games. While Bobby's first goal for the club came from a fantastic run from his own 18 yard box, taking on four players and finishing with a stunning right footed drive into the bottom right hand corner of the net.

Congratulations to Craig, Thomas, Bobby, and the rest of the Under 16s squad!

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Saturday 09/02/08 - 19.00

### Crows draw a blank but hold on to ninth place

On a crisp afternoon neither side were able to make the vital breakthrough to take all three points. The Crows started and ended well, while the hosts showed why they don't often concede. In the end both sides had to be pleased with a point a piece.

Friday 08/02/08 - 14.25

### Crows travel west to take on new boys

Cwmbrân Town continue their tough February program this weekend with a trip to title hopefuls Cambrian & Clydach.

Cambrian currently sit in fourth position in the league and are six points adrift of leaders Goytre United. Of the three promoted sides, Cambrian have perhaps adapted the best to the higher level, with Caldicot in a safe mid-table position, and Garw destined for a swift return to division two.

The men from the Rhondda have one of the meanest defences in the division, in fact only Afan Lido can boast a better ratio than Cambrian's one-a-game record (shared with Caerleon and Goytre United incidentally).

Fortunately, the Crows rediscovered their shooting boots in the last match, and they'll need to break another record this Saturday if they're to avenge the 1-0 defeat at Cwmbrân Stadium earlier this season: no away goal in the last four games.

For those looking for more info on our Saturday opponents, I'd recommend visiting Cambrian's recently re-established website: <http://www.ccvbqc.co.uk/> . It's got plenty of club history, and the usual info on their various teams.

For those wishing to travel to the match, take a look at these [directions](#). Alternatively, C&C's website has comprehensive written instructions.

KO is @ 14.00.

Update: Wednesday 06/02/08 - 09.30 (Tuesday 05/02/08 - 15.10)

### Reserves lose, Under 16s win, and new recruits announced

Cwmbrân Town reserves lost 2-1 to fierce neighbours Cwmbrân Celtic last Saturday, which means Celtic have 'done the double' this season. Nevertheless, the Crows are only 2 points behind Premier Y leaders Newport Civil Service after 16 games. There's still plenty to play for.

The Under 16s were the toast of the club over the weekend with a cracking 8-4 victory over Pontnewydd A. The goalscorers were: Craig Bennett (3), Adam Beckett (p), Ashley Davies, Ryan Yeates, Martin Slattery and Kieron Chaney.

The lads now top group B in the under 16s league. Joint manager Gareth Griffiths - who was close to tears when interviewed - commented after the match: "They were blinking brilliant! And no one got sent off either!". Congratulations to all the lads on that great win.

We've had the final details of the last minute transfer window signings. They are, in no particular order:

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Donny Clarck (07.01.87). Previous club: Parie FC (French FA).

Sikomo Kambiri (25.12.82). Previous club: Ramy Vale Park (English FA).

Job Frumba (10.12.87). Previous club: Bridgetown FC (English FA).

Kane Law (30.01.84). Previous club: Yeading (English FA).

Fideils Chime (21.12.82). Previous club: Holiday Inn FC (English FA).

Jason Zoil (03.08.89). Previous club: Horsham (English FA).

Steven Roleio-Doe (24.07.81). Previous club: Norton FC (English FA).

William Bassey (08.01.78). Previous club: Pontypridd Town.

Craig Lane (11.02.88). Previous club: AFC Rumney.

A warm CT AFC welcome to all nine recruits.

Monday 04/02/08 - 11.25

### Goal drought ended but unlucky Crows come away with nothing!

Cwmbrân Town delivered one of their better performances in recent time, and twice pegged back the visitors. With a strong second half display, and a deserved point looking likely, an unfortunate mistake in defence gifted Goytre all three points.

Friday 01/02/08 - 13.45

### Crows eye revenge as league leaders visit Cwmbrân Stadium

It seems an age since the Crows last played on home soil, so after three consecutive away games and a month and half since the last home game, the club welcomes league leaders Goytre United to Cwmbrân Stadium.

United are one of the form sides in the league at the moment, having chalked up four consecutive league victories and progressing to the semi finals of the league cup at the expense of title rivals Dinas Powys.

There is of course a hint of symmetry about this match, because the Crows last scored a goal in the reverse fixture (a 5-2 defeat) way back in early November. So what are the odds on the Crows breaking their six-game barren spell against the same opposition...?

One thing's for sure, with the Crows going on to win each of the eight matches that they've taken the lead in, one could be forgiven for being positive should they take the lead on Saturday...

Kick-off is 14.00 - hope to see you there, and at the clubhouse after the match for the rugby!