

DISCLAIMER We will try to cover every game this season with our honest and sometimes tongue in cheek match reports. Yes we will say things that may offend but its more through frustration than anything else, so whoever you are Please do not be offended....

14th April 2012

1st Division
Maesglas 3 Pencader 1

Maesglas will end their season on top after the Blues secured a decent 3 points against a very good Pencader side, mind you finishing top is not quite true as New Quay will probably edge the Blues when the Quay side end their season, when that will be who knows as the seashiders have at least 7 games to play.

The Maesglas were desperately short of a side at one point before midday on Saturday with 4 key players out, but thankfully one of those was Darren Williams who was rained off with his work, whilst the 3 others, top scorer Chris Morgan and Peter Almond were away with work and Dazza Kanu Davies out due to a badly burned hand (don't ask how, its not worth responding too!).

The players that came to the rescue did a great job, young Gruff Lewis, Rhys Davies and the veteran who seems to be finding his form (cant wait for next season now)Peter Wally Williams. Also supporting the Blues was Aled "The Pieman" Meredith and hairdresser Kyle Rowland.

The Kites were missing a couple too however, but it was the home side who seemed to gel a little more than the away side.

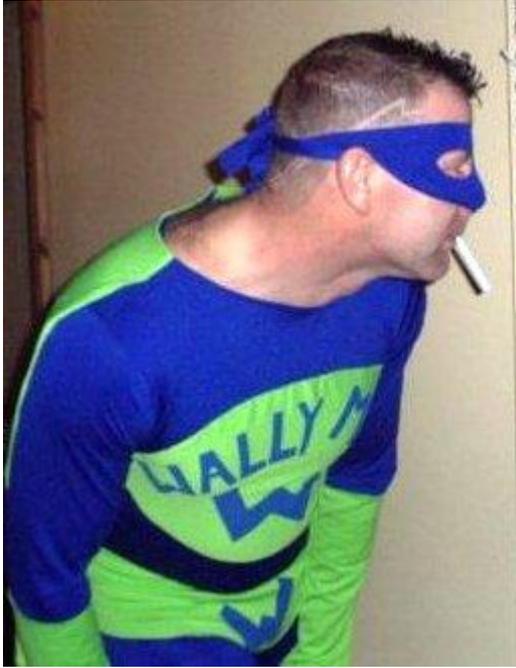
It was Maesglas who started the better too and almost got in front from an Aled Rees cross which found makeshift striker Matty Smith but he didn't connect as well as he should have from close range and his shot squirmed just past the upright. Pencader soon got into the action and from breakaway opportunities could have edged ahead. The Blues opener came 10 minutes into the game, a goal from Aled Rees, a through ball to him found himself in the clear and with the Kites keeper coming out to close him down, Rees poked the ball past the advancing keeper to get the Blues in front.

Pencader bounced back 5 minutes later, when the Blues defence went to sleep from a corner, a near post cross at ground level saw Kites ex Carmarthen Town player Jamie Horwood, nip in and tuck his effort in from close range. For the Blues it was a sloppy goal to give away.

Both sides were playing expansive football and both sets creating some decent chances, Llifon Howell was at the heart of the majority of the Blues attacks and it was Howell himself who turned on the style inside the Pencader box, when he dummied to go one way and he went the other leaving 3 defenders chasing fresh air, and Howell drilled in the shot giving the Kites keeper no chance, a goal that the Blues probably deserved.

Just after that Blues skipper Daf George was taken off due to a knee injury which after was found out to be ligaments damage and a chipped bone in his knee. Daf George has been throughout the season a great Captain and leader, and thankfully the knee will recover in time and he will be leading the Blues out again next season. Peter Wally Williams replaced George; the veteran striker went up top with Matty Smith dropping into his usual role of midfield.

At the break it was slender lead for the Blues, but looking the more comfortable in possession. After 10 minutes of the second half it was that man Howell again who created an opportunity for himself, a shot from 10 yards caused the Kites keeper a problem and he spilled the powerful drive and it was Peter Wally Williams who reacted the quickest and he buried his drive into the net from close range.



Peter Wally Williams, his first first division one goal in years.

Game over you may think? Not with Pencader, the reds dug deep and at the midway point of the second half earned themselves a penalty. In the previous meeting Dan Jones buried his last penalty, but this time Blues keeper Rhodri Jones read the shot of Jones and pulled off a terrific save to his left to keep the Blues in a command. Both sides had other chances at either ends but at the final whistle it was Maesglas who just about edged the game.

Maesglas will reflect back on a good league finish, which will probably be runners up spot, but no silverware however to show for their hard work, but can the Blues say, if being critical of other teams around them who have other interests elsewhere, by fielding weakened sides, watching Wales play etc hasn't really helped the Blues in their conquest of the league, but Maesglas cant always blame what goes on elsewhere, by slipping up to Crannog, Cardigan and Felinfach these may be the games that could come back to haunt them and which ultimately cost them the champions spot.

31st March

Bay Cup

Maesglas 0 Pencader 1

Can we start this report in a way where we can pretend that April the 1st or too some Aprils fool day was yesterday, because at times whilst watching this end to end game it was sometimes farcical.... Some were expecting Jeremy Beadle to pop over the cemetery hedge with a film crew and for referee Jeff Hearn to announce that he had been winding us up all afternoon. (now the clause on top of the page says it all if this offends).

Swearing is not a great advertisement for this great game of ours, and we understand that, no doubt about it. But, and this is a big but - there is a huge difference in a swear word being aimed at the referee, linesman or opposing player than a swear word used in frustration. Yesterday's stop start affair with man in the middle Hearn being so flamboyant with the whistle it was as if there was a rave going on. Yes we all swear at the frustrations due to a poor pass or shot or bad tackle, but if the player says anything to the ref then the ref should deal with it as he should, yellow or a red, end of story, but to stop the game in mid flow, because a swear word was used, sorry, but at times yesterday this was laughable. The truth of it all however whilst watching the game it was obvious to some spectators that they couldn't even hear what was being said. Has anyone hit their thumb with a hammer, surely you don't shout "oh dear" no thought not. When Hearn brought the players into the centre circle at half time it added a little more to the calamity of the second half, the warning he gave to ALL players was that he would blow up for any bad language. True to his word he did and that we admire him for. But what's been forgotten in all this is that he apparently spoke to some players before the game and mentioned the swearing, so long as it's not aimed at him that's ok. Well for most of this game the swearing was through frustration due to his stop starting. Enough of the swearing, which is wrong, but it cannot be helped at times, we see it every night on the TV, if the refs followed the rules by the book then there wouldn't be any players left on the green.

It's a shame we had to write about this, but moving swiftly on, the game on the whole was a good game played in good spirit. With both sides playing some neat football on a hard and bumpy surface, with Pencader

probably edging the first quarter with possession, but the homeside gradually getting into the game and creating the better chances, a shot off the crossbar and one cleared off the line. The Pencader keeper was having a good day between the sticks which was a bad omen for the Blues. If it was a boxing match, Maesglas would have pinched it on points but as the old cliché goes if you don't take your chances you will not win. And sure enough with close to fifteen minutes on the clock, referee Jeff Hearn blew up for what some might say was a rather harsh penalty against Darren Davies, who deemed to take the ball but in doing so took out the Pencader player. Dan Jones made no mistake and buried the penalty against Blues keeper Rhodri Jones, who on the day had very little to do, whilst his opposite number was making saves that Jones himself would be proud of. Maesglas pushed and missed those chances that we wrote about earlier and they definitely came back to haunt the Blues. At the final whistle it was the reigning cup holders that edged through, but, unfortunately the talk after match was about the frustrations of this stop start encounter. Pencader will be worthy winners once again on this form, so long as the end of season schedule is kind to them. Well done the kites....

24th March 2012

1st Division
Felinfach 2 Maesglas 1

Maesglas' end of season run in has now definitely come to an abrupt halt after this performance that will hand New Quay the championship. To say that there was nothing to play for as some may have thought may leave a bitter taste in some of the player's mouths after such a good season, but at Felinfach it was the Blues who turned sour due to an inept display that would have been more at home at the foot of the table. Felinfach to be fair to them were by far the better side, by showing a desire and willingness to take down a team who are top of the league, a battle that some boys in the Blues camp didn't see coming.

From the short walk from the changing room to the playing surface it was obvious to see that there was no bounce, everything seemed laboured. Top of the league with guaranteed second spot in place. Does that really mean Maesglas can just turn up and hand the 3 points to the opposing side and to add another championship to the reigning holders. Well that's exactly what happened.

From the outset and within seconds the Blues were down a goal due to the harsh and tractor covered markings on the Felin playing surface. A back pass from Blues captain Dafydd George was bobbling so much, it totally deceived keeper Rhodri Jones and his clearance ended up being just an air swipe, with the ball finding its way into the net.

Maesglas huffed and puffed but due thankfully to the homeside not finishing their efforts they may have been ahead by three or four within half an hour. Maesglas had not turned up and it was showing. Fach extended their lead at the half hour point, a corner was not dealt with and from close range they took their chance. It kicked started Maesglas a little and from a Blues corner right on the stroke of half time Peter Wally Williams powered his shot into the roof of the net.

At the break it was sort it out time, even the ref Geoff Hearn had his say, which to be fair to him was so true, "cut out the chit chat and bickering". Hearn today and in recent games when he has done the job has been excellent, again in the middle of a game where there was a lot of whingeing and finger pointing he handled it superbly without needing to display his cards, maybe he is starting to mellow in his old age !! As for the rest of the game, both sides may have added to their scores but all in all it was a dour game, a game that frustrated some. At the end of the day it was Felinfach who captured a decent feather for their hat, but not being too hard on them against a weakened Maesglas side that deserved nothing. Today referee Geoff Hearn was probably the Blues best player!!

FELINFACH REPORT > <http://www.felinfach.net/>

10th March 2012

1st Division
New Quay 1 Maesglas 2

The Blues put in a performance that has shown why they are where they are....top of the league, eleven point clear sounds good, but we need to remember that New Quay have 6 games in hand, but the points are in the bag as they say. So it's all in the hands of the Seasiders, the Blues have one thing against them, and that's the other teams who are to play Quay.... do they have ambitions, no offence but probably not, and that's why New Quay will be favourites to recapture the league trophy.

The Blues started this game very well and the homeside were on the back foot early doors and the away side made a couple of excellent opportunities, one of those a header by Matthew Smith who had his effort cleared off the line. Quay put pressure on the Blues too, with Maesglas keeper Rhodri Jones pulling off a couple of decent stops one of which a back pass where he had to use his head to prevent a goal scoring chance. The Blues breakthrough came some thirty minutes into the game, when Peter Almond powered down the right and put a cross into the oncoming Llifon Howell and from six yards out finished clinically, giving Quay keeper Simon Church no chance.

The Blues stepped off the gas a little and let New Quay back into the game, and this pressure soon paid off but in unorthodox style, a punt down field was left to bounce on the edge of the box and Keeper Jones was put under severe pressure by the Quay strikers and as the ball was in the air a header from the home striker managed to find itself finding the back of the net. The goal was a sloppy goal to give away and not long before the break.

Half time chat was about keeping the game going as well as it had been in the first half, defend well and chances will be made. Saying that it was a very tight game and it could have gone either way, the Blues had chances as did the home side, but the game seemed to be winding down into a draw, but with ten minutes left on the clock, a tackle from Quays main man Jamie Thompson just on the half way line was deemed a dangerous tackle on Blues centre half Marc James, with Thompson receiving the red card, some say it may have been a harsh card to give. But from the free kick, left back and birthday boy Richard Evans for the Blues put in a cracking ball into the box; with players heads from both sides trying to score or clear, it eluded everyone including keeper Church and the ball nestled in the back of the net, a freak goal, but the celebrations were worthy of the £3.00 entrance fee alone, nobody could have written that script!!



Birthday Boy Richard Charlie Evans

New Quay even with ten men put pressure on the Blues and another red card was shown to Blues right winger Chris Morgan, after he was adjudged to have fouled a Quay player, which was his second yellow. Meirion Evans the referee was having one of those days, where everything he gave came into dispute. As it was the Blues held out for a deserved win, and extending their lead by eleven points. Who knows what will happen in the coming weeks as the Blues will cross every finger they have and hope that Quay slip up in the run in.

3rd March 2012

1st Division
Maesglas 4 Llanboidy 0

Never an easy game when the Foxes of Llanboidy come to town, and for the first half of each quarter the away side caused some problems but on the day were not good enough in front of goal with either their final ball or shot, as for the Blues once they found the right gear to motor at they looked good and took the goals well. It's been a couple of seasons since the Blues did the double act on Llanboidy but this season the Maesglas have looked a lot stronger than their opponents. Maesglas rested centre half Darren Williams due to a calf injury and demoted him to the bench so otherwise the side was as strong as it could be.

Maesglas were slow getting going and Llanboidy did make some inroads but failed to capitalize on these chances, but the breakthrough came around the 25th minute and from some 30 yards out Blues striker Peter Almond stunned everyone by unleashing a drive that left his boot like an exocet missile, the ball travelling at such a rate even the Llanboidy keeper uttered the words in welsh "ni welais honna!". A great goal from Almond who had a very good game.

Aled Rees then extended the Blues lead from a so called training ground move, that saw the ball being crossed in from the right and Aled Rees at the far post to finish comfortably.

The home side were deservedly in front at the break, and knew the next goal would be crucial. Llanboidy upped their game as to be expected but like previously mentioned never really troubled the Blues goal, and from their ambition to push forward were forced to leave gaps at the back and from this gamble came the two goals that Maesglas scored, the first a cross found Llifon Howell at the far post and he nodded the ball through the legs of the oncoming Carwyn Lewis who seemed to have it covered but the ball squirmed between his legs and over the line. The final nail in the coffin was from Chris Morgan who must have had at least half a dozen efforts at goal but this one was a quality finish off his left foot from 18 yards out and he pinned the ball into the top corner, a goal that Morgan deserved for his hard work throughout the afternoon.

All in all a good day at the office with some players starting to find their form again, the likes of Matthew Smith had an excellent game and once again Llifon Howell causing problems with his pace.

The Blues extend their lead at the top of the table by 8 points but it is still New Quays to lose as they now have 6 games in hand.

Next Saturday will be a totally different game, as the Blues travel to league favourites New Quay to play in front of an expected crowd of 200 plus due to a membership group called the Ground Hoppers, this group who

have a vast membership across the UK are in the mid Wales area and have pinpointed New Quay as one of the weekend games to list as a ground visited.

AND THE FOXES COMMENTS <http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/llanboidyfc/87000/Matches/report/3039303>

25th February 2012

1st Division

Llanybydder 0 Maesglas 1

Although the scoreline suggests a tight game it was to be perfectly honest a comfortable day at the office, but it may have backfired if not for the back four of the Blues who at times had to dig the frontmen out of trouble. The amount of missed opportunities was rather embarrassing to say the least as the Blues dominated the game but apart from the odd shot at goal just could not find that decent final ball to cut open a resolute defence.

The cutting edge was missing; maybe this was down to the home side that defended quite deeply, but it took at least 8 corners before we troubled the home keeper, and thankfully the effort was put away in style from young debutant Matthew Roach who with his back to goal arched his back and in almost overhead style kick finished his shot in superbly, that goal came after 25 minutes where the Blues were being frustrated by the home team.



Roach with the winner.

At the break young Roach was blowing through his proverbial and was replaced with another young and future first teamer Ricky Woods Holmes.

It was the more of the same during the second half a few decent strikes but nothing to really worry the home keeper. As for the Blues keeper on the day Matthew Smith who was in for the absent Rhodri Jones, Smith had a very boring afternoon with the odd corner to punch clear and the only problems he had was from his own ground clearing goal kicks. Winning ugly comes to mind and a win is a win, Mark James this week was the pick of the bunch with his excellent defending, and in all the back four of the Blues played well. Next week will definitely be not so easy with the visit of the foxes of Llanboidy.

18th February 2012

1st Division

Maesglas 3 Aberporth 1

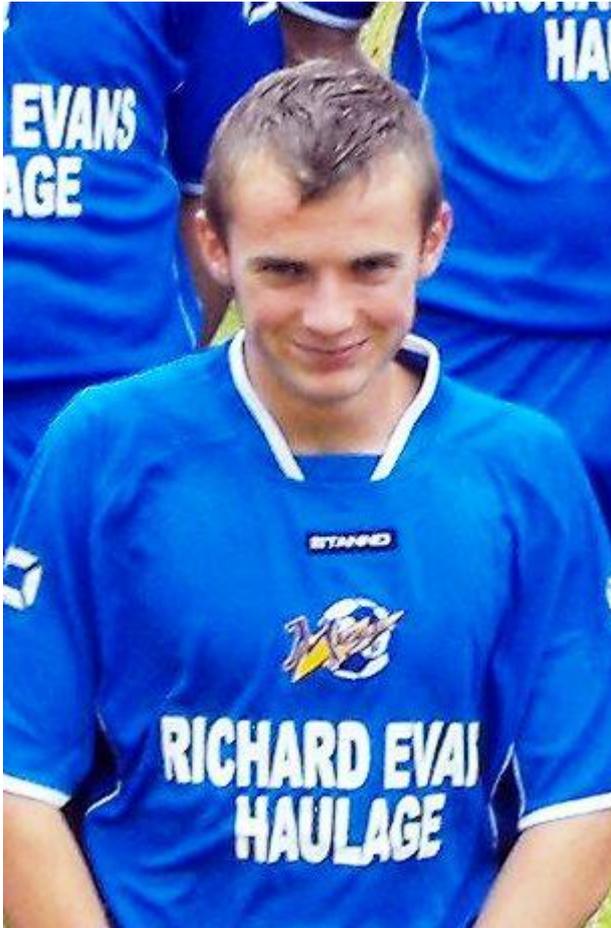
Maesglas bounced back with good win after their poor showing last week against a rejuvenated Aberporth, who took Cardigan to decent draw last weekend and with the inspirational Jed Townsend making his return after a stint at New Quay.

The Blues were without Richard Charlie Evans and Huw Meredith but a plus point was Llifon Howell back after a few weeks break with his new family.

The match began well for the Blues and if not for Aberporth shot stopper Ryan Banks the lead after just twenty minutes may have seen the game being out of sight for the visitors. But it was on the 25 minute mark when the Blues finally went ahead, a good run and cross down the right wing by Chris Morgan was met at the far post by Aled Rees and his header was accurate enough to put the homeside ahead and deservedly so.

The second was not long in coming, again down the right hand side of the park with Peter Almond and Mark James combining well and the latter breaking through to finish like a seasoned striker.

At the interval it was the Blues who had the game in the bag and looking the more dominant, but the Airmen had other ideas, a few positional changes by manager Ivan Wilson saw the Blues being put under severe pressure and the this momentum from the away side got them back into the game with a Jed Townsend strike from 25 yards, and shortly after this the awayside earned an unexpected penalty, and thankfully for the Blues the reliable Rhodri Jones pulling off a good save to deny Aled Davies getting the Airmen back on level terms. With Aberporth gambling they obviously left gaps at the back and at numerous occasions the Blues should have gone further ahead with a couple of efforts being denied due to the stickiness of the goal area, but it was Chris Morgan who wrapped up the game after being put through by Peter Almond. The game ended at 3-1 and a deserved win for the Blues, if the penalty had been scored then it would have been interesting to see who would have come out on top. Aberporth were indebted to keeper banks and for the Blues youngest player on the park Dylan Davies was outstanding, playing with maturity beyond his years.



Dylan Davies star man for the Blues

11th February 2012

Quarter Final Emrys Morgan Cup 2012
Maesglas 1 new Quay 3

If either side could go onto to win this, then they could create some sort of history, New Quay along with the Maesglas of the 80s side to be the only side to retain the trophy and for the Blues of 2000s to add a third Emrys Morgan trophy to the cabinet to be the only team from Ceredigion surroundings to win the trophy for the third time.

Alas it was not to be for the Blues, New Quay will be overwhelming favourites to go onto retain the trophy after this hard fought win.

Maesglas will be kicking themselves when looking back on this game, and with no one to blame but themselves, after conceding some really soft goals in the opening twenty minutes it was always going to be an uphill struggle against a very well organised defending side. Even though the Seasiders had a decent grip on the game the Blues dominated for large parts of the game and also saying that the Blues were not playing to their full potential. But it was the defensive unit of New Quay that held firm, winning the majority of the skyward balls and closing down on the raiders of the Blues and not giving the home side an inch to play in. it was a frustrating afternoon for Maesglas, especially in the opening 20 minutes where the homeside could have taken an early lead from Huw Meredith, after a great cross into the box from Dylan Davies, Meredith scuppered his shot into the hands of the reliable Simon Church.

After this though it was New Quay who took advantage of some poor marking and clearing and the first goal was mix up on the edge of the box, and a Quay player from 20 yards had the kindest of deflections to put Quay a goal up. A few minutes later, a free kick some 30 yards out was lofted into the box and the Blues just ball watched as the header across goal was simply tapped in to take the awayside into a two goal lead. The third goal was a collection of balls ups, a back pass half cleared led to a comical of errors, but a Quay player took full advantage and finished his effort very well.

At the break it was the away side who even though 3 goals up seemed to be the side holding on, and this definitely showed during the second half, and after ten minutes of the restart the Blues got one back, a corner swept in at ground level was not dealt with and from just a few yards out Huw Meredith tapped in to get a deserved goal back for the homeside. Blues had to gamble and switched to 3 at the back and were still being frustrated by the away sides' resilience at the back. Maesglas huffed and puffed but time ran out and it was New Quay who will now go into the last four.

Blues gaffer Paul Hope was disappointed to say the least, "we had a great opportunity to make the last four, and we always said if we can get past New Quay then there would be no reason why we could not have gone on to win this cup, but it was always going to be tough against new Quay, and with both sides missing their best players, that cutting edge especially from us was not there today, we gifted them 3 really soft goals, it's the same old story, play against a decent side and you will get punished for any little mistake, I wish New Quay the very best, they may have edged it today but they are a good side and I can see them going onto regain the trophy".

PS one thing which was not spotted during the game and not brought to my attention until after but it's the disgusting habit of spitting at an opponent, only one question - why ?

28th January 2012

Maesglas 3 Lampeter 2

Maesglas put last week's dismal performance behind them and overcome a Lampeter side that were above the Blues in the league. Maesglas were without the suspended Peter Almond and Llifon Howell, so goals may have been hard to come by, but it was Chris Morgan who set the Blues on the way in the first ten minutes. The first a quickly taken free kick by Matthew Smith who laid it on the plate for Morgan and Morgan's second came from a free kick from 20 yards which gave the 16 year old Lampeter keeper no chance.

After this however the Blues seemed to take the foot off the pedal and slowly but surely the away side got back into the game and created a couple of half chances. As the half wore on Maesglas soon got the rhythm back and looked to extend the lead, but with 5 minutes of the first half remaining Lampeter got on the score sheet from a breakaway and from the cross across goal it was Luke Lovell who headed home. A goal that was deserved as it had been coming.

The second half was much better from the hosts and the Lampeter keeper was being kept busy, although the youngster looked unorthodox in his style he kept out some good efforts from Maesglas. Maesglas soon extended the lead with substitute Ricky Wood Holmes, the youngster who is having a great season with the reserves showed his qualities and finished well from a well worked move down the right. The game looked safe as houses from the home side but Lampeter got back into the game with 15 minutes left when Jason Jones rifled in from 20 yards. The game was wide open now and end to end and the Blues had countless chances to extend the lead but failed. The game ended with the Blues having to defend well, and the back four played well to keep Lampeter out.

All in all Maesglas deserved the points and with these valuable point puts them back in second spot.



Ricky Woods Holmes, with important Blues 3rd goal

21st January 2012

Cardigan 3 Maesglas 0

The first taste of league defeat since October last year was in very similar fashion at the hands of Lampeter where this time it was Cardigan. In a game where some of the Maesglas boys can certainly hold their hands up and say that they were not at the races what so ever.

Taking nothing away from Cardigan who very much deserved the 3 points, it's the performance from the Blues which left a lot to be desired.

From the onset the away side showed a lack of ambition, drive and determination which was contagious as the whole team by the end of the game looked a million miles from the team that has been on an excellent run. Cardigan were the better side throughout most of the game, but it was a dismal game , not a good advert for the local league, stop start affair , poor passing from mainly the Blues, whilst the hosts seem to be comfortable in defence with all that Maesglas threw at them although to be honest this was very sparse . Town deservedly led the way after 20 minutes and went further ahead just on the break from a penalty. Maesglas re-grouped after the break and showed a little more pride but it was never going to be enough as Town held resolute to everything that Maesglas threw at them, and in chasing the game, Maesglas were caught with 10 minutes remaining and extended their lead. At the final whistle it was the away side that looked as if they were the team who had been struggling at the wrong end of the table, and with this win Cardigan can safely put at ease their relegation worries. The worst news for the Blues is that Quay have extended their lead in the league which certainly puts them in the driving seat to regain the league championship.

Paul Hope the Blues gaffer was very disappointed after the performance

"absolutely shocking we were today, some of the boys let themselves down big style and because of this it spread through the team like a rash, we had no one out there who wanted to take the game by the scruff and Cardigan who are a decent side made us look very ordinary. Not good enough at all, that's the third performance which has been woeful this season, Lampeter, Saints and now Town. If my players think they can just turn up and get a result and not be competitive and not match the opposition for effort, then they have had a lesson today.

If we have learned from it then fine but we have to look at ourselves - without taking anything away from the way Cardigan played, what we can do is to try to prevent it happening in the future.

If we needed a lesson to be taught then this was it."

14th January 2012

Emrys Morgan Cup 4th Round

Crannog 1 Maesglas 2

Football is all about taking your chances, no matter how much possession you have or how pretty you play the game, if you don't take your opportunities you won't win games, and for once Maesglas can be thankful that Crannog had an off day in front of goal. Maesglas were without club captain Dafydd George and Aled Rees for this one.

Maesglas can also be grateful to keeper Rhodri Jones who pulled off two great saves that should have been clear cut and winning chances for Crannog, but the Blues shot stopper showing that he is still one of the best in the county.

It was Crannog that pulled the strings early on against a lethargic looking Blues side who took some time to get into the game, late nights, early mornings, whatever it was it certainly showed on the guilty parties, but the longer the game went on the better the Blues looked.

In the first half Crannog had two decent score able chances, the first coming after fifteen minutes when Huw Reed pulled a shot across goal and looked destined for the bottom left hand corner but amazingly keeper Jones dived down to his left to put the ball out for a corner.

The other chance fell to the full of tricks Danny Taylor, a simple header four yards out that blazed over the bar from a corner. Maesglas created some chances but never really troubled the Crannog keeper during the first half.

The second half showed a little better for the Blues and it looked as if the first half performance was put behind them. But in the final twenty minutes a free kick taken by Huw Reed from almost half way against the Blues was not dealt with and Danny Taylor found himself unmarked and from fifteen yards out turned on a sixpence and clipped his drive effortlessly into the top corner, a good goal from a player who had been a thorn in the Blues backside all afternoon with his good hold up play and bringing other players into the game. Taylor again had another clear goal chance soon after, and again it was a header from just yards out that flew skywards over the bar.

Whatever mind-set the Blues had it certainly changed from then on and it was the away side who took the game by the scruff, and after a couple of chances to square the match came and went it looked as if Crannog were going to hold on for a deserved win, but in the final five minutes, and the pressure all on Crannog, Maesglas came up trumps, a Llifton Howell cross from the left found Peter Almond totally unmarked in the box and his header was easily disposed of.

The impressive Jeff Hearne blew the final whistle and confirmed that the game went into extra time.

It was the Blues who looked to be the fitter in the final half hour and this certainly showed during the first half of extra time as the Blues broke through several times without success, but half way through the first half of extra time it was the Maesglas who took the lead, a break once again down the left from the young Dylan Davies, who beat his marker to put a pin point cross onto the head Huw Meredith's six foot seven inch frame and he from just a few yards out nodded home what was to eventually be the winner.

As Maesglas tried to control the game in the remaining minutes, Crannog had one more final effort, and it came from the reliable Huw Reed, what must have been going through his head for his effort only he knows but, with the Maesglas back four being put under severe pressure a cross from the left eluded one and all and Huw Reed from six yards out with only keeper Jones to beat side footed his shot, but his shot just didn't have any conviction and although it turned out to be a great save from Jones, it should have been a leveller to put his side into the dreaded penalties department.

The Maesglas held out, and as previously stated, football is all about taking your chances, Maesglas did and Crannog didn't. the home side deserved better, but the Blues rode their luck at times, but somebody somewhere was looking down on them and whoever it wasthank you. But you could have given us a better draw for the next roundNew Quay at home!!.

Plus points for the Blues, good to see Darren Williams back and Rhodri Jones on top form and getting back to his brilliant best.



Blues man of the match Rhodri Jones.

7th January 2012

Maesglas 5 Felinfach 1

Maesglas continued their good run in the league with a convincing but hard fought win over Felinfach who were playing with no pressure and nothing to lose which contributed to quite an entertaining game at times. Felinfach turned up in their own home strip of blue which clashed with the home colours so as the ruling goes it's the away side that should change and this Felinfach did into yellow bibs.

The Blues were without shot stopper Rhodri Jones for this one but the reliable Matthew Smith stood in for the day.

Maesglas began in confident mood and had long spells of possession, but looking a little over confident at times. The breakthrough came after 15 minutes when Dylan Davies pounced from close range to put the Blues ahead. The Milkmen had the odd flurry but hardly tested the stand in keeper Smith.

The only goal of the first half, but the homeside took the initiative and went further ahead from Llifon Howell, a cross from Chris Morgan, finding Howell and he finished well from close range.

The shackles came off Felinfach and they began to play without a care, and it was this attitude that got them back into the game, Felinfach's top scorer Gareth Evans finishing well after a few half-hearted attempted tackles. This seemed to kick start the Blues again and it was Chris Morgan scoring with a cracking header with Howell returning the favour. The away side went down to ten men after the subs had been used due to an injury and the Maesglas made the extra man count, once again Chris Morgan scoring after being put through by Peter Almond and to cap the game Aled Rees went on a great run and beat his marker hands down and placed his side footed shot wide of the keeper and into the bottom corner.

Overall a good win but not a win that had the intensity of the StDogmaels game, but without any disrespect to Felinfach the Blues dropped to the opposition's level. Next week a rest from the league and a big game at Crannog for a quarter final place in the Emrys Morgan Cup.

31st December 2011

Maesglas 3 StDogmaels 0

Maesglas kissed 2011 off with an almighty smoocher as they endured the first defeat of the inform Saints with a very hard earned 3 nil win which incidentally leap frogs them over Saints and puts them joint second with Lampeter. The Blues last win against the Saints on home territory was on September 8th 2007, the season the Blues lifted the championship trophy.

Only 2 games were played on New Year's Eve, the Blues game and at Crannog, who held Lampeter to a 2-2 draw. The Maes Radley strip has had its critics' over the years and rightly so but the work the club has done in

the last couple of seasons is starting to pay off, the pitch held up really well considering the amount of rainfall that has been over the last couple of weeks.

The Maesglas side were unchanged from the embarrassing 4-1 defeat at the school field with just a rejig of the side set up, and Saints had inspirational captain loan Owen missing.

The game was played at a frantic pace from the outset and both sides had chances with Saints coming close from a Chris Thomas drive from 20 yards which looked goal bound but Blues keeper Rhodri Jones pulling off a fantastic one handed save, also Maesglas right back Darren Davies almost scoring an own goal from a corner as his clearance hit his own cross bar. Maesglas always looked to catch the Saints on a breakaways with the pace of Llifon Howell and Chris Morgan, with Morgan being guilty of missing a couple of opportunities early on, but the breakthrough came as Llifon Howell was put through by Peter Almond and from 40 yards out Howell raced through and placed the ball passed the oncoming Saints keeper Casey Walters.

The Blues defended very well keeping the front line of Steffan Davies, Trefor Woodgate and John Lumb relatively quiet, but it was the Saints centre half partnership who were working their socks off with Morgan and Howell trying to put pressure on them to making errors.

At one nil the game was well balanced but a breakthrough for the Blues once more with a ball down the right hand flank from Peter Almond to right midfielder Dylan Davies and his cross found the pacey Howell who chested it down and rifled the drive once again beyond Casey Walters. Two nil up and the Maesglas boys were pinching themselves. Blues were now two nil up against their biggest rivals and controlling the game at this point too. Saints rallied however and earned a number of corners but the defence held firm until the break.



Llifon Howell. bagged a hatrick

The second half continued in the same vein with Maesglas putting the back four of Saints under pressure, and looking as if there were more goals to come, after a few decent chances that were scuppered the Maesglas made the game safe with Llifon Howell once again, coming in from the right flank he drew Casey Walters slightly out of goal and dummied to cross but then placing his shot to the near post with composure and finishing in style to hit a hatrick. Saints could not fight back any more it was the tails of the Blues that were now up and if not for some poor finishing the score line could have looked as bad as the league cup tie but reversed. The game ended with referee Chris Townsend blowing full time.

A great result for the Blues who will know have an opportunity to kick on and have to play to the same level week in week out if they have any chance of catching Lampeter or league favourites New Quay.

Blues gaffer Paul Hope was chuffed with the hard work his boys had put in to earn a win against a very good Saints side." We tinkered with the team today and it paid off, we have been hurting from the cup exit against Saints ever since and this was payback time, I know the players can perform to high a standard and today we did, we worked and worked all over the park and didn't let Saints settle, a similar style to what Saints did to us couple of weeks ago. I can't pick out any individuals or pick any faults, because today my boys, well, what can I say, they were superb. It's however just the one game, we have to maintain this kind of performance for the remainder".

Happy New Year to all from Maesglas FC"

PLUS THE MATCH REPORT FROM THE SAINTS GAME [click here](#)



26th December 2011

Llanboidy 1 Maesglas 2

Maesglas rebounded from the previous weeks poor showing and had to dig deep for the three vital points against full of fight Llanboidy, plus the added elements of the weather, strong breeze and slippery underfoot conditions didn't help either side, we should add that the game was switched to Tegryn, a half-way point for both teams, but this was classed as Llanboidy's home fixture.

The Blues were let down before kick off with a no show from Chris Morgan and Darren Williams, leaving the Blues with a bare twelve. But as it happens they were not missed as the players who committed gave a good account of themselves. The strong breeze made playing with "it" more difficult and the Maesglas found this out to their cost, because even though they dominated possession it was difficult to construct a decent final ball and with the added difficulty to get a shot away, and although going into the lead after 17 minutes through the inspirational Matthew Smith it was always going to be a question, was the one goal enough to take into the break, as it happens, the one goal lead was wiped out as Llanboidy caught the Blues on a breakaway and tied the match just on the stroke of half time.



Matthew Smith with the opening goal.

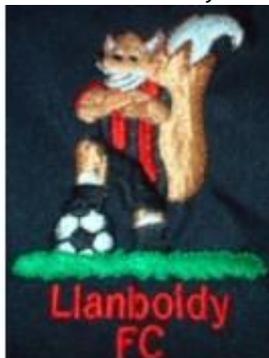
Frustrating as the game was, it was the Blues who were the better side throughout the afternoon, but the ailments were causing problems with the both teams. Llanboidy worked hard to get ahead by using the wind to their advantage as did the Blues try to do in the first half, but just like the Blues, the wind was a more of a hindrance than a help.

Maesglas against the wind looked more composed and keeping the ball on the deck was a must do approach. The Blues eventually got the goal they deserved after 20 minutes of the second half, Llifton Howell tapping in from close range after a scramble in the box, a debatable goal as Howell looked to be in an offside position, but to be fair, the linesman from Llanboidy quashed the misdemeanour and said that Howell was onside. There had been a shout for a penalty just prior to the goal, when Carwyn Lewis the Llan keeper took out Blues winger Aled Rees but referee John Evans turned the shouts down. Llanboidy had a good chance too; a great

cross from the left was headed over from 6 yards out. The game was not the best with the conditions above and on the ground being an obstacle, but both sides still tried to play the game the way it should be played and the foul count reflected this, with the fouls being well down on a normal game.

Maesglas held on to the win and deserved the three points; this will hopefully put them in the right frame of mind to face the Saints on New Year 's Eve at Maes Radley.

Click on Fox to view Llanboidy match report :



18th December 2011
League Cup 2nd Round

StDogmaels 4 Maesglas 1

After going a goal up from a penalty and a man off for the Saints in the same build and not taking chances whilst in control of the game it then became the Blues of old, where once the Saints turned up the screw, some of the Blues boys went into hiding, there was a point in the game as if it looked as it was the Blues who had the ten men as Saints dominated periods of the game and to be totally frank about this poor display for the Blues, its nothing more than the Maesglas deserved.

It was the away side who were on top after the early exchanges, but nothing clear cut and whatever efforts the Blues had at goal were not troubling Casey Walters the Saints keeper, After fifteen minutes Maesglas were awarded a penalty after an effort from Chris Morgan that was clearly hitting the back of the net was saved by a Saints defender and without hesitation referee Wyn Roberts had no option but to send the player off. Morgan himself took the penalty which was almost saved by Walters but there was enough on it to put the Blue ahead.

But after a couple of chances that the Blues failed to take it then began to become the Saints show, as the home team rallied and got to grips with the game, and some of the football they played may not have been pretty but it was effective, an example of this was the first Saints goal where a route one ball was embarrassingly left to drop beyond the back four and the impressive ex Blues striker Trefor Woodgate ghosted in and was left with the task of knocking the ball above Rhodri Jones the Blues keeper to level the game. Such a poor goal to concede after being on top and from here on in the Saints had their tails between their legs whilst some of the away side went into hiding.

Not long after that Saints trebled their lead after Woodgate headed home after some good build up play on the left and another ex-Blues Steffan Davies getting on the score board.

3 -1 at the break, and the game carried on in a similar pattern, Saints pressing and making it difficult for Maesglas to play the football they wanted too, Maesglas had some chances in the second half as did the Saints, but on the day it was the hard working Saints who were most clinical in front of goal and the day was wrapped up with another goal for Steffan Davies which just added more pain on the travelling Blues.

The Blues can have no complaints about this result, Blues gaffer Paul Hope was not mincing his words "Saints were superb today, going down to ten men didn't phase them one bit, it just seemed to have the opposite effect on us, after starting so well and going a goal up and then playing against ten men, there is definitely no excuse for losing a game like this, yes we all know that derby matches are a one off but it's been 3 seasons since we have had a result at the School Field. Some Blues players went into hiding once Saints took the lead and that is so annoying. In the passed there have been comments where "we will learn from this", no that is not a decent answer anymore, players need to stand up and be counted not hide away and blame everything else on what's going on around them. We had 16 year old Dylan Davies starting in his first derby match today and he stood head and shoulders above some of the older boys and led by example, it's just a shame others around him couldn't be inspired, this may sound harsh but at the end of the day it's a fact and a big reality check. I'm looking for a big game from the boys now down in Llanboidy on Boxing Day and a win is vital."

10th December 2011

Crannog 1 Maesglas 3

The Blues good form continued with a very worthy three points against inform Crannog. The home side like the Maesglas having a good run of late with some good wins, but it was the home side who suffered the loss against a lively Blues side that were in control for a large percentage of the game.

The Maesglas opened up the scoring from their first attack after just 2 minutes from the kick off, a well worked goal created down the left hand side of the pitch with Llifon Howell and Chris Morgan combining, and the latter sent in a cross which was met by Aled Rees and he poked the ball into the net under great pressure from a Crannog defender.

Maesglas should have extended their lead on another two occasions when Llifon Howell hit the post from just a few yards out and Chris Morgan rather than crossing went for the goal, where there was an open goal.

But it was Howell who doubled the Blues score when he broke free from the shackles of a Crannog defender and fired with his left foot into the bottom left hand corner of the goal.

Crannog gave the away side the odd problem with Lee Davies blasting over from just a few yards out, an opportunity that may have changed the game, but as it was Maesglas went three nil up with the hard working Peter Almond who throughout the game worked so hard and his goal epitomised his desire to score, closing down Crannog defender Tom Bellotti from one side of the pitch to the other then tackling Bellotti, and seeing the keeper off his line and exquisitely chipping the shot stopper from twenty five yards. In Almonds words "the best goal I have ever scored".

Crannog were then let back into the game by a very dubious refereeing decision. The man in black and the odd fluorescent flash was Penrhyncochs Carwyn Jenkins who gave a goal that blatantly was a foul on Maesglas keeper Rhodri Jones. A corner from the right was dealt by Jones with the keeper, whilst in mid air having both hands securely on the ball, Jones was hit by forward Lee Davies, with Davies bundling Jones across the line, the whistle was blown with both sides expecting a free kick to the away side but it was awarded as a goal. A goal which would have been given many moons ago. A goal that should never have been changed the game with both sides knowing that the next goal would be important.

The break came and went and so did the ninety minutes and the score line stood at three - one.

Maesglas deserved the win and will look forward to the next game and a league cup encounter at StDogmaels next week, which should be a good game with both sides on top of their game.

3rd December 2011

J. EMRYS MORGAN CUP Round 3

Prestigne St Andrews 2 Maesglas 6

A 180 mile round trip was worth the effort after the Blues secured a fourth round tie in the Emrys Morgan Cup. Not having a full complement to pick from was a headache for the Blues gaffer Paul Hope Jones, but the lads who came into the squad did a great job.

Not knowing nothing about the opposition didn't play too much on the Blues minds, but after about ten minutes it was noticeable where the home sides weak points were and the Blues exposed these early on but without rewards, however it was Prestigne who took the lead against the run of play after a long ball from a free kick eluded most players but Prestigne striker Merv Stephens reacted quickest and nodded the ball into the net. Maesglas responded in double quick time with Peter Almond being put through and finished clinically. Maesglas were setting the tempo and time after time the Blues broke clear of the defence and Llifon Howells pace was paying dividends and he broke clear from the trailing back line and he like Almond finished in style giving the homeside keeper no chance. A goal just before the break again by Almond was nothing more than the Blues deserved, with the home side looking at sixes and sevens at times.

At the break the talk was about the next goal, it was crucial that Maesglas got the next goal and so they did when left winger Aled Rees grabbed the fourth within minutes after the interval. A Peter Almond hatrick soon followed after the striker deservedly put the Blues out of sight of the hosts.



Hatrick man Peter Almond

The Blues took their foot off the pedal and also made a couple of substitutions. The game became stale in the remaining 20 minutes, but the Blues were to add to their tally with Captain Dafydd George getting on the score sheet. But it was the hosts who were to have the final say when a penalty was awarded after a tugging of shirts in the box was spotted by the referee. Tom Hooper the Prestigne penalty taker finished his effort well.

Overall a good day at the office for the travelling Blues, and the Maesglas stroll on in the Emrys Morgan Cup last 16. Prestigne were caught out against a spirited Blues side who were well up for the game. The hosts have a great set up and hopefully one day the Blues will have something similar.



[click on Prestigne St Andrews badge for their say on the game](#)

26th November 2011

Pencader 1 Maesglas 3

Too some this was a probably a shock result, as not many teams come away from Pencader with three points in the bag, but that's exactly what the travelling Blues did after a good win on a tricky surface.

Maesglas were a bare eleven, twelve if you include the gaffer who thankfully was not needed. The Blues had to reshuffle the pack with their main centre halves out, and so captain of the day Matthew Smith slotted into the defensive role. Huw Meredith partnered young Dylan Davies in the middle of the park.

From kick off though it was the home side who pressurised the away goal and had two good chances to take the lead, but some good saves from Rhodri Jones in the Blues goal kept the Kites at bay. Maesglas started to get into the game and after 25 minutes opened up the scoring with Dylan Davies netting his first senior goal, after a cracking effort by right back Darren Davies his shot rebounding off the keeper and 16 year old Davies was on hand to tap the ball into an empty net. Young Davies' contribution throughout the afternoon was immense, especially when up against two very good young midfielders in Rhyn Wilson and ex Carmarthen Town player Jamie Horwood.

It was the Blues who now looked to take advantage but failed to increase the lead before the break.

It was an amazing first 10 minutes of the second half for the Blues when Maesglas doubled their lead with Chris Morgan scoring, after some good work from Peter Almond and Aled Rees, and within seconds Morgan added his second and sides' third goal when Maesglas were awarded a penalty after Almond was fouled in the box.

The game already seemed finished and the football became scrappy and although Pencader tried their hardest the Blues remained in control, but a couple of substitutions by manager Kevin Evans of Pencader seemed to

work and Pencader found another gear and put the Blues under pressure, the Blues were on the back foot for the last 15 minutes and the pressure began to pay off with Rhyn Wilson scoring from a near post header to bring a goal back for Pencader. Maesglas though had a couple of chances themselves with the Kites leaving gaps at the back. But at the final whistle it was the Blues who packed up their bags with the three point neatly tucked up inside.

A good team performance from the Blues against a good Pencader side on their patch is like a six pointer.

20th November 2011

Maesglas 3 Llanybydder 0

The Blues performed a workmanlike performance against a dogged Llanybydder side that were playing to their capacity, but their capacity was nowhere near the Blues power, as the homeside dominated this league one game from the offset. With the Maesglas starting eleven the same as the previous week for the first time this season there was good combinations amongst the side being created, especially the four-some of Llifon Howell, Chris Morgan, Peter Almond and Aled Rees. All four worked hard for the cause and gaining the team rewards.

After a few close efforts which Blues front man Llifon Howell may have scored a double early on it, came as no surprise when Aled Rees broke down the left after some good work from Peter Almond, Rees's first time cross found right winger Chris Morgan flying into the area and Morgan gave the Llanybydder keeper no chance. The Blues a goal up and deserving of the lead.



Chris Morgan on target

One problem the Blues have is the tenacity to get on each other backs, more through frustration and probably trying too hard and this kicked in midway through the first half, when one or two players were having a spat at one another when there was no need. At the break this problem was cured and the second half saw a bit more positives on the park. With hard work comes rewards and Aled Rees' scoring records keeps on ticking as he added another double to his tally, the first a cracking effort similar to last week where he rifled a shot with accuracy out of the keepers reach from 20 yards and the second, a combination between Rees and Morgan with Morgan repaying Rees with a copycat goal of Morgans goal in the first half. A clean sheet is an added bonus too with the defence playing well and setting up good ball for the midfielders.

Llanybydder huffed and puffed and did cause one or two moments but the home side held their own without too much pressure. Saying that next week will be a different game, away to Pencader a tough one....

13th November 2011

J Emrys Morgan Cup 2nd Round

Maesglas 6 Newtown Wanderers 2

The Blues secured a 3rd round tie of this prestigious cup with a hard worked which become a comfortable but deserved win against Montgomeryshire league division 2 side new boys Newtown Wanderers.

The Blues were unchanged apart from goal keeper Rhodri Jones and front man Llifon Howell coming back into the frame.

It was the Blues who started the game brightly with some good football and almost getting some rewards, but the breakthrough did eventually come after a good strike from Dylan Davies which was not held by the Newtown keeper and Llifon Howell followed up and tapped in the rebound.

Few moments later Aled Rees from 20 yards rifled his drive into the top corner to put the Blues 2 nil up after 20 minutes. It was then that the game became scrappy, with the game becoming a stop start affair with silly tackles and the odd dive that added to the entertainment of the Blues west bank fans, but referee Peter Wilson was not amused and soon stamped his authority on the game.

The away side soon got their journey out of their legs and started to play with a bit more desire and their rewards came with a well taken penalty with ten minutes left of the first half, after a handball in the penalty area. However Maesglas bounced back with Chris Morgan leaping like a salmon from a Dylan Davies corner and powered a fantastic header into the top corner to put the Blues 3-1 up at the interval. The start of the second half was more even, and it was the away side who took the initiative and scored from what seemed to be errors on the Blues part with keeper Jones mishandling and then a failed clearance which led to Newtown notching a goal back to make it 3-2, but the away sides legs began to tire and the fitness of the home side started to show, and with this the goals soon started to flow with Chris Morgan and Aled Rees making inroads down both flanks and adding goals to their first half tally , with Rees earning himself a well-earned first time 1st division hatrick.



Aled Rees Hatrick Hero

As for Newtown, a good side with some good players but they have their flaws, one was the system that was changed on the day where for all season it has been the same, and at times it showed and it was like square pegs in round holes with some players not knowing their positions. The Blues made hard work of this game to begin with but soon got to grips once they got into gear. A decent display by the Blues with the only gripe that there is no need to get involved with on the field antics which spoil the tempo of the game.

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5TH November 2011

Central Wales Challenge Cup 1st Round
Maesglas 3 Llanilar 4

The Blues fell a little short of winning after having put up a decent effort against 1st division Cambrian Tyres League high flyers Llanilar who battled their way into the next round with a hard fought but entertaining game.

We won't go on about the lack of players that the Blues were without as this takes the gloss off a half decent performance but for the Blues defending from the set plays had been better then Maesglas would have probably won the game, Llanilar would probably say the same too.

After a goalless but entertaining first half which saw the away side for the first 20 minutes play the better football, but Maesglas did get the game into order and were unfortunate to have two goals chalked off, with both decisions being rather harsh, both decisions involving front runner Chris Morgan, the first an offside, which from the side-lines looked a perfectly good goal and the second a shoulder to shoulder exchange between Morgan and the centre back of Llanilar which found Morgan clean through to score, however referee Chris Townsend chalked it off as a foul. Morgan had a great chance soon after as after rounding the keeper spurned his shot way off target.

Llanilar were on the back foot at times at the restart of the second half but after 20 minutes of the second half found themselves three goals up. How? You may ask, simple answer, if you don't defend set plays the goals will be conceded, Llanilar set plays were excellent, the quality of the ball caused the Blues problems, but it wasn't until after the third goal that Maesglas conceded that they got to grips with this. All of those three goals were well taken by Llanilar.

Maesglas got back into the game instantly through a headed effort from Chris Morgan, young Dylan Davies supplying the cross from a corner.

It was the homeside who were on top of the game and were creating plenty of chances and the next goal came from the hard working Peter Almond who after some good passing down the left hand side of the pitch found Almond breaking clear who neatly tucked the ball past the Llan keeper.

Game on as they say 2-3 but once again and frustratingly the homeside switching off from another quality free kick which was not cleared and again the Llanilar going onto score their fourth and crucial goal. After all the hard work the Blues had just thrown away the chance to win the game. Maesglas attitude didn't waiver though and with 6 minutes left on the watch of Townsend, centre half Darren Williams powered home a header from 6 yards, again supplied by young Dylan Davies. Maesglas were driving forward and threw everything at Llanilar with one effort bringing off a superb save from the Llanilar shot stopper.

Llanilar had learned and gained enough experience from the week prior after losing to Dewi Stars in similar fashion, going three goals up and losing, but as the clock ticked down the away side slowed the game down effectively to take the game and to go into the next round of the cup.

Maesglas can count themselves unlucky and some asked themselves "how the hell did we lose the game", simple answer is ...we have to defend better at set pieces.

Anyway next up- the Emrys Morgan cup and the visitors to Maes Radley ... Newtown Wanderers

Match Ball Sponsor Graham Parkes Agricultural Contractor



29th October 2011

Maesglas 4 Aberaeron Reserves 1

Maesglas and their visitors were the only league encounter on the day with all other clubs having cup ties, and a win by the Blues would lift them back to 4th in the table.

The win did materialise but it was as a good team effort to get back into the game after Aberaeron had started the game so well and taking a deserved lead after 13 minutes, a goal scored by Jacob Forbes. Maesglas started to find their feet after this setback and were soon level when Blues captain Dafydd George rifled a header from 6 yards from a corner, this seemed to inspire the rest of the side and Maesglas soon stamped their authority on the game with many shots on goal which were either off target or Aberaeron keeper Gareth Evans pulling off some good saves.

At the break it was tied and once the Blues got back onto the green stuff they continued to press for the next goal which eventually did come, it was a contested goal at that, a penalty awarded on Llifon Howell after he broke clear from almost halfway and then being brought down on the tightest of edges of the goal area, referee Eirian Morgan, who had a very good game had no hesitation and pointed to the spot with a few Aber players insisting it was outside the area. However the decision had been made and Chris Morgan placed his penalty with good accuracy to put the Blues deservedly ahead.

Maesglas quickly added a third when Aled Rees got on the end of rebound, after Llifon Howells good run and shot came back off the keeper and from just a few yards Rees took the chance.

Howells was brought off along with Richard Evans and Aled Rees and were replaced with Marc James, Joe Hall and a first team appearance for John Williams, all 3 made an impact and no more so than Joe Hall who, with his pace may have scored more than the one he did, his goal putting Maesglas out of sight of Aberaeron.

The visitors after such a good and confident start wilted as the game went on, the only times they caused the Blues problems is from either set plays or when Jacob Forbes had the ball, his work rate and good runs caused the home side some headaches throughout the afternoon.

A good performance and an encouraging display after two good wins on the bounce, with the Blues playing some attractive football and what's good to see is the youngsters making an impact especially 16 year old Dylan Davies who started the game in the heart of midfield and performed beyond his age.

A big thank you to our match ball sponsor:
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23rd October 2011 League Cup 1st Round

Llanybydder 0 Maesglas 1

Maesglas secured their passage into the second of the League Cup with a comfortable win over Llanybydder. With Maesglas almost at full strength it was about getting the football right and shaking off the poor performance from the previous week by some players, and if this was then the game plan would win the game for the Blues.

The game was mainly one way traffic with Maesglas dominating a good 90% of the game, the score line suggests a tight game but the reality of it all was that Maesglas looked comfortable and in total control. The times the away side kept the ball for long periods was like a training session and the home sides' body language looked as if they knew that they were a beaten outfit as soon as Maesglas scored the first goal which was the winning goal at the end. A good goal which was worked from the back and good passing from Aled Rees and Llifon Howell set up Peter Almond who side footed the ball into the net from 8 yards out.

Maesglas dominated the possession and if not for some over playing the goals scored should have read a couple more. Llanybydder fought their way back into the second half but some good defending from the back line secured a clean sheet and a passage through into the second round against either Aberaeron or Stdogmaels.



Peter Almond scored the goal for the Blues to secure a passage into the 2nd round of the League Cup

16th October 2011

Lampeter 3 Maesglas 0

Maesglas travelled to Lampeter with once again a weakened outfit, and with Lampeter looking to be at full strength it did not bode well for the away side. After 90 minutes of football it was the home side who contributed the more and obviously deserving the 3 points. Maesglas were a side looking for somebody in their own ranks to ignite the team into action, this did not happen and although having the more shots at goal but with the home side keeper not troubled it was a dismal performance to say the least.

Maesglas huffed and puffed but falling short by some distance and going into the break 3 goals down it was going to be a huge task to get back into the game. What was concerning to the watchful eye was some of the Blues players going hiding/missing/feeling sorry for themselves, this getting to the point where they did not want the ball. Lampeter are not the best side in the league and on paper this was nowhere near as strong of Lampeter sides in the past but Maesglas made their job far too easily with the 3 goals. Turning up and thinking it was going to be a walkover is also the wrong attitude and some players thought that this was the case. To have any chance to get back into this league race now will be a huge task, but history shows that it's been done but players need to wise up and stop feeling sorry for themselves or not bother turning up. The Llanybydder cup game next week needs to be a win.

Any positives from the game, yes, good to see Darren Williams and Llifon Howell back in the limelight and good performances from youngsters Joe Hall and Dylan Davies and also Mark James giving his all. The negatives, we won't talk about them to save embarrassment, but they know who they are....



1st October 2011

Maesglas 2 New Quay 3

Maesglas were nowhere near full strength with 5 of the main players missing for this important clash, however the makeshift side put in a good stint and almost upset the league leaders, New Quay are top for a good reason and that's their main player Jamie Thompson who has a free roll and pulls all the strings, without him who knows how the Quay would perform, but for long periods the game was nip and tuck and for good spells throughout the game the Blues were on top.

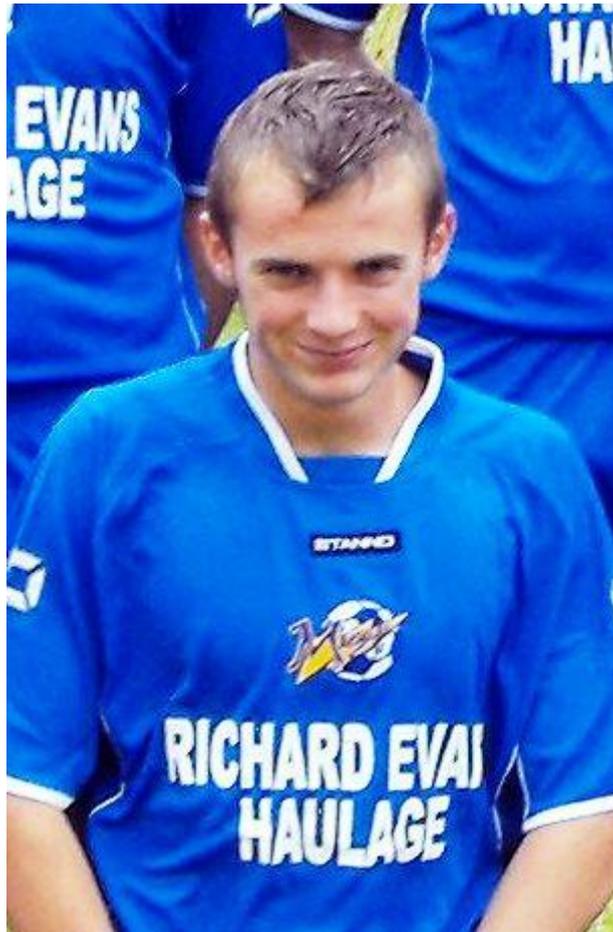
However it was the away side that went ahead from a corner, poor marking let in Charlie Dent who headed home from close range. Maesglas bounced back in style with Aled Rees earning a good finish after beating 3 defenders and placing the ball past the experienced Simon Church.

All level at the break and all to play for, New Quay put the pressure on in the opening minutes and seemed to be taking the game to the Blues but the home side held their own until that man Thompson found himself a space to break through and as he entered the penalty area a tackle came in from Blues' Mark James who was adjudged to have taken Thompson out, the dramatic dive from Thompson didn't help matters, referee and ex new Quay player Aled Jones awarded the penalty and Thompson scored from the spot. Maesglas were on the back foot as New Quay turned the screw and from a dubious free kick from the half way the ball not cleared found Quays Wyn Morgan who took the goal well.

Maesglas fought back and put the away side under some pressure and the pressure paid off after Phil Furney tackled a Quay player some 20 yards out and Furney only had keeper Church to beat and he squeezed the ball past the experienced custodian.

Maesglas had a couple of chances as the clock ticked down but unfortunately didn't take the chances.

Maesglas can hold their heads high after giving a good account of themselves against a good Quay side that are beatable, question is if the Blues had had a full side what would have happened? Plus points for the Blues, young Dylan Davies the 16 year old showing that he can handle the big games and Darren Davies who performed very well at right back and Matthew Smith playing at centre half which looked naturally to him.



young Dylan Davies performed well.
Thanks to Mark Gilbert from Sound Logic for being the
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24th September 2011

Llanon 3 Maesglas 1

Maesglas came off the Llanon playing surface scratching their heads on how they lost this game after dominating possession but failing to win the game. The easy answer to this is “the ball has to go into the net” quite simple really but for the Blues the quality of finishing was absolutely shocking.

As for Llanon well Maesglas helped to make their 3 out of 4 contributions count, and an easy task too, the first goal was the Blues giving the home side a penalty the second the Blues switched off after giving a free kick away and the third was failing to close down and from 20 yards the Llanon player chipped the Blues keeper, as for the Blues keeper Rhodri Jones had rarely any part to play in the game, it really was a shock to the Blues losing this game.

All the home side goals came in the second period too and all came in an 8 minute spell just after the break. Maesglas dominated the game but their failure to take the chances really hit home when the final whistle blew, hitting crossbars, almost open goals, 1 v 1 with keeper, Maesglas could play until next weekend without

being able to score the goals that were needed to win this cup tie. We did add the one goal to towards the end of the game through Phil Furney.

One or two blamed the 3-4-3 system, which was easy to laugh off, as the domination of the game showed. The hard lesson is the lack of ability and composure to pass the ball and use it wisely and players playing as individuals doesn't help the cause a harsh but true criticism but worse than that it's about putting the ball in the back of the net, trying to break the net from 6 yards out with only keeper to beat and then blasting it wayward just doesn't make sense. A hard and damning verdict on this game but a true reflection.

As for Llanon, they fought and won the game, they took their chances and we didn't, and they played like a team, lessons we have to learn from otherwise the New Quay game is going to be a difficult one next week.



17th September 2011

Aberaeron Reserves 0 Maesglas 4

A somewhat polished performance by the Blues, especially in the first half saw the away side gain a well-earned three points and moves the Maesglas into third spot in the table.

Aberaeron rarely troubled the Blues throughout the game and defensively Maesglas held firm to a clean sheet, the second game on a spin.

Maesglas were far from full strength with midfielders Matthew Smith and Huw Meredith missing the trip, but the new centre midfield partnership on the day of skipper Dafydd George and Chris Morgan worked well. Maesglas opened up the scoring early on with Darren Davies latching on to an exquisite through ball from Dafydd George, and Davies rounding the keeper for an easy finish. Soon after George himself got on the score sheet with a penetrating run from half way and finding himself 1 v 1 with the keeper, and in similar fashion to the Davies goal took the ball around the keeper and again finished in style. Maesglas were cruising at this point and could have scored a couple more, but in the last few minutes of the opening half Peter Almond made Aberaeron pay after a mistake on their part, Almond rifling a shot from eighteen yards into the bottom corner. After the break Aberaeron upped their game and to be fair to the homeside they gave a good account of themselves but when Chris Morgan broke down the left and to the by line he cut the ball back to striker Phil Furney and Furney finished with a well taken goal. The game was done and dusted as far as the Blues were concerned. It was good to see the old and the new too with Chris Hope Jones coming off the bench along with 16 year old Matthew Roach, both showing their qualities. Overall a "professional performance" as some would say.



Matthew Roach



Saturday 10th September 2011

Maesglas 4 Cardigan Town 0

There has been a lot said recently about the demise of Cardigan Town and against Pencader last week it clearly was a warning that Town may have a long season ahead of them. Against the Blues they had a strong side on paper which included Kevin Morgan. Maesglas were without 3 regulars too, Aled Rees, Dai Cole and club captain Dafydd George.

But the Blues were fired up for this one and from the off they were the side in charge, playing some good football and causing Town all sorts of problems, but it took 25 minutes before the Blues got the opener, Huw Meredith nipping in from close range after a driven shot from Rhys Davies rebounded to Meredith. Just before this goal however Town could have opened the scoring, a mix up in the Blues defence from a corner found Sam Hall but his shot was saved from Blues keeper and vice-captain Rhodri Jones. Maesglas dominated proceedings from the goal until the break but there one more goal to add just before the break when left winger Chris Morgan got on the end of a through ball and his shot had too much power for Steve Smith the town keeper.

Maesglas were rarely troubled and it seemed only Towns Kevin Morgan had any appetite for the game, and when Blues striker Peter Almond fired the third from 20 yards the contest was over, and a few moment later Darren J Williams added the fourth, a great header from a corner, with Williams totally unmarked. After this the game resembled a training match for both sides with Maesglas wasting further chances.

The Blues for the first time this season showed what they are capable of and it was good to see the football being played was a standard that had been lacking in the opening games of the season. Town on the other hand need to dig deep, no point reflecting on players that have left to other clubs, the Blues have suffered in the past with this problem and managed to keep the ship afloat.

Blues face a tricky game next Saturday away to Aberaeron.

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Saturday 3rd September 2011

Aberporth 2 Maesglas 3

Who ever said there's no easy games anymore is spot on, Maesglas were full of confidence before kicking a ball and were so over confident they gave Aberporth a two goal lead.....wait a minute, lets rewind here No... Maesglas at times were played off the park in the first half and hardly troubled the home side goal, and the young Aberporth deserved the two goal advantage after the Blues showed a total lack of urgency and possibly respect towards their opposition.

Maesglas have plenty of talent in their ranks but at the moment don't seem to be developing as a team like they should, against Aberporth they had no tempo, no urgency in the game, and lethargic is another word we can use.

However, the Blues gaffer Paul Hope had seen enough and with time running out, changed the system to a 3-4-3 and employed Huw Meredith, Chris Morgan and Richard "Charlie" Evans off the bench, and it soon paid dividends, all of a sudden there was spark to the performance, an urgency that had not been there for the first eighty minutes and with 10 minutes remaining the Blues front running "Birthday Boy" Phil Furney broke through to gain a goal back, and with the Aberporth side dropping deeper and having problems with the new system against them, a through ball by Peter Almond found Rhys Davies in the box, but Davies was upended and referee Peter Wilson had no hesitation but to award the penalty, Chris Morgan fired confidently the penalty home to draw the game all level.

There was a point in the game where Aberporth should have gone three nil up when just after the introduction of the Blues trio, a back pass to Blues keeper Rhodri Jones resulted in a miss control and Aberporth's Rhys Prouse with an open goal put his effort over the bar.

With just three minutes left on the clock it was all Maesglas and a mix up in the Airmen penalty area resulted in a poor clearance and with home keeper Ryan banks caught out of position it was an easy task for Morgan to add his second, the team's third, and all three points.

The Blues had got out of jail against a team full of spirit who fought tooth and nail for one another, lacking experience and naivety was the their downfall and a more experienced side would have won this game. Maesglas have shown the character and belief they have within the side in the last two games, the team has trailed and fought back well. Problem is, Maesglas cannot afford to keep doing this.



Tuesday 30th August 2011

StDogmaels 3 Maesglas 3

This was a pulsating game and a headache for both gaffers and as it turned out after twenty minutes of the first half it looked as if there was only going to be one winner. Saints kicking up the slope had a spell where everything they did turned to gold as they dominated; banging 3 goals in twenty minutes and this seemed to be draining the Blues of all confidence. But a lifeline not long before the break where a route one ball eluded the Saints centre half partnership and Dai Cole skipped through to place the ball past Saints keeper Casey Walters. This is what the away side needed, a kick up the proverbial arse, and within minutes Matthew Smith added a second from close range to end the first half with the Blues on top.

The game had its niggles too with stop start free kicks from both sides, where this wasn't helped by some decisions from man in the middle Eirian Morgan.

The second period was to be a cagey one where both sides were aware that the next goal would be crucial, and with Maesglas conceding many free kicks there was always a chance that the Blues were going to concede. But as it went on the Blues gained a little momentum midway through the second half and from a corner from Rhys Davies, Dafydd George snatched the equaliser, again from close range after a defensive slip up at the near post.

Saints rallied and came back fighting and had 2 opportunities cancelled out, the first Blues keeper Rhods Jones was fouled from a corner and another effort was cleared off the line with some suggesting it had crossed, but referee Morgan gave neither. Maesglas almost snatched a winner at the death when Aled Rees broke free from the halfway line and with just keeper Walters to beat, Rees hit the upright. A game which had both gaffers frustrated, but Maesglas can be happy with the point after seemingly looking dead and buried, and as did Saints last week at Llanboidy showed bottle and character to fight their way back.

click on link to see Saints Report..

www.clubwebsite.co.uk/stdogmaels/81127/Matches/report/3091654

Tuesday 23rd August 2011

Maesglas 1 Crannog 2

Maesglas kicked off the season with a loss at Maes Radley, going down 2 goals to 1 down after taking an early lead from a Dai Cole free kick that eluded keeper Ryan Beechey in the Crannog goal. The Blues seemed to have the upper hand throughout the first half going close but failing to capitalise on the chances, but the longer the game went on the more Crannog came into the match. The last ten minutes of the first half the away side were edging closer to an equaliser.

Maesglas at the break had the lead and in a way it was not dissimilar to the first half but when Maesglas broke away 10 minutes inn, Darren Davies was clearly fouled by Dylan Evans on the half way line but referee Peter Wilson turned a blind eye, and from this Crannog broke away and were awarded a free kick for a similar offence some 20 yards out. Crannogs Huw Reed took advantage and put the free kick into the top corner. A goal the away side deserved.

Maesglas were being frustrated with many aspects of the game and were being continually penalised by the man in black one quote from the touchline was "he seems to have more whistles than a rave".

Crannog then claimed what was to be the winner, after a corner, the ball was poorly cleared straight to Crannogs Joss Jones who could not miss from 6 yards out. Maesglas dug deep and had a few chances one of

which hit the crossbar but no Blues player close enough on the follow up. Crannog defended like their lives depended on it and held on for a memorable win.

A frustrating game for Maesglas who found the game a stop start affair with many needless fouls being committed, and the slowing of the game certainly suited the Crannog side.

Maesglas put some good passages of football together but were hurt by some poor decisions, Crannog however possibly deserved the win through the hard work they put into the whole 90 minutes. Maesglas can say its early days for everyone and we can only hope that things improve.

Thanks to David Evans & Sons, Pendre, Cardigan for the Match Ball Sponsorship.

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