



**WILLAND  
ROVERS FC**

**WHITE SHIRTS, DARK BLUE  
SHORTS, DARK BLUE SOCKS**



**LARKHALL  
ATHLETIC FC**

**RED SHIRTS, BLACK SHORTS, RED  
SOCKS**



Welcome to Silver Street  
the home of  
**Willand Rovers FC**

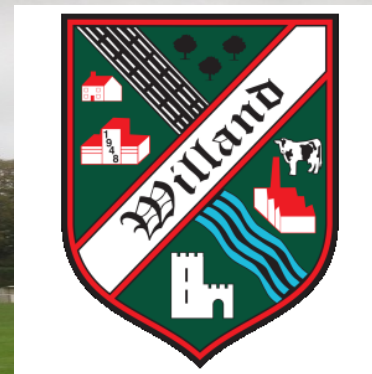
Mike Searle					SHAUN SEMMENS					
Josh Searle					JAIDEN SAVERY					
Ryan Guppy					DAN RESTORICK					
Will Richards					JACK CAMM					
Adam Hill					MIKE BAKER ©					
Rob Norrish					TOM WARREN					
Joe Curtis ©					JOE TUMELTY					
Louis Morrison					DALE EVANS					
David Steele					ALEX LAMBERT					
Brett Worbey					LEWIS POWELL					
Douglas Camilo					THOMAS HILLMAN					
Callum Hall					GERAINT BATER					
Ben Bickle					WAYNE NDEREMANI					
Dean Stamp					JACK DANCEY					
Craig Veal					CHARLIE WILES-RICHARDS					
Pat O'Hallaran					NEIL ARNDALE					
Joe Wylie										
Aidan Moyle										

#### **TODAYS OFFICIALS**

**RUSSELL JEE    M    PHIL BATER**  
**DAVID STEELE    A    NEIL ARNDALE**  
**NEIL GREENING    P    ELISE DENNER**  
**WARREN KILLEN    C    ROB YORK**

**REFEREE**  
**DEVON CAMPBELL**

**ASSISTANT'S**  
**STEVEN REED**  
**KEVIN LEWIS**



**Saturday 1st February 2020**  
**Willand Rovers FC v Larkhall Athletic FC**  
**Kick Off 15:00**

**SPONSORED BY**

**BETVICTOR** | **SOUTHERN LEAGUE**

## TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR

WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME AND  
THANK TODAY'S SPONSOR'S

MARSTON'S BREWERY



KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
Drink LOTS OF  
BEER

FOOTBALL FIXTURES					
Date	KO	Home Team	Score	Away Team	Competition

25 Jan 2020		Willand Rovers		Frome Town	Division One South
29 Jan 2020		Willand Rovers		Cirencester Town	Division One South
01 Feb 2020		Willand Rovers		Larkhall Athletic	Division One South
08 Feb 2020		Sholing		Willand Rovers	Division One South
15 Feb 2020		Willand Rovers		Evesham United	Division One South
18 Feb 2020		Paulton Rovers		Willand Rovers	Division One South
22 Feb 2020		Cirencester Town		Willand Rovers	Division One South
29 Feb 2020		Willand Rovers		Paulton Rovers	Division One South
07 Mar 2020		Basingstoke Town		Willand Rovers	Division One South
14 Mar 2020		Willand Rovers		Slimbridge	Division One South
21 Mar 2020		Moneyfields		Willand Rovers	Division One South
28 Mar 2020		Highworth Town		Willand Rovers	Division One South
04 Apr 2020		Willand Rovers		AFC Totton	Division One South
11 Apr 2020		Melksham Town		Willand Rovers	Division One South
13 Apr 2020		Willand Rovers		Bristol Manor Farm	Division One South
18 Apr 2020		Willand Rovers		Winchester City	Division One South
25 Apr 2020		Cinderford Town		Willand Rovers	Division One South





**mitre**   
THE FOOTBALL SPECIALIST



**IMPEL**  
TRAINING RANGE

**DELTA**  
PROFESSIONAL RANGE

**ULTIMATCH**  
MATCH RANGE

[mitre.com](http://mitre.com)

[www.fwpgroup.co.uk](http://www.fwpgroup.co.uk)

**fwp**

Stadium Development Specialists



> Mill Farm, AFC Fylde

architecture • project management • structural engineering • interior design  
building surveying • m&e design • quantity surveying • cdm consultancy





# WILLAND ROVERS

Silver Street, Willand, Devon, EX15 2RG  
**Telephone:** 01884 33885  
**Midweek fixture day:** Wednesday, 7.30pm  
**Nickname:** Rovers **County FA:** Devon

<b>FA Charter Status:</b> Standard Club	<b>Joined League:</b> 2019
<b>Website:</b> www.willandrovers.co.uk	<b>Twitter:</b> @WillandRovers
<b>Facebook:</b> n/a	
<b>Instagram:</b> n/a	
<b>Shirt Sponsor:</b> Stan Robinson	<b>Pitch type:</b> Grass
<b>Pitch dimensions:</b> 105 x 64 yards	
<b>Ground capacity:</b> 1500	<b>Covered seats:</b> 102

**Chairman**  
Mike Mitchell, Little Holme, Crowbridge, Cullompton,  
EX15 1QZ  
**Mobile:** 07564 955967  
**Email:** jennymitchell389@hotmail.com

**Media Officer**  
Warren Kileen, 12 Meadow View, Uffculme, Devon,  
EX15 2SS  
**Mobile:** 07802 195072  
**Email:** wazza01uk@gmail.com

**Football Secretary**  
Dom Clark, Braddons Barn, Muxbere Lane, Willand,  
Devon, EX15 2JH  
**Home:** 01884 821781 **Mobile:** 07546 561212  
**Work:** 01392 356796  
**Email:** domclarkwillandrovers@gmail.com

**Press Officer**  
As Media Officer

**Fixtures Secretary**  
As Football Secretary

**First Team Manager**  
Russ Jee  
**Mobile:** 07970 341997

**Finance Director/Treasurer**  
Catherine Dinner, 6 Siskin Close, Cullompton,  
Devon, EX15 1UD  
**Mobile:** 07775 550436  
**Email:** catherine.cork895@gmail.com

**Therapist**  
Neil Greening  
**Mobile:** 07788 265982

**Programme Editor**  
Tracey Greening, 28 Oak Crescent, Willand, Devon,  
EX15 2SS  
**Mobile:** 07515 667498  
**Email:** traceyfoster26@hotmail.com

**Directors/Committee Members**  
Richard Barrs (Committee), Dom Clark (Football  
Secretary), David Cork (Committee), Cath Dinner  
(Treasurer), Simon Dinner (Committee), Tracey  
Greening (Secretary), Mike Hawkins (Committee),  
Graham Mitchell (Committee), Mike Mitchell  
(Chairman), Peter Ward (President), Tony Williams  
(Vice Chairman)

**Club Safety Officer**  
Mike Hawkins, 2 Worcester Crescent, Willand,  
Devon, EX15 3TA  
**Mobile:** 07870 727120  
**Email:** mjh@mjhps.co.uk

**Directions**  
Leave M5 South at junction 27 and turn left  
signposted Wellington, Willand. Go past the  
Waterloo Cross Public House and turn right at the  
roundabout, signposted Willand B3181. Follow this  
road for 2 miles and you will come to a roundabout.  
Continue straight across and the ground is 182 mile  
on your left hand side.

**Nearest Railway Station**  
Tiverton Parkway, 4 miles

<b>Home Colours</b> White shirts Dark blue shorts Dark blue socks	<b>Third Choice Colours</b> n/a n/a n/a		
<b>Change Colours</b> Purple shirts Purple shorts Purple socks	<b>Goalkeeper Colours</b> Sky blue shirt Blue shorts Blue socks		

20

**Willand Rovers Football Club is a Members Club. All positions below are elected annually by members of the club at the Annual General Meeting which is held in August of each year as per club rules.**

**Chairman:** Mike Mitchell  
**President:** Peter Ward  
**Vice President:** Tony Williams  
**Treasurer:** Catherine Dinner  
**Football Secretary:** Dominic Clark  
**Secretary:** Catherine Dinner  
**Members:** Simon Dinner, Richard Barrs, David Cork, Graham Mitchell, Mike Hawkins, Neil Stone. Andy Barnard, Tracey Greening, Mel Barrs.

**Jack Dancey** (23) Midfield. Jack is a versatile defender/midfielder whose last club was Whitley Bay. He has also featured for English Colleges and Durham University.

**Dale Evans** (32) Midfield. Dale is a very experienced and sought after central midfielder who signed in 2019 from Paulton Rovers. Other previous clubs include Mangotsfield Utd, Taunton Town, Yate Town, Cinderford Town and Newport County. *Sponsored by Larkhall Athletic Supporters' Club*

**Harry Hope** (25). Midfield/forward. A new signing in the 2018-19 season, Harry is an attacking midfielder, strong in possession, who can play as a centre-forward or on the wing. Previous clubs include Cardiff Met University and Nailsea United.

**Alex Lambert** (28) Midfield. A fast and strong left-sided winger, Alex joined the Larks in 2016 from Brislington where he featured in the side that reached the FA Cup 1st round. Previous clubs also include Mangotsfield United and Yate Town. Second top scorer in the 2017-18 season.

**Thomas Hillman** (19) Forward. Our most recent signing, Tom is a tricky striker who began his career at Newport County before moving to Mangotsfield Utd.

**Mitchell Page** (31) Centre-forward. A powerful presence in our front line, Mitchell is a very experienced Southern League forward. His previous clubs include Weston-super-Mare, Frome Town, Mangotsfield United, Paulton, and Yate Town.

**Brad Norris** (25) Striker. Hard-working forward Brad returned to the Larks in 2019 after spells at Bath City, Melksham and Frome Town.

**Lewis Powell** (32) Striker. Lewis is a proven goal-scorer. After starting his career at Bristol Rovers he also played for Mangotsfield, Taunton Town, Chippenham Town, Weston-super-Mare and Evesham United. Larks' Golden Boot winner in 2018-19. *Sponsored by Larkhall Athletic Supporters' Club*

**Joe Tumelty** (24) Forward. Winner of two Larks' Supporters' Player of the Year awards, Joe returns for his third spell with the Larks. A classy attacker who can score from any angle. Previous clubs include Hereford, Frome Town, Evesham United and Bristol Manor Farm.

**Charlie Wiles-Richards** (18) Striker. Having impressed pre-season, energetic forward Charlie has signed from the Bath City Academy. His dad Shaun played for the Larks for many years.

## LARKHALL ATHLETIC PLAYER PROFILES, 2019-20

**Shaun Semmens** (28) Goalkeeper. An athletic shot-stopper, Shaun signed in January 2017 from Mangotsfield United, having started his career playing for Godolphin Atlantic in Cornwall. He was awarded man of the match twice in his first 5 games for the Larks.

**Mike Baker** (26) Defender; club captain. A left-sided centre-half with a big presence, Mike transferred to the Larks from Yate Town in 2017. A schoolboy at Bristol Rovers, his other previous clubs include Mangotsfield United and Odd Down.

**Josh Jones** (24) Defender. An imposing and consistent centre-half, Josh signed for the Larks from Mangotsfield in 2017. He has also played for Clevedon and Cribbs.

**Wayne Nderemani** (20). Defender/wing back. Wayne is a 2018 signing for the Larks, an exciting, tenacious and lively full-back who can also play as a winger. He joined the Larks from the Bath City Academy. *Sponsored by Anthony Waterhouse, Kathy Jordan & Catriona Glen*

**Dan Restorick** – (20) Defender/midfield. Dan is a product of the Larkhall u18s side who scored on his first team debut in 2016 and had had a very successful spell in New Zealand last season. He can play at defence or in midfield. *Sponsored by Larkhall Athletic Supporters' Club*

**Jaiden Savery** (23) Defender. An unflappable and consistent full-back, Jaiden has come through the Larks' u-18s and Reserves sides and joins the first team on a dual reg basis with Odd Down.

**Tom Warren** (31) Defender. A very experienced centre-half, Tom signed from Melksham in November 2019. He was at Mangotsfield for a number of years and has also played for Yate Town.

**Geraint Bater** (39) Midfielder. Bates is a central midfielder with a fine pedigree who started out at Bristol Rovers and has also played for Newport County as well as a number of Southern League sides. He became the Larks' assistant manager in November 2015, and was first team manager from October 2016-January 2017.

**Matt Britton** (24) Midfield. Ginge is a robust presence at the heart of the midfield who can also fill in at central defence. He joined the Larks from Western League side Cadbury Heath in 2017. He was our joint second top scorer in his first season.

**Jack Camm** (27) Midfield. Busy and versatile midfielder Jack makes a welcome return after a few years' absence. He has also played for Yate Town and Cinderford.



**NELLIE  
GREENING**  
Physio

**DAVID  
STEELE**  
Asst Manager

**RUSSELL  
JEE**  
Manager

**WARREN  
KILLEN**  
Coach



Follow us on Twitter

**@willandrovers**



# Club History

## Rovers from humble origins to today!

**Football has been played in Willand for well over 100 years and the first match reports exist from November 1907, when Willand Association Football Club was under the chairmanship of Dr Henry Tracey of the Gables and played their home games at the Pavilion Ground, being the field opposite the Halfway House.**

**The football club was still going strong by the years of the Second World War, when it was known as Willand Wanderers FC. However, a spell in the financial doldrums left Wanderers going out of business and out of the ashes rose Willand Rovers.**

**There were two members from the football club on the committee of Willand United Services Club formed in 1942 to organize wartime social events.**

**During the 2nd World War and for a period of time after wards, the club played home games in Henry Eveleigh's field which is the land that, these days, is opposite the chip shop in Station Road, Willand.**

**It was in the early 1950's that the club made the switch to its present home, Silver Street, now known as the Stan Robinson Stadium in deference to its main sponsor, Stan Robinson Transport. In 1972 Willand started the season there against near neighbor's Tiverton Town in the Premier Division of the Devon and Exeter League. Interestingly enough, the K. O. was scheduled for 3.15. (To allow the crowds time to enter?) This season saw the first programme produced for match days with 40% of the proceeds on sales going to a prize draw. It also saw the introduction of a refreshment caravan. Whilst it is not clear what was sold from the caravan, the programme advertisers included current programme advertisers, Willand Service Station and Cafe and Spearing's Coaches, past stand sponsors, Lloyd Maunder, now 2 Sisters food group and the long departed Railway Inn at the original Tiverton Junction station.**

**For the opening match of 1972-3, the two teams included any number of well-known local football names including, for Willand Rovers, Kenny Freeman and current club chairman, Mike Mitchell whilst Tiverton Town included Colin Campion, a relative of Dave Campion who was to go on and become Secretary of the club in early 21st century, along with Nick Seatherton, whose relative, Mark, was one of the stars of the Rovers Devon County League side in the 90's.**

**LEGEND SAYS.....**

In 2014 the club celebrated its centenary year with gusto. Performances on the field provided an appropriate backdrop, the first-team manager was selected as manager of the year by the Western League, we were treated to a marvellous reception in the Guildhall Bath hosted jointly by the Mayor of Bath and the Chairman of BANES Council, and returned to the Guildhall for a Centenary Dinner in September 2014.

On the pitch the first team have a long list of honours, including: the Somerset Senior Cup in seasons in 1975-76 and 2003-04, the Western League First Division Championship in 1988-89 and 2008-09, the Western League Premier Division Championship in 2010-11 and the Western League double - Premier Division Championship and Les Phillips Cup – in 2013-14. The Larks reached the last 16 of the FA Vase three seasons in succession; in 2012-13 and 2013-14 we lost to the eventual finalists of the competition. In 2014 we gained promotion to the Southern League. Our first season was a huge success and we reached the play-off final where we narrowly lost out 3-2 to Stratford Town. We also enjoyed a wonderful FA Cup campaign defeating Merthyr Town and Truro City away before losing in a replay with Gosport Borough from the FA Conference.

In 2015-16 the first team finished the season in the top half of the Southern League Division 1 South and West table, had another fine FA Cup run including taking Conference side Havant and Waterlooville to a replay, and reached the final of the Somerset FA Premier Cup for the first time in club history. Elsewhere, the Reserves just missed out on promotion to the Premier Division of the Somerset County Football League and the Ladies team capped a successful league season by retaining the Somerset FA Senior Cup for a second consecutive year.

In 2008 Larkhall Sports Club was recognised as the BANES Club of the Year by the Chairman of BANES Council. In December 2011 we were selected by our local paper, the *Bath Chronicle*, as the local sports team of the year; quite an honour given the richness of the local competition. In 2011, two of the club's longest serving officials were recognised by the Somerset County FA, receiving the award of Somerset County FA Volunteer of the Year and a Somerset County FA Long Service Award. In 2012 the Somerset FA added Clive Burge to our hall of fame by recognising his 'Outstanding Contribution to Community Football'. In 2014 the club was once again selected by the local paper for an award, this time as Senior Team of the Year. In July 2015 we were honoured to receive FA Charter Standard Community Club of the year award from the Somerset FA. In 2017-18 we made it to the semi-final of the League Challenge Cup.

This season we are looking to build on the success and enjoyment of our first five seasons in the Southern League while recognising the very stern challenge that this will present. We offer to all of our visitors a very warm welcome at the Securitas Stadium, probably the prettiest ground in the country.

Details of all sections can be found through the club's web-site: <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/larkhallathleticfc/>. We are also on Twitter: @larkhalla1fc (first team); @larkhallALFC (Ladies); @LarkhallYouthFC (Youth Section).

## **LARKHALL ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB – A BRIEF HISTORY**

Larkhall Athletic Football Club dates from 1914. In 1951 the club regained access to its home at Plain Ham after it had been turned over to allotments during WWII. Since then, it has gone from strength to strength, achieving the status in 2004 as a Premier Club and in 2008 as an FA Charter Standard Community Club, the first club to achieve this recognition in Bath. This status was renewed in 2011 and 2014.

Initially the club rented the Plain Ham match by match. It offered a sloping pitch, a timber hut for changing and a single tin bath for washing, a nearby standpipe providing the water source. In 1962 a cricket team was formed and the club became Larkhall Sports Club. Around the same time the then Bath City Council granted the club a long lease on the ground at Plain Ham. A small club house was erected in 1965.

In 1975 the main football pitch at Plain Ham was levelled to create a pitch suitable for senior football. In 1983 the club house and changing rooms were doubled in size and in 1989 the club purchased adjoining land at Pow's Field which today is used by the Youth Section and the Sunday Veterans team.

In 1996, aided by a Lottery Grant, the club further extended and improved its club house. In 2004 Plain Ham was re-levelled, drainage improved and floodlights installed, all with the help of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund. At the same time the car park was extended and new floodlights installed on the training area. In 2005, with tremendous financial support from the local community and members past and present, the club completed the purchase of Plain Ham from the Bath and North East Somerset Local Authority.

In 2010 the battle with drainage of Plain Ham was once again a priority and in 2011 the hard standing was further extended to completely surround the pitch. At the same time new protective fencing was installed in the bottom corner of the pitch, new safety rails were constructed in front of the stand, pitch side rails and posts were refurbished, a turnstile was created at the entrance and new lighting was connected. To address ongoing drainage problems the pitch was gravel banded from across the pitch. Funding from the Football Stadia Improvement Fund helped towards this work.

To meet FA grading requirements, applications for funding to Sport England and Football Stadia Improvement Fund were successful, securing 50% of the cost of the project to construct new changing rooms and to extend and update the clubhouse to provide improved hospitality facilities for spectators and visiting officials. Work started in December 2012 and the formal opening of the new facilities was celebrated with guest of honour the Mayor of Bath, Councillor Malcolm Lees, in August 2013.

In late 2013, inspired by recent developments on and off the field, friends of the club contributed to more facility improvements that had been identified in order to satisfy Grade E of the FA Grading requirements, including additional seats, more covered standing, improved turnstiles and new outside toilets. This work was completed to enable the club to accept promotion in our double winning centenary year. Further facility improvements, including a new ground boundary fence, pitch perimeter infill and a medical room have enabled us to satisfy the Grade D requirements. Half of the funding for this work came from the Football Stadia Improvement Fund.

**Legend has it that the current grandstand was built with timber from the then village hall, which also had to make way for the motorway. Despite the stand, disaster followed in 1985 when the Devon and Exeter League ruled that the club did not have adequate facilities to continue to play in the Premier Division and demoted the club to its senior leagues and the reserves went to play in the North Devon League.**

**Looking at the club and its facilities now, one has to admire the quick and positive way the club fought back from this moment of adversity. As a measure of the progress the club made at that time, inspired by current President and former player and club manager, Peter Ward, "The Rovers" not only got back into the Premier Division of The Devon and Exeter League, it then became one of the founder members of the new Devon County League when it was set up in time for the start of the 1992-3 season.**

**Rovers hosted their first ever County league match, and Bert Millichip, then the Chairman of the Football Association, was in attendance to witness history being made for the village side.**

**The manager at that time was Mike Howe, a well-known local former player with both Tiverton Town and Elmore and further proof that "The Rovers" were on their way.**

## **THE CLIVE JONES REIGN.....**

**Under current manager Clive Jones, the club's rise continued with the County League being won in 1998-9 and again in 2000-1 followed by promotion to the Western League Division One and in season 2004-5, promotion as champions to the Premier Division of the same league.**

**Success like this on the pitch can only come with hard work and dedication going hand in hand off the pitch and the club has been blessed with a series of loyal and unpaid servants such as the already mentioned Peter Ward, Dave Campion and Mike Mitchell plus such people as Andy Jarrett, who served for 22 years as Secretary. There are many, in the past and in the present, who have, and do, work tirelessly for the club. The clubhouse, post and rail pitch surround and floodlights have all been put in place by the club members. In 2013 in his last game for the Club Clive led his men to a 1 nil victory over Hallen in the Les Phillips Cup Final.**

## **ROVERS CLIMBING THE FOOTBAL PYRAMID.....**

**Willand's standing in non-league football climbed to new heights in the last few seasons as they lifted the Les Phillips Cup in 2006/07 beating Welton Rovers in the final, after finishing runners-up to Corsham Town the previous year. Their then highest ever league position also followed in 2007/08 with a fantastic third place spot and that was bettered in a magical 2009/10 season that saw Rovers finish second only to Champions Bideford whilst they also reached the Fifth Round of the FA vase. In 2015-2016 after marathon 7 games were knocked out by Gosport Borough of the Conference South in the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup, just round away from playing in the competition proper.**

**At the end of the 2013 season long time manager Clive Jones stood down and was replaced by young duo Scott Rogers and Russell Jee. As they learnt their trade the club finished a respectful 8<sup>th</sup> last year in the league. At the end of the season which was Scott last game in charge of the team we won the Les Phillips Cup beating Barnstable in the final. This season we have had a tremendous FA cup final playing clubs from East London and the South Coast before falling to Conference South giants Gosport Borough.**

**In 2015 saw Russell Jee taking over as manager with David Steele as his assistant. This exciting pairing will be given time to adjust at the top and improve the club league standing. The season did not start too well with 4 points from the opening league matches and out of both FA competitions. But the club and squad stuck together and went on an unbelievable 12 match winning streak through November, December January and February, by the end of the season we had finished 6<sup>th</sup> with 70 points our highest points tally in 6 years. We continued our love affair with the Les Phillips Cup with our 6th final appearance in 15 years, unfortunately this year we were the bridesmaid rather than the bride losing to Hengrove Athletic by an odd goal. Our record in the final is now 3 all.**

**In 2017 the league recognized the sterling services of a few of the 'characters' who have been associated with Willand for over 50 years each. Mike (Mitch) Mitchell, Tony (Tacker) Williams, Pete (Duffy) Ward. Mike (Bacon) Mears and Reg Vile have all shown tremendous commitment to the club and have totaled in excess of 280 years loyal services just to one club, Willand Rovers. We do however have some younger blood helping out within the Club, our Treasurer Cath Dinner has had a long involvement with WRFC as her father played here when she was a mere slip of a girl. Simon Dinner is responsible for the club-house events and maintenance. Tracey Greening is our General Secretary and keeps a sharp eye on all the stock. Dom Clark has been football secretary for a few years now replacing the sadly departed Tony Baker.**

**Off the pitch the thriving fully refurbished club-house continues to help provide vital funding and the club also has a range of branded merchandise and local business, despite the hard times of the early 21st century recession continue to support, none more so that local haulage firm – Stan Robinson Transport who have increased their involvement with the club as "The Rovers", seek to maintain the impetus of the last few years. Other local businesses have continued to support the club and thanks to The Hickory Inn, Devon Tarmaster, Pencarrie for their involvement with us.**

#### **David STEELE (MID)**

Veteran midfielder, who has played either for us or Tiverton for the past 20 years, very adaptable, uses that knowledge to good effect great communicator and Assistant Manager.

Last season Steely has played in 14 games and has scored 2 goals, the second one being very important as it was his 150<sup>th</sup> goal for the club making the clubs leading goal scorer ever.

Sponsored by Jolly Jaunts Taxi, Uffculme

#### **Douglas Baptista CAMILO (MID)**

Doug has arrived from Taunton, he has natural balance touch and technique alongside a steely will to win, he will certainly compliment the other central midfield players

Sponsored by Little Copse Garage, Cullompton

#### **Callum HALL (MID)**

Callum is a recent acquisition from Tiverton Town, where he produced a number of stand-out performances, finely balanced player who can play down either flank.

Sponsored by Total Roofing, Willand

#### **Pat O'HALLARAN (FWD)**

Pat is a young striker eager to make a name for himself, last season he was part of the Bridgwater squad and this season he has been playing for Street

Sponsored by Melanie Barrs, Willand

#### **Dean STAMP (FWD)**

Dean has re-joined Willand and brings experience and goals to the side, in his last year at this level he scored in excess of 50 goals, Dean scored over 126 goals in 150 games for the Farm over the last 3 seasons. He was once transferred for £10,000 from Exeter City to truro FC

Last season Deano has played in 27 games and has scored 15 goals he has this season overtaken David Steele as the club all time goal scorer sitting on 157 and counting.

Sponsored by The Physical edge, Tiverton

#### **Craig VEAL (FWD)**

Vealy has returned from Taunton where he won the league and came second in the premier division. Quick striker whose conversion rate is brilliant, when last playing for us he scored 20 goals in 19 games.

Sponsored by Gary and Liz Kennard

#### **Joe WYLIE (FWD)**

Joe has recently arrived from our neighbours Wellington where he made his debut aged 16. He is an exciting prospect who like to play in the 'false 9' position.

#### **Ben BICKLE (FWD)**

Another young talent coming from the Devon league where he excelled for Okehampton last season. He looks strong, sharp with boundless energy, undoubtedly his work rate and goals will soon turn him into a Silver Street favourite. Presently, the young player of the year.

In Bicks first season with us coming off the bench in 25 of his 36 appearances he has scored 12 goals

Sponsored by High Dunscoth Labradors Stud, Alan Kennard

#### **Aidan MOYLE (FWD)**

It's a miracle that this young lad still plays he has multiple knee surgery on both knees yet he still willing to put his body on the line.

This season Aidan has played in 17 games and has scored 4 goals all from the bench, but all three have been vital goals for the club.

Sponsored by CJ Autos, Cullompton



**Mike SEARLE (GK)**

Experienced keeper at this level having been with Torquay United, Tiverton Town and Truro City in the past, very vocal and assured gloveman.

Last season Searly has played in 41 games keeping 15 clean sheets. Mike is approaching 150 games in a Willand shirt.

Sponsored by Tivvy Skips, Tiverton

**Josh SEARLE (RB)**

Josh has joined from Taunton Town, since arriving he has shown his versatility by filling in on both flanks and in both full back positions. Good athlete and two footed.

Last season Josh has played in 46 games and has scored 16 goals from his full back spot.

Sponsored by Tivvy Skips, Tiverton

**Ryan GUPPY (CB)**

Ryan is a speedy fullback, with an eye for goal, forth season with us Last season Gups has played in 43 games and has scored 5 goals from his full back spot

Sponsored by Culm Valley Car Sales, Willand

**Adam HILL (CB)**

Supporters player for past two seasons joined from Callington, tall, athletic, consistent and assured defender. Last season Hilly has played in 43 games and has scored 1 goal, but he does score they are normally very important goals. Adam has now appeared in over 175 matches for Willand.

Sponsored by Tomato Café Bar, Tiverton

**Will RICHARDS (LB)**

Will has also returned to Willand after leaving Exeter City he had a brief spell with us before trying his luck at Bideford. Recently has been playing his footie in the Devon league. Sweet left foot compliments his mazy runs.

Sponsored by Little Copse Garage, Cullompton

**Joe CURTIS (MID)**

Joe is now in his 7th season with the club and wears the Captain armband with pride, his ability to be able to keep going for 90 minutes at the same pace is astonishing, very popular member of the squad..

Last season Joey has played in 41 games and has scored 2 goals, his break up play is second to none

Sponsored by Mike and Jenny Mitchell, Cullompton

**Brett WORBEY (MID)**

Brett is in his 6th season with the Club, dead ball specialist with 4 goals this season. Can produce that moment of magic to unlock defences. Presently the managers player of the year.

Sponsored by Edwards plumbing Services, Tiverton

**Rob NORRISH (MID)**

Combative Rob has returned from Tiverton Town, still showing his warrior attributes with his tenacious break up play and tackling, do not under estimate his passing ability.

Last season Bobby has played in 30 games

Sponsored by Highland Car Sales, Willand

**Louis MORISON (MID)**

Louis has arrived on work experience papers from Exeter City, in his brief time with us he has shown he composure on the ball and has an eye for a pass.

**In 2017 we welcomed a new team to Silver Street with the arrival of the Brave-heart's FC a local side formed to help raise funds for service personnel and founded out of the tragic loss of one of their mates who was killed in action whilst serving with British forces in Iraq. The Saturday side run by Nick Lush finished in mid table in Division 6 their highest finish in their short history but gained success in winning the Carlisle Cup with a late equalizer they then went onto score twice in extra time to secure their first piece of glittering silverware. The Sunday side ably led by Kris Roper put a magnificent late season run together overturning a huge goal difference as the chased the leading side to come through magnificently with a splendid last match win to ensure they ended up as Champions.**

**For Willand Rovers the 2017-18 season brought the most entertaining attacking football brand we have seen, we were leading goal scorers in the division with some 121 goals in all competitions. Russell and David have brought in exciting young talent in the shape of Luke Mortimore and Brad Ausden and added some experience with Josh Searle and Glenn Gould together with the existing retained squad secured 3<sup>rd</sup> place with 78 points and a positive goal different of 50+. WRFC were in great shape going into February with games in hand on the eventual league winners, but the wet weather reduced the league programme to a shambles ensuring we are and other clubs were playing 3 times a week. Added to that the loss of 4 key players to serious injury did not help our cause. But as we strive to improve both on and off the pitch this season was certainly taking us in the right direction.**

**2018-2019 The History Makers**

**2018 was the Chinese year of the dog well for Willand it was a year when we ended up top dog. It was a year never to be forgotten and will take some effort to beat. The season started by the return of a warrior in Rob Norrish and the introduction to senior football at the club of one of ex youth players Ben Bickle. Both were to have an impact on how the season went. In September another experienced player joined in Craig Duff and that mix of young talent, experience stood us in great stead over the 52 game we played last season.**

**The brand of football we played was one of excitement and flair some of our goals would not been out of place at the Eithad or Nou Camp. We ended scoring 152 goals across all competitions. We departed the FA cup early but did not lose in the league until late September but by then we have started our FA Vase journey which took deep into the competition finally bow out in the ¼ finals against the losing finalists. In snow covered February and with 6 inches of snow on the ground a magnificent village effort with some 30 volunteers aged between 12 and 84 came and cleared the snow from the pitch so we could get the FA Vase 5<sup>th</sup> game on was truly amazing. Overcoming Deeping Rangers that Saturday was a magical and befitting moment for the club players and volunteers taking us further into the Vase then we had been before.**

Our bread and butter is the league steadily we marched on sitting top of the table for much of the season, where everyone wants to come and knock you off your perch. There were a few hiccups on the way but come late April it was a 2 horse race we needed to draw the other side needed to win.

Travelling to third place Bitton, needing a draw to win the league, Bitton themselves could pip everyone if the calculators could work out the permutations. We got off to the worst possible start conceding a goal after 20 seconds, now the pressure was on but slowly we came into the game but could not find that allusive equaliser.

On the hour we were reduced to 10 men when one of ours was sent off for protecting one of our players from getting thumped. With second place Parkway winning and now top of the league as it stood we needed something special from someone.

But true Champions find a way; they don't lie down in the face of adversity and 2 minutes after being reduced to 10 men, Luke Alden popped up with a sublime finish to gain parity.

So for the first time in the club history we won the Western league and were promoted to the Southern league.

Some of those history makers have left some have moved away some have business and a young family to consider, but they will all go down in Willand folklore as heroes.

So Willand Rovers stand proudly at the highest point the club has reached in its short history. The this year will bring a different set of challenges, the decision has been made to start to develop the Stan Robinson Stadium, a new seating stand which can accommodate at least 50 seats is being sourced, ground in fill around the pitch side has been completed, a physio room and outside toilets have been added as we prepare for our first encounter with the Southern League.

The Club now has to consider whether to stay at Silver Street or move to a facility fit for purpose, with ever more development going on in the village and surrounding area now is the time to make that decision of where our home for the next 55 years will be The last news is that in consultation with a local businessman and land owner we may well be placed to find Willand Rovers a new home in the next 5 years .The story goes on as the dream still unfolds - Watch this space.

[info@robertnorrishflooring.co.uk](mailto:info@robertnorrishflooring.co.uk) +44 (0)7837 507005

Robert Norrish

*Carpet and Flooring Ltd*

# Willand Rovers FC

# Bingo

Bar Open & Tea/Coffee  
1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month  
Open 7pm,

Eyes down  
7.30pm

