### PONTYPRIDD TOWN AFC #THEDRAGONS



#### WELCOME TO THE DRAGONS

It was great to welcome our club partner Red Oak Surveying to Sunday's match. A massive thank you for your support! We are looking forward to working with you over the season and beyond.





Fern Burrage posted on Twitter

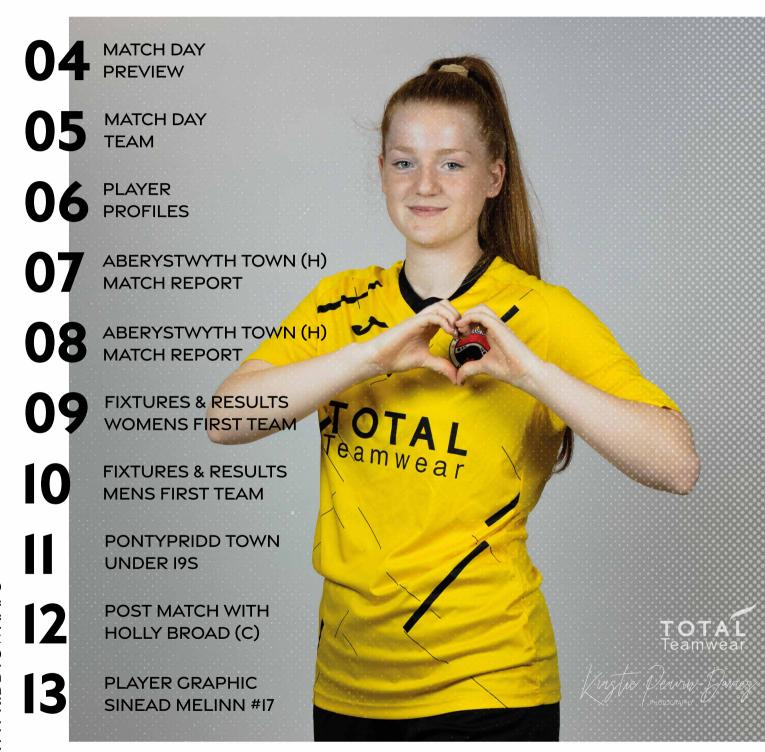
"Just can't thank this great company @RedOakSurveying enough for joining us on this epic journey! Your support means the world and makes such an impact for us, women's sport and inspiring future #Dragons"



We look forward to welcoming our club partner ADM Construct to our next match at USW Sport Park. A massive thank you for your support.



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### MATCH DAY PREVIEW

#### CARDIFF BLUEBELLES

This week Pontypridd Town face Cardiff Bluebelles in the first round of the FAW Cup. The game kicks off at 14:00 and is located at the Cardiff University Playing Fields.

Cardiff Bluebelles are in the Genero Adran South league after the restructure of the setup last year. They are currently sitting in second place with six points on the table behind Abergavenny. Their first two games of the season were against Merthyr Town and Caldicot Town which both resulted in wins.



Pontypridd Town remain fourth in the league after a defeat to Aberystwyth last week. They will be looking to make a comeback with a strong performance this Sunday.

The FAW Cup provides a chance for Pontypridd Town to test themselves against other teams in the country. The two sides have not met in recent years so it will be interesting to see how the game pans out!



This season marks a return for the competition, the previous two being cancelled due to the pandemic. Previous winners are Cardiff Metropolitan University, who won the 2018-2019 competition.

Although Pontypridd Town are yet to win the competition, they have previously reached the quarter finals once and the semi-finals twice as 'Cyncoed Ladies'. Both occasions loosing to the winners of the competition.

Cardiff Bluebelles faced Tredegar in the qualifying round with the game ending Cardiff Bluebelles 17 - 0 Tredegar.

Alongside all Adran Premier sides Pontypridd Town received a bye for the first round. Abergavenny FC, Briton Ferry Llansawel FC and Cascade YC FC also received byes.



### DAY TEAM

- I. MAISIE JONES
- 2. CARYS MINTON
- 3. JESS OSBORNE
- 5. CLARE DALEY-SMITH
- 6. HOLLY BROAD (C)
- 7. ALANA MURPHY
- 8. RENEE DAY
- 9. ELLIE GUNNEY
- **10. JASMINE SIMPSON**
- II. KIRSTIE PERVIN-DAVIES
- **14. ALISON WITTS**
- **15. ANAIS TRINCI**
- **16. NIAMH TINMAN**
- 17. SINEAD MELINN
- 19. OLIVIA BARNETT
- 20. CARYS BUFTON





#### PLAYER PROFILES



#### **ALANA MURPHY**

#7

#8

DOB: II/06/1997

NATIONALITY: WELSH NUMBER OF SEASONS

AT THE CLUB: FIRST

FUN FACT: CAN COMPLETE A RUBIX

**CUBE IN I MINUTE 30 SECONDS** 

#### RENEE DAY

DOB: 19/09/2000

NATIONALITY: WELSH

NUMBER OF SEASONS

**AT THE CLUB: FIRST** 

**FUN FACT: ACHIEVED GOLD DUKE** 

OF EDINBURGH AWARD

#### **ELLIE GUNNEY**

**DOB:** 29/05/2004

NATIONALITY: WELSH

NUMBER OF SEASONS

AT THE CLUB: THREE

**FUN FACT: TRAINED WITH GARETH** 

BALE THE DAY AFTER WALES
QUALIFIED FOR EUROS 2016

The second secon

#### PONTYPRIDD VS ABERYSTWYTH

#### MATCH REPORT

#### Disappointment as home game ends in 0-1 loss against Aberystwyth

Last week's home match against Aberystwyth ended in a 0-1 loss. Having won the previous game against Port Talbot Sunday's loss hit hard when Aberystwyth's early winner in the 18th minute via a penalty was enough to take all three points.

The first chance in the match came from the opposition. A ball heading towards the top of the goal led to an impressive save when their effort was tipped just over the bar by goalkeeper Maisie Jones. Soon after Alana Murphy's chance from just outside the box was saved by the Aberystwyth goalkeeper Ffion Ashman.

In the 18th minute a foul inside the box resulted in a penalty for the opposition. This was netted by Amy Jenkins giving Aberystwyth an early lead. A minute later Carys Bufton found the back of the net in a swift fight back. However, she was flagged for offside.









#### PONTYPRIDD VS ABERYSTWYTH

#### MATCH REPORT

FEATURED; DAY #8, JONES #4, GUNNEY #9 | PHOTOGRAPHY BY; TWITTER @PENALLTAPHOTO







The first half continued to involve chances for both sides. Maisie Jones made another excellent save tipping the ball over the bar again as Aberystwyth attempted to extend their lead. Pontypridd had a strong spell just before half-time with good build up play but unfortunately were unable to convert.

The second half started off strong with substitute Ellie Gunney squaring the ball to Millie Jones whose ball was blocked. Gunney also went 1 on 1 with goalkeeper Ashman, after an excellent run but failed to capitalise. Pontypridd continued to chase for an equaliser with Alison Witts also finding herself 1 on 1 with goalkeeper Ashman, who was able to block the shot.

The Dragons efforts were not enough, and the game ended with Aberystwyth taking home the three points.

Fern Burrage-Male expressed her disappointment at the loss. "Losing 0-1 is incredibly difficult for us especially at home."

"Despite the result there were lots of positives to take from the game, we had spells of really good football."

She was optimistic: "We will pick ourselves up from this we have got a big game next week and we will continue to build in training."



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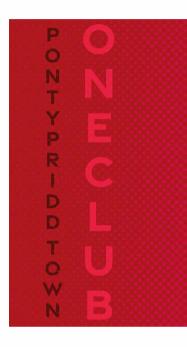


### 8 FIXTURES RESULTS

#### **WOMENS FIRST TEAM**

05/09/202I 12/09/202I 19/09/202I 26/09/202I 07/10/202I 10/10/202I 24/10/202I 31/10/202I 07/11/202I 14/11/202I 21/11/202I 28/11/202I 05/12/202I

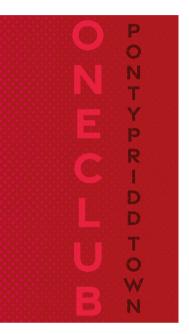
THE NEW SAINTS I-2 PONTYPRIDD TOWN
PONTYPRIDD TOWN 0-2 SWANSEA CITY
PORT TALBOT 0-I PONTYPRIDD TOWN
PONTYPRIDD TOWN 0-I ABERYSTWYTH TOWN
CARDIFF MET - PONTYPRIDD TOWN
CARDIFF CITY - PONTYPRIDD TOWN
PONTYPRIDD TOWN - BARRY TOWN UNITED
PONTYPRIDD TOWN - THE NEW SAINTS
SWANSEA CITY - PONTYPRIDD TOWN
PONTYPRIDD TOWN - PORT TALBOT
ABERYSTWYTH TOWN - PONTYPRIDD TOWN
PONTYPRIDD TOWN - CARDIFF MET
PONTYPRIDD TOWN - CARDIFF CITY
BARRY TOWN UNITED - PONTYPRIDD TOWN







## 8 FIXTURES RESULTS MENS FIRST TEAM



PONTYPRIDD TOWN 8-0 PORT TALBOT 21/08/2021 24/08/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN 3-0 CWMBRAN CELTIC 28/08/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN 5-I UNDY ATHLETIC 11/09/2021 **SWANSEA UNIVERSITY 3-4 PONTYPRIDD TOWN** 17/09/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN 0-0 BRITON FERRY LLANSAWEL 02/10/2021 **CWMBRAN CELTIC I-2 PONTYPRIDD TOWN** 23/10/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN - LLANTWIT MAJOR 30/10/2021 **GOYTRE UNITED - PONTYPRIDD TOWN** 06/11/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN - AMMANFORD 19/11/2021 AFAN LIDO - PONTYPRIDD TOWN 03/12/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN - AFAN LIDO 11/12/2021 AMMANFORD - PONTYPRIDD TOWN 18/12/2021 PONTYPRIDD TOWN - GOYTRE UNITED 28/12/2021 CAMBRIAN AND CLYDACH - PONTYPRIDD TOWN





## PONTYPRIDD TOWN UNDER 195

#### MATCH REPORT MERTHYR TOWN VS PONTYPRIDD TOWN

Pontypridd Town AFC Women U19s team saw their first league victory of the season against Merthyr Town at Pendarren Park on Friday. The Dragons' emphatic win (1-13) was never in doubt against an unfortunately under-strength Merthyr team that could only field 8 players.

Nonetheless, it was an assured performance from Dave Brown's side, who grew in composure and confidence throughout the game. The first half opener from Kerry Moore (2') was rapidly followed by two excellent goals from Mali Gunning-Thomas (3'; 11'). Merthyr dropped deep to defend well, frustrating the attacking play of Pontypridd up to the break.

In the second half, the Dragons came out with renewed determination, maximising their advantage. Using the width very effectively to switch play, the team relentlessly attacked with quality moves that produced a succession of goals. Luanna D'Ambrosio's well-deserved first came just 3 minutes into the half, with Gunning-Thomas' hattrick soon to follow (52'). Merthyr's goal came at 67' following a strong passing move down their right wing. Pontypridd responded immediately, with a 4th goal from Gunning-Thomas (69') and Lauren Selwood (71') whose determined forward play broke through Merthyr's battling defence. Right full-back Erin Williams was next to find the net, with a strong run and deadly ball into the box on the overlap (79').

The final ten minutes was a veritable goal frenzy, Luanna D'Ambrosia earning her hattrick with two further goals (83'; 89'), and more impressive finishing from Mali Gunning-Thomas netting the team another three (82', 85' 87') bringing her individual goal tally on the night to seven. Both teams played with determination to the final whistle in what was a tough night for Merthyr, but a well-fought contest and very welcome 3 points on the road to celebrate for Pontypridd.





#### HOLLY BROAD POST MATCH

Disappointing result Sunday, but lots of positives to take from the game, how did you find it?

Losing 1-0 is always tough to take. Aberystwyth were organised, executed their game plan well and made it difficult for us to break them down. There were, however, plenty of positives to take from the game. Maisie made some fantastic saves, we played some lovely football all over the pitch and we created plenty of chances.

Looking ahead to this weekends cup fixture against Cardiff bluebells what are you expecting?



Defender - Broad (C) - #6

It will be a real test for us. We'll be going into the game as favourites which is always difficult. Cardiff Bluebelles, are currently unbeaten this season, so they'll be full of confidence that they can cause a cup upset. We'll need to remain patient, play the quality of football we know we're capable of, and take our chances.

How important will it be to put it a good performance on Sunday and get the win with a tough week coming up with Met midweek and city on Sunday?

It's really important to not only put out a good performance on Sunday against Bluebelles but pick up a win too. There's a positive buzz throughout the whole team, we know we're building something special at Pontypridd Town and we continue to grow each week. We've used the disappointment we all felt after last Sunday's game as motivation to work hard for the tough run of games we have coming up.

Pontypridd Town AFC Partners RED BAK









