

Formed in 1891, Heswall Football Club is one of the oldest amateur clubs on Merseyside and has been competing in the prestigious West Cheshire League since 1958. The club has enjoyed great success over the years with league and cup titles, including the Cheshire Cup.



Gayton Park, Brimstage Road, is the home of Heswall Football Club and boasts excellent facilities, a quality playing surface thanks to our excellent groundsman Frank. As well as changing rooms for two teams, there are separate match official changing rooms, all of which are equipped with showers and toilets. The clubhouse has a fully licensed bar, live televised sport, pool table and dartboard, and excellent views of the Heswall pitch. There is also a cowshed stand for supporters on those rainy days.

As with many amateur clubs, Heswall FC has had its share of difficult times over the years and, unfortunately, has faced some major challenges in recent years. Problems on and off the pitch resulted in the First Team being relegated from the top tier of the West Cheshire League last season; the relegation also subsequently relegated the Reserve Team.

With the First Team looking at life in West Cheshire Division Two and the Reserves Team in Division Three, and with no committee members or management teams in place, the future looked bleak for the club.

In stepped Heswall FC stalwart Steve Prance, who continued to represent the club on the pitch as well as taking over the role as Chairman of the club in May 2018. With Heswall FC in his blood, Steve has worked tirelessly throughout the summer to source volunteers and committee members to ensure this great club continues.

With friends, family members, current and ex-players, all volunteering their time during the summer, the rebuild of Heswall FC began. Former manager Pete Mort was appointed vice chairman with Tom Kidd as new club secretary, both volunteering much of their spare time to help prepare the club for 2018/2019 season.

Joanne Mort continues to excel in her role as Heswall FC Bar Manager. As the bar and function room generates much of the club's revenue through hired events such as christenings and birthday parties, the club are very fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers like Joanne.

As the preseason period was fast approaching, Steve and the new committee were keen to appoint the club's new management teams. Learning from mistakes of previous regimes, the committee were passionate to find a committed and, where possible, local management team with a pull of committed players.

Andy Cass was appointed First Team manager with Steve Woods, Matt Strange and Jake Cripps as his assistant and coaches respectively. The highly successful Heswall FC Youth management team of Sid Mort, assisted by Wayne Johns were appointed to the Reserve Team. Much to the club's delight Sid and Wayne also agreed continued to lead Heswall FC Youth during their venture into the widely followed North West Youth Alliance League for the 2018/2019 season.

The club has secured excellent sponsorship deals with some highly successful local businesses for the 2018/2019 season. A special thanks to the following sponsors:

RED Systems Ltd - First Team home kit sponsor. www.redsystems.co.uk **Revolution Four** – First team sponsor. www.revolutionfour.co.uk Airway Solutions & Mitsubishi Electric – Reserve Team kit sponsor. www.airwaysolutions.co.uk

iservo Ltd - First and Reserve Team tracksuit sponsor.

With appointments confirmed, the management teams were keen to recruit players and start preseason early. As well as bringing new players into the club, Andy was keen to speak with the players from the well thought of Heswall FC U18 squad from the previous year. With youth football for those players now coming to an end, Andy was keen to ensure they had an opportunity in senior football and, importantly, with Heswall FC.

Many of that squad were excited by the new regime, as were the new players at the club - preseason started like the good old days with big numbers and lots of hard work. The positivity continued, thanks to the hard work of our excellent groundsman, and we were able to secure some high-profile home friendlies. The club entertained the likes of the Holywell Town and Vauxhall Motors, as well as travelling to Witton Albion. Positive performances for the new-look Heswall FC against quality opposition was very encouraging, as was the large number of spectators at Gayton Park.

With a real buzz around the club following preseason, the First Team got off to a flying start by winning the first three games. The good run of results and performances have continued for both senior teams, with the First Team sitting joint top of their division and the Reserve Team admirably in mid-table after a difficult opening fixture schedule.

The positive start to the league campaign continued into the cup competitions - Heswall First Team defeated West Cheshire Division One side, and Ellesmere Port and Cheadle Heath Nomads in the Wirral Senior Cup and Cheshire Cup respectively. Heswall face Manchester-based Dukinfield Town at Gayton Park on Saturday 13th October in the next round of the Cheshire Cup.

The future of Heswall FC is now looking much more promising, but we know there is still much more to achieve. The club would welcome any additional support, from sponsorships to match day volunteers or simply visiting Gayton Park to cheer the team on. So please, spread the word and show some support for your local football club.

If you would like to be involved in this great club please do not to hesitate to contact us via any method below.







**Heswall Football Club Function Room** 



HeswallFC



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