**SWINDON SUPERMARINE FC – 2018/19 PLAYER PROFILES**

**LEE SPALDING**

**Manager**

**Profile:** Lee joined Marine as Assistant Manager in July 2012 having spent the previous few seasons at Highworth Town, firstly as a player and then as assistant to Dave Webb. After playing at a high level, including time at league sides Swindon Town and Wycombe Wanderers, he began working alongside manager Dave Webb in 2011 when he also took on the coaching role and he's continued to do so at Marine. Lee left the club for a short spell from February until April 2015 to take time out to obtain his coaching badges and watch his sons play for Bristol City and Swindon Town respectively. In mid-January 2018 he became caretaker manager after the departure of manager Dave Webb. It was initially until the end of the season but after leading the team to a playoff final victory at Wimborne Town on penalties and promotion to the Southern League Premier Division he was rewarded with the managers role on a permanent basis for this 2018/19 season, his seventh at the club.

**KEVIN MILSOM**

**Assistant Manager**

**Profile:** Kevin began his association with the club a couple of seasons ago when he began working with former manager Dave Webb in a scouting in the South West as he lives in Weston-super-Mare. He stepped up as assistant manager in February 2018 when Lee Spalding became manager. He has a wealth of experience having managed Bridgwater Town and played for Weston-super-Mare and Cirencester Town amongst others.

**JAMES WHITLOCK**

**Goalkeeping Coach**

**Profile:** James joined the club during the 2013/14 season and works closely with assistant manager Lee Spalding and the players. He was also a goalkeeping coach at Cirencester Academy before joining the Swindon Town Academy set up this season.

**JOSH HILL**

**Goalkeeper**

**Previous Clubs:** Hawkes Bay, Stop Out, Wairapa United, Napier Cyprus (all New Zealand)

**Profile:** Josh joined the club in July 2017 having been a triallist at Forest Green Rovers. He made his debut in the preseason friendly against Swindon Town at the start of July 2017 and after FGR never took up the option to sign Josh he signed for Marine. After receiving his international clearance Josh won his place in the starting eleven and hasn’t looked back since with some excellent displays along the way. He oozes confidence which spreads to the defence in front of him and he is constantly organising them with encouraging instructions.

**WILL HENRY**

**Goalkeeper**

**Previous Clubs:** Swindon Town, Chippenham Town (loan), Hampton & Richmond (loan), Dunstable Town (loan), Bristol City Youths

**Profile:** Will joined the club on a month’s loan from neighbours Swindon Town on 9th November 2018. He made his debut for Swindon Town on the 30th April 2016 in a 2-2 draw at Rochdale where he saved a penalty. Since then Will has had three previous loan spells over the past year with the latest before joining us was at Chippenham Town earlier this season.

**DAN WILLIAMSON**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Winchester City, Fleet Town, Marlow, Egham Town, Reading Town, Beaconsfield SYCOB, Hungerford Town

**Profile:** Reading basedDansigned forMarine in June 2018 from Winchester City having joined City from Fleet Town with manager Craig Davis who made the same move in 2016. He is a strong and powerful player that likes nothing better than going forward and supporting the front players.

**JEREL IFIL**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Staines Town, Boreham Wood, Sutton United, Kettering Town, Bristol Rovers, Aberdeen, Swindon Town, Swindon Town (loan), Huddersfield Town (loan), Watford.

**Profile:** Jerel returned from a 4-year retirement when he signed for Marine in September 2018. He had a professional career that took him from Watford to Bristol Rovers before returning to Swindon to live and playing non-league football with Staines Town before retiring in 2014. Nicknamed the ‘Beast’ from his days at Swindon he is now enjoying his football once more and after making his debut for Supermarine in a 4-1 victory over Yate Town in September he and scored in the 4-2 win over Farnborough.

**KIERAN DIAZ-BENITEZ**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Wootton Bassett Town, Cirencester Town, Purton

**Profile:** Kieran signed for the club in December 2017 from Royal Wootton Bassett Town He’s previous clubs include Purton and Cirencester Town. He is a pacey and determined right full back who always gives 100% effort. Currently back with Royal Wootton Bassett Town on a dual registration.

**MICHAEL HOPKINS**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** North Leigh, Hungerford Town, Didcot Town, Banbury United, Reading Academy

**Profile:** Michael signed for the club in February 2018 from North Leigh, having played against us ten days before, and can play either on the left side of the defence or in midfield. Before joining North Leigh he had spells at Didcot Town and Hungerford Town after playing at Reading Academy since a youngster. After signing he immediately brought additional competition and balance to the left-hand side of the squad. Michael is a talented footballer who will hopefully play a key role in our first season back in the Premier Division.

**ASH TAYLOR**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Highworth Town

**Profile:** Ash joined the club in July 2015 from Hellenic League side and neighbours Highworth Town. He is a powerful central defender with good qualities on the ball and makes the step up a division after helping Highworth reach the Semi-Final of the FA Vase in the 2014/15 season. He was the manager’s first choice central defender in 2015 and 2016 before two serious injuries saw him miss the best part of the 2017/18 season. Firstly, a troublesome foot injury led to an operation in October 2017 that kept him out of the squad until two substitute appearances in April. During the last substitute appearance at Kidlington he suffered another injury setback with a ruptured Achilles tendon that required immediate surgery and he is unlikely to be back in full training before the end of 2018.

**MATT COUPE**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Cirencester Town, Mangotsfield United, Gloucester City, Bath City, Chippenham Town, Gloucester City, Forest Green Rovers, Aberystwyth, Clevedon Town, Swindon Town

**Profile:** Matt joined the club in the last week of October 2017 from Cirencester Town, having previously played for fellow league side Mangotsfield United last season. He is a vastly experienced central defender who began his career at Swindon Town. He then went on to play for Bath City, Chippenham Town, Gloucester City, as well as Forest Green Rovers, Aberystwyth and Clevedon Town. He is a no-nonsense defender with great organisational skills who leads from the back and will be an inspiration to the younger players in the squad. After helping the team to promotion last season, he was rewarded with the managers Player of the Season award.

**ZAK WESTLAKE**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** North Leigh, Cirencester Town, Cirencester Academy

**Profile:** Zak joined Swindon Supermarine in the summer of 2016 having spent the previous four seasons with fellow league side North Leigh where he was a regular goalscorer from central defender. Before joining North Leigh he was with Cirencester Academy and Cirencester Town where he made his debut in 2009. He is a good footballer who will often be seen playing the ball out of defence and supporting his teammates in midfield and was made club captain last season. He is dangerous at set pieces and scores the odd goal or two. Zak was on former manager Dave Webb's radar for a couple of seasons prior to signing. He’s experience, grit and determination will always rub off on his teammates, especially the younger players in the squad.

**MATT WILLIAMS**

**Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Gloucester City, Hungerford Town, Evesham United, Cheltenham Town

**Profile:** Matt joined Marine in October 2018 from Gloucester City. He had two spells with Gloucester after initially joining them in 2014 he left for Evesham United before joining Hungerford Town in December 2017, where he stepped up two divisions to play National League South football. The Droitwich-born 24-year-old then returned to Gloucester City this season. Matt started his football career at fellow Gloucestershire side Cheltenham Town, where he was captain of the Under-18s team.

**DAVID BAMPTON**

**Midfielder / Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Shrivenham, Swindon Supermarine, Worcester City, Tamworth, Swindon Town

**Profile:** Dave, who needs no introduction to the supporters having been skipper and central defender for many seasons before a bad back injury forced him to stop playing midway through the 2014/15 season. Having returned to training with the club midway through last season he played a few games for Shrivenham before returning to Marine in preseason. He played a few preseason games as he looked to get back to full fitness and after a couple of impressive performances the manager signed him on for this 2018/19 season. Dave is a former Swindon Town defender who first signed for Marine from Worcester City in February 2010. Before that he made three senior appearances for Swindon Town before being released in 2004. In May 2005 he signed for then Conference League club Tamworth and over the following four seasons he became a firm favourite with the fans, playing in an FA Cup tie against Premier side Stoke City in his first full season. His performances for Tamworth prompted a selection for the England Non-League side but injury prevented him making his debut. At the start of the 2008/09 season he signed for Conference side Worcester City but due to a cost cutting exercise before the start of the 2009/10 season he was released and signed for Marine in August and was made club captain in February 2011.

**JOE SHEPHERD**

**Midfielder / Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Cirencester Town

**Profile:** Joe signed for Marine in the summer of 2014 from the previous season’s champions Cirencester Town. He made nineteen starts and three substitute appearances in their Division One South & West championship-winning side in 2013/14, scoring four goals along the way. Joe is another young Swindon based player that former manager Dave Webb was monitoring for some time before he managed to sign him in July 2014. Joe is a box to box midfield player who can also play in defence; he has a great engine and a knack of scoring a vital goal or two along the way. A very versatile player who can play equally in several positions.

**MAT LIDDIARD**

**Midfielder / Defender**

**Previous Clubs:** Gloucester City, Evesham United, Cirencester Town, Gloucester City, Hartpury College

**Profile:** Mat joined the club on January 9th 2019 from Gloucester City. He is a versatile player who can play in the centre of defence or in midfield. Mat was a graduate of Hartpury College before signing for the first time at Gloucester City before moving to Cirencester Town in October 2015. He then joined Evesham United last season and scored 22 goals in all competitions before re-joining Gloucester City in in July 2018.

**JAMIE EDGE**

**Midfielder**

**Previous Clubs:** Gloucester City, Hereford, Weston-super-Mare, Cirencester Town, Hereford United, West Bromwich Albion, Arsenal, Cheltenham Town

**Profile:** Jamie joined the club on November 16th 2018 from Gloucester City. He is a ball playing midfielder who joined Gloucester from Hereford FC in September 2017 after winning the Southern Premier Division title. He was once on the books of Arsenal, with manager Arsene Wenger personally oversaw the acquisition of Jamie from Cheltenham Town. After attending Hartpury College he’s subsequent career has also seen him play for Cirencester Town and Weston-super-Mare.

**BRAD HOOPER**

**Midfielder**

**Previous Clubs:** Cirencester Town, Cirencester Academy

**Profile:** Brad joined Marine in the summer of 2016 having spent the previous few seasons with neighbours Cirencester Town where he was a regular in their side over the previous two seasons. He made over 100 appearances for the Centurions having started in the Cirencester Academy sides. He is another player who was on former manager Dave Webb's radar over the previous two seasons before signing. He is a precocious talent, skilful on the ball with an eye for a pass as he likes to keep the ball on the floor. He made the central midfield role his own at Cirencester in 2015/16 and he did the same last season at Marine and also scored 15 goals in his first season at the Webbswood. Last season he nearly matched that total but fell one short with 14 goals from midfield, another excellent achievement and one he will be looking to repeat this season.

**CONNOR THOMPSON**

**Defender / Midfielder / Striker**

**Previous Clubs:** Gloucester City, Cirencester Town (loan), Baltimore Bohemians USA

**Profile:** Connor signed in January 2016 after he was released by National Conference North side Gloucester City at the end of December 2015. He began his career at Hartpury College before going to the USA to further his academic and football career with Baltimore Bohemians. He then returned to the UK in 2014 and signed for Gloucester City. During his time with Gloucester he had a short loan spell with Cirencester Town in the 2015/16 season. After the disappointment of not making the squad for the first two games at the start of last season he remained positive and returned to play a part in 43 of the 52 games during the season and a member of the squad that won promotion. Connor is predominately an attaching midfield player who can also player at right back and a more central attacking role. He has good technical skills and a player whose signature was highly sort after by a number of clubs after his release by Gloucester City.

**HENRY SPALDING**

**Midfielder**

**Previous Clubs:** Cirencester Town, Swindon Supermarine, Bristol City

**Profile:** Henry returned to the club for his second spell in November 2018. He is the eldest son of Manager Lee Spalding and first signed for the club in the summer of 2016 from Bristol City where he had been since a junior player. He spent the last month of the 2015/16 season at Yate Town and made a number of substitute appearances before joining Marine at the start of the 2016/17 season. Henry left Marine in October 2016 for Cirencester Town where he has been a regular in their team and scored some excellently taken goals for them. He possesses a sweet left foot and is always looking for that crucial pass into the forwards and will now looking to establish a regular starting place in the Marine squad for the remainder of the season.

**JOE SELMAN**

**Midfielder / Winger**

**Previous Clubs:** Bristol City Academy

**Profile:** Joe joined Marine in July 2016 after being released by Bristol City at the end of the 2015/16 season. He made his Marine debut in the friendly again Swindon Town and a couple of solid performances in the following friendlies persuaded former manager Dave Webb to sign him on Southern League forms. The last two seasons have seen him become a regular name in the starting eleven and chipped in with 12 goals in our promotion campaign last season. He can play either on the right side of midfield or further forward and likes nothing better than going forward to take on the opposing defence. He is a technically gifted player with plenty of pace and courage.

**LUKE WILLIAMS**

**Midfielder**

**Previous Clubs:** Wealdstone, Hungerford Town, Hayes & Yeading

**Profile:** Swindon based Luke joined Marine in early August from Wealdstone where he played in the National League South League. He had an injury-ravaged campaign for the Stones last season and is now keen to get back on the pitch and having moved to Swindon he has decided to join Marine. He signed for Wealdstone from Hungerford Town in August 2017, just after manager Bobby Wilkinson made the same move. He proved to be one of the most influential midfielders in the National League South whilst at Hungerford, where they just missed out on the play-offs in 2017, renowned for his creativity and work-rate. Prior to Hungerford he made over a hundred appearances for Hayes & Yeading. He could prove to be a valuable and crucial signing for Marine this season.

**RYAN CAMPBELL**

**Midfielder / Winger**

**Previous Clubs:** Chippenham Town, Chippenham Park

**Profile:** Ryan lives in Calne and signed for Marine at the end of December 2016 from Chippenham Town where he had spent the previous two seasons having joined then from their nursery side Chippenham Park. He is an attacking left sided player with a sweet left foot which helped him win the goal of the season last term with a last-minute winner against Northwood in the FA Cup.

**JOSH PARSONS**

**Striker**

**Previous Clubs:** Cirencester Town Hungerford Town, Swindon Supermarine, Hungerford Town, Swindon Supermarine, Highworth Town, Shrivenham Town, Swindon Town

**Profile:** Josh returned to Marine for his third spell in mid-November 2015 from Cirencester Town for whom he joined from Hungerford Town just after the start of the 2014/15 season. He first signed for the club from Highworth Town in July 2012, following his former manager Dave Webb to the Webbswood Stadium. Josh then departed for his first spell Hungerford Town at the start of the 2013/14 season but by November 2013 he had returned to Marine and remained until the end of that season. At the conclusion of both seasons he helped us reach the Semi-Final of the playoffs in both the 2012/13 and 2013/14 seasons only to lose to Merthyr Town on both occasions. At the start of the 2014/15 season he rejoined Hungerford Town but just a month into the season he signed for Cirencester Town from where he has re-joined Swindon Supermarine for a third time in November 2015 and has been our leading goalscorer in the past two seasons and has scored over 100 goals for the club.

**BRADLEY GRAY**

**Striker**

**Previous Clubs:** Evesham United, North Leigh, Swindon Supermarine, Hungerford Town, Swindon Supermarine, Forest Green Rovers, Salisbury City, Dulwich (loan), AFC Hornchurch (loan), Grays Athletic (loan), St Albans City (loan), Leyton Orient

**Profile:** Bradley returned to Marine for a third spell with the club in December 2017 from Evesham United having previously joined in 2011 from Forest Green Rovers and in 2013 from Hungerford Town. Having spent the 2011/12 season at the Webbswood Stadium he left the club for Hungerford Town at the start of the 2012/13 season. He also made the same move in 2014 but was back with Marine before the season kicked off. This time he joins us from Evesham United having left us to join North Leigh in September 2016. Bradley plays up front and has good technical skills, a quick turn of pace and is always looking to get on the end of things.

**STUART FLEETWOOD**

**Striker**

**Previous Clubs:** Redditch United, Merthyr Town, Weymouth (loan), Bath City, Sutton United, Forest Green Rovers (loan), Eastleigh, Luton Town, Hereford United, Exeter City (loan), Brighton (loan), Cheltenham Town (loan), Charlton Athletic, Forest Green Rovers, Accrington Stanley (loan), Hereford United, Cardiff City

**Profile:** Gloucester based Stuart joined Marine in June 2018 have played for Redditch United and Merthyr Town last season. He is a vastly experienced striker having joined the Cardiff City Youth setup as a 12-year-old before going on to play for another fourteen clubs although six of these clubs were loan moves. Last season at Merthyr he made eighteen appearances and scored three goals before joining Redditch towards the end of the season and scored five goals. Manager Lee Spalding believes he will not only prove a good acquisition as a striker but also a player that the young players in our squad will learn a lot from this season.

**CONOR McDONAGH**

**Striker**

**Previous Clubs:** Kidlington, Banbury United, Oxford City, Didcot Town, Thame United, Ossett Albion, North Leigh, Witney Town, Oxford City Nomads, Oxford United

**Profile:** Oxfordshire based Conor joined the club in June 2018 have played for Kidlington and Banbury United last season. The 25-year-old is an experienced striker who started he’s career as a scholar with Oxford United before joining Oxford City in the summer of 2011, playing primarily for the Oxford City Nomads side in the Hellenic League. He then went on to sign for Witney Town at the start of the 2012/13 season before joining North Leigh four months later in December 2012, establishing himself at the higher level over the next eighteen months. He then moved away from Oxfordshire and spent the 2014/15 season with Ossett Albion, although he also played some games for Thame United that season. On his return to Oxfordshire he joined Didcot Town at the start of the 2015/16 season but moved up two levels to join National League South side Oxford City in September 2015 before signing for Banbury United exactly a year later in September 2016 and subsequently joining Kidllington in February 2018.

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