

GroundhopUK

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The Welsh Spring Hop **13 – 15 April 2018**

Shw'mae!!

It's Welsh Spring Hop time, and one of our most popular events features another trip to West Wales, with games from a variety of Leagues! We have some top quality games from the Welsh League and a double with our friends in the South Wales Alliance, so a better standard of game than last year to boot!

We start on Friday with our usual "optional extra" – as the game is already scheduled, we are planning to visit the Plough Road home of **Goytre** as they host Llanelli Town (who should be fielding Lee Trundle in their line-up!) in Welsh League Division 1. We also have a WONDERFUL beer stop already booked in too! Saturday starts at something different – the **Swansea City Academy** at Landore as the Swans u18s face Leicester City u18s in the Premier League 18s Championship at 11am. From here, we head to **Pontardawe Town** as one of my old teams (I was Secretary here in the late 90s) faces Aberdare Town at 2.30pm. Then it's to **Cardiff Hibernians** v AFC Bargoed in the South Wales Alliance for a 6pm KO at their new ground in North Ely. The Hibernians have relocated since we visited in 2016. On Sunday we are going to watch our adopted side – Garth Vader! This time they are away at a team with a wicked name – **Wicked FC!** The ground is one not in use for Saturday football at Coychurch Recreation Ground in Bridgend, but with the Vader boys gunning for promotion, this might be a fun match to watch! Finally, it's on to Cardiff and the home of **AFC Butetown** in the South Wales Alliance, at a ground we can't do in August due to the annual carnival. It's a really great line-up with plenty of interest for everyone.

As always all games are provisional at this stage and subject to change.

Transport

As with all the previous Hops, there will be a coach running. Pick up point is on Westgate Street outside the **Urban Tap House**. The pub is one of the best real ale pubs in Wales, and it's from here we leave for the Friday game but like last year, we will be including a stop en route, and this year is one not to miss. After the Friday game, we head to our overnight base in Carmarthen. On the return trip on Sunday, the coach will drop off back at Cardiff Central after the last game – with the match ending around 5pm you should be back in Cardiff Central by around 5.15pm, but if you wish to book a particular train, please allow plenty of leeway. For those driving to meet the coach, we can arrange secure parking for the weekend. For those not wanting to attend the Friday game, please meet us at Carmarthen.

You will be pleased to see that I am keeping the price as low as possible and remember that includes **all three days, and** transport to and from Cardiff. Great value! Please note that making the last train/coach is always subject to factors outside our control (such as traffic, late finishes etc.) and although we believe there should be no problems, nothing is ever 100% guaranteed and bookings are made with this in mind. Bookings will not be accepted for coach transport without a match ticket.

Accommodation

We're back at our very popular hotel in Carmarthen again this year, the Ivy Bush Royal. It's been a very popular hotel for the group to stay at, and we have struck a deal with our hotel and can offer singles at £51pppn, and twins at £41pppn. All include an excellent full cooked breakfast on both days. For the beer connoisseurs, Carmarthen does have some very good GBG pubs, one of which, the Stag and Pheasant, is literally over the road from the hotel.

Programmes and badges

As usual, all clubs will be made aware of the number of programmes that will be needed on the day. The number will be based on the bookings we receive, so reserve your copies by booking tickets! Packs will be made up in advance for the weekend, and remember that programmes are **included** in the price of the ticket. Badge packs can also be ordered in advance, and can be collected with your advance programme pack. We make things easy!

Trading

We hope to see several traders at the hop. Hopefully, all the unofficial trading that is part and parcel of a hop will be in evidence and is not only welcome, but encouraged! Just remember that if you want to trade, please have a full weekend ticket.

Match Tickets

Tickets are available in advance for the day, and these of course guarantee you a programme at each game. Admission is available on the day at the full matchday price.

Booking and Payment

Please book by completing the attached Booking form. Payment can be by:

Bank Transfer

The account number: 10990913

The Sort Code: **16 - 24 - 21**

The name: **GroundhopUK Ltd**

By PayPal: Pay for the weekend by card and spread the cost! Easy if you have a Paypal account! Simply use the email groundhopuk@gmail.com and pay through this account. Please remember the "**Pay a Friend**" choice which removes any booking fees otherwise you need to add the fees charged by PayPal - around 5% of the total cost.

For both bank transfers and PayPal, please add the reference: "Wales SH 2018". If you are using this payment method, complete the booking form electronically and email it back to me in the same Word format at groundhopuk@gmail.com Easy!

By cheque or Postal Order: made payable to "**GroundhopUK**". Then simply return this form to: **Chris Berezai, 45 Walton Street, Long Eaton, Derbyshire NG10 1PB**

Look forward to seeing you in April!

Chris Berezai

GroundhopUK

2018 Welsh Spring Hop Booking Form

Who is booking for the event?

Me: Mobile:

Address and postcode:.....

..... E-mail:.....

Also booking: E-Mail:.....

..... E-mail:

..... E-mail:.....

<u>Full weekend</u>	Single room	Number..... @ £174	£.....
	Twin room	Number..... @ £154	£.....

(Full weekend option : 3 days coach travel including transport from and back to Cardiff - two nights B&B accommodation - admissions and programmes to all six games. Not coming to the Friday game? Simply deduct £5).

<u>Match tickets</u>	Advance tickets	Number	@ £26	£.....
	Saturday & Sunday only	Number	@ £21	£.....

(Remember all tickets include match programmes!)

<u>Coach Travel</u>	All weekend	Number	@ £46	£.....
	Saturday & Sunday	Number	@ £38	£.....
	Single day (Fri / Sat / Sun)	Number	@ £20 per day	£.....

Accommodation

Fri / Sat in a twin / double (B&B)	Number..... @ £41pppn	£.....
Fri / Sat in a single (B&B)	Number..... @ £51pppn	£.....

Please check availability with Chris before booking

Programme packs only @£11 £.....
(For programme collectors not attending the Hop. Includes P&P, despatched w/c 16 April 2018)

Set of five badges @£16 £.....
(Does not include Cardiff Hibernian, if you require one please add further £3)

Admin fee £2
(Do not add this if you are paying by Bank Transfer or PayPal without fees)

I'm paying by (delete as applicable):

Bank Transfer PayPal Cheque or Postal Order TOTAL: £

**Return this form to: Chris Berezai, 45 Walton Street, Long Eaton, Derbyshire NG10 1PB .
E-mail enquiries to groundhopuk@yahoo.com Telephone 0775 – 1604755 (no calls after 10pm)**

LAST DATE FOR BOOKINGS: 10 APRIL 2018

Dates for the diary

4-6 May Central Midlands League weekend

(Swanwick Pentrich Road – Holbrook St Michaels – AFC Kilburn – Hilton Harriers –
CMFL League Cup Final)

20 May Non-League Finals Day

(At Wembley – travel package and tickets available)

27-29 July UCL & PDFL Groundhop

(Raunds Town – Whaplode Drove – Tydd St Mary – Sutton Bridge United – Sleaford Town –
Wellingborough Town – Wellingborough Whitworths – Stilton United)

24-27 August Welsh Groundhop

(Caerphilly Athletic – Canton Liberal – Porthcawl Town – Vale United – St Albans – plus some
selected Welsh League matches and a new League debuting!)

15 September North Berkshire Hop

(Details TBC)

5-7 October Western Groundhop

(TBC but probably Brislington – Cribbs – Portishead – Hallen – Almondsbury –
Bristol Telephones – Longwell Green Sports)

15-17 March 2019 Scottish Groundhop

(TBC – but with so many applicants for the East of Scotland League, this will be VERY exciting!)

5-7 April Welsh Spring Hop

(All details TBC)

18-22 April Easter Hop Weekend

(All details TBC)