

# The Talk of the Town



Volume #7, Saturday 12th October, 3PM



Tickets: £6 Adults, £3 Concessions, £1 Under 16s  
vs Hadleigh United  
Bell Close, LU7 1RX  
Buildbase FA Vase First Round Proper

# People at the Club

First Team Managers: Joe Sweeney and Paul Copson.

Physio Team: John Rutherford and Lorraine Smith.

Chairman: Alan Penman

Vice Chairman: Steve Harris

Director of Football: Sean Downey

Secretary: Roy Parker

Treasurer: Steve Harris

Match Photos: Andrew Parker

Reports, Programmes, Kitman, Media:

Kieran Carvell

Hall Hire: Pauline Parker

Groundsman: Bruce Warner





# Welcome to Bell Close

Welcome to Bell Close this afternoon (or whenever you are reading this welcome!), for our Buildbase FA Vase First Round Proper tie with Hadleigh United. A very warm welcome to everyone associated with our visitors, who have made the journey up from Suffolk to be here.

As I'm sure you're aware, our start to the league campaign hasn't been great by any stretch of the imagination.

However, in the cups it has certainly been better. 2 wins in the Vase, 1 win in the League Challenge Trophy, 1 win in the Dudley Latham Trophy, 2 wins, 1 draw and a defeat in the FA Cup.

We'll be looking to continue that good form today, with a day out at Wembley on the cards for 2 of the sides still in the competition.

Coming up at Bell Close this week, we're back in action on Tuesday evening, when we welcome Leverstock Green in a re-arranged league fixture.

However, if this game ends a draw, we'll be journeying to Suffolk on Tuesday for a replay.

Make sure you have some food from our Tea Bar, I'm sure you won't be disappointed.

Enjoy the game.



# History

Leighton Town, who were known as Leighton United between 1922 and 1963, were formed in 1885. They were mainly involved in local leagues until the outbreak of the Great War, and were winners of the Leighton and District League on several occasions.

Leighton were one of the original members of the South Midland League in 1922 – which at the time was known as the Bedfordshire County League. They were also members of the Spartan League between 1922/23 and 1951/52, but their only successes being the Spartan League Division 2 title in 1923/24 and 1927/28. They were Bedfordshire Senior Cup winners in 1926/27.

In 1952, they became a founder member of the Hellenic League, but after two disappointing seasons, moved to the South Midlands League. In 1965/66 season however, the Premier Championship sat in the Leighton Town Boardroom. The club then rejoined the Spartan League in 1967/68.

Leighton proceeded to consolidate their League success by winning the Bedfordshire Senior Cup for three successive seasons in 1968, 1969 and 1970. Unfortunately, some of the successful players moved onto other clubs, and Leighton's fortunes again declined. A move to the United Counties League proved disastrous and, after just two seasons, the club rejoined the South Midlands League. During the '70's and '80's, Leighton were unable to capture the success of the '60's.

In 1990/1991 the First Team won the South Midlands League Challenge Trophy and the O'Brien's Premier Division Cup, both for the first time. The 1991/2 season was one of the club's best ever. The South Midlands Premier Division title, which had eluded the club for so long, was won, and with it a place in the Isthmian League.

1992/3 saw the Club's success continue when they won the Bedfordshire Senior Cup for the first time since 1970. The Club missed out on promotion in their first Isthmian League season by just a single point but the Youth Team retained the County Cup.

1995/6 saw the First Team win promotion to Division 2 of the Isthmian League, whilst at the same time retaining the Buckingham Charity Cup.

In the 1996/7 season, Leighton won the Isthmian League Associated Members Trophy for the first time. 1998/99 saw the return of the Associated Members Trophy and the Buckingham Charity Cup.

Season 2003/04 was arguably one of the Club's best ever, as the First Team won the Ryman Isthmian Second Division title. The team was also named Ryman Division Two Team of the Year, and Paul Burgess was awarded Manager of the Year. They also reached the Fifth round of the FA Vase, and the final of the Beds Senior Cup, before losing to Andover and Arlesey respectively.

The 2004-05 season saw the club placed in The Southern League East Division and finished in a creditable tenth place. They also won the Buckinghamshire Charity Cup. The Reserves won the Bedfordshire Intermediate Cup and the U18's won the SCYFL League Shield, a first in the club's history.

The 05-06 Season saw the Club progress again, improving on the year before, as they finished 8th in The Southern League West Division. After a poor start, League results improved and the side only suffered four defeats from the start of November until the end of March, a play-off place just eluding them.

After three excellent victories interest in the FA Trophy competition ended with a single goal defeat to eventual semi-finalists, Borehamwood.

The Club also reached the Beds Senior Cup Final, but sadly they again finished as Runners Up.

The Club were relocated to the Southern League, Midland Division for 06-07 season but only one League win in the first six games and early exits in the two FA Competitions cost Paul Burgess his job in September. He was replaced by former Wycombe, professional Keith Scott, results did improve but it was a disappointing season, although Town did win the Bucks Senior Charity Cup.

The 07-08 started brightly with the first League defeat not coming until mid-October. Three wins in the FA Cup saw the Club reach the 4th Qualifying Round for the first time in its history. A 3-0 defeat to Conference South, Havant and Waterlooville finally ended the run. Keith Scott left in December to join Windsor and Eton. In January 2008, Assistant Manager Sean Downey was appointed as First Team Manager and did a splendid job as the Club ended their League season in 9th place, winning the Bucks Charity Cup and reaching the final of the Beds Senior Cup once more.

The 08/09 Season the First Team finished 8th in the Southern League, Midland Division, achieving their highest points total to date at that level.

The 09/10 season saw Leighton once again finish in the top half of the table, when they finished in 9th place and they also lost the Bedfordshire Senior Cup Final to Southern League rivals, Arlesey Town after penalties.



# History

Season 2010/2011, saw Town finish in 7th place in the League, gaining 69 points, their best performance since joining the Southern Football League.

The 2011/2012 a poor season saw Leighton finish in their lowest position for several years.

2012/13 was also very disappointing for the First Team as they finished in 20th place.

2015/2016. After 3 disappointing seasons Leighton finished the season in the bottom two of the Southern League Central Division and were relegated to the Spartan South Midlands League where they had last played in the 1991/92 season.

2016/2017 This was a disappointing season with the club struggling for much of the time after yet another Managerial Change. Things did pick up towards the end of the season and we eventually finished in 16th place.

2017/18 The club retained Scott Reynolds as Manager and finished 4th in the League and reached the Quarter Finals of the FA VASE. Gates improved and it was our best season for about 8 years, however Manager, Scott Reynolds resigned at the end of the season.

2018/2019 The Club appointed experienced coach Danny Nicholls as the new Manager, but he resigned at the start of October. The Club then appointed Joe Sweeney and Paul Copson as their Management Team and results improved but we were unable to reach the top third of the table..

2019 We are hoping to be competitive this season with several new signings but this is a very difficult Division and we are well aware of the quality of many of the teams.



# The Visitors History

Hadleigh United began their Eastern Counties League (sponsored by JEWSONS) adventure on August 17th 1991, in the First Division, with a 1-0 defeat at home to Fakenham Town; Alan Dilloway was First Team Manager, with Welsh Under 21 international Les Tibbott as his assistant. The first season ended with a mid-table position, in season 1992/93 a sixth place finish was achieved. The 1993/94 season saw us promoted to the Premier League under the Chairmanship of Simon King, who had taken over when long serving Chairman Peter Vardon became Chairman of the Suffolk F.A. Promotion was won by a seven point margin over runners up Woodbridge Town, but the "Woodpeckers " won the Suffolk Senior Cup after overcoming Hadleigh in the semi-final on a snow covered pitch at Felixstowe. In their first three seasons of Jewson League membership Hadleigh had made a host of big name signings including former Ipswich Town & Chelsea goalkeeper Jason Winters as a full time professional. Premier Division status saw us finish sixth from bottom in the first season, but Alan Dilloway's team excelled in the F.A. Vase reaching the last 16, before losing at Metropolitan Police on a memorable day, when three coach loads of supporters travelled to support the team. But cash was getting short and at the end of that season, Manager Dilloway and all the senior players, with the exception of Reserve keeper Dickie Mann left the club. For a while the future of the club, formed in 1892, looked in jeopardy after 103 years. Eventually Scott Clarke took over, with his own set of players from Brantham Athletic, they performed wonders to maintain Premier Division status, with a youthful Ian Gedney one of the heroes, along with keeper Dickie Mann and teenager James Rush. Other youngsters were promoted from the Reserves and soon made their mark. However Scott Clarke was controversially sacked before the end of the season. Donnie Davis then had a brief spell as Manager with Peter Hutchings as Reserve team Manager. The following season saw the inevitable relegation with no money for the players. Louis Newman took over as First team manager and stayed for eight years. The best season in the league under his reign being fourth position in season 2002/03. John Chenery was Chairman, whilst Rolf Beggerow was doing a superb job as Treasurer in getting the Club back onto an even keel financially. Rolf Beggerow then had two seasons in the dual role of Chairman / Treasurer, with John Chenery as Vice Chairman. In 2003/04 season the Suffolk Senior Cup was won after beating Long Melford at Portman Road. In the same season the Reserves came runners up to Heart of Oak in the Suffolk Junior Cup final. On Louis Newman's departure, Paul Tietjen and Lee Everett became First Team managers, but they moved on to Cornard United and were replaced by Reserve team Manager Dean Skinner. Steve Jay joined Dean Skinner as his assistant, before Dean stood down due to work commitments. Steve Jay taking over as Manager assisted by Kevin Sharman.

John Chenery took over as Chairman again, before handing over to John Whitwell. John stood down during the 2008/09 season with Ken Ramsey taking over the helm. Steve Jay resigned before the start of the 2009/10 season having secured the Club promotion to the Premier League as runners up in 2008/09 Season. The Club quickly appointed Peter Grant as First Team Manager with Gary Thompson as his assistant. At the end of this season Grant & Thompson both stood down. Ex-player Stuart Crawford with former manager Alan Dilloway took over in June 2010. In their first season in charge Stuart and 'Dilly' steered the first team to a very creditable 9th position. Ken Ramsey stood down as Chairman and took up the vacant role of Football Secretary for the 2011/12 Season with Rolf Beggerow covering as acting Chairman. The first team finished in 11th position following a very strong run in last 3 months. The Under 18's were runners up in the Ridgeons Youth League following a great season winning their divisional league and play-off match only to lose out to a very strong Dereham Town team in the final. For the start of 2012/13 Rolf Beggerow was voted back as Chairman and Treasurer. Long serving Clubman John Day was appointed Vice Chairman, Liam Britton joined as Reserves Team Manager following the departure of Jason Curtis and Jim Walker. Stuart Alston became manager of the Under 18's. The 2012/13 Campaign will be most memorable for the First Teams run in the FA Vase reaching the last 8 of the competition following a series of away wins against opposition up and down the country. This was the furthest the club had ever reached in the FA Vase ended their league campaign in an improved 8th position. Management stability paid dividends in the 2013/14 season with the club winning not only the Thurlow Nunn Premier Division for the first time, but the Reserves winning their respective league. Another memorable run in the FA Vase ended at the last sixteen stage. Liam Britton resigned as Reserves Manager, Stuart Alston and Andrew Crisp taking over. Stuart Crawford resigned as Manager in January 2015 and was replaced by ex-Whitton United Manager and Hadleigh 1st team coach Ian Brown. Alan Dilloway remained as Assistant Manager with Steve Downey as Coach. The following two seasons saw respectable 7th place finishes in the league but with no notable Cup success. Ian Brown and Steve Downey both resigned and Alan Dilloway retired from football at the end of the 2015/16 season which also saw the exodus of all the senior players. Stuart Alston and Andy Crisp stepped up to first team Manager and Assistant Manager respectively, after a very successful time with the reserves in the previous few seasons. The 2016/17 season saw Hadleigh Utd retain their Premier league status by the "skin of their teeth" which was a great achievement due the fact that the squad was rebuilt from scratch and the amount of youth team players used.



# The Visitors History

October 2017 saw Stuart Alston step down as first team Manager. Andy Crisp looked after the first team under the title of Interim Manager for 3 matches before Shane Wardley and Ian Cornforth were appointed Manager and Assistant Manager of Hadleigh Utd on 26th October 2017. The 2017/18 season saw Hadleigh Utd finish in the last relegation position (4th from bottom) and only retained their Premier League status because Haverhill Borough had ground issue's which meant they were the ones to be relegated. There were high hopes for better results in the 2018/19 season with a stronger squad assembled. Ian Cornforth left the club to move to his own Management position at Leiston Reserves in September 2018 and, with the club in 19th position in the table of 20, Shane Wardley resigned from his position in January 2019. Andy Lambert and Andy Crisp took control of 1st team Management duties for 3 matches (2 wins) whilst a new manager was sought. On 26th January 2019 Christian Appleford was appointed as 1st team Manager and given the task of saving Hadleigh Utd from relegation which was managed with the team finishing in 16th position.



# Away Fan Guide

## Transport

Bell Close (LU7 1RX) is situated in the centre of Leighton Buzzard, opposite Morrisons.

There is a bus stop next to the entrance and the Train Station is a 15 minute walk away, where trains run frequently to London, Milton Keynes, Birmingham etc.

If you are coming to Bell Close by car, you can come through Town or down off the bypass (A4146) and down Grovebury Road. This will avoid a potential busy Town Centre, especially on a Saturday Afternoon.

Parking can be found at the ground, or further afield in a number of side streets.

Parking at the ground on a busy matchday will be limited.

## Food and Drink

At the club, we have a Tea Bar open that serves a range of Hot and Cold food and Hot drinks.

In the bar, we have light snacks, as well as a range of draught lagers and ciders.

We also have soft drinks as well as bottles of ale and beer.

In Town, there are a range of pubs, with The Sun being the pub the closest in proximity to Bell Close.

In Town there is a Wetherspoons, as well as fish and chip shops and restaurants.

Across the road, there is Morrisons who have a fantastic Deli Counter serving hot food.

Enjoy the Game.





# **Our Sponsors**

Our Sponsors for this year:

R P Brightman

Osborne Morris & Morgan

Leighton Buzzard Dry Lining and Suspended  
Ceiling

Gracechurch Wealth Management

Buttle PLC

Jackson and Phillips

S B Mills

L F Carpentry

Bolster Construction

Buzzard Fascias and Fittings

Interested in Sponsoring your local team? Get in  
contact with us!



**PROUD SPONSORS OF**  
Leighton Town  
Football Club

*Our solicitors can make a difference*



MEDICAL  
NEGLIGENCE



PROBATE & POWER  
OF ATTORNEY



WILLS



PERSONAL  
INJURY TRUSTS



PERSONAL  
INJURY



COURT OF  
PROTECTION



CONVEYANCING





**UNLEASH  
THEIR POTENTIAL!**

**THE FA**

**SUPER  
KICKS**



Download on the  
**App Store**

available at  
**amazon appstore**



**For ALL**

# NLP Column

NON-LEAGUE Day celebrates its tenth edition today – a simple idea from founder James Doe has mushroomed into an established part of the calendar. James – a QPR fan – came up with the concept when he visited Tavistock Town in a pre-season game in 2010 and that led to him visiting local club Harrow Borough. So each season during an international break, NLD encourages fans down to their local team. From there it has grown and grown. In the build-up to this weekend, Premier League clubs were tweeting about their local clubs and Prostate Cancer UK and Kick It Out continue to show their support each year. Perhaps you're reading this today at your first Non-League game – we're sure you will enjoy the experience. Many clubs have benefited from the extra publicity and media spotlight the day brings and that is something to be welcomed. It's not easy when the game at the highest level is everywhere. Finding column inches or air time often needs an angle and NLD is just that. Of course, we can trot out many clichés about Non-League football. The players don't dive – some do – that clubs are more welcoming – most are – and you can speak to the players in the bar after the game. And it's affordable! Non-League football will mean different things to different people but there's no doubting it is at the heart of the game in this country. Where else would four-figure crowds watch a game in the eighth tier? Sometimes even lower. Non-League football is to be celebrated and treasured. But we shouldn't be blind to the fact a number of clubs are struggling to make ends meet. That getting through the season is an achievement. Costs are high and it is hard to compete. For those that have the resources, there are more that don't. A particular issue facing these levels is volunteering. There aren't enough of them! Giving up your time can be a rewarding experience and the more savvy clubs are making better use of people's skills. Look around you in the crowd today, there are people from all backgrounds, industries and trades. Look at yourself, you will have skills that are invaluable to a Non-League club even if you don't realise it. It doesn't have to be all the hours under the sun. Just putting up posters to advertise games or delivering leaflets in the local area can make a big difference. And that all makes for a healthy, thriving Non-League. Enjoy the day!





**BEFORE YOU CURSE**

**MIND YOUR LANGUAGE**



**Respect**



# Non-League Day

As spoken about on the Non-League Paper column, today is Non-League Day!

The aim is of course to encourage people to come and show their support for their local Non-League football side.

If you're reading this online before our clash with Hadleigh United, then join us! A 3PM Kick Off, on a Saturday afternoon in Leighton Buzzard!

If you're here at Bell Close, then we hope you enjoy the day and join us again in the future! Choose proper football. Choose Non-League. Choose the Town. After all, it's #YourTownYourTeam.





# **STAY UP TO DATE, FOLLOW US!**



@LeightonTownFC



Leighton Town FC  
Official



@leightontownfc

## **#YourTownYourTeam**



# **BOOK YOUR PARTY WITH US**



**HALL HIRE AT LEIGHTON TOWN FC BELL CLOSE LAKE ST  
LEIGHTON BUZZARD  
LU7 1RX**

**21st, 30th, 40th & ANY OTHER SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS  
CHRISTENINGS.....ENGAGEMENTS....RETIREMENT  
WORK DO'S....END OF SEASON FUNCTIONS  
SUITABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS**

**TO CHECK AVAILABILITY EMAIL  
[bookings@leightontownfc.co.uk](mailto:bookings@leightontownfc.co.uk)**

# Report vs Biggleswade United

On Tuesday Evening, the Town travelled to Biggleswade United in the league, still chasing their first 3 points of the season.

With just 1 point from 7 games, Town needed to fight and search for a win.

They lined up as follows: Kirkwood, Bryant, Silford, Murphy (C), Osborne, Foulger, Webb, Fredericks, McClelland, Newbury-Barr, Towell.

After arriving a couple of minutes late after my appearance on The Non-League Show with Ollie Bayliss, Town started very brightly! James Towell firing a drive towards Leslie's near post. The latter parrying the shot away.

Chambers, for the hosts, entered the book early on in the game after kicking the ball away.

Town continued to apply pressure on the United rearguard, Jordon Fredericks the next to have a go from distance.

Then came a big chance, Danny Webb's first of the game. He got down the right flank and drove inside, but saw his shot turned behind by Leslie. Shortly after, Webb had another go at goal, this time Leslie saving low with his feet, to stop Town from going in front.

Just 1 minute later as the game entered its second third, United opened the scoring. Town's dominance was undone through a free header from James Smith after a good corner.

United began to grab a foothold in the game after their opener, moving the ball with ease around the surface at Second Meadow.

Their captain, Manny Richardson, was shown a yellow for a shocking tackle on Newbury-Barr just before half-time. That tackle saw Newbury-Barr replaced at half-time, Les Barker coming on in his place. Danny Webb again got in behind the defence, but dragged his shot wide, aiming for the far post.

Neufville was the next to receive a yellow for the hosts, his late tackle on Bryant getting him a deserved caution.

Town continued to hunt for an equaliser and McClelland nearly turned the ball in with his thigh after Webb's ball in!

Chances continued to come and go for Town. James Towell the next to be denied by Leslie, who got out well to smother the shot.

Tom Bryant was next in line to have a go. Towell feed him up on the edge of the box, but numerous United bodies managed to keep the ball out.

Danny Webb got away down the wing once more, but his low effort from a tight angle was saved by with ease by Leslie.

Town continued to dominate and with the game entering its final 20 minutes, they kept on trying to find an equaliser. Tom Silford entered the book, but I have no idea what for!

Time ticked by and Town couldn't put the ball in the back of the net!

Danny Webb had ANOTHER chance, this time his shot going over the bar. He then broke clear of his marker to whip a fierce ball across the box and with Towell ready to tap him, Smith managed to hook it away.

With 5 minutes of normal time to go and Town peppering the United goal, you know exactly what was going to happen...

The story of the season goes on and United extended their lead. Former Town front-man, Lorrell Smith, broke free of Foulger's clutches and finished past Kirkwood. 2-0.

A stoppage for about 5 minutes was the next period of action, with Brian Foulger receiving treatment and then carried off by John Rutherford and Captain, Dave Murphy. Antony Leslie came on in his place, making his competitive debut for Town, after spending time out on the injury table.

Once play got back underway, Town got back on the front immediately, with 8 minutes of stoppage time ready to be played.

James Towell was denied by another top save by Ollie Leslie, as the game entered the dying embers. Archie McClelland was then substituted for Kuda Butawo.

Butawo was straight into the thick of it and he won a penalty for the boys in light blue, after being brought down in the box after some tidy foot work.

Danny Webb stepped up and slotted the ball home into the corner.

The referee's whistle blew straight after the restart and Town see themselves slip to defeat. Another very frustrating evening, with Town unable to take their chances.



# The Sports Roundup



The Sports Roundup for the Leighton

Buzzard area with Kieran Carvell

Mondays 8pm

**A Sports Roundup for the Local Area,  
covering all things Leighton Town and  
Football in the area!**

**Tune in every Monday from 8PM, on  
Leighton Buzz Radio!**

**Download the App:**

**LB Radio on the AppStore**

**Leighton Buzz Radio on GooglePlay**





**Smile! It's...**



1000<sup>TH</sup> MEN'S INTERNATIONAL



# ENGLAND MONTENEGRO



EUROPEAN QUALIFIER FOR UEFA EURO 2020  
THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2019 — 7.45PM  
WEMBLEY STADIUM CONNECTED BY EE  
[THEFA.COM/TICKETS](http://THEFA.COM/TICKETS)





# Squads



1. Brad Kirkwood
2. Tom Bryant
3. Tom Silford
4. Dave Murphy
5. Alfie Osborne
6. Brian Foulger
7. Danny Webb
8. Jordan Fredericks
9. Archie McClelland
10. James Towell
11. Ashton Campbell
12. Aaron Murrell
13. Alex Condon
14. Kuda Butawo
15. Antony Leslie
16. Luke Pyman
17. Michael Donkor
18. Les Barker

1. Nick Punter
2. Kyle Ferguson
3. Ben Elliott
4. Kris Rose
5. James Ross
6. Charlie Howlett
7. Sam Sharp
8. D'arcy De'ath
9. Kieran Turner
10. Kye Ruel
11. Joel Glover
12. Kyle Cassell
13. Kyron Andrews
14. Danny Smy
15. Matt Paine
16. Daniel Hayes
17. Reece Dobson
18. Wayne Blackman

# OFFICIALS

Referee: Matthew Paluszkiewicz

Assistants: Matthew Langthorne and  
Ross Cole.

