

The Talk of the Town

Volume #9, Saturday 26th October



**Tickets: £6 Adults, £3 Concessions, £1 Under 16s
vs London Colney
Bell Close, LU7 1RX
SSML Premier Division**



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

A very good afternoon to you all and welcome to Bell Close for today's league fixture with London Colney.

Last time out, we were defeated by Bedford Town on Tuesday in the Beds Senior Cup.

However, before then, we've now picked up 6 points in the league and are into the 2nd round of the FA Vase.

We hope that you enjoy today's game.

On Tuesday we travel to Langford in the LCT and next Saturday, we welcome Broxbourne Borough in the 2nd round of the Vase!

We hope to see you next Saturday, but enjoy today first!

Make sure to check out the tea bar as well! It's had some glowing reviews!

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.



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:

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**HALL HIRE AT LEIGHTON TOWN FC BELL CLOSE LAKE ST
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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**

FIXTURES

LCT	29/10/19	19:45	Langford	Leighton Town	LANGFORD FOOTBALL CLUB
FAV	02/11/19	15:00	Leighton Town	FC Broxbourne Borough	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
DLC	05/11/19	19:45	Leighton Town	Wembley	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	09/11/19	15:00	Leighton Town	Edgware Town	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	12/11/19	19:45	Leighton Town	Crawley Green	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	16/11/19	15:00	Tring Athletic	Leighton Town	The Grass Roots Stadium
PREM	19/11/19	19:45	Leighton Town	Eynesbury Rovers	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD



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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:

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The Table

POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Tring Athletic	12	11	0	1	29	33
2	Newport Pagnell Town	13	9	2	2	22	29
3	Colney Heath	9	9	0	0	18	27
4	Biggleswade United	13	8	0	5	5	24
5	Oxhey Jets	11	6	3	2	4	21
6	Harpenden Town	12	6	2	4	3	20
7	Harefield United	10	6	1	3	8	19
8	Eynesbury Rovers	10	5	3	2	11	18
9	Crawley Green	11	5	2	4	9	17
10	Broadfields United	12	5	1	6	-14	16
11	Leverstock Green	12	4	2	6	-10	14
12	Potton United	13	4	1	8	-14	13
13	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos	8	4	0	4	0	12
14	Dunstable Town	10	4	0	6	-8	12
15	London Colney	10	3	1	6	-8	10
16	Edgware Town	12	3	1	8	-13	10
17	Arlesey Town	11	2	6	3	0	9 *
18	Wembley	8	2	2	4	-1	8
19	Leighton Town	10	2	1	7	-5	7
20	Baldock Town	10	1	1	8	-13	4
21	North Greenford United	11	0	1	10	-23	1

Squads

1. Brad Kirkwood
2. Tom Bryant
3. Tom Silford
4. Dave Murphy
5. Michael Donkor
6. Sonny Newbury-Barr
7. James Towell
8. Jordon Fredericks
9. Ashton Campbell
10. Danny Webb
11. Archie McClelland
12. Ben Pattie
13. Alex Condon
14. Kuda Butawo
15. Les Barker
16. Anthony Leslie

1. Liam Ashworth
2. Lee Axworthy
3. Bryan Bontamba
4. Sam Dowridge
5. Jordan Edwards
6. Raekwarn Esson-Kanu
7. George Ezekiel
8. Cardell Flavien-Nicholas
9. Richard Acheampong
10. Alex Gyasi
11. Jack Mace
12. Elliott Beevor
13. Jeffrey Fordjour
14. Laurence Vaughan



OFFICIALS

Referee: Harry Tarrant.

Assistants: Oliver Simnock and
Steven Pordes.

