

The Talk of the Town

Volume #14, Tuesday 19th November



Tickets: £6 Adults, £3 Concessions, £1 Under 16s
vs Eynesbury Rovers
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



A word from the Press Box

Welcome to Bell Close, for another league game underneath the lights as we welcome SSML newbies, Eynesbury Rovers. A very warm welcome to everyone travelling with them.

It's not been a bad week to be a Town supporter, volunteer, staff member or player! What a week indeed!

Firstly, a 3-2 triumph over Crawley Green, with a crowd of 114 at Bell Close cheering on our boys.

Then, wow, what a Saturday. A 2-1 win at our local rivals and league leaders Tring Athletic.

What a performance by our boys. Every single one of them were exceptional and fought for each other and our football club! It was nothing short of brilliant to watch from start to finish. A Danny Webb brace won the game for us, but debutant Dan Benney's saves kept us in it throughout, especially when we were under the cosh. You can read the report further below.

Danny Webb's 2nd goal, the winner, well it's gone viral. Credit to the guys over the wall who 'airdropped' it to me, predicting where it would go. Jubilant scenes from myself and my pals in the shot as well. What a goal.

Safe to say its gone viral as well. 167,000 views and counting, over 230 retweets, over 1200 likes. Amazon Prime sharing it. OddsBible and ESPN in our direct messages. They have a combined total of 2.4 Million Followers. Just absolutely staggering numbers.

If you haven't seen the goal that blew up my phone and our twitter notifications, head to our twitter to check it out!

Also, we were voted the BBC Three Counties Non-League Team of the Week! A staggering 41% of the votes and you can hear the thoughts of Joe Sweeney on tonight's 'Non-League Show', 6-7PM on BBC 3CR with Ollie Bayliss.

6 straight league wins is our current run and long may it continue.

Enjoy the game this evening.

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, the first time 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.



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES



THE BUILDBASE FA VASE THIRD ROUND

LEIGHTON TOWN V EASTBOURNE TOWN

Saturday 30th November, Bell Close, LU7 1RX
#YourTownYourTeam

THE THIRD ROUND...
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!
TELL YOUR FRIENDS...
IT'S YOUR TOWN, IT'S YOUR TEAM!



VISITORS HISTORY

This season Eynesbury Rovers have returned to the Spartan South Midlands League after an absence of 80 years. Eynesbury Rovers were formed in 1897 and played friendly matches before joining the Biggleswade & District League and then the St Neots Junior League, which they won in 1910/11. They lifted the Huntingdonshire Senior Cup for the first time in 1914 and won the County Junior Cup in 1921, 1927 and 1932. Competing in the Bedford & District League Eynesbury won 2nd Division championships in 1927, 1931 and 1932 and in 1934 they joined the South Midlands League. Promotion was achieved at the first attempt while the Scott-Gatty Cup was won, while Senior Cup finals in 1937 and 1939 ended in defeat. The post war era began with Rovers joining the United Counties League and they enjoyed spectacular cup success winning the Hunts Senior Cup and Hinchingsbrooke Cup four times each in a five year period. In the 1950-51 campaign a Premier Cup success made it a cup hat trick.

In 1952 Eynesbury joined the Eastern Counties League finishing fourth in their second season. In 1955 a crowd of 4,000 packed into Hall Road to watch a friendly against Fulham with the legendary Stanley Matthews guesting for Rovers. The club continued to enjoy cup success lifting the Senior Cup in 1955 and 1957, the Hinchingsbrooke Cup in 1959 and Cambs Invitation Cup in 1962, but they were finding life difficult in the league. In 1963 they rejoined the UCL. Successes in the Hinchingsbrooke Cup in 1967 and Hunts Senior Cup in 1970 masked a continued decline and relegation was suffered in 1972. A top flight place was regained in 1977 and floodlights were installed in 1981 with Luton Town providing the opposition for the official opening in front of a four figure crowd. The Hunts Senior Cup was won in 1985 before Gary Pilsworth enjoyed great success as manager, leading Eynesbury to a best ever third place in the league, two Hunts Senior Cup wins, a Premier Cup success and two East Anglian Cup finals, and Alan Day kept the momentum going with a 1993 Senior Cup success. Barry Cavilla was next in the hot seat and he led Rovers to a best ever FA Vase run before the 1995-96 campaign saw Eynesbury finish fifth in the league and win both the Senior and Premier Cups. Peter Schofield took over and done well to keep the team in the Premier Division on a small budget. Neil King returned and enjoyed success in the Hunts Senior Cup in 2000 but was followed by relegation a year later. Steve Galbraith took over and in 2002 Rovers again won the Senior Cup beating St Neots 3-0 in the final, while the 2003-04 campaign saw them reach the Premier Cup final only to lose 4-2 to Wootton.

In the summer of 2005 Dean Shipp took charge and the following season Rovers reached the final of the South Midlands Floodlit Cup losing 2-1 to Saffron Walden. In December 2007 Rovers appointed the management duo of Al Lenihan and former player Pat O'Keeffe. Season 2008/09 saw Rovers near the top of the table for most of the season but had to settle for 9th place after being deducted six points. Al & Pat resigned at the end of that season and Eynesbury appointed Matt Plumb to take charge for the start of the 2009/10 campaign and with Martin Field he guided Rovers back to the Premier Division in 2013/14. In a record breaking season they finished with a record number of points (98) and goals (118) and recorded a club record 11 consecutive wins. Lee Bassett became the first Eynesbury player to score 50 goals in a season. Matt Plumb took on the role of chairman in the summer of 2015 before Martin Field resigned in October 2015. Mark Duckett was appointed as manager and in four campaigns he has led Rovers to three Hunts Senior Cup Finals, winning 1-0 against St Neots Town in 2017. Whilst in the same season recording 119 league goals whilst equaling their second best ever league placing finishing fifth. Last season Rovers finished 6th in the UCL Premier Division whilst Matt Plumb won the UCL Groundsman of the Year award.

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 brilliant tea bar that serves a massive range of hot and cold food items, including burgers, bacon, sausages, curry and more!

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 Deli Counter serving hot food.



Our Sponsors

Our Sponsors for this year:

R P Brightman

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Leighton Buzzard Dry Lining and Suspended
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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!



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Football Club

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INJURY TRUSTS



PERSONAL
INJURY



COURT OF
PROTECTION



CONVEYANCING

TWEET OF THE WEEK

📌 Pinned Tweet



Leighton Town FC @LeightonTownFC · Nov 16

Just sit back, relax and enjoy... 😊

🌟 The lad over the wall, who predicted exactly where Webby was going to put it...



💬 20

↻ 224

❤️ 1.3K



VIRAL.



BEFORE YOU CURSE

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Respect



STAY UP TO DATE, FOLLOW US!



@LeightonTownFC



Leighton Town FC
Official



@leightontownfc

#YourTownYourTeam

TOWN PARTNERS WITH ODDBALLS

We've partnered up with charity, OddBalls, to help raise awareness of Testicular Cancer.

We've come together and had made Leighton Town customised OddBalls beanie hats!

They are £10 from behind the bar. £5 of each hat goes straight to OddBalls to help to continue raising awareness.

All Hats are in one size.

Numbers are limited! Don't miss out, get one from behind the bar this Saturday!

(We also have Club Ties available at £15 each).



CHRISTMAS FUN!

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Leighton Town FC

Christmas Party

21st December

7pm - Midnight

M G SOUNDS DJ, DISCO

FREE ADMISSION



PHOTOS OF THE WEEK





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**

REPORT vs Tring Athletic

With a 3-2 win over Crawley Green under their belts on Tuesday, the Town's new found form and confidence continued to grow, as they headed to local rivals and league leaders, Tring Athletic.

Town, who were without the likes of Ben Pattie, Carl Resch and Tom Bryant, were looking to stretch the great run even further, as they travelled to the Grassroots Stadium, backed by a large amount of Town supporters.

They lined up as follows: Benney, Osborne, Silford, Murphy, Donkor, Newbury-Barr, Towell, Fredericks, Murrell, Webb, Campbell. Lead out on the day by young Town mascot and my brother, Harry!

Dan Benney, on his Town debut, made a smart early stop to deny Tring, after Donkor's error allowed then a free strike at goal.

Surely after, it was Town piling on the pressure and forcing Tring into mistakes.

Jordon Fredericks was one of the men forcing those errors and his sliding tackle and slick pass fed Danny Webb, who didn't need asking twice... he dinked the ball over the goalkeeper for 0-1!

Town's early dominance gave them a deserved lead, but the tide began to turn in the favour of the hosts.

Benney made a brilliant save down low to his left, before gratefully thanking the crossbar as another header came in and cannoned off of the underside.

Alfie Osborne entered the book on 26 minutes, for a late tackle in the centre of the park.

With 5 minutes to go until half-time, Tring pulled themselves back on to level terms.

Benney and Osborne couldn't keep out Tring's captain who slotted into the empty net with ease, to make it 1-1.

The hosts could've taken a lead in with them at the break too, but 8 found himself blazing over, one-on-one, from just a matter of yards!

The second half started in the same tempo, but with Tring attacking the Town area. Benney called into action just a couple of minutes into the second period to claw a shot away from danger.

Then, on 55 minutes, greatness happened. Campbell won a free-kick and Webb stood over it with intent. He struck it so cleanly, so powerfully and much to the delight of us behind the goal! If you haven't seen the video, head to our twitter account. My phones notifications haven't stopped...

With Town now in front, they were under the cosh for the remaining half an hour!

Archie McClelland came on to replace Alfie Osborne on 65 minutes.

Within the space of 3 minutes, debutant Dan Benney, showed his class with 2 extraordinary saves. One with his feet and one with a fantastic firm palm!

Aaron Murrell was soon replaced with Martin Conway.

With the clock running down, Tring were forced to go long and try and win some more headers like they did in the first period.

Kuda Butawo came on towards the end in place of Ashton Campbell.

There were late yellow cards for Butawo and Donkor as they looked to shut out the hosts from grabbing an equaliser.

And luckily, that was it! A brilliant victory, over a team Leighton lost 7-1 to last season in the league!

A fantastic win, with Webb and Benney winning the game for Town, but every single player a hero! What a win!

Thank you for your brilliant support, you out-shone Tring's supporters!

THE TABLE

POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Tring Athletic	16	12	0	4	29	36
2	Colney Heath	12	11	0	1	23	33
3	Newport Pagnell Town	15	9	4	2	22	31
4	Biggleswade United	15	9	1	5	8	28
5	Harpenden Town	16	8	3	5	6	27
6	Oxhey Jets	14	7	5	2	5	26
7	Crawley Green	16	7	4	5	12	25
8	Eynesbury Rovers	13	7	3	3	12	24
9	Broadfields United	16	7	2	7	-15	23
10	Harefield United	13	7	1	5	7	22
11	Leverstock Green	15	6	2	7	-9	20
12	Leighton Town	14	6	1	7	7	19
13	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos	10	5	1	4	1	16
14	Dunstable Town	14	4	3	7	-9	15
15	Arlesey Town	15	3	8	4	0	14 *
16	Potton United	15	4	2	9	-15	14
17	Edgware Town	15	4	1	10	-16	13
18	Wembley	12	3	3	6	-5	12
19	London Colney	14	3	1	10	-19	10
20	Baldock Town	13	2	2	9	-15	8
21	North Greenford United	13	0	1	12	-29	1



FIXTURES

PREM	19/11/19	19:45	Leighton Town	Eynesbury Rovers	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	23/11/19	15:00	Leighton Town	Harefield United	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	26/11/19	19:45	Leighton Town	Potton United	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	07/12/19	15:00	Leighton Town	Biggleswade United	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	10/12/19	19:45	London Colney	Leighton Town	LONDON COLNEY FC
PREM	14/12/19	15:00	Baldock Town	Leighton Town	ARLESEY TOWN FC
PREM	21/12/19	15:00	Leighton Town	Arlesey Town	LEIGHTON BUZZARD SPORTS ASSOCIATION LTD
PREM	28/12/19	15:00	Dunstable Town	Leighton Town	CREASEY PARK



UNDER 18s NEWS

SOUTHERN COUNTIES FLOODLIT YOUTH LEAGUE

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER



LEIGHTON TOWN

19:45

STOTFOLD

BELL CLOSE LAKE ST LU7 1RX

SUPPORTING
PROSTATE
CANCER UK

SOCIALSPORTSMANAGER

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

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Squads



1. Dan Benney
2. Tom Bryant
3. Tom Silford
4. Dave Murphy
5. Carl Resch
6. Alfie Osborne
7. James Towell
8. Jordon Fredericks
9. Ashton Campbell
10. Danny Webb
11. Archie McClelland
12. Ben Pattie
13. Josh Setchell
14. Kuda Butawo
15. Les Barker
16. Anthony Leslie
17. Michael Donkor
18. Luke Pyman

1. Jamie Greygoose
2. Dave Baker
3. Jordan Jarrold
4. Craig Daniel
5. James Duckett
6. Jack Utteridge
7. Scott Sinclair
8. Robert Duckett
9. Steve Gentle
10. Jordan Brown
11. Ash Fuller
12. Steve Burford
13. Dom Lawless
14. Nikco Williams
15. Jamie Cole
16. Rukky Diejomoah
17. Jack Warwick

OFFICIALS

Referee: Thomas Cartwright.

**Assistants: Matt Langthorpe and
Russell Shacklock.**

