

Bedfordshire County Football League



Season 2015-16

News Bulletin Number 3

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Beds County League Division Three

Sundon Park Rovers 1-2Shefford Town & Campton 'A'

Admission : N/A

Programme : N/A

Tea : N/A

Kick-off : 2.30pm

Walked from home to Leagrave Park via the main roads (about 4 miles), having been to the venue before for Sunday league football. It is a multi-pitch complex, including cricket in a municipal park about a quarter of a mile from Leagrave railway station with few other facilities. The surroundings were pleasant enough on a mild and occasionally sunny afternoon like today.

The game was competitive and played in excellent spirit between two evenly matched sides (no yellow cards) but will not live long in the memory. The visitors, who elected to play up the slope on the toss of the coin, took an early lead before 10 mins had elapsed and this remained the score at half time. Sundon, who are new to the league this year, equalised 5 mins after the restart and a draw seemed the likely outcome until a clumsy challenge on the edge of the home area gave Shefford a penalty in the 85th min. This took some time to take as there seemed to be a debate regarding the actual location of the penalty spot which the referee eventually marked by scoring a line with his boot. The visiting skipper was not put off by this delay and calmly rolled the ball into one side of the goal with the keeper disappearing rapidly in the opposite direction.

I returned home via the Lea Valley Way which follows the infant river southwards and largely avoids the main roads until the centre of Luton is reached. A good afternoon out rather than a feast of football.

Monday 14th September 2015

Sandy Reserves bowed out of this seasons East Beds Junior Charity Cup when beaten 3-0 at home by Biggleswade Town Under 18's.

Wednesday 16th September 2015

At a very wet yet very playable Forde Park, Langford FC before a crowd of just 40, The Bedfordshire County Football League made their exit from the 2015-16 FA Inter League Cup when beaten 4-0 by

The Spartan South Midlands League Division Two. Pre-match vibes suggested we were in for a tough tie with the SML squad including some nine players from their 2014-15 season Division Two champions club Hales Leys United who in gaining that title had been beaten just the once all season, but with no floodlights at their ground they remained a division two club for this current season and thus their players eligible to compete in the tie to follow up their win in the previous round last March against The Kent County League.

The tie in many ways was settled in the four minutes leading up to half-time when first on 41 minutes, Ashton Goss sent across what seemed to be only a cross and by a fluke it ended up in the back of the net, alas there was nothing but class stamped across his second goal three minutes later to finish off a sweeping move that had started in the SML's own penalty box.

However it took the SML until just six minutes from time to add their third goal via Tom Cooke and whilst the BCFL would accept they were beaten by a very good side a further goal four minutes into added on time from the penalty spot from Alex Woodfine to give us a 4-0 final scoreline in no way shows a true reflection of the performance of the BCFL whose squad had been picked from seven member clubs many of whom were playing together for the very first time.

Brian Buck Travellers Tales also in the high waters at Forde Park

79. (11,682) Wednesday 16th September 2015. Spartan South Midlands League (Division 2) 4 Bedfordshire County League 0 (FA Inter League Cup 1st Round) (Played at Langford) att 40. After my previous match finished the rain intensified, to a point where most of the local matches were called off due to waterlogged pitches. But not so at Langford where their excellent playing surface, lit by their improved floodlights, soaked up everything and the pitch was perfectly playable, to the point where another game could have taken place immediately after this game had finished. Having said that, when I got out of my car in the car park I nearly had to swim to the pitch! This wasn't a great night for the Beds County League (BCL). Try as they did they had to play second fiddle to the Spartan South Midlands League (SSML) for most of the evening. The SSML were simply too good for them. There was a worrying incident on 34 minutes when a SSML player slid and in effect headbutted the perimeter wall, which was not damaged at all. The player was OK as well. On 41 minutes the SSML took the lead when an intended cross ended up in the net. Three minutes later the BCL keeper was caught out of position and so was unable to get to the powerful 20 yard shot before it entered the net. During the second half the ref from the previous Wednesday's match here at Forde Park turned up and he was rather unhappy about the comments I made in my match report of that game. Although he usually laughs with me when I poke fun at other match officials from time to time, he rightly considered that I went a bit too far when commenting on his performance this time. So after the match I apologised to him, which he accepted and to be truthful there is no way I would wish to fall out with one of the most colourful and respected characters on the local circuit. Afterwards we had good chats about various aspects of local football and I hope that we can now put this all behind us and move on. The SSML then scored further goals on 84 and 90(+4) minutes to deservedly seal their passage through to the next round.

Saturday 19th September 2015

Premier Division supported by Sportsform

Renhold United's lead at the head of the Premier Division supported by Sportsform league table is now down to just a single point after they were held to a 2-2 draw at Ickwell & Old Warden who thus retained their seasons unbeaten ways. Sean Murray netting twice for the home side against United replies via Ben Brown and Wesley Lewis.

Just that point behind in second spot are AFC Oakley M&DH who netted their third consecutive away win with a 2-1 victory at Ampthill Town Reserves. Matt Barnes netting both goals against a Town reply from Philip Matthews.

Premier Division Supported By Sportsform League Table at 19th Sept 2015

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Renhold United	5	4	1	0	15	5	10	13
2	AFC Oakley M&DH	5	4	0	1	19	6	13	12
3	Shefford Town & Campton	5	3	1	1	15	8	7	10
4	AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College	5	3	0	2	14	12	2	9
5	Cranfield United	5	3	0	2	10	12	-2	9
6	Ickwell & Old Warden	4	2	2	0	7	5	2	8
7	Flitwick Town	5	2	1	2	8	5	3	7
8	Sandy	5	2	1	2	8	8	0	7
9	Wilstead	4	2	0	2	14	10	4	6
10	Pavenham	3	2	0	1	6	3	3	6
11	Marston Shelton Rovers	4	2	0	2	8	9	-1	6
12	Ampthill Town Reserves	4	1	1	2	5	9	-4	4
13	Sharnbrook	5	1	0	4	4	9	-5	3
14	Elstow Abbey	5	1	0	4	4	12	-8	3
15	Eastcotts AFC	5	1	0	4	5	17	-12	3
16	Caldecote	5	0	1	4	5	17	-12	1

For third place Shefford Town & Campton it was a 4-0 home win over Elstow Abbey who are still looking for their first away point of the season. Andrew Hayday netting twice alongside single strikes from Sam Welton and Jonnie Stratford to do the damage. All the goals coming in the last 20 minutes after the Abbey were reduced to 10 men due to the injury of Aaron Cavill and having already used their full quota of substitutes.

The biggest winners of the day and now sitting in fourth spot are AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College who ran out 7-1 winners at bottom of the table Caldecote. Courtney Boughton leading the way with a hat-trick and supported by strikes from Bruno Santos, Tim Clarke, Jack Duxbury and Zdenko Kumas against a lone reply from Tom Wallace, the home sides misery made worse by the sending off of Luke Gurney.

Going down for the first time on home soil this season were Cranfield United who were beaten 4-0 by Flitwick Town to give the visitors their first away win of the season. Town's goals coming via Vinicius Doratiotto, Liam Keane, Ritchie Bevan and Josh Reynolds.

The comeback of the day belonged to Sandy, trailing 2-0 via a brace of goals from Sharnbrook's Ian Strange with just 20 minutes left to play, they thanks to a James Hearson hat-trick ran out 3-2 winners to climb into the top half of the league table. Whilst also enjoying life on the road were Marston Shelton Rovers who won 3-1 at Eastcotts AFC. Carl Borrromero, Harry Murray and Dale Makiw the Rovers marksmen against a home own goal in reply.

Division One supported by Wests Citroen Bedford

The new leaders of the Division One supported by Wests Citroen Bedford league table are Stevington following their 4-0 victory at Shefford Town & Campton Reserves. James Bourke, Joe Holyoak, Keiron Souter and Ben Walsh all finding the back of the net to do the damage. Whilst up into second spot are Potton Town who also enjoyed life on the road by winning 5-1 at Meltis Albion. Brad Smith, Chris Moore, James Pyman and Tom Grinstead goals added to by an own goal to bring up the nap hand against a lone reply from Ashley Drummond.

Division One supported by Wests Citroen League Table at 19th Sept 2015

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Stevington	3	2	1	0	7	0	7	7
2	Potton Town	2	2	0	0	9	4	5	6
3	AFC Kempston Tn & Bedford Coll Reserves	3	2	0	1	7	4	3	6
4	Sundon Park Rangers	2	2	0	0	5	3	2	6
5	Meltis Albion	3	1	1	1	9	7	2	4
6	Westoning	3	1	1	1	5	5	0	4
7	Ickleford	3	1	1	1	4	5	-1	4
8	Henlow	2	1	0	1	6	4	2	3
9	Queens Park Crescents	2	1	0	1	4	4	0	3
10	Shefford Town & Campton Reserves	2	1	0	1	4	5	-1	3
11	Houghton Athletic	2	0	0	2	3	7	-4	0
12	Riseley Sports	3	0	0	3	3	10	-7	0
13	AFC Oakley M&DH Reserves	2	0	0	2	0	8	-8	0

Dropping down off the top spot into third place are AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves following their 3-2 home defeat at the hands of Sundon Park Rangers who now trail them just on goal difference in the league standings. Shaka Anderson twice and Chris Mapp on the Rangers scoresheet against home replies from Taylor Bakogeorge and Anas Bechkoum.

Continuing the theme of away winners were both Ickleford and Westoning. With goals from Colin Standley and Lewis Littlechild, Ickleford were 2-0 winners at AFC Oakley M&DH Reserves and Westoning with two goals from Sam Child plus strikes from Rex Ludlow and Sam Corrie winning 4-3 at Henlow for whom Russell Ayles, Keith Milburn and Sam Crow all found the back of the net.

The lone home winners of the day being Queens Park Crescents who came up with their first win of the season in beating Riseley Sports 3-2. Ayaz Hussain netting twice and Tony Milioti once against Sports replies via Josh Poole and James Cooke.

Division Two

Leading the way at the head of the Division Two standings are Cranfield United Reserves who retained their seasons 100% ways by winning 3-2 at Flitwick Town Reserves. Joe Sames netting twice and Luke Gray once against home replies via Ben Ralph's and Scott Gadsden. Whilst in second spot and still unbeaten this season are Cople & Bedford SA who won 5-1 at Elstow Abbey Reserves. Daniel Lupton with a brace plus goals from Paul Nigro, Brett Allen and James Munns bringing up the nap hand against a lone Abbey reply from Shaun Cafferty.

Division Two League Table at 18th September 2015

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Cranfield United Reserves	3	3	0	0	8	4	4	9
2	Cople & Bedford SA	3	2	1	0	7	2	5	7
3	Kempston Hammers Sports	3	1	1	1	7	5	2	4
4	Atletico Europa	3	1	1	1	6	5	1	4
5	Lea Sports PSG	2	1	1	0	3	2	1	4
6	Bedford United	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4
7	Flitwick Town Reserves	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4
8	Kempston Athletic	3	1	1	1	5	10	-5	4
9	Clapham Sports	3	1	0	2	9	6	3	3
10	Wootton Village	3	0	2	1	5	6	-1	2
11	Marston Shelton Rovers Reserves	2	0	1	1	4	7	-3	1
12	Elstow Abbey Reserves	3	0	0	3	4	11	-7	0

The biggest winners of the day were Clapham Sports who claimed their first win of the season with a 6-0 victory at Kempston Athletic. Marko Tobzic and Liam Bolton both netting twice to go with strikes from Nathan O'Halloran and Sam Maddix to do the damage.

There was also a first win of the season for Lea Sports PSG who ran out 2-1 home winners over Kempston Hammers Sports. Sean Dixon and Rhys Holding netting the vital goals against a lone Hammers reply via Chris Greene.

Over at The Hockey Centre, Bedford United and Atletico Europa shared the points from a 2-2 draw. Gary Philipson and Tom Wade on the United scoresheet against replies from Tadej Jankovic and Kane Alexander. The final game also ending 2-2 between Marston Shelton Rovers Reserves and Wootton Village to leave both teams still looking for their first league win of the season. Rovers goals coming from Dean Clark and Sean McFarland against Village replies via Nick Burraway and Sam Mulvaney.

Division Three

Still 100% for the season and the Division Three league leaders are Wixams who with a hat-trick from Iain Hall and a single strike from Charlie Battams ran out 4-2 winners at Wilstead Reserves whose goals came via Ryan Davenport and Sam Ward. Up into second spot are Sundon Park Rovers who emerged 3-2 home winners over Caldecote Reserves. Dan Carthew, Shane Roberts and Ravi Jessani netting the Rovers goals against two in reply from Sam Julian who were denied a share of the spoils when Joe Rowley failed to convert from the penalty spot.

Division Three League Table at 19th September 2015.

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Wixams	3	3	0	0	15	4	11	9
2	Sundon Park Rovers	3	2	0	1	6	5	1	6
3	White Eagles	3	1	1	1	10	6	4	4
4	Caldecote Reserves	3	1	1	1	6	5	1	4
5	Shefford Town & Campton 'A'	2	1	1	0	4	3	1	4
6	Clifton	3	1	1	1	7	7	0	4
7	Renhold United Reserves	3	1	1	1	9	10	-1	4
8	Dinamo Flitwick	3	1	1	1	6	8	-2	4
9	Wilstead Reserves	3	1	0	2	6	8	-2	3
10	Sandy Reserves	3	1	0	2	4	8	-4	3
11	AFC Dunton	3	0	2	1	4	7	-3	2
12	Meltis Albion Reserves	2	0	0	2	3	9	-6	0

Now occupying third spot are White Eagles despite being held to a 2-2 home draw by Shefford Town & Campton A . It was the visitors who struck first after 30 minutes via Jack Lannon but that lead lasted just seven minutes before a superb free kick from Jacek Tereszkiwicz levelled matters for the Eagles. With the Eagles Maciej Czuba given his second yellow card 22 minutes from time it seemed to matter little when Tereszkiwicz with an even better free kick shot his side ahead 10 minutes later until up popped Michael Castle with a peach of a goal two minutes later to give his side a share of the spoils to retain their seasons unbeaten ways.

Winning for the first time this season were Clifton who ran out 4-1 winners at Sandy Reserves. Stuart Kemp, Jonny Cole, Cal McCoy and Adam Norris all finding the back of the net against a lone home reply via Kevin Fage. There were also first wins of the season for both Renhold United Reserves and Dinamo Flitwick. United with four goals from Michael France and a brace from Josh Cowley 6-1 home winners over Meltis Albion Reserves whose lone reply came via Josh St Clair Pierre, whilst the Dinamo ran out 3-0 home victors over AFC Dunton thanks to goals from Ben Hannam, Scott Hannam and Dean Myles.

Division Four

Leading the way at the head of the Division Four league table are Mid Beds Tigers who maintained their seasons 100% record with a 7-3 home victory over AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College A. Liam Brophy with a hat-trick supported by strikes from David Smith, Brad Dennis, Luke Rudd and Tom Smith against Town replies via Jesse Sidhu twice and Tyrone Kelly once.

Division Four League Table at 19th September 2015

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Mid Beds Tigers	3	3	0	0	17	4	13	9
2	Westoning Reserves	2	2	0	0	15	3	12	6
3	Stevington Reserves	2	2	0	0	8	2	6	6
4	Polonia Bedford	3	2	0	1	7	7	0	6
5	Staughton	3	1	1	1	14	7	7	4
6	Caldecote 'A'	3	1	1	1	10	6	4	4
7	Bedford Albion	2	1	0	1	11	4	7	3
8	AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College 'A'	2	1	0	1	14	9	5	3
9	Flitwick Town 'A'	2	0	0	2	1	13	-12	0
10	Henlow Reserves	3	0	0	3	5	22	-17	0
11	Lidlington United Sports	3	0	0	3	4	29	-25	0

Now in second spot and still 100% for the season are Westoning Reserves who were 11-3 home winners over Henlow Reserves. Ryan Camp and Martin Murphy both hitting hat-tricks, Jake Shawe grabbing a brace and single strikes coming from Tyler Copperwheat, Sam Roberts and Ryan Jordan against visitors replies via Sam July twice and Jack Vincent once. Whilst just goal difference behind and still 100% for the season and in third place are Stevington Reserves who won 3-1 at Caldecote A. Sam Nightingale with a brace plus a single strike from Joe Kvilums only being replied to once by Jack

Stagg for the hosts.

Also winning big were Bedford Albion with an 11-1 victory at Lidlington United Sports. Shaun Challi netting eight times, Craig Ford twice and Steve Slater once against a lone home reply via Tom Staples. Life on the road was also good for Polonia Bedford who won 4-3 at Staughton. Marlan Sobczyk with a brace joined on the scoresheet by Kamil Guz and Bartosz Sekretarski against home goals from Scott Boswell twice and Allan Hill once.

Preview for Saturday 26th September 2015

Action this weekend in the Premier Division supported by Sportform division will see league leaders Renhold United defend their seasons unbeaten ways at their Playing Field headquarters when visited by third place Shefford Town & Campton who with a two goal or more victory would climb above United in the league standings come the final whistle. That however would not be good enough to take them to the top spot unless current second place AFC Oakley M&DH were to lose at Ickwell & Old Warden and with the hosts still being unbeaten this season that outcome could well happen.

For fourth place AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College its another trip on the road when they journey to Bedford Road Recreation Ground looking for their third consecutive away victory against a Sandy side who will be in search of their first home win of the season. Whilst at Crawley Road fifth place Cranfield United look to return to winning ways on home soil against the visiting Wilstead.

Over at Weston Park its a clash between the bottom two clubs. Hosts Eastcotts AFC having won their opening game of the season before losing their next four being called upon by basement club Caldecote who are still in search of their first win of the season in this game number six.

Just goal difference above Eastcotts AFC in the table are both Elstow Abbey and Sharnbrook who both have home games this weekend. The Abbey at the Warren playing hosts to Ampthill Town Reserves whose lone away trip of the season thus far saw them win at AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College. Whilst at Lodge Road, Sharnbrook now on a three game losing run entertain Marston Shelton Rovers who will be looking for their third away win on the bounce.

The final action coming at Pavenham Playing Fields where both hosts Pavenham and the visiting Flitwick Town also go in search of their own third wins on the bounce.

With the Division One supported by Wests Citroen Bedford league leaders Stevington sitting the afternoon out should we get a positive result either way at Stockwood Athletic Stadium between hosts Sundon Park Rangers and the visiting Potton Town who both go into the clash holding down seasons 100% record then the victors would climb above them in the standings. However, this would not guarantee them top spot as should AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves win at bottom of the table AFC Oakley M&DH then they could well head them on goal difference.

Over at Moore Crescent both hosts Houghton Athletic and the visiting Riseley Sports will be in search of their first win of the season. Whilst the final league action comes at Rectory Road where hosts Shefford Town & Campton Reserves look to return to winning ways on home soil against visitors Queens Park Crescents who make the trip looking for their first away win of the season.

Meantime its Bedfordshire FA Intermediate Cup First Round Cup action at Groveside between hosts Henlow and the visiting Ickleford for the right to entertain Riseley Sports in Round Two.

Its also Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup First Round action for the majority of our lower division sides

which of course sets up the usual giant-killing opportunities. Perhaps facing the biggest danger of being on the wrong end of an upset are Elstow Abbey Reserves who currently sit on bottom of the division two league table when they make the visit to Harvey Close to face Division Four side Caldecote A or the side who sit one place above the Abbey Reserves in the division two standings namely Marston Shelton Rovers Reserves who at their Playing Field headquarters play hosts to division three side Shefford Town & Campton A who are yet to lose this season.

Also don't rule out the chances of division three White Eagles getting the better of division two Kempston Athletic when they clash in Mowsbury Park or AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College A of division four beating division three outfit AFC Dunton on the 3G surface at Hillgrounds.

Other action sees an all division three clash at Hinksley Road between hosts Dinamo Flitwick and the visiting Renhold United Reserves and an all division four clash at the Sandy Academy between the hosting current league leaders Mid Beds Tigers and the visiting Bedford Albion.

For three other sides its ties against opposition from outside our league, Wootton Village entertaining Luton District & South Beds League Caddington at Wootton Recreation Ground. Whilst FC Spandits Reserves from the same league will be playing hosts to Sundon Park Rovers at Clements End Road, Studham.

The final game coming at Hurst Grove where Lidlington United Sports play hosts to North Bucks League side Southcott Village RA Reserves.

All this cup action leaves us with just three division two league games. For Cople & Bedford SA its a chance to climb to the top of the league standings should they win at the Football Centre against Flitwick Town Reserves . Whilst its third against fourth in Jubilee Park where hosts Atletico Europa look to swap places in the table with the visiting Kempston Hammers.

A stalemate in this game would give both the hosting Bedford United or the visiting Lea Sports PSG a chance to climb above them both with a victory from their clash at The Hockey Centre.

Division Three action is also down to just three games. For the still 100% league leaders Wixams that means a trip to Harvey Close to be hosted by Caldecote Reserves. Whilst Clifton could move up the standings into second spot with a Wixam win and a victory of their own at Whiston Crescent against the visiting bottom of the table Meltis Albion Reserves.

The third game coming at Jubilee Playing Fields between the hosting Wilstead Reserves and visitors Sandy Reserves.

Likewise in Division Four its just a programme of three games. For current second place Westoning Reserves its a chance to take over top spot should they win by two goals or more when they journey into Allen Park to face current fourth place Polonia Bedford. Whilst Staughton will be expecting to return to winning ways and move up the league standings when they play hosts to current second from bottom Henlow Reserves who will hit the road looking for their first point/points of the season.

The third game coming at Stevington Playing Fields, the venue at which hosts Stevington Reserves seek to maintain their seasons 100% record against the visiting Flitwick Town A who are still in search of their first point/points of the season.