



## **Bedfordshire County Football League**

**Season 2009-10**

**News Bulletin Number 38**



### **Travellers Tale by Brian Buck**

**222nd game of the season. (Match 9,645) Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010.**

**Bedfordshire County League 0 North Home Counties Sunday League 3 (Beds FA Inter League Centenary Cup Final) (Played at Potton United) att 70 approx.**

Despite the North Home Counties side having a name more associated with the old version of BBC's Come Dancing programme they were eventually to waltz their way to victory at Second Meadow. The first half was fairly even despite the aforesaid mentioned side taking the lead on 38 minutes, by way of a 30yard Waite shot. There had been spells of dominance from both sides, but perhaps Home Counties looked more solid at the back. The end was nigh for the Beds County League when Bunker grabbed the second goal on 54 minutes and the fat lady was not going to be required after Butler got the third goal on 61 minutes. The Beds County League then made some subs and suddenly looked a lot better. In particular James Allen looked very good, but he had been a reluctant non-starter because he had tweaked a hamstring. Overall this was a good win for a solid North Home Counties side.

### **News Round-up**

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March Caldecote Reserves made their way into the final of this seasons East Beds Junior Charity Cup with a 2-0 win over Dunton Reserves under Biggleswade United's floodlights.

Mark Endersby and Jack Boyd netting the vital goals inside a 60 second period just after the hour mark.

Caldecote will now face either Gamlingay United or Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves in the final whose meeting the following evening was postponed at the same venue due to a waterlogged pitch.

### **Watson Shield Semi-Final Draw.**

Flitwick Town Reserves or Eastcotts v Lidlington United Sports or Renhold Village.

Sundon Park Rangers or M& DH Oakley v Riseley Sports Reserves or Queens Park Crescents

### **On The Move**

The following transfers were ratified at last Thursday evening's Bedfordshire County Football League Management Committee Meeting.

James Grandidge. Kempston Hammers to Riseley Sports  
Chris Munns. Caldecote to Potton Wanderers  
Callum Hancock. Stevington to Kempston Hammers  
James Tizzard. Henlow to Marabese Ceramics  
Shabz Hussain. Sharnbrook to Queens Park Crescents  
Daniel Billington. Sharnbrook to Blunham  
Jamie McGregor. FC Meppershall to Wilshamstead

**Website continues to grow in popularity.**

Our league website [www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk](http://www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk) continues to grow in popularity, the month of March seeing the site take a record monthly number of hits 135664 from some 15359 visitors (second best total only to January's 15589 visitors)

**Six New Applicants for season 2010-11.**

During the past month The Bedfordshire County Football League as seen six new clubs apply for membership into the league for season 2010-11.

These clubs will now be interviewed by the management committee, but all are expected to be granted membership.

Topping the list are Arleseey Town Reserves who for almost certain will fill one of the current vacancies in The Premier Division supported by Sportsform section, whilst both Meltis Corinthians and Luton Old Boys after withdrawing during this current season wish to rejoin for the next campaign.

The other three clubs being Wootton Village, Goldington Hammers and Cranfield United Reserves.

Alongside these clubs there is also serious enquiries from four other clubs.

**Sportform to continue their supported for 2010-11.**

The Bedfordshire County Football League is pleased to announce that Sportsform have agreed to continue there supported to our Premier Division for season 2010-11.

For all your sporting requirements, please visit their website [www.sportsform.co.uk](http://www.sportsform.co.uk) or pay them a personal visit where Paul and his team will be pleased to see you.

**Caldecote surface to the top.**

The Bedfordshire FA award for groundsman of the year for season 2009-10 has gone to Mick Jeeves, who prepares the Harvey Close surface for Premier Division supported by Sportsform Caldecote. The Runner-up award going to the Rectory Road surface of Premier Division supported by Sportsform Campton, whilst completing a clean sweep for The Bedfordshire County Football League was the award of third prize to Henlow and their Groveside complex.

## Action Round-Up from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

### **Premier Division supported by Sportsform Table at 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010.**

<b>14 Teams</b>	<b>Games Played</b>	<b>Games Won</b>	<b>Games Drawn</b>	<b>Games Lost</b>	<b>Goals For</b>	<b>Goals Against</b>	<b>Goal Difference</b>	<b>Points</b>
Ickwell & Old Warden	20	15	1	4	57	34	+23	46
Blunham	18	13	3	2	60	30	+30	42
Caldecote	20	11	3	6	52	32	+20	36
Oakley Sports	19	11	3	5	47	31	+16	36
Campton	21	11	2	8	53	42	+11	35
Biggleswade United Reserves	22	10	1	11	47	56	-9	31
Renhold United	22	6	7	9	38	52	-14	25
Wilshamstead	18	6	6	6	45	39	+6	24
Sharnbrook	20	6	4	10	34	45	-11	22
Woburn	18	6	3	9	41	47	-6	21
AFC Kempston Town	15	6	2	7	36	33	+3	20
Southill Alexander	18	5	4	9	40	43	-3	19
Dunton	21	5	4	12	30	45	-15	19
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday]	18	2	1	15	31	82	-51	7

### Premier Division supported by Sportsform

With second place Blunham having their game at AFC Kempston Town postponed due to a waterlogged pitch, Ickwell & Old Warden took full advantage to increase their lead at the head of the league table to four points by winning 5-0 at Biggleswade United Reserves. Ahead via a single Nick Jones goal in the opening half, a second period brace from Nick Cooper plus strikes from Anup Kalyan and Andrew Vallom saw them bring up the nap hand by the final whistle.

Meanwhile, Oakley Sports championship hopes again took another knock, when they were held to a 0-0 draw at Renhold United, to now leave them trailing the league leaders by some 10 points and with only one game in hand over them.

For Campton, it was a 3-1 win at Wilshamstead to take their unbeaten ways to eight games. Adam Larsen shooting them ahead in the 26th minute, a lead they held until two minutes from the break when Michael Jones levelled matters. Andrew Hayday

then restored the visitors lead on 62 minutes, before the victory was cemented with a strike from Matt Irvine five minutes from time.

Down at the bottom end of the table, basement club Westoning Recreation Club saw their home game with Caldecote waterlogged off, leaving Southill Alexander to move out of the bottom two with a 4-2 victory at Sharnbrook. Goals from Marko Capontes and Jason Lynch in the opening period being added to by Lynch and Richard Lewin in the new period to take them 4-0 clear before Jack Hoogstaten and Ian Strange struck late for the home side.

Moving into that drop zone second from bottom slot are Dunton despite gaining a point from a 2-2 draw at Woburn. Lawrence Boshier from the penalty spot giving Dunton the lead on the half-hour mark until Aaron Ripley levelled matters five minutes from the break. The Safari Boys then pushed ahead via a Martin Holland strike five minutes into the second period until Nicky Threadgold saved the day for Dunton with the equalizer five minutes from time.

### **Division One**

For Division One league leaders Flitwick Town, it was the disappointment of a postponed game, when bottom of the table Kempston Hammers Sports failed to raise a side to travel to Steppingley Road to meet them. Their disappointment being severed with the news that second place Caldecote Reserves had been held to a 3-3 draw at FC Meppershall. Craig Damon shooting the home side ahead before a Jack Boyd penalty levelled matters up by the half-time break. Mark Endersby was then to restore the visitors lead, only to see Damon once again square matters at 2-2. Ryan Ambrose then placed Caldecote back in front five minutes from time and seemingly on their way to their sixth consecutive win until Luke Gunn pulled the trigger with the home sides equalizer two minutes from time to see the game finish 3-3.

Town's main rivals for the league crown however is emerging to be Leighton United, who now trail them by just 13 points but with six games in hand after they came from behind to take their unbeaten ways to nine games with a 3-1 home win over Bedford Sports Athletic. Athletic going ahead in the opening half with a goal from Gary Cananzo until in the second period a brace of goals from Asim Munir plus a goal from Alex Bradley won the day for United.

Elsewhere, fourth place Meltis Albion had to settle for a 2-2 home draw against Stevington. Scott Hannam giving the visitors the lead on 29 minutes before Shane Garlick levelled matters two minutes into the new period, Albion were then to edge ahead eight minutes from time via Asa Garlick until Eddie Haddow struck two minutes from time to earn Stevington a share of the spoils.

This result leaving Albion just two points clear of Marston Social, who have played two games fewer, after the Social ended Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves five game unbeaten home run with a 2-0 win. James Armstrong netting both goals, one in each half.

The local derby action at Groveside between Henlow and Sandy was to go the way of Henlow 4-3. Joe Fallano with a brace plus goals from Adam Cavell and a 30 yard free

kick from Greg Hall outscoring Sandy replies from Chris Baines, Ian Hammett and Philp Beal.

Kempston meanwhile have now lost their last six games after going down 1-2 on home soil against Blunham Reserves. Jason Rainbow and Matthew Geaves netting in the opening half for the visitors until Louis Prince reduced the deficit 20 minutes from time.

Campton Reserves plight down in second from bottom spot not being helped when they went down to their fifth consecutive home defeat 2-4 at the hands of AFC Kempston Town Reserves. Stuart Barnes, Gary Ingerson, Rob Gay and Fabio Ciantanni the Town marksman against home replies from Matthew Lawrence and Sam Larsen.

### Division One Table at 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

16 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Flitwick Town	25	18	1	6	59	35	+24	55
Caldecote Reserves	24	14	5	5	64	42	+22	47
Leighton United	19	13	3	3	58	26	+32	42
Meltis Albion	24	11	7	6	51	39	+12	40
Marston Social	21	11	5	5	48	32	+16	38
FC Meppershall	24	10	5	9	67	64	+3	35
Sandy	24	10	2	12	64	45	+19	32
Bedford Sports Athletic	22	9	4	9	56	51	+5	31
Blunham Reserves	25	9	4	12	38	55	-17	31
Kempston	22	10	0	12	48	58	-10	30
Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	21	9	2	10	43	49	-6	29
Henlow	21	9	2	10	43	51	-8	29
AFC Kempston Town Reserves	23	8	2	13	38	61	-23	26
Stevington	23	6	5	12	49	70	-21	23
Campton Reserves	23	5	2	16	41	70	-29	17
Kempston Hammers	21	4	1	16	47	66	-19	13

## Sports

Saturday, 05 September 2009: FC Meppershall v AFC Kempston Town Reserves - Away Win was awarded

Saturday, 03 April 2010: Flitwick Town v Kempston Hammers Sports - Home Win was awarded

### **Division Two**

It's as you were at start of play at the top of the Division Two league table following victories for all of the leading five sides. Bedford Hatters, the league leaders running out 10-2 home winners over Harpur FC. Ashley Deverall, Aaron Izzard and Scott Alleyne all scoring twice alongside Richard Cook, Jimmy Fay, Tom Redmond and Dean Waghorn, whilst the visitors replies came via Fabio Cataldo and Jordan Kumar.

Second place Potton Wanderers were however doing even better with a 13-1 win at Elstow Abbey. Sam Worthington with a brace of goals against a reply from Dave McCarthy seeing the Wanderers just 2-1 ahead at the break before they ran riot in the second period. Worthington taking his personal tally to four, only to be outdone by five goal Danny Fox, whilst adding to the scoreline were Dean Hamilton twice and Greg Instrell.

Meantime, third place Brache Sparta Community Centre were taking their unbeaten ways to nine games with a 5-2 win at Clifton. Haydon Fletcher with a hat-trick plus goals from Josh Langlais and Callum Jones doing the damage against home replies from Steve Albone and Barry Hallybone.

Arlesey Social Galacticos meanwhile remain in fourth slot after an 80th minute goal from Mark Hamilton gave them a 1-0 home win over Marabese Ceramics to stretch their unbeaten ways to seven games.

For fifth place Marston Shelton Rovers, it was a 3-1 win at Kings AFC, their first home defeat in seven outings. Lee Morgan giving the home side the lead 20 minutes into the game before an own goal levelled matters right on the stroke of half-time. Jimmy Burraway and Zennon Paul were then to strike in the opening 10 minutes of the second period to allow The Rovers to collect the full three points.

Elsewhere, Kempston Royals were coming up with their first win in seven outings via a 5-1 home victory over bottom of the table Shillington. Lorenzo Jordan netting twice alongside an own goal plus strikes from Michael Conney and Michael Cox against a Shills reply from Lewis Osborne.

The final game in this division ending 1-1 between Great Barford and Shefford Town. Chris Cooper shooting the home side ahead on 25 minutes until Town's Kieran Best levelled matters 20 minutes into the second half.

### Division Two Table at 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

14 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Bedford Hatters	20	16	2	2	88	28	+60	50
Potton Wanderers	19	15	2	2	86	22	+64	47
Brache Sparta Community Reserves	19	12	5	2	65	29	+36	41
Arlesey Social Galacticos	21	12	5	4	50	38	+12	41
Marston Shelton Rovers	19	12	4	3	62	29	+33	40
Shefford Town	20	7	5	8	49	49	+0	26
Kings AFC	19	7	4	8	60	52	+8	25
Harpur FC	20	7	3	10	50	73	-23	24
Kempston Royals	22	6	4	12	36	59	-23	22
Great Barford	23	6	4	13	40	66	-26	22
Marabese Ceramics	19	6	3	10	22	33	-11	21
Clifton	21	4	7	10	37	59	-22	19
Elstow Abbey 06	22	5	2	15	37	83	-46	17
Shillington [Saturday]	18	0	2	16	27	89	-62	2

### **Division Four**

Division four action this Easter weekend was a programme of just two games in which Sharnbrook Reserves took their winning ways to seven games, to go four points clear at the head of the league table with a 2-1 home win over Dinamo Flitwick. Bradley Miles from the penalty spot giving them the lead until Dean Myers squared matters up by the break and that's the way it looked likely to stay until Jordan Baxter netted the winning goal five minutes from time.

The second game giving third place M & DH Oakley a 4-3 home win over Flitwick Town Reserves, who were losing for the first time in eight outings. Martin Sillett, Shaun Caffety, Danny Lupon and Alex Gizcombe on the scoresheet for the home side against Town replies via Stuart Turner, Mark Bartlett and Daniel Read.

### Division Four League Table at 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

11 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Sharnbrook Reserves	16	13	1	2	54	14	+40	40
Sundon Park Rangers [Saturday]	17	11	3	3	70	23	+47	36
M & DH Oakley	16	11	0	5	48	27	+21	33
Flitwick Town Reserves	17	9	2	6	50	49	+1	29
Dinamo Flitwick	16	6	2	8	40	34	+6	20
Clifton Reserves	14	6	2	6	41	37	+4	20
Thurleigh	15	6	2	7	36	38	-2	20
Stewartby Village	16	6	0	10	38	50	-12	18
Eastcotts	13	5	2	6	31	31	+0	17
Kempston Athletic	15	3	0	12	32	69	-37	9
Bedford Park Rangers	17	3	0	14	20	88	-68	9

#### **Watson Shield Round Three**

Queens Park Crescents made their way into the Semi-Final of this seasons Watson Shield to earn a trip to either Sundon Park Rangers or M & DH Oakley after winning 3-2 at Riseley Sports Reserves. Tausees Masud, Ayaz Hussain and Shezad Sattar netting the vital goals against a home brace in reply from James Parker.

#### **Preview Saturday April 10th 2010.**

The battle for the Premier Division supported by Sportsform crown now looks down to a two horse race between Blunham and Ickwell & Old Warden, both clubs this weekend will be fully expected to keep their challenge on course with victories. Ickwell & Old Warden in home action on The Green, where they seek to take their unbeaten ways to 14 games with an eighth consecutive home win on the bounce against visitors Renhold United who have won just one of their last seven away games.

For Blunham, it's a trip on the road to Horseshoes Close to face Dunton. Blunham in search of their seventh consecutive away victory to take their own unbeaten league ways to 14 games against a home side whose only two home wins of the season came way back in the opening month of the season over Southill Alexander and Woburn.

The tussle to finish third also now looks a straight fight between reigning champions Caldecote and Oakley Sports. Caldecote hitting the road to Rectory Road looking for their fourth league win on the bounce against a Campton side that seeks to take it's unbeaten home ways up to six games.

Whilst for Oakley Sports, it's the search to stretch their unbeaten home ways to five games against Woburn, The Safari Boys having developed the knack this season of coming up with the odd surprise result or two.

Down at the bottom end of the table, Westoning Recreation Club are already in the last chance saloon to avoid the drop when they go into home Greenfield Road action seeking to end a six game losing run when paid a visit by Wilshamstead. The visitors come calling looking for their first away success since winning at Woburn back in October.

Meanwhile, Southill Alexander are in home Carlsberg Stadium action seeking their third home win on the bounce and a quick fire season's double against Sharnbrook. Whilst the days final top flight action comes at Hillgrounds, where AFC Kempston Town take on a Biggleswade United Reserves outfit that has lost its last three away games.

Like in the top division, the battle for the division one championship looks to be a two club affair between Flitwick Town and Leighton United. Both this weekend face tricky away games, Town heading to Moggerhanger Playing Fields to face a Blunham Reserves side that will be keen to return to winning home ways after three unsuccessful outings. Whilst United head to Miller Road in search of their fourth away win on the bounce against a Meltis Albion side that is still very much in the mix to finish the season in third spot.

The favourites however for that third spot finish at the moment are Caldecote Reserves, who will be in home action at Harvey Close seeking their fifth home win on the bounce against visitors FC Meppershall who travel now unbeaten in their last four away outings.

Joining Caldecote and The Albion in that third place hunt are Marston Social, who will be fully expected to collect the full three points and their sixth home win on the bounce when they host bottom of the table Kempston Hammers Sports who make the journey to Marston Playing Fields, losers of their last seven games.

It's derby action at Bedford Road Recreation Ground where hosts Sandy take on Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves. The home side looking to take their unbeaten home ways to six games and gain their revenge for a defeat on The Green just a fortnight ago.

At Groveside, Henlow will have high hopes of collecting the full three points when paid a visit by a Bedford Sports Athletic side that has won just three times on the road this season.

The final action in this section coming at Cutler Hammer, where Campton Reserves journey seeking their first win in five away outings against hosts Kempston who have lost all of their last six games.

The division two championship race also replicates the top two divisions with the battle looking to be between Bedford Hatters and Potton Wanderers, both clubs this weekend facing trips on the road. Hatters on their way to defend their seasons unbeaten away record at Greenfield's against bottom of the table Shillington who are yet to claim their first home point of the season.

Whilst for Potton Wanderers, its a trip to King George VI Playing Fields and a meeting with Kings AFC in search of a quick seasons double over their hosts who they beat 6-1 at Mill Lane on the last weekend of March.

The quest for that third place finish now coming to the boil with a trio of sides involved. Two of them will have home advantage this weekend, Brache Sparta Community Reserves defending their season's unbeaten home ways against Marabese Ceramics at Dallow Road. Whilst over at Arlesey Playing Fields, Arlesey Social Galacticos now unbeaten in their last seven games take on Harpur FC.

The trio of third place seekers being made up by Marston Shelton Rovers, who head to Hillgrounds, and a meeting with relegation haunted Kempston Royals.

For fellow strugglers Elstow Abbey, its home Warren action against Shefford Town seeking out their first win in six outings against a Town side that has won just twice on the road all season.

The days final action in this division seeing Great Barford go into home Playing Fields action against Clifton.

The highlight of the fixture list for the lower division sides falls on to the ties in Round Three of this season's Watson Shield. Sundon Park Rangers taking on M & DH Oakley in Stockwood Park for whom the winners will enjoy home advantage at the Semi-Final stage against Queens Park Crescents. Whilst at Steppingley Road, Flitwick Town Reserves host Eastcotts, a home tie awaits the winners against Lidlinton United Sports or Renhold Village who take each other on at Hurst Grove.

In Division Three league action, its a home game for the top of the table Queens Park Crescents defending their seasons unbeaten home record in Mowsbury Park against visitors Dunton Reserves who travel looking to take their current unbeaten away record up to five games.

For Stopsley Park, it's a chance to return to winning home ways when visited by a Riseley Sports Reserves side that has not won on the road this season. Whilst bottom of the table Sandy Reserves are heading to Houghton Conquest Playing Fields to take on Wilshamstead Reserves, also looking for that first elusive away win of the season.

The final game coming at Greenfield Road, where hosts Westoning Recreation Club Reserves seek to end a barren run of five games without a win when visited by a Caldecote A side that has lost just once in its own last five outings.

The Division four league programme being made up of just three games. At Lodge Road, league leaders Sharnbrook Reserves will be expected to collect win number eight on the bounce against Stewartby Village. Whilst just down the road at Keysoe Road, Thurleigh take on a Kempston Athletic side that has won just once on the road this season.

The third and final fixture coming at Whiston Crescent where Clifton Reserves receive a visit from Dinamo Flitwick.

Following on from this action, games are scheduled to be played on Monday April 12th and Wednesday April 14th for which a full preview will appear in the website [www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk](http://www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk) during the day on Sunday April 11th.

NB. Please note this preview was written ahead of the midweek games played between April 5th and April 7th.