



Bedfordshire Football League **January 2009 Newsletter**



2008 Gone But Not Forgotten Part One

The action for the year was to open on **January 5th** where the main spotlight was to fall onto the quarter-final ties in The Bedfordshire Senior Trophy but just one of the five competing Bedfordshire Football League clubs made it into the hat for the Semi-Final draw that club being **Caldecote** who with four goals from Matt Basta and strikes for Nathan Buckland and Gary Webster netted a 6-1 home win over **Luton Borough**.

For **Meltis Corinthians** beaten 3-1 at AFC Dunstable, **AFC Kempston Town** beaten 7-3 at Kents Athletic and **Sharnbrook** 0-5 home losers against Arlesey Athletic it was the end of the road.

In the limited Premier Division action, **Campton** the league leaders with four goals from Gary Gibson, a brace from Andrew Hayday plus an own goal and single strikes from Wayne Goldsmith, James Wilshaw and Paul Still were 10-1 winners over **Woburn** to stay top of the table on goal difference from **Sandy** who run out 4-1 victors over **Wilshamstead** thanks to goals from Matthew McCartney, Bill Sells, David Smith and Steve Thomas.

Division One Supported By Sportsform action saw wins for the top three sides, **Bedford SA** remaining two points clear at the head of the table after goals from Ian Collins, Mark Kelly and Garath Arzu took them to a 3-1 win over **Royal Oak Kempston** whilst second place **Dunton** were 7-1 home winners over **Westoning Recreation Club Reserves**, Lee Threadgold leading the way with a hattrick, Tom McGhee netting twice alongside single strikes from Dave Gibbs and David Pugh to keep them goal difference clear of **Henlow** who with two goals from Pete Saunders were 2-0 winners at Groveside over bottom of the table **Elstow Abbey**.

In Division Two, **Meltis Albion** remained on top of the table after a hattrick from Scott Allyene plus two goals from Darren Ashpole saw them beat **Mulberry Bush** 5-0 on home soil but jumping up into second spot were **Bedford College** who ended the previous occupants **Great Barford's** seven game winning run with a 3-1 win thanks to goals from Ben Hooper, Sammy Guiry and Shaun Chanill.

In Division Three, **Blue Chip** held onto their three point lead at the head of the table after a 7-1 home romp over **Potton Wanderers**, Bradley Miles firing a hattrick and supported by single strikes from Carl Townsend, Callum Stuart, James Bowen and Daniel Avis whilst second place **Kings AFC** kept up the pressure by extending their unbeaten ways to thirteen games with a 5-2 home win over **Caldecote A**, Nathan Clements netting three times alongside Marcus Tomlin and Danny Cain.

January 12th was to see Premier Division league leaders **Campton** without a game and **Sandy** take full advantage to climb to the head of the standings when a 90th minute winner from David Lenton took them to a 2-1 win at **Riseley Sports** after earlier goals from the home sides Paul Brown and **Sandy's** Rob Gaylor had seen the game looking likely to end in stalemate.

Elsewhere, goals from Nicky Threadgold and Daniel Whitten saw **Blunham** with a 2-0 home win end **Meltis Corinthians** four game winning run whilst **Wilshamstead** were sent to their seventh consecutive defeat when beaten 1-6 at home by **Renhold United**, Sam Maddix on his United debut netting a hat-trick, Xennon Paul on the scoresheet twice plus a own goal.

On the day when waterlogged pitches were causing several games to be postponed the stand out result in Division One Supported By Sportsform saw **Marston Social** end **Sandy Reserves** six game unbeaten home run and lift themselves off the bottom of the table with a 6-1 win, Simon Steele bagging four goals supported by strikes from Nick Sherwood and Antony Deacon.

It was also Round Three in The Bedfordshire Junior Cup where Division Three club **Marsh Leys** came up with the result of the day in winning 3-1 at Groveside against Division One title chasers **Henlow** with goals from James Field, Kerion Walsh and Simon Wade.

Division Two action saw **Clifton** lose for the fourth time on the bounce at home when beaten 0-5 by **Mulberry Bush**, Gary Canzano netting four times and Shaun Atkins once whilst the Division Three top goal scorers were **Marabese Ceramics** 7-0 at home over **Stewartby Village**

January 19th was to see twenty of the days twenty-five fixtures being postponed due to waterlogged pitches but action in the Premier Division did go ahead at Harvey Close where hosts **Caldecote** lost their seasons unbeaten home record when beaten 2-3 by local rivals **Ickwell & Old Warden** for whom Zak Rowe netted a brace and Greg Instrell was also on the scoresheet to home replies from Matt Basta and Nathan Buckland.

The sole game in Division One Supported by Sportsform took **Reddings Wood** to a 2-1 win at **Marston Social** and the sole Division Two encounter saw **Blunham Reserves** pick up their fourth win on the bounce with a 7-3 home win over **Clifton**.

The days other two games coming in Division Three where league leaders **Blue Chip** took their unbeaten ways to seven games with a 5-2 win at **Twinwoods Thistle** and **Potton Wanderers** netted twice in the closing five minutes to win 5-4 at bottom of the table **Exel United**.

Action was back to normal on **January 26th** in The Premier Division, **Sandy** increased their lead at the head of the league table to five points with a 7-0 home win over **Riseley Sports**, Steve Thomas netting four times, Gary Fil twice and Rob Gaylor once as second place Campton needed two late goals to earn a share of the points in a 3-3 draw at **Sharnbrook**.

Oakley Sports meanwhile were closing the gap on **Campton** to just two points with a 5-0 win at **Woburn** thanks to braces of goals from Sam Donadio and Jamie McLennan plus a strike from Matt Redmond whilst a penalty miss from Andrew Vallom meant **Ickwell & Old Warden** had to settle for a 2-2 draw at **Luton Borough**.

In Britannia Cup action holders **Westoning Recreation Club** were beat by a Justin Patterson goal at **Meltis Corinthians** whilst **Blunham** needed extra time to overcome **Wilshamstead** 4-1 as did **Caldecote** at Harvey Close to beat **Renhold United** 2-1.

In Division One Supported By Sportsform, **Henlow** climbed to the top of the table for the first time during the season when a lone goal was enough to see them win 1-0 at **Caldecote Reserves** whilst at the bottom end of the table **Royal Oak Kempston** eased their drop fears with a 2-1 win over **Reddings Wood** with goals from Paul Stevens and Sanjeev Kalyan.

In the Quarter-Final of The Centenary Cup **Campton Reserves** with goals from Ollie Morgan and Neil Ellis won 2-0 at home over **Flitwick Town** to set up a Semi-Final meeting with **AFC Kempston Town Reserves** who with goals from Stuart Barnes and Phil Gadeuj won 2-1 at **Stevington**.

In the other half of the draw things were a lot easier **Bedford SA** romping to a 7-0 home victory over **Kempston** to now face **Marston Social** 6-0 home winners over **Elstow Abbey**.

In the Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup third round, **Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves** came up with the result of the day to claim a 2-1 home win over Division One high flyers **Dunton**.

Meanwhile **Bedford College** went back to the top of the Division Two table after claming an easy 6-0 home win over bottom of the table **Renhold Village**.

In the Jubilee Cup, **Great Barford** won 6-3 at **Meppershall Jurassic** whilst the **Oakley Sports Reserves** v **Blunham Reserves** game ended in a 7-7 draw and with **Blunham** refusing to play extra time the tie was later awarded to the home side.

In the other half of the draw **Clifton** won 6-2 at **Newham Athletic** to earn a trip to either **Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves** or **Bedford College** in the Semi-Final.

In Division Three league action **Flitwick Town Reserves** were the days top scorers slotting seven goals past **Lidlington United Sports Reserves** without reply.

Meanwhile in The Watson Shield there were wins for **Meltis Corinthians Reserves** 4-1 over **Marsh Leys**, **Marabese Ceramics** 2-0 at **Blue Chip** and for **Riseley Sports Reserves** who needed a penalty shoot-out to overcome **Potton Wanderers**.

The action for **February** was to get underway on the 2nd when in the Premier Division **Sandy** had their lead at the head of the table cut to just two points after losing 3-1 at **AFC Kempston Town** who with a brace of goals from Tom Pitts plus a strike from Andy Smith were making it five home wins on the bounce whilst second

place **Campton** were winning 4-0 at **Oakley Sports** thanks to an own goal plus strikes from Lee Bilcock, Andrew Hayday, and Dave McArthur on the scoresheet for the first time in twelve seasons.

Meanwhile their were also top flight wins for **Blunham** 7-1 at home over **Renhold United**, **Ickwell & Old Warden** 2-1 at bottom club **Woburn**, **Sharnbrook** 1-0 at **Wilshamstead** to move out of the bottom two, **Luton Borough** 3-1 at **Riseley Sports** plus **Westoning Recreation Club** gained revenge for their Britannia Cup defeat seven days earlier with a 3-2 home win over **Meltis Corinthians**.

In Division One, **Henlow** with a goal from Pete Saunders were 1-0 home winners over **Bedford SA** to take a three point lead at the head of the table from **Dunton** who needed a last minute goal from Tim Jarman to win 4-3 at **Reddings Wood**.

Down at the bottom of the table **Marston Social** lifted themselves out of the bottom two with a 3-2 away win at Royal Oak Kempston but for bottom club **Elstow Abbey** it was a ninth consecutive home defeat when beaten 2-1 by **Kempston**.

In Division Two, **Bedford College** took their lead at the head of the table up to six points when two goals from Nicole Stanchev plus a strike from Yudi Ichikawa saw them win 3-0 at home over **Saffron** whilst their two nearest rivals were suffering home defeats, **Meltis Albion** 2-3 at the hands of **Meppershall Jurassic** and **Great Barford** 2-4 against **Oakley Sports Reserves**.

Down at the bottom of the table all the bottom three sides lost again to leave an unchanged league table, **Woburn Reserves** 5-3 at **Putnoe United**, **Renhold Village** 0-2 at home against **Blunham Reserves** and **Lidlington United Sports** 5-2 at **Newham Athletic**.

In Division Three, **Blue Chip** took their lead at the head of the table to nine points when goals from Cullam Stuart, Carl Townsend and Tony Goodwin took them to a 3-0 home win over **Meppershall AFC** whilst second place **Kings AFC** were being held to a 0-0 by **Marabese Ceramics**.

But the Division Three result of the day belonged to **Lidlington United Sports Reserves** who after fifteenth straight defeats at last gained a point from a 3-3 home draw with **Stewartby Village**.

Action on **February 9th** saw **Sandy** hold onto their two point lead at the head of the Premier Division table after a lone goal from Gary Fil two minutes from time took them to a 1-0 home win over **Westoning Recreation Club** whilst their nearest rivals **Campton** needed an own goal plus a strike from Andrew Hayday to net a 2-0 home win over **Wilshamstead**.

The top two sides pulling further clear of third place **Oakley Sports** who were beat 4-0 at **Caldecote** where Leeroy Odd netted twice alongside Aiden Jones and Kai Griffiths-Shilton.

Other top flight games saw **Luton Borough** lose 1-4 at home against **Wilshamstead**, **Meltis Corinthians** win 2-1 at **Woburn**, **Sharnbrook** beat **Riseley Sports** 2-1 at

Lodge Road and **Renhold United** win by the same scoreline at home against **AFC Kempston Town**.

In Division One Supported By Sportsform, **Dunton** climbed back onto the top of the table with a 7-0 home win over **Royal Oak Kempston** thanks to a hattrick from Tim Jarman alongside a brace from David Pugh and strikes from Tom McGhee and Wayne Morris as start of play leaders **Henlow** were beat 1-0 at **Flitwick Town** thanks to a goal from Mark Bartlett, whilst **Bedford SA** kept in the title race with a 5-3 home win over **Campton Reserves**.

Elsewhere **Westoning Recreation Club Reserves** ended a five game losing away run with a 1-0 win at **AFC Kempston Town Reserves** whilst bottom club **Elstow Abbey** were beat 8-0 at **Marston Social**.

With Division Two league leaders **Bedford College** away in Jubilee Cup action winning 6-3 at **Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves** both **Meltis Albion** and **Great Barford** moved to within three points of them with wins, **Albion** winning 7-3 at **Saffron** and **Great Barford** chalking up a 5-1 win at **Lidlington United Sports**.

Meanwhile the battle of the bottom two sides saw **Renhold Village** thanks to a hattrick from Giles Sowerby plus goals from Will Gray and Andrew Murray win 5-2 at **Woburn Reserves** whose replies came from Matt Holland and Sam Walker.

The top sides in Division Three were either sitting the afternoon out or in Watson Shield action but it was a day to remember for **Exel United** who with a goal from Pasquale D'Anna netted their first win of the season 1-0 at home over **Twinwoods Thistle**.

Action on **February 16th** saw Premier Division league leaders **Sandy** have their lead at the head of the table cut back to just two points when they were beat 3-2 away at **Meltis Corinthians** for whom Dean Warren struck twice and Moby Hussian to replies from Steve Thomas and Gary Fil whilst second place **Campton** were less than a minute away from reclaiming the top spot before Andy Wood popped up to earn his side **Riseley Sports** a share of the spoils in a 2-2 draw at Gold Street.

Elsewhere, **Ickwell & Old Warden** took their unbeaten ways to seven games by winning at **Oakley Sports** 2-0 thanks to goals from Danny Fox and Andrew Vallom whilst **AFC Kempston Town** lost their five game winning home tag by being beat 2-1 by **Luton Borough**,

The other top flight games seeing **Wilshamstead** lose game number ten on the bounce when beaten at home 4-2 by **Caldecote** and **Blunham** held to a 2-2 home draw by **Sharnbrook**.

In Division One Supported By Sportsform, **Dunton** clung onto the top spot and took their unbeaten ways to ten games with a 3-1 win at **Elstow Abbey** has **Henlow** kept the pressure on with a 1-0 home win over **Kempston** thanks to a goal from Pete Saunders to remain unbeaten at Groveside for the season.

Other notable results in this division saw **Royal Oak Kempston** climb out of the drop zone with a 3-2 home win over **Stevington** at the expense of **AFC Kempston Town Reserves** who were beat 5-0 at **Reddings Wood**.

In The Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup Quarter-Final ties, **Bedford SA** won 3-1 at **Marsh Leys**, **Meltis Albion** won 3-2 at **Westoning Recreation Club Reserves**, **Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves** overcome **USL Galaticos** 1-0 on The Green whilst **Flitwick Town** went down 0-1 at home to **Luton Leagrave**.

In Division Two, **Bedford College** took their lead at the head of the table up to six points with a 2-1 win at **Putnoe United** whilst **Great Barford** failed to climb into second spot over the cup playing **Meltis Albion** when beat 1-2 on home soil against **Mulberry Bush**.

Down at the bottom of the table it was a red letter day for **Woburn Reserves** who came up with only their second win of the season 2-0 at **Marston Shelton Rovers**.

In Division Three there were wins for all of the top three sides, leaders **Blue Chip** 5-2 at home over **Wilshamstead Reserves**, **Meltis Corinthians Reserves** 4-1 at **Twinwoods Thistle** and third place **Kings AFC** 5-1 home winners over **Flitwick Town Reserves**.

On **February 23rd**, **Caldecote** became the toast of The Bedfordshire Football League when they netted a 6-3 extra time win at **Kents Athletic** to make it into the final of the 2007-08 Bedfordshire FA Senior Trophy.

Whist on the domestic cup front **Sandy** emerged penalty shoot-out winners at **AFC Kempston Town** in the Quarter-Final of The Britannia Cup but it was to come at the cost of a serious injury to goalkeeper James Day which was contribute vastly to their end of season league form which saw them drop out of the title race over the coming weeks.

In The Premier Division, **Campton** regained the top spot in the league table with a 5-3 home win over **Blunham** whilst **Ickwell & Old Warden** moved up to third slot with a 2-1 home victory over **Wilshamstead**.

At the bottom of the table **Woburn's** plight now looks beyond recall after they lost 6-0 at **Sharnbrook**.

In Division One Supported By Sportsform it was shocks all round with defeats for the top two clubs, **Dunton** going down 0-2 at home against **Caldecote Reserves** whilst **Henlow** were beat 2-1 at **Marston Social**, all of which only helped **Bedford SA** who won 10-0 at **Kempston**.

At the bottom of the table, **Royal Oak Kempston** are now back in the drop zone after a 5-2 defeat at **AFC Kempston Town Reserves** who now climb above them in the league table.

There were also shocks in Division Two where league leaders **Bedford College** were beat 2-0 at **Oakley Sports Reserves** and their lead at the head of the table cut to just three points after **Meltis Albion** came up with a 2-1 home win over **Clifton**.

In The Watson Shield Semi-Finals, **Kings AFC** were 1-0 home winners over **Meltis Corinthians Reserves** whilst **Riseley Sports Reserves** beat **Marabese Ceramics** 2-0.

In the Division Three league action, **Potton Wanderers** made it five wins on the bounce with a 1-0 home win over **Marsh Leys** whilst **Sandy A** claimed a third consecutive win 3-2 at **Twinwoods Thistle**.

Part Two of our 2008 lookback will appear in our February Newsletter.

Quiz Answers from our December 2007 Newsletter Letter

The seven boys or girls names which appear in the titles of current Bedfordshire Football League clubs are, **Clifton**, **Leighton United**, **Sandy**, **Stewartby Village**, **Wilhamstead**, **Saffron** and **Elstow Abbey**.

The last **teams** no longer in Bedfordshire Football League membership to have won the Britannia Cup was **St Cuthberts** in 1999-2000 if you accept the current **Elstow Abbey 06** are a reformation of 2002-03 winners **Elstow Abbey**.

In The Aubrey Tingey Cup its **Three Horseshoes Renhold** in 2003-04, in The Jubilee Cup its **Denbigh Hall S&S Club** in 2004-05 and in The Watson Shield its **Stevington Reserves** in 2003-04.

What does not appear on the CV of the league's Press & Media Secretary Peter Francis that appears on all of the other current Manangement committee CV is **that he has never been or his a current Registered Referee**

The sight of the **Kings Cross to Edinburgh Railway Line** is the thing that can only be seen from the home ground of Sandy A and not at any other Division Three side,.

The five sides to concede over 100goals during the 2007-08 Bedfordshire Football League season were, **Woburn**, **Blunham Reserves**, **Stewartby Village**, **Lidlington United Sports Reserves** and **Exel United**.

The former Bedford & District League club to have shared its name with a now long gone famous sporting venue was **White City**.

There are **42** leagues in the current National League System at Level Seven.

The Bedford & District Football League became The Bedfordshire Football League at the start of the **2006-07 season**.

Ian Hammett of **Sandy FC** netted the first ever Bedfordshire Football League Premier Division hattrick at Turvey on September 9th 2006.

The five clubs that started that first ever Bedfordshire Football League Premier Division season that no longer ply their trade in the top division today are, **Goldington Lions, Luton Borough, Westoning Recreation Club, Turvey and Sandy.**

The ten clubs that started that first ever Bedfordshire Football League season that are no longer in league membership are, **Goldington Lions, Luton Borough, Turvey, Blunham Village, Exel United, Russell Park United, Newham Athletic, Putnoe United, Twinwoods Thistle and Biggleswade Athletic.**

The three clubs that started that first ever Bedfordshire Football League that remain in league membership under a changed name are, **Bedford SA, Bedford Albion and Reddings Wood.**

Bedfordshire FA Senior Cup Semi-Final Draw

Oakley Sports v The 61FC Luton

Cranfield United v AFC Kempston Rovers

Games to be played on Saturday 21st February 2009, Kick Off 2.30pm

Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup Quarter-Final Draw

Potton Wanderers v Blunham Reserves or Farley Boys

Marsh Leys v USL Galacticos

Kings AFC v Caldecote A

Great Barford v Marabese Ceramics

Games to be played on Saturday 14th February 2009, Kick Off 2.30pm