



Bedfordshire County **Football League**

Season 2011-12

News Bulletin Number 31



Groundhopper Red Robbo visits Oakley on March 24th 2012

**Oakley Sports 3, AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College 0.
Britannia Cup semi final**

**M & DH Oakley 2, Shefford Town & Campton reserves 3
Beds League Division 2**

Admission; None, Programme; Yes, free for the Oakley Sports game

On a Saturday when it felt like Summer had arrived I ventured into the Bedfordshire League and a new venue, Oakley Sports. There were two matches taking place here this afternoon, the first a Bedfordshire League Britannia Cup semi final between Premier division side Oakley Sports and AFC Kempston Town and Bedford College. This game had an early kick off of 1pm. Programmes for the game could be found in the social club and they were free! The game itself saw a predominately young Kempston side give a good account of themselves and they were only goal down at the break. In the second half Oakley booked their place in the final with two further goals but the visitors played well enough but lacked a finish when it mattered.

With a clear result in the Cup tie, the second game of the day (ko 3.30pm) was a Beds League 2nd Division game between M & DH Oakley and Shefford Town and Campton reserves. Again it was young reserve team with just a few older players. M & DH went in at half time 2-1 up but as the second half went on you fancied the younger Shefford team to last the distance perhaps get something out of the game. This they duly achieved with equaliser and a terrific winner in stoppage time to take the points 2-3.

Action Round Up Saturday 31st March 2012.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform

Its as you were at the top of the Premier Division supported by Sportsform standings following wins for all of the leading four clubs. League leaders Shefford Town & Campton remaining four points clear at the head of the summit by taking their current winning run up to 11 games with a 4-1 home victory over AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College. Michael Jones with a hat-trick plus a strike from Lee Bilcock only being replied to by Town's Tom Behan.

For second place Bedford Hatters, it was win number five on the bounce via a 3-1 home victory over Oakley Sports. Michael Fry netting twice and Mark Reed once against a Sportsman's reply from Jamie Endersby.

In third spot just a point shy of the Hatters but with two games in hand are Caldecote, for them it was a 4-1 home victory over Flitwick Town. Tom Cookman twice, Jack Gabbitas once and Kai Griffiths-Shilton from the penalty spot seeing their goals only replied to by Peter Kouwenberg for The Town.

Elsewhere, fourth place Renhold United notched up their seventh away win on the bounce and took their current unbeaten run up to 14 games by winning 5-0 at Sharnbrook. Tommy Foyle with a brace plus goals from Ashley Banks, Jason Patterson and Kane Alexander doing the damage.

Down at the other end of the table it was a good day for second from bottom Woburn, following nine straight defeats they returned to winning ways with a 2-1 win at Arlesey Town Reserves. Daniel McClaren and Martin Holland shooting them 2-0 ahead before Daniel Drury struck home a late reply.

Meantime at Jubilee Playing Fields, Wilshamstead and Blunham shared the spoils in a 2-2 draw. Paul Jones and Paul Dwyer on the home scoresheet against replies from Jordan Henry and Ed Davis.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform League Table at 1st April 2012

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME	AWAY	OVERALL	GD	PTS
			W D L F A	W D L F A	W D L F A		
1	Shefford Town & Campton	20	9 1 0 42 10 8	0 2 3 5 11 17 1	2 7 7 21 5 6	52	
2	Bedford Hatters	22	8 1 3 29 17 7	2 1 2 9 19 15 3	4 5 8 36 22	48	
3	Caldecote	20	9 0 1 38 13 6	2 2 3 0 15 15 2	3 6 8 28 40	47	
4	Renhold United	21	5 3 2 25 17 7	0 4 2 9 13 12 3	6 5 4 30 24	39	
5	Oakley Sports	21	4 4 3 19 13 4	3 3 3 2 19 8	7 6 5 13 2 19	31	
6	Wilshamstead	22	3 3 5 23 28 5	3 3 2 3 20 8	6 8 4 6 48 -2	30	
7	Arlesey Town Reserves	23	4 2 5 14 16 5	1 6 2 2 25 9	3 11 3 6 41 -5	30	
8	Blunham	23	7 0 4 27 22 1	3 8 1 4 32 8	3 12 4 1 54 -13	27	
9	Sharnbrook	22	4 3 5 16 28 3	1 6 1 3 30 7	4 11 2 9 58 -29	25	
10	AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College	21	3 1 5 19 27 3	4 5 2 1 30 6	5 10 4 0 57 -17	23	
11	Flitwick Town	23	4 1 7 19 28 2	3 6 1 6 24 6	4 13 3 5 52 -17	22	
12	Dunton	22	3 2 6 15 26 1	1 9 1 2 31 4	3 15 2 7 57 -30	15	
13	Woburn	22	1 2 8 19 42 2	0 9 1 1 36 3	2 17 3 0 78 -48	11	

Division One

Just like in the top flight there were wins for all of the leading four clubs. Ickwell & Old Warden the current league leaders retaining their season's unbeaten home ways and notching up win number seven on the bounce with a 7-1 victory over Luton Boys. Lee Threadgold, Steve Thomas and Anup Kalyan all netting twice alongside an Andrew Vallom penalty against a lone reply from Ibrahim Sal.

In second spot by virtue of goal difference are Bedford Sports Athletic, for them it was the taking of their unbeaten ways up to eight games with a 5-1 home win over Caldecote Reserves. Asa Mead netting three times, an own goal and a strike from Andrew Latimer bringing up the nap hand against a lone reply from George Radley.

Sitting in third place on the same number of points as the leading two clubs are Marston Shelton Rovers, for them it was a 3-1 home win over Meltis Albion. Jim Burraway, Alan Cudjoe and Lee Dudley all finding the back of the net against a lone Albion reply from Libero Battezzato.

For fourth place Lidlington United Sports it was a return to winning ways with a 3-0 victory at Henlow, Darren Sims, Jon Smith and Nicky Barton netting the goals that did the damage.

Down at the other end of the table, bottom club Westoning are now without a win in their last 11 outings after going down 2-1 at home against a Lea Sports PSG side who were thus taking their own unbeaten ways up to 12 games. Ian Hyde netting both goals against a home reply from Tom Smith.

For third from bottom of the table Kings AFC it was the share of the spoils in a 1-1 draw at Sandy, Dan Stafford on the home scoresheet against a Kings reply from Josh Clements. Alas both clubs have now failed to win any of their last seven league outings.

Elsewhere, FC Meppershall ran out 1-0 winners at AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves thanks to a strike from Padraic Walsh.

Division One League Table at 31st March 2012

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GDPTS		
			W	D	L	F	A		W	D	L	F	A	
1	Ickwell & Old Warden	20	9	2	0	41	10	6	2	1	3	26	4	7
2	Bedford SA	21	8	0	2	37	14	7	4	0	3	15	1	5
3	Marston Shelton Rovers	23	7	3	1	30	14	7	4	1	2	12	1	4
4	Lidlington United Sports	22	8	4	0	40	12	5	3	2	2	14	1	3
5	Sandy	23	5	4	4	42	28	6	1	3	2	20	1	1
6	FC Meppershall	21	5	3	3	34	18	5	2	3	2	16	1	0
7	Lea Sports PSG	23	2	6	3	20	19	4	6	2	2	13	6	1
8	Henlow	23	3	3	6	25	33	5	2	4	1	19	1	8
9	Luton Boys	23	5	3	4	36	27	2	2	7	3	0	4	4
10	Caldecote Reserves	20	5	1	3	31	22	2	2	7	2	0	3	6
11	AFC Kempston Tn & Bedford Coll Reserves	23	3	2	5	11	17	3	1	9	2	2	4	4
12	Kings AFC	21	2	2	6	17	29	1	3	7	2	3	4	6
13	Meltis Albion	23	0	1	9	3	3	6	2	8	1	8	5	7
14	Westoning	24	1	1	1	18	42	1	1	9	1	3	3	4

Division Two

Elstow Abbey remain six points clear at the head of the division two standings after they retained their season's unbeaten ways with a 0-0 home draw against second place AFC Turvey who thus lost their proud 100% season's away record.

For third place Pavenham, it was win number six on the bounce in a 2-0 victory at Bromham United, James Owen and Tom Rodger their goalscorers. Whilst fourth place Shefford Town & Campton Reserves won by the same 2-0 scoreline at Stopsley Park, Sam Welton and Sam Martin netting the goals to give The Town their fifth away win on the bounce.

In fifth place are Sundon Park Rangers, for them it was a 5-2 victory at Clifton. Sam Chapman with a hat-trick plus goals from Edward Lewis and Matthew Conway only being replied to by

Lee Austin and Barry Hallybone for a Clifton side who remain in second from bottom position and now without a home win from their last seven outings.

Just goal difference above Clifton in the league standings are M & DH Oakley, for them it was defeat number six on the bounce when beaten 2-0 at home by a Queens Park Crescents side who were returning to winning ways for the first time in eight outings thanks to goals from Imran Khan and Luke Sozzo.

The biggest score of the day belongs to Co-op Sports, for them it was a 14-1 home win over bottom of the table Great Barford. Chris Vardy and Rowan Markland both netting four times, Tom McMillan twice plus strikes from Tom Furr, Richard Smith and Paul Power being added to by an own goal, whilst the visitors reply was also an own goal.

Elsewhere, Potton United Reserves six game unbeaten run was ended by a 3-2 home defeat at the hands of Marabese Ceramics. Lewis Littlechild netting all three goals against home replies via a Ben Talbot penalty and Sam Worthington.

Division Two League Table at 31st March 2012

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GDPTS			
			WDL	F	A	WDL	F	A	WDL	F	A				
1	Elstow Abbey	20	9	2	0	41	8	1	0	3	6	5	17	3	
2	AFC Turvey	20	7	2	2	37	21	8	1	0	3	14	15	3	
3	Pavenham	21	7	1	2	38	11	7	2	2	3	0	11	14	
4	Shefford Town & Campton Reserves	23	5	1	4	26	24	6	3	4	2	0	25	11	4
5	Sundon Park Rangers [Saturday]	19	4	2	3	33	16	6	2	2	3	1	23	10	4
6	Co-op Sports	21	7	2	4	46	27	3	0	5	13	23	10	2	9
7	Bromham United	22	5	2	5	28	19	5	0	5	19	23	10	2	10
8	Potton United Reserves	21	6	0	3	20	20	4	2	6	26	25	10	2	9
9	Queens Park Crescents	22	4	3	4	24	18	4	3	4	26	34	8	6	5
10	Marabese Ceramics	21	4	2	4	18	17	3	2	6	16	24	7	4	10
11	Stopsley Park	23	3	1	7	20	33	4	2	6	32	38	7	3	13
12	M & DH Oakley	21	2	0	7	12	25	4	0	8	16	36	6	0	15
13	Clifton	25	1	2	10	13	34	4	1	7	17	32	5	3	17
14	Great Barford	23	0	0	12	6	49	1	1	9	9	59	1	21	15

Division Three

Cranfield United Reserves lead at the head of the division three league table is now up to seven points following their 2-1 home win over Stevington, Simon Wade and Richard Stimpson on the United scoresheet against a lone reply from Jon Devereux.

United stretching their lead by a point after Eastcotts AFC jumped above second place Goldington by beating them 1-0 on their own patch, Oliver Bates netting the lone goal just five minutes from time to give his side a seventh consecutive win. Goldington however due to injury had played with 10 men since half-time and just nine men following a red card for Jason Calvert some 10 minutes before the goal arrived.

There was also another setback for promotion chasing Renhold Village, it came in form of a 1-0 home defeat at the hands of Kempston Hammers Sports. Nathan Evans netting the lone goal to return the Hammers to winning ways for the first time in six outings.

Also winning on the road were Sundon Park Rangers Colts, for them it was win number five on the bounce with a 2-1 victory at Riseley Sports. Colin Moore and Lee Redmond finding the back of the net against a home reply from Jack Henman.

Elsewhere, second from bottom of the table Flitwick Town Reserves claimed their third win on the bounce with a 3-1 home victory over bottom of the table Dunton Reserves. Ryan Short, Ben Ward and Darryl Stringer all finding the back of the net against a Dunton reply via Joe Lewis.

Division Three League Table at 31st March 2012

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GD	PTS
			W	D	L	F	A		W	D	L	F	A
1	Cranfield United Reserves	22	6	0	3	19	11	11	1	1	1	43	17
2	Eastcotts AFC	22	8	0	2	26	17	7	0	5	26	23	15
3	Goldington	23	8	1	3	42	21	5	3	3	27	17	13
4	Renhold Village	21	8	0	3	33	14	6	1	3	24	17	14
5	Stevington	22	10	0	2	38	15	4	1	5	19	22	14
6	Riseley Sports	20	5	2	3	26	19	4	3	3	19	15	9
7	Sundon Park Rangers Colts	18	3	1	3	20	11	7	0	4	39	17	10
8	Potton Town	22	6	4	3	22	17	3	0	6	23	29	9
9	Wilshamstead Reserves	21	6	0	5	21	21	3	3	4	11	17	9
10	Kempston Hammers Sports	23	4	3	5	22	30	4	0	7	24	29	8
11	Westoning Reserves	22	3	0	7	17	29	4	2	6	28	29	7
12	Royal Oak Kempston	21	1	1	9	14	38	5	0	5	17	18	6
13	Flitwick Town Reserves	23	3	1	7	19	35	1	0	11	18	44	4
14	Dunton Reserves	22	1	1	10	16	49	1	0	9	9	4	12

Division Four

Bedford Park Rangers are now back onto the top of the division four league table following their 6-1 home win over Sandy Reserves. Shaun Finlay netting twice alongside strikes from Jordan Wright, Luke Rayner, Alex Liburd and Owen Rees against a Sandy reply from Adam Hales.

Losing out on the top spot albeit on goal difference only are Marsh Leys, for them it was a sharing of the spoils in a 4-4 draw at Kempston Athletic. Gary Whitbread twice plus Adam Moloney and Ross Longley on the Athletic scoresheet against a brace in reply from Jarvis Anderson and strikes from Alex Clipston and Jamie Faear to retain the Leys season's unbeaten away ways.

For third place Thurleigh, it was a 6-0 victory at bottom of the table Dunton A, Steve Pledge and Salvatore Ventriglia netting twice alongside single goals for Kevin Harris and Jared Pierre.

In fourth place are Clifton Reserves, for them it was win number eight on the bounce with a 2-1 victory at Shefford Town & Campton A thanks to strikes from Vince Kernagan and Harry Fisher.

Alas for fifth place Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves, it was a 5-0 home beating by local rivals Caldecote A. Nicky Albane with a hat-trick plus strikes from Jack Boyd and Ryan Ambrose doing the damage.

Down at the other end of the league table, second from bottom of the table Goldington Hammers returned to winning ways for the first time in eight home outings with a 4-1 victory over Wootton Village. Jimmy Jacob twice plus Mohammed Kabir and Chris Dunning on The Hammers scoresheet against a Village penalty reply from Lewis Aitken.

However, this win failed to lift The Hammers in the league standings after third from bottom of the table Bedford Panthers netted a 3-1 home win over Dinamo Flitwick. Michael Bailey with a brace plus Ben Hutchings on the home scoresheet against a lone reply from Jamie Burton.

Division Four League Table at 31st March 2012

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME	AWAY	OVERALL	GDPTS
			WDL F A	WDL F A	WDL F A	
1	Bedford Park Rangers	20	8 1 1 36 139	0 1 44 17 171	2 80 30	50 52
2	Marsh Leys	22	7 2 2 32 159	2 0 41 14 164	2 73 29	44 52
3	Thurleigh	20	6 3 1 33 118	0 2 46 20 143	3 79 31	48 45
4	Clifton Reserves	24	6 3 4 50 317	2 2 29 22 135	6 79 53	26 44
5	Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	24	6 1 3 18 166	3 5 36 28 124	8 54 44	10 40
6	Stewartby Village	24	5 0 6 31 315	5 3 28 22 105	9 59 53	6 35
7	Sandy Reserves	25	3 1 7 26 427	3 4 37 38 104	11 63 80	-17 34
8	Caldecote A	22	4 4 3 38 265	2 4 29 24 9	6 7 67 50	17 33
9	Shefford Town & Campton A	23	5 1 6 26 313	3 5 24 29 8	4 11 50 60	-10 28
10	Kempston Athletic	24	5 2 6 32 283	2 6 24 41 8	4 12 56 69	-13 28
11	Wootton Village	23	4 2 5 20 233	1 8 22 29 7	3 13 42 52	-10 24
12	Dinamo Flitwick [former Reserves]	23	4 3 6 38 462	2 6 24 26 6	5 12 62 72	-10 23
13	Bedford Panthers	20	3 1 7 14 242	3 4 13 23 5	4 11 27 47	-20 19
14	Goldington Hammers	23	3 2 7 29 452	0 9 17 45 5	2 16 46 90	-44 17
15	Dunton A	23	1 2 8 13 431	0 11 11 58 2	2 19 24 101	-77 8

Preview for Saturday 7th April 2012.

This weekends Easter action is restricted to just a programme of 23 games of which just three will be take place in the Premier Division supported by Sportsform section. The big game coming at Harvey Close with the clash between championship contenders Caldecote and the visiting Bedford Hatters. With the hosts having been beaten just once on home soil by Shefford Town & Campton all season and the visitors having coincidentally also just lost to only the same opposition on their travels this season the outcome of this encounter could well

have a more significant effect on who will collect the silver medals in a month or so time rather than the title.

That title now looks destined for Rectory Road and Shefford Town & Campton who this afternoon host second from bottom of the table Dunton in a game that will kick off at the later time of 3.30pm. The home side defending their seasons unbeaten home ways and looking for home win number 10 on the bounce firm favourites to collect all three points against a Dunton side whose lone away win of the season came at bottom of the table Woburn back in early January.

The third game due at Moggerhanger Playing Fields where Blunham look for their third home win on the bounce against visitors Oakley Sports who have failed to win any of their last six league outings.

In division one, there are just four games but they do include encounters for three of the leading championship contenders. Of those just Bedford Sports Athletic enjoy home advantage when at Cople Playing Fields they look to take their unbeaten ways up to nine games when visited by FC Meppershall. Whilst Ickwell & Old Warden having been beaten just once on the road all season should collect all three points when they journey to Hillgrounds to face AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves despite their hosts going into the game looking for their third home win on the bounce.

For Lidlington United Sports the task of collecting all three points looks much more difficult when they head for a Chaul End Lane meeting with hosts Luton Boys who will at least fancy their chances of a share of the spoils.

The final game being local derby action at Harvey Close between hosts Caldecote Reserves and the visiting Sandy. The home side looking to end a run of three straight home defeats, whilst the visitors look for their first away win since winning at Henlow in mid-January.

In division two, champions elect Elstow Abbey will be defending their seasons unbeaten ways at The Warren against a Queens Park Crescents side that has won just three on the road all season. Whilst second place AFC Turvey head for a Rectory Road encounter with Shefford Town & Campton Reserves in a game which will kick off at 1.00pm.

Over at The Hollow, Potton United Reserves will look to return to winning ways when they receive a visit from a Clifton side they have already beaten twice this season. Whilst at Oakley Playing Fields, hosts M & DH Oakley look for just their third home win of the season when visited by a Stopsley Park side who have won on the road just four times this season.

Other action coming in Mowsbury Park, the venue at which hosts Marabese Ceramics look for home win number three on the bounce when visited by Bromham United and in Stockwood Park where Sundon Park Rangers take on in form Pavenham who travel now unbeaten in their last 10 league outings.

For the lower division clubs the spotlight falls on the semi-final ties in this season's Watson Shield. In Mowsbury Park, Goldington of division three take on Bedford Panthers of division four and at Stevington Playing Fields, Stevington will be hosts to division four high flyers Bedford Park Rangers.

In division three, Renhold Village face a tricky looking away game in Wrest Park against Sundon Park Rangers. Whilst Eastcotts AFC will be on the hunt for home win number five on the bounce when called upon at their Weston Park headquarters by a Potton Town side that has lost its last three away outings.

Other action coming at Horseshoes Close, the venue at which bottom of table Dunton Reserves now on an eight game losing home run play hosts to Kempston Hammers Sports and at Steppingly Road where second from bottom of the table Flitwick Town Reserves take

on a Riseley Sports side that has now failed to win any of their last trips away from their Gold Street base.

In division four, league leaders Marsh Leys still unbeaten on the road this season head for a Keysoe Road showdown with a Thurleigh side that has been beaten just once on home soil all season by Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves and are still in the promotion race themselves. Whilst fellow promotion candidates Clifton Reserves look for home win number four on the bounce when they host Goldington Hammers at Whiston Crescent.

Other action at Wootton Playing Fields sees hosts Wootton Village now on a three game losing home run take on Shefford Town & Campton A who have failed to win on the road since successful at Goldington Hammers in mid-December and at Hinksley Road Recreation Ground, hosts Dinamo Flitwick now unbeaten in their last five home starts receive a visit from a Caldecote A side that are now unbeaten in their last three away outings away from Harvey Close.

Following on from the weekend action, Wednesday evening April 11th will see the start of this season's end of term midweek fixtures. In Division Two, Elstow Abbey will look to inch ever closer to the league crown when they make the trip to Stockwood Park to be hosted by Sundon Park Rangers and at The Hollow, Potton United Reserves receive a visit from Queens Park Crescents.

In division three, it's an all important promotion battle at Renhold Playing Fields between hosts Renhold Village and the visiting Goldington. Whilst also in search of vital promotion points will be Eastcotts AFC who entertain Wilshamstead Reserves at Weston Park.

A third division three encounter taking place in Wrest Park where hosts Sundon Park Rangers Colts take on local rivals Westoning Reserves.

In division four there are also three games, in Mowsbury Park, Bedford Park Rangers should enhance their championship hopes by collecting the full three points from visitors Wootton Village and promotion points will be on offer for Thurleigh at Keysoe Road when visited by Kempston Athletic.

The final game being the Stewartby Way clash between hosts Stewartby Village and the visiting Bedford Panthers.

Away from the league, Sandy will travel to Woburn Road to face Ampthill Town Reserves in the semi-final of this season's Biggleswade KO Cup with the game kicking off at 7.45pm.