

ABOUT TOWN



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
TOWN COUNCIL

July/August 2022

The newsletter for residents of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade

Published by Leighton-Linslade Town Council

School's out for Summer

NEW Accessible Adventure Playground opens in Parson's Close Recreation Ground in July. Full article can be found on page 2.



Beach



OTHER FACILITIES THIS
PARK HAS TO OFFER

Splash & Play



Table Tennis



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New user group launched.



SCAN ME

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
CHILDREN'S TRAIL
EST. 2012

FREE ACTIVITY TRAIL: Scan the QR code above or visit our website to download the activity map. www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/the-childrens-trail/

EVENTS

Canal Festival Returns

Saturday 30 July (1100 - 2000 hours)



The Canal Festival returns to Tiddenfoot Waterside Park in Linslade on Saturday 30 July from (1100-2000 hours). In 2022 our favourite stall holders and demonstrators return to promote arts, crafts and cottage industries with a variety of handmade stalls selling unique goods, gifts and bespoke items throughout the event, alongside an array of food vendors offering hot and cold food and drinks to purchase to enjoy at the festival or to take away.

It wouldn't be a Canal Festival without the boats which can be found on the Grand Union Canal adjacent to the park where working, trade and pleasure boats will be moored up for the duration of the event. The Canal & River Trust is kindly re-opening the towpath from town to the festival site for the day allowing visitors to access the site via the canal.

When the rural areas of our site close at 1700 hours, the entertainment continues in the Paddocks area with performances from Ukietoonies and Funk Odyssey who are joined earlier in the day by Milady Clare's Musicke, Stampede, Wayland Smithy Band and local performer Fiona Harrison.

Pedestrian admission to the festival is free. Nearby car parking is available for the event site at £5 per car. A charge of £2.50 for blue badge holders applies with free transfer to the event for the less mobile.

Accessible Adventure Playground

Cont'd from front page.

The Town Council is thrilled to announce that the much anticipated new accessible adventure play area in Parson's Close Recreation Ground, in the heart of Leighton Buzzard, is expected to be completed in July.

The project sees a significant investment by the Town Council into enhancing

the play value of the equipment and providing a playground where all children, regardless of disability, can play together, including playing at height.

This exciting project follows the earlier installation of a Changing Places facility in the park, allowing adults or children with profound disabilities, who cannot use standard accessible toilets, the opportunity to spend time in a beautiful green space with a range of facilities appealing to all ages and abilities.

With the summer finally upon us, why not take the family to Parson's Close soon and discover for yourself the exciting new play area!



The playground under construction

It's Party Time! ...

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
CHILDREN'S TRAIL
EST. 2012

and you're invited!

Wednesday 3 August



This year marks the 10 year anniversary of the Leighton-Linslade Children's Trail. Originally launched in 2012 it consists of 22 individual pieces of artwork located in and around the town centre. The artworks inspired by well-known children's stories, including those written by Mary Norton (who lived in Leighton Buzzard and who was the author of the famous book, *The Borrowers*).

The Town Council is celebrating with a storytelling birthday party on Wednesday 3 August at Linslade Recreation Ground, Waterloo Road, Linslade. LU7 2NR (1100-1500 hours).

With the help of Cedars & Linslade School students and teachers, the Town Council has created an exciting temporary bespoke mini-Children's Trail for Linslade Recreation Ground; ready for visitors on 3 August until December 2022.

The 12 pieces of ceramic-fired artwork created by the students will be in the trees within the recreation ground. Three books have been the focus of inspiration; "Because of an Acorn", "The Lorax" and "Mama Miti".

The original Children's Trail map can be downloaded from the Town Council's website or pick one up from either the Library Theatre, Lake Street or Town Council Offices, Hockliffe Street. The Mini Trail map will be available to download nearer the launch date.

 www.facebook.com/ChildrensTrail

Both trails are free and can be completed as many times as children want.



FREE EVENTS



At the Town Council Annual Meeting held on May 16, I was honoured to be re-elected

Town Mayor until May 2023, with my fellow volunteer Councillor Sheona Hemmings being elected Deputy Mayor.

Although first elected as Mayor in September 2020, the ongoing impact of the Covid pandemic has meant that it was only quite recently that I have been able to start attending local and civic events and functions.



Totally Locally Presentation

Charity fundraising was also challenging, but with some innovative thinking and determination, I was delighted to have raised £8,700 during my first term of office, which

was evenly distributed to my four charities.

Looking ahead, it is a great honour to be re-elected and I am very much looking forward to being able to attend more local and community gatherings in the coming year. The recent four-day celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee were a fantastic way to start this year and it was wonderful to meet so many people at the various events over that long weekend.

In the coming year I will be working to raise funds for two very local charities which provide vital services in our community: the Leighton-Linslade Helpers and Citizens Advice Leighton-Linslade. We are currently working on plans for fundraising events. To keep up to date, why not sign up for my mailing list on the Town Council website or follow LLTC on social media?

Cllr. Farzana Kharawala



Supporting the Mayor's chosen charities

COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings commence at 1930 hours and are held at the White House, Hockliffe Street unless otherwise stated. Please check our website for any late changes or to view meeting papers.

JULY 2022

Mon	04	Personnel Sub Committee
Mon	11	Community Safety Sub Committee
Wed	20	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	25	Policy & Finance Committee

AUGUST 2022

Thurs	4	Market Sub Committee (1030 hours)
Wed	10	Planning & Transport Committee
Fri	19	Older Persons Sub (1000 hours)

WHAT'S ON 2022

JULY

Fri 01 - Sat 02	Buzzstock Music Festival, Leighton Buzzard Rugby Club, LU7 9HR visit: buzzstock.co.uk/
Sun 03	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sat 09	Leighton-Linslade Carnival, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1100 - 1600 hrs) visit: leightoncarnival.co.uk/
Sun 10	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sun 17	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sun 17	Paw Patrol at Leighton Buzzard Railway visit: www.buzzrail.co.uk for more information
Sun 24	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sat 30	Linslade Canal Festival, Tiddenfoot Waterside Park LU7 2AE (1100 - 2000 hrs)
Sun 31	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)

AUGUST

26 Jul - 26 Aug	TACTIC Summer Playscheme (8-11yrs) TACTIC Centre LU7 1EZ, tel: 01525 373838 for further details
Wed 03	Children's Trail 10th Birthday Party, Linslade Recreation Ground LU7 2NR (1100 - 1400 hrs)
Sun 07	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sun 14	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sun 21	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)
Sun 28	Music in the Park, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)

Take a look at our website

You may have seen our noticeboards around the town, but did you know we also have a virtual noticeboard on our website?

To find out what's going on in Leighton-Linslade, visit: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/noticeboard-a/.

If you are a community, voluntary or charity group with an event to publicise, please either email us a poster at info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk or drop a poster in to us at the White House and we'll be happy to add it to the web page.

The easiest way to read our bi-monthly newsletter is to:

SUBSCRIBE to ABOUTTOWN

Straight to your e-mail box every time

CLICK HERE

www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/about-town-newsletters/



Community Grants

Do you know a local charity, community or voluntary group in need of funding for a community project? Grants of up to £500 are available from the Town Council. Recent successful applications include supporting groups with costs of training, equipment, publicity or events. To find out more and to apply, visit our website.

Closing date for applications is Friday 21 October.

Community Volunteer Awards

At the annual Civic Service held on 15 May, the Town Mayor Councillor Farzana Kharawala was delighted to present the 2022 Community Volunteer Awards. Caryn Fripp received her award for her years of volunteering to support the Leighton Buzzard Netball Club, which has been running for over 40 years and is based at Vandyke Upper School. Pam Brown received her award as one of the founder members of the Leighton Buzzard Voluntary Patient Transport group and many fellow volunteers from the group turned out to support her. The group helps provide transport for patients travelling to doctor and hospital appointments and due to its success, is actively looking to recruit more volunteer drivers and call handlers. If you are interested in finding out more, please visit www.lbvpt.co.uk.

If you know a volunteer who deserves to be recognised, nominate them for a 2023 award now! Visit our website to find out more.

Closing date for 2023 nominations is 31 October.



Second set of 55up Grant recipients announced!

Local groups were invited to apply for funds to assist with the introduction of new activities, expand or support existing ones specifically for those aged 55 years and over, living in

Leighton Buzzard and Linslade. The 55up Grant aims to increase and enhance leisure opportunities and to help reduce loneliness.

The following groups received funding:-

The Phoenix Singers - to help promote and recruit new singers for their group;

Greenfields Residents Forum - for resident outings and activity/workshops;

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charities - to support Jazz Up Your Life events.

Citizens Online

Technology Helpline - Don't get left behind and isolated by not taking up the opportunity for free digital skills support. Support is given by local digital champions who work with Citizens Online, an organisation commissioned by the Town Council to help people like you. Please ask for help even if you think the question is daft.

- Have you recently purchased new technology?
- Need help using the internet?
- If you're over 55, call the free digital skills helpline run by Citizens Online.

Get help with:-

T: 0808 196 5883

Ordering Groceries |
Chatting with Loved Ones |
Making a Doctor's Appointment |
Exploring Hobbies |
Ordering Repeat Prescriptions |
Accessing Jobs & Volunteering Opportunities |
Claiming Benefits |
Learning & Training



Most people use the bins provided. Thank You!

**Don't be one of our rubbish visitors.
#KeepBritainTidy**

Did You Know?

Did you know that Leighton-Linslade is twinned with Coulommiers in France and Titisee-Neustadt in southern Germany? The twinning arrangements have been in place for over 40 years and links remain active today.

The Town Council and the Town Twinning Forum welcomed visitors from both twin towns recently for the fabulous



Coulommiers

Titisee-Neustadt

celebrations on 2-5 June for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Town Mayor, Councillor Farzana Kharawala was delighted to share the Platinum Jubilee beacon lighting honours with her counterparts from both twin towns.

If you would like to find out more about town twinning visit our website.



visit: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/town-twinning/

A poem kindly sent in from one of our readers.

MY HOME TOWN

Leighton Buzzard is where I live,
What a funny name a place to give.
Leighton Buzzard was built on sand,
And it was exported to many a land.
The great train robbery in 63,
Put us in the headlines for everyone to see,
Robbers in handcuffs going to court,
Hiding their faces, recognition wasn't sought.
There are markets on Saturdays and Tuesdays as well,
All manner of things to buy and to sell
If retail therapy works for you
You can support the charity shops or browse for something new.
There are parks and green spaces how lucky we are,
Mostly close by no need of a car
In Parson's Close you can splash and play,
Children's laughter on a sunny day
Music in the Park with a cuppa and cake,
Or head off to Tiddenfoot see wildlife on the lake.
Canal festival and Carnival, May Day Fayre each year,
Hot and spicy street food, ice cream or ice cold beer.
Gym bunnies and swimmers are well catered for,
Tennis and bowls, cricket and more,
Inside or out there's plenty to choose,
Try a new sport there's nothing to lose
(except perhaps some pounds!)
The Narrow Gauge Railway fun for one and all
It's a tight squeeze if you're very tall!
Singing under the tree on Christmas Eve at night,
Santa makes an appearance to the kids delight.
For bookworms and film buffs, live theatre, concerts too
Leighton Library has it all, pop in to see what's new.
So, Leighton Buzzard is a great place to be,
I'm sure there are many who agree with me!

Liz Webb



BRAIN TEASER

QUESTION: What has 21 eyes but cannot see?

ANSWER: Can be found on back page.

We welcome your FEEDBACK

We welcome your feedback on the services we provide. Please email any comments you may have to:
info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



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Beds. LU7 2PB

Improvements along the towpath

Closures of Leighton Buzzard towpath began on the 6 June 2022 with an expected completion date of 23 August, however they will temporarily reopen on 30 July for the Linslade Canal Festival being held at Tiddenfoot Waterside Park. The towpath in Leighton Buzzard forms part of the Sustrans National Cycle Network 'Paths for Everyone', which aims to deliver a traffic-free, more consistent and accessible network for everyone, including walkers, cyclists, families and people with mobility requirements.

The Department for Transport (DfT) Active Travel has funded the works on the Grand Union Canal in Leighton Buzzard to the sum of £500,000. Work will improve, resurface and widen a 780-metre section of towpath running south from the B4032 Leighton Road Bridge 114 to Bridge 114A (Mentmore Gardens). The towpath will be closed, and towpath notices will display a diversion route via Mentmore Gardens, Mentmore Road and Wing Road.

A 2.1km section running north from Lock 27 (Leighton Lock) to Bridge 110 (Sandhole Bridge) in Old Linslade will also be improved. Here there will be surfacing improvements, vegetation trimming and biodiversity enhancements. The works in this section do not require



the towpath to be closed.

The work builds on previous towpath improvements undertaken in 2015, between Leighton Road and Leighton Lock adding a further 2.9km of improved towpath, resulting in a 4.1km stretch of continuous high-quality towpath through Leighton Buzzard and surrounding areas.

These towpath improvement works are one of a series of projects being delivered by the Canal & River Trust across England and Wales, helping the nation's waterways to provide high quality off-road routes for walking and cycling, and an important 'natural health service' across the country.

Ros Daniels, the Canal & River Trust's director for London & South East, explains,

“Canal & River Trust ecologists and heritage advisers are involved in the design of the works to ensure the works are sensitive to local wildlife and heritage structures, making enhancements where possible, including hedge laying, vegetation and tree management. We welcome the support of local people to help deliver some of the wildlife or heritage improvements with other volunteers, or to help look after the new towpath environment once it is complete.”

To find out more about the proposed improvements and volunteering opportunities, go to: canalrivertrust.org.uk/leighton-buzzard or call the Canal & River Trust on **03030 404040** or email enquiries. londonse@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Volunteer with Us!
For more information on Canal & River Trust including how you can donate money or volunteer to support our work visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk.



JUST 1 CHANGE

Install a water butt in your garden



In every issue we will share with you how you can make **JUST 1 CHANGE**

Hi, Sustainable Suzi here: –
My nanna and grandad used to have a large galvanised water tank that caught the rain from the house guttering. I was always fascinated by its industrial look. As wartime vegetable gardeners no one needed to tell them to gather water, yet today we regularly get told to buy a water butt.
I have an abundance of water for the garden because, like nanna and grandad, I save water and have benefited from this over hot, dry summer days. It seems the examples of people we live with are key to practising good climate management habits.

So when I can, I always plant into the ground and those plants fend for themselves. Summer is a time of open gardens. A time to go and nosey around people's gardens to raise money for charity and pinch ideas for planting schemes that deal with hot summers.
The Gardening Museum called Beth Chatto an 'unusual gardener'. You can read about her: gardenmuseum.org.uk/. She was a pioneer for her drought gardening knowledge. The Town Council has a drought garden on West Street. If you enjoy gardening, visiting gardens, and pinching good ideas, then now is the time to do it!

01525 373838
www.tactic-centre.co.uk



Calling all (12-19 year olds) Are you looking for something to do this summer?

TACTIC'S summer programme starts on Tuesday 26 July and will run every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for 4 weeks.



SPORTS IN THE PARK

TABLE TENNIS

GAMES CHALLENGE

MANGA ART

CHESS TOURNAMENT

WORKSHOPS

For more details, dates and times please contact TACTIC Centre on 01525 373838 or email at tactic@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk

Are you a regular bus user?

An independent bus user group is starting up to capture your views and suggestions about local bus services and facilities. Information will be fed back to the bus operators and to a new pan-Bedfordshire bus user forum being set up by the three local authorities. Come along and put forward your views.



THURSDAY 14 JULY
at 1900 hours
the White House, Hockliffe Street



Shop Local on the Market!

Independents' Day, on Saturday 2 July sees local businesses alongside regular market traders celebrate Independents' Day. A campaign that exists to support and promote independent retail businesses across the UK. Independents account for something in the order of 65% of the approximately 290,000 retail outlets in the UK and are at the heart of local communities throughout the country. Come down to your local market to help celebrate our independent traders and businesses throughout Leighton Buzzard.

Children's Playday on Tuesday 9 August joins the market for fun activities and stalls for all the family.



'What's On' at the Market in July and August

Charter Market every Tuesday and Saturday 0830 - 1500 hours, with special events:-

July

Sat 2	Charter Market for Independents' Day
Sat 16	Farmers and Producers Market
Sat 23	Handmade and Craft Market
Sun 31	Visiting 'Street Food Heroes' Market

August

Tues 9	Charter Market – Children's Playday event
Sat 20	Farmers and Producers Market
Sat 27	Handmade and Craft Market
Sun 28	Visiting 'Street Food Heroes' Market



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Download
the APP
TODAY



FREE membership MOVIES FOR THE MORE MATURE

A joint initiative between Leighton-Linslade Town Council and Leighton Buzzard Library Theatre to provide Wednesday afternoon film shows for residents aged 55+. Membership is FREE and open to residents of the parish of Leighton-Linslade

Films Showing in July:
Downtown Abbey - A New Era (Wed 13 July 2pm)



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US!

PRICING GUIDELINES 2022

1/4 page 8.7 x 12.7cm (portrait) £52.20 + VAT | **1/8 page** 8.7 x 6cm (landscape) £31.30 + VAT | **1/2 page** 18 x 12.7cm (landscape) £82.80 + VAT | **Full page** 21 x 29.7cm £166.89 + VAT

EDITORIAL DEADLINE FOR SEPT/OCT (Thurs 21 July)

For more information contact: 01525 631915.

We reserve the right to review pricing.



Leighton-Linslade Town Council is responsible for:



- Allotments
- Cemeteries
- Christmas Illuminations
- Community Events & Promotions
- Grants to Voluntary Organisations
- Markets
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Pavilions-Astral Park, Pages Park, Linslade Memorial Pavilion
- TACTIC-Teenage Advice & Information Centre
- Multi-Storey Car Park Toilets

Central Bedfordshire Council is responsible for:



- Community Safety
- Health & Social Care Education
- Housing
- Homelessness
- Planning
- Leisure & Countryside
- Waste & Recycling
- Transport, Roads & Parking

Whilst every effort has been taken to provide accurate information, the Council does not accept any liability for error or omission for information on services it is not directly responsible for. The Town Council does not necessarily endorse any business using advertising space.

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Main switchboard: 01525 631920 info@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk

W: www.leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk

Answer to Brain Teaser : A die (plural: dice)