

# ABOUT TOWN



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE  
TOWN COUNCIL

November/December 2022

The newsletter for residents of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade

Published by Leighton-Linslade Town Council

## Lighting-Up Christmas!

**25 November - 31 December**

Leighton-Linslade Town Council plans to light up the Christmas 2022 festivities by teaming up with High Street Safari to run a special free interactive Christmas trail. This innovative experience lets families choose what happens in the story as they go around and enables anyone with a smartphone to take part. Players hunt down the hidden presents in the location windows. Once they click and scan the image, the characters will burst into life in augmented reality (AR).

HIGH STREET  
SAFARI



Scan to start playing  
or visit: [highstreetsafari.com](https://highstreetsafari.com)

**FREE**  
INTERACTIVE TRAIL



## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2** : CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL 2022  
Read more on what's happening throughout the weekend.
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Offering support to isolated and vulnerable residents.
- 5** : COST OF LIVING  
Useful information and contacts.
- 7** : TACTIC'S NEW GAMING ZONE  
Now open!! (For 12-19 year olds).

## Leighton Buzzard Christmas Festival

25 - 27 November  
in the High Street

Light Switch-On and  
Firework display taking  
place on Friday 25 at 19:00  
hours. For more information  
on what's happening  
throughout the weekend,  
turn to page 2.



There's Nothing Like a Dame



Lissie Allsopp



Jingle Bells



## Christmas Opening Hours

### TOWN COUNCIL

Mon 26 December - CLOSED  
Tues 27 December - CLOSED  
Wed 28 December -  
(10:00 - 15:00 hours)  
Thurs 29 December  
(10:00 - 15:00 hours)  
Fri 30 December  
(10:00 - 15:00 hours)  
Mon 2 January 2023 - CLOSED  
From Tues 3 January 2023  
normal opening hours resume.

### TACTIC

CLOSED from Fri 23  
December and re-opening on  
Tues 3 January 2023.

### MARKET

Sat 24 December -  
(08:30 - 14:00 hours)  
Tues 27 December -  
**NO MARKET**  
Sat 31 December -  
(08:30 - 14:00 hours)  
The market will return on  
Tues 3 January 2023.  
(times subject to change)

# EVENTS

## Christmas Festival Weekend

Continued from front page.

Our festive market on the Friday evening (16:00 - 20:00 hours) begins a weekend of activity in the High Street with handmade crafts and gifts for loved ones available for purchase alongside our festive funfair and stage entertainment programme packed full of local acts and performances before and after the switch on ceremony. The festive food-court takes place in Church Square with hot street food, perfect for a winters evening.

On Saturday, Leighton Fun Runners will be supporting local charity Kids Out by holding their annual Santa Dash from Church Square starting at 11:00 hours, while the Charter Market along with the Handmade and Craft market takes place in the High Street. Joining the market will be Heath Band, May Blossom, Nathaniel Howell and some cheeky elves bringing festive cheer into the town centre.

Sunday from (11:00 until 15:00 hours), brings another opportunity for shopping for a unique gift for that loved one when the festive market returns to the High Street along with performances from Lissie Allsopp, James Allen, Jingle Bells and There's Nothing Like a Dame throughout the day. There's also the opportunity to purchase hot food and drink, with a last chance to visit the funfair in the town centre. The Christmas Festival Weekend is brought to you in partnership with LBFirst, a

not-for-profit organisation representing High Street independent traders and Leighton-Linslade residents.

Cheeky Elves



Wishing all our readers  
a Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year.

# WHAT'S ON 2022

## NOVEMBER

Fri 25 - Sun 27 Christmas Festival Weekend, High Street LU7  
7DN visit: [www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/events/](http://www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/events/)

## DECEMBER

Fri 02 - Sun 04 Christmas Tree Festival, St Barnabas Church  
LU7 2LP visit: [www.stbarnabaslinslade.uk](http://www.stbarnabaslinslade.uk)

Sat 03 Small Business Saturday on the Market, High  
Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hrs)

Sat 10 Mayor's Christmas Carol Concert, All Saints  
Church LU7 1AE (1930 hrs)

Sat 24 Rotary Christmas Carols in the High Street LU7  
7DN (1900 hrs) visit [www.leightonlinsladerotary.com](http://www.leightonlinsladerotary.com)

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings take place at the White House commencing at 1930 hours unless otherwise stated. Meetings may be subject to change. Please check our website for latest information on meetings including agenda items.

### NOVEMBER 2022

Wed	2	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	7	Grants Sub Committee
Thur	10	Market Sub Committee (10:30 hours )
Mon	14	Policy & Finance Committee
Thur	17	Older Persons Sub (10.00 hours)
Wed	23	Planning & Transport Committee
Mon	28	COUNCIL (Astral Park) - provisional

### DECEMBER 2022

Mon	5	Grounds & Environmental Services
Thur	8	Partnership Committee
Mon	12	Cultural & Economic Services
Wed	14	Planning & Transport Committee



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As we enter November, our thoughts turn to Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday,

providing an opportunity to remember and honour those who served and gave their lives to protect our freedoms. This year's Remembrance Day parade and service will take place on Sunday, 13 November. The ceremony will

be live-streamed for those unable to attend in person. At the end of the month, the annual Christmas Festival weekend takes place (more information in this issue) and I look forward to seeing many of you there for the official light 'switch-on', fireworks display, stalls and live entertainment. This is always a fantastic start to the run-up to Christmas. Don't forget to shop local for those all-important Christmas gifts, you can find the Town

Centre Shopping Directory on the Town Council website, or why not visit: [www.shoplocallb.co.uk](http://www.shoplocallb.co.uk) In terms of charity fundraising, the Rock of Ages Concert takes place at the Hockliffe Street Baptist Church on Saturday 5 November at 19:30 hours. This is a free event and no ticket is required, but there will be a retiring collection for this year's charities, Leighton-Linslade Helpers and Citizens Advice Leighton-Linslade. A

Christmas Carol Concert will be held at All Saints Church on Saturday 10 December at 19:30 hours and this is also free and unticketed. I'm also currently running a Lucky Dates competition where you could win a £100 prize – see our website for how to take part.

**Cllr. Farzana Kharawala**

Supporting the Mayor's chosen charities



Leighton-Linslade

**LEIGHTON LINSLADE  
HELPERS** [org.uk](http://org.uk)

# Green News

## It's another Gold!

Our fully inclusive and accessible playground in Parson's Close Recreation Ground has been awarded a PiPA Gold accreditation!

The PiPA accreditation process has been created to assess the design of a play area and the facilities available when visited. Play areas come in all shapes and sizes and it is not possible that every play area will meet the requirements of the PiPA accreditation. Achieving a gold accreditation is the highest accreditation for designing inclusive and accessible play spaces.



Accessible Play Area in Parson's Close



## In Bloom 2022

Leighton-Linslade in Bloom was awarded a Silver Gilt in the 2022 Anglia in Bloom competition and we would like to thank everyone who made this possible. The extreme heat and dry conditions this summer presented some real challenges and the judging day was the hottest on record. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to making the town a better place.

## Henry Finch Memorial Fountain

The project to partially restore the fountain in Linslade Recreation Ground has been progressing well and the next stage will be the replacement of the missing lion's head.



Linslade Recreation Ground where you can find the fountain

## Coming soon!

The Council will be installing water bottle filling stations in four parks: Parson's Close Recreation Ground, Linslade Recreation Ground, Astral Park and Pages Park.



## 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 and up.

Membership is FREE and open to residents of the parish of Leighton-Linslade. Visit: [www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/film-clubs/](http://www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/film-clubs/) for more information.

### Films showing in November

Emily - Wednesday 9 November at 14:00 hours

Mrs Harris Goes to Paris - Wednesday 23 November at 14:00 hours







## Meet your Leighton-Linslade Community Agent!

Caroline

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC), funded by Leighton-Linslade Town Council has appointed a new Community Agent Caroline, to offer support to isolated and vulnerable residents of Leighton-Linslade.

Caroline can provide free support with:

- Identifying benefits you may be entitled to eg. Pension Credit and Working Tax Credit.
- Completing forms such as Blue Badge applications.
- Making informed choices about issues such as health and transport.
- Support for carers.
- Joining social and voluntary groups.
- Feeling safe and less isolated living at home.

If you need support from Caroline, please call **07498 625526** or e-mail [leightonagent@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:leightonagent@bedsrcc.org.uk)

To find out more about the BRCC, please visit [www.bedsrcc.org.uk](http://www.bedsrcc.org.uk) or to learn more about the Town Council's 55Up project visit: [www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/55up](http://www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/55up).



## FreeFlow A Complete Drainage Service

A Division of UK traders INC Limited

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**Email: [freeflowmk@gmail.com](mailto:freeflowmk@gmail.com)**

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13 Ashburnham Crescent, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard  
Beds. LU7 2PB

## AUSTIN & CARNLEY

SOLICITORS



## Seasons Greetings Leighton Buzzard!

### FESTIVE OPENING HOURS

Friday 23 Dec	09:00 - 12:00
Monday 26 Dec	CLOSED
Tuesday 27 Dec	CLOSED
Wednesday 28 Dec	NORMAL OFFICE HOURS
Thursday 29 Dec	NORMAL OFFICE HOURS
Friday 30 Dec	09:00 - 12:00
Monday 2 Jan	CLOSED
Tuesday 3 Jan	NORMAL OFFICE HOURS

[www.austinandcarnley.co.uk](http://www.austinandcarnley.co.uk)

email: [reception@austinandcarnley.co.uk](mailto:reception@austinandcarnley.co.uk)

tel: 01525 372140

## Remembrance Sunday | 13 November

This year's Act of Remembrance will take place in Church Square. The parade of Veterans and Uniformed Organisations will gather in Church Square shortly before 11:00 hours for the commemoration. All are welcome to attend however if you prefer, please join via the livestream available on our Facebook page. The Linslade Act of Remembrance at 12:45 hours will be recorded and made available online later in the day.

## THANK YOU to all who contributed



The Town Council is pleased to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. This year we invited you to create knitted poppies as part of a new display for the 2022 Remembrance commemorations.

Work is now well underway to create a display for the River Bridge on Leighton Road which can be seen from Wednesday 9 November until Wednesday 15 November.



# COST of LIVING

food .....	£390.00
mortgage .....	£800.00
fuel .....	£320.00
childcare .....	£1,000.00
phone .....	£70.00



## Need help with the rising cost of living?

### We're here to help

The Town Council has created a web page with links to information and advice on how to keep your house warm this winter and grants that you might be entitled to.

Central Bedfordshire Council have a dedicated cost of living webpage with lots of advice and help available with things like:



- Paying your bills.
- Support with your income.
- Benefits.
- Employment.
- Housing support.
- Risk of becoming homeless.
- Foodbanks.
- Universal credits and childcare costs.

visit: [www.leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk/cost-of-living/](http://www.leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk/cost-of-living/)



Citizens Advice Leighton-Linslade are able to offer support and guidance for anyone who is struggling to pay bills or looking for confirmation they are receiving all the benefits they are entitled to. Telephone the advice line on: **01525 373878**.



Leighton Linslade Helpers run the local Community Fridge and offer lots of support to those in need. Visit their website to find out more. [www.leightonlinladehelpers.org.uk/](http://www.leightonlinladehelpers.org.uk/)



Local Foodbank. For more information visit: [www.lhsblackhorse.org.uk/](http://www.lhsblackhorse.org.uk/)

### There are changes you can make at home to help ease the strain on your energy usage. For example:

- Set your washing and dishwasher to eco setting.
- Draught proof any gaps.
- Close your curtains to maintain heat.
- Don't overfill the kettle.
- Turn off lights when not in a room.
- Only run your dishwasher when it is full.
- Switch your appliances off standby.
- Avoid the tumble dryer where possible.

### For energy and water saving tips visit:

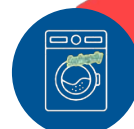
[www.ofgem.gov.uk/](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/)

[www.ofwat.gov.uk/](http://www.ofwat.gov.uk/)

[www.anglianwater.co.uk/](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/)



Don't forget you can also contact your energy provider directly for help and support.



## Extra grant funding

At its meeting on 10 October, the Council decided to allocate up to £10,000 in additional grant funding in relation to the cost of living and energy crisis. The aim is to help support not-for-profit initiatives giving aid to residents during the winter period. If you're involved with a group providing emergency support, please visit the Grants & Awards page on the Council website.





# Sands of Time Trail



## Launching Soon!

Our newest addition to our Buzzard Trails, called the “Sands of Time” is an audio voyage around Leighton Buzzard that recounts memories of people with a connection to sand who lived and worked in the area. The Town Council is working with Greensand Trust to bring this trail to life, with 33 recorded interviews, an online Sand Museum as well as an audio trail marked with sand cast plaques around Leighton Buzzard and Heath and Reach.

Selected audio clips have been brought to life by Leighton-Linslade Town Council with extracts of original interviews



containing memories that help appreciate fast disappearing local heritage and tradition.

Please keep an eye out for this exciting trail due to be launched soon.

**H**i, Sustainable Suzi  
**Here;** Like everyone, now that winter has set in, I'm trying to do what I can to reduce my bills, especially my energy use. I've found there are some great sources of advice online, including the utilities companies, the council and our local Citizens Advice website. I've also found the Energy Saving Trust helpful: [energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/](http://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/) For links to all these and more, why not start by visiting the Town Council website? If you're not online, do contact Citizens Advice Leighton-Linslade for help and advice on **01525 374589**.

This year I'm also challenging family and friends to save money over Christmas. So far we've come up with ideas such as drawing names from a hat to buy just one gift each rather than several, shopping local to save on transport costs and to support local businesses, making gifts and decorations if we can and looking to try out new recipes to use up excess food – or donating it to a local foodbank, rather than wasting it. I'm going to deliver cards locally on my bike and for people living further afield, I might send an electronic greeting instead.



## Trail in the Trees



Pupils at Linslade School

Autumn is upon us, with all its yellows, oranges, reds and browns; it really is a beautiful time of year to get out in nature. If you are looking for something to do with the family at the weekend, then why not pack a lunch, wrap up warm and get yourselves down to Linslade Recreation Ground before the end of December 2022. Here you can take part in our temporary “Trail in the Trees”. This beautiful trail was inspired by the books “Because of an Acorn”, written by Lola Schaefer & Adam Schaefer, “Mama Miti” by Donna Jo Napoli and “The Lorax”, written by Dr Seuss. Students at Cedars Upper School and Linslade School created 12 beautiful ceramic

tiles which adorn the park trees. These will only be available (weather permitting) until the end of 2022. This temporary trail was created to celebrate the original Children's Trail 10-year Anniversary. This trail has brought so much joy to the hundreds of children and adults who have already completed the free activity. To find out more or to download a free map for our Children's Trail or the Trail in the Trees, please visit our website: [www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk](http://www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk).





## TACTIC is proud to promote its new Gaming Zone.

Following a survey with young people to see what they would like within their town; gaming came out on top with a



high percentage saying this would be something they would enjoy.

Funded by Leighton Linslade Town Council and Central Beds Council, this new activity is being well received by the young people, and cross club tournaments are now being planned.

Complete with all the high-tech accessories and specially designed GT Force Gaming Chairs this is now encouraging young people to come out of their homes and socialise with like-minded others in a safe environment.

For further details call: **01525 373838**.

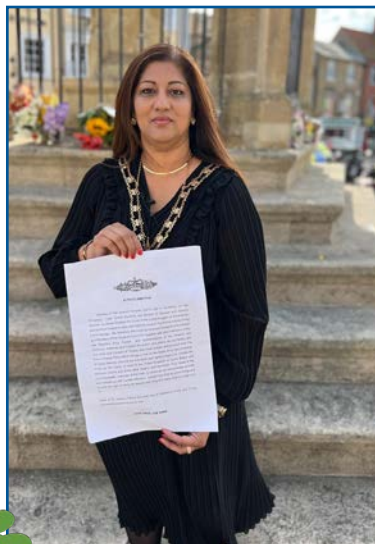
### Opening Times:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays  
(15:30 - 17:30 hours)  
Ages 12-19 years

## The Town formally announces King Charles III.

Following the death of Her Majesty the Queen, we saw the proclamation of the King being announced in the High Street. Opposite are some images taken from the day.

The King's Coronation will be held on Saturday May 6 next year.



The Town Council opened a Book of Condolence. Here are a few of the messages left by residents.

*"Our Queen, our constant"*

*"May Angels lead you in and thank you for all your service to the United Kingdom"*

*"Thank you for serving our country. Although one thing – I don't like marmalade sandwiches"*

*"Saying thank you is not enough so I simply can say I will never forget you your Majesty"*

*"You have built a legacy for the United Kingdom to make us proud. Thank you Elizabeth the Great"*



**LEIGHTON BUZZARD MARKET**

## Shop Local on the Market!

Come along on Sunday 20 November to our Charity Market and help support all our local charities while starting your Christmas shopping!



Ho, Ho, Ho! - Join us on Saturday 26 November for our usual Saturday Market and Handmade & Craft Market with special guests, music and entertainment to launch your LB Christmas!

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**  
3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER

We will be celebrating Small Business Saturday in conjunction

with LBFIRST on Saturday 3 December by highlighting our local independent businesses on the market.

## 'What's On' at the Market in November & December

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

### November

- Sat 19 Farmers & Producers Market
- Sun 20 Charity Market
- Sat 26 Christmas Weekend Saturday Market and Handmade & Craft Market

### December

- Sat 3 Small Business Saturday
- Sat 10 Handmade & Craft Market
- Sat 17 Farmers & Producers Market
- Sat 24 Christmas Eve Market

T: Market Manager on 07812 088116 [f](https://www.facebook.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) [i](https://www.instagram.com/leightonbuzzardmarket) [t](https://www.tiktok.com/@leightonbuzzardmarket)

[/market\\_LB](https://www.facebook.com/market_LB) #LBMarket E:Markets@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk [MY MARKET](https://www.facebook.com/leightonbuzzardmarket)





**Earn points  
from virtual  
tags, steps and  
win prizes**



Street Tag is a free child and family friendly mobile application that uses virtual tags to incentivise communities and families to become more physically active and boost mental health.

How to get your team on the Central Bedfordshire leader board?

1. Download the Street Tag app from the Play Store/App Store
2. Fill in your details and select Central Bedfordshire as your 'Event location' and 'Circuit'
3. You are now ready to actively discover tags, generate points, and win prizes
4. Go it alone or add friends to your team, and start playing.

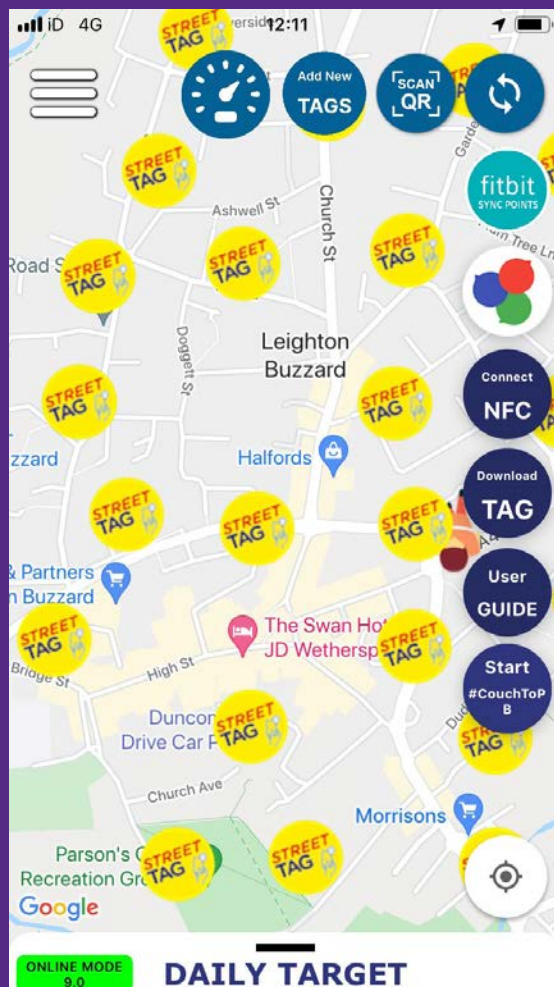


**WALK - RUN - CYCLE - ROLL**

Download the app and join your local leader board



[www.streettag.co.uk](http://www.streettag.co.uk)



## We welcome your FEEDBACK

We welcome your feedback on the services we provide. Please email any comments you may have to:  
[info@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk)



## Christmas BRAIN TEASER

**QUESTION:** If a lion had a Christmas album, what would it be called? See if you can get all three answers correct.  
**ANSWERS:** Can be found on page 4.

## Download the APP TODAY



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



You can pick up a copy of About Town from any of these main locations:  
Aldi (Vimy Rd), Iceland, The Library Theatre, Multi Storey Car Park, Tesco and the Train Station

## ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US!

### PRICING GUIDELINES

**1/4 page** 8.7 x 12.7cm (portrait) £54.81 + VAT | **1/8 page** 8.7 x 6cm (landscape) £32.87 + VAT | **1/2 page** 18 x 12.7cm (landscape) £86.94 + VAT | **Full page** 21 x 29.7cm £175.23 + VAT

**EDITORIAL DEADLINE for Jan / Feb 2023 - (Mon 14 Nov)**

For more information contact: 01525 631915.

We reserve the right to review pricing.

2023



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.

Leighton-Linslade Town Council, The White House, Hockliffe Street, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 1HD  
Main switchboard: 01525 631920 [info@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk)

W: [www.leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk](http://www.leightonlinlade-tc.gov.uk)