



March/April 2023

The newsletter for residents of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade



OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

SATURDAY 6 MAY, PARSON'S CLOSE RECREATION GROUND

Leighton-Linslade will celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III with a live-screening of the Coronation event in Parson's Close Recreation Ground followed by live music from Heath Band and Leighton-Linslade Concert Band, family films, street theatre style entertainment and a firework finale into the evening. Along with events in Parson's Close Recreation Ground, additional activities and live music will be taking place on the Charter Market throughout the day.

EVENTS

Timings are yet to be confirmed by Buckingham Palace for the Coronation and our full activity schedule for the day will be released shortly.

The Town Council is currently collating a list of additional activities taking place within the Parish to commemorate the special day. If your group or organisation is planning something special to mark the Coronation, let us know by Thursday 6 April for inclusion within pre-event publicity.



BUSINESS

EVENT 9th ANNUAL

Event returns to Leighton Buzzard Golf Club on Wednesday 19 April 1800 -2030 hours. Created for and supported by local businesses, the event regularly brings together over 100 representatives from enterprises both small and large. To enhance your networking opportunities and make future engagement even easier, contact sharing QR codes will

Register and attend for your chance to win £250 towards your business or a round of golf at Leighton Buzzard Golf Club.

For more information about the event or to register for your place, visit www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk and look out for updates on our social media channels.

NETWORKING

The 9th annual Business Networking

be created for those who attend.

Look what we received in the post!

The Town Council, on behalf of all residents of the parish, was privileged to receive a thank you note from Buckingham Palace following our expression of condolences last September. Despite it being a standard note, it feels personal and echoes our sentiments about the loss of Queen Elizabeth.



It was so very kind of you to send me such a wonderfully generous message following the death of my beloved mother. Your most houghtful words are enormously comforting, and cannot tell you how deeply they are appreciated



Last year we were thrilled by the response to our appeal for knitted and crocheted poppies. The displays on the bridge over the River Ouzel and the wreaths on the White House railings looked fantastic in November as we commemorated Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday.

from keen crafters, we're keen to add to the display

for 2023. For more details please visit the Remembrance page on the Community section of our website. If you are part of a knitting, crocheting or crafting group and would like to help us with this year's display, please do get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

Poppy Appeal 2023

Following several enquiries





Please do come along to

which will benefit these two

many residents in our parish.

organisations and help so

Bingo Night on Friday

24 March, 1930 hours at

Brooklands Social Club.

£15pp to include a sharing

cards for the night. This is

a whole table?

Free entry.

grazing platter and your bingo

always a fun evening, why not

put together a group and book

Spring Fair on Saturday 22

April from 12 noon - 1500

hours at Astral Park Sports

& Community Centre.

end of the municipal year, the final few charity fundraising events in

Church on Saturday 29 April aid of Citizens from 1400 - 1630 hours. See Advice Leighton-Linslade the Town Council website and the Leighton-Linslade for details of this exciting Helpers are due to take place. opportunity for a behind-thescenes tour of our beautiful enjoy these community events 13th Century Church.

refreshments.

This event will include a

visit from a petting farm

along with stalls, activities,

Tea and Tour at All Saints

children's entertainment and

I look forward to being able to present funds to both charities at the Council Annual Meeting on Monday 15 May.

This is my final column for About Town and I would like to thank you for giving me the privilege and opportunity to undertake the civic role of Town Mayor this year. It has been an enormous pleasure to meet so many of you throughout the year.

Cllr. Farzana Kharawala



General Grants

Supporting the Mayor's chosen charities

Does your community, voluntary or charity group need grant funding for 2023-24? Applications are now open for the first round of funding. Groups can apply for up to £500 (start-ups can apply for up to £250). Closing date is Monday 8 May, for consideration by committee on 22 May.

III Greenleas and our PTA are so very grateful for the grant given to us! We got straight to work and now have a much safer paving walkway around the pond, along with some wooden pond dipping planks for the children to get their nets out and see what they can discover in the forest school woodland pond

> For more details and how to apply visit our website: www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/grants-and-awards/



COUNCIL MEETINGS

All at 1930 hours at the White House unless otherwise state. Please check website for any changes.

March 2023

- Older Persons Sub Committee (1000 hours) Thur
- Mon Grounds & Environmental Services
- Wed Planning & Transport Committee
- Partnership Committee
- Cultural & Economic Committee Mon
- Mon ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
- Personnel Sub Committee
 - 29 Planning & Transport Committee

April 2023

Wed

Mon Community Safety Sub Committee

Policy & Finance Committee

19 Planning & Transport Committee

COUNCIL (Astral Park) Mon

Annual Parish Meeting

The Town Council holds a Parish Meeting every March; this is an opportunity to find out more about what we're doing and to ask questions of Councillors. The meeting this year takes place on Monday 20 March at Astral Park Sports & Community Centre at 1930 hours. Look out for more information on our social media channels.

Council Tax 2023/24

Every year, the Town Council will levy what is called "a precept" on your local council tax charge. This is collected for us by Central Bedfordshire Council and represents approximately 90% of the income we receive to run our services. The other 10% comes from allotment and burial fees and building and sports pitch hire. This year a total of 14,969 homes will pay council tax which is an increase of 210 homes when compared to last year. The increase is due to new homes to be found at Roman Gate and the Chamberlains Barn development.

If you live in a Band D property in Leighton-Linslade for 2023/24, of your council tax bill, the Town Council's proportion this year will be £167.12 which represents a £2.86 or 1.7% increase on last year's bill. Rising prices and inflation have contributed to the increase.

As well as providing a democratic voice for our residents, the Town Council manages and delivers a number of services which we believe improves the quality of life for our residents.

Leighton-Linslade Town Council is responsible for:



- 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





01525 373838

www.tactic-centre.co.uk

WE ARE YOUTH

Come and join us to work on projects that matter to young people!

We are Youth is a youth led group who identify issues affecting their community with an aim to set up projects to address them in a creative way.

So far some issues identified by young people are the increase in social anxiety, gender issues, life skills not taught in schools such as taxes & mortgages to name a few. They will also be taking part in the TACTIC project concerning environmental issues and global

warming, something that will impact on young people's lives now and in the future.

We are currently looking for more young people to join and work on projects in a range of ways, with the inspiration and ideas coming directly from them and support from youth workers at TACTIC to access opportunities & experiences that are new to them.



Tablet Loan Scheme now

part of the 55UP project!

As part of our Digital Support project, we

..a great way to learn new skills, gain confidence and meet new people as well as do something positive for the community and other young people.



If you are interested please contact: Jane Regan on 01525 373838 or email jane.regan@ leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

Citizens Online

FREE support with digital skills including:

Online shopping **Booking Online** Doctors' Appointments

> Chat with friends and family

Explore online hobbies

Centre, Hockliffe Street. The 55UP project also includes our Leighton-Linslade Community Agent, who provides free over the phone or face to face support with:

can now loan tablets and 4G routers to residents of Leighton-Linslade for up to 6 months for free, subject

to a referral from a Citizens Online Digital Champion.

For support and more information call 0808 196 5883

or pop into the Digital Drop in Sessions at The Chatty

Café every Tuesday 1000-1300 hours at the TACTIC

- Identifying benefits you may be entitled to
- · Completing forms such as Blue Badge Making informed choices about issues
- health & transport Support for carers
- Joining social and voluntary groups





Handmade & **Craft Market**

LEIGHTON BUZZARD MARKET

We're looking forward to starting off the spring and

welcoming our Handmade and Craft market traders back after their annual break. Come down to the first Handmade and Craft Market of 2023 on Saturday 25 March. The crafters have been busy making over the guieter months and will have lots of new products to show you and we'll have some new traders too. They sell a huge variety of unique, unusual and handmade items ranging from foods to jewellery and homewares, which make perfect presents! The market is alongside the usual Charter market on the side of Pizza Express. From March, the Handmade and Craft market returns on the 4th Saturday of every month until Christmas.



'What's On' the Market in March & April.

Tues 7 March International Women's Day event on the Market

Sat 18 March Farmers & Producers Market Sat 25 March Handmade & Craft Market Sun 26 March Street Food Heroes

Tues 4 April Easter Event on the Market Sat 15 April Farmers & Producers Market Fri 21 April French Market

Sat 22 April Handmade & Craft Market Sun 30 April Street Food Heroes

Find out more by visiting our website:leightonbuzzardmarket.co.uk and keep up-to-date by following us on social media.

/market_LB #LBMarket E:Markets@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk



HTON-LINSLADE N COUNCIL LEIG TOWN

1SD (1500-

3

BER

SEPTEM

un 03

Sat 09

CUT OUT AND KEEP

-DECEMBER 2028 eighton Buzzard and Linslade



5

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

T: 07498 625526 or E: leightonagent@bedsrcc.org.uk

Sat 09

www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

T: 01525 631920

Download the App from:

Mon 27 Feb Sun 12 Fairtrade Forthight, for more information visit: www.facebook.com/fairtradedil Tues 07 International Women's Day on the Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hours) Sint 18 Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hours) Mon 20 Annual Parlish Meeting, Autral Park Sports & Community Centre LU7 4AV (1930 hours) Sat 25 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hss) Sun 26 Visiting Street Food Heroes Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) APRIL Tues 04 Children's Easter Event on the Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) APRIL Fit 21 Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 13 Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 22 Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 22 Mayor's Spring Fayre, Autral Park Sports & Community Centre LU7 4AV (1200 - 1500 hss) Sat 22 Mayor's Spring Fayre, Autral Park Sports & Community Centre LU7 4AV (1200 - 1500 hss) Sat 22 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 25 Visiting Street Food Heroes Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 26 Celebration of the Coronation of His Majerty King Charles III with live screening and flework Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 20 Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1830 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1800 - 1500 hss) Sat 27 Hand		MARCH		
When 10 Sat 27 May Sat 27 May		Mon 27 Feb - Sun 12	Fairtrade Fortnight, for more information visit: www.facebook.com/fairtradell	
1 1 1 Sat 27 May		Tues 07	International Women's Day on the Market, High Street LUT 7DN (0830 - 1500 hours)	
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		Sat 18	Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 70N (0830 - 1300 hrs)	
81L 4 4 4 - Fri 14 Mon 10 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9		Mon 20	Annual Parish Meeting, Astral Park Sports & Community Centre LU7 4AY (1930 hours)	
Non 10 Sat 27 May Sat 27 May		Fri 24	Mayor's Charity Bingo, Brooklands Residents Association LU7 3PQ (1930 hours)	
A 4 4 - Fri 14 4 4 - Fri 14 Mon 10 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	_	Sat 25	Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hrs)	
AL A 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4		Sun 26	Visiting Street Food Heroes Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1100 - 1600 hrs)	
4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4		APRIL		
4 - Fri 14 Mon 10 Mon 10 Y Sat 27 May		Tues 04	Children's Easter Event on the Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hours)	
Mon 10 V Sat 27 May 6		Tues 04 - Fri 14	TACTIC Easter Programme (12-19yrs) TACTIC Centre LU7 1EZ tel: 01525 373838 for further details	
Sat 27 May		Fri 7 - Mon 10	RCTA Floating Market on the Grand Union Canal LU7 2TA (1000 - 1700 hours)	
Y Sat 27 May		Sat 15	Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 70N (0830 - 1300 hrs)	
Sat 27 May		Wed 19	Business Networking Event, Leighton Buzzard Golf Club LU7 3JF (1800 - 2030 hrs)	
Sat 27 May		Fri 21	Visiting France at Home Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hrs)	
Sat 27 May		Sat 22	Mayor's Spring Fayre, Astral Park Sports & Community Centre LU7 4AY (1200 - 1500 hrs)	
Sat 27 May		Sat 22	Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hrs)	
Sat 27 May		Sun 30	Visiting Street Food Heroes Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1100 - 1600hrs)	
Sat 27 May		MAY		
Sat 27 May 6		Mon 01	May Day Fayre, Town Centre (1000 - 1600 hours) visit www.leightonlinsladerotary.com	
Sat 27 May		Sat 06	Celebration of the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III with live screening and firework finale, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD	
		Fri 12 - Sat 27 May	Love Your Local Market Fortnight, visit: www.facebook.com/LeightonBuzzardMarket for info.	
		Sun 14	Visiting Vegan Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1100 - 1600 hrs)	
		Tues 16	Young Traders on the Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hours)	
		Sat 20	Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1300 hrs)	
		Sat 27	Handmade & Craft Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hrs)	
1		Sun 28	Visiting Street Food Heroes Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1100 - 1600 hrs)	
4	Ш	JUNE		
12 2		Sun 04	Big Lunch Food Festival, High Street LU7 7DN (1100 - 1600 hrs)	
	П	Sun 04	Bedford Town Band, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)	
4		Sun 11	Bradwell Silver Band, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)	
	Ш	Sat 17	Farmers & Producers Market, High Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1300 hrs)	
		Sun 18	Luton Brass Band, Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs)	
		Wed 21	Carnival's Picnic in the Park (0-5 year olds) Parson's Close Recreation Ground LU7 1SD (1000 - 1400 hrs) visit: leightoncarnival.co.uk	

JUNE Fri 30-Sat 01 July - 25 Aug continued Linslade Canal Festival, Tiddenfoot Waterside Park LU7 2AE (1100 - 2000 hrs) Market, High Street LU7 7DN (1100 - 1600 hrs) Street LU7 7DN (0830 - 1500 hrs) LU7 1SD (1500 - 1700 hrs) Ground LU7 1SD 1SD (1500 LU7 1SD (1500 LU7 1SD 1700 hrs) ᅙ -1700

GREEN NEWS

The Greensand Ridge **Walk Gateway**

Keep an eye out for the town's newest artwork due to be installed imminently; a piece of art designed to act as a gateway to the 42-mile Greensand Ridge Walk and Greensand Cycleway, which runs between Leighton Buzzard and Gamlingay. This is

the area's most famous walking route but can be tackled in shorter sections. Cyclists can also split it into shorter stints, or ride one of the circular routes that branch off the main Greensand Cycleway.

The artwork has been designed by artist Stephen Pardue to depict the different sections of the route and incorporates a water bottle refilling station. The project

has included several partners including the Town Council, the Greensand Trust and the Townlands Trust. To find out more about Greensand Country, visit: www.greensandcountry.com















CHANGE **Recycling and Reducing Waste** Bin Better!

In every issue we will share

with you how you can make

JUST 1 CHANGE

∐i, Sustainable Suzi here:

Are you passionate about recycling and reducing waste? Do you want to give back to your community or learn something new? Become a waste reduction volunteer to actively support and inspire Central Bedfordshire residents to reduce, reuse and recycle. You'll provide tips, advice, and information to help others 'bin better'.

To increase our recycling rate and reduce the amount of waste thrown away by local households each year, Central Bedfordshire Council needs the help and support of all residents. As a waste reduction volunteer, you'll take a leading role in this mission. You'll help CBC reach every corner of our area, inspiring others to slim their bin by providing the information, knowledge, and skills to help them manage their waste and improve our local environment. If you are 18 years or over you can become a volunteer. To register your interest, or if you have any questions about the role please email: env.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

JOIN US IN THE COMMUNITY GARDEN IN LEIGHTON BUZZARD



We invite VOLUNTEERS to help us in the new community garden at Parson's Close Rec. Learn new skills and meet other members of your community!

Drop-in sessions run weekly from March - October 2023

When: Wednesday mornings from 10.00am - 11:30am

Where: The Community Garden at Parson's Close Rec (past the cafe, by the river), LU7 1SG

- All abilities welcome and all
- Learn how to grow your own
- Meet, chat and enjoy company.

Improve fitness and wellbeing.

Interested? Contact Rosie on: 07736 134135 or rosie.cliffe@groundwork.org.uk for more









Keep your eyes peeled for the newly revamped Sands of Time Trail this year! A wonderful collection of audio interviews recalling unique memories of Leighton-Linslade's sand quarries and industrial past.



Did you know local sand was used to build Crystal Palace in 1850?

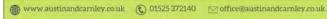


Experts in

Austin and Carnley handle every aspect of Family Law and have a wealth of experience in many specialist practice areas.

- · Divorce, dissolution and separation following marriage, civil partnership or
- Financial arrangements following breakdown of a relationship, including financial orders and deeds of separation
- Domestic abuse, Cohabitation disputes, Children's matters and Pre/postnuptial agreements and more

We do all we can to minimise the stress and anxiety of these life changing events and guide you through with compassion and expertise.



A Complete Drainage Service

A Division of UK traders INC Limited

Leighton Buzzard's Drainage Company

Blocked Drain Clearance, Drain Jetting Colour CCTV Inspection Excavation & Repair Free Quotation Service

Drain Clearance £70ph+VAT (most jobs completed under 1hr) No Call Out Charge (within 10 miles of Leighton Buzzard)

24hr Emergency Drain Clearance

Please call us on

Tel: 01525 634070 or 07928 652013

Email: freeflowmk@gmail.com **FULLY INSURED**

Company No. 04730483 VAT No. 829 5367 90 13 Ashburnham Crescent, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard Beds. LU7 2PB



Do you or someone you know have a life limiting illness? Do you think they could do with some extra support?

Hospice at Home Volunteers provide practical, social and emotional support to you, your family and your carers.

We offer a free service that provides strength and encouragement at a difficult time. We offer practical help where it is needed during a life limiting illness.

The support provided is flexible depending upon your needs, but could include:

- spending time with you so your carer can have a break
- · accompanying you on trips or to the shops
- companionship
- providing information and support

If you would like more information: Call us on: 01525 854713 or email us on: info@hospiceathomevolunteers.org.uk.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US! PRICING GUIDELINES

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

EDITORIAL DEADLINE for May/June 2023 - (Mon 20 March)

For more information contact: 01525 631915. We reserve the right to review pricing.

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.

Please visit our website for a full list of locations.



Central Bedfordshire Council is responsible for:



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

Your feedback is important to us!

We welcome your feedback on the services we provide. Please email any comments you may have to:



info@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk

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@leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk