

THE WHITE PAPER

THE OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME OF **REAL BEDFORD FC**



VS WINSLOW

SAT 8TH OCT '22
KICK OFF: 3:00 PM
ISSUE #6 // £2

#6



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ASSISTANT MANAGER: MARK DUCKET

PHYSIO: LOTTIE BURTON

GOALKEEPING COACH: IAN BROWN

KIT MANAGER: JON DARCY

GROUNDKEEPER: JACK MUDGE

CLUB HISTORIAN: GEOFF SEAGRAVE

BEDFORD LADIES & GIRLS

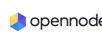
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FROM THE DRESSING ROOM

Firstly I'd like to give a warm welcome to the Winslow United directors, management, players and supporters.

The boys have won 10 out of 10 in the league, which is an outstanding achievement, and one they should be proud of. The togetherness, commitment and desire they are showing to win games of football are great to see. It starts with their attitudes in every training session, which gives them a platform to go and perform well on a matchday.

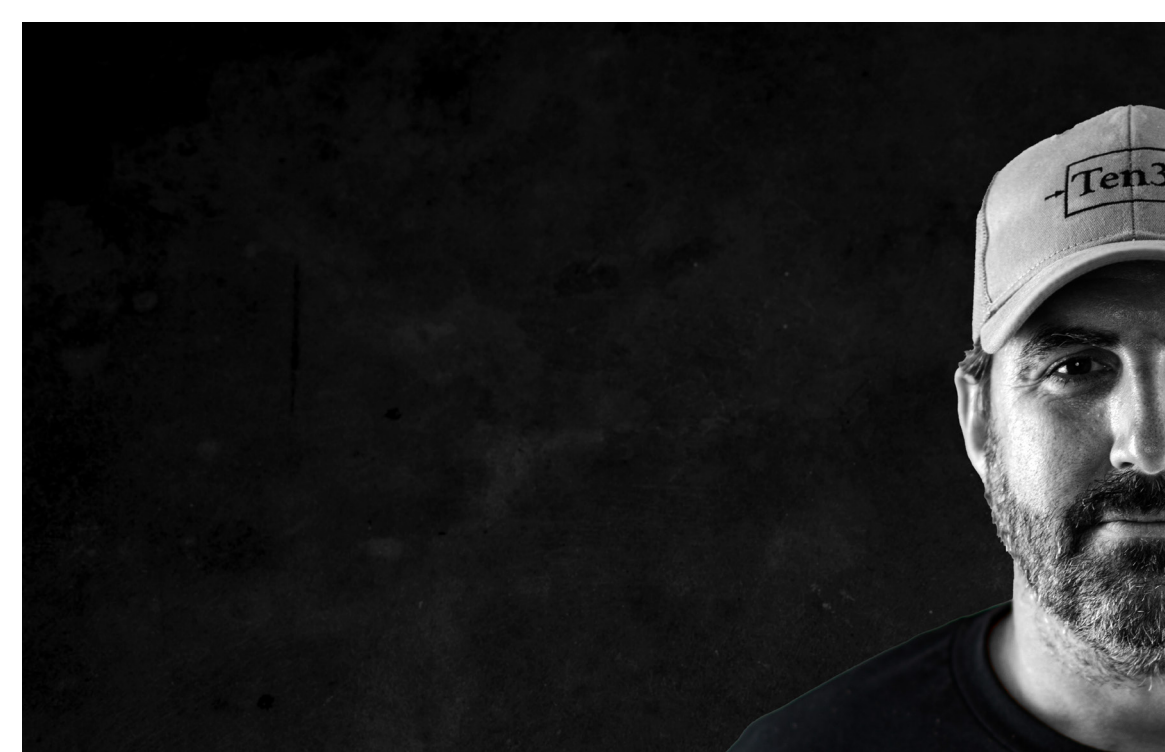
We could not have achieved a successful run of wins like this without our fantastic staff, so I'd like to say thank you to Mark Duckett, Ian Brown, Lottie Burton, Jon Darcy and Pete Thornes. Also, I need to thank Pete, Tom and Emma for their support; I know I can sometimes be demanding.

Tom Wood and Jim Burnside ran in the London Marathon on Sunday, achieving incredible times, so I'd like to congratulate them both.

Since my last programme notes, we've had two more wins, a home win against a very good Lutterworth Athletic side and a solid away win against a much-changed Raunds Town side. I was extremely pleased with how the lads dug deep to get these results, and they showed absolute professionalism in their defensive play.

As always, a special mention to the fans, you've been brilliant and please continue the support you are showing everyone, as it's greatly appreciated.

Rob Sinclair,
Manager



Ten3

FROM THE BOARDROOM

Nothing could have prepared me for running a football club but I can tell you, without doubt, I have never enjoyed anything more in my life.

I grew up a Liverpool fan, ambivalent of non-league football. For me football was about Anfield, Robbie Fowler and The World Cup. The only thing I knew about non-league football was these weird little teams that played in the F.A. Cup.

The reason I supported Liverpool was pure chance, I was meant to be an Arsenal fan like my brother. When I was five my Mum took me to the market to buy a boot bag but I bought a Liverpool bag by mistake. When I got home, my brother told me I had got the wrong bag and my Mum just said "Well, you'll have to support Liverpool now".

I was always a little jealous of lads who supported their local teams, where they would get together on a Saturday and follow them up and down the country. But we all know what is like as a kid, the lights and glamour of the Premier League is attractive, still, I started to think that wouldn't it be great if kids in Bedford picked their local team over the likes of Liverpool and Manchester United.

Four years ago I approached my lifelong friend Tom Pattinson, now our Chief Executive, and said we should buy Bedford. It never happened because we

didn't realistically have the money to do it. Yet as the years passed, the idea never left me and last year I called Tom again and told him I have a plan.

For this project to work, we need to bring league football to Bedford, but ultimately have a plan to get us to the Premier League. I know, lofty goals. But with a career change into podcasting, I had an audience, sponsors and a crazy idea that just might work.

For football clubs to be successful they need money. I've said this before, money can't buy you success but it can put you in contention, and the pools of cash available for a club are quite simple. If you don't have a rich chairman willing to throw money at it, then a club of our size has to draw revenue from local sponsors and fans. But what if there is a different way?

When planning this project, two clubs stood out to me, Forest Green Rovers and Hashtag United. Where most clubs are built around a certain geography, these clubs have built an identity around an idea. Having launched a podcast five years ago exploring bitcoin, I realised this could be the idea that centres our club. Not only would this allow me to bring ideas regarding the nature of money to my home community, I could recruit bitcoiners around the world to get behind this local project.



So I called up my sponsors, sold them on the idea, bought a club and Real Bedford was born.

We all know the highs and lows of football, I cried in 1989 when Michael Thomas won the league for Arsenal with the last kick of the season and I had the time of my life last summer following England in the Euros with my son. But nothing in my life has compared to the highs and lows of running my local club.

And something has changed, a year ago you could have asked me who Liverpool are playing next and I could instantly tell you the date, time, opposition and competition. Now I can't. I have become so engrossed in the success of Bedford that Liverpool doesn't matter anymore. If I had to choose between watching Liverpool at Wembley in the FA Cup final or Bedford away at Letchworth, I pick Bedford every time.

I love my home town, I love the people and I want success for us. My dream is that one day, we're drawn against a large team in the FA Cup, we bring them to our ground and we surround them with orange and black shirts. I want to see families walking to a game wearing their scarves, and when a kid picks his team, I want it to be Bedford.

For this to work, we have to be sustainable, which

means we have to continue to work hard growing our following. This means ensuring that we are competitive but also the experience of coming to Real Bedford is one people want to do on a cold Tuesday night in Letchworth.

I also want success at every level, from our under 7's to our ladies team to the men. To do this I know we have to be a successful business and we have to provide the facilities and services to drive footballing excellence.

A lot has changed for me in the last year, but the biggest is if someone asks me who I support now, I tell them Bedford. This usually leads to a response of who or no, what's your real club? But we are a real club, we are Real Bedford.

So if you want to join me on this journey, keep coming to the games, bring your friends, wear our shirt with pride and let's make Bedford a name in the world of football.

Peter McCormack,
Chairman

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CAPTAIN'S CORNER

It is an old cliché, but there are no easy games. In Step 6 football, a lot can change quickly. While squads in the professional game are relatively static, at our level, a team can change manager and then the next game has a whole new squad.

Other factors can make games more competitive too, from the weather to the state of the pitch. As a team targeting promotion in a competitive league, we must always be on our A game, always closing out games, even if it means grinding our results when it isn't going our way or injuries deplete the squad.

The team's spirit has been excellent this season. Home and away, we have won all ten league games; this is a testament to the squad Rob has built and the hard work the team puts into training each

week. While we have had several injuries and suspensions, including me, the team has stepped up every game and found a way to win.

Credit must go to the Gaffer and Ducks for how they have managed us as a team. Training sessions are the right mix of intensity and enjoyment, and they go above and beyond to explain what they expect from us.

We have a good combination of youth and experience, and whoever is in the squad come Saturday, I know they will give 100%.

**Luke Knight,
Captain**

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HASH

WE'VE GOT THE

CASH

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FROM THE DUGOUT

This team has had an incredible start to the season; however, you don't win the League in November. Only by the end of April will we know who the champions are.

I had taken a break from football before joining Real Bedford, and I enjoyed my time away. I hadn't even considered returning to football before Rob called me.

Rob was my last signing as a manager, and he taught me many things in my short time working together. What I most liked about working with Rob is, like me, he sets high standards and knows the style of football he wants to play.

I've had many opportunities to return to football in the last 18 months, and I kept in regular touch with Sinco. When he was appointed 1st team manager, I believe I was his 2nd phone call. He called Lotte first.

Everything he said excited me, and I was interested in the challenge. My business had accelerated during this break, but I was ready to juggle it with football.

We have a great group of lads that, in my opinion, are excellent representatives of Real Bedford. They have bonded well and have a great attitude which makes working with them easy.

I've also been impressed with how Pete, Emma and Tom run the day-to-day operations, which is essential to why this football club is united. Professionalism, dedication, structure, and a welcoming family environment are all important in building a successful club, which they have done.

The club is attracting a dedicated following seen by the crowd numbers at McMullen Park. This growing support for Real Bedford is because the owner has delivered on his words. I have been in football for a long time, and I know what we can achieve if we all pull in the right direction.

We have recognised how teams have come to play us, giving everything they can to take points away; however, we are up to the challenge.

A young manager told me once, "Love football, and it will love you back", something that will sit with me until I leave this beautiful game behind.

I hope you enjoy today's game, and Sinco, thanks mate.

Mark Duckett,
Assistant Manager



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PLAYER PROFILE

Full name: Archie Culley

Nickname: Culley

Date of birth: 6th August 2003

Place of birth: Finchley, London

Previous clubs: Cogenhoe United.

Favourite team: Burnley.

Favourite player: Declan Rice.

Most memorable footballing moment: First FA Cup game. Travelling 3 hours, team scoring 2 goals in additional time to win the game 2-1.

Career highlight: First Team debut at 16 vs Kettering.

Occupation: Data Quality Team for NHS.

Hobby: Playing footy (but wanting to get into golf)





REAL BEDF



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REAL BEDFORD EXTEND STREAK TO 10 AGAIN

Real Bedford won another dogfight under the Tuesday night lights to make it 10 from 10 in the league.

A rugged victory in harsh conditions against a previously struggling Raunds Town, demonstrated strong character and resilience throughout the 90 minutes as Bedford wrapped up another three points.

Both sides fielded very different teams from the previous encounter, which saw Bedford run away with a 9 - 1 win in the Gladwish Challenge Trophy. Under new management, Raunds retained only three first-11 players from that result, while Bedford was forced to make several changes due to sickness and injuries.

The win for Bedford did not come easy, and the home side was the beneficiaries of most chances in the first quarter.

The first opportunity fell to Raunds as Rio Henry

caught Archie Culley in possession inside the Bedford half and set up Rich Boah in a dangerous position; however, his shot was wide of the mark. Moments later, Raunds were back in front of goal, Freeman with a dangerous dribble into the area forcing a save out of Real Bedford keeper Tyler McGregor, who kept his 4th clean sheet of the season.

After Raunds opening period of dominance, it was Bedford who drew first blood. Clifford's cross found Murray, whose deflected shot landed at the feet of Owusu. The young winger unleashed a shot at goal, but his effort hit the arm of Raunds' Aaron Addy, and the referee pointed to the spot. There was little the defender could do to move his arm away, and the home side surrounded the referee to question his decision.

Matt Clifford jumped at the chance to score his second of the season, converting the ball comfortably past the keeper, giving Bedford the lead heading into the half-time break.

Raunds Town 0 - 2 Real Bedford
4th October 2022
Kiln Park



END LEAGUE WINNING ST RAUNDS TOWN

SECOND HALF

Bedford came out of the changing rooms with their tails up, and despite playing against the blistering wind for the second period, there was an noticeable increase in energy levels.

Real Bedford came up with the first real chance of the second half. Rob Duckett laid the ball off to Ty McLeod-Bentley, who took his opportunity and released a powerful shot from a tight angle, forcing a save out of George Anthony in goal. The ball ricocheted to Jordan Brown, who failed to find the net with a headed attempt after good pressure from the Raunds defence.

It wasn't long, however, before Bedford found another opportunity to double their lead; this time, it was the defensive acumen of Corbit in the middle of the park, snuffing Raunds of possession before finding a perfectly weighted lofted pass over to Brown. Holding up in the wind and catching keeper Anthony in no-mans-land. Brown

trapped the ball and found the empty goal with a calm and collected finish.

Corbit was again at the heart of the next Real Bedford attack, threading a ball through to Brown, who in turn palmed it off to McLeod-Bentley out wide. The winger produced a perfect delivery across the face of goal which Harry Murray overran, a disappointing moment for the midfielder who was inches away from his first goal in Real Bedford colours.

Bedford controlled the game's closing stages, and further shots from Murray, Brown and Culley tested Anthony to varying degrees without finding the net.

It was another victory for Bedford, extending their lead at the top of the table as other teams were not in action.

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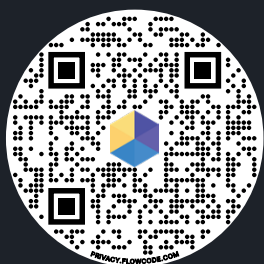
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SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE FIXTURES 2022/23

AUGUST				
SAT 6	3:00PM	H	Rushden & Higham United	(W) 3-0
SAT 13	3:00PM	A	Buckingham Athletic	(W) 1-7
SAT 20	3:00PM	A	Burton Park Wanderers	(W) 1-2
TUE 23	7:45PM	H	Letchworth Garden City Eagles	(W) 3-0
SEPTEMBER				
SAT 3	3:00PM	A	London Tigers	(W) 1-2
TUE 6	7:45PM	H	Raunds Town (Gladwish Challenge Trophy)	(W) 9-1
SAT 17	3:00PM	A	Holmer Green	(W) 1-4
TUE 20	7:45PM	H	Moulton FC	(W) 5-0
SAT 24	3:00PM	A	Amersham Town	(W) 1-3
TUE 27	7:30PM	A	London Tigers (Division One Cup)	(L) 1-2
OCTOBER				
SAT 1	3:00PM	H	Lutterworth Athletic	(W) 1-0
TUE 4	7:45PM	A	Raunds Town	(W) 0-2
SAT 8	3:00PM	H	Winslow United	
SAT 15	3:00PM	H	Rugby Borough	
TUE 18	7:45PM	A	Letchworth Garden City Eagles	
SAT 22	3:00PM	A	Moulton FC	
SAT 29	3:00PM	A	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos (Gladwish Challenge Trophy)	
NOVEMBER				
SAT 5	3:00PM	H	Raunds Town	
SAT 12	3:00PM	A	Thame United Reserve	
SAT 19	3:00PM	H	Eaton Socon	
SAT 26	3:00PM	H	London Tigers	
DECEMBER				
SAT 3	3:00PM	H	Northampton ON Chenecks	
SAT 10	3:00PM	A	Wellingborough Whitworth	
SAT 17	3:00PM	H	Amersham Town	
TUE 27	7:45PM	A	Ampthill Town	
JANUARY				
MON 2	3:00PM	H	Langford	
SAT 7	3:00PM	A	Northampton Sileby Rangers	
SAT 14	3:00PM	H	Northampton Sileby Rangers	
WED 21	7:45PM	A	Eaton Socon	
SAT 28	3:00PM	H	Wellingborough Whitworth	
FEBRUARY				
SAT 18	3:00PM	H	Buckingham Athletic	
SAT 25	3:00PM	A	Rugby Borough	
MARCH				
SAT 4	3:00PM	H	Holmer Green	
SAT 11	3:00PM	H	Burton Park Wanderers	
SAT 18	3:00PM	A	Rushden & Higham United	
SAT 25	3:00PM	H	Lutterworth Athletic	
APRIL				
SAT 1	3:00PM	A	Northampton ON Chenecks	
SAT 8	3:00PM	A	Langford	
MON 10	3:00PM	H	Ampthill Town	
SAT 15	3:00PM	H	Thame United Reserves	
SAT 22	3:00PM	A	Winslow United	

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THE AWAY TEAM

At the beginning of February 2022 it looked as though the club were heading for a memorable promotion having overtaken Stotfold at the league summit on the back of a tremendous run of form. An 88th minute winning goal for Stotfold in the league clash on February 12th brought about a slump in form that ultimately saw Winslow pipped to 2nd place by Amphill Town on the last day of the season and then succumb to bogey-side, Shefford Town and Campton, in the Play-offs.

It has been a relatively successful five years for the club. In 2018/19 as Winslow finished third in Division One for a second successive season and won the Buckingham Senior Charity Cup defeating Aylesbury Vale Dynamoes, 1-0 in front of 352 spectators. Ultimately it was defeats to the top two and some inconsistencies that cost the team a tilt at promotion although they again entertained along the way finishing as the second highest top scorers in the Division. FA Cup football also came to Elmfields Gate albeit the team were eliminated by Banbury side, Easington Sports, after a replay. 351 people witnessed the first match at Winslow.

The club appointed George Tomlin as First team manager at the start of 2019/20 following Paul Alleyene and Roni Joe's decision to stand down; George had steered Aylesbury Flooring to FA Sunday Cup victory in 2018/19 however it became apparent that George was struggling to commit fully to the role and so Paul and Roni took the reins from December 2019 once again and remained in charge for 2020-21. Both seasons fizzled out amidst so much uncertainty regarding lockdowns and play re-starting and towards the end of 2020-21, Paul and Roni signalled their intent that they would be stepping down, this time for good. Chairman Andy Setterfield looked to the club's successful youth set up and promoted from within for 2021-22; James Green joined as manager having

previously managed the club's Junior teams from Under 8 onwards and was assisted by co-manager, ex-Aston Clinton and Aylesbury Vale Dynamoes manager, Jordan King. 2021-22 was a memorable season which saw another tilt at promotion fall just short albeit with plenty of entertaining football along the way and the club's Under 18 side made it to the 1st Round of the FA Youth Cup before bowing out to Ipswich Town at Portman Road.

HISTORY

The club was formed in 1891. Originally games were played at Great Horwood Road before moving to the current ground, Elmfields Gate, in 1948. The club joined the South Midlands League in 1968 following success in the North Bucks Football League and were Berks & Bucks Junior Cup winners in the preceding 1967-68 season.

United won the SML Division 1 in 1974-75 and enjoyed many successful seasons in the SML Premier Division, recording fifth placed finishes in 1981-82 and 1986-87 as well as reaching the 2nd Round of the FA Vase in 1983-84. The club went into decline in the early 90s and were relegated from the SML Premier Division in 1991-92 having won only 2 games out of 42.

In 2009 Winslow withdrew from Spartan South Midlands football having suffered a number of 11th hour resignations from management but were back in Division 2 for the 2010-11 season under the management of Damien Wiffin and Kevin Marsden and the season ended well as United lifted the Division 2 Cup, defeating The 61FC 2-0 at Amphill. There are currently proposals for a new, bigger club house and changing rooms to replace the building that has been there since being opened in 1963, plans are with the Local Authority awaiting permission.

MATCHDAY SQUAD



V



REAL BEDFORD

TYLER **MCGREGOR**
ROB **DUCKET**
JAMES **DUCKET**
ANDY **SINCLAIR**
JACK **UTTRIDGE**
TOM **WOOD**
BEN **WALSH**
LUKE **KNIGHT (C)**
BEN **MCGRATH**
JORDAN **BROWN**
STANLEY **AYRE**
TYRELLE **MCLEOD BENTLEY**
JAMIE **SYLVESTER**
JIM **BURNSIDE**
HARRY **MURRAY**
EDDIE **CORBITT**
MATT **CLIFFORD**
FLYNN **BAKER-BOND**
DAN **WALKER**
TOM **HITCHCOCK**
KEVIN **OWUSU**

LUTTERWORTH ATHLETIC

CHARLIE **BARNETT**
JAMIE **ROBINSON**
JUSTIN **GORDON**
RYAN **FRESHWATER**
MARK **LAMBERT**
RYAN **MARSDEN**
ROCKO **TAMPLIN**
ROY **BYRON**
OLLIE **POWER**
AARON **KING**
CHARLIE **ROWE**
TOM **LAWER**
JACK **MENDAY**
HARRY **DALTON**
LUKE **CESTRONE**
LOUIE **HAWORTH**
GEORGE **KERR**

MANAGER: ALEX **WOODFINE**
COACH: NIGEL **SWAIN**

MANAGER: ROB **SINCLAIR**
ASSISTANT MANAGER: MARK **DUCKET**
GOALKEEPING COACH: IAN **BROWN**
HEAD SPORTS THERAPIST: LOTTIE **BURTON**
KITMAN: JON **DARCEY**