

TT No. 190: *Bob Davies* - Saturday 9 February 2008; **Ampthill Town** (1) 3 Cheshunt Res (4) 5; Spartan South Midlands League Division One; Att: 35 (est.); Admission: £3 incl. 16 pp prog (10pp ads); Tea 50p.

On my way through to Milton Keynes for the ice hockey I thought I would drop in at Ampthill, a ground I hadn't visited for a couple of seasons. I was advised to go to an SSML match by a gentleman who assured me I would "get a few goals" and he certainly wasn't wrong on this occasion!

I find the best way to get to the ground is go around A507 towards Milton Keynes, avoiding going into the town centre. A right turn sign posted Ampthill takes you past the rugby club on the right, with the football club car park being on the next left.

Ampthill Town is set in the location of Ampthill Park and being such a Spring like day it was a very pleasant place to visit. The clubhouse is small but very smart with the bar and tea bar open for business on my arrival.

A covered stand runs along the right-hand centre side of the pitch and can be reached by some steps at the far end of the dressing room/clubhouse complex. This gives an elevated view of the pitch and has been enhanced in recent seasons by the addition of a number of seats. I prefer to stand though and find a convenient position at the end of the stand.

The match itself was an entertaining affair with the visitors taking an early lead and extending it to 4-1 by half time as Ampthill didn't seem to be "at the races".

A different second half with the home side pulling a goal back quickly but when Cheshunt scored a fifth it did take a bit of momentum out of the game. I expected more goals but had to wait until injury time when Ampthill claimed a late consolation to make the final score 3-5.

Incidentally the score at the ice hockey was also 3-5, a strange coincidence as the scoring came close to being the same as the afternoon's football with Peterborough taking a 4-1 lead before going on to win as well.