

**TT No.31: *Bob Davies*** - Sat 6th September 2008; Ridgeon's ECL, Premier Division; **Histon Reserves v Whitton United**; Result: 2-2; Attendance 61; Result: 2-2; Admission. incl. prog (16pp), £4 (£2 for grandson); tea: 80p.

The inclement weather of the previous week had taken its predicted toll on the evening's speedway at Rye House which was called off fairly early in the day. Therefore, the proposed trip to Harlow or Cheshunt (due to a 6pm start at Rye House) was also postponed. So, we had a free day but further problems at Stevenage station meant it would still be a local game rather than further afield.

I hadn't visited Histon since they were in the Southern League and noted their reserve team were playing a Ridgeon's Eastern Counties League fixture. This meant that we could park in the club car park and have the freedom of the ground to take some photographs.

The Glass World Stadium is situated to the east of the B1049, just over half a mile north of Junction 32 of the A14, and as such is easily accessed from all directions. Driving into the club car park there is a cricket pitch and football pitches to the right. One of these pitches was going to stage the match between Histon 'A' and Littleport Town in Kershaw Cambridgeshire League (which ended 0-0 by the way).

Many changes have taken place since my last visit. The first of which is noticeable is the Cambridgeshire F.A Headquarters building that dominates the front of the club. Inside the ground the old stand remains in place but is now adjoined by newer larger construction that forms part of the F.A. building. On the opposite side a low seated stand runs the entire length of the pitch. Both ends of the ground have a three-step covered terrace which encloses three sides of the ground very neatly and carries the name of one the club sponsors around the top. The top bar was open for alcoholic refreshments and below the newer half of the main stand hot food and drinks were being sold.

The programme was a black and white photocopied 16 pager. This had all the necessary needed including a 3-page spread on visitors, Whitton United, and a page dedicated to 'Travellers Tales' which looked to be written in a very similar style to a certain, Mr Buck's writings! Good effort for a reserve team where usually a team sheet is considered sufficient for the spectators.

Since Whitton United gained promotion from the First Division last season they have found life tough in the Premier and remained pointless after four games with some heavy defeats in early matches. They are managed by Gary Thompson the former Ipswich Town player and have a Colchester United link with Neil Gregory as his assistant and Simon Betts as captain. The Histon team have not had all that good a start to the season either and have recorded one win in their six games so far.

The game proved entertaining with both sides creating several chances to open the scoring but the only goal of the first half came from the home side as Captain, Adrian Cambridge put Jordon Yong through on goal and beat the goalkeeper Ryan Beal with ease. On the hour Histon went 2-0 up as Andrew Tidswell was given time and space to clip the ball inside Beal's left-hand post. Ronaldo Wright put the visitors back in the game volleying home from inside the area on 65 minutes. Histon looked the more likely side to increase their lead but there was a sting in tail from the visitors in stoppage time. A long distance shot beat Histon's goal keeper, Cowell, and crashed against the underside of the bar and back into play. First to react was Grant Monaghan to head home and give Whitton United their first point of the season.

Match rating: 4\*. Website: [www.histonfc.co.uk](http://www.histonfc.co.uk)

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