

TT No.153: *Bob Davies* - Sun 9th January 2011; Dun Cow v Victoria Vampires; Herts Senior Sunday Cup 4th Round: Venue: Meadow Playing Fields, Stevenage; Result: 2-3; FGIF Rating: 3*.

This Herts Senior Sunday Cup 4th round tie featured Dun Cow (Comet Stevenage Sunday League) and Victoria Vampires (Watford Sunday Football League).

The match took place at the Meadow playing field in Redcar Road, Stevenage. This might be recognised by some readers as the previous home of Bedwell Rangers (Herts Senior County League). The playing field contains two pitches, the main pitch in front of the changing rooms and a slightly smaller pitch to the right.

On this particular morning a 10am kick-off was a bit optimistic considering the overnight frost. The rising sun was doing a good job of de-icing the smaller pitch but some large trees blocked half of the main pitch, which still looked decidedly icy. Around 10.20am the referees came out to review the pitches. After a bit of discussion, it was decided to swap the Cup tie onto the smaller pitch and play the Division 4 game (Granby v Crooked Billet Boro') onto the large pitch. Everybody swapped over and both matches kicked off about on time.

The cup game produced an even contest that saw visiting Vampires lead 1-0 at the break. A stirring half time team talk by the Dun Cow management saw the home side equalise quickly and then take a 2-1 lead. End to end stuff after this with the Vampires added bite seeing them equalise and going on to take the tie what proved to be a very late winner. Dun Cow battled on to the end even bringing their goalkeeper up to the opponent's area for a couple of late corners. It must be said that the Vampires edged the game and despite what has been written about them they dealt with crosses very well indeed!

07/20