

TT No. 165: Bob Davies - Sat 29th January 2011; **Eynesbury Rovers (0) 1 v Wellingborough Whitworths (1) 1**; United Counties League - Div. One; Attendance: 93; Admission: £4 (incl. very good 32-page programme); Coffee: 80p (very hot and very welcome); Match Rating: ###.

Cambridgeshire based Eynesbury Rovers were formed in 1897 and have competed in a number of leagues including the Bedford & District, South Midlands and Eastern Counties League over the years. The club re-joined the United Counties League in 1963 for a second spell after originally joining the League just after the second world war. Lots of Cup success for the Rovers over the years but only one Championship in recent times with the UCL Division One in 1977. The club then played in the Premier Division of the League finishing in a highest position of third in 1990 - 91. Relegation back to Division One came at the end of the 2000-2001 with the club winning only 4 games of a 40-game schedule. Rovers hope to regain their Premier Division status again and are slowly making progress for this aim on and off the field.

A quick journey for me up the A1 from my Stevenage home for a ground I don't visit that often during a season and a even rarer Saturday visit. Directions to the ground can be found [here](#).

Adequate parking is available inside the ground and I usually head for the tarmacked 5-aside court for a bit of protection from wayward shots towards goal. The pitch is fully railed with no infill apart from a good number of advertising boards and looked in good condition. A covered standing area is situated on the entrance side of the pitch in a central position. The main complex houses dressing rooms, bar, kitchen and stand, also another covered standing area in front of the clubhouse.

The team changes are shown on a board in the bar written up by Graham Mills, the Vice-Chairman. Graham's other jobs include that of programme editor, website administrator and announcer!

The match programme included with admission contains a good selection of reports, club and league news and is balanced out with a good selection of stats. Match details on the front and team details on the back complete this very good 32-page publication, which in my opinion is the best produced in this division and a lot of those above.

Eynesbury (5th) were looking for revenge in a very quick reversal of the previous meeting between the clubs. Wellingborough (12th) took the points the previous weekend with a 3-1 win and looked like they had the confidence to try and repeat a winning score line today. After taking the lead in the 32nd minute through their assistant player manager, Matt Freeman, they created the better of the scoring chances and could had a couple more before the break. The teams looked very even for the most of the second half and when Rovers scored an equaliser through

captain Craig Lanham it was no more than they deserved. For the rest of the game defences were on top but full credit to Whitworth as they did push forward to try for the winner. Not the best Eynesbury performance so I gather and they couldn't break the visitors down again despite all their efforts.

07/20