

**TT No.118: Keith Aslan** - Sat 2nd March 2013; **MIDDLEZOY ROVERS** v Wincanton; Somerset Senior Cup Semi-Final; Kick-Off: 14.29; Result: 1-7; Admission: Free; Programme: £1; Attendance: 66 (35 home, 13 away & 18 neutral).

With the Somerset County League being to programmes what Wayne Rooney is to quantum physics, Middlezoy's one off issue for their Somerset Senior Cup Semi-Final produced an impressive turnout of groundhoppers (and their dog) for what was billed as the "biggest game in their history".

The first thing you need to know about Middlezoy is they don't play in the village from which they take their name, but a couple of miles down the road in Westonzoyland, which in turn is three miles from Bridgwater station (don't attempt to walk it - exceedingly dangerous). There is a two-hour bus service from Bridgwater bus station, and the bus stops nearer the train station if you are a bit pushed for time. 13.15 out, 17.20 back but beware, the bus going back goes from a different road to the one you come in on. There are no bus stops in the village and basically you need to stand close to the butchers to await your return transport. I didn't have to put this to the test thanks to the train-ophiles kindly been given a lift back to Bridgwater by the editor of a well-known weekly fixture magazine.

Surprisingly Middlezoy has a nice little stand, from which you get an excellent view of the back of the dugouts, and is roped off on two sides, with the other two being out of bounds for spectators. There is a small tea bar in the dressing room complex, which for this game, was selling hot pies and pasties, which would be more enjoyable if your definition of hot is "barely warm". Still, nice try. They handled their big day very well, aided by the secretary cum programme editor cum trainer cum ball boy who didn't stop working all afternoon. One of the many heroes that keep small clubs like this functioning. The ground is on the edge of a very well used airfield with light aircraft taking off and landing making an interesting backdrop to the match.

Middlezoy took the lead after 90 seconds with a goal straight from a corner, but unfortunately that was as good as it got for the underdogs, and the end result was what you might expect when you play a team from two leagues higher who have only lost one match all season. All in all, an excellent day out for the committed and non-committed alike in a very pleasant part of the country. The Somerset Senior Cup Final will be between Wincanton, who play in Dorset, and Brislington, who play in Avon!