

TT No.35: *Steve Hardy* - Saturday 25th February 2017; **Awsorth Villa** v Sandiacre Town; Notts Senior League Premier Division; Venue: Kimberley Leisure Centre 3G; Result: 1-0; Admission with Programme: Free; Attendance: 46.

The attraction of this match was the venue. Very sensibly, Awsorth had planned on beating storm Dottie by moving the game to a 3G pitch at a leisure centre in Kimberley, some 3 miles from their normal ground. Several other hoppers had obviously spotted this opportunity as I reckon hoppers made up two thirds of the crowd of 46.

The venue is just another 3G pitch in a cage. Spectators were welcome inside the cage though, and I reckon the club missed a trick by not charging anything for their excellent programme. Even at £1 a time they could have gone some way to paying the fees of the 3 officials. That said, I don't think Awsorth had anticipated the large influx of hoppers and the few programmes they printed were all gone long before kick-off. Watching grown men crying is awful!

The match itself was very good I thought. Awsorth are challenging for the title, but came up against a very spirited Sandiacre team who belied their lowly league position with lightning quick breaks. An end to end first half ended goalless, with Awsorth eventually scoring the winner in the second half to break the Sandiacre resistance.

Top marks to Awsorth for their enterprise in getting this match played. Another very friendly club too, and a pleasure to visit.

04/20