

TT No.39: *Brian Buck* - Saturday 11th March 2017; **Bedric's Worth** v Thurston Reserves; St Edmundsbury Football League Division One; Venue: Oakes Road Open Space, Bury St Edmunds; Result: Admission: None; Programme: No; Attendance: approx. 15.

Today I had a bit of a problem. By now Mrs. Buck had got fed up with Spurs playing at home on Sundays. Next day would be their third Sunday home game in as many weeks, with a fourth one to follow on the following Sunday. So, I was forced to take her out somewhere today! So, we had a decent meal in a pub in Fornham All Saints and then I dropped her off at St Edmundsbury Cathedral and went off for my daily fix, via a pub close to the ground. The hosts seemed quite pleased to see me and I think they were quite taken aback by the fact that someone should come so far (as they saw it) to watch them play.

Although the ground was in effect in a recreation ground part of it had been fenced off to stop dog walkers, or more specifically their dogs, stop pooing on the pitch. The ground itself is right next to the busy A14, but in order to stop people watching the games here as they drive past a fence has been put up to block up most of the view. Nice to know that this local council can waste money in this way when most councils can't even attend to the potholes on our busy roads or other more important things. The game was second versus bottom and to be truthful it showed. By the 34th minute the home number 9 had scored a hat-trick and by half time the score was 5-0. For the second half, I was joined by the league secretary and we had a good chat. He told me that the home side used to be called Bartons. He then told me that their current name was the original name for Bury St Edmunds, which began as an Anglo-Saxon settlement called Bedric's Worth. Worth was a Saxon word meaning an enclosure such as a farm or hamlet surrounded by a stockade. Probably why they put up this ridiculous fencing then! Meanwhile on the pitch the hosts continued to go about their business and inflicted a painless hammering of their easily submissive opponents who surrendered without any friction. I then picked up Mrs. Buck and unusually for a Saturday I got home just as the football results were being read out on the telly!