

**TT No.69:** *Brian Buck* - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017; **Tiptree Heath** v Flitch United; Andreas Carter Essex & Suffolk Border League Division 3; Venue: Feering Community Centre; Kick-Off: 3pm; Result: 1-1; Attendance: 35 approx; Admission: Free; Programme: No.

After my previous match had finished it was just over a half hour's drive to my next match and after I had confirmed that the match was on, having been unable to check it out earlier, I was directed to the nearest pub where I managed an unhurried pint. Back at the ground I decided to watch the match from the comfort of my garden chair, which I always keep in my car boot, along with wellies and all my other requirements to meet with the demands of the weather of the day! I picked a spot where I could not only see the game, but also the trains passing by the pitch, some of them slowing down to stop at the nearby Kelvedon railway station. I witnessed ten trains pass by during the course of the afternoon! Tiptree Heath are a newly formed club and ultimately, they are trying to get senior football restored in Tiptree now that Tiptree United are merged with Maldon Town. Having only picked out this match because I hadn't been to this venue before, I discovered during the afternoon that there was something on this game. If Flitch won or drew then they would win the league. If Tiptree won then they could win it with their game in hand. For this game, we had a very strong young ref and refreshingly he clamped down on any dissent directed his way from the outset and most players soon got the message. One didn't though! Tiptree took the lead from the spot on 26 minutes following a foul and on 70 minutes Flitch equalized with a 25 yarder through a ruck of players, thus beating the scorer of Tiptree's goal who had taken over the gloves at half time! Although this was very much a sporting match it wasn't always that exciting to watch as both sides were evenly matched!