

TT1617-70

TT No.70: *Brian Buck* - Saturday 29th April 2017; East Stars v Hatch Lane; East London Barking & Dagenham Sunday League Premier Cup Final; Venue: **AFC Hornchurch**; Kick-Off: 7pm; Result: 0-4; Attendance: 90 approx; Admission: £4 with programme.

My last game of the day was a leisurely 50-minute drive away and I was the first paying spectator here! So, I had plenty of time to sup a pint whilst I watched the exciting Crystal Palace v Burnley game on the TV. It would have been an enjoyable experience had it not been for a load of young kids using the said bar as a running track. Obviously, their parents weren't caring a toss about their misbehavior, especially when they ran past me. So, I moved my chair into a position where they would have to avoid me, or so I thought. Then a minute or so later one of the brats actually climbed over me to continue his 'journey'! This current Sunday League is a merger of the East London Sunday League with the London City Airport Sunday League and I've seen Saturday evening Cup Finals here before. What goes on in these matches is sometimes rather unbelievable and tonight you had the histrionics of both management teams, together with their mates, all who thought that they knew what they were talking about. There were also some very dodgy things happening on the pitch. The ref tolerated it all for a while but then gradually got his cards out more frequently. There was a sending off on 63 minutes, but despite it happening right in front of me I couldn't see what the offending player had done wrong. Hatch Lane took the lead on 32 minutes, against the run of play but when the remaining goals went in during the second half they were deserved. Overall a rowdy night and one which I might have enjoyed more had I been connected with either side.

04/20