

**TT No.111: Steve Hardy - Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018; Lichfield City v Brocton**  
Midland League - Division One; Result: 2-4; Admission: £3 (OAP); Programme: £1;  
Attendance: 36 (h/c)

As every match on my list slowly disappeared under 2ft of water, I gave up trying to find a new ground and settled for my nearest 3G pitch, and a revisit to Lichfield City. The attraction here today was visitors Brocton, a club I have a soft spot for, and who are engulfed in the relegation battle at the foot of the Midland league first division.

There have been quite a few changes at Lichfield since my last visit. The 3G pitch for one, plus a small area of covered terracing at the far end of the ground, to go with the main stand. The entire area around the pitch has now got a tarmac path too, so well done to Lichfield for updating their ground like this.

Brocton are really struggling on the pitch at the moment, and I fully expected a comfortable home win today. Once again, I was totally wrong! Brocton were much the better side in the first half and cruised to a 2-0 lead at the break over their strangely lethargic hosts. After the break, Brocton took their foot off the peddle and began wasting time wherever possible. Given their superiority in the first half, this seemed a rather short-sighted thing to do in my opinion, and sure enough by the hour mark it was 2-2 after a penalty and a scramble in the box. It looked like Lichfield had the momentum to go on and win it, but Brocton then abandoned their time-wasting tactics, put three players up front, and duly scored 2 more goals in the last 10 minutes to wrap up a 4-2 win. As the Brocton keeper was heard to say, this was the first time they had scored 4 goals in a game for ages.

The attendance today was just 36. Most of them were from Brocton, and it does seem a tad disappointing for the homesters that there seems to be little interest in step 6 football in a city the size of Lichfield.

04/20