

TT No. 130: Keith Aslan - Saturday April 28th 2018; PRESTATYN SPORTS v Y Felinheli; Welsh Alliance Division 2; Kick-Off: 14.32; Result: 3-1; Admission: Free; Programme: £1; Attendance: 29 (20 home, 3 away & 6 neutral).

Only formed in 2013 Prestatyn Sports have had five years of almost unmitigated success and are currently looking good for another promotion this season although there is still a fair bit of football to be played before that can be confirmed. Previously denied due to ground grading they've really gone to town and there won't be any problems this time round. They have fully railed the pitch and built two massive brick dugouts. From somewhere two men appeared carrying a couple of small Perspex stands which must have been very heavy. Two planks of wood were inserted to form a surprisingly comfortable covered seating area behind the goal, ideal for the lazy and the infirm, both of which cover me. A table outside the changing rooms was laid out with a tea urn, snacks and most importantly the programmes. Lots of them and they would have had some left over in spite of the preponderance of groundhoppers. The ground's situation is quite breathtaking with fantastic views out to sea.

They play in the village of Gronant which is, just over two-miles from Prestatyn. There are loads of buses but coming back with plenty of time for the train, I walked it. For all you freeloaders who don't pay bus fares, you do in Wales. Plenty to read in the programme but the Captain should be told that 'a part' and 'apart' have opposite meanings. Also, I was intrigued to learn that their manager was previously Heavyweight Champion of Newcastle. Presumably the fights took place in the Gallowgate area of town at closing time. While off the field the club are top notch, on the pitch the players didn't endear themselves to me or the referee. If 'whingeing' was an Olympic Sport this lot would bring home the gold for Team UK and I can't understand how you can call the referee a cheat and stay on the field. Football-wise I doubt this was one of their better performances, but a win is a win. 2-0 up at half time but Y Felinheli, a man down, still managed to reduce the deficit early in the second half with only a home goal on 75 minutes making things safe.

Highlight of the afternoon came towards the end of the first half when a Y Felinheli player was sent off for a second bookable offence. After brandishing the yellow the Ref. spent the next 20 seconds searching his pockets for a red card which he hadn't got. The miscreant said, somewhat optimistically I thought, 'If you haven't got a card then you can't send me off' The linesman came to the refs. rescue and gave him his red card to wave which left me wondering what the assistant referee needed a red card for in the first place.