

TT No.25: *Brian Buck* - Saturday 19th August 2017; **Worthing Town** v Sidlesham; Macron Store Southern Combination League Division 2; Result: 1-5; Attendance: 43.

I travelled here by train, accompanying by some un-forecasted rain but fortunately it stopped by the time we alighted at the station. From there we had a 15-minute walk to the ground where we met a very nice lady in reception who told us that she was whatever fancy title she had given herself. When asking when the bar and food would be available, we were told that it would be once her catering manager arrived! However, by now we had noticed her pretty delicate fingers holding copies of the holy grail for this club, the match day programme - soon she was lighter by two. We then had a longer chat which revealed that after a falling out the club have dropped the 'Leisure' of their name last season. They then played their matches at the far end of Palatine Park. But this season, under their revised name they are playing on the pitch between the clubhouse and the adjacent *Hungry Horse* pub and rather than wait for the catering manager to arrive I decamped there for an hour or so. I returned shortly before kick-off, just before the players appeared. I was a bit worried that the ref might be the same guy who sits in front of and reads the scores off the teleprinter as they come in. But unless he is an Olympic athlete, then I saw the actual bloke doing his stuff on TV a few moments after this match had finished. As for the game, it was really as one sided as the score suggests. The hosts tried hard but were plainly nowhere near as good as the visitors, who were 2-0 up at the break. This became 0-3 after 61 minutes, but I was pleased for Worthing when they pulled a goal back on 90 minutes, as they had taken their punishment with minimal fuss, but in stoppage time Sidlesham scored twice more to win by about the right margin.