

TT No.3: *Ian Brown* - Saturday 5th August 2017; **Creetown** v Heston Rovers; South of Scotland League; Result: 2-3; Admission: £4; (£2 Concessions); Refreshments available: Pies £1.50; Hot Beverages £1; Paper: No

Creetown is a small seaport town in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, which forms part of the Galloway in the Dumfries and Galloway council area in south-west Scotland. Its population is about 750 people. It is situated near the head of Wigtown Bay, 18 miles (29 km) west of Castle Douglas. The town was originally named Ferrytown of Cree (Scottish Gaelic: Port Aiseig a' Chrich) as it formed one end of a ferry route that took pilgrims across the River Cree estuary to the shrine of St Ninian at Whithorn. This is the reason why the local football team, formed in 1895, are known as 'The Ferrytoun'.

Creetown was formerly served by the Portpatrick and Wigtownshire Railway. The granite quarries in the vicinity constitute the leading industry, the stone for the Liverpool docks and other public works having been obtained from them. The village dates from 1785, and became a burgh of barony in 1792. Sir Walter Scott laid part of the scene of *Guy Mannering* in this neighborhood. Dr Thomas Brown, the metaphysician (1778-1820), was a native of the parish in which Creetown lies.

As mentioned above Creetown Football Club was originally formed in 1895 as Barholm Rovers and played their home games at Barholm Park Creetown. In 1905 Barholm Rovers became Creetown Rifle Volunteers Football Club before becoming Creetown Football Club in 1920.

Castlecary Park is clearly visible from the A75 with Wigtown Bay in the background looking resplendent on this august Saturday afternoon. If approaching from the east, exit at the first Creetown junction and the entrance to the ground is immediately on the right. From the west, take the second exit for Creetown. Entrance to the ground is on the right. Castlecary Park is basically part of a farmer's field, although a new log-cabin-style club building was constructed in 2013. It is the only feature of note at the ground. Refreshments were available from the side of the cabin.

The game began with the visitors attacking the Wigtown Bay end, the home keeper making a fine stop diverting a long-range strike over the bar. The match ebbed and flowed with the home taking the lead when Michael Sutherland tapped in from close range just before the half hour, chances came and went for both sides. HT: 1-0 Creetown.

The second stanza followed the same pattern of the first, end to end being profligate in front of the goal for both sides until Alex Dick gave Creetown a 2-0 advantage. The next goal would be crucial in the context of the game it was, a

ball was floated in behind the rear guard of the Creetown defence and Sam Hughes ghosted in to the head into the net. Game On. Hesitancy in the Creetown defence saw Sam Hughes double his tally, it was now anybody's, both teams were not settling for a draw going toe to toe both teams had chances to take the spoils, in the end a cool finish from Sam Hughes maintained the visitors 100% record: played 3 won 3.

A decent day out helped by the friendliness of the locals. A pleasant place to watch football at this time of year.

04/20