

**TT No.83:** *Brian Buck* - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018; **Freiston** v Woodhall Spa United; Boston Workforce Unlimited League Division 1; Result: 5-1; Attendance: 25 approx.

As is seemingly a regular occurrence at this time of the year heavy overnight rain, which was still falling as I got up, meant that I had to put on my weather forecaster's hat on to help me to decide where to go to today. I soon noted that the rain was expected to move no further north than roughly Spalding. So, after consulting the fixture secretary of the Boston & District League, I picked out this game, based partly on him telling me that this pitch drains well. Mind you, he was going to the other one I had on my list, namely East Leake, but that one, being a cup match, kicked off half an hour earlier and such was my tardiness in leaving home, getting there would have been a bit tight. So, I settled on this game at Freiston.

If coming from the south then get yourself to Boston. Turn right just past Boston United's ground and keep going! I arrived here with about 45 minutes to spare and immediately noted that the car park was rather full, but after driving through some mud I found a place to park, on some grass. Then I discovered the reason for there being so many cars - they were holding an auction in the clubhouse, known locally as the Danny Flear Community Centre, which also houses the dressing rooms. After ascertaining that the match was on, I asked a local where the nearest pub was as she pointed out the back of one in the distance, about a two-minute walk away. So, I nipped in there for a quick pint. No time for more today. But at the same time, I saw this magnificent looking church which I only had time to observe from a distance.

I was back in time for the match. The home manager was almost alone on the far side of this big pitch and when I went around there, I soon discovered why. He had verbal diarrhea! Freiston started the day bottom of the league and you could soon see why. The players complained to him that they wanted him to change things. He told them that in effect that it was their problem and to get on with it. But then he did make a couple of positional changes and on 27 minutes Freiston took the lead and it was almost deserved. A second goal then followed from the spot on 33 minutes with the third going in three minutes before the break. After all of his high octane 'verbals' during play, I didn't hear a word from the manager at half time and I spent much of this period avoiding the smoke generated by at least four of his players puffing fags! After showing no enthusiasm in the first half the visitors perked up a bit after the break and after Freiston scored their fourth goal on 51 minutes they pulled one back a minute later. A fifth goal on 63 minutes not only gave the scorer his hat-trick, but wrapped up a well-deserved win for the hosts. It was a win which lifted them one place off the bottom of the league and you ended up wondering just why they were there in the first place!

