

**TT No.136: *Brian Buck*** - Sunday 7th April 2019; **Blacksmiths** v Everett Rovers; Herts Sunday Intermediate Cup Final; Venue: played at the Herts FA County Ground, Letchworth; Result: 1-3; Attendance: 100 approx.

With my wife going to lunch with friends it left me free for the afternoon. I saw this match listed in a programme from an earlier game here. But unfortunately, unbeknown to me, since then they had changed the kick off time from 2.30pm to 3pm. So, having arrived at the ground at about 2.10pm, hoping (in vain) to get a car parking space in the main car park, I found myself hanging around for 50 minutes waiting for the match to start!

This was my first visit here since they made all the ground improvements. They now have a 3G pitch, new surrounds, including floodlights and an enlarged clubhouse. The 3G pitch has lots of 'crumbs' on it and after it looked completely green when the match started, by the end it had the look of a 'muddy' pitch after the 'green was replaced by the 'crumbs'!

The game was attended by two police ladies, for whatever reason, but they never went anywhere near the one mouthy sod in an otherwise well-behaved crowd. Blacksmiths were ultimately the inferior side here, but perhaps this had as much to do with some of their players turning up shortly before kick-off. I did ask them if they'd ever shooed a horse, before. One of them said that they hadn't, but they did tell a donkey to go away once! Everett were winning 2-0 at the break and added a third goal in the second half before Blacksmiths got a consolation goal just before the end.

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