

TT No.38: *Keith Aslan* - Saturday 29th September 2018; **TRIMLEY RED DEVILS** v Benhall St. Mary; Suffolk & Ipswich League Senior Division; Result: 2-0; Kick-Off: 14.30; Admission: Free; Programme: £1; Attendance: 32 (27 home, 2 away & 3 neutral)

The first thing that hits you as you enter the ground is the large brick-built structure on the far side of the pitch, I wasn't expecting a stand. I didn't get one, but Trimley must have one of the largest, most ostentatious dug outs in the country. A joy to behold for dug out spotters (believe me, they exist) and if it rained you could just ask the subs. to budge up a bit and there'd be plenty of room for the entire crowd.

A ten-minute walk from the station I arrived at the ground 2 hours before kick-off just as the man in the tea bar was changing the price list from morning tariff to the afternoon one. Tea 20p extra for the afternoon football. Asking the obvious question, I was told that it's china cups in the morning but they must have paper ones in the afternoon which they have to pay for. This is because they would be in big trouble with the FA if there was any pitch side aggro. and the china ones were used as weapons. I did suggest the likelihood of any china related violence was pretty small but the club aren't prepared to take the chance! Why 'Red Devils' I hear you ask? The answer I was given, which I very much doubt, not least because it came from the same source as 'The China Syndrome' was when the club was formed, they didn't know what to call it. Trimley perhaps? They put all the first division clubs into a hat, randomly picked out Manchester United, and hence the name. Seems a bit unlikely to me. Talking of the Salford branch of the Glazier Business Empire, the vital part of any programme, the player profile, was of Suffolk born and bred Sam Osborne whose favourite team was of course Manchester United. Of much more interest to Trimley fans was that his favourite food is Pizza. I myself went for steak and chips in nearby pub 'The Mariner' which I bet my Trimley contact would assure me was named after Ipswich legend, Paul.

With all three home goalkeepers unavailable for varying reasons they had their centre half between the sticks, and if I hadn't been told that I wouldn't have known it wasn't his regular position. The usual first team keeper was at the match but nursing an industrial injury when he did his back in on a swivel chair. It's a laugh a minute at this club. The game itself was pretty average, Benhall were the better team, Trimley scored the goals. Three officials in this league with Novak Djokovic's twin brother running one of the lines. I'll end this report like all the others, a great day out.