

TT No.44: *Steve Hardy* - Saturday 13th October 2018; **Chasetown** v Lincoln United; FA Trophy Preliminary Round; Result: 2-1; Admission: £6 for an OAP; Programme: £2; Team sheet: Free; Attendance: 223

At 6am on Saturday morning, this match wasn't even in my top ten of potential games to watch. However, a mixture of CBA, torrential rain and having to travel by bus, meant a revisit to the beautiful Scholars ground was in order. It is one of my favourite grounds anyway, so this was no hardship at all.

Chasetown are in a spot of bother at the moment. Joint bottom of the NPL West division, they have recently changed their Manager, and were looking to start their revival against NPL East rivals Lincoln United. Lincoln brought a good, few supporters with them, which was good to see, and the official crowd was announced as 223 although my headcount was just over the 100 mark!

The football was, how can I put this... poor. One team who are very low on confidence, against another who couldn't hit a barn door with a banjo. In the end it was decided by three penalties. A dire first half came to life right on 45 minutes when Chasetown won the first of their penalties, which was duly dispatched for a 1-0 half time lead. The second half was slightly better, with Lincoln equalising straight after the break from the second penalty, after a Chasetown handball in the area. It was then end to end, without either team looking like scoring, until Chasetown were awarded a second penalty on 70 minutes, and scoring what proved to be the winner.

Chasetown are always a very friendly club to visit. The clubhouse is excellent and now houses what remains of the club shop. Just club merchandise on sale now, so what happened to the huge collection of programmes they used to have, is anybody's guess.