

TT No.65: *Steve Hardy* - Wednesday 28th November 2018; **Newman University 1sts** v Aston University 1sts; BUCS Football Division Midlands 3A; Result: 1-7; Admission: Free; Programme: No; Attendance: 6 h/c

More joys of retirement. A 1.30pm KO at Newman University which is in the Bartley Green district of south Birmingham was just the ticket. Parking was a huge problem, but I managed to find a spot and hike round to the brand new 4G pitch by 1.15pm, only to find the game in progress, having started at 12.55am I was told. Spectators are allowed inside the cage, and there is a small viewing area set aside down one side of the pitch, where we 6 spectators huddled in the driving rain.

On the pitch, Newman are rock bottom of their little six team group with minus 3 points after 4 games. Visitors Aston are a couple of places above them on four points, and by the time I arrived, Newman were already 1-0 up with a shock on the cards. That was as good as it got for them though, as Aston soon equalised on 28 minutes and an excellent first half finished all square.

After the break, Aston took advantage of the strong wind at their backs to score 6 more goals with the last one coming on 86 minutes. I felt this was a little harsh on Newman, who had more than held their own in the first half. Sadly, once Aston took the lead again, the Newman heads went down and they looked a well beaten side by the end.

So, my never-ending quest to visit every ground in Birmingham continues. My fellow attendees were both off to watch another BUCS game at Birmingham University in the evening, but I had had more than enough of the driving rain by then, so went home to a nice cup of coffee and some parkin.

04/20