

TT No.50: *Brian Buck* - Monday 7th October 2019; Crediton United v Holsworthy; South West Peninsula League Premier East; Result: 3-1; Attendance: 76.

Tonight, I revisited a ground I have been to quite a few times in the past, the first being on 8 February 1992 and the most recent, on 5 September 2011. Part of the reason for this is that the club play very few home games on Saturdays, preferring to play on Fridays and Mondays, which are often barren nights when you are staying in the vicinity for a few days. Tonight, I trusted the *sat nav* too much and instead of going to the ground in the conventional way it started to take me up another single-track road. It would have been quicker had I been able to keep up a decent speed, but this wasn't going to happen and so I reverted to my original choice of route. I still arrived half an hour before kick-off, taking advantage of a new, to me, local bypass, which brought me out right by the ground.

Once inside the ground I renewed my acquaintances with the league secretary Phil Hiscox and also with one of my groundhopping friends who I've known for years. Phil doesn't drive, but he's still managed to visit 22 out of the 40 clubs in the league so far this season. As for the game, the second under Crediton's new lights, the first half was not that exciting and it really needed a goal. This finally arrived on 53 minutes, by way of a 30 yarder and this was Crediton's first home league goal since 11th September. By now the visitors had been getting on the ref's tits a bit and on 68 and 71 minutes they had players sin-binned. Unfortunately for them they conceded two goals while they were down to ten men. However, they did pull a goal back on 87 minutes. Afterwards the Holsworthy chairman asked my groundhopping friend and I for our views on the match. My friend didn't hold back in telling him why they lost. I of course was a little more reserved!

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