

TT No.99: Brian Buck - Wednesday 29th January 2020; **Anglia Ruskin (Cambridge) University** v Cambridge University Falcons; BUCS Play League Midlands Tier 3 Division 3B; Venue: played at Girton Recreation Ground; Kick-Off: 1.30pm; Result: 0-1; Attendance: 10 approx.

Taking a break from my usual midweek trip to The Arena at Baldock, mainly because there were no games taking place there today, I took the opportunity to do a University game instead, picking this one out because it meant that I could get home earlier. Also, one of my 'uncles' is buried in the churchyard adjacent to the pitch.

The game started and finished on time and for the first 15 minutes or so the visitors were the better side. Then Ruskin came into it and they dominated for a period. Then things settled down and the match became roughly even, although the hosts perhaps shaded it in terms of possession. Un-deniably though the Falcons (Cambridge University 2nd) seemed to have the technically better players. This feeling was supported by a glance at the league table when I got home, which showed Ruskin as being bottom with no wins and the Falcons joint second. The second half was pretty much one-way traffic, although Ruskin should have done better with an effort on 64 minutes. Two minutes later and questions were being asked about the suitability of the Ruskin lino for this half, initially by the Falcons players and then by the referee. He not only didn't seem to speak English, but his interpretation of the facts left a bit to be desired! The main problem in this half was the inability of both sides to hit a barn door, even when it was left open! Ruskin had two and Falcons eleven shots. Even I could have gone in goal! However, just when all hope of seeing a goal seemed to have gone, the Falcons eventually did score on 89 minutes after a shot hit a defender, coming back to the scorer who finally managed to hit the onion bag, thus denying the hosts their first point of the season. It was enough to make them cry!