

TT No.010: 22/01/05 Club/Ground Focus: *Dennis Woods* - Chipperfield Corinthians (HSCL);

I along with Peter Franks went to see Chipperfield Corinthians v Codicote in the Herts County League Premier Division. We set off early from Euston to Hemel Hempstead to catch the 11.08 bus 352 from outside the station to Chipperfield which arrived at Dunny Lane at 11.23 (although the bus was 10 minutes late). The next bus left Hemel at 13.08, arriving at Chipperfield at 13.23 which may have been a bit tight for the 2pm kick off, if the bus was delayed. There are other options to travel by bus from either Watford or Kings Langley. The return bus was at 16:32. For a 3pm kick off it would be better to get the but to Watford as there is one around 17:30, as the next bus to Hemel is not until 18:30. This is also the last bus!

The club secretary was very helpful the night before the game, telling me about the various pubs in the village and about the club. Chipperfield village is a lovely place to visit. We had an excellent meal in The Two Brewers pub, which served real ale. It is a lovely old pub and very large, it also has a hotel and the roaring fire was very welcoming. We also visited The Windmill which was a lot smaller, but also served real ale and food. There are at least a further two pubs in the village.

The club is down Queen Street and a sign before this road informed motorists to park in an area outside of this road. The ground is a short walk down the road where the club building is found immediately in front of you as you walk through the entrance. There is no bar at the ground, but a club room was available which had a TV and served hot drinks and rolls etc. There is an over-hang to this building which is at an angle behind the goal, there is no other cover at the ground. A 12-page programme was available for 60p and no admission was taken.

Chipperfield played very well and nothing like a team that was currently 3rd from bottom in the league. In fact, they took the lead after just 3 minutes, although their lead was short lived as Codicote replied after 7 minutes. Chipperfield then took the lead again before half time. The second half seemed even better than the first and Chipperfield scored again. Codicote scored their 2nd with around 10 minutes to go, but Chippefield hung on for a much deserved 3-2 win and all 3 points in front of 29 spectators. In fact, it was their first league win since 11th September 2004.

If you have not been to Chipperfield before, I certainly recommend a visit, to this friendly club, in a lovely part of rural old England.