

**TT No.117: 16/05/05 Club/Ground Focus: *Andy Sneddon* - New Brighton Villa (Welsh National League (Wrexham Area) Division 2).**

14th May 2005; New Brighton Villa 9 Penyffordd 1; Welsh National League (Wrexham Area) Division 2.

No gate taken nor programme issued, but the club have been regular issuers on a number of occasions in the 80's and 90's; Att: 46.

A gloriously sunny day led me to North Wales to see if New Brighton Villa could complete their dramatic late charge for the title. With two games to go they were 6 points behind leaders (and former Premier Division Champions) Castell Alun Colts who had finished their games, but New Brighton had to wipe out a large goal difference deficit. They did this in the grandest style with 19 goals scored and only 1 against in the last two games to lift the trophy.

On the day Penyffordd had nothing to play for being safe in mid table, and it soon became apparent that New Brighton were going to get the win they needed. However, despite the game being one sided it was far from unenjoyable with the home side playing some excellent football and the visitors taking the beating in excellent spirit. They never let their heads drop nor did they resort to spoiling tactics to stop NBV playing good football.

The ground is in many ways quite basic, but is rather better than many in this league. It is behind the community centre in the small village of New Brighton, just to the NE of Mold on the Queensferry road. The changing rooms are housed in the back of the community centre building immediately behind the goal, the rest of this end is tightly fenced in. On the North side of the ground is a great grass bank which affords cracking views of the game with houses behind & wonderful views of the Clwydian Mountain range in front. The other two sides are flat grass standing but it is fully enclosed with trees at the Western End and a hedge on the Southern side. The playing area is simply roped off but despite the lack of facilities it's enclosed nature and good views make it feel very much like a "proper" ground.

The club were most welcoming and I sincerely wish them well in the 1st Division next season.

03/20