

TT No.030: 21/02/05 Club/Ground visits: *Barry Neighbour* - Various

Due to Brentford's continued cup adventures my Non-League viewing has suffered with no new Non-League grounds this month.

However, I have seen the following games: Tuesday 1/2/2005 **Sandhurst** v Chessington & Hook United CCL; 2 late goals rescued a point for the home side in an exciting 3-3 Draw. Normal 20-page issue 50p. On the Saturday Brentford beat MK Dons 1-0 thanks to a Stephen Hunt penalty. The following day 6/2/2005 I went to Stag Meadow where tenants **Slough Town** took on Thurrock in the FA Trophy. A scrappy game was won by Slough with a follow up after Thurrock's keeper saved a penalty. The programme sold out nearly an hour before kick-off but seemed to be a standard Slough issue of 36 pages priced at £1.50. Although I did not get a copy, I did get some back numbers including: Cheshunt 29/1/2005, Eastleigh on Tuesday 14/9/2004, Hendon FA Trophy 3rd Round on 15/1/2005 and Salisbury FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round on Sunday 31/10/2004. Other back issues obtained included Billericay v Slough on Tuesday 21/12/2004 40 pages, £1.50, Croydon Athletic v Slough FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round on 18/9/2004 40 pages with no price on the cover. Also 2 Moor Green Pre-Season Friendlies v Bristol Rovers on 29/7/2004 and Hummel Korea on 31/7/2004. Both Programmes were 24 Pages selling at £1.50.

On Tuesday 8th February I was back at **Sandhurst** for a Premier Cup game against Cobham, won 1-0 by the home side. This saw a reduced programme of 16 pages selling for 50p. The weekend saw a trip North as it was the wife's birthday. Where better than take her to Hartlepool. We split the journey staying in Sheffield overnight this allowed us to take in the opening Rugby League fixture between Sheffield Eagles and Dewsbury Rams won 23-16 by Sheffield. This was my wife's first encounter with the Egg throwers - she quite enjoyed it but prefers football. Sensible girl! A 32-page programme sold for £2 whilst an enamel badge was available at just £1. Onto the Saturday and my first visit to a packed Victoria Park, **Hartlepool** where the beloved Bees triumphed by a goal to nil. A 64-page programme sold at £2.50. Wednesday 16th saw a trip to **Woking FC** to watch the England National Game XI v Holland Under 23. This was certainly a lot more entertaining than the Seniors on telly a week earlier. England looked impressive as they went into half-time 2-0 up. A spate of 2nd half substitutions took the edge off the game in the 2nd half and a late goal clinched a 3-0 victory for England. The game was sponsored by the FA and so admission was free - the only expense being £2 for a 16-page programme. So, onto Saturday 19/02/2005 and my first visit to St Marys Stadium **Southampton** as Brentford pulled back a 2-goal deficit to take the Premier side back to Griffin Park for a replay. It was surreal as I was sitting in the Southampton section and had to keep my mouth shut when the Bees scored, not easy but I let out a big roar once outside the stadium.

A 68-page programme sold for £2.50 and featured different articles about players with Bees/Saints connections which was of interest to both sets of fans. That's it for now, planning on going to AFC Guildford on Wednesday, weather permitting!

03/20