



From The Bus Shelter

Match Report by our Roving Reporter, Oily Rag.

Thursday 12th March, Tunbridge Wells at Foxbury – Sea Pioneer SCEFL Premier

On the day the Prime Minister spoke to the nation of what we should expect of Covid-19, it was a healthy crowd of 131 who saw an exciting match on a chilly Thursday evening at Foxbury.

The Foxes made the early running but Wells went into the lead in the seventh minute with their first meaningful attack. A long throw from the left side was not dealt with by a defence still getting to know each other.

Mackenzie Foley made a good, low save but Matt Day pounced to put Wells ahead.

The Glebe midfield was linking well. Jake Britnall was everywhere and involved in everything and was getting some harsh punishment for his efforts. On 18 minutes, he was upended just outside the box. Ramell Lake's free kick took a deflection that left Wells' keeper, Arron Lee-Wharton flatfooted and the Foxes were back on level terms. On the half hour mark, Anthony Dythe put in Jamie Philpot who had his feet taken from him in the area. Jamie struck the penalty down the middle with Lee-Wharton effectively diving out of the way. It was end to end, exciting football but Glebe went into half-time with a deserved lead.

Wells came out a different side which would ultimately see experience triumphing over youth as the visitor's midfield tipped the balance, somewhat. On 55 minutes, Lee-Wharton made another excellent save, denying Jamie Philpot with a back post header. Wells went swiftly to the other end of the pitch. From an overhead left sided corner, Chris Lawal lashed home Wells' second off the underside of the bar.

On 75 minutes, Jake Britnall who had been kick about Foxbury for much of the evening put in a tackle on Jason Thompson that the referee deemed too robust. Jake was back in the dug-out and Glebe down to ten men. The subsequent free kick taken from by the Wells' dug out was struck long, hard and high by Chris Lawal, the wind assisted effort catching out Mackenzie Foley. That sort of mistake can happen to the best; think Seaman and Ronaldinho, 2002.

Wells were back in the lead but the game grew more frantic and the Foxes more frustrated by some of the decisions. Ramell Lake is proving a great acquisition but on 85 he spoke out of turn and saw out the match in the sin-bin.

Gary Alexander was proud of his young players who ran a more experienced Wells close and will have grown from this experience. In the final analysis, an unusual goal and a high class performance by the Wells' keeper was the difference between winning and losing.

Final Score: Glebe 2 Tunbridge Wells 3

- The Clubhouse , Foxbury Avenue , Chislehurst , Kent BR7 6SD
- Mobile: 07903274178 • • glebefc@aol.com • glebefc.co.uk

Match Report by our Roving Reporter, Oily Rag.

Saturday 14th March, Sheppey United, Away – Sea Pioneer SCEFL Premier

This was a highly impressive performance from the Foxes. With GazAlex's squad still taking shape, to go down to Holm Park and take on an informed team in front of nearly 400 enthusiastic locals, is no easy task. Neutrals may think the task was made easier by the early dismissal of league top scorer, Dan Bradshaw for kicking out at Chris Parr. As one gnarled old timer in the stand huffed, "The only bloody kick Bradshaw had in the match."

The impressive Ben Shaw started on the bench with Denzil Williams moving into the midfield meaning Chris Parr was joined at centre-back by debutant Jason Mensah. It was refreshing to see a defensive player willing to use that age old technique of extinguishing danger by putting the ball into 'Row Z': always an effective technique when the stand only goes up to Row D! Denzil, Tom Hever and Jerome Wade did the thankless dirty work in midfield, accompanied by the buzzing Jake Britnall and the magic touches of Ramell Lake.

Sheppey came out strong yet the Foxes worked well for each other and nullified any danger. After ten minutes the Iles had to clear off their own line and they realised they had a game on their hands. Britnall and Philpot continued to read each other's play like twins and Glebe had a spell on top before Sheppey missed a chance to take the lead. A ball squared across the goal was missed by everybody and the chance was gone.

The home crowd grew noisier, trying to lift their side and John Ebers retaliated with a one-man rendition of, 'There's only one Jamie Philpot'. This truly was a team effort.

It was on 37 minutes that thirty-four year old Dan Bradshaw got his marching orders. Within three minutes the Iles had taken the lead. A fast break from defence saw Danny Leonard put clear and there was little Jack Moore could do as Leonard finished coolly. The Foxes went straight on the attack and an excellent Tom Hever effort was deflected for a corner.

Half Time: Sheppey United 1 Glebe 1

The industrious and forward thinking Eric De Melo replaced Ramell Lake for the second half. All three of GazAlex's changes were to the midfield and each of the replacements kept the oil running smoothly in the Glebe engine. On the hour mark it was the Fox's chance for a lightning break. They defended a corner, Eric De Melo broke free, cutely found a supporting Jake Britnall, who fed his mate Philpot who slipped it beyond the Iles' keeper. Is it the goal of the season? Somebody tell me a better one.

As the match went on it was increasingly end to end football and either side could have taken the lead and the three points. Sheppey may see the result as two vital points dropped in their promotion push. For the Glebe side, it is a measure of the progress that has been made under the guidance of GazAlex, Damo and Stacy Long.

Final Score: Sheppey United 1 Glebe 1