

POETRY AND FOOTBALL

(1) The Referee

The Website editor has always had a fascination with poetry and football. In fact, I have even written a couple of my match reports to poetry and would have loved to have the ability to write more, but have to concede that the imagination to do so escapes me. Some try to do this but, in my view, try to fit the words to the occasion and it doesn't work, so I don't want to do that.

But now and again I come across a gem of a verse that just can't be ignored and here is one.

On a visit to the Buckland Athletic F.C. old ground of Homers Lane (in Devon), I was handed a number of spare programmes from the 2003/04 season. Their programmes contained a fair amount of information, including some interesting articles and here is a verse from one of them.

The Referee's Lament

I'll be there at every game
At each match I dress the same,
In the rain or bright sunshine
I always start the game on time,
Although I will always do my best
My decisions they will contest.

You're biased Ref, I hear them say
First the home team, then the away,
I do it because I love football
Every week I give my all.

Remember lads, both young and old,
Listen to me and please be told.
Don't argue back just stand and smile
It makes the game much more worthwhile.

Written by Roy Holmes
Buckland Athletic F.C. Chairman (in 2003/04)

(N.B. It was apparently written some time prior to that season)

Perhaps that verse should go into every teams' dressing room!

More poetry to follow!

