



## SHORTWOOD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Focus.....

By Jim Cunneen

### **Bradshaw stunner!**

#### *Shortwood 2 Tytherington Rocks 1 – UHL Hellenic League*

This game was ultimately settled by a stunning goal from Alfie Bradshaw but in truth Wood were possibly a tad fortunate to win after Rocks came back strongly after falling two goals behind.

Wood started brightly and had two good early chances through Byrnes and Gayner before taking the lead after just 9 minutes. Payne's corner to the far post was headed back across goal and in off the far post by Whelan. Rocks were restricted to long range shots and the Wood defence, and Cunningham – Sturmey was calm under pressure. Wood could easily have had a penalty after 25 minutes when Payne appeared to be tripped as he ran into the box and it was just before 30 minutes before Wright was called into action, saving Waterman's shot with his legs and then Wright made another good save to deny the same player a minute later. At the other end it was Dykes chance to excel as he saved full length from a Byrnes low drive. Byrnes then shot inches over from 25 yards. Rocks were far from out of it but again appeared to be fortunate just before the break when a goal mouth scramble was eventually cleared with Wood adamant the ball had crossed the line.

Wood had an escape just after the break when a Nelson shot rattled the post but doubled their lead after 49 minutes when Bradshaw sent a stunning 25 yard half volley just under the bar. Gayner then ran through and chipped the keeper but it fell wide of the post. Pullen then forced Wright into the save of the match but with 74 minutes gone George Box fired a low shot into the bottom corner to give Rocks hope. Wood were pushed back and twice saw shots fly across and just miss. In the dying seconds Wood could have wrapped it up when Dykes saved a Gardner shot with his feet and then Tom King fired across goal...

Shortwood: Wright, Williams (Pryce 60), King T, Byrnes, Cunningham – Sturmey (King E 65), Whelan, Payne, Davies (Kent 60), Bradshaw (Gardner 60), Martin (Bowes 65), Gayner

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