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Programme
£1.00



Photo Courtesy Peartree Photography



ELY CITY FC v THETFORD TOWN FC
Tuesday 8th September 2020 7.45pm
The Demcom Stadium, Downham Road, Ely CB6 2SH



Ely City Football Club – Officials 2020/21



Demcom Stadium, Downham Road, Ely Cambridgeshire CB6 2SH

Tel: 01353 662035

Nickname: The Robins

Year formed: 1885

Life Members: Gary Rollings, Stan Norman & Peter Yates

President: Brian Jordan

Chairman: Robert Button **Vice Chairman:** Chris Cridford

Secretary: Derek Oakey

Assistant/Secretary / Youth Secretary: Vicky Sizer

Treasurer: Vacant

Youth Treasurer: Jennie Wickens

Club Welfare Officer: Carl Lockwood

Assistant Welfare Officer: Vicky Sizer

Adults Managers Representative: Martin Grey

Youth Managers Representative: David Cullum Jnr

Press & Website Officer: Paul Jeffries

Committee: Alan Alsop, Ash Colocomb, Martin Grey

Match Day Team:

Gary Rollings, Gary Creak, Geoff Challis, Jamie Cranwell, Vicky Sizer, Len Cutchey

Advertising & Commercial: Martin Grey, Gary Reynolds, Ash Colcomb

Programme: Gary Reynolds, Simon Barlow, Gary Creak

Volunteer Groundsmen: Gary Reynolds, Jamie Cranwell, Zac Sizer

Match Reporter: Samir Osman

Director of Football: Alan Alsop

MANAGEMENT:

1st Team: Luke McAvoy & Ben Farmer

1st Team Physio: Vinnie Scarrow

Reserves: Paul Dockerill

A Team: Courtney Petitfor & Carl Lockwood

U18s: Nigel Smith, Ross Elliott & Mark Garner

Main Club Sponsors:





Catherine Norman

1953-2020

It is of great regret to advise the passing of Catherine Norman this after a short illness.

Cath has been associated at the Football Club for the last 38 years predominantly as treasurer.

She was well known at the Club with managing the Finance of keeping the club buoyant as well as her involvement in Football she had a great passion for Speedway especially Poole Pirates.

Cath will be badly missed!

Our condolences go out to Stan and the Family.



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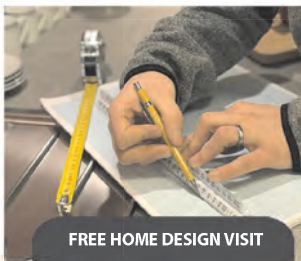
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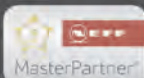
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Welcome to the Demcom Stadium...

This evening we welcome the Players, Officials and Supporters of Thetford Town FC to the Demcom Stadium for a Thurlow Nunn Premier Division League game and hope the match will be a keenly contested and entertaining game.

We also welcome tonights Match Officials and hope they have an enjoyable game.

Tonight's game is in memory of Catherine (Cath) Norman who sadly passed away recently after a short illness.

We will be holding a minutes silence before the game in memory of Cath.

Thank you for your support!



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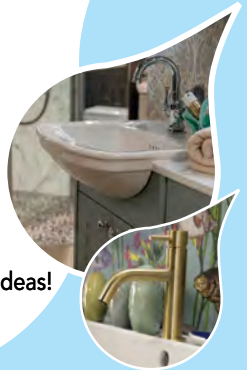
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ELY CITY FC

Fixtures 20/21



	DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY	VENUE
FAC	02/09/20	19:45	Godmanchester Rovers	Ely City	1-1 FT *Won 4-2 on Penalties
PD	05/09/20	15:00	Stanway Rovers	Ely City	0-0
PD	08/09/20	19:45	Ely City	Thetford Town	The Demcom Stadium
PD	12/09/20	15:00	Ely City	Walsham Le Willows	The Demcom Stadium
FAV	19/09/20	15:00	Downham Town	Ely City	Memorial Fields
PD	22/09/20	19:45	Ely City	Swaffham Town	The Demcom Stadium
PD	26/09/20	15:00	Ely City	Norwich United	The Demcom Stadium
PD	30/09/20	19:45	Godmanchester Rovers	Ely City	The David Wilson Homes Ground
PD	03/10/20	15:00	Stowmarket Town	Ely City	Greens Meadow
PD	10/10/20	15:00	Ely City	Hadleigh United	The Demcom Stadium
PD	17/10/20	15:00	Brantham Athletic	Ely City	Brantham Leisure Centre
PD	20/10/20	19:45	Ely City	Godmanchester Rovers	The Demcom Stadium
PD	24/10/20	15:00	Ely City	Haverhill Rovers	The Demcom Stadium
PD	31/10/20	15:00	Newmarket Town	Ely City	The Tristel Stadium
PD	07/11/20	15:00	Ely City	Kirkley & Pakefield	The Demcom Stadium
PD	10/11/20	19:45	Swaffham Town	Ely City	Shoemakers Lane
PD	14/11/20	15:00	Long Melford	Ely City	Stoneylands
PD	21/11/20	15:00	Ely City	Wroxham	The Demcom Stadium
PD	24/11/20	19:45	Thetford Town	Ely City	Mundford Road
PD	28/11/20	15:00	Whitton United	Ely City	King George V Playing Field
PD	05/12/20	15:00	Ely City	Stanway Rovers	The Demcom Stadium
PD	12/12/20	15:00	Walsham Le Willows	Ely City	The Morrish Stadium
PD	19/12/20	15:00	FC Clacton	Ely City	The Austin Arena
PD	28/12/20	15:00	Ely City	Newmarket Town	The Demcom Stadium
PD	02/01/21	15:00	Hadleigh United	Ely City	Millfield
PD	09/01/21	15:00	Ely City	Gorleston	The Demcom Stadium
PD	16/01/21	15:00	Woodbridge Town	Ely City	Notcutts Park
PD	23/01/21	15:00	Ely City	Stowmarket Town	The Demcom Stadium
PD	06/02/21	15:00	Ely City	Mildenhall Town	The Demcom Stadium
PD	13/02/21	15:00	Haverhill Rovers	Ely City	New Croft #1
PD	20/02/21	15:00	Ely City	Whitton United	The Demcom Stadium
PD	27/02/21	15:00	Kirkley & Pakefield	Ely City	Walmer Road
PD	06/03/21	15:00	Ely City	Woodbridge Town	The Demcom Stadium
PD	13/03/21	15:00	Norwich United	Ely City	Plantation Park
PD	27/03/21	15:00	Ely City	Brantham Athletic	The Demcom Stadium
PD	03/04/21	15:00	Ely City	Long Melford	The Demcom Stadium
PD	05/04/21	15:00	Mildenhall Town	Ely City	Recreation Way
PD	10/04/21	15:00	Wroxham	Ely City	Trafford Park
PD	17/04/21	15:00	Ely City	FC Clacton	The Demcom Stadium
PD	24/04/21	15:00	Gorleston	Ely City	Emerald Park

Thurlow Nunn League - Premier Division Table



POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	FC Clacton	1	1	0	0	3	3
2	Brantham Athletic	1	1	0	0	2	3
3	Whitton United	1	1	0	0	2	3
4	Norwich United	1	1	0	0	1	3
5	Kirkley & Pakefield	1	1	0	0	1	3
6	Stowmarket Town	1	1	0	0	1	3
7	Ely City	1	0	1	0	0	1
8	Stanway Rovers	1	0	1	0	0	1
9	Godmanchester Rovers	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Mildenhall Town	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Newmarket Town	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Walsham Le Willows	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Woodbridge Town	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Wroxham	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Long Melford	1	0	0	1	-1	0
16	Gorleston	1	0	0	1	-1	0
17	Hadleigh United	1	0	0	1	-1	0
18	Swaffham Town	1	0	0	1	-2	0
19	Thetford Town	1	0	0	1	-2	0
20	Haverhill Rovers	1	0	0	1	-3	0

as of 07/09/2020

Tonight's other fixtures

PD	08/09/20	Ely City	Thetford Town
PD	08/09/20	FC Clacton	Brantham Athletic
PD	08/09/20	Gorleston	Walsham Le Willows
PD	08/09/20	Haverhill Rovers	Godmanchester Rovers
PD	08/09/20	Kirkley & Pakefield	Woodbridge Town
PD	08/09/20	Newmarket Town	Mildenhall Town
PD	08/09/20	Norwich United	Stowmarket Town
PD	08/09/20	Stanway Rovers	Long Melford
PD	08/09/20	Swaffham Town	Wroxham
PD	08/09/20	Whitton United	Hadleigh United

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Pre Season Match Report v Cambridge City



by Samir Osman

Ely City lineup: GK (1): Reynolds, 2: Weinman, 3: Brown, 4: Capel, 5: Harrison, 6: Williams, 7: Darling, 8: Camara, 9: Townsend, 10: Revel, 11: Pruden
Subs: 12: Ince, 14: Crisp, 15: French, 16: Alsop

A goal in the first few minutes settled this contest in favour of the visitors but this friendly game was about so much more than the actual football for Ely City FC. This was the first friendly that supporters were allowed at and from a financial and morale-boosting point of view this was important to the Club and to the crowd in attendance.

The game kicked off and within five minutes Cambridge City took the lead. A midfield scrap was lost by the Robins and a cross from the right hand side found Cambridge's striker who headed home at the back post.

Ely did well to hold their resolve despite lots of pressure from the visitors in the first fifteen minutes. The pressure soon subsided as the hosts got a foot hold in the game and chances came for them after good work by Weinman.

The best chance came when the full back won the ball high up the pitch, got into the box and crossed the ball in. Unfortunately the ball went straight out of play but it was a sign of things to come as two more excellent chances came to Ely before the half time whistle.

A good pass from Nick Harrison to Josh Revell was put just wide after the number 10 turned well on the edge of the box.

The final chance came when Crisp was fouled on the left hand side of the area. A superb free kick from Brown was headed just over the cross bar.

Half time: Ely 0 Cambridge City 1

The second half was even more of an even affair with good chances at a premium for both. Another good free kick from Brown – in a similar position to the one previously mentioned- was again met by Williams but instead of going over this effort went down low straight into the hands of the grateful goalkeeper.

After a drinks break half way through the second half Cambridge went close when a powerful shot from inside the area cannoned off the cross bar.

As the game entered its final fifteen it became no more than a midfield battle with both goalkeepers having nothing to do. Both sides had good play in attacking areas but both sides defended well enough to be able to clear away.

All in all this was a good day for the Club with almost one hundred fans in the crowd and a good performance against a team higher up the pyramid.

Full time: Ely City 0 Cambridge 1

Ely host Haverhill Borough on Thursday 27th of August before starting their new season with a trip to Stanway Rovers on the 5th of September.



Photo Courtesy Ben Phillips & Cambridge City FC



Photo Courtesy Ben Phillips & Cambridge City FC



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THETFORD TOWN PLAYER PROFILES



Frank Gammon - Goalkeeper in his first season at the club. Previously played for Mundford, Lakenheath and Fakenham. Dominates the box and very vocal as good keepers should be.

Jamie Humphrey - Young keeper thrown in at the deep end halfway through last season and gave some impressive performances. Very talented could go a long way in the game.

Sam Bond - Team captain long serving defender who gives 100% every game .A favourite with both sets of fans and referees.

Matt Morton – Player-manager who spent 10 years at Walsham before joining Town. A no nonsense defender centre half who can play at right back

Andrew Cusack - Defender who likes to get forward has played at this level for several seasons and was part of the Norwich United league winning side.

Luke Bailey - Another long serving defender who can plays at centre half or left back. Good in the tackle, great in the air and can ping a decent long pass.

Luke Hunt – Promising young player making his way into the first team and can play in midfield or left back.

Johnny Conroy - Previously at Mundford, Johnny has been unlucky with injuries. When fully fit a quick and skilful winger.

Mihail Propustins - Defender returning to the club after 5 years away. Very strong, but also very skilful and should be a great asset to the club.

Nathan Clarke – Defender who is known as “The Shark”. Takes no prisoners but also an excellent footballer previously at Walsham, Sudbury and Newmarket.

Max Melanson – Midfielder who spent time at Ipswich and Yeovil. A class player who is a great passer and regular goal scorer.

Bernardo Felgueiras – Young and skilful midfielder signed for this season.

Ross Bailey – Midfielder and younger brother of Luke. Covers every inch of the pitch and probably the best passer of the ball at the club.

Liam Hemmings - Second season at club after signing from Thetford Rovers. Despite some injuries he had a good first season, scoring some great individual goals.

Elliot Smith - Normally plays in midfield but can also play at centre half. A great tackler who rarely loses a 50/50. Also represents the RAF team.

Joao Varela – New signing this season. A hard-working and skilful attacker.

Shingi Masoha - New signing this season. Quick and skilful and can play right wing or up front.

Jack Brame - Experienced forward previously with Bury Town, Walsham and Mildenhall. Signed last season just before the Covid-19 shut-down.

Michael Campbell - Another RAF player who is very strong with lots of pace. Can play out wide or up front. A regular goal scorer.

Craig Bibby - Head coach who joined the club last season when Matt Morton took charge. Well qualified with the youth module 1-2-3 and UEFA B license. Previously at Mundford, Attleborough, Acle and Whitton

Todd Rae – Coach former head coach of Loughborough University futsal team. Keeps statistics during the matches.



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We hope that everyone is well and getting through these strange times!

Ely City Football Club need to replace our existing spectator fence that is now 20 years old, tired and uneven so we are hoping to find people or businesses to help support and donate towards a new spectator fence as shown below.



So we are looking for a donation of £30 per metre!

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@ElyCityFC

Thank you for your support



OUR OPPONENTS HISTORY IN BRIEF

THETFORD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



Club History

The club was founded in 1883. Up until the First World War Thetford played in the Norwich and District League. Because, at that time, Thetford was in both Norfolk and Suffolk, the club were able to enter both Norfolk and Suffolk County Cup competitions and in 1911 they won the Suffolk Junior cup.

After the first World War, Thetford played in both Norfolk and Suffolk Premier Leagues and won the Norfolk Senior Cup in 1948 and the Norfolk and Suffolk League Championship in the 1954/55 season. The boundaries were then altered and Thetford became part of the county of Norfolk. In the 1981/82 season, Thetford Town were runner's-up in the Norfolk Senior Cup. In the 1989/90 season Town were runners-up in the newly formed Jewson League.

In 1990/91 Town had one of their best ever seasons, winning the Norfolk Senior Cup beating St.Andrews 4-3 in the final and reaching the Fourth round of the FA Vase.

Recent Times

After a poor spell for a number of seasons, the 2010-11 season was something of a turning point for the club as, after many years in the middle and lower reaches of the First Division Town finished fifth in the league. They also reached the final of the First Division Knockout Cup to cap a great season, although they were narrowly beaten in the final, going down 3-1 after extra time as Gorleston lifted the trophy.

2011-12 saw Town build further on the momentum of the last two seasons as they gained promotion to the Premier Division, under manager Mark Scott, finishing runners up behind Godmanchester Rovers on goal difference. There was double heartache as Town were runners up again, this time in the Norfolk Senior Cup. Again it was Gorleston who emerged victorious in front of 1,150 fans at Norwich City's Carrow Road.

After maintaining the club's Premier Division status for the following three seasons, early in the 2015-16 season, Thetford parted ways with Scott.

Danny White was appointed as the new player-manager in October. The rest of the season was a struggle as Town found themselves towards the bottom of the table, but ultimately stayed up.

The 2016-17 season was a vast improvement as Thetford finished in 7th place, the highest finish for the club for 26 years.

The next two seasons saw Thetford finish just below mid-table, following inconsistent campaigns.

However, Town reached a cup final in each season, firstly losing to Brantham Athletic in the Thurlow Nunn Challenge Cup, before a 2-1 AET defeat in the Norfolk Senior Cup final to Dereham Town at Carrow Road.

With most of the squad committing for the 2019-20 season and a few solid additions, hopes were high for the new campaign.

However after winning their first game of the 2019-20 season the club went on an awful run of form that saw them lose ten successive league games.

After nearly four years at the club manager Danny White stepped down from his role. Matt Morton, who had been player-coach, stepped up to the manager's job. Town were bottom of the league when he took over and was 16th when the league ended early due to covid.

Ely City FC 2019–2020 Season Diary



May 2019

- 28 May Voted through unanimously at AGM that Club will proceed with formal merger with Ely Crusaders FC
- 29 May Recycling company Elgja, who sponsor the ground and first team kits withdraw from 3-year deal after just 2 years.

June 2019

- 01 June Following promotion FA Women's National League, announced that **Cambridge City Ladies** will play home games at Downham Road.
- 15 June Defender **Adam Capel**, who joined on loan last season from **Cambridge City** signs. Confirmed that majority of last year's squad have re-signed,
- 15 June Cambs County League announce provisional constitution for 2019/20. Having completed merger with **Ely Crusaders** the Club will now have three senior teams in the league. Crusaders who finished 8th in the Mead Plant & Grab Division 2B, will now play under the name of **Ely City B**. The A Team won promotion last year move up to Division 1B. The Reserves remain in the Kershaw Premier.
- 16 June Confirmed only one club to be relegated from Premier League. Potentially two clubs to be promoted as result of non-league Pyramid restructure.

July 2019

- 01 July Defender **Scott Callaghan** joins **March Town United**.
- 04 July **Ash Walter** and **Dan Jeffery** sign for another season. **Chris Lewis** and **Rukky Diejomaoh** depart.
- 16 July After losing their first two pre-season games Ely beat a weakened **Soham Town Rangers** side 8 - 1, with potential new signing **Ryan Harwell** scoring three times.
- 17 July **Michael Harvey** signs. Previously with Mildenhall Town for eleven season he was at **Hadleigh United** last season. Forward **Ryan Harwell** joins. He was a scholar at **Cambridge United** and has played for **King's Lynn Town** and last season **Wisbech Town**. His father, **Richard Harwell** had two spells with Ely in the late 1990's early 2000's. **Rhys Mazey** joins **Lakenheath FC**.
- 20 July Ely suffer an embarrassing 4 - 0 reverse at reigning Cambs Premier League champions **Great Shelford**, their third defeat in four pre-season friendlies.
- 22 July **Like Crisp** signs from Cambs Premier Club **Fulbourn Institute**.
- 23 July Ely secure a 0 - 0 draw at Southern Premier Division - Central side **St Ives Town** in penultimate friendly game.
- 26 July **Alex Theobald**, who missed much of last season through injury, damages knee ligaments in pre-season game against **Chatteris Town**.

August 2019

- 02 Aug Forward **Jordan Foster** signs on eve of the season from **Great Shelford**.
- 03 Aug Ely open season with a 2 - 1 win at **Gorleston**. **Steve Holder** and **Adam Capel**, his first for the Club, scoring.
- 6 Aug **Jordan Foster** scores a hatrick on his home debut in a 3 - 1 win over **Mildenhall Town**.
- 10 Aug Ely proceed to next stage of the FA Cup for the first time since 2012/13 with a 2 - 1 at Minerva South Midlands Premier side **Potton United** securing a winner's fee of £2,250.
- 24 Aug. City come from behind twice to draw 2 - 2 at Step 4 **Wisbech Town** in FA Cup to earn a replay.
- 31 Aug City exit FA Vase at the first hurdle losing to United Counties Premier side **Peterborough Northern Star** 6 - 4 aet. Defender **Joe Brannan** has the dubious honour of being first Ely City player to be sent to the Sin Bin.

September 2019

- 03 Sep. Ely are brushed aside 4 - 0 by **Wisbech Town** in the FAC Preliminary Round Replay to book a home tie with **Hitchin Town**. **Steve Holder** receives a second half red card on a disappointing night.



- 06 Sep **Harry Farrow** joins on a one-month loan from **Cambridge City**.
- 07 Sep. City battle to a 0 – 0 draw with undefeated **Stanway Rovers**. **Farrow** makes debut and defender **Charlie Tunnell** makes first start of season.
- 09 Sep **Jordan Foster** signs for **Newmarket Town**. Wide-man **Nick Heap** also departs after three seasons.
- 10 Sep Ely concede a 95th minute goal in 3 - 2 home defeat to **Newmarket Town**. Ex-Ely captain **James Seymour** is amongst the Jockeys goal-scorers.
- 14 Sep Ely fielding a much-weakened side through injuries and suspensions are beaten 5 – 1 at **Godmanchester Rovers**. Under 18s player **Ollie Ward** scores a late consolation having come on as a substitute to make his debut. **Sam Goodge** also makes first appearance of the season as a second-half substitute.
- 14 Sep The Club withdraw the B Team from Cambs league Division 2B due to lack of players.
- 21 Sep Ely secure a useful point with a 1 - 1 draw against 2nd placed **Norwich United**. The Planters goalkeeper is sent off early in the second half for handling outside the area.

October 2019

- 05 Oct **Johnny Herd** and **David Cooper** join on short-term loans from **Peterborough Sports** and **Mildenhall Town** respectively. Both players start in the 1 - 0 home defeat to **Wroxham**.
- 10 Oct Loanee **Johnny Herd** departs after playing just one game to join **Godmanchester Rovers**. **Marco Pereira** joins from **Lakenheath FC**
- 12 Oct **Marco Pereira** makes first appearance for the Club as substitute in a 3 – 1 defeat at **Long Melford**. Ely have now gone 9 league games without a win.
- 15 Oct Ely's sequence of three consecutive CIC finals is halted in the 1st Round with a 2 - 1 defeat at home to Cambs Premier League **Cambridge University Press**.
- 22 Oct Ex-Robin **Richard Chadwick** joins on a dual registration from Milton Cambs League **Milton**. He makes his second debut in a 2 – 0 defeat at home to **Godmanchester Rovers** in the 2nd round of the League Challenge Cup. Midfielder **Ardended Hida** a new arrival on a dial registration with **Cherry Hinton FC** also makes his debut.
- 25 Oct Ely record a first league win since 6th August with a 3 - 2 victory at **Haverhill Rovers** with both **Charlie Tunnell** and **Luke Crisp** opening their accounts for the first team.

November 2019

- 06 Nov Defender **David Cooper** returns to his parent club, **Mildenhall Town**.
- 09 Nov The mini-revival of two consecutive wins is halted with a 4 - 0 defeat at **Walsham-le-Willows**.
- 10 Nov Goalkeeper **Harry Reynolds** side-lined with a head injury after being attacked in a Nottingham Night Club.
- 14 Nov Midfielder **Joshua Revell (19)** signed from **Haverhill Rovers**. Goalkeeper, **Barney McLaughlin** joins from Cambs Premier side **Cherry Hinton** on a dual registration basis as temporary cover for the injured **Reynolds**. Reserve goalkeeper, **Evan Jeckells** joins Cambs Premier League side **Eynesbury United**.
- 16 Nov **Oliver Shackleton** joins on loan from **Wisbech Town**. **Alex Knowles** signs on a dual registration from **Chatteris Town**, having previously played for the Club in 2014/15 & 2015/16. Both players play, as do other debutants, **Joshua Revell** and goalkeeper, **Barney McLaughlin** in the 1 - 4 home defeat to **FC Clacton**. Defender **Tom Williams** is sent off as City slip to 3rd from bottom
- 23 Nov More new signings as Goalkeeper, **Craig Foxall**, joins on loan from **Soham Town Rangers** and forward **Charlie Cooke** on loan from **Bury Town**. Both players make their debuts in the 2 - 0 defeat at **Wroxham**.
- 30 Nov Ely lose to bottom-club **Hadleigh United** 3 - 2. Manager **Brady Stone** is red carded for dissent on a poor day for the Club.

December 2019

- 02 Dec The Club confirm Manager **Brady Stone** and Assistant Manager, **Martin Grey** will leave at the end of the year. They will remain in post until the end of December to enable the Club to find and appoint a new Manager



- 07 Dec. Ely make it five consecutive defeats (and nine from the last eleven) with a 1 - 0 loss at **Woodbridge Town**. **William Fox**, **Mitchell Drewitt** and **Branham Ince** all start.
- 20 Dec **Luke McAvoy** and **Ben Farmer** appointed as new management team. They will take up their posts after Brady and Martin's final game in Charge against **Haverhill Rovers** on 27 December. The duo join from Kershaw Premier League club **Cambridge University Press**.
- 20 Dec. Central defender **Tom Williams** joins ECL Division One side **Lakenheath FC**. Reserve players **Owen Johnson** and **Jordan Johnson** also leave. **Eric Simpson**, who made 323 league and cup appearances for Ely in the 1960's and early 1970's passes away at the age of 79. He also managed the Club for a 3-month spell in 1988.
- 21 Dec Ely halt a run of six consecutive defeats with a 1 - 1 draw at **Kirkley & Pakefield**, who score a last-minute equaliser. **Mitchell Drewitt** scores his first goal for the First Team. **Harry French**, signed from Anglian Combination side **Brandon Town** makes debut.
- 27 Dec Ely draw 1 - 1 at home to **Haverhill Rovers** in Manager Brady Stone's final game in charge. Midfielder **Harvey Bullinaria**, signed from **Haverhill Rovers**, makes debut.

January 2020

- 04 Jan **McAvoy** and **Farmer's** first game in charge ends in a 3 - 2 defeat at **Whitton United**. **Harry French** scores his first goal for the Club as City recover from two goals down only to succumb to a late winner. **Harry McGregor**, and **Tom Rigby** make their debuts.
- 05 Jan Striker **Steve Holder** (32) leaves Club to join **Hadleigh United** as Assistant Player-Manager.
- 18 Jan Ely are crushed 7 - 1 at runaway leaders **Stowmarket Town**.
- 25 Jan Full back **Alex Brown** re-joins the Club from **Soham Town Rangers**. Defender **Nick Harrison**, currently at **St Neots Town** and who previously played for **Thame United**; plus, midfielder **Babacar Camara** (**Cambridge University Press**) also join. All feature in the 5 - 1 home defeat to **Woodbridge Town** in which **Matthew Simpson** received a first-half red card.

February 2020

- 01 Feb Ely secure first league win since 2 November 2019 with a 1 - 0 success at **Thetford Town**.
- 08 Feb **Harry French** scores three times in a 4 - 1 win over bottom-side **Gorleston**. He is the first Ely player to score a league hattrick since **Dan Brown's** triple at **Long Melford** on the equivalent weekend two years ago (10 February 2018).
- 13 Feb Defender **Joe Brannan** joins **Lakenheath FC**.
- 22 Feb **Ben Marshall** makes debut coming on as a second half substitute in the 4 - 1 defeat at 2nd placed **Norwich United**.

March 2020

- 06 Mar Ely lose a crucial match against fellow relegation candidates **Thetford Town** 3 - 2 at home. A returning **Luke Brown**, signed from **Soham Town Rangers** and **Alex Shepherd**, signed from United Counties League Division 1 strugglers **Huntingdon Town** feature.
- 13 Mar The Eastern Counties League suspend all ECL matches until the 30th March with immediate effect as a result of the escalating Coronavirus outbreak. Position to be reviewed at end of the month.
- 26 Mar The FA confirm termination of the 2019/20 season due to the Coronavirus pandemic. All results for the season are expunged with no promotion or relegation.

Written by Simon Barlow



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ELY CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

A Brief History



Ely City, nicknamed the Robins after their red shirts, are the oldest senior club in Cambridgeshire. They were formed from the original members of a team called Ely St Etheldreda Football and Cricket Club in Circa 1885. For over ninety years the Club played at the Paradise Ground in the centre of the City, before moving to their present Downham Road location in 1986.

Having initially only played friendlies and entered local cup competitions, Ely joined the Cambridgeshire League in 1901. They withdrew prior to the 1902–03 season after a dispute over fees but re-entered the following season. Having merged with local junior side Ely Albion in 1908, City won their first silverware with back-to-back Cambs Senior League titles in 1910-11 and 1911-12.

At the end of World War I, City joined the Isle of Ely Junior League, winning the title in 1920-21 and 1921-22. City returned to the Cambs League in 1922-23, finishing Division 1 runners-up and also claiming the Cambs Challenge Cup with a 2 - 0 win over strong favourites Newmarket Town. In what was a successful period, the Challenge Cup was retained in 1923-24 and another 2nd place achieved in 1924-25. The Cambs league was restructured in 1928-29 with Ely placed in Division One A, where they finished bottom and were relegated to Division One B. Further league restructuring occurred in 1931, which saw Ely promoted to the newly formed Premier Division. The 1930's was a period of struggle and culminated in relegation to Division 1 (Section B) in 1936-37, where they remained until the outbreak of World War II.

At the end of hostilities, City joined and won the 1945/46 Cambs League (Northern Division) title. Now back in the Premier Division, Ely secured a unique double in 1947-48 by winning both the Cambridgeshire Senior Cup competitions - Creake Shield and Cambs Challenge Cup - in the space of a week. Special trains were organised to take around 1,000 supporters from Ely to the two finals played in March and Histon respectively. In 1949-50, City were Runners-up in the Premier Division and again reached the final of the Creake Shield, losing out in both competitions to then dominant local side, Camden United.

In 1951-52, Ely joined the Peterborough and District League Premier Division and in their first season reached the league cup final which was lost to Cambridge United Reserves. Under newly appointed player-manager and ex-professional George King, Ely won the Premier Division in 1955-56 and reached the First Round Proper of the Amateur Cup, a considerable achievement for a club of Ely's size at that time. However, the crowning glory was achieved the following season when having disposed of higher status teams Histon, Cambridge United, Cambridge City, March Town and Sudbury Town, they reached the first Round Proper of the FA Cup, losing 6 - 2 to Division Three (South) high-flyers Torquay United in front of a record crowd of 4,223. In a truly remarkable season, City also finished 2nd in the league and again reached the first round of the Amateur Cup. Another 2nd place finish was achieved in 1957-58, following which the Club took the decision to turn professional and joined the newly formed Central Alliance League (Division One South). Ely finished 8th and 5th in their two seasons and were losing finalists in the 1959-60 league cup.

Having made a number of previous attempts, Ely were elected to the Eastern Counties League in 1960-61. The Club initially struggled to find its feet at this level, and it was not until the appointment of former Northern Irish international Hughie Barr as player-manager in 1967, that the tide turned. Having secured the Club's highest ever league position of 4th in 1968/69, City were runners-up in 1969/70 and 3rd in 1970/71. That season, City also won the Cambs Invitation Cup (CIC) for the first time and were league cup finalists, losing out to Wisbech Town over two-legs. Barr was replaced by ex-Wisbech Town Player-Manager Mel Harnwell in 1971/72 as Ely secured 5th place and also reached the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup, losing to a Kettering Town side led by fledgling manager Ron Atkinson. Other than finishing bottom in 1975-76 and having to seek re-election, City remained a predominantly mid-table team for the remainder of the seventies.

Ely's next season of note came in 1979/80 when the Club won the League Cup for the first and so far, only time, defeating Lowestoft Town over two legs. Despite securing 4th place and scoring a century of goals in 1980/81, the remainder of the 80's was a period of perpetual struggle in which numerous



managers came and went and which finally ended in relegation to the recently formed ECL First Division in 1988/89. At the end of 1985/86, Ely had moved from Paradise to the present Downham Road location on the outskirts of the City. Improvements to the ground have continued to be made over the years and the Club now boasts some of the best facilities in the league.

After relegation steady progress was made during the early nineties under the initial management of ex-Cambridge United man Tom Finney and then Steve Clark. Management duo David Pinkowski and Tony Lyes were appointed in 1994/95, and they secured City's first piece of silverware since 1980 by winning the Hinchingsbrooke Cup in 1995/96. City then romped to the 1996/97 First Division title by a margin of 15 points over closest challengers Histon. The following season, Ely defied all expectations by finishing second in the Premier Division, just two points behind Wroxham – who effectively won the title following a winner-takes-all match-up in the penultimate game of the season. This however proved to be a brief period of success for Ely as Pinkowski and Lyes - and nearly all the squad – left at the end of the season. Ex-professional Alan Biley stepped into the breach at late notice but City almost inevitably finished in bottom-place and were relegated.

Under Steve Taylor, Ely secured an immediate return to the Premier and also won the First Division KO Cup in 1999/00. Having re-established themselves in the top-tier City, now managed by Kevin Pritchard, went on to win the Cambs Invitation Cup for a second time against higher grade Histon in 2001/02. Following the departure of Pritchard, the Club were again relegated at the end of a disastrous 2002/03 campaign. The Club would have to wait until 2007/08 before securing another promotion, this time under the astute management of Dennis Lightning. In the interim, the Club won the First Division KO Cup a further two times in 2004/05 and again in 2007/08. Alan Alsop took-up the managerial reins in 2010 and in only his second season (2011/12) led unfancied City to runners-up spot, once again behind Wroxham. The CIC was also won that season against local rivals Soham Town Rangers and retained the following year (2012/13) with a 3 - 0 win over Southern Premier League side Cambridge City. That season City also reached the 4th Round of the FA Vase.

Following Alsop's departure in January 2014, senior players Brady Stone and Ben Lawrence took charge for the remainder of the season and somewhat against the odds steered the team away the relegation zone. With a severely reduced budget, Stone, now assisted by Martin Grey was unable to repeat the trick in 2014/15, and Ely were unsurprisingly relegated. However, the seeds of a young and talented squad had been sown, and City secured promotion at the first attempt as runners-up in 2015/16 in a campaign that included a club record run of 14 consecutive league wins.

Back in the Premier for 2016/17, City secured a creditable 13th place and reached the fifth round of the FA Vase, a best ever performance in the competition, finally bowing out to Midlands side Sporting Khalsa in front of a crowd of 646 - a record attendance for the ground. City were also runners up in the CIC, losing to Cambridge City in the final. In 2017/18 the Club finished 14th and won the CIC for a fifth time, defeating Cambridge United Development with a stoppage-time winner at the Abbey Stadium. Although City struggled for much of 2018/19, they staved off relegation in exciting fashion in the penultimate game of the season by scoring twice in injury time to defeat 3rd placed Godmanchester Rovers. Remarkably, City also reached the CIC final for a third year in a row, this time defeating ECL Champions, Histon 2 - 1 to retain the trophy.

Brady Stone and Martin Grey stood down in December 2020, to end a successful six-year tenure. The new joint management team of Luke McAvooy and Ben Farmer were embroiled in another relegation battle when the season was declared null and void in March 2020 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The 2020/21 season will provide the new management team with the opportunity to put their own stamp on the team to and write their own chapter in Ely's long history.

The Club currently run a Reserve side, A Team and Under 18 side. In May 2020, City formally merged with local junior side Ely Crusaders to form a new Club Ely City Crusaders. The vision of the merger being to create a clear pathway into senior football for local youngsters in the City and surrounding area. The Club is affiliated with the Cambridgeshire FA and is an Associated Member of the Football Association.

ELY CITY RESERVES



PRE-SEASON RESULTS

Vs Milton (home) 2-4 *J Lowe x2*

Vs Histon U18s (home) 5-2 *J.lowe x2, R Mazey, OG, C.Tunnel*

Vs Houghton Wyton (home) 3-1 *C.Tunnel, C.McManus J.Baxter*

Vs Chatteris (away) 2-6 *L Hook x2, M.Simpson X2 D.Jeffries, J.Murfitt*

Vs Soham Town Rangers Res (home) 0-1

CAMBS KERSHAW PREMIER 20/21 SEASON

POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Cherry Hinton First	1	1	0	0	2	3
2	Comberton United First	1	1	0	0	1	3
3	Foxton First	1	1	0	0	1	3
4	Hemingfords United First team	1	1	0	0	1	3
5	Over Sports First	1	1	0	0	1	3
6	Eaton Socon First Team	1	0	1	0	0	1
7	Eynesbury United First	1	0	1	0	0	1
8	Great Shelford First	1	0	1	0	0	1
9	West Wrating First	1	0	1	0	0	1
10	Linton Granta First	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Cambridge University Press First	1	0	0	1	-1	0
12	Ely City Reserves	1	0	0	1	-1	0
13	Witchford 96 First	1	0	0	1	-1	0
14	Gamlingay United First	1	0	0	1	-1	0
15	Fulbourn Institute First	1	0	0	1	-2	0

	DATE	HOME	RESULT	AWAY
L	05/09/20	Cherry Hinton First	2 - 0	Fulbourn Institute First
L	05/09/20	Comberton United First	3 - 2	Cambridge University Press First
L	05/09/20	Ely City Reserves	2 - 3	Foxton First
L	05/09/20	Eynesbury United First	1 - 1	Eaton Socon First Team
L	05/09/20	Gamlingay United First	0 - 1	Over Sports First
L	05/09/20	Great Shelford First	0 - 0	West Wrating First
L	05/09/20	Witchford 96 First	1 - 2	Hemingfords United First team



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Ely City Football Club (*formed 1885*) Honours to date...



League

Eastern Counties League (Runners-up) 1969-70, **Premier Division** (Runners-up) 1997-98, 2011-12
Eastern Counties League (1st Division) (Winners) 1996-97 (Runners-up) 1999-00, 2007-08, 2015-16
Peterborough League (Premier Division) (Winners) 1955-56 (Runners-up) 1956-57, 1957-58
Cambridgeshire League (Senior Division) (Winners) 1910-11, 1911-12 (Runners-up) 1901-02
Cambridgeshire League (Premier Division) (Runners-up) 1949-50
Cambridgeshire League (1st Division) (Runners-up) 1922-23, 1924-25
Cambridgeshire League (Northern Division) (Winners) 1945-46
Isle of Ely Junior League (Winners) 1920-21, 1921-22

National Cup Competitions

FA Cup (Best Performances) 1st Round Proper v Torquay United 1956-57 and 4th Qualifying Round v Kettering Town 1972-73
FA Amateur Cup (Best Performance) 1st Round Proper 1955-56 v Alton Town and 1956-57 v Erith & Belvedere
FA Trophy (Best Performance) 2nd Qualifying Round v Alfreton Town 1973-74
FA Vase (Best Performance) 5th Round v Sporting Khalsa 2016/17

Other Cup Competitions

Eastern Counties League Cup (Winners) 1979-80 (Runners-up) 1970-71
Eastern Counties 1st Division KO Cup (Winners) 1999-00, 2004-05, 2007-08
Cambs Invitation Cup (Winners) 1970-71, 2001-02, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2017-18 & 2018-19 (Runners-up) 1959-60, 1960-61, 1961-62, 1963-64, 1969-70, 1971-72 & 2016-17
Hinchingbrooke Cup (Winners) 1995-96
Hunts Premier Cup (Runners-up) 2001-02
Peterborough Senior League Cup (Runners-up) 1951-52
Central Alliance League Cup (Runners-up) 1959-60
Cambridgeshire Challenge Cup (Winners) 1922-23, 1923-24, 1947-48 (Runners-up) 1931-32, 1951-52
Creake Shield (Winners) 1947-48 (Runners-up) 1949-50
Cambs Junior Cup (Runners-up) 1898-99, 1899-00
Upwell Nursery Cup (Winners) 1921-22, 1922-23, 1951-52, 1952-53
Cottenham Cup (Winners) 1949-50, 1950-51
Chatteris Challenge Cup (Winners) 1949-50 (Runners-up) 1948-49
Chatteris Engineering Works Cup (Runners-up) 1934-35
Wisbech Charity Cup (Runners-up) 1912-13
Isle of Ely Junior Cup (Runners-up) 1921-22, 1922-23
Scott Gatty Cup (Winners) 1949-50
Soham Charity Cup (Winners) 1966-67, 1977-78, 1979-80, 1994-95, 1996-97, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01 (Runners-up) 1962-63, 1967-68, 1976-77, 1978-79, 1980-81, 1988-89, 1990-91, 2001-02
Soham Nursery Cup (Runners-up) 1933-34, 1968-69, 1969-70
Soham Coronation Cup (Runners-up) 1952-53
Townsend Cup (Runners-up) 1949-50, 1951-52, 1953-54, 1959-60
Cranfield Cup (Winners) 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57, 1958-59, 1966-67, 1969-70, 1971-72 (Runners-up) 1952-53, 1957-58, 1963-64, 1970-71, 1972-73
Ely Invitation Cup (Winners) 1962-63, 1963-64, 1988-89, 1996-97 (Trophy Shared)
1957-58 (Runners-up) 1959-60, 1960-61, 1961-62, 1991-92, 1994-95, 1997-98

Previous Leagues

1885 – 1901 Not affiliated to any league
1901 – 1951 Cambs League (Excluding 1902-03 and duration of WWI and WWII)
1951 – 1958 Peterborough League
1958 – 1960 Central Alliance League
1960 – Present Eastern Counties League



Previous Grounds

1885 – 1890 Various locations in and around Ely
1890 – 1986 Paradise Recreation Ground
1986 – Present The Unwin Ground, Downham Road

Colours

Home Red with White Trim
Away Blue with White Trim

Nickname

The Citizens (pre-war), The Robins

MANAGERS

Pre 1955 team selected by Committee

1955 - 1959 George King* 1959 - 1961 Tommy Savage* 1961 - 1964 Jimmy Munro* 1964 - 1967 Maurice Smith*
1967 - 1972 Hughie Barr* 1972 - 1975 Mel Harnwell* 1975 - 1976 Brian Symonds 1976 - 1979 Roger Pauley
1979 - 1980 Roger Crane* 1980 - 1982 Lester Newell* 1982 Jon Tippett* 1982 - 1983 Ted Robbins* 1983 - 1986 Roger Crane*
1986 - 1987 Andy Parker* 1987 - 1988 Roger Pauley 1988 Derek Warwick 1988 Eric Simper 1988 - 1989 Derek Warwick
1989 - 1992 Tom Finney* 1992 Alan Biley* 1992 - 1994 Steve Clark* 1994 - 1998 Dave Pinkowski and Tony Lyes 1998 Mel Mattless
1998 - 1999 Alan Biley* 1999 - 2001 Steve Taylor 2001 - 2002 Kevin Pritchard 2002 Rob Swain and Jerry Hutton
2002 - 2003 Rob Swain 2003 Martin Pammenter* 2003 Martin Pammenter* and Steve Taylor 2003 - 2005 Steve Taylor
2005 - 2006 Steve Taylor and Dennis Lightning 2006 - 2009 Dennis Lightning 2009 Trevor Munns 2009 - 2010
Dennis Lightning 2010 - 2014 Alan Alsop 2014 *Brady Stone and Ben Lawrence 2014 - 2019 Brady Stone
2020 Luke McAvoyn and Ben Farmer
*Denotes Player-Manager

Playing records

Best League Win (Eastern Counties League) Ely City 9 Gothic 0 (1973-74)
Worst league defeat (Eastern Counties League) Lowestoft Town 13 Ely City 1 (1964-65)
Best Home Win (any Competition Post War) Ely City 12 Upwell Town 0 – Peterborough Premier League (1956-57)
Best away win (any competition Post War) Downham Town 1 Ely City 11 – Peterborough Premier League (1957-58)

Attendances

Record Home League Attendance 2,292 v Newmarket Town – Peterborough Premier League (1957-58)
Record Home Attendance in any competition 4,223 v Torquay United – FA Cup 1st Round (1956-57)
Record attendance for any game involving the club 6,993 v Cambridge City (A) FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round (1956-57)

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1 The club were required to seek re-election in their first three seasons in the Eastern Counties League (1960/61 – 1962/63)
- 2 Cambridgeshire's premier cup competition the Cambs Invitation cup has been won by the club on four occasions (1969-70 2001-02, 2011-12 and 2012-13). They have been runners-up a further six times.
- 3 In the 2001-02 Cambs Invitation Cup final Ely defeated Histon 1 – 0 at the Abbey Stadium in front of 423 spectators. Histon were lying 4th in the Dr Martens Southern League (Eastern Division) at the time. Ely had beaten Cambridge City of the Southern League Premier Division in the semi-final. They also defeated higher grade opposition in the two following finals in 2012 (Soham Town Rangers – Ryman League Division 1 Central) and 2013 (Cambridge City – Southern League Premier).
- 4 Ely appointed their first manager in June 1955. Prior to this team selection had been decided by committee.
- 5 Former Cambridge United, Derby County and Portsmouth striker, Alan Biley managed the club on two separate occasions. He was at the helm when the club's depleted squad were relegated from the Eastern Counties Premier League in 1998-99.
- 6 Ely first wore numbered shirts in the 1946-47 season.
- 7 The Club turned semi-professional when they joined the Central Alliance (1st Division South) in 1958.



- 8 Ron Atkinson was in his first managerial position (player-manager) when Kettering Town visited Ely in the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup in 1972-73.
- 9 Stan Woodgett, Ely's goalkeeper of the late 1940's and early 1950's was the club's designated penalty taker. He scored one of Ely's goals in the 2 - 3 defeat against Cambridge United Reserves in the Peterborough Senior Cup Final (1951-52). This was the first time that a club making its debut in the Peterborough league had reached the final of the league's cup competition.
- 10 England World Cup winner Martin Peters played as a sweeper against Ely at the Paradise Ground in a 2 – 2 draw during the 1981-82 season. He was booked.
- 11 In the 1982-83 league campaign Ely lost 37 of their 42 games, winning just 2 and drawing the other 3. They amassed a total of 7 points (2 points for a win) for the season, only one of which came away from home. They scored a total of 21 goals and conceded 129. Although finish rock-bottom the club were re-elected.
- 12 The club's final game at the Paradise Ground was a 2 - 3 defeat against Felixstowe Town on 5th May 1986. Nigel Fuller scored Ely's final goal on the ground.
- 13 The first competitive game played at the Unwin Ground, was a 1 – 4 FA Cup defeat against Tiptree United in on 13 September 1986. Kevan Cambridge scored Ely's first goal at their new home.
- 14 Floodlights were erected in the 1986-87 season. The first competitive game played under the lights was a 1 - 0 league win over Thetford Town. New lights were erected for the 2016/17 season.
- 15 Ely's 120 seat stand, The Roger Pauley Stand, was officially opened prior to the 0 - 1 league defeat against Downham Town on Boxing Day 1993.
- 16 Ely City, then a 1st Division club, defeated Arlesey Town 6 - 0 in the final of the Hinchingsbrooke Cup in 1995-96. Arlesey went on to win the Minerva South Midlands Premier League that season. It was Ely's first mainstream honour since lifting the Eastern Counties League Cup in 1980.
- 17 In their 1st Division championship season of 1996-97 Ely won the league by a margin of 13 points over Histon. They lost just 2 of the 34 matches played in the league that season.
- 18 In 1997-98, their first season back in the Premier Division since relegation in 1988-89, Ely finished runners-up to Wroxham by 2 points, despite amassing 95 points. A 0 - 2 defeat at Wroxham in the penultimate game of the season was watched by a crowd of 900+, was ultimately the deciding factor between the two teams. Second place equalled the club's previous best league position achieved in 1969-70. This position was achieved again in the 2011-12 season when Ely again finished runners-up to Wroxham.
- 19 Ely's best run in the FA Vase ended in the 5th Round in 2016/17 with a 3 – 0 home defeat against Sporting Khalsa of the Midlands Premier League in front of a crowd of 646.
- 20 Johnny Fretwell and Lester Newell, members of the 1971 Cambs Invitation Cup winning team, were also in the Ely side that won the Eastern Counties league Cup in 1980.
- 21 Mike Dixon, father of ex-England international Kerry Dixon, played one season for the club in 1968-69. The centre forward, renowned for his heading ability, finished the season as top scorer with 32 goals. He subsequently left to play for Bedford Town. Kerry Dixon was manager of the Letchworth side that knocked Ely out of the 2001-02 FA Vase.
- 22 Goal scoring centurions for the club are: P E Newstead (1920's), A E 'Nibs' Ellingham (1930's), Albert Butcher (1930's, 40's & 50's), Jack Lockwood (1930's, 40's & 50's), Tony Green and George King (1950's), Lester Newell (1960's, 70's & 80's), Maurice Smith (1960's & 70's) Karl Simper (1980's & 90's) and Matthew Eden (1990's & 00's)
- 23 Eric Simper played over 500 games for the club between 1958 and 1973. He also had a short spell as manager. In the 1 His son, Karl was a centre forward for Ely in the late 1980's and early 1990's – scoring a total of 109 goal. He is one of only ten goal scoring centurions for the club.
- 24 A number of ex-league players have turned out for the club, including George King (Newcastle United, Carlisle United and Barrow), Lindsey Smith (Cambridge United), Alan Biley (Cambridge United, Derby County and Portsmouth), Tom Finney (Cambridge United & Northern Ireland) and Trevor Quow (Peterborough United and Northampton Town).

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FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round - Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Godmanchester Rovers 1–1 Ely City
Ely City win 4–2 on penalties

A hard fought game where we had to fight back from a goal down early in the second half to equalise with 10 minutes to go.

Full Report to follow



VICE-PRESIDENTS CLUB 20/21

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- x20 DRINKS VOUCHERS to be used at the Newly Refurbished Club Bar throughout the 2020/21 season.
- HALF PAGE ADVERT IN PROGRAMME for 20/21 Season
- EXCLUSIVE VP CLUB POLO SHIRT
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- Free entry to Reserve, U18 and Youth Team league games

VP BRONZE - £150.00

- X1 VICE PRESIDENTS CLUB 2020/21 SEASON TICKETS for league games that can be used by friends, family or people in your business (must be shown at gate).
- x15 DRINKS VOUCHERS to be used at the Newly Refurbished Club Bar throughout the 2020/21 season.
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- SOCIAL MEDIA EXPOSURE on Twitter (over 4000 followers).
- Free entry to Reserve, U18 and Youth Team league games

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PSF - Ely City 6 Haverhill Borough 0



Ely starting lineup: 1. (GK) Harry Reynolds, 2: Adam Capel, 3: Alex Brown, 4: George Darling, 5: Tom Williams, 6: Nick Harrison, 7: Luke Young, 8: Babacar Camara, 16: Harry French, 10: Luke Crisp: 11: Josh Townsend

The Robins were simply brilliant here in their final pre season game as they beat Haverhill 6-0.

They were on the front foot from the start as Luke Crisp was pushed up to the ten role and Darling sat in front of the defence.

Luke Young shone early on and his fierce cross across the box looked like it was going to end up in the back of the net but unfortunately nobody was able to tap home.

Ely didn't have to wait long to open the scoring as within the first five minutes, a corner from the left was controlled well by Adam Capel. The full back took two shots inside the box and after the ball came back to him after two deflections he did brilliantly to curl the ball into the far corner of the net.

The hosts were finding their rhythm and keeping the ball well with good passing football but Haverhill almost scored when Haverhill worked the ball into the box but captain Tom Williams did really well to block down low and clear.

Camara began to get on the ball and drive Ely forward and they had multiple chances before the twenty minute mark. A good pass from the midfielder to Townsend resulted in the forward drilling a cross down low and despite Harry French doing well to get to it the ball could only get tapped wide.

Soon after that effort Townsend showed brilliant skill to move the ball on to his right foot on the edge of the box and unleashed a powerful shot on goal which Haverhill's keeper palmed away well.

After twenty five minutes Ely were still massively on the front foot with Young doing well to win the ball back and George Darling screening the back four breaking up the vast majority of Haverhill's forward attacking play. The number 4 had a free kick which flew just over the bar after thirty minutes.

With just five minutes of the half to go Ely deservedly doubled their advantage when a freekick out wide from Alex Brown made its way to Tom Williams who did brilliantly to drill the ball down low and past the goalkeeper for 2-0.

As good as Ely were in the first half they were even better in the second. Haverhill went close when a free kick from their number four got to their number 9 who shot just over.

Before Ely scored again they had two excellent chances- Young passed to Brown inside the box after a swift counter attack but Brown could only nudge wide. And then a few minutes later Revell shot straight at the goalkeeper after a low Luke Young pass.

With ten minutes on the clock in the second half Townsend made it three nil. A high pass from midfield encouraged the forward to run onto it and he did well to beat two opposing defenders to the ball after it bounced between them. The number 11 ran past them after collecting the ball and ran into the box before finishing with aplomb past the goalkeeper.

It continued to get even better for Ely and Townsend seven minutes later when the influential Camara hooked the ball back in and after Haverhill failed to clear it skidded low to Townsend and he placed the ball into the back of the net.

Defender Adam Capel got his second of the game and Ely's fifth when he shot low after getting the ball from a Jamie Alsop free kick.

At this point it seemed as though Haverhill weren't bothered in the slightest and just wanted the game to end. Their frustration was rising and George Darling clearing up every time Borough slightly threatened to break in midfield didn't help.

The cherry was added to the cake of Ely's terrific result and night when Ryan Harnwell making his return from the injury at Wisbech flicked home an Alsop corner with less than five minutes remaining.

A brilliant performance and win for Ely who can look forward to the start of the season with positivity.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban 12.7 (22.3) – 74.3 (3.8), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) – 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) – 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 373 – 88g/km.

The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) for the PEUGEOT range: Urban 34.9 – 80.7 (8.1 – 3.5), Extra Urban 53.3 – 104.6 (4.9 – 2.9), Combined 46.3 – 94.2 (6.1 – 3.0) and CO₂ 136 – 95 (g/km). Figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.

TONIGHT'S TEAMS



Thurlow Nunn Premier League 2020/21 Season
Tuesday 8th September – Kick Off 7.45pm

ELY CITY FC

Red Shirts

Red Shorts

Red/White Socks



THETFORD TOWN FC

Maroon/Blue Shirts

Maroon Shorts

Maroon Socks

From

- 1 Harry Reynolds
- 2 Sheldon Weinman
- 3 Alex Brown
- 4 Adam Capel
- 5 Nick Harrison
- 6 George Darling
- 7 Luke Crisp
- 8 Harry French
- 9 Babacar Camara
- 10 Josh Townsend
- 11 Josh Revell

From

- F Gammon 1
- S Bond 2
- A Cusack 3
- L Bailey 4
- M Propustins 5
- E Smith 6
- R Bailey 7
- M Melanson 8
- J Brame 9
- L Hemmings 10
- J Conroy 11

- 12 Harvey Bullinaria
- 13 Jamie Alsopp
- 14 Jordan Foster
- 15 Ryan Harnwell
- 16 Louie Diver

- J Varela 12
- N Clarke 13
- M Campbell 14
- M Morton 15
- B Felgueiras 16

Luke McAvoy
Ben Farmer

Managers/Coaches

Matt Morton
Craig Bibby

Tonight's Match Officials:

Referee: Gavin Jolley

Assistants:

Andrew Drain and Max Pauley



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