

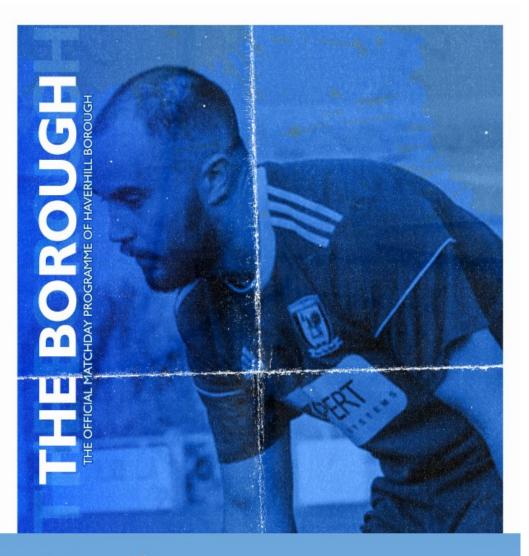


MANAGER: GUY HABBIN

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A SEASON OVERVIEW FROM THE MANAGER

Good afternoon and welcome to the New Croft for today's match against Fakenham Town. Since I last wrote we've had two games which have produced two good performance, however with only one point to show for our efforts. Our last home game against Diss Town was a rollercoaster of a game in horrible conditions. Having gone 2-0 up with a couple of cracking strikes from Ryan Kent the visitors managed to bring it back to 2-2. Although Ronnie Ledwith restored our lead with his first goal for the club we agonisingly conceded an equaliser with seconds left. Last week against Sheringham was a very tight game and we were unfortunate in the goal we conceded following a ricochet in the 18 yard box, and despite being reduced to 10 men following Michael King's red card we played well and deserved more from the game.

With the season now in full swing injuries and suspensions start to become the norm and we have a few players unavailable today. Ryan Swallow is continuing his recovery from a hip injury and is joined on the sidelines by Josh Lowe, who broke his ankle in the Diss game and Michael King who serves the first match of a three month suspension. However this gives a chance to other members of the squad to show what they are capable of and push for a place in the starting XI on a more regular basis.

Fakenham come into today's game unbeaten in their first eight games, with seven wins and a draw. They've had some very good results and had a good win against Downham Town in midweek, coming from behind. In the same fixture last season Fakenham won 7-0 in an early season game however the reverse fixture was a lot closer, with Fakenham just edging us by 4-3. We'll be hoping for another good performance today and trying to get some more points on the board before the clocks go back!

I hope you all enjoy today's game, thank you for your support.

Guy Habbin – First Team Manager



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MEET THE PLAYERS

James Young

James is an excellent young goalkeeper who featured in Marc Abbotts Haverhill Rovers side at the tender age of sixteen. Became a Borough player as part of a swap deal with Robert Friel heading to Rovers at the beginning of December. James is an excellent shot stopper and is equally as good at dealing with crosses, at 18 years of age James has a very bright future in the game.

Ronnie Ledwith

Ronnie joins us this season after featuring for Enfield FC last season, Ronnie is an athletic left back who is strong in the air and composed with the ball at his feet. We look forward to having Ronnie with us this season.

Coby Game

Coby joins us this season after spending the last four seasons playing across Saffron Waldens first and reserve teams. Coby is an adaptable player who can RB RWB and at CM. Coby has previously played for our first team manager Guy where he had spells at Soham and Mildenhall as a youth player.

Alex Martin

Alex is a former Soham Town Rangers player who is extremely versatile and can play in a variety of positions and can be a real threat from set pieces.

Arron Carter

Joined from Daventry Town Res in Northamptonshire. Arron is a versatile player who is comfortable at either right or left back, he possesses excellent leadership skills and is excellent in 1v1 situations.

Josh Lewis

Josh joins us this season after playing for Ely City Res last season, he is lightning quick and can play off of either wing. Still very young and with lots of promise we look forward to seeing Josh develop as a player at Borough.

Josh Lowe

Josh Lowe joins us after spending the last eighteen moths at Ely City. He has however appeared for Cambridge City and Newmarket Town in spells prior to his time at Ely with Brady Stone. Josh is a physically strong player that has bundles of energy and is a good finisher on is left foot or right foot. We are delighted to be able have Josh with us this season.

Craig Pruden

'Prudes' needs no introduction at Borough, he is returning for his third spell at the club after joining Lakenheath last season. At Borough he has played in some of the most successful times the club has had.

Pruden is tenacious, hardworking and has a burst of pace that helped him to bag 30 goals in the 18/19 season.



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MEET THE PLAYERS

Ryan Swallow

Midfield playmaker played a vital role in the club's promotion in 2016/2017 scoring 20 goals and numerous assists. Will be looking to build on those achievements this season.

Rory Bone

Tough tackling left back who can also put a shift in upfront if needed. Popular with the fans and team-mates alike, Rory previously played for Coggeshall and White Notley.

Ryan Kent

Scored the first goal in the New Croft for Haverhill Rovers, veteran 'Kenty' still has pace to burn, and now uses his experience to set up goals from the right.

Michael King

Michael is one of the more experienced players in our squad where he made a name for himself at step 3 with Hitchin Town, following his successful time at Hitchin Michael secured a move to Cambridge City. After a season at City "Kingy" returned to Hitchin before moving to Biggleswade. Michael is an all action midfield player with an eye for goal and an industrious work rate.

Ryan Dewey

Ryan is a tough tackling CB who has played 50+ games at step 5 for Saffron Walden and Long Melford. Ryan finished last season with Brightlingsea Regent and signed forms for Borough the day before the season

opener against Downham Town. A real coup to have someone of Ryans experience in defence we are already sure he will do well for the club.

Callum Stone

Callum is currently on a short term loan from neighbours Haverhill Rovers, Callum has impressed at U18 level and joins us in his first spell of senior football. Callum can play anywhere across the front line of the pitch and is direct, pacey and has a great eye for goal.

Kieran Scanlan

Kieran is another loanee from Rovers youth team, Kieran is adaptable and although is a CM he can also play at RB. He is hardworking and has masses of quality on the ball. Another really talented young player that we look forward to seeing on the pitch.

Ewan Young

Ewan has joined us this season as a third year scholar on St Ives Town education programme. Ewan is a commanding 6'2 centre half who spent the second half of last season at step 6 side Huntingdon Town. Ewan was the first of this summers new signings and we are looking forward to seeing him in feature in our league campaign.

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MEET THE OPPOSITION

Tom Coombe

One of the counties top young GK's, but already has great experience. Great shot stopper, commands his area well, and can start attacks with good distribution.

Shane Akers

An attacking fullback that has bags of experience. Probably the fittest player at the club and uses this and his quality to great effect when attacking in wide areas, and recovering to defend when required.

Cameron Beazer

A composed player that likes to get on the ball. Loves the physical side of the game, but equally comfortable linking defence to attack, will also add goals. Last season was interrupted with injury, but will play a big part this season.

Josh Youngs

Although still relatively young Josh is an experienced central defender. Very dominant in the air, good in the tackle and continuing to be confident beginning attacks from the back.

Joshua Hazell

A commanding centre half who belies his young age. Great in the air & comfortable playing out from the back, has it all to go higher in his football journey.

Matty Franks

Experienced and capable central midfielder, as happy breaking play up as starting attacks and linking in the midfield area. Great experience that can be used to manage those around him in games.

Callum Brain

Very talented technician on the ball. Always wants the ball regardless of pressure and looks to play forward at all times. Great striker of the ball that will have a big impact this season.

Jack Robinson

A very technical and pacey player, who likes to get on the ball and beat his opponent. Comfortable in wide areas or linking centrally. Made an impact last season, will be looking to kick on this year.

Lewis Sturman

Very gifted midfield player, physically able to complete and very comfortable on the ball, turning defence into attack with one pass.

Alby Matthews

Young centre forward that adds a physical presence to the forward line. Physically strong, very capable with the ball at his feet, will score goals.

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ALEX MARTIN	PLAYER SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE	COBY GAME	PLAYER SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE
RYAN KENT	PLAYER SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE	MANAGER—GUY	PLAYER SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

MEET THE **OPPOSTION**

George Whitmore

A left back that likes to get forward and join in high up the pitch. George has a confidence/understanding of the game beyond his years and one that will develop at the club a long while, one to watch. well over the season.

Callum Dickinson

Released from Norwich Academy set-up, young player with heaps of potential, will be a huge asset to the club going forward, great on the ball and can pick a pass, will be looking to stablish himself as a first team regular after promising displays last season.

Connor Charlesworth

Strong CF that is as comfortable battling with CB's as he is linking the play as a No10, with a good eye for goal. Great leader on the pitch, and will leave everything on it.

Ash Jarvis

Experienced CF that will score plenty of goals. Happy to run the channels or show to link play. Has pace to burn, and shows great composure when in good positions.

Jack Love

Very athletic player that can play a number of positions. Good quality on the ball, and reads the game very well, will add quality and a calmness to the team.

Matty Grand

Young midfield player who has made a big impact since joining. Confident on the ball and excellent attitude, one we hope will be

Daniel Hogston

Returning to the club after spells at Norwich CBŠ and Gorleston, great on the ball and loves to move forward, always looking to bring others into the game.

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2019/2020 GALLERY







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UPCOMING FIXTURES

	DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY	VENUE	
FDN	30/09/2020	19:45	AFC SUDBURY	HBFC	THE MEL GROUP STADIUM	
FDN	10/10/2020	15:00	HBFC	DISS TOWN	THE NEW CROFT	
FDN	13/10/2020	19:45	CORNARD UTD	HBFC	BLACKHOUSE LANE	
FDN	17/10/2020	15:00	SHERINGHAM	HBFC	SHERINGHAM REC	
FDN	24/10/2020	19:45	HBFC	FAKENHAM	THE NEW CROFT	
FDN	27/10/2020	19:45	MARCH TOWN	HBFC	SPORTS GROUND	
SSC	31/10/2020	15:00	HBFC	COPLESTONIANS	THE NEW CROFT	
FDN	03/11/2020	15:00	HBFC	CORNARD UTD	THE NEW CROFT	
FDN	07/11/2020	15:00	GT YARMOUTH	HBFC	THE WELLESLEY	
FDN	14/11/2020	15:00	HBFC	IPSWICH WANDERERS	THE NEW CROFT	

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LEAGUE TABLE

POS		Ρ	w	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Fakenham Town	8	7	1	0	23	22
2	Ipswich Wanderers	7	6	1	0	13	19
3	March Town United	7	6	0	1	13	18
4	Lakenheath	6	5	0	1	13	15
5	Leiston Res	8	5	0	3	0	15
6	Diss Town	8	4	2	2	4	14
7	Great Yarmouth Town	9	4	1	4	1	13
8	Mulbarton Wanderers	8	3	3	2	12	12
9	Framlingham Town	9	4	0	5	2	12
10	Downham Town	8	4	0	4	-2	12
11	AFC Sudbury Res	8	3	2	3	-5	11
12	Sheringham	7	2	3	2	3	9
13	Kings Lynn Town Res	7	3	0	4	0	9
14	Norwich CBS	8	1	4	3	1	7
15	Needham Market Res	7	2	1	4	-6	7
16	Debenham LC	8	2	1	5	-6	7
17	Cornard United	8	1	2	5	-11	5
18	Haverhill Borough	7	1	1	5	-10	4
19	Wisbech St Mary	10	0	0	10	-45	0

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HISTORY OF THE OPPOSITON

The club was established in 1884 and played their first match against Lynn Alexandria, winning 2–1. They initially played at Hempton Green, with over 2,000 spectators in the ground to see a match against Holt in a match played on a Good Friday.

They moved to Star Meadow (now residential houses) in 1889, and then to Baron's Hall Lawn (houses again now) in 1907, a ground that was shared with the local cricket club. Cover and seating for spectators was provided by 'The Shed', a stand behind the goal at the Town End. In 1899–1900 they won the Norfolk Junior Cup, a feat repeated in 1905–06. In the early 1900s the club joined the Norwich & District League.

After World War I they did not rejoin the league until 1921–22 and in 1935 they moved up to the Norfolk & Suffolk League. When the league merged with the East Anglian League to form the Anglian Combination in 1964, Fakenham were placed in the top division for the 1964–65 season, but were relegated at the end of the 1965–66 season then taking 5 seasons before returning to the top flight.

In 1970–71 they won the Norfolk Senior Cup for the first time. They have subsequently gone on to win the trophy 7 times, the most recent being 1999 when they beat Swaffham Town

Floodlights were eventually installed in 1987 at Baron's Hall Lawn, and in 1988 Fakenham became a Founder members of Division One of the Eastern Counties League but when the club was promoted to the Premier Division in 1992 they were given three years to find a new ground or be relegated as the ground didn't meet the required standards.

In 1996 the club moved to a new ground on the edge of the town named Clipbush Park, which was officially opened with a match against Watford on 16 July 1997, attracting a crown of over 1,100, although the first match there had been on 12 October 1996 when they defeated Tiptree United 4–0.

The ground includes a seated stand on one side of the pitch seating 250, a clubhouse on the other, and covered standing behind both goals.

After finishing as Premier Division Runners-Up in 1998–99, the club went into decline, and was relegated back to Division One in 2003–04, finishing bottom of the table. In 2005–06 they won the Division One Knock-Out Cup, but a slump in league form saw them finish bottom of Division One in 2008–09 and 2009–10. After more lean years, the club were promoted back to the Premier Division in 2014 and times seemed to be on the up when the team reached the Senior Cup final in 2017 but lost 2-0 to Kings Lynn Town. The see-saw continued with relegation at the end of the 2017-18 sea-son to the newly formed Division One North.

The Club now boasts a Ladies Team, a newly formed Veterans Team, an U18 Team, 2 Adult Teams and 18 Youth Teams and have become a Charter Standard Community Club. All this is far away from what was envisaged when the club was formed all those years ago.

The 2018/19 season saw the team start poorly but gradually improved throughout the season and finished a very creditable 6th place, having only lost one league match after Christmas, it was felt a better strta wiould have seen a great chance for promotion, but it was not to be. They also reached the Challenge Cup final, beating 3 Premier Division teams along the way, before losing to Long Melford in the final.

Last Season they were still in contention for a top 4 finish and promotion when the season was brought to an early finish due to the Covid 19 pandemic. With most of last season players resigning and adding a couple to strengthen the squad we are looking forward to an eventful 2020/21 season.

In the 2015-2016 pre-season Mark Reeve moved into a new role for the Tangerines due to his work commitments. Ross Potter joined the Tangerines as Manager, and Dominic Jones as Assistant Manager, both from Long Stratton. In May 2017 they left to join Wroxham, with Jason Cook taking on the role for the 2017/18 season. He did well to build a squad at short notice but resigned in December 2018. Jon Abbott and Lewis Plowman joined in January 2019 and guided the team away from the potential relegation places. They have built their own squad for the 2019/20 season.

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