

**TT No.64: Bob Davies** - Sat 11th October 2008; **Haverhill Rovers (1) 1 v 6 (2)**  
Lowestoft Town; Eastern Counties League Prem Division; Att: 126; Admission: £5  
(grandson free); Programme: 56 pages, £1.

With the chance of Haverhill Rovers leaving their current ground at the end of the season I thought I 'd take in perhaps my final visit to Hamlet Croft. League leaders and last season's FA Vase finalist Lowestoft Town provided the opposition.

For our visit we drove up the A505 until joining the A1307. We through Linton and then at the roundabout on the outskirts of Haverhill, continued along the bypass towards Halstead (A1017). At the roundabout turn left on to the B1057 towards Haverhill. Carry on over the roundabout and, at the roundabout at the bottom of the road/hill, turn left towards Bury St Edmunds on the A134. Take the next left after the roundabout (towards Parking (South)). The drive way into Hamlet Croft is a small turning on the left just after Croft Lane (look for the sign for Tudor Close).

On entering the ground, we drove on up a narrow roadway towards the club facilities and parked up. The club has three major buildings situated either side of the main stand. The first of these handles the refreshments where a crowd of early arrivals from Lowestoft had gathered. In the same building was also situated the main board room. Moving along, the stand came next that could probably hold about 150. This was the only covered accommodation on the ground. The next up was the dressing room building from which you crossed the narrow road to the steps that led down to the pitch. The final building was the clubhouse and toilet block.

The majority of the crowd appeared to be from Lowestoft and didn't have to wait long for the first goal. Straight from the kick they gave the hosts no chance as Ally McKenna finished a swift build up to put Lowestoft in front in well under the first minute. The pressure mounted on the home side but goal keeper Ed Campbell was in fine form to keep the visitors' at bay until the half hour mark when Russell Stock headed home from a Jamie Godbold cross. The home side had worked hard during the first half and were rewarded with a goal from the penalty spot struck home by Paul Jenkin. HT: 1-2.

Lowestoft pressed home their intention of taking maximum points by scoring twice in the first five minutes of the second half. The first, a penalty, from Darren Cockrell and the second an individual goal from the impressive Bradley Hough. This seemed to take the heart out of the home side currently rooted at the bottom of the table. Lowestoft went on to add further goals from substitute Reece Hunn and Richard Woodrow to retain top spot with ease. FT 1-6.

Match Rating: 4\*.