



This is the story of Croydon's first professional football club.

During its brief life, Croydon Common played league and cup matches against the household names of today; Chelsea, Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur, Brentford, West Ham United, Queens Park Rangers, Norwich City and many others.

The club, nicknamed the Robins because of the claret shirts the team wore, had a number of stirring battles with local rivals Crystal Palace and, shortly after Croydon Common folded in 1917, Crystal Palace moved to Croydon to take over its ground in Selhurst; The Nest.

Now, more than 100 years later, this is the definitive history of Croydon Common; its successes, its misfortunes, its hand to mouth existence and its ultimate demise.

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