

Revealed: Secrets of City's mystery man

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CANARIES: Carrow Road's mystery psychologist explains secret of success

The secret's out

By **STEVE COX** and **CHRIS WISE**

The mystery man who has played a key role in the sudden turnaround in Norwich City's fortunes has finally stepped into the limelight.

Norfolk-based Gavin Drake, who presents training programmes called The Winning Edge, is the man brought in by manager Nigel Worthington to boost the self-belief of the Canaries.

Since his arrival on the scene City have recorded successive victories for only the second time this season to move to within six points of the play-off zone – having won just two of their previous 11 encounters.

Record signing Dean Ashton was quick to pay tribute to his work at the weekend after scoring a hat-trick in the thrilling 3-1 victory over Southampton. The £3m striker didn't mention Drake by name after the

match – but it didn't take long for his identity to leak out. He gave a pep-talk to business people in Norwich this week on the "Psychology of Success" and was introduced to the gathering as Norwich's "mystery man".

Drake made no reference to his special role with City during his talk, titled the Psychology of Success, but afterwards confirmed to the EDP that he had been working with the first team in recent weeks.

"The early response has been fantastic but it is only a start," he said. "It is a matter of keeping our focus on results and more hard work."

Drake, who is with Hethersett-based Mancroft Training, said he had worked with the youth team and academy side for about 18 months and had been asked to help the first team in the last couple of weeks.

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