

Waterside Press, Hampshire

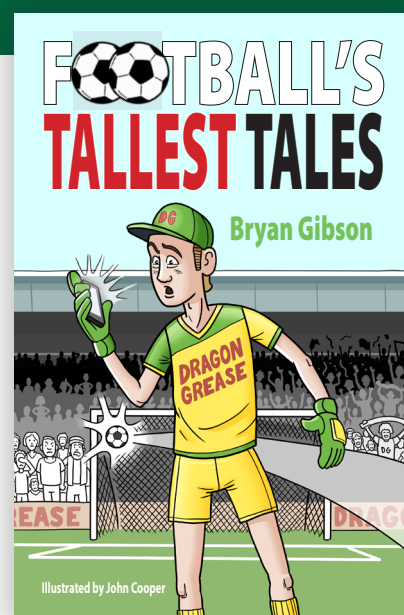
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Advance Information

Title	Football's Tallest Tales	
Subtitle		
Author	Bryan Gibson	
Foreword		
Publisher	Waterside Press Ltd	
Format	Paperback, 203x133mm, 140 pages	
ISBN	978-1-914603-33-4	
Price	£12.00	Rights Worldwide
Publication	10 October 2023	Edition 1st
Category	Humour, Football, Sport, Novelty	
Subjects	WH=Humour; WSJA=Football;	
Who will buy it?	Football fans; devotees of bizarre stories; gift-seekers; surrealists; psychoanalysts; footballers; librarians; collectors.	



Football's Tallest Tales is a madcap re-invention of the game of soccer. Featuring legends of the sport such as Stanley Accrington, Betty Skyrocket and overzealous football supporter Hyam Keenbritches, it explores parts of the game that ordinary football manuals cannot hope to reach.

Part fact, part fiction and inspired by the author's calamitous attempts to become a professional footballer, it covers every aspect of the game, including the invention of Dragon Grease (an indispensable aid), the gestation of women's football, the demise of the Goalkeepers' Annual Convention and other stories.

The book explores the author's football career and the characters he met along the way, homing in on such farcical real-life muses as the cricket teacher who morphed into the umpire Dickie Bird, Herman the German of Bayern Munich FC, and Sandy Soot, football angel turned chimney sweep who showed the author how to take the perfect penalty kick.

It also features many present-day football clubs, players and comical events as well as explaining such mysteries as why Barnsley FC supporters are all poets, playwrights and performers. The book tells readers about what to avoid if invited to become a football pundit; how to look fierce on the pitch; the art of distraction; and why not to believe some things footballers say.

Review

'If you want to learn how footballs came to be round not square, or how to fool your friends into thinking you scored the winning goal in the Cup Final this book contains everything that you need to know' — *Anon.*

Key Selling Points

- **A super-spoof.**
- **Totally original.**
- **The ideal gift for any football fan.**

About the author

Born close to what is now the training base for all England teams, St George's Park, Bryan Gibson has written and edited many *serious* books, but *Football's Tallest Tales* is his first *surreal* account. It is based on his youthful ambition to become an elite soccer player before being asked 'What would you do if you weren't a footballer?' He became a lawyer. In a book of tall tales informed by decades of watching The Beautiful Game, he invites readers to peek into his mythical football world, including the time he represented England against the USSR.

The illustrator

John Cooper is an artist and stand-up comedian. His images include those for *Good Moaning France: Officer Crabtree's French Phrose Book*, TV advertisements, posters and cartoons.