

# Swindon Speedway

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*Swindon Speedway*

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## **WALLS COCHRAN**

[Sport in Britain](#) eBook Partnership

**No Breaks: A Lost Season in British Speedway** is a story of survival. Once the country's second most popular sport, filling Wembley Stadium for meetings, speedway now gets by on crowds numbered in the hundreds. It's been banished to industrial estates in towns like Redcar and Scunthorpe and generally forgotten by the mainstream media. And yet, going into 2020, things were looking up: several star riders were returning to race in Britain for the first time in years and a new, long-term TV contract was in place. Then the coronavirus lockdown happened, cancelling the league season and threatening the sport's very existence. Starting in September 2019, **No Breaks** hears from those who earn a living from speedway - the riders - and those who continue to keep it alive against the odds: the promoters and fans. Month by month, the book explores British speedway's current health - itself a reflection of wider society - while shining a much-needed light

on many compelling and positive stories.

**Kelly Moran** Psychology Press

In 1989, British football was shaken to the core when ninety-six people lost their lives in the Hillsborough disaster. This, combined with the Bradford City fire four years earlier, enforced wholesale changes within stadiumssome clubs electing to move, lock, stock, and barrel to brand-new arenas. **Grounded** is a unique memoir of the authors visits to these grounds done in sequential order from Scunthorpe in 1988 right through to West Ham in 2016, each chapter correlating with trips to their former domiciles and summarized with his opinion on their comparativesnot as obvious as may appear. In the process, he details what he finds there, how the journeys didnt necessarily go according to plan, and the friends he made and, in one instance, lost, whilst indulging in his favorite pastimea hobby, an addiction, or merely a candidate for the lunatic asylum? Read it, and you can draw your own conclusions.

[A Remarkable Year](#) Tempus Pub Limited

In his trademark straight-talking, no-nonsense style Mark Webber reveals his amazing life on and

off the Formula One race track in Aussie Grit. Mark Webber was at the centre of one of the most captivating chapters in the history of Formula One. In 2010, while racing for Red Bull, he and his team mate Sebastian Vettel went head to head for the World Championship. There could only be one winner. Since retiring from Formula One Mark has concentrated on endurance racing, including the legendary Le Mans 24 Hour race. He hit the front pages of newspapers around the world in December 2014 when he slammed into the barricades in the final round of the FIA World Endurance Championship in South America, and was lucky to escape with his life. But the controversy of his relationship on and off the track with Vettel, who went on to win multiple world titles, has never been far beneath the surface. Here, for the first time, Webber tells the inside story of one of Formula One's most intriguing battles - it is a story that goes to the heart of why the sport is loved by millions of fans around the world. From his first taste of karting to his F1 debut in 2002, scoring Minardi's first points in three years at the Australian Grand Prix, through to his first win with Red Bull at the 2009 German Grand Prix and the year he should have been crowned World Champion. Mark Webber's journey to the top of Formula One was every bit as determined and

committed as his racing. Aussie Grit is his searingly honest story. Includes a foreword by Formula One legend Sir Jackie Stewart.

**British Sport: Local histories** eBook Partnership

Coming out at a time when the club are being tipped to challenge for the Elite League

Championship, this season-by-season history looks back on over half a century of great riders, great teams and great meetings.

*Speedway in the Thames Valley* The History Press

A mother's fight to bring her daughter's killer, Christopher Halliwell, to justice 'I have lived every parent's worst nightmare. On what would have been my daughter's 29th birthday, Detective Superintendent Stephen Fulcher knocked on the door and told me my beautiful Becky was dead. Found buried in a shallow grave in a remote field, Becky had been brutally murdered.' When Becky Godden-Edwards was killed, her mother Karen awoke to a world where the truth was never guaranteed; where taxi driver Christopher Halliwell got away with murder and the police officer who found her daughter was punished instead. This is Karen's story. Despite unimaginable tragedy, her love for her daughter has been unbreakable: from her despair through Becky's troubled teenage years, to the agonising eight years when Becky was missing, and then the dramatic story of how a killer's confession led to a terrible discovery. The one constant has been Karen's determination to fight for Becky, tirelessly campaigning for the truth about what happened to be heard and for Halliwell to face the consequences of his evil actions. \*The murders of Becky Godden-Edwards and Sian O'Callaghan will soon be the focus of major new ITV series A Confession starring Martin Freeman as Stephen Fulcher and Imelda Staunton as Karen Edwards\*

*Leicester in the 1970s* Routledge

An ambitious and comprehensive work, this is the definitive history of and guide to the homes of British speedway.

*Swindon Speedway* Lulu.com

It started on a cold, frosty morning in 1951 in Christchurch, New Zealand, with a seventeen-year-old-boy, a crate of sheeps' kidneys and a dream. The boss of the city's Belfast meatworks, had arrived an hour early to set up for the day, when he noticed one of his workers packing up a crate on the countertop. The young lad was battling to move it so the boss went over to help. When asked what time he'd started, the boy replied 'Five o'clock this morning'. Stunned, and amused, the boss told him he'd be earning a good bonus at the end of the week, and wondered aloud what he'd spend it on. But the boy knew, and immediately replied, 'I'm going to race speedway in England.' And he did. That boy was Barry Briggs, and it was just the start of his great adventure. Little did he know he was soon to become the legendary speedway racer more commonly known as Briggo, and later as Barry Briggs MBE. From dangerous encounters in the jungles of Liberia to teaching Steve McQueen to slide a speedway bike, Briggo's incredible story is one of strength, determination and a life lived firmly in the fast lane.

*Leigh Adams* Amberley Publishing Limited

'Reg Fearman is the man who knows all of speedway's secrets ... and is prepared to reveal them. He has taken a unique, full-throttle, white-knuckle ride to the top as an international rider, a world-class team manager, a successful promoter and a formidable administrator. He has never ducked a confrontation, on or off the speedway track; he knows the glamorous and the murky side of a tough, fabulously exciting and sometimes cruel sport, and he spares no one's blushes ... not even his own' - John Chaplin, speedway's leading historian. 'From humble origins in London's East End, this is the story of how Reg Fearman became a local hero with West Ham, the cockney giants of speedway, and went on to represent his country, first as a rider at the tender age of 17, and then as an international manager. A captivating mixture of sporting achievement, politics and business and social history, it also looks at how speedway was resurrected from the doldrums of the late 1950s and dragged into a new 'Jet Age' golden era, a time which paved the way for the heights that the sport has enjoyed in the twenty-first century as a global phenomenon. Including a plethora of untold truths, revelations and a rich treasure trove of photographs, Reg lays bare for the first time the sensational inside story of the resurrection of speedway ... warts and all!' - Dr Brian Belton, JP and author

**Swindon Speedway** The History Press

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Volume three of a bibliography documenting all that has been written in the English language on the history of sport and physical education in Britain. It lists all secondary source material including reference works, in a classified order to meet the needs of the sports historian.

*Up the Bumpy Lane* Tempus Pub Limited

Leigh Adams has been one of the most successful speedway riders in the world. Having been a regular World Championship contender since 1996, he's spent over twenty years racing in the top leagues throughout Europe - winning countless individual and team honours. Leaving his family behind in Australia, teenager Adams arrived in Britain to ride for the Poole Pirates in 1989 where we made an immediate impact. He soon established himself as one of Australia's leading riders and a top-scorer for his team. Although he's raced for a variety of clubs, it's Swindon where he's regarded as a legend and he holds many club records. Famed for his professionalism and classy style, he reveals who really taught him the most during his early days, talks candidly about his clashed and rivalries with the top riders, his disputes with some of the sport's officials and the extraordinary lengths some teams go to in order to secure an advantage. From the training ground in Midura, Australia, to the glamour of the Millennium Stadium in Wales, the Australian also reflects on the triumphs, frustrations and bitter disappointment which is part and parcel of speedway racing. This remarkable biography combines Leigh's own revealing insight, with recollections from his rivals, family and team-mates to present an unrivalled account of life as an international speedway rider.

*A Killer's Confession* History Press

This set examines sport and leisure from a social science viewpoint. The volumes included, originally published between 1984 and 1991 take a cross-disciplinary approach to explore the social, political and cultural roles of sport in today's society. They cover issues as diverse as inequality, nationalism, gender, and commercialisation and engage with a range of academic disciplines including cultural studies, history, politics and sociology.

**What the hell was that** Manchester University Press

Set in the 1980s, Not All-Ticket: From Withernsea High to Boothferry Park Halt chronicles a dramatic period in the history of Hull City AFC through the eyes of a young fan from rural East Yorkshire. From relegation and receivership to the 'Robinson renaissance', Lusmore experiences a rollercoaster of emotions, culminating in dismay at perhaps the most contentious managerial dismissal in the club's history. In the process, he charts a course through his coming of age, capturing how it feels to follow an unfashionable team in an often unloved city. He flirts with rival sporting attractions, then tosses them aside in favour of the small-fry team in this tatty fish town. The football-fuelled adrenalin rush is soon replicated in his first forays into the local music and club scene. Discovering the delights of Hull after dark, he soon realises that Saturday is about much more than just the match. First-hand terrace tales and musical memories abound in this uplifting memoir.

*Riders, Teams and Stadiums* Routledge

Born and raised in California, Shawn and Kelly Moran spent the majority of their highly successful speedway careers racing in the United Kingdom. Shawn's clubs included Hull, Sheffield (where he spent a total of ten years in two spells) and Belle Vue (five years). Kelly rode for Hull, Birmingham, Eastbourne, Sheffield Belle Vue and Swindon. The brothers began riding motorcycles as young boys in the desers around Los Angeles, and found themselves rubbing shoulders with Hollywood legends like Steve McQueen. As part of the mini-bikes craze of the 1970s, the Morans learned their skills and Jeff Ward, before choosing a career in speedway racing. They began their British careers at Hull, where they went, the brothers were two of the most colourful characters in speedway during the 1980s. They won the World Team Cup twice and were prominent in the World Championship event for many yeats. They were amng the first wave of Americans to race in Britain, and were instrumental in setting the standards for their fellow countrymen to follow. Written by Brian Burford, who has been a speedway supporter for over twenty years, this book includes a foreword by 1996 World Champion Bully Hamill, and is essential reading for anyone with an interest in Speedway.

**Wembley and Beyond** Pan Macmillan

There has been an explosion in the quantity of sports history literature published in recent years, making it increasingly difficult to keep abreast of developments. The annual number of publications has increased from around 250 to 1,000 a year over the last decade. This is due in part to the fact that during the late 1980s and 90s, many clubs, leagues and governing bodies of sport have celebrated their centenaries and produced histories to mark this occasion and commemorate their achievements. It is also the result of the growing popularity and realisation of the importance of sport history research within academe. This international bibliography of books, articles, conference proceedings and essays in the English language is a one-stop for the sports historian to know what is new.

*Swindon Speedway, 1949-1974 25th Anniversary Souvenir Book* Sphere

Indexes the Times, Sunday times and magazine, Times literary supplement, Times educational supplement, Times educational supplement Scotland, and the Times higher education supplement.

**The Times Index** Lulu.com

Presents a collection of bibliographic essays that describe the history, culture, and impact of the automobile and automobile industry in the United States.

*The Abbey Habit* The History Press

This is a pictorial scrapbook of memories of speedway between the years 1974 to 1978- a collection of photos taken by journalist and trackside photographer, Keith Lawson. The photos have been scanned from rescued negatives that had long been neglected in a box in his attic but the current trend of nostalgia for the golden age of speedway drove him to spend hundreds of hours on the task, so they could be shared and enjoyed. Anyone involved in speedway at this time, will love the trip down memory lane.

*The Champions Book of Speedway* The History Press

2015 was a tumultuous year for all at The Abbey: we had to adapt our pits to the eventual loss of our away pit complex; manage when three members of the seven man squad were injured in our first meeting; enjoy watching "Rider of the Year" Greg Zengota emerge from a good 3rd heat leader into a real star, both on and off the track; welcome Darcy Ward to the team mid-season and then marvel at his amazing skills as he turned the season around for the Robins; cope with the dreadful news that emerged from Poland one Sunday afternoon that Darcy had been terribly injured in a track crash and would not ride again; manage the end of the season and playoff disappointment; resurrect the training track in the centre green and stage a junior championship round during the "Farewell" meeting; and then face up to the fact that delays would almost certainly mean that we would be racing at the old place for at least part of 2016. 330 pages, 1084 photographs and 104,000 words - this is the story of 2015 at Swindon Speedway.

*British Sport - A Bibliography to 2000* Tempus Pub Limited

The post-war era was British speedway's golden age. Ten million spectators passed through the turnstiles of a record number of tracks at the sport's peak. With league gates as high as 80,000, speedway offered a colourful means of escape from the grim austerity of the times. A determinedly clean image, with no betting and rival fans mingling on the terraces, made speedway the family night out of choice. The sport thrived despite punitive taxation and Government threats to close down the speedways as a threat to industrial productivity. A three-division National League stretched from Exeter to Edinburgh and the World Championship Final attracted a capacity audience to Wembley. Test matches against Australia provided yet another international dimension. Even at the height of its popularity, speedway was a sporting edifice built on unstable foundations, which crumbled alarmingly as the 1950s dawned and Britain's economic and social recovery brought competing attractions like television.

**The Golden Age of Speedway** eBook Partnership

The Little Book of Wiltshire is a compendium of fascinating information about the county, past and present. Contained within is a plethora of entertaining facts about Wiltshire's famous - and occasionally infamous - men and women, its towns and countryside, history, natural history, literary, artistic and sporting achievements, agriculture, transport, industry and royal visits. A reliable reference and a quirky guide, this book can be dipped in to time and again to reveal something new about the people, the heritage, the secrets and the enduring fascination of the county. A remarkably engaging book, this is essential reading for visitors and locals alike.