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# Tom English Rugby

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Two Nations, One Match, No Holds Barred

Behind the Lions

Life on the Edge of Professional Rugby

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The Autobiography

The Lions, the Springboks and the Epic Tour of 1997

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Scotland vs. England, 1990

His Spectacular Rise and Tragic Fall  
When Munster Beat the All Blacks

Tom English Rugby

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## DUDLEY DICKSON

*Two Nations, One Match, No Holds Barred* Allen & Unwin

An account of the most famous Lions tour of the modern age, featuring brand-new interviews with both the Lions and Springboks players and management, as well as featuring thoughts on the tour from modern-day greats.

Behind the Lions Taylor & Francis

This is a complete history of the Welsh rugby union team told by the players themselves. Based on a combination of painstaking research into the early years of the Wales team to interviews with a vast array of Test match players and coaches from the Second World War to the present day, Ross Harries delves to the very heart of what it means to play for Wales, painting a unique and utterly compelling picture of the game in the only words that can truly do so: the players' own. Behind the Dragon lifts the lid on what it is to pull on the famous red shirt the trials and tribulations behind the scenes, the glory, the drama and the honour on the field, and the heart-warming tales of friendship and humour off it. Absorbing and illuminating, this is the ultimate history of Welsh rugby told, definitively, by the men who have been there and done it.

Life on the Edge of Professional Rugby Routledge

For almost 140 years the Welsh rugby team has battled proudly on the international stage. Full of tales of fighting clergymen, poisoned arrows and deathbed confessionals, James Stafford's *An Illustrated History of Welsh Rugby* takes a unique look at the games, the players, the legends and the myths behind Wales's national game. Blending fun and facts with trivia and social history, this is Welsh rugby like you've never experienced it before. Brimming with delightful illustrations from Raluca Moldovan and irreverent humour, this book will fascinate young readers and curious adults alike.

This Is Your Everest Birlinn

What parents should know about the sports their children play. Every week young children are hospitalized on the playing fields

of Britain. Yet the subject is rarely investigated, nor is there any concerted attempt to work out how to make sport safer. Using meticulous, peer-reviewed research, the book sets out the true risks associated with the sport, raising uncomfortable questions for politicians and the educational authorities. Would parents be so willing to let their children play rugby if they knew that the average risk of serious injury over the course of a season could be at least 17 percent, or nearly one in six?

Legacy of the Lions Birlinn

31/10/1978 Thomond Park. One of the greatest days in rugby history, Munster beat the All Blacks. More than 100,000 people claimed to have watched the game, even though the ground could only hold 12,000. In this 40th anniversary edition of the widely acclaimed *Stand Up and Fight*, Alan English revisits some of the key characters involved in this extraordinary story to offer a fully updated account of this extraordinary match.

**Fringes** Arena Sport

The definitive biography of the visionary sportsman who brought us Australian Rules football.

Tom Brown at Rugby Quiller Press

Ben: Do you ever worry you'll die without having left a mark?

Tom: What about when you won that 3 a.m. break-dancing battle with the overweight Australian girl? Ben: It's not enough. I want to go down in history. Tom: You're called Ben Dirs. You will. Finely-tuned triathlete Tom Fordyce and hopeless smoker Ben Dirs have made a living blogging for the BBC about the triumphs and tribulations of sport at its highest level - but they will never be World Champions themselves. Well, unless they can find some really pointless sporting challenges... From the gripping slow-motion drama of the World Sauna Championships to the Cotswold Olympicks, in which 'competitors, wearing boots, attempt to kick each other,' *We Could Be Heroes* is a collection of brilliantly funny gonzo despatches from the frontline of sport. If you can race Ben Fogle up a Yorkshire hillside carrying a sack of coal, or kick the shin out of Rory McGrath, you could be the Champion of the World - and what's more, you'll have very, very sore shins, my son.

Wallaby Warrior World Book

Fully updated to include Ireland's historic victory over the All

Blacks and their 2018 Six Nations Grand Slam. From Jack Kyle's immortals to Brian O'Driscoll's golden generation, this is the story of Irish rugby told in the players' words. Celebrated rugby writer Tom English embarks on a pilgrimage through the four provinces to reveal the fascinating and illuminating story of playing test rugby in the emerald green of Ireland - all the glory of victory, all the pain of defeat, and all the craic behind the scenes. But this is more than just a nostalgic look back through the years, it is a searing portrait of the effects of politics and religion on Irish sport, a story of great schisms and volatile divisions, but also as story of the profound unity, passionate friendships and the bonds of a brotherhood. With exclusive new interview material with a host of Ireland rugby greats, *No Borders* unveils the compelling truth of what it means to play for Ireland at Lansdowne Road, Croke Park and around the world. This is the ultimate history of Irish rugby - told, definitively, by the men who have been there and done it.

The Purple Decades Y Lolfa

Here are Scottish rugby's most legendary, celebratory and brilliant moments from the last 50 years. *100 Great Scottish Rugby Moments* is a unique celebration of the sport's most significant moments. Including: • Andy Irvine's kick to beat England in 1974 • The 1984 Grand Slam • David Sole, Tony Stanger and the 1990 Grand Slam • Toony, Paris and that pass • The great Bill McLaren's final commentary • Doddie Weir's Big Entry • The 2019 Calcutta Cup - a match like no other . . . These epic moments feature exclusive interviews with Gregor Townsend, Jim Telfer, Ian Robertson, Ian McLauchlan, Andy Irvine, Alan Lawson, Iain Milne, Jim Calder, John Rutherford, Finlay Calder, Craig Chalmers, David Sole, Tony Stanger, Scott Hastings, Gavin Hastings, Doddie Weir, Rob Wainwright, Gary Armstrong, Kenny Logan, Bryan Redpath, Chris Paterson, Al Kellock, Sean Maitland and many others. Enjoy a host of brilliant anecdotes and remarkable insights into the controversies, epic matches, thrilling contests and pivotal events on and off the field which shaped these 100 GREAT SCOTTISH RUGBY MOMENTS. "All the key moments from the last 50 years of Scottish rugby are captured . . . 100 Great Scottish Rugby Moments will definitely bring back some truly great memories for you." GARY ARMSTRONG OBE

*What Every Parent Should Know* Birlinn Ltd

A powerful story of love and loss, secrets and revelations - and making sense of a past that once seemed perfect. For Tom Brennan, life is about rugby, mates and family - until a night of celebration changes his life forever. Tom's world explodes as his brother Daniel is sent to jail and the Brennans are forced to leave the small town Tom's lived in his whole life. Tom is a survivor, but he needs a ticket out of the past just as much as Daniel. He will find it in many forms . . .

*Behind the Lions* Childs World Incorporated

A must for all England Rugby fans! The only place to get the inside line on the greatest team in the world. Do you want to know all about your favourite England players? Want to enjoy loads of quizzes, puzzles and activities? Fancy improving your rugby knowledge or reading reports on the great games from last season? Whichever it is, this is the only place for you. The Official England Rugby Annual. IMAGE OF 2020 ANNUAL FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES

*The World War I diaries of Australia's only British Lion* Outlier Press

The Purple Decades brings together the author's own selections from his list of critically acclaimed publications, including the complete text of Mau-Mauing and the Flak Catchers, his account of the wild games the poverty program encouraged minority groups to play.

*No Place to Hide* Y Lolfa

From the myth of William Webb Ellis to the glory of the 2003 World Cup win, this book explores the social history of rugby union in England. Ever since Tom Brown's Schooldays the sport has seen itself as the guardian of traditional English middle-class values. In this fascinating new history, leading rugby historian Tony Collins demonstrates how these values have shaped the English game, from the public schools to mass spectator sport, from strict amateurism to global professionalism. Based on unprecedented access to the official archives of the Rugby Football Union, and drawing on an impressive array of sources from club minutes to personal memoirs and contemporary literature, the book explores in vivid detail the key events, personalities and players that have made English rugby. From an era of rapid growth at the end of the nineteenth century, through the terrible losses suffered during the First World War and the

subsequent 'rush to rugby' in the public and grammar schools, and into the periods of disorientation and commercialisation in the 1960s through to the present day, the story of English rugby union is also the story of the making of modern England. Like all the very best writers on sport, Tony Collins uses sport as a prism through which to better understand both culture and society. A ground-breaking work of both social history and sport history, *A Social History of English Rugby Union* tells a fascinating story of sporting endeavour, masculine identity, imperial ideology, social consciousness and the nature of Englishness.

*Sport and English National Identity in a 'Disunited Kingdom'* Aurum

This enhanced edition contains match footage highlights from every tour from 1955 to 2009, additional photographs and text, as well as a statistical section and an abridged history of the Lions. This is the history of the British & Irish Lions... in their own words. For 125 years the British & Irish Lions have stood out as a symbol of the ethics, values and romance at the heart of rugby union. To represent the Lions is the pinnacle for every international player in Britain and Ireland, and the dream of tens of thousands of avid fans who follow them. A Lions tour, undertaken every four years to the southern hemisphere, is more than a series of rugby matches played out on foreign fields; it is an epic crusade where the chosen few face a succession of mental and physical challenges on their way to the Test arena, where they do battle with the superpowers of the world game. *Behind the Lions* sees four esteemed rugby writers from each of the Home Nations delve to the very heart of what it means to be a Lion, using diaries and letters from those who pioneered the concept, to interviews with a vast array of players who have followed in their footsteps. In so doing they have uncovered the passion, pride and honour experienced when taking up the unique challenge of a Lions tour. This is a tale of heart-break and ecstasy, humour and poignancy that is at once inspirational, moving and utterly compelling. And it is the only story worth hearing: the players' own.

**WHEN LIONS ROARED** Pan Macmillan

A comprehensive guide to every London rugby club that is over 100 years old - whether or not they are still playing.

*No Borders* Welbeck Publishing Group

Tom Richards is the only Australian-born rugby player to have

played for both Australia and the British Lions. When the Australian team won the Gold Medal for rugby at the 1908 Olympic Games, the London Times pronounced: "If ever the Earth had to select a Rugby Football team to play against Mars, Tom Richards would be the first player chosen." This book will tell something of Richards' extraordinary sporting life, but it mainly reproduces highlights from the very entertaining diary he kept during WWI. He had worked part-time with the Sydney Morning Herald before he enlisted and he would write between 100-800 words about his experiences each day, giving a revealing, intimate account of what occurred throughout the Gallipoli campaign and then the Western Front, where he received a Military Cross for his courage under German fire. He was acerbic in his opinions, often critical of his superiors and fellow soldiers; he was a great observer of human tragedy and frailties, repeatedly finding fault with the British in charge, and meeting numerous important War figures, including Simpson at Gallipoli. He included vivid descriptions of football matches played in Egypt, Gallipoli, and on the Front, and there are also numerous lighter moments, as Richards sought out and was intrigued by strange characters.

*Tom Brown at Oxford* Arena Sport

A biography of the early life and the playing career of John Dawes, the London Welsh, British Lions (1971) and Barbarians captain. The biography is the result of extensive interviews, with a postscript giving a current analysis detailing Dawes' place in rugby history as one of rugby's greatest innovators.

**A 'disunited kingdom'** Verso Books

"A 22-volume, highly illustrated, A-Z general encyclopedia for all ages, featuring sections on how to use World Book, other research aids, pronunciation key, a student guide to better writing, speaking, and research skills, and comprehensive index"--

*Playing Rugby for Wales* Macmillan

Updated edition of the #1 Amazon Bestseller LONGLISTED FOR THE WILLIAM HILL SPORTS BOOK OF THE YEAR PRIZE 2020 Sports books tend to detail extraordinary achievements, triumphs against the odds or commemorate World Cup winning captains. This book does not do that. For many, playing professional sport is the Dream Job. Few manage it, very few make it to the top and for the rest, life is very different. This is their story. In *Fringes*, Ben Mercer invites you to witness life at the outer edges of

professional rugby. This is a first hand account of what life is like as a journeyman professional athlete. You play, but to the wider public you don't exist. You earn but you don't drive a flash car. You sometimes pack out a stadium but sometimes, you play in a deserted park. This is the story for the majority of sports professionals. Only the minority taste the top, only one person gets to lift the cup or win the medal, only 15 get to play for England at any one time. For the rest, that's not the case. Ben Mercer is a former professional rugby player who after becoming disillusioned and uninspired plying his trade in the English Second Division, accepted an offer out of the blue to go to France and do something different - help an amateur team turn professional. This is a first hand account of what life is like in the lower reaches of professional sport - where your employment status is as precarious as your health and barely anyone will know your name. It's about how it feels to live year to year, with teammates constantly on the move. It's about how professionalism irreversibly changes the French club Stade Rouennais as they

move up the divisions, about the tension between progress and identity in a rugby team. It's also about how it feels to actually be out there on the field, how it feels to occasionally do something extraordinary and how it feels when this is no longer enough for you to make the sacrifices that you need to make to keep playing. There's no ghostwriting, it's an unmitigated meditation on how it feels and what it means to play rugby for a living, to dedicate yourself to an uncompromising but occasionally beautiful game. If you've wanted to know what life is really like as a professional athlete, on the Fringes, away from the glitz and glamour of the international game then look no further.

*London's Oldest Rugby Clubs* Vintage

A rugby history based on exclusive interviews that "takes the reader as close to the action as it is possible to get, short of invading the pitch" (The Scotsman). Based on exclusive interviews with players past and present, Behind the Thistle gives a unique insight into the drama and emotion of representing

Scotland in that most rarefied of environments—Test match rugby. Drawing on firsthand interviews from a vast array of former and current players, from Russell Bruce and Frank Coultts in the 1940s all the way through to the present day, the authors uncover the heart and soul of Scottish rugby, recounting the ecstasy of victory and the despair of defeat, drawing out innumerable humorous anecdotes and heartwarming memories. Behind the Thistle provides inside access to the private moments in the changing and team rooms, on tour, and on the pitch itself. From the tension before kick-off to the tumultuous heat-of-battle and the high jinks thereafter, this is the story of what it is like to play for Scotland, and the sacrifices and joys experienced by those who have shed blood, sweat, and tears in pursuit of glory in the international jersey. Absorbing, illuminating, and compelling, this is a must-have for all supporters who have dreamed of playing for Scotland. "Really good reminiscences from hosts of Scottish rugby greats about a host of great Scotland rugby occasions." —Sunday Times

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