

John Gallagher The World's Best Rugby Player

John Gallagher

There is Rugby Union: the fast, compelling, TV-friendly combat sport in which sponsored gladiators are sold on their ability to crash into each other at top speed, and sometimes even to avoid each other and score. And then there's rugger. Rugger was once the serious version of rugby, more than a mere game, a fierce contact-sport developed in Victorian public schools to forge manly and unshakeable character. For a hundred years boys played rugger and made themselves into men. They also drank too much beer and took their trousers down in public. Richard Beard sets out to examine this contradiction by revisiting his seven former rugby clubs in four different countries. He meets Booker prize-winning authors and former England hookers, explores rugby's rivalry with soccer, its surprising attraction for nonconformists, and its unlikely role in organised crime. All while trying to get himself a game. This is Beard's quest into his rugby-playing past, where he's lived the sport in many of its varied forms. By the end of his wayward journey, he almost qualifies to judge whether rugger has achieved what the Victorians always intended, and made him a better man.

Muddied Oafs

A complete history of rugby's most famous yet enigmatic team, the New Zealand All Blacks, told by the men who have worn the iconic black jersey. Go behind the scenes with the world's most successful sports team. From the legendary 1905 "Originals" all the way through to Richie McCaw's record-breaking back-to-back World Cup champions of 2015, this is a history of the All Blacks like you have never experienced it before. Thanks to exhaustive archival research and exclusive new material garnered from a vast array of interviews with players and coaches from across the decades, *Behind the Silver Fern* unveils the compelling truth of what it means to play for the team that has dominated Test match rugby for over a century—all the trials and tribulations behind the scenes, the glory, the drama and the honor on the field, and the passionate friendships and bonds of a brotherhood off it. Absorbing and illuminating, this is the ultimate history of New Zealand rugby—told, definitively, by the men who have been there and done it. "A treat for anybody who enjoys a little inside track into the great and controversial moments. There is little as revealing in sport as thoughts delivered straight from the horse's mouth." —The Rugby Paper

Behind the Silver Fern

Includes no. 53a: British wartime books for young people.

British Book News

The Oval World is the first full-length history of rugby on a world scale – from its origins in the village-based football games of medieval times up to the globalised sport of the twenty-first century, now played in well over 100 countries. Rugby has always been a sport with as much drama off the field as on it. For every thrilling last-minute Jonny Wilkinson drop-goal to win the world cup or Jonah Lomu rampage down the touchline for a try, there has been a split, a feud or a controversy. This is the story of how a game played in an obscure English public school became the winter sport of the British Empire, spread to France, Argentina, Japan and the rest of the world and commanded a global television audience of over four billion for the last world cup final. And how American football – and other games such as Australian, Canadian and Gaelic football – emerged from rugby and highlight just how much the modern gridiron game owes to its English cousin. Featuring the great moments in the game's history and its great names – such as Jonah Lomu, David Duckham, Serge Blanco, Billy Boston and David Campese alongside Rupert Brooke, King George V, Boris

Karloff, Charles de Gaulle and Nelson Mandela – The Oval World investigates just what it is about rugby that enables it to survive and thrive in countries with very different traditions and cultures. This is the definitive world history of a truly global rugby.

The Oval World

Ian Robertson joined the BBC during the golden age of radio broadcasting and was given a crash course in the art of sports commentary from some of the greatest names ever to sit behind a microphone: Cliff Morgan and Peter Bromley, Bryon Butler and John Arlott. Almost half a century after being introduced to the rugby airwaves by his inspiring mentor Bill McLaren, the former Scotland fly-half looks back on the most eventful of careers, during which he covered nine British and Irish Lions tours and eight World Cups, including the 2003 tournament that saw England lift the Webb Ellis Trophy and "Robbo" pick up awards for his spine-tingling description of Jonny Wilkinson's decisive drop goal. He reflects on his playing days, his role in guiding Cambridge University to a long spell of Varsity Match supremacy and his relationships with some of the union code's most celebrated figures, including Sir Clive Woodward and Jonah Lomu. He also writes vividly and hilariously of his experiences as a horse racing enthusiast, his meetings with some of the world's legendary golfers and his dealings with a stellar cast of sporting outsiders, from Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor to Nelson Mandela. It is a hugely entertaining story that begins in a bygone rugby age, yet has much to say about the game in the here and now.

British Book News

Rugby has held a central role in Welsh life over the past century. In the words of historian Gareth Williams, the game has been 'a pre-eminent expression of Welsh consciousness, a signifier of Welsh nationhood'. Less than 25 years ago touring teams from the southern hemisphere knew that their hardest games would be in Wales; the Welsh national team was consistently the strongest in Britain. That's all changed. Wales is now one of the game's also-rans. With only one Home Championship in the past 20 years and little success in the World Cup, Welsh rugby - despite some consolidation under Graham Henry - is badly in need of fresh thinking and ideas. Who better to provide them than the man who was widely regarded as one of the best scrum halves of his era, yet whose playing career coincided with that period of Welsh decline? In this thought-provoking and frequently controversial book, Welsh rugby icon Robert Jones provides a sharply realistic assessment of the Welsh game from the roots to the national stadium, drawing heavily on lessons learned and observations made during his own illustrious career. *Raising the Dragon* is a persona manifesto for change from a player whose commitment to Wales never wavered.

The British National Bibliography

CD-ROM contains bibliographic listings with title, author, publisher, pages, price, ISBN and date.

The Whitebread Rugby World, 1990

A visual history of rugby's greatest sporting event, this beautiful photographic book is a fascinating chronological exploration of the matches, teams, heroes and surrounding stories of the tournament. Each chapter covers a Rugby World Cup, starting with the inaugural competition in 1987 - in which New Zealand confirmed their status as the world's top rugby nation - to the historical 1995 Rugby World Cup in South Africa after the end of apartheid and the international sports boycott through England's fantastic win in 2003 breaking the southern hemisphere's dominance, up to the 2015 qualifiers. The book also looks ahead to Rugby World Cup 2019, with Japan as host city. Each photograph has been carefully selected to give a real glimpse into this great tournament. The ideal, collectable gift for any rugby fan, written by a rugby expert.

Rugby: Talking A Good Game

This book explores the expansion of rugby from its imperial and amateur upper-class white male core into other contexts throughout the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The development of rugby in the racially divided communities of the settler empire and how this was viewed are explored initially. Then the editors turn to four case studies of rugby's expansion beyond the bounds of the British Empire (France, Italy, Japan and the USA). The role of women in rugby is examined and the subsequent development of women's rugby as one of the fastest growing sports for women in Europe, North America and Australasia in the 1980s and 1990s. The final section analyses the impact of commercialisation, professionalisation and media on rugby and the impact on the historic rugby culture linked to an ethos of amateurism.

Raising The Dragon

Rugby is a sport that means different things to different people around the world. So when award-winning writer Donald McRae set off to take the pulse of the sport soon after the dawn of the professional era, he began to build a portrait of the game that highlighted the contrasts between nations, who may have been united in their love for rugby, but who saw it in very different ways. Featuring in-depth interviews with a range of great players from around the world, including Sean Fitzpatrick, Francois Pienaar and Lawrence Dallaglio among others, *Winter Colours* is a compelling account of the culture of rugby as seen by its biggest stars - men who also hold dear the sport's very traditions that make it so special. This is a remarkable piece of writing and is sure to be of interest to all who follow the sport at any level.

Books Ireland

The autobiography of legendary rugby player Robin McBryde. On his retirement he reveals in this volume various aspects of his career and experience coaching the Welsh team. An English translation by the author of the first major biography of Robin McBryde.

The Bulletin

This is a complete history of the England rugby union team - told by the players themselves. Based on a combination of painstaking research into the early years of the England team through exclusive interviews with a vast array of Test match stars from before the Second World War to the present day, world-renowned rugby writers Stephen Jones and Nick Cain delve to the very heart of the English international rugby union experience, painting a unique and utterly compelling picture of the game in the only words that can truly do so: the players' own. This is the definitive story of English Test match rugby - a story etched in blood, sweat and tears; a story of great joy and heart-breaking sorrow; a story of sacrifice, agony, endeavour and triumph. Behind the Rose lifts the lid on what it is to play for England - 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 a must-have for all supporters who have ever dreamed of walking the hallowed corridors of Twickenham as a Test match player, preparing themselves for battle in the changing rooms and then marching out to that field of dreams with the deafening roar of the crowd in their ears and the red rose emblazoned on their chest.

Ten Years of Irish Publishing

This book is an oral history based on interviews with some of the legends of the game. Greg Mallory presents the stories of these greats the memories, the achievements, the disappointments, and the characters they met along the way in their own words, in a tribute that derives from Greg's own love of the 'the greatest game of all'. Such names as Crocker, Lovejoy, Gallagher, Metassa and Leis just to name a few of the people portrayed in this book.

The Rugby World Cup

The story of New Zealand's most successful exporter and its head, Bill Gallagher, who built on the invention of an electric fence to make the company a world leader in its field. New Zealanders are always being exhorted to take a clever idea and go global. Easier said than done. But one iconic company has been doing just that for over 75 years. Gallagher Industries began in a Hamilton shed in the late 1930s, when a self-taught engineer, Bill Gallagher, came up with a design for an electric fence that transformed New Zealand farming. His sons Bill junior and John took over the business in the 1970s and applied their engineering genius and driving ambition to turn it into one of this country's most successful companies. Today it employs 600 staff in New Zealand and has distributed its animal containment and security products worldwide. Even Buckingham Palace is protected by a Gallagher security system! Based on a ceaseless quest for efficiency and world-beating new technology, Gallagher products are peerless, and the company's achievements the stuff of envy. And along the way Bill Gallagher, now Sir William, has managed to have plenty of adventure -- including diving for sunken treasure with Wade Doak and the late Kelly Tarlton. This fascinating book tells how Kiwi can-do can be transformed into global success — and for the long haul. It hasn't been easy: more than once Gallagher has had to pull his business back from the brink, but his inspired leadership got it through. Other companies may fall to overseas owners or lose their way but under Sir William Gallagher, Gallagher Industries — resourceful, nimble and generous in its philanthropy — is a proud New Zealand business that's here to stay.

Making the Rugby World

A WATERSTONES BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR 2023 - SPORT 'A mesmerising, unforgettable journey around world rugby.' Donald McRae – Twice Winner of the William Hill Sports Book of the Year 'Magnificent... hugely intelligent and entertaining.' Stuart Barnes, Sunday Times 'Really enjoyed it.' Will Carling 'An absolutely marvellous book... Recommended heartily.' Jonathan Drennan, Sydney Morning Herald CONTRASTING CHARACTERS, COLLIDING CULTURES, THE SAME OVAL-SHAPED BALL. A JOURNEY TO FIND THE RUGBY'S MOST REMARKABLE PEOPLE, TEAMS AND PLACES. What makes rugby special? Which individuals and teams have defined the modern game? Around the World in 80 Minutes charts the 'golden era' of global rugby union between 1973 and 2023 and goes in search of the sport's most influential trailblazers. Robert Kitson, the Guardian's long-time rugby union correspondent, assesses the game's current health, tracks down the battered gladiators of yesteryear and asks some pertinent questions. Does rugby retain its old rugged charm? What does its future look like? And what, ultimately, constitutes rugby 'greatness'? Observant, amusing and thought-provoking, the journey takes in some of the game's more prominent names – including David Campese, Brian O'Driscoll, Maggie Alphonsi, Sean Fitzpatrick, Eddie Jones and Sir Clive Woodward – to reflect on rugby's intangible shared joy. Millions of fans continue to find rugby maddeningly irresistible and endlessly compelling. This book is for them, and for anyone else wondering where the appeal lies.

Whitaker's Book List

WINNER OF THE CROSS SPORTS BOOK AWARDS RUGBY BOOK OF THE YEAR The revelatory autobiography of a rugby colossus: Paul O'Connell. There has never been a rugby player quite like Paul O'Connell. He is synonymous with passion, heart and determination; but he is also the thinking man's rugby player, a legendary student of the game. As the heartbeat of Munster, British and Irish Lions captain in 2009, and captain of the first Ireland team to defend a Six Nations championship, O'Connell has emerged as perhaps the most beloved of the golden generation of Irish rugby players. In an autobiography as intense as its author, he tells the story of his remarkable career. 'O'Connell's book tells you how it all happened' David Walsh, Sunday Times 'O'Connell has emptied the tank here' Hilary A. White, Irish Independent 'The intense physicality of his rugby upbringing is an abiding theme . . . along with humour, the craic and an extensive knowledge of how teams work' Paul Hayward, Daily Telegraph 'I found The Battle entrancing' Stephen Jones, Sunday Times 'Revelatory . . . Unflinchingly charts his personal evolution' Keith Duggan, Irish Times

The Wallabies' World Cup!

The extraordinary performances of Australian athletes, and the awareness of the system that fostered them, came to the world's attention during the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000. Bloomfield traces the development of Australian sport from the early 19th century to the modern day institutions that drive our sporting success.

Winter Colours

A recollection of more than thirty years of watching professional sport across Britain and Europe. The memories cover more than a thousand games of Football, Rugby League, Cricket, Ice Hockey and Rugby Union

Staying Strong

Over 500 pages of facts, statistics, and records of every match and every player for the New Zealand national Rugby Union team from the first match in May 1884 up to December 2023.

The Canterbury Law Review

'It is rare indeed for property developers to write memoirs, or leave anything on the public record. But that's what Joe McGowan, of once-notorious builders Brennan and McGowan, has done with Clearing the Hurdles, in which he recounts his life and times, including a four-week stint being cross-examined by lawyers at the planning tribunal in Dublin Castle; he calls it the \"Theatre of Ice\". . . . [The book] will be of compelling interest to those with a passion for horses as well as anyone involved in the precarious, up-and-down business of house-building.'—Frank McDonald, An Irishman's Diary, the Irish Times

Behind the Rose

The Leeds Rhinos Miscellany - a book like no other, packed with facts, stats, trivia, stories and legends. If you want to know the record crowd for a home game, the record appearance holder or longest-serving player, look no further; this is the book you've been waiting for. From record try-scorers to record defeats - it's all here. Full of humour, quotes, anecdotes and more.

Voices from Brisbane Rugby League

Indexes the Times and its supplements.

The Guardian Index

Whitaker's Books in Print

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