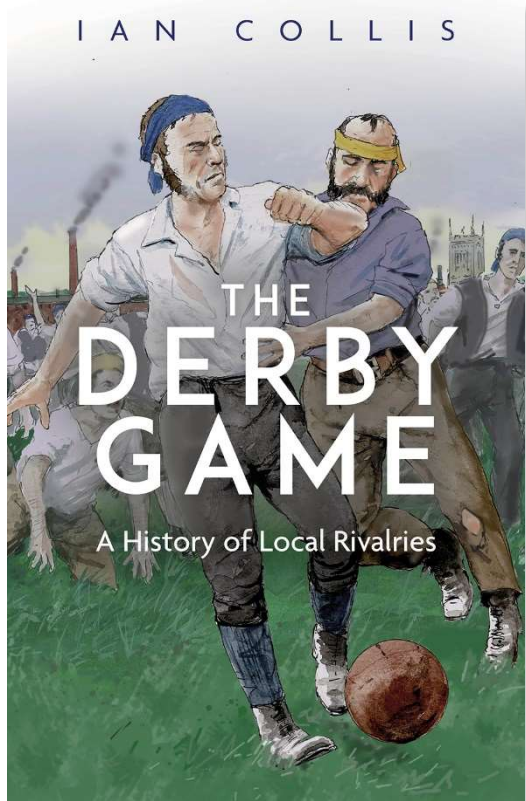




Title information



The Derby Game

A History of Local Rivalries

By Ian Collis

Key features

- Tells – for the first time – the full story of Derby Shrovetide Football and its unique place in football history
- Traces the roots of time-honoured football rivalries
- Charts the rise of the derby in the UK and across the world
- Reveals intriguing information about the footballer who dared to challenge two troops of dragoons and several hundred constables in the final Derby game of 1846
- Chronicles the story of local football rivalries from medieval times to the present day, with vivid eyewitness accounts of Derby Shrovetide Football and similar games
- Through extensive newspaper research casts new light on why games between local rivals are called derbies
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

Today, high-profile derby games trigger a febrile atmosphere and the odd brawl. But Derby Shrovetide Football was truly wild. One mob pitted its wits and muscle against the other. Players broke down walls, dived into freezing rivers and crawled through sewers. Thousands of fans filled the streets and civilised behaviour was suspended. But why did this game achieve national notoriety and then disappear in 1846? *The Derby Game* charts the century-long struggle to kill a tradition and the fanatical resistance of players and supporters. It is a fascinating tale of mobs and magistrates, bobbies and brickbats, dragoons and defiance. The book then explores the rise of the local derby, as football fever grips the UK. It covers the early clashes of local rivals in the Victorian football hotspots, tracing the roots of some time-honoured rivalries and separating the friendly derbies from the hostile. Discover how the derby became part of a global language as Britain exported football to the world.

Details

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