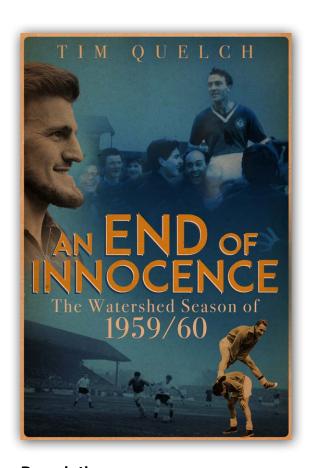


Title information



An End of Innocence

The Watershed Season of 1959/60

By Tim Quelch

Key features

- Written by acclaimed author Tim Quelch, who has used his contacts within the game to draw first-hand and new revelations from players and managers of the time
- Examines the insularity, myopia and complacency that caused England's post-war decline
- Reveals how poorly prepared players at many top clubs actually were, which meant an era when the small clubs often beat the biggest and the best
- Explains how developments in coaching and tactics turned England into World Cup winners
- Looks at the shift in emphasis from attack to defence, and why professional football changed for ever in 1961
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

Jimmy Greaves was England's most prodigious goalscorer of the 1950s and 1960s. In his autobiography, *Greavsie* he writes that the 1959/60 English football season was the final year of football's age of innocence. He saw the open, attacking football of the 1950s give way to a much more defensively minded game. It was an era which also saw the advent of the tracksuit manager and specialist coaches. *An End of Innocence* examines English football in the 1950s and a transition through the 1960s; looking at the international and domestic landscape, through the lens of a selection of teams. It considers different managerial styles, team formations, coaching and training methods, and the developments in tactics, diet and health care; as well as a significant change in footballers' lifestyles, that came after the abolition of the maximum wage in 1961. Set against a backdrop of social and political change, *An End of Innocence* reflects a changing nation and a game that was evolving, and the lasting impact that has had upon English football, its players and supporters.

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