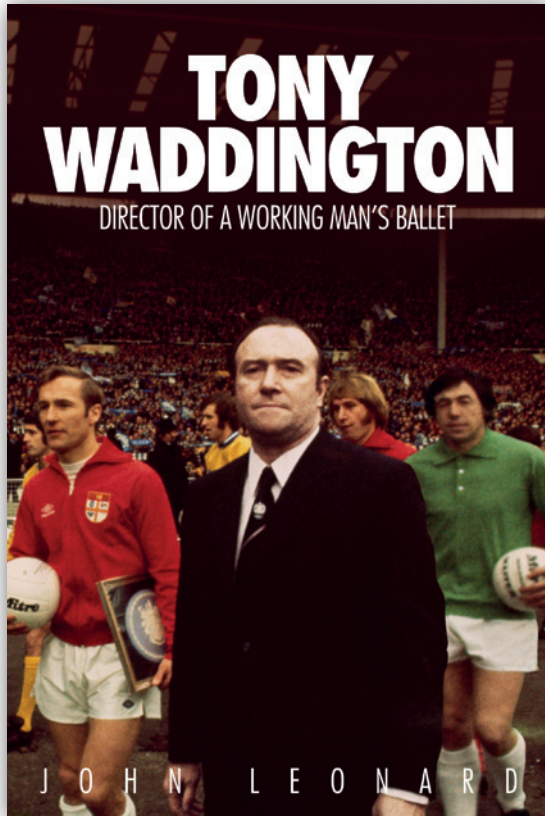




Title information



Tony Waddington

Director of a Working Man's Ballet

By John Leonard

Key features

- The story of a true footballing one-off – the quietly spoken manager who transformed the fortunes of an ailing club
- Wide range of rich original sources, from former players and club directors to rival managers
- Reveals a match-fixing scandal and Stanley Matthews transfer on the advice of a fortune teller
- Waddington retains legendary status in the Potteries, but his story will be of far wider interest
- Written by John Leonard, respected author and ITN journalist of 30 years' standing
- Includes colour photo section to accompany the text
- Publicity campaigns planned across mainstream print and broadcast media, web and social media

Description

Waddington, Director of a Working Man's Ballet is a biography of the former Stoke City manager, Tony Waddington, one of the most underestimated figures in 60s and 70s football. It charts how a man with the appearance of an urbane bank manager belied the stereotype of the hard-nosed football manager as he turned around the fortunes of an ailing club on the brink of going out of business. Instead, Waddington led the Potters to promotion, secured the club's first major trophy and challenged for a league title in a season bedevilled by bad luck, before a financial calamity led to his departure. An advocate of free-flowing football, yet fielding some of the most uncompromising defensive players of his era, he reinvigorated old pros, inspired young players and won the adulation of a generation of fans. Tony Waddington, or 'Waddo' as he was affectionately known to fans and players alike, achieved all this as the director of what he fondly termed 'a working man's ballet'.

Details

Publication: 15 July 2018
Price: £19.99
ISBN-13: 9781785314230
Format: 240mm x 160mm
Binding: Hardback
Extent: ??? pages
Category: Biography, Football

Trade Orders to: LBS Ltd
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