

ANDY BOLLEN



A History of European Football in 100 Objects

THE ALTERNATIVE FOOTBALL MUSEUM



"If Andy builds the museum, it will be football's
greatest attraction. I wonder how he'll convince
Klopp to part with his teeth though!"

Uli Hess

A History of European Football in 100 Objects



THE ALTERNATIVE FOOTBALL MUSEUM



ANDY BOLLEN



Contents

Acknowledgements	9
----------------------------	---

FOOD AND DRINK

1. Oyster: Pichichi	12
2. Dog Biscuits: Pickles and the Jules Rimet Trophy	15
3. Pie: William ‘Fatty’ Foulke	18
4. Garlic: Witches of Deportivo La Coruña	21
5. Pizza: Pizzagate	23
6. Shrimp: Transfer of Kenneth Kristensen.	27
7. Sausage Meat: Wacky World of the Romanian Transfer Window	29

FASHION

8. Fedora: Malcolm Allison’s Lucky Hat	32
9. White Teeth: Jürgen Klopp	36
10. Ponytail: Roberto Baggio	38
11. Beatles Wig: Jogi Löw’s Ball Readjustment and Sniff	42
12. Bracelet: Bobby Moore Jewellery	45
13. Hair Weave: Totò Schillaci and Italia ’90	48
14. Brolly: Steve McClaren	51

MATCH-FIXING, TAX AVOIDANCE, CORRUPTION AND BUNGS

15. Italian Betting Slip: Totonero	56
16. Corner Flag: Bribery and Match-Fixing in Spain	59
17. Monaco Postcard: Harry Redknapp & ‘Rosie47’	61
18. Stradivarius: The Messi Tax Affair.	63
19. Poirot’s Moustache: Forest, Anderlecht and the UEFA Cup Final	66
20. Plasma TV: German Match-Fixing	69
21. Bulging Envelope: Marseille Match-Fixing Scandal	71
22. Romanian Folk Singer Costume: Cooperativa Cartel	76

23. Golden Whistle: Porto Scandal	79
24. Restaurant Menu: Roma v Dundee United Ref Bung . . .	82
25. Sim Card: Calciopoli	86

FASCISM

26. Pools Coupon: Franco Wins Spanish Pools Twice	90
27. Coffee Cup: Matthias Sindelar	94
28. SS Blindfold: Alexandre Villaplane	98
29. Pauper's Grave: El Patricio	102

ECCENTRICS AND ECCENTRICITIES

30. A Hen: Gigi Meroni, the 'Italian George Best'	106
31. Mantelpiece: The Life of C.B. Fry	110
32. Coracle: Fred's Coracle	113
33. Bell: Helen Turner's Bell and Manchester City	115
34. Zimmer Frame: Harry Lowe.	118
35. Scorpio Star Sign: Raymond Domenech.	120
36. Old Bicycle: Stefan Kovács	124
37. Moat: Crocodiles of Romania	128
38. Hedge Trimmer: Brechin Hedge.	130
39. Steam Train: TJ Tatran Čierny Balog	133
40. Mirror: Mourinho, 'The Special One'	135

ANGER MANAGEMENT

41. Boots in Glass Case: Goikoetxea, 'The Butcher of Bilbao' .	140
42. Head Phones: Kevin Keegan Would 'Love It'	142
43. Crash Helmet: Zidane's Headbutt on Materazzi	146
44. Spittoon: Rijkaard Gobbing at Völler	149
45. Boot: David Beckham's Cut Face	152
46. Stretcher: Schumacher's Assault on Battiston	155
47. Fireworks: The Madness of Balotelli.	158
48. German Top: Koeman Wipes Bum with Thon's Jersey .	161
49. Kung Fu Suit: Eric Cantona	164
50. Munch's <i>The Scream</i> : Bayern's Unfriendly Farewell to Cruyff.	167

TV, MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

51. Laptop: VAR.	172
52. ITV Mic: Big Ron's Slip	175
53. Ejector Seat: Danny Baker's BBC Sackings	177
54. Waterloo Bridge: Blackouts, Macca, and the Big Yin	180
55. GPS: UEFA's Wonky Geography	183

GAME-CHANGERS AND TACTICS

56. Old Notebook: FA Rules	188
57. Burst Ball: European Super League	190
58. European Cup: Gabriel Hanot, <i>L'Equipe</i> and Wolves	194
59. Paint Brush: Penalty Kick and William McCrum	196
60. Facchetti's Napkin Story: The Striker-Defender	200
61. Fishing Trawler: Catenaccio	203
62. Treaty of Rome: Jean-Marc Bosman	205
63. Bin: Brian Clough	208
64. Army Assault Course: Il Ritiro	211
65. Spider's Web: Queen's Park	213
66. Massive Football Boots: Günter Netzer	217

THE UNKNOWN KNOWNs

67. KKK Pillow Slip: FA Racist Snub to Jack Leslie	222
68. Scout's Hat: James Richardson Spensley	225
69. Great Northern Railways Locomotive: Jimmy Hasty	227
70. Poacher: Bican the Unknown Scorer.	230

SEX AND DRUGS AND SAUSAGE ROLLS

71. Floodlights: Dino Drpić	234
72. VHS Cassette: Bosnich & Yorkie's Porno	236
73. Tord Grip's Accordion: Sven-Göran Eriksson	238
74. Cream Pastries: Antonio Cassano's Madrid Diet.	243
75. Orange Speedos: Dutch Pool Party	247

SUBLIME AND RIDICULOUS

76. Pig's Head: Luís Figo	252
-------------------------------------	-----

77. Toilet Roll: Neeskens v Núñez	256
78. Shipwreck: Raith Rovers Shipwrecked	259
79. White Handkerchief: Pañolada	261
80. Wind Machine: Arbroath's Wind	263
81. Red Card: Mankini Streaker	266
82. Tractor: Cruyff's Transfer to Barcelona	268

THE FLAWED, THE CRAZY AND THE CHEATS

83. Dentist's Chair: Gazza's Flawed Genius	272
84. Syringe: Robin Friday	274
85. Loose Cannon: Rachid Harkouk	277
86. Colosseum Postcard: Lazio's Luciano Re Cecconi	280
87. Maradona's Tank: Maradona, Napoli, Hand of God and Will.	282
88. Basketball: Thierry Henry Handball	286
89. Toy Jaws Shark: Suárez's Bite.	290

HUMBLE ORIGINS OF GIANTS AND UNUSUAL CLUBS

90. Newspaper Clipping: FC Barcelona	294
91. Beatles Keyring: St Pauli	298
92. Screwdriver: AC Milan.	301
93. Cash Cow: Hoffenheim	304
94. Ashtray: NAC Breda	307
95. Irish Tricolour: Real Madrid	309
96. Flares: Livorno's Ultra	312
97. <i>The Iliad</i> : Ajax	315
98. Sugar Lumps: Perugia, Horses and Gaddafi	319
99. Blood Bags: Union Berlin Giving Blood	322
100. Prawn Sandwich: Manchester United, Gritty Northern Drama	325

Epilogue:

Exit: Final Object: Those who missed the cut	331
--	-----

Food and Drink

Football, food and drink have always been inextricably linked, from pie and Bovril to the prawn sandwich.

Object: Oyster

Subject: Pichichi

Since the 1950s, the Spanish sports newspaper *Marca* has awarded the Trofeo Pichichi to the top goalscorer in La Liga. Anyone with an elementary knowledge of the Spanish game will have heard of the Pichichi (roughly translated as ‘little duck’); however, few will know the origins of the coveted trophy. The award was named after the Athletic Bilbao striker Rafael ‘Pichichi’ Moreno Aranzadi. The trophy itself would be more accurate had it been an Oscar, such was the drama connected to Aranzadi’s life.

‘Pichichi’, so-called because of his slight frame and build, was only 5ft 1in. He wasn’t your usual footballer. When he signed in 1911, football was still in its infancy in Spain and La Liga wouldn’t be formed until 1929. His father was a lawyer and the mayor of Bilbao; his family were well known, high profile and successful. His uncle, Miguel de Unamuno, was a celebrated Spanish novelist, poet, playwright and philosopher. His family balked at his love of football. It was so common, this pastime which consumed his every thought and deed. Why was he so mad about football?

The player’s well-to-do and highly educated family tried their best to keep him away from the game. At school, teachers struggled, his family tried to calm him but he was described as headstrong, mischievous, and a troublemaker. Eventually, he reluctantly attended university to study law but failed every exam in his first year, dropped out and focused on his football, something he excelled at. When the game was brutal, he was brave; a skilful inside-left who was a prolific scorer.

Pichichi became a bona fide star with Athletic Bilbao. Despite his height, he was especially efficient with headers and wore a white bandana which he claimed protected him from the hard edges of the stitching on the ball. He scored the first goal in Athletic Bilbao's newly built stadium, San Mamés, and would win four Copa del Rey trophies, scoring 200 times in 170 games, winning five Campeonato Regional Vizcaíno titles. His prowess caught the eye of many clubs, including top English sides, but he would never leave his beloved Bilbao.

He represented the first Spanish national side at the 1920 Olympics, playing five times before he eventually retired aged 29. Pichichi loved and enjoyed the fame and it would be fair to say his celebrity status may have gone to his head and affected his game. With the same unavoidable inevitability of tide and time, he chose football's well-trodden path; teammates and fans started to resent his fame, noticing he wasn't playing for the team but himself. When it started to go wrong on the park, they were quick to blame Pichichi. They wanted him out – and he obliged.

Pichichi quit playing but decided to stay involved in the game by becoming a referee. He quickly realised being a referee was not like the real thing, playing the game he loved, with that thrill and excitement of playing and entertaining.

Spain was shocked when Rafael 'Pichichi' Moreno Aranzadi died in March 1922, a couple of months short of his 30th birthday. The cause of death was reported as typhoid fever, caught from eating contaminated oysters. His family, however, blamed it on his lifestyle and his involvement in this vulgar game. His death was met with a huge outpouring of grief, mainly from the same fans who had previously booed him out of the club.

In 1926, Athletic Bilbao, as a mark of respect, commissioned a bust of Pichichi for San Mamés, and to this day each opposition captain who plays at the club is invited to lay flowers beside the legendary striker. When Athletic moved to their brand-new stadium in 2013, the bust was placed by the entrance of the players' tunnel, where the tradition is still maintained.

*Marc*a's award ensures Pichichi's legend lives on with every great scorer, from Alfredo Di Stéfano to Lionel Messi, thinking of the player when they lift the trophy and no doubt having a neurotic fear of ordering oysters in a restaurant.