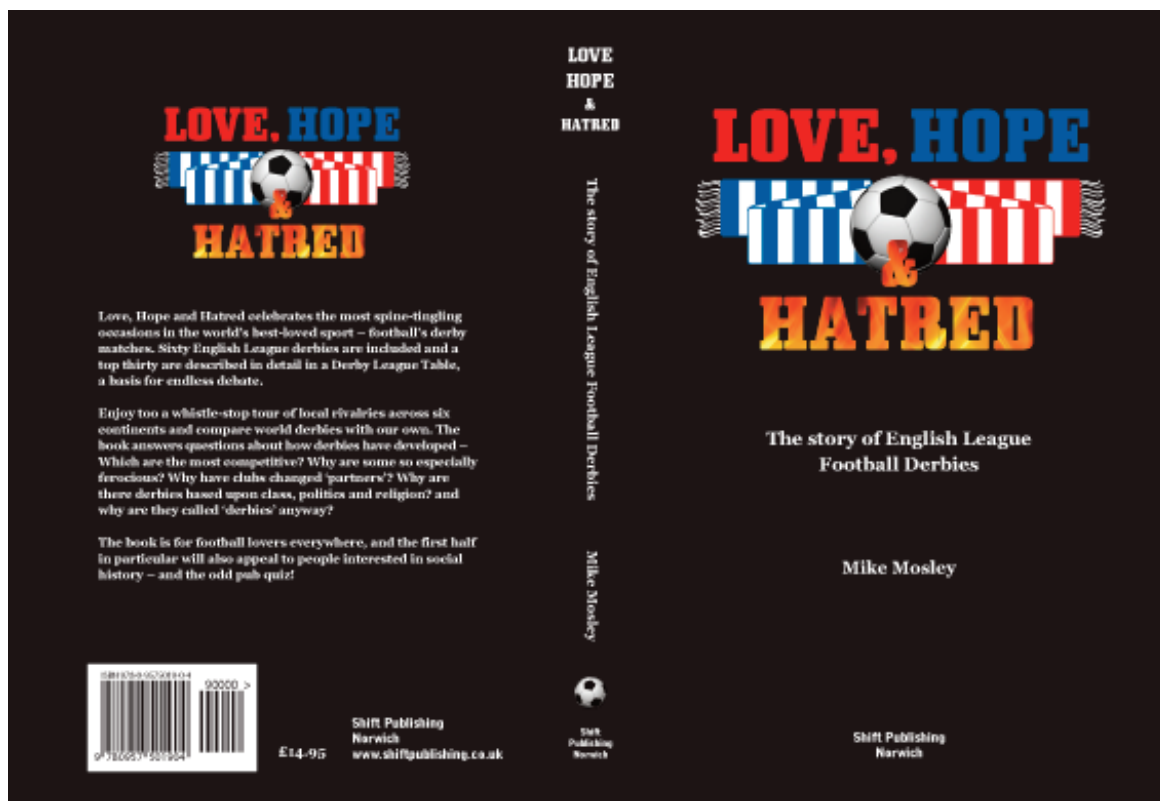


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Available now! A new publication for football fans and social historians everywhere.

Love, Hope and Hatred – The story of English League Football Derbies by Mike Mosley

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Author, Mike Mosley, traces the development of football and describes how football derbies have become the focus for passionate and sometimes violent emotions in towns and cities across the globe. In particular, the book looks at 60 English League derbies and a ranking system has been devised to choose a top 30 for detailed study – so you can see how your club's local rivalry fares in a Derby League Table.

The book contains rigorously researched statistical information which probably has never been published previously, but the book is also lightly written, which makes it an easy read for people interested in social history, as well as for football fans. The book is constructed in two halves, with a half-time break and quiz. The first half charts the origins of modern football; explains why they are called 'derby' matches; describes changes over time in English League rivalries and takes readers on a whistle-stop tour of derbies across six continents to compare the world's best with our own. The 'business end' second half of the book concentrates solely upon the most ferocious, focussed and competitive derbies in the English League. There is a bit of extra time with additional points about supporters and the future of derbies, before the book's final whistle.

'Love, Hope and Hatred' will be an invaluable and accessible source of information for sports fans, pub quiz lovers and anyone who is interested in knowing more about the most spine-tingling occasions in the world's best-loved sport."

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author, Mike Mosley was 'made' in Sheffield, but has lived in Norwich since 1990. He has been married to Jacky for over thirty years and they have a son, John. Mike was educated at Ecclesfield Comprehensive School and has a degree in politics from York University. He began his working career as a full-time Trade Union official. Later he worked for the City Councils of Sheffield and Norwich and, before retirement, he was Deputy Chief Executive of the East of England Regional Assembly.

Love, Hope and Hatred is a labour of love. Mike began writing the book as a celebration of fifty years attending derby matches. He went to his first football match aged six, but was much older (nine!) when he first witnessed the passion of a derby, along with forty thousand fans. He was knocked over twice as the crowd swayed (in the days before all-seater stadia), couldn't stand the half-time Bovril and didn't see the winning goal. But the noise; the colour and the sense of excitement were overwhelmingly wonderful – and addictive. Fifty years on and derbies still generate gut-wrenching, joyous and fearful moments.

When not worrying about football, Mike is a keen cricketer and korfbal player; enjoys bird-watching, history, walking and cooking and has recently become a seal warden!

To purchase or order copies please visit:

www.shiftpublishing.co.uk or email info@theshiftnorwich.org.uk

For interviews with the author or for more information please call Marion Catlin on 01603 765353 or 07946 261651 or email info@theshiftnorwich.org.uk

You can 'Like' Love, Hope and Hatred on Facebook.

EXTRACT FROM TEXT OF THE 'WARM-UP' FOREWORD

"Some people believe football is a matter of life and death. I'm very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that".

The famous Shankly quote may be an exaggeration, but it is probably true to say that, apart from the loss of a family member, friend, job, or home, the worst thing that can happen to a true football fan is defeat at the hands of the local enemy. Logically, this doesn't make a great deal of sense. The people of Bristol, Birmingham or Sheffield, for example, are fiercely proud of their cities. Yet the blue halves of these cities would probably rather gouge out their own eyes than see their red or claret neighbours bring the FA Cup back to the cities they love. This is true, even though Birmingham hasn't seen the FA Cup come home since 1957; Sheffield since 1935 and Bristol since, for ever, as neither Bristol club has ever won it. Of course, the feeling is reciprocated by reds and clarets. If the blues of their respective cities were drawn against Beelzebub Wanderers, there is little doubt as to where red or claret loyalties would lie, difficult as it would be to find an appropriate chant.

This animosity is not confined to rivalries within cities. The same resentments occur between neighbouring communities. The residents of Burnley and Blackburn, for instance, think all things Lancastrian are wonderful. People from Newcastle and Sunderland believe that God's own country was created in the region north of the Tees and south of Scotland. But, when it comes to football derbies; friends and neighbours from the same city, county or region are often seen as loathsome sub-humans, to be despised, abused or, on occasions, even assaulted. In football, especially in football derbies, sense and logic rarely get a look in and, as we shall see later in the book, tribalism within local derbies has tended to escalate significantly over the years.