



Sir Walter Winterbottom

The Father of Modern English Football

By Graham Morse

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This is the story of England's relationship with its national football team. An affectionate and thorough biography of the man who loved the game and yearned for ways to make it more beautiful, more effective and more open minded
Alyson Rudd - *The Times*

John Blake Publishing is delighted to announce the publication of *Sir Walter Winterbottom: The Father of English Football* in which author Graham Morse offers a fantastic insight into the man who shaped modern English football.

Sir Walter was arguably the most influential Englishman in the 20th century game. The first manager of the national team, he took England to four consecutive World Cup finals, revolutionising football coaching along the way

Born in 1913, Winterbottom started out as a teacher and physical education instructor, playing amateur football in his spare time. He was soon signed up by Manchester United, playing his first game in 1936. A spinal ailment curtailed his career, but he was able to serve as an officer in the Royal Air Force during World War II just before the FA appointed him as national director of coaching and England team manager in 1946.

He remains the only manager to have taken the national side to more than two World cup finals and was created an OBE in 1963, CBE in 1972 before being knighted in 1978. Walter died in 2002 but his legacy continues to inspire many in football today.

Shortlisted for the British Sports Book Award 2014 and with a foreword by FA chairman Greg Dyke, *Sir Walter Winterbottom* features interviews from top football names and draws on personal diaries, photographs and letters to make this an intimate authoritative portrait of the man who shaped our game.

About the author: Graham Morse was born in Swindon in 1940 and married Sir Walter's daughter – Janet Winterbottom – in 1963. He had a career in marketing before retiring in 2000 to realise the dream of sailing across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He has written numerous books about his travels and lives with Janet in the Cayman Islands.

**For interview requests and further information about the book please contact
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