

# IT ISN'T EASY TO BECOME A SUPERSTAR

Brian Glanville talks about his new book, *For Club and Country*

*As a journalist and author, Brian Glanville has covered the World Cup since the 1950s and written some of the best books on the tournament. The Notting Hill resident offers his thoughts on England's chances in Rio*

**P**LAY regularly, and have fun. That's the advice I'd give any young player wanting to succeed... but with players now being snapped up by the big clubs at eight, nine and 10, it's difficult.

It's like a children's crusade; snap them up young. The problem is; many are called, but few are chosen.

A child's life can be poisoned. They can be led on to think they'll become a top footballer, then the smoke clears, and there's nothing there.

The influx of foreign players into the Premier League makes it even harder for young English footballers to make an impact, and I'm afraid that generally speaking they sink without trace.

So what about England at the Brazil World Cup? I think they'll give a good account of themselves.

Raheem Sterling (Liverpool) is coming through, while young Luke Shaw (Southampton) and Ross Barkley and John Stones (Everton) are possibilities.

How far can England go? Well, it might be quarter-final time again.

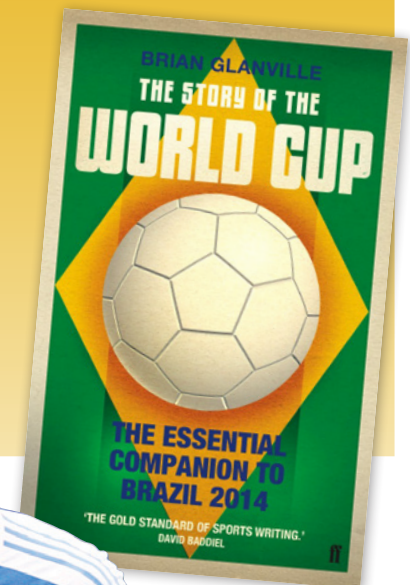
I just wish that Roy Hodgson had been given the England manager's job back in 1994.

Personally, I'd omit Wayne Rooney from the England team. Daniel Sturridge and Rooney can't play together, so I'd leave out Rooney. I also don't trust Gary Cahill.

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## GET THE FULL STORY...

A walloping doorstop of a volume at nearly 500 pages, *The Story of the World Cup 2014* by Brian Glanville is published by Faber at £14.99



Chelsea's Daniel Sturridge  
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He gave away the goal against Scotland. He isn't the answer, but then again I don't know who is.

I'm terribly disillusioned with the World Cup as a competition now; it's been bloated from 16 teams to 24 and now 32.

The World Cup is far too big and top-heavy; by the time teams get the final they are, as often as not, exhausted, and to decide the World Cup on penalties is just unbelievable.

Who will win? Either Brazil or Argentina. Brazil are absolutely corrupt... but they are also the greatest football power in the world.