

# The Billionaires Club: The Unstoppable Rise of Football's Super-rich Owners

*James Montague*

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**James Montague : The Billionaires Club: The Unstoppable Rise of Football's Super-rich Owners** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Billionaires Club: The Unstoppable Rise of Football's Super-rich Owners:

Once upon a time football was run by modest local businessmen. Today it is the plaything of billionaire oligarchs, staggeringly wealthy from oil and gas, from royalty, or from murkier sources. But who are these new masters of the universe? Where did all their money come from? And what do they want with our beautiful game? While almost cloaked in secrecy, the billionaire owner has to raise his head above the bunker when it comes to football ownership — a rare Achilles heel that allows access to worlds normally off limits journalists and outsiders. In *The Billionaires Club* James Montague delves deeper than anyone ever dared, to tell this story for the first time. He criss-crosses the world — from Dhaka to Doha, from China to Crewe, from St Louis to London, from Bangkok to Belgium — to profile this new elite, their network of money and their influence that defies geographic boundaries. *The Billionaires Club* is part history of club ownership, part in-depth investigation into the money and influence that connects the super-rich around the globe, and part travel book as he follows the ever-shifting trail around the globe in an attempt to reveal the real force behind modern-day football. At its heart *The Billionaires Club* is a football book, about some of the biggest clubs in the world. But it is also about something bigger: the world around us, the global economy, where the world is headed and how football has become an essential cog in this machine.

The business-minded and the football crazy... will find [this book] hard to resist \* *Sunday Times* \* Surprising and insightful \* *FourFourTwo* \* *The Billionaires Club* seeks to understand why the global super-rich suddenly became interested in football, and what the consequences of this trend have been \* *Irish Times* \* About the Author James Montague is an award-winning freelance journalist who writes about soccer, culture, and politics across the globe. He has reported from over 765 countries for *The New York Times*, *CNN*, *World Soccer*, and *the Guardian*. He also features regularly on the *BBC World Service's World Football* podcast. His previous books are *When Friday Comes: Football in the War Zone* and *Thirty-One Nil: On the Road with Football's Outsiders*. *Sports Illustrated* described him as "the Indiana Jones of soccer writing." @JamesPiotr