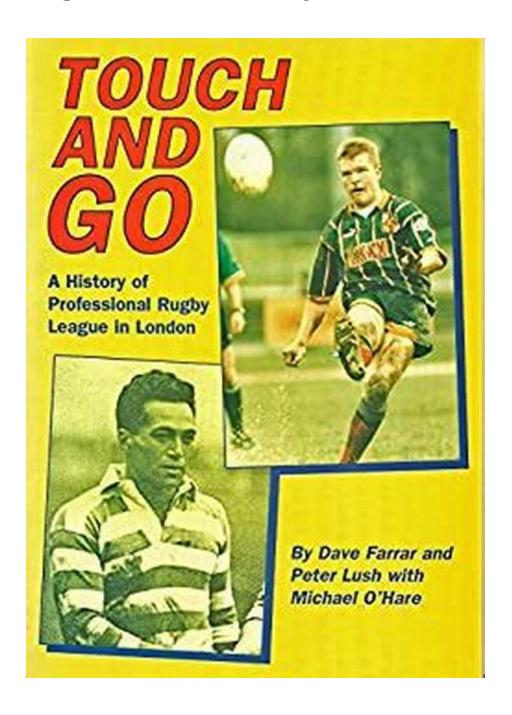
# The Fascinating History of Professional Rugby League in London - From Humble Beginnings to Global Glory

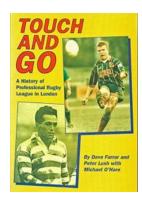


Rugby League has a rich and storied history in London, dating back to its early foundation in the late 19th century. While the origins of the sport can be traced

back to Northern England, the growth of rugby league in London has been a fascinating journey, filled with triumphs, challenges, and passionate players who have left an indelible mark on the sport.

#### The Birth of Rugby League in London

The inception of professional rugby league in London can be attributed to the formation of the London Highfield Club in 1895, following the split of rugby union. The club played its early matches in the Southern League and guickly gained popularity, enticing more clubs to form in the capital.



### **Touch and Go: A History of Professional Rugby**

**League in London** by Dave Farrar (Kindle Edition)

**★** ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

: English Language File size : 2102 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled : 416 pages Print length Lending : Enabled Paperback : 28 pages Item Weight : 2.08 ounces

Dimensions : 6 x 0.07 x 9 inches



#### The Formation of the Rugby League in London

In 1908, the Rugby Football League officially recognized the London League and granted it full status. This led to the creation of several renowned teams such as London Broncos, London Scholars, and London Skolars, which laid the foundation for professional rugby league in the city.

#### **Rugby League During the World Wars**

The two World Wars had a significant impact on the growth and development of rugby league in London. Many players enlisted in the armed forces, leading to the temporary suspension of some clubs. However, the sport rebounded after the wars, and new clubs were established, ensuring its longevity and continuity.

#### The Rise of London Broncos

One of the most iconic teams in London's rugby league history is the London Broncos. Originally known as Fulham, the club was formed in 1980 and enjoyed a period of success in the 1990s. They reached the Challenge Cup Final in 1999, putting London on the rugby league map and capturing the imagination of fans across the country.

#### The Current State of Rugby League in London

Today, professional rugby league in London continues to thrive. The London Broncos, now based in Ealing, are still competing at the highest level in the sport. They are supported by the London Skolars, who compete in the Rugby League Championship, and numerous grassroots clubs that provide a foundation for future stars.

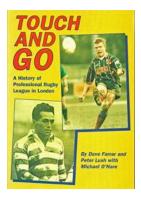
The history of professional rugby league in London is a testament to the sport's resilience and its ability to captivate fans. From its humble beginnings at London Highfield to the exploits of the London Broncos, the city has played a vital role in the growth and development of the sport. With continued support and passion, the future of rugby league in London looks bright.

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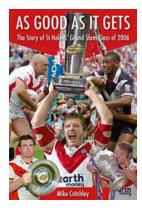


History of professional rugby league in London up to the summer of 1995. Includes internationals played in the capital and the first Challenge Cup Final. Covers London Highfield, Acton & Willesden and Streatham & Mitcham in the 1930s, and Fulham, London Crusaders and the first season of the London Broncos.



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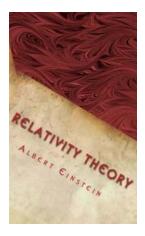
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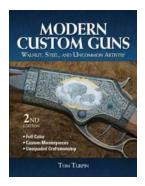
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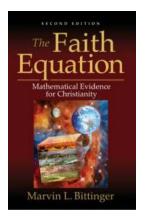
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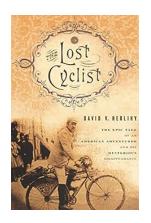
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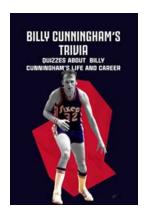
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