

Press Release

AVAILABLE FROM OCTOBER 2010 THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED NEW AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- A truthful and enlightening autobiography, told from the heart.
- Includes new revelations, which will shock and intrigue fans.
- High-quality full-colour photos.
- Nationwide publicity.
- Available in all good book shops from October 2010 and www.dbpublishing.co.uk



Take Note! Darren Anderton

The Autobiography with Mike Donovan

FOREWORD BY TERRY VENABLES

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Darren Anderton was born in Southampton, in 1972. He began playing for Itchen Saints, Bitterne Park Rangers and Winsor youth sides in his home city, before Portsmouth as an associated schoolboy after being spotted playing for the district team. He was given an apprenticeship at Pompey by World Cup winner Alan Ball and was signed as a professional at the club by John Gregory. He moved to Tottenham Hotspur for £2 million in the summer of 1992. During his 12 years with Spurs he made 30 full England appearances, scored seven goals and appeared in Euro '96 and the 1998 World Cup finals. He spent a season at Birmingham City and Wolverhampton Wanderers, before 18 years as a professional with AFC Bournemouth. He has appeared on a variety of television shows and is eager to pursue a career in commentating. He is currently in the property business.

Mike Donovan is a freelance writer who has covered sport for more than 35 years. He has won two British Sports Writers' of the Year awards, worked for the ground-breaking *Today* newspaper and contributed to a variety of national dailies and magazines. A former sports editor, he has also been a boxing and tennis correspondent. Football has always been his first sporting love, Spurs in particular, ever since his dad took him to White Hart Lane in September 1961. He has known Darren Anderton for 20 years.

Darren Anderton's story is of a kid who grows up to live the dream of being a professional footballer at the highest level. He shines for his country in major finals, develops a reserved 'Mr Nice Guy' image and gets labelled 'Sicknote', with the public viewing him as injury prone, despite the fact he makes over 500 appearances in a distinguished playing career, largely among the elite.

Anderton appreciates how lucky he has been to cash in on doing something he loves and enjoys sharing his good fortune with family and close friends. But he goes through personal trauma as the condition of his beloved father, a shining light during his career and life, deteriorates through emphysema, while he and his positive-thinking fiancée Katie deal with her cystic fibrosis, a chronic, progressive disease.

He keeps his own counsel through it all. But his retirement as a player and the death of his father three months apart – the tale which starts *Take Note!* – prompts him to open his heart and put the record straight.

Anderton gives untold behind-the-scenes insights into his public and private life which touch every raw emotion. In this compelling book he reveals:

- The heaven-to-hell-and-back journey with England, including European Championships and World Cup, Tottenham Hotspur, Birmingham, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Bournemouth.
- How it enables him to play in the biggest football tournament since England won the 1966 World Cup and to cross paths – and sometimes swords – with a few of the game's biggest names. The list includes Terry Venables, his biggest top-flight influence, Glenn Hoddle, Ossie Ardiles, Kevin Keegan, Sven Goran-Eriksson, David Beckham, Paul Gascoigne, Ronaldo, Alan Ball, Daniel Levy and Lord Alan Sugar.
- How he came to turn down Alex Ferguson's offer to join Manchester United.
- His dismay at a being given a short 'thank you for your services' note – which included being told his contract was not being renewed – from Tottenham after 12 years loyalty.
- How he overcame lack of self-esteem to become a world-class performer.
- And a whole lot more.

This is the real Darren Anderton. If you think of him as Sicknote you will have to *Take note!*



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Please contact Jo Rush - Marketing and Publicity Co-ordinator to request review/competition copies, digital images or if you would like to interview Darren or Mike.

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