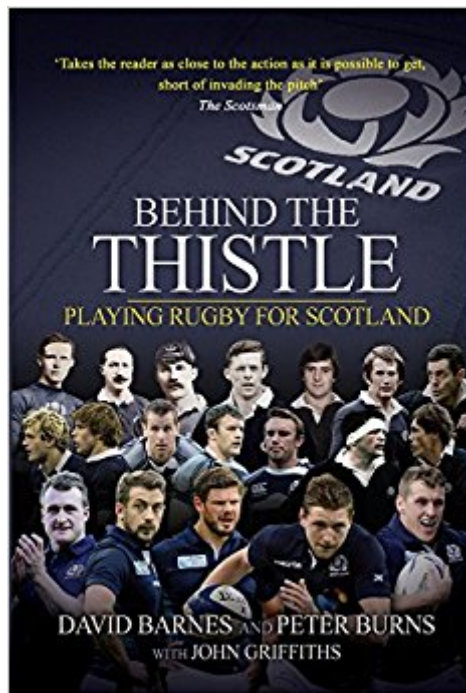




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Behind The Thistle: Playing Rugby For Scotland (Behind The Jersey Series)



Synopsis

Based on exclusive interviews with players past and present, this account provides a unique insight into the drama and emotion of representing Scotland in the most rarefied of environments: test match rugby. Drawing out innumerable humorous anecdotes and heart-warming memories from Russell Bruce and Frank Coutts in the 1940s as well as present-day players, these interviews uncover the heart and soul of Scottish rugby and recount the ecstasy of victory and the despair of defeat. From the tension before kickoff to the tumultuous heat of battle and the hijinks thereafter, this is the story of what it is like to play for Scotland, the sacrifices and joys experienced by those who have shed blood, sweat, and tears in pursuit of glory in the international jersey. Absorbing, illuminating, and compelling, this is a must-have for all rugby supporters who have dreamed of playing for Scotland.

Book Information

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'In turns comic, poignant, spine-tingling and occasionally tragic, its anecdotes provide a dressing-room keyhole for those of us who could only ever dream of getting there by any other means... a gem of a book' - Alasdair Reid, Sunday Herald; 'This is a remarkable insight into what it means to play rugby for Scotland... For all those with a deep love of rugby, its contemporary sporting history and intriguing gossip this is an unmissable tome' - Bill Lothian, Evening News; 'Really good reminiscences from hosts of Scottish rugby greats about a host of great Scotland rugby occasions. Weighty in all respects' - Stephen Jones, Sunday Times

David Barnes is a freelance journalist, covering club, pro-team, and international rugby for various Scottish newspapers. In 2008, he was short-listed for Rugby Book of the Year at the British Sports Book Awards for *The Accies: The Cradle of Scottish Rugby*. Peter Burns is a sports editor and digital development manager for Birlinn Ltd.

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