



**Bloody Scotland**

Scotland's International Crime Writing Festival  
2-11, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, G2 3JD

Tel: 0141 258 1150

[www.bloodyscotland.com](http://www.bloodyscotland.com) | [info@bloodyscotland.com](mailto:info@bloodyscotland.com)

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## **ENGLISH CRIME WRITERS FOOTBALL TEAM COULD TEACH THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL SIDE A THING OR TWO**

**BLOODY SCOTLAND CRIME WRITERS FOOTBALL MATCH  
FINAL SCORE: ENGLAND 7 – SCOTLAND 1**

A young and energetic English crime writers football team captained by the not so young and energetic Mark Billingham ran rings around established Scottish team captained by Ian Rankin, freshly back from Spain where he had won a national literary award.

The Scottish team including McIlvanney Prize winner Chris Brookmyre, Doug Johnstone, Neil Broadfoot, Matt Bendoris, Mark Stanton and David Ross battled valiantly but the younger English side with some brilliant performances from Tim Weaver and Howard Linski and some exceptional goalkeeping from Luca Veste showed that although the official England football team may be a disappointment national pride has been restored by the English Crime Writers.

7-1 is the same score that favourites Brazil lost at home in the 2014 World Cup to Germany so the Scottish side need not feel too despondent. They won the inaugural crime writers football match 13-1 days after the independence referendum.

This years match was played on the historic Cowane's Hospital bowling green in glorious sunshine. Spectators included Hugh McIlvanney, once described as the 'greatest sportswriter in the English-speaking world' and the match was briefly interrupted by a pitch invasion by a small dog.

If you would like to interview Craig Robertson, one of the founders of Bloody Scotland, the person responsible for organising the teams and the goal keeper for the Scotland team please

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### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

*Bloody Scotland* is Scotland's International Crime Writing Festival, providing a showcase for the best crime writing from Scotland and the world, unique in that it was set up by a group of Scottish crime writers in 2012. The festival uses a number of atmospheric, historic venues in Stirling's Old Town, setting it apart from other literary festivals. Full information at [www.bloodyscotland.com](http://www.bloodyscotland.com)

The first Crime Writers England v Scotland match took place immediately after the referendum and Scotland won 13-1. Last year a draw allowed England to regain some pride after battling for a 5-5 draw

Pictures of the match can be used free of charge with credit to Eoin Carey / Bloody Scotland and found in the following dropbox:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p9ezo8exqxszegv/AABw\\_WFj3ZsvjeYil\\_Ytok7la?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p9ezo8exqxszegv/AABw_WFj3ZsvjeYil_Ytok7la?dl=0)  
The dropbox includes jackets of each of the titles and a logo for Bloody Scotland

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