

# MATTHEWS <sup>(E)</sup>



## *The Original No 7*

### Fast Sell:

A fascinating documentary about the extraordinary, inspirational life of Sir Stanley Matthews, one of the greatest footballers of all time, who had an FA Cup Final named after him, defied apartheid, and was the first ever football player to be knighted.

### Featuring:

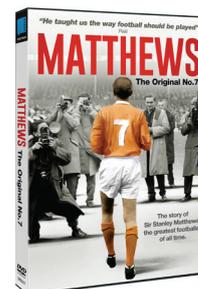
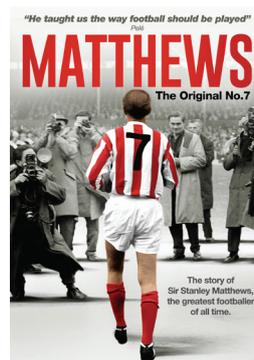
Sir Richard Branson

Sir Michael Parkinson

Gary Lineker, OBE

### Synopsis:

A compelling and revealing look at the life and achievements of footballing great Stanley Matthews, from his humble beginnings in Stoke on Trent, through to his hugely successful career playing for both Stoke City and Blackpool, to being the oldest ever player to represent England. During his lengthy career, interrupted by six years service in the RAF, he cemented his position as one of the top ten players of all time. Including contributions from the likes of Gary Lineker, OBE, Sir Michael Parkinson and Sir Richard Branson, the film also charts Matthews' travels to South Africa, where he ignored apartheid and started a team of young black players in Soweto. Dubbed 'Stan's



Featuring reversible sleeve artwork in Stoke City F.C. and Blackpool F.C. colours



### RELEASE DATE

On Digital	23rd October
On DVD	30th October

### CONTACT/ORDER MEDIA

Emma Mountain - Emma@fetch.fm



2 John Street, London, WC1N 2ES  
Tel: 0203 405 4312 Web: fetch.fm

Men', these footballers were taught that playing the game with dignity can elevate you, and make you capable of incredible feats.

### **We like it because:**

Revered by other players and worshipped by fans, Sir Stanley Matthews is considered by many to be one of the great athletes of the 20th century, and one of the greatest soccer players of all time. Stanley's footwork, sportsmanship and stardom were lightyears ahead of their time, and earned him the moniker, 'The Wizard'.

Many of his accomplishments on the pitch remain untouched, even today: his career spanned over thirty-five years and found him playing professionally until the age of 50, in an era when life expectancy was just 59; he was the first ever footballer to be knighted and the first to be awarded football's highest honour, the Ballon D'Or. The 1953 FA Cup Final, where he steered his Blackpool team to victory, is regarded as one of the finest ever played, and is nicknamed after Matthews. His winning medal from the match was recently sold for nearly a quarter of a million pounds.

But it is what he did off the pitch that made him truly great, using his status as the world's first global sports superstar to defy the apartheid South African government, and teach football in the all-black townships of Johannesburg.

Never-before-seen archive footage, photographs and interviews come together in this superb full length feature documentary, executive produced by Stanley's son, to tell the incredible true story of one of international sports' most legendary figures.

### **Hot quotes**

"He taught us the way football should be played." *Pele*

"Quite simply, he's a legend." *Sir Richard Branson*

"One of the great heroes of this country." *Gary Lineker, OBE*

