Editorial Preface

This issue marks the beginning of the fifth volume of Football Studies which began publication in 1998 as Occasional Papers in Football Studies. The journal is unique in focusing on issues within the world’s major football codes. This issue begins with Vic Duke’s examination of the globalisation of soccer in the context of debates about the McDonaldisation and Disneyisation of culture, Jayne Caudwell follows with an analysis of issues of lesbian sexuality within women’s soccer in England. The third paper concentrates on homefield advantage within English league soccer whilst the final article examines the portrayal of Australian football as war. This issue also sees a return of Viewpoint. In this paper the greatest games in the US National Football League are discussed and situated within wider changes in American culture.

As with any journal, changes in editorial board composition take place from time to time. From this issue Paul Dimeo takes over from Gary Armstrong as reviews editor for association football. Mike Cronin also steps down as associate editor, joining the editorial board, while Mike Lomax assumes the role of an associate editor on the journal with the particular role of promoting research and publications on football in North America. We thank Gary and Mike for their work on the journal in its formative years.

Football Studies continues to grow and develop. The next issue is a special issue guest edited by Paul Dimeo on football in South Asia. Ideas for special issues are welcomed and should be proposed to the editor. Suggestions for book reviews and offers to review should be directed to the reviews editors Steve Pope and Paul Dimeo.

John Nauright
Editor