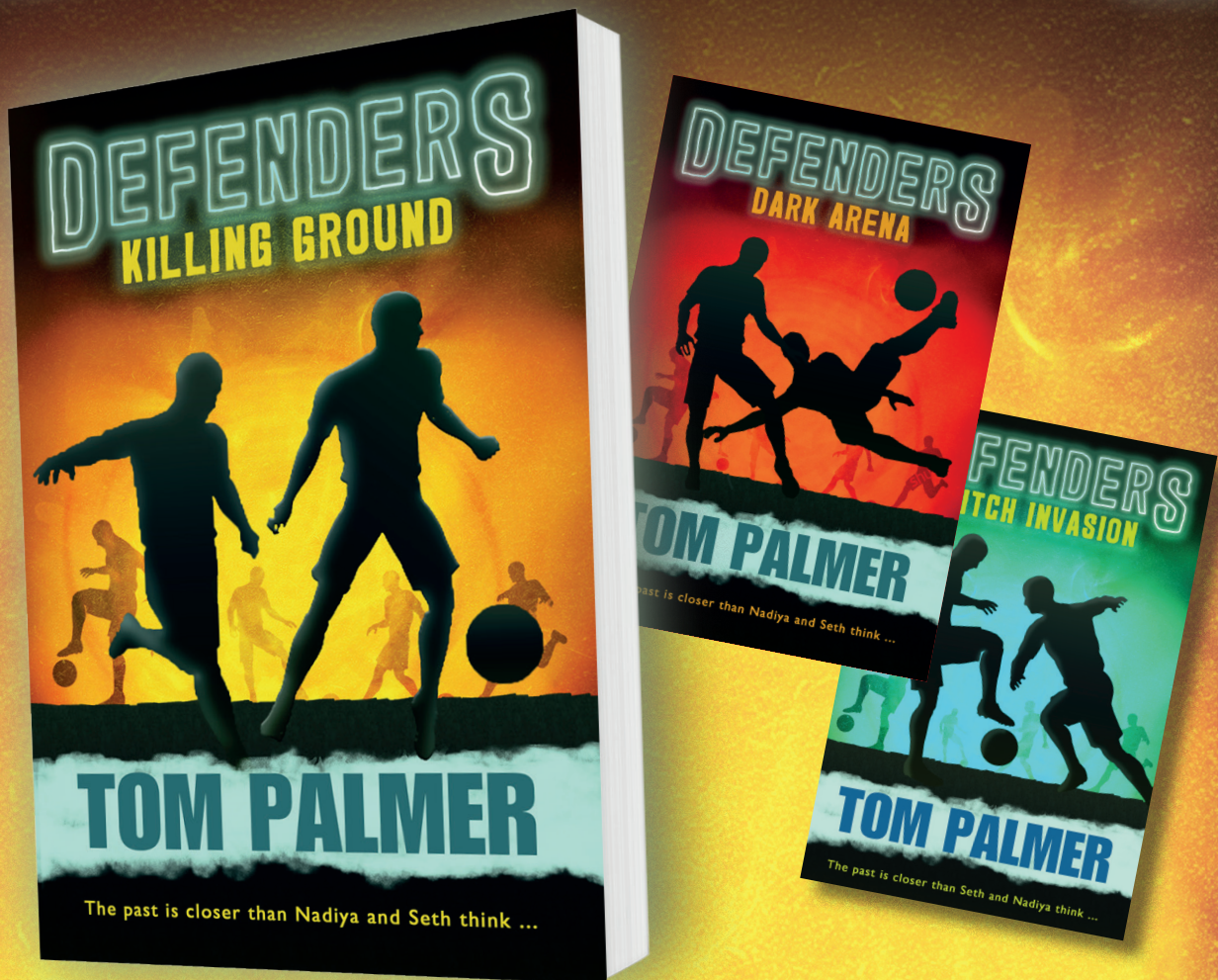


# DEFENDERS



Breathtaking new trilogy of  
spine-tingling historical  
adventures with a football twist

# TOM PALMER



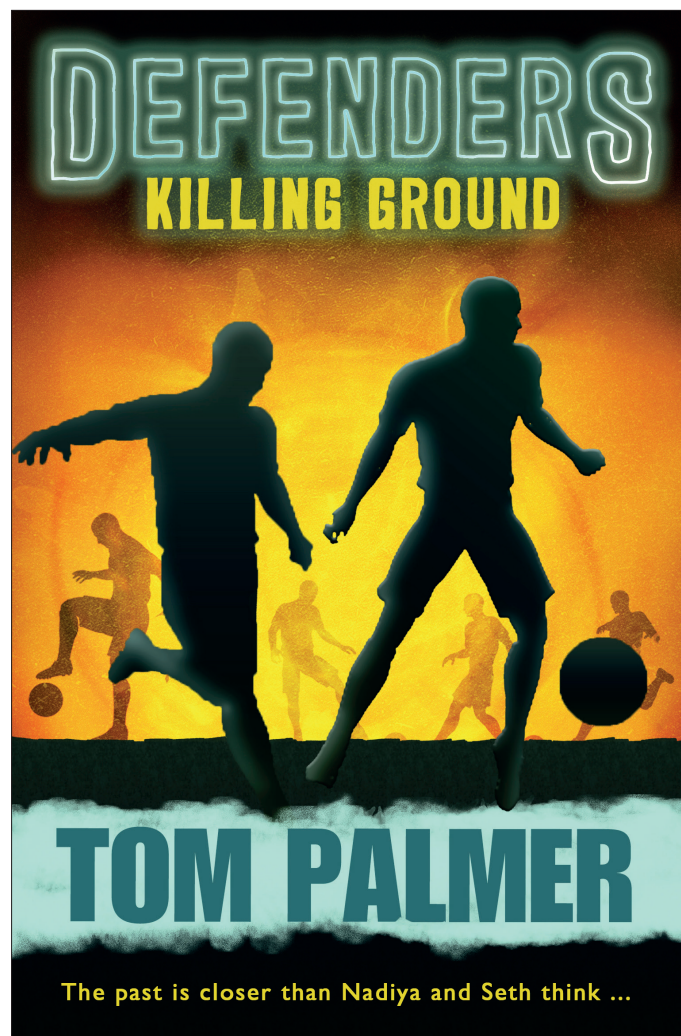


## Football meets history and the supernatural in Tom Palmer's genre-melding new series

Everyone is freaked out when circles of scorched earth start appearing in Halifax – on the moors, the parks and even the football pitches. Seth is most disturbed of all – he sees the shadows of the past. But when he looks into a Viking's murderous eyes and smells the stink of burning flesh, Seth knows he must stop this cycle of supernatural suffering. With his friend Nadiya, can he discover the dark history behind the forces attacking their town?

**Defenders: Killing Ground** is the first in Tom Palmer's spooky new series that combines the thrills of football, history and supernatural sleuthing. The Defenders series marks Tom's continuing exploration of his passions, saying:

*"For years I've written about my obsessions with football and rugby. Now I am obsessed with history. One thing I always say to children who ask me for advice on becoming an author, is to write about what they are passionate about. That's what I'm doing now."*



DEFENDERS: DARK ARENA  
978-1-78112-730-8  
£6.99

DEFENDERS: PITCH INVASION  
978-1-78112-731-5  
£6.99

For 8+

978-1-78112-729-2

£6.99 P/B

With black and white illustrations by David Shephard

**TOM PALMER** is originally from Leeds and credits articles about football with getting him into reading as a child. As well as writing the top selling *Football Academy* and *Foul Play* series (Puffin), he has also written many books for Barrington Stoke including *Over the Line*, *Ghost Stadium*, *Secret FC*, and the *Rugby Academy* and *Wings* series. He has been shortlisted for prizes including the Blue Peter Book Award and the Lancashire and Coventry Book Awards. *Rugby Academy: Combat Zone* is featured in the Scottish First Minister's Reading Challenge. He travels all over the UK for events, performing his immensely popular rugby and football reading games, and is well-loved across the booktrade. He lives in Halifax.



## ABOUT THE CONKERS

The Conkers list was launched in 2015 with a mission to offer heavily illustrated, beautifully designed, high-quality fiction from author and illustrator dream teams. [www.barringtonstoke.co.uk](http://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk)