



Gary Rudd

The Loneliness of the Football Manager

1 How do you get a balance between work and home life?

Well, it's tricky, but I've been married for ten years and I've been doing this job for three years, and very fortunately my lovely wife understands how stressful it is. Also, it helps that we live near my work – we have a nice house not far from the football ground.

2

We have two kids; twin daughters. Thank goodness they both love football! They often come to watch the matches, but I never seem to have time to do dad-type things with them. My job is so time-consuming. I usually work six days out of seven and always at weekends.

3

Don't get me wrong. I love my job – it's challenging and exciting, I never know what's going to happen and I like training with the lads, they're great guys. But it's often lonely. I enjoyed all my years as a player – I loved all the dressingroom chat and socializing after the game. Now I'm not invited to join them.



4

Not much! We don't have a social life these days. I try to switch off when I get home and do stuff round the house, but it's difficult. I like doing DIY, but I rarely finish anything – I'm painting the kitchen at the moment, I've been doing it for weeks and it's not finished yet.

5

Ah – she's a very patient lady and she has lots of interests of her own, but ...

6

I don't have an answer to that. I want to leave when the team are doing well. I have no idea when that will be. I'm hoping before my marriage ends – don't worry ... I'm joking!