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Rear Window – Edited by Angus Grigg

Just a small idea worth kicking around a bit

It's a story about the reach of the internet and a bloke who just wanted to watch a game of soccer.

David Lewis, an escaped lawyer who now runs an IT company, has become a sports promoter overnight.

The long-time West Ham United fan recently bought the exclusive Australian rights to the Hammers big clash with Crystal Palace on Saturday night and the response has been huge.

For those of you not up-to-date with English first division soccer, the match will determine who gets promoted to the Premier League next season – worth everything to a club's pride and between £25 million (A\$64 million) and £30 million.

Lewis bought the rights only because no one else wanted them and is now trying to organise extra venues in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra – he's already got capacity for 2,000 people around the country. It might even make a profit.

Lewis put the word out on the West Ham website and soccer-related message boards and his phone and inbox have been clogged since.

“It's a little out of control!” he said yesterday.