

David Southgate, *Play Hard and Play for the Game: The History of the Old Haileyburians' Amateur Football Club 1961-84*, Collingwood, 1985, pp. 258, ltd. ed., 300 copies. (Available from the author for \$12.50, including postage, at 204 Drummond Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053).

I doubt that the brief and relatively undistinguished history of the Old Haileyburians warrants this substantial collation of material by David Southgate. This is a history written for the 512 men who played for the three eighteens during a twenty-four year period. No one else, except for their families and a handful of associated individuals, will be very interested in this Boys' Own manual. Nonetheless, the book is a good example of its genre.

The author provides mounds of minutiae in a lucid but verbose year-by-year account of the teams' fortunes and misfortunes. He then provides even more detail in the second half of the book, which contains tables, charts, statistics and lists of every game involving Old Haileyburians. In addition, there is a biographical sketch of every first eighteen coach, captain, president, best and fairest, 100-game player and life member.

Anything you ever wanted to know about the Old Haileyburians (and a lot of their dressing-room antics that you wouldn't) is contained in this book. Although it was not his primary intention, Southgate (who is an optometrist, a former captain of the Old Haileyburian Reserves and the club secretary since 1982) has compiled data which could be helpful for someone interested in writing a more important book, namely a history of the Victorian Amateur Football Association. He also has provided some useful information for a social inquiry into the nature of amateur football and those who play it.

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