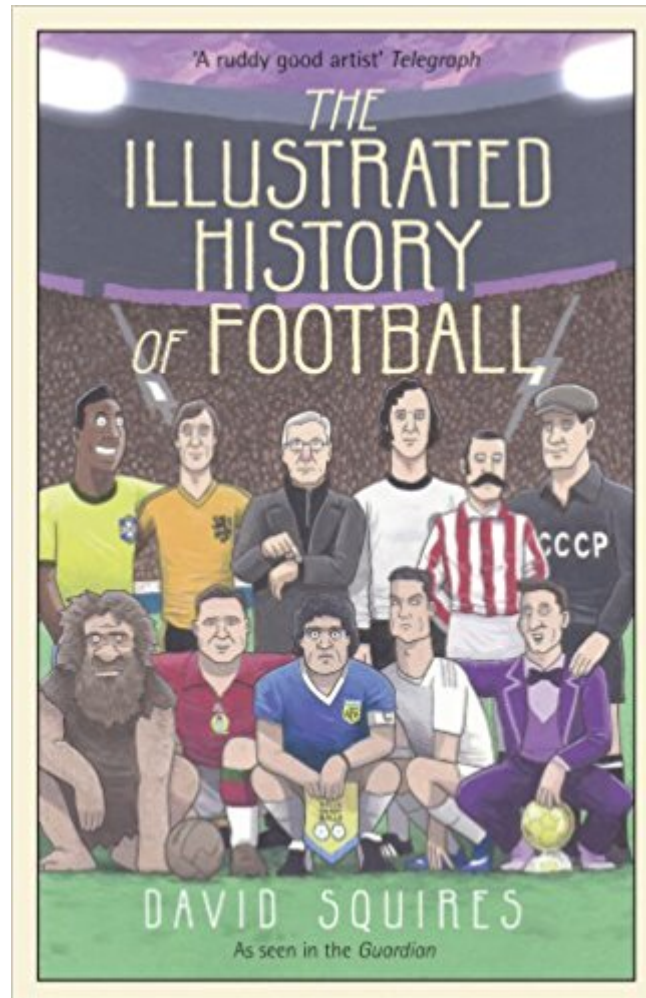




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# The Illustrated History Of Football



## Synopsis

This is soccer comic-ery, but not as you know it. Welcome to the comically brilliant and politically engaging work of illustrator David Squires, artist extraordinaire. Soccer and comics. Once a hearty Saturday combination to match cartoons and cereal, in recent years they've drifted apart. Thankfully for us, David Squires is here to change all that. Based out of Sydney, his soccer comics have appeared everywhere from the Guardian to Pickles Magazine. In a sport full of handsome paychecks and corporate sponsors, his work casts a critical eye over corrupt backroom workings and helps pierce soccer's overblown balloon. This book is an anthology of some of David's best work. WARNING! Is sure to ignite debate and spark hilarity.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A ruddy good artist" The Telegraph "Squires exhibits his personal knowledge of the game in a way that is thoughtful and, as with all comic satirists, really very funny ... On the face of it this may look like a perfect lavatory book for dad for Christmas. But it is a lot more than that and well worth the read." Daily Express "David is unparalleled in his ability to highlight how ridiculous modern football can often be with his unique brand of caustic satire." -- Mike Hytner The Guardian "You will really want to buy it" Football365 "Squires is the master of the football comic strip and this collection is recommended reading for enlightened football fans everywhere." Late Tackle "Brilliant" The Set Pieces "If you're not familiar with the work of David Squires, then you really have been deprived up to now" The Final Third "No one captures the absurdities and ugliness of football better than him ... hilarious" Coach Magazine "A bloody funny read" Adam Peacock, Fox Sports "Squires' opening

lines sets the tone for a lively, tongue-in-cheek history of the beautiful game, accompanied by some excellent illustrations." Dorset Echo "This is an absolute landmark of football literature - worthy of the same status as Football Grounds of Europe , Inverting the Pyramid and All Played Out . This is not least because of the mind boggling amount of work involved - all the more prodigious given that Squires is a regular provider of comic strips for The Guardian ... this is a genuinely funny book" The Two Unfortunates

David Squires is a Sydney-based artists and illustrator. His work has featured prominently in a wide range of publications, from the Guardian to Pickles Magazine.

My husband gave me this as a Christmas present and I only just now got a chance to read it (2 toddlers...it's hard to find time). I read David Squires every week in the Guardian, so I was certain this would be hilarious. This book is AMAZING! I was already familiar with most of the events in this "history", and loved all the new details I learned and the humorous slant on much discussed and romanticized events. Squires's ability to capture the essence of all the famous footballers' faces also kind of amazes me. How can a "cartoon" look so much like the real thing? The cartoons on the right hand side of the pages are, of course, fantastic, but I enjoyed reading the prologues to every cartoon almost as much. I kept wanting to talk to other people about this book but no one has read it!! So everyone please buy this book so I can talk to someone about it. :-)

I rarely write reviews, but am compelled to do so for Mr. Squires' masterpiece. If you are remotely interested in sport and it's evolution in modern society, through the lens of a hilarious cynic who doubles as an outstanding artist, then you will enjoy this work. I do not normally go for comics or illustrations, yet the intricate detail (often requiring several views to catch all of the sly humor), "in-the-know" in-jokes and social commentary makes Mr. Squires' book incredibly enjoyable to read and re-read. American readers may not understand all of the U.K.-centric items, however, that should not prohibit anyone from enjoying this book. My only suggestion to Mr. Squires is to incorporate the three "football hipsters" into his work at the Guardian.

This book is highly enjoyable, complete with classic laconic British humor and contextual references that may need prior understanding. However, with the benefit of information age, the numerous jokes may not be entirely lost on those who love humor in sport. The genius of Mr. Squires is two fold - to transform situations that sometimes call for serious approach into utterly hilarious

sequences and juxtapose non-sporting entities (characters, events) with football. I have been reading his weekly Guardian column for over a year now and it is no exaggeration that some of his work there left me doubled up in laughter. I used to think comic panels in newspapers and books was a dying art but Mr. Squires made me think otherwise. Highly recommended.

Having only gotten into football in my early 20s, there was plenty I didn't know about landmark events and his book covers it all: with panache and plenty of easter eggs. A thoroughly, delightful and funny read. I only wish it covered more events.

Excellent summary of the history of football - a perfect balance between the important facts, weird details/anecdotes, and humor to make it all enjoyable. Mind the gap.

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