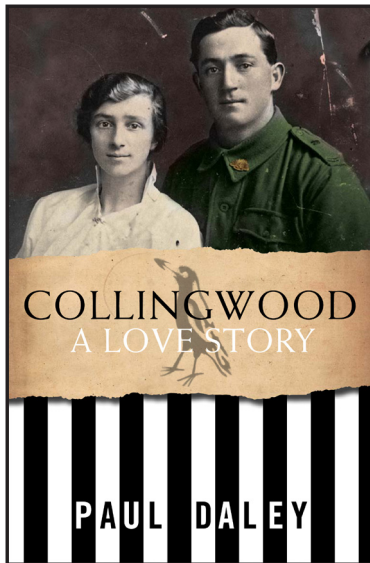


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*'War, romance, and yes, football. Paul Daley's absorbing book is genuine **Australiana.**'*
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Paul Daley will be available for interview from Monday 26 September.

For more information please contact **Olivia Blake** at MUP on 03 9342 0322 or 0406 998 030, or email oblake@unimelb.edu.au

COLLINGWOOD

A Love Story

by Paul Daley

A multi-generational saga of football, love, war, forgiveness and, most critically, identity.

FOREWORD BY COLLINGWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB PRESIDENT AND TV PERSONALITY EDDIE MCGUIRE

Every year when Collingwood plays Essendon in the AFL's annual Anzac Day match, Collingwood president Eddie McGuire carries an old horseshoe into the team's changing rooms and passes it around. The players examine it as he relates the great footy club story behind it.

It's early in the twentieth century and Doc Seddon, a Collingwood player, introduces his childhood sweetheart, Louie, to his dashing team mate, Paddy Rowan. Paddy sweeps Louie off her feet and they marry. But war intervenes. Doc and Paddy go off to fight, leaving Louie to raise Paddy's baby. When Paddy is killed, Doc promises that he will always look after Paddy's wife and child. Just before the 1917 Grand Final, he sends a horseshoe back from the Somme, where he continued to serve. It brings the Magpies luck—they win.

It is a lovely story. Except, of course, that fairytales didn't come true in Collingwood, the biggest slum of Melbourne. What really happened to them is a much grittier tale.

Paul Daley is a Canberra author, columnist and multi-award-winning journalist. He has worked extensively overseas—including in conflict zones—and has covered national affairs for major Australian publications including *The Age*, *The Sunday Age* and *The Bulletin*. He is the author of the best-selling *Beersheba* and, most recently, *Armageddon: Two men on an Anzac trail*. He is married to political journalist Lenore Taylor and they have three children. He is now writing a novel.

For *Collingwood: A love story*, Paul travelled in Doc and Paddy's footsteps on the Western Front, tracing the terrible battles in which each man fought, and stood by Paddy's gravestone on the Somme to ponder who he really was and whether his wife and his best mate really knew him at all. Against this backdrop he reveals the role that the Collingwood Football Club played in the struggling community that gave rise to it.

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