



# Last word on the Ashes 2009

**Books | Paul Amy**

GIDEON Haigh has written more than 20 books, almost all of which earned him critical acclaim.

But he says no title has brought him more reaction than *The Vincibles*, about his beloved South Yarra Cricket Club.

Anyone who has played cricket will warm to his account of the struggle to field teams, the battle to pay the bills and fill committees, and the cast of characters that inhabit clubs.

The book brought a fame of sorts to an otherwise humble suburban cricket club.

Haigh, the Yarras' long-time vice-president, chairman of selectors and all-rounder of endless enthusiasm but modest achievement, released *The Vincibles* in 2002.

"The funniest book about cricket I've ever read," declares

Mick Molloy.

If you missed it, the book has been given another print run by Melbourne University Press and will hit the shelves in December.

Before then, Haigh has another launch: *The Ashes 2009*, his account of England's 2-1 triumph over Australia.

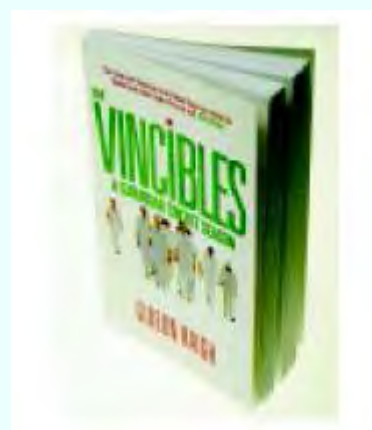
It is a collection of the articles he wrote for publications including *Business Spectator*, *London Times* and *Wisden Cricketer*.

Haigh calls the series an "exhaustive and exhausting in terrogation of the capabilities of two good, ordinary cricket teams with, I suspect, more violent swings in ascendancy than I can remember in my lifetime's cricketing watching".

This was among the first books released on the 2009 Ashes. But it

should serve as the last word on a fascinating struggle between the old adversaries.

*The Ashes 2009* will be launched at South Yarra's Como Park ground on Tuesday, November 24, at 7pm.



Haigh's latest book.