

JAMES 'DUN' HAY, 1881-1940: THE STORY OF A FOOTBALLER

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This is the footballing life story of James 'Dun' Hay, 1881-1940, captain of Celtic, Scotland and Newcastle United, who was suspended for life for refusing to apologise after accusing a director of Ayr United and the Treasurer of the Scottish Football Association of trying to bribe a referee in 1926.

Hay was born in Woodside, Ayrshire, the son of a coalminer, but used football to escape from life underground. He played as a youth with Woodside and Annbank and began his senior experience with Ayr in 1902. He then moved to Celtic where he had a stellar career when Celtic was arguably the best team in the world between 1904 and 1911, winning the Scottish League championship six times in a row, a feat not surpassed until the days of Jock Stein. He was captain of the team from 1906 until 1911. Hay then moved to Newcastle United, which had dominated English football at the same time, where he captained the team until football was suspended in 1915 for the duration of the First World War. He played eleven times for his country and was captain of Scotland three times in the Edwardian years. He toured Europe with Celtic and Newcastle when the Scottish influence on the world game was much greater than it is today.

Later he returned to Scotland to play with Ayr United and saw service as a gunner in France in 1918. After the war, he played for and managed Clydebank. In 1924 he became manager of Ayr United. The following year he claimed to have caught a director of Ayr United, who had also been the Treasurer of the Scottish Football Association for twenty years, trying to bribe a referee. When it came to the hearing by the tribunal it was Hay's word against that of the other person and when Hay refused to apologise for raising the accusation he was suspended *sine die*. He was reinstated a year later but subsequently played no major role in the game with which he had been involved for thirty years.

Roy Hay, *James 'Dun' Hay, 1881-1940: The Story of a Footballer*, Sports and Editorial Services Australia, Teesdale, Victoria, 2004, ISBN 0-9751970-0-2 which has more than 50 illustrations, is available through Griffiths bookshop, Ryrie Street, Geelong, Melbourne Sports Books, Flinders Street, Melbourne or by post from Sports and Editorial Services Australia, 85 Fairway Crescent, Teesdale, Victoria, 3328 at RRP of \$25.00.