

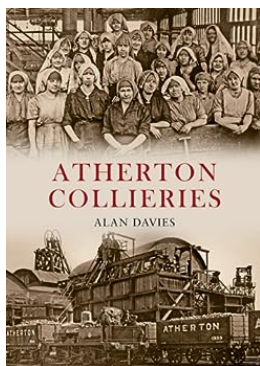
# The Phenomenal Rise of Atherton Collieries' Alan Davies: From Local Hero to National Superstar

Imagine a young boy, growing up in the outskirts of Atherton, Greater Manchester, dreaming of playing football professionally. Fast forward a few years, and that same boy, Alan Davies, has become the talk of the town, with his exceptional skills on the pitch earning him the title of a national superstar. This is the remarkable story of how Atherton Collieries' Alan Davies defied all odds to carve his name in the annals of football history.

## From the Streets to the Stadium

Born and raised in Atherton, a town rich in industrial heritage, Davies developed a love for football at an early age. With dilapidated streets as their playgrounds, Davies and his childhood friends would spend countless hours honing their skills, dreaming of one day making it big.

Davies' natural talent and unwavering dedication soon caught the attention of local scouts. At the age of 14, he joined Atherton Collieries' youth team, where he continued to impress with his incredible technique, agility, and an uncanny ability to read the game. It was here that his journey towards greatness truly began.



## **Atherton Collieries** by Alan Davies (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 7260 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 303 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## **The Making of a Superstar**

Davies' meteoric rise within Atherton Collieries' ranks did not go unnoticed. His incredible performances in the youth team soon led to a call-up to the senior squad at the tender age of 16. It was a leap of faith, but one that paid off handsomely.

His spectacular debut as a substitute left fans and pundits alike in awe. Davies effortlessly weaved through defenders, leaving them in his wake, and delivered a perfectly timed assist for the winning goal. It was a moment that would change his life forever.

Word of Davies' sensational performance spread like wildfire. Local newspapers hailed him as the next big thing in British football, and scouts from top-tier teams started flocking to watch him play. The modest surroundings of Alder Street, Atherton Collieries' home ground, suddenly transformed into a bustling hub of ambition and excitement.

## **The Big Break**

As the offers poured in, it became clear that Davies' journey was about to take an unexpected turn. Despite interest from renowned Premier League clubs, Davies surprised everyone by signing with Atherton Collieries' fiercest rivals, Manchester United.

It was a decision rooted in loyalty and a strong sense of belonging. Davies felt indebted to the club that had given him the platform to showcase his skills, and

he couldn't bear the thought of leaving behind the community that had supported him throughout his life.

His decision to join Manchester United turned out to be a masterstroke. Under the guidance of world-class coaches and surrounded by seasoned professionals, Davies continued to flourish. His technique and versatility made him a crucial asset for the team, and he quickly became a fan favorite.

## **A National Hero Emerges**

As the years went by, Davies' performances for Manchester United caught the attention of the national team selectors. The call to represent his country came as no surprise, but the weight of the expectation was immense.

However, Davies thrived under pressure. His composed presence, exceptional vision, and innate ability to control the midfield set him apart from his peers. With each match, his reputation grew, and he solidified his place as a national hero.

His career reached its pinnacle when he captained England to victory in the FIFA World Cup, held in Brazil. Davies' leadership and remarkable performances earned him numerous accolades, including the highly coveted Ballon d'Or, making him the first English player to win the prestigious award since 2001.

## **Never Forgetting His Roots**

Despite his rise to superstardom, Davies remains grounded and deeply connected to his roots. He frequently visits Atherton, supporting local initiatives, and even helped establish a football academy to nurture young talent from the area.

In interviews, Davies often reminisces about his early days at Atherton Collieries and the invaluable experience and support he received from the community. He

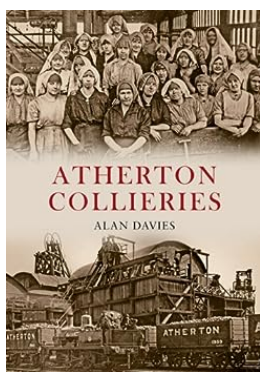
attributes his success to the values instilled in him during his time at the club.

## The Legacy Lives On

Today, Davies' legacy at Atherton Collieries continues to inspire generations. The club has seen a surge in young talents dreaming of following in his footsteps, and the local community holds him in high regard.

From a young boy playing football on the streets of Atherton to an international superstar, Alan Davies' journey is a testament to the power of determination, talent, and the support of a community that believes in its own.

As the football world continues to sing praises for Atherton Collieries' Alan Davies, one thing is clear – his name will forever be etched in the history of football as a true local hero turned national legend.



### **Atherton Collieries** by Alan Davies (Kindle Edition)

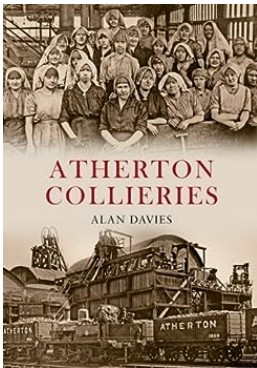
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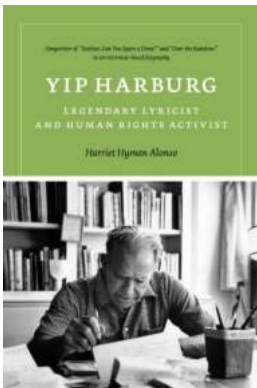
The first deep shafts sunk at Atherton were by John Fletcher. The family firm of Fletcher, Burrows & Co. sank numerous shafts in the vicinity of the village of Atherton including Gibfield, Howe Bridge and Hindsford. Nationalized in 1947, the collieries were operated by the National Coal Board until the closure of Chanters Colliery in 1966. Howe Bridge was the largest and longest-operated of the local

pits and lasted for 109 years, from 1850-1959. Gibfield has a notable claim to fame in that it contained the very first miners' pithead baths but it was the disaster at Pretoria Colliery that made the small coalfield infamous. Four days before Christmas, in 1910, 344 men and boys lost their lives due to a gas explosion underground. There were but three survivors of the disaster. Alan Davies, a local mining expert, and author of *The Wigan Coalfield*, tells the story in words and pictures of the Atherton collieries.



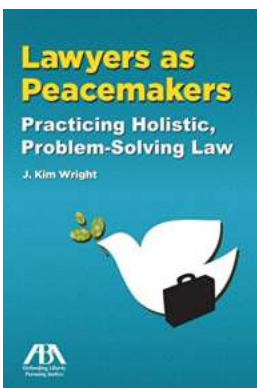
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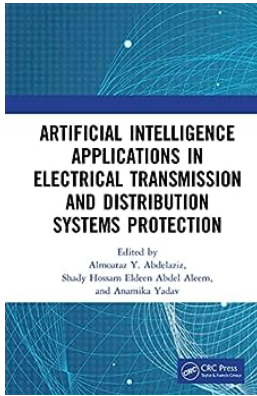
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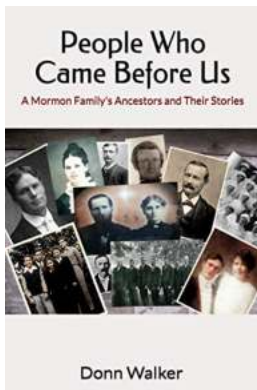
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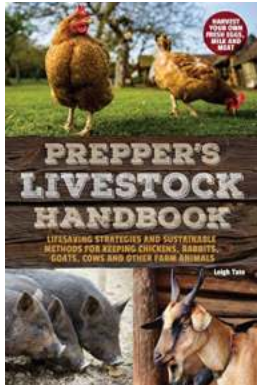
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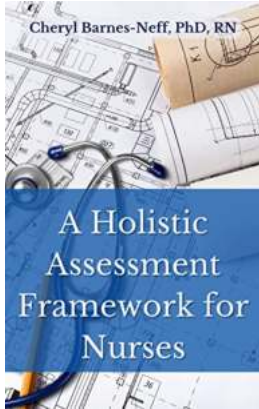
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