

David Brayley Fact File

Full Name: David Anthony Brayley

Date of Birth: 1 November 1965

Place of Birth: Swansea, Wales

Height: 1.93m (6 feet 4 in)

Favourite Sports : Football, Rugby, Cricket, Cycling, Athletics, Boxing and Golf

Job: Author

Sports taken part in at school: Football, Rugby and Cricket

Teams Played For: Crwys Primary School, Bishopston Comprehensive School, Gowerton Comprehensive School, Dunvant and Three Crosses FC, Rhos FC, Clwyd FC, Pontardawe Town AFC, Swansea Cricket Club, Gowerton Cricket Club, Three Crosses CC.

Sports Teams Supported: Swansea City FC, Ospreys, Liverpool FC, Wales, Glamorgan Cricket, TeamSky/Ineos Cycling.

Key Sports Events Witnessed: Over 600 Swansea City games including 4 Welsh Cup Finals, Football League Trophy Final 2006, Championship Play Off Final 2011, Football League Cup Final 2013 (Swansea City v Bradford City), FA Cup Finals 1986 (Liverpool v Everton) & 2003 (Liverpool v Arsenal). Over 50 Wales rugby internationals including 1991 & 1997 World Cups. Over 50 Wales football internationals including 2016 European Championships. 2012 Olympics in London. Cricket - Three Ashes Test Match Series. Over 100 Glamorgan Cricket matches.

Writing Career:

Books:

There's Only Two Tony Cotteys - Gomer Press (June 2008)

Ashley Williams - My Premier League Diary - Y Lolfa (December 2012)

The Official Swansea City Quiz Book (Volume 1) - Gomer Press (July 2014)

The Official Swansea City Quiz Book (Volume 2) - Gomer Press (October 2014)

Champion of Champions - Scratching Shed Publishing (October 2017)

Chasing a Rugby Dream: Kick-Off (with James Hook) - Polaris (October 2020)

Chasing a Rugby Dream: Book Two (with James Hook) - Polaris (May 2021)

Newspapers and Magazines:

Tony Cottey's Cricket Column (as ghost writer) for South Wales Evening Post 2004-2001

Buzz Magazine - Sports Columnist 2009 - 2014

Sussex Sport - Sports Columnist 2012-2015

The Mersey Magazine - Sports Columnist 2009-2013

Swansea City FC Matchday Programme - Contributed during Premier League



Sussex County Cricket Club Matchday Programme - Feature Interviewer - 2018
EPL Index Website - Premier League match reporter and analyst 2011-12 season
Sabotage Times - Online Newspaper columnist - 2012

Family: Married to Debra with two daughters, Georgia and Olivia.

Miscellaneous Facts:

1. Dave's childhood heroes were Swansea City player/manager, John Toshack and Welsh internationals Alan Curtis and Robbie James, along with Swansea City players Bob Latchford and Ante Rajkovic.
2. In 1977, Dave became the youngest ever shareholder of Swansea City Football Club when he was 12 years old.
3. In 1979, aged just 14, Dave became the regular quiz writer for the Swansea based sports newspaper, 'The Sports Gazette'.
4. Dave represented his school, Gowerton Comprehensive, in the 1983 English Schools Football Cup Competition.
5. In 1984, Dave joined the Finance Department at Swansea City Council.
6. Whilst at Swansea City Council, Dave represented the Council in Football, Cricket and Golf.
7. In 1999, Dave set up a Quiz Company called 'Jubilee Quizzes' which provided quizzes to pubs and clubs throughout the UK until 2018. Dave created and wrote all the quizzes.
8. From 2001 to 2012, Dave was part of the quiz team at the Reverend James Pub in Loughor, Swansea that won the Swansea Quiz League and Llanelli Quiz league on multiple occasions.
9. In 2008, the quiz team appeared on the BBC Tv Quiz Show, Eggheads. In his head to head, Dave beat multi World Quiz Champion, Kevin Ashman, 3-1. The team lost on the third play-off question. The prize they missed out on was £15,000.
10. Also in 2008, Dave appeared on two other TV quiz shows, Who Wants to be a Millionaire and Mastermind.
11. Between 2002 and 2015, Dave was a Governor of Casllwchwr Primary School.
12. In 2008, Dave's first book, 'There's Only Two Tony Cotteys' was short listed for the MCC Cricket Book of the Year. The cover of the book also made the top three of the William Hill Sports Book of the Year Best Cover award.
13. In 2010, in his role as School Governor, Dave led a Sports Literacy Project at Casllwchwr Primary School, where leading sports people like Ieuan Evans, Ashley Williams, Robert Croft, Enzo Macarinelli, Clayton Blackmore and Nicole Cooke were interviewed by the Yr 6 pupils. As a result of the project a book of the children's work called 'Believing is Achieving' was published.

14. Between 2010 and 2020, Dave has delivered and been involved with sports education and literacy projects for Swansea City FC, Cardiff City FC, the Ospreys, Glamorgan Cricket Club, Everton FC, Newport County FC, Doncaster Rovers FC and Bath City FC.
15. In 2014, Dave joined the teaching staff at Dylan Thomas Secondary School to deliver a sports based literacy programme to all Year 7,8 & 9 pupils, and also all the Primary feeder schools.
16. In 2014-15, Dave worked with the National Literacy Trust and the Premier League on their Premier League Reading Stars, Cymru. This involved visiting schools across Wales delivering training and making author visits to talk about the importance of reading.
17. In 2015, Dave wrote five sports books for on line Education Book Company, Giglets. The books featured the histories of football, rugby, cricket, golf and cycling
18. In 2018, Dave became a Patron of Reading at Ansford Academy School in Somerset and also Ysgol Dyffryn Aman in Ammanford.
19. In 2018, Dave appeared at the prestigious Bath Festival, delivering a Football Literacy Day, also broadcast on TalkSport.
20. In summer 2018, Dave interviewed six international cricketers - including England fast bowling sensation, Jofra Archer - in two weeks, for the Sussex County Cricket Club T20 Matchday programmes.
21. In November 2018, Dave's poem, 'The Poppy that Grieves' was featured in the Remembrance Day celebrations for Glamorgan Cricket Club and the Royal British Legion in a ceremony at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff. The film of the poem can be seen on YouTube by searching for 'The Poppy that Grieves'.
22. In 2020, Dave led and edited a sports literacy project at Clwyd Primary School, that featured James Hook, Lee Trundle, Ben Cabango and Enzo Macarinelli. The work of the pupils was turned into a book called 'To Beat The Rest, Try Your Best'.
23. In July 2020, Dave appeared on the ITV Quiz show, Tipping Point.
24. In November 2020, Dave's latest book, 'Chasing a Rugby Dream', written with James Hook, became the best selling Rugby Union Book on Amazon and was voted 'Children's Book of the Week' by Neath and Port Talbot Libraries.
25. In February 2021, 'Chasing a Rugby Dream' received its 100th 'Five Star' rating on Amazon, the first children's rugby novel to reach this milestone.