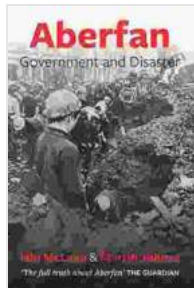


# Aberfan Government and Disaster: An Unflinching Account of a Tragedy



**Aberfan: Government and Disaster** by Michael E. O'Hanlon

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2993 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 293 pages



## Aberfan: A Catastrophic Event

Nestled amidst the rolling hills of South Wales, the Welsh village of Aberfan witnessed an unimaginable tragedy on October 21, 1966. A devastating landslide of coal waste from the nearby Merthyr Vale Colliery engulfed the Pantglas Junior School and several homes, claiming the lives of 144 people, including 116 children.

The Aberfan disaster sent shockwaves through the nation and raised questions about government negligence and the responsibility of the National Coal Board (NCB), which operated the colliery. Michael Hanlon's "Aberfan Government and Disaster" provides a meticulously researched account of this heartbreaking event and its far-reaching implications.

## Government Failures and Public Outrage



Hanlon's book delves into the government's response to the disaster, highlighting a series of failures and missteps that contributed to the tragedy. From the NCB's failure to properly dispose of the coal waste to the government's slow and inadequate response, the book reveals the systemic failures that allowed this preventable disaster to occur.

The public outrage following the disaster forced the government to establish a Tribunal of Inquiry, which uncovered a series of damning revelations. The Tribunal's report condemned the NCB for its negligence and criticized the government for its lack of oversight. The findings of the report led to significant reforms in the mining industry and government regulation.

## **The Resilience of the Community**

Despite the unimaginable grief and loss, the people of Aberfan demonstrated remarkable resilience in the face of adversity. Hanlon's book captures the stories of survivors, families, and the community as they struggled to rebuild their lives.

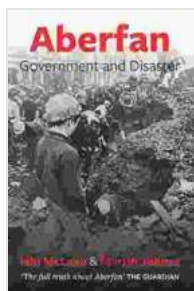
In the aftermath of the disaster, the Aberfan Fund was established to provide financial assistance to the victims and their families. The fund raised over £1.75 million, which was used to provide medical care, education, and housing for those affected by the tragedy.

## Legacy and Remembrance

"Aberfan Government and Disaster" not only provides an account of the tragedy but also explores its lasting impact on the community. The book examines how the disaster shaped the lives of survivors and the ongoing efforts to preserve the memory of those who perished.

The Aberfan disaster remains a poignant reminder of the devastating consequences of corporate negligence and government failures. Michael Hanlon's book is a powerful testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of holding those in power accountable.

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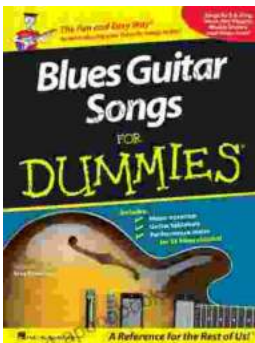
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