

## BIRCHINSHAW (BYRCHINSHA, BYCHEINSHA), WILLIAM (fl. 1584-1617), poet

**Name:** William Birchinshaw

**Gender:** Male

**Occupation:** poet

**Area of activity:** Poetry

**Author:** David Jenkins

A native of the countryside around Denbigh, he was possibly related to Maurice Birchinshaw who graduated B.Gramm. in 1511, and B.C.L. in 1515, from Magdalen College, Oxford, and became rector of Denbigh in 1543; he died 1564. In *NLW MS 5272C*, p. 185, is preserved a letter by *William Myddelton* to 'his cousin Wilm Birchinsha and Owen Meurig', wherein he advises them to be civil to their tutor. And as for Birchinshaw, says *Myddelton*, 'while he is capable of writing a good cywydd he will never learn one good habit.' Both of them, it seems, prefer making love to the fair sex, and tipping, and 'to procure gold they live as wandering minstrels.' On p. 182 of the same manuscript an *englyn* to Rhys Grythor (Rhys the Fiddler) by Birchinshaw is dated 30 November 1584, and in *Chirk Castle Accounts 1605-66* (4) appears a reference to rents paid for land held by four men, of whom one, named Burchinshawe, may be the poet. Sometimes called 'Sir' W. Birchinshaw, he was, perhaps, trained for the priesthood. He was a contemporary of *Morris Kyffin*. Most of his poems have been preserved in *NLW MS 567B*, *NLW MS 1553A*, and *NLW MS 5272C*.

### Author

**Dr David Jenkins**, (1912 - 2002)

### Sources

William Martial Myddelton, *Chirk Castle Accounts, A.D. 1605-1666* (St. Albans 1908)

Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses: the members of the University of Oxford, 1500-1714*, 126

### Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [William Birchinshaw](#)

### Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q20732663](#)

**Published date:** 1959

**Article Copyright:** <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/>

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).



#### APA Citation



Jenkins, D., (1959). BIRCHINSHAW (BYRCHINSHA, BYCHEINSHA), WILLIAM (fl. 1584-1617), poet. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 15 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-BIRC-WIL-1584>

[Copy to Clipboard](#)

LGC  
NLW

LLYFRGEL  
THE NATION



Ysgrifeddiadau  
Llywodraeth Cymru  
Copied by  
Welsh Government