

DAVIES, JOHN ('Siôn Dafydd,' ' Siôn Dafydd Lâs '; died 1694), 'family bard' at Nannau, near Dolgelley;

Name: John Davies
Pseudonym: Siôn Dafydd, Siôn Dafydd Lâs
Date of death: 1694
Gender: Male
Occupation: 'family bard'
Home: Nannau
Area of activity: Poetry
Author: Menai Williams

Said to have been born at Pandy, Llanuwchllyn, and to have lived for a while at Tyn-y-ffridd. Mr. Evan Roberts, of Llandderfel, suggests (*Y Seren*, Bala, 29 November 1950) that he was the composer of the air formerly known as 'Dafydd y Garreg Las' and now known as 'Pant corlan yr ŵyn'; if so, then he may have been a harpist also.

John Davies is of some importance as one of the last members of the dwindling group of bards who were patronized by some of the Welsh landed families. Poems sung by him to members of the following North Wales families survive: [Nannau](#), [Doluwcheogryd](#), [Maes-y-neuadd](#), [Glyncywarch](#), [Dolau-gwyn](#), [Cefnamwlch](#), [Gloddaeth](#), [Bodysgallen](#), [Corsygedol](#), [Maesypanyd](#), [Tan-y-bwlch](#), etc. He wrote elegies on the deaths of two brother poets - [Edward Morris](#) of Perthillwydion and [Morris Parry](#), parson of Llanelian; he also composed an elegy on the death of king Charles II. Elegies were written after his death by [Owen Gruffydd](#), Llanystumdwy (see [O. M. Edwards](#), *Gwaith Owen Gruffydd*, 1904; this gives the year of the poet's death as 1694), and [Lewis Owen](#) (see [Cwrtmawr MS 5B \(i-ii\)](#)).

He was uncle to [David Jones](#) (1708? - 1785) of Trefriw; see *N.L.W. Jnl.*, vii, 73-4.

Author

Menai Williams

Sources

Y Geninen (Gŵyl Dewi), 1890

John Fisher (ed.), *The Cefn Coch MSS. two MSS. of Welsh poetry written principally during the 17th century* (Liverpool 1899)

Hanes llenyddiaeth Gymreig o 1651 O.C. hyd 1850 (1893)

Y Brython (Tremadog), iv, 264

Cardiff Manuscripts 47-8, 64-7, 84

Additional Manuscripts in the British Museum 10314, 12230, 14888, 14975, 15010

Bangor Manuscripts at University College North Wales Library, Bangor 84, 421, 758

Gwyneddon Manuscripts 16, 119

together with the following manuscripts in N.L.W.:

Boderwyd 2,

Swansea 1-3,

Wynnstay 6,

NLW Archives: [Cwrtmawr MS 5B \(i-ii\)](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 19A](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 27E](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 40B](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 69C](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 70D](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 110B](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 128A](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 129B](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 206B](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 242B](#), [Cwrtmawr MS 448A](#),

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 7](#): The poetical works of Lewis Glyn Cothi, Ieuan Brechfa and others

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 15](#) Poetry of Cynddelw, Bleddyn Fardd, &c.

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 133](#): Poetry

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 165](#): Poetry

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 166](#): Poetry, &c.

NLW Archives: [Llanstephan MS 167](#): Poetry

Mostyn 96, 112, 130, 139, 143-4, 165,

NLW Archives: [Peniarth MS 91](#): Barddoniaeth

NLW Archives: [Peniarth MS 124](#): Barddoniaeth Owen Griffith a Griffith Phylip

NLW Archives: [Peniarth MS 198](#): Llyfr Brith Cors y Gedol

NLW Archives: [Peniarth MS 239](#): Casgliad o farddoniaeth

NLW Archives: [Peniarth MS 241](#): Casgliad o farddoniaeth

NLW Archives: [Peniarth MS 242](#): Barddoniaeth

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 279D](#)

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 431B](#)

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 436B](#)

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 559B](#)

NLW Archives: [NLW MS 593E](#)

- NLW Archives: [NLW MS 670D](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 672D](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 832E](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 836D](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 1244D](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 1246D](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MSS 1273C](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 1312C](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 1485A](#)
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 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 4971C](#)
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 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 9409C](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 12713C](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 12731E](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 12867D](#)
 - NLW Archives: [NLW MS 13127A](#)
- Tanybwllch MS. (facsimile in N.L.W.)

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Published date: 1959

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APA Citation



Williams, M., (1959). DAVIES, JOHN ('Siôn Dafydd,' ' Siôn Dafydd Lâs '; died 1694), 'family bard' at Nannau, near Dolgellau;. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 10 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s-DAVI-JOH-1694>

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