

## FRANCIS, GRIFFITH (1876 - 1936) and OWEN (1879 - 1936), known as 'Y Brodyr Francis' ('The Francis Brothers'), musicians

**Name:** Griffith Francis  
**Date of birth:** 1876  
**Date of death:** 1936  
**Parent:** Mary Francis  
**Parent:** William Francis  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** musicians  
**Area of activity:** Music; Performing Arts  
**Author:** Robert David Griffith

Born at Bryn-y-wern, Cwm Pennant, Caernarfonshire. Griffith in December 1876 and Owen on 15 June 1879, the sons of William and Mary Francis. Their father, who was a good musician, was an official in Moelfre quarry; their mother 'Mair Alaw,' singer, was a native of Nantlle. The brothers became quarrymen.

Griffith, who was a poet, published *Telyn Eryri*, containing poems dealing with the lives of quarrymen and smallholders; he collected material for another book but that was not published.

Owen was a musician who wrote some songs.

Much work by the brothers appeared in the columns of *Y Genedl Gymreig* and periodicals. In the early days of radio they took part in the first Welsh concert broadcast from Dublin; they took part in some hundreds of concerts. The two always sang together and both died in the same year - Owen on 6 April 1936 (he was buried in Salem chapel burial ground, Llanilyfni) and Griffith on 15 June 1936 (he was buried in Macpela chapel burial ground, Pen-y-groes).

### Author

**Robert David Griffith**, (1877 - 1958)

### Sources

*Y Cerdor*, August 1936

notices in issues of *Y Genedl Gymreig* and *Baner ac Amserau Cymru*, 1936

### Additional Links

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