

GRIFFITH, OWEN (Ywain Meirion, Owen Gospiol, 1803 - 1868), balladwriter and strolling ballad-singer

Name: Owen Griffith
Pseudonym: Ywain Meirion, Owen Gospiol

Date of birth: 1803 Date of death: 1868 Gender: Male

Occupation: ballad-writer and strolling ballad-singer Area of activity: Music; Performing Arts; Poetry

Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

If we could be quite certain that he was the man who under the pseudonym Owen Meirion wrote the article on the history of Bala, in Y Brython, 1860, 264-5, we could say that he was born at Bala. He sang in fairs all over Wales - he is heard of, e.g. at Machynlleth, Holywell, Llanfyllin, Llanrwst, and the Caernarvonshire fairs, and he was very well known in South Wales. He always wore a top-hat. Some have it that he gave up ballad-singing and became a rag-collector; in any case, it is certain that his last years, despite the kindness of Nicholas Bennett, were years of adversity. He died a pauper at Llanbryn-mair, 24 June 1868, at the age of sixty-five, and was buried there by the parish - on his tomb is an englyn by Mynyddog. We have fifty-nine of his ballads.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

Y Geninen, October 1901

reminiscences of him in Cymru (O.M.E.), e.g. ii, 48, xiv, 64, xxii, 10, xxvii, 166-7

David Samuel, Cerddi Cymru casgliad o ganeuon Cymreig, hen a diweddar, i, 20-2

B. B. Thomas, Baledi Morgannwg (1951), contains two of his ballads, xviii and xxv

Journal of the Welsh Bibliographical Society, vii, 60-4, 85, viii, 104 (a list of his known ballads)

Additional Links

Wikidata: Q20734063

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, R. T., (1959). GRIFFITH, OWEN (Ywain Meirion, Owen Gospiol, 1803 - 1868), ballad-writer and strolling ballad-singer. Dictionary of Welsh Biography. Retrieved 15 Nov 2024, from https://biography.wales/article/s-GRIF-OWE-1803

Copy to Clipboard

Privacy & Cookies Copyright The Project



LLYFRGEL THE NATION





