

LEWIS, DAVID WILLIAM (1845 - 1920), musician

Name: David William Lewis
Date of birth: 1845
Date of death: 1920
Gender: Male
Occupation: musician
Area of activity: Music
Author: Robert David Griffith

Born 15 April 1845, at Brynaman, Carmarthenshire. He started work in a coalmine when he was only 9 years old.

His first knowledge of music was derived from books published by **Mills** and **Eleazar Roberts**. In 1870 he went to Bristol to be examined in the tonic sol-fa notation, gained all the certificates that were possible, and qualified as F.T.S.C. - the first in Wales to gain that distinction. He conducted music classes in several parts of Carmarthenshire, composed many anthems and hymn-tunes, and wrote pieces suitable for children. He published *Odlau Mawl*, and *Llawlyfr y Llais*, and with others edited *Y Caniedydd*, *Y Salmydd Cenedlaethol*, and *Y Caniedydd Cynulleidfaol*. He also contributed a series of music lessons to the *Tywysydd*. His services were much in demand as adjudicator and conductor of hymn-singing festivals.

He died 20 January 1920, and was buried in Gibeau chapel cemetery. He was made J.P. for Carmarthenshire in 1919.

Author

Robert David Griffith, (1877 - 1958)

Sources

Mr D. W. Lewis, F.T.S.C., Brynamman, *Y Cerddor*, 1899, pp.74-75

Y Cerddor, 1908

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