

## OWEN, DAVID ('Dafydd y Garreg Wen'; 1711 - 1741), harpist

**Name:** David Owen  
**Pseudonym:** Dafydd Y Garreg Wen  
**Date of birth:** 1711  
**Date of death:** 1741  
**Parent:** Gwen Humphreys (née Roberts)  
**Parent:** Owen Humphreys  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** harpist  
**Area of activity:** Music; Performing Arts  
**Author:** Robert David Griffith

Christened 27 January 1711, son of Owen Humphreys of Ynyscynhaearn, Caernarfonshire, and Gwen (Roberts), Isallt Fawr, Llanfihangel-y-pennant, Caernarfonshire (See J. E. Griffith, *Pedigrees*, 353). He attained fame both as harpist and as the reputed composer of the airs called 'Dafydd y Garreg Wen' ('David of the White Rock'), 'Codiaid yr Echedydd' ('The rising of the lark'), and 'Difyrrwch gwyr Criccieth' ('The delight of the men of Criccieth'). He died on 2 August 1741 and was buried in Ynyscynhaearn churchyard.

### Author

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

### Sources

Edward Jones, *Musical and poetical relicks of the Welsh bards* (London 1784)  
M. O. Jones, *Bywgraffiaeth Cerddorion Cymreig* (1890)  
R. Griffith, *Llyfr Cerdd Dannau* (Caernarfon 1913)  
*Cymru (O.M.E.)*, iii  
*Y Brython*, 1862-3  
*Y Cymro*, June and July 1949

### Further Reading

Pwyll ap Siôn and Wyn Thomas (eds.), *Cydymaith i Gerddoriaeth Cymru* (Talybont 2018), pp. 329-330

Wikipedia Article: [David Owen](#)

### Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q5238279](#)

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