

DE LLOYD, DAVID JOHN (1883 - 1948), musician

Name: David John de Lloyd
Date of birth: 1883
Date of death: 1948
Spouse: Lillian de Lloyd (née Morgan)
Parent: Morgan de Lloyd
Gender: Male
Occupation: musician
Area of activity: Education; Eisteddfod; Music
Author: Selwyn Jones

Born 30 April 1883, at Skewen, Glamorganshire, son of Morgan de Lloyd, an insurance agent. The family moved several times before eventually settling down at Penparcau, Aberystwyth. While they lived at Carmarthen David attended Pentrepoeth board school. From early childhood he showed remarkable musical ability. In 1894 J.S. Curwen attended the South Wales Tonic Sol-fa Conference held at Carmarthen and during the next two years took David with him on lecturing tours in England, Scotland and Ireland, to demonstrate the more advanced uses of the notation. From Aberystwyth county school (1896-99), he won the Ceredigion county exhibition to University of Wales, Aberystwyth, where he remained until 1905, graduating B.A. (hons. Hist.), 1903. In 1905 he became the first to gain the degree of B.Mus. in the University of Wales. It was felt he should be further encouraged, and a committee chaired by **T.F. Roberts** promoted a public testimonial amounting to £100 which enabled de Lloyd to spend the session 1906-07 at Leipzig.

He taught at schools in Woolwich, 1908-11, Llanelli, 1911-19, and took the degrees of B.Mus., 1913, and Mus. Doc., 1915, at the University of Dublin. He married in 1911 Lillian Morgan of Aberystwyth. He often adjudicated at national eisteddfodau. In 1919 he returned to Aberystwyth as a lecturer in the music department when **Sir H. Walford Davies** came to occupy the vacant chair. The numerous extra-mural activities of the professor threw more work on to the shoulders of the lecturer and de Lloyd became responsible for the choral society, the college orchestra and the weekly concerts held by the department. He succeeded **Sir Walford Davies** in the chair in 1926. He died 20 August 1948, the day upon which his retirement from the college was to take effect.

He composed a large number of works and arranged other music. His principal works include *Gwenllïan* (opera), 1924; *Tir na n'Og* a lyrical ode by **T. Gwynn Jones**; *Gwlad fy Nhadau* (cantata); *Cân a Moliant* (Hymns and tunes - general editor H. Haydn Jones), *Saith o Ganeuon enwog Brahms* (with Welsh words by **T.H. Parry-Williams**); and *Forty Welsh traditional tunes*, issued by the Cardiganshire Antiquarian Society

Author

Selwyn Jones, (1906 - 1981)

Sources

Information supplied by Ifor L. Evans
personal knowledge

Further Reading

David de Lloyd (1883-1948), Discover Welsh Music website, viewed 8 January 2019

Trevor Herbert, 'De Lloyd, David (1883-1948)', *Cydymaith i Gerddoriaeth Cymru* (Talybont 2018), p.143

Wikipedia Article: [David John de Lloyd](#)

Additional Links

NLW Archives: [Llawysgrifau David de Lloyd](#)

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