

DURSTON, THOMAS (died 1767), bookseller and printer at Shrewsbury.

Name: Thomas Durston
Date of death: 1767
Gender: Male
Occupation: bookseller and printer
Area of activity: Business and Industry; Printing and Publishing
Author: William Llewelyn Davies

Although there is no certainty that Thomas Durston was Welsh-speaking, he printed so many Welsh books and ballads at Shrewsbury that he deserves a short mention in this work. He started to print Welsh books in 1711 (for example *Y Llyfr Gwedi-Gyffredin*, *Y Cydymmaith Goreu; yn y ty a'r stafell, cystal ac yn y Deml*) and continued to be in business until he died; he was buried 26 September 1767. He had become a freeman of the 'Cornbrethren of Saddlers' at Shrewsbury on 23 May 1714. For his malpractices in regard to the publications of some fellow-printers see [J. H. Davies](#), 'Early Welsh Bibliography,' in *The Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion*, 1897-8; for the titles of some of his Welsh publications, including ballads, consult the source-books listed below.

Author

Sir William Llewelyn Davies, (1887 - 1952)

Sources

W. Rowlands, *Cambrian Bibliography*

W. Rowlands, *Y Traethodydd*, 1850

J. H. Davies, *A Bibliography of Welsh Ballads printed in the 18th century* (1908-11)

Ifano Jones, *A history of printing and printers in Wales to 1810, and of successive and related printers to 1923* (Cardiff 1925)

Llewelyn C. Lloyd, 'The Book-Trade in Shropshire' in *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, 1935, 1936

Works

Y Brif addysg i ddarllain gyntaf, neu, Brimer Cymraeg a osodwyd allan yn gyfatebol i'r Llyfr Gwedi Gyffredin (Shrewsbury c.1730)

Thomas a Kempis, Hugh Owen (trns.), *Patrwm y gwir-Gristion: neu, Ddilyniad Jesu Grist* (Mwythig c.1730)

Lewis Bayly, Rowland Vaughan (trns.), *Yr Ymarfer o Dduwioldeb, yn cyfarwyddo dyn i rodio fal y rhyngo ef fodd Duw* (Llundain 1630)

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