

LLYWELYN, TOMAS (fl. c. 1580-1610), alias Tomas ap Llywelyn ap Dafydd ap Hywel, bard and gentleman

Name: Tomas Llywelyn
Pseudonym: Tomas ap Llywelyn ap Dafydd ap Hywel
Gender: Male
Occupation: bard and gentleman
Area of activity: Poetry; Royalty and Society
Author: Griffith John Williams

of Rhigos in northern Glamorgan. According to one pedigree book he was a descendant of the line of [Einion ap Collwyn](#). Many *cynyddau* by him survive in manuscripts; he also, like most Glamorgan bards of that period, composed the type of religious songs called *cwndidau*. The two poems by him which are of the greatest interest to us today are one containing a 'debate' between the church and the tavern, and another a prognostication for the year 1610. In the 19th century he was described as one of the morning stars of Nonconformity in the upper parts ('Blaenau') of Glamorgan; it was said that he had large congregations at Rhigos, Blaencannaid, and other places, and that he translated the English Bible into Welsh. It was [Iolo Morganwg](#) who made these statements first; as far as can be judged, they are without foundation.

Author

Emeritus Professor Griffith John Williams, (1892 - 1963)

Sources

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D. Rhys Phillips, *The History of the Vale of Neath* (Swansea 1925), 1925, 140-3, 411-3, 532-7

G. J. Williams, *Traddodiad Llenyddol Morgannwg* (1948), 1948, 126-8, 309-15

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