

WILLIAMS, ANNA (1706 - 1783), author

Name: Anna Williams
Date of birth: 1706
Date of death: 1783
Parent: Zachariah Williams
Gender: Female
Occupation: author
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Poetry
Author: Gwyn Jones

daughter of [Zachariah Williams](#); was born at Rosemarket, Pembrokeshire. She went to London with her father about 1727 and lived in straitened circumstances for a time with him in the Charterhouse, a breach of rules which led to his expulsion therefrom. In 1740 she became almost blind, but supported herself by her needle. Her translation of Bleterie's ' *Life of the Emperor Julian* ' appeared in 1746. She became quite blind after an operation in 1752, but had already engaged the humane interest of Dr. Samuel Johnson, who gave her shelter for long periods till the end of her life. Her *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse* were published in 1766, with some assistance from Johnson's hand. Thereafter her health declined, and she died 6 September 1783. Her small substance was given to the Ladies' Charity School. It is doubtful whether the writings attributed to her are all her own; their merit is, in any case, small.

Author

Professor **Gwyn Jones**, (1907 - 1999)

Sources

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

Geirlyfr Bywgraffiadol o Enwogion Cymru (1870)

Notable Welshmen (1700–1900) (1908)

Baker, *Biographia Dramatica* (London 1812), 1812, I, ii, 748

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Anna Williams](#)

Additional Links

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Published date: 1959

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