

## TREE, RONALD JAMES (1914 - 1970), priest and schoolmaster

**Name:** Ronald James Tree  
**Date of birth:** 1914  
**Date of death:** 1970  
**Spouse:** Ceridwen Tree (née Thomas)  
**Parent:** Susan Tree  
**Parent:** Frederick George Tree  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** priest and schoolmaster  
**Area of activity:** Education; Religion  
**Author:** Mary Gwendoline Ellis

Born 30 March 1914 at Garnant, Carmarthenshire, son of Frederick George and Susan Tree. He was educated at the church school Garnant, Dyffryn Aman county school and University College, Swansea, where he held a Powis Exhibition. He gained his B.A. 1st-class hon. in Philosophy 1937, M.A. 1939 and proceeded to New College, Oxford with an open scholarship and gained his B.A. with 1st-class hon. in Philosophy 1939 : B.Litt. 1941. He was at St. Michael's College, Llandaff, 1939-40. Ordained deacon in 1940, he served as curate of Cwmaman, 1940-44 and was ordained priest, 1941. He was curate of St. Michael's, Aberystwyth, 1944-46 and acted as chaplain to the Anglican students in the University College. In 1946, he was appointed lecturer in Philosophy at St. David's College, Lampeter, and became professor in 1950. He was senior tutor and bursar in 1956. In 1957, he was appointed Warden and Headmaster of Llandovery College, succeeding G.O. Williams (later Archbishop of Wales). He was appointed canon of Mathry in St. David's Cathedral 1961. In 1966 he obtained the living of St. Mary's, Haverfordwest and was appointed director of religious education for the diocese of St. David's. He removed to St. David's when he was appointed Archdeacon of St. David's in 1968.

He published a number of articles on philosophical and historical subjects in *Efrydiau Athronyddol*, *Theology*, the *Jnl. Hist. Soc. of the Church in Wales*, *Province*, etc. He was a member of the editorial board of *Efrydiau Athronyddol* from 1949.

He played rugby football for his school and college and continued his enthusiasm for the game; his other hobby was carpentry. He was a genial character, at his best when tutoring students.

He married in 1944 Ceridwen, daughter of G.E. Thomas, Gwauncaegurwen, and they had a daughter and a son. He died 28 November 1970 and was buried at St. David's.

### Author

Mary Gwendoline Ellis

### Sources

*Who was who?*

*St. David's Diocesan Year Book*, 1969

*Y Llan*, 11 December 1970

*South Wales Guardian*, 3 December 1970

*The Western Telegraph*, 3 December 1970

personal acquaintance

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