

## DAFYDD BENFRAS (fl. 1230-1260), poet

**Name:** Dafydd Benfras  
**Parent:** Llywarch ap Llywelyn  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** poet  
**Area of activity:** Poetry  
**Author:** Thomas Parry

His father's name was Llywarch, and his home was in Anglesey. He wrote eulogies to [Llywelyn ap Iorwerth](#), and an elegy upon his death in 1240. [Gruffydd ap Llywelyn](#) (1244) and [Dafydd ap Llywelyn](#) (1246) were also the subjects of elegies by Dafydd Benfras. Soon after [Llywelyn ap Gruffydd](#) had started on his campaign against his brother [Owain](#) in 1255 and against the English of the Middle Country in 1256, Dafydd sang his praise, and some of the prince's early victories, such as his expedition to Ceredigion in 1256 and to Dyfed and Glamorgan in 1257 were celebrated in Dafydd's poems. The poet indeed claims to be [Llywelyn's](#) pencerdd. There is one poem by him to [Gruffydd ab Ednyfed \(Fychan?\)](#). His elegy was sung by [Bleddyn Fardd](#), who states that he was killed in Deheubarth and buried at Llangadock, Carmarthenshire.

### Author

**Sir Thomas Parry**, (1904 - 1985)

### Sources

- J. Lloyd-Jones, *Geirfa Barddoniaeth Gynnar Gymraeg* (1931), 289  
*The Myvyrian archaiology of Wales* (Denbigh 1870), 217-25  
*The Poetry in the Red Book of Hergest* (Llanbedrog 1911), 1911, col. 1381, 1384  
*Llawysgrif Hendregadredd* (1933), 1933, 181, 191

### Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Dafydd Benfras](#)

### Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q3331168](#)

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