

## WILLIAM(S), ROBERT (1744 - 1815), poet, and farmer

**Name:** Robert William (S)  
**Date of birth:** 1744  
**Date of death:** 1815  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** poet, and farmer  
**Area of activity:** Nature and Agriculture; Poetry  
**Author:** Robert Thomas Jenkins

of Pandy Isaf, Tre Rhiwedog (Bala); born (according to his tombstone) in 1744. Hardly anything is known of his life. He learned the bardic craft from **Rolant Huw**, and became himself the teacher of **Ioan Tegid** (John Jones, 1792 - 1852) and others. He used to write 'C.C.' ('Friend of the Cymmrodorion') after his name, and wrote an elegy on the death of **Richard Morris** of Anglesey, and a *cywydd* on the Day of Judgement, which his master **Rolant Huw** thought not unworthy of comparison with the better-known *cywyddau* of **Goronwy Owen** and **William Wynn** (of Llangynhafal) on the same subject. He also wrote a to **Dafydd Ionawr** (David Richards), and exchanged *englynion* with **Twm o'r Nant** (Thomas Edwards). But the bulk of his work consists of elegies of purely local interest, carols, and 'club songs' - there is a manuscript volume at N.L.W. Though his name does not occur in the records of the neighbouring Calvinistic Methodist chapel (Llwyneinion), he had affinities with Methodism : he extolled the Bible Society (a line of his on its work has passed into common parlance) and was warm in his praises of **Peter Williams** (1723 - 1796) - indeed, his elegy on **Peter Williams** was, as far as is known, one of the only two works of his which he printed and published (Oswestry, 1797; see *Y Drysorfa*, 1944, 60-1). Selections from his work were printed by **O. M. Edwards** (*Cymru Fydd*, iv, 41-4; *Cymru*, ii, 210-3; *Beirdd y Bala*, 40-8) - for that matter, nearly all our knowledge of him and his works is due to **Owen Edwards**. He died in August 1815 - he was buried at Llanfôr, 1 September. **William Edwards** (1773 - 1853), the hymnwriter, was a nephew (brother's son) and bardic disciple of his.

### Author

**Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins**, (1881 - 1969)

### Sources

The sources have been named in the article

### Additional Links

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