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Cymorth chwilio | Finding Aid - Alun Lewis (Jeff Towns) manuscripts (NLW MS 24178E.)

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Alun Lewis (Jeff Towns) manuscripts

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Crynodeb o wybodaeth | Summary of information

Lleoliad Repository:	Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = The National Library of Wales
Teitl Title:	Alun Lewis (Jeff Towns) manuscripts
Cod cyfeirnod Reference code:	NLW MS 24178E.
Alma system control number [alternative]:	993577110002419
Dyddiad Date:	[1941]-1944, 1974 (dyddiad creu date of creation)
Disgrifiad ffisegol Physical description:	NLW MS 24178E: 48 ff. NLW MS 24178E (a): 12 ff. Placed in melinex sleeves within ringed box at NLW.
Lleoliad ffisegol Physical location:	ARCH/MSS (GB0210)
Iaith Language:	English
Dyddiadau creu, golygu a dileu Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	July 2022.
Nodyn Note [generalNote]:	Title based on contents.

Hanes gweinyddol / Braslun bywgraffyddol | Administrative history | Biographical sketch

Nodyn | Note

Alun Lewis (1915-1944) was a poet and short-story writer. He was born on 1 July 1915 in Cwmaman, Aberdare, the eldest of three sons and a daughter born to Thomas John Lewis, a schoolmaster and his wife Gwladys Lewis. He received his education at Glynhafod Elementary School, 1920-1926, and afterwards he attended Cowbridge Grammar School, 1926-1932, after winning a scholarship. He won scholarships both to Jesus College, Oxford, and the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, but chose the latter. He graduated in history in 1935 with first class honours and while at the University he worked on its magazine where he also published his first poems and stories. From Aberystwyth he moved to Manchester University, 1935-1937, where he researched for his masters degree in medieval history before returning to Aberystwyth to follow a teacher training course. He taught history at Lewis Pengam School from 1938 until he joined the Royal Engineers in May 1940.

He married Gweno Ellis of Aberystwyth on 5 July 1941 and was posted to the 6th Battalion South Wales Borderers at Woodbridge in Suffolk in the same year. His first volume of poetry *Raiders' Dawn* was published in 1942. A volume of short stories *The Last Inspection* was also published in that year. In the winter of 1942 the battalion was shipped to India. He died in Burma on 5 March 1944 and was buried in Taukyan War Cemetery.

Hanes Gwarchodol | Custodial history

The contents of NLW MS 24178E and NLW ex 3053-6 were acquired by Jeff Towns mainly from the libraries of Alan Clodd, Peter Joliffe and Geoffrey Woolley.

Natur a chynnwys | Scope and content

Papers of, or relating to, the poet and short story writer Alun Lewis, collected together by Jeff Towns, Swansea, comprising typescript copies, [?March 1941], of three lectures by Lewis (ff. 1-17); correspondence and papers of Charles Hamblett, Derek Sandford and Alun Lewis relating to the pamphlet *Call Wind to Witness* (London, [1942]) (ff. 18-34); and correspondence of W. G. Archer with Alun Lewis and others, [1943]-1944, 1974 (ff. 35-48).

Also included with the Charles Hamblett papers is a copy of *Call Wind to Witness* (now NLW MS 24178E(a)).

Nodiadau | Notes

Nodiadau teitl | Title notes

Ffynhonnell | Immediate source of acquisition

Jeff Towns; Swansea; Purchase (with NLW ex 3053-3056); June 2021; 991125838002419, 991125837902419 and 991103942302419.

Trefniant | Arrangement

Arranged at NLW as follows: Alun Lewis lectures; Charles Hamblett papers; W. G. Archer correspondence.

Cyfyngiadau ar fynediad | Restrictions on access

Readers consulting modern papers in the National Library of Wales are required to abide by the conditions set out in information provided when applying for their Readers' Tickets, whereby the reader shall become responsible for compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 in relation to any processing by them of personal data obtained from modern records held at the Library.

Amodau rheoli defnydd | Conditions governing use

Usual copyright laws apply. Information regarding the ownership of Alun Lewis copyright can be found at <http://tyler.hrc.utexas.edu/> (viewed July 2022).

Disgrifiadau deunydd | Related material

For other items relating to Alun Lewis collected by Jeff Towns see NLW ex 3053-3056. See also NLW, Alun Lewis papers.

Nodiadau eraill | Other notes

Pwyntiau mynediad | Access points

- Lewis, Alun, 1915-1944 -- Archives (pwnc) | (subject)
- Lewis, Alun, 1915-1944 -- Correspondence (pwnc) | (subject)

Disgrifiad cyfres | Series descriptions

Cod cyfeirnod Reference code	Teitl Title	Dyddiadau Dates	Disgrifiad ffisegol Physical description
NLW MS 24178E, ff. 1-17. 991125838002419	Item - Alun Lewis lectures on World Affairs <i>Natur a chynnwys / Scope and content:</i> Typescript notes, [?March 1941], by Spr Alun Lewis for three lectures on World Affairs, comprising Lecture I, 'Causes of the Present War' (ff. 1-6), Lecture II (original title 'How trade affects the problems of war and peace' crossed through) (ff. 7-11) and Lecture III (ff. 12-17). The lectures were given while Lewis was assigned to his Brigade's Education Office, and concerned the geopolitical background to the Second World War, the weaponisation of trade and the weaknesses of the League of Nations. The first lecture appears to be the one infamously interrupted by Lewis's Colonel, accusing him of telling lies (see NLW, Alun Lewis Papers MS 20, ff. 56-58 and John Pikoulis, Alun Lewis: A Life (Bridgend, 1984), pp. 130-131), as suggested by a comment at the start of the second lecture that 'we finished, rather abruptly, last week' (f. 7). The second and third lectures, in particular, contain corrections, deletions and insertions in ink and pencil. <i>Amodau rheoli defnydd / Conditions governing use:</i> Usual copyright laws apply. <i>Nodyn / Note [generalNote]:</i> Title based on contents. <i>Lleoliad ffisegol / Physical location:</i> ARCH/MSS (GB0210)	[1941]	17 ff.

<p>NLW MS 24178E, ff. 18-34. 991125837902419</p>	<p>Item - Charles Hamblett papers [1942] 17 ff.</p> <p><i>Crëwr / Creator:</i> Hamblett, CharlesStanford, Derek</p> <p><i>Natur a chynnwys / Scope and content:</i> Papers of Charles Hamblett, [1942], relating to the pamphlet Call Wind to Witness: Poems by John Bayliss, Charles Hamblett, Alun Lewis and Emanuel Litvinoff (London, [1942]), edited by Hamblett, comprising a letter, 26 August 1942 (f. 18), and a note, [?September 1942] (f. 19), from Alun Lewis to Hamblett, concerning the choice of his poems for the volume, at a time when Lewis was on embarkation leave; and three letters, [1942], from Derek Sandford to Hamblett, concerning his prefatory note to the volume (ff. 20-22, 27-28), together with two manuscript drafts of the note, entitled 'Introduction: Notes in approach' (ff. 23-26) and 'Introduction: Notes in approach to four poets' (ff. 29-34). The recipient's name has been blacked out in each of the letters as well as in the first version of the introduction (f. 24).</p> <p><i>Amodau rheoli defnydd / Conditions governing use:</i> Usual copyright laws apply.</p> <p><i>Nodyn / Note [generalNote]:</i> Title based on contents.</p> <p><i>Lleoliad ffisegol / Physical location:</i> ARCH/MSS (GB0210)</p>
<p>NLW MS 24178E, ff. 35-48. 991103942302419</p>	<p>Item - W. G. Archer correspondence [1943]-1944, 1974 14 ff.</p> <p><i>Crëwr / Creator:</i> Archer, W. G. (William George), 1907-1979Sutherland, Neil, active 1974-1977</p> <p><i>Natur a chynnwys / Scope and content:</i> Correspondence of W. G. Archer, [1943]-1944, 1974, comprising two letters, [November 1943] (f. 35), 4 January 1944 (ff. 37-38), from Lt Alun Lewis, [India], to Archer, [Bihar, India], discussing Indian poetry, himself and his ideas on poetry, and a corrected typescript draft, [November 1943], of Archer's reply to the first letter (f. 36); a letter, 27 June 1974, from Neil Sutherland, Lincoln College, Oxford, to Archer, [Hampstead], concerning the Alun Lewis letters (f. 39), and a typescript copy of Archer's reply, dated 30 June 1974 (f. 40).Also included are carbon copy typescript copies, [?1974], of the Alun Lewis correspondence, presumably being copies of those sent by Archer to Sutherland (ff. 41-48). The Alun Lewis letters are apparently unpublished.</p> <p><i>Amodau rheoli defnydd / Conditions governing use:</i> Usual copyright laws apply.</p> <p><i>Nodyn / Note [generalNote]:</i> Title based on contents.</p> <p><i>Lleoliad ffisegol / Physical location:</i> ARCH/MSS (GB0210)</p>
<p>NLW MS 24178E(a).</p>	<p>Item - Call Wind to Witness [1942] iii, 9 ff. (original pagination 1-16) ; 215 x 140 mm.Paper covers.</p> <p><i>Crëwr / Creator:</i> Hamblett, CharlesStanford, DerekBayliss, John, 1919-Litvinoff, Emanuel</p> <p><i>Natur a chynnwys / Scope and content:</i></p>

A copy of the poetry anthology pamphlet *Call Wind to Witness: Poems by John Bayliss, Charles Hamblett, Alun Lewis and Emanuel Litvinoff* (London: Russell Clarke at the sign of the Capriole, [1942]), edited by Hamblett, with a prefatory note by Derek Sandford. The volume contains the Alun Lewis poems 'Love Letter' and 'Infantry' (pp. 10-11), which likely constitutes his first appearance in book form.

Amodau rheoli defnydd / Conditions governing use:

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