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## Cymorth chwilio | Finding Aid - Idris Davies Papers, (NLW ex 947.)

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# Idris Davies Papers,

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## Gwybodaeth grynodeb | Summary information

<b>Lleoliad   Repository:</b>	Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = The National Library of Wales
<b>Teitl   Title:</b>	Idris Davies Papers,
<b>ID:</b>	NLW ex 947.
<b>Virtua system control number [alternative]:</b>	vtls004396568
<b>GEAC system control number [alternative]:</b>	(WIAbNL)0000396568
<b>Dyddiad   Date:</b>	1932-1992. (dyddiad creu   date of creation)
<b>Disgrifiad ffisegol   Physical description:</b>	1 box.
<b>Lleoliad ffisegol   Physical location:</b>	ARCH/MSS (GB0210)
<b>Dyddiadau creu, golygu a dileu   Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	
<b>Nodyn   Note [generalNote]:</b>	Preferred citation: NLW ex 947.

## Hanes gweinyddol / Braslun bywgraffyddol | Administrative history | Biographical sketch

### Nodyn | Note

Idris Davies (1905-1953), poet and schoolteacher, was born in a Welsh-speaking household and community in Rhymney, Monmouthshire, but spent much of his life living and working in London. It was, however, the industrial landscape of the South Wales valleys which was to have the greatest influence on his work, in which Davies frequently denounces the grimness and desolation of the surroundings while also reflecting the idealism and protest of its people during a time of great economic, social and religious change. His first volume of poetry, *Gwalia Deserta* (London, 1938), written at Rhymney, took as its theme the South Wales valleys during the Depression years of the 1930s. The *Angry Summer*, written at Meesden in Hertfordshire and published in 1943, is considered to be Davies's finest poem. *Tonypandy and Other Poems* (London, 1945) was completed while Davies was teaching in Treherbert in the Rhondda valley. In 1947 Davies returned as schoolmaster to his native Rhymney, where he continued to write, broadcast and lecture. *Selected Poems* (London, 1953), the last volume to be produced during Davies's lifetime, was published less than a month before the poet's death in April

1953. Some of Davies's later material appeared posthumously in *The Collected Poems of Idris Davies* (Llandysul, 1972).

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## Natur a chynnwys | Scope and content

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Papers of the poet Idris Davies (1905-53) of Rhymney, including newspaper cuttings, some concerning him and his work; college notebooks, academic essays and a dissertation; letters to Idris Davies from children of Cwmsyfiog school, 1953, and letters concerning him and his work, 1954-77; together with additional papers, 1932-1992, including research notes compiled, 1954-1955, by his cousin and biographer the Rev. Islwyn Jenkins, Carmarthen, two photographs of Idris Davies, manuscript and typescript addresses and scripts concerning him, musical settings of his poems, programmes and leaflets.

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## Nodiadau | Notes

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### Nodiadau teitl | Title notes

### Ffynhonnell | Immediate source of acquisition

The Rev. Islwyn Jenkins & Mr Eben Morris, Davies's cousin and brother-in-law respectively; Carmarthen and Rhymney; Donation (with NLW MSS 22397-415); 1987  
Dr Jean Jenkins (widow of the Rev. Islwyn Jenkins); Carmarthen; Donation (with NLW MS 23539D); October 1996; A1996/121.

### Amodau rheoli defnydd | Conditions governing use

Usual copyright laws apply.

### Nodiadau eraill | Other notes

- **Statws cyhoeddiad | Publication status:** Published
- **Dynodwr sefydliad | Institution identifier:** Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = The National Library of Wales

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## Pwyntiau mynediad | Access points

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- Davies, Idris -- Archives. (pwnc) | (subject)
- Jenkins, Islwyn. (pwnc) | (subject)