

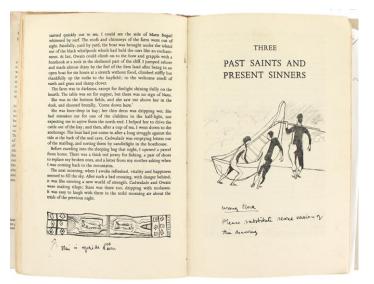
# WALES AND THE WELSH

# The author's marked proof

1. Chamberlain (Brenda) Tide-Race. With paintings and drawings by the author. Hodder and Stoughton, 1962, THE AUTHOR'S PROOF COPY, marked up with her corrections, largely typographic, many relating to the textual drawings (their size, position, orientation), some deletions, the 4 colour plates inserted by her on sheets excised from a

calendar, one or two faint spots, pp. 223, crown 8vo, original proof wrappers, proof dustjacket (a painting by the author) slightly rubbed, very good £400

Brenda Chamberlain's own copy of her account of life on the island of Bardsey - her first published prose-work. Laid in are two letters to her from Robin Denniston and Elsie [?] at the publisher, praising her work.



## General Strike

2. Davies (Idris) The Angry Summer. A Poem of 1926. *Faber and Faber, 1943, FIRST EDITION,* pp. 56, crown 8vo, original green cloth, backstrip lettered in gilt, edges untrimmed, contemporary ownership inscription to flyleaf, dustjacket slightly chipped and nicked with gently faded backstrip panel, very good £75

The Welsh poet's account of the General Strike of 1926, a pivotal moment in his life; he had been a coal-miner in his native Monmouthshire, before events of that year - the loss of a finger, the Strike, the closure of the Maerdy Pit - turned him towards literature.

# Limited Edition Llareggub

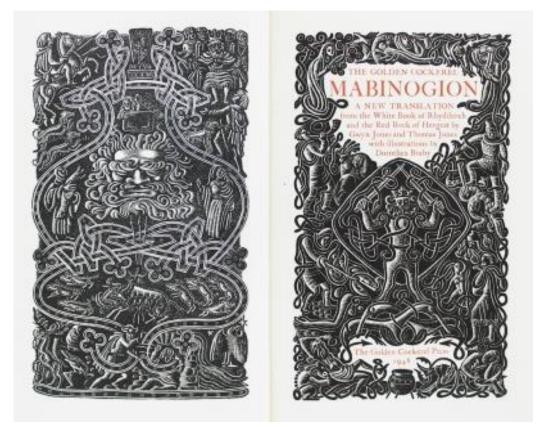
3. (Enitharmon Press.) THOMAS (Dylan) & Peter Blake (Illustrator) Under Milk Wood. A Play for Voices. Queen Anne Press & Enitharmon Editions, 2013, 80/100 COPIES signed by the artist on the title-page and with a signed and numbered original print by the same, colour-printed illustrations throughout, text printed in black and red, pp. 173, 4to, original green cloth with Blake illustration inlaid to upper board, backstrip and lower board lettered in gilt, folder containing print, together in blue cloth solander box with Blake portrait of the author to lid, new £950

A handsome edition, designed by Michael Mitchell of the Libanus Press.



4. (Golden Cockerel Press.) JONES (Gwyn and Thomas, translators) Mabinogion. A New Translation from the White Book of Rhydderch and the Red Book of Hergest... with illustrations by Dorothea Braby. 1948, 50/75 COPIES (from an overall edition of 550) specially bound by Sangorski & Sutfliffe, and signed by the artist and translators, printed on mould-made paper by The Chiswick Press, title printed in orange and black, 20 full-page scraper-board engravings by Dorothea Braby, initial leaves with two tiny faint spots, pp.[i], 266, [i], folio, original orange Cape morocco, signed S&S on upper board lower turn-in, boards with repeated elaborate gilt-blocked design by Braby, spine with raised bands, gilt lettering and gilt cockerel insignia, boards with a few faint marks, top edge gilt, untrimmed fore-edge with a couple of spots, blue buckram slipcase, very good (Cockalorum 176; Cocka-Hoop LXXXII)) **£3000** 

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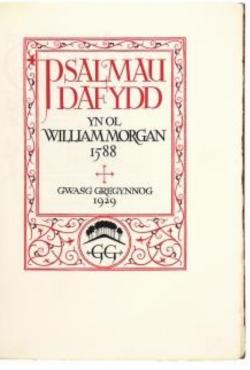


A magnificent production, immediately hailed by Welsh scholars, book design critics and the general reading public alike as a great success, Braby's intricate, mysterious illustrations, reproduced from photographic blocks made from the original scraper-board designs, perfectly mirroring the tone of the text. [With:] From Reviews of two recent Golden Cockerel Press books: The Mabinogion; Endymion, [1949], pp. [ii], broadsheet with John Buckland-Wright cockerel engraving, "'Merely to look at this sumptuous book, outside or within, in these exigent times brings the delightful surprise that the sudden blossoming of a rosebush would give in the chilling days of December... flowers of refinement and enchantment amidst the nettles of barbarism.' *The Times Literary Supplement*"

#### Welsh Bible

5. (Gregynog Press.) PSALMAU DAFYDD yn ol William Morgan 1588. [Psalms of David, Edited by Ifor Williams.] *Newtown, Powys: Gregynog Press, 1929.* 

221/200 COPIES (from an edition of 225 copies) printed on Batchelor handmade paper, the title and decorative floriated border on the title-page printed in black and red, the wood-engraved floriated half-borders and large initial letters in the text are designed by H.W. Bray and printed in black, blue or red, pp. [iii], 189, imperial 8vo, original brick-red morocco with patterned paper sides and cloth corners, backstrip lettered in gilt between five raised bands, t.e.g., others untrimmed, tiny wormhole at foot of upper joint, very good (Harrop 14) **£500** An attractive printing of a portion of the first translation of the Bible into Welsh.



#### BLACKWELL'S RARE BOOKS

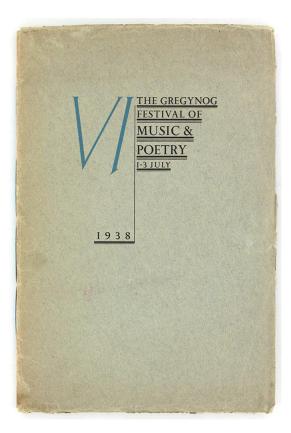
# Ben Nicholson dustjacket

6. Griffith (Ll. Wyn) Spring of Youth. With a Foreword by the Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P. Constable, 1935, FIRST EDITION, one small marginal note in pencil (querying a detail in the text), a couple of pages with faint spots to borders, pp. viii, [1], 134, crown 8vo, original blue cloth, backstrip lettered in orange and a shade faded, top edge blue, a few spots to other edges, to the flyleaf the contemporary ownership inscription of 'R. Cecil Hughes, Abertawe', dustjacket designed by Ben Nicholson, the red at foot of backstrip panel faded, a few little nicks, very good £125

The novelist's memoir of childhood in a Welsh village; one of a small number of dustjacket designs undertaken by Ben Nicholson.

Festival Programme

7. (Gregynog Press.) The Sixth Festival of Music and Poetry at Gregynog, 1-3rd July, 1938. Newtown, Powys: Printed for private use [at the Gregynog Press,] 1938, pp. [iv], 38, 4to, original sewn grey wrappers printed in black and blue, faintly browned along spine, slightly nicked to extremities, very good (Harrop E208) £50



The last Blayney of Gregynog

8. (Gwasg Gregynog.) BLAYNEY (Arthur) Directions for my Funeral. Newtown, Powys: Gwasg Gregynog, 1980, 230/275 COPIES (from an edition of 300 copies), printed on Grosvenor Chater Abbey Mills Greenfield paper pp. [3], fooscap 8vo, French-folded sheet laid into grey wrappers with a Peter Reddick drawing to front printed in green, fine £25 Arthur Blayney, who died in 1795, was the last of the Blayneys of Gregynog.

## Geese

9. (Gwasg Gregynog.) JONES (R. Gerallt) Gwyddau Yng Ngregynog [Geese at Gregynog.] With a translation by Joseph P. Clancy and wood engravings by Colin See-Paynton. Newtown, Powys. 2000, 170/250 COPIES, printed in parallel Welsh and English on Llana mould-made paper, frontispiece and two half-page wood engravings by Colin See-Paynton, title page printed in black and brown, pp. [16], royal 8vo, original sewn white card wrappers, marbled dustjacket with paper printed label to front cover, Press note about engravings laid in, fine £50

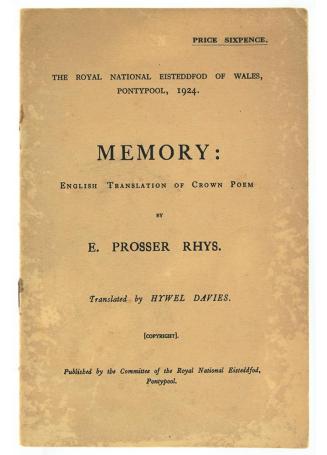
## Inscribed copy

**10.** Llewellyn (Richard) How Green Was My Valley. *Michael Joseph, 1939, FIRST EDITION, a few leaves with light crease at top corner,* pp. 651, [1], 8vo, original maroon *cloth, backstrip lettered in silver, a little rubbed with slight lean to spine, light rubbing and a touch of wear to extremities, one corner gently knocked, stamp of Times Book Club to rear pastedown, good* £375

Inscribed by the author on the title-page: 'To Esmé Hyman, A woman as beautiful as her mother, and a happy friend of Huw's. With felicitations, Richard Llewellyn, November 1, 1939'. Neither of the beauties have been traced, but the Huw referred to may be in reference to the novel's narrator. At the rear is the author's guide to the pronunciation of Welsh names in the novel.

'to bind our lovely friendship close' **11. Rhys (E. [Edward] Prosser)** Memory [Atgof]: English Translation of Crown Poem. Translated by Hywel Davies. *Pontypool: The Committee of the Royal National Eisteddfod,* [1924,] FIRST EDITION, pp. 14, foolscap 8vo, original stapled buff wrappers, some light rubbing and the staples rusted, good £2000

A notable, and scarce, publication - the prizewinning poem at the National Eisteddfod not generally published or translated. That it was is perhaps a token of the stir that Rhys's poem created. Subtitled 'The Story of a Sensible Lad', it is an ecstatic exploration of youthful feeling -'When I would yield myself to every whim,/ And taste delight of the forbidden fruit'. The amorous episodes recounted include relationships with both men and women.

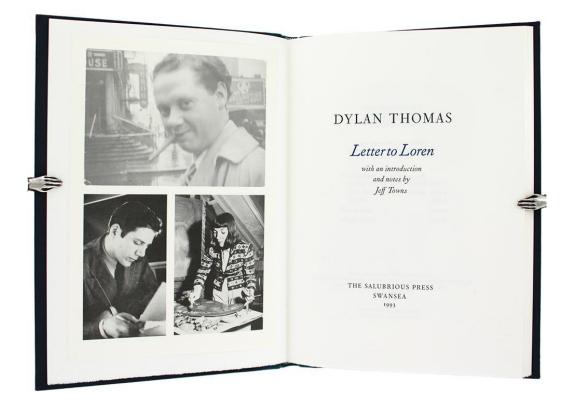


#### BLACKWELL'S RARE BOOKS

## Epistolary Poem

12. (Salubrious Press.) THOMAS (Dylan) Letter to Loren. With an Introduction and Notes by Jeff Towns. Swansea: The Salubrious Press, 1993, K/26 COPIES signed by Loren MacIver, printed in blue and black on Zerkall mould-made paper, tipped in frontispiece montage of photographs, full-page portrait of the author by Leonard Baskin, further illustrations (by the author and his wife), the poem printed in facsimile (blue), pp. 63, 4to, original quarter blue morocco with boards of a darker blue, printed labels to upper board and backstrip, the backstrip faded, original prospectus and invoice laid in, cloth slipcase, very good £750

A poem in the form of a letter to the New York artist, Loren MacIver, whom Thomas had met on his first visit to America in 1950.



Biography of a Marriage

**13.** Thomas (Caitlin) & George Tremlett. Caitlin. A Warring Absence. Secker & Warburg, 1986, FIRST EDITION, pp. xvi, 212, 8vo, original red boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, dustjacket with hint of fading to the backstrip panel, near fine £40 Signed by both authors on the title-page and dated to the year of publication. An account of her life with Dylan Thomas.

# From Dylan Thomas

**14.** Thomas (Dylan) Letters to Vernon Watkins. Edited with an Introduction by Vernon Watkins. *J.M. Dent, Faber and Faber, 1957, FIRST EDITION, portrait frontispiece,* pp. 145, 8vo, original green cloth, backstrip lettered in gilt, dustjacket a little nicked and chipped with faintly darkened backstrip panel, good £40

#### WALES AND THE WELSH

### **Poetic Stories**

**15.** Thomas (Dylan) A Prospect of the Sea, and Other Stories and Prose Writings. Edited by Daniel Jones. *J.M. Dent, 1955, FIRST EDITION, frontispiece photographic portrait,* pp. viii, 136, crown 8vo, original mid blue cloth, gilt lettered backstrip, dustjacket with a couple of short closed tears to rear panel and a nick at foot of backstrip panel, very good (Rolph B28) £75

## Babel

**16.** Thomas (R.S., Contributor) Babel 1. Schondorf: Babel, [1983,] FIRST EDITION, VI/10 COPIES (from an edition of 50 copies) signed by the author at the foot of his poem on p. 52, text in English and German throughout, pp. [11], 72, crown 8vo, original deluxe binding of grey morocco, lettering blind-stamped to upper board, fine £500 A selection of the poet's work with a small section of other contributions at the rear. Many of the poems appear for the first time here, including an uncollected early poem - the translations, by Kevin Perryman (also the publisher), are new to this edition.



Babel Anniversary Edition **17. Thomas (R.S.) Two Poems.** Fuchstal: Babel, 2023, X/26 COPIES (from an edition of 99 copies), these special copies with two pages of manuscript facsimile and signed by the publisher (poet Kevin Perryman), pp. [11], imperial 8vo, original sewn wrappers with a hand-painted striped design (by Kevin Perryman), fine £50 Two previously unpublished, untitled, poems from the author whose work provided the inaugural publication of Babel - here marking its 40th anniversary.

Poets in Honour of Dylan Thomas

**18.** (Thomas.) TEDLOCK (E.W, Editor) Dylan Thomas: The Legend and the Poet. A Collection of Biographical and Critical Essays. *Heinemann, 1960, FIRST EDITION,* pp. x, 283, crown 8vo, (Armitage & Clark B266) **£15** 

Contributors include Louis MacNeice, Roy Campbell, W.S. Merwin, Karl Shapiro, George Barker, Augustus John, John Lehmann, Theodore Roethke, et al.

## Welsh Views

**19.** (Wales.) (Regency topographical album.) Sketches and views of a tour around Wales *c*. 1810 Unique album of topographical pencil sketches, with explicatory manuscript text referring to the techniques used; a little toned; pp. [62], 8vo; lower-gutter tears with some movement, the images not affected, contemporary calf, rebacked, remnant of a blind roll to the boards, rather rubbed, loss of leather at bottom of upper board and spine end. **£675** 



An album of twenty-four topographical pencil sketches, including named-view Welsh topography, a few monogrammed M.A.H., each landscape accompanied by contemporary - and presumably original - manuscript annotations, philosophising on aesthetic ideals or didactic notes on artistic technique: 'When tender and misty distances prevail, the foreground objects should relieve with forcible shadows and warm lights...'

This was evidently completed on a tour of North Wales, as views include: Caernarfon, Conwy, Llangollen, Dolgellau, and the ruined Abbey of Valle Crucis.

Also includes - possibly in another hand - tiny architectural details from the towers of St. Dunstan in the East and Billingsgate, a single word in Sanskrit, and the study of a woman's arm in Indian dress.

## **Regional Dress**

20. (Welsh Costumes) (Gwisg Gymreig.) (Cover title:) 12 Plates, Welsh Costumes, Price one Shilling. London: Published by Newman & Co. [1853] Twelve lithograph plates, some foxing; oblong 8vo; publisher's thin yellow card wrappers, upper cover lettered and blocked in gold; marginally a little frayed and stained. £145 Twelve numbered and captioned vignettes of life in nineteenth-century Wales. These include various rural and market scenes, as well as an auction of household effects, a wedding, and a hunt.

They are overwhelmingly female ensembles, with the women commonly dressed in the distinctive



black funnel hat - the Het Gymreig - which characterises Welsh national dress. Those with drum shaped (vertical sided) crowns were worn in north-west Wales, and those with slightly tapering crowns were found throughout the country.

John Newman and Co. produced such booklets in the 1850s, 60s and 70s, but the booklets were often mined for plates and are reasonably scarce in the wrappers. Enduringly popular, the images also appeared on pottery and chinaware throughout the late nineteenth century.

## With ephemera and messages from the Press

**21.** (Whittington Press.) LLYWELYN (Robin) Portmeirion. Images by Leslie Gerry. Andoversford: The Whittington Press, 2008, 64/290 COPIES (from an edition of 350 copies) printed on sturdy cream Zerkall mouldmade paper and signed by the author and artist, with 7 superb double-page illustrations drawn on an electronic tablet and digitally coloured by Leslie Gerry and a further 3 decorations in the same form, the text imposed on intermediate double-page openings and with a further double-page text opening at the beginning of the text, title-page printed in black and orange, pp. [38], royal 8vo, original boards with an illustration by Gerry wrapping around, small bookplate to front pastedown, laid in a letter to the original owners from the Press, along with a prospectus and order form for this book and another signed slip, as well as a Portmeirion card with a Gerry design carrying a long message from John Randle, illustrated slipcase, fine £300

Robin Llywelyn spent much of his childhood in the village he describes here, situated on the coast of North Wales, and designed by the architect Clough Williams-Ellis in an Italian style. The superb digitally produced illustrations by Leslie Gerry (*one of which can be seen at the head of this list*), somewhat reminiscent of the pochoir process, capture its idiosyncratic beauty.

