



ENFAWR OEDD EI GYNFAS

His Canvas was large

DAVID GEORGE

1936- 2022

Donald Treharne

It was not until I saw the Order of Service in the funeral did I realize that Dave's full name was David Bowen Lloyd George. Typical of the way he did things – always in detail with commanding fullness and style. He was born in Dolgarrog, Caernarfonshire on 2 January 1936 to Margaret Jane and David Lloyd George both from Treharris in Glamorganshire. In his early years he attended Mochdre Infants school and Conway Road Primary School in Colwyn Bay before entering the Colwyn Bay Grammar School and then Friars School in Bangor when the family moved there in 1951. Friars is one of the oldest and best known schools in Wales and there has been a school bearing that name in Bangor since 1557. From Bangor in 1955 he went on to study Veterinary Science at Bristol University graduating in 1960 with the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science and with the added qualification of Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Science.

It was at Bristol University that our paths crossed for the first time. I arrived there in 1957 in the same Faculty of Medicine as him - but in the Dental School. Years later when discussing careers Dave told me that he never really wanted to be a Vet but was persuaded to do so by his father. Nevertheless, he pursued a very successful career in that field: firstly, in a practice in 1961 in Aberystwyth before moving to one in Brecon in 1962 - the year he married Beti Rees. In 1964 they moved and he set up a small animal practice in Calvert Terrace, Swansea: their son, Iestyn, was born in 1966. It is interesting to note that whatever ambivalence Dave had with his chosen profession his contribution to it was rewarded with Honorary Membership of the British Veterinary Association for "bringing distinction to the Veterinary profession".

By the mid-seventies his personal circumstances were much changed. He had sold the veterinary practice and was intent on a new career in Law: he studied at the Chester College of Law and was admitted to the Law Society. From 1983 until 1986 he was a solicitor in a Swansea practice. This was a year that was pivotal in his career. In that year he married Angela and secured a post as the Manager of Legal Affairs at the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industries in London to which they had moved. In this period, not content with a highly demanding job he found time to complete an LL.M degree in law at Greenwich University which was awarded to him - with distinction! In 1992 he was promoted to the office of Secretary of the Association's Board of Management and its Director of Law. Retiring in 1998 he and Angela continued to live in London. From 1999 to 2005 he edited an International Journal of Trademarks and during this time they returned to live in Swansea.

During his whole life his extra-curricular interests were many and varied. From schooldays he revelled in athletics and team sports. When he was 11 years of age he was told that if he continued to improve then he would be good enough to play professional football. Being captain of the Friars School First XI and a left back position in the University of Bristol's 1st XI are indications of his prowess at football. Following a match in 1957 between the University XI and Gloucestershire FC he was approached by a spectator who offered him his card and asked if he was interested in a trial with Chelsea. He was also an enthusiastic spectator of things sporting - being a Swansea City season ticket holder and a faithful attender of Test Match cricket.

In retirement he was able to pursue more freely the interests that he had always nurtured. A Life member of the Royal Society of Arts he was elected a Fellow in 1995. He had been collecting modern and contemporary Welsh Art

since the 1960s and with Angela's help their home in Richmond Villas is a veritable Art Gallery housing an eclectic collection of paintings. Over the years that home has been witness to much generous hospitality to friends and fund-raising events alike. His connection with the Friends of the Glynn Vivian goes back to the late 1960s - at various times he was Programme Secretary, Treasurer and twice Chairman, in 1985-6 and 2017-9. He and Angela have always been most supportive of the Gallery and its work along the years. He was also a longstanding member of CASW - the Contemporary Art Society for Wales.

Yn anad dim yr oedd Dave yn Gymro ac ar hyd ei oes bu'n gefnogol i 'r Gymraeg a Chymreictod mewn unrhyw wedd. Yn saithdegau'r ganrif o'r blaen am fwy na deng mlynedd bu'n Ysgrifennydd yr Urdd er Hyrwyddo Cerddoriaeth Cymru (the *Guild for the Promotion of Welsh Music*) ac hefyd yn Drysorydd am flwyddyn. Yn 1983- 86 roedd yn Gyfreithiwr Mygedol i Undeb yr Annibynwyr Cymraeg (*The Union of Welsh Independents*). Cafodd yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol (*The National Eisteddfod*) ei gefnogaeth egniol hefyd ar hyd y blynyddoedd. Pan oedd hi yn Abertawe yn 2006 bu'n Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Celf a Chrefft ac hefyd yn Gyfreithiwr Mygedol yn y cyfnod hynny.

Between 2010 and 2015 he started researching the life and work of Vincent Evans, a Welsh miner-artist from Ystalyfera in the Swansea Valley. This led to his being awarded an M.Phil at Aberystwyth in 2015. Very little had been written about the artist before this which meant that David George's efforts were very much original research. His enthusiastic approach with this research led him to a situation where he had to extricate 5,000 words from the dissertation to comply with the word length of the regulations!

I am grateful to Iestyn, Dave's son, who was kind enough to provide me with so much of the information contained in this tribute. David George lived a long and colourful life characterised by his enthusiasm for his interests and for the generosity of his support to so many causes and organisations. The Friends of the Glynn Vivian are sincere in offering our deepest condolences to Angela, Iestyn, Sophie and their families.

Donald Treharne 29 March 2022

