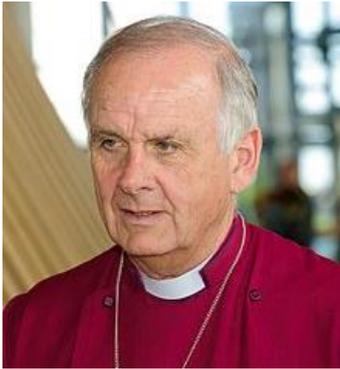


RS Thomas & ME Eldridge Society Festival 19 June 2021

In association with Church Times and Captive North

Live programme hosted by Barry Morgan 1.30pm – 4.30pm BST

Saved on a secure YouTube channel it can be viewed with your personal code at a later time or date.



Rt Rev Dr Barry Morgan: former Archbishop of Wales.
Writer and speaker on RS Thomas, Patron of the Society.



Film: *Arrival*

Image ©Tony Jones



Tony Brown: Prof Emeritus & Co-Director of RS Thomas
Research Centre, Bangor University

‘A close reading of *Luminary*’



Film: *A Thicket in Llŷn*



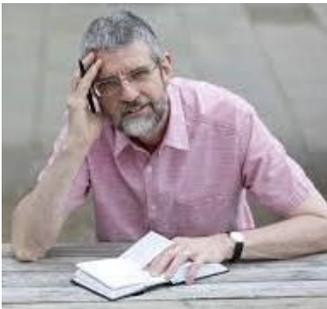
Gwyneth Lewis: the first National Poet of Wales, wrote the text that appears over the Wales Millennium Centre.

RS Thomas's Humour. 'Both as a writer and as a person, RS Thomas hid his sense of humour, but used it strategically as part of his artistic and spiritual vocation.' Drawing on her friendship with RS and on his longer poem, *The Minister*, she will look at this under-emphasized aspect of his work.

Following Gwyneth's 30-minute presentation there will be an opportunity for Q & As

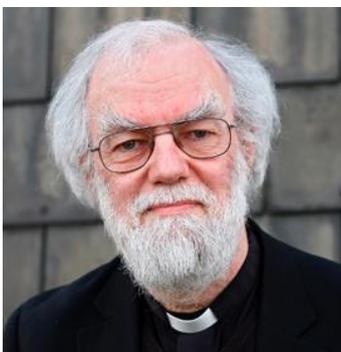


Film: *In Memorium M.E.E.*



Philip Gross: poet, novelist, playwright, leader of writing-workshops. Professor of creative writing at the University of South Wales.

'A personal poetic response to RS Thomas'



Dr Rowan Williams: Patron of RS Thomas & ME Eldridge Society. Poet and writer, devotee of Thomas' poetry.

'Unemployed Love: reading Thomas's late poems.'
 'Thomas's treatment of love as a theme is always complex and convoluted. Poems from the late collections, especially *Residues*, address the themes of the unavoidability, the power and the powerlessness of love - for God, the world or human beings.

Following Rowan's 30-minute presentation there will be an opportunity for Q & As



Film: *The Untenanted Cross*



Helen Wilcox: Prof Emeritus Bangor University, Member of the learned Society of Wales, world renowned expert on the life and work of George Herbert.

'A close reading of *Tidal*'



Rev Mark Oakley: Dean of St John's College, Cambridge, winner of the 2019 Michael Ramsey Prize for Theological Writing.

'*Betrayed by the heart's need*': RS Thomas, pandemic and lament'. Mark will explore the role of lament in the midst of a pandemic and how the work of R.S. Thomas can help us find a voice.

Following Mark's 30-minute presentation there will be an opportunity for Q & As



Film: *At the End*

Image ©Howard Barlow

Booking: £10 - <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/rs-thomas-society-festival>
www.rsthomaspoetry.co.uk susanafogarty@gmail.com