

ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS, Original Welsh Lullaby; Lyrics, Edward Jones, 1784

The melody to this enchanting song is the tune: AR HYD Y NOS, a Welsh lullaby and folksong sung to a tune that was first recorded in Edward Jones' *"Musical and Poetical Relics of the Welsh Bards"*, 1784. The original Welsh lyrics were written by John Ceiriog Hughes, and have been translated into several languages, including English (most famously by Harry Boulton) and Breton.

Edward Jones, an exceptional harp player, moved from Wales to London in the 1770's where he taught and performed harp music. His talent soon had him tutoring wealthy families and he ultimately moved into the St. James Palace as the official harpist for the Prince of Wales.

"All Through the Night" is highly popular with traditional Welsh male voice choirs, and is sung by them at festivals in Wales and around the world. The melody was used by John Gay in *"The Beggar's Opera"*. It is also used in the hymn *"Go My Children With My Blessing"*. American spiritual singer Anthony Brown recorded the English version by Sir Harold Boulton on his 2006 album, *"Each Other's Light, Songs Of Peace, Hope And Justice"*.

The song is also sometimes considered a Christmas carol, and as such has been performed by many artists on Christmas albums, including Olivia Newton-John and Michael McDonald, who sang it as a duet on Newton-John's 2007 album *"Christmas Wish"*. Cerys Matthews sang it solo on her 2010 album, *"Tir"*.

The TV movie, *"A Child's Christmas in Wales"* features the family singing the song towards the end of the film, but in English. Also, Carter Burwell's soundtrack to the film, *"The General's Daughter"*, features a version of the tune played on a glockenspiel, a German percussion instrument similar to the xylophone

~Tull