

Glyn Williams, who was born in a working class district of Cardiff, became editor of an internationally famous South African daily newspaper and lifelong friend and ally of anti-apartheid activist Donald Woods.

He was born in central Cardiff in March 1928, brought up in Adamsdown, and educated at the local primary school and St Illtyds High School. As an adult he attended Harvard Business School, Boston, where he completed the Advanced Management Programme (AMP).

He served with the second battalion of The Welch Regiment in Burma 1946-47, and subsequently in Malaya. After working on newspapers in Breconshire and Montgomeryshire as a reporter, he joined the Welsh morning newspaper, the The Western Mail, in Cardiff, and also worked for the national Sunday newspaper, The Empire News. He was Mail chief sub (responsible for production of all news pages) for five years.

In 1958 he became friendly with another sub-editor on the Western Mail, Donald Woods, from South Africa, and he later accepted an invitation to join him as night editor when he became editor of the Daily Dispatch in East London. When Donald died at the age of 69, Glyn said in a tribute that "he was a lovely man in all senses of the word . . . he never let me down."

Glyn Williams subsequently became editor and editorial director of the Daily Dispatch. He was 44 years in full-time journalism, was an active freelance for ten years and still publishes a monthly newsletter which circulates worldwide. He and his wife Joan now live in Perth, Australia, joining family after they had all left South Africa.

Books: History of the Daily Dispatch (author); Centenary of Border Cricket (editor); The Best of Don Kenyon, South African cartoonist, (editor and author). Winner in 2010 of the Australian inaugural Paul Henningham Probus award for literary excellence..

He has served on many community and sporting organisations as president, chairman, captain and secretary and has won awards in squash, cross country and distance running. .