

SHAW GIVES HIMSELF AWAY AT GREGYNOG

Shaw Gives Himself Away: An Autobiographical Miscellany was published by the Gregynog Press in 1939 after a great deal of fussing by the famous egotist over the frontispiece portrait engraving which, he complained, made his beard look black rather than red – the artist, John Farleigh, had to spend five hours altering the original block before Shaw was satisfied. “The book itself,” writes Dorothy Harrop in *The Gregynog Press* (Private Libraries Association, 1980) is unremarkable both from the production point of view and from the essays which it contains.” However the binding of the ‘ordinary’ edition – a very art deco design in dark green and orange – was designed by the artist Paul Nash.

Shaw and his wife Charlotte were occasional visitors to music festivals at Gregynog in the nineteen-thirties as guests of Gwendoline and Margaret Davies – his signature takes up most of the page in the Gregynog Visitor’s Book. In the main corridor at Gregynog there is a photograph of him sitting in the garden with Thomas Jones, ‘T.J.’, close friend and advisor of the Davies sisters.

