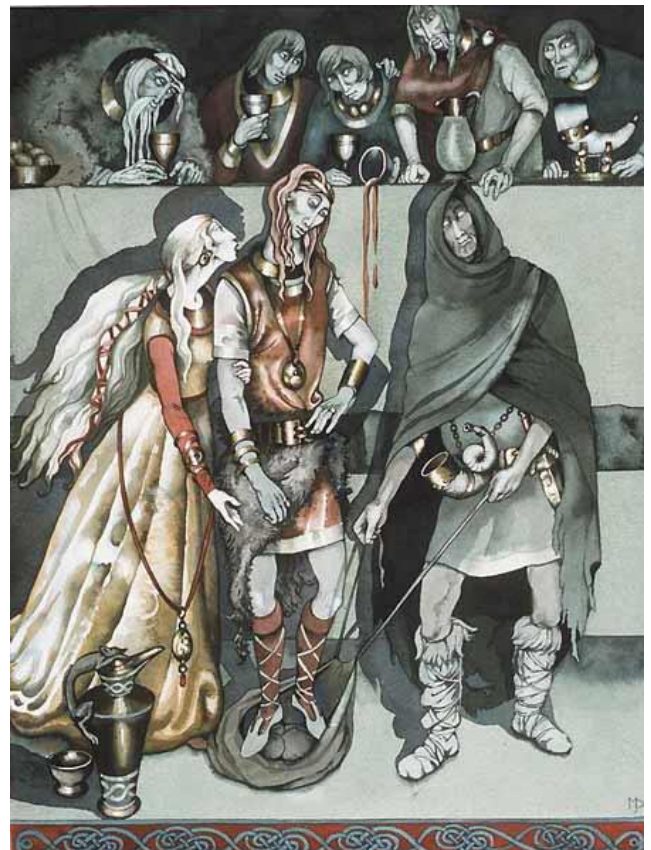


## The Cyfarwydd

Telling stories was one of the ways the Welsh used to socialise, and people would come together at night to tell and listen to tales. Rich people also liked to hear tales and paid people to tell them. **The Cyfarwydd** was the term used for the storyteller, and it is still used to describe a person that can tell a good story.



In the Middle Ages the cyfarwydd would earn their living by telling stories, and were important figures at the king's court. Many of the stories were handed down from one generation to another by learning them by heart and re-telling them. It was through this oral tradition that the tales of the Mabinogi were created, kept alive and adapted. In the tales of the Mabinogi themselves there is a reference to Gwydion as *the best cyfarwydd in the world* when he tells a story at Pryderi's court.

