



Who was William Burges?

Getting started:

What would you say if you won a competition or prize?

(William Burges won a competition to be the architect of St Fin Barre's Cathedral. He celebrated by writing in his diary 'Got Cork!')

William Burges:

- was from England;
- was born in 1827;
- was an architect (What does an architect do?);
- was very short-sighted and this is seen in some of the designs in the cathedral;

- did not like the designs of buildings of his own day, and preferred older designs known as Gothic revival (Gothic revival was used in the 19th century to emphasise the roots of the Church in the period before the Reformation).

St Fin Barre's Cathedral was his first project. Among his other designs were Cardiff Castle and Castell Coch outside Cardiff in Wales.

As well as the building, William Burges designed everything that was to go in it.