

❖ CAPEL Y GROES ❖

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Cafodd Capel y Groes ei sefydlu yn 1802, ynghyd â'i chwaer-eglwys ym Mhantdefaid. Y capeli Undodaidd hyn oedd y rhai cyntaf i'w hagor yng Ngheredigion. Cafodd y ddau eu sefydlu gan aelodau a gefnodd ar y capeli Presbyteriaidd Arminiaidd a arferai fod yn Llwynrhydowen ac Alltlyblaca, er mwyn gallu dilyn eu creodau Undodaidd. Maes o law daeth capeli Llwynrhydowen ac Alltlyblaca yn gapeli Undodaidd hefyd.

Cafodd y capel greiddiol ei adeiladu am gost o £100 ar dir a roddwyd gan fferm Llwyngroes, sy'n egluro tarddiad enw'r capel. Bu llwyddiant cynnar yn y fan hon o gymorth i'r Undodaidd fwrw greiddiau dwfn yn yr ardal. Yn 1803, cafodd John James ei benodi'n weinidog Capel y Groes a Phantdefaid. Fe oedd y gweinidog Undodaidd cyntaf i'w benodi yng Nghymru. Yn ôl pob sôn, y capel hwn oedd â'r gynulleidfa Undodaidd fwyaf yng Nghymru erbyn 1811. Erbyn 1830, roedd ganddo ymhell dros 200 o aelodau.

Mae Capel y Groes wedi chwarae rhan bwysig ym mywyd crefyddol a diwylliannol yr ardal ers dros 200 mlynedd. Cafodd y Gymanfa Ganu gyntaf ar gyfer capeli Undodaidd rhan uchaf y "Smotyn Du" ei chynnal yma yn 1872. Cafodd y Gymanfa Ganu gyntaf ar gyfer holl gapeli Undodaidd Ceredigion ei chynnal yma yn 1892. Erbyn yr 1890au, roedd Capel y Groes hefyd yn cynnal ei Heisteddod flynnyddol ei hun, ac mae'r traddodiad hwnnw'n parhau hyd heddiw.

Daeth Joseph Jenkins â darn o gwaif adref o Awstralia, a chaff y cwre ei gadw yn y capel.

Joseph Jenkins brought a piece of coral home with him from Australia, which remains at the chapel to this day.

Mae Joseph Jenkins (1818-1898), y "swagman" enwog o Gymru, wedi'i gladdu yma. Gadawodd ei fferm yng Ngheredigion yn 1869 i chwilio am antur yn Awstralia. Gwellhodd fel gwas fferm yn y gwylt yno am 25 mlynedd, gan gadw ddiadurau o'i brofiadau. Califf ei ddyddiadur ei astudio o hyd mewn ysgolion yn Awstralia.

The celebrated "Welsh Swagman", Joseph Jenkins (1818-1898), is buried here. He left his Ceredigion farm in 1869 to seek adventure as a "swagman" in Australia. He worked in the Outback for 25 years and kept a journal of his experiences there. His diary is still studied in Australian schools.

Mae carreg sefydlu a gerflwyd gan Iolo Morganwg ym 1802 wedi'i gosod yn wal gefn y capel. Gwellir copi ohoni ar lechen ar wal flaen yr adeilad.

A datestone carved by Iolo Morganwg in 1802 is built into the rear wall of the chapel. A stone copy of it is fixed to the front of the building.



This house was built for the worship of "The one true God" in the year 1802. For us there is but one God, the Father" 1 Corinthians VIII. 6



Mae Capel y Groes ymhlith 13 o gapeli Undodaidd sydd yn yr ardal a gâi ei galw'n "Y Smotyn Du" neu "Black Spot" o'r wylt i'w cerbydau Ceredigion. Erbyn hyn, califf yr enw ei ddefnyddio â chryn falchder gan Undodaidd Ceredigion.

Capel y Groes is one of 13 Unitarian chapels in the area which became known as the Smotyn Du or "Black Spot" to opponents of Unitarianism. This name is used with pride by local Unitarians today.

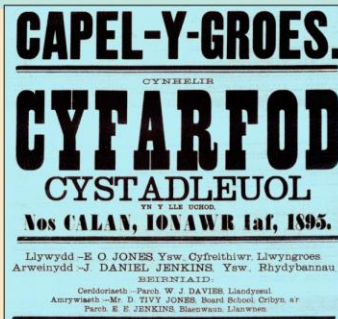


Dymor gerdd sydd i'w gweld ar garreg fedd Jack Jenkins:

*"Not rhobis llawer syrfa,
A llwyddo i SMOYD yn mlaen";
Pen syrfa'i fywyd ddaeth i'w ran
A thyma'r fan gorwedd.*

This poem is inscribed on Jack Jenkins' gravestone:

*After running many a race
In which he was proved best,
His own race came to an end
And this is his place of rest.*



Poster sy'n hysbysebu un o Eisteddfodau cyntaf Capel y Groes
A poster advertising an early Eisteddfod at Capel y Groes



Mae'r joci, John "Jack" Jenkins (1870-1904), wedi'i gladdu yma. Llwyddodd i farchogaeth y ceffyl rasio enwog, Nans o'r Glyn, i fuddugoliaeth 184 o weithiau mewn 268 o rasy. Mae perchennog y ceffyl, Jenkin Jenkins (1835-1906), wedi'i gladdu wrth ei ymyl.

The jockey, John "Jack" Jenkins (1870-1904), is buried here. He rode the famous racehorse Nance o'r Glyn to 184 victories in 268 races. The horse's owner, Jenkin Jenkins (1835-1906), is buried next to him.

Capel y Groes was founded in 1802, along with its sister chapel at Pantydefaid. These were the first Unitarian chapels to be opened in Ceredigion. Both were founded by members who broke away from the earlier Arminian Presbyterian chapels of Llwynrhydowen and Alltlyblaca in order to be able to follow their Unitarian beliefs. With time both Llwynrhydowen and Alltlyblaca themselves became Unitarian causes.

The original chapel was built at a cost of £100 on land donated by Llwyngroes farm, which gave rise to the chapel's name. Early success here helped the Unitarians plant strong roots in this district. In 1803, John James was appointed minister of Capel y Groes and Pantydefaid. He was the first Unitarian minister to be appointed in Wales. By 1811, this chapel was said to have the largest Unitarian congregation in Wales. By 1830, it had well over 200 members.

Capel y Groes has played an important role in the religious and cultural life of the district for over 200 years. The first *Cymanfa Ganu* or Festival of Hymns for the Unitarian chapels of the upper part of all the Unitarian Chapels of Ceredigion was held here in 1892. By the 1890s, Capel y Groes also had its own annual Eisteddfod, a tradition which continues to the present day.



Yn 2010, bu plant ein Hysgol Sul yn gweithio gyda Creu-ad i greu gwaith celf i ysbrydoli cynllun ar gyfer yr arad sydd o flaen y capel.

In 2010, the children of our Sunday School worked with Creu-ad to create artwork to inspire the design of the garden in front of the chapel.

