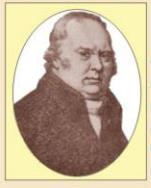
❖ LLWYNRHYDOWEN ❖

❖ Er mwyn darganfod mannau eraill o ddiddordeb gweler: www.llwybrauffyddceredigion.com ❖ To discover other places of interest see: www.ceredigionfaithtrail.com ❖

Dafydd Dafis, Castellhywel

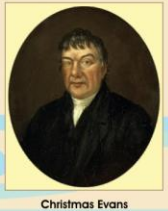


Adeiladwyd capel cyntaf Llwynrhydowen yn 1733. Sefydlwyd yr achos gan Jenkin Jones (1700-1742), un o gyndeidiau Frank Lloyd Wright, y pensaer Americanaidd enwog. Hwn oedd capel Arminaidd cyntaf Cymru ac roedd ei sefydlu'n arwydd o raniad pwysig ymhlith y cynulleidfaoedd Presbyteraidd cynnar yn nyffryn Teifi. Gydag amser trodd llawer o eglwysi Arminaidd yn eglwysi Undodaidd, gan gynnwys Llwynrhydowen.

Safai'r capel gwreiddiol ryw 300 medr i'r de-ddwyrain ond yn 1791, yn ystod gweinidogaeth Dafydd Dafis, Castellhywel (1745-1827), codwyd capel newydd ar y safle hwn. Roedd Dafis yn gyfaill personol i rai o Undodiaid a meddylwyr radical blaenllaw ei oes. Yn eu plith yr oedd Dr Richard Price (1723-1791), Iolo Morganwg (1747-1826), Jac Glan y Gors (1766-1821) a Tomos Glyn Cothi (1764-1833); ymwelodd pob un o'r rhain â Llwynrhydowen, gan helpu cryfhau traddodiad Undodaidd yr ardal.

Efallai fod y rhan fwyaf o bobl wedi clywed am Lwynrhydowen oherwydd y digwyddiadau dramatig a welwyd yma yn 1876. Roedd gweinidog y capel, William Thomas (Gwilym Marles, 1834-1879), yn unigolyn radical a blediai achos y tlawd a'r difreintiedig, sef mwyafrif ei braidd. Roedd ei radicaliaeth yn dân ar groen John Davies Lloyd (1850-1878), sgweier ifanc, afradus Alltyrodyn a oedd yn berchen ar y tir lle safai'r capel. Ar ôl cael ei wylltio gan bregethau tanllyd Gwilym Marles yn erbyn anghyfiawnder, trodd y sgweier y gynulleidfa allan o'r capel.

Cododd y gynulleidfa adeilad pren yn y pentref fel cartref dros dro, cyn adeiladu capel newydd i'w hunain, sef Capel Coffa Llwynrhydowen, a agorwyd yn 1879. Erbyn hynny, roedd John Davies Lloyd wedi marw yn annisgwyl a'i chwaer wedi rhoi'r hen gapel yn ôl i'r gynulleidfa. Cafodd yr hen addoldy ei ddefnyddio fel ysgoldy a llyfrgell am genedlaethau wedi hynny.

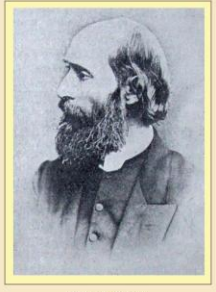


Christmas Evans

Mae Llwynrhydowen ymhlith 13 o gapeli Undodaidd sydd yn yr ardal a gâi ei galw'n "Y Smotyn Du" gan wrthwynebwyr Undodiaeth. Erbyn hyn, caiff yr enw ei ddefnyddio â chryn falchder gan Undodiaid Ceredigion. Llwynrhydowen 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.

Yn 2008 trosglwyddwyd Hen Gapel Llwynrhydowen i feddiant Ymddiriedolaeth Addoldai Cymru. Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth ar www.addoldaicymru.org
In 2008 the Old Chapel, Llwynrhydowen was acquired by the Welsh Religious Buildings Trust. For more information see www.welshreligiousbuildings.org

Y Capel Coffa – The Memorial Chapel



Gwilym Marles

Gellir gweld bedd Gwilym Marles o flaen y Capel Coffa.
The grave of Gwilym Marles can be seen in front of the Memorial Chapel.

Adeiladwyd tri charreg arysgrifenedig i mewn i wal blaen y capel, gan gynnwys carreg o'r capel gwreiddiol a godwyd yn 1733.
There are three inscribed stones built into the front wall of the chapel, including the datestone from the original chapel built in 1733.

Roedd Christmas Evans (1766-1838) yn addoli yn Llwynrhydowen fel dyn ifanc a dechreuodd bregethu yma, dan arweiniad Dafydd Dafis. Ymunodd â'r Bedyddwyr yn ddiweddarach a thyfodd i fod yn un o bregethwyr enwocaf Cymru. The young Christmas Evans (1766-1838) worshipped at Llwynrhydowen and began his preaching career here, guided by Dafydd Dafis. He later became a Baptist and rose to be one of Wales' greatest preachers.

Yn dilyn y Troad Allan, pregethodd Gwilym Marles i 3,000 o gefnogwyr mewn cyfarfod cofiadwy y tu allan i glwyd y capel a oedd wedi'i chadwyno ynghlo. Bu farw yn 1879 wedi i'w iechyd dorri dan straen y digwyddiadau. Marlais oedd enw canol ei or-nai, y bardd Dylan Thomas, er cof amdano. Following the "Ejection", Gwilym Marles famously preached to 3,000 supporters outside the chained and locked gate. He died in 1879, his health broken by the strain of the events. His great-nephew, the poet Dylan Thomas, was given the middle name Marlais in memory of him.

Llwynrhydowen chapel was first built in 1733, founded by Jenkin Jones (1700-1742), an ancestor of Frank Lloyd Wright, the famous American architect. This was the first Arminian chapel in Wales and its foundation marked an important split in the early Presbyterian congregations in the Teifi valley. With time many Arminian churches, including Llwynrhydowen, became Unitarian causes.

The original chapel stood some 300 metres to the southeast but in 1791, during the ministry of Dafydd Dafis, Castellhywel (1745-1827), a new chapel was built on this site. Dafis was a personal friend of some of the leading Unitarians and radical thinkers of his age. These included Dr. Richard Price (1723-1791), Iolo Morganwg (1747-1826), Jac Glan y Gors (1766-1821) and Tomos Glyn Cothi (1764-1833), all of whom visited Llwynrhydowen and helped strengthen the Unitarian tradition of the district.

Llwynrhydowen is perhaps best known for the dramatic events that occurred here in 1876. The chapel's minister, William Thomas (1834-1879), whose bardic name was Gwilym Marles, was a radical who spoke up for the poor and disadvantaged who made up most of his flock. His radicalism provoked John Davies Lloyd (1850-1878), the young, dissolute squire of Alltyrodyn, who owned the land on which the chapel stood. Annoyed by the fiery sermons against injustice preached by Gwilym Marles, the squire dramatically evicted the congregation from their chapel.

The congregation erected a wooden chapel in the village as a temporary home, before building Llwynrhydowen Memorial Chapel nearby, which opened in 1879. By that time, however, John Davies Lloyd had unexpectedly died and his sister had returned possession of the old chapel to its congregation, which was used as a schoolroom and library for generations afterwards.

Cewch ragor o wybodaeth am drefladaeth ieol trwy wefan Coflein y CBHC:
www.coflein.gov.uk
Find out more about local heritage through the RCAHMW's Coflein website:
www.coflein.gov.uk

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Ariannwyd y prosiect hwn dlwy Gynllun Datblygu Gwledig Cymru 2007-2013 a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a Chronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu Gwledig. - This project has received funding through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 which is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development