



Addoldai Cymru

Welsh Religious Buildings Trust

Autumn
Newsletter
2017

Donations

We are pleased to report that the Dorothy Watkins Foundation has once again made a donation of £775 to the Trust. During the year we have also received a number of donations from individuals and we continue to be supported by the Friends membership fees. We are very grateful for this income which assists the Trust's work in safeguarding historic chapels across Wales.

For Sale: Christmas Cards

As we fast approach the festive season we have a number of Christmas Cards for sale. These can be ordered on our website. www.welshchapels.org



In order to save on costs we hope to distribute more copies of our newsletter by email. Please let us know if you would like to receive the newsletter by email instead of a paper copy by post.

Thank you for your support - it is appreciated!
We welcome local friends and supporters at all our various projects



Aion Chapel, Llanuwchllyn



The acquisition of Aion, near Llanuwchllyn, Gwynedd is now complete. Aion was erected for the Primitive Baptist cause in 1840. As such it was the first Baptist chapel to be built in the Bala area and one of the earliest in Meirionydd. Externally its most noticeable visual characteristic is its "homespun" vernacular appearance,

the result of using very large, roughly trimmed igneous (mostly glacial) boulders with coarsely applied mortar joints, in the tradition of the older farm buildings of the area. John Hilling, our first chairman, described it as "a charming and rare example of a rural chapel which fits in effortlessly with its rugged mountainous surroundings".

The cause never achieved a strong membership, with the result that there was little reason to alter or improve its interior, so that it has survived remarkably intact. Its interior is plain but atmospheric with a simple panelled pulpit reached by 3 steps, short box pews to one side and rows of open backed pews to the rear. Thin metal rods below the beams, originally for suspending oil lamps, are still in place and the original candle holders for the pulpit have been kept safe. These were superseded in c1939 by lanterns run from bottled gas.



Addoldai Cymru will now seek to undertake necessary repairs to Aion and explore its potential as a local community resource.

Service at Aion

On 24th September 2017, the Rev. Carwyn Siddall led a service at Aion to mark the transfer of ownership to Addoldai Cymru. Lis Puw the Secretary of Aion Chapel presented the key to David Lloyd, the Trust's Chairman.



We should like to extend our thanks for the lovely service, the warm welcome from the congregation and other guests, and the delicious cakes provided by the congregation in the village hall in Llanuwchllyn.



New Volunteer

David Glennerster, who was the Trust's Treasurer between 1999 and 2013, has volunteered to return in a non-trustee capacity to provide an oversight of our finances.

David, who is a retired Chartered Quantity Surveyor, has a long-standing knowledge of the Trust's activities and we look forward to his input and support. Volunteers, especially local supporters, provide a valuable contribution to our activities, so please get in touch if you feel you can assist in any way.



Wales' Favourite Church or Chapel

In order to celebrate and raise awareness of Wales' religious heritage, the National Churches Trust, a UK church buildings support charity, launched a poll giving people a chance to choose Wales' favourite church or chapel.

From the shortlist of 50, our own Yr Hen Gapel, Llynrhodwen was voted into 4th place. Thanks to all those Unitarians and others who voted! We are also pleased that the winner was Tabernacle, Morryston, the outstanding grade I listed "Cathedral of Welsh Nonconformity".



Open Day

Carmel, Nantmel
30th November 2017
12.00pm-4.00pm

All are welcome to view this delightful Chapel.

There will be a talk on the role of the Trust at 2.00pm.

Carmel Chapel,
Carmel, Nantmel,
Llandrindod Wells.
LD1 6EG.



Become a Friend of the Trust

Please join the Friends of Addoldai Cymru. Your subscription will provide the Trust with a modest but very useful donation. Membership is open to all and costs £10 a year.

Gift Aid

Remember if you pay UK income tax we can claim back an additional 25% of the value of your gift from HMRC, at no cost to you. Ask us for a form.

Further details and forms are on our website.

Donate £1 to “Save a Pediment in Peril” campaign has been launched to raise the £15,000 needed to save one of Wales’s most important historic chapels: Peniel Chapel Tremadog.



An appeal has been launched to protect one of the icons of chapel architecture: Peniel Chapel, Tremadog, a Grade I listed Chapel in Gwynedd. Donate £1 to “Save a Pediment in Peril” campaign has been launched to raise the £15,000 needed to save one of Wales’s most important historic chapels. The aim is to hit the target so that renovation work on the pediment can be completed in line with current plans to repair the roof.

Peniel Chapel is located at the southern gateway of the planned town of Tremadog. Its innovative gable front and auditorium plan proved highly influential in the evolution of Welsh chapel design whilst its pedimented portico with Tuscan columns has made it one of Wales’ most iconic chapels. Tremadog was the project of London entrepreneur, William Madocks, who bought the marsh land in 1798 and envisioned it as a settlement on the trade route between London and Ireland. The Calvinistic Methodist chapel was finished in 1810, and when enlarged in 1849 to the original designs, it was possibly the most iconic chapel in Wales, its temple front loosely based on Inigo Jones’ St Paul’s, Covent Garden. Madocks himself was not a dissenter but allowed the building of so large a chapel, observing that “the church is built on rocks, the chapel is built on sand.”

£136,000 of grants have provided the funds needed to carry out most of the renovation to the roof, but £15,000 are still needed to finish paying for the vital process of repairing the pediment.

Pillars of Faith:

The pillars and pediment of this iconic chapel are currently impounded due to the perilous condition of the pediment at Peniel.

If the appeal succeeds, the roof and pediment work will be completed by the end of 2018 – over 200 years since the chapel was built “on sand”.



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If you would like to support this appeal, please send a cheque payable to Addoldai Cymru, and send to:

Addoldai CymruL
Wesley Church Centre
Maesteg Road
Tondu
Penybont ar Ogwr
CF32 9BT.

Local Contact;
Councillor Alwyn Gruffydd
Home 01766 513025
Work 01766 514505
mobile 07836 366899
alwyn@llaisgwynedd.com

You can donate
online via
MyDonate



<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/peniel>

Gift Aid Declaration

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the Trust from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer – please provide below.

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years

Name

Address

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify the Trust if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signed (Gift Aid)

Date