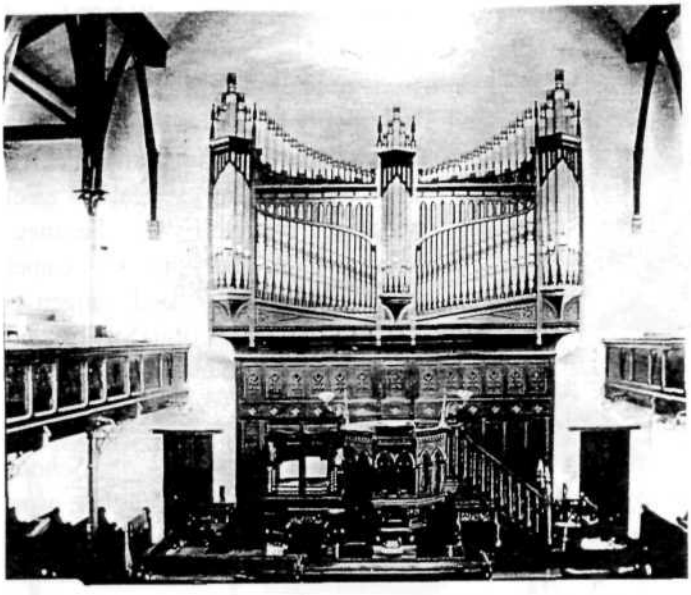
Capel

CYMDEITHAS TREFTADAETH Y CAPELI
THE CHAPELS HERITAGE SOCIETY

TAFLEN WYBODAETH LEOL 23 *LOCAL INFORMATION SHEET*
Y BALA *BALA*



Organ Capel Tegid

Saif tref Y Bala o fewn i blwyf Llanycil. Mae eglwys y plwyf a sefydlwyd gan Beuno Sant tua milltir o ganol y dref, a rhywdro wedyn sefydlwyd Capel Anwes yn y dref. Codwyd Capel Anwes ar leoliad yr un gwreiddiol ym 1811 ond ym 1855 adeiladwyd Eglwys Crist yn null hanner cyntaf y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg, i gynlluniau y Pensaer Mr B.Ferry F.S.A.

The town of Bala is situated in the parish of Llanycil with the parish church a mile or so from the centre of the town. A Chapel of Ease was erected in the town and a new building erected on that site in 1811. This was replaced by Christ Church, built in 1855, a substantial building with a spire, designed by the Architect Mr B.Ferry F.S.A. in the style of the late 13th century.

Y Capel Saesneg / *The English Chapel*
photo © RCAHMW

Wedi cyfnod o fod yn Ysgol Eglwys hyd nes y codwyd adeilad mwy pwrpasol i hynny ym 1870, daeth yr hen gapel anwes yn rhan o'r Ysgol Fwrdd a oedd wedi ei sefydlu yn yr adeilad cyfagos. Codwyd Ysgol Gynradd Sirol newydd ym 1904, ac fe brynwyd yr hen gapel anwes gan Dr Roger Hughes a'i gyflwyno ym 1907 i Gapel Tegid, lle yr oedd yn flaenor fel y gellid cynnal gwasanaethau Saesneg yno. Yr oedd hyn yn gallu darparu ar gyfer yr ychydig bobl di-Gymraeg yn y dref ond yn bwysicach yn rhoi cyfle i fyfyrwyr Coleg y Bala i gael ymarfer pregethu yn Saesneg. Agorwyd ei ddrysau fel Capel Saesneg ym 1907 ond cangen o Gapel Tegid dan ofal Stiwardiaid ydyw hyd y dydd hyn.

The Chapel of Ease became a Church School, then part of the Board School before it was bought by an elder of Capel Tegid, Dr Roger Hughes, who presented it, in 1907, to Capel Tegid so that English services could be held there. It also provided a place where the students at the Calvinistic Methodist College could have the experience of preaching in English.
It has always been a branch of Capel Tegid.

Cafodd hadau anghydffurfiaeth ddaear dda yn y Bala efo'r Annibynwyr a'r Methodistiaid Calfinaidd yn cynnal seiadau mewn tai, (A1737 MC1742) cyn sefydlu'r capeli cyntaf (A1774 MC1757) a Cholegau (A1842. MC 1836). Sefydlwyd Capel Wesleaidd yn y dref yn nechrau y 1800au ond darfu eu hachos hwy cyn canol y ganrif a chymerwyd yr adeilad yn gartref gan y Bedyddwyr yn 1850 a'i enwi yn 'Salim'.

Bu yr Annibynwyr yn seiadu mewn tafarn. Y Cross Keys, Llanycil, ac mewn storws yng nghefn Plas yn Dre cyn codi eu capel cyntaf yn Heol y Domen ym 1774 ar ochr arall y ffordd i'r capel presennol. Rhoddwyd iddo yr enw 'Jeriwsalem'. Fe'i hadnewyddwyd ym 1813. Ym 1843 daeth Michael Jones yn Weinidog ar y Capel yma, gan symud o Lanuwchllyn a dod â'r ysgol a sefydlodd yno gydag ef. Bu farw ym 1853 ac fe'i dilynwyd gan ei fab Michael D.Jones. Cymaint ac mor amrywiol ei waith fel y penodwyd ail weinidog i'r eglwys ym 1858 sef Ioan Pedr (John Peters) gyda'r ddau yn gweinidogaethu ac yn athrawon yn y Coleg Annibynnol. Codwyd y capel presennol ym 1867, ar gost o £1,450 a rhoed iddo yr enw 'Capel Newydd'. Gosodwyd yr Organ bib ynddo ar ddechrau y 1900au ac adeiladwyd y Festri yn y 1930au. Gyferbyn â'r capel yn Heol y Domen yn agos i'r hen Jeriwsalem mae yr Hen Goleg, sydd bellach yn fflatiau. Adeiladodd Michael D.Jones gartref iddo ef a'i wraig yn Bodiwan gyferbyn â safle presennol Coleg y Bala (EBC) a bu'r Coleg Annibynnol yn cartrefu yno cyn penderfynu prynu y safle yn Heol y Domen a Bodiwan ei hun i fod yn eiddo i'r Coleg.

Salim

Nonconformity arrived in Bala in 1737 (Congregationalists) and 1742 (Calvinistic Methodists) and the first chapels were erected in 1774 and 1757 respectively, with schools / colleges associated with them in 1842 and 1836. Wesleyan Methodists arrived at the beginning of the nineteenth century but lasted only till the 1850s when the Baptists took over their chapel, naming it 'Salim'.

The early worshippers met in taverns and houses. The first Congregationalist Chapel in Mount St. (1774) was named Jerusalem and was rebuilt in 1813. Michael Jones moved from Llanuwchllyn to be its minister in 1843 and brought his 'school' with him. After his death in 1853 his son, Michael D. Jones, succeeded him. He had so many things which took his time that a second minister, John Peters, joined him in the work of the chapel and of the "College" which developed from Michael Jones's school. The present chapel, opposite the site of the original in Mount St., was built in 1867 and called in Welsh "The New Chapel" though the name does not appear on the building and is not in use. It cost £1450 to build. A substantial Organ was installed in the 1900s and additional Vestry rooms in the 1930s. Opposite the Chapel is the site of the old College, now flats. Michael D. Jones built himself a house called 'Bodiwan' across the road from the Methodist College and part of the Congregational College was based there as well.

Capel yr Annibynwyr / *Congregationalist Church*

Croeso helbulus iawn gafodd Howel Harries i'r Bala ar ei deithiau i gyhoeddi neges y Methodist-iaid Calfinaidd, gyda'r person plwyf yn hurio llabystiaid lleol i'w erlid o'r dref (yn ôl yr hanes). Sefydlwyd y capel cyntaf ar safle Lawnt y Capel (Tegid Place) ym 1757 a bu rhaid ei helaethu wedyn ym 1782 a 1792. Ym 1809 fe'i tynnwyd i lawr ac adeiladu un newydd ar y safle.
Sefydlwyd y Coleg yn y tŷ cyfagos ac yr oedd modd i'r myfyrwyr agor ffenestr fewnol i gysylltu'r ddau adeilad a chlywed y pregethau heb symud o'u lle.

Ym 1866/7 adeiladwyd y capel presennol ar gost o £4000. Y Pensaer oedd W. H .Spaull, Croesoswallt, Evan Jones (Tad y Parch Puleston Jones) oedd clerc y gwaith a'r adeiladwr oedd W.Thomas, Porthaethwy. Cyflwynodd y Pensaer y ffenestr liw sydd yn nhalcen dwyreiniol y Capel ar derfyn y gwaith. Yr oedd y Capel yn dal 1100 o wrandawyr, mwy na hanner poblogaeth y dref.

Capel Tegid

Mae cofgolofn Thomas Charles ychydig flynyddoedd yn iau na'r capel ei hun (1875). Eglwyswr a ddaeth dan ddylanwad y Methodistiaid oedd Thomas Charles, gŵr o Sir Gaerfyrddin a oedd yn gurad yn Llanymawddwy pan briododd Sally Jones, merch Plas yn Dre, y Bala, a oedd yn ei thro dan ddylanwad y Methodistiaid. Sefydlodd gyfundrefn o Ysgolion Sul i ddysgu pobl a phlant i ddarllen, denodd argraffwyr i'r Bala i gyhoeddi pethau i'w darllen a gweithiodd i sefydlu Cymdeithas y Beiblau. Bu farw ym 1807. Codwyd Festri newydd, ychwanegol, ym 1894 ac adeiladwyd yr organ newydd yn 1897 .

Hywel Harries and the early Methodists were not made welcome in Bala by the parishioners, incited, so it is said by the Rector. The first chapel was built in Tegid Place (near the existing chapel) in 1757 and was extended in 1782 and 1792. It was rebuilt in 1802. The early College was set up in the adjoining house and it was possible for the students to open interior windows to listen to the sermons.

In 1866/67 the present chapel was erected at a cost of £4000. The Architect was W. H. Spaull of Oswestry. Evan Jones, the father of the Rev. Puleston Jones was clerk of works and the builder was a W.Thomas of Menai Bridge. The architect had a stained glass window built into the eastern end, above the pulpit as a gift to the chapel. At the time it had seats for 1100 people, well over half the population of the town. The statue of Thomas Charles which stands outside the Chapel was erected in 1875. He was an Anglican, born in Carmarthenshire, who was attracted to Methodism when a curate at Llanymawddwy. He married the daughter of Plas yn Dre, Sally Jones, a staunch Methodist. He set up a network of Sunday Schools to teach people of all ages to read, he imported printers and publishers into the town to publish all the written materials he produced, and before his death he had set in motion what was to become the British and Foreign Bible Society. A new Vestry was built in 1894 and a pipe organ was installed in 1897.

Tua 1880 daeth gweithwyr dieithr i'r fro yn gysylltiedig â chyfnod agor y rheilffordd i Flaenau Ffestiniog. Saeson oedd y mwyafrif mawr o'r rhain a chan nad oedd lle i'r anghydffurfwyr yn eu mysg i addoli penderfynwyd codi capel bychan yn Heol y Plase. Fe ddywedir fod y G.W.R. wedi cyfrannu arian at y fenter. Cafwyd tir ar lês mewn ardal dlodaidd, brysur ac ynghanol cymuned glos efo tai a gweithdai niferus, a daeth y capel, dan ofal Capel Tegid yn ganolbwynt i'r ardal, gydag oedfa foreol yn Gymraeg, Ysgol Sul a phregeth nos ar y dechrau yn Saesneg. Hwn oedd y 'Capel Bach' fel y'i gelwid o'i gymharu â'r 'Capel Mawr' sef Capel Tegid. Pery'r sôn, o hyd, am ei Ysgol Sul a'i dîmau pêl-droed hynod lwyddiannus. Daeth y lês i ben ym 1980 ac adnewyddwyd yr adeilad at wasanaeth y dref. Yma, heddiw, mae Canolfan y Plase sy'n gartref i'r Gymdeithas Dreftadaeth leol.

About the year 1880 an influx of English labourers arrived in the area to build the railway line to Blaenau Ffestiniog. There was no place for the non-conformists among them to worship and it is said that this was one reason for building a small chapel in Plase St. Rumour has it that the G.W.R. contributed to the building costs. Plase was more than a street; it was a community, poor, industrious, with the houses given to flooding on a regular basis. The chapel was run by Capel Tegid and many who attended regularly would never attend Capel Tegid itself. The town still enjoys relating the stories of Capel Bach, its Sunday School and its football teams. The lease of the land reverted to the County Council in 1980, when the population had been shifted to the newer council houses. In 1992 it took on a new role as the home of the Bala and Penllyn Heritage Society.

Y Capel Bach / *Plase St Chapel*
photo © RCAHMW

Os oes capeli yn cael eu troi i ddefnydd arall fe geir yn y Bala Eglwys Gatholig a fu unwaith yn dŷ tafarn. Sefydlwyd plwyf yn y Bala ym 1937 pan oedd cwfaint mewn tŷ mawr ger y llyn, Eryl Aran. Yn ddiweddarach symudwyd y cwfaint i Gricieth. Ym 1945 prynodd y Tad James Koenen hen adeiladau Yr Onnen yn y stryd fawr ac addasu y stablau yn y cefn yn eglwys. Agorwyd yr Eglwys a'i chysegru i Mair Fatima ym mis Mai 1948. Fe'i hadnewyddwyd yn ystod 2000/01 ac mae'n llawn haeddu ymweliad.

The Roman Catholic Church dedicated to Mary of Fatima was opened in 1948. It occupies buildings which were originally stables behind a tavern on the High St., - which makes a pleasant change ! The initiative followed the setting up of a convent in Bala in 1937, a convent which later moved to Cricieth. This little church is well worth a visit.

Eglwys Fatima /
Church of Our Lady of Fatima