

Capel

CYMDEITHAS TREFTADAETH Y CAPELI
THE CHAPELS HERITAGE SOCIETY



Y Trallwng - Welshpool **Mai 12 May 2012**



Welshpool Methodist Church, High Street, Welshpool.
The Wesleyan Methodists first met at a number of houses
from about 1790 until their first chapel was built in 1818 near

Ballard's garage. This ultimately became too small and in 1864 the present imposing building was opened in the High Street on land purchased from the Earl of Powys.

The gabled frontage is built of squared, coarsed stone with sandstone bandings and is in the decorated style, particularly the spire at the right hand side in contrast to the small minaret on the left. George Bidlake, the architect provided the entrance with double white-painted wooden doors set in their own arches. Above these is the main window consisting of three lights with cinquefoil lights above in the arch. Elsewhere construction is of red brick and at the rear is a Sunday School building added in about 1900. An original gallery in the main building was removed in 1970 as were the pews which were replaced by chairs. Sadly, hidden from view above an inserted ceiling is a very fine rose window.

The Baptist Church, Chelsea Lane, Welshpool

A date of 1811 has been attributed to this building but it does not seem to have been used by the Baptists until 1837. Despite the building's chapel like appearance there is no record of this Baptist cause in the Religious Census of 1851 – possibly the return was misplaced or not completed.

The building is of a simple rectangular shape constructed in random stonework for the walls and gable ends, under a slate tiled ridged roof, with three windows, each of six panes, being semi-circular at the top with simple early English bar tracery. There is an upstairs room for meetings and a kitchen below whilst the roadside elevations have access through two white painted doors.



Baptist Chapel, Welshpool



Welsh Independent Chapel, Welshpool



New Street Church, Welshpool



Cefn Chapel, Cefn



Pentre Llifer Chapel, Pentre

Welsh Independent Chapel, Mount Street, Welshpool.

The Welsh Independent cause originated in 1845 when they took over a Chapel in Hall Street vacated by the Congregationalists (English) before building their present chapel (in Mount Street in 1876. Construction is mainly in red brick with the front enhanced by yellow and blue brickwork. The central entry arch has double white painted doors with tall multi paned windows on each side. Y Capel Cymraeg is largely unaltered but does contain a kitchen and toilets plus a small meeting room in addition to the main worship area. The chapel is set well back from the road and is approached through a central path, between a grassed area flanked by rose trees on each side of the path.

New Street United Church, New Street, Welshpool

The New Street United Church was formed in 1987 following union of the United Reform Church and the Presbyterian Church of Wales congregation who previously worshipped in the Congregational building next door. After closure of the latter, the combined congregations moved into the schoolroom (incidentally, adjacent to Welshpool's famous Cockpit) renovating it to a high standard as a Chapel building. This former Sunday School is constructed in two shades of yellow brick and the style of the arched doorway and windows at each side are of early English appearance. Above the doorway is a corbelled, peaked pediment complimented by some ornate layered brickwork.

Cefn (Primitive) Methodist Chapel, Cefn. Situated three miles from Welshpool, just off the Shrewsbury road (the A458) near the railway bridge, is the Welshpool & Bro Hafren Methodist Circuit's sole surviving Primitive Methodist Chapel. Built in 1881 in the 100th anniversary of the building of a local

landmark (Rodney's Pillar on the nearby Breidden Hills) this 'Prim' chapel is of a striking appearance when approaching Welshpool. Built mainly of red brick but with seven courses of blue bricks on the gable and it also has the arches to the door, windows at each side and an upper round window outlined by some decorative blue and yellow bricks. The windows are quite unusual and not what are normally found in a Primitive Methodist chapel.

Pentre Llifior Wesleyan Methodist Heritage Chapel ,Berriew
Nine miles from Welshpool and situated halfway between Berriew and Bettws Cedewain on the B4389, Pentre Llifior is the first Wesleyan chapel to have been built in North Wales and the society established at the nearby Pentre Farm in the 1760's can also claim to be one of the oldest if not the first established in the North. Built in 1798 in a simple rectangular style with red brick laid in a Flemish bond. There are round headed windows on all four sides, two on each of those on the roadside protected by shutters. It has preserved its box pews and original gallery mounted on two slender pillars. Currently listed Grade 11 it has recently been comprehensively restored and the ugly lean-to addition (1964) replaced by an elegant Georgian style porch .The stable across the road has also been restored and extended to include a toilet, kitchen and meeting room/cum mini museum and parking for up to ten vehicles . It is included in T.J.Hughes's "Wales's Best One Hundred Churches" and since 2003 has been a registered Methodist Heritage Site.