

ROBERTS, JOHN (Siôn Lleyrn; 1749 - 1817), poet, schoolmaster, and religious pioneer

Name: John Roberts
Pseudonym: Siôn Lleyrn
Date of birth: 1749
Date of death: 1817
Gender: Male
Occupation: poet, schoolmaster, and religious pioneer
Area of activity: Education; Poetry; Religion
Author: Robert (Bob) Owen

Born at Chwilog Bach, Llanystumdwy, Caernarfonshire. He showed literary talent when he was quite young and published a poem - 'Barn Duw' - before he left his native parish. It would appear that he was a bardic pupil of **David Thomas** (Dafydd Ddu Eryri); there is an *awdl* by him in *Cyhoeddiadau Cymdeithas y Gwyneddigion*, 1801. About the year 1802 he published *Marwnad ... Robert Roberts, Clynnog*, and, in 1815, *Caniadau Newyddion*.

He removed to Pwllheli and was a schoolmaster there; he was the principal founder of the Calvinistic Methodist cause at Pen-mount chapel in that town and of a Sunday school which flourished some time before Robert Raikes and **Thomas Charles** (of Bala) began to institute their Sunday schools. Some of his poems were included by **David Thomas** (Dafydd Ddu Eryri) in *Corph y Gaingc*; see also *Adgof uwch anghof* by **John Jones** (Myrddin Fardd), and the Myrddin Fardd manuscripts in N.L.W. Siôn Lleyrn wrote some hymns also.

He died 7 May 1817 and was buried in Deneio churchyard, Pwllheli.

Author

Robert (Bob) Owen, (1885 - 1962)

Sources

Robert Owen, 'Enwogion Sir Gaernarfon' and 'Arloeswyr Sir Gaernarfon', two (unpublished) essays

Trysorfa Ysprydol yn cynnwys amrywiaeth o bethau ar amcan crefyddol, yn athrawiaethol, yn annogaethol, yn hanesiol, &c., ynghyd ag ychydig farddoniaeth, i, 63, 265, 363

Cymru (O.M.E.), May 1895

Gweithiau

Gwyneddigion, *Cyhoeddiadau Cymdeithas y Gwyneddigion, yn Llundain, am y flwyddyn, 1800*(Llundain 1801)

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