



NEWSLETTER



Abolition of Death Penalty, is given Royal Assent, formally abolishing the death penalty in the United Kingdom. (8th Nov 1965), 50 years ago.

November 2015 Issue 11

Events.

Thanks to our research, the owners of a 1900 Georges Richard Dogcart, Rodney Fowler and his daughter Helen, now know more about the garage and the family who owned the car from 1904-1948. It was owned by Thomas Henry Ellis of Ellis's garage in Oswestry. They brought the car to Oswestry to see if anyone remembered the car or knew the owners, when it was in Oswestry.



Rodney is still very keen to find out more of the cars history especially where it was between 1900 & 1904 before coming to Oswestry.

Current Projects.

- **Cemetery Project** – 3rd Volume of the Cemetery Registers is nearly complete. We have now researched just over 3,500 people interred in Oswestry Cemetery.
- **Rolling Stack Card Index** – Work has now started on updating the Card Index to help identify the Non Welsh Collection books etc. in the Rolling Stack. A reorganisation of the Rolling Stack has been completed by Sandy.
- **Merging the B.C.A. Card Indexes** – We have 2 sets of Index Cards for our Local Newspapers, containing Marriage & Death extracts, these will be merged to help customers find articles in our newspapers held on Micro Film. Nearly complete, the next task is to resort the drawers.
- **Digitizing the BCA from 1980-2012** – These copies of the Border County Advertiser are only held as Hard Copy and they are slowly disintegrating. To save these newspapers we are photographing every edition and storing it on CD, so that it can be accessed on the Library Computers. We have decided to have a small group of 4 people working on this project. Mike, David, Anne & Helen. We have completed 1980, that is now on disc and 1981&1982 have been photographed.

- **Llansilin School Registers** – We now have copies of the registers, they will be digitized and held at Oswestry Library. Further School Logs have become available for digitising. **Now Complete.**
- **A Large Collection of Family Documents** – Including Diaries, Bible and Photographs have been loaned to us. We are looking into creating a story of the family.
- **Parish Records** – We need to bring our Parish Records up to date. A project will start to contact churches in our area, to see if we can digitise any missing records. Mary & Kate have taken this project on.
- **New Articles** – We have a list of articles that need producing, Ammunition Dumps around Oswestry in WW2 (John Dixon has been doing some research) & Hugh Solomon Williams born Llanddeiniolen, Caernarvonshire (Headmaster Nation School Llansillin).
- **Out Of Area Maps**- There are some Ordnance Survey maps, that need sorting, which are taking up vital room in the Rolling Stack. Gillian & Tony to sort.
- **BMD Online database** - still has a year's worth of data to add.
- **Roll Of Honour Online database** - still has a year's worth of data to add.
- **Trade Directories** – We are looking to see if we can increase the number of directories we have in the Library. Gillian. **Now complete.**
- **Some New Displays** – We hope to have some new displays next year: - Parker Leighton Paintings & Oakhurst (Venables Family). Pam to deal.
- **Funeral Directors & Crematoriums** – We are looking to see if we can get hold of their records to digitize. Pam to deal.
- **Spreadsheet For Session Logs** – So we can see very quickly if we have had any previous queries on the subject of any new enquiries. Sara started. **Now complete.**
- **Updating the OF&LHG Reference Manual** – We are hoping have 1 Manual containing all contents of the Local History Centre. There will be 3 copies, 1 for OF&LHG, 1 for Librarians and 1 for Customers. Tony, Gillian & Veronica. **Now Complete.**
- **Melverley MI's Transcribing** – We have a document containing MI's for Melverley which need transcribing. Katie dealing. **Now Complete**
- **Electoral Registers**- Some of these are in boxes, we will put them into Folders, so they can be identified more easily and kept in year order. Veronica and Gillian to deal. **Now Complete**
- **Article** - David Davies born Oswestry (Geologist). Charles has started the article.
- **School Liason Project** – Pam & Sandy are starting a new project, Trefonen School have asked us for some Local History help, we are going to see if we can help other schools in the area as well.

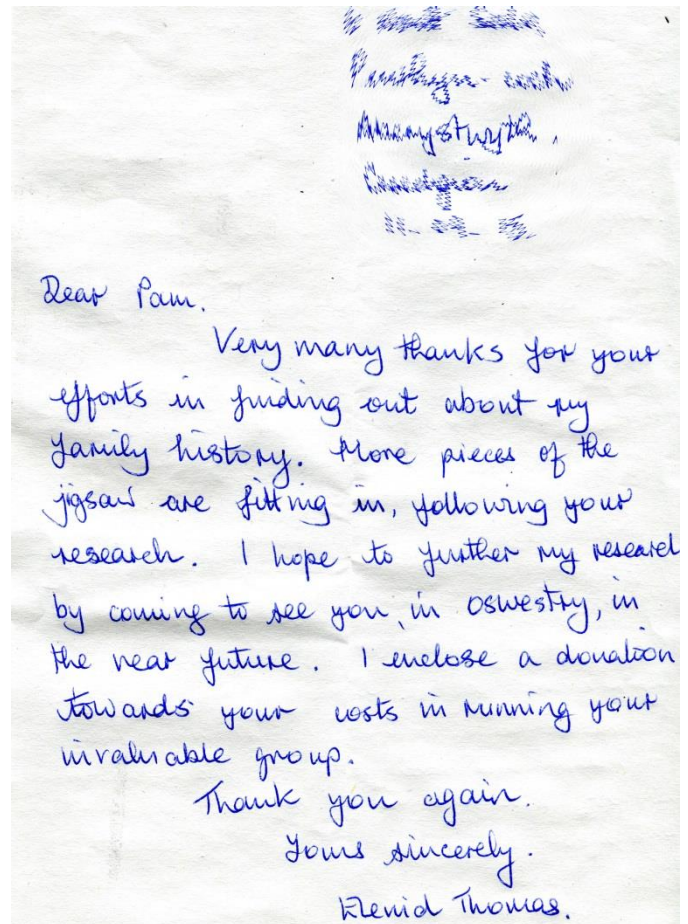
Training Sessions

We have started some training sessions for our new members. There will be talks on Census Records, Parish Records, GRO, Civil Registrations, IGI, Newspapers, Wills & Probate, Obituaries, Military Records & How to use the Rolling Stack. There will be training sessions on Ancestry.co.uk & Findmypast.co.uk. All welcome, New & Old members of the group & Library Staff.

Many Thanks.

25 August 2015

Dear Sandy,
of the many landmarks and stop-over of my recent tour of the UK, meeting you and being introduced to Oswestry was certainly a highlight. Thank you very much for your generosity and kindness, your historical insight, for showing me the way through Brogyntyn and Pentre-pant and basically for helping me uncover naughty Hammer's early steps! It would not have been possible without your guidance.
With all best wishes,
Angele



Dear Pam,
Very many thanks for your efforts in finding out about my family history. More pieces of the jigsaw are fitting in, following your research. I hope to further my research by coming to see you, in Oswestry, in the near future. I enclose a donation towards your costs in running your invaluable group.
Thank you again.
Yours sincerely,
Klevid Thomas.

Hi Sara,

Thank you so much for your email. I have waited a little bit with a response, as we have covered some background of Victorian Times before we home in on Trefonen. In the new curriculum we don't really teach The Victorian Times, but we can fit it in through a local study. This has meant that the children are interested, as it is so close to home. We have discussed why there can be a slide in the playing field, and this week we will be visiting the mineshaft. We are studying the information boards around the field. We had a brief session on the information you sent us, looking how Trefonen expanded during the 1800s and ended up with lots of questions. The children are really enjoying it, and want to know how things were - how many men from Trefonen would have worked in the mines, how many children, and how old would they have been. The school was there since 1826, but did every child go to school? The children are in year 3 and 4, and are 7-9 years old. I am sure, that you may have some answers, or give us a lead as to where to find this information. Therefore, it would be really good if we could set up a meeting. We would like to invite you to our school, as that will solve some transport issues. After half term would be really good, and a Thursday would be a preferred day (afternoon, 1-2pm?). Some possible dates: 5th, 12th or 19th November. Again, thank you so much for your interest, and I hope to hear from you.

Kind regards,
Geke Cook

Tony,

Thank you very much for sending this. It was very good of you. One more piece of information. I will follow up with the Assizes next week.

Best regards,

Austin



OSWESTRY

town council

15th September 2015

Dear Councillor Best

OSWESTRY CEMETERY PROJECT

At a recent meeting of our Amenities Committee, Members received a summary report on the above project and also advice that some 2,600 family histories have been researched.

The Council would like to formally place on record our thanks to all the volunteers involved in this project for their time, interest, support and the amazing commitment that has provided a wonderful resource for the town and a much wider audience.

The Council never underestimates the value of volunteers and on this occasion working quietly behind the scenes a piece of work has been produced that Oswestry can be proud of.

Yours sincerely

David J. Preston
Town Clerk

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Statistics.

Our Website Statistics – Sep 2015 **Users Logging On** 796 with 5,754 **Pageviews***.

Total for the Year 2015 **Users Logging On** 9,878 with 68,382 **Pageviews.**

Total for the Year 2014 **Users Logging On** 9,871 with 72,494 **Pageviews.**

* pageviews = Total numbers of web pages visited.

<u>Weekly Session Statistics</u> -	Oct 2015	Hrs	Ext Hrs	Cust	Queries
	Fri 2nd	12.5	9	2	4
	Mon 5th	22.0	8	3	3
	Fri 9th	15.0	9	2	2
	Mon 12th	25.0	11	6	2
	Fri 16th	12.5	15	6	2
	Mon 19th	24.0	13	3	3
	Fri 23rd	15.0	12	6	3
	Mon 26th	24.0	15	1	0
Total Hours		150.00	92	29	19

Year 2015	Total Hours Monday & Friday	1318.5hrs
	Total External Hours	951hrs
	Total No of Library Customers	214
	Total No of Queries (emails)	155

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