

The Overton Oracle

Volume 20 Issue 11

November 2018

Overton's Free Newspaper - delivered to every household monthly



Pudsey is coming to Overton!

This year's route of the Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge is coming through our village. More details page 5



Date for the diary

The Revd Peter Mackriell will be inducted as Priest in Charge of the Parishes of Overton and Erbistock within the Maelor Mission Area on **Sunday December 2nd** at 3pm by the Bishop of Saint Asaph in Overton Church.

All are invited to attend this service to welcome our new priest and his wife Jo.

Murder at the Village Hall

Overton Am Dram Society's next production, "Who Killed the Secret Agent?" at the Village Hall at 7.30pm Sat. 17 November. An evening of fun and suspense and a jolly good night out. Tickets £10 includes chilli & ice-cream supper.

Overton WI invites

you to our Annual Meeting incorporating Cheese, Wine and Chatter! in the Catholic Church Hall on Thursday November 15th 7.30pm. Members competition: A Wine Glass (empty!) All welcome. Visitors £4



Festive Coffee

Morning Our Lady & The Welsh Martyrs Catholic Church will be holding their Festive Coffee Morning with Stalls & Christmas Draw on Saturday, 1st December - 10.30am til 12.00 noon in the Catholic Hall

Overton's New Post Office

The Post Office is now open, every **Tuesday** morning in the Parish Room from 10.00 till noon. The Post Mistress, Jolene, offers all the services of a normal Post Office, such as accepting parcels, facilities for withdrawing cash, plus foreign currency can be ordered to pick up the following week.

Car tax or passport applications cannot be dealt with.

Our village hall trustees had no problem in agreeing to a 6 month trial in the Parish Room adjacent to the library. Initially the trustees will meet the cost of the room, approx. £300 but if successful it is hoped that the

Community Council will precept the small charge into the village portion of the Council Tax.

The success of our new Post Office will depend on the whole village making use of it. And to encourage everyone to come along - this will be a Post Office where you can also enjoy coffee, tea and cake!

- provided by -

- October 30th Overton Medical Practice Patient Participation Group
- November 6th Overton Amateur Dramatics Group
- November 13th Overton Twinning Association
- November 20th The Overton Playcentre
- November 27th Overton Bowling Club



Rhos Orpheus Choir & more

St Mary's Church Overton invite you to an evening of music with the internationally renowned Rhos Orpheus Male Voice Choir and Overton St Marys School choir.

Come and get in to the swing from Christmas and join us on Friday 14th December at 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm). Tickets are £8 or a family ticket is £20 and will be available from Overton Corner Shop or you can pay at the door.

St Mary's Parochial Church Council will also be selling Christmas cards of the Church, and some made by the children from the school. We have run a competition for the seniors. and the chosen few will receive a gift voucher each. There will also be on sale some shopping life-time cotton bags and air fresheners with a picture of our church on, which will all be on sale to raise funds for the St Mary's Church.

CŌR MEIBION ORPHEUS Y RHOS
THE RHOS ORPHEUS MALE CHOIR



Musings from the Manse



by Rev'd Phillip Poole

On Remembrance Day this year we will be marking 100 years since the end of the First World War in special Remembrance Day services all over the world. The Armistice came into force on 11th November 1918 and ended hostilities on land, sea and air. Four long years of fighting had cost 18 million lives and a further 23 million people were wounded. These huge numbers of casualties in themselves tell us something about the horror of what people came to know as "the war to end all wars." The sad truth, however, is that within a generation Europe and indeed the whole world was drawn into a conflict even more tragic and costly.

This year, as we remember the gallant sacrifice of those who risked and gave their lives in times of war, let us thank God for the peace that we have enjoyed in our country for most, if not all, of our lives. Living through decades of peace has allowed us and our society to flourish. We have been able to make lives for ourselves and our families without the threat of sudden catastrophic loss, the constant worry and pressure that those who lived through the war had to endure. More peaceful times have allowed us to settle, to find healing and to build again.

In the Bible Jesus is called the Prince of Peace, and his often repeated greeting to his followers was, "Peace be with you." His wish for his disciples was that they should know peace in their hearts, peace in their homes, peace in their families, in their workplaces and in every part of their lives – for that is what the Biblical greeting "Shalom" means. Ultimately we find peace like this through following Jesus, and through trusting our lives into his care. And so in our services we continue to pray street by street for the people of Overton. May we each know we are loved and cared for by God. May we all find faith and trust coming more easily to us, and may we all know the peace of God in our hearts and minds and in every part of our lives.

Finally, Overton Methodist Church is eighty years old this year and everyone is invited to come and share in the celebrations that are happening on **Sunday December 2nd 2018**. Afternoon tea will be served in the chapel schoolroom from 4.30pm and then there will be a special celebration service with lots of enthusiastically sung Sankey hymns beginning at 6.30pm. All are heartily welcome.

God bless you,
Phil Poole

Thank you to those who have made the poppies outside the Church. People like that help to make our village lovely. How sad that some have already been broken or removed. "Please don't pick the poppies".

email: overtonoracle@gmail.com

Overton Medical Practice - Patient Participation Group

Thank you to all those who supported our recent Coffee Morning following the 'Flu Jab' Clinic at the Surgery. Total raised on the day was £264.24. Thank you. We are fundraising to buy 2 more paediatric pulse oximeters for both Overton and Bangor Surgeries. Please come along and visit us on Tuesday, 30th October 10am - 12pm when it is our turn to host the Community Café in the Village Hall, proceeds to our Group Fund. With your support we can reach our goal.



The 46th 2018 Overton Produce Show

We were fortunate to be able to stage exhibits of produce despite it not being entirely the best year for growers. The judges expressed praise and recognition of hard work undertaken by all exhibitors. The Trophy winners were as reported in last month's issue of the Oracle. All entrants worked diligently to produce their entries in pristine condition for judging.

There were 283 entries in the Adult classes and 14 entries in the Children's classes. The Vegetable section had 76 entries, Fruit section 47 entries, Blooms section 43 entries, Preserves 33 entries, Pot Plants 12 entries, Floral Art 17 entries, Cookery 29 entries, and Wine 28 entries. The skillful entries in the Floral Art section along with the blooms made a very colourful display attracting admiration from viewers. It was also very good to see newcomers names on the prize cards.

Refreshments were provided and served by WI members. Trophies were presented by Mrs Valerie Watts. Thanks were expressed by WI President Mrs Margaret O'Neil for the support and preparation in setting up the Hall; also for raffle prizes donated by individuals and local businesses. Another successful Show. If you missed this one don't lose out, reserve the date of

Saturday 7 September 2019 for the 47th Show.



Overton Lunch Club

is on Wednesday November 14th at 12.30pm at the White Horse. There will be a choice of a 2-course menu all for £8.95. To book please ring Gwynneth Austin on 01978 710672.

Oyez A recent WI meeting welcomed the Shrewsbury Town Crier Martin Wood who is the world's tallest town crier!



St Mary's School News

St Mary's Pupils Become Environmental Artists

Recently, the pupils of St Mary's Primary had an interesting visitor; Tim Pugh, the environmental artist. Tim is famed for his use of natural materials and salvaged man-made materials from which he creates sculptures and installations in a variety of outdoor habitats.

Tim sources all his plastic from beaches in Cumbria, where he lives part-time when not residing in his native North Wales. He described that over the last two years he has been collecting toys found on beaches: Barbie heads, Lego bricks and McDonald's toys. It was eye-opening how much plastic he finds washed up on his regular beach trips – all of which find their way into his artwork.

After seeing Tim's artwork and feeling truly inspired, all classes were excited to work with Tim and create their own environmental art. Children enjoyed making art out of recycled plastic and plastic bottle tops. Year Six made sea creatures: turtles, fish and seals, and one group decided to make a unicorn rainbow turtle! With the infants, they hung plastic bottles on trees after they had turned them into jelly fish. Junior pupils also created natural art from leaves, twigs, berries and other items discovered in our Forest school area.

It seemed that Tim had almost endless tales to tell on his worldwide travels. He really is an interesting and talented artist. When we asked Tim about his visit to our school he said he enjoyed seeing the amazing art that was produced and he was thankful to the kind people at School who made him lots of cups of tea!

More colour photos on the Oracle website www.overtonoracle.com

by James Wright and Kyara Heward, Roving Reporters and Max Evans, Joint Editor-in-Chief



Thinking Scientifically at 'Think Tank'

At the start of October, Year 3 and 4 went to Birmingham Think Tank, an amazing interactive science museum. The pupils had a really fun time; some of the things they experienced were completing an outdoor obstacle course and creating Lego androids. Eva recalled: 'I enjoyed going into the science garden because there was a ride that was extremely fun; you had to get strapped up to a seat and then you go up at a high speed and then come down again.' Tigs told us she enjoyed programming Lego cars to move.

Pupils also saw a fascinating exhibition with dinosaurs and mammoths and an awe-inspiring Spitfire exhibition. Jess summed up the experience as a 'really good learning opportunity.'

All in all, everyone had an amazing time at Birmingham Think Tank. If you are looking for a fun, education day trip, do try it for yourselves.

by Tirion Owen, Roving Reporter and Olivia Busby, Joint Editor-in-Chief

More photos on page 6

DON'T FORGET THE INVITATION



to St Mary's Church SENIORS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

**on Tuesday 4th December at 1.00pm
in the Village Hall**

If you or your partner are over 60 and live in the parish of Overton, you are warmly invited to our Christmas Party. Lunch and entertainment and a chance to meet new and old friends.

There is no charge.

We just ask that you let us know by Sunday 25th November, if you wish to come.

**Contact Mrs Val Stevenson,
9 Sundorne, Overton**

Tel: 710618 Mobile: 07484 118484

Email: val.stevenson2@btinternet.com

email: overtonoracle@gmail.com

STOP PRESS

The Childcare Offer for 3 and 4 year olds will be rolling out to all of Wrexham from January!! So all of you who missed this in September will be able to access this funding if you are eligible! We are holding an information evening for all parents regarding the Childcare offer and Early Education on the **20th November** so do come along to the Playcentre at 6.15pm to find out more!

Christmas BINGO
at The Maelor School
Thursday 29th November 2018
Doors Open 6.30pm - Eyes Down 7.30pm
FUN for all the Family
* £8 for 10 Games *
PAY ON THE DOOR
Tea/Coffee & Cakes available
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE MAELOR SCHOOL. PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL PTA.

Extra information on Edwin Northover 1886 – 1918



Thank you to Trish Roberts for providing additional information and photos about Edwin Northover (*article in October Oracle*) who was her great uncle. Trish's grandmother was Olive (wrongly typed last month as Alice) who was Edwin's youngest sister. Older Overton residents will remember her as Olive Reeves who married George Reeves in 1922. Her oldest brother Ernest was deaf and without speech and used to communicate with his family by writing messages, many on the walls of his bedroom; they are still there to this day! The Northover family moved to Mossleigh, Salop Road in early 1916.

The family have the photo of Edwin (*right*) in his army uniform, and of his original grave marker (*left*) at Etrepat Churchyard, Le



Havre, now replaced by a Commonwealth War Graves white gravestone.

Information has also come from Merseyside Police, that Edwin had joined the Liverpool City Police before he joined the army. They have the photo of him (*right*) with his police bike. Merseyside Police are commemorating all those from their force who died in World War I and have erected a plaque for each one, including Edwin, at Merseyside Police Headquarters.

Information has also come from Edwin's grandson. Brian MacDonald is the son of Edwin's daughter Kathleen. Edwin and his wife Alice had 4 children Kathleen, Pearl, George and Harold and they attended schools in Chirk. The girls would have attended Chirk Girls School, now Shannons Furniture Store and Kathleen was 10 when the Headteacher called her to the front of the class to tell her that her father was dead.

Brian has happy memories of spending time at his maternal grandparents home, Hollies Cottage near the Greyhound pub.

"It had neither electricity nor gas (or running water etc for that matter) but had a cast iron range with swinging trivet for a kettle and side oven. An old wooden butter churn perched at the end of the Belfast sink held the day's water. A jug of water was kept to prime the water pump in the yard each morning. A cold winters night would frost over the stone floor. At night the glass table lamp refracted light patterns and created flickering shadows. The smell of burning lamp oil demanded a "wick trim." Outside, a coracle (for fishing in the Dee) was stored at the top of the veg. patch. Saturday night at the Miners Institute, or "stute" at Ifton was a rare experience. Armed with a glass of pop and a packet of damp Smith's crisps we joined in the pandemonium in the middle of the main hall where 60 or so offspring had been left to supposedly watch the "B" movie whilst the parents lined up at the bar for serious business. "Hoppalong Cassidy" and the "Three Stooges" were among the limited range of repeats we knew almost by heart. Happy days!!"

After losing Edwin, life had to go on and my grandmother had to take any job to provide for her family. A widow with 4 young children was not an ideal employee. During WW2 she worked at the munitions factory at Marchwiell where cordite, a nitro-glycerine shell propellant stabilised with gun cotton, was produced.

I still sometimes wonder how life could have turned out for Gunner Edwin and my lovely grandmother if events of World War I had not intruded into their lives."

Edwin Northover will be remembered, along with all those named on Overton War Memorial, at the Remembrance Service - see details below.



Remembrance Sunday



This year marks 100 years since the guns fell silent on the Western Front, signaling the end of hostilities in the Great War. This year Armistice Day (November 11th) and Remembrance Sunday fall on the same day and we expect a high turnout both on the Parade and in the Church.

The service will be tinged with sadness for the Overton Branch of The Royal British Legion following the loss of Vice-President Sir Charles Lowther Bt who passed away in October. He has read the lesson on Remembrance Sunday for the last 30 years. This year another of our Vice-Presidents, Frank Lloyd will read the lesson.

This year to mark this special anniversary, named commemorative crosses will be placed at the War Memorial inside the Church as the names of the Fallen of both World Wars are read out alternated with the tolling of the church bell.

We will gather at the War Memorial in High Street at 10.50am. At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we observe the Two Minute Silence to honour those who have paid the price for our freedom. The service will continue in St Mary's Church.



Pudsey comes to Overton

This year's the Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge will be coming through Overton! Every year as part of the Children in Need Appeal BBC's The One Show organises the Rickshaw Challenge with six inspiring young people taking on a grueling 423 mile cycle to change children's lives. This year it begins in Calais on the 8th November and finishes at Media City, Salford on 16th November. Each evening progress will be broadcast on The One Show BBC1 at 7pm and the Team will be led by TV Presenter Matt Baker.



On Day 7 Team Rickshaw will cycle from Ironbridge to Chester passing through Wellington, Shawbury, Wem, Ellesmere and OVERTON. The places the team will stop have already been organised so they will not be stopping in Overton, but the cavalcade will travel up Salop Road, Penyllan Street, High Street and leave by Wrexham Road.

The BBC have said **“However, we really do encourage Supporters to line the streets for Team Rickshaw and it's great to hear Overton plan to do this! It is such a boost to the riders' morale – particularly towards the end of the challenge as they will be starting to get very worn out indeed!”**

Fundraising packs can be obtained from the website <https://bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraisinghub> and Pudsey bear 'ears' are available from Asda, Boots and Greggs.

So the date is **Thursday November 15th** and we are not sure about what time, but looking at the route it will be some time in the afternoon. The team's progress can be tracked live on <https://pudsey.viewranger.com> and by watching the previous days progress it will be possible to see how fast they are cycling and get an idea of the time they will be coming through Overton. Let's get out there with plenty of loose change for their collecting buckets.

Playcentre News

What a busy month October has been! We had our own Harvest Festival, where Willy, the pony, who led us from Playgroup and all the way into Church! We harvested apples at The Brow, sang



songs and danced in the orchard, before eating apples for our snack. We then cooked apples and made crumbles which we took to Parkview Community Room for the people there. We read books about Harvest, hedgehogs and apples, as well as doing apple prints. We have visited the Library for National Libraries Week - where Rebecca read us stories and we sang songs. Looking for something to do on a cold wet Saturday morning in November? Come and join us in the Playcentre between 10-12am. Enjoy a cuppa and a natter, while the children play! Watch out for further information or ring 01978 710688!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with our Nearly New Sale. A special thanks should go to Nicola who has run the NNS so efficiently for Playgroup for nearly 4 years and this was her last! Nicky ran a colouring competition for children and adults which proved very popular too! We will let you know the winners in the next Oracle !!

Looking ahead we have a special Christmas Tree event planned for the 8th and 9th of December in the Church - more details to follow!

Wow! What a month it has been for the Overton-on-Dee Community Growers!

Our Overton-on-Dee Calendar launched on 13th October. We are happy to report that sales so far have surpassed our expectations!

Our thanks must go to everyone who has been involved in the production of the Calendar, from those members in our Group who approached our very generous sponsors. to those members who approached various distributors to sell the Calendars on our behalf. Thanks too to the wonderful BP&D Printers, to Fred Edwards, local professional photographer and to those who sent in photographs for selection. Thanks to all of you too for buying it and supporting us. We couldn't have done it without you all! Calendars are still on sale in and around the Village.



Secondly, a small group of Growers have been busy making poppies for Remembrance Sunday out of recycled plastic bottles. The completed poppies may be seen on St Mary's Church Gates and railings. Money

collected for sponsorship will be divided between the Community Growers, Overton Royal British Legion and St Mary's Church. Thank you to everyone who has so far sponsored a Poppy but there is still time at £3 each. Ring 710328 or call in at the Community Café every Tuesday 10am-12 noon for more information.

Overton Wildlife Group

Litter pick The Overton Wildlife Group had its 2nd litter pick at the start of October. Over 200 pieces of litter were collected across the 2 litter picks. By surveying the litter collected we have found that the most common items found are sweet wrappers and cigarette butts, making up a third of the overall litter collected. This maybe due to sweet wrappers being light and easily blown out of bins. Knotting light packaging can help to prevent it from being moved by the wind during bin emptying or when bins are overfilled. The next litter pick will be from 10.00am Saturday 10th November; meet outside of the Corner Shop.

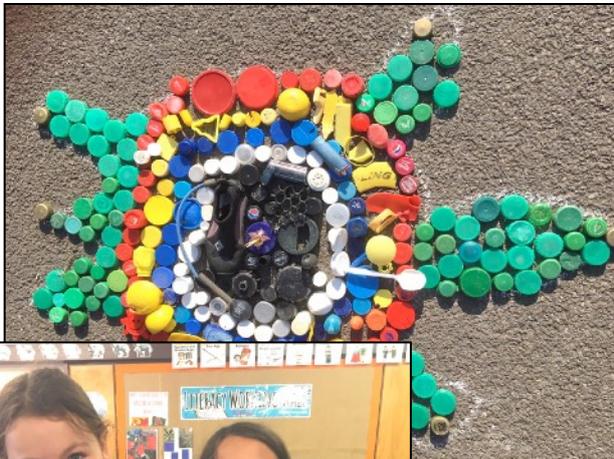
Hedgehog Street We are keen to get Overton involved in a voluntary project called Hedgehog Street. which aims to improve neighbourhoods for hedgehogs by creating connections between gardens by cutting small hedgehog tunnels into fences, creating log piles or leaving areas of leaf litter for hedgehogs to hibernate in, and reducing the use of slug pellets, as these can be toxic to hedgehogs. We would also like to improve our understanding of hedgehog numbers in Overton, so would like you to send in sightings of hedgehogs in the area. If you would like to get involved in Hedgehog Street please get in contact for more information (see below).

Bird box making We will be having a bird box making session at the Scout Hut on Sunday November 18th. Thank you to everyone who has donated wood. If you would like to come and help make bird boxes please get in contact (see below).

Tawny Owl Survey Tawny Owls are the most common owls in the UK, small and brown with the distinctive 'twit-twoo' call. However the British Ornithological Society (BTO) are concerned that the number of tawny owls are dropping due to destruction of habitats. Between now and March the BTO are asking people to stand outside either in their gardens or a local park at night for 20mins to listen for tawny owls. Records of both presence and absence of calls are important to help understand where the owls are living and where they're missing. If you'd like to get involved please get in contact, we will be having a practice survey in the park on Tuesday November 13th which people can come and join in with. To book a space please contact Katie Piercy Katharine.piercy@googlemail.com or tel: 07725224151

Preparation For Poor Weather Conditions

Overton Community Council are unable to clear the car park located at the Playingfields. A grit box has been provided for residents to use at their discretion. If you notice the grit requires topping up, please contact: The Clerk to the Council, Overton Village Hall, Tel: 01978 710055. *Overton Community Council*



Adverts are not included in the on-line archived edition of the Oracle.

This is because the archive of the Oracle is available on-line going back many years and the adverts and contact details would be out of date.

More photos from St Mary's School. Pupils create their own environmental art (left) and building Lego androids at Birmingham 'Think Tank'. (right)



What's On**November Diary for St Mary's Services**

Sunday Nov 4th 10.00am Village Praise, Rev Mike Vellacott
 Sunday Nov 11th 10.50am Remembrance Service Rev Gauge
 Sunday Nov 18th 10.00am Family Communion Rev Paul Barrow
 Sunday Nov 25th 11.30am Holy Communion Rev Barrie Gauge

November Diary for Overton Methodist Chapel

Sunday Nov 4th 6.30pm Rev Neville Pugh
 Sunday Nov 11th 6.30pm Mr Nigel Burns
 3.00-5.00pm Messy Church
 Sunday Nov 18th 6.30pm Holy Communion Rev Phillip Poole
 Sunday Nov 25th 11am All Age Worship Mr Tim Guy
 Tuesdays 1.00pm-3.00pm Craft Group
 Wednesdays 7.00pm Bible Study
 Fridays 9.30am Mothers & Toddlers

Thursday November 1st 10.30am-2.30pm Rainbow Centre
 Lunch & Learn 'Tree of Life Wire-Work Pendants' with Coral Devlin

Thursday November 8th 12.00pm - 7.00pm The Hanmer
 Autumn Fayre in St Chads Church. Free entry

Thursday November 8th 12.30pm Lunch Club at Enfys Cafe
 in the Rainbow Centre. Book on 01948 830730

Tuesday November 13th 6.50pm Overton Community
 Council meeting in the Parish Room. Members of
 the public wishing to speak 6.50pm-7.00pm.

Tuesday November 13th 7pm for 7.30pm Bingo Night at the
 Rainbow Centre, Penley. Tea & coffee available

Wednesday November 14th 10.30am Overton British Legion
 meeting at the Scout Hut. All welcome

Wednesday November 14th 12.30pm Overton Lunch Club at
 the White Horse. Please book - see below

Wednesday November 14th 7.30pm Maelor Music Society
 present Trio Cymru with Annette Parri, of Piantel
 fame, on piano - in the Maelor School Hall

Thursday November 15th 7.30pm Overton WI Meeting AGM
 plus Cheese & Wine at the Catholic Church Hall

Saturday November 17th 7.30pm Overton Amateur Dramatics
 "Who Killed the Secret Agent?" at the Village Hall

Tuesday November 20th 6.15pm Childcare Offer/ Early
 Education Meeting at Overton Playcentre

Saturday November 24th 2.00pm Christmas Fair at the
 Methodist Chapel

Thursday November 29th 7.30pm Christmas Bingo at The
 Maelor School

Saturday December 1st 10.30am-12pm Festive Coffee
 Morning in the Catholic Hall. Stalls & Xmas Draw

For sale**Family Announcements**

Many Congratulations to Olive and Walter on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Love and Best Wishes from Dave and Family xxx" And lots of love and Best Wishes to you both from Joan and Family, Sutton in Ashfield xxx "

Happy 90th Birthday to Den Owen on Nov 10th

Happy November Birthdays to Lydia Evison, Pearl Edwards, Hugo Hunter, Pauline Dodd, Phil Edwards, Dave Smith, Mike Done, Heather Davies, Lucy Roberts, Rob Netzband-Piggott, Gerald Williams, Peter Rosselli, and Laura Edwards.



Happy birthday to Belinda Sampson, love Nick.

Happy belated birthday to Vi Taylor on 23rd October from all the family.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sir Charles Lowther Bt of Erbistock Hall, Vice President of Overton Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Tony Stead who sadly passed away in September.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mary Smitheram, formerly of Chapel House, School Lane, Overton, who sadly passed away on October 5th in Norfolk, aged 92.

A memorial service will be held in Overton Methodist Church at a later date

**Overton Royal British Legion 100 Club**

Results of the "100 Club" draw for October 2018.

99 members entered and the draw was made at the White Horse Lunch Club on the 10th October by the Rev David Child. The winners are -

1st Prize £198.00 No 97 Vicky Jones
 2nd Prize £99.00 No 55 Tim Hill
 3rd Prize £49.50 No 10 Ian Nicholas

Legion Fund: £148.50

Next Draw: Wednesday November 14th

PLEASE REMEMBER
Copy deadline is 20th of
the previous month.

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to us early to avoid
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