

The Documented History of Okehampton Town and Other Interesting Snippets.

Digitised in 2020- 2025,by Jan Goffey, as a Museum of Dartmoor Life Trustee and former Mayor of Okehampton.

***Dr Edward
Herbert
Young
(1862-1932)***



Richard Shebbeare his Books and Writing 1677

Title.....Shebbeare's Journal

Okehampton Villa and Burg. Memorandum.

That on the 20th day of September in the XX1111 yeare of the reigne of King Charles the second, Anno Dom. 1672, I began to copy out this booke by the towne booke of record made and mostly written by Mr. John Rattenbury and Mr. Thomas Austyn, Towne Clerkes of this Town and Borough, all of the most remarkable things to hand as exact as my abillities would permit me truly and indifferently copyed out for the diversion and satisfaction of myself and my posterity or ffriends which should come after me.

Richard Shebbeare

The Town Gaol – site today



Topics of interest as detailed in the records

- Plague and the Town Councils actions
- Civil War – why was our Mayor imprisoned in Exeter Castle?
- Lists of the Freemen who could vote. Our Watchmen precursor of the Police force
- Early tourists and what they thought of Okehampton
- Our MP's like Mr Wardle Agitator against Corruption in high places

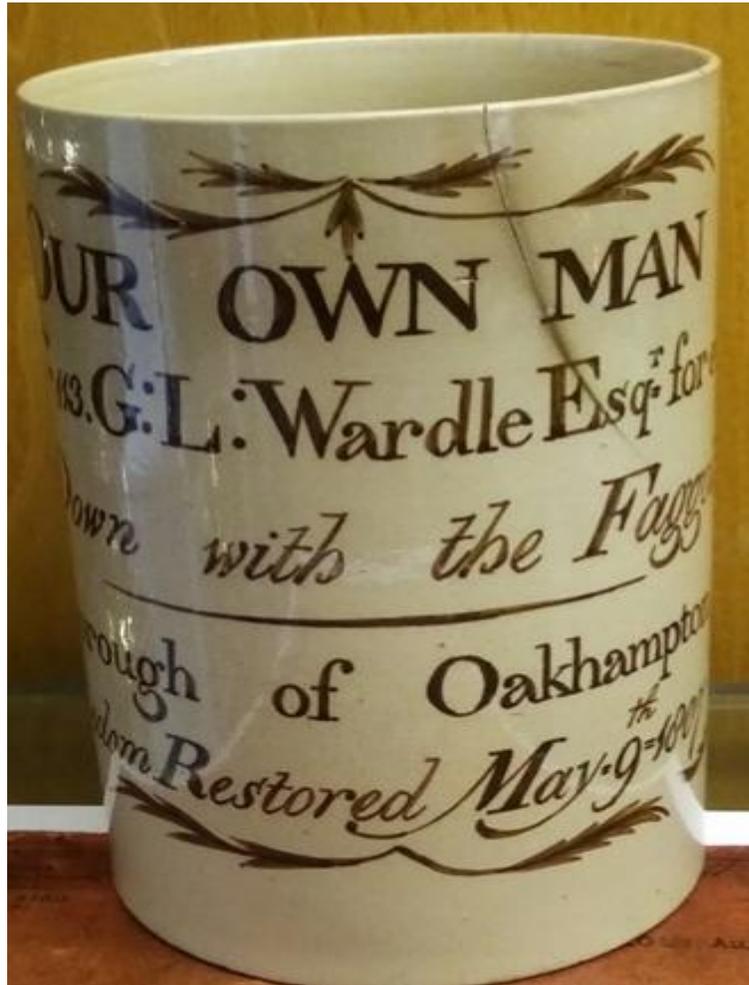
Town Clerks Comments

“The before mentioned William Turpin, a Beggarly and most bitter enemy to the Mayor and Burgesses Brake his Necke by falling downe over Mrs. Hutchins stayers at the Sign of the Angell.

He that endeavoured to breake the Necke of the Corporation and creditt of the Principall Burgesses thereof, ffell into that pit which he digged for them.”

Mr Wardle MP for Okehampton

Gwyllym Lloyd Wardle MP was elected for Okehampton in 1807



Northmore's House



Men's Wear again!



My heartfelt plea....

Save these wonderful stories...and lots more.... for posterity!

Albany Savile...what was his real name?

Was he Okehampton's Trump?

Why was Meldon so important for the history of our Town?

All this and much much more to discover!