

October 2019 – March 2020



O^{the} OddfeLLows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

Worcester District



Tramps Nightclub, Worcester



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



Annual District Lunch – Sunday 6 October 2019

Welcome to the autumn edition of your Events Diary for Worcester District Oddfellows.

As a local District of a national membership organisation called the Oddfellows, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when you need them.

We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared interest in socialising, making friends and helping people.

This issue features details of all our upcoming events.

Contact Details

District Secretary: Sandra Loynes

Telephone: 01905 422591

Email:
sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk

Address:
3 Windsor Avenue,
Worcester WR2 5LZ

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to you and your friends to attend any of our events that take your fancy and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a friendly society with Branches across the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. We welcome everyone of all ages. Find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk or call 0800 028 1810.

Front cover: Tramps Nightclub, Worcester by Rept0n1x and is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported, 2.5 Generic, 2.0 Generic and 1.0 Generic license.

Regular Event

Ten Pin Bowling



10am



£3.80 for two games and a hot drink & biscuits



Come and join us for a morning of ten pin bowling. Open to members and non-members. Everyone welcome. Bowl Extreme, Perdiswell Park, Droitwich Road, Worcester WR3 7SN. For more details please contact Kath on 01299 826734.

Every Second Tuesday of the month



Booking and Cancellations

Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support. Please note that a place is not guaranteed at any event until full payment has been received.

Is there someone you know who'd enjoy what we do?

Refer a friend today



To refer a friend, call Membership on **0800 028 1810**, or visit our Members' Area at **www.oddfellows.co.uk** or fill in the **Refer Friend form** available from your Branch Secretary

*Terms and conditions apply to the Refer a Friend offer. It cannot be used in conjunction with any other member offer. For full terms and conditions and for details of the rewards visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers.

Ref 1644

October 2019

TUES 01 Fish and Chip Night Stanley Baldwin Branch

 7.30pm

 TBC



Come and join us for a good old English Fish and Chip supper we will be holding a raffle on the night. Book by Tuesday 24 September. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON 28 Card Bingo Fernhill Heath Branch

 12 noon


 Free



Do you enjoy a game of bingo? If so come and try our card bingo, lots of fun and prizes to be won. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Warndon, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



SUN 06 Annual District Lunch

 12 noon

 £25



Come and join us for our annual District lunch. Three course meal with coffee or tea in the beautiful Garden Room of the Bank House Hotel and Spa. We will be having a Tombola at this event. Book by Friday 20 September. Bank House Hotel and Spa, Bransford, Worcester WR6 5JD. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

TUES 29 A Talk by Anda Phillips Worcester District Branch

 7.30pm

 Free



Join us for an interesting talk by Anda Phillips on the work of the Duckworth Trust and its environmental activities.

Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemens Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.



November

TUES

05

Remembrance Roll of Honour followed by a Quiz Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



Free



Join us in remembering all Oddfellows who lost their lives in combat. We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be provided. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

MON

25

Show and Tell Fernhill Heath Branch



12 noon



Free



Bring something to the meeting that means something to you and tell us all about it. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. The Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Warndon, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

SUN

10

Service of Remembrance at Worcester Cathedral



9.15am



As per menu



Meet outside Bygones at 9.15am for a 9.30am start. Spaces are limited so please contact Sandra Loynes if you wish to attend. Following the service we will be going to The Ketch, Bath Road, Worcester for a carvery Lunch. Book by Friday 1 November. Worcester Cathedral, College Yard, Worcester WR1 2LA. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

TUES

26

Fish and Chip Supper Worcester District Branch



7.30pm



As per menu



Fish and chips £4, roe and chips £3. There will be a raffle on the night. Barbourne Ex-Servicemens Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.



THURS

28

Management Committee Meeting



7.30pm



Free



Committee Members Only. Tesco's, St Peters Drive, Worcester WR5 3SW. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

December

TUES
03

Christmas Carol's and Mince Pies Stanley Baldwin Branch

⌚ 7.30pm

£ Free



Come and join in the singing of our favourite Christmas carols and if you are good you'll be rewarded with a tot of whiskey or glass of wine and a mince pie. We will be holding a raffle on the night. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON
16

Christmas Lunch Fernhill Heath Branch

⌚ 12 noon

£ As per menu



Details to be finalised when Christmas menu available. Book by Friday 29 November. The Timberdine (Harvester), Bath Road, Worcester WR5 3HP. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

January 2020

TUES
07

Card Bingo Stanley Baldwin Branch

⌚ 7.30pm

£ Free



Come and enjoy a game of card bingo for prizes. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

SUN
26

Pantomime Dick Whittington

⌚ 4.30pm

£ £12



Who doesn't enjoy a pantomime? Oh yes you do. This year we will be going to watch Dick Whittington. Book by Tuesday 3 December. The Civic Hall, Martins Way, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8UJ. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

January 2020

TUES
28

New Year Lunch Worcester District Branch



12 noon



£10



Two course lunch with tea or coffee and we will be holding a raffle.

Book by Friday 10 January. The New Inn, Ombersley Road, Worcester WR3 7DH. Contact John on 01905 355241.



February

TUES
25

Film Night Worcester District Branch



7.30pm



Free



Get your seats early for the showing of Calamity Jayne. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemens Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.

THURS
27

Management Committee Meeting



7.30pm



Free



Committee Members Only. Tesco's, St Peters Drive, Worcester WR5 3SW. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

February

TUES
04

Installation of Officer followed by a Quiz Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



Free



We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be provided. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

MON
24

Name That Tune Fernhill Heath Branch



12 noon



Free



A game for all you music lovers. Refreshments will be provided. The Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Warndon, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

March

TUES
03

Beetle Drive Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm

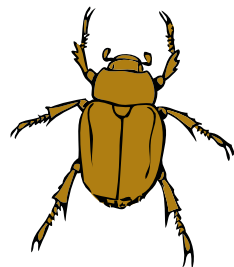


Free



Join us for an evening of fun. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre,

Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



March

MON
23

Easter Themed Quiz Fernhill Heath Branch



12 noon



Free



Do you know when the first chocolate Easter eggs were made? If so come and join the fun of our Easter themed quiz. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. The Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Warndon, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

TUES
31

Bingo Worcester District Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for a game of bingo, lots of prizes to be won.



Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemens Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.

Forthcoming Event in April

SAT
28

Annual General Meeting Worcester District Branch



2pm



Free



Afternoon Tea will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemens Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

TUES
07

Easter Quiz and Hot Cross Buns Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



Free



Join us for an Easter themed quiz and hot cross buns. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.





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Young Oddfellows membership for ONLY £10!

It's not just adults who can enjoy the benefits of Oddfellows membership; anyone from new born to 17 years old can join the Young Oddfellows. With benefits especially for them, there's every reason to give your child a great start in life.

Just £10 a year will entitle your child to*:

- £5 gift voucher at Christmas
- Orphan Gift Fund
- Social Events
- Educational & Apprenticeship Awards
- Savings on Adult Membership



**For details contact your
Branch Secretary for an
application form**

***Terms and conditions apply
to all financial benefits.
Call 0800 028 1810 for details
or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk.**



**Young
Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F. Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB

Social Events at a glance

October 2019

Tues 1	Fish and Chip Night (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
Sun 6	Annual District Lunch	12 noon
Tues 8	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 28	Card Bingo (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
Tues 29	Worcester District Branch - A Talk By Anda Phillips	7.30pm

November

Tues 5	Remembrance Roll of Honour followed by a Quiz (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
Sun 10	Service of Remembrance at Worcester Cathedral	9.15am
Tues 12	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 25	Show and Tell (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
Tues 26	Worcester District Branch Fish and Chip Supper	7.30pm
Thurs 28	Management Committee Meeting	7.30pm

December

Tues 3	Christmas Carol's and Mince Pies (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
Tues 10	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 16	Christmas Lunch (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon

January 2020

Tues 7	Card Bingo (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
Tues 14	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Sun 26	Pantomime - Dick Whittington	4.30pm
Tues 28	Worcester District Branch New Year Lunch	12 noon

February

Tues 4	Installation of Officer followed by a Quiz (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
Tues 11	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 24	Name That Tune (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
Tues 25	Worcester District Branch Film Night	7.30pm
Thurs 27	Management Committee Meeting	7.30pm

Social Events at a glance

March

Tues 3	Beetle Drive (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
Tues 10	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 23	Easter Themed Quiz (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
Sat 28	Worcester District Branch Annual General Meeting	2pm
Tues 31	Worcester District Branch Bingo	7.30pm

Forthcoming Event in April

Tues 7	Easter Quiz and Hot Cross Buns (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
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Travel places with Friendly Faces

With group holidays, short breaks, exclusive discounts, travel offers and the opportunity to get to know other Oddfellows travellers, the Active Travel Club has something for everyone to enjoy.



**Fred. Olsen
Cruise Lines**



**Haven
Holidays**



**Warner Leisure
Holidays**



**Travel
Insurance***

Check out the latest holidays at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Contact **0161 832 9361** or email active@oddfellows.co.uk

All holidays are booked through third party travel companies and terms and conditions apply.

Please ask for further details before booking.

Holidays are open to Oddfellows members and their guests.

*Oddfellows Support Services Limited will introduce members to the above organisation. Oddfellows Support Services Limited receives a commission payment for any introduction. Oddfellows Support Services Limited is registered in England and Wales, Company No. 8309175. Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB and is a non-regulated wholly owned subsidiary of The Independent Order of Oddfellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited.

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Worcester News and Views

News and views from your local friendship group

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Midland Group Conference Quiz

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A walk through the woods



Summer BBQ



Wintertimes in the Garden



Welcome to the new look Worcester Newsletter

This is your newsletter so if you have any ideas for items please send them in. Maybe you have a favourite recipe, joke or a celebration that you would like to share with other members? Why not write about a social event you've attended or send in photos?

All items will be gratefully received. Any member wishing to contribute an article should please send them to me (details on the right). I look forward to hearing from you.

Sandra Loynes

Contact Details

For more details about any of the events listed, membership and the wide range of benefits available, please call:

District Secretary: Sandra Loynes

Telephone: 01905 422591

Email:
sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk

Address:
3 Windsor Avenue,
Worcester WR2 5LZ

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Annual Movable Conference



Your Deputies at this year's AMC held in Southport were Ron Fryer Past Provincial Grand Master (Past District Chairman), Jeff Loynes Past Provincial Grand Master (Past District Chairman) and Sandra Loynes District Secretary.

AMC Bowls Competition - Sandra and Jeff Loynes, your Worcester Deputies entered the annual bowls competition. Sandra's team got knocked out in the quarter finals, whilst Jeff's team got knocked out in the semi-finals.



Winners.



Runner-ups.



A walk through the woods

On Monday 17 June, the District organised a walk through the woods at Worcester Countryside Centre and as June is Healthy Heart month, we invited Worcester Heart Support group to join us. Several members enjoyed a leisurely walk through the woods followed by a well-earned hot drink in the lovely Orchard Café.



Annual Trip

Tuesday 30 July, 34 members and friends went on a coach to Moreton-in-Marsh and Bourton-on-Water.

We arrived at Moreton-in-Marsh about 10.30am, the purpose of us going to Moreton was for the market, which are held every Tuesday but unfortunately it was raining and there didn't seem to be as many market stalls as there have been in the past, so most people on the coach dived into one of the many cafés.

We should have arrived at Bourton-on-Water for lunch at The Old Manse Hotel at about 12 noon but we got stuck in road works traffic and didn't arrive until 1.15pm and it was still raining.

Once everyone had eaten a lovely two course lunch, we were hoping to have some free time to wander around this lovely Cotswold village but with us arriving an hour late for lunch and the awful weather it was decided to jump back on the coach for the journey home.



Summer BBQ

On Saturday 27 July, the District hosted a summer barbecue at The Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn and although the weather was not kind to us and we had to move the barbecue indoors a good time was had by everyone who attended.

Our Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) John Bradley and his wife Ann organised a very enjoyable game of Play your Cards Right. Many thanks to



everyone who helped to make this a lovely afternoon. We raised £27 on the raffle.

Oddfellows Memorial at the National Arboretum

On Thursday 1 August, the Oddfellows memorial to all members who lost their lives through combat was unveiled at the National Arboretum, Burton-on-Trent. Over £11,000 was donated by 62 Branches to fund the memorial, which is made of polished blue granite and stands approximately six foot tall.





Midland Group Conference Quiz

On Saturday 3 August, four members from the Worcester District travelled to Coventry to take part in the Midland Group Conference Annual Quiz.

Six teams from different Districts within the Midland Group had entered and once again the winning team came from Deeside, guess which team got the wooden spoons for coming last! Yes you got it right, it was the team from Worcester, never mind we are constantly being told it is the taking part that matters not the winning.

The Secretary of the Midland Group presented the winning team from Deeside District with the winners shield and a bottle of wine each and of course the wooden spoons to Worcester.

Picture above: Worcester quiz team presented with the wooden spoons by Past Grand Master of the Order (Past Chairman of the Society) Tony Luckett.

Obituaries 2019

Memories Comfort you
For Memories are Treasures
That time cannot destroy

John Addison

Roseine Dorricott

Megan Freeman

David Hales

J Langford

Peter Morgan

100 Club 2019

Date	Number	£10	Number	£5
March	22	David Fryer	19	Lin Cole
April	61	June Potter	69	Julie Tolley
May	72	John Wilson	8	Anita Hill
June	9	Jamie Bilboe	47	John Mayall
July	55	Mervyn Eaton	65	Marion Rawlinson
August	26	Bill Henschliff	73	David Evans

Celebrations 2019/2020

October 2019

Tuesday 29 October - Roy Turner will celebrate his 80th birthday

November

Wednesday 6 - Judith Mackie will celebrate her 80th birthday

Thursday 7 - Derrick Harrison will celebrate his 80th birthday

Monday 18 - George Hopkins will celebrate his 90th birthday

December

Thursday 5 - Julia Tolley will celebrate her 80th birthday

Tuesday 10 - John Garbett will celebrate his 80th birthday

January 2020

Monday 6 January - Joan Bayfield will celebrate her 90th birthday

Saturday 11 January - Margaret Hall will celebrate her 80th birthday

Sunday 12 January - Cyril Boucher will celebrate his 100th birthday

March

Monday 9 March - Norma Harrison will celebrate her 80th birthday

April

David Prince will celebrate his 80th Birthday



Wintertime in the Garden

With the cold nights and days it is a little more difficult to spend time in the garden, but there is still much to do as and when the weather allows.

In the flower garden - still time to plant tulips and hyacinths, divide perennials and of course, protect young tender plants from the wet and frost.

In the kitchen area - this is a good time to plant fruit trees, raspberries and other soft fruits. The greenhouse needs to be ventilated whenever the sun is shining and water as little as possible.

The lawn area - keep off the grass as much as possible when very wet to prevent damage. If you have to cut the lawn raise the cutting height, it's also a good time to repair any patches.

If you still have digging to do, get it completed as soon as the ground will let you. Remove plants that have been damaged by frost and take down hanging baskets that are passed their sell by date, this also applies to tubs and pots that are over their best.

Paths may need attention as they can be very slippery when wet, particularly from fallen leaves and green growth.

It is, of course a time to put your feet up and enjoy reading your garden catalogues and dreaming of how your garden will look come next spring.

The Old Gardener

Pension Credit



The BBC says about 1.5 million over-75s will be able to claim for the free licence, but up to 3.7 million who previously would have been eligible for a free licence may have to pay.

A standard TV licence costs £154.50 a year – you need one to watch or record programmes as they're being shown on TV or live on an online TV service, and to download or watch BBC programmes on the iPlayer.

What will happen next?

If you currently have a free over-75 licence, the BBC says you'll be contacted over the next few weeks with details on what you'll need to do from next June.

Those who will still qualify for a free TV licence will need to use a self-verification system» to prove they receive pension credit. The BBC says it will work with older people's groups and support organisations to make the claiming process as easy as possible.

Those who will be over 75 but don't receive pension credit will be covered by their current free licence until 31 May

2020. After this, they'll need to pay, unless they claim pension credit.

The BBC says it will set up a new payment plan to help over 75s pay for their TV licences after the new rules come in, which will include options to spread the cost as well as telephone support.

Check NOW if you can claim pension credit

Many of those eligible for pension credit don't actually apply to receive it - the latest Government figures show 40% of those entitled to pension credit don't claim it, leaving up to 1.3 million households missing out.

To qualify, you must live in England, Scotland or Wales and have reached state pension age. This varies depending on when you were born

The benefit offers a weekly top-up to your income, and is made up of two elements: Guarantee credit. If your weekly income is less than £167.25 as a single pensioner, or your joint weekly income is less than £255.25 as a couple, your income will be topped up to this level.



Quick Guide to Bereavement Support

Our members often tell us they have joined the Society to make new friends after losing a partner. It is natural for the impact of a bereavement to cause feelings of loss and grief. However, similar feelings can also arise if a loved one develops dementia, or moves into care.

Bereavement and loss are complex experiences and it's different for everyone. At first, thoughts and feelings can be chaotic and overwhelming, and common feelings include shock, disconnect, anxiety, anger, irritation, guilt and intense sadness.

Knowing how to respond when a friend or family member is grieving is difficult. We may feel the need to 'make things better' or fear saying the 'wrong thing'. We've shared some of the ways to support someone experiencing a loss.

Listening – By telling their story, the weight of their loss can slowly become easier to bear.

It's not about you – Some people may not want to talk right now.

Acknowledgement – Take the initiative and make contact, be kind and acknowledge the situation.

Practical help – Think about how you can help once the initial crisis is over.

Honesty – It's best to be honest about what support you can realistically offer such as visiting or calling.

Be sensitive – Always balance honesty with sensitivity, so bear in mind the bereaved person feels.

Be in for the long haul – Try to stay in contact when other people have drawn back.

Practical steps

There are things that a bereaved person can do to help them through the grieving process. These include:

- Getting plenty of sleep
- Eating healthily
- Being kind to themselves
- Avoiding alcohol or other substances
- Keeping an active routine
- Finding small things to feel better, like flowers or short walks

Useful links:

Cruse Bereavement Care – call 0808 808 1677 or visit www.cruse.org.uk

Samaritans – 116 123, or visit www.samaritans.org

The Silver Line – 0800 470 80 90 or visit www.thesilverline.org.uk

The Compassionate Friends – 0345 123 2304 or visit www.tcf.org.uk

Child Bereavement UK – 0800 02 888 40 or visit www.childbereavementuk.org

Kindness doesn't cost a thing

“A little thought and a little kindness are often worth more than a great deal of money.” – John Ruskin

At the Oddfellows, we care for people from all walks of life. Whether we care for them by offering our friendship, or our time, at our heart we are a friendly Society, and we believe in being kind.

There are thousands of ways you can offer a little kindness to make somebody's day, and it doesn't always have to cost a great deal of money. Here, we list five of our favourite ways to make people smile:

1. It's wonderful when our friends call for a chat. It puts us in a good mood, and as we end the call, we're left feeling motivated and happy. Now, what if you called somebody you didn't know very well? A neighbour, or somebody you saw frequently at your Knit & Natter club? That's a little harder to do, the conversation might not flow as freely. However, things which require a little extra effort often deliver the biggest reward.
2. Think back onto old conversations and recall some of their favourite things. It could be something as simple as putting marshmallows in their hot chocolate, but remembering the little details can make somebody feel loved.



3. If you have a friend who needs a little support, see how you can help. Ask them what you can do, whether it's recommending their business or joining them at a gym class.
4. If you're de-cluttering, give the things you don't want a little polish up and donate them to a charity shop. Something you no longer want or need may be a treasure to somebody else!
5. Don't keep your kind thoughts to yourself! If somebody looks nice, let them know. Or if you think they look particularly happy, tell them their smile is beaming.

It's easy to be kind. Choose to do one deliberate act of kindness every day, and see how you can make a difference to people's lives.



Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?

None of us know what is around the corner...

Local Care and Welfare Support

To request contact from a Welfare Visitor and for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence contact Sandra on **01905 422591** or email **sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk**.

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@manchestercab.org



Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on welfare benefits, money and debt issues, consumer problems, housing, fuel bills, employment issues and many other issues.

*The Oddfellows cannot provide legal advice and accepts no liability whatsoever for advice provided by Citizens Advice, which is an independent advice agency. If you have any queries about the advice you have received or wish to make a complaint then you should contact Citizens Advice directly. Citizens Advice operate a formal complaints process.

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday to Thursday, 9.30am - 4.30pm, Friday, 9.30am - 4pm

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

Run by the Oddfellows Care and Welfare Department, you can access information and guidance on issues such as accessing health and care services, supported housing, support for carers, and planning for later life. The helpline will try and identify any Oddfellows benefits or services in the community which may be of help to you.

**Visit our website page at www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care
for care and welfare information**

Our Making a Difference 2019 Award winners!

To celebrate our wonderful members and their contributions to the Society as a whole, we launched the first official Making a Difference Awards late last year, and after careful consideration from the judges, we're ready to reveal the winners!

The judges had a hard time selecting this year's winners, with many worthy nominations received across the awards' categories. But after much deliberation, four fabulous members were announced at this year's annual conference.

Jane Nelson, CEO said: "So many of our members make the Society a wonderful place to form friendships, access advice and get support. It's important that we reward those who go above and beyond for their Branch when we can and the Making a Difference Awards is the perfect way to do this.

"Huge congratulations to this year's winners, and thank you to everybody else who was nominated! Your hard work and dedication is much appreciated, and doesn't go unnoticed."

Member nominations for 2020 are now open. Do you know someone who always goes the extra mile when volunteering, fundraising, caring for other members, or doing their very best for the Branch? Download a member nomination form from www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference or contact your Branch Secretary.



Bill, Vivienne, David and Faye with Grand Master Bill Henchcliff after being presented with their awards.

2019 Making a Difference Award Winners

FOR GIVING A HELPING HAND

Vivienne Simpson

Burton-on-Trent District

FOR WORKING IN THE SPIRIT OF MUTUALITY

Bill Rainsbury

North West Kent District

FOR GIVING SOMETHING BACK

David Smith

Cleveland and Durham District

FOR ENRICHING LIVES SOCIALLY

Faye Chadwick

Huddersfield District

Oddfellows Annual Movable Conference takes place in Sunny Southport

For 2019, our Annual Movable Conference (AMC) returned to Southport and we really did have the weather on our side! Each year our members get together to catch up, celebrate the past 12 months, vote on important Society matters, and of course, welcome the new Grand Master (Society Chairman).

With a jam-packed schedule mixing business with pleasure, AMC is a great opportunity for members to learn about the business side of the Society and our traditions, as well as meet and mingle with other Branches.



Oddfellows members enjoyed the annual bowls competition



Business began by paying tribute to some of our late Past Grand Masters: Sydney Bolton, Andrew Porter, and Keith Adamson



Oddfellows Brass gave a rousing public performance on Sunday



A 60s themed dance kicked off the celebrations at the Grand Master's Welcome Party

At our conference, Deputies vote on decisions that will impact the Society's business focus moving forward. For example, this year it was decided that our H A Andrews Memorial Fund would support Lupus Trust with a donation of £85,000 over three years. Plus, to celebrate our growing membership, we presented a number of Branches with our annual recruitment awards.

These include the Ken Hughes Silver Salver Award, won this year by Pride of Woolwich Branch, and the Lillian Ogden Recruitment trophy, awarded to Ormskirk and Southport Branch. Members can help their Branches to win awards too, as we also present the Refer a Friend Awards, to recognise Branches which have a great network of strong member advocates.



An array of Oddfellows merchandise was available for members to purchase



The "Refer a Friend" Award for the highest number of member advocates was awarded to Ormskirk and Southport Branch, with 31 members recruiting a new member in 2018

Thank you Bill Henchliff

A huge thank you as always to our now Immediate Past Grand Master Bill Henchliff, who says:

"It has been a great honour to be Grand Master of the Order. I couldn't possibly choose a favourite moment from the past year, but meeting all the members across the country, especially the two Centenarians from Hartlepool and Derby, has been quite special. The support and advice I have received from my colleagues on the Board, from the CEO and Insurance Director, and the External Non-Executive Directors has been invaluable."

Bill has some sound words of advice to welcome the new Grand Master, David Randall: "Be yourself and enjoy the year, it goes very quickly!"



If you have a business head, or a passion for organisation, why not get involved with your Branch's Committee of Management? And if you'd be interested in becoming a Deputy at a future AMC, you can find out how by visiting our website, or speaking to your Branch Secretary.

Meet our new Grand Master:

David Randall, Gipping Branch Secretary

How did it feel being installed in front of such a large crowd at the AMC?

It was such a proud moment and one I will cherish forever. My involvement in the Oddfellows is something I take very seriously, and I'm pleased to be able to use my time as Grand Master to raise awareness of the Oddfellows and the benefits of becoming a member with the general public, as well as doing my best to meet as many members as possible around the country.

So what's your Oddfellows background?

I became a member in 1992. However, I had been attending the local Branch's social events for about 20 years prior. So recruiters... never give up on a possible new member! My father-in-law was a long-serving Castle Branch (Colchester) officer and trustee, so he encouraged me to finally sign up. I guess I was always going to join once I married his daughter! For those of you who don't know, my wife of 47 years is Diana Randall, Secretary of Castle Branch, so there's always a little healthy Branch competition.



Do you have a standout memory from your 47 years of being involved with the Society?

Yes – the pride I felt when attending my District's Provincial Grand Master Dinner in 2010. We were celebrating 200 years of Oddfellowship, my wife was the Provincial Grand Master and the then Grand Master, Alan Cole, was our guest of honour. I was Provincial Deputy Grand Master and I couldn't have felt happier to be part of such a meaningful Society.

How would you sum up the Oddfellows in just six words?

Friendship that just keeps giving more.

And now for some less serious questions...

Where's your favourite place in the world?

That would have to be the Amalfi Coast in Italy.

Who is your favourite author?

John Grisham, I have read every one of his fiction books and his one non-fiction book.

You're stranded on a desert island.... What three items would you take with you?

Matches, a sharp knife and the woman I love, if she'd come with me! If she wouldn't, then I'd probably take a fishing line.

Who would play you in the movie of your life?

Matt Damon.