

August 2024 – January 2025  
Issue 15



**the ODDfellows** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

# *out & about*

## Mid-Staffs District Branch



*Norbury Wharf Canal*



Travel and Trips



Walks



Talks



Social



Food with Friends



Coffee Morning



Games



*Stratford-upon-Avon Coach Trip  
Wednesday 11 September*

## Welcome to issue 15 of our newsletter – Out and About

**We do hope you enjoy this edition of  
our newsletter.**

Hello everyone, I'm Tina Bayley, a local Stafford resident and I've recently started at Mid-Staffordshire Oddfellows as your new District Secretary.



### About me

I have always lived and worked in and around the county of Staffordshire. I am married and have twins. I have experience in sign language, volunteering for charity and training/ making presentations. My hobbies are tap dancing, walking, pilates, swimming and reading.

I started my role here at Mid Staffs Oddfellows in March and I would like to express how welcome all the members have made me feel. In

doing so, this has made my journey taking on board this role very enjoyable and I thank you all. One of the most enjoyable parts of my role has been meeting our members at different events we hold and encouraging new enquirers to come along and join in.

There are many of you that I am yet to meet, so I am hoping you will have a look at the regular and new events we have coming up to pop along and say "Hello!"

This newsletter and events diary has been created from member's previous liked activities and new suggestions, so we hope you like it too! We are always happy to receive items to publish if you feel they would be of interest to our members or a special birthday/anniversary that is being celebrated, please send into us.

We kicked off our fundraising for the Midlands Air Ambulance with our themed St George's Day Celebration and we have lots more planned.

September is Friendship Month, we will be holding a "Finding Friendship Fair" at the Oddfellows Hall, see details on page 6, please come along.

Everyone is welcome, whether a member, a friend or someone who wants to find out more and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

With my best wishes

**Tina**

## Contact Details

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### **Facebook:**

The Oddfellows - Mid Staffs District

**To you, the members and anyone interested in joining, we would love to hear from you**

**Do you have questions? Who are we? What do we do?**

Please ask, that is what we are here for. We want your feedback - please complete the enclosed questionnaire. We are always here and happy to help. Please see feedback below:

**"** After recently attending an event, I was made to feel incredibly welcome by Janet Lewis. Janet went above and beyond to make me feel comfortable and included. I deeply appreciated this, I had a wonderful time, and I'm looking forward to coming along to more events. I was very apprehensive about coming along, but I'm so pleased I did. **"**

## Dates For Your Diaries

Please note for some of the events you have to pre-book. There will be a date showing when you have to let us know by - please don't miss out as we will not be able to guarantee you a place!

# Regular Event

## Coffee Mornings at the Oddfellows Hall



10.30am - 11.30am



Coffee/Tea £1



Coffee mornings for members, friends and anyone interested in joining the Oddfellows. At our coffee mornings we let you know more about Oddfellows benefits & events over a nice cup of tea and biscuits. We are very happy to see the numbers for our coffee mornings increase over the last 12 months which is wonderful, we are hoping this continues. If you have a friend or neighbour that might enjoy the company please bring them along and see what they think.



It is a relaxed atmosphere and very informal, everyone is welcome. We are also adding a few additional activities to some of our coffee mornings to make them a little more interesting and at no extra cost to you – we hope you enjoy them. Don't forget anyone coming for their first time as a non-member there is no pressure to join and you can have your coffee for free, why not give us a try. Oddfellows Hall, Greengate Street ST16 2HP.

## Coffee Morning Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 7 August**, plus Signing for Pleasure from 11.45am to 12.15pm

**Thursday 29 August**

**Wednesday 4 September**

**Tuesday 1 October**, plus Crafts – International Coffee Day (and Old Person Day!)

**Wednesday 16 October**

**Wednesday 20 November**, plus Crafts – Cards and Crackers

**Tuesday 3 December**, plus Crafts and Giving Day – Gingerbread Men decorating. Bring a child a gift – any age group which can be passed onto a local charity.

**Wednesday 8 January 2025**

# August 2024

## **WED 21** Norbury Wharf Canal Trip and Cream Tea



1.30pm



Members £13  
Guests £15



Join us for a one & a half hour trip along the Shropshire Union Canal on the Shropshire Star a 70 foot long narrow boat with large windows and raised seating for those panoramic views. We will also enjoy a cream tea along the way, there is a licensed bar and parking is available. Meeting at 1.30pm (for 2pm). Book by Thursday 15 August 2024. The Wharf, Norbury Junction ST20 0PN. Contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269.

# September

## **WED 11** Stratford-upon-Avon Coach Trip



9.30am



Members £10, Guests £15



**ODDFELLOWS**  
**FRIENDSHIP MONTH**  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



A lovely day out in the beautiful town of Stratford-upon-Avon. The medieval market town in the west of the Midlands is the 16th-century birthplace of William Shakespeare, probably the most famous writer in the English language. There are plenty of places to visit, the town walks are a lovely way to explore and suitable for all.



The coach will leave Stafford at 9.30am and return leaving Stratford at 3.30pm. Pick up point to be arranged. Please contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269 to book by Thursday 15 August 2024 as there is a limited number of places.





FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
Join the fun

THURS  
19

## Finding Friendship Fair



10am to 2.30pm



Free



Come and join us at the Oddfellows Hall in Stafford for an opportunity to meet representatives from various departments of Oddfellows Head Office, like Care & Welfare, Unity Mutual, our local Midlands Air Ambulance charity and of course some of the members of the Mid Staffs District of Oddfellows. You will also have chance to have a FREE coffee/tea and visit some of the stalls we will have to raise funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance charity. We look forward to seeing everyone, bring your friends too! Everyone is welcome. Oddfellows Hall, Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HP. Contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269.



WED  
25

## Half Yearly Summomed Meeting



11am



Free



This is a business meeting for members only. A complimentary lunch will be provided afterwards. Whether you are a long-standing member or have recently joined the Oddfellows, it can be very interesting to hear about the business side and what goes on behind the scenes. Contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269 by Tuesday 17 September 2024 if you wish to attend. Oddfellows Hall, Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HP.



# October

TUES  
01

## International Coffee Morning



10.30am



Free



Come and join us for our international coffee morning where you can test your taste buds and try to decide the origin of the coffee or tea. Everyone is welcome, members and non-members. If this is your first visit you will be able to find out all about Oddfellows and see what a friendly group we are. Oddfellows Hall, Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HP. Contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269.

WED  
09

## Fish and Chip Lunch



12 noon



Members £10, Guests £12



Join us at the Oddfellows Hall for a scrumptious fish and chip lunch. While we await the arrival of the crispy battered fish and delicious chips from our local chippy we will test your knowledge on food and drink, I'm sure you won't have a problem with the 'catch of the day' questions!!! We will have another game to test the grey matter while you let your lunch go down. Please contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269 to book by Tuesday 24 September 2024. Oddfellows Hall, Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HP.



## Booking and Cancellations

Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support. Booking can also be taken by email, see contact section at the front of the booklet.

# October

TUES  
29

Lunch Out at  
Springslade Lodge

L

11.45am for  
12 noon

£

As per  
menu

🍴

🍷

Situated in the natural beauty of Cannock Chase this tea room offers a variety of food and beverages. We will meet there at 11.45am for refreshments leaving time for those of you that are walkers to ramble through the chase. Please let us know by Tuesday 1 October 2024 if you would like to join, as a booking reservation will be required. Springslade Lodge, Camp Road, Cannock Chase WS12 4PY. Please contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269 to book.



# November

SAT  
16

Christmas Fair

L

10am

£

Free

💬

Our Christmas Fair is one of our favourite and busiest events. The hall is full of Christmas cheer, the smell of bacon rolls, many stalls like our tombola, shuffle-board, and of course, our Charity, Midlands Air Ambulance stall. Everyone is welcome and we would love to see you there, so come and help us raise much needed funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance. Oddfellows Hall, Greengate Street, Stafford ST16 2HP. Contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269.





# November

TUES

26

**Lunch Out at the Spread Eagle and Shopping at Dobbies**



11am



As per menu



Meeting for lunch at the Spread Eagle pub at Gailey and then a short walk across the car park to Dobbies to enjoy all the Christmas decorations they have to offer amongst many more items. This will get you into the spirit of Christmas I am sure. Cost as per menu choice. Please contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269 to book by Tuesday 29 October 2024. Spread Eagle Pub, Watling Street, Gailey ST19 5PN.



# December

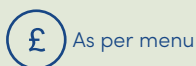
WED

11

**Festive Food at the Vine Hotel**



12.30pm



As per menu



Our last event of the year and we will be enjoying some 'FESTIVE FOOD' at the Vine Hotel in Stafford. Let's celebrate the wonderful year we have had together, the new and old friends we have made along the way. We will have a raffle to make a little bit more for our charity the Midlands Air Ambulance. Come and enjoy the fun. Cost as per menu choice. Please contact Tina or Christine on 01785 258269 to book by Tuesday 19 November 2024. The Vine Hotel, Salter Street, Stafford ST16 2JU.



# Bring friendship to your front room

There are many reasons that might prevent you from being able to attend some of our events in person. A clash in the diary might mean something else takes priority, you might not be able to spare the cost this time, or perhaps you just want to stay close to home that day.



We want people to enjoy the benefits of friendship no matter what. That's why branches all over the country host around 50 free online events each month, ranging from talks, arts and crafts and games, to exercise and meditation sessions.

These online events are a great opportunity to catch up with familiar faces and meet new and interesting people from all corners of the country from the comfort of home. You might even discover a new favourite hobby.

## What's coming up online

We have some wonderful online events coming up and we'd love to see you there.

### **Tuesday 20 August at 4pm - Art Unscrewed**

Meeting ID: 910 7968 6020 and Passcode 1810

### **Wednesday 4 September at 6pm - Tai Chi**

Meeting ID: 889 0330 1327 and Passcode 331259

### **Tuesday 8 October at 7pm - Alzheimers and Brain Health**

Meeting ID: 836 3852 7426 and Passcode: 143377

Join us on Zoom by going to [www.zoom.us/join](https://www.zoom.us/join) and entering Meeting ID and Passcode for the session.

Anyone is able to attend an Oddfellows online event, no matter where they live or if they're a member or not. So spread the word.

All our online events are hosted on Zoom. If you haven't tried Zoom video-conferencing before and would like help on how to use it, let us know. You can come to me, or email the Events team on [events@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:events@oddfellows.co.uk), with any questions and we'll help you get logged on and ready to join in.

To find out about all upcoming in-person and online events, including online events hosted by other branches, go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](https://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events) or ask me to send you a list by email.

# Want to join us?

It's easy, but we know it is not so easy for some – there are other ways – pop in and see us at the local office in Stafford, give us a ring, email us (contact details on page 2), ask a friend or a member to contact us on your behalf or come with a member to

one of our socials – everyone is always welcome. If you are unable to visit our branch there are also online events. If you want to find out more visit either our Facebook page: The Oddfellows – Mid Staffs District or the Oddfellows website: [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

## Newcastle and Stoke Social Branch – Dine Around



All members are invited to join us for our lunchtime get-togethers in the Stoke on Trent and Newcastle under Lyme area. We meet approximately once a month for a meal at a local pub. Although Janet Lewis, who arranges the lunches has retired as the District Secretary, she's still organising

the lunches. To book or for further information please contact Tina or Christine at the Oddfellows Hall, Stafford. The venues are yet to be confirmed for Newcastle and Stoke Branch lunches, however pencil in the dates: Thursday 15 August, Thursday 26 September and Tuesday 5 November at 12.30pm.

# Past Events

## Coffee Mornings



We are pleased to say our regular coffee mornings really have become very popular especially over the last six months. It has been so nice to see so many members attending. We have welcomed a few new faces too, some whom have now joined as members.

## Pancakes Delight – Tuesday 13 February

A lovely afternoon with our members who enjoyed pancakes with various fillings, a pancake quiz, finishing off with a game of bingo while letting the delicious pancakes go down- thoroughly scrumptious.





## Annual Summoned Meeting – Tuesday 26 March



The business of the day was carried out by our outgoing chairman Tony Lewis followed by the installation of our new Chairperson Pat Stewart for the ensuing year and Anne-Marie Wright was appointed Deputy Chairperson. Following the resignation of our Trustee John Wakefield our retiring District Secretary, Janet Lewis was appointed as a Trustee.

We thank all the retiring officers for their service over the years and wish the new



appointed officers all the very best in their new appointments. The funds raised for the charity, The Midlands Air Ambulance in 2023/2024 was a fantastic - £2828.42. Thank you to everyone that contributed.

Pat will also be supporting the Midlands Air Ambulance as her chosen charity. We hope you will support Pat in raising much needed funds for this charity.

## St Georges Day Celebration – Tuesday 23 April

What a great way to celebrate with 21 members dressed in red and white clothes. We enjoyed a lunch of Jacket Potatoes with lots of lovely fillings and cakes to follow. Fun was had with a red and white quiz, “Will your cards win?” game and 5 dice throwing competition, all to raise funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance,

a total of £122 was raised. The best dressed for the occasion was chosen by our Chairperson Pat Stewart, it was one of our new members, Michael. Thank you to everyone for joining us and helping out. We had lots of lovely feedback – “delicious Jacket potatoes”, “Thank you for a lovely afternoon”, “we really enjoyed ourselves”.





## Lunch Out in Stafford Town – Wednesday 22 May



What a turn out we had for this event, 24 members joined us at The Vine Hotel in Stafford to enjoy a two course meal, (most had a dessert- very naughty but very delicious, you just have to treat yourself sometimes!). The staff were excellent and



organised in getting all those meals out, especially as there was only 2 chefs in the kitchen! We were so impressed, we have booked to go again for our Christmas get together. We also did a small raffle which added another £30 to our charity appeal.

## Our Committee at the Annual Movable Conference – Llandudno - May 2024

Six members – Tony Lewis, Janet Lewis, Robert New, Margaret New, Anne-Marie Wright and the new District Secretary, Tina Bayley represented Mid Staffs in the beautiful coastal town of Llandudno. The days,

consisted of discussing Oddfellows business plans and the future direction of the Society. The evenings, gave us all an opportunity to meet up again with friends across all of the UK at various social events that were held.



## Our Visit to the Owl Experience – Thursday 20 June



Our members enjoyed a lovely and educational morning, when we visited the Owl Experience in Haughton, a rescue centre near Stafford. We were very lucky to be joined by Andrew and his team who rescue the birds. We had a talk on some of the owls, which some of our lucky members held on their gloved arms.

Andrew gave us an insight in to how these birds of prey are treated and neglected

by people especially as some people treat them as domestic pets, hence rescued by his team. Andrew asked the group if we could recognise the birds on show and we were amazed by a member's grandson, who is only 10 years old, knew most of them, well done to one of our Young Oddfellows, Theo. We then went on to the lovely café there and had homemade cake/sausage rolls with a tea/coffee.

## Bric-a-Brac Sale - Wednesday 3 July and Foxfield Steam Train Trip and Afternoon Tea Sunday 28 July

The above two events will be reported on in issue 16 due to them being after the date that this issue had to go to print. If you would like any further information before please let us know.

We would love to hear your feedback on any of the events, or on this issue of the Out and About. Please get in touch to have your say, we would love to hear from you.

# District News

**Look out! – our District Secretary, Tina will be in August's edition of the Stafford Directory!**

## Did you hear?

An interview with Tina (FAME at last!) on BBC Radio Stoke on Wednesday 26 June with Stuart George promoting our local Oddfellows, our events and how we help people in retirement with our friendly society.

## Fundraising at the Mid Staffs District

As most of you know we have been raising funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance this year as we have for many years. We are very grateful to all of you that have helped and supported us in raising a fantastic £2,868.42, **Thank You**. This will be presented to the Midlands Air Ambulance at our Finding Friendship Fair on Thursday 19 September at 9.30am to 2.30pm. Come and join us, everyone is welcome to this event.

## Degrees

Our District are pleased to announce we have now had five members taking their minor degrees. Congratulations to Tina, Anne, Steve, Bev and Trish.





## A Sad Farewell

The members at our district said a sad farewell to District Secretary Janet Lewis, who retired in April after nearly 12 years of commitment to the Mid Staffs District. Over the last couple of months we have been showing our gratitude to honour all Janet's contribution.

Afternoon tea, a presentation at our Annual Summoned Meeting, another



lunch out, a special coffee morning, and a cheeky toast in the office on Janet's last day with our new District Secretary Tina and myself. We of course wish Tina all the best in her new role.

We are glad to say Janet won't be a stranger as she will still be serving on the committee and has now been appointed as a Trustee.



# Puzzle Corner

Answers on the back page



**Can you work out what these sweet treats are?**

1. A tint treat
2. See ace heck
3. A mack dearie
4. Elm lie flu lie
5. Open at ten
6. He tackle cocoa
7. Press outfit
8. Is it a rum

**Here are a list of 10 UK counties with alternate letters removed. Can you work out which counties they are?**

1. Bdodhr
2. Nrhmeln
3. Hrfrsie
4. Mresd
5. Wrikhr
6. Lnahr
7. Ntigasie
8. Gouetrhr
9. Smre
10. Wretrhr

**Can you name the vegetables that have alternate letters removed**

1. Atcoe
2. Gri
3. Cuilwr
4. Siah
5. Aprgs
6. Prnp
7. Busespot
8. Cly
9. Pmkn
10. Btentsus

**Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK**

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! If you're on Facebook or Twitter, make sure you've liked and followed our Oddfellows social media pages.





## Members meet in Llandudno for AMC

**The late May Bank Holiday weekend in the beautiful North Wales coastal town of Llandudno was the setting for this year's Annual Movable Conference (AMC).**

Hosted by Deeside Oddfellows, members from throughout the UK made the trip to reflect on the previous 12 months and discuss and vote on the course of the next, all presided over by the Grand Master (Chairman), Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham.



*Business conducted, AMC Llandudno*

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, with Oddfellows Brass putting on another wonderful performance.



*Oddies on the coach to Portmeirion*

Members also took part in a ceilidh at the welcome evening, graced the green at the annual Roy Harmer Memorial Bowls Tournament, took a day trip to Portmeirion and got all dressed up for the Farewell Dance.

## Who should be our next major Fund recipient?

**Our HA Andrews Memorial Fund provides major financial support over a two or three year period to a project or organisation involved in, or conducting, medical research in the UK.**



The funding for Southampton University's Centre for Cancer Immunology, which was nominated by a member in Guernsey, is in its final year, so we're now open to suggestions on who to support from 2025.

If you've a suggestion of who we can support next, let us know. Go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews) to find out more about the criteria, how to nominate and our deadlines.

# Making a Difference Awards 2024

Five members have received national recognition for the brilliant and selfless work they put into making their Branch and the Society as wonderful as they can be.



## Terry Rendle, Oswald Branch Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Terry's contributions to the running of Oswald Branch's social events.

He regularly comes up with ideas for events, plans and advertises them, organises and purchases supplies, arranges



catering, sells tickets, physically arranges chairs and tables in the room, taxis people to and from, hosts and clears up after. All this at the age of 84.

"Socialising is so important as you get older," Terry said. "It keeps your brain busy and your body busy which means you might last a bit longer."

He added: "I was flabbergasted. I had to read the letter three times before I realised what I was reading."

## Pat and David Lang, Three Counties Branch Achieving Together

The married couple from Didcot, Oxfordshire, joined the Oddfellows over half-a-century



ago, and in that time have taken on many voluntary roles, including serving as Branch Chairman five times between them.

They are Welfare Visitors, regularly checking in on around 50 fellow members, and are well known for providing food for events and meetings. They are also responsible for an annual Christmas lunch event which, since 2009, has raised over £2,100 for the HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

David said: "It has never been about being rewarded. We love what we do, it's as simple as that.

Pat added: "I'm honoured. We have much to thank the Oddfellows for and have met so many lovely people."

## Peter Coe, City of Norwich Branch

*Working in the Spirit of Mutuality*

As a mutual society, the Oddfellows is run by and for our members and this award seeks to recognise those who have gone the extra mile to assist in the running of their Branch and the Society as a whole.

Peter has gone several extra miles, having held a number of voluntary roles, including Branch and



District Chairman, and is still a member of the social committee to this day, helping to organise many wonderful events.

Peter said: "The Oddfellows is full of very, very friendly people. We all get on. I've made some very good friends here over the years.

"It's my life. It's what I do. The best thing I did was join the Oddfellows."

## Claire Needham, Vale of York District Giving Something Back

Lifelong member Claire has been recognised for the work she does to raise money and awareness for worthy causes.



She donated nearly £3,000 for Motor Neurone Disease Association and Martins House Children's Hospice having run the Rob Burrows Leeds Marathon last year, and has helped raise more than £30,000 through her role as Chairman of her workplace's Charity Committee.

Claire has also held positions on the Oddfellows' Benevolence Committee and Investigations Committee, making a positive difference to the lives of her fellow members.

"I was completely surprised and I feel really honoured," Claire said. "It's a really nice feeling. It's nice that other people think it's making a difference and it's having an impact."

**The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Each of the winners are fully deserving of this recognition and I'm very proud of all of them. They typify what it is to be an Oddfellow and the Society and their respective branches are lucky to have them."**

**Who is your local Branch star? Member nominations are now open for the 2025 awards. To find out more, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference).**

# Financial worries revealed



**Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, recently surveyed 2,000 people throughout the UK to uncover what's keeping them up at night when it comes to their finances. Here's what they discovered. Do any of these resonate with you?**

## Cost of living

The worry peaks for those aged 40-49, with 63% feeling the pinch, closely followed by those in their 50s and 60s (both at 62%).

## Emergency planning

35% of those surveyed worry they don't have enough money set aside for emergencies like car repairs or medical treatments. Additionally, 28% fret about potential home repair costs.

## Pension and retirement

Living on a tight pension is a reality for 22% of respondents, and 18% worry they aren't contributing enough to their pension pot. Many in their 60s regret not paying more into their pensions earlier.



## Savings and financial planning

Only 39% of people have money in savings or investments, but this number jumps to 61% for those in their 70s. Yet, just a third have a financial life plan.

## Stress and anxiety

Financial stress affects 58% of respondents. Those in their 60s and 70s are less worried compared to younger age groups, with only 35% and 27% respectively reporting anxiety.

## Financial regrets

Over half (51%) have financial regrets, including not saving enough each month (46%) and spending on pointless things (43%). Interestingly, more than one in 10 (12%) wish they'd married someone with more money.

These findings show that, while financial worries are largely universal, planning and saving can make a significant difference, especially as we age. Whether you're setting up your first financial plan or adjusting your retirement strategy, it's never too late to take control of your financial future.

Go to [www.unitymutual.co.uk](http://www.unitymutual.co.uk) to find out more.

**Oddfellows members have access to a dedicated Citizens Advice Line. Its advisers can help you to find a way forward with any money or debt problems but are unable to give financial advice. Visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice) to find out more.**

# 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 the Branch on **01785 258269**.

## Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

**Email:** [oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)



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](mailto: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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care)  
for care and welfare information**



# At a glance

## August 2024

<b>Wed 7</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Thurs 15</b>	Newcastle and Stoke Dine Around	12.30pm
<b>Wed 21</b>	Norbury Wharf Canal Trip and Cream Tea	1.30pm
<b>Thurs 29</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am

## September – Friendship Month

<b>Wed 4</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Wed 11</b>	Stratford-upon-Avon Coach Trip	10am
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Finding Friendship Fair	9.30am
<b>Wed 25</b>	Half Yearly Summoned Meeting	11am
<b>Thurs 26</b>	Newcastle and Stoke Dine Around	12.30pm

## October

<b>Tues 1</b>	International Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Wed 9</b>	Fish and Chip Lunch	12 noon

## October

<b>Wed 16</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Tues 29</b>	Lunch Out at Springslade Lodge	11.45am

## November

<b>Tues 5</b>	Newcastle and Stoke Dine Around	12.30pm
<b>Sat 16</b>	Christmas Fair	10am
<b>Wed 20</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Tues 26</b>	Lunch Out at the Spread Eagle and Shopping at Dobbies	11am

## December

<b>Tues 3</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Wed 11</b>	Festive Food at the Vine Hotel	12.30pm

## January 2025

<b>Wed 8</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
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### Puzzle Corner Answers for page 18

**Sweet Treats:** 1. Tarte Tatin 2. Cheesecake 3. Madeira Cake 4. Mille-Feuille 5. Panettone 6. Chocolate Cake 7. Petits Fours 8. Tiramisu.

**List of vegetables:** 1. Artichoke 2. Garlic 3. Cauliflower 4. Spinach 5. Asparagus 6. Parsnips 7. Brussels Sprout 8. Celery 9. Pumpkin 10. Butternut Squash

**List of 10 UK counties:** 1. Bedfordshire 2. Northumberland 3. Herefordshire 4. Merseyside 5. Warwickshire 6. Lancashire 7. Nottinghamshire 8. Gloucestershire 9. Somerset 10. Worcestershire