

April - September 2024



*O*<sup>the</sup>  
**Oddfellows** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

# *Events & News*

## Worcester Branch



Stourport Amusement Park



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



*Annual Day Trip - Monday 22 July*

## Welcome to the Spring edition of the Worcester District Oddfellows Events Diary

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.

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to you, your family and your friends to attend any of our events that take

## Contact Details

**Branch Secretary:** Sandra Loynes

**Telephone:** 01905 422591

**Email:**  
[sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Address:**  
3 Windsor Avenue,  
Worcester WR2 5LZ

your fancy and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

If anyone has an interesting story they would like to share with our members please feel free to contact me.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the coming months.

Yours fraternally

**Sandra**  
**Branch Secretary**

# Regular Event

## Ten Pin Bowling



10am

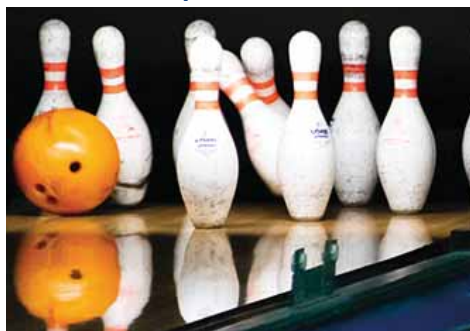


£3.80 for two games and a hot drink and biscuits



Come and join us for a game of ten pin bowling. Bowl Extreme, Perdiswell Park, Droitwich Road, Worcester WR3 7SN. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

9 April  
14 May  
11 June  
9 July  
10 September



## Coffee Mornings



10.30am



First drink  
free



Come and join us for a coffee and a chat. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



## Third Wednesday of the month

Cherry Lane Garden Centre,  
Worcester Road, Clent, Barnett Hill,  
Stourbridge DY9 0EE.

22 May  
17 July  
18 September

Webbs Garden Centre, Worcester  
Road, Wychbold, Worcester WR9 0DG.  
17 April  
19 June  
21 August

## 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.

# April 2024

TUES  
02

## Quiz Stanley Baldwin Branch



Time to put those thinking caps on there are prizes to be won. 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.



MON  
08

## Getting To Know You and Installation of Branch Officers



How well do you know your friends? Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.

MON  
29

## Play Your Cards Right Fernhill Heath Branch



You've seen it on TV so why not come along and have a go yourself, there are prizes to be won. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



# May

TUES  
07

## Card Bingo Stanley Baldwin Branch



Bingo with a difference, why not join in the 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.

# May

## MON 13 Fun and Games

⌚ 2.15pm

£ Free



Why not join us for a selection of games to play and have a go at. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.

## THURS 23 Committee of Management Meeting

⌚ 2pm

£ Free



Committee members only. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

# June

## MON 20 An Afternoon at the Races Fernhill Heath Branch

⌚ 12.15pm

£ £1



Place your bets with our resident bookie. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Please note this meeting is a week earlier than usual due to Deputies attending the Annual Movable Conference (AMC). The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

## TUES 04 Fish 'n' Chips Supper Stanley Baldwin Branch

⌚ 7pm

£ As per menu



Who doesn't like Britain's favourite takeaway, so why not come and join us. We will be holding a raffle too. Book by Tuesday 7 May. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



# June

MON  
10

## The Oddfellows Quiz



2.15pm



Free



How much do you know about the Oddfellows? There will be a prize for the winning team.

Refreshments will be provided and we will be

holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW.

Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



MON  
24

## Bingo Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



Free



An Oddfellows favourite.

Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



# July

TUES  
02

## Beetle Drive Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



The fastest to draw a beetle wins the game. 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.

MON  
08

## A Picnic and a Short Walk



2.15pm



Free



Why not join us for a short walk at the Countryside Centre followed by a picnic, bring a fold up chair if you can, we will carry it from the car for you if necessary. Those of you who don't want to do the walk can sit, chat and guard the food (nibbles and squash provided). Worcester Countryside Centre, Wildwood Drive, Worcester WR5 2LG. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.

# July

MON  
22

## Annual Day Trip

L 9am

£ TBC



Details for the day trip are yet to be confirmed, we will update you as soon as arrangements have been finalised. Book by Monday 24 June, spaces will be limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. 3 Windsor Avenue, St Johns WR2 5LZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

# August

MON  
12

## Beetle Drive

L 2.15pm

£ Free



Another Oddfellows favourite, who can build a beetle first to win a prize. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



MON  
19

## Whist Drive Fernhill Heath Branch

L 12.15pm

£ Free



Do you enjoy a game of Whist? If so, come along and join us. There will be a prize for the gent with the highest score and lady with the highest score. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Please note this meeting is a week earlier than usual due to the Bank Holiday. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



# August

TUES  
06

## General Knowledge Quiz Stanley Baldwin Branch

L 7pm

£ Free



Brush up on your general knowledge, there are prizes to be won. 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.

# August

## THURS 29 Committee of Management Meeting



2pm



Free



Committee members only. The Lypard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

# September

## ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



## TUES 03 Bingo Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



An Oddfellows favourite a game of traditional bingo. 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.



# September

## MON 09 An Afternoon of Musical Entertainment



2.15pm



Free



Whilst listening to the music there will be a fun quiz for you have a go at. Refreshments will be



provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



## WED 18 Friendship Coffee Morning



10.30am



First drink free



Come and join us for a coffee and a chat. Cherry Lane Garden Centre, Worcester Road, Clent, Barnett Hill, Stourbridge DY9 0EE. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.





# September

MON  
**23**

**Catchphrase**  
Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



Free



## ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Another game you will have seen on TV, come and try your luck at our version. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

### Join the fun in Friendship Month

Make someone's day and invite them along to share the friendship fun.

**All welcome**



ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



To see what's on and find out more about Friendship Month visit **[www.friendshipmonth.com](http://www.friendshipmonth.com)**

### Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

Our online events are  
here to stay



To see what's coming up visit **[oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://oddfellows.co.uk/events)** and enter 'Ayr' in the place name search box

OE/0122A6

# 100 Club

Date	No.	£10	No.	£5
August 2023	11	Jean Birbeck	42	Jackie Marshall
September 2023	27	Bill Henchcliffe	58	June Potter
October 2023	40	Donald McCarry	24	David Fryer
November 2023	85	Margaret Smith	68	Malcolm Russell

December 2023				
£50	1	Christine Baker		
£25	60	Linda Millward		
£15	36	Jeff Loynes		
£10	33	Robert Jones		
£5	51	Amanda Norbury Mountford		

Date	No.	£10	No.	£5
January 2024	22	Mervyn Eaton	52	Aaron Mountford

## Celebrations 2024

### Sunday 21 April

Jeff and Sandra Loynes will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary

### Thursday 23 May

Ian Woodcock will celebrate his 80th birthday

### Friday 21 June

David Jeffries will celebrate his 80th birthday

### Sunday 15 September

Keith Watkins will celebrate his 80th birthday

## Obituaries 2023/2024

Memories Comfort you  
For Memories are Treasures  
That time cannot destroy

Kenneth Adams	Ken Moller
Derek Jones	John Statham
Beryl Taverner	Angela Knight
Allan Bristow	Archibold Lee

# Charitable Donations

**Every year the Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) chooses a charity to which the District makes a donation, last year 2023, Jeff Loynes chose Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust to which a donation of £200 was made.**

The management committee also agreed to make a donation of £200 to each of the following charities, Worcester Heart Support, Worcester Samaritans as well as

£200 to the Oddfellows Society charity HA Andrews Fund, a donation of £400 had already been paid to the Turkey/Syria appeal fund. A total of £1,200.

If any member has a local charity that they would like to be considered for a donation at the end of the year please send details of the charity to the Secretary Sandra Loynes, 3 Windsor Avenue, St Johns, Worcester WR2 5LZ.

## Poem

**This is a poem about feeding my Newfoundland dog William. To be sung to the tune of 'Oh Dear What Can the Matter Be'.**

Oh dear what can the matter be  
William and I had such a calamity.  
At feeding time, only last Saturday,  
Hot water did injure his back.

I filled up the tin can with rather  
hot water.  
The label came off and it never  
did oughta.  
The tin shot away and "Oh gosh!",  
said my daughter, "It's landed upon  
William's back!".  
Oh dear... etc.

He ran out the back door, with such a  
loud howl,  
With me running after him,  
clutching a towel.



"Come back" I did cry, "I know it  
feels foul,  
But I'm needing to dry off your back".  
Oh dear... etc.

So, next time I feed him, I'll be  
a bit wary,  
Because he's a big dog and  
terribly hairy.  
I don't want to visit the veterinary,  
Who'll charge me and say "Do  
come back!"

**Written by Serena Hopkins**

# Worcester District Annual Lunch

**For the second year running our Annual Lunch was held at St Andrews Town Hotel, Droitwich on Sunday 1 October 2023.**

It was fantastic to see so many of our own members as well as visitors from other Districts and even though there were a few hick ups with the hotel a lovely time was had by all.

Our guest speaker Past Grand Master (Past Chairman of the Society) David Randall and his consort Diana wrote to say how much they enjoyed their time with us and asked that their thanks be given to our members for the gift of a beautiful Royal Worcester china apple and flowers presented to Diana.



David spoke very passionately about the East Anglian Group Conferences involvement with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) at Sheringham. David is the secretary of this group conference. As always our Tombola went down very well and raised £224 towards our Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) charity of the year which is the Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust.



# Service of Remembrance

Once again this year we were honoured to have been invited to take part in the service of remembrance at Worcester



Cathedral and as usual our Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) Jeff Loynes laid a wreath on the memorial alongside other dignitaries.



## Christmas

We kicked off our Christmas celebrations this year at the Stanley Baldwin Branch on Tuesday 5 December where we



were entertained by a lovely singer Paul Cox, there was dancing in the aisles, the food was great and the drinks flowed.





# 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 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**

## Society-funded cancer research on track

**The Centre for Cancer Immunology, current beneficiaries of the Society's HA Andrews Memorial Fund, recently received its second donation instalment.**

The Centre, based at the University of Southampton, was chosen as the recipient of the £100,000 grant, split over three years, in 2022. The money is sponsoring the PhD studies of Nur Zainal, who is looking into a specific gene which it is believed can be manipulated to target cancer cells in a new vaccine.

### Nur's first year

The first year of Nur's studies has been spent preparing for the execution of her PhD project over the next three years. She has been learning appropriate techniques, skills and procedures, as well as being introduced to theories and connecting with relevant research groups.

Nur, who travelled to the UK from Malaysia with her family to undertake the PhD, said: "I believe the invaluable experiences and knowledge I have acquired over the past year have equipped me to be a more productive and capable student."



*Nur updating AMC last year*

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Oddfellows for their support in making my studies possible."

### On the right path

Some of Nur's work on 3D cell culture – growing cancer cells in a way that more closely resembles the environment they experience in our bodies than traditional 2D cell culture – is included in a manuscript which will be published in a major international journal, for which she will be listed as a co-author.

Dr Tim Fenton, Associate Professor in Cancer Biology, says Nur has "excelled during her first year", adding: "We hope that Nur's studies will lead to improvements in the design of cancer



*Dr Tim Fenton*

vaccines, which is a key theme in the work being undertaken at the Centre for Cancer Immunology here in Southampton."

### HA Andrews Memorial Fund

The Fund provides financial support to UK-based medical research projects or organisations. For more information about the Fund, and how you can donate, go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews)

## Our fantastic four

**Congratulations to 2023's First Degree Course Educational Awards winners. George, Benedict, Jamie and Charlotte will each receive £3,600 over the next four years of their respective university courses to help ease the financial pressures of student life and create opportunities.**

### George LeBon

Heart of Norfolk  
Branch member

George began his studies at the University of Southampton in September 2023 – a four-year course in Computer Science with Cybersecurity.



His dream job is to become a “white hat hacker”, which he explained is someone who is “hired by companies to try and hack into their databases and report back the vulnerabilities”.

He says he and his family were overjoyed to discover he'd be receiving the funding and has thanked the Society, adding: “It will go towards buying textbooks so I can enhance my knowledge further and better understand the industry that I want to work in.”

### Benedict Weis

Leodis Branch member

Benedict hasn't yet decided what his ideal future job role might be. He is studying Aerospace Engineering at Queen's University Belfast and hopes a career path might become clearer over the next few years.

Since starting in September 2023, Benedict has joined the University's rowing club and the money will help him pay for training camps and trips, which he says will allow him to study more effectively without worrying as much about his finances.



“I would like to thank the Oddfellows for the award and just to say how grateful I am for it,” he said.

**Jamie Messett**

Loyal Lord Byron  
Branch member

Jamie started his first of four years of Chemistry at the University of Oxford's Balliol College in October 2023, and will put the money towards



learning materials. He would like his future to be in the pharmaceutical industry, but a PhD and a career in research is also a potential avenue.

He said: "Nobody should underestimate how valuable funding can be towards determining how well a student performs.

"I would like to thank everyone involved in helping me with this award, and also everyone involved with providing the funding."

**Charlotte Stevenson,**

Pride of Woolwich  
Branch member

Charlotte started her four-year course in Physics and Philosophy at the University of Oxford's Brasenose College in October 2023.

She is hoping to do a PhD in astrophysics and then continue researching within the field beyond that.



The funding will allow her to take part in unpaid research programmes during university holidays, covering the cost of travel, accommodation and food, as well as contributing to the cost of textbooks and other resources. She said: "This award will be an immense help throughout my degree and I'm so, so grateful to have received it."

Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society, Barbara Needham, said: "Ordinarily, we hand out three First Degree Course Educational Awards each year, but such was the strength of the applications of this year's winners that we felt they all deserved the financial boost. "I'm delighted for all four of them, and I wish them every success over the next few years at university and beyond."

For more information and T&Cs, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards)

## Striving for a greener future

**The Oddfellows is committed to being as green as possible. That's why we've been calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint since 1 April 2020.**

Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, 106.38 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e was recorded as being produced through the operations of our Liverpool and Manchester offices and associated transport activities, which includes our financial services brand, Unity Mutual.

Although this figure is up 5.4% on the previous year, benchmarked against employee numbers, carbon emissions have remained almost constant (up 0.2%).



The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Our focus is to keep learning through our assessments and to make incremental changes to the way we operate so we can bring our greenhouse gas emissions down and play our part in tackling climate change."

The Society's aim is to be Net Zero, where our carbon emissions are as low as possible. As a last resort, we have offset our 2022-23 carbon footprint by funding carbon dioxide-saving initiatives, including in Eritrea, Cambodia, Brazil, Bulgaria and India.

Jane added: "Climate change is real. It's the greatest environmental challenge we've ever faced. But there is hope, because we can all do something about it."

## Investing in futures

**Unity Mutual discovered a genuine interest in its children's savings accounts – a topic many grandparents and parents hadn't considered before – while at the 2023 Baby and Toddler Show in Manchester.**

The Junior ISA (JISA), offered in partnership with Mini First Aid to include a free paediatric first aid course\*, turned heads, especially when parents realised once they'd set it up, anyone could contribute.



*Unity Mutual at the Baby and Toddler show*

Unity Mutual's Head of Sales and Marketing, Abi Jones, said: "No more brainstorming gift ideas for that first birthday or Christmas – a shared investment in a secure future sparked enthusiasm. Because, sometimes, the best gifts are the ones that grow over time."

\*T&Cs apply.



# Social Events at a glance

## April 2024

<b>Tues 2</b>	Quiz - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
<b>Mon 8</b>	Getting To Know You and Installation of Branch Officers	2.15pm
<b>Tues 9</b>	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
<b>Wed 17</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 29</b>	Play Your Cards Right - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

## May

<b>Tues 7</b>	Card Bingo - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
<b>Mon 13</b>	Fun and Games	2.15pm
<b>Tues 14</b>	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
<b>Mon 20</b>	An Afternoon at the Races - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
<b>Wed 22</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Thurs 23</b>	Committee of Management Meeting	2pm

## June

<b>Tues 4</b>	Fish 'n' Chips Supper - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
<b>Mon 10</b>	The Oddfellows Quiz	2.15pm
<b>Tues 11</b>	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
<b>Wed 19</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 24</b>	Bingo - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

## July

<b>Tues 2</b>	Beetle Drive - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
<b>Mon 8</b>	A Picnic and a Short Walk	2.15pm
<b>Tues 9</b>	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
<b>Wed 17</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 22</b>	Annual Day Trip	9am

**Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK**

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

**f OddfellowsUK**

# Social Events at a glance

## August

<b>Tues 6</b>	General Knowledge Quiz – Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
<b>Mon 12</b>	Beetle Drive	2.15pm
<b>Mon 19</b>	Whist Drive – Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
<b>Wed 21</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Thurs 29</b>	Committee of Management Meeting	2pm

## September – Friendship Month

<b>Tues 3</b>	Bingo – Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
<b>Mon 9</b>	An Afternoon of Musical Entertainment	2.15pm
<b>Tues 10</b>	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
<b>Wed 18</b>	Friendship Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 23</b>	Catchphrase – Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

## Join the fun in Friendship Month

Make someone's day  
and invite them along to  
share the friendship fun.

**All welcome**



To see what's on and find out  
more about Friendship Month  
visit **[www.friendshipmonth.com](http://www.friendshipmonth.com)**

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



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