

October 2024 - April 2025
Issue 18



O^{the} **DD**fellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

St Helens & Warrington District



Music



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz

Warrington Town Hall



*Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge - Thursday 16 January 2025
We hope you can join us!*

Welcome to the latest edition of our latest Events Diary and Newsletter for the St Helens and Warrington Branch of Oddfellows

Where possible, when we are on our day trips could we please leave the first few rows on the coach for those who have mobility issues or who suffer from travel sickness. Can we also please try and sit in the same seats on the return journey to save confusion especially as some people do leave items on the coach.

Please remember, to keep our trips affordable and convenient for all

members we book one pick-up/drop off in both Warrington (pull in at Central Station, Winwick Street) and St Helens (URC). To ensure we stick to our agreed booking (and insurance) we cannot have any extra drop offs.

On return to St Helens can we please let those who need to catch a bus home get off the bus first, hopefully this will help to stop some having to wait in town for an hour for their next bus.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Branch Contact Hours

Please remember that both Pam and Julie work part time and flexi hours, Pam is best reached between 9am and 3pm, Julie 9am and 5pm. If you cannot reach them please leave a message/email and they will respond as soon as possible.

Branch Contacts

Branch Secretary: Pam Casey

Address:

12 Northdale Road

Paddington

Warrington WA1 3HH

Telephone: 07482 130531

Email:

pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Julie Webster

Telephone: 07456 915655

Email:

julie.webster@oddfellows.co.uk

Care and Welfare/ Safeguarding Adults Officers

Pam Casey

(contact details above)

Margaret Harrison Ingham

Telephone: 01744 739561

Where possible please contact
between the hours of 9am and
5.30pm, thank you.

Branch meetings are held on
various Tuesdays throughout the
year at the URC (United Reformed
Church), Ormskirk Street,
St Helens WA10 2JZ.

For further details or if you would
like to attend any of the meetings
please contact Pam or Julie.

Welcome

We would like to extend a warm
welcome to all our new members
who have joined us since the
last diary.

Ann Ashall

Ann Fearon

Heather Tyson Gillon

Michael Tyson Gillon

Eric Gough

Brian Jones

Avril Long

Jean Mc Coll

Brian Monks

Elaine Murray

Chukwubuikem Obi

Along with Carol Platt who has
re-joined us, Debbie South,
Elizabeth Harding, Philip and
Christine Taylor, Lynsey Taylor,
James and Holly Shanks,
Ben Ward, Kelly Taylor-Ward
and Imogen Taylor-Ward
who have all transferred for
neighbouring Branches.

We hope you are all enjoying
being Oddfellows.

Claims and Renewals

Remember all dental/optical claims go to Pam, she is more than happy to process your claim(s) via email or post, alternatively they can be given to Julie at any social event, who will ensure that Pam receives them.



Important changes for dental/optical claims: Any member who is eligible to claim dental or optical benefit, who are on a private dental or optical plan (such as Denplan) are now able to make a claim either annually (dental) or every other year (optical) against their plan. Claims can only be made in arrears and not in advance. Members must have paid their annual

Oddfellows membership for the current year, and must provide a copy of an annual statement showing their payments which can be requested from your dental/optical provider. If on the rare chance, the annual statement is not available, then a copy of your bank statement showing the monthly direct debit payments (please show name, but blank out account details), along with a copy of the annual renewal of the dental/optical plan will be accepted.

If you have any queries please get in touch with Pam. Where possible when making a claim please supply your bank details, (note that online banking is not required in order to receive payment) to enable Pam to pay direct into your account.

This is not only quicker and more convenient for you the member, now that a number of banks are closing their Branches, but it is also cheaper for the Branch. You can of course still have a cheque if this is your preferred opinion. Don't forget all claims need to have a receipt with your name, date, amount and name of the practice, sorry credit/debit card receipts are not accepted.

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a not-for-profit friendly society that's been around for over 200 years. Our aim is to bring people together through our social events, as well as support our members with a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for the members. For more information visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call 0800 028 1810 to speak to one of our team.

Booking on Events

Please remember the importance of the booking deadline date for events, as we cannot guarantee a place on an event once the book by date has passed, although we will always do our best to accommodate where possible.

When bookings are made for events that require a deposit or a purchase of ticket(s), payment must be made within 7 days of booking to secure your place. Refunds will only be made where the event is cancelled, no refunds will be given in any other circumstance, unless the place can be filled by another member.

There are various ways to make payment, which are as follows:

- Sum up - Available at events (Julie) or over the phone via a payment link from the Secretary (Pam)
- Cash at events (Please put in a sealed envelope, with your name, amount and event(s) name(s))
- Cheque either at events or send direct to Pam payable to St Helens and Warrington District Lodge.
- Bank transfer – Please ensure that you advise Pam by email /text /phone of the event you are making payment for, bank details as are follows:
 - **Bank Name:** Lloyds Bank
 - Account Name:** St Helens & Warrington District Lodge.
 - Account Number:** 25655668
 - Sort Code:** 30-80-12

Can you help by volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without wonderful volunteers. We need help to make sure we can keep our events as fun as they can be for all our members. There's lots of ways you can pitch in to help us, from one-off help to regular support. You can commit an hour a month, or more if you've got the time!

Volunteering could include meeting and greeting newcomers to make sure they feel welcome, or arranging activities, like quizzes or presentations, which we can help you run and promote.



If you can help by volunteering or want to find out more, contact Pam by phone on 07482 130531 or email pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk

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 **The Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people
www.oddfellows.co.uk

Regular Events

Tuesday Drop In

🕒 1.30pm

£ Members £2.50
Guests £3

Join us at the URC for our Tuesday Social, due to popularity we are now in the larger Lower Hall. This is a great chance to come along and make new friends, have a chat, bring your chosen craft to work on, join in with some games or pick-up/drop-off any membership documents. Cost includes refreshments. There is a small onsite car park but please remember to sign in with your car registration number at reception. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



Tuesdays

1 October
15 October
22 October
5 November
12 November
26 November
3 December
7 January 2025
14 January
21 January

4 February
11 February
18 February
4 March
11 March
18 March
1 April
15 April
22 April

REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile



To refer someone you know and make their day, either fill in the **Refer a Friend** form available from your Branch Secretary, or call Membership on **0800 028 1810**, or visit our Members' Area at www.oddfellows.co.uk

*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 2024

FRI **04** **Catch up in Warrington** **at The Coffee House**

 10.30am  As per menu 

Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. This month we are meeting up at the Coffee House, starting out in Lymm in 2011 by two brothers Chris and Ste who had a mission to change the way people eat, drink and relax with a range of speciality coffees, chilled drinks, home-made cakes and food, makes a great place for our new catch up event in Warrington. Cost as per menu. The Coffee House, 47 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS **10** **Coffee Morning** **at The Hotties**



 10.30am  As per menu 

The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum



provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

TUES **08** **Charity Afternoon for** **Willowbrook Hospice**

 1.30pm  £5. 

Everyone is encouraged to come along for a fundraising afternoon for our Chairman's charity of the year - Willowbrook Hospice. Enjoy coffee and cake, try your luck at the tombola and bottle stalls, or maybe pick up some gifts from the craft stall. Tickets now available and £5 includes a slice of cake and unlimited tea or coffee. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



October 2024

MON
21

Cabaret Lunch Show and Shopping at Oswaldtwistle Mills



9am



Members £43, Guests £45



Join us for a full day of shopping, eating and entertainment. Oswaldtwistle Mills has over 100 retailers with a garden centre, extended home and lifestyle centre, fashion floor, giftware, food and deli all under one roof. We will have approximately one hour to shop before we take our seats for a three course lunch of vegetable soup, roast chicken dinner and apple crumble with custard all served with tea or coffee.



After lunch we will be entertained by the fabulous Martin Gregory Lambert, with his wicked sense of humour and incredible vocal talents a great afternoon is promised. We will have approximately two hours free time for more shopping before we depart for home.

A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to secure your place, all balances must be paid by Thursday 10 October 2024, no exceptions! Any dietary requirements/vegetarian option please speak to Julie. Oswaldtwistle Mills, Moscow Mill Street, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire BB5 0EY. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

TUES
29

Warrington Coffee Morning



10.30am



As per menu




Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



November

TUES **05** **Branch Meeting** **followed by Tuesday** **Drop In**

 1.30pm

 Donations
towards
refreshments



Come along and be updated with all the latest information regarding the Oddfellows at both local and national level. This is also your chance to see how the Branch is run and share your views, remember we are run by our members for our members. Following the meeting refreshments and the normal Tuesday social will go ahead for those wishing to stay. Members only for the meeting, non-members are welcome to attend following at approximately 2pm. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



Join the conversation
@OddfellowsUK

Find us at

f **oddfellows.sthandw**

TUES **19** **Warrington** **Coffee morning**

 10.30am

 As per menu



Rhode Island
Coffee situated
just outside the
Golden Square
Shopping



Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. *Please note this month's coffee morning is one week earlier than normal due to Christmas car parking. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS **28** **Coffee Morning** **at The Hotties**

 10.30am

 As per menu



The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

December

THURS
05

Coffee Morning at The Hotties



10.30am



As per menu



The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens.

There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. As this is our last coffee morning for 2024, why not stay and have some lunch, it is nearly Christmas after all! The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



THURS
12

Christmas Lunch Party



12.30pm



TBC



We once again return to the Unison Club for Rick's Christmas Carvery. You will be served a choice of starters and desserts with

the main course being the carvery, finishing off with tea or coffee and mince pies. As usual we will be holding our annual Christmas raffle with all proceeds going to this year's charity Willowbrook Hospice. Fun, games and dancing will follow in the function room for those not wanting to rush home. A £5 deposit is required to secure your place and final balance is due by Thursday 5 December 2024. The Unison Club, Bishop Road, St Helens WA10 6SX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



TUES
10

Christmas Halifax Bingo



1.30pm



Members £2.50
Guests £3



Back by popular demand, our Christmas Halifax Bingo (steal a prize), for those who haven't played before it is a very easy and fun game to play. Please bring a wrapped gift to the value of £2, this can be anything at all, something fun, oddly shaped or Christmas themed (stuck for ideas speak to Julie). We will have our usual refreshments with a few Christmas treats. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

January 2025

THURS
09

Ten Pin Bowling



10.30am



TBC



Fancy a game of ten pin bowling? Join us for a fun game or two at Superbowl St Helens, this has proved



to be very popular in the past with members always asking to return. You do not need to be a professional, if you have never bowled before come along and give it a go it is always a fun morning, for those who may struggle to bowl frames are available. If you don't want to bowl just come along, have a chat, watch others play while you have a coffee or something to eat. Cost to be confirmed but in the past we have managed to get the Nifty Fifty deal where we can have a game of bowling, a bacon barm and a coffee for £7.99, unfortunately we cannot guarantee this deal will still be available but check with Julie closer to the time. There is free onsite parking but remember to register your car on arrival. SuperBowl St Helens, Linkway West, St Helens WA10 1QA. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS
16

Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge



10.30am



As per menu



This month we are meeting up at the Dorado Lounge for our Catch Up in Warrington. Located in Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre. The Dorado Lounge serves a variety of hot and cold drinks as well as a full bar selection, there is also a wide menu to choose from with breakfast items, sandwiches, tapas, pizzas, burgers and of course a selection of sweet treats for those who feel a little peckish. Cost as per menu. The Dorado Lounge, 19-21 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



January 2025

THURS
23

Coffee Morning at The Hotties



10.30am



As per menu



The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



TUES
28

Warrington Coffee Morning



10.30am



As per menu



Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



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 and enter 'Ayr' in the place name search box

OE/0122A6

February

TUES 04 Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In

 1.30pm

 Donations
towards
refreshments



Come along and be updated with all the latest information regarding the Oddfellows at both local and national level. This is also your chance to see how the Branch is run and share your views, remember we are run by our members for our members. Following the meeting refreshments and the normal Tuesday social will go ahead for those wishing to stay. Members only for the meeting, non-members are welcome to attend following at approximately 2pm. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS 13 Catch up in Warrington at The Coffee House

 10.30am

 As per menu



Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. This month we are meeting up at the Coffee House, starting out in Lymm in 2011 by two brothers Chris and Ste who had a mission to change the way people eat, drink and relax with a range of speciality coffees, chilled drinks, home-made cakes and food, makes a great place for our catch up event in Warrington. Cost as per menu.

The Coffee House, 47 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS 20 Coffee Morning at The Hotties

 10.30am

 As per menu



The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



February

TUES
25 **Warrington**
Coffee Morning

 10.30am  As per menu 

Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



March

THURS
06 **Coffee Morning**
at The Hotties

 10.30am  As per menu 

The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

March

MON
10 **Catch Up in Warrington**
at the Dorado Lounge

 10.30am  As per menu 

This month we are meeting up at the Dorado Lounge for our Catch Up in Warrington. Located in Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre. The Dorado Lounge serves a variety of hot and cold drinks as well as a full bar selection, there is also a wide menu to choose from with breakfast items, sandwiches, tapas, pizzas, burgers and of course a selection of sweet treats for those who feel a little peckish. Cost as per menu. The Dorado Lounge, 19-21 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



March

TUES **25** Warrington Coffee Morning

 10.30am  As per menu 



Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

April

TUES **08** Annual General Meeting

 1.30pm  Free 

Join us for our Annual General Meeting (members only) to keep up to date on all Branch matters. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

April

THURS **10** Coffee Morning at The Hotties

 10.30am  As per menu 

The canal side Hotties Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an onsite pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS **17** Catch up in Warrington at The Coffee House

 10.30am  As per menu 

Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. This month we are meeting up at the Coffee House, starting out in Lymm in 2011 by two brothers Chris and Ste who had a mission to change the way people eat, drink and relax with a range of speciality coffees, chilled drinks, home-made cakes and food, makes a great place for our catch up event in Warrington. Cost as per menu. The Coffee House, 47 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

April

THURS
24

Lytham Hall



9am



Members £32
Guests £35



Lytham Hall is an 18th-century Georgian country house in Lytham, Lancashire, one mile from the centre of the town, which sits in 78 acres of wooded parkland. It is the only designated Grade I listed building in the Borough of Fylde. On arrival we will have our morning coffee and an introduction talk from a guide before we tour the hall (please note there are no lifts to access upstairs, please speak to Julie if you cannot manage stairs).



We will have a soup and sandwich lunch with tea or coffee before free time to walk the parklands, kitchen garden, visit the gift shop and the animal and gardening hubs. A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, final numbers and balance by Thursday 10 April 2025 please. Lytham Hall, Lytham Hall Park, Lytham St Annes FY8 4JX. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

TUES
29

Warrington Coffee Morning



10.30am



As per menu



Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 074821 30531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



LADGC Annual Bowling Competition

Saturday 13 July saw us head off to Garswood Hall Bowling and Community Club for the annual Lancashire and District Group Conference Bowling Competition. This outing has grown in popularity over the last few years with us having 11 members joining in bowling and 12 spectators cheering

our players on. We had a great day, lots of fun and laughter, a lovely buffet, quite a few winners in the raffle and a few drinks to finally celebrate (after many years of trying), a win for our Branch. Carol Rigby won the trophy for the Yvonne Troilett ladies competition, congratulations Carol, well done, you did us all proud!



Past Events







Charity Work

We had a fantastic result for last year's Chairman's Charity, Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis, this raised a staggering £1135, thank you to everyone who donated prizes and bought raffle tickets throughout the year. We would also like to mention that one of our members Karen Duckworth also sent in a donation of £1073 to the charity after her and her husband John held a charity event in their road to celebrate the Coronation.

The branch has sent £100 donations to St Rocco's Hospice, Warrington, St Helens Salvation Army and the Oddfellow Charities The Orphan Gift Fund and HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

The branch also donated £200 to start off this year's Charity, Willowbrook Hospice, we hope everyone continues to support this very worthy cause. We are holding a charity afternoon in aid of Willowbrook on Tuesday 8th October, any raffle prizes, tombola or bottle donations will be gratefully received. Tickets are now on sale, please see Julie, Cost £5 and

includes a slice of cake and unlimited tea/coffee, 1.30pm-3.30pm in the Lower Hall at the URC.

Our on-going knitting projects for Warrington Hospital are still being well received and appreciated, we even got a mention on a recent newsletter that the hospital publish thanking us for our work and also a little quote from one of our loyal knitters Barbara.

In 2016 members were looking for a new knitting project in the local area and found a request for HAL puppets on the WHH Charity website. Members were excited and started knitting the hand puppets of which have now provided 100's and it didn't stop there!! Barbara Grundy explained: "There is so much scope to use left over yarn and let your imagination take over when making the Hals, the baby and dementia blankets and it is a pleasure to put the work in.

The shared activity bonds us and the fact that the hospital are so grateful and appreciative makes it all very satisfying, our ladies continue to make a whole range of

items for us including baby blankets and clothes, dementia blankets and items for fundraising.

Jane from WHH Charity said "Thank you so much for your support, all our patients and their families benefit hugely from

your many beautiful and varied knitting donations, please keep up the good work." Don't forget if anyone wants any wool, pattern or needles or if you have any oddments of wool left over please speak to Julie.

Congratulations...to us!



Well done everyone who has referred a friend, we received an award for the highest percentage of refer a friend in the country.

Thanks to Margaret Harrison Ingham who received our award at the AMC in Llandudno in May.

Winter events

As usual our winter event diary isn't as full as our summer one due to the weather and dark nights. Please check your emails for any extra events that may be put on including our Wednesday cinema or lunch trips which are always very popular, these are only announced a few days before the event.

As we said in the last diary we were hoping to increase events around Warrington. After a slight delay with Julie being off we have now arranged extra meet ups from October at either the Dorado Lounge or The Coffee Lounge, hopefully these will enable



more members to attend particularly those who have struggled with the stairs at Rhode Island. Remember check your diary for dates and times as we are trialling different days while keeping our monthly coffee morning at Rhode Island on the last Tuesday of the month.

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 to find out more about the criteria, how to nominate and our deadlines.

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 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 to find out more.

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-



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.

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 Pam on **07482 130531** or email **pamela.casey@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@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

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**

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At a glance

October 2024

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Tues 1 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Fri 4 | Catch up in Warrington at The Coffee House | 10.30am |
| Tues 8 | Charity Afternoon for Willowbrook Hospice | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 10 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |
| Tues 15 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Mon 21 | Cabaret Lunch Show and Shopping at Oswaldtwistle Mills | 9am |
| Tues 22 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 29 | Warrington Coffee Morning | 10.30am |

November

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Tues 5 | Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 12 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 19 | Warrington Coffee morning | 10.30am |
| Tues 26 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 28 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |

December

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Tues 3 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 5 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |
| Tues 10 | Christmas Halifax Bingo | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 12 | Christmas Lunch Party | 12.30pm |

January 2025

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---------|
| Tues 7 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 9 | Ten Pin Bowling | 10.30am |
| Tues 14 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 16 | Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge | 10.30am |
| Tues 21 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 23 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |
| Tues 28 | Warrington Coffee Morning | 10.30am |

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

At a glance

February 2025

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Tues 4 | Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 11 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 13 | Catch up in Warrington at The Coffee House | 10.30am |
| Tues 18 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 20 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |
| Tues 25 | Warrington Coffee Morning | 10.30am |

March

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------|
| Tues 4 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 6 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |
| Mon 10 | Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge | 10.30am |
| Tues 11 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 18 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 25 | Warrington Coffee Morning | 10.30am |

April

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Tues 1 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Tues 8 | Annual General Meeting | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 10 | Coffee Morning at The Hotties | 10.30am |
| Tues 15 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 17 | Catch up in Warrington at The Coffee House | 10.30am |
| Tues 22 | Tuesday Drop In | 1.30pm |
| Thurs 24 | Lytham Hall | 9am |
| Tues 29 | Warrington Coffee Morning | 10.30am |

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.
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Nominate a fellow member for the Society's Making a Difference Awards

Do you know a special member who has gone above and beyond to help others, raise money for good causes or run your Branch?

We're encouraging members to put these special people forward for national recognition! Speak to your Branch Secretary about how to nominate or find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference

