

January - April 2020  
Issue 6



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

# *out & about*

**Leigh and Bolton District**



*Members enjoying a coffee morning, we hope you can join us*



Music



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



Quiz



*Tour of Warburton Bakery - Saturday 11 April, we hope you can join us!*

Welcome to the latest edition of your Events Diary and Newsletter for Leigh and Bolton Branch of Oddfellows.

As a local Branch 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 from dining out to trips out plus lots of other activities. All our news is now included in this publication and that too has a new look and feel.

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

## Contact Details

**Social Organiser:** Fely Doloroso

**Telephone:** 07809 295366

**Address:** 24 Rose Lea, Harwood,  
Bolton BL2 3JH

**Email:**

felicita.doloroso@oddfellows.co.uk

**Branch Secretary:** Pam Casey

**Newsletter Editor:** Ernest Harper

**Telephone:** 01204 651981

**Care and Welfare Advisors:**

Fely Doloroso (Bolton area)

**Telephone:** 07809 295366

**Care and Welfare Advisors:**

Anne Slater (Bolton area)

**Telephone:** 01204 309621

Joe Winstanley (Leigh area)

**Telephone:** 01942 702966

## A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a friendly society with Branches across the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. Find out more at [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call 0800 028 1810.

# January 2020

WED  
08

## District Branch Meeting



1.15pm



Free



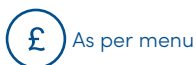
To discuss the Branch finances, correspondence and any other matters relating to the Branch. All members welcome. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Ernest on 01204 651981.

WED  
15

## Coffee Morning at British Garden Centre



10am



As per menu



Come and join us for a cup of tea/coffee, a slice of cake and a chat! Afterwards why not visit the garden centre for some plants and garden accessories! All welcome. British Garden Centre, Wigan Road, Deane, Bolton BL3 4RD. Contact Ernest on 01204 651981.



FRI  
24

## Let's Meet for Lunch at Signature Restaurant



12 noon



As per menu



Let's Meet for Lunch is going to let the students of Bolton University cook us lunch at the Signature Restaurant. Time to be confirmed. Book by Friday 17 January. Signature Restaurant, Bolton University, Deane Road Campus, Deane Road, Bolton BL3 5BG. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



## 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.

Please bring your friends to our events, so they can enjoy all that the Oddfellows is about. Unless otherwise stated please contact Pam Casey on **0161 776 0945 or 07966 934747** or email **pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk** to book or find out more information on any of our events.

# February

## **WED** **05** District Branch Meeting



To discuss the Branch finances, correspondence and any other matters relating to the Branch. All members welcome. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

## **SAT** **08** A Stroll in the Park (Moses Gate)



To enjoy a lovely stroll in Moses Gate Country Park, a 750 acre site situated at Moses Gate in the Croal and Irwell Valleys, three miles south of Bolton town centre on the A6053 road, which connects Farnworth to Little Lever. It is a local Nature Reserve. Book by Saturday 1 February. Moses Gate Country Park, Hall Lane, Farnworth, Bolton BL4 7QS. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



## **WED** **19** Coffee Morning at Bradley Fold Garden Centre



Come and join us for a cup of tea/coffee, a slice of cake and a chat! Afterwards why not visit the garden centre for some plants and garden accessories! All welcome. Bradley Fold Garden Centre, Radcliffe Moor Road, Bradley Fold, Bolton BL2 6RE. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



## **WED** **19** Social Branch Meeting



Our monthly Social Branch meeting, where events are organised, all members, ideas and help are welcome. Any member wishing to find out more about, or complete degrees are welcome to attend (please advise in advance if you wish to complete a degree). Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

# February

## **FRI 21** **NAMIBIA - Something about Africa**

**L** 7.30pm

**£** Members £5  
Guests £6



Richard Silvester will be presenting a talk on Namibia (Something about Africa). Followed by supper and games. All welcome. Book by Friday 14 February. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

## **FRI 28** **Let's Meet for Lunch at Olympus Fish Restaurant**

**L** 12 noon

**£** As per menu



Bolton's famous fish restaurant is where 'Let's Meet for Lunch' will take place, as this is a favourite of our members. Book by Friday 21 February. The Olympus, 35-41 Great Moor Street, Bolton BL1 1SW. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

# March

## **WED 04** **Annual General Meeting**

**L** 7.15pm

**£** Free



To discuss the Branch finances and approve the accounts for 31/12/19, correspondence and any other matters relating to the Branch. All members welcome. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

## **SAT 07** **Seminar (nominated member)**

**L** 10am

**£** Free



For further information please contact Fely Doloroso. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

## **SAT 14** **Executive meeting of Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference**

**L** 10am

**£** Free



A meeting for executive members of the Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference, time and place to be confirmed. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.





# March

SAT  
14

## Cinema Visit



1pm



Cinema Prices



A trip to the cinema. Time and location to be confirmed. Book by Saturday 7 March. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



WED  
18

## Coffee Morning at British Garden Centre



10am



As per menu



Come and join us for a cup of tea/coffee, a slice of cake and a chat! Afterwards why not visit the garden centre for some plants and garden accessories! All welcome. British Garden Centre, Wigan Road, Deane, Bolton BL3 4RD. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



FRI  
20

## Brain Teasers (Quiz)



7.30pm



Members £5  
Guests £6



Brain teasers quiz, a time for you to dust off the cobwebs and search in the deep dark depths of your brain for the answers! Followed by supper and games. Book by Friday 13 March. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



FRI  
27

## Let's Meet for Lunch at Unity Brook Inn



12 noon



As per menu



Let's Meet for Lunch at Unity Brook Inn for a traditional pub lunch. All welcome. Book by Friday 20 March. Unity Brook Inn, 452-454 Manchester Road, Kearsley, Bolton BL4 8RX. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

# April

## **WED 01** District Branch Meeting



7.30pm



Free



To discuss the Branch finances, correspondence and any other matters relating to the Branch. All members welcome. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

## **SAT 11** Tour of Warburtons Bakery



10am



TBC



A tour of the famous Warburton Bakery, Bolton. Time to be confirmed. Book by Saturday 4 April. Warburton Bakery, Rear of Bank House, Hereford Street, Bolton BL1 8HJ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

## **WED 15** Coffee Morning at Bradley Fold Garden Centre



10am



As per menu



Come and join us for a cup of tea/ coffee, a slice of cake and a chat! Afterwards why not visit the garden centre for some plants and garden accessories! All welcome. Bradley Fold Garden Centre, Radcliffe Moor Road, Bradley Fold, Bolton BL2 6RE. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



## **WED 15** Social Branch Meeting



7.30pm



Free



Our monthly Social Branch meeting, where events are organised, all members, ideas and help are welcome. Any member wishing to find out or complete degrees are welcome to attend (please advise in advance if you wish to complete a degree). Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

# April

FRI  
17

## Cheese and Wine Tasting Evening



7.30pm



Members £5  
Guests £6



Try wines and cheeses from all over the world, followed by (if you have room!) by supper and games. Book by Friday 10 April. Ladybridge Community Centre, Beaumont Drive, Bolton BL3 4RZ. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

FRI  
24

## Let's Meet for Lunch at Strawberry Duck



12 noon



As per  
menu



Let's Meet for Lunch at Strawberry Duck for fine food and chatting with new and old friends. All welcome. Book by Friday 17 April. Strawberry Duck, Overshores Road, Turton BL7 0LU. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.

SAT  
25

## Executive Meeting of Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference



10am



Free



A meeting for executive members of the Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference, time and place to be confirmed. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Fely on 07809 295366.



## 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.

Find us at:



OddfellowsUK



OddfellowsUK



## Friendship and Social activities across the UK



At Leigh and Bolton Oddfellows we put on a range of social activities each month for us to enjoy together in friendship. We always welcome new people to come along and give us a try... No longer living in the Leigh and Bolton Area? Why not check out the social activities being put on by the Branch nearest to where you are living...

Visit the Oddfellows Website ([www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)) and click on the events tab to search for local events. Alternatively, contact us, (details on page 2) and we can request that your local secretary gets in touch and sends you a copy of their Events Diary.

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

### Refer a friend today



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

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

Ref 1644



## Bon Voyage Pamela Casey

**Pamela Casey was appointed as secretary of the Leigh and Bolton District Branch in June 2015.**

In July 2015 Unity Office sent Sarah Hopwood (Branch Development Officer) to a specially convened committee meeting of the branch. The message from head office was simple and stark, of the 146 branches that existed at that time Leigh and Bolton District's performance was 143, just three from being the worst in the country and that immediate improvements were imperative to avoid a merger with another branch.

Pamela (aka Pam) in her unique quiet and positive manner gathered a team around her and set about restoring the fortunes of the Branch.

Throughout the four years of Pam's reign there has been a constant improvement in the overall performance of the branch. We are all very sad at the thought of losing Pam but we also recognise that she now wishes for a change and a new challenge.

We wish Pam, husband Andy, and their two delightful children Holly and Alyssa success and happiness in the future.

A slightly altered extract from the popular Richard Marx song expresses our feelings exactly: 'wherever you go, whatever you do, we will be right there routing for you'.

It has been pleasure working with you and 'a once in a lifetime privilege to have known you'.

Bon Voyage.

# A thank you from Pam

**As you will now be aware I am leaving the Leigh and Bolton District Branch after four years, I have truly met some amazing people and lifelong friends in my time as Provisional Corresponding Secretary.**

When I first took over as Secretary I was quickly informed about the position of the Branch and that improvement was required, with the help of an amazing team and support this was changed within 12 months and even led to the Branch receiving the highest percentage recruitment award at AMC.

I am ready for a new challenge but this does not mean the end, I will still come along to social events which Holly my daughter particularly loves, especially bingo!

Thank you to everyone for their support over the years and I wish the branch and the members all the success for the future.



**Pam Casey**  
**Provincial Corresponding Secretary**

## Friendship Bowling - September 2019

Once again, whoever controls the weather on our bowling events blessed us with another afternoon of fine weather. As usual those taking part ranged from first timers, some with a little experience and those with too much experience who longed for the days when they could kneel down and launch their bowls at ground level. 15 month old Charlie Freeman who was not used to adults whooping and hollering as they launched huge missiles across the ground soon decided that the safest place for him was in his mother's arms well above the missiles.

The other two children present, Holly and Alyssa were inured to the events happening around them and had their own different ways of handling the situation. Holly aged eight going on seventeen kept herself busy marking score cards for the adults.



Alyssa aged five preferred to hug her dad whenever possible.

The 2019 winners of the Stanley Woods Cup were Mrs Joan Taylor and Mr Martin Wood, for the first time each player was presented with a keep forever trophy.

## Halloween Night - October 2019

**Normally if you want to dress-up in ridiculous outfits and look foolish this is the time and place to do it. Due to unforeseen circumstances the event had to be cancelled. There's always next year!**



# Estate Management

## November 2019

John Mumford from Estate Planners Ltd came to give us a very interesting presentation on the subject of 'Wills' and other ways of managing our assets. It was a not so gentle way of reminding us that we are not all mortal and should keep our affairs up-to-date in the interest of those we love and leave behind.



## Tai Chi

**Tai chi, is an internal Chinese martial art practiced for both its defence training, its health benefits and meditation.**

Joanne the instructor gave a brief demonstration of the movements and then invited everyone to become involved. As usual the attention seekers were quick to respond followed by the more reserved, soon everyone was on the floor enjoying the experience.

It never ceases to amaze what the force of a personality and positive attitude can achieve. Starting from nowhere Joanne had captured her audience who were now performing and enjoying the antics they would never have thought possible a few minutes ago.



The event was well attended and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A slap-up supper and the usual boisterous raffle and bingo sessions rounded off the evening.



# Photos from recent events



*One of the many coffee mornings*



*Visit to National Memorial Arboretum*



## Oddfellows Summer Holiday

**Join with other  
Oddfellows and  
enjoy a wonderful  
summer break**

**6 – 10 July 2020: 4 nights (half-board)**

Standard room from £321 per person  
Signature room from £361 per person

Warner Cricket St Thomas Hotel, Chard, Somerset TA20 4DD

**To book call Warner on 0330 1009 772**  
(Booking reference 4373341) and quote ODDFELLOWS

All holidays are booked through third party travel companies and terms and conditions apply. Holidays are open to Oddfellows members and their guests only. For more information ask the reservations team when booking.

## Lifting neighbourly spirit

### How well do you know your neighbours?

**Many of us are guilty of being caught up in our busy lives, forgetting to stop and say hello. We share so much with the people who live on our street, but often we barely know their names.**

A strong community spirit is something we actively encourage. Our ethos of making friends and helping people means that our members enjoy a strong support network to get them through the good, and the bad.

So why not spread that net of kindness a little wider, by extending your hand of friendship to those who live around you? If you notice that your neighbour lives alone, has a lot on their plate, or doesn't often get many visitors, then why not stop by to see if you can help? Colder seasons provide a great opportunity to drop a card through their door with your contact details for them to give you a call if they're ever



*A little neighbourly spirit goes a long way*



in need of a helping hand. Or, better still, extend the gesture with a knock on their door and a friendly hello.

You don't have to become their best friend, but being a friendly face and an ambassador for community spirit could be the lift your neighbourhood needs. I'm of the firm belief that you can never have too many social plans. Sometimes people just need someone to talk to, or someone to suggest getting out, so why not let them know about your Branch's local coffee mornings, the trips out and the wonderful benefits of membership? You can be sure they'll receive a warm welcome whenever they choose to come to an event.

Wishing you, your families and your neighbours a very happy and healthy 2020.

*Jane Nelson*

**CEO, the Oddfellows**



## HA Andrews and the Lupus Trust

**For the next three years, the Oddfellows' HA Andrews Memorial Fund is supporting the Lupus Trust with its research into how lupus develops, in order to find ways to prevent or cure this lifelong condition.**

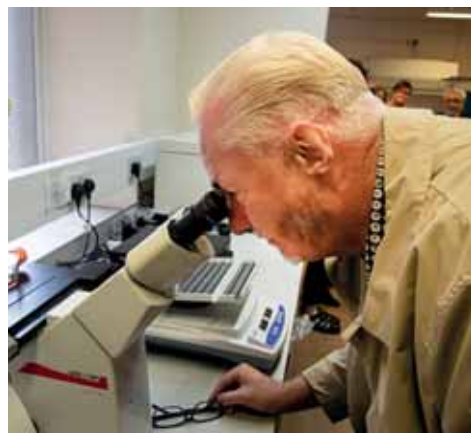
### So what is Lupus?

Lupus is an autoimmune disease in which antibodies, which usually work with the immune system to protect us from infection, instead attack the body and cause disease. It is not known why these antibodies are made in lupus patients, or even how the system in healthy people stops this from happening.

The Lupus Research Team at Guy's Hospital recently identified an immune response pathway that is defective in patients with the most severe forms of lupus. The HA Andrews Memorial Fund will support the team's research into understanding B-cell defects in lupus patients, and what causes them.

### Why did we choose the Lupus Trust?

The Lupus Trust was suggested as a beneficiary of the HA Andrews Memorial Fund by members of Ware Lodge, Brian and Pamela Weavers. Their son, Paul, was diagnosed with the condition at just 17, and as there's no cure, he has lived with the effects ever since.



*Paul takes a closer look at the research*





*The Oddfellows' team is shown around the lab*

Paul now 53, says: "Lupus leaves me feeling constantly exhausted and the skin rashes which flare up occasionally have caused permanent scarring. Holidays are difficult, as I have to avoid the sunshine, and sand can irritate my skin. As a college lecturer, I try not to let it get in the way of anything I do. When I found out the Oddfellows was supporting the Lupus Trust, I was genuinely over the moon."



*The fund will support the addition of Bekki Velounias (pictured) to the research team*

When we visited the Lupus Trust, to present the first of three annual donations which will total £85,000, we spoke to Professor D'Cruz, Professor and Consultant Rheumatologist at Guy's Hospital, London. He's working closely with the research team and says: "This is a vital and very exciting piece of research into lupus, so we are extremely grateful for the kind grant the Lupus Trust has received from the Oddfellows to fund the project for 3 years."



*CEO Jane Nelson and Grand Master David Randall at the lab*

Lupus is often called "the great mimic", as it can affect different parts of the body and is often misdiagnosed. It is currently unknown what causes lupus, although studies have identified a definite genetic tendency, which may be triggered and become active. It isn't a contagious disease, but there isn't yet a cure, only treatments which help to control symptoms.

To learn more about lupus, the Lupus Trust and the work they do, please visit [www.lupus.org.uk](http://www.lupus.org.uk)

# Sharing is caring – thank you Pat!

**We love to recognise those who go above and beyond when recommending the Society to their friends. So we're pleased to share that Patricia Sexton, member of the King's Lynn Oddfellows, has achieved the Gold Refer a Friend Award.**



## **Congratulations, Pat!**

Thank you. I'm very grateful and proud to have reached this level. I really enjoy being a member of the Oddfellows, and I often volunteer for a lot of the social activities, to help them run as smoothly as possible.

## **When did you join the Oddfellows, and why?**

It was a friend who referred me, actually! Back in late 2016, I attended a few events with my friend Violet, and I decided to join in January 2017. I love the Oddfellows ethos of 'making friends, helping people', as it truly sums up what we do.

## **How many members have you referred?**

I've referred 23 new members so far, and I'm very blessed to have a wonderful and rather large circle of friends who have seen how happy Oddfellows makes me, before joining on my recommendation.

## **What's your favourite thing about the Oddfellows?**

My favourite thing about being a member is having the opportunity to meet so many lovely people, and with new members joining all the time, it's a lovely way to make some new friends. My husband, Richard, is also a member, so it's lovely to go to events as a couple as well.

## **What's the general response when you first tell people about the Oddfellows?**

Lots of people have heard of us, but they don't know what we do. I'll often show them a copy of our events diary and invite them along to the next coffee morning or talk. Usually, at the end of the event, they're keen to come to the next one!

## **Did you know we have a monthly e-newsletter?**

Featuring exclusive member offers, real life stories, advice and news, it's delivered direct to your email inbox once a month. If you don't receive this already, speak to your Branch Secretary, or call Membership on 0800 028 1810, so we can get you added to the mailing list.





# 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 Care and Welfare Advisors:

Anne Slater (Bolton area) Telephone: **01204 309621**.

## **Oddfellows Advice Line**

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

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



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

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

## **Care and Welfare Helpline**

**Call 0800 0149 822**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

**Email:** [care@oddfellows.co.uk](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

## January 2020

<b>Wed 8</b>	District Branch Meeting	1.15pm
<b>Wed 15</b>	Coffee Morning at British Garden Centre	10am
<b>Fri 17</b>	Quiz Night	7.30pm
<b>Fri 24</b>	Let's Meet for Lunch at Signature Restaurant	12 noon

## February

<b>Wed 5</b>	District Branch Meeting	1.15pm
<b>Sat 8</b>	A Stroll in the Park (Moses Gate)	10am
<b>Wed 19</b>	Coffee Morning at Bradley Fold Garden Centre	10am
<b>Wed 19</b>	Social Branch Meeting	1.15pm
<b>Fri 21</b>	NAMIBIA - Something about Africa	7.30pm
<b>Fri 28</b>	Let's Meet for Lunch at Olympus Fish Restaurant	12 noon

## March

<b>Wed 4</b>	Annual General Meeting	7.15pm
<b>Sat 7</b>	Seminar (nominated member)	10am
<b>Sat 14</b>	Executive meeting of Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference	10am
<b>Sat 14</b>	Cinema Visit	1pm
<b>Wed 18</b>	Coffee Morning at British Garden Centre	10am
<b>Wed 18</b>	Social Branch Annual General Meeting	7.15pm
<b>Fri 20</b>	Brain Teasers (Quiz)	7.30pm
<b>Fri 27</b>	Let's Meet for Lunch at Unity Brook Inn	12 noon

## April

<b>Wed 1</b>	District Branch Meeting	7.15pm
<b>Sat 11</b>	Tour of Warburton Bakery	10am
<b>Wed 15</b>	Coffee Morning at Bradley Fold Garden Centre	10am
<b>Wed 15</b>	Social Branch Meeting	7.30pm
<b>Fri 17</b>	Cheese and Wine Tasting Evening	7.30pm
<b>Fri 24</b>	Let's Meet for Lunch at Strawberry Duck	12 noon
<b>Sat 25</b>	Executive Meeting of Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference	10am