

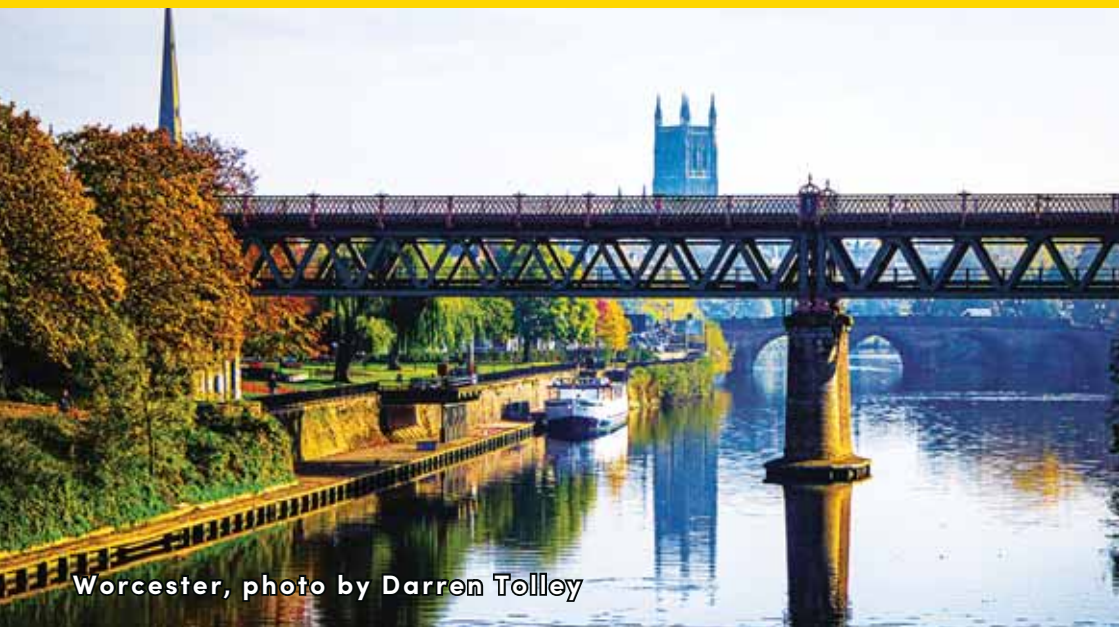
October 2025 - March 2026



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Oddfellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

Events & News

Worcester Branch



Worcester, photo by Darren Tolley



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



District Annual Lunch – Sunday 5 October 2025, we hope you can join us!

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Worcester District Oddfellows Events & News.

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

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
Worcester District Branch**

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

Regular Event

Ten Pin Bowling



10am



£4.80



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.

14 October

11 November

9 December

13 January 2026

10 February

10 March



**Second Tuesday
of the month**

Coffee Mornings



10.30am



Free



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



**Third Wednesday
of the month**

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

19 November

21 January 2026

18 March

Webbs Garden Centre, Worcester
Road, Wychbold, Worcester WR9 0DG.

22 October

17 December

18 February 2026

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.

October

SUN
05

District Annual Lunch



12 noon



£32



We hope to see as many of you as possible at our annual lunch.

Book by: Friday 19 September 2025. Worcestershire County Cricket Club, New Road, Worcester WR2 4QQ. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



MON
13

Do You Know Your Celebrities?



2.15pm



Free



How well do you know your celebrities? Why not join us and prove you know who's who. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Heather on 07418 047897.



MON
27

Fish and Chip Lunch Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



As per
menu



A traditional British favourite. We will be holding a raffle. **Book by:** Monday 13 October 2025. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



TUES
07

Welcome to New Members followed by a Harvest Supper Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



We will welcome new members to our District and present them with their 3 link badge, followed by a lovely Harvest Supper. We will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

November

TUES
04

Quiz Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



Time to get those thinking caps on for one of Kath's great quizzes. We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be provided. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



SUN
09

Service of Remembrance



9.30am



As per
menu



We shall be joining the service of remembrance at Worcester Cathedral, followed by a carvery lunch at the Toby Inn, Bath Road, Worcester. Places are limited at the cathedral, so please book your place by Friday 31 October 2025. Worcester Cathedral, College Yard, Worcester WR1 2LA. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



MON
10

Welcome to New Members followed by a Beetle Drive



2.15pm



Free



We will welcome new members to our District and present them with their 3 link Badge, followed by one of Oddfellows favourite games. There will be a prize for the highest score. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Heather on 07418 047897.

BEETLE DRIVE



MON
24

Whist Drive Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



Free



There will be a cash prize for the Gent and Lady with the highest score.



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.

November

THURS 27 Committee of Management Meeting



2pm



Free



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

December

TUES 02 An Evening of Christmas Carols



7pm



Free



To kick off our Christmas programme of events, we will be singing all of our favourite Christmas carols. We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be provided. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



December

MON 08 Christmas Quiz



2.15pm



Free



Time to get those thinking caps on. Prizes for the winning table. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Heather on 07418 047897.



MON 15 Christmas Lunch Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



As per menu



At the time of print, the Christmas menus were not available, so details will be issued at a later date.

Book by:

Monday 24 November

2025. Bluebell Farm, Hornhill Road, Worcester WR4 0SX. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



January 2026

TUES
06

Bingo Stanley Baldwin Branch



One of Oddfellows favourite games, cash prizes to be won. We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be provided. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON
12

New Year's Lunch



Details are yet to be confirmed.

Book by: Monday 8 December 2025. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Heather on 07418 047897.

SUN
25

Panto Time



This years panto is Puss in Boots. We will meet at 4pm for a 4.30pm start. Following the performance will will have a fish and chip supper. **Book by:** Tuesday 4 November 2025. The Civic Hall, Martins Way, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 7UJ. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

MON
26

New Year Quiz Fernhill Heath Branch



The Christmas and New Year celebrations are over. Its now time to get those thinking caps on.

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.



February

TUES
03

Horse Racing Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



£2



A exciting evening of Horse Racing, come and place your bets. We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be provided. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

MON
09

Bingo



2.15pm



£1



Another of Oddfellows favourite games. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Cost: £1

for a strip of tickets. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Heather on 07418 047897.



MON
23

Play Your Cards Right Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



Free



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.



THURS
26

Committee of Management Meeting



2pm



Free



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

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

March

TUES
03

Beetle Drive Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



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



MON
09

Do You Know Your Rights?



2.15pm



Free



A talk from Citizens Advice Bureau. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church

Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Heather on 07418 047897.



MON
23

Annual General Meeting followed by Bingo



12.15pm



£1



Come along and find out how your District is run. We will play a game or two of Bingo following the meeting. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Cost: £1 for a strip of bingo tickets. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



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.

Annual Day Trip



This year's annual day trip took us to Penkridge, Staffordshire. Peter, our lovely driver from Commandery Coaches picked up members at Lyppard Hub, Worcester and New Street Stourport-on-Severn before making our way to our first port of call – Dobbies Garden Centre at Gailey for a cuppa and a mooch around.



Before making our way to Georgie's Canal Cruises for a 2 hour cruise along the Staffordshire Worcestershire canal and a fish and chips lunch.



38 members enjoyed a fabulous day. Many thanks to Brother Jeff for organising the trip. Here we are on our canal barge.

Bring friendship to your front room

We understand that life can get busy – a diary clash, travel costs, or simply the need for a quiet day at home can all make attending events in person a challenge.

But no matter the reason, we believe everyone should be able to enjoy the warmth of friendship and community. That's why Branches across the country host around fifty free online events every month. From inspiring talks and creative arts and crafts sessions to fun games, gentle exercise, and calming meditation – there's something for everyone.

These online gatherings are a wonderful way to reconnect with familiar faces and meet new friends from all over the UK – all from the comfort of your own home. Who knows? You might even discover a new passion along the way!

What's coming up online

We have lots of national online events that all our members can enjoy, the events below are just a flavour.

Tuesday 16 September, 7pm Alzheimer's and Brain Health

Register in advance for this meeting at www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/

Or use this link to register directly:

<https://tinyurl.com/OddfellowsBrainHealth>

Tuesday 28 October, 7pm 'Ghostly Tales to be Told' with Dr. Ann Featherstone

Register in advance for this meeting at www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/

Or use this link to register directly:

<https://tinyurl.com/OddfellowsGhostlyTales> Anyone is able to attend an Oddfellows online event, no matter where they live so spread the word.

All our online events are hosted on Zoom. If you haven't tried Zoom video-conferencing before and would like help on how to use it, let us know. You can come to me, or email the Events team on events@oddfellows.co.uk, with any questions and we'll help you get logged on and ready to join in. To find out about all upcoming in-person and online events, including online events hosted by other branches, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/events or ask me to send you a list by email.

Branch Secretary Sandra Loynes



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

Interested in volunteering?

Helping others is at the heart of being an Oddfellow and that's exactly what our wonderful volunteers do. There are lots of ways you can get involved as a volunteer, from one-off help to regular support.

You can help us by:

- Welcoming members, guests and speakers at events
- Helping prepare refreshments
- Being the volunteer host at external events
- Organising events as part of a social committee
- Joining the Committee of Management
- Becoming a Volunteer Welfare Visitor or befriender.



To find out more, see contact details on page 2.



www.oddfellows.co.uk

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100 Club 2025

Date	No.	£10	No.	£5
January	11	Eileen Cartwright	67	Jean Birbeck
February	41	Nick Openshaw	17	David Fryer
March	18	David Fryer	65	Thomas Evans
April	82	Jayne Woodcock	70	Amy Stone
May	17	Linda Cole	3	Roy Bilboe
June	59	June Potter	31	Kevin Hoare
July	12	Heather Broom	14	Josie Burr
August	37	Ken Link	76	Hilary Weaver

Celebrations 2025/2026

September

Malcolm and Elizabeth Russell celebrated their diamond (60 years) wedding anniversary. Congratulations to you both.

October

Elizabeth Russell will be celebrating her 80th Birthday.

November

Pat Moles will be celebrating her 90th Birthday.

December

Christine Baker will be celebrating her 80th Birthday.

Susan Davies will be celebrating her 80th Birthday.

December

Bernard Workman will be celebrating his 90th Birthday.

Roger Payne will be celebrating his 80th Birthday.

January 2026

Valerie Hales will be celebrating her 90th Birthday.

Richard Mayall will be celebrating his 60th Birthday.

Margaret Place will be celebrating her 80th Birthday.

March

Miriam Broad will be celebrating her 80th Birthday.

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



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**

Scarborough hosts the nation's Oddies



For the 20th time in more than 200 years the Society's Annual Movable Conference (AMC) was held in beautiful Scarborough, hosted by Vale of York Oddfellows.

Members representing their Branches converged on the seaside town from

all corners of the country to assess the previous 12 months and to decide on the direction of the next.

There was change at the top, as South London Oddfellows' John Mann replaced Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham as Grand Master.

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, including indulging in the delights of an Oddfellows Brass performance, the annual Roy Harmer Memorial Bowls Tournament, and a day trip to Whitby and Scarborough Fair.

Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

Nur Zainal, whose PhD at the University of Southampton has been supported by the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, and Professor of Cancer Biology Tim Fenton (pictured), addressed the Society's annual conference as three years of funding comes to an end.

"My PhD – made possible by the generous support of the Oddfellows – has made some significant contributions to cancer research," said Nur. "My ultimate goal is to find ways to prevent or overcome drug resistance, and my model will let us run

the pre-clinical studies needed to move promising strategies toward the clinic."

Tim added: "Until recently, we did not understand enough about how our immune system recognises and responds to tumours, or about how tumours learn to switch off our immune responses to deploy cancer vaccines effectively. This is changing rapidly, and cancer vaccines hold great promise for kinder, more effective therapy, though significant challenges remain."



Making a Difference Awards 2025

The Oddfellows is full of remarkable people, none more so than the six winners of this year's Making a Difference Awards. They have been nationally recognised for their selflessness and dedication to making their Branch and wider Society as good as they can be.

For more information about the Awards, including how to nominate someone for 2026, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

Jean Logan, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Jean's contributions to the running of the Branch's social events. She's key to coming up with new ideas, organising and hosting events, and making sure everyone has a good time.

"Socialising keeps your brain busy and keeps you active and keeps you younger.

You can sit on the sofa and watch telly all day long but I'm a doer. I'm always up and about."



On winning the award, Jean, from Bourne, Lincolnshire, says she had to read the letter twice, adding: "You've got so many branches all over the country and I end up as the overall winner. It was a nice surprise."

Gordon and Kath Hinett, North Wales and Chester Oddfellows

Achieving Together

The married couple from Conwy, North Wales, have been recognised for their teamwork and commitment to improving the lives of members.



As a Welfare visitor, Gordon regularly assists members however they might need, be that giving lifts to appointments or events, or going to the shops for them. Kath takes the lead on organising social events such as trips to the cinema, the theatre or a day out somewhere.

Kath says they could've been knocked down with a feather when they learnt they'd won. Gordon added: "We don't do it to get rewarded. We do it because we love doing it."

Chris Sargeant, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

Chris, from Pinchbeck in Lincolnshire, has been highlighted for her passion and dedication for her Branch and the Society as a whole.



Having held almost every role possible locally and represented Nene and Welland Oddfellows on regional and national committees, Chris said: "Oddfellows gives to me as much as I give to it. You get to know people. I've friends all over the country through Oddfellowship. I love it, absolutely love it."

She added: "How proud was I that someone had thought I was worthy of this Award?"

Ann Kight, Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Giving Something Back

Nottingham-based Ann's selfless commitment to raising money for worthy causes, both in connection with her Branch and of her own accord, is why she has been singled out for praise.

"I've been doing it about 10 years, if not more," she said. "I reckon I've raised around £10,000."

"I've always had the motto of, 'if you go through life and behave and you help somebody on your way you've done your job'."



She added: "You do things because you do them, not for awards. To get an award is a bonus."

Barry Bedford, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Giving a Helping Hand

Barry, from Peterborough, has been recognised for his dedication to looking after his fellow members and being counted on when it matters, or in times of need. He's been known to give members lifts to and from events and the shops, and has assisted in all manner of DIY projects, including clearing driveways, repairing doors, decorating and gardening.



He said: "I am very proud of what they think I've achieved. It's the way I live my life and always have done and if that transforms into helping other people then I'm thankful."

Incredible total raised for good causes



Brownsea Oddfellows raised £1,608.50 for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

members. We know that money is tight for many people, but they still dig deep and have compassion for those in need.

“It’s what binds us as Oddfellows – caring for people’s welfare and looking out for the needs of others. This humanitarian spirit makes me feel incredibly proud to be part of the Society. Where we can help, we must.”

Giving back to our communities has always mattered to us. Last year, our branches and members donated over £163,000 to good causes.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Every year, when we work out the collaborative total, I’m astounded by the generosity of our Branches and their

Find out more about how the Society gives back to its communities, including information about our support for the RNLI, Oddfellows Brass, our Orphan Gift Fund and HA Andrews Memorial Fund, at www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back

Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



In February, we announced the completion, by transfer of engagements, of Tees Mutual.

The acquisition was approved and agreed on by Tees Mutual's members and their Board. Both the Oddfellows and Tees Mutual share a similar ethos and complementary values. This is the Society's sixth acquisition since

2007 and follows the last transfer of engagements in 2021.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Tees Mutual has been providing life and savings products to the people of Teesside and South Durham for well over a century.

“We are both passionate about mutuality and are pleased to be able to provide Tees Mutual members with a secure future.”

Social Events at a glance

October 2025

Sun 5	District Annual Lunch	12 noon
Tues 7	Welcome to New Members followed by a Harvest Supper - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 13	Do you know your celebrities	2.15pm
Tues 14	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 22	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 27	Fish and Chip Lunch - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

November

Tues 4	Quiz - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Sun 9	Service of Remembrance	9.30am
Mon 10	Welcome to New Members followed by a Beetle Drive	2.15pm
Tues 11	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 19	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 24	Whist Drive - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
Thurs 27	Committee of Management Meeting	2pm

December

Tues 2	An Evening of Christmas Carols	7pm
Mon 8	Christmas Quiz	2.15pm
Tues 9	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 15	Christmas Lunch - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
Wed 17	Coffee Morning	10.30am

January 2026

Tues 6	Bingo - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 12	New Year's Lunch	12 noon
Tues 13	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 21	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Sun 25	Panto Time	4pm
Mon 26	New Year Quiz - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

Social Events at a glance

February 2026

Tues 3	Horse Racing – Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 9	Bingo	2.15pm
Tues 10	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 18	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 23	Play your cards right – Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
Thurs 26	Committee of Management Meeting	2pm

March

Tues 3	Beetle Drive – Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 9	Do you know your rights	2.15pm
Tues 10	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 18	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 23	Annual General Meeting followed by Bingo	12.15pm

Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

We've online events for all to enjoy.
Give one a try.



To see what's coming up visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/events

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Committee of Management

Committee of Management Branches are responsible for their own business activities and administration. This is done through a Committee of Management supported by the Secretary.

Attendance at this event is for Committee of Management members only, unless agreed in advance with Sandra Loynes.

Volunteering

If you would like to know more about volunteering opportunities here at Worcester Oddfellows, including joining the Committee of Management please contact Sandra Loynes for more information.