

July - October 2021
Issue 17



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

out & about

Derby District



Music



Art/Crafts



Online



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Friendship
Month



*Friendship Re-Launch Event
Friday 17 September*

Welcome all to your latest Events Diary.

Well Hello Everyone!

What a pleasure it is to be greeting you again in the newest edition of our Events Diary.

We have done our best to put together some events to entice you back into social life, be it physical or virtual.

The on-line Zoom events have been a life-line for some of you over the last year or so and they will continue with less frequency for those who still wish to join in but cannot get out and about for various reasons. As we go to print, we can host events but remember, it is subject to change.

We have carried out a COVID Risk Assessment and have some measures in place e.g. hand sanitiser on entry, a one-way system. Attendee numbers

for face-to-face events will be reduced for the time being, which will hopefully encourage those of you who may be a bit wary of going ahead full throttle! With this in mind, I must emphasise that booking at the earliest convenience is essential as places will be limited. In the words of 'Serious Bouncers'.... "If your name's not down you're not coming in". We don't wish to be party poopers but we have to consider everyone's safety and comfort, and for the time being this is the best way we can manage it.

There are contact details throughout the diary, so please get in touch and come to at least one of our events.

Penny and I have missed your company at the hall, it has been eerily quiet, we and our wonderful volunteers can't wait to see you again.

Just a reminder regarding Branch Meetings, unless it is a special event, e.g. guest speaker or games etc, they are listed on the back cover and the "At a Glance" section in the middle.

Finally, before I leave you to peruse the diary, I hope you like the front cover, I went out and took photos of four features from the Ram Trail. There are so many to choose from and they really are spectacular, why not get the map and go on a Ram hunt!

Kindest regards,

Lorraine, District Secretary

Weekly Events

The events below all take place at the Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

Line Dancing

Every Monday

⌚ 2pm - 3.30pm ₤ Members £2
Guests £3

Everyone is welcome and it's a fun way to keep fit! 30p for tea or coffee and biscuits.

Short Mat Bowls

Every Tuesday

⌚ 2pm - 4pm ₤ Members £1.20
Guests £2.20

Great fun, beginners are always welcome! 30p for tea or coffee and biscuits.

Art Classes

Every Wednesday

⌚ 1pm - 3pm ₤ Members £5
Guests £7

Art materials are supplied, beginners are always welcome! A Professional Tutor will be on hand to give tips and advice. 50p charge for tea or coffee and biscuits.



Contact Details

For more details about any of the events listed, membership and the wide range of benefits available, please call:

01332 345697

Lorraine Killa

Email:

lorraine.killa@oddfellows.co.uk

or

Penny Folds

Email:

penny.folds@oddfellows.co.uk



Lots of our events take place at the Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

Really easy to find with parking at the rear off Melbourne Street.

July 2021

SAT 03 Countdown with Colin



10.30am



Free



Join us on Zoom for some conundrum fun! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine or Penny on 01332 345697.



MON 12 Crafty Social



6.30pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Cost including coffee/tea and biscuits. Book by Monday 5 July. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

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.

WED 14 Walking Group at Horsley



10am



As per menu



Meet at Coach and Horses Pub car park for a five mile walk. Post walk lunch venue to be decided. Book by Wednesday 7 July. The Coach & Horses, Church Street, Horsley DE21 5BQ. Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.



SAT 17 Zoom Event



10.30am



Free



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

MON 26 Crafty Social



6.30pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Book by Monday 19 July. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

July 2021

TUES
27

Coffee Morning - The Humour That Surrounds Us



11am



£1 for tea/coffee
and biscuits



Let's get chatting in person again!
We also have a guest speaker
coming to entertain us. Book by
Tuesday 20 July. Oddfellows Hall,
32 Charnwood Street, Derby
DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on
01332 345697.

WED
28

Walking Group at Shardlow



10am



As per menu



Meet at Clock Warehouse Pub car
park for a 4.5 mile walk. Post walk
lunch venue to be decided. Book by
Wednesday 21 July. Clock Warehouse,
Canal Bank, Shardlow DE72 2GL.
Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.

August

TUES
03

District Officers' Visit King George IV Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and meet this year's Provincial
Grand Master (District Chairman) and
her Officers. A buffet might be served
after the meeting. Please contact the
Branch Secretary, Maureen Burgoyne
if you would like to join us. Book by
Tuesday 20 July. Oddfellows Hall, 32
Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.
Contact Maureen on 01332 739538.

MON
09

Crafty Social



6.30pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Come and get involved in our
latest project, all ages and abilities
welcome. Book by Monday 2 August.
Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street,
Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on
01332 345697.

WED
11

Walking Group at Ingleby



10am



As per menu



Meet at the John Thompson Pub car
park for a 4.5 mile walk. Post walk
lunch venue to be decided. Book
by Wednesday 4 August. The John
Thompson Inn, Ingleby DE73 7HW.
Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.

August

THURS
12

Coffee Morning - Biscuits and Bingo



11am



£1 for tea/coffee and biscuits



This month we will have a good old fashioned game of bingo! Prizes to be won, bring your own dobber or pen. Book by

Thursday 5 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.



MON
23

Crafty Social



6.30pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Book by Monday 16 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

WED
25

Walking Group at Spondon



10am



As per menu



Meet at Bluebells Dairy Ice Cream Farm for a five mile walk in memory of our dear friend Walter Stone (the Locko Loop, a walk that Walter taught us). Post walk lunch venue to be decided. Book by Wednesday 18 August. Bluebells Dairy Ice Cream Farm, Locko Road, Spondon DE21 7AR. Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.

SAT
14

Zoom Event



10.30am



Free



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

SAT
21

Chairman's Garden Coffee Morning



10.30am



Free



Join Polly in her garden for an al fresco coffee and cake. No ticket fee but donations to the Derbyshire Blood Bikes on the day would be greatly appreciated. Book by Saturday 14 August. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.



August

SAT
28 **Zoom Event**



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



September

MON
06 **Crafty Social**



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Book by Monday 30 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.



SAT
04 **Friendship Walk**



Meet us at Elvaston Country Park for our annual sponsored walk in aid of the Chairman's chosen charity, Derbyshire Blood Bikes. A picnic will be provided after the walk, please let us know when you book if you have any special dietary requirements. Book by Friday 27 August. Elvaston Castle Country Park, Borrowash Road DE72 3EP. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.



TUES
07 **Kurling**
King George IV Branch



Come and join us for our monthly meeting followed by refreshments and kurling. Book by Tuesday 31 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Maureen on 01332 739538.

September – Friendship Month

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



WED 08 **Walking Group at Heage**



10am



As per menu



Meet at The Eagle Tavern for a five mile walk. Post walk lunch venue to be decided. Book by Wednesday 1 September. Eagle Tavern, Ripley Road, Heage DE56 2HU. Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.

SAT 11 **Friendship Coffee Morning – Derbyshire Blood Bikes**



10.30am



£1 for tea/coffee
and biscuits



Join us at the hall to celebrate Friendship Month. A guest speaker will come from the Chairman's chosen charity. Bacon or sausage cobs will be on sale for £1. Book by Saturday 4 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.



FRI 17 **Friendship Re- Launch Event**



10.30am



Free



Join us to celebrate getting back to our Oddfellows social events. There will be a few staggered time slots throughout the day so that we can accommodate more people. We will have some entertainment and refreshments. The car park will be closed and we will use gazebos to give us more outdoor breathing space. Book by Friday 10 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

SAT 18 **Zoom Event**



10.30am



Free



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

September

MON 20 **Crafty Social**



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Book by Monday 6 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

WED 22 **Walking Group at Mackworth**



Meet at The Farmhouse Hotel car park (formerly The Mackworth Hotel) for a 5.25 mile walk. Post walk lunch venue to be decided. Book by Wednesday 15 September. The Farmhouse, Ashbourne Road, Mackworth, Derby DE22 4LY. Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.



SAT 25 **Zoom Event**



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

SUN 26 **Sunday Lunch King George IV**



Please contact King George IV Branch Secretary, Maureen Burgoyne, for further details. Book by Tuesday 7 September. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Maureen on 01332 739538.

October

SAT 02 **District Officers' Visit Stanhope Branch**



Come and meet this year's Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) and her Officers. A buffet might be served after the meeting. Please contact the Branch Secretary, Doreen Swain if you would like to join us. Book by Saturday 18 September. Hunters Arms, Church Street, Kilburn DE56 0LU. Contact Doreen on 01332 720064.

October

MON 04 Crafty Social

 6.30pm

 Members £2
Guests £3



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Book by Monday 27 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

TUES 05 Guest Speaker King George IV Branch

 7.30pm

 Free



Join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by refreshments and a guest speaker (details to be confirmed). Book by Tuesday 28 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Maureen on 01332 739538.



WED 06 Walking Group at Ripley

 10am

 As per menu



Meet at Ripley Market Place for a five mile walk. Post walk lunch venue to be decided. Book by Wednesday 29 September. Ripley Market Place, Ripley DE5 3HA. Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.

SAT 09 Zoom Event

 10.30am

 Free



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

MON 11 District Officers' Visit Good Samaritan Branch

 10am


 Free



Come and meet this year's Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) and her Officers. A buffet might be served after the meeting. Please contact the Branch Secretary, Margaret Glanville if you would like to join us. Book by Monday 27 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Margaret on 01332 771964.

TUES 12 Harvest Coffee Morning

 11am

 £1 for tea/coffee
and biscuits



If you have successfully grown an excess of fruit or vegetables this year and would like to sell them in aid of the Derbyshire Blood Bikes, please get in touch with the office. Book by Tuesday 5 October. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

October

TUES
12

Dining Out



6.45pm



As per menu



Join us for an evening of food and friendship. Book by Monday 4 October. The Three Horseshoes, Main Road, Morley DE7 6DF. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

MON
18

Crafty Social



6.30pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Come and get involved in our latest project, all ages and abilities welcome. Book by Monday 11 October. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

WED
20

Walking Group at Ticknall



10am



As per menu



Meet at Ticknall Village Hall for a five mile Calke Abbey walk. Post walk lunch venue to be decided. Book by Wednesday 13 October. Ticknall Village Hall, Ingleby Lane, Ticknall DE73 7JX. Contact Margaret on 01332 519062.



SAT
23

Zoom Event



10.30am



Free



Join us for an online catch up! Zoom Meeting ID: 777 935 4259. Contact Lorraine on 01332 345697.

Our social events meet the current COVID-19 Secure guidelines

We're doing all we can to make our meet-ups as safe and as comfortable as possible, because staying connected matters. If you're in need of company, you're more than welcome to come along and join us in person or online.



www.oddfellows.co.uk/events

Branch Contact and Business Meetings

Every Oddfellows Branch is run independently by a committee of members. Regular meetings are held to discuss matters such as Branch finances, membership and member support. Any member is welcome to attend these meetings, if you'd like to know more or come along to one, please contact the Branch Secretary. See below for further meeting details.

Loyal Derwent Valley

Contact Penny Folds on 01332 345697

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

14 July, 11 August, 8 September and 13 October

Loyal Good Intent

Contact Margaret Henchcliff on 01332 519062

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

1 July, 5 August, 2 September and 7 October

Loyal King George IV

Contact Maureen Burgoyne on 01332 739538

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

6 July, 3 August, 7 September and 5 October

Loyal Pares

Contact Barbara Smith on 01159 465105

Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm at Coach and Horses Pub, Victoria Road, Draycott, Derby DE72 3PS.

13 September and 11 October

Loyal Good Samaritan

Contact Margaret Glanville on 01332 771964

Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 11am at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

12 July, 9 August, 13 September and 11 October

Loyal Stanhope

Contact Doreen Swain on 01332 720064

Meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month at 6.30pm at Hunters Arms Pub, Church Street, Kilburn, Derby DE56 0LU.

7 August, 4 September and 2 October

Half Yearly Meeting

Saturday 25 September

Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU at 2pm

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 Penny on **01332 345697** or email **penny.folds@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@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

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**

At a glance

July 2021

Thurs 1	Good Intent Branch Meeting	2.30pm
Sat 3	Countdown with Colin	10.30am
Tues 6	King George IV Branch	7.30pm
Mon 12	Good Samaritan Branch Meeting	11am
Mon 12	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Wed 14	Walking Group at Horsley	10am
Sat 17	Zoom Event	10.30am
Mon 26	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Tues 27	Coffee Morning - The Humour That Surrounds Us	11am
Wed 28	Walking Group at Shardlow	10am

August

Tues 3	King George IV Branch - District Officers' Visit	7.30pm
Thurs 5	Good Intent Branch Meeting	2.30pm
Sat 7	Stanhope Branch Meeting	6.30pm
Mon 9	Good Samaritan Branch Meeting	11am
Mon 9	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Wed 11	Walking Group at Ingleby	10am
Thurs 12	Coffee Morning - Biscuits and Bingo	11am
Sat 14	Zoom Event	10.30am
Sat 21	Chairman's Garden Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 23	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Wed 25	Walking Group at Spondon	10am
Sat 28	Zoom Event	10.30am

September - Friendship Month

Thurs 2	Good Intent Branch Meeting	2.30pm
Sat 4	Friendship Walk	10.30am
Sat 4	Stanhope Branch Meeting	6.30pm

At a glance

September – Friendship Month

Mon 6	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Tues 7	King George IV Branch – Kurling	7.30pm
Wed 8	Walking Group at Heage	10am
Sat 11	Friendship Coffee Morning – Derbyshire Blood Bikes	10.30am
Mon 13	Good Samaritan Branch Meeting	11am
Mon 13	Pares Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Fri 17	Friendship Re-Launch Event	10.30am
Sat 18	Zoom Event	10.30am
Mon 20	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Wed 22	Walking Group at Mackworth	10am
Sat 25	Zoom Event	10.30am
Sun 26	King George IV Sunday Lunch	12 noon

October

Sat 2	Stanhope Branch – District Officers' Visit	6.30pm
Mon 4	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Tues 5	King George IV Branch – Guest Speaker	7.30pm
Wed 6	Walking Group at Ripley	10am
Thurs 7	Good Intent Branch Meeting	2.30pm
Sat 9	Zoom Event	10.30am
Mon 11	Good Samaritan Branch – District Officers' Visit	10am
Mon 11	Pares Branch	7.30pm
Tues 12	Harvest Coffee Morning	11am
Tues 12	Dining Out	6.45pm
Mon 18	Crafty Social	6.30pm
Wed 20	Walking Group at Ticknall	10am
Sat 23	Zoom Event	10.30am



Online events you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home...

**Talks, coffee mornings, exercise classes,
quizzes, fun & games and much more**

**Visit oddfellows.co.uk/events
and enter 'Online' in the place name box**

Need help to attend an online event? Just give your local Social Organiser
or Branch Secretary a call or email events@oddfellows.co.uk

Provincial Grand Master's Message



I feel very privileged to have been the first Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) of Derby District to conduct an electronic District Meeting.

It is at the District meeting that I would normally have let you know my chosen charity, but as you are all aware I have chosen Derbyshire Blood Bikes last year. I am so pleased that I did, given the phenomenal increase in their usage during 2020. They supported the huge efforts to get Covid-19 samples between hospitals and testing facilities and they were heavily involved in delivering PPE to care setting and GP surgeries. Not only did they transport blood for Blood Banks, but they also helped Pathology Labs, Pharmacies, Maternity and the Gynaecology Departments.

In 2020 they carried out over 8,000 deliveries for our NHS, that was more than they had done collectively in the previous eight years since they began operating in 2012. Their biggest headache last year was fundraising, most of their fundraising is done face to face at supermarkets or giving talks to small groups like ourselves. I am pleased to

say that down to your kind generosity we have managed to raise just over £1,500 for them to date. Thank you.

As we pass the anniversary of what has been a tough year for all of us, I'm pleased that we can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel. The vaccination programme is underway and most of our members have had their first dose of the vaccine and it seems to be taking effect. We have also had the government's four step road map to help us start to plan ahead and hopefully this will provide us with a route back to some sort of normal life.

Our Social Committee hopes to start planning face to face social events very soon, as we cannot wait to welcome everyone back to social events in the hall. Hopefully, this will be no later than mid July.

Although online events are probably here to stay, as they are now a valued part of what we offer our members with over 100 events to choose from. This is a great achievement considering that we hadn't any events online prior to April last year.

Finally, I'd like to say how proud I am of our Society's members for the way they have faced up to the uncertainty of the last 12 months. We've achieved a lot during these difficult times and I know that an incredible amount of work has been done in all our Branches, both by our staff and volunteers.

Yours fraternally,

Pauline (Polly) Cunningham
Provincial Grand Master (Chairman)

There are good ships,
And wood ships,
Ships that sail the sea,
But the best ships,
Are Friendships,
And may they,
Always be!

Knobbly Trees (not knees)



I have always been fascinated by big, old, knobbly trees and this tree called 'The Old Man of Calke' fits that description perfectly.

Bill and I had a lovely walk around Calke in January, on a very cold misty morning and came upon this wonderful tree.

When Calke became a National Nature Reserve in 2006, they held a competition to name their oldest tree, which was won by Joy Thacker. It is estimated that the oak tree is over 1,200 years old, all from just a small acorn, at the time the Vikings were invading our shores and well established when the Normans conquered England in 1066. It has seen the reign of all the Kings and Queens since King Egbert 827-839 and survived many wars.

I always wonder if trees could talk, what tales they could tell? All the things that happened beneath their boughs, children playing and fighting, young couples courting, marriage proposals and all the life changes over all the many, many years.

Margaret Henchcliff

Introducing Vera

Hello friends, may I introduce you to my new companion, Vera. You may remember my two previous dogs, Manor aged 11 who I lost in 2018 and Lubby Lou aged almost 16 years who I lost 18 months later. Both of these dogs were from Just for Dogs Centre at Brailsford, Nr Derby, just the same as my new companion who I have named Vera, remembering Vera Lynn and me hearing about her on Remembrance Sunday and going to see her a couple of days later.

When Margaret Smith of Just for Dogs bathed and trimmed Vera, we found she had a lump on her tummy and Vera has had two operations and is fully recovered now. She has a lovely personality and understands the new words. She came from Sarajevo with a number of other dogs, taking from Tuesday to Saturday, coming in crates by lorry.

All my family and friends have seen her and have fallen for her. She is completely white, except for two



black floppy ears, black nose and black eyes. She is such a blessing and delight and I hope that we will meet soon and you can judge for yourself. Rescue dogs give so much.

Wishing you blessing for 2021, just as he has blessed me.

Kindest regards

Margaret Thomas

Traditional Terms

Grand Master (GM): Chairman

Provincial Grand Master (Prov GM):
District Chairman

Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Prov DGM):
District Deputy Chairman

Provincial Corresponding Secretary (Prov CS):

District Secretary - responsible for administering Branches

Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master (IPPGM):
Immediate Past District Chairman

Past Provincial Grand Master (PPGM):
Past District Chairman

Lodge: Branch

Brother and Sister: Traditional term used in Unions, Guilds and Fraternal organisations to suggest mutual support and family.

NHS-The Untold Stories!

Some years ago a young lad of local origins discovered that his navel (belly button) was unlike any of his school pals and as he reached years of puberty, was ragged incessantly by schoolmates and girls alike.

He lived with his unfortunate condition, until reaching manhood, decided to consult his local doctor to try and eradicate his physical condition.

His doctor could, however, offer him no hope of having success with this condition. He had in fact a golden nut for a navel not your standard belly button, oh no, a golden nut no less.

Desperate as he was to seek an end to his anatomical nightmare, the sympathetic doctor referred him to a former colleague who had left the UK to take up a practise in a remote jungle area of Borneo. Specialising in strange medical practices probably bordering on a form of Voodoo, his doctor advised that this was the only course of action he could recommend.

The man out of desperation obtained the details of the jungle doctor. A flight booked and off he went

Later

Arriving at the jungle location, the man found and introduced himself to the jungle doctor, who on examination advised him that the only way to remove the golden nut was as follows:

1. Go home to England
2. Await a clear moonlit night
3. Open all windows
4. Lie naked on the bed and wait a few minutes.

Back in the UK, the man carried out the instructions of the jungle doctor, but privately thinking that he may be a victim of a hoax.

Suddenly from out of the night sky shone a beam of gold, so bright that it alighted on the golden nut. Down the beam descends a fairy carrying a golden spanner with which she proceeded to unscrew the golden nut. Removing the golden nut the fairy went back up the golden beam to disappear forever. Out of his mind with joy and disbelief the man could not believe that his nightmare had ended and leaped from the bed in delight, whereupon - **his bum fell off!**

Footnote: The jungle doctor forgot to tell the man to lie still for ten minutes after the nut was removed.

David Bull, Good Samaritan Branch

The History of Aprons

Recalling grandma's apron brings back many memories.

I don't think children today know what an apron is. The principle use of grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath because she only had a few. It was also because it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and aprons used less material. But along with that, it served as a pot holder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was wonderful for drying children's tears and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.



From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks and sometimes half hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. When the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron. From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the autumn, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, grandma walked to the back door, waved her apron and the menfolk knew it was time to come in for dinner. It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old time apron' that served so many purposes.

Remember:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs out to thaw! They would go crazy now to guess how many germs were on that apron.



Margaret Thomas

Dandelion



Have we got it all wrong with regard to dandelions, the scourge of most gardeners. I like many others, try to pounce on dandelions before they flower and go to seed, consequently spreading far and wide. Their seeds can travel up to five miles before landing.

I recently read an article about dandelions and up until the 1800s they were seen to be extremely beneficial. They are the same family as sunflowers and a cup of dandelion greens equal 535% of our daily recommended vitamin K and 112% of vitamin A. Vitamin K is needed by the body for blood clotting and helping wounds heal and vitamin A helps with your immune system, vision and keeps skin and lining of some parts of the body, such as the nose healthy.

All parts of the dandelion are edible. I remember in my wine making days, many years ago, the flowers made a very sweet dessert type of wine.

They were well known to ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, and have been used in Chinese traditional medicine for over a thousand years.

Having read this will your garden habits change and will we begin to see beautiful swathes of golden dandelions in your lawns in the future?

Margaret Henchcliff



Ponderings

If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.

A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, but is still fat.

A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years, while a tortoise doesn't run and does mostly nothing, yet lives for 150 years.

And you tell me to exercise? I don't think so.

Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to remember the ones I do and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Now I am older here's what I've discovered:

1. I started out with nothing and I still have most of it
2. My wild oats are mostly enjoyed with prunes and all-bran
3. I finally got my head together and now my body is falling apart.
4. Funny, I don't remember being absent minded
5. Funny, I don't remember being absent minded
6. If all is not lost, then where the heck is it?
7. It was a whole lot easier to get older, than to get wiser
8. Some days, you're the top dog, some days you're the hydrant; the early bird get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese
9. I wish the buck really did stop here. I could use a few of them
10. Kids in the back seat cause accidents
11. Accidents in the back seat cause kids.
12. It's hard to come back when you haven't been anywhere
13. The world only beats a path to your door when you're in the bathroom.
14. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he's have put them on my knees.
15. When I'm finally holding all the right cards, everyone wants to play chess.

Sent in by Margaret Thomas - hope they made you smile.

Pandemic Puppy Parenting

At the end of February 2020, we had to say a very painful farewell to our 11 year old German Shepherd, Sasha the Wonderdog.

It was so sad to wave her over the Rainbow Bridge, but she was no longer able to walk and that is no quality of life for a dog who loved running after balls, cats and anyone unknown to her in our garden! She was a fierce protector of those she knew and a very frightening sight to those she didn't. However, once you had her seal of approval, she was your best friend, always willing to share her licks and 'magical fibres of love and joy' (that is 'fur' to anyone who isn't a dog lover!).

Our initial feelings were to take some time out to grieve Sasha and have a break from the responsibility of dog companionship, but I guess the Coronavirus (Covid-19) and Boris Johnson had other ideas in store.

A few weeks later, the lockdown was inevitable, essential travel only etc etc, we all know how the story goes... so Miles, my fiancé (who knows I will say yes to most things when I have had a few glasses of wine!) started his 'Lets get a puppy project'. There was no way, we could have done it otherwise as we both have full time jobs and having a puppy is very time consuming for the first few months.

We did consider a rescue but for personal reasons we have decided to delay that for another time.

As the King of Online Research (when he has his mind set on something), Miles found a Working Cocker Spaniel puppy, thankfully before the puppy prices skyrocketed during lockdown. We had a few chats with the owner of the mother and before we knew it, Maximus the Gladiator (Max) had arrived in our lives. I must say I was quite surprised at how tiny he was.

As someone who has never had a baby, or had much responsibility for anyone other than themselves and a couple of adult cats, I can honestly say that it was so much harder than I ever expected.

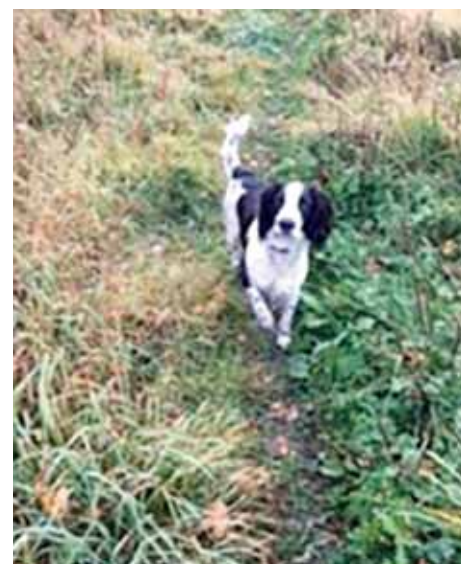
But here we all are, a year or so later and we are all smitten with each other. To say it has been an emotional journey of self discovery for me would be an understatement. Training him has been a challenge and has tested what little patience I am graced with. Miles has taken it all in his stride as he has grown up with dogs, but they have teeth, claws and up until a few months ago, I don't think a week went by without me sporting a bruise or a scratch of some sort. Thank goodness for crate training him or we would have had no furniture left! Max



is mischievous, cheeky and energetic but I can see him settling down nicely as each month passes. Seeing his whole body wiggle when he hasn't seen us for more than 20 minutes just makes my heart melt and smile from ear to ear. We are going on a group training course in May to try and iron out a few creases but on the whole, he is turning out lovely. Another bonus is, walking him everyday is good exercise (even in the snow and rain).

We still miss Sasha and often talk to her whilst we look at her photos (shrine) on our Welsh dresser, she will always be in our hearts, but Max keeps us busy so we don't feel too sad about it all the time.

Lorraine Killa



Mystery



In 2020 I tried to buy some Auricular plants, but was unable to find any in the garden centres. It seems you need a specialist grower, so this year I got on Google to track some down, but sadly I was too late, they were all sold! I then tried to find some seeds.

The seeds arrived by post and I was surprised that they had come all the way from China. On opening the jiffy bag, it contained just a small plastic bag with seeds - no planting instructions or picture as you would normally expect. I duly planted them in the greenhouse to await developments.

On greater inspection of the packaging the description on the labelling was - plastic buttons, so what am I going to get?

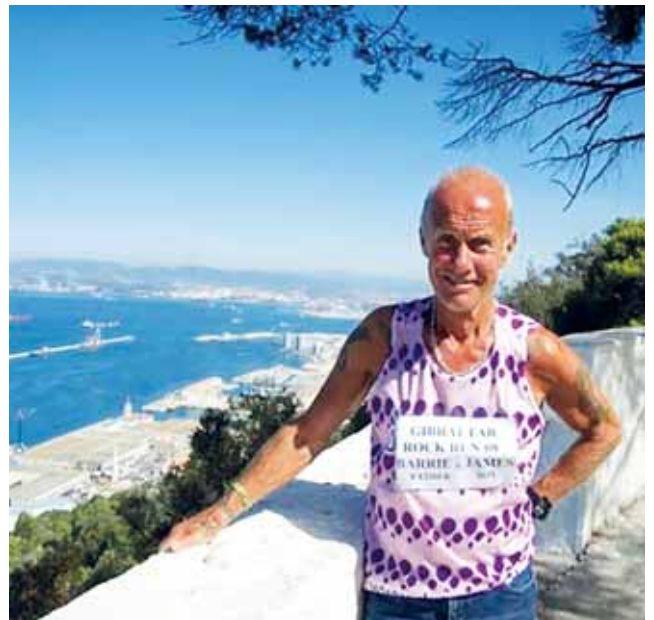
Margaret Henchcliff



Message from Barrie Siddons



Please find attached a photo of me and my son James after doing the Gibraltar rock run. The Gibraltar rock run is one of the oldest organised running events. The Royal Navy used to do the run when docked in Gibraltar. The route takes the route that the naval gunners used to haul the cannons up the rock to defend, with the gradient being one in four at some points. Some feat with the temperature well over 30 degrees in the summer and the rock being over 1,300 foot high.



Life only comes around once,
so do whatever makes you happy,
and be with whoever makes
you smile.

Charity Skydive



Now we are slowly, but carefully, coming out of lockdown - I went on a very exciting trip with my son Ian, who was doing a sponsored skydive. The skydive was originally planned for May 2020, but for some reason had to be cancelled!

Ian was raising money for the Royal Derby Hospital Pulvertaft Hand Centre, where he works. The money was being raised for rehabilitation equipment to be used within the Hand Centre, as their equipment was old (a bit like his mother).

We set off on a lovely sunny April spring morning to Langar Airfield, Nottingham. It was quite busy with lots of other intrepid people ready to jump out of a plane! After some safety instructions (and me shouting to keep his feet up when he landed because he was driving us back home) off he went with Ali - his tandem partner and the one who



pulls the ripcord. The small aircraft flew to 12,742 feet and out he jumped! It was quite amazing watching the parachutes slowly drift down to land on the airfield. A very smooth landing it was and I was very relieved that both his feet were down on the ground. Ian enjoyed it very much and is ready to do it again next year, so if anyone wants to join him - let us know.

Ian raised a total of £570 and thanks to Derby District for sponsoring him.

Christine Shelton

Six little stories with lots of meaning

1. Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set alarms to wake up. That is hope.
4. We plan things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience". That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!



Derbyshire Blood Bikes



Derbyshire Blood Bikes is a local charity that provides a medical courier service to the local NHS hospitals and medical facilities. Mark Vallis joined the group in 2015 and soon saw the real potential for the service provided by the charity. A retired Derbyshire Police Officer, Mark, who now manages the service reflects; “In 2015 we were responding to just a few calls each week, yet I quickly learned that our main hospital was ordering over 12,000 taxi journeys each year, spending over £150,000. There was tremendous scope for us doing far more”.

Today, with around 65 volunteers and a fleet of 12 motorcycles and three cars, they now frequently respond to around 35 calls each day and in 2020, the fleet travelled over 230,000 miles.

The group provides a 24/7 service with volunteers freely contributing their time to the courier tasks, fundraising events or the many talks they do for local community groups. With more activity comes increased pressure on funding. They now need to raise around £35,000 to keep the service, which they provide free to the NHS, operating. They aim to save the NHS money on urgent and non-routine transport costs.

Around half of the group's journeys take them beyond the county border, delivering essential and urgent diagnostic samples to Sheffield and Birmingham, but also to facilities in Leeds, London, Liverpool, Manchester and Bristol are used by both Derby and Chesterfield hospitals.

As well as diagnostic samples, they are also asked to carry blood and blood products, medication, equipment and records. They also transport donated breast milk from donating mothers into the national milk banks, which then supply neonatal units for poorly or premature new-born infants.

The service has grown and expanded significantly since 2016, responding to the diverse needs of the NHS in Derbyshire. For example, one of the regular parts of the service is delivering medication for the OPAT team, part of the hospital pharmacy. Mark explains; “The pharmacy

service continues to support many patients after they leave hospital, or even if they have life-long conditions and are supported by the Royal Derby Hospital. The feedback from these patient groups has been 100% positive. They're experiencing an effective service which delivers on time, with a smile and very often a doorstep chat. That's a very satisfying part of what we do”.

DBB grew steadily and in 2019, made over 2,860 deliveries, more in that year than it had been since the group first started in 2011. Then Covid-19 changed almost everything.

The global health crisis had an almost immediate impact on the group.

- we had to put in place new safety measures to keep our volunteers safe
- we could not recruit and train the way we had been doing
- the demands for our service grew by over 300%
- all fundraising events were cancelled

However, many volunteers were able to commit more time to help and effective fundraising for the previous four years had left us in a good position to continue.

By the end of 2020, we'd made over 8,200 deliveries, again eclipsing all we'd previously done.

What does the future hold for Derbyshire Blood Bikes? The aim for the group is to be the medical courier service of choice for the NHS in Derbyshire. With the resources and volunteers, Mark is confident the group are well on the way to achieving that.

But above all, like the rest of society, we just hope for a return to some normality!

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you over the summer.



Throw Winner

The winner of the raffle for the beautiful crocheted blanket was Ralph Curl of the Loyal Stanhope Branch. Ralph has been a member for many years. He was originally in the Loyal Colville Branch of Belper; however, when it sadly closed a few years ago, he was reallocated to the Stanhope Branch, which

is based in Kilburn. The photo shows Ralph holding his prize. Ralph is a full time carer for his wife. Congratulations, it was a pleasure to meet you.

Submitted by Lorraine Killa who kindly dropped off the blanket on her way home.



My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn.

The house isn't dirty the cobwebs are gone.

My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn.

I think I might never put my glasses back on!



Online events you can enjoy
from the comfort of your own home...

Talks, coffee mornings, exercise classes, quizzes, fun & games and much more

Visit oddfellows.co.uk/events and enter 'Online' in the place name box

Need help to attend an online event?
Just give your local Social Organiser or Branch Secretary a call or email events@oddfellows.co.uk

OE/0521A5

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 Penny on **01332 345697** or email penny.folds@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@manchestercab.org

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

*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.

Branches raise over £145,000 for good causes in 2020

A big part of the Oddfellows is about giving back. We're run by our members, for our members, and that means providing them with the support they, their friends, family and communities may need.

The societal impact of the worldwide pandemic and nationwide lockdowns truly showed us the importance of coming together as a community. And despite many facing funding and resource crises themselves, charitable organisations stepped up to play a huge part in helping people to get through the struggles of last year.

To show our continued support, our UK Branches raised £145,742.59 for good causes in 2020.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says: "In one way or another, we've all needed somebody to lean on at various points during the pandemic, so it's wonderful to see how our Branches and members have been helping their local communities and good causes."

Oddfellows Branches and members also made significant contributions to Society fundraising initiatives during the past year, such as our Coronavirus Emergency Appeal, in which £19,210 was raised to split between The Silver Line and the National Emergencies Trust.

Our 115 UK Branches regularly donate to a long list of local organisations and charities. From supporting homeless shelters through to funding public defibrillators, they work tirelessly to help make their towns great places to live for people of all ages, from all walks of life. Here are a few examples...

Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Sponsored a local mum with £550 who was raising money for the Children with

Cancer charity by running a marathon across town. Every day, 12 families are given the heartbreaking news that their child has cancer, and CWC funds over 60 research projects which all work towards giving children the very best chance of survival.



Mid-Staffordshire Oddfellows

donated £1,000 to Midland Air Ambulance Charity, which has air bases in Staffordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire, and provides emergency care in hard-to-reach places.



The Great Berkhamstead District

donated £2,000 to a local school last year that runs a charity called "No Child Without". Many children were left at a disadvantage following school closures, due to a lack of access to tablets and laptops at home. No Child Without makes sure that every child has the basic necessities to learn, no matter their background.

Nene and Welland Oddfellows

raised £1,000, plus £400 worth of food and bedding for the Exotic Pet Refuge, which runs entirely on public donations to support its menagerie of wolves, snakes, monkeys and meerkats – to name a few!



North Gloucestershire Oddfellows

donated £6,000 to Merton House Hotel to get it back on its feet after early closures in 2020 due to government restrictions. Merton House Hotel offers respite and convalescence care to a number of Oddfellows members.



Leigh and Bolton Oddfellows

donated £500 to Bolton Hospice, which offers local support for people with life-limiting or terminal illnesses. The hospice costs £4 million per year to provide its specialist care.

If there's a cause close to your heart which you'd like to support, have a chat with your local Branch Secretary, and share some of your fundraising ideas with them.

Apprenticeship Educational Awards 2020

Each year, we offer members who are undertaking an apprenticeship the opportunity to apply for a financial grant to help them with their training. Applications are open from March each year, until 31 December, and of those who apply, three members are selected by our Fraternal Board to receive £250 for every year of their studies.

Meet our 2021 Apprenticeship Educational Award Winners!

Fenton Gaymer, 16, is completing a plumbing apprenticeship at Gayges Ltd in Swanley, Kent, through Bexley College.

He says: "I'm really excited to start my career in plumbing. It's an essential service and I feel that there will always be a need for plumbers. An apprenticeship is a great way to begin a career, as it offers the opportunity to earn a wage whilst

learning a skill, meaning that when I'm fully qualified, I'll be able to get started straight away."

Jack Lockwood, 18, is completing an apprenticeship in Carpentry with Alan Bender Ltd in Colchester, through the Colchester Institute.

He says: "I'm hoping to put as much of it as I can towards a van and some tools to help me get set up in the trade. My Grandad was a carpenter, but I really got into woodwork at school. It's always satisfying to see a project from start to finish, and feel proud that you've created it yourself."

Rhianna Lees, 17, is completing an apprenticeship in Manufacturing Engineering at Rolls Royce in Derby, through the University of Sheffield.

She says: "I'm extremely grateful for the award. It will go a long way in helping me to purchase essential course textbooks. My mum's always encouraged me and



Fenton, Jack and Rhianna

my twin brother to dream big and go for what we want. She's really made me who I am today."

We also offer Educational Awards for members who are undertaking their first University Degree. If you'd like to be considered for our First Degree Course Educational Awards, contact your Branch Secretary for an application form. The deadline is 31 August each year, and member eligibility applies.

Peak District Friendship Tour

Oddfellows Travel is hosting a special three night guided tour of the Peak District. All members and their guests are invited.



Staying at HF Holiday's Peveril of the Peak Country House Hotel, in Dovedale. You'll get the chance to explore some of the Peak District's signature attractions.

3 - 6 September 2021

From £355 per person

Full board - single rooms available

For further information contact tour host Mike Hall:

0161 832 9361 (Ext 2224)
travel@oddfellows.co.uk



To find out more about Oddfellows Travel visit
www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ellie Glanville and her partner Phillip on the birth of their daughter, Hallie born on Monday 12 April 2021, first grandchild to delighted Ian Glanville and his wife Ruth, and also first great grandchild for Margaret and Keith Glanville.



Letter from Sheila and John Smith

I was looking forward to writing to you especially since we had some bright sunny days and the daffodils were looking particularly special. It was just as well we took time to enjoy them because in the last few days, or should I say nights, the heavens decided we still had much to look at, especially, the heavy overnight snow and frost to go alongside. Now we are really enjoying spring with the trees looking quite lovely. The magnolia and forsythia are there to cheer us up. Apart from all we see, we still have to be aware that Covid-19 is still with us.

John and I have just had our second vaccination. It was a lot smoother than the first. We were happy that our son was able to take us to the Derby Arena for the jab. He made a special journey from his home in Cheshire.

It seems from now on we are having the calendar in front of us, as in two weeks time it will be our 63rd Wedding Anniversary (where have all the years gone). Fortunately, our daughter, Denise has arranged a special meal out for us to enjoy. No sooner has this month passed and John will be celebrating his 90th birthday in May and again there is a surprise outing for us all. Last year, we had to cancel our holidays but now we can look forward to cruising on the Thames in September.

In spite of the lockdown, Denise has managed to be the chief shopper and does the weekly shop; I give her the list and she does the rest.

We hope you are all well and ready for all the events that have been planned and we look forward to seeing you all soon. Take care and sending all our love.

Obituaries

Lynda Blackshaw, Good Samaritan Branch

John Smith, Stanhope Branch

Geoffrey Allman, Good Intent Branch

Doreen Pinfield, Pares Branch

Linda Mackay, Good Intent Branch

When tomorrow
starts without me,

Don't think we're far apart,

For every time
you think of me,

I'm right there in your heart.



Whose been missing the Oddfellows

Whose been missing Oddfellows and what have you missed most?

Could it be dancing Mondays? Viv keeping us in line!

Or maybe bowls on Tuesdays, tea and biscuits at half time?

Some **must** have missed the walking club then chatting in the pub?

Dining out occasionally eating lovely grub?

Coffee mornings, luncheon club and of course our Strawberry Tea, have you missed all these things just as much as me?

Come back to Oddfellows now you can.

'Cos we're not constrained by any ban.

There's things to buy and things to eat.

Nothing like a little treat!

See what our clever crafters make.

They're yours to buy for a small stake.

Boris has given us a clear path.

So come along and have a laugh.

A warm welcome awaits you one an all, back at Oddfellows Hall.

Margaret Bull