



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

Winter-Spring 2021  
[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

# Mersey News and Views

News and views from your local friendship group

## Story Time

Page 6

## LADGC Bowling Day

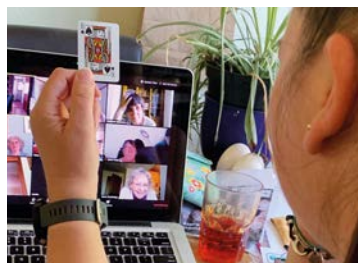
Page 7

## Puzzle Time

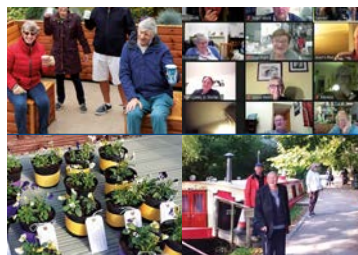
Pages 8 - 10



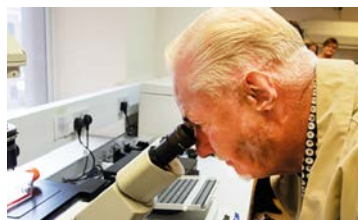
*Liverpool cityscape by  
Andrew Hulme*



National Online Events



Friendship Month



Lupus research pushes  
through pandemic



## Welcome to the latest edition of the Mersey News and Views

This is your newsletter so if you have any ideas for items please send them in. Maybe you have a favourite recipe, joke or a celebration that you would like to share with other members? Why not write about a social event you've attended or send in photos?

All items will be gratefully received. Any member wishing to contribute an article should please send them to me (details on the right). We look forward to hearing from you.

**Margaret Hughes**

## Contact Details

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

**Branch Secretary:**  
Margaret Hughes

**T:** 0151 639 2777

**E:**  
[margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Address:**  
12 Crescent Road,  
Wallasey,  
Wirral  
CH44 0BQ



merseyoddfellows

# Hello everyone,

## Happy New Year!

Let's hope 2021 is better than 2020 and that we can all actually get to meet face to face with our loved ones and friends once again very soon. Not much hope of that at the moment, but we all need to keep safe and look after ourselves as much as possible.

As we are still unsure about what is going to be happening, our events are still on hold. I can't wait until I am able to send

you an actual events diary and we can start socialising once more.

As a present from us to you, I am enclosing a bookmark, which is a token that our thoughts are with you and to remind you that we are here if you need us.



*Branch Secretary:  
Margaret Hughes*

## Important – Not To Be Missed!

**We are holding our Annual General Meeting via Zoom on Saturday 27 February at 2pm and you are all invited.**

This is a very important meeting and we are looking for as many of you as possible to take part. As we were unable to hold a meeting last year, we will need to cover both 2019 and 2020.

The agenda is attached as a separate document so you can see what will be

included. Please let me know if you are able to attend this and I will send you the Zoom code. You don't have to say anything unless you wish to do so and the opportunity will be afforded to you, but you can just listen and learn what else we are doing as a Branch.

Take care everyone and stay safe.

**Margaret Hughes**

## Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date!  
If you're on Facebook or Twitter.

Find us at  MerseyOddfellows  OddfellowsUK

# Obituary

**I am very sorry to report that we have lost a few Members throughout 2020 and the condolences of the Mersey Branch go out to all the families at this sad time.**

One of our Members, Sandra Curry, sadly lost her Mum, Maureen Moore, towards the end of last year. Her whole family have been involved in Oddfellows for generations and she has very kindly sent through a synopsis of Oddfellows life. Sandra's grandparents, Florence (Flo) and Sid Owens were very active members of the branch during their lifetime. Sandra started out as a member of the Junior Lodge run by her Auntie Joyce and Uncle Rob MacIntosh.

Flo was promoted through the ranks of the Branch and had her photo in the paper with "Florence Owens of Wavertree

was elected Provincial Grand Master of the Mersey District of the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows" (photo and clipping).



*Sid and Flo Owens attending Lancashire Night in 1973.*



*Oddfellows on Parade in Margate. Flo is in the blue hat and Sid is immediately behind her.*

Sandra's son, Alex, wrote a poem dedicated to his lovely Grandma, Maureen, and I am pleased to be able to share it with you.

### Poem for you

Grandma, Grandma, there's only one place to start,  
Those 2 words you hated, belly-button and fart!  
'I don't say those words' is what you would say,  
We'd both laugh and giggle and continue to play.  
School, scouts and football, you'd always be there,  
With Grandad by your side, you made one hell of a pair.

Life isn't easy, but with you it was,  
There are several reasons, and it is because:  
You were loving and caring, the nicest I've met,  
My time with you is something I'll never forget.  
Grandma you're so special, like a diamond or a pearl,  
My final message for you, sleep tight gorgeous girl.

## Clever Words!

### **PRESBYTERIAN:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
BEST IN PRAYER

### **ASTRONOMER:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
MOON STARER

### **DESPERATION:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
A ROPE ENDS IT

### **THE EYES:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
THEY SEE

### **ANIMOSITY:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
IS NO AMITY

### **ELECTION RESULTS:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
LIES - LET'S RECOUNT

### **SNOOZE ALARMS:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
ALAS! NO MORE Z 'S

### **A DECIMAL POINT:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
I'M A DOT IN PLACE

### **ELEVEN PLUS TWO:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
TWELVE PLUS ONE



# Story Time!

A man sees a sign outside a house - 'Talking Dog For Sale.' He rings the bell, the owner appears and tells him the dog can be viewed in the back garden.

The man sees a very nice looking brown dog sitting there. "Do you really talk?" He asks the dog. "Yes," the dog replies. After recovering from the shock of hearing the dog talk, the man asks, "So, tell me your story."

The dog looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the SAS. In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one imagined that a dog would be eavesdropping. I was

one of their most valuable spies for eight years. But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down.

I signed up for a job at Heathrow to do some undercover security work, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded several medals. I got married, had a few puppies, and now I've just retired".

The man is amazed. He goes back into the house and asks the owner how much he wants for the dog. "Ten quid", the owner says. "£10!!? But this dog is absolutely amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheaply?". "Because he's a liar. He's never been out of the back garden".

## Quotes For Life

### Bernard Baruch

“Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind.”

### Dalai Lama

“If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito.”

### Dorothy Parker

“The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.”

# The Lion and the Atheist

There was a lifelong atheist on the safari in Africa, walking along a jungle path when he saw, coming the opposite way, the biggest lion he had ever seen. He panicked and called out, "Lord, help me".

There was a meditative rumble from above and a voice said: "You haven't believed in me for 40 years and now you want my help?"

"Yes", said the atheist, "Perhaps I should have stuck to my opinion, but

needs must. Can you at least make the lion a Christian?"

"Well", said the voice, "Unusual, but why not". There was a flash of light, and the lion lay down in the path, looking surprised.

Then it raised its front legs, put its paws together and said out loud: "For what we are about to receive, may the Lord make us truly thankful".

(With thanks to Robina White)

## LADGC Bowling Day

### Saturday 10 July 2021

**How do you fancy taking part in the annual Lancashire and District Group Conference bowls competition being held at Garswood Hall Bowling & Community Club? The address is 47 Nicol Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan WN4 8LU.**

Garswood Hall Bowling Club has a splendid clubhouse and greens and can provide all we require for a successful bowling day. There are also ample parking spaces. Hot and cold drinks are available at the bar from arrival at 10am (booking in etc. Bowling starts at 10.30am) and throughout the day. A splendid buffet luncheon is provided. The cost is £10 each for those playing - bowls can be hired free of charge at the venue - or £6 each for

those coming to spectate and partake in the buffet. You are not allowed to bring your own food - sorry.

Please let the Branch Secretary, Margaret Hughes, know if you would like to take part. There are two members per team but if you don't have a partner, you will be paired up so there is no worries on that score. We are allowed to field up to four teams. Beginners are welcome too, so you don't even have to have experience to take part, just a sense of adventure!

We do need to book ahead so if you would like to take part, please let us know by Friday 25 June to ensure your place. There is disabled access and if you have any dietary requirements, please let us know.

# Puzzle Time

## Who Said That? By Paul Fitton

Taken from television, cinema and stage, with whom do you associate each of the following catchphrases? The answers are on the back page.

1. Get this bus out of here, Butler!

2. Who loves ya baby?

3. Hello my darlings!

4. Fab-u-LOUS!

5. Yabba-dabba-do!

6. Ooh! You are awful...

7. Cheap as chips

8. Here's looking at you kid

9. (Shrill whistle). Everybody out

10. Can you hear me mother?
11. Exterminate!

12. D'oh!

13. I have a cunning plan

14. You rang?

15. The truth is out there

16. Book 'em Danno

17. Wakey, Waaay-kay!

18. To the Batmobile

19. It's a cracker!

20. Go ahead... make my day

I bet that you read them just like they're said (I certainly did - Ed!)

## Sudoku Fun

Can you solve this?  
It's supposed to be  
of medium difficulty,  
but the answers are  
on the back page.

2	3				7			1
1	8		5	3		4		
	4	6						
	5				8			2
	6			2			9	
9			3				1	
						8	2	
		3		5	9		4	7
5			7				3	9

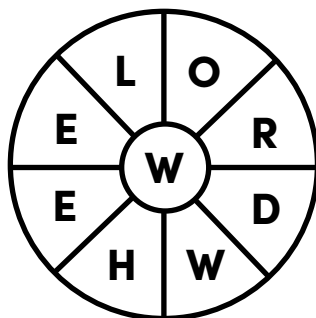


# Dingbats Quiz (Answers on the back page)

TO c e m e t e r y WN	Midday	SO WE'RE UP
1.	2.	3.
Stand I	Pleasant CCU	GO Eight O'Clock GO
4.	5.	6.
Dr. Sylvester Martens	BUV-1LL	NOW IN HERE
7.	8.	9.
NOS <sup>E</sup>	MARIAN	LAP LAP → LAP ←
10.	11.	12.
TUL	S E N T R Y	T To Too Two Tu
13.	14.	15.
ROSE DAFFODIL TULIP DAISY	Gra 12" ve	S T ONE
16.	17.	18.

## Word Wheel

How many words of three or more can you make from our word wheel? Each word **MUST** contain the centre letter 'W' and no letter can be used twice. There is one nine letter word and the answer to that will be on the last page. Good luck!



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## It Couldn't Be Done

With thanks to Robina White for sharing

### Edgar Guest, 1881 - 1959

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
But he with a chuckle replied,  
That "Maybe it couldn't," but he would be one,  
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin,  
On his face. If he worried he hid it.  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing,  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;  
At least no one ever has done it";  
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,  
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.  
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,  
Without any doubting or quiddit,  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing,  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
There are thousands to prophesy failure;  
There are thousands to point out to you one by one,  
The dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,  
Just take off your coat and go to it;  
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing,  
That "Cannot be done," and you'll do it.



# Social distancing can still be social

**Your guide to online events you can enjoy  
from the comfort of your own home**

**February – April 2021**

Social restrictions have meant that our usual face-to-face events had to be suspended, but that doesn't mean we can't get together! Our network of 121 Branches are running a huge variety of nationwide online events, and everybody is welcome to join – no matter where in the country you are.

This guide lists the current regular and featured events available for you to attend.

**Not attended an online event yet – you don't even need to be on the internet? Need help? Check out our 'How to' overleaf...**

# How to join a Zoom event for the first time

You will need a device that is connected to the internet with a camera and microphone (most computers, laptops, smart phones and tablets have them). Don't worry if you don't have these, you can still join an event using your landline phone – you'll be able to hear and speak to everyone but not see them. Here's some simple steps to help get you started.

## 1. Connecting to Zoom via an app or website

You can download the free Zoom app from your app store – once you've 'signed in' and set up a password you'll be ready to start. Alternatively you can connect to Zoom via **www.zoom.us** – just click on 'Join a Meeting' and enter the 'Meeting ID'.

## 2. Using the 'Meeting ID' to join an event

The 'Meeting ID' is a unique set of numbers listed with the event information in this leaflet – you need to enter these once you've logged onto Zoom (either via the app or website). For some events you may have to pre-register with the event organiser and/or enter a 'Passcode'.



## 3. Getting your audio and video settings right

When prompted, make sure your video and audio is on – if you see a red line through the microphone and/or camera icons, click on them to activate otherwise you won't be seen or heard!

## 4. Joining an event with a landline phone

You can use your landline to phone into an event – there is a charge, (please check your operator for details), but the standard rate number is **0330 0885830**. You will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID number followed by # and may also be asked for a Passcode followed by #. For additional information on how to join meetings, here's a few useful links:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-meeting>

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/bp-assets/globalassets/trafford/how-to-use-zoom-for-the-first-time.pdf>

## Monthly events

Frequency/time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact	
1st Mon	2pm	Prize winning Quiz	460 928 7642	1810	karen.pye-smith@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Mon	11am	Coffee in the virtual Potting Shed	848 9002 1785	493398	valerie.ashcroft@oddfellows.co.uk
4th Mon	4pm	Zingo Bingo	542 724 7603	-	joanne.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Tues	2pm	Brainiest Brain Fun Quiz	231 522 2288	1810	judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Tues	2pm	Word Games and Chat	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues	2pm	Busy Fingers, Crafts and Coffee	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues	4pm	Beetle Drive	542 724 7603	-	joanne.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk

# Weekly events

Below are events that occur every week – for a full description visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events) and type “online” in the location search box or contact the local organiser listed.

Time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact
<b>Monday</b>				
10.30am	Online Games – All Welcome	950 0863 2889	1810	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Chi Gung	824 6194 4085	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Monday Music & Musing	420 044 9988	942052	maretta.heap@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Weekly Monday Games Night	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Tuesday</b>				
4pm	Art, Talks, Fun and games	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Fun quiz open to all	869 8507 8184	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Wednesday</b>				
11am	National Coffee Morning	988 3920 7187	-	peter.needham@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Fun and Games	980 885 9304	-	andrew.spencer@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Fun quiz open to all	854 769 23503	-	debbie.jex@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Thursday</b>				
10.30am	Coffee Morning	949 4131 7445	1810	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
11am	Easy Zumba Gold	9468 1625 757	PRE-REG*	debbie.jex@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Oddfellows Fun Thursdays	988 3920 7187	-	events@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Weekly Quiz Night	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Friday</b>				
2pm	The Weekend Starts Here!	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Friday Fun and Games	420 044 9988	942052	maretta.heap@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Sunday</b>				
5pm	Facebook Live @ 5 Quiz	www.facebook.com/OddfellowsIpswich		wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk

**\*please contact the event organiser to register in advance of the event**

2nd Tues	7.30pm	Games, quizzes and more	860 2803 8495	-	dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Wed	2.30pm	Nationwide Quiz	852 9201 2067	1810	syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Wed	2pm	Sing Along	853 5928 5951	-	helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Wed	7pm	Talks from Tunbridge Wells	688 663 8622	1810	karen.rose@oddfellows.co.uk
1st and 3rd Fri	7pm	Fun on Friday	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd and 4th Fri	7pm	Fun on Friday	845 7787 3384	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
Last Fri	10.30am	Corona Club Coffee Morning	231 522 2288	1810	judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk
Last Sat	5pm	Saturday Sing Along	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Sat	7pm	Saturday Night Fun	460 928 7642	1810	karen.pye-smith@oddfellows.co.uk

# Featured events

Featured events are usually one-offs – they may be repeated but not necessarily weekly or monthly. As with the other listed events, you can find out more about them via [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events) or by contacting the event organiser.

Date/Time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact
<b>February</b>				
3 2pm	Sixty Years of the Pop Charts	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
10 2pm	A Week On T'Cut	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
10 7pm	Talk: Oatcakes, Farming and Diet	873 7977 2427	017137	<a href="mailto:toni.siddal@oddfellows.co.uk">toni.siddal@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
13 5pm	Italian Cookery - Tiramisu (pudding)	PRE REG*	-	<a href="mailto:jackie.lancaster@oddfellows.co.uk">jackie.lancaster@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
14 5pm	Italian Cookery - Puttanesca pasta sauce	PRE REG*	-	<a href="mailto:jackie.lancaster@oddfellows.co.uk">jackie.lancaster@oddfellows.co.uk</a>

## March

3 2pm	Remember the Seventies	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
10 2pm	Lesser Known Brontes	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
17 2pm	The Victorian Photographer	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>

## April

14 2pm	Contrast of China	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
21 2pm	Sing Along	896 1081 9201	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>
28 2pm	Discovering Family History	853 5928 5951	-	<a href="mailto:helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk">helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk</a>

**\*please contact the event organiser to register in advance of the event**



## More online events are added every week!

If you'd like the latest online event listing, email your Secretary or Social Organiser with the subject line 'Please send the online events list'. You can also receive the latest Oddfellows news straight to your inbox. Just make sure your Branch Secretary has your up-to-date email address or call our Membership team to check on **0800 028 1810**.

You can opt out at any time by contacting your Branch Secretary or [unsubscribe@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:unsubscribe@oddfellows.co.uk). We'll never share your details with any third party without your consent.



## Oddfellows spirit shines throughout Friendship Month 2020

**Friendship Month looked very different this year, with many of our events held online, or restricted to a maximum of six people meeting face-to-face. However, we couldn't be more proud of the way that the Oddfellows spirit shone through, as we once again celebrated the power of friendship.**

**ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER**



We saw Branches organising COVID-secure walks and outdoor picnics, making the most of the last bit of sunshine. Lots of Branches also turned their hands to organising virtual

events, Zooming across the country to link up with members and guests all over the UK! We've picked out a selection of our favourite pictures from September, to share with you a little warmth and happiness during these cold and difficult days. We know how important face-to-face events are to our members and as soon as Branches are able to safely hold these again, we will let you know.

If you have any pictures from an Oddfellows event that you'd like to share with us, feel free to tag us in them on Facebook! We're at [www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK](https://www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK)



*Ipswich Oddfellows celebrate the launch of a new Friendly Bench, Boston and Lincoln Oddfellows plant some seeds of friendship with their potted plants, Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows host a picnic in the park, Stockport and Combermere Oddfellows network with a Zoom guest talk from local radio stars and Bradford Oddfellows enjoy a stroll along the canal.*

# A year like no other...

**2020 has been a year unlike any I've experienced before. In March, we entered our first lockdown. Among many others, it placed restrictions on how we could spend time with friends and family, make visits to loved ones in hospitals and care homes, and even how we all earn our living.**

Most devastatingly, many people were held back from saying a proper, supported farewell to those friends and family members who passed. My heart goes out to anyone who has lost someone special in the recent months. I know from personal experience how difficult it is, so if you need any comfort or help please remember to lean on us.

## Coming together

It's human nature to come together in a time of crisis – to squeeze a hand, to offer a shoulder to cry on, to hug, or to simply sit side-by-side. However, despite it all, we are finding ways around things, as best we can. Nothing will ever stop us resourceful Oddfellows from giving comfort and support to each other and those in desperate need.

This year, I've witnessed compassion and human kindness on a scale I've never known within the Society before, and this has really lifted me on my difficult days.



## Being there for each other

I hope that if you needed help this year, you received it. I know that the staff and volunteers in our Branches have worked flat out to make sure members know they have someone to turn to. They've made thousands of calls and sent thousands of emails to check in with members and see if any help is needed. This has meant that many members were able to access critical food and medical supplies, as well as financial and emotional support. So, if anything is troubling you, please make sure you get in touch.

## Keeping spirits lifted

I've seen some incredible innovation to keep spirits lifted and people connected. We'd only hosted a few online events here and there before 2020, but we're now broadcasting talks, quizzes, and even fitness sessions, straight into people's front rooms almost daily. I know online

events won't ever replace getting together in person, but they're a wonderful way to make sure we can still keep in touch, safely. I do hope you try one if you haven't already. I've also been kept in the loop on so many unexpected acts of kindness from members and Branches, such as quizzes and puzzles being posted through letterboxes, and afternoon tea hampers and flowers being dropped off on members' doorsteps. Such small gestures make a huge difference to people, so if there is anything you can do to keep this going, then please do. Kindness is infectious.

## Helping others

Oddfellows have always looked further than their own front door when it comes to charitable giving, and this year was no exception. In spring, a nationwide appeal to raise critical funds for The Silver Line and the National Emergencies Trust resulted in a donation of £19,210. It helped some of those hardest hit by the coronavirus pandemic. £7,600 was also raised and sent overseas to help Australian people to rebuild their lives following the 2019/2020 bushfires.

We know there have been countless other examples of charitable giving made by members and Branches this year, so thank you for helping where you can, and being wonderful ambassadors for our Society. I would also like to give a special mention to this year's four Making a Difference Award winners, members Margaret Wells, Barry Bedford, Bruce Nicole and our youngest to date,

seven-year-old Effie Bowman. Our Society is powered by the hard work and selflessness of such wonderful members. Huge congratulations to them and all who were nominated. Shortlisting these awards is such a difficult task, but it's an absolute joy to know that we have so many members out there living and breathing our motto of friendship, love and truth.

## A truly special family

Looking forward to 2021, please try and stay positive. We have news of a vaccine, and therefore hope that we can be back together again, and that we can resume our daily lives with less fear, difficulty and uncertainty.

I've always known this, but the events of 2020 have confirmed just how caring, supportive, generous, friendly, and resourceful our Oddfellows family is. I am immensely proud to be a member of something so incredibly special and purposeful. I do hope you feel the same. Please accept my very warmest wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. Until we're all able to meet together freely again, let's stay in touch. We're always here if you need us.

Take care, stay safe and stay well.  
Yours always in friendship,

**Jane Nelson**  
**CEO, the Oddfellows**

# Lupus research pushes through pandemic

**2020 has seen our second instalment of the HA Andrews Memorial Fund given to the research team at the Lupus Trust. The £28,000 donation supports the day to day running of the team, which includes Bekki Velounias, who is currently working towards completing her PhD through her research with the Lupus Trust.**

The team is looking into what causes the breakdown of certain cells, triggering the autoimmune reaction in lupus. Throughout lockdown, the team managed to avoid too many significant setbacks, working in the lab when they could, and analysing huge datasets when national lockdown was enforced.



*Member of Ware Branch, Paul, has lupus and inspired our decision to support the Lupus Trust over 3 years.*

Professor Jo Spencer, from the Lupus Trust, says, “Bekki has been a fantastic addition to the research team, and her commitment to pushing forward with work throughout lockdown has been commendable. We’re pleased with how the research is progressing in the face of so many difficulties.”

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says, “We’re so pleased to hear that the research has been able to move forward despite social restrictions. It’s been a difficult year for many, and this research is needed more than ever.”

If you would like to find out more about the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, please visit the ‘Giving Back’ section of our website.



*Professor Jo Spencer with Bekki Velounias and our very large cheque!*

# Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



**None of us know what is around the corner...**

## Local Care and Welfare Support

We have a wonderful Care and Welfare Department who can help you out with convalescence or help at home after a stay in hospital, but if you are feeling lonely, don't forget that we have a local Care and Welfare Visitor, Angela, who is more than happy to phone you and have a chat. Just let Margaret know on **0151 639 2777** or email **margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk** your phone number and she will sort it out for you.

## 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](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.

# Puzzle Time Answers

## Sudoku on page 8

2	3	5	6	4	7	9	8	1
1	8	9	5	3	2	4	7	6
7	4	6	8	9	1	2	5	3
4	5	1	9	7	8	3	6	2
3	6	8	1	2	5	7	9	4
9	7	2	3	6	4	5	1	8
6	9	7	4	1	3	8	2	5
8	1	3	2	5	9	6	4	7
5	2	4	7	8	6	1	3	9

## Word Wheel on page 10

Nine letter word is Wheelword, but there may be more!

## Dingbat on page 9

1. Dead centre of town
2. High Noon
3. We're in the soup
4. I understand
5. Nice to See you
6. Time to go
7. Pull in Boots
8. Abominable (A bomb in a bull)
9. In the middle of nowhere
10. Turned up nose
11. Maiden Over
12. The last lap
13. Pullover
14. Right Guard
15. Tea for Two
16. A bunch of flowers
17. One foot in the grave
18. Cornerstone

## Who said that (Catchphrases) on page 8

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Inspector Blakey    | 12. Homer Simpson  |
| 2. Kojak               | 13. Baldrick   |
| 3. Charlie Drake       | 14. Lurch  |
| 4. Craig Revel-Horwood | 15. Mulder or Simpson (The X-Files)  |
| 5. Fred Flintstone     | 16. Steve McGarrett (Hawaii Five-0)  |
| 6. Dick Emery          | 17. Billy Cotton   |
| 7. David Dickinson     | 18. Batman   |
| 8. Humphrey Bogart     | 19. Comedian Frank Carson  |
| 9. Miriam Karlin       | 20. Harry Callahan played by Clint Eastwood in the Dirty Harry series of films |
| 10. Sandy Powell       |  |
| 11. The Daleks         |  |