

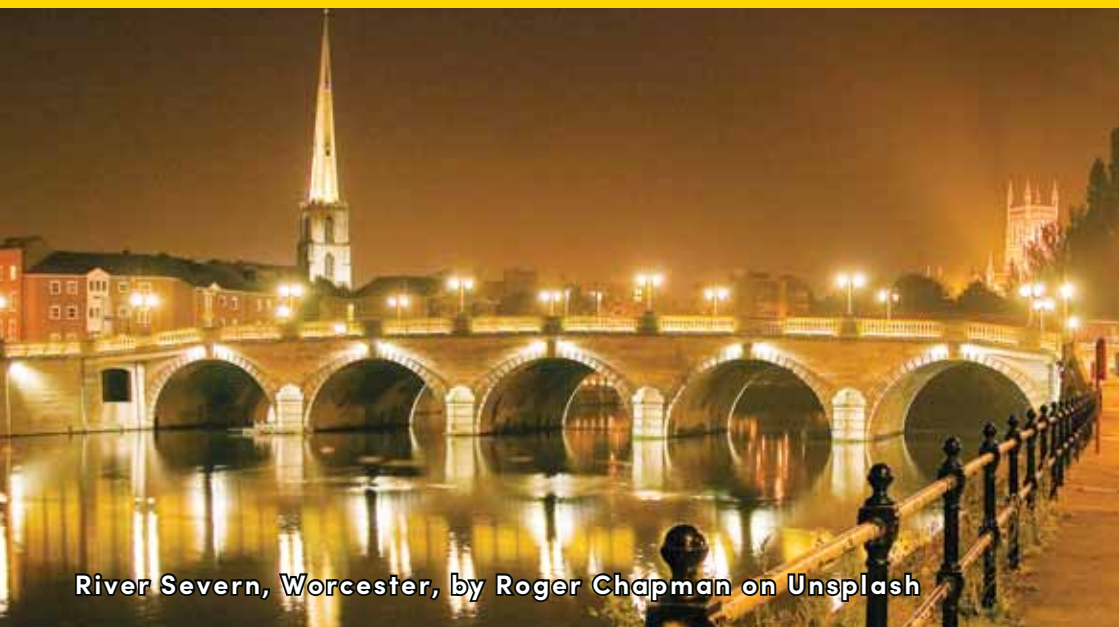
October 2024 - March 2025



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Oddfellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

Events & News

Worcester Branch



River Severn, Worcester, by Roger Chapman on Unsplash



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



Annual Lunch, Stourport Manor Hotel – Sunday 6 October 2024

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 your fancy and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

Contact Details

Branch Secretary: Sandra Loynes

Telephone: 01905 422591

Email:
sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk

Address:
3 Windsor Avenue,
Worcester WR2 5LZ

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 Lodge**

Regular Event

Ten Pin Bowling



10am



£3.80 for two games and a hot drink and biscuits



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.

8 October 2024
12 November 2024
10 December 2024
14 January 2025
11 February 2025
11 March 2025



Coffee Mornings



10.30am



First drink
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.

20 November 2024
22 January 2025
19 March 2025

Webbs Garden Centre, Worcester
Road, Wychbold, Worcester WR9 0DG.
23 October 2024
18 December 2024
19 February 2025

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 2024

TUES

01

Harvest Supper - Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



The crops have been cut and collected from the fields so it's time for our harvest supper. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

SUN

06

Annual Lunch



12 noon



£29



We hope to see as many of you as possible at our annual lunch this year. Our guest speaker will be Jane Nelson CEO/Secretary of the Order. Book by Monday 23 September 2024. Stourport Manor Hotel, 35 Hartlebury Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 9JA. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



MON

14

Guess Who



2.15pm



Free



Please bring along one or two photos from your childhood/younger days, there will be a prize for whoever is able to correctly recognise most of them. No pins, Blu-tac or Sellotape will be used on the photos. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



Photo by Anne Nygård on Unsplash

MON

28

Fish 'n' Chips Lunch - Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



As per
menu



Who doesn't like Britain's favourite takeaway. We will be holding a raffle. Book by Monday 23 September 2024. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

November

TUES
05

Play Your Cards Right - Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



Come and join our very own Bruce Forsyth for this iconic game of Play Your Cards Right. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON
11

Active Always



2.15pm



Free



We have a member of Active Always to give us a talk and do some exercises with us. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



MON
25

Lets Draw - Fernhill Heath Branch



12.15pm



Free



Have you ever wished that you could draw? Well now is the time for you to learn with our very own Christine Baker. All materials needed will be provided. 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.

Photo by Michelle Henderson on Unsplash



December

TUES
03

Whisky, Mince Pies and Christmas Carols - Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



What a way to start our Christmas celebrations, sing a few carols, eat a mince pie and wash it down with a lovely glass of whisky (or wine). Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



Photo by Toa Hefiba on Unsplash

MON
16

Christmas Lunch - Fernhill Heath Branch



12 noon



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 25 November 2024. The Lyppard Tavern, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



MON
09

A Christmas Sing Along



2.15pm



Free



Come and join in with a sing along of Christmas songs. We also have a guest visitor who has been invited to pop in. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



Photo by David Beale on Unsplash

January 2025

TUES
07

Bingo - Stanley Baldwin Branch



An Oddfellows favourite, come and join in the fun there are prizes to be won. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON
13

New Year Meal



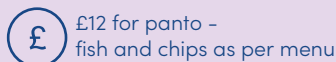
Come and join us at the Harvester to celebrate the New Year. Book by Monday 9 December 2024. The Harvester, Bath Road, Worcester WR5 3HP. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



Photo by Kateryna Hliznitsova on Unsplash

SUN
26

Panto Time



This year's panto is Cinderella, we will meet at 4pm for a 4.30pm start, following the panto we will have a fish and chips supper. Book by Monday 4 November 2024. The Civic Hall, Martins Way, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8UJ. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON
27

A Talk on the Lasting Power of Attorney - Fernhill Heath Branch



All you need to know about the Lasting Power of Attorney. 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
04

An Evening of Horse Racing - Stanley Baldwin Branch



Place your bets and cheer on your horse. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



Photo by Julia Joppien on Unsplash

MON
10

Name That Thing



There is a prize for the team that can think of a word that no other team has used. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.



PublicDomainPictures

MON
24

An Afternoon at the Races - Fernhill Heath Branch



Place your bets with our resident bookie. 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.



Image by Anil Sharma from Pixabay

March

TUES
04

A Talk on Witley Court - Stanley Baldwin Branch



7pm



Free



A talk by Lesley Betts on Witley Court. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. Elizabeth Mills Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

MON
10

Safety Matters



2.15pm



Free



A talk by PC Kelvin James, a member of the Safe Neighbourhood Team. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. St Mark's Church Hall, Orchard Street, Cherry Orchard, Worcester WR5 3DW. Contact Serena on 07951 981324.

MON
24

Annual General Meeting followed by Bingo



12.15pm



Free



Come along and find out how your District is run followed by a game of bingo for cash prizes. Refreshments will be provided and we will be holding a raffle. The Lyppard Hub, Ankerage Green, Warndon Villages, Worcester WR4 0DZ. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



Image by u_1n14askhcx from Pixabay

Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

Our online events are
here to stay



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

OE/0122A6

Oddfellows Cruise to the Baltic

On the evening of June 27 2024 our member Gill Fradley joined 16 other members from Ipswich, Norwich, Tunbridge Wells, Derby and Leeds plus their mascot Lenny the Lemur on Fred Olsen's ship Borealis for a 14 day cruise to discover the Baltic.

They visited Kiel (Germany), Gdansk (Poland), Visby (Gotland, Sweden), Tallinn (Estonia), Helsinki (Finland), Turku (Finland) and Warnemunde (Germany).

In November the Oddfellows will again be boarding the Borealis for a Mystery Cruise and next July they will be heading to Iceland, if anyone would like further details of these cruises please contact Wendy Atkins on 07722 191437 or email her at wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk.



Annual Day Trip

Tuesday 23 July

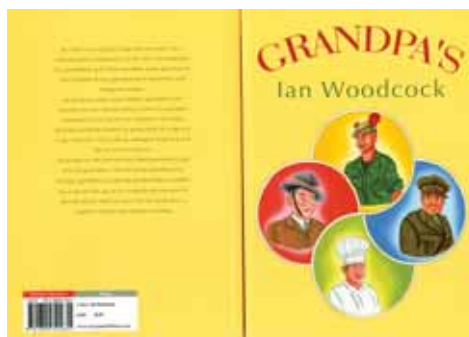
This year's trip took us to Oakham Treasures, Portbury, Nr Bristol. Oakham Treasures is one of the largest privately owned museums of retail and farming history in the UK.

A lovely day was had by all.



What Can You Do When Your Eighty?

I recently arrived at that happy/unhappy milestone, and shrugged off my ills to celebrate my birthday with a serious dram, or two? And more than a little selfish pride in the publication of my second children's book GRANDPA'S. And... I have the firm intention of holding similar celebrations when my third, fourth, and fifth children's books are published later this year. Cheers!



By Ian Woodcock

What Can You Do When Your Eighty?

What can you do...

*WHEN Your day begins with a count of your aches and pains
AND You run a recount if one is missing?*

*WHEN You talk to your knees as if they would answer
AND they do, with a vengeful click!*

*WHEN The first smile of your day is freed from a bathroom mug
AND The second is a reflection from the cabinet mirror?*

*WHEN Breakfast is served with pills on the side
AND your main meal is followed by antacids?*

*WHEN The highlight of your week is your supermarket big shop
AND your receipt SCREAMS 'Pauper, next week!'*

*WHEN You sleep through your favourite T.V. programme
AND stay awake for the whole depressing news?*

*WHEN Rare feelings of passion are roused by an ankle glimpsed
AND Die in panic at the sight of a knee!*

WELL

GRANDPA'S is available direct from my publisher www.olympiapublishers.com as is my first book Wind War, online and at some bookshops.

100 Club 2024

Date	No.	£10	No.	£5
February	18	Mary Drinkwater	71	Amy Stone
March	14	Ann Bradley	79	Ian Woodcock
April	47	Eileen Prosser	8	Heather Broom
May	51	Joan Rackham	50	Roger Rackham
June	14	Julia Clark	10	Gladys Callow
July	22	Sarah Hill	26	Ken Link
August	56	Amy Stone	10	Gladys Callow

Celebrations 2024/2025

Saturday 12 October 2024

Shirley & Robert Wood will celebrate their Golden (50th) Wedding Anniversary

Wednesday 23 October 2024

Alan Taylor will celebrate his 80th Birthday

Thursday 5 December 2024

Derek Welsby will celebrate his 80th Birthday

Thursday 2 January 2025

Ian Hunt will celebrate his 80th Birthday

Friday 31 January 2025

Nigel Davis will celebrate his 80th Birthday

Tuesday 11 February 2025

Amy Stone will celebrate her 60th Birthday

Thursday 27 February 2025

Gillian Fradley will celebrate her 80th Birthday

Tuesday 23 March 2025

Valerie Mewis will celebrate her 80th Birthday

Obituaries 2024

Memories Comfort you
For Memories are Treasures
That time cannot destroy

Donald White	W.T Burrow
Joan Bayfield	Mary Bull
Muriel Balkwill	John Allen Tolley
Douglas Powis	Jim Mavor
Beryl Davis MBE	

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**

Members meet in Llandudno for AMC

The late May Bank Holiday weekend in the beautiful North Wales coastal town of Llandudno was the setting for this year's Annual Movable Conference (AMC).

Hosted by Deeside Oddfellows, members from throughout the UK made the trip to reflect on the previous 12 months and discuss and vote on the course of the next, all presided over by the Grand Master (Chairman), Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham.



Business conducted, AMC Llandudno

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, with Oddfellows Brass putting on another wonderful performance.



Oddies on the coach to Portmeirion

Members also took part in a ceilidh at the welcome evening, graced the green at the annual Roy Harmer Memorial Bowls Tournament, took a day trip to Portmeirion and got all dressed up for the Farewell Dance.

Who should be our next major Fund recipient?

Our HA Andrews Memorial Fund provides major financial support over a two or three year period to a project or organisation involved in, or conducting, medical research in the UK.



The funding for Southampton University's Centre for Cancer Immunology, which was nominated by a member in Guernsey, is in its final year, so we're now open to suggestions on who to support from 2025.

If you've a suggestion of who we can support next, let us know. Go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews to find out more about the criteria, how to nominate and our deadlines.

Making a Difference Awards 2024

Five members have received national recognition for the brilliant and selfless work they put into making their Branch and the Society as wonderful as they can be.



Terry Rendle, Oswald Branch Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Terry's contributions to the running of Oswald Branch's social events.

He regularly comes up with ideas for events, plans and advertises them, organises and purchases supplies, arranges



catering, sells tickets, physically arranges chairs and tables in the room, taxis people to and from, hosts and clears up after. All this at the age of 84.

"Socialising is so important as you get older," Terry said. "It keeps your brain busy and your body busy which means you might last a bit longer."

He added: "I was flabbergasted. I had to read the letter three times before I realised what I was reading."

Pat and David Lang, Three Counties Branch Achieving Together

The married couple from Didcot, Oxfordshire, joined the Oddfellows over half-



century ago, and in that time have taken on many voluntary roles, including serving as Branch Chairman five times between them.

They are Welfare Visitors, regularly checking in on around 50 fellow members, and are well known for providing food for events and meetings. They are also responsible for an annual Christmas lunch event which, since 2009, has raised over £2,100 for the HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

David said: "It has never been about being rewarded. We love what we do, it's as simple as that.

Pat added: "I'm honoured. We have much to thank the Oddfellows for and have met so many lovely people."

Peter Coe, City of Norwich Branch

Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

As a mutual society, the Oddfellows is run by and for our members and this award seeks to recognise those who have gone the extra mile to assist in the running of their Branch and the Society as a whole.

Peter has gone several extra miles, having held a number of voluntary roles, including Branch and District Chairman,



and is still a member of the social committee to this day, helping to organise many wonderful events.

Peter said: "The Oddfellows is full of very, very friendly people. We all get on. I've made some very good friends here over the years.

"It's my life. It's what I do. The best thing I did was join the Oddfellows."

Claire Needham, Vale of York District

Giving Something Back

Lifelong member Claire has been recognised for the work she does to raise money and awareness for worthy causes.



She donated nearly £3,000 for Motor Neurone Disease Association and Martins House Children's Hospice having run the Rob Burrows Leeds Marathon last year, and has helped raise more than £30,000 through her role as Chairman of her workplace's Charity Committee.

Claire has also held positions on the Oddfellows' Benevolence Committee and Investigations Committee, making a positive difference to the lives of her fellow members.

"I was completely surprised and I feel really honoured," Claire said. "It's a really nice feeling. It's nice that other people think it's making a difference and it's having an impact."

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Each of the winners are fully deserving of this recognition and I'm very proud of all of them. They typify what it is to be an Oddfellow and the Society and their respective branches are lucky to have them."

Who is your local Branch star? Member nominations are now open for the 2025 awards. To find out more, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

Financial worries revealed



Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, recently surveyed 2,000 people throughout the UK to uncover what's keeping them up at night when it comes to their finances. Here's what they discovered. Do any of these resonate with you?

Cost of living

The worry peaks for those aged 40-49, with 63% feeling the pinch, closely followed by those in their 50s and 60s (both at 62%).

Emergency planning

35% of those surveyed worry they don't have enough money set aside for emergencies like car repairs or medical treatments. Additionally, 28% fret about potential home repair costs.

Pension and retirement

Living on a tight pension is a reality for 22% of respondents, and 18% worry they aren't contributing enough to their pension pot. Many in their 60s regret not paying more into their pensions earlier.



Savings and financial planning

Only 39% of people have money in savings or investments, but this number jumps to 61% for those in their 70s. Yet, just a third have a financial life plan.

Stress and anxiety

Financial stress affects 58% of respondents. Those in their 60s and 70s are less worried compared to younger age groups, with only 35% and 27% respectively reporting anxiety.

Financial regrets

Over half (51%) have financial regrets, including not saving enough each month (46%) and spending on pointless things (43%). Interestingly, more than one in 10 (12%) wish they'd married someone with more money.

These findings show that, while financial worries are largely universal, planning and saving can make a significant difference, especially as we age. Whether you're setting up your first financial plan or adjusting your retirement strategy, it's never too late to take control of your financial future.

Go to www.unitymutual.co.uk to find out more.

Oddfellows members have access to a dedicated Citizens Advice Line. Its advisers can help you to find a way forward with any money or debt problems but are unable to give financial advice. Visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice to find out more.

Social Events at a glance

October 2024

Tues 1	Harvest Supper - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Sun 6	Annual Lunch	12 noon
Tues 8	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 14	Guess Who	2.15pm
Wed 23	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 28	Fish 'n' Chips Lunch - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

November

Tues 5	Play Your Cards Right - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 11	Active Always	2.15pm
Tues 12	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 20	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 25	Lets Draw - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
Thurs 28	Committee of Management Meeting	2pm

December

Tues 3	Whisky, Mince Pies and Christmas Carols - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 9	A Christmas Sing Along	2.15pm
Tues 10	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 16	Christmas Lunch - Fernhill Heath Branch	12 noon
Wed 18	Coffee Morning	10.30am

January 2025

Tues 7	Bingo - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 13	New Year Meal	12.30pm
Tues 14	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 22	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Sun 26	Panto Time	4pm
Mon 27	A Talk on the Lasting Power of Attorney - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm

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

Social Events at a glance

February

Tues 4	An Evening of Horse Racing - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 10	Name That Thing	2.15pm
Tues 11	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 19	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 24	An Afternoon at the Races - Fernhill Heath Branch	12.15pm
Thurs 27	Committee of Management Meeting	2pm

March

Tues 4	A Talk on Witley Court - Stanley Baldwin Branch	7pm
Mon 10	Safety Matters	2.15pm
Tues 11	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Wed 19	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Mon 24	Annual General Meeting followed by Bingo	12.15pm

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.

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! If you're on Facebook make sure you've liked and followed our Oddfellows social media pages.

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