

April - September 2019



O^{the} OddfeLLows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

Making Friends in Coventry Godiva



Coventry Cathedral



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Please book



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning
/ Afternoon Tea



Sport



Sat 6 July - Midland Group President's Annual Dinner and Dance

Welcome to our latest events diary.

Welcome to the latest edition of 'Out & About'; inside you will find the social events programme for the Coventry Godiva branch of the Oddfellows. You will see the return of many of our tried and tested and most popular events but also one or two new ones – ever fancied a trip to the races or learning how cheese is made?

We now have our new social co-ordinator, Jan Lewis, on board and she is keen to hear what you would like going forwards; we aim to appeal to as wide a group as possible, so make your voice heard! Don't forget, everybody is welcome to our events, so do bring a friend along.....the more, the merrier! I look forward to welcoming you to one of our upcoming events.

Christine Luckett

Contact Details

For details about membership and the wide range of benefits available please contact:

Secretary: Christine Luckett

Address:

Oddfellows House,
2 Queen Victoria Road,
Coventry CV1 3JH

Telephone: 024 76632900

Email:

christine.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk

Assistant Secretary:

Kerry Luckett

Telephone: 024 76632900

Email:

kerry.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Co-ordinator

Jan Lewis

Email:

jan.lewis@oddfellows.co.uk

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a friendly society with Branches across the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. We welcome everyone of all ages. Find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk or call 0800 028 1810.

April 2019

MON

01

Lunch with Friends



Members and non-members alike are all welcome to join us at our regular lunch with friends event, where we can enjoy a scrumptious home cooked two course meal together for a low cost. Bring your friends and book your place. Bookings with the District Office please for catering purposes. Menu details will be available when you book. **Book by:** Monday 25 March. **Address:** Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

TUES

09

Dining Out at The Old Smithy



A warm welcome awaits you at The Old Smithy. If you asked most people to draw their idyllic - 'roses around the door' village pub, they would probably draw The Old Smithy at Church Lawford. It really is a very cosy pub and has a great atmosphere. All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable evening. **Book by:** Tuesday 2 April so that we can reserve a suitable table.

Address: The Old Smithy, 1 Green Lane, Church Lawford, Rugby, Warwickshire CV23 9EF. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



TUES

16

Coffee with Friends



The morning coffee (or tea) is always better when shared with friends and we would love for you to join our sociable group. So, come along for a natter and find out about the many varied trips, visits and events that we run throughout the year. Don't be shy, give us a try - just look for our table sign. Transport may be available if you require it. **Address:** Smiths Nurseries and Garden Centre, Stoneleigh Road, Baginton, Warwickshire CV8 3BA. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

May

FRI

03

Wine Tasting and Quiz



Wine tasting with a difference! Bring a bottle of your favourite tippie (red, white, rose or sparkling) and enjoy comparing notes and sampling others. The only requirements are that the bottle costs £10 or less and is freely available at any of the major supermarkets or off-licences. Nibbles provided. **Book by:** Friday 26 April. **Address:** Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



May

MON 06 Warwickshire Point to Point



For those that are not familiar, a point-to-point is a form of amateur horse racing over fences. It's a great day out in the countryside for both the sport and the socialising. There will be bookmakers, bar and refreshments as well as trade stands and entertainment for children; alternatively, bring your own picnic and picnic from your car. There will be seven races with the first one at 2pm. The gates open at 12 noon, the cost is £10 per person and stout footwear is advisable. **Address:** Mollington, On the A423, 5 miles north of Banbury OX17 1QE. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



WED 15 Dining Out at The Roseycombe



There will be a warm welcome at The Roseycombe, with good food and a great atmosphere - plus, what is nicer than dining with friends? All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable evening. **Book by:** Wednesday 8 May so that we can reserve a suitable table. **Address:** The Roseycombe Pub, Rugby Road, Coventry CV3 2AY. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

TUES 21 Coffee with Friends



The morning coffee (or tea) is always better when shared with friends and we would love for you to join our sociable group. So, come along for a natter and find out about the many varied trips, visits and events that we run throughout the year. Don't be shy, give us a try - just look for our table sign. Transport may be available if you require it. **Address:** Smiths Nurseries and Garden Centre, Stoneleigh Road, Baginton, Warwickshire CV8 3BA. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

June

WED 05 Dining Out at The Queens Head



Come and join us at this family pub that prides itself on quality home-made meals and traditional beers which are great value for money. What is nicer than dining with friends? All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable evening **Book by:** Wednesday 29 May so that we can reserve a suitable table. **Address:** Queens Head, Brandon Road, Bretford, Coventry CV23 0JY. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



June

TUES
18

Coffee with Friends



The morning coffee (or tea) is always better when shared with friends and we would love for you to join our sociable group. So, come along for a natter and find out about the many varied trips, visits and events that we run throughout the year. Don't be shy, give us a try – just look for our table sign. Transport may be available if you require it. **Address:** Smiths Nurseries and Garden Centre, Stoneleigh Road, Baginton, Warwickshire CV8 3BA. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

THURS
20

Stoneleigh Abbey Visit



Join us for an informative tour around Stoneleigh Abbey and a leisurely walk around the grounds. Originally founded by the Cistercians in 1154, the abbey was acquired by the Leigh family in 1564 after the Dissolution of the Monasteries and remained in the family until 1990. The Abbey has had many famous visitors over the years – are you aware of the connection with Jane Austen? The cost is £11, for access to the grounds and a guided tour of the house. **Book by:** Thursday 23 May. **Address:** Stoneleigh Abbey, Kenilworth CV8 2LF. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



July

MON
01

Cheese Tasting



Come and learn about and sample some of the finest cheeses in the country, supplied by – 'Cheese on the Green' – an independent fine cheese shop owned and run by Richard Cooper, who has over four decades of experience in fresh food retailing and his wife Sue. Beginning his career as a chef at London's Claridges, Richard went on to become Provisions Buyer and Senior Provisions Specialist at Fortnum and Mason, 'the Queen's grocer', and Manager of specialist cheese shop Paxton and Whitfield in London's West End, among other prestigious roles. Richard has been a judge for over 20 years at the Guild of Fine Food's World Cheese Awards and Great Taste Awards, most recently attending the 2015 WCA. The cost is £4 per person, £2 of which will be donated to Zoe's Place Baby Hospice, Coventry. **Book by:** Monday 24 June. **Address:** Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



Midland Group President's Annual Dinner and Dance

SAT
06



6pm



£30



As Kerry Luckett is the President for 2018/2019, Coventry Godiva District will be hosting this event, which is bound to be one of the highlights of the year. The venue is Nailcote Hall, a small English stately home built in 1640, just before the start of the Civil War. Set in 15 acres of parkland, the hotel boasts both a Championship nine hole Par 3 golf course and a fully equipped leisure club, including swimming pool, gymnasium, steam room and jacuzzi. Make the most of your visit and the facilities by booking one of the 49 splendid bedrooms, many of which have amazing views out over the gardens. Please note that this event is open to members and their guests only. **Book by:** Saturday 15 June. **Address:** Nailcote Hall, Berkswell CV7 7DE.

Contact us on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



WED **10** The Taming of the Shrew - an outdoor theatre production



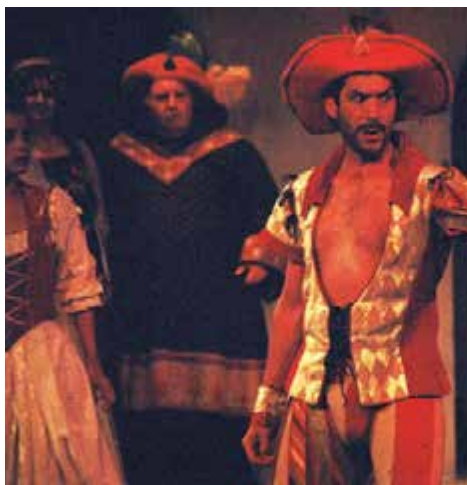
6.30pm



£10



Enjoy the thrill of Shakespeare brought to life by the Spitfire Theatre Company in the beautiful setting of the courtyard at Brandon Marsh. The Spitfire Theatre Company, now entering its sixth season, provides touring theatre, focusing particularly on rural venues throughout the Midlands; it focusses on training the actors of the future and partners with Rugby College and the Midlands Actor's Studio. Please bring your own folding chair to sit on. At the time of going to print the cost is yet to be confirmed, but last year was less than £10. **Book by:** Wednesday 19 June. **Address:** Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry CV3 3GW. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



July

TUES
16

Coffee with Friends



11am



Free



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Contact us on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



TUES
23

Dining Out at The Old Smithy



7.30pm



As per menu



Please book



A warm welcome awaits you at The Old Smithy. If you asked most people to draw their idyllic - 'roses around the door' village pub, they would probably draw The Old Smithy at Church Lawford. It really is a very cosy pub and has a great atmosphere. All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable evening.

Book by: Tuesday 16 July so that we can reserve a suitable table.

Address: The Old Smithy, 1 Green Lane, Church Lawford, Rugby, Warwickshire CV23 9EF. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



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.

July

SAT 27 Clay Pigeon Shooting Have a go!



Something a bit different and styled for the person who has never handled a shotgun in their life! Everything will be provided: clays, cartridges, tuition, gun hire, ear defenders and eye protection. All you need to bring is some wet weather clothing in case of inclement weather and a sense of humour – just in case you turn out NOT to be the next budding Annie Oakley! The session should last about 1.5 hours, so you may choose to stop and have a spot of lunch with us in the bar afterwards. The cost is £45 per person for 25 shots. **Book by:** A deposit of £10 is required by Monday 1 July. **Address:** Barby Sporting, Barby Lane, Rugby CV23 8UX. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



August

FRI 02 Steetley Meadows - a country ramble



A leisurely stroll on the flat around a SSSI conservation area of approximately 35 acres. The land was donated to the village in 1992 and comprises meadows, woodland, ponds and willow carr. The site is bordered by the river Avon and is home to a variety of birds and wildlife, including: heron, grebe, Canada geese, kingfisher, muntjac, foxes, badgers, bats and a variety of insects. Stout shoes are advisable. Meet outside The Malt Shovel Pub, Church Street CV8 3ET. **Address:** Steetley Meadows, Redland Lane, Ryton-on-Dunsmore CV8 3ET. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

SAT 03 Midland Group Conference Annual Quiz



Calling all those egg heads out there! This year Coventry Godiva District are hosting the Midland Group Annual Quiz, which is for teams of four. If you are interested in coming along to either support the District Team or join in to help them win then let us know as soon as possible. Arrive from 1.30pm, quiz commences at 2pm and there will be a buffet afterwards. **Address:** Coventry and North Warwickshire Cricket Club, Binley Road, Coventry CV3 1HB. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

August

TUES
20

Coffee with Friends



11am



Free



The morning coffee (or tea) is always better when shared with friends and we would love for you to join our sociable group. So, come along for a natter and find out about the many varied trips, visits and events that we run throughout the year. Don't be shy, give us a try - just look for our table sign. Transport may be available if you require it. **Address:** Smiths Nurseries and Garden Centre, Stoneleigh Road, Baginton, Warwickshire CV8 3BA.

Contact us on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



FRI
30

Bat Hunt



7.15pm



£5



Please
book



Take a walk on the wild side with Warwickshire Wildlife who will be providing bat detectors to listen for bats; hopefully we will be able to spot them flying between the trees too! This event will take place regardless of the weather, so please dress appropriately. This session is suitable for children aged 5 years and up and will include some games for the young/young at heart attendees. **Book by:** Friday 23 August. **Address:** Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry CV3 3GW. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



SUN
08

Marton Museum of Country Bygones



2pm



Free



Please
book



Take a trip down memory lane to a time when life was much slower and join us on our visit to view this eclectic mix of over 3,000 objects that reflect rural working life in Marton over a century ago. At this time Marton was home to: a blacksmith, a wheelwright, a thatcher, a butcher, a pump maker, a saddler, a horse collar maker, a coal haggler, a carpenter (who was also the undertaker), a builder, a baker, an ale brewer, a miller, a plumber/glazier, a doctor surgeon, a painter/decorator, a shoemaker, a tailor, and a bricklayer. All of these professions are reflected in this collection of artefacts which was the work of just one amazing man, George Tims. There is no charge for admission but donations to the upkeep of the collection are most welcome. **Book by:** Thursday 29 August. **Address:** Marton Museum of Country Bygones, Louisa Ward Close, Marton CV23 9SA. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.

September - Friendship Month

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Celebrating 10 years

TUES

17

Coffee with Friends



11am



Free



The morning coffee (or tea) is always better when shared with friends and we would love for you to join our sociable group. So, come along for a natter and find out about the many varied trips, visits and events that we run throughout the year. Don't be shy, give us a try - just look for our table sign. Transport may be available if you require it. **Address:** Smiths Nurseries and Garden Centre, Stoneleigh Road, Baginton, Warwickshire CV8 3BA.

Contact us on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



THURS
19

Dining Out at The Roseycombe



7.30pm



There will be a warm welcome at The Roseycombe, with good food and a great atmosphere - plus, what is nicer than dining with friends? All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable evening. **Book by:** Thursday 12 September, so that we can reserve a suitable table. **Address:** The Roseycombe Pub, Rugby Road, Coventry CV3 2AY. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



September

WED
25

Friendship Month Curry Night



7pm



Free



Please
book



Friendship makes the good times better, the hard times easier and gives us memories to cherish for a lifetime. The Oddfellows annual Friendship Month helps us focus on the value of friendship and, in the spirit of friendship, we welcome everybody to come and join us for an outstanding home cooked curry. Chinese and Indian curries will be provided free of charge to members, non-members and friends alike. Members are encouraged to bring two or more non-member friends along for the evening to share our Oddfellowship and hospitality. Booking is required for catering purposes. **Book by:** Wednesday 18 September. **Address:** Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH. **Contact us** on 024 76632900 and we will get back to you.



Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Find us at:



[www.facebook.com/
Coventry](http://www.facebook.com/Coventry)



[www.twitter.com/
OddfellowsUK](http://www.twitter.com/OddfellowsUK)

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

'We've a really friendly and supportive online network of thousands of Oddfellows members from across the UK and the world,' explained the Society Social Media team.

'Our official Twitter and Facebook pages are regularly updated, often daily, with topical national Oddfellows and Branch news. We also love reading your comments and posts!'



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 Christine on **024 76632900** or email **christine.luckett@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**

Meetings and Contacts

Branch and District meetings - The District and its social Branch's (also called Lodges) hold regular meetings. Some are open for all members to attend, some are just for elected members only. Visitors are generally welcome to attend and observe all meetings with permission granted by the secretary prior to the meeting.

A selection of our meetings include some ceremonial elements, which is part of the Society's traditions, stretching back over 200 years.

Tradesman Branch Meetings

Secretary: Peter Matthews **Telephone:** 024 76471692

Email: christine.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk

Correspondence address: 6 Eastern Green Road, Coventry CV5 7LH.

All members are welcome to attend - this is where we will share and discuss the business of the Branch and our forthcoming social events. This is your chance to have your say on how the local branch should be run and have an input into its social calendar for the forthcoming year.

This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. Most evenings are rounded off with refreshments and a chance to socialise.

Meeting address: 2 Queen Victoria Road CV1 3JH. Tuesdays at 8pm.

Tues 30 April, 8pm

Tues 25 June, 8pm

Tues 20 August, 8pm

Tues 21 May, 8pm

Tues 23 July, 7.30pm*

Tues 17 September, 8pm

* Tonight the Tradesman Branch is joining the Dine around, no meeting at Oddfellows House.

District Committee of Management

Secretary: Christine Luckett, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH.

Telephone: 024 76632900. **Email:** christine.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk

Correspondence and meeting address: 2 Queen Victoria Road CV1 3JH.

Elected members only, visitors at meetings discretion with advance request. Wednesday at 8pm.

Wednesday 8 May, 8pm, Wednesday 12 June, 8pm and

Wednesday 11 September, 8pm.

Midland Group Conference Meeting - Saturday 11 May, 11am

Being held at Coventry and North Warwickshire Cricket Club, Binley Road, Coventry CV3 1HB. This is a meeting for elected representatives of the Branch with some limited visitor spaces - if you are interested in attending as a visitor, please contact the District Secretary.

Meetings and Contacts

Nelson Branch

Secretary: Peter Matthews, 6 Eastern Green Road, Coventry CV5 7LH.

Telephone: 024 76471692

Earl of Craven Branch, Good Intent Branch, Admiral Lord Nelson Branch

Secretary: Matthew Redmond, 17 Alexandra Street, Nuneaton CV11 5RN.

Telephone: 024 77989963

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at **11am on Saturday 13 April**, Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH. **Booking is essential** for catering purposes, as a light lunch will be provided.

Half Yearly Meeting

The half yearly meeting will be held at **7pm on Wednesday 14 August**.

Contact Christine Luckett on 024 76632900 or email

christine.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk for more information.

The Thomas Barnes Suite

This air-conditioned room can be hired for a small fee for meetings, seminars etc. We have a hearing loop for the hard of hearing and tea/coffee making facilities. Please contact the District Office for cost and if you wish to book. The room will comfortably seat a maximum of 30 people.



At a glance

April 2019

Mon 1	Lunch with Friends	11.30am
Tues 9	Dining Out at The Old Smithy	7.30pm
Sat 13	Annual General Meeting	11am
Tues 16	Coffee with Friends	11am

May

Fri 3	Wine Tasting and Quiz	7.30pm
Mon 6	Warwickshire Point to Point	12 noon
Wed 15	Dining Out at The Roseycombe	7.30pm
Tues 21	Coffee with Friends	11am

June

Wed 5	Dining Out at The Queens Head	7.30pm
Tues 18	Coffee with Friends	11am
Thurs 20	Stoneleigh Abbey Visit	2.30pm

July

Mon 1	Cheese Tasting	7pm
Sat 6	Midland Group President's Annual Dinner and Dance	6pm
Wed 10	The Taming of the Shrew - an outdoor theatre production	6.30pm
Tues 16	Coffee with Friends	11am
Tues 23	Dining Out at The Old Smithy	7.30pm
Sat 27	Clay Pigeon Shooting - Have a go!	11.30am

August

Fri 2	Steetley Meadows - a country ramble	11am
Sat 3	Midland Group Conference Annual Quiz	1.30pm
Wed 14	Half Yearly Meeting	7pm
Tues 20	Coffee with Friends	11am
Fri 30	Bat Hunt	7.15pm

Front cover: Coventry Cathedral by Kerry Luckett.

At a glance

September – Friendship Month

Sun 8	Marton Museum of Country Bygones	2pm
Tues 17	Coffee with Friends	11am
Thurs 19	Dining Out at The Roseycombe	7.30pm
Wed 25	Friendship Month Curry Night	7pm

Share the friendship – enjoy the rewards!

Refer a Friend

Did you know that the Society runs a Refer a Friend scheme?

When the first friend you've recommended has joined, we'll send you a £10 Love2Shop voucher as a thank you. There are different reward levels, so you'd receive your next reward – £60 in Love2Shop vouchers – after recruiting five friends in total.*



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

Terms and conditions apply* The Refer a Friend offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other membership offer.

For full terms and conditions, visit **www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers**.

www.oddfellows.co.uk

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



the ODDfellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

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www.oddfellows.co.uk

Coventry Godiva News and Views

News and views from your local friendship group

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Summer Holiday

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District Annual Dinner and Dance

Pages 4 and 5



Remembrance Parade 2018



Spotlight on: Kerry Luckett



Local Care and Welfare Support



Welcome to the latest edition of the Coventry Godiva News and Reviews

This is your newsletter so if you have any ideas for items please send them in. Maybe you have a recipe, joke or celebration that you would like to share with the members? All items gratefully received. We look forward to hearing from you. Please send items to:

Mrs Christine Luckett
Oddfellows House,
2 Queen Victoria Road,
Coventry CV1 3JH

Christine Luckett

Contact Details

For details about membership and the wide range of benefits available please contact:

Secretary: Christine Luckett

Address:
Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road, Coventry CV1 3JH

Telephone: 024 76632900

Email:
christine.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk

Assistant Secretary:
Kerry Luckett

Telephone: 024 76632900
Email:
kerry.luckett@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Co-ordinator
Jan Lewis

Email:
jan.lewis@oddfellows.co.uk



Coventry's Remembrance Parade 2018

The people of Coventry and Warwickshire paid tribute on Remembrance Sunday by honouring the service personnel who have died in conflict since the beginning of the First World War. Across the country Oddfellows paid tribute in their own way but in Coventry the War Memorial Park came to a halt as the Armed Forces Parade arrives to honour the fallen service personnel.

Hearts were filled both with pride and sorrow as members of the Coventry Godiva District Lodge marked Remembrance Sunday. Members from Deeside, Ormskirk and Southport, Boston and Lincoln and Derby Districts came and joined the Coventry Godiva District members as they went on parade to the War Memorial Park.

Brother Director David Ogden said "The hospitality Sister Diane and myself received from our visit to the Coventry Godiva District Lodge Dinner was second to none. It was such a pleasure to be with friends who made sure we had a wonderful night. We stayed over to be present at the Coventry Remembrance Service and was invited to join the Branch Members in the Parade and felt so proud seeing the Branch Banner being carried for all to see.

Also laying of the Branch Wreaths by Brother Don and Myself along with the President of the Midland Group Conference Sister Kerry Luckett and Lady Godiva proved to be very moving. We will cherish the memories of our time spent with the Coventry Godiva District Lodge and thank you for inviting us".



The District and Group Conference Poppy Wreaths

District Annual Dinner and Dance

46 members and friends attended our District Annual Dinner and Dance at the Coventry and North Warwickshire Cricket Club where an excellent time was had by all. The Dinner was being held in honour of the Provincial Grand Master Brother Don Hamilton.

Following the meal, Brother Director David Ogden spoke and various toasts were made.

Before the entertainment commenced, there were some presentations, Firstly, by Brother Don to Brother Director David Ogden in the form of a framed painting of Coventry's two Cathedrals'.



Brother Hamilton presenting Director Brother Ogden with his Painting of the two Cathedrals.



Brother Ogden and Brother Hamilton

Following this presentation there were further presentations to the consorts on the top table and to Sister Kerry Luckett our Toastmaster, our evening of entertainment continued with dancing to music provided by our talented DJ "Wayne".

The raffle raised £296 on the night for Zoe's Place. A Good Night was had by all. Thanks also go to Sister Christine Luckett and Sister Kerry Luckett for organising this Annual Event for the Coventry Godiva District Lodge. Also thanks go to Sister Aidrie Felix, Heart of England District Lodge, who produced the most wonderful Flower Displays.

Thanks also go to the staff at the Coventry and North Warwickshire Cricket Club for an enjoyable evening.



*Our Entertainment for the evening
'DJ Wayne'*



*Members enjoying a drink and a
chat before the evening commences*

Fancy Something Different To Read?

We are starting a book club and are currently looking to source any second hand books that you no longer require. So, if you are having a spring clean and have some surplus books that you would care to donate then drop them down to us at Oddfellows House, 2 Queen Victoria Road.

Have a browse of what we have on display and if there is anything you fancy, take it home with you. No charge or restrictions on how long you can borrow the books for..... we will operate an 'honesty box' and if you decide you wish to keep the book indefinitely, then we just ask you to make a small donation which will be passed on to Zoe's Place.



PS. The books will be available to view at any of the events that are hosted at our offices in Queen Victoria Road. Alternatively, give us a ring to arrange a time when it is convenient for dropping off/picking up books. The office is not manned full time, so please ensure you contact us first and don't just turn up in case you have a wasted journey.

Spotlight on: Sister Kerry Luckett PPGM, Coventry Godiva District Lodge

By Jan Lewis (Social Events Organiser)

As someone totally new to the Oddfellows I am continually finding out about all the amazing people involved in this organisation. Recently, I heard that Kerry was one of the youngest to be appointed in recent times to the position of President of the Midland Group Conference. I asked her how she got to such a position and this is what she told me:

"I was born in Coventry in 1989 to Brother Anthony Luckett Immediate Past Grand Master and Sister Christine. I became a Junior Member in 1994, but because there was no Junior Lodge in Coventry I didn't take an active role in the District. I started attending the Junior Lodge in the Heart of England District along with my brother James in 2000, where over the next 4-5 years I rose through the ranks to become President in 2004-2005. In 2003 I started attending my mother lodge, the Loyal Tradesman's Lodge, in the Coventry District.

In 2004 I became the Elective Secretary until 2006 when I became Noble Grand. In 2007 I became Immediate Past Noble Grand and returned to Elective Secretary, a position which I still hold today - with the exception of a year's break in 2008 and 2012.



In January 2008 I was co-opted onto the District Committee of Management as the Prov CS's assistant as she was in hospital. I took my purple degree in February 2008 and was elected as Provincial Grand Master in April 2009. In January 2010 I was privileged to be one of the first Provincial Grand Masters to hand out one of the Grand Master's 200th birthday telegrams to Coventry Godiva District Lodge's Centurion Brother George Hill.

In 2010 I also became the District's Executive Member to the Midland Group Conference. I attended my first AMC as a deputy in 2010 which was a privilege, I was also the youngest member on the conference floor. I was elected as Vice President to the Midland Group Conference in October 2017 and Installed as President of the Midland Group Conference in October 2018."

Midland Group Conference Presidents Annual Dinner and Dance

Menu

Chicken Liver Parfait

With caramelised red onion and toasted brioche

Or

Warm Tartlet of Caramelised Red Onion and Mozzarella

Served with a rocket leaf salad

Blade of Beef

With roast potatoes and selection of vegetables with a Bourguignon sauce

Or

Roast Mediterranean Vegetable Wellington

Serviced with roast potatoes and selection of vegetables and tomato

Baked Vanilla Cheesecake

With a blueberry compote

Coffee and After Dinner Mints

Tickets - £30 per person

Our guest speaker for this evening is Past Grand Master

Brother Tony Luckett Accompanied by Sister Christine

*All members are welcomed to come & join us on this special evening please
ring the Coventry District Office on 024 76632900 to book your tickets.*

Oddfellows Word Search Spring has Sprung!

Calling all Oddfellows.....young, old or in between. Make a nice cup of tea and take some time to tackle this wordsearch.

H	B	H	S	A	W	O	B	N	I	A	R	E	S
N	U	N	L	S	B	I	R	D	S	W	I	L	S
R	N	I	I	P	C	T	S	S	I	S	U	N	I
I	N	O	D	O	W	H	H	O	U	R	W	T	B
C	I	C	O	R	S	S	O	D	E	W	W	R	T
E	E	E	F	D	I	A	O	C	S	A	A	N	L
C	S	G	F	W	C	R	A	E	O	R	R	M	A
R	H	G	A	O	C	R	K	A	B	L	M	A	M
E	I	S	D	N	R	A	L	L	S	B	A	A	B
A	B	N	B	S	C	G	N	I	M	N	A	T	S
M	T	D	L	N	B	G	T	O	D	E	N	E	E
M	R	I	A	R	E	T	S	A	E	S	R	C	R
S	A	P	R	I	L	S	H	O	W	E	R	S	A
S	N	U	B	S	S	O	R	C	T	O	H	E	B

Snowdrops

Eggs

Bunnies

Chocolate

Daffodils

Birds

April Showers

Ice Cream

Pancakes

Lambs

Hotcross Buns

Rainbow

Easter

Warm

Sun

September is Friendship Month

Ask your Social Organizer about Friendship Month events this September, as we celebrate 10 years of Friendship Month.

For further information pop over to our website: www.oddfellows.co.uk.



Share the friendship – enjoy the rewards!

Refer a Friend

Did you know that the Society runs a Refer a Friend scheme?

When the first friend you've recommended has joined, we'll send you a £10 Love2Shop voucher as a thank you. There are different reward levels, so you'd receive your next reward – £60 in Love2Shop vouchers – after recruiting five friends in total.*



www.oddfellows.co.uk

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

Terms and conditions apply* The Refer a Friend offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other membership offer. For full terms and conditions, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers.



Oddfellows Summer Holiday

**Discover the best of
Hampshire's Coastline with
Oddfellows members and
friends at the Sinah Warren
Coastal Hotel.**

Situated on Hayling
Island, Sinah Warren is a
large, comfortable hotel
surrounded by elegant
gardens and spectacular
view of Langstone Harbour.

**8 – 12 July 2019:
4 nights (half-board)**

Breakfast and three-course
evening meals are included.

**Standard rooms from only
£280 per person**

With evening entertainment,
activities and use of leisure facilities.

**Sinah Warren Coastal Hotel,
Ferry Road, Hayling Island,
Hampshire, PO11 0BZ**

To book call Warner's on 0330 1009 772

(Booking reference 4272269) and quote ODDFELLOWS



This quote recently caught my eye. Many of us are guilty of being caught up in the day-to-day. We often get so focused on the task at hand that our proverbial blinkers stop us from having a REALLY good look around.

I'm sure many of us could benefit from slowing down a little, to take stock of those daily pick-me-up moments – people asking how you are, having a coffee made for you, being at the bus stop at exactly the right time...Those simple things.

I must say that us Oddfellows are pretty good at making the most of the everyday. We need little excuse to get together. A cup of tea and a biscuit, or a chance to grab a lunch, usually does the trick. We're fortunate to have this opportunity to go along to one of our Branch events and spend time with others. Regular, friendly catch-ups, or just sitting with company, really does fuel happiness.

It saddens me that there are people out there who don't get the chance to spend time with others, and who don't have anyone to fall back on when times get tough.

It might be that they've had a change of personal circumstance and the people they used to mix with have moved on, or they just don't see them as often. It happens all too frequently, and it's shocking how quickly your confidence gets knocked and you drift into chronic loneliness.

If there's anyone you know that could do with some friendly company or support, please don't forget to mention the Oddfellows and welcome them to your next get-together. There's no hard sell in this at all. If they like it, then brilliant. If we're not their cup of tea, then they know we're here if they change their mind.

So for 2019, it's right for us to continue to celebrate the extraordinary things in our calendar – Friendship Month, AMC and our major HA Andrews Memorial Fund donation. But let's not forget to celebrate the wonderful everyday at the Oddfellows, too.

Thank you for every cup of tea shared, caring phone call made and idea given at a meeting. Thank you for each pot washed, new face welcomed and friendly email written. These little things make a huge difference to people's everyday lives and the running of our Society. Despite life's rush, rest assured, they do not go unnoticed.

I wish you and your families every happiness – big and small – for 2019.

Jane Nelson, CEO

Members of Distinction

Whether through the old Portraits Scheme, or the recently launched Making a Difference Award – we love to recognise and celebrate members who go over-and-above in their support of the Society and its work.

So thank you to three of Portraits 2018's final winners Gerald, Miriam and Adrian for everything you do for the Oddfellows. We appreciate it.



*Gerald Gordon Baxter
Nene and Welland District*

Meet Gerald, member of the Nene and Welland District, who was singled out for his long-standing support to the Society at many different levels – from local Branch through to International Conference.

Some of Gerald's notable positions held over his seven decades as an Oddfellow include Noble Grand and Vice Grand

for his Branch, Provincial Grand Master for his District, 28 years' service as a District and Branch Trustee, as well as Past President (1988-1989) at East Anglia Group Conference.

Reflecting on his 71-year relationship with the Oddfellows, Gerald shared: "I liked the idea of what Oddfellowship stood for – Friendship, Love and Truth.

"We all need friends that we can turn to when we need them. There are times when we all need support and the Oddfellows has been there for me and my family."



*Miriam Witcomb
Heart of England District*

The Oddfellows is very fortunate to have people such as Miriam in its membership. She embodies the Society's humanitarian spirit through her commitment to helping others.

Since joining in her 40s, Miriam has served as Noble Grand for Leigh and Knightly Branch, as well as Heart of England District Oddfellows Club President and Trustee.

However, what sets Miriam apart is her devotion to fundraising and volunteering. Year-round, she knits items to sell and organises regular tombolas to raise money for her Provincial Grand Master's chosen charities.

For over 20 years, she has provided fellow members with care and support in their times of need as Branch Welfare Officer.

In the words of her District Committee of Management, Miriam is 'a much loved member'. And as a Society, we couldn't agree more!

Introduced to the Oddfellows by his father at age 16, Adrian's constant energy has kept him incredibly busy and active in his District and regional group conference.

Since 2006, he has been a member of Beds and Bucks District Committee of Management, in which he serves as Trustee and second-time Deputy Provincial Grand Master. It was during his tenure as Provincial Grand Master in 2009 that his career reached new heights – as he undertook a charity indoor skydive for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Other appreciated contributions include his time as Past Worthy Master of the Provincial Lodge of Past Grands, Midland Group



*Adrian Taylor
Beds and Bucks District*

Conference President and, while studying at university in Birmingham, attendance at monthly Branch meetings and District annual meetings.

Speaking about his time with the Oddfellows, he explained: "It provides excellent opportunities to be able to meet people at home and overseas. An example of this is when I travelled around Australia and New Zealand and visited Lodges in Brisbane and Wellington."

Well done and thank you to all our members who've featured as portraits over the years. We can't wait to continue celebrating members who go the extra mile in supporting our Society through a Making A Difference Award.



On your marks, get set, parkrun

There aren't many things left in life that are free, but one growing phenomenon that is completely gratis is parkrun.

The 5km community events take place in parks each Saturday morning, but parkrun is more than a way of keeping fit, it's a way of making friends, being part of a community, and even inspiration to travel the world.

Parkrun isn't a race. There are no winners, volunteer Tail Walkers ensure that nobody finishes last, and the emphasis is on regular participation rather than performance. There are more than 550 5km courses in the UK and 1,600 across the world, with more than 235,000 adults and juniors taking part on a good weekend globally. Additionally, there are 250 junior parkruns on Sunday mornings for 4-14 year-olds and their families that are 2k in distance.

You don't need to be a top athlete. At any event you will find parents with pushchairs, dog walkers and people who have never taken part in organised physical activity before. If you use a wheelchair, then you're also welcome,

but it's probably worth checking the individual course you fancy doing is accessible with the organisers before setting off.

The events have a great reputation for being friendly and often there's a catch-up after the event at a local café over tea.

It's easy to get started. Register on the website www.parkrun.org.uk and you will be given an individual barcode. Print it out and turn up at the event you fancy taking part in. The events all start at 9am in the UK, except for in Scotland and Northern Ireland where they kick off at 9.30am.

If you don't fancy walking or running, then volunteering at the events is a brilliant way to meet people and give back to the community. Each event is self-organising and has its own team of volunteers who would be very pleased to have an extra pair of hands.

Get in touch with your local parkrun to find out how you can volunteer
www.parkrun.org.uk/events/events



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 Christine on **024 76632900** or email **christine.luckett@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**



De-stress your life – a brief introduction to Mindfulness

With modern life so fast and stressful, it isn't always easy to find a bit of peace and quiet. Whilst we cannot avoid the stresses of modern life, there are things we can do to help us de-stress. One way is through a technique called 'mindfulness'.

Mindfulness is about paying attention to the present moment, including our thoughts and feelings, and the world around us – by doing more of this we can improve our mental wellbeing. This awareness can help us enjoy life more, understand ourselves better and be more prepared for handling life's challenges. You will also be able to manage stress better, sleep more soundly and manage various physical health problems, such as chronic pain.

Although mindfulness originates from Buddhism, you don't need to be spiritual or have any particular beliefs to try it. Being 'mindful' is a skill that anyone can learn and is used by the NHS as a treatment for anxiety and depression.

For more information about health and wellbeing visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/health

Counted Breath Meditation

This simple meditation is one way of introducing mindfulness into your daily life, and can help you to 'switch off' and get to sleep at night. Here are the steps to follow:

- Move away from distractions such as mobile phones, television or computers
- Sit comfortably in a chair with your hands held loosely in your lap and both your feet on the floor
- Close your eyes and let your breathing settle into an even rhythm
- Start to breathe in and out more deeply and begin counting on each 'out' breath eg breathe in, breathe out – one, breathe in, breathe out – two
- If thoughts come into your mind and distract you, try not to engage with them, instead, restart your breath count from the beginning
- Try to get to ten breaths - if you make it, well done! If not, don't worry, just use this meditation technique regularly and your ability to focus on your breath should increase