

Autumn 2018



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

# out & about

**Poole Bridport and Yeovil District - Everyone Welcome**



**Poole Fishing Boats**



**Music**



**Games**



**Tasting**



**Quizzes**



**Social**



**Talks**



**Walks**



**Dining Out**



**Travel**



**Theatre**



**Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea**

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Poole Fishing Boats by Suzanne McGowan, Brownsea Branch



*Come and join us for Friendship Month in September*

## Welcome to the latest edition of the Poole, Bridport and Yeovil District Events Diary.

Members of the District have organised a varied programme of events for you to enjoy. Several of our members have asked us to do more daytime events – so we've organised more lunches, coffee mornings and afternoon teas.

This Events Diary is a handy guide for you to keep so that you know what is happening in our area.

Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary or keep the Events Diary in a handy place – perhaps by the phone or pinned to your notice board.

Everyone is very welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to you and your friends to attend any of the events that take your fancy – we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

If you would like to come along to any of the events please book early to

avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support.

**Please note:** Events may be added, amended or cancelled during the period of the current diary.

### Would you like to get involved?

Are you looking for something to do? If so, there is plenty for you to get involved in with the Oddfellows. We are always looking for people to help with our care support, social events or writing articles for our newsletters. Please contact Andrew on 01202 743910 for more information.

## 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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call 01202 743910.**

## Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Find us at:



[www.facebook.com/  
Dorset-Yeovil-Oddfellows](http://www.facebook.com/Dorset-Yeovil-Oddfellows)



[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!'

## Contact Details

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

### **District Secretary**

Andrew Hampton

**Telephone:** 01202 743910

**Email:**

[andrew.hampton@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:andrew.hampton@oddfellows.co.uk)

### **Acorn Branch Social Secretary**

Flo Munro

**Telephone:** 01202 820965

### **Brownsea Branch Social Secretary**

Margaret White

**Telephone:** 01202 775122

**Email:**

[margaret.white@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:margaret.white@oddfellows.co.uk)

### **Hand-in-Hand Branch Social Secretary**

Stephen Slade

**Telephone:** 01305 260081

**Email:**

[mike.clarke@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:mike.clarke@oddfellows.co.uk)

### **Phoenix Branch Social Secretary**

Judy Penfold

**Telephone:** 01963 363119

**Email:**

[judy.penfold@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:judy.penfold@oddfellows.co.uk)

### **Pride of Bournemouth Branch Social Secretary**

Margaret White

**Telephone:** 01202 775122

**Email:**



[margaret.white@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:margaret.white@oddfellows.co.uk)

# September 2018

## ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



**MON 03** **Friendship Tea and  
Coffee Morning**  
Pride of Bournemouth Branch

 10.30am  Free



Please bring a friend or two along for a chat and a cuppa as this is Friendship Month. We will have cakes and biscuits to enjoy, some stalls, and a raffle in aid of April Court Amenities Fund – our chairman’s charity. So why not join us, see if you can win a prize and better still, make some new friends. This is a free event – everyone welcome – the more the merrier! Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122.



**MON 10** **Afternoon Tea Party**  
Acorn Branch

 2pm

 £3.50



Although this is the Society’s Recruitment Month hopefully we will have had new folk join us during the year. Please tell your friends about the advantages, assistance and care which is available from the Society and the Branch. Perhaps they would like to give us a try this September, we will be happy to see them. The theme is ‘Food’, how it’s made, how we eat it and when we eat it. After all if we are with friends we usually have something to eat. Usual tea and raffle, free raffle for vegetables, bring and buy. If possible please park for free in Tesco Car Park as parking is limited at the hall. It is a short walk from Tesco’s bottom car park. Book by Saturday 8 September. Ferndown Guide Hall, entrance to Tesco Car Park, Ferndown BH22 9TH. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.



TUES  
18

## Visit to Bishop's Palace Phoenix Branch



11am



£6.95



We will be visiting the Bishop's Palace, Wells – admission is just £6.95 for groups of ten or more and includes access to the medieval Palace and Undercroft, ruined Great Hall, 14 acres of gardens, the Bishop's Chapel and all events (unless specifically ticketed). Included in your admission ticket is a choice of daily guided tours of the Palace and Gardens.

The site is accessible for wheelchairs and the like. Either meet at The Bishop's Palace at 11am or catch a bus from Yeovil to Wells at 9.30am to arrive at 10.50am (free if you have a bus pass or £7 if not).

Bishop's Palace, Wells, Somerset BA5 2PD. Please contact Judy on 01963 363119 as soon as possible if you would like to join us.

WED  
19

## Friendship Afternoon Tea Brownsea Branch



2.30pm



Free



Please come and join us for our Friendship Month

**ODDFELLOWS**  
**FRIENDSHIP MONTH**  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Afternoon Tea – bring a friend or two who might benefit from joining us – learn more about what we have to offer our members – and have a relaxing afternoon. If the weather is good we will be able to sit outside and watch the tennis or the croquet – fingers crossed! We'll have a raffle for our charities and hopefully meet some new friends during the afternoon. This is a free event, so please bring your friends.

East Dorset Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Salterns Road, Poole BH14 8BL. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Andrew on 01202 743910.

# September

## **SAT 22** Bingo and Fish and Chip Supper Pride of Bournemouth Branch



7.30pm



£5



Eyes down and look in for our Friendship Bingo and Fish and Chip Supper event! Please bring a friend (or two) – this is Friendship Month after all! We will have a raffle as usual for April Court Amenities Fund, so prizes would be very welcome please. Why not come and join us and try to win a prize – including cash prizes for a full house! This event was very popular last year so please book early with Margaret. Book by Thursday 20 September. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122.

# October

## **TUES 02** Afternoon Tea Brownsea Branch



3pm



TBC



Afternoon Tea at Stewarts is always a lovely way to relax with friends, catch up with a natter, and maybe take a look at the plants and gifts – and grab a bargain! Please come and join us – it would be lovely to see you and your friends if you would like to bring them too, please just let us know if you are coming so that we can organise the teas. Cost to be confirmed, but approximately £15 for two. Book by Sunday 30 September. Stewarts Garden Centre, Lyndhurst Road, Christchurch BH23 4SA. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Andrew on 01202 743910.

## **MON 24** District Friendship Quiz and Supper



7pm



See below



Please join us for our Friendship Quiz and Supper at Harry's! Why not bring a friend or two for a fun evening, find out more about our friendship group and help us raise money to buy a Defibrillator for the community. Enjoy a lovely meal at 7pm, followed by the quiz at 8pm. The meal and quiz is just £9 but if you just want to come to the quiz it is only £1. Reasonably priced sweets will also be available.



All proceeds from the raffle during the evening will also go towards the Defibrillator. We hope you can join us – contact Andrew on 01202 743910 to book your place. Book by Saturday 15 September. Harry's Bar, 14 Haven Road, Poole BH13 7LP.



**MON**  
**08** **Autumn Tea Party**  
**Acorn Branch**



As the leaves fall let's have a few games, bar skittles, spin the wheel, throw the dice and see who can claim the most points at the end. Free fruit raffle, bits and pieces for the bring and buy and the usual raffle. Please bring a friend or neighbour who might like to come and say hello to us all. The usual fun and laughter and of course the buffet tea. The Guide Hall venue is via the entrance to Tesco Bottom Car Park. If possible please park there as parking is limited at the hall. Book by Saturday 6 October. Ferndown Guide Hall, entrance to Tesco Car Park, Ferndown BH22 9TH. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.



**TUES**  
**16** **Visit to Rich's Cider Farm**  
**Phoenix Branch**



Visit to Rich's Cider Farm, Highbridge TA9 4RD. More details from Judy on 01963 363119.

**TUES**  
**16** **Apple Pie Tasting**  
**Phoenix Branch**



Why not join us for our Apple Pie Tasting after the monthly branch meeting this month? A selection of pies will be available to enjoy by all! We hope you can come and join in the fun! Yeovil Ex-Services Social Club, Preston Road, Yeovil BA213AZ. Contact Judy on 01963 363119 to book.

**SUN**  
**21** **Annual District Lunch**



Tony Lockett, the Immediate Past Chairman of our Society will be our Guest of Honour at this year's Annual District Lunch. We are returning to the Mayfair Hotel and hope that many members and friends will be able to join us. After lunch we will have a raffle to support our Chairman, Robert Southam, in his endeavours to raise enough money to buy a defibrillator, so raffle prizes would be very much appreciated as always. Robert looks forward to welcoming members and friends to our Annual Lunch.

Cost to be confirmed but approximately £17. Book by Monday 15 October. Mayfair Hotel, 27 Bath Road, Bournemouth BH1 2NW. Please contact Andrew on 01202 743910 to book.

# October

SAT  
27

## Ploughman's Harvest Supper Pride of Bournemouth Branch



7.30pm



£3.50



We are having a late Harvest Supper, with a Ploughman's meal, a harvest themed evening and Darrell Sturmeay will be giving us a talk on Farming. Perhaps a quiz or one of Marion's wonderful activities to cheer us all up as the weather will be seriously autumnal by the end of October I'm sure.

The usual raffle for April Court Amenities Fund will be held and we would be very pleased to receive donations if you are able to bring a prize along. Our socials are always good fun and everyone will be made very welcome.

Book by Thursday 25 October.  
Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road,  
Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Contact  
Margaret on 01202 775122.

# November

MON  
05

## Coffee Club Brownsea Branch



10.30am



As per menu



We are trying a new venue for our Coffee Club get together this time, but it comes very well recommended. Why not join us for a natter over a coffee and a cake, or they also do lovely sandwiches and soup. The Spire is in the heart of the old Poole area so there are plenty of shops to have a look at, or you could take a walk along the Quay after coffee. Hope you will want to come and join us and maybe bring a friend along to meet us too. Book by Saturday 3 November. The Spire, High Street, Poole BH15 1DF. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Andrew on 01202 743910.





**MON  
12** **Afternoon Tea**  
Pride of Bournemouth Branch

 2.30pm

 £3.50



We would love to welcome you to our Afternoon Tea at Tuckton Social Club. We will have the usual raffle, bring and buy and book stalls, so please come and join us for a relaxing time and hopefully meet some new friends. We are raising money for our chairman's charity, April Court Amenities Fund, so if you could bring along a raffle prize that would be very much appreciated. We hope to have a speaker from the Pain Clinic so this should be an interesting afternoon. Book by Saturday 10 November. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Please contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.



**TUES  
13** **Social Lunch**  
Phoenix Branch

 TBA

 As per menu



Social lunch at a venue yet to be decided. Contact Judy on 01963 363119.

**SAT  
17** **Skittles Evening**  
Pride of Bournemouth Branch

 7.30pm

 £5.50



Please come and join us for an evening of fun with the skittles, a buffet supper and a raffle for our charity. If you don't 'do' skittles the buffet is always very good value and it's lovely to have a natter with friends old and new - it's fine to just come and watch if you prefer. Cost: £5.50 approximately, but to be confirmed later. Book by Thursday 15 November. Moordown Conservative Club, Balfour Road, Bournemouth BH9 2AZ. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122.

**TUES  
20** **Pre-Festive Nibbles**  
Phoenix Branch

 7.30pm

 Free



We will be enjoying Pre-Festive Nibbles after our meeting in November and it



would be great if you could join us. Everyone will be made very welcome, so please come and join in the fun if you can, just let Judy know you will be coming - we don't want to run out of nibbles! Yeovil Ex-Services Social Club, Preston Road, Yeovil BA21 3AZ. Contact Judy on 01963 363119.

# November

## **WED 21** Bingo, Basket Meal and a Drink Brownsea Branch



Our Bingo, Basket Meal and a Drink, all for just £10 is always great fun. We eat at 7pm with the bingo following at about 8pm. Why not join us for a chance to win the jackpot! If you prefer to only play bingo that's fine and it will cost you just £3, or bingo and a drink is £5. Numbers are limited so if you would like to come please book by Monday 19 November with Margaret or Andrew. Parkstone Club, Parr Street, Poole BH14 0JX. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Andrew on 01202 743910.

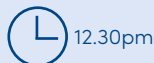
## **MON 26** Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning Acorn Branch



Free event so please join us for a bacon roll, muffins, nibbles and an early mince pie. Some new goodies maybe for stocking fillers and knitted items, together with the other items on the bring and buy. The usual raffle and free raffle for Festive goodies. What does Teddy Acorn want for Christmas? Where in the world does this happen at Christmas?? Meet up with friends for a chat before the Christmas rush. Book by Friday 23 November. Three Cross Village Hall, Village Hall Lane, Three Legged Cross BH21 6SG. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

# December

## **SUN 02** Christmas Lunch Brownsea Branch and Pride of Bournemouth Branch



We hope you will join us for our joint Christmas Celebration!

The Pride of Bournemouth and Brownsea Branches are getting together again to celebrate the festive season with a Sunday lunch at the Riviera Hotel.



Our Chairmen, Norman Daniels and Margaret Fry will be very happy to welcome you to their Christmas Lunch - all the usual decorations, crackers etc and of course a raffle to support both the chairmen's charities - April Court Amenities Fund for Norman and the Maritime Voluntary Service and Macmillan Caring Locally for Margaret. This is an informal, relaxing event, no speeches, just a lovely time together. We had a brilliant time in 2017 at the Riviera and look forward to having another wonderful celebration together this year.

Book by Monday 26 November. Riviera Hotel, Burnaby Road, Alum Chine BH4 8JF. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Andrew on 01202 743910.

SAT  
08

## Bumper Christmas Tea Acorn Branch



1.30pm



£5



Bumper Buffet Tea, guess the weight of the Dundee Cake, small gift for ladies best festive hat and for gents loudest festive tie. We will have our second tombola of the year where there will be a chance to win gifts and festive foods.

All money raised will go to the West Moors Branch for Diverse Abilities. We hope to have a bumper bring and buy together with the usual raffle. We can raise a bumper toast with a glass of bubbly as we pull the crackers, have a sing song and get a free raffle ticket to win chocolate goodies. Mince pies, slice of Christmas cake and chocolates to finish with. Please join us and have a great afternoon.

Book by Saturday 1 December.  
Three Cross Village Hall, Village Hall Lane, Three Legged Cross BH21 6SG.  
Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

TUES  
11

## Visit to Winchester Christmas Market Phoenix Branch



TBA



TBC



Visit to Winchester Christmas Market (possibly by coach if sufficient numbers). Contact Judy on 01963 363119.



TUES  
11

## Christmas Party Pride of Bournemouth Branch



7.30pm



Free



Please join us for our Christmas Party. We will have a bring and share supper, appropriate games (last year we had reindeer!) and maybe a quiz. This event is always good fun so please let Margaret know in good time if you would like to join us. This is a free event and we will have a raffle for April Court Amenities Fund so prizes would be welcome. Tea and coffee will be provided but if you would like an alcoholic drink please bring your own. Book by Saturday 8 December. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122.



# Turkey & Tinsel Warner's Nidd Hall

From £235  
per person  
(Standard room)

**17 – 21 December 2018, 4 nights, Half board**  
Warner's Nidd Hall Country Hotel, North Yorkshire.

Enjoy this glorious hotel set in 45 acres of superb gardens and grounds. Relax in the leisure club complete with heated indoor pool and have fun with fantastic daytime activities. Located just a short distance from the lovely town of Harrogate.

All holidays are booked through third party travel companies and terms and conditions apply. Holidays are open to Oddfellows members and their guests only. For more information ask the reservations team when booking.

**To book call Warner's on 0330 100 9772**  
and quote ODDFELLOWS (Holiday reference 4259744)



[www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel)

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# January 2019

MON  
07

## New Year Buffet Tea Acorn Branch



2pm



£4



Tell us if you went away for Christmas, maybe bring a special present you received or maybe a photograph of a Christmas you spent in the past. Buffet tea, bring and buy, books, puzzles to while away a winters evening. Items for the usual raffle would always be welcome but most welcome are yourselves together with a friend or neighbour. A good chance to catch up with members and friends since the Festive Season. The venue is on the main road through the village. Book by Saturday 5 January. West Moors Memorial Hall, Station Road, West Moors, Dorset BH22 0HS. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

WED  
16

## Lunch Club Brownsea Branch



12 noon



As per menu



We will be meeting at 12 noon for 12.30pm for lunch at the Sweet Home and hope you would like to join us. Emma always makes us very welcome and there is a wide choice on the menu. Book by Monday 14 January. Sweet Home Inn, Ringwood Road, Poole BH14 0RF. Contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.



SAT  
12

## Coffee and Scones Pride of Bournemouth Branch



10.30am



£2.50



We thought we would try something a bit different and have Coffee and Scones, rather than biscuits and cake, and include some savoury scones too as well as the jam and cream variety! We hope you can join us, maybe bring a friend along, enjoy a chat, the stalls and a raffle for our Chairman's Charity. Start the New Year with a bit of fun, maybe win a prize in the raffle and hopefully make some new friends. Book by Thursday 10 January. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Please contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.





# January 2019

**SAT**  
**26** **Afternoon Tea  
and Puzzles**  
Pride of Bournemouth Branch

 2.30pm

 £3.50



We hope you can come and join in the fun at our Afternoon Puzzle event! There will be lots of puzzles to have a go at, a lovely Afternoon Tea, a raffle for our Chairman's Charity, and the chance to catch up with friends old and new. Book by Thursday 24 January. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth, BH6 3AA. Please contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.



# February

**WED**  
**06** **Afternoon Tea**  
Brownsea Branch

 3pm

 £15 for two



Why not join us for Afternoon Tea at the Sweet Home? Last time the tea was fantastic so we hope you will come along, have a superb tea and a chat with friends. We'll have a raffle for our Chairman's Charity so a prize would be lovely. Book by Monday 4 February. Sweet Home Inn, Ringwood Road, Poole BH14 0RF. Please contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.

# February

**THURS**  
**14** **Coffee Morning/  
Beetle Drive/Fish  
and Chip Lunch**  
Pride of Bournemouth  
Branch

 10.30am

 £5



Something new! A Coffee Morning including a Beetle Drive at 10.30am, followed at 12 noon by a fish and chip lunch. Join us for a natter over coffee, join in the fun of the Beetle, and then finish with a lovely fish and chip lunch. If you would like to bring a friend or neighbour that would be great.

Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Please contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.



MON  
18

## Buffet Tea

Acorn Branch



Come along to the usual buffet tea and have a go at the quiz all about our capital city of London. Maybe some of you used to live thereabouts so you could be off to a head start with the answers. Cockneys, Theatres, Big Ben, the underground and the Thames. Guess the landmarks in and around the city. All for a bit of fun together with a free raffle to go with the afternoon teas. Some books, bring and buy, hopefully an early sunny Spring afternoon.

The venue is on the main road through the village and as this date is the Acorn Branch's evening meeting, anyone wishing to attend is welcome to stay at Ron and Flo's after the tea until we need to leave for the 7.30pm meeting time - save going home. Book by Saturday 16 February. West Moors Memorial Hall, Station Road, West Moors, Dorset BH22 0HS. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

TUES  
19

## Pancake Tasting

Phoenix Branch



Branch Night will be followed by Pancake Tasting once again. The Pancake Tasting was great fun last year so we've decided to have another go!

A selection of ready made pancakes, will be blind tasted with either lemon and sugar or chocolate spread - or just plain naked! Yeovil Ex-Services Social Club, Preston Road, Yeovil BA21 3AZ. Please contact Judy on 01963 363119 to book.



WED  
20

## Bingo, Basket Meal and a Drink

Brownsea Branch



Come and take a chance with the Bingo again! As usual you can chose to either have the full works for £10, or just play bingo for £3, or have a drink and play bingo for £5. All great fun and a chance to win the jackpot! Join us at 7pm if you want to have a meal with the bingo starting at 8pm approximately. Book by Monday 18 February. Parkstone Club, Parr Street, Poole BH14 0JX Please contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.

# March

## **SAT** **09** **Bingo Mania** Pride of Bournemouth Branch

 7.30pm

 £3.50



Something different! Join us for our Bingo Mania event – we will have conventional Bingo, Card Bingo and Irish Bingo as well! We will have a Bring and Share Supper with tea and coffee provided, but if you would like an alcoholic drink please bring your own. The raffle will be in aid of our Chairman's Charity and raffle prizes would be very welcome. Why not come along and join in the Bingo Fun! Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.



## **MON** **18** **Easter Tea Party** Acorn Branch

 2pm

 £4



Easter Tea Party – have a go at colouring a foam egg, small gift for ladies prettiest Easter hat! And one for the gents poshest Easter hat! Free raffle for Easter goodies. Bring and buy, books and hopefully some puzzles. Guess the weight of Teddy Acorn's box of Easter bits and bobs. Everyone welcome as always.

The venue is on the main road through the village and this again, as last month, is the Acorn Branch Meeting at 7.30pm. Feel free to wait at Ron and Flo's if you attend the meeting to save going home and back again. Book by Saturday 16 March. West Moors Memorial Hall, Station Road, West Moors, Dorset BH22 0HS. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

**TUES  
19** **Annual Chocolate Party**  
Phoenix Branch

 7.30pm

 Free



Please come and join us for our Annual Chocolate Party after our meeting in March. A selection of chocolates are eagerly tasted and enjoyed by all! We hope you can come and join in the fun – don't worry about the calories! Yeovil Ex-Services Social Club, Preston Road, Yeovil BA21 3AZ. Please contact Judy on 01963 363119 for more information.



**WED  
20** **Lunch Club**  
Brownsea Branch

 12 noon

 As per menu



We are going back to the New Inn for lunch, meeting at 12 noon for 12.30pm. We hope you would like to join us for what is always a good meal and great value for money, with a good choice on the menu. Book by Monday 18 March. Brownsea Branch. Please let Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 know if you would like to join us so that we can arrange to all sit together and have a good natter.

**WED  
27** **Lunch at the Bailey Bridge**  
Pride of Bournemouth Branch

 12 noon

 As per menu



Meeting at 12 noon for 12.30pm it would be lovely to welcome you to the Bailey Bridge for lunch. A chance to catch up with friends and enjoy a very reasonably priced meal. Book by Monday 25 March. Bailey Bridge Table Table, Barrack Road, Christchurch BH23 2BN. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book so that we can all sit together.



**TBA  
TBA** **Skittles Night**  
Phoenix Branch

 TBA

 TBC



Date and venue to be advised. Contact Judy on 01963 363119.



# April

SUN  
07

## Spring Lunch Brownsea Branch



12 noon



£17



We have enjoyed some lovely meals at the Mayfair so we've decided to return for our Spring Lunch this April. We will meet at 12 noon for a 12.30pm and have our usual raffle for our Chairman's Charity so a prize would be very welcome. If the sun is shining it would be lovely to relax outside in the pretty garden area, but if not we will enjoy a chat with friends old and new in the lovely Garden Room Restaurant. Book by Monday 1 April. Mayfair Hotel, Bath Road, Bournemouth BH1 2NW. Please contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.

TUES  
09

## Social Lunch Phoenix Branch



TBA



As per  
menu



Social lunch at a venue yet to be decided. Contact Judy on 01963 363119.

TUES  
09

## Going to the Dogs! Pride of Bournemouth Branch



6.30pm



£13



We are Going to the Dogs again! We always have an exciting evening at Poole Stadium trying our luck at picking the winners – not very successfully we must admit! We hope you can join us – see if you can do better than us – the tickets are approximately £13 and this includes a two course meal and your race card – the hosts even come to your table to take your bets and deliver your winnings too! Why not join us for a great night out?

Book by Sunday 31 March. Poole Stadium, Wimborne Road, Poole BH15 2BP. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book your ticket.

**SAT  
13** **Champagne  
Breakfast**  
Acorn Branch

 9.30am  £5.50 



It's Champagne Breakfast time again, but please book by Sunday 31 March as spaces are limited. The usual glass of bubbly, continental or English Breakfast. Please order which you prefer when booking. At this event we will be presenting all monies raised during the last 12 months to Diverse Abilities, West Moors.

As always we welcome your bring and buy, paperbacks, jigsaws and raffle prizes. Also there will be the first tombola of the year together with a free raffle for plants. There is always great fun in the kitchen at this event as the eggs get cracked, bacon and sausages get cooked and the beans have been in the slow cooker since early on.

Three Cross Village Hall,  
Village Hall Lane, Three  
Legged Cross BH21 6SG.  
Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

**MON  
29** **Pub Quiz and Supper**  
Brownsea Branch

 7pm  £8 

We would like to invite you to join us for Supper followed by a Quiz at The Pilot on Canford Heath. Eating at 7pm the quiz will follow at 8pm and we will also have a raffle for our Chairman's Charity. There will be the opportunity to have a very reasonably priced sweet after your meal if you so wish. We hope you will join us for a fun evening, a chance to win prizes during the quiz and support a very worthy cause. The menu is available now! Book by Saturday 27 April. The Pilot, 1 Adastral Road, Poole BH17 8SA. Contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.





# May

## THURS 09 Afternoon Tea Party and Gardening Talk Pride of Bournemouth Branch

⌚ 2.30pm

£ £3.50



We would like to invite you to join us for our Afternoon Tea Party at Tuckton Social Club. We hope to welcome a speaker on 'Gardening' and will have our usual raffle for our chairman's charity - prizes would be very much appreciated. Hopefully we'll have a few garden themed quizzes with appropriate prizes. Why not join us for a relaxing afternoon, enjoy the Afternoon Tea, have a chat with friends and enjoy the talk. Book by Tuesday 7 May. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Edna on 01202 677101 to book.

## THURS 16 Charity Coffee Morning Pride of Bournemouth Branch

⌚ 10.30am

£ Free, donations welcome



Norman and Edna would like to welcome you to their house once again for another fundraising coffee morning. This is a free event, but donations for our Chairman's Charity would be very welcome. We will have all the usual stalls and a raffle, so please come and join us for a relaxing time with friends old and new. If the weather is fine we will be able to enjoy Edna and Norman's beautiful garden. Book by Tuesday 14 May. Edna and Norman's house, 49 Warburton Road, Canford Heath, Poole BH17 8SD. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Edna on 01202 677101 to book.

## SAT 11 Gems, Tiaras and Crowns High Tea Acorn Branch

⌚ 2pm

£ £4



Ladies, why not wear a fun tiara, and gents a crown? Free raffle for fruit, quiz on jewels and gems, small gift for pearl themed flower arrangement. Usual raffle. Bring and buy and books always welcome. Please come and

join us at a gem of a tea, admire the crowns and tiaras, try your hand at the quiz, meet friends and relax for the afternoon with a glass of Pimms. Book by Thursday 9 May. Three Cross Village Hall, Village Hall Lane, Three Legged Cross BH21 6SG. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.



Photo by Ashton Mullins on Unsplash



# June

WED  
22

## Afternoon Tea Brownsea Branch

L 3pm

£ £4.50



We hope you can come and join us for Afternoon Tea at Julie and Andrew's house - 105 Sandbanks Road. We will have a raffle for our Chairman's charity, maybe a quiz. We're hoping for fine weather so that we can enjoy their lovely garden, but if it's chilly we will be indoors. Book by Monday 20 May. Julie and Andrew's house, 105 Sandbanks Road, Poole BH14 8BT. Contact Margaret on 01202 775122 or Andrew on 01202 743910.

# June

MON  
03

## Summer Afternoon Tea Acorn Branch

L 2pm

£ £4



Please come along and join us for an afternoon of Summer 'things', sports, sun and scenery. Maybe some summer items to purchase on the bring and buy and paperbacks to read in your garden chair. Free raffle for vegetables, usual raffle, all are welcome together with friends and neighbours. Lets have a bit of fun as we celebrate Royal Ascot, Henley sailing, cricket and Wimbledon. Book by Saturday 1 June. Three Cross Village Hall, Village Hall Lane, Three Legged Cross BH21 6SG. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

SAT  
08

## Coffee Morning and Light Lunch Acorn Branch

L 10am

£ TBC



Please join Acorn as they host this event on behalf of the District for the 2019 Provincial Grand Master, who will be raising funds for Ferndown District Support Group for Parkinsons. Books, bring and buy, plant stall, cake stall, face painting, children's toys and games and hopefully more yet to arrange. Coffee and biscuits, sausage or bacon in a roll served from midday. Have a go at winning a hamper, together with the normal raffle.

This event will be advertised around the local villages which hopefully will encourage people to come and say hello. We welcome as many of you as can make the date from all the Branches in the District. Entry, coffee, lunch costs will all be in the February Events Diary. West Moors Memorial Hall, Station Road, West Moors, Dorset BH22 0HS. Contact Flo on 01202 820965.

# June

## SUN 09 Annual District Church Service



2.30pm



Free



Our Annual Church Service will be at St Mark's Talbot Village, followed by refreshments in the church hall.



All members and friends are very welcome to join us, but please let the District Secretary know you are coming to ensure we cater for everyone. Ron Munro, our District Chairman, looks forward to welcoming you all to the service and hopes that everyone will have a very enjoyable afternoon.

A fantastic opportunity to catch up with friends from across the District, and of course neighbouring districts, that we don't see so often, so please come along and make it a special day for Ron.

Book by Friday 7 June. St Mark's Church, Talbot Village, Wallisdown Road, Bournemouth BH10 4HY.

Contact Andrew on 01202 743910.

## MON 10 Coffee Morning Brownsea Branch



10.30am



£2.50



Julie and Andrew would be happy to welcome you to their house for a Coffee Morning in aid of our Chairman's charity for the year. Why not join us for coffee, cake and a natter? We'll have a raffle, maybe a book stall, so a raffle prize would be appreciated.

Book by Saturday 8 June. Julie and Andrew's house, 105 Sandbanks Road, Poole BH14 8BT. Please contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book - we don't want to run out of cake!

THURS  
13

## Healthy Afternoon Tea and Speaker Pride of Bournemouth Branch



2.30pm



Free



We would like to invite you to join us for a lovely Afternoon Tea to find out how to keep ourselves healthy and to learn more about our Society. We hope to welcome a speaker who will give us advice on how to keep ourselves healthy. We will have a lovely afternoon tea with lots of healthier options, a raffle, an opportunity to meet like minded people and to have some fun together. This is a free event, but please let Margaret know you will be coming along - we don't want to run out of food!

Book by Tuesday 11 June. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA.



Contact  
Margaret on  
01202 775122.

WED  
19

## Afternoon Tea Bournemouth Branch



3pm



£3.50



Sandra and Nigel are welcoming us back to their beautiful garden for an Afternoon Tea. Come and relax in the sunshine (hopefully) and enjoy good company, good food, and a good natter! We will be supporting our chairman's charity by having a raffle so prizes would be very much appreciated. Book by Monday 17 June. Sandra and Nigel's house, 176 Verity Crescent, Canford Heath, Poole BH17 8TZ. Contact Andrew on 01202 743910 or Margaret on 01202 775122 to book your place.

SAT  
22

## Quiz Night Pride of Bournemouth Branch



7.30pm



£3.50



Why not join us for our Quiz Night at the Tuckton Social Club with a bring and share buffet supper. Please bring your own alcoholic drinks and glasses - tea and coffee will be provided as usual. We hope you will come and join us to test your 'grey cells' and have fun with friends. We'll have our usual raffle and prizes for the top scorers on the quizzes. Book by Thursday 20 June. Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA. Please contact Margaret on 01202 775122 to book.

# NEW Medicash Healthcare Plan now available through your Oddfellows membership.

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# Business Meetings

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

## Acorn Branch

**Secretary:** Judith Parkin 43 Branksome Wood Road, Bournemouth BH4 9JT.  
**Telephone:** 01202 762553 **Email:** judith.parkin@oddfellows.co.uk

**Meeting third Monday of every month at Ferndown United Church, 505 Wimborne Road, East Ferndown BH22 9NF.**

## Brownsea Branch

**Secretary:** Andrew Hampton 105 Sandbanks Road, Poole BH14 8BT  
**Telephone:** 01202 743910 **Email:** andrew.hampton@oddfellows.co.uk

**Meeting third Tuesday of every month at East Dorset Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Salterns Road, Poole BH14 8BL.**

## Hand-in-Hand Branch

**Secretary:** Stephen Slade 21 Great Western Road, Dorchester DT1 1UF.  
**Telephone:** 01305 260081 **Email:** mike.clarke@oddfellows.co.uk

**Meeting second Tuesday of every month at Wessex Royale Hotel, 32 High West Street, Dorchester DT1 1UF.**

## Phoenix Branch (Incorporating Blackmore Vale meetings)

**Secretary:** Judy Penfold 39 Grosvenor Road, Stalbridge DT10 2PL.  
**Telephone:** 01963 363119 **Email:** judy.penfold@oddfellows.co.uk

**Meeting third Tuesday every month at Yeovil Ex-Services Social Club, Preston Road, Yeovil BA21 3AZ.**

## Pride of Bournemouth Branch

**Secretary:** Margaret White, 15 Playfields Drive, Poole BH12 2EG.  
**Telephone:** 01202 775122 **Email:** margaret.white@oddfellows.co.uk

**Meeting fourth Tuesday of every month at Tuckton Social Club, Tuckton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3AA.**

## District Meetings

### Half-Yearly District Meeting

Sunday 19 August 2018, 10.30am. Crossways Village Hall.

### Annual District Meeting

Saturday 23 February 2019, 10.30am. Crossways Village Hall.

# Traditional Meetings

## Wessex Provincial Branch of Past Grands

**Secretary:** Robert Southam Flat 4, 24-28 Sea View Road, Parkstone, Poole BH12 3JY.

**Telephone:** 01202 734705

This is a ritual Branch and all members who have taken their Purple Degree are welcome to attend. Please contact Robert for venue and date details.

## Bournemouth and District Minor Degree Branch

**Secretary:** Robert Southam Flat 4, 24-28 Sea View Road, Parkstone, Poole BH12 3JY.

**Telephone:** 01202 734705

This is a ritual Branch and the taking of the Minor Degrees is a prerequisite for being Noble Grand (Chairman) of one's Branch. Please contact Robert for venue and date details.

## 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](http://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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers)**.

**[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)**



# At a glance

## September 2018 – Friendship Month

<b>Mon 3</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Friendship Tea and Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 10</b>	Acorn Branch Afternoon Tea Party	2pm
<b>Tues 18</b>	Phoenix Branch Visit to Bishop's Palace	11am
<b>Wed 19</b>	Brownsea Branch Friendship Afternoon Tea	2.30pm
<b>Sat 22</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Bingo and Fish and Chip Supper	7.30pm
<b>Mon 24</b>	District Friendship Quiz and Supper	7pm

## October

<b>Tues 2</b>	Brownsea Branch Afternoon Tea	3pm
<b>Mon 8</b>	Acorn Branch Autumn Tea Party	2pm
<b>Tues 16</b>	Phoenix Branch Visit to Rich's Cider Farm	TBC
<b>Tues 16</b>	Phoenix Branch Apple Pie Tasting	7.30pm
<b>Sun 21</b>	Annual District Lunch	12.30pm
<b>Sat 27</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Ploughman's Harvest Supper	7.30pm

## November

<b>Mon 5</b>	Brownsea Branch Coffee Club	10.30am
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## November

<b>Mon 12</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Afternoon Tea	2.30pm
<b>Tues 13</b>	Phoenix Branch Social Lunch	TBC
<b>Sat 17</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Skittles Evening	7.30pm
<b>Tues 20</b>	Phoenix Branch Pre-Festive Nibbles	7.30pm
<b>Wed 21</b>	Brownsea Branch Bingo, Basket Meal and a Drink	7pm
<b>Mon 26</b>	Acorn Branch Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning	10am

## December

<b>Sun 2</b>	Christmas Lunch Brownsea Branch and Pride of Bournemouth Branch	12.30pm
<b>Sat 8</b>	Acorn Branch Bumper Christmas Tea	1.30pm
<b>Tues 11</b>	Phoenix Branch Visit to Winchester Christmas Market	TBC
<b>Tues 11</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Christmas Party	7.30pm

## January 2019

<b>Mon 7</b>	Acorn Branch New Year Buffet Tea	2pm
<b>Sat 12</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Coffee and Scones	10.30am
<b>Wed 16</b>	Brownsea Branch Lunch Club	12 noon
<b>Sat 26</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Afternoon Tea and Puzzles	2.30pm

# At a glance

## February

<b>Wed 6</b>	Brownsea Branch Afternoon Tea	3pm
<b>Thurs 14</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Coffee Morning/Beetle Drive/Fish and Chip Lunch	10.30am
<b>Mon 18</b>	Acorn Branch Buffet Tea	2pm
<b>Tues 19</b>	Phoenix Branch Pancake Tasting	7.30pm
<b>Wed 20</b>	Brownsea Branch Bingo, Basket Meal and a Drink	7pm

## March

<b>Sat 9</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Bingo Mania	2pm
<b>Mon 18</b>	Acorn Branch Easter Tea Party	2pm
<b>Tues 19</b>	Phoenix Branch Annual Chocolate Party	7.30pm
<b>Wed 20</b>	Brownsea Branch Lunch Club	12 noon
<b>Wed 27</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Lunch at the Bailey Bridge	12 noon
<b>TBC</b>	Phoenix Branch Skittle Night	TBC

## April

<b>Sun 7</b>	Brownsea Branch Spring Lunch	12 noon
<b>Tues 9</b>	Phoenix Branch Social Lunch	TBC
<b>Tues 9</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Going to the Dogs!	6.30pm

## April

<b>Sat 13</b>	Acorn Branch Champagne Breakfast	9.30am
<b>Mon 29</b>	Brownsea Branch Pub Quiz and Supper	7pm

## May

<b>Thurs 9</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Afternoon Tea Party and Gardening Talk	2.30pm
<b>Sat 11</b>	Acorn Branch Gems, Tiaras and Crowns High Tea	2pm
<b>Thurs 16</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Charity Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Wed 22</b>	Brownsea Branch Afternoon Tea	3pm

## June

<b>Mon 3</b>	Acorn Branch Summer Afternoon Tea	2pm
<b>Sat 8</b>	Coffee Morning and Light Lunch	10am
<b>Sun 9</b>	Annual District Church Service	2.30pm
<b>Mon 10</b>	Brownsea Branch Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Thurs 13</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Healthy Afternoon Tea and Speaker	2.30pm
<b>Wed 19</b>	Brownsea Branch Afternoon Tea	3pm
<b>Sat 22</b>	Pride of Bournemouth Branch Quiz Night	7.30pm

## Welcome to the latest edition of your Newsletter The Wessex Wanderer

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 other members? Why not write about a social event you've attended or send in photographs? All items will be gratefully received. Any Oddfellow wishing to contribute an article should send it to the District Secretary at the address below. We look forward to hearing from you.

We get lots of comments from our members who are house bound, who tell us they enjoy reading about their friends and what is going on

## How to contact your District

**District Secretary:**  
Andrew Hampton

**Address:**  
105 Sandbanks Road,  
Poole,  
Dorset,  
BH14 8BT

**Telephone:** 01202 743910

**Email:**  
[andrew.hampton@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:andrew.hampton@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Join the conversation**



[www.facebook.com/  
dorset-yeovil-oddfellows](https://www.facebook.com/dorset-yeovil-oddfellows)

## Charity Weekend Break for Alzheimer's Research

The District held a well supported Charity Weekend Break at the Mayfair Hotel in February in support of our Chairman's Charity - Alzheimer's Research. We had visitors from many different districts, with friends joining us from as far afield as Eastbourne, London and Bristol. On the Friday evening we had a quiz and were very grateful to Brother Chris Bloomfield who joined us, with his wife Ruth, to be our Quiz Master.

We held a raffle with the star prize of dinner, bed and breakfast for two donated by the hotel. On the Saturday evening we had a Celebration Dinner with a raffle. The top prize this time was a bottle of champagne, again donated by the hotel. Brother Keith and Sister Muriel Quinton couldn't make the weekend as Mu was poorly but nevertheless they were with us in spirit and sent a bottle of champagne to be auctioned off. Many thanks to Past



Grand Master, Brother Clive Tayler for making the winning bid!

On the Saturday morning we organised a visit to The Grove Hotel for those who were interested in finding out more about this hotel which is part of our Oddfellow Convalescence Scheme. The Grove is wonderful and offers those with cancer and other life limiting illnesses a fantastic holiday with additional support. We were given a guided tour of the hotel and were very impressed by the wonderful facilities that they offer their guests. We enjoyed tea or coffee before strolling the short distance back to the hotel. We would like to thank everyone who came to the Mayfair for the Charity Weekend and for supporting Alzheimer's Research. We hope you all had a brilliant time and went home with some nice memories - or bottles of champagne! The weekend raised over £400 towards Alzheimer's Research - thank you all.





# Pride of Bournemouth Social Puzzle Evening

In January, the Pride of Bournemouth Branch held a Social Puzzle Evening at Tuckton Social Club. This was our second try at a Puzzle Evening and was great fun. We had a 'bring and share'

supper which was enjoyed by all and began our second year of fundraising for the April Court Amenities Fund with a raffle. Thanks to all who came along and made the evening a success.



## Red hot lunch at the Red House

Phoenix Branch returned to the Red House, Yeovil for a social lunch in May, just to make sure the food was still good. And it was. We had a very enjoyable time and were looked after extremely well by the staff. As is usual where food is concerned, photographs were not uppermost in our minds.

## Pride of Bournemouth Quiz Night

In March we had a Quiz Night with a bring and share supper which was well attended and enjoyed by us all. The raffle supported April Court as usual and our thanks must go to Marion for asking the questions!

## Brownsea Bingo Nights

We always have a brilliant time when we go to the Parkstone Club for their Bingo Nights and our visits in February and April were no exception. For just £10 you can have a basket meal, a drink and join in the bingo. We usually win several of

the full houses when we go and it's not unusual for us to win the jackpot! If you aren't hungry you can just do the Bingo and have a drink for a fiver! Why not come along to our next Bingo Night in November and join in the fun?

## Charity Quiz and Supper Evenings

Our new District Chairman, Robert Southam, has chosen to raise money to buy a defibrillator for the community so we are continuing with our Charity Quiz evenings this year. March and April saw us visit the Sweet Home in Ringwood Road once again, and Emma looked after us very well as usual. Our superb

quiz master Chris Bloomfield was 'in charge' for both evenings and we all had a great time testing our grey matter as best we could. We look forward to organising more quiz evenings or lunches for Robert and hope more members will want to come along and support this very worthy cause.



# Acorn Branch March Springtime Tea Party

**It was a sunny March afternoon as we met with members and friends to celebrate Springtime.**

The Spring Quiz not only included the 'season' but who in the world sprung the highest and other interesting facts. This caused great fun after which everyone was ready for the cuppa and buffet. The Springtime Cake, which Jenny had made was very pretty, topped with iced flowers and rabbits and enjoyed by all. The bring and buy was busy together with many puzzles and paperbacks. Each bottle on the free bottle raffle was individually wrapped so there was no clue to what you had won. As always the afternoon went very quickly and sincere thanks to everyone who helped and brought the splendid raffle prizes.



## Pride of Bournemouth Going to the Dogs!

**Well, Pride of Bournemouth and friends did go to the dogs in March, but disaster struck and the 'hare' refused to run! We had enjoyed a lovely meal and watched the first race without incident, but when the second race was run the hare came to an abrupt stop - so did several of the dogs! They tried for over an hour to get things going again but to no avail and the meeting was eventually abandoned.**

The Stadium were very good, gave us all a £5 refund and the offer to return again

with 25% off - so of course we did! So we went to the dogs - again! When we returned in June all went well and the 'hare' behaved itself this time. I don't think anyone came away with a profit but we all won a few races, we just lost more than we won!

As usual the meal was very good value and everyone had a good laugh. This is now an annual event for the Pride of Bournemouth Branch in April, so if you would like to join us please let Margaret know.

## Wessex Provincial Lodge Annual Lunch

The Annual Lunch which was held this year in Salisbury at the Milford Hall Hotel was a lovely event, supported by members from Poole, Bridport and Yeovil, Southampton and of course Salisbury Wessex. The Milford Hall Hotel is a beautiful venue and we all had a brilliant lunch and a good catch up with friends old and new. The Chairman, Ian Field, was pleased to welcome so many members and friends to the event.

The raffle was a big success and raised money for Great Ormond Street Hospital.



## Traditional Terms

These are terms, which are used by the Oddfellows in meetings and in publications. For those who are unfamiliar with some of them, it may be helpful to refer to the list provided below. It is by no means exhaustive, but these are some of the most commonly used terms. The original terms have their origin in the history and ceremony associated with the Oddfellows.

**Grand Master (GM)** -  
Chairman of the Society

**Provincial Grand Master (PGM)** -  
District Chairman

**Past Provincial Grand Master (PPGM)** - Former District  
Chairman

**Provincial Corresponding  
Secretary** - District Secretary

**Immediate Past Provincial  
Grand Master (IPPGM)** -  
Immediate Past District  
Chairman

**Vice Grand (VG)** -  
Deputy Branch Chairman

**Noble Grand (NG)** -  
Branch Chairman

**Lodge** - Local Branch

**Sister and Brother** -  
The Oddfellows is a fraternal organisation which means membership is like belonging to a family. This is why many members refer to each other as Brother and Sister (as members of the trade unions used to).

**Annual Movable Conference (AMC)** - Held each year in the month of May at different locations.

**Ritual** - Traditional Oddfellows Ceremonies



# Pride of Bournemouth Charity Coffee Morning for April Court Amenities Fund



We had planned to have a Charity Lunch at Rose and Gerald's House

on Saturday 19 May, but when we realised that it clashed with the Royal Wedding and the Cup Final we had a re-think and decided to have a Coffee Morning instead! The television was on for those who wanted to see 'the dress' and 'the guests' and of course the wedding itself. Some of the chaps preferred to have a natter in the dining room! Everyone had a lovely morning and we raised nearly £70 for April Court - our thanks must go to Gerald and Rose for their hospitality.

## Well Done Chris and Flo!



As usual the Poole, Bridport and Yeovil District were well represented at this year's Southern Group Conference and all the deputies were delighted when our own Chris Bloomfield, who was a District Deputy, was elected to the Executive Committee.

Unfortunately only three of the five lodges sent deputies to the conference, with the District sending their full complement of five. Nevertheless, we joined in the debates and Past Grand Master, Past President Ron Munro was also in attendance. Sister Flo Munro was elected as a SGC Arbitrator, a post she has held for several years now. We would like to congratulate Sister Flo on her re-election as an Arbitrator and of course Brother Chris on his election to the Executive.

The pictures show Chris and Ruth at the end of the Conference, and Chris as he is about to address the meeting and during his speech as a newly elected member of the Executive Committee. Joining the Executive is a huge commitment - probably eight years of hard work before Chris becomes the President - but we will be there to support him and are confident that he will represent Poole, Bridport and Yeovil District in an exemplary manner. Well done both!



## Brownsea Coffee Club

In April we went back to Harry's Bar for Coffee and Cake, and of course a catch up with friends! Tim is always very welcoming and the carrot cake was wonderful! If you fancied a breakfast or sandwich rather than a piece of cake that was all fine and everyone had a lovely morning.

## Brownsea Lunch Club

This year we have visited The Sweet Home Inn on Ringwood Road, The New Inn on Wimborne Road and the Parkstone Club in Parr Street for our Lunch Club get-togethers. We always have good fun, good food and a good natter! We will be doing more in 2018 - check out the 'Out and About' Events Diary if you would like to join us.

## Brownsea Afternoon Tea at Nigel and Sandra's House

Have you noticed how all Oddfellow events seem to involve food? Well this one was no exception and we enjoyed a lovely Afternoon Tea in Sandra and Nigel's beautiful garden. The raffle and book stall were well supported raising money once again for Margaret Fry's charities - Macmillan Caring Locally and the Maritime Voluntary Service. Our next event at Sandra and Nigel's house is - yes you've guessed it - a BBQ - more food - lovely!



# Pride of Bournemouth Charity Coffee Morning for April Court Amenities Fund

Norman and Edna welcomed over 40 guests to their home in April for their Charity Coffee Morning, raising money for April Court Amenities Fund. This was a free event but donations were made to the Charity for our refreshments and Edna had organised a bring and buy stall and



she also sold her beautiful hand made cards. It was a bit cosy as there were so many of us and it wasn't nice enough to be outside but we had a brilliant morning. Of course we had a raffle which was fantastically well supported, both by the number of prizes donated and those who bought the tickets on the day.

Norman presented a cheque for £1,329.20 to April Court Amenities Fund during the

morning which was the money raised by Norman and the lodge last year. It was lovely to welcome some of the April Court residents to the Coffee Morning - they all won a prize in the raffle which was amazing! Norman would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who supported the charity last year - we're hoping to raise even more this year. The Coffee Morning raised a wonderful £251 - thanks so much to all who made it such a success and of course to Edna and Norman for their hospitality.



## Acorn Black and White Lunch

**It was a delight to see everyone dressed in accordance for the occasion, even some in appropriate head attire.**

The hall looked amazing with matching table decorations and crockery. Marion had pulled out all the stops for the stage set which was themed around the black and white notes of music. Together with musical instruments, top hat and dancing shoes it would have graced any theatre. It was a pleasure to welcome

Sister Judy Penfold and her husband Bob. Judy is the secretary of the Pheonix branch and it was unfortunate that the other secretaries were unable to attend. Judy and Bob were presented with a small gift and flowers.

Guessing the age of our newest member, Teddy Acorn, proved to be a bit of fun and all too soon it was time to draw the raffle tickets and have a final look at the bring and buy.



# Pride of Bournemouth

## Lionel Brett - Our Centenarian!



**On 27 April I joined our Welfare Visitor, Margaret Gibbins on a visit to see Lionel Brett. I had asked Margaret if I could join her on one of her regular visits as Lionel had turned 100 years young in June 2017. Lionel had indicated that he would be happy to meet me and so the visit was organised. What a lovely time I had!**

Lionel was born in North Croydon on 2 June 1917. He never knew his parents and was brought up by various foster families. He is a Barnardo's Boy and very proud to be so.

From birth he was looked after by foster parents in Parkstone, a Mr and Mrs Bugler and went to Barnardo's aged 5 and a half. They had to turn their mattresses every day and do chores like washing up, cooking, gardening and sweeping the driveways. He arrived at Dr Barnardo's in Stepney Causeway in London in 1923.

From Barnardos he went to live with foster parents, Mr and Mrs Stannard from March 1923 to June 1931, living in Thwaite, where he slept in a loft, having to go up a ladder to bed as there were no stairs, Wickham Skeith, Mendlesham Green, and Old Newton in Suffolk. He attended Wickham Skeith School and Mendlesham School. Lionel returned to Barnardo's in June 1931, but only for a few days as he was sent out to work for Mr and Mrs Collins to help on their market garden. He has a medal from Barnardo's for good conduct and length of service.

Whilst with Mr and Mrs Stannard his Dad was part of the farming community and taught him many of the country ways of life. In general he helped to

groom Suffolk Punch horses and in the spring and summer he used to inform the Romany Gypsies that work was available and helped with lifting sugar beet, swedes etc. He also used to help with the harvest (corn sheaves, stacking and thatching). Lionel's foster father also had an allotment and he was given a small plot to grow similar vegetables - this started to shape his future love for market gardening.

Other interests included singing in the church choir at Wickham Skeith and nature walks in the country with his foster parents. They did this quite often and Lionel was taught a lot about nature in general during the walks. He also used to go on Sunday School outings to Felixstowe and Yarmouth on the old type of Sharabang coaches with the solid tyres and the canvas hoods.

Domestic duties included chopping kindling wood and logs for the fires and shopping for neighbours.

Lionel's employment years included working as a Market Gardener for Mr and Mrs Collins in Strouden, Bournemouth from 1931 - 1933 and for Mr and Mrs Burt from 1933 to 1937. He worked for Voyseys, Bakers from 1937 to 1941 and joined the RAF as a Motor Transport Mechanic in 1941. He was initially posted to Tangmere in Sussex and in late 1942 he was posted to South Africa. However, due to a problem with his eyesight he had to return to England on the Queen Mary and was posted to Bournemouth Airport until a few months prior to the end of the war when he was invalided out. When he was in the Air Force he drove RAF lorries. He had to pass his motor transport mechanic exams and drove coaches to pick up pilots and staff and he transported the officers to the mess. On one occasion a Flying Fortress landed with damaged engines and he had to collect the crew who gave him bananas!

Lionel was married to Dorothy on 31 May 1943 at St Andrew's Church in Bournemouth. They celebrated their Diamond Wedding in 2003. Dorothy died nine years ago.

He then worked for Smith and Co in Boscombe for a short time and then

went back to Market Gardening in 1946 working for Tarrents in a management position until he went self-employed in 1950 when he bought a market garden with his wife, growing all types of vegetables and flowers for 16 years.

During his time as a self-employed market gardener, Lionel also worked at St Leonard's Hospital in Ringwood from 1956 to 1982 as a boiler attendant. During this time he gained his City of London Guilds with credit for boiler operation and maintenance. He looked after seven oil burner boilers and maintained kitchen equipment and fire extinguishers until he retired in 1982.

Lionel's other interests during his life have been cycling, including road racing, hill climbing and dancing. He showed me a certificate from the Bournemouth Arrow Cycling Club that testified to the fact that he had ridden 100 miles in eight hours on 27 October 1935. He was a member of the St John's Ambulance in Bournemouth for three years and had to pass a medical to join. He still has St John Ambulance Certificates dated 1937 and 1938 which he gained having passed examinations to render 'First Aid to the Injured'.

In his retirement years Lionel's main hobbies have been DIY and gardening and he and his wife enjoyed caravanning and coach holidays.

Lionel was very proud to tell me that at 100 years old he only has to take three tablets a day! He had a nose bleed in 1982 that the doctors found very difficult to stop and he was told to drink hot water every day - which he still does. He stopped driving in June after 82 years behind the wheel - he decided that he had better stop when he reached 100! He now drives an electric buggy and still helps his neighbours with







their shopping. Lionel is very proud of his lovely garden and was happy for me to take some pictures during my visit.

Lionel's family organised a photograph album for his 100th birthday, which is a wonderful record of his life. On the final page there is a picture of Lionel next to a sign for 'Wickham Skeith' and the statement 'What an adventure!' Lionel told me that he had 'always enjoyed his life'.

It was an absolute privilege to meet Lionel, who was very welcoming and so interesting to talk to. He proudly showed me the framed telegram celebrating his 100th Birthday that he had received from the Oddfellows. Thank you Margaret, for arranging the visit.

**Margaret White, Pride of Bournemouth Branch Secretary**

## Brownsea Coffee Morning at Sandra and Nigel's house

Sandra and Nigel kindly invited us to their house for Morning Coffee and Cake in March, where we enjoyed a lovely relaxing time chatting with friends and enjoying the refreshments. We were a select few in numbers but we had a great time!

## Pride of Bournemouth Talk by the Woodland Trust

In April the Pride of Bournemouth members welcomed Dr Sinah Panitz to give us a talk on the Woodland Trust after our lodge meeting. We all enjoyed the refreshments and Sinah gave us an interesting insight into the work of the Woodland Trust. We hope to welcome other organisations to talk to us after our lodge meetings in the future - one of our new members Darrell Sturmeay will be talking on the Bournemouth Aviary in July and LPA Made Simple are



coming in August. It would be lovely to see you if you would like to come to any of our talks - contact Margaret for more information.

## Brownsea Afternoon Tea at Julie and Andrew's house



The sun shone for our Afternoon Tea in May and it was lovely to welcome some of our new members to the event. We were able to sit in the garden, have a chat and put the world to rights.

Margaret and Julian arrived late as they were supporting Avonwood Manor on a sponsored walk, but luckily there were a few sandwiches and some cake left for them to enjoy!

A raffle was held during the tea with the proceeds going to Macmillan Caring Locally and the Maritime Voluntary Service, our District Chairman's charities for the year.



# Efforts to provide world-class cancer care in Dorchester are a step closer

Written and photo taken by Dorset Echo ([www.dorsetecho.co.uk](http://www.dorsetecho.co.uk))



## Efforts to provide world-class cancer care in Dorchester are a step closer, thanks to another generous donation.

The Cancer Appeal received a further boost recently following a donation by the Oddfellows Friendly Society.

The cheque presentation in Martinstown was attended by Dorset County Hospital Charity chairman, Peter Greensmith and representatives of other local charities.

During the evening a dozen donations of £200 were awarded to local charities and good causes.

The Cancer Appeal was singled out by this year's chairman, John Bates, to receive a special award of £1,270.

Mr Greensmith said: "This generous donation will help us to fund the Outpatients department which is being built above the new Radiotherapy unit at Dorset County Hospital.

"It will also support the refurbishment of the existing Chemotherapy suite in the Hospital. Our aim is to provide our patients with world-class cancer care right here in Dorchester."

Simon Pearson, head of fundraising added: "We would like to thank the Oddfellows for their generosity in supporting the Cancer Appeal and in particular the chairman, John Bates for selecting us for his special award - the money will go towards state-of-the-art outpatient facilities and improvements in our Chemotherapy Unit."

The Oddfellows is a national organisation with roots dating back to 1810 - its Dorchester branch makes a number of donations to local charities each year.

At the presentation in December the Fortuneswell Cancer Trust, who are also supporting the Cancer Appeal, received a cheque for £200.

Dorset County Hospital Charity would like to thank Mr Bates and all the members of the Dorchester Oddfellows for their generous donation.

At the start of this New Year, the Charity would also like to thank everyone who has supported the Cancer Appeal over the last 12 months - particularly the Fortuneswell Cancer Trust and the Friends of Dorset County Hospital as well as many other Trusts and Foundations and local companies.

The Appeal is funding a Cancer and Haematology Outpatients Department which is being built on top of the new Radiotherapy Unit at the Hospital. When complete, the project will bring radiotherapy services to Dorchester for the first time.

**To find out more about the Cancer Appeal phone 01305 253215 or email [charity@dchft.nhs.uk](mailto:charity@dchft.nhs.uk)**

## Pride of Bournemouth Branch Afternoon Tea and Talk by local artist - Hilary Grainger

It was wonderful to welcome so many members and friends to our Afternoon Tea and Talk by Hilary Grainger. Hilary brought along some of her lovely pieces of art-work and spoke to us about her life and work. Everyone enjoyed the talk and the tea was fantastic - thanks so much

to the ladies and gentlemen for their hard work making the sandwiches and the cake! As usual we had a raffle for April Court and we made a donation to Hilary's favourite charity 'Contact' as a thank you to her for giving up her time for us.





# Acorn Roses Tea Party

It was roses all the way as members and friends spent a happy rose themed afternoon. The quiz proved to be a teaser but Roy and Jill came up trumps to be the winners. As it was a very hot afternoon the cold drinks were popular and we managed to keep the desserts cool on ice blocks. The free raffle for roses caused a laugh as a couple of gents also had a winning ticket. The prize for the best rose picture was won by Barbara and there were some splendid pictures on folks phones. Thank you to everyone who attended and assisted in any way.



## Lunch at the Riverside with Pride of Bournemouth



February saw us enjoying lunch at the Riverside Inn in Tuckton, which had an extensive and very reasonable menu. We've not been back since the Riverside underwent refurbishment as the prices have gone up, but we are looking at new venues for 2018. We're going to try the Bailey Bridge in Christchurch and will report back on how it went. If you would like to join us for one of our lunches or have ideas for future venues, then please let Margaret know.







## Browsea Spring Lunch

**Our Spring Lunch was held in April at the Mayfair Hotel in Bournemouth. As quite a few of those who attended the District Charity Weekend in February were keen to make a weekend of it - we did! Some of us managed to visit several hostelrys over the weekend - described by some as a 'geriatric pub crawl!'**

It was lovely to spend time with friends, enjoy nice lunches and put the world to rights. The weather wasn't fantastic but it didn't dampen our enthusiasm, returning to the hotel for the evening entertainment and superb evening meals. Chris Bloomfield again

entertained us on the Friday night with a quiz and on the Saturday evening we joined in with the dancing provided by the hotel.

Our Chairman, Margaret Fry, was very pleased to welcome members and friends from many lodges and districts who were kind enough to come and join us for what was a wonderful lunch. The raffle was well supported and raised over £80 towards Margaret's charities - Macmillan Caring Locally and the Maritime Voluntary Service. Thanks so much to everyone who came along and for making it such a lovely day.







## Acorn Branch Champagne Breakfast

**It was a full house as folk gathered for this popular annual event. Viewing the bring and buy before breakfast was served was popular as ever, and George and Peter did a grand job as always. Meanwhile Richard got going with selling the tombola tickets and Marion the raffle. This was the first tombola of the year and as always was very busy. Meanwhile in the kitchen breakfast was being prepared and the glass of bubbly served.**

Before eating Joan was able to present a cheque for £2,000 to Neil Williams towards Macmillan Caring Locally and Neil expressed his sincere gratitude as every penny raised was valuable.

Serving the cereals and orange juice soon got underway, everything was cooked on time after which a few cookies were served. Together with all monies raised the grand total was £555. The branch wishes to thank everyone for their very generous contribution to a fun filled morning.

## Friendship Month

I went to this meeting  
feeling all alone.

Should I have gone out,  
or just stayed at home?

The folk they were friendly  
and made a fuss of me,  
have a cake and a cup of tea -  
I thought, this is nice, just for me.

So the meeting went well  
and new friends I made.

They really cared for this lonely old man  
I was given a book, with meetings for me to plan

Over to Ferndown, not far to go,  
Everybody's sweetheart, is dear Flo.  
Then to Tuckton, Margaret is host,  
Andrew, in Poole, just up the coast.

I now feel part of the friendly scene,  
in old age, not a has been!  
At Oddfellows I am not out of place,  
everyone has such a friendly face.

Tony Goble

## Charity Weekend at the Mayfair

**The Poole, Bridport and Yeovil District organised a weekend at the Mayfair Hotel in Bournemouth in aid of research into Alzheimer's disease. The weekend commenced on Friday 9 February with an informal dinner in the Dining room, during which a raffle was held which raised £178. The hotel offered a bottle of champagne as one of the prizes.**



On Saturday morning several people visited the Grove Hotel for a coffee morning. The Grove is a couple of hundred yards from where we were staying and specialises in offering respite care for those suffering from cancer and other life limiting illnesses. To all intents and purposes it appears just like a normal hotel. The interior is very well appointed and the gardens are very well kept, but the difference is that there are medical staff on hand at all times to assist those who are resident at the hotel.

The highlight of the weekend was the formal dinner with a duo providing the music. I think most people would agree that the food offered was first class, as it was all weekend.

Again a raffle was held and an overnight stay was put up as a prize by the hotel. This was won by Karen and Mark Lewis from South London. Unfortunately Keith and Muriel Quinton were unable to attend but they donated a bottle of champagne to be auctioned off during the evening. The bidding started off slowly but it was not long before it got to a decent amount, eventually fetching £40. I am not sure how much the bottle would have cost but it was still a very nice amount and well done to the person who made the winning bid.

Considering how good a time was had by all it was agreed that another weekend would be held from the 6th - 8th April on the same terms as the February weekend. All in all the weekend was very pleasant and some even staying behind for Sunday lunch. I am sure I speak for the others that I think we will be returning to the hotel on many occasions in the future, especially if it is in aid of such worthy a cause.

**Robert Rudge  
Southampton District**



# A Mid-Week CAMRA Excursion to Lyme Regis

**I have been a member of the East Dorset Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) for about 30 years and in recent years branch members have been out and about on a Wednesday in the middle of the month on 'Don's Spot', alternating between a town (occasionally two adjacent towns) in East Dorset and the following month outside, including visits to Winchester, Worthing and the Isle of Wight. These excursions are 'facilitated' by Don Graham, one of the Branch's founder members, who decides the first port of call where we meet at 12.30pm and stay for an hour before moving-on to the next pub, this starting point having been announced at a Branch Meeting two or three months beforehand. Although he has an itinerary in his mind, this is flexible and occasionally venues are added or deleted in the light of on the day updates re pub closures, new ones opening, changes in opening hours, or changes in the availability of Real Ale.**

Thus on Wednesday 20 June a dozen or so intrepid CAMRA members made their way variously by a combination of bus and train to the western extremity of Dorset to informally survey some of the pubs in Lyme Regis. It's a good location for such an exercise as there are seven pubs within a half-mile radius of the centrally-located bus stops, although we only had time to experience three of them. It was also good

to meet-up again with the branch's former Chairman, Vernon Shutler, who had travelled down from Okehampton where he now owns and runs his own cider-producing business and was rewarded with orders for several boxes of Countryman Cider. The bus on which most of us travelled from Bridport to Lyme was full, standing room only, with six or seven dogs (fortunately all well-behaved) including one which was carried to the upper deck. The bus (which was going through to Axminster) half-emptied at Lyme but almost as many people boarded - a well-used, cross-country service!

Our first port of call was the Royal Lion, just up the hill from the bus stop, and whilst we were there, there was a loud crash from above (the hotel boasts 30 rooms); it transpired that a ceiling had collapsed during spring-cleaning! The real ales available were two from Lyme Regis (Town Mill Best and Lyme Gold) plus two (Ale and Bitter) from the Otter brewery. The food, sampled by Don (Ham Sandwich - somewhat larger than your average - with salad garnish) and the writer (Steak, Ale and Mushroom Suet Pudding with potatoes and vegetables - the little gravy boat on the side was a nice touch), was not the cheapest but still represented good value for money.

Onwards and upwards (Lyme's Broad Street can be compared to Richmond Hill, Bournemouth) to The Volunteer, where

Branscombe Vale 'Branoc' was amongst the offerings.

Our last visit in Lyme, partly downhill and just below the bus stop for our return journey, was to Cellar 59 which had 4 Cask Ales available (including two from Gyle 59 - IPA and Emma Broke Mosaic) plus 10 on Key Keg/Top Pressure. (Thank you Chris Allsopp for "sweet talking" Amanda, one of Gyle 59's directors, to open early for us). At this juncture people went their various ways, including Don and about half a dozen others catching the 1557 bus back to Bridport in order to sample the wares at In Pursuit of Hoppiness. Chris and the writer tarried to enjoy the benefits of the Cellar (the writer purchased a bottle each of four different Gyle 59 brews from the bottle store for a tenner), not least Amanda's company, before boarding the 1647 bus (the only later one back to Dorchester is 1845), Don and co getting on at Bridport.

It was an interesting time in Lyme Regis with the Real Ales being acceptable without being remarkable; the consensus of those that broke their return journey was that "Hoppiness" was the best pub of the day. On our return train journey from Dorchester we had the pleasure of the company of 'Tree' (our former Branch Secretary) who happened to board the same train at Wool.

**Robert Southam**

## Pride of Bournemouth Southbourne Clifftop Walk

Last year our walk was a wash out - we still managed to walk but were like drowned rats by the end of the day. This year it was wall to wall sunshine all the way and we needed sun hats, not umbrellas! We met at Café Riva for a coffee, had a gentle stroll along the clifftop - we couldn't

walk too quickly as it was so hot - then we had our lunch at the lovely Boscombe Cliff Bowling Club. What a relaxing way to spend a splendid morning - good weather, good company, good food, and a beautiful venue.





## Acorn June Garden Party



Although we had to revise the venue for the annual strawberry tea, savouries and puddings, the afternoon was another good occasion. It was a great pleasure to welcome everyone, especially our newer members who were made welcome as always. Guessing famous couples/partners from television and radio was a popular quiz and the free raffle for tins and boxes proved a success. As the society were promoting Healthy Heart Month everyone had a go at piecing together a cardboard heart which had been cut into various shapes and sizes. This had everyone putting their thinking caps on and proved more difficult than it looked. Another lovely summer's afternoon, good food, meeting friends and making new acquaintances.



## 2018 Annual Movable Conference - Llandudno

This year we had the pleasure of welcoming a new deputy to the AMC - we call such a person an 'AMC Virgin'! Brother Brian Garwood was elected as an AMC deputy for the first time and was accompanied by Sister Patsy, who attended as a visitor. It was brilliant to also welcome Brother Peter Smith and Sister Geraldine Hart as visitors to the AMC this year. We hope they all enjoyed the experience and will want to put their names forward to represent the Poole, Bridport and Yeovil District in the future.

Our pictures show the Poole, Bridport and Yeovil contingent at the end of the Conference, including Brother Ron Munro who attended as a Past Grand



Master, accompanied by Sister Flo. Also pictured are Brothers Ron Munro and Robert Southam presenting Brother Brian with his AMC Jewel - well done Brian!

Our deputies made a significant contribution to the debates during the Conference and we are pleased to report that the Board's proposal to increase the annual fees for Associate Members was rejected by the Conference.

## Games Evening with Pride of Bournemouth

There were all sorts of games to have a go at during our Games Evening in June. We all enjoyed the 'bring and share' supper and the 'beetle' was hilarious - some of us had never played before and got into a bit of a muddle. Some of us had a go at a domino sort of game, but the 'pieces' were triangular which made it far more difficult - especially at our age! The raffle was well supported and as usual we were raising money for April Court Amenities Fund. In March we will be having a Bingo Mania evening - Bingo, Card Bingo and Irish Bingo - why not come and join in the madness?

## Annual District Church Service

On Sunday 17 June nearly 50 members and friends from all around the District joined our Chairman, Robert Southam, for a lovely Church Service at St Mark's Church, Talbot Village. The Reverend Rupert Higgins conducted the service and gave an interesting and thoughtful sermon which he based on 'Love'. Past Grand Master Clive Tayler very kindly travelled from Reading to be with us and all our local lodges were represented. The ladies and gentlemen in the kitchen did a brilliant job and our thanks must go to everyone who made cakes and sandwiches, set up the hall, made the tea and coffee and of course did all the washing up! It was a treat to welcome so many friends to the service - thank you all for making it a special day for Robert.

# Pride of Bournemouth Healthy Afternoon Tea



**Pride of Bournemouth decided to join in with the Healthy Heart Events supported by our Head Office during June. It was quite difficult thinking up 'healthy' options for the Afternoon Tea but we came up with some 'healthy' sandwich fillings, a lovely fruit salad, meringues with strawberries, banana cakes, vegetable sticks with dips etc and of course there were the usual naughty but nice cup cakes as well.**

We had guests from the Poole Heart Support Group, the British Heart Foundation and the Bournemouth Heart Club. There were many booklets

available about how to keep your heart healthy, how to lower your cholesterol, how to eat well, how to quit smoking, help with diabetes etc. We would like to thank Keith Matthews from the Poole Heart Support group, and Vicki Carswell from the British Heart Foundation for all their help with promoting our event. With nearly 40 people coming along to this free event, including 17 non-members we were really thrilled to raise nearly £100 on the raffle and book stall which will be donated to the Poole Heart Support Group and the British Heart Foundation. Thanks so much to everyone who supported this fun event.



## Annual Lunch Phoenix Branch Great food, great cause



**On Sunday 1 July, 24 friends and members of Phoenix Lodge consumed their annual lunch with gusto. We visited the White Hart at Bishops Caundle near Sherborne and enjoyed some very well cooked and presented food. Members from all over the district came as well as Ian Field, Provincial Grand Master from Salisbury Wessex District.**

Our guest of honour was Ed Highnam, a volunteer for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. At the end of the meal Mr Highnam was presented with a donation from lodge funds as well as the proceeds of the raffle, together making a total of £100. Mr Highnam thanked everybody on behalf of the Air Ambulance for the donation and the lunch.





## Our volunteers are magic!



**We're incredibly fortunate to have an army of talented member volunteers. They don't just make the difference to our Society, they are the difference. This edition of *Society News* is in their honour.**

Meet Arthur MacTier, member of the Heart of England District and one of four members selected for a special mention as part of the Society's 'Portraits' scheme this year.

Arthur's signature mirth and magical manner is infectious. The Society cherishes such members, who share their upbeat sense of

character in their daily interactions with our members, and in the more formal work they do.

Arthur joined the Oddfellows in 1999 and has contributed on many levels in officer roles, on the Committee of Management and as Branch and District Chairman (notwithstanding his very important role as Friday lunchtime Barman and President for the Heart of England District's Oddfellows Club).

Being active and involved has been an important part of Arthur's membership experience. He explained:

**"The best thing about volunteering is meeting up with members and the joy that comes from socialising with them.**

"I would recommend volunteering in the Oddfellows to anyone – in fact I'm trying to recruit people to help with the bar and kitchen as we speak!"

Arthur's talents are wide-ranging – he has published three books on humour and one on card magic and achieved Associate Membership of the Inner Magic Circle.

Take a bow, Arthur – magician, family man and one of life's good guys.

## Looking after you — front-line help when you need it

**Our Branch Welfare Visitors give us a lot to be proud of. They're amazing. We've over 300 across the country, who each provide support for our members when they need a helping hand. Last year they were in touch with those needing support on more than 14,500 occasions.**

It's no mean feat to be by the side of members as they deal with life's challenges. And their role is even more remarkable when you consider most of our Branch Welfare Visitors are volunteers. Sensitivity, compassion, resourcefulness and patience are just a few of the skills they share with the Society – day-in, day-out.

Branch Welfare Visitors support members by keeping in touch through visits, phone calls and writing letters. It involves befriending and helping them access any practical support or benefits they may need.

One Branch Welfare Visitor doing just that is Brenda Lowe (pictured), who you may recognise from the recent care booklet. She shared her views on how rewarding the role can be:

**"To me, the role of Welfare Officer gives me the chance to do the very things that Oddfellows are about – making friends and helping people. I enjoy meeting and getting to know people. Yes we are there to offer support when people are ill or incapacitated, but often it is regular contact either by phone or visits that can make the person feel they matter."**

You may have met or spoken to your own Branch Welfare Visitor, but not every Branch has enough volunteers – so we're always on the lookout for help.



### Sound of interest?

If you think you've got what it takes and would enjoy the role, then we'd love to hear from you. Training and on-going support is provided. To find out more contact your Branch Secretary or visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/careers](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/careers)

# Mutuality in action – shaping our future

**One role which is considered the pinnacle of volunteering experiences in the Oddfellows is that of Grand Master or Society Chairman. The year-long role culminates in chairing the Society's AGM, known as the Annual Movable Conference, or AMC for short.**

If dealing with business and helping to run things excites you, then you might want to consider putting yourself forward to join your Branch management committee. If you're already doing this, how about becoming a Deputy at next year's AMC, or even a Director on the Society's Board? There is a process to be able to take on these roles, but information and support is

available if you're interested. Contact your Secretary or visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/social/society-involvement](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/social/society-involvement) to find out more.

We want to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Tony Lockett, our now Immediate Past Grand Master, for his sterling job of chairing our recent conference in Llandudno. He made keeping over 250 deputies in check look effortless!

"The conference is a great opportunity for our members to shape the future of the Society," explains Tony. "That's what being part of a mutual, fraternal organisation is all about. We're run by our members for the benefit of our members. And it's not just

the Oddfellows that benefit – because the things we do also have a positive impact on the wider community.

**"The conference is a great opportunity for our members to shape the future of the Society."**

"Thankfully, it's not all work and no play! Making friends and helping people is what we do best, so socialising is a big part of conference. It's been great looking through the photographs. It's clear to see from the selection here that a lot of fun was had by all!" added Tony.



Grand Master, Tony Lockett, wreath laying at the War Memorial



Fancy dress on Saturday evening



Action from the Roy Harper Bowls Competition



Over 250 delegates attended



Deputy listening to conference debates



Conference in session

**There are many ways to volunteer with us –**

we'd love to hear from you. Contact your Branch Secretary or visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/social/volunteering](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/social/volunteering) to find out how you can bring some magic to the Society.

## A few words from Bill Henchcliff, our new Grand Master (Chairman)...

**Other than being appointed Grand Master (obviously), what was your conference highlight?**

The highlight for me was the acceptance of the Governance Clause which helps us to shape our future strategic direction.

**What is the most important issue you look to influence during your year in office?**

As with most past Grand Masters, I would like to encourage recruitment and retention of members – it's crucial that we remain positive in our recruitment.

**What's the most important piece of advice you've been given by past post holders about becoming Grand Master?**

Enjoy your year in Office because it goes so quickly.

**What's your first official engagement after conference?**

My first official engagement was to attend the Midland Group Conference Reunion night after our annual conference.

If you have the necessary qualifications and you are interested in standing for election as a Director, there will be a training day to find out more on Monday 8 October. To book a place email [jane.nelson@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:jane.nelson@oddfellows.co.uk)

