

July – December 2025



out & about

Severn and Trent

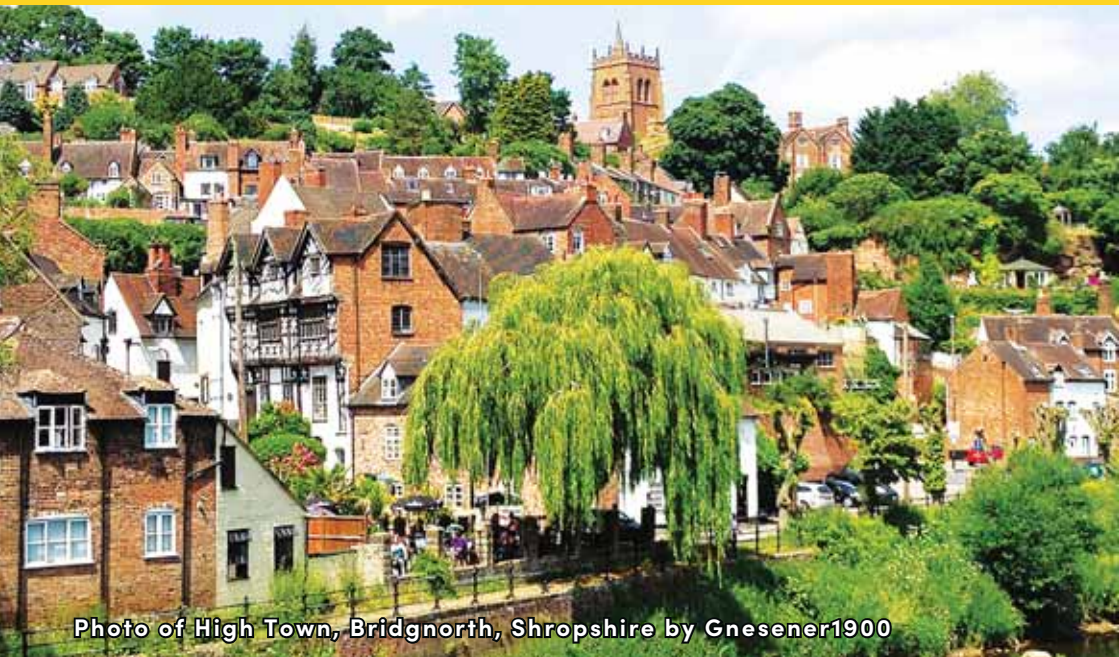


Photo of High Town, Bridgnorth, Shropshire by Gnesener1900



Music



Games



Social



Art/Crafts



Day Trip



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Dining Out



Meetings



Quiz



*Annual Dinner and Dance at The Down Inn - Saturday 25 October,
we hope you can join us!*

Welcome to your combined Newsletter and Events Diary

This is your events diary and 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. We look forward to hearing from you.

Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary. Alternatively, keep the events diary in a handy place - by the phone, fixed to the fridge or pinned to your notice board.

Contact Details

For more information or to book any events contact:

District Secretary:
George Brotherton

Address: 31 Avenue Road,
Newport, Shropshire TF10 7EA

Telephone: 01952 814377

Mobile: 07487 300449

Email:
george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk

Dates are subject to change. Please call to confirm your attendance.

More contact details can be found on page 18.

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. To find out more visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call **0800 028 1810**.

Regular Events

Coffee Morning



10.30am



Pay your own drinks



**Fortnightly
on Thursday**

Come along and meet members of the Severn and Trent Branch for a coffee and chat, everyone welcome. Mere Park Garden Centre, Stafford Road, Newport TF10 9BY. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693, Janet on 01952 814377 or Christine on 07776 357409.



10 July

24 July

7 August

21 August

4 September

18 September

9 October

23 October

6 November

20 November

4 December

18 December

**Learn, have fun,
and stay in touch
from home**

**Our online events
are here to stay**



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

OE/1024A6

July

THURS
17

Day Trip to RHS Gardens Bridgewater



9am



Members £14
Guests £24



A day trip to RHS Gardens Bridgewater. Coach will leave Newport bus station at 9am, returning at 4pm. £14 per person for member and £24 per person for guests, cost including entry. Cheques payable to Severn and Trent District please. RHS Gardens Bridgewater, Worsley, Salford, Greater Manchester M28 2LJ. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.



September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER

SAT
06

Hartington, Cavendish Branch Parade and Well Dressing



10am



Meal TBC,
Parade Free



Parade through town by members of the Branch and guests. There is a well dressing/blessing at the end of the parade.

Dinner to follow. Followed by a wide range of events throughout the week. Book by Monday 4 August. British Legion, Hartington, Derby Buxton SK17 0AW. Contact George on 01952 814377.

FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT

Invite a friend

August

THURS
28

A Day Trip to Llangollen



9.30am



£10



A day trip to Llangollen with option of horse drawn barge or steam train trip. Pick-up: Newport Bus Station at 9.30am, returning at 4pm. Cost is £10 per person. Cheques payable to Severn and Trent District please. Book by Tuesday 1 July. Llangollen, Abbey Road, Llangollen LL20 8SN. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.



September



SAT
27

Friendship Month Afternoon Tea and Entertainment at Cosy Hall



2pm



Free



We would love for you to join us for an afternoon of entertainment being provided by Paul Rushworth (Comedy/Magic and Songs), with tea or coffee and cakes being served. The event



ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER

is free, so why not bring friends and family. Book by Monday 1 September. Cosy Hall, Susan Miles Room, 6 Water Lane, Newport TF10 7LD. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

November

MON
24

Turkey and Tinsel Trip to Cardigan Bay



TBC



Twin or Double £465pp,
Single £495pp



Come and join your fellow members for this exciting trip to Cardigan Bay and kick-start your Christmas celebrations. Five day trip to South Wales with three day trips. Monday 24 to Friday 28 November. Fully booked event. Cliff Hotel Gwbert, Gwbert, Cardigan Bay SA43 1PP. Contact Christine on 07776 357409.

Please understand the terms and conditions of the holiday operator before booking. The Oddfellows cannot be held responsible for any bookings made, please speak to the Branch for further details.

October

SAT
25

Annual Dinner and Dance at The Down Inn



6pm



Members £25
Guests TBC



Annual dinner and dance at The Down Inn. Free bus from Newport Bus Station (leaves at 5.15 pm). Sit down for 6.30pm. Menu to be advised in September. Entertainment provided by Dave Maiden. Cheques payable to Severn and Trent District please. Book by Wednesday 1 October. Down Inn, Ludlow Road, Bridgnorth WV16 6UA. Contact George on 01952 814377.

December

SAT
13

Annual Christmas Party at Newport Bowling Club



7.30pm



£10



Maximum places for event, 50 people. Payable in advance by Saturday 15 November. Tickets £10. An evening of entertainment (provided by Martin Ross) and buffet with free raffle with lots of prizes. Newport Bowling Club, 24 Granville Avenue, Newport TF10 7DX. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.



Can you help by volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without wonderful volunteers. We need help to make sure we can keep our events as fun as they can be for all our members. There's lots of ways you can pitch in to help us, from one-off help to regular support. You can commit an hour a month, or more if you've got the time!

Volunteering could include meeting and greeting newcomers to make sure they feel welcome, or arranging activities, like quizzes or presentations, which we can help you run and promote.



If you can help by volunteering or want to find out more, contact George by phone on 01952 814377 or email george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk

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

www.oddfellows.co.uk

My year as Provincial Grand Master (Chairman)

During my year I have attended main events at Hartington and Parwich Branches, also I supported Newport Branch at their coffee mornings social events and their meeting throughout the year.

I managed one or two events at other areas within the Midland Group where it is always good to meet up with friends old and new. It was particularly pleasing to be able to welcome the Midland Group Conference to Newport for their AGM.

My District dinner/dance seemed to go well and District Committee meetings have been fully supported so all in all I think my year has been a good one.

At the Annual General Meeting on March 29th my chosen Charities (Alzheimer's Research UK) and Severn Hospice were voted on and it was agreed to give them £1,000 each. I arranged presentations for the Cheques on 11 April and 8 April.



Thank you to all members for your help and continued support for the Oddfellows - we are in good heart!

I am delighted to have passed on the chain to Glynis Tarr your new Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) who I am sure will do us proud.

Irene Evans, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master

Welcome to our new members (juniors)

Amber Edge

Georgina Davies

Philip Flinders

Alfie Edge

Gillian Ketterer

Andrew Gilman

Sheila Holland

Fountain of Peace Caradoc Social Events

Skittles With A Fish And Chip Supper Saturday 25 January

34 members took part in the skittles competition, split into two sessions. During the interval everyone enjoyed a fish and chip supper provided by the local Newport chip shop.

The 'ODDS' team played the 'FELLOWS' team, 17 members in each and the final scores were very close at 243 for the FELLOWS and 264 For the ODDS.



Everyone enjoyed having a go at knocking down the wooden skittles, a lovely entertaining evening.

Stourbridge Glass Museum Thursday 27 February

The Severn and Trent District, Fountain of Peace organised a coach trip to the Stuart Works in Wordsley, West Midlands. On arrival the 22 members were served with coffee/tea and biscuits in the reception room and were then given a guided tour of the museum.

The history of glass making was fascinating, some items dating to the Roman period. The members then made their own arrangements for lunch, having the use of the reception room with again coffee/tea being available free. In the afternoon there was a demonstration of glass blowing,



and moulding. It was agreed this had been a wonderful day out and would recommend it as a visit.

Newport Bowling Club

Saturday 3 May

40 members of the Severn and Trent District had a lovely afternoon listening to old favourites of music from the 50s, 60s, and 70s. On display were photographs of the members in attendance from their very early years and everyone had fun trying to put each photo to a member. Not many were guessed correctly!



Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a Devon cream tea, scones, clotted cream and strawberry jam with lashings of tea and coffee served by volunteers. We hope to replicate this again next year with everyone having a good old singsong.



Our incoming Provincial Grand Master Glynis Tarr, welcomes her Deputy Provincial Grand Master Ron Briody.

Parwich Branch Loyal Laurel and Crown

Members of the Parwich Branch for their March event held a fun and charity event with about 60 to 70 people attending, included guests, raising a fantastic sum for the Parwich Village Charity Fund of £314 which those in need will benefit from enormously.

Annual St Georges Day Parade Saturday 26 April

In glorious sunshine the annual St Georges Day Parade took place in the village, starting with breakfast butties at the Royal British Legion Club before heading to the Village Hall for a reading prior to parading to the Parwich Parish Church for a St Georges Day Service with flags flying high.



Following the service, the parade continued around the village making the usual refreshment stops along the way, this year a stop was made at the Sheffield Caravan Club Site who were visiting the village. The Chairman of the Sheffield Caravanner's on behalf of the Grand Master of the Order Sister Barbara Needham read out a letter from her wishing the Branch well

and conveying her apologies for not being able to be there. Following a few refreshments the parade continued back to the Royal British Legion Club for a BBQ lunch that was followed by live music by Funky Gibbon well into the Saturday evening.

A splendid and most enjoyable day was had by all.



Members of the Hartington Branch, at one of their social evenings at the Royal British Legion Club with their Branch Chairman Scott Wager, enjoying a drink and a chat with his fellow members.

Hartington Branch Loyal Cavendish Branch



In September the Annual Parade of the Cavendish Branch took place with quite a number of, their members and local people as well as visitors to Hartington enjoying their parade. The parade was led by a silver band with their official banner heading the parade. During the parade they stopped at the village well, where a few prayers were said which is part of the annual well dressings events in the area.

A luncheon was served after the parade which was enjoyed by the members and guests.

Loyal Cavendish Branch

During the last few months the Hartington Branch has made various donations to The Kidney Care Unit, Hartington First Responders and The Parkinson's Society in which a total of £2,000 was made.



Obituaries

It is with great sadness that we have to report the deaths of Sister Sue Hazeldine, wife of the late Brother Alan Hazeldine (Past Provincial Grand Master of the Severn & Trent District) , Sister Rosemary Craig and Brother Paul Collier.



District Presentations

In April, two presentations took place the first one being a cheque for £1,000 was presented to The Severn Hospice by the outgoing Provincial Grand Master Sister Irene Evans of the Severn & Trent District. This money was raised from raffles and the Generosity of our members.

The second presentation was made to the Alzheimer's Research UK for £1,000, again being presented by Sister Irene Evans to Katie Foster on behalf of Alzheimer's Research UK, in which Katie addressed the members present informing them of the research currently being done in trying to find a cure that is effecting 1,000's of people in the UK.



Fountain of Peace Branch

During one of our craft and games afternoons, Brother Jimmy Hesbrook brought along some of his models that he has built by using thousands of matchsticks to create these magnificent pieces of craftsmanship, explaining to the members the hours it takes to plan and make these models something he has been doing for many years.

Jimmy and his wife Jean also like going off in their caravan, enjoying the great outdoors as well as attending some of our social meetings and events.



Scarborough hosts the nation's Oddies



For the 20th time in more than 200 years the Society's Annual Movable Conference (AMC) was held in beautiful Scarborough, hosted by Vale of York Oddfellows.

Members representing their Branches converged on the seaside town from

all corners of the country to assess the previous 12 months and to decide on the direction of the next.

There was change at the top, as South London Oddfellows' John Mann replaced Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham as Grand Master.

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, including indulging in the delights of an Oddfellows Brass performance, the annual Roy Hamer Memorial Bowls Tournament, and a day trip to Whitby and Scarborough Fair.

Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

Nur Zainal, who's PhD at the University of Southampton has been supported by the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, and Professor of Cancer Biology Tim Fenton (pictured), addressed the Society's annual conference as three years of funding comes to an end.

"My PhD – made possible by the generous support of the Oddfellows – has made some significant contributions to cancer research," said Nur. "My ultimate goal is to find ways to prevent or overcome drug resistance, and my model will let us run

the pre-clinical studies needed to move promising strategies toward the clinic."

Tim added: "Until recently, we did not understand enough about how our immune system recognises and responds to tumours, or about how tumours learn to switch off our immune responses to deploy cancer vaccines effectively. This is changing rapidly, and cancer vaccines hold great promise for kinder, more effective therapy, though significant challenges remain."



Making a Difference Awards 2025

The Oddfellows is full of remarkable people, none more so than the six winners of this year's Making a Difference Awards. They have been nationally recognised for their selflessness and dedication to making their Branch and wider Society as good as they can be.

For more information about the Awards, including how to nominate someone for 2026, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

Jean Logan, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Jean's contributions to the running of the Branch's social events. She's key to coming up with new ideas, organising and hosting events, and making sure everyone has a good time.

"Socialising keeps your brain busy and keeps you active and keeps you younger.

You can sit on the sofa and watch telly all day long but I'm a doer. I'm always up and about."



On winning the award, Jean, from Bourne, Lincolnshire, says she had to read the letter twice, adding: "You've got so many branches all over the country and I end up as the overall winner. It was a nice surprise."

Gordon and Kath Hinett, North Wales and Chester Oddfellows

Achieving Together

The married couple from Conwy, North Wales, have been recognised for their teamwork and commitment to improving the lives of members.



As a Welfare visitor, Gordon regularly assists members however they might need, be that giving lifts to appointments or events, or going to the shops for them. Kath takes the lead on organising social events such as trips to the cinema, the theatre or a day out somewhere.

Kath says they could've been knocked down with a feather when they learnt they'd won. Gordon added: "We don't do it to get rewarded. We do it because we love doing it."

Chris Sargeant, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

Chris, from Pinchbeck in Lincolnshire, has been highlighted for her passion and dedication for her Branch and the Society as a whole.



Having held almost every role possible locally and represented Nene and Welland Oddfellows on regional and national committees, Chris said: "Oddfellows gives to me as much as I give to it. You get to know people. I've friends all over the country through Oddfellowship. I love it, absolutely love it."

She added: "How proud was I that someone had thought I was worthy of this Award?"

Ann Kight, Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Giving Something Back

Nottingham-based Ann's selfless commitment to raising money for worthy causes, both in connection with her Branch and of her own accord, is why she has been singled out for praise.

"I've been doing it about 10 years, if not more," she said. "I reckon I've raised around £10,000."

"I've always had the motto of, 'if you go through life and behave and you help somebody on your way you've done your job'."



She added: "You do things because you do them, not for awards. To get an award is a bonus."

Barry Bedford, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Giving a Helping Hand

Barry, from Peterborough, has been recognised for his dedication to looking after his fellow members and being counted on when it matters, or in times of need. He's been known to give members lifts to and from events and the shops, and has assisted in all manner of DIY projects, including clearing driveways, repairing doors, decorating and gardening.



He said: "I am very proud of what they think I've achieved. It's the way I live my life and always have done and if that transforms into helping other people then I'm thankful."

Incredible total raised for good causes



Brownsea Oddfellows raised £1,608.50 for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

members. We know that money is tight for many people, but they still dig deep and have compassion for those in need.

“It’s what binds us as Oddfellows – caring for people’s welfare and looking out for the needs of others. This humanitarian spirit makes me feel incredibly proud to be part of the Society. Where we can help, we must.”

Giving back to our communities has always mattered to us. Last year, our branches and members donated over £163,000 to good causes.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Every year, when we work out the collaborative total, I’m astounded by the generosity of our Branches and their

Find out more about how the Society gives back to its communities, including information about our support for the RNLI, Oddfellows Brass, our Orphan Gift Fund and HA Andrews Memorial Fund, at www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back

Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



In February, we announced the completion, by transfer of engagements, of Tees Mutual.

The acquisition was approved and agreed on by Tees Mutual's members and their Board. Both the Oddfellows and Tees Mutual share a similar ethos and complementary values. This is the Society's sixth acquisition since

2007 and follows the last transfer of engagements in 2021.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Tees Mutual has been providing life and savings products to the people of Teesside and South Durham for well over a century.

“We are both passionate about mutuality and are pleased to be able to provide Tees Mutual members with a secure future.”

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 George on **01952 814377** or email george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk.

Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on welfare benefits, money and debt issues, consumer problems, housing, fuel bills, employment issues and many other issues.

*The Oddfellows cannot provide legal advice and accepts no liability whatsoever for advice provided by Citizens Advice, which is an independent advice agency. If you have any queries about the advice you have received or wish to make a complaint then you should contact Citizens Advice directly. Citizens Advice operate a formal complaints process.

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday to Thursday, 9.30am - 4.30pm, Friday, 9.30am - 4pm

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

Run by the Oddfellows Care and Welfare Department, you can access information and guidance on issues such as accessing health and care services, supported housing, support for carers, and planning for later life. The helpline will try and identify any Oddfellows benefits or services in the community which may be of help to you.

**Visit our website page at www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care
for care and welfare information**

Branch Meetings

Social Branch meetings for the Fountain of Peace/Caradoc Branches
First Monday of the month (except May), 7.30pm, Free

Monthly Branch meeting for The Fountain of Peace and Caradoc Branches.
Newport Parish Rooms, New Street, Newport, Shropshire TF10 7AX.
Contact George on 01952 814377.

7 July
4 August

1 September
6 October

3 November
1 December

District Meeting Date

Saturday 4 October at 2pm, to be held at Parwich Community Hall,
Parwich, Ashbournre DE6 1QJ.

Branch Contact Details

Please remember we are here to help

Newport (Fountain of Peace)

George Brotherton

Telephone: 01952 814377

Social Events Organizers:

Glynis Tarr

Telephone: 01952 820693

Church Stretton (Caradoc)

Gary Hughes

Telephone: 01694 723169

Christine Williams

Mobile: 07776 357409

Parwich (Laurel & Crown)

Bill Whitfield

Telephone: 01335 390571

Social Media Officer:

Peter Moulard

Telephone: 07955 415634

Hartington (Cavendish)

Jackie Wilton

Telephone: 01298 687123

District Secretary:

George Brotherton

Telephone: 01952 814377

Mobile: 07487 300449

Email:

george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk

Care & Welfare Officer:

Janet Brotherton

Telephone: 01952 814377

Mobile: 07974 809538

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

At a glance

July 2025

Mon 7	Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 10	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Thurs 17	Day Trip to RHS Gardens Bridgewater	9am
Thurs 24	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am

August

Mon 4	Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 7	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Thurs 21	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Thurs 28	A Day Trip to Llangollen	9.30am

September - Friendship Month

Mon 1	Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 4	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Sat 6	Hartington, Cavendish Branch Parade and Well Dressing	10am
Thurs 18	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Sat 27	Friendship Month Afternoon Tea and Entertainment at Cosy Hall	2pm

October

Sat 4	District Meeting	2pm
Mon 6	Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 9	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Thurs 23	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Sat 25	Annual Dinner and Dance at The Down Inn	6pm

November

Mon 3	Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 6	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Thurs 20	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Mon 24	Turkey and Tinsel Trip to Cardigan Bay	TBC

At a glance

December

Mon 1	Branch Meeting	7.30pm
Thurs 4	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am
Sat 13	Annual Christmas Party at Newport Bowling Club	7.30pm
Thurs 18	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre	10.30am

Say *yes* to friendship in September

Make someone's day
and invite them along to
share the friendship fun.

All welcome



To see what's on and find out
more about Friendship Month
visit **www.friendshipmonth.com**

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

f OddfellowsUK

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