



THE **ODDfELLOWS** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

Spring 2021 | Issue 5
www.oddfellows.co.uk

Burton-on-Trent News and Views

News and views from your local friendship group

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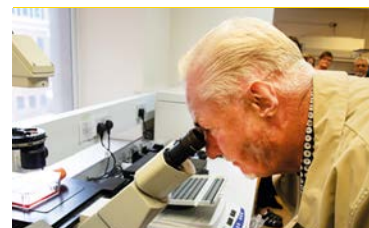
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Social Events



**Burton-on-Trent
Remembers**



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Burton-on-Trent District Branch Combined Newsletter and Diary

Well, after so many months of lockdown, we thought we were getting back to some sort of normality, but how wrong we were! We are now in the midst of another lockdown, so we still can't hold any meetings, or social events, or activities at the hall. Your newsletter and diary still looks a little different until such times we are allowed to safely hold meetings, activities and social events again!

For Your Safety

If you need to visit the office, which remains open from 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday, please on entering to the hall, wear a mask and use the hand sanitising station.

All toilets have anti-bacterial soap, wipes and spray, along with paper towel for your use but please dispose in the bins provided.

Picture above: Trent and Mersey Canal, Burton-on-Trent by Roger Kidd and is licensed for reuse under the Creative Commons Licence.

Contact Details

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

District Secretary: Mervyn J Eaton

T: 01283 564056

E: mervyn.eaton@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Secretary:

Amanda C Norbury-Mountford

T: 01283 564056

E: mandy.mountford@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: Oddfellows Hall,

All Saints Road,

Burton-on-Trent

Staffordshire DE14 3LS

Care and Welfare Officers:

Gordon and Viv Simpson

T: 07984 297276

Traditional Terms

Lodge: Branch

Brother and Sister: Traditional term used in Unions, Guilds and Fraternal organisations to suggest mutual support and family

Regular Events

How we will run Activities, Branch and Social Events during the Covid Crisis

The Management Committee have already decided that all Branch Meeting are to be suspended until the situation allows otherwise.

Activities and social events will not be taking place for a while longer at the Oddfellows Hall until the government guidelines allows and only with Covid-19, rules in place. However, with that in mind, when we ARE allowed to return to some sort of normality, the following activities will be allowed but possibly only on specific days.

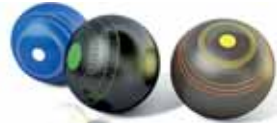
Badminton

Badminton will only take place on a Monday morning 9.30am to 12 noon and Monday evenings 7pm to 9pm.



Short Mat Bowls

Bowls will take place on a Wednesday afternoon 2pm to 4pm.



Social Events

Due to the current Covid-19 situation, it has been decided that our main social events should be postponed until sometime in 2021. We will, of course, keep you updated and a diary of events will be sent to you when it is possible to hold events again.



during the lockdown period? How did you celebrate this? Was there anything you discovered or rediscovered that you could do during this period?

If you have anything else you would like including in the next copy of the newsletter, ie letters, photographs or anything of interest to our readers, please don't hesitate to contact us, either by post, telephone or email.

Names, addresses and a contact number of members and visitors attending may still be required for the purposes of 'Track & Trace'.

Have you celebrated a special birthday or wedding anniversary

Pre-booking will be required for all activities. Names, addresses and a contact number of members attending may still be required for the purposes of 'Track & Trace'.

A Notice from Brother M J Eaton, District Secretary Annual General Meeting

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope you and your families are managing to stay safe and well during these unprecedented and cruel times we find ourselves in.

As you are probably aware the Burton-on-Trent District Branch (No. 10008) Annual Summoned Meeting is scheduled to take place on Saturday 20 March 2021 at the Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS, commencing at 11am.

Hopefully, this will take place, but we will keep you informed if circumstances should change. Members may still be asked to give contact details for the purposes of 'Track & Trace'

It is **IMPERATIVE** you contact the office on 01283 564056 or email mervyn.eaton@oddfellows.co.uk if you wish to attend the Annual Meeting.

The contents of the agenda will be dependent on circumstances and what the government guidelines are in place at the time.

Is there someone you know who'd enjoy what we do?

Refer a friend today

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



*Terms and conditions apply to the Refer a Friend offer. It cannot be used in conjunction with any other member offer. For full terms and conditions and for details of the rewards visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers.

Ref 1644

100 Years Young

On Tuesday 29 December 2020, Joan Brinklow celebrated her 100th Birthday.



The Oddfellows Burton-on-Trent District Branch sent Joan a special 100th Birthday Telegram, with all our love and best wishes for her special day.

Joan could not celebrate her birthday in the way she would have wished with family from around the UK, Australia,

America and other friends from far and wide, but we are sure that however she celebrated, Joan did it in style.

Joan might now be 100 years of age but is still very much young at heart.

Hope you had a very Happy 100th Birthday Joan.

Sad News!

Just before this newsletter went to print we heard the very sad news that Sister Joan passed away in the early hours of Tuesday 19 January. However, with the very kind permission of Joan's family, this article has been allowed to remain in the newsletter as a tribute to a very wonderful and much loved lady. Rest in Peace Joan.

A message from Joan's daughter, Janet, "Thanks for your kind thoughts. Mum would have been delighted to see her 100th birthday celebrated in this way".





Young Oddfellows Birthdays

February

*Evie Allen
Lauren Ayling
Elleri Reid-Compson
Anwen Elkin
Libby Faulks
Eleanor Swain
Sam Matthews
Leonard Shilton
Maxwell Swain*

April

*Paige Mitchell Richardson
Amy Weston
James Barratt
Owen Barratt
Robert Eyley
Dylan Simpson
Benjamin Swain
Luke Warner*

March

*Evalin Plevey
Isla Weston
Arthur Gillen
Rupert Reid-Compson
Charlie Wigston-Colman
Jacob Wilkes*

May

*Katherine Eyley
Lauren Hollis
Millie Mason
Sophie Rayson
Alfie Allen
Leo Faulks*

Young Oddfellows

What have you been doing during the lockdown period?

Why not write to us and tell us what you have been doing and send a picture. We would love to hear from you.

We have received this picture of two of our Young Oddfellows Arthur Gillen aged 8 who loves football and his brother Thomas Gillen aged 5 who loves jigsaws.

Thank you for your lovely picture.



Tote Winners 2020

Month	Name	Numbers
January	Sister Y Eaton	3 and 13
February	Sister P Dobbs	8 and 11
March	Sister E Compson	11 and 28
April	Sister D Charles	19 and 20
May	Sister K Bowls Brother A Clarke	9 and 15
June	Sister J Shilton	25 and 28
July	Sister C B Mills	8 and 28
August	Sister M Rostance	6 and 17
September	Brother E Bucknall	11 and 21
October	Sister J Hambling	3 and 8
November	Sister J Jowett	4 and 9
December	Sister J Mason-Edwards	6 and 21

The Snowball was won in April by Sister B Cope with 6 and 20.



Burton-on-Trent Remembers

Covid-19 restrictions meant there could be no official Remembrance Day Parade and Memorial Service in Burton-on-Trent this year, so a private laying of the wreath ceremony was arranged by the Burton-on-Trent District. This took place at the Oddfellows Memorial, National Memorial Arboretum on Tuesday 10 November at 11am.



A fitting date - falling between Remembrance Day and Armistice Day. In attendance were the four District Officers: Provincial Grand Master Glenda Elks, Provincial Deputy Grand Master Terry Elks, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master Amanda Norbury-Mountford, Provincial Corresponding Secretary, Mervyn Eaton and Young Oddfellow, L/Corp Lucy Elks of the De Ferrers Combined Cadet unit.



In Memoriam

We say a sad farewell to the following members who have passed on to Grand Lodge above.

Brothers

Arthur Martin

Derek R Goodwin, PG

Eric Gothard

David Gallagher

John 'Jack' Lee

Jeffery Burdett, PPGM

Albert A Dennis

James H Lowe

Raymond F Eaton

Raymond Pittam

Sisters

Dorothy P Adams

Barbara Woolley

Betty Walker

Joyce Lawford

Peggy Smith

Hilda Wilson

Judith A Grice

Iris M Matthews, PPGM

Mary Burdett

Jana B Eaton

Peggy Cooper

Mary Binns

Beryl S Walker

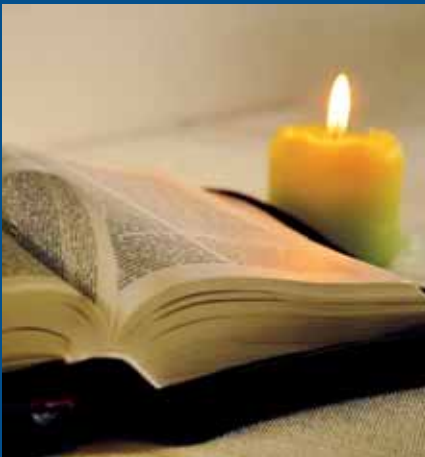
Ivy Doyle

Flora G Miller

Freda M Deakin

Betty Pratt

Edna M Hunter



Answers to the Fruit Salad Quiz in the Summer–Autumn 2020 Edition

1. Which poet described autumn as the ‘season of mists and mellow fruitfulness’?

Answer: John Keats

2. Blackberries are supposed to be picked by Michaelmas Day. A feast celebrated on which date in September? **Answer:** 29 September.

3. Bullace is, despite its small size, a wild variety of which larger fruit? **Answer:** Plum.

4. The game of conkers–played with the fruit of the horse chestnut has a World Championship now staged each autumn at Southwick in which English county? **Answer:** West Sussex.

5. Which Scottish river lends its name to the blackberry–red–raspberry–cross, introduced in its locality in 1977? **Answer:** Tayberries.

6. Cranberries were in short supply nationally in 1995 after which TV cook recommended them in a duck recipe? **Answer:** Delia Smith.

7. The edible, so called cornelian cherry, is borne on trees belonging to a genus known by which common name? **Answer:** Dogwood.

8. What colour are the fruits of the pineberry, a hybrid strawberry with the fragrance of pineapples? **Answer:** Pink Blush.



Join the conversation @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.

Find us at  OddfellowsBurtonOnTrent



OddfellowsUK

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 Mervyn on **01283 564056** or email **mervyn.eaton@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@manchestercab.org



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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

A year like no other...

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

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

Coming together

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

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



Being there for each other

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

Keeping spirits lifted

I've seen some incredible innovation to keep spirits lifted and people connected. We'd only hosted a few online events here and there before 2020, but we're now broadcasting talks, quizzes, and even

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

Helping others

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

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

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

A truly special family

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

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

Take care, stay safe and stay well.

Yours always in friendship,

Jane Nelson
CEO, the Oddfellows

Lupus research pushes through pandemic

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

How to join a Zoom event for the first time

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

1. Connecting to Zoom via an app or website

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

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

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

3. Getting your audio and video settings right

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

4. Joining an event with a landline phone

You can use your landline to phone into an event – there is a charge, (please check your operator for details), but the standard



rate number is 0330 0885830. You will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID number followed by # and may also be asked for a Passcode followed by # .

For additional information on how to join meetings, here's a few useful links:

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

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



Want something to make you smile?

Come and have a relaxed cuppa & chat with us

Join us every Wednesday, 11am via Zoom ID – 988 3920 7187

See back page for Thursday Fun



Just-for-fun
Thursdays
2pm via Zoom

Quizzes, games
& sing-alongs
— something
different each week
to enjoy at home.

Zoom ID: 988 3920 7187

Branch Contacts

Burton-on-Trent District Branch (Financial)

District Secretary: Mervyn Eaton

Address: Oddfellows Hall, All
Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent,
Staffordshire DE14 3LS.

Telephone: 01283 564056.

Meets at Oddfellows Hall,
All Saints Road.

Christian Union Lodge

Keith Finch

Address: 20 Hawks Drive, Winhill,
Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire
DE15 0TZ.

Telephone: 01283 562254.

Meets at Oddfellows Hall,
All Saints Road.

Orphan's Protection Lodge

Amanda C Norbury-Mountford

Address: Oddfellows Hall, All
Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent,
Staffordshire DE14 3LS.

Telephone: 01283 564056.

Meets at the Cock Inn, Hanbury.

Past Grands' Lodge

Amanda C Norbury-Mountford

Address: Oddfellows Hall,
All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent,
Staffordshire DE14 3LS.

Telephone: 01283 564056.

Meets at Oddfellows Hall,
All Saints Road.