

June - September 2024  
Issue 25



*O*<sup>the</sup>DDfellows SINCE 1810  
making friends, helping people

# *out & about*

## Derby District



*Elvaston Castle, the south facade*



Quiz



Art/Crafts



Sports



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



Friendship  
Month



*Friendship Walk and Picnic at Elvaston Castle Country Park  
Saturday 21 September*

## **Welcome to your latest edition of the Out and About**

The start of 2024 was packed full of events and it was lovely to see so many of you attending them! As we approach our summer season, we are looking forward to some sunny days for our Open Gardens, which are being held on Saturday 29 June at Alvaston and Sunday 1 September at Swadlincote.

Also, we will have a stall at some local carnivals again this year, so why not come along and say hello?

## **An event to look out for November this year:**

Saturday 30 November – Christmas Coach Trip

Our Festive Season this year starts with a Christmas Coach Trip. The location is to be decided and information will be provided in the next Out and About diary.

We will be hosting many summer events this year starting with a Strawberry Tea afternoon on Saturday 15 June, a Teddy Bears Picnic for Junior members 10 years old and under on Sunday 4 August. Also, on Friday 9 August morning we will have a talk and display all regalia, old photos, history books to learn and celebrate the Oddfellows and their history. Members are encouraged to bring their own photos and memories to share.

A Continental Breakfast will be on sale, so hopefully there will be something for everyone.

# Weekly Events

The events below all take place at the Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

## Line Dancing

Every Monday

🕒 2pm - 3.30pm    💷 Members £3  
Guests £4

Everyone is welcome and it's a fun way to keep fit! 30p for tea or coffee and biscuits.

## Short Mat Bowls

Every Tuesday

🕒 2pm - 4pm    💷 Members £1.50  
Guests £3

Great fun, beginners are always welcome! 30p for tea or coffee and biscuits.



## Crafty Social

Fortnightly Monday

🕒 6.30pm    💷 £1 for members

Come and join us for a fun evening of any type of crafting whilst having a chat and refreshments. All abilities welcome.



3 June  
17 June  
1 July  
15 July

29 July  
12 August  
9 September  
23 September

## Contact Details

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

**01332 345697**

**Lauretta Stokes**

**Email:**

[lauretta.stokes@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:lauretta.stokes@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Alice Smyth**

**Email:**

[alice.smyth@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:alice.smyth@oddfellows.co.uk)

**f OddfellowsDerby**



**Lots of our events take place at the Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.**

Really easy to find with parking at the rear off Melbourne Street.

# Join us online...

For a catch up and some fun!

**Saturday at 10.30am**

## **Zoom Countdown with Colin**

22 June

20 July

17 August

14 September

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## **Zoom Quiz**

6 July

3 August

31 August

28 September

**Zoom Meeting ID:**

**777 935 4259**



**For more information contact Laurretta Stokes on 01332 345697.**

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

Our online events are  
here to stay



To see what's coming up visit [oddfellows.co.uk/events](https://oddfellows.co.uk/events) and enter 'Ayr' in the place name search box

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# June 2024

## We are out and about

Come along and say hello at  
The Big One in Chaddesden,  
Sunday 2 June from 11am to 4pm  
Chaddesden, Derby DE21 6LA.

TUES  
04

## Coffee Morning and Guest Speaker

L 10.30am £ £1



Come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Also, we will be having a Probate Solicitor to do a talk. Cost: £1 for tea or coffee and biscuits. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

TUES  
04

## Kurling Night King George IV Branch

L 7.30pm £ Free



Come and join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by a fun night of kurling. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Maureen on 01332 739538.

THURS  
06

## Good Intent Branch District Officers' Visit

L 2.30pm £ Free



Come and meet this year's Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) and her officers. A buffet will be served following the meeting. Book by Thursday 30 May. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. For catering purposes, please contact Margaret Henchliff on 01332 519062 if you would like to come along.

MON  
10

## Race Night Pares Branch

L 7.30pm £ Free



Come and join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by a race night - pick your horse and get the bets on. The Coach and Horses, Victoria Road, Draycott DE72 3PS. Contact Barbara on 0115 946 5105.



# June 2024

TUES  
11

## Dining Out Experience at Tandoori Nights, Shardlow

⌚ 6.45pm

£ As per menu



Join us for an evening of food and friendship. Book by Tuesday 4 June. Tandoori Nights, 134 London Road, Shardlow, Derby DE72 2GP. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



WED  
12

## Walking at Whatstandwell

⌚ 10am

£ As per menu



Walk the Cromford Canal. Meet at Whatstandwell railway station car park (pay for parking) for a six mile walk. Eat at Cromford before returning to Whatstandwell. Flat tow path. Whatstandwell Car Park, Whatstandwell DE4 5EE. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.



SAT  
15

## Strawberry Tea

⌚ 2pm

£ Members £5  
Guests £6



Join us for a fun afternoon of games. Strawberries and cream, sandwiches and cakes will be provided. Book by Friday 7 June. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

WED  
26

## Walking at Kirk Langley

⌚ 10am

£ As per menu



Meet by Kirk Langley Church (on road parking) for a four and half mile walk. Followed by a pub lunch, venue to be decided. Kirk Langley Church, Church Lane, Kirk Langley, Ashbourne DE6 4NG. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.

# June 2024

**SAT**  
**29**

## Open Garden at Alvaston



10.30am



Donations



Come and join Polly Cunningham at her house for a chat and refreshments (donations will be asked for). Book by Friday 21 June. 76 Rosedale Avenue, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0FJ. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

# July

**FRI**  
**05**

## Lunch at the Derbion Food Court



12 noon



As per menu



Meet outside TGI Friday's for lunch and a chat with friends at Derbion Food Court. Derby's Shopping Centre is easily accessible by bus for a midday meal. Book by Friday 28 June. The Derbion Shopping Centre, London Road, Derby DE1 2PL. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



# July

**TUES**  
**02**

## King George IV Branch District Officers' Visit



7.30pm



Free



Come and meet this year's Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) and her officers. A buffet will be served following the meeting. Book by Tuesday 25 June. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. For catering purposes, please contact Maureen on 01332 739538 if you would like to come along.

**MON**  
**08**

## Beetle Drive Pares Branch



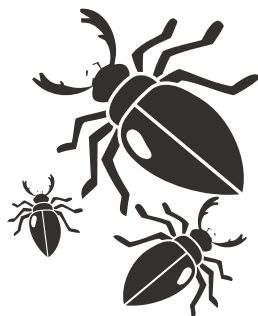
7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by an evening of fun at our beetle drive. The Coach and Horses, Victoria Road, Draycott DE72 3PS. Contact Barbara on 0115 946 5105.



# July

## **TUES 09** Dining Out Experience at The Ragley Boat Stop, Sinfin

 6.45pm

 As per menu



Join us for an evening of food and friendship. Book by Tuesday 2 July. The Ragley Boat Stop, Deep Dale Lane, Sinfin, Derby DE73 7FY. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



## **WED 10** Walking Group at Osmaston, Ashbourne

 10am

 As per menu



Meet at The Shoulder of Mutton for a four and half mile circular walk to Shirley. Hills, some steep, stiles. Followed by a pub lunch, venue to be decided. The Shoulder of Mutton, Moor Lane, Osmaston, Ashbourne DE6 1LW. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.

**We are out and about**  
**Come along and say hello at**  
**Alvaston Park Community Fun**  
**Day, Sunday 21 July from 12**  
**noon to 4pm Meadow Lane,**  
**Alvaston, Derby DE24 8QQ.**

## **SUN 21** Film Afternoon

 2pm

 Members £4  
Guests £5



Come and join us for a fun afternoon to watch the film Chicago. Also, a burger or hotdog is included. Book by Friday 12 July. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

## **WED 24** Walking Group at West Hallam

 10am

 As per menu



The Cat and Fiddle Trail No. 14 for a 6.5 miles walk. Meet at The Dales Car Park (pleasant undulating walk). Followed by a pub lunch, venue to be decided. The Dales Car Park, The Village, West Hallam DE7 6GR. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.



# July

THURS  
25

## Coffee Morning



10.30am



£1



Come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Cost: £1 for tea or coffee and biscuits. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

# August

SUN  
04

## Teddy Bears Picnic



11am



Free



Calling all Junior Oddfellows! Join us for a fun filled afternoon at Oddfellows Hall. Don't forget your favourite cuddly toy! This event is open to all Junior Oddfellows members under 10 year olds. A picnic lunch will be provided. Book by Friday 26 July. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Alice on 01332 345697.

# August

TUES  
06

## Play Your Cards Right King George IV Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by a fun night of Play Your Cards Right. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Maureen on 01332 739538.



WED  
07

## Walking Group at Swarkestone



10am



As per menu



Meet at The Crewe and Harpur for a 5.2 mile walk. Followed by a pub lunch. The Crewe & Harpur, Swarkestone DE73 7JA. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.

## Booking and Cancellations

**Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support. Please note that a place is not guaranteed at any event until full payment has been received.**

# August

THURS  
08

## Coach Trip to Stratford Upon Avon Good Intent Branch



9.30am



£10



Coach trip to Stratford Upon Avon. Meet at Oddfellows Hall at 9.30am and coach leaves at 10am, leaving Stratford at 3.30pm. Stratford Upon Avon CV37. Contact Margaret Henchliff on 01332 519062 to book your seat. First come first served. Book by Thursday 25 July.



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FRI  
09

## Celebrating Oddfellows



10.30am



Members £4  
Guests £5



Join us to celebrate and learn about the Oddfellows and their history. The lodge room will display all the regalia, old photos and history books. Members are encouraged to bring their own photos and memories to share. A continental breakfast will be on sale. Book by Friday 2 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



MON  
12

## Picture Quiz Pares Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by an evening of fun in our picture quiz. The Coach and Horses, Victoria Road, Draycott DE72 3PS. Contact Barbara on 0115 946 5105.

TUES  
13

## Dining Out Experience at The Farm House, Mackworth



6.45pm



As per  
menu



Join us for an evening of food and friendship. Book by Tuesday 6 August. The Farmhouse, Ashbourne Road, Mackworth, Derby DE22 4LY. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



# August

**SAT**  
**17** Quiz



3pm



£1 per person



Come and join us for a fun afternoon quiz with friends. Hosts are Bob Rogers and Grant Wright. Nibbles will be provided. Cost: £1 per person, four people per team. Book by Friday 9 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



**WED**  
**21** Walking Group at Tutbury



10am



As per menu



Meet at the Dog and Partridge for a five mile walk. Mainly flat with some stiles. Lunch at the Dog and partridge afterwards. Dog & Partridge, High Street, Tutbury DE13 9LS. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.



**SAT**  
**24** Coffee Morning



10.30am



£1



Come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Also, bacon cobs will be on sale. Cost: £1 for tea or coffee and biscuits. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

# September

**ODDFELLOWS**  
**FRIENDSHIP MONTH**

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



**SUN**  
**01** Open Garden at Woodville, Swadlincote



1pm



Members £3  
Guests £4



Come and join Diane Langford at her house for a chat and refreshments. Diane will be providing meat baps and roast potatoes. Book by Thursday 22 August. 30 Wainwright Drive, Woodville, Swadlincote DE11 7FF. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



# September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES  
03

## Ten Pin Bowling Night Out King George IV Branch



TBC



Speak to  
Maureen



Come and join us for a fun night out Tenpin Bowling. Tenpin Bowling, Foresters Leisure Park, Derby DE23 8AG. For more details and to book members must contact Maureen on 01332 739538 by Tuesday 6 August.

WED  
04

## Walking Group at Morley Hayes



10am



As per menu



Meet at Cloves Wood lay-by on A608 opposite Morley Hayes golf club. Nearest postcode DE7 6DG. Followed by lunch, at a venue to be decided. Cloves Wood Lay-by, Main Road A608, Morley DE7 6DG. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.

FRI  
06

## Savoury Club and Steal Raffle



7pm



Members £4  
Guests £5



Come along to our ever so popular Savoury Club. As before bring something savoury and don't pay. There will also be a fun game of Steal Bingo. Book by Friday 30 August. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



MON  
09

## Good Samaritan Branch District Officers' Visit



11am



Free



Come and meet this year's Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) and her officers. A buffet will be served following the meeting. Book by Monday 2 September. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. For catering purposes, please contact Margaret Glanville on 01332 771964 if you would like to come along.

# September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



MON  
09

## Dominoes Night Pares Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for our monthly meeting. Followed by a dominoes night. The Coach



and Horses, Victoria Road, Draycott DE72 3PS. Contact Barbara on 0115 946 5105.

TUES  
10

## Dining Out Experience at The Seven Wells, Etwall



6.45pm



As per menu



Join us for an evening of food and friendship. Book by Tuesday 3 September. The Seven Wells, Heage Lane, Etwall DE65 6LS. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

SUN  
15

## Annual Church Service



2.30pm



Free



Being held at the Boulton St Mary's Church. Meet at 2.30pm for the service at 3pm. Following the service a buffet tea will be served in the church community hall. Book by Friday 6 September. Boulton St Mary's Church, Boulton Lane, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0GE. Please contact the office on 01332 345697 if you would like to attend, for catering purposes.

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TUES  
17

## Friendship Coffee Morning



10.30am



£1



Come along and bring a friend for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Cost: £1 for tea or coffee and biscuits. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
Invite a friend



# September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



WED  
18

## Walking Group at Spondon/Ockbrook



10am



As per menu



FRI  
27

## Lunch at the Derbion Food Court



12 noon



As per menu



A five mile walk in the Spondon/Ockbrook area. Meet at Dale Road car park (DE21 7DL) for a mainly flat walk, some stiles. Followed by lunch afterwards at a place to be decided. Dale Road Park Car Park, Dale Road, Spondon DE21 7DL. Contact Colin on 01332 679851.

Meet outside TGI Friday's for lunch and a chat with friends at Derbion Food Court. Derby's Shopping Centre is easily accessible by bus for a midday meal. Book by Friday 20 September. The Derbion Shopping Centre, London Road, Derby DE1 2PL. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.

SAT  
21

## Friendship Walk and Picnic at Elvaston Castle Country Park



10.30am



£5 per person, Children Free



Meet in the car park at Elvaston Castle Country Park for a walk with friends and a chat. Also, a picnic is provided. All money raised goes to the Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) charity. Book by Friday 13 September. Elvaston Castle Country Park, Borrowash Road DE72 3EP. Contact Lauretta on 01332 345697.



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
Join the fun

## Join the fun in Friendship Month

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

All welcome

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



To see what's on and find out more about Friendship Month visit [www.friendshipmonth.com](http://www.friendshipmonth.com)

# Paying your membership by Direct Debit

A new Direct Debit payment initiative was launched in January to try to make membership payments easier. So why choose Direct Debit?

- It is easy to set up, it can be done over the phone or online.
- You don't need to worry about renewing each year as the Direct Debit will automatically be taken upon your renewal date.
- You still have complete control because you can cancel whenever you want – you'll be notified of the payment 6-8 weeks in advance to give you plenty of time to make any changes.
- It's paperless and nothing has to go through the post, so no danger of it going astray.
- It is all done on a totally secure system.
- You can choose to make the membership payment over two consecutive months to help you manage your finances.
- Standard membership would be two monthly payment of £12.50 and extra benefits would be two monthly payments of £17.50.



Find out more by contacting **Membership Services** on **0800 028 1810**



The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F. Registered Office  
Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB.

DDAD0323

# Branch Contact and 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.

## Contact Details

Contact Alice on 01332 345697  
Come along and find out how the District runs. Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

## Derby Derwent Valley District Branch

Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Held on Wednesday at 7pm.

**Wednesday 26 June**

**Wednesday 25 September**

## Loyal King George IV

Contact Maureen Burgoyne on 01332 739538  
Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

**4 June, 2 July (District Officers' Visits), 6 August and 3 September**

## Loyal Good Samaritan

Contact Margaret Glanville on 01332 771964  
Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 11am at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

**10 June, 8 July, 12 August and 9 September (District Officers' Visits)**

## Loyal Good Intent

Contact Margaret Henchcliff on 01332 519062  
Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm at 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

**6 June (District Officers' Visits), 4 July and 5 September**

## Loyal Pares

Contact Barbara Smith on 01159 465105  
Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm at Coach and Horses Pub, Victoria Road, Draycott, Derby DE72 3PS.

**10 June, 8 July, 12 August and 9 September**

## Loyal Stanhope

Contact Doreen Swain on 01332 720064  
Meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month at 6.30pm at Hunters Arms Pub, Church Street, Kilburn, Derby DE56 0LU.

**6 July, 3 August and 7 September**

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Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB

IT'S TIME FOR A

# PHOTO COMPETITION



**The perfect opportunity to get involved in Friendship Month, especially if you are unable to attend any events.**

The theme this year is 'Leisure'



**Get snapping, have some fun and be creative!**

## **Terms and conditions apply**

To be eligible, photos must be taken during June to July 2024 and sent to us by Wednesday 31 July.

It's 50p per entry.

Members must submit one photo and the size must be 6 inches by 4 inches. Don't forget to give them a caption and include your name.

Entries are displayed in the hall after the closing date.

We will announce the winner at the Quiz on Saturday 17 August.

The winner will be awarded the Brother Ted Sandall Memorial Trophy, which they can keep for a year. Their name will be engraved on the trophy. No alternative prize available.

All proceeds will go to Lilian Prime (MS) Centre.

The competition is managed and fulfilled by the Oddfellows (the Promoter), Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.

The Promoter reserves the right to publish any photos entered into the competition. The decision of the Promoter on any matter relating to these rules shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

# At a glance

## June 2024

<b>Mon 3</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Tues 4</b>	Coffee Morning and Guest Speaker	10.30am
<b>Tues 4</b>	Kurling Night - King George IV Branch	7.30pm
<b>Thurs 6</b>	Good Intent Branch District Officers' Visit	2.30pm
<b>Mon 10</b>	Good Samaritan Branch Meeting	11am
<b>Mon 10</b>	Race Night - Pares Branch	7.30pm
<b>Tues 11</b>	Dining Out Experience at Tandoori Nights, Shardlow	6.45pm
<b>Wed 12</b>	Walking at Whatstandwell	10am
<b>Sat 15</b>	Strawberry Tea	2pm
<b>Mon 17</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Sat 22</b>	Zoom Countdown with Colin	10.30am
<b>Wed 26</b>	Walking at Kirk Langley	10am
<b>Wed 26</b>	Derby Derwent Valley District Branch Meeting	7pm
<b>Sat 29</b>	Open Garden at Alvaston	10.30am

## July

<b>Mon 1</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Tues 2</b>	King George IV Branch District Officers' Visit	7.30pm
<b>Thurs 4</b>	Good Intent Branch Meeting	2.30pm
<b>Fri 5</b>	Lunch at the Derbion Food Court	12 noon
<b>Sat 6</b>	Zoom Quiz	10.30am
<b>Sat 6</b>	Stanhope Branch Meeting	6.30pm
<b>Mon 8</b>	Good Samaritan Branch Meeting	11am
<b>Mon 8</b>	Beetle Drive - Pares Branch	7.30pm
<b>Tues 9</b>	Dining Out Experience at The Ragley Boat Stop, Sinfin	6.45pm
<b>Wed 10</b>	Walking Group at Osmaston, Ashbourne	10am
<b>Mon 15</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Sat 20</b>	Zoom Countdown with Colin	10.30am
<b>Sun 21</b>	Film Afternoon	2pm



# At a glance

## July

<b>Wed 24</b>	Walking Group at West Hallam	10am
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 29</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm

## August

<b>Sat 3</b>	Zoom Quiz	10.30am
<b>Sat 3</b>	Stanhope Branch Meeting	6.30pm
<b>Sun 4</b>	Teddy Bears Picnic	11am
<b>Tues 6</b>	Play Your Cards Right - King George IV Branch	7.30pm
<b>Wed 7</b>	Walking Group at Swarkestone	10am
<b>Thurs 8</b>	Coach Trip to Stratford Upon Avon - Good Intent Branch	9.30am
<b>Fri 9</b>	Celebrating Oddfellows	10.30am
<b>Mon 12</b>	Good Samaritan Branch Meeting	11am
<b>Mon 12</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Mon 12</b>	Picture Quiz - Pares Branch	7.30pm
<b>Tues 13</b>	Dining Out Experience at The Farm House, Mackworth	6.45pm
<b>Sat 17</b>	Zoom Countdown with Colin	10.30am
<b>Sat 17</b>	Quiz	3pm
<b>Wed 21</b>	Walking Group at Tutbury	10am
<b>Sat 24</b>	Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Sat 31</b>	Zoom Quiz	10.30am

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Sun 1</b>	Open Garden at Woodville, Swadlincote	1pm
<b>Tues 3</b>	Ten Pin Bowling Night Out - King George IV Branch	TBC
<b>Wed 4</b>	Walking Group at Morley Hayes	10am
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Good Intent Branch Meeting	2.30pm
<b>Fri 6</b>	Savoury Club and Steal Raffle	7pm
<b>Sat 7</b>	Stanhope Branch Meeting	6.30pm
<b>Mon 9</b>	Good Samaritan Branch District Officers' Visit	11am

# At a glance

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Mon 9</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Mon 9</b>	Dominoes Night - Pares Branch	7.30pm
<b>Tues 10</b>	Dining Out Experience at The Seven Wells, Etwall	6.45pm
<b>Sat 14</b>	Zoom Countdown with Colin	10.30am
<b>Sun 15</b>	Annual Church Service	2.30pm
<b>Tues 17</b>	Friendship Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Wed 18</b>	Walking Group at Spondon/Ockbrook	10am
<b>Sat 21</b>	Friendship Walk and Picnic at Elvaston Castle Country Park	10.30am
<b>Mon 23</b>	Crafty Social	6.30pm
<b>Wed 25</b>	Derby Derwent Valley District Branch Meeting	7pm
<b>Fri 27</b>	Lunch at the Derbion Food Court	12 noon
<b>Sat 28</b>	Zoom Quiz	10.30am

### REFER A FRIEND

Share the love  
and make  
someone smile



To refer someone you know and make their day, either fill in the **Refer a Friend form** available from your Branch Secretary, or call Membership on **0800 028 1810**, or visit our Members' Area at **[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)**

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

Ref 1644

## Provincial Grand Master's Message



**Dear Brothers and Sisters, my name is Diane Langford and I feel very proud to be this years Provincial Grand Master (Chairman), representing the Derby Derwent Valley District Branch for the first time. At this point, I would like to give thanks to Margaret Henchliff for stepping in at the last minute as Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Chairman). Margaret has just stepped down as a District Trustee, but this will be her fourth round as a District Officer and highlights the difficulties of encouraging members to get more involved, giving a member an opportunity to bring new ideas and experience to the table. If you think you would be interested in joining us, let the Office know and you would be more than welcome. Bill Henchliff has now finished as a District Officer, but has also stepped down from the Committee of Management and thanks go to Bill for his time and experience given to the District over many years and wish him future happiness in his retirement. However, we welcome and**

**congratulate Penny Folds on joining the Committee as one of our five Trustees.**

How the District operates and is managed has gone through many changes in the last 15 months, but the one many of you will be aware of is our new Branch Secretary, Laurretta Stokes. She has been settling in to her role very well and I know many members by now have met, or spoken to her on the telephone. We also hope to recruit a Social Organiser in the coming months, to promote and oversee our many social events and activities. Encouraging more members to join is very important and if you know of anyone who would be interested in the benefits of membership, please contact the Office for more information on 'Member get Member'.

I congratulate Christine Shelton on her year as Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) for the wonderful amount raised by the members for her charity, 'Children First Derby'. In my year I have chosen the Lilian Prime (MS) Centre. A Derby based charity, run by local volunteers to provide support, social interaction and resource for people affected by Multiple Sclerosis, something I

have first hand experience of. As a drop-in centre they hold exercise classes, therapies and host events for use by people affected by MS and other neurological conditions, which includes their family members/carers. Members will have a chance to learn more about the centre and its history at the Coffee Morning being held on Thursday 9 May. If you would like to make a donation to the charity, cheques should be made payable to: Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) charity and would be very much appreciated.

I'd like to finish by wishing you all a sunny and healthy summer and look forward to seeing many members at our varied range of events and activities.

**Diane Langford  
Provincial Grand Master (Chairman)**

The photo below shows the new District Officers: Sister C Shelton Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master (Immediate Past Chairman), Sister D Langford Provincial Grand Master (Chairman), Sister M Henchliff Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chairman) and Sister L Stokes Provincial Corresponding Secretary.





# My Dream Holiday in Sri Lanka



**On Thursday 14 March I set off from Heathrow airport to travel to Sri Lanka, a place I have wanted to visit for many years. I love elephants so much and wanted to see the country.**

We visited Sigiriya Rock Fortress (Lion Rock) climbing up so many steps to get to the Lions Feet and some of our group went higher up. It was 34 degrees when we set off at 7am in the morning. After a lunch stop we went to Polonnaruwa, which was once the royal capital of the Sinhalese Kingdom and is over 1,000 years old. It was advantageously positioned to safeguard against possible attacks. Here we admired the ruins of the Royal Palace and wandered around Gal Vihara, famous for its carved Buddha statues. The next day we left Dambulla for Kandy. We went to the beautiful botanical gardens in Peradeniya with gorgeous plants and trees and an Orchid house.

We then went to Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, which was the highlight. Here I got to feed a young elephant with a plate of fruit I bought and then we had lunch and saw the elephants come down at 2pm for their bathing time. You can get in the water to wash them if you can get down the rocks. I was just content to film them. We also visited the Elephant Poo Paper shop.



Elephant dung is recycled to make quality paper into notebooks. All the profits go back to the orphanage to give the elephants a good diet, vitamins and medicine and keep them healthy and to pay their keepers.

Departing from Kandy we visited a tea plantation where we saw the tea pickers and even got to pick tea ourselves, and then got to tour the factory to see the process, how it goes through the various stages before being packed. This is the best tea you can buy here, as the rest of the tea goes to auction where it can be bought and the buyers can blend it.

We travelled to Nuwara Eliya and stopped at a beautiful waterfall and then to a district referred as 'Little England' where there was a postbox made by A Handyside of Derby. I had a photo next to it.

We travelled to Yala National park the next day for a safari seeing wild elephants and wild boar, buffalo and deer and many birds.

The next day we went to Galle Fort, once the chief port of Ceylon and the centre of the Dutch regime in the 17th century where there is a Dutch church and lighthouse. We then went to a turtle hospital where turtles who get trapped in fishing nets get nursed back to good health, before being released back into the sea. We then saw fishermen fishing on stilts, the last place in the World to still do this

and lots of dried fish drying out on huge tables on the beach. Then to Mount Lavinia Hotel with a beautiful beach before travelling the next day to our 5\* star hotel for a four nights stay to unwind before returning home to England again.

A fabulous tour and holiday with so many experiences and memories to remember forever.

**Submitted by Ruth Jackson**

## Traditional Terms

**Grand Master (GM):** Chairman

**Provincial Grand Master (Prov GM):** District Chairman

**Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Prov DGM):** District Deputy Chairman

**Provincial Corresponding Secretary (Prov CS):** District Secretary – responsible for administering Branches

**Past Provincial Grand Master (PPGM):** Past District Chairman

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

**Lodge:** Branch

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

## Walking Group



After the storms over Christmas and New Year only two intrepid walkers, Colin Smith and Brian Smith (not related) turned up for the first walk in 2024 on Wednesday 10 January, from Ripley. They soon realised their mistake and the photo shows Brian's gaiters and boots! I am sure there are better things to come.

At the time of writing (April) the weather has not really picked up at all, it has been extremely wet, but the walks have continued and members have braved the conditions. It is hoped that conditions will improve soon and more members will join a walk through Derbyshire's wonderful countryside.

## Getting Old

Three old ladies were sitting at the dinner table discussing their problems with getting old.

The first one said, "Sometimes I catch myself with a jar of mayonnaise in my hand, while standing in front of the fridge and I can't remember whether I need to put it away, or start making a sandwich."

The second lady says, "Yes, sometimes I find myself on the landing of the stairs and can't remember whether I was on my way up or on my way down".

The third one says, "Well ladies, I'm glad I don't have any of those problems, knock on wood," As she hit her knuckles on the table she looked up and said, "That must be the door.... I'll get it!"

## Chocolate Bingo

A good number attended the bingo afternoon and soon eyes were down with Polly calling the numbers. Those lucky enough to win a line had lots of chocolate bars to choose as their prize, with those having a full house won a tub of Quality Street or Roses.

It was a happy afternoon with refreshments of jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings, followed by a Danish pastry and chocolate brownie. The afternoon raised £120 for the Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) charity.



## Play Your Cards Right



Lots of members come along for this 80s television game hosted by Sir Bruce Forsyth. Our host was Polly Cunningham with 'Dolly Dealers' Christine Shelton ably helped by junior Skyla. It was lots of fun, exciting and tense all at the same time. The tea and cake for refreshments also went down well.



# Lauretta Stokes

**Firstly let me introduce myself as your new Provincial Corresponding Secretary (District Secretary) Lauretta Stokes.**

I have met a few members already over the past few weeks and everyone has made me feel very welcome and I am thoroughly enjoying my new role.

Over the last 30 years I have worked within a customer service environment in insurance, banks and my last role in a training company. Therefore, have always worked in an office and get great job satisfaction speaking to and helping others. Also, I have three grown up children and one 8 year old grandson, Theo, who is the apple of my eye. In my spare time I enjoy attending music concerts and when I can enjoy going abroad. My favourite place so far in the world is Cuba.

I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all at the forthcoming social events.



## Dinner Dance



**Our Dinner Dance this year was held at The Grange, Burton Road. It was held in honour of our Provincial Grand Master (Chairman), Christine and her honoured guests were the Grand Master of the Order (Chairman of the Society), Barbara Needham and her husband, Past Grand Master (Past Chairman), Peter.**

Two representatives from Children First were also guests and they said how grateful they were to us for choosing them to support this year.

The meal was excellent and the entertainment by Rocks and Frocks great. Although numbers were down those that attended really enjoyed themselves.



### 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 Lauretta Stokes on **01332 345697** or email **lauretta.stokes@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](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)

#### 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](mailto:care@oddfellows.co.uk)

\*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.

# Murder comes to Downturn

**The Good Intent Branch's now annual Murder Mystery took place on Thursday 7 March, set in the library of Downturn Abbey.**

It was an all ladies cast this year with Helen Warby playing Lady Flora Rawley, Ruth Jackson as Lady Ethel and Penny Folds as Lady Martha. Margaret Henchcliff was the ladies maid Miss O'Ryan, Caroline Paddock was the cook Mrs Pratmore and Alice Smyth her assistant, Maisie. Diane Langford played Prudence detective from the No. 2 Detective Agency, who lead everyone through the investigation.

The murder victim was Lord Richard Rawley who had 'upset' most of the ladies in some way or other, but after some super sleuthing (most members worked it out) the ladies maid, Miss O'Ryan was announced



as the murderer, by poison because Lord Richard refused to accept her illegitimate son as his heir.

The members of the Good Intent Lodge provided a lovely high tea on beautiful bone china, kindly loaned

to us from Alice's Mum, which set the 'posh' scene beautifully. It was also Barry Wilson's birthday so he had a cake and we sang to him, of course.

It was a lovely afternoon, thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

## Cheque Presentation

**At the end of Christine's year in Office as our Provincial Grand Master (Chairman), she was delighted to present a cheque for the sum of £5,195 to Irshad Baqui, a representative from Children First Derby.**

Christine thanked everyone for their help and support over the year. Irshad was very grateful to the Oddfellows for choosing Children First to support and gave details of how the money will help the children aged 10-18 and their families when times are hard. The children will have many happy times that they would not have had without the help of Children First.



After the presentation members enjoyed refreshments and a chat.

Congratulations to Christine on her year in Office.

## Dear Members

I would like to thank those members who have taken time to send in some very interesting articles for our magazine. If you have anything to share, please forward them to [alice.smyth@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:alice.smyth@oddfellows.co.uk) or drop them off in the Office.

Margaret Henchcliff, Editor



# February Coffee Morning



The three members are full of smiles after each winning a prize in the raffle. Pictured above: From left to right, Lilian Wheeldon, Marie Thorp and Stewart Wharton who say he never wins a prize, but actually always does. It was a busy coffee morning

especially for Polly Cunningham and her Mum Christine, who provided the much enjoyed bacon cobs and teas and coffees.

The April Coffee Morning brought back many memories of Bygone Derby. Christine Shelton had put together a photographic quiz of many old black and white pictures of Derby and the surrounding areas. It brought up lots of memories and discussions for members of growing up in Derby.

If was also Margaret Henchliff's 75th birthday and there was a cake and candles (not 75) and everyone sang Happy Birthday.



## Poem Competition

We are sure that we have members with poetic leanings. So we would love you to pen your own poems for us to share and enjoy. A £25 M & S gift voucher will be available for the winning entry. Good luck everyone. Terms and conditions apply:

- To be eligible the poem must be a rhyming poem about 'Summer.'
- Entry to the poem competition is 50p per poem and is automatic on submission of the poem. We will not share your details with any other party and your data will not be used for any other purpose.
- Only two entry per person allowed. No cash alternative is available.
- The competition is open to residents of the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man only.
- The poem competition is managed and fulfilled by Derby Derwent Valley Oddfellows (The Promoter), Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU. Employees and contractors (and their respective families) of The Promoter are not eligible to enter.
- The competition will close on Wednesday 31 July 2024 at 23.59 hours
- To enter, send your poem (maximum 40 lines, no minimum) to Derby Derwent Valley Oddfellows, Oddfellows Hall, 32 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GU.
- The winner will be notified after Wednesday 31 July 2024. This may be in person, by telephone or by email.
- The Promoter, on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, will provide details of the winning entry, and has the right to publicly disclose the name of the winner.
- The decision of The Promoter on any matter relating to these rules shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

## A Boat Beneath a Sunny Sky By Lewis Carroll

A boat beneath a sunny sky,  
Lingering onward dreamily  
In an evening of July –

Children three that nestle near,  
Eager eye and willing ear,  
Pleased a simple tale to hear –

Long has faded that sunny sky:  
Echoes fade and memories die:  
Autumn frosts have slain July.

Still she haunts me, phantomwise,  
Alice moving under skies  
Never seen but waking eyes.

Children yet, the tale to hear,  
Eager eye and willing ear,  
Lovingly shall nestle near.

In a Wonderland they lie,  
Dreaming as the days go by,  
Dreaming as the summers die:

Ever drifting down the stream –  
Lingering in the golden gleam –  
Life, what is it but a dream?

## Easter Coffee Morning



There were lots of Easter eggs in the raffle and the Hall had been decorated beautifully for Easter. Members enjoyed tea or coffee, hotcross buns and biscuits and a good chat. There were lots of Easter crafts available, but only these two little junior members partook. They sat intently, concentrating on decorating eggs and making Easter cards all morning. They were rewarded by an Easter egg each.

## Pudding Club

There were some beautiful puddings on display for this always enjoyed evening; some bought and some home-made. After members had consumed their fill and the noise level had risen considerably (sugar rush) the fun of 'Steal Bingo' began. As usual the wine and Liquorice Allsorts were the favourite items in the raffle.



## The Humble Dandelion



On a sunny day at the beginning of April driving home from Oddfellows Hall, the grass verges and central reservations were a mass of dandelions. What wonderful bright and cheerful flowers they are, opening in the sunshine and closing in the evening, before becoming pom pom like seed heads when they finish flowering. Unfortunately avid gardeners have to spend their life trying to keep them at bay in their gardens.

As a child we very rarely picked them as the saying went that if you did you would wee the bed!!!, so I thought I would try and find out where that came from. Apparently for centuries the dandelion was used as a diuretic and the French word for dandelion is pissenlit, which mean "pee the bed". Hundreds of years ago the Chinese thought the dandelion had medicinal virtues in purifying the blood and increasing the immune system. Arabian cultures were using them for treating troubles with the liver and kidneys and all of Europe were using dandelions in their kitchen and storing them in medicine cabinets. Also they used to believe if you blew the seed head, the number of seeds left denoted the number of children you would have.

I remember in my younger days the flower heads made a very nice sweet wine and the leaves can be steeped in hot water to make a tea (I think I will stick to Yorkshire tea). It's leaves work well in salads and it's long taproot can be dried and used as an alternative to coffee apparently!

Obviously a much maligned flower.

**Submitted by Margaret Henchliff**

# Oddfellows Wordsearch



Advice

Apron

Award

Badge

Benevolence

Branch

Brother

Caring

Chain

Coffee Mornings

Collar

Committee

Conductor

Conference

Degrees

District

Fellowship

Fraternal

Friendship

Guardian

Help

Independent

Initiation

Installation

Jewel

Lodge

Love

Loyal

Manchester Unity

Medal

Member

Mutual

Noble Grand

Oddfellows

Officers

Order

Password

Past Grand

Provincial Grand Master

Regalia

Right Supporter

Ritual

Sign

Sister

Society

Triple Links

Truth

Vice Grand

Warden

Welfare

David Smith recently hands. So while he has been healing, he put together this word search, with all words relating to our wonderful Society. We wish David well with his recovery and are glad to hear

he is not allowed in the garage again without supervision! If you require a solution, one can be obtained from the Office.



# A Coffee Morning, a Bedspread and a Book

**Upon hearing the news of a forthcoming Branch coffee morning with the auctioneer Isabel Murtough, who was coming to value our items, I remembered my grandmother's bedspread.**

I made my way up to the attic to retrieve the bedspread where it had been in storage for many years. This bedspread had been a gift given to my grandma, Ethel McDougall when she married my granddad, Allan Barber in May 1922. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the coffee morning. I had told Alice about the bedspread saying how sad it is that antique items are unable to talk and tell their history. However, in the case of the bedspread, as it was a wedding gift and placed on the marriage bed, its possibly as well it couldn't!

After carefully spreading the bedspread across my dining room floor and admiring it for the first time in years, I took some photographs and emailed these to Isabel for a valuation. I made the decision to place this in an auction scheduled to take place early January and use the proceeds for a project my sister and I were working on. After watching Bargain Hunt on TV I had always wanted to attend an auction, however I was told that many auctions now take place online. The bedspread sold at auction in early January and I feel pleased that it now has a new owner who will hopefully admire it and not keep it hidden away in a bag in the attic.



The money raised was put towards the project - the printing of my mother's memoirs.

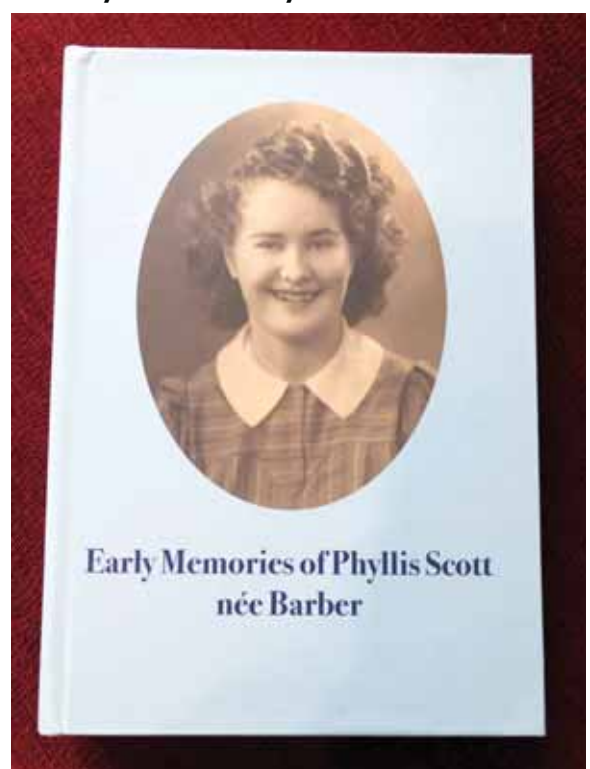
Some time ago I had asked my mum if she would list a few details of her life for her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She said that she would like to write her memoirs. This was no mean feat as she was in her 90s at the time. On a regular basis I took her a notebook, once one was full so a new one was delivered. Mum became the talk of her Care Home, the staff often commenting that Phyllis was busy writing her memoirs.

Mum completed six books before she passed away. The first book began with stories that had been told about her birth and the last book she managed to complete ended with the birth of her first child, my elder sister.

Five years after mum's death the proceeds of the sale of the bedspread enabled the dream of getting the memoirs printed to become a reality. The whole process wasn't as complicated as we first expected. The proof copy was completed early February and by 20 February the copies were off the press and ready for collection.

What an exciting adventure this has been. Who would have thought that a bedspread could eventually help to publish a precious book? All of mum's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren are now proud owners of their own copies. What a legacy to leave! Throughout the whole process I felt that my Grandma and my mum would have approved.

**Submitted by Helen Warby**



## Society-funded cancer research on track

**The Centre for Cancer Immunology, current beneficiaries of the Society's HA Andrews Memorial Fund, recently received its second donation instalment.**

The Centre, based at the University of Southampton, was chosen as the recipient of the £100,000 grant, split over three years, in 2022.

The money is sponsoring the PhD studies of Nur Zainal, who is looking into a specific gene which it is believed can be manipulated to target cancer cells in a new vaccine.

### Nur's first year

The first year of Nur's studies has been spent preparing for the execution of her PhD project over the next three years. She has been learning appropriate techniques, skills and procedures, as well as being introduced to theories and connecting with relevant research groups.

Nur, who travelled to the UK from Malaysia with her family to undertake the PhD, said: "I believe the invaluable experiences and



Nur updating AMC last year

knowledge I have acquired over the past year have equipped me to be a more productive and capable student.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Oddfellows for their support in making my studies possible."

### On the right path

Some of Nur's work on 3D cell culture – growing cancer cells in a way that more closely resembles the environment they experience in our bodies than traditional 2D cell culture – is included in a manuscript which will be published in a major international journal, for which she will be listed as a co-author.

Dr Tim Fenton, Associate Professor in Cancer Biology, says Nur has "excelled during her first year", adding: "We hope that Nur's studies will lead to improvements in the design of cancer vaccines, which is a key theme in the work being undertaken at the Centre for Cancer Immunology here in Southampton."



Dr Tim Fenton

## Striving for a greener future

**The Oddfellows is committed to being as green as possible. That's why we've been calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint since 1 April 2020.**



Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, 106.38 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e was recorded as being produced through the operations of our Liverpool and Manchester offices and associated transport activities, which includes our financial services brand, Unity Mutual.

Although this figure is up 5.4% on the previous year, benchmarked against employee numbers, carbon emissions have remained almost constant (up 0.2%).

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Our focus is to keep learning through our assessments and to make incremental changes to the way we operate so we can bring our greenhouse gas emissions down and play our part in tackling climate change."

The Society's aim is to be Net Zero, where our carbon emissions are as low as possible. As a last resort, we have offset our 2022-23 carbon footprint by funding carbon dioxide-saving initiatives, including in Eritrea, Cambodia, Brazil, Bulgaria and India.

Jane added: "Climate change is real. It's the greatest environmental challenge we've ever faced. But there is hope, because we can all do something about it."

### HA Andrews Memorial Fund

The Fund provides financial support to UK-based medical research projects or organisations. For more information about the Fund, and how you can donate, go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews)

## Investing in futures

**Unity Mutual discovered a genuine interest in its children's savings accounts – a topic many grandparents**



Unity Mutual at the Baby and Toddler show

**and parents hadn't considered before – while at the 2023 Baby and Toddler Show in Manchester.**

The Junior ISA (JISA), offered in partnership with Mini First Aid to include a free paediatric first aid course\*, turned heads, especially when parents realised once they'd set it up, anyone could contribute.

Unity Mutual's Head of Sales and Marketing, Abi Jones, said: "No more brainstorming gift ideas for that first birthday or Christmas – a shared investment in a secure future sparked enthusiasm. Because, sometimes, the best gifts are the ones that grow over time."

\*T&Cs apply.



## Our fantastic four

**Congratulations to 2023's First Degree Course Educational Awards winners. George, Benedict, Jamie and Charlotte will each receive £3,600 over the next four years of their respective university courses to help ease the financial pressures of student life and create opportunities.**

### George LeBon

Heart of Norfolk Branch member

George began his studies at the University of Southampton in September 2023 – a four-year course in Computer Science with Cybersecurity.

His dream job is to become a “white hat hacker”, which he explained is someone who is “hired by companies to try and hack into their databases and report back the vulnerabilities”.

He says he and his family were overjoyed to discover he'd be receiving the funding and has thanked the Society, adding:

“It will go towards buying textbooks so I can enhance my knowledge further and better understand the industry that I want to work in.”



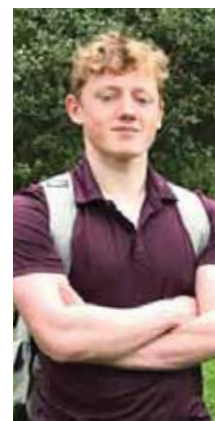
### Benedict Weis

Leodis Branch member

Benedict hasn't yet decided what his ideal future job role might be. He is studying Aerospace Engineering at Queen's University Belfast and hopes career path might become clearer over the next few years.

Since starting in September 2023, Benedict has joined the University's rowing club and the money will help him pay for training camps and trips, which he says will allow him to study more effectively without worrying as much about his finances.

“I would like to thank the Oddfellows for the award and just to say how grateful I am for it,” he said.



### Jamie Messett

Loyal Lord Byron Branch member

Jamie started his first of four years of Chemistry at the University of Oxford's Balliol College in October 2023, and will put the money towards learning materials. He would like his future to be in the pharmaceutical industry, but a PhD and a career in research is also a potential avenue.

He said: “Nobody should underestimate how valuable funding can be towards determining how well a student performs.

“I would like to thank everyone involved in helping me with this award, and also everyone involved with providing the funding.”



### Charlotte Stevenson,

Pride of Woolwich Branch member

Charlotte started her four-year course in Physics and Philosophy at the University of Oxford's Brasenose College in October 2023.

She is hoping to do a PhD in astrophysics and then continue researching within the field beyond that.

The funding will allow her to take part in unpaid research programmes during university holidays, covering the cost of travel, accommodation and food, as well as contributing to the cost of textbooks and other resources. She said: “This award will be an immense help throughout my degree and I'm so, so grateful to have received it.”



Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society, Barbara Needham, said: “Ordinarily, we hand out three First Degree Course Educational Awards each year, but such was the strength of the applications of this year's winners that we felt they all deserved the financial boost.

“I'm delighted for all four of them, and I wish them every success over the next few years at university and beyond.”

For more information and T&Cs, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards)

# Congratulations



Congratulations to junior member **Florence Smyth** who received an award at school for 'Growing in confidence and writing'.



Our congratulations also go to her dad, **Luke Smyth**, on competing the Derby 10k run.

Congratulations to **Dennis Jordan** on winning the crocheted bedspread.

Thanks extended to all those who purchased the raffle tickets.

# Obituaries

Sadly the following Brothers and Sisters have passed away since the last magazine.

**Dorothy Price**, Pares Branch

**Barbara Ashmore**, Pares Branch

**Joan Wilson**, Good Samaritan Branch

**Margaret Edwards**, Good Samaritan Branch

**Arthur Anderton**, Pares Branch

**Josephine Hickinbottom**, Good Samaritan Branch

**Ralph Curl**, Stanhope Branch

**Jean Bell**, Good Samaritan Branch

**Margaret Eley**, Good Intent Branch

**Cyril Gillot**, Stanhope Branch

**Kenneth Tomlinson**, Good Intent Branch

**Elaine Poulter**, Good Intent Branch



I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.

I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles  
when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo whispering  
softly down the ways,

Of happy times and laughing times and bright  
and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry  
before the sun;

Of happy memories that I leave when like if done.