

October 2024 – March 2025



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

# *News & Events*

## Burton-on-Trent District Branch



*Tutbury Castle*



Music



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



Quiz



*District Luncheon – Sunday 27 October 2024*

## Welcome to our Burton-on-Trent Combined Newsletter and Diary

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

Our combined Newsletter & Diary is a handy guide to keep by your phone or fridge, so you know what is happening at the Branch.

If you have anything you would like including in the next copy of the newsletter, i.e., letters, photographs, or anything of interest to our readers please do not hesitate to contact me, either by post, phone, or email as in the contact details.

**Pre-Booking is Essential at all Events!**  
Names, addresses and a contact number of members and visitors attending will be required.

## Contact Details

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

**District Secretary:** Mervyn Eaton  
**Email:**  
[mervyn.eaton@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:mervyn.eaton@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Social Secretary:**  
Amanda Norbury-Mountford  
**Email:**  
[mandy.mountford@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:mandy.mountford@oddfellows.co.uk)

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

**Telephone:** 01283 564056

**Care and Welfare Officers:**  
Gordon and Viv Simpson  
**Telephone:** 07984 297276

**Any dietary requirements need to be requested at the time of booking.**

# Regular Events

**Members are welcome to join in with the regular weekly activities...**

There is usually something happening at Oddfellows Hall for our members.  
To find out more contact us on 01283 564056.

## Badminton

**Monday Morning and Evening  
and Wednesday Morning**

⌚ Monday and Wednesday Morning  
9.30am - 12 noon  
and Monday Evening 7pm - 9pm

£ Two free sessions, then membership applies

A chance to make  
new friends and  
get a little fitter, all  
you need is a racket  
and trainers.



## Short Mat Bowls

**Wednesday**

⌚ 2pm - 4pm

£ Two free sessions, then  
membership applies

A chance to make new friends and  
enjoy a gentle sport - with a break for  
refreshments and a chat. All playing  
equipment is provided, all you need  
are flat shoes.



All Badminton and Bowls equipment will be sanitised before and after each session. Chairs will all be placed with a social distance of one metre and are not to be moved.

## Singing for Pleasure

**Every Thursday**

⌚ 2pm - 3pm

£ Two free sessions, then  
membership applies

### Every Thursday, 2pm

If you enjoy singing, Then why not come  
along on a Thursday from 2pm to 3pm  
for a jolly sing along with good friends,  
all welcome.



**Have you celebrated a special Birthday or Wedding Anniversary? How did you celebrate this? If you have anything else you would like including in the next copy of the newsletter, i.e. letters, photographs, or anything of interest to our readers please do not hesitate to contact me, either by post, phone, or email.**

# October 2024

TUES

01

## Christian Union Lodge Meeting



3pm



Free



A Lodge meeting, where the matters of the Society are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

THURS

03

## Orphan's Protection Lodge



7pm



Free



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. Cock Inn, Hanbury Hill, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TD. Contact Amanda on 01283 564056.

FRI

11

## Cuppa and Chat



10.30am



£3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends along with a bacon or sausage cob or slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT

12

## Movie Time



4pm



Members £7, Guests £9, Under 12s £5



Just what you need after all the hustle and bustle of the weeks toils. Relax with an afternoon tea and the film 'The Duke'. Any dietary requirements need to be requested at the time of booking. Book by Wednesday 9 October 2024. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

## 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.

# October 2024    November

WED  
16

Burton-on-Trent  
District Lodge Meeting

 7.30pm

 Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

TUES  
05

Christian Union  
Lodge Meeting

 3pm

 Free



A Lodge meeting, where the matters of the Society are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SUN  
27

District Luncheon

 12.30pm

 £30



Guest speaker Sister Jane Nelson CEO/Secretary of the Order. Menu choices:

**Starter**

Cream of Mushroom Soup  
or  
Melon and Grape in Port  
or  
Chicken Caesar Salad

**Mains**

Roast Beef  
or  
Salmon with a Honey Soy Glaze  
Served with a choice of potatoes  
and seasonal vegetables

Followed by a choice of sweets,  
Cheese and Biscuit  
Tea or Coffee



Book by Friday 11 October 2024. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

# November

FRI

15

## Cuppa and Chat



10.30am



£3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends along with a bacon or sausage cob or slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT

16

## Bingo Night



6pm



Members £10, Guests £12, Under 12s £6



Eyes down for a fun filled bingo evening with our callers, they are always good for a laugh. Fish and chips will be provided. Any dietary requirements need to be booked by Wednesday 13 November 2024. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

WED

20

## Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting



7.30pm



Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

# December

TUES

03

## Christian Union Lodge Meeting



3pm



Free



A Lodge meeting, where the matters of the Society are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

THURS

05

## Orphan's Protection Lodge



7pm



Free



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. Cock Inn, Hanbury Hill, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TD. Contact Amanda on 01283 564056.



# December

FRI  
13

## Christmas Coffee Morning



10.30am



£3.50



Ho Ho Ho! It's Christmas time. Come join us for some festive cheer with our Christmas themed coffee morning. Warm turkey, stuffing and cranberry cobs, along with the usual bacon or sausage cobs will be available.

Why not bring a friend or two to join in the Christmas Spirit. All for the price of £3.50.

Stalls: Christmas tombola, cake stall and Christmas Prize Draw (this will be drawn at the end of the coffee morning). You never know Santa may make an appearance.



Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

# January 2025

TUES  
07

## Christian Union Lodge Meeting



3pm



Free



A Lodge meeting, where the matters of the Society are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

WED  
15

## Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting



7.30pm



Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

# January 2025

# February

FRI  
17

## Cuppa and Chat



10.30am



£3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends along with a bacon or sausage cob or slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

TUES  
04

## Christian Union Lodge Meeting



3pm



Free



A Lodge meeting, where the matters of the Society are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT  
18

## Party Time



6pm



Members £10, Guests £12



Join us in the fun of celebrating the New Year, with entertainment from G Force and a buffet supplied by our own social committee. Its just what you need to lift your spirits if the weather is a little disappointing. Why not bring family or friends along. Book by Wednesday 15 January 2025. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



## 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



OddfellowsUK



OddfellowsUK



# February

## THURS 06 Orphan's Protection Lodge

⌚ 7pm

£ Free



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. Cock Inn, Hanbury Hill, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TD. Contact Amanda on 01283 564056.

## FRI 14 Cuppa and Chat

⌚ 10.30am

£ £3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends along with a bacon or sausage cob or slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



## SAT 15 Quiz Night

⌚ 6pm



£ Members £10, Guests £12, Under 12s £6



Love a quiz? Then why not come along and tax those little grey cells at our fun quiz. Supper of Cottage Pie or Chilli followed by Gateau. Any dietary requirements need to be booked in advance. Book by Wednesday 12 February 2025. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

## WED 19 Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting

⌚ 7.30pm

£ Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

# March

TUES  
04

## Christian Union Lodge Meeting



3pm



Free



A Lodge meeting, where the matters of the Society are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

FRI  
07

## Cuppa and Chat



10.30am



£3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends along with a bacon or sausage cob or slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT  
08

## Movie Time



4pm



Members £7, Guests £9, Under 12s £5



Just what you need after all the hustle and bustle of the week's toils. Relax with an afternoon tea and the film 'Hairspray' the musical. Any dietary requirements need to be booked in advance by Wednesday 5 March 2025. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



## 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)

OE/0122A6

# March

SAT  
15

## District Annual Summoned Meeting

11am

£ Free



An Annual General Meeting of the Burton-on-Trent District Lodge (No. 100008) will take place



on Saturday 15 March 2025 at Oddfellows Hall, commencing at 11am for the purpose of transacting important business that will affect the District. If you wish to attend please contact the Office by Wednesday 12 March 2025 as refreshments will be provided, also any dietary requirement should be requested at the time. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

WED  
19

## Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting

7.30pm

£ Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.



### 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

# 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@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care)  
for care and welfare information**

# A Message from the Provincial Grand Master

**Hello,**

In our last Events Diary, I spoke about the fundraising aspect of my current role and what a privilege it is to have chosen the organisation that will receive the money.

At our Annual meeting in March, the ladies from Tilly's Voice came along to collect their cheque and express how amazed they were at the £4,000 raised.

Hosting events for our members to enjoy and raising some much-needed funds for projects in the local community is very rewarding.

I believe passionately in our motto 'Making Friends and Helping People', I have personally made some new friends since joining and we know our fundraising is Making a Difference.

This year we are raising money for YMCA (Burton upon Trent & District). I recently visited the Charity to see first-hand the work they do. Their work impacts up to 120 people every year across a breadth of vital services in and around Burton-on-Trent.



Supporting YMCA can be done in many ways. They include donating to the Foodbank, participating in their own events ~ take a look at Facebook to see what's coming up.

They hold a sponsored Sleepout at Pirelli Stadium which this year is on Friday 25 October I will be there, and the Bowman family who are Young Oddfellows have been taking part for many years.

Any remaining proceeds from our events will be added to the Funds raised for the YMCA at the end of my Term in Office.

It would be lovely to see you sometime and don't forget you can bring friends and family too.

**Caroline Mills**

**The Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) Appeal from March 2024- March 2025 is**



BURTON UPON TRENT  
& DISTRICT



# District Annual Summoned Meeting

**Saturday 16 March 2024, we held our Annual Summoned Meeting at Oddfellows Hall. This is where we make decisions on important business that will affect the District and its members.**

At the meeting Sister Caroline Mills Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) presented a cheque for £4,000 to representatives of her Appeal for 2023 'Tilly's Voice for Mental Health and Wellness'.

In her address Sister Caroline informed the meeting that her appeal for her second Term in Office would be the YMCA (Burton upon Trent & District).



*Sister Caroline Mills, Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) presenting the cheque to Tilly's Voice, Rhonda and Jessica.*

## Summer Luncheons



**On Sunday 12 May, 41 Oddfellows met for lunch at the Lakeside Bistro, Moira. We have used this venue a few times now for our Luncheons and everyone enjoys such a wonderful meal and service from Jo and her**

**team. So much so the Bowls Section decided to hold their luncheon here too. We have decided to hold our Pre-Christmas Lunch at the Bistro, so keep a look out on our Facebook page for details, price, and menu.**

## Bowls Luncheon





# Annual Movable Conference (AMC) Llandudno 2024

**This year's Conference was held at The Venue Cymru, Llandudno The AMC week was held from Saturday 24 May through to Friday 31 May with Conference commencing on Monday morning and concluding Wednesday afternoon.**

The AMC is where decisions about the future of the Society are made and where the Grand Master of the Order is elected. This year Sister Barbara Needham from Vale of York District will serve a second year in Office as Master of the Order.

The newly elected Director of the Order Brother Meirion Edwards from Deeside District was installed at the conclusion of Conference on the Wednesday afternoon.

Brother Mervyn J Eaton Prov CS (District Secretary), Burton-on-Trent District and Brother Peter J English Prov CS (District Secretary), Plymouth & Truro District, joined the illustrious group of Unity Meritorious Service Jewel Holders. This is the highest award any members can achieve other than being Grand Master of the Order. Their Jewels will be presented by the CEO/Secretary of the Order, Sister Jane Nelson, at our District Luncheon on Sunday 27 October.



*Brother Meirion Edwards, Newly Elected Director.*



During the week, as an aside to Conference business, there was time to catch up with old friends from Districts far and wide. Saturday night the entertainment was from The Navvies Ceilidh Band. On Sunday 26 May the Conference Church Service took place at The Hall, Venue Cymru followed by the traditional Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial.

In the afternoon Oddfellows Brass gave a free concert in The Hall, Venue Cymru. The farewell dance took place on Wednesday Night in the Venue with live music from 'Searchin'.



*Brother Mervyn J Eaton Prov CS (District Secretary), Burton-on-Trent District and Brother Peter J English Prov CS (District Secretary), Plymouth & Truro District, with other Unity Meritorious Service Jewel holders attending Conference.*

# Young Oddfellows Birthdays

## October 2024

Emily De Oliveira-Golding  
Rose Shakeshaft  
Finley Gassor

## November 2024

Clara Shilton  
Dakota J Perry  
Jasper Martin

## December 2024

Aurora Basten  
Isla Wigston-Coleman  
Jasmine Wilkes  
Christopher Cheneler  
William Smout

## January 2025

Effie Bowman  
India Bowman  
Danny Barratt  
Thomas Rees

## February 2025

Elleri Reid-Compson  
Anwen Elkin  
Libby Faulks  
Leonard Shilton

## March 2025

Liza Crofts  
Evalin Plevey  
Isla Weston  
Arthur Gillen  
Rupert Reid-Compson  
Finley Stamp  
Jacob Wilkes

## Young Oddfellows

What have you been doing during the year?

Why not write to me tell me what you have been doing and send a picture,  
we would love to hear from you.

# Give someone a great start in life **for only £10!**



**It's never too early to start  
making friends for life.**

**We laugh as we learn together and give each other a helping hand through the ups and downs of growing up. That's what being a Young Oddfellow is all about.**

If you have a family member aged 17 or under, and would like them to experience the friendship and support of the Oddfellows, we'd love to welcome them.

There are lots of great reasons\* to join Young Oddfellows – to find out more, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/young-oddfellows](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/young-oddfellows)

**As a parent, grandparent or guardian,  
you can join them online or ask your  
Branch Secretary for an application form.**



**Young  
Oddfellows** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

**\*Terms and conditions apply to membership and financial benefits.  
Call 0800 028 1810 for details or visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions)**

# District Church Service

The Burton-on-Trent District held its church service this year at St Modwen's Parish Church on Sunday 30 June and was led by the Reverend Dr Robin Trotter. Members from Burton-on-Trent were joined by members from the following Districts – Derby Derwent, Deeside, Pride of Leicestershire, Mid Staffs, Heart of England and Worcester. Junior members Brothers Luke and Jason Warner joined our

Regalia Team, with Brother Jason also reciting the Valediction and Brother Luke, together with his Grandfathers Brother Gordon Simpson, Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chairman) and Reverend Brother Dennis Warner reading the Unity Prayers for Friendship, Love and Truth. After the service refreshments were served back at Oddfellows Hall by Woodland Catering.



*Brothers G C Simpson, Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chairman) and Reverend Brother D Warner alongside Young Oddfellow, L Warner.*



*Reverend Dr Robin Trotter.*

## Regalia Party



## Members meet in Llandudno for AMC

**The late May Bank Holiday weekend in the beautiful North Wales coastal town of Llandudno was the setting for this year's Annual Movable Conference (AMC).**

Hosted by Deeside Oddfellows, members from throughout the UK made the trip to reflect on the previous 12 months and discuss and vote on the course of the next, all presided over by the Grand Master (Chairman), Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham.



*Business conducted, AMC Llandudno*

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, with Oddfellows Brass putting on another wonderful performance.



*Oddies on the coach to Portmeirion*

Members also took part in a ceilidh at the welcome evening, graced the green at the annual Roy Harmer Memorial Bowls Tournament, took a day trip to Portmeirion and got all dressed up for the Farewell Dance.

## Who should be our next major Fund recipient?

**Our HA Andrews Memorial Fund provides major financial support over a two or three year period to a project or organisation involved in, or conducting, medical research in the UK.**



The funding for Southampton University's Centre for Cancer Immunology, which was nominated by a member in Guernsey, is in its final year, so we're now open to suggestions on who to support from 2025.

If you've a suggestion of who we can support next, let us know. Go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews) to find out more about the criteria, how to nominate and our deadlines.



# Making a Difference Awards 2024

Five members have received national recognition for the brilliant and selfless work they put into making their Branch and the Society as wonderful as they can be.



## Terry Rendle, Oswald Branch Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Terry's contributions to the running of Oswald Branch's social events.

He regularly comes up with ideas for events, plans and advertises them, organises and purchases supplies, arranges



catering, sells tickets, physically arranges chairs and tables in the room, taxis people to and from, hosts and clears up after. All this at the age of 84.

"Socialising is so important as you get older," Terry said. "It keeps your brain busy and your body busy which means you might last a bit longer."

He added: "I was flabbergasted. I had to read the letter three times before I realised what I was reading."

## Pat and David Lang, Three Counties Branch Achieving Together

The married couple from Didcot, Oxfordshire, joined the Oddfellows over half-



century ago, and in that time have taken on many voluntary roles, including serving as Branch Chairman five times between them.

They are Welfare Visitors, regularly checking in on around 50 fellow members, and are well known for providing food for events and meetings. They are also responsible for an annual Christmas lunch event which, since 2009, has raised over £2,100 for the HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

David said: "It has never been about being rewarded. We love what we do, it's as simple as that.

Pat added: "I'm honoured. We have much to thank the Oddfellows for and have met so many lovely people."



## Peter Coe, City of Norwich Branch

*Working in the Spirit of Mutuality*

As a mutual society, the Oddfellows is run by and for our members and this award seeks to recognise those who have gone the extra mile to assist in the running of their Branch and the Society as a whole.

Peter has gone several extra miles, having held a number of voluntary roles, including Branch and District Chairman,



and is still a member of the social committee to this day, helping to organise many wonderful events.

Peter said: "The Oddfellows is full of very, very friendly people. We all get on. I've made some very good friends here over the years.

"It's my life. It's what I do. The best thing I did was join the Oddfellows."

## Claire Needham, Vale of York District

*Giving Something Back*

Lifelong member Claire has been recognised for the work she does to raise money and awareness for worthy causes.



She donated nearly £3,000 for Motor Neurone Disease Association and Martins House Children's Hospice having run the Rob Burrows Leeds Marathon last year, and has helped raise more than £30,000 through her role as Chairman of her workplace's Charity Committee.

Claire has also held positions on the Oddfellows' Benevolence Committee and Investigations Committee, making a positive difference to the lives of her fellow members.

"I was completely surprised and I feel really honoured," Claire said. "It's a really nice feeling. It's nice that other people think it's making a difference and it's having an impact."

**The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Each of the winners are fully deserving of this recognition and I'm very proud of all of them. They typify what it is to be an Oddfellow and the Society and their respective branches are lucky to have them."**

**Who is your local Branch star? Member nominations are now open for the 2025 awards. To find out more, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference).**

# Financial worries revealed



**Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, recently surveyed 2,000 people throughout the UK to uncover what's keeping them up at night when it comes to their finances. Here's what they discovered. Do any of these resonate with you?**

## Cost of living

The worry peaks for those aged 40-49, with 63% feeling the pinch, closely followed by those in their 50s and 60s (both at 62%).

## Emergency planning

35% of those surveyed worry they don't have enough money set aside for emergencies like car repairs or medical treatments. Additionally, 28% fret about potential home repair costs.

## Pension and retirement

Living on a tight pension is a reality for 22% of respondents, and 18% worry they aren't contributing enough to their pension pot. Many in their 60s regret not paying more into their pensions earlier.



## Savings and financial planning

Only 39% of people have money in savings or investments, but this number jumps to 61% for those in their 70s. Yet, just a third have a financial life plan.

## Stress and anxiety

Financial stress affects 58% of respondents. Those in their 60s and 70s are less worried compared to younger age groups, with only 35% and 27% respectively reporting anxiety.

## Financial regrets

Over half (51%) have financial regrets, including not saving enough each month (46%) and spending on pointless things (43%). Interestingly, more than one in 10 (12%) wish they'd married someone with more money.

These findings show that, while financial worries are largely universal, planning and saving can make a significant difference, especially as we age. Whether you're setting up your first financial plan or adjusting your retirement strategy, it's never too late to take control of your financial future.

**Go to [www.unitymutual.co.uk](http://www.unitymutual.co.uk) to find out more.**

**Oddfellows members have access to a dedicated Citizens Advice Line. Its advisers can help you to find a way forward with any money or debt problems but are unable to give financial advice. Visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice) to find out more.**

# Branch Contacts

## Burton-on-Trent District Lodge (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 0DL.

**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.

## A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a not-for-profit friendly society that's been around for over years. Our aim is to bring people together through our social events, as well as support our members with a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for the members.

For more information visit **[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)** or call **0 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

# At a glance

## October 2024

<b>Tues 1</b>	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
<b>Thurs 3</b>	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
<b>Fri 11</b>	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
<b>Sat 12</b>	Movie Time	4pm
<b>Wed 16</b>	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7.30pm
<b>Sun 27</b>	District Luncheon	12.30pm

## November

<b>Tues 5</b>	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
<b>Fri 15</b>	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
<b>Sat 16</b>	Bingo Night	6pm
<b>Wed 20</b>	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7.30pm

## December

<b>Tues 3</b>	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
<b>Fri 13</b>	Christmas Coffee Morning	10.30am

## January 2025

<b>Tues 7</b>	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
<b>Wed 15</b>	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7.30pm
<b>Fri 17</b>	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
<b>Sat 18</b>	Party Time	6pm

## February

<b>Tues 4</b>	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
<b>Thurs 6</b>	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
<b>Fri 14</b>	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
<b>Sat 15</b>	Quiz Night	6pm
<b>Wed 19</b>	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7.30pm

## March

<b>Tues 4</b>	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
<b>Fri 7</b>	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
<b>Sat 8</b>	Movie Time	4pm
<b>Sat 15</b>	District Annual Summoned Meeting	11am
<b>Wed 19</b>	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7.30pm