

April - September 2026



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

News & Events

Burton-on-Trent District Branch



National Memorial Arboretum Staffordshire

 Music  Games  Social  Meetings  Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea

Welcome to our Burton-on-Trent District Branch 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 and 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.

The Social Committee has been busy planning a wide range of events from Spring – Summer, so hopefully there will be something for everyone.

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

Social Secretary:

Amanda Norbury-Mountford

Email:

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

Pre-booking is essential at all events! Names, addresses and a contact number of members and visitors attending will be required.

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

Booking and Cancellations

Please remember the importance of booking for all events - by **MONDAY** of the week of the event - 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.

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.



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

*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



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 Mandy, either by post, phone, or email.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL MEMBERS

The Annual Summoned Meeting of the Loyal Burton-on-Trent District Lodge (No. 10008) will be held at Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent on 21st March 2026 commencing at 11am for the purpose of transacting the following business.

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL SUMMONED MEETING

1. To read the summons convening the Meeting.
2. Opening of the Meeting.
3. To receive any apologies.
4. To confirm the Minutes of the previous Annual Summoned Meeting.
5. To discuss any Matters Arising from the Minutes.
6. Welcome by the Provincial Grand Master.
7. To receive the Accounts and Balance sheet together with the Auditors Report for the year ended 31 December 2025.
8. To receive the Report of the Committee of Management.
9. To consider the following grants from the District Lodge Benevolence Fund:
 - a) That a Christmas Grant of £10, in form of a gift voucher, be made to all members who: -
 - i) Have attained the age of 70 and have contracts, (or previously held contracts), with the Sickness, Annuity and Death Fund, or
 - ii) Are registered Widow(er) member.
 - b) That £1,200 be equally allocated to the various Lodges in the District for the purpose of charitable Donations for the ensuing year.
10. To consider the remuneration of the District Secretary, Social Secretary, Social/Unregistered Lodge Secretaries and reimbursement to Officers and Committee members.
11. To receive Nominations and elect District Representation for the ensuing year.
12. To elect Deputies to the 2027 Eastbourne AMC.
13. Social Reports.
14. To receive any Propositions.
15. To conduct any other business which Rules so direct.
16. Close of Meeting.

Light Refreshments will be provided – therefore, for catering purposes, would those members wishing to attend please notify the Secretary by Monday 16 March 2026. A full set of the accounts for 2025 are available on request from the office.

April 2026

THURS 02 Orphan's Protection Lodge



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. Meeting starts at 7pm. St Weburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TF. Contact Amanda on 01283 564056.

TUES 07 Christian Union Lodge Meeting



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



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Please note new start time of 7pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

Please note costs for all Cuppa and Chat events has increase to £3.50.

FRI 17 Cuppa and Chat



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 £3.50. A tombola stall will be running as well. 11am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT 18 Quiz Night



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



Love a quiz? Then why not come along and tax those little grey cells at our fun quiz. Supper will be provided, so when booking please add any dietary or any requirements or allergies, so these can be catered for. Book by Monday 13 April. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



May

TUES 05 Christian Union Lodge Meeting



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 08 Cuppa and Chat



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 £3.50. A tombola stall will be running as well. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

May

WED 13 Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Please note new start time of 7pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

June

TUES 02 Christian Union Lodge Meeting



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 09 Night at the Races



Do you like a flutter? Then come along and place your bets at our 'Race Night', it's sure to be a winner. At the time of booking please tell us of any dietary requirements or allergies, as these can be catered for. Book by Monday 4 May. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



June

THURS 04 Orphan's Protection Lodge



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. Meeting starts at 7pm. St Weburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TF. Contact Amanda on 01283 564056.

WED 17 Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Please note new start time of 7pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

FRI 12 Cuppa and Chat



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 £3.50. A tombola stall will be running as well. 11am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

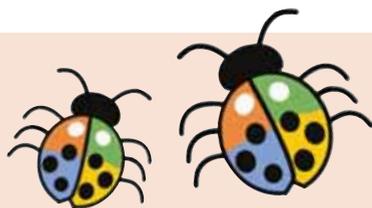
July

TUES 07 Christian Union Lodge Meeting



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 13 Beetle Drive



If you want fun and games then come along to our 'Beetle Drive', we are sure it will be a laugh. Supper will be provided, so when booking please add any dietary requirements or allergies, so these can be catered for. Book by Monday 8 June. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

July

WED 15 Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting

 7pm  Free 

A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Please note new start time of 7pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

FRI 17 Cuppa and Chat

 11am - 1pm  £3.50 

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 £3.50. A tombola stall will be running as well. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT 18 Eyes Down

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

Eyes Down for fun filled bingo evening with our caller, they are always good for a laugh. Supper will be provided, so when booking please add any dietary requirements or allergies so these can be catered for. Book by Monday 13 July. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

August

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.

THURS 06 Orphan's Protection Lodge

 7pm  Free 

A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. Meeting starts at 7pm. St Weburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TF. Contact Amanda on 01283 564056.

FRI 14 Cuppa and Chat

 11am - 1pm  £3.50 

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 £3.50. A tombola stall will be running as well. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



August

SAT
15

Afternoon Tea and Games



🕒 2.30pm

£ Members £7,
Guests £9,
Under 12s £5



Connect with friends old and new over tea, light refreshments and a variety of games. A perfect way to spend a relaxing afternoon together. When booking please tell us of any dietary requirements or allergies, as these can be catered for. Book by Monday 10 August. 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

🕒 7pm

£ Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Please note new start time of 7pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

September

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.

September

WED
16

Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting

🕒 7pm

£ Free



A meeting of the District Lodge with ritual, where the business of the Society and District are discussed. Please note new start time of 7pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn on 01283 564056.

FRI
18

Cuppa and Chat

🕒 11am-1pm

£ £3.50



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 £3.50. A tombola stall will be running as well. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT
19

Beetle Drive



🕒 6pm

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



If you want fun and games then come along to our 'Beetle Drive', we are sure it will be a laugh. Supper will be provided, so when booking please add any dietary requirements or allergies so these can be catered for. Book by Monday 14 September. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

District Luncheon

On Sunday 26 October 2025, Burton on-Trent-District held its Annual Luncheon at Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road.

Over 100 members and guests enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of friendship and good company with the usual excellent luncheon provided and served by the team from Woodland Catering.

The Principal Guest Speaker was Brother John Mann, Grand Master of the Order who responded to the Toast

‘The Order and The District’ with Brother Martin Greenway, PPGM, Trustee from Heart of England District on behalf of the guests and visitors.

Joining members from Burton-on-Trent were guests from the following Branches: Derby Derwent Valley, 5 Shires, Heart of England, Heart of the West, North Wales and Chester, Nottingham Trent, South London, Plymouth and Truro, Pride of Leicestershire and Worcester.



Members of Burton-on-Trent District.



Nottingham Trent District and Heart of the West District.



Members of Heart of England District.



*Brother John Mann -
Grand Master of the Order.*



*Brother Gordon Simpson
Provincial Grand Master and
Brother Martin Greenway.*



Members of Burton-on-Trent District and Plymouth and Truro.



Young Oddfellows Birthdays

April:

• Paige, James, Owen,
Robert, Dylan, Francesca.
Luke, Miley and Scarlett

July:

• Oliver, William,
Elana, Anna,
Felicity and Thomas. •

May:

• Millie, Sophie, Alfie,
Olivia and Lily.

August:

• Harry, Thomas, Isobella
and Jessica.

June:

★ Seth, Lucas,
Delilah, Minnie, Dottie,
Olivia and Theodore.

September:

• Samuel, George,
and Thea.

October:

Rose and Finley. •



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.

In Memoriam

Brothers

Christopher Lyon
Muriel D Wright
Lawrence W Greensmith
Peter Adams
Alan Stokes
Geoffery J Onions

Sisters

Margarite Bateman
Joyce Jowett PPGM
Jean Ryder
Sheila Bucknall
Eileen Matthews
Veronica E Smith
Joyce Johnson
Joyce Holmes



Burton Remembers

On Wednesday 5 November 2025, for the first time, members of the Loyal Christian Union Lodge held their Annual Lodge of Remembrance at the National Memorial Arboretum - for those who

had fallen in combat since World War I. The service was led by Reverend Brother Dennis Warner. Invitations were extended to the District Officers and any others who wished to attend.



Remembrance Sunday in Burton-on-Trent

Sunday 9 November, District Officers and Oddfellows members from Burton-on-Trent joined with members of the Armed Forces and members of the public at St Modwen's

Parish Church to commemorate Remembrance Sunday with a Service of Remembrance, followed by the Laying of Wreaths at the War Memorial.



*Brother Gordon Simpson
Provincial Grand Master lays the
Oddfellows Wreath*

Tote Winners for 2025

Month	Name	Numbers
January:	Mr H Deykin and Mrs M J Elkin	8 & 21
February:	Ms L Eaton	1 & 4
March:	Mrs J Harris	16 & 20
April:	Mrs D Turner	20 & 23
May:	Mr M Elliott	1 & 3
June:	Mr P English	5 & 27
July:	Mr J Mills	2 & 27
August:	Mrs S Dimelow	10 & 22
September:	Mrs B Hendley and Mrs J Sharpe	8 & 29
October:	Mr J Hallam	24 & 25
November:	Mrs S Glover	23 & 30
December:	Mrs E Cope	16 & 23

The Tote is organised and operated solely by Burton-on-Trent District Branch. Full terms and conditions are available from the Branch on request. By participating, entrants confirm they are aged 18 or over and agree to be bound by the terms. The Branch reserves the right to amend, suspend, or cancel the draw where necessary to ensure fair conduct and compliance with applicable rules.



Panto Season

On Saturday 6 December, 20 Young Oddfellows and 30 Adults visited the Lichfield Garrick Theatre for the Pantomime 'Cinderella'. Everyone enjoyed themselves so

much that the 2026 Panto, 'Robin Hood,' is already booked for Saturday 5 December. So if anyone would like to join us this year then contact the office and book your seat.



Christmas Coffee Day

Saturday 13 December saw us hold our "Christmas Coffee Day" in aid of the Provincial Grand Master's Appeal – "Burton Hospital League of Friends". A huge thank you to everyone that helped out at the event and contributed to raising money for the appeal.

A special thanks go to Sister Katie Guthrie and her mum Sister Sue Darlison for attending this event with her Christmas craft stall and a thank you also goes out to Brother Jim Parker at the organ for the background Christmas Carols and music. Santa and his Naughty Little Elf also graced us with a visit.



Sister Katie Guthrie and Sister Sue Darlison.



Santa and his Naughty Elf.



Branch members enjoying the festivities

Orphan's Protection Lodge



On Thursday 4 December, the Loyal Orphan's Protection Lodge held its Pre-Christmas get together at the Cock Hanbury, where the Provincial Deputy Grand Master Brother Aaron Mountford and Brother Mervyn Eaton, Provincial Corresponding Secretary attended on behalf of the District Officers. A lovely buffet was enjoyed by all the members who attended.

Pre-Christmas Luncheon

Our pre-Christmas Luncheon this year was held at the Lakeside Bistro, Moria on Sunday 14 December. 40 members thoroughly enjoyed the lovely food and atmosphere, so much so we are hoping to return in the summer - so keep a look out for the advertisement. However, due the Bistro being a popular venue it will, need be booked on a first come first served basis.





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



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**

Friendship: the constant that carries us forward A message from our CEO, Jane Nelson

Another year has passed by so quickly at the Oddfellows, and it reminds me how fast life moves. However, in a hurried world, friendships really do slow the pace and bring us back to what truly matters.

Life for each and every one of us feels richer in good company. Even between get-togethers, friendships keep us hopeful. They anchor us through life's ebb and flow – deepening our joy in good times and supporting us in challenging ones. True friends celebrate our successes, steady us when we falter, and offer a sense of belonging.

Life may change, but lasting friendship remains a constant that grounds us, making everything a little brighter. And whether near or far, genuine connections help us navigate life with resilience, laughter, and warmth.

Remember every friendship begins with a simple moment of connection, and we all have the power to create new ones or welcome others into our community who seek companionship. Please always stay open to new friendships in 2026 and nurture the ones you treasure.

If you're a member and see a new face at one of our social events, offer that warm welcome we're known for. A friendly chat, a check-in, or an introduction can ease first-visit nerves and help turn a new space into a familiar one. These small acts show that we want people with us for the long run.

Throughout 2026, let's hold on to what gives our Society its strength – the belief that shared friendship creates a place where people feel supported, valued, and at home.

Friendship is the bedrock of our Society. So together, let's continue building a welcoming community where every friendship can begin.

This will be my last turn of year message to you all as of course I retire in May. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support and friendship over the years and I wish you, your friends and your families a very happy and healthy 2026.

Yours in friendship,

Jane Nelson, CEO, the Oddfellows

A warm welcome to Simon, our CEO Designate

In October 2025, the Society appointed Simon Gallimore as Chief Executive Officer Designate. He's currently working alongside Jane Nelson, our CEO, ahead of assuming full responsibilities in May 2026. Read more at: www.oddfellows.co.uk/news/welcoming-our-new-ceo-designate



Talented trio win Educational Awards

We're proud to announce our 2025 First Degree Course Educational Award winners: Melanie Healy (Humber Wolds Oddfellows), Will Stevenson (Pride of Woolwich Oddfellows) and Emma Corbin (Worcester Oddfellows).

Each winner will receive a non-repayable bursary worth £900 per year for the duration of their studies, which can go towards anything from text books and vital equipment to helping out with rent, bills and other practical items.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said:

It fills me with pride each year when we announce the winners of the First Degree Course Educational Awards, and I'm sure that Melanie, Will and Emma will work hard and have a wonderful university experience.

University is an exciting time, but it can also be quite stressful. I hope this money will go some way to help reduce some of the financial pressures that are a reality of being a student.

Melanie Healey, Humber Wolds Branch

In October 2025, Melanie began her Asian and Middle Eastern Studies course at the University of Cambridge. The four-year course will begin with learning Arabic language skills from scratch, building up her existing French language skills and looking at French Literature.

She says she is hoping to put the money towards travelling to French and Arabic-speaking countries for internships and exchanges to help sharpen these skills.

Melanie said: "I was delighted when I found out that I'd been chosen to receive the funding, and I would like to thank the Oddfellows for the grant."

Although unsure what her career plans are at this stage, Melanie says she "would definitely like to work in a role that allows me to use my language skills".



Will Stevenson Pride of Woolwich Branch

Will started reading Geography at the University of Durham's Trevelyan College in Autumn 2025, where modules cover



topics such as climate change, physical geography, human geography, geographical research and geographies in crisis.

The money, he says, will go towards the social aspects that university life has to offer, such as the Durham University Big Band.

Will said: "Hearing I was a recipient of the award was incredibly exciting, and I am extremely thankful to the Oddfellows for the trust and generosity they have offered me."

Will also hasn't mapped out his career plans at this stage, but says that's one of the reasons the course appealed to him, given "the breadth of Geography and its wide application".

Emma Corbin Worcester Branch

Unbeknownst to either, Emma and Will have ended up on the same Geography course at the University of Durham.



Emma plans to put the money towards learning materials and field trips.

"I felt extremely grateful and lucky when I was picked as one of the successful candidates from what would have been many amazing applications," she said. "I would like to say how thankful I am. It is a great opportunity to have an award like this available."

Emma too hasn't decided which direction she wants her career to take, but thinks her chosen course will provide her with a range of opportunities.

"It's an increasingly relevant subject, considering topics such as climate change and geopolitics," Emma added.

More about our Educational Awards

Each year, our Fraternal Board chooses who will receive the Educational Awards funding, based on the applications received from members. To learn more about the awards, including the Apprenticeship Educational Award, eligibility and how to apply, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/educational-awards.

2026: Time to make a financial plan



a proud part of the Oddfellows

The year might have only just started, but we all know how quickly the calendar can flip. One minute it's spring, and the next we're wondering where the mince pies have gone.

Taking a little time now to think about your finances before the new tax year starts in April can make life feel calmer and more organised.

Where to start?

A financial plan doesn't have to involve spreadsheets or complicated formulas. It can simply start with a few questions, like: 'What do I want to save for? Am I prepared for life's surprises? Could my money be working harder for me?'

For some Oddfellows members, the focus might be on simply enjoying life or planning for the future. Others may also be thinking about the younger people in their lives – children, grandchildren, or that teenager who changes career ambitions daily.

Small, regular contributions now could grow into something meaningful later.

Start saving

Lucky for Oddfellows members, our financial services arm, Unity Mutual, is close at hand.

Unity Mutual is a regulated provider of ISAs and other savings and investment

products, which means they follow strict rules designed to protect our members.

Unity Mutual's Guaranteed Investment Bonds, including two, three and five year terms, offer fixed-rates for savers with a lump sum to invest, and Oddfellow members can benefit from preferential rates.

Alternatively, ISAs are a tax-efficient way to save or invest, whether you're building up funds to enjoy retirement or looking to help give your child a confident step into adulthood.

ISA Products available from Unity Mutual for Oddfellow members include a Lifetime ISA, a Flexible ISA and a Junior ISA, and you can also make the most of the Adult and Child Tax-Exempt Savings Plans.

Get in touch

And the good news? You don't have to figure it all out by yourself. Unity Mutual is happy to chat with you about your goals, big, small, or somewhere in between.

Our friendly staff can provide information on what is available to you. They'll talk through things in plain English, not financial jargon, so you can make decisions confidently and comfortably.

Terms and conditions apply to all products.

Find out more

Visit www.unitymutual.co.uk or call us for a chat on 0161 214 4650.

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

Ian Jarvis (pro-tem)

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

Telephone: 01283 564056.

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 St Werburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton-on-Trent DE13 8TF

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.

Traditional Terms

Grand Master (GM): Chairman

Provincial Grand Master (Prov GM): District Chairman

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

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

Past Provincial Grand Master (PPGM): Past District Chairman
Lodge: Branch

At a glance

April 2026

Thurs 2	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
Tues 7	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Wed 15	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm
Fri 17	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 18	Quiz Night	6pm

May

Tues 5	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Fri 8	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 9	Night at the Races	6pm
Wed 13	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm

June

Tues 2	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Thurs 4	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
Fri 12	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 13	Beetle Drive	6pm
Wed 17	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm

July

Tues 7	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Wed 15	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm
Fri 17	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 18	Eyes Down	6pm

August

Tues 4	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Thurs 6	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
Fri 14	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 15	Afternoon Tea and Games	2.30pm
Wed 19	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm

September - Friendship Month

Tues 1	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Wed 16	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm
Fri 18	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 19	Beetle Drive	6pm