

October 2025 - March 2026



O^{the}*DDfELLOWS* SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

News & Events

Burton-on-Trent District Branch



Stapenhill Gardens



Music



Games



Social



Meetings



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Claymills Pumping Station

Welcome to our Burton on Trent District Branch Combined Newsletter & 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.

The Social Committee has been busy planning a wide range of events from

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

October to March, so hopefully there will be something for everyone.

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 Wednesday 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.



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

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 2025

THURS 02 Orphan's Protection Lodge

🕒 7pm

£ Free



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. New time of 6.30pm. St Weburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TF. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

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.

FRI 10 Cuppa and Chat

🕒 11am

£ £3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends, along with a bacon or sausage cob, or a slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT 11 A Night of Song and Laughter

🕒 6pm

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



The Breakaway Singers are coming back to entertain us, with an evening of song and laughter. A supper of jacket potato and various fillings, followed by crumble will be provided. Any dietary requirements need to be booked in advance. Please book by Wednesday 8 October 2025. 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

🕒 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.

October

SUN
26

District Luncheon



12.30pm



£32



Starters

thick vegetable soup

or

*smoked trout with horseradish
sauce dressing and brown bread*

or

grape and melon in port

Mains

*roast English beef and Yorkshire
pudding or sea-bass with white
wine and tarragon sauce*

or

a vegetarian option

*All served with a choice of potatoes
and seasonal vegetables,
followed by a choice of sweets,
cheese and biscuits and tea or
coffee and mints.*

Guest Speaker Brother John Mann,
Grand Master of the Order.
Please book by Friday 17 October
2025. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints
Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire
DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or
Amanda on 01283 564056.

November

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.

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.

FRI
21

Cuppa and Chat



11am



£3



Why not join us for a cuppa and a
chat with friends, along with a bacon
or sausage cob, or a slice or two of
cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will
be running as well. 10.30am to 1pm.
Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road,
Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire
DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda
on 01283 564056.

November

SAT
22

Tinsel Bingo



6pm



Members £10,
Guests £12,
Under 12s £6



Eyes Down for the most festive, fun, and family-friendly game of the season with our resident Bingo caller, who is always a good laugh! Prizes will have a Christmas theme to them. Supper and dessert are all included in the price. Any Dietary requirements need to be booked in advance. Please book by Wednesday 19 November 2025. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



December

TUES
02

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.

December

THURS
04

Orphan's Protection Lodge



7pm



Free



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. New time of 6.30pm. St Weburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TF. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT
13

Pre Christmas Coffee Morning



11am



£4



Come join us for some festive cheer with our Christmas themed



coffee morning, from 11am until 2pm. Warm turkey, stuffing and cranberry cobs, bacon or sausage cobs will be available. Why not bring family or friends, all for the price of £4, (cup of coffee or tea and a cob of your choice). Stalls include Christmas tombola, a cake stall and the Christmas Prize Draw (drawn at the end of the coffee morning). We would like to know how many will be in attendance for catering purposes. Please book by Wednesday 10 December. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

January 2026

TUES
06

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
21

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 or Amanda on 01283 564056.

FRI
16

Cuppa and Chat



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends, along with a bacon or sausage cob, or a slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



SAT
17

Celebrate the New Year



Join us in the fun of celebrating the 'NEW YEAR', with entertainment from G Force, a local group, and a buffet supplied by our own social committee. It's just what you need to lift your spirits in the winter months. Why not bring family or friends. The more, the merrier. Please book by Wednesday 14 January 2026. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

February

TUES
03

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.

THURS
05

Orphan's Protection Lodge



A social Lodge meeting, where the business of the Society is discussed in a relaxed atmosphere. New time of 6.30pm. St Weburgh's Church, Church Lane, Hanbury, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire DE13 8TF. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

FRI
13

Cuppa and Chat



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends, along with a bacon or sausage cob, or a slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT
14

Movie Time



Members £7,
Guests £9,
Under 12s £5



After the hustle and bustle of the weeks toils, come and relax with an afternoon tea and the BAFTA winning film "Conclave". All dietary requirements need to be requested at the time of booking. Please book by Wednesday 11 February 2026. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



WED
18

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 or Amanda on 01283 564056.

March

TUES
03

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
13

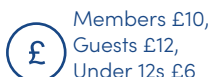
Cuppa and Chat



Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat with friends, along with a bacon or sausage cob, or a slice or two of cake, all for £3. A tombola stall will be running as well. 10.30am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT
14

Treasure Hunt



Calling all explorers and adventurers! Get ready for a quest full of clues, follow the map, and race against time to discover the treasure. All dietary requirements need to be requested when booking. Book by Wednesday 11 March 2026. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.

WED
18

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 or Amanda on 01283 564056.

SAT
21

District Annual Summoned Meeting



An Annual General Meeting of the Burton-on-Trent District Lodge (No. 100008), for the purpose of transacting of important business that will affect the District. If you wish to attend, please contact the office by Wednesday 18 March 2026, as refreshments will be provided. Any dietary requirements should be requested at the time. Oddfellows Hall, All Saints Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LS. Contact Mervyn or Amanda on 01283 564056.



A Message from the Provincial Grand Master

Hello everyone,

My name is Gordon C Simpson. It was my honour to become the District's new Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) on Saturday 15 March 2025 at our Annual Meeting, a position I will hold for the next two years. The appeal for my term in office is Burton Hospital League of Friends (Queens Hospital). Their volunteers raise funds for the hospital throughout the year via the shop and events within the hospital and local community.

I would like to thank Sister Caroline Mills for her two-year term as Provincial Grand Master and hope she enjoys her term as IPPGM (Immediate Past Prov GM), and



welcome Brother Aaron Mountford to the position of Provincial Deputy

Thank you

Gordon C Simpson
Provincial Grand Master

District Annual Summoned Meeting

Saturday 15 March 2025, 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 this meeting as her last act as Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) Sister Caroline Mills presented a cheque for £4,500, representing her Appeal for 2024 to Mr Peter O'Reilly, Mediation Officer, YMCA (Burton upon Trent and District).



Sister Caroline Mills, Provincial Grand Master presenting the cheque to Peter O'Reilly. YMCA (Burton upon Trent and District).

District Officers March 2025 – March 2027



*Our newly installed District Officers from left to right:
Sister Caroline Mills, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master,
Brother Gordon Simpson, Provincial Grand Master, Brother Aaron S
T Mountford, Provincial Deputy Grand Master and Brother Mervyn J
Eaton Prov CS.*

Summer Luncheon

On Sunday 22 June, 40 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.



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.

Annual Movable Conference (AMC) Scarborough 2025

This year's Conference was held at Scarborough.



The AMC week was held from Saturday 17 May through to Friday 23 May with the Business of 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 Brother John Mann from South London District was installed as Grand Master of the Order, along with the newly elected Director of the Order Brother Peter Mouland from Severn and Trent District was installed at the conclusion of Conference on the Wednesday afternoon.

Prior to Conference on Saturday 17 the Grand Master's Celebration Evening allowed time to catch up with old friends socially from Districts far and wide with entertainment from Steve Cassidy Band in The Ocean Room.

Sunday 18 May the Conference Church Service took place in The Theatre, Scarborough Spa followed by the traditional Wreath laying Ceremony at the Olivers Mount. In the afternoon Oddfellows Brass gave a free concert – also in the theatre and not in the band stand as planned because of the inclement weather.



On Wednesday evening the Farewell Dance took place in the Grand Hall with live music from "Phil" from Wow Productions. The usual Bowls Competition took place on the Thursday at North Cliff Crown Green Bowls Club and on the Friday, there was a Day Trip to Whitby and Scarborough Fair.

District Church Service

The Burton on Trent District held its church service this year at St Modwen's Parish Church on Sunday 6 July and was led by the Prebendary Reverend Dr Robin Trotter and Reverend Brother Dennis Warner.



*Reverend Brother Dennis Warner,
Prebendary Reverend Dr Robin Trotter.*

Members from Burton on Trent were joined by representatives from the following Districts – Derby Derwent Valley,

North Wales and Chester, Pride of Leicestershire, Heart of England and Worcester. Junior members Luke and Jason Warner joined our Regalia Team and read the Unity Prayers for Friendship and Love. After the service refreshments were served at Oddfellows Hall by Woodland Catering.



*Regalia Party and District Officers
form a "Guard of Honour" outside
St Modwen's Parish Church.*



*Provincial Grand Master
Brother Gordon Simpson.*

100 Years Young

Tuesday 8 July the Provincial Grand Master Brother Gordon Simpson along with Brother Mervyn Eaton Prov CS, Sister Amanda Mountford, Secretary of the Loyal Orphans Protection Lodge and Sister Vivienne Simpson, were kindly invited to St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Alford, Lincolnshire, to help celebrate Brother Alfred Joseph Conway's 100th Birthday. The Provincial Grand Master presented Brother Alfred with a special Telegram from the Oddfellows which he proudly placed next to his Telegram/Card from HRH King Charles and Queen Camilla.



Brother Alfred J Conway PG

thanks and respect this special event was attended by Mr Gary Ryan, Executive Director of Marketing, Fundraising and Remembrance of the Royal British Legion and Mr John James, County Chairman of Lincolnshire Royal British Legion. A film crew from Calendar News (ITV News) were also in attendance having interviewed Brother Alfred for a programme to screened later that day.



From left to right: Brother M J Eaton Prov CS, Brother A J Conway PG and Prov GM Gordon Simpson

Brother Alfred, Past Noble Grand, is the oldest member of the Orphans Protection Lodge, having “emigrated” to Lincolnshire with his family some years ago. The Lodge still meets in the village of Hanbury, Burton on Trent.

Bro. Alfred is a staunch supporter of the Royal British Legion and as a token of



Bring friendship to your front room



There are many reasons that might prevent you from being able to attend some of our events in person. A clash in the diary might mean something else takes priority, you might not be able to spare the cost this time, or perhaps you just want to stay close to home that day.

We want people to enjoy the benefits of friendship no matter what. That's why Branches all over the country host around 50 free online events each month, ranging from talks, arts and crafts and games, to exercise and meditation sessions. These online events are a great opportunity to catch up with familiar faces and meet new and interesting people from all corners of the country from the comfort of home. You might even discover a new favourite hobby.

What's coming up online

We have lots of national online events that all our members can enjoy, the events below are just a flavour.

Tuesday 28 October 2025, 7pm, 'Ghostly Tales to be Told' with Dr. Ann Featherstone

Register in advance for this meeting at www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/
Or use this link to register directly on Zoom:
<https://tinyurl.com/OddfellowsGhostlyTales>

Tuesday 18 November 2025, 10.30am, 'Scam Awareness Talk with Age UK

Register in advance for this meeting at www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/
Or use this link to register directly on Zoom:
<https://tinyurl.com/OddfellowsScamAwareness>

Anyone is able to attend an Oddfellows online event, no matter where they live so spread the word.

All our online events are hosted on Zoom. If you haven't tried Zoom video-conferencing before and would like help on how to use it, let us know. You can come to me, or email the Events team on events@oddfellows.co.uk, with any questions and we'll help you get logged on and ready to join in.

To find out about all upcoming in-person and online events, including online events hosted by other branches, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/events or ask me to send you a list by email.

District Secretary Mervyn Eaton and Social Secretary Amanda Norbury-Mountford

Brothers in Action

Young Oddfellows Jason Warner - says "Thanks to the Burton Oddfellows I was able to achieve my Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. To gain the award I volunteered at Burton Hospital and taught myself how to crochet amongst other things over a year. I also had to go on a wild expedition through Wales and the Lake District. After all this hard work I was invited to the Buckingham Palace tea party (where I received the gold award) and met HRH Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh, which was a fantastic experience".



HRH Prince Edward Duke of Edinburgh, talking to Jason.

Young Oddfellow Luke Warner - "I'm nearly at the end of my Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, which has been fun. I have been busy volunteering at Parkrun and improving my Rugby and Spanish skills. I enjoyed the expedition, but not the noisy wedding party that kept me awake in the Peak District!!"



Jason at Buckingham Palace



Luke preparing for his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award



Luke taking part in his Duke of Edinburgh

Young Oddfellows Birthdays

October:

Emily De Oliveira-Golding,
Rose Shakeshaft,
Finley Gassor

November:

Clara Shilton,
Dakota J Perry,
Jasper Martin

December:

Aurora Basten,
Isla Wigston-Coleman,
Jasmine Wilkes,
William Smout

January 2026:

Effie Bowman,
India Bowman,
Danny Barratt,
Thomas Rees

February:

Elleri Reid-Compson,
Anwen Elkin,
Libby Faulks,
Leonard Shilton

March:

Liza Crofts,
Evalin Plevy,
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.

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**

Scarborough hosts the nation's Oddies



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

Members representing their Branches converged on the seaside town from

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

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

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

Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

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

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

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

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



Making a Difference Awards 2025

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

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

Jean Logan, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Enriching Lives Socially

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

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

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



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

Gordon and Kath Hinett, North Wales and Chester Oddfellows

Achieving Together

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



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

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

Chris Sargeant, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

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



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

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

Ann Kight, Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Giving Something Back

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

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

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



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

Barry Bedford, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Giving a Helping Hand

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



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

Incredible total raised for good causes



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

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

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

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

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

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

Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



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

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

2007 and follows the last transfer of engagements in 2021.

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

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

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.

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

October 2025

Thurs 2	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
Tues 7	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Fri 10	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 11	A Night of Song and Laughter	6pm
Wed 15	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm
Sun 26	District Luncheon	12.30pm

November

Tues 4	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Wed 19	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm
Fri 21	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 22	Tinsel Bingo	6pm

December

Tues 2	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Thurs 4	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
Sat 13	Pre Christmas Coffee Morning	11am

January 2026

Tues 6	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Fri 16	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 17	Celebrate the New Year	6pm
Wed 21	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm

February

Tues 3	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Thurs 5	Orphan's Protection Lodge	7pm
Fri 13	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 14	Movie Time	4pm
Wed 18	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm

March

Tues 3	Christian Union Lodge Meeting	3pm
Fri 13	Cuppa and Chat	11am
Sat 14	Treasure Hunt	6pm
Wed 18	Burton-on-Trent District Lodge Meeting	7pm
Sat 21	District Annual Summoned Meeting	11am

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