

July - December 2024



Othe SINCE 1810
DDfELLOWS
making friends, helping people

out & about

Severn and Trent



The historic centre of Ludlow, Shropshire



Music



Art/Crafts



Dining Out



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz



Halfpenny Green Wine Estate Trip – Thursday 22 August

Welcome to your combined Newsletter and Events Diary

This is your events diary and newsletter so if you have any ideas for items please send them in. Maybe you have a recipe, joke or celebration that you would like to share with other members? Why not write about a social event you've attended or send in photographs? All items will be gratefully received. We look forward to hearing from you.

Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary. Alternatively, keep the events diary in a handy place – by the phone, fixed to the fridge or pinned to your notice board.

Contact Details

For more information or to book any events contact:

George Brotherton
31 Avenue Road, Newport,
Shropshire TF10 7EA

Telephone: 01952 814377

Email:
george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk

Dates are subject to change. Please call to confirm your attendance.

More contact details can be found on page 14.

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a friendly society with Branches across the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. We welcome everyone of all ages. To find out more visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call 0800 028 1810.

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

Regular Events

Coffee Morning



10.30am



Pay your own drinks



Forthnightly on Thursday

Come along and meet members of the Severn and Trent Branch for a chat. Everyone welcome. Mere Park Garden Centre, Stafford Road, Newport TF10 9BY. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Janet on 01952 814377 or Christine on 07776 357409.



4 July

18 July

1 August

15 August

29 August

12 September

26 September

10 October

24 October

7 November

21 November

5 December

19 December

Craft and Games Afternoon

Fourth Wednesday of the month



2pm



Free



An afternoon with craft events and games. Cosy Hall, 6 Water Lane, Newport TF10 7LD. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

24 July

28 August

25 September

23 October

27 November



Drinks and Social Chat

Second Tuesday of the month



7pm



Pay for own drinks



An area has been set aside for us at the Railway Tavern. Join us for a drink and a chat. The Railway Tavern, Station Road, Newport, Shropshire TF10 7EJ. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

9 July

13 August

10 September

8 October

12 November

10 December



July

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER
😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊

THURS
25

Trip to Black Country Living Museum



9.30am



£18.25



Black Country Living Museum trip. Complimentary coach. £18.25 per person. Coach



leaves Newport bus station at 9.30am, arriving at 11am, departing at 4pm. Book by Sunday 30 June. Black Country Living Museum, Tipton Road, Dudley DY1 4SQ. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

September Friendship Month

SAT
14

Afternoon Tea and Entertainment

FRIENDSHIP MONTH EVENT
Invite a friend



2pm



Free



We would love you to join us for an afternoon of tea or coffee and cakes along with entertainment by Christopher Stratman, (The Shadows Music and Stories). Book by Monday 2 September. Cosy Hall, Susan Miles Room, 6 Water Lane, Newport TF10 7LD. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.



August

THURS
22

Halfpenny Green Wine Estate Trip



10.30am



£18.25



Halfpenny Green Vinyard Tour, wine tasting and cream tea. £23 per person including coach



fare. £5 deposit on booking. Balance to be paid by Thursday 1 August. Coach leaves Newport bus station at 10.30am. HalfPenny Green Vineyard Tour, Tom Lane, Halfpenny Green, Bobbington, Staffordshire DY7 5EP. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

MON
23

Scottish Borders Coach Trip Holiday



9am



£499



Scottish Border Coach trip.



Departs Newport, Shropshire at 9am. 28 seats available for five days to Barony Castle Hotel, Peebles for £499 per person including day trip to Edinburgh and visit to Whisky/Gin distillery. Barony Castle Hotel, Scottish Borders, Eddleston By Peebles, Peebles EH45 8QW. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

October

SAT 05 OddFellows Brass Band Concert



Come and enjoy a real brass band experience with popular classics and some other gems. Only 60 Tickets available. £5 in advance. Bar available. Book by Monday 2 September. Chetwynnd Aston Village Hall, Wallshead Way, Church Aston, Newport Shropshire TF10 9JG. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.



December

SAT 07 Annual Christmas Party



We would love you to join us for our Christmas party and get into the festive spirit. Maximum places for event 50 people. Payable in advance by Friday 15 November. Newport Bowling Club, 24 Granville Avenue, Newport TF10 7DX. Contact Glynis on 01952 820693 or Christine on 07776 357409.

November

SAT 16 Annual Dinner and Dance



Come and join us for the Annual dinner and dance at The Down Inn. Free bus from Newport bus station (leaves at 5pm). Sit down for 6.30pm. Menu to be advised. Book by Monday 7 October. Down Inn, Ludlow Road, Bridgnorth WV16 6UA. Contact George on 01952 814377 or Irene on 01952 811734.



Message from your Chairman

Irene has been elected to serve as your Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) this year. She said, "It is a real honour and that I will do my best to uphold the values Oddfellows stand for".

Irene was born in Cheshire, moved into Staffordshire then Newport, Shropshire at aged 17 where she now lives with her husband John. She joined the Oddfellows in 1994 and is an active member of the Branch. Her husband, children and grandchildren are also Oddfellows.

Irene continued, "As a trained Nursery Nurse I took over Forton Nursery near Newport where I worked for 32 years. Apart from my job I have had various volunteering roles which have included running a Senior Citizens Club, Church PCC member, School Governor, Newport Food Bank and was elected to Newport Town Council, serving for five years. I am a trustee of the Rodham Charity and the Baughey Roddam Housing Association and current Chairman.

During my time on the District Committee of Management I have always worked in the best interests for members of the District. As a committee member I have helped to steer through changes to keep us compliant with amendments passed at conference. Regarding conferences, I have attended and voted at eight and been greatly uplifted at each one. All members are entitled to attend the conference as visitors and I encourage anyone to go who is able to - it's quite an experience".

Irene said, "Eight years ago I had the privilege of serving as your Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) and enjoyed visiting the Branches and meeting members at some of their events and was made most welcome.

Looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can".

In Friendship, Love and Truth

Irene Evans

Welcome to our new members

Christine Swan

Sandra Anslow

Hannah Mirwald

Judith Lowe

Damion Samuels

Mark Jones

Leonie Hill

Judith Glover

Sue Farnen

Judith Nelson

Janice Slinn

Adelphine Anson

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

News from around the District

Laurel and Crown Branch

In February the Branch held its Annual Commemoration of the Inauguration of the lodge in 1836 with 56 members and 24 spouses enjoying the night which included a buffet, toast to the King and Queen following which 12 diploma's, was followed by a quiz and draw before the night ended.

April saw the traditional St Georges Day Parade with 22 members and 4 juniors taking part as well as many family members and villagers also taking part. Also some members of the Sheffield Caravan Club who were staying in the

village also join in with well over 60 people taking part in the parade following the band and the lodge banner at the head of the parade.

Further events that are going to be taking place are the Parwich Wakes Week between Saturday 29 June to Saturday 6 July. A family Fun Day in September. A Charity Race Night in October and in November is a Charity Fun Night. And in December a Members Draw, Buffet and Quiz will be taking place.

For further details on these events please contact Bill on 01335 390571.

Cavendish Branch

In January we held a Burns Night where over 37 members and guests enjoyed a two course meal, shortbread biscuits and a complimentary glass of whiskey followed with games, during the night a piper played people in whilst they toasted the haggis.

Other events held at the Branch included a Charity Rock Concert for a child's operation which attracted 100 people a

Walk round Treasure Hunt a Beetle Drive and Bingo with a difference. In August is a Race Night which is followed by their Wakes Week with a parade around the village and live music to finish off the day. At the end of the week members will all join in and enjoy a disco to end the week's celebrations.

Also this Branch helped to support a charity night at the Village Community Centre for Parkinsons Disease.

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.

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 and enter 'Ayr' in the place name search box

OE/0122A6

Traditional Terms

Grand Master (GM): Chairman

Provincial Grand Master (Prov GM): District Chairman

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

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

Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master (IPPGM):

Immediate Past District Chairman

Past Provincial Grand Master (PPGM): Past District Chairman

Lodge: Branch

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

Can you help by volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without wonderful volunteers. We need help to make sure we can keep our events as fun as they can be for all our members. There's lots of ways you can pitch in to help us, from one-off help to regular support. You can commit an hour a month, or more if you've got the time!

Volunteering could include meeting and greeting newcomers to make sure they feel welcome, or arranging activities, like quizzes or presentations, which we can help you run and promote.



If you can help by volunteering or want to find out more, contact George by phone on 01952 814377 or email george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk

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www.oddfellows.co.uk

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.



Oddie's 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 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.

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 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 to find out more.

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 George on **01952 814377** or email george.brotherton@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**

Branch Meetings

Social Branch meetings for the Fountain of Peace/Caradoc Branches

First Monday of the month, 7.30pm, Free

Monthly Branch meeting for The Fountain of Peace and Caradoc Branches. Newport Cottage Care, Upper Bar, Newport TF10 7EH. Contact George on 01952 814377.

Monday 8 July

Monday 5 August

Monday 2 September

Monday 7 October

Monday 4 November

Monday 2 December

District Meeting Dates 2024

Saturday 28 September, venue to be confirmed.

Branch Contact Details

Please remember we are here to help

Caradoc Branch

Gary Hughes

Telephone: 01694 723169

Fountain of Peace Branch

George Brotherton

Telephone: 01952 814377

Laurel and Crown Branch

Bill Whitfield

Telephone: 01335 390571

Cavendish Branch

Jackie Wilton

Telephone: 01298 68123

Care and Welfare Officer

Janet Brotherton

Telephone: 01952 814377

Social Media Officer

Peter Moulard

Telephone: 07955 415634

Social Events Organisers

Glynis Tarr

Telephone: 01952 820693

Christine Williams

Telephone: 07776 357409

District Secretary:

George Brotherton

Telephone: 01952 814377

Mobile: 07487 300449

Email:

george.brotherton@oddfellows.co.uk

Find us at

 severnandtrentoddfellows

Forthcoming Cavendish Branch Events:

Saturday 27 July, Charity Event for the Blythe House Hospice

Saturday 7 September, Annual Parade & Lunch

Saturday 26 October, Halloween Night with Live Entertainment

At a glance

July 2024

Thurs 4	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Mon 8	Branch Meeting at Newport Cottage Care, Newport	7.30pm
Tues 9	Drinks and Social Chat at The Railway Tavern, Newport	7pm
Thurs 18	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Wed 24	Craft and Games Afternoon at Cosy Hall, Newport	2pm
Thurs 25	Trip to Black Country Living Museum, Dudley	9.30am

August

Thurs 1	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Mon 5	Branch Meeting at Newport Cottage Care, Newport	7.30pm
Tues 13	Drinks and Social Chat at The Railway Tavern, Newport	7pm
Thurs 15	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Thurs 22	Halfpenny Green Wine Estate Trip, Bobbington	10.30am
Wed 28	Craft and Games Afternoon at Cosy Hall, Newport	2pm
Thurs 29	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am

September - Friendship Month

Mon 2	Branch Meeting at Newport Cottage Care, Newport	7.30pm
Tues 10	Drinks and Social Chat at The Railway Tavern, Newport	7pm
Thurs 12	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Sat 14	Friendship Month Afternoon Tea and Entertainment at Cosy Hall, Newport	2pm
Mon 23	Scottish Borders Coach Trip Holiday at Barony Castle Hotel, Peebles	9am
Wed 25	Craft and Games Afternoon at Cosy Hall, Newport	2pm
Thurs 26	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am

Join the fun in Friendship Month

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

All welcome

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



To see what's on and find out more about Friendship Month visit www.friendshipmonth.com

At a glance

October

Sat 5	OddFellows Brass Band Concert at Church Aston, Aston Village Hall, Church Aston	2pm
Mon 7	Branch Meeting at Newport Cottage Care, Newport	7.30pm
Tues 8	Drinks and Social Chat at The Railway Tavern, Newport	7pm
Thurs 10	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Wed 23	Craft and Games Afternoon at Cosy Hall, Newport	2pm
Thurs 24	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am

November

Mon 4	Branch Meeting at Newport Cottage Care, Newport	7.30pm
Thurs 7	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Tues 12	Drinks and Social Chat at The Railway Tavern, Newport	7pm
Sat 16	Annual Dinner and Dance at Down Inn, Bridgnorth	6.30pm
Thurs 21	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Wed 27	Craft and Games Afternoon at Cosy Hall, Newport	2pm

December

Mon 2	Branch Meeting at Newport Cottage Care, Newport	7.30pm
Thurs 5	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am
Sat 7	Annual Christmas Party at Newport Bowling Club, Newport	7.30pm
Tues 10	Drinks and Social Chat at The Railway Tavern, Newport	7pm
Thurs 19	Coffee Mornings at Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport	10.30am

REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile

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



*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