

April - September 2019



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

# *out & about*

## **Worcester District**



**Croome Court**



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



*Coach Trip Cotswolds - Tuesday 30 July, we hope you can join us!*

## Welcome to the spring edition of your Events Diary for Worcester District Oddfellows.

As a local District of a national membership organisation called the Oddfellows, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when you need them.

We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared interest in socialising, making friends and helping people.

This issue features details of all our upcoming events.

## Contact Details

**District Secretary:** Sandra Loynes

**Telephone:** 01905 422591

**Email:**  
[sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Address:**  
3 Windsor Avenue,  
Worcester WR2 5LZ

**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.**

## 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. Find out more at [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call 0800 028 1810.

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# Regular Event

## Ten Pin Bowling



10am



£3.80 for two games and a hot drink & biscuits



Come and join us for a morning of ten pin bowling. Open to members and non-members. Everyone welcome. Bowl Extreme, Perdiswell Park, Droitwich Road, Worcester WR3 7SN. For more details please contact Kath on 01299 826734.

Every Second Tuesday of the month



## 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.

## Share the friendship – enjoy the rewards!

## Refer a Friend

**Did you know that the Society runs a Refer a Friend scheme?**

When the first friend you've recommended has joined, we'll send you a £10 Love2Shop voucher as a thank you. There are different reward levels, so you'd receive your next reward – £60 in Love2Shop vouchers – after recruiting five friends in total.\*

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

**Terms and conditions apply\*** The Refer a Friend offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other membership offer. For full terms and conditions, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers).

[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)



# April 2019

TUES  
02

## Easter Bonnets Parade and Hot Cross Buns Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us this Easter with a bonnet parade. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



MON  
15

## Meal at The Perdiswell Fernhill Heath Branch



12 noon



£8.99



Come and join us for a two course meal (main and dessert) at The Perdiswell. Everyone welcome. The Perdiswell, Droitwich Road, Worcester WR3 7JU. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



TUES  
30

## Installation of Officers and District Officers Visit followed by a Quiz



7.30pm



Free



The installation of Officers and District Officers, will be followed by a quiz. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemen's Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.

# May

TUES  
07

## Bingo Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for a evening of bingo with prizes. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



# May

**MON 20** **'The Price is Right'**  
Fernhill Heath Branch

 12 noon

 Free



Come and join us for a game of 'The Price is Right'. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

**THURS 23** **Management Committee Meeting**

 7.30pm

 Free



Committee members only. Tesco's, St Peter's Drive, Worcester WR5 3SW. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

**TUES 28** **A meal at the Mitre Oak**  
Worcester District

 7.30pm

 As per menu



Come and join us for a meal at the Mitre Oak. Everyone welcome. There will be a raffle. Two for one. First drink free. Mitre Oak, Crossways Green, Hartlebury DY13 9SG. Contact John on 01905 355241.



# June

**TUES 04** **District Officers Visit**  
followed by a Quiz  
Stanley Baldwin Branch

 7.30pm

 Free



District Officers visit, will be followed by a quiz. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



**MON 17** **Walk through the woods**  
at Worcester Countryside  
Worcester District

 10am

 Free, food as per menu



Join us for a leisurely walk through the woods at Worcester Countryside Centre. This is a healthy heart walk and we would be joined by Worcester Heart Support Group, followed by a well-earned hot drink and possibly a slice of cake in the cafe. Worcester Countryside Centre, Wildwood Drive, Worcester WR5 2LG. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



# June

**MON**  
**24** **Bingo**  
**Fernhill Heath Branch**



12 noon



Free



Come and join us for a afternoon of bingo with prizes. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



**TUES**  
**25** **A Talk on Woodbine Willie**  
**Worcester District**



7.30pm



Free



By local historian John Wrightson. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemen's Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.



# July

**TUES**  
**02** **Beetle Drive**  
**Stanley Baldwin Branch**



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for a game of beetle drive. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

**SAT**  
**27** **Pig Roast**  
**Worcester District**



2pm



TBC



Come and join us for a pig roast. Everyone welcome. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. For further details please contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



# July

TUES  
30

## Coach Trip Worcester District



9.15am



See below



Worcester District outing to The Cotswolds, Moreton-in-Marsh Market and Bourton-on-Water. Coach trip and a two course lunch, all in for £20 (guests £25). Pick-up at Barnes Way 9.15am, at Prince of Wales 9.30am approximately. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591 or John on 01905 355241.



# August

TUES  
06

## Card Bingo Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for a evening of card bingo. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.

# August

THURS  
22

## Management Committee Meeting



7.30pm



Free



Committee members only. Tesco's, St Peter's Drive, Worcester WR5 3SW. Contact Sandra on 01905 422591.

MON  
19

## District Officers Visit followed by Skittles Fernhill Heath Branch



7pm



Free



District Officers visit, will be followed by skittles. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.

TUES  
27

## Play Your Cards Right Worcester District



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for a game of 'Play Your Cards Right'. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemen's Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.



# September

## ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



**Celebrating 10 years**

**TUES  
03**

### Quiz

**Stanley Baldwin Branch**



7.30pm



Free



Friendship is important for us all, why not bring a friend or a team of friends? At our evening quiz. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



**MON  
23**

### Quiz

**Fernhill Heath Branch**



12 noon



Free



Come and join us for our quiz afternoon. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Prince of Wales Pub, Windermere Drive, Worcester WR4 9HY. Contact Jeff on 01905 422591.



**TUES  
24**

### Whist Drive

**Worcester District**



7.30pm



Free



Come and join us for a whist drive. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Barbourne Ex-Servicemen's Club, The Moors, Worcester WR1 3ED. Contact John on 01905 355241.





# Forthcoming Events

## October

TUES  
01

### Fish and Chip Night Stanley Baldwin Branch



7.30pm



As per  
meal



Come and join us for meal of fish and chips. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle. Elizabeth Mill Centre, Sion Gardens, Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BH. Contact Kath on 01299 826734.



SUN  
06

### Worcester District Annual Lunch



12 noon



£25



Come and join us for our annual District lunch. Everyone welcome. The Bank House Hotel, Bransford, Worcester WR6 5JD. In the Garden Room. For further details contact Sandra on 01905 422591.



## Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

### Find us at:



[www.facebook.com/  
Worcester](http://www.facebook.com/Worcester)



[www.twitter.com/  
OddfellowsUK](http://www.twitter.com/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.

'We've a really friendly and supportive online network of thousands of Oddfellows members from across the UK and the world,' explained the Society Social Media team.

'Our official Twitter and Facebook pages are regularly updated, often daily, with topical national Oddfellows and Branch news. We also love reading your comments and posts!'



# 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 Sandra on **01905 422591** or email **sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk**

## **Oddfellows Advice Line**

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

**Email:** [oddfellows@manchestercab.org](mailto:oddfellows@manchestercab.org)



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**

# Social Events at a glance

## April 2019

<b>Tues 2</b>	Easter Bonnets Parade and Hot Cross Buns (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Mon 15</b>	Meal at The Perdiswell (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
<b>Tues 30</b>	Installation of Officers and District Officers Visit followed by a Quiz (Worcester District)	7.30pm

## May

<b>Tues 7</b>	Bingo (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Mon 20</b>	A game of The Price is Right (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
<b>Thurs 23</b>	Management Committee Meeting	7.30pm
<b>Tues 28</b>	A meal at the Mitre Oak (Worcester District)	7.30pm

## June

<b>Tues 4</b>	District Officers Visit followed by a Quiz (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Mon 17</b>	Walk through the woods at Worcester Countryside (Worcester District)	10am
<b>Mon 24</b>	Bingo (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
<b>Tues 25</b>	A Talk on Woodbine Willie (Worcester District)	7.30pm

## July

<b>Tues 2</b>	Beetle Drive (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Sat 27</b>	Pig Roast (Worcester District)	2pm
<b>Tues 30</b>	Coach Trip (Worcester District)	9.15am

## August

<b>Tues 6</b>	Card Bingo (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Thurs 22</b>	Management Committee Meeting	7.30pm
<b>Mon 19</b>	District Officers Visit followed by Skittles (Fernhill Heath Branch)	7pm
<b>Tues 27</b>	Play your Cards Right (Worcester District)	7.30pm

# Social Events at a glance

## September – Friendship Month

<b>Tues 3</b>	Quiz (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Mon 23</b>	Quiz (Fernhill Heath Branch)	12 noon
<b>Tues 24</b>	Whist Drive (Worcester District)	7.30pm

## Forthcoming Events in October

<b>Tues 1</b>	Fish and Chip Night (Stanley Baldwin Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Sun 6</b>	Worcester District Annual Lunch	12 noon

# Oddfellows Summer Holiday

Discover the best of Hampshire's Coastline with Oddfellows members and friends at the Sinah Warren Coastal Hotel.

Situated on Hayling Island, Sinah Warren is a large, comfortable hotel surrounded by elegant gardens and spectacular view of Langstone Harbour.

**8 – 12 July 2019:  
4 nights (half-board)**

Breakfast and three-course evening meals are included.

**Standard rooms from  
only £280 per person**

With evening entertainment, activities and use of leisure facilities.



**To book call Warner's on 0330 1009 772**  
(Booking reference 4272269) and quote ODDFELLOWS

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



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

Spring 2019 | Issue 1  
[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

# Worcester News and Views

News and views from your local friendship group

**May time in the  
garden, by The Old  
Gardener**

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**Early days of  
Worcester District**

Page 3

**New Year Lunch**

Page 15



**Whiskey, Mince Pie  
and Carol singing**

Page 10



Service of Remembrance

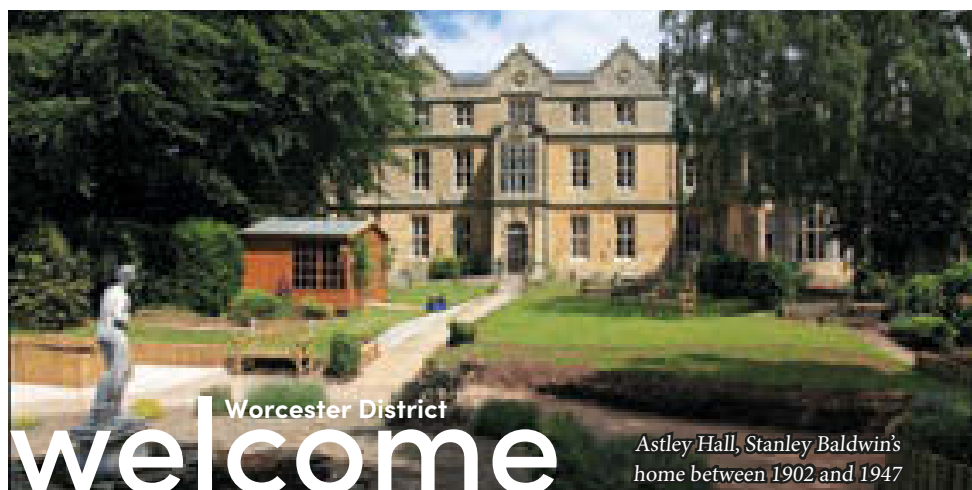


Christmas Lunch



Panto Time





## **Welcome to the new look Worcester Newsletter.**

This is your newsletter so if you have any ideas for items please send them in. Maybe you have a favourite recipe, joke or a celebration that you would like to share with other members? Why not write about a social event you've attended or send in photos?

All items will be gratefully received. Any member wishing to contribute an article should please send them to me (details on the right). I look forward to hearing from you.

**Sandra Loynes**

## **Contact Details**

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

**District Secretary:** Sandra Loynes

**Telephone:** 01905 422591

**Email:**  
[sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk)

**Address:**  
3 Windsor Avenue,  
Worcester WR2 5LZ

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# Early days of Worcester District

**So let's go back in history a bit. The first Lodge in Worcester was the Sir John Moore Lodge and it was opened on the 17 August 1840 at the Horn and Trumpet public house with a dispensation from the Kidderminster District. The following year four more lodges opened and at the Bradford AMC in 1843 Worcester District was granted permission to leave the Kidderminster District and set up a District in its own right.**

Only 22 years later the Worcester District was strong enough and dynamic enough to host the AMC in Worcester Guildhall and a full report of proceedings was recorded in the Berrow's Worcester Journal in June 1865. Berrow's Worcester Journal is the world's oldest newspaper and it is still being published today.

The AMC committee at the time organized a Gala at the Worcester Pleasure Gardens to follow immediately after the AMC on Whit Monday in 1865. The Committee also had meetings with the Great Western Railway and the Midland Railway who agreed to lay on special excursion trains to bring in thousands of people for the Gala event. The train from Newport in South Wales brought in 1,500 passengers on its own.



There was a banner procession through the centre of Worcester with bands from The Worcestershire Yeomanry Calvary Band Pershore Rifle Corps Band St John's Drum and Fife Band Malvern Rhino Band Worcester Union Drum and Fife Band Cheltenham Montpelier Band Cheltenham Oddfellows Rifle Corps Band Worcester Militia Drum and Fife Band The 3rd Monmouthshire Rifle Corps Band 13,000 people attended the Gala event, which was organized by the Oddfellows at the 15 acre Worcester Pleasure Gardens, which was said to be a record attendance for that venue.

**By Brother John Bradley**

# May time in the garden

By The Old Gardener

**As I look out of my window and see all the things that need doing in the garden, I agree with the writer of the article I have just read who says, 'May time is the busiest time in the garden.' There is just so much to do!**

Here is a list of things you might want to do:

1. Watch out for possible late frosts and protect any tender plants.
2. Pots, hanging baskets and tubs need feeding every two to four weeks.
3. Now is the time to get the summer bedding plants in and also things like runner beans.
4. Regularly weed – best with a hoe when the ground is dry.
5. Open the greenhouse vents and doors on nice sunny days.
6. The lawn now needs regular mowing.
7. If you are growing sweet peas, they will need training and tying in.



8. Keep a look out for greenfly and black spot on your roses, pull the leaves off and destroy them.
9. Keep sowing for continuous crops of lettuce, onions and radishes.
10. If you have not yet done so, plant your tubs and hanging baskets.

If this is all too much, over the past few weeks I have seen in newspaper advertisements or in the garden centres every kind of maintenance free artificial plants, bushes, arrangements and hanging baskets – you can even buy an artificial lawn!

Someone somewhere is trying to do us gardeners out of a job! Happy gardening.

**Brother Roger Tolman**

# Stanley Baldwin

**Stanley Baldwin Lodge was first formed in 1868 the Lodge was named after Stanley Baldwin who along with his family owned a large iron foundry which was a major employer in Bewdley and the Lodge appeared to have been formed by employees with the family's strong and continued support. Hence the name of their patron, employer and supporter.**



Stanley Baldwin was the uncle of the 1st Earl Baldwin of Bewdley and Conservative politician also called Stanley, some thought the Lodge had been named after Stanley the MP but he wasn't born until 3rd August 1867, his parents were Alfred Baldwin, who later became the Member of Parliament for Bewdley and Louisa (nee MacDonald). Worcester District had an Alfred

Baldwin Lodge and Bewdley District had a Louisa Baldwin Lodge. Stanley succeeded his father Alfred as Member of Parliament for Bewdley in 1908 following Alfred's death earlier that year and throughout his political career Baldwin served as Chancellor of the Exchequer and Prime Minister on three occasions the first being 1923 - 1924, the second 1924 - 1929 and the third 1935 - 1937, he retired in 1937 and was succeeded by Neville Chamberlain.

In 1934 Stanley Baldwin MP attended the London AMC and gave a great speech regarding his family's connections to the Oddfellows.

Stanley Baldwin died on 14th December 1947 at the age of 80 his final resting place being Worcester Cathedral.

On the 27 September 2018 a bronze statue of Stanley Baldwin was unveiled in the centre of Bewdley by HRH The Duke of Gloucester.





## Cheque Presentation

**Brother John Bradley Deputy Provincial Grand Master presents a cheque on behalf of the Worcester District Oddfellows for £100 to the Worcester Heart Support Group.**

## SMILE By Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious You catch it like flu  
When someone smiled at me today  
I started smiling too  
I walked around the corner  
And someone saw me grin  
When he smiled I realised  
I had passed it on to him  
I thought about the smile  
And then realised its worth  
A single smile like mine  
Could travel round the earth  
So if you feel a smile begin  
Don't leave it undetected  
Start an epidemic  
And get the world infected.





## Celebrations 2019

### Sunday 10 February

John Drew celebrated his 90th Birthday

### Wednesday 24 July

Jean Barton will celebrate her  
80th Birthday

### Friday 16 August

Michael Williams will celebrate his  
70th Birthday

We wish you all a very Happy Birthday

## Obituaries 2018/2019

**Memories comfort you for  
memories are treasures that time  
cannot destroy**

Constance Vera Hardman

David Body

Dennis Body



**Share the friendship – enjoy the rewards!**

## Refer a Friend

### Did you know that the Society runs a Refer a Friend scheme?

When the first friend you've recommended has joined, we'll send you a £10 Love2Shop voucher as a thank you. There are different reward levels, so you'd receive your next reward – £60 in Love2Shop vouchers – after recruiting five friends in total.\*

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

### Terms and conditions apply\*

The Refer a Friend offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other membership offer. For full terms and conditions, visit **[www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers)**.



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

# 100 Club

Date	No.	£10	No.	£5
August 2018	49	Nick	11	Eric Bourne
September 2018	60	Julia Tolley	29	Nanette Hedley
October 2018	60	Julia Tolley	36	Simon Loynes
November 2018	27	Hazel Fryer	35	Jeff Loynes

December 2018	£50	No. 22	David Fryer
	£25	No. 25	Ron Fryer
	£15	No. 31	George Hopkins
	£10	No. 63	Dorothy Townsend
	£5	No. 36	Simon Loynes

Date	No.	£10	No.	£5
January 2019	35	Jeff Loynes	39	Neil Maclean
February 2019	2	Rev Michael Balkwill	10	Jamie Bilboe

## 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.

# Spotting the difference between collecting and hoarding

**Many will have heard of hoarding, but are unsure of what it really means. There are TV shows, news articles and videos floating around on social media which aim to educate people about the problem, but more commonly, they just fuel misconceptions.**

An estimated five per cent of the population has issues with hoarding, but only a small number of them seek assistance, despite services being available.

Hoarding disorder is a fairly new term, and it is classified as a distinct mental health condition, although often it can occur alongside other mental health issues. On the surface, it may just appear that somebody needs help clearing out or tidying up, but this sort of action can be hugely detrimental if the underlying issues are not addressed first.

## **So what's the difference between collecting and hoarding?**

Collectors have a particular focus, and often buy, save or restore similar types of items such as vinyl records, coins, stamps or toys. Collections are carefully curated and displayed in an ordered way, to be enjoyed and shared with others.

On the other hand, hoarders acquire their items in a less selective way, and often don't properly store, use or even look at these things once retained, as their focus is always on getting more.



Hoarders often feel distressed at the thought of discarding items, regardless of their value, and this can often result in large areas of the home rendered useless due to being filled with clutter, such as the bedroom or kitchen. As the issue progresses, this can lead to health and safety hazards, difficulty leaving the house, deterioration of personal hygiene, low self-esteem and self-imposed isolation.

## **Getting help**

Speak to your GP to get further information on how you might be able to access help for yourself or a loved one, or visit some of the useful websites below.

**Hoarding UK**, resources, support and helpline on 020 3239 1600 or visit <https://hoardinguk.org/>

**Help for hoarders**, information, support and advice, visit [www.helpforhoarders.co.uk](http://www.helpforhoarders.co.uk)

**Mind**, call the Infoline on 0300 123 3393 or visit [www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/hoarding](http://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/hoarding).

## Worcester District Events

Friday 21 September 2018 – Friendship Month

Once again we held a coffee morning at Worcester Guildhall but this for the first time we had the Worcester Ukulele Club entertain our visitors, they started playing outside the Guildhall but sadly it started to rain so had to move inside. A big thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out on the day.

**ODDFELLOWS**  
**FRIENDSHIP MONTH**  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



## Worcester District Annual Lunch

Sunday 7 October 2018

**This year our guest speaker was Immediate Past Grand Master of the order Brother Tony Luckett along with his consort Sister Christine Luckett. 55 members of our District and**

**guests from other Districts enjoyed a fabulous three course lunch and as usual the tombola proved very popular raising £195.**



*Presentation of gift and bouquet to Brother Tony and Sister Christine*



# Service of Remembrance at Worcester Cathedral

Sunday 11 November 2018

For many years we have been honoured to have been invited to the Cathedral to take part in the Service of Remembrance and this year was no exception. Our Provincial Grand Master Sister Kath Bilboe

laid a wreath on the memorial outside Cathedral alongside other dignitaries. Following the service our members enjoyed a carvery lunch at the White Hart, Fernhill Heath, Worcester.



*A packed cathedral*



*A day of remembrance*



*Lunch after the service*

## Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! If you're on Facebook, make sure you've liked and followed our Oddfellows social media pages. Find us at:



OddfellowsUK





# Whiskey, Mince Pie and Carol Singing Evening at Stanley Baldwin Lodge

Tuesday 4 December 2018

This event is the start of Christmas celebrations for our District, Brother Ken Link leads everyone in the singing of carols, always ending with the Twelve days of Christmas and by the time we have finished singing everyone is ready for that tot of

whiskey (or a glass of wine for those of us who don't like whiskey) and a mince pie. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I know by the time you receive this newsletter it will be March but I wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year.



*Santa hats at the ready*



*Ready for Christmas*



*Say cheese!*

# Christmas Lunch

Monday 17 December 2018

20 members attended our Christmas lunch at The Timberdine, Bath Road, Worcester and enjoyed a very nice two course lunch, we also had a secret Santa.



*Tis the season to be jolly*



*Wishing you a merry Christmas*



*Christmas hats on*

# Panto Time

Sunday 27 January 2019

Several of our members attended the Civic Hall in Stourport to see Red Riding Hood, "oh no they didn't", "oh yes they did" and a great afternoons entertainment it was to.

After the Panto we all went to the local fish and chip shop Louie's for a lovely fish supper.



*"He's behind you!"*



*Can you spot the sausage?*



*Fantastic production*

# New Year Lunch

Tuesday 29 January 2019

Our New Year Lunch this year was held at the New Inn, Ombersley Road, Worcester 25 members enjoyed

a very nice 2 course lunch, tea or coffee and a free drink from the bar, all for £10.



*A lovely catch up with friends*



*Great company*



*Which meal should we choose?*





# 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 Sandra on **01905 422591** or email **sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk**.

## **Oddfellows Advice Line**

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

**Email:** [oddfellows@manchestercab.org](mailto:oddfellows@manchestercab.org)



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**





**This quote recently caught my eye. Many of us are guilty of being caught up in the day-to-day. We often get so focused on the task at hand that our proverbial blinkers stop us from having a REALLY good look around.**

I'm sure many of us could benefit from slowing down a little, to take stock of those daily pick-me-up moments – people asking how you are, having a coffee made for you, being at the bus stop at exactly the right time... Those simple things.

I must say that us Oddfellows are pretty good at making the most of the everyday. We need little excuse to get together. A cup of tea and a biscuit, or a chance to grab a lunch, usually does the trick. We're fortunate to have this opportunity to go along to one of our Branch events and spend time with others. Regular, friendly catch-ups, or just sitting with company, really does fuel happiness.

It saddens me that there are people out there who don't get the chance to spend time with others, and who don't have anyone to fall back on when times get tough.

It might be that they've had a change of personal circumstance and the people they used to mix with have moved on, or they just don't see them as often. It happens all too frequently, and it's shocking how quickly your confidence gets knocked and you drift into chronic loneliness.

If there's anyone you know that could do with some friendly company or support, please don't forget to mention the Oddfellows and welcome them to your next get-together. There's no hard sell in this at all. If they like it, then brilliant. If we're not their cup of tea, then they know we're here if they change their mind.

So for 2019, it's right for us to continue to celebrate the extraordinary things in our calendar – Friendship Month, AMC and our major HA Andrews Memorial Fund donation. But let's not forget to celebrate the wonderful everyday at the Oddfellows, too.

Thank you for every cup of tea shared, caring phone call made and idea given at a meeting. Thank you for each pot washed, new face welcomed and friendly email written. These little things make a huge difference to people's everyday lives and the running of our Society. Despite life's rush, rest assured, they do not go unnoticed.

I wish you and your families every happiness – big and small – for 2019.

**Jane Nelson, CEO**

# Members of Distinction

**Whether through the old Portraits Scheme, or the recently launched Making a Difference Award – we love to recognise and celebrate members who go over-and-above in their support of the Society and its work.**

So thank you to three of Portraits 2018's final winners Gerald, Miriam and Adrian for everything you do for the Oddfellows. We appreciate it.



*Gerald Gordon Baxter  
Nene and Welland District*

**Meet Gerald, member of the Nene and Welland District, who was singled out for his long-standing support to the Society at many different levels – from local Branch through to International Conference.**

Some of Gerald's notable positions held over his seven decades as an Oddfellow include Noble Grand and Vice Grand

for his Branch, Provincial Grand Master for his District, 28 years' service as a District and Branch Trustee, as well as Past President (1988-1989) at East Anglia Group Conference.

Reflecting on his 71-year relationship with the Oddfellows, Gerald shared: "I liked the idea of what Oddfellowship stood for – Friendship, Love and Truth.

"We all need friends that we can turn to when we need them. There are times when we all need support and the Oddfellows has been there for me and my family."



*Miriam Witcomb  
Heart of England District*

**The Oddfellows is very fortunate to have people such as Miriam in its membership. She embodies the Society's humanitarian spirit through her commitment to helping others.**

Since joining in her 40s, Miriam has served as Noble Grand for Leigh and Knightly Branch, as well as Heart of England District Oddfellows Club President and Trustee.

However, what sets Miriam apart is her devotion to fundraising and volunteering. Year-round, she knits items to sell and organises regular tombolas to raise money for her Provincial Grand Master's chosen charities.

For over 20 years, she has provided fellow members with care and support in their times of need as Branch Welfare Officer.

In the words of her District Committee of Management, Miriam is 'a much loved member'. And as a Society, we couldn't agree more!

**Introduced to the Oddfellows by his father at age 16, Adrian's constant energy has kept him incredibly busy and active in his District and regional group conference.**

Since 2006, he has been a member of Beds and Bucks District Committee of Management, in which he serves as Trustee and second-time Deputy Provincial Grand Master. It was during his tenure as Provincial Grand Master in 2009 that his career reached new heights – as he undertook a charity indoor skydive for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Other appreciated contributions include his time as Past Worthy Master of the Provincial Lodge of Past Grands, Midland Group



*Adrian Taylor  
Beds and Bucks District*

Conference President and, while studying at university in Birmingham, attendance at monthly Branch meetings and District annual meetings.

Speaking about his time with the Oddfellows, he explained: "It provides excellent opportunities to be able to meet people at home and overseas. An example of this is when I travelled around Australia and New Zealand and visited Lodges in Brisbane and Wellington."

**Well done and thank you to all our members who've featured as portraits over the years. We can't wait to continue celebrating members who go the extra mile in supporting our Society through a Making A Difference Award.**



# On your marks, get set, parkrun

**There aren't many things left in life that are free, but one growing phenomenon that is completely gratis is parkrun.**

The 5km community events take place in parks each Saturday morning, but parkrun is more than a way of keeping fit, it's a way of making friends, being part of a community, and even inspiration to travel the world.

Parkrun isn't a race. There are no winners, volunteer Tail Walkers ensure that nobody finishes last, and the emphasis is on regular participation rather than performance. There are more than 550 5km courses in the UK and 1,600 across the world, with more than 235,000 adults and juniors taking part on a good weekend globally. Additionally, there are 250 junior parkruns on Sunday mornings for 4-14 year-olds and their families that are 2k in distance.

You don't need to be a top athlete. At any event you will find parents with pushchairs, dog walkers and people who have never taken part in organised physical activity before. If you use a wheelchair, then you're also welcome,

but it's probably worth checking the individual course you fancy doing is accessible with the organisers before setting off.

The events have a great reputation for being friendly and often there's a catch-up after the event at a local café over tea.

It's easy to get started. Register on the website [www.parkrun.org.uk](http://www.parkrun.org.uk) and you will be given an individual barcode. Print it out and turn up at the event you fancy taking part in. The events all start at 9am in the UK, except for in Scotland and Northern Ireland where they kick off at 9.30am.

If you don't fancy walking or running, then volunteering at the events is a brilliant way to meet people and give back to the community. Each event is self-organising and has its own team of volunteers who would be very pleased to have an extra pair of hands.

Get in touch with your local parkrun to find out how you can volunteer [www.parkrun.org.uk/events/events](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/events/events)