

October 2021 – March 2022
Issue 5



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

out & about

Concord Branch



Fleet Pond, Hampshire

Covering West Surrey and North East Hampshire



Book Club



Music/
Concert



Travel



Games



Crafts



Walk/
Activities



Social



Dining Out



Quizzes



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



*Concord District Dinner Dance -
Saturday 5 March 2022*

Hello and welcome to this our fifth edition of the newsletter for Concord District Branch.

With society able to mix socially once more, albeit remaining alert and careful, we are delighted to have arranged what we hope you will agree is a good mix of familiar and some new social events. In this edition we say 'Farewell to Kristen' and 'Hello to Katrina', we reflect on our first face-to-face meetings since lockdown, and talk about fundraising initiatives for our Chairman's Charity The Alzheimer's Society.

We'd love to be able to include articles from our members – do you have anything you would like to tell us about that we could include in the next Newsletter? Especially welcome are photos to go with a write up of an exciting trip you've made – it really could be anything. Everyone has a story to tell, and we want to hear it!

Jane and Katrina

Contact Details

We love to hear from our members and are always here to help you in any way that we can.

**For any queries
regarding
membership,
payments and
claiming benefits
please contact our
Branch Secretary:
Jane Nicole.**



Telephone: 07312 115323
Email: jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: 20 Greenfields Avenue,
Alton, Hampshire GU34 2ED.

**For anything
regarding the
social events
e.g confirming
attendance, offering
event suggestions or
providing feedback
please contact our Social
Event Co-Ordinator, Katrina
Carmichael-Jack**



Telephone: 07388 871260
Email:
katrina.carmichael-jack@
oddfellows.co.uk

Address: Rose Cottage, Crondall
Road, Crookham Village,
Fleet GU51 5SU.

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Regular Event

Book Club and Buffet Lunch

First Wednesday
of the Month



1pm



Members £6
Guests £8



Calling all avid readers – a new regular event is this new Book Club followed by light buffet lunch. Come and enjoy talking about the set book and then chat over lunch. There is plenty of parking at the Crookham War Memorial Hall. Why not bring along a friend or two? Please book one week before the event, so we can provide enough food. Crookham War Memorial Hall, Sandy Lane, Church Crookham, Fleet GU52 8LD. Further information available from Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.



Drinks at Daisy's

Second Wednesday
of the Month



10.30am



£3 plus cost of
refreshments



A new venue for us, Daisy's Tea Room within the Serendipity Antiques Centre will provide a stimulating environment.

Daisy's are renowned locally for their excellent home baking which is all done on site. A special deal has been arranged which would include your choice of sandwich (other than prawn) or an omelette and unlimited tea or coffee for £7.

You are of course welcome to choose other items on the menu. Please book one week before the event. Daisy's Tea Room, 295 Fleet Road, High Street, Fleet GU51 3BT. Contact Katrina on 07388 871260 or email concord@oddfellows.co.uk.



Farnham Friends Casual Coffee Morning

Third Wednesday
of the Month



10.30am



Minimum spend of £5.50
to include drink and cake



Do you live in Farnham and are looking for a chance to see old friends, make new friends and have a natter? If so please join us at the lovely Mercure Farnham Bush Hotel between 10.30am and 12.30pm in the Oak Lounge. Everyone is welcome and all

will be warmly greeted. Please book one week before the event. Mercure Farnham Bush Hotel, The Borough, Farnham GU9 7NN. Contact Katrina on 07388 871260 or email concord@oddfellows.co.uk.



Regular Event

The Ely Pub Quiz

Last Thursday
of the Month
No quiz in December



7.30pm



Members £2
Guests £3



All are welcome for a fun pub style quiz, whilst you also enjoy good food and great company. Teams made on the night. The Ely, London Road, Blackwater GU17 9LJ. Please confirm attendance in advance (one week before the event) giving your menu choices to Katrina via email at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call on 07388 871260 – payment for meals must be made one week before the event.



Noontime Natters

Last Friday
of the Month



12 noon



£2 admin fee
plus cost of
refreshments



We hope you can join us for our drop in between 12 noon to 2pm. Grab some lunch, a hot drink, or maybe just a naughty treat! Please let us know you are coming one week before the event so that we can reserve space for you. Come find us at the back of the cafe. (Note: Mullans used to be known as the Good Taste Coffee Shop). Mullans (formerly Good Taste Coffee Shop), 67 High Street, Camberley GU15 3RB. Please book in with Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.



October 2021

SAT

02

Walk 'n' Talk or
Sit 'n' Sip



10.30am



£3 donation
and cost of
refreshments



Come and join us to walk and talk, or sit and sip, whichever rocks your boat – although no water activity planned! Please note, we are meeting in Frimley Lodge Park, not the Mytchett Canal Centre, which is closed on Saturdays at this time of year. We'll meet up by the café for a morning coffee, and then those who wish to can set off for a walk around the park or along the canal. Book by Friday 24 September 2021. Frimley Lodge Café, Sturt Road, Frimley Green, Camberley GU16 6HY. Please let us know you are coming by contacting Katrina on 07388 871260 or email concord@oddfellows.co.uk.



October 2021

MON
04

Lunch at the Gallery



12 noon



Members £14, Guests £16



The Gallery Restaurant is a fully-licensed fine dining restaurant, which is run by award winning Catering & Hospitality students and staff. Expect cuisine of the highest quality, just as you'd expect at a high-end restaurant. You'll enjoy a three course meal with excellent standards of hospitality, all within a quiet, relaxing atmosphere all for a fraction of the price.



The Gallery, Farnborough College of Technology, Boundary Road, Farnborough GU14 6SB. Please book and pay by Friday 24 September 2021 with Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

FRI
15

Half Yearly District Business Meeting followed by light lunch



11am



Free



An opportunity for all our members to have their say about all things related to Concord Oddfellows. This will be an ideal opportunity for you to ask any questions and to let us know what kind of social events you would like to see organised. We will keep the business as short as possible, so that we can enjoy fellowship over a light lunch. Please do attend this if you possibly can - book by Friday 8 October 2021, so we know how many to cater for. There is plenty of parking at Victoria Hall, or across the road in a public free car park. Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Please let Jane know you are coming by emailing concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07312 115323.

October 2021

THURS
21

Concord versus Reading Pub Quiz



7.30pm



Members £3, Guests £4



Last time we had a joint quiz with teams from Reading District Oddfellows, they beat us! Please come and support Concord as we try to come out victors this time! You are welcome to come as a participating team member, or as a spectator. The quiz entry fee is £3 per head, which goes to our charity fund. Most people choose to have a meal. The Ely Hotel, London Road, Blackwater GU17 9LJ. If you would like to eat please ask Katrina (email: concord@oddfellows.co.uk, or call 07388 871260) for a copy of the menu and confirm your meal choices and pay by Thursday 14 October 2021.

SUN
24

Walk and Sunday Lunch



11am



£3 plus cost of meal



Join us for a stroll around Fleet Pond, a haven for wildlife, followed by a delicious roast dinner at Heron on the Lake, a beautiful pub bordering Fleet Pond. We can walk from the Heron on the Lake car park. For those just wishing to come for lunch, go direct to the Heron on the Lake for 12 noon. Roast beef costs £14.95; roast pork £12.95, roast chicken £13.95. Please book in with Katrina with your choice of meal and payment by Friday 15 October 2021. The Heron on the Lake, Old Cove Road, Fleet GU51 2RY. Contact Katrina on 07388 871260 or email concord@oddfellows.co.uk.

November

MON
01

Craft and Coffee



11am



Members £6
Guests £8



Is it ever too early to start preparing for Christmas? Come and enjoy a crafty session to include making Christmas cards to either send yourself, or sell to raise funds for our Chairman's charity. Maybe you have some other Christmas crafts you could demonstrate and help members have a go at? Light lunch included. Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Please book with Katrina on 07388 871260 or email concord@oddfellows.co.uk by Monday 25 October 2021.

November

THURS
11

Writing the Self Workshop with Melanie Whipman



10am



Members £17
Guests £20



Have you ever considered writing a memoir? Or perhaps you'd simply like to pull on some of your personal experiences and turn them into fiction. In this condensed, two hour workshop, we'll be experimenting with using real life events and personal history as inspiration for writing. You'll learn how to collate, edit and transform your memories into engaging prose. Do give it a go! You might surprise yourself.

Cost includes speaker fee, light lunch and hall hire. Book by Tuesday 2 November 2021. Crookham War Memorial Hall, Sandy Lane, Church Crookham, Fleet GU52 8LD. For more information and to book contact Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

MON
22

Salsa and Supper



8pm



Members £13
Guests £15



Put on your dancing shoes! Mario has been booked to come and give us a one hour Salsa taster session and this will be followed by supper and a glass of wine (or other non alcoholic beverage!). This is bound to be a popular event, so get your place booked quickly!

Book by Monday 15 November 2021. Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Please book with Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

December

MON
06

Viva España - Learn Spanish!



11am



Members £12, Guests £15



Hola! Hope everyone is happy to be out of lockdown and able to fill the hours with more rewarding pursuits. Now that we can meet face to face, why not finally try your hand at a language? There are worse places to start than the (arguably!), second most spoken language in the world! It's one of the most popular Brit holiday destinations and we should be able to order a meal or book a hotel room in the native language surely!

Cost includes a Spanish style light lunch. Book by Monday 29 November 2021. Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Contact Katrina on 07388 871260 or email concord@oddfellows.co.uk.

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 'online' in the place name search box

OE/0521A6



Crackers and Turkey, Pudding and Cream

Monday 13 December, 12 noon

The Princess Royal, Guildford Road, Runfold, Farnham GU10 1NX

Yay! It's nearly Christmas! In faith, we have organised a Christmas lunch at The Princess Royal in Farnham. If you live in the Farnham area do come and join us – festive apparel welcomed but not essential! You'll need to book in good time for this. Meal must be paid for ahead of time. Book by Monday 6 December 2021. Cost: Members from £25.50. Guests from £27.50.

Friday 17 December, 12.30pm

The Cricketers, Horsell Birch, Woking GU21 4XB

Yes, really, a second opportunity for a festive meal! This time we're aiming at our members living in and around Woking – now it's your turn to don your festive gear and enjoy a festive meal in good company. Book by Friday 10 December 2021. Cost to be confirmed.

Monday 20 December, 12 noon

The Oatsheaf, 2 Crookham Road, Fleet GU51 5DR

What? Another Christmas lunch you ask? Yes, but this time better suited to those living in the Fleet area. Don your favourite Christmas jumper, silly hat and tinsel scarf and come and enjoy a delicious festive lunch. Meal must be paid for by Monday 13 December 2021. Cost: Members £27.95, guests £30.

Call Katrina for more information
on **07388 871260** or email
concord@oddfellows.co.uk

f ConcordOddfellows
www.oddfellows.co.uk

January 2022

February

MON
03

Games and Bring and Share Lunch



11am



Free



After the festivities of Christmas and New Year celebrations, let's get together to play some table-top games and enjoy a natter. Bring your favourite game, your friends and family and a plate of food to share. (There is a reasonable size kitchen, but no cooker, only a microwave). Bring and share lunches are known in some quarters as 'Death by Quiche!' Book by Friday 31 December 2021. Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Please let Katrina know you are coming at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

TUES
25

Burns Night Supper



7.30pm



Members £15
Guests £17



Come and hear the 'Address to a Haggis' recounted by a real Scots and enjoy a traditional Burns supper and if we're very lucky, Bruce might accompany us as we sing 'Auld Lang Syne!' Cost includes meal and hall hire. Book by Tuesday 18 January 2022. Sutton Green Village Hall, New Lane, Guildford GU4 7QF. Reserve your place with Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

MON
07

Taster Yoga Session



11am



Members £10
Guests £14



Yoga is for everyone, any age, any strength, any flexibility. We've booked a seasoned yoga



instructor to come and give us a taster session. All equipment is supplied – all you need is comfortable clothes and a desire to step inside yourself. Cost includes a light lunch. Book by Monday 7 February 2022. Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Please let Katrina know you are coming at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.



February

MON
28

Squire's Garden Centre



12 noon



£2 admin fee
plus cost of
refreshments



The Squire's Garden Centre at Woking has had a refurbish and has a lovely looking cafe bar. Why not have a mooch and then join us for a bite of lunch – there's plenty to choose from on the menu. Book by Monday 21 February 2022. Squire's Garden Centre, Littlewick Road, Horsell, Woking GU21 4XR. Contact Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

March

SAT
05

Concord District Dinner Dance



6.30pm



Members IRO £28
Guests £36



Please come and help make this annual event a special occasion. Drinks reception 6.30pm followed by formal dinner, toasts and speeches, raffle followed by dancing (for those that wish!). Preferential accommodation rates available. The Bramley Suite, The Bush Hotel, The Borough, Farnham GU9 7NN. Hotel accommodation will be available at a preferential rate – please liaise with Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260. Book early and pay by Friday 18 February 2022.

SUN
06

Concord District Church Service



11am



Donation
to church



Please come and join the Concord Officers and members at our Annual Church Service at the Hale Methodist Church, The Green, Upper Hale, Farnham GU9 0DP, where we will be joined by members of the Hale Methodist Church. If you've stayed overnight at The Bush Hotel for our Dinner Dance, you'll be just a short drive away from the church. Please contact Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.

March

MON 07 Fundraising Cake and Coffee Morning



11am



Free



Please come and help us raise funds for our Chairman's charity of the year - Alzheimer's Society. Could you bake a cake or some cookies for us to sell? Could you help serve coffee? All hands on deck for this one. Do you have any crafts you would like to sell to raise more funds for Alzheimer's Society? Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot GU12 5DN. Please be in touch with Katrina if you can help at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260.



MON 28 Oddfellows Graves at Brookwood Cemetery



11am



Free



Hoping for a dry day, we'll be wandering through Brookwood Cemetery, where there are several graves of Oddfellow members, amongst many war graves. We will then retire to a local hostelry for essential victuals! The White Hart, a cosy pub on village green with beams, fire and garden, plus English food including sharing platters. Book by Monday 21 March 2022. Brookwood Cemetery, Cemetery Pales, Brookwood, Woking GU24 0BL. Contact Katrina at concord@oddfellows.co.uk or call 07388 871260 for further information.



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.

Farnham Friends Coffee morning at The Bush Hotel

Our thanks go to Dorothy Deacon who hosts these monthly Coffee mornings at the Bush Hotel in Farnham for us – as you can see our members are keen to meet up face to face again!



Social Events and pre-payment details

As we still need to proceed with some caution with regards to face to face events, we continue to ask that you always book into events prior to attending – that way, we know who to contact should we need to cancel the event. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing patience, we very much look forward to seeing you all soon.

For events that require payment prior to the event, please either make a bank payment to:

The Odd Fellows, Concord Branch,
Sort Code: 08 90 35, Account Number
50126989 and quote a payment
reference that will make it clear which
event you are paying for. An email
to concord@oddfellows.co.uk to
say that you've set up a payment is
always helpful.

By cheque payable to 'The Odd Fellows,
Concord Branch' and posted to Jane
Nicole at 20 Greenfields Avenue,
Alton GU34 2ED.

'Hello' to Katrina

Editor: We are so thrilled to welcome Katrina as our new Social Organiser – here are a few introductory words from her...

I'm very excited to have been offered the position at Oddfellows, Concord Branch, as Branch Development and Events Organiser. Organising events is my passion and I'm excited to be involved in this industry again.

I have lived around Farnham all my life and went to school at Frensham Heights. I had many hobbies at school, athletics, poetry, art, acting, reading to name but a few. I have always loved a good party from an early age, perhaps this began my journey into organising events.

I have had a diverse professional career, having begun a job as a Financial Adviser when I first moved to London, before moving into a field sales role. I absolutely loved this but it wasn't my passion. In the evenings I was working on setting up an Events Company, which I ran after having my two eldest children.

Moving back to Farnham 20 years ago, with my then 4 children, now ages 27,26,24, and 20, they are like boomerangs. I never seem to get rid of more than 2 at a time, so there is certainly never a dull moment, but I wouldn't change it just yet!

In 2008 I set up a charity called 'Over the Moon Foundation', helping families with autistic and disabled children. I ran this for 10 years and it was truly an amazing

experience watching how the charity grew, and meeting all the great kids we helped. It was hugely rewarding seeing how grateful each family was for our

help. A few years ago, I handed this over to my colleague, and it is still thriving.

Recently I qualified as an NLP Practitioner, Life Coach and Mentor which is a business I will run alongside my part-time job with Concord.

I have qualified success as an Event Planner and possess an organised and detail-oriented work ethic which I will bring to the role. I have been a senior Event Coordinator and have planned over 50 different events from Balls, discos, Halloween parties, Christmas parties, flower arranging, wreath making, sponsored walks, sponsored bike rides, quizzes etc. I have overseen all aspects of event planning, from finding appropriate venues to selecting print, media etc. There is nothing that makes me happier than seeing an event well planned and executed.

I am very much looking forward to getting stuck into this role and excited to meet all the members, volunteers and everybody involved in Oddfellows which makes it an amazing society to be involved with.



Katrina

Presentation of cheque to 'Challengers' Charity

One of the first face to face events for the Concord Committee was the presentation of our 'cheque' to Farnham Challengers. A total of £1,216 was raised despite the difficulties from cancelled fundraising activities due to lockdown – we are very grateful to all who donated.



From left to right: Jane Nicole, Concord Oddfellows Secretary, Emily Blackley, the Challengers' Senior Community Office, Junior member Lizzie Appleby, and Hannah Appleby, Past District Chairman.

Woking Get-Together at The Lightbox



The sky was blue and the sun was shining for this one of our first face to face get-togethers after lockdown – members were delighted to be able to sit outside and enjoy the warmth of friendship once more. We were delighted to be joined by some lovely folk who saw our event advertised on Meetup.

'Goodbye' to Kristen

A huge hello to all my dear friends and members! If you did not already know, the four of us successfully moved to San Antonio, Texas, towards the end of June 2021 – after only being awarded a visa status two weeks earlier. My husband and I have always wanted to live in America, but had given up hope that it would ever become a reality for us. That was until we met a Scottish helicopter pilot in 2019 who explained all about the E2 investment visa that brought him to the US. Fast forward two years and we have not only survived Covid-19, but also sold our house and all our belongings in the UK and relocated to America.

We spent the first 5 weeks in a furnished house, to then move to a brand new rental place with nothing but blinds. For the first week or so we only had one bar stool and one recliner chair, no washing machine, no sofas, no storage and no TV! Somehow we survived the ordeal to live another day and still with a smile on our faces.



Whilst it might seem crazy to move so promptly after arriving, for us it was absolutely the right thing to do, as we now live in a lovely gated community, with not one but two local gated pools and a highly rated new elementary school that can accommodate both Peyton and Chloe. All of this located roughly half a mile from the house!





Thankfully both Peyton and Chloe have taken the move in their stride and Chloe – at age 5 – is already talking like an American! Peyton hasn't yet acclimatised to the heat, but with the endless splash pads and waterparks nearby he is well catered for. Personally my favourite aspect of our new place is the sunset that occurs every night opposite our house, beautifully visible from our walk in closet and veranda.

We are friends with two couples who have made the move so much easier for us – not only have they assisted with moving furniture, providing laundry services, but also gifting us with season passes to the local six flags theme park. As an avid theme park fan, I am thrilled that San Antonio has a six flags theme park, a SeaWorld theme park and a theme park dedicated to people with special needs. As a mum of a special needs child, it is refreshing to be in a town that is so accommodating.

Ally now has a social security number but unfortunately I will have to wait up to eight months for mine – not ideal when I was anticipating the wait to be a maximum of three months! This means I can't get a job until well into next year. Not something we had counted on when we were working out the finances until Christmas. We also haven't yet managed to get a Texas driver's license, but hope it will happen before Halloween.

We always knew that setting up a life in America for us and our children wouldn't be without its' challenges, but we are so thrilled that we took the gamble. We are finally living the American dream and couldn't be happier. I'd love to stay in contact with you via Facebook or email – if you don't already have my details please contact Jane who can provide these for you.

Kristen

Meet your Concord Care and Welfare Team

The Oddfellows looking after you
Care, Advice and Support



We would like to introduce you to our friendly Care and Welfare team who are here to help you.



Bruce Nicole
Welfare Visitor



Jane Nicole
Welfare Visitor



Hannah Appleby
Welfare Visitor

Have you been unwell or in hospital, or find it difficult to get out to Oddfellows meetings?

Are you living on your own and would like someone to keep in touch through a chat on the phone? Or do you just need a friendly 'listening ear' to offer a bit of support in a difficult situation?

You may just want to ask a simple question about any help available to you through the Oddfellows. Whatever your situation, our care and welfare team are here to do what they can to help – or to point you in the right direction – so do get in touch!

Our Welfare team receive induction training and ongoing support, as well as regular care and welfare information updates. They undergo screening appropriate to their role and carry a photo ID badge, so you can be reassured about who they are.

To arrange for a member of the Welfare team to contact you, or for local help and information about Branch benefits or benevolence support, please ring Jane Nicole on **07312 115323** or email **jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk**.

National Oddfellows Helplines



As well as the help available at your local Branch, you can also contact our free, confidential national helplines.

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@manchestercab.org

Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on areas such as welfare benefits, money and debt, consumer problems, housing, and employment issues.

Citizens Advice is an independent advice agency and is solely responsible for all advice provided.

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, members 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.

Our Oddfellows care, advice, support services and benefits* are available to all members from day one, except the convalescence and carer benefits which are available after two years of membership. If you would like more information ask your Branch Secretary for a copy of our '**Looking After You**' Care, Advice and Support booklet or visit our website page at

www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/

*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits. All Oddfellows benefits are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Call 0800 028 1810 for details or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-tcs

Fundraising 'Nature at its Best' Photographic Competition

Dust off your smartphones and cameras, take your best shots, and help us raise funds for our District Chairman's Charity of the Year, Alzheimer's Society.

Cost: One entry £5 or 3 entries for £10 (please contact Jane Nicole on 07312 115323 or email: jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk for payment details)

With 6 categories, that's 6 chances to win!
Two age groups/category: Juniors & Adults

Enter up to 6 photos, ONE per category. Winning entries from each category will be posted on Facebook at [ConcordOddfellows](https://www.facebook.com/ConcordOddfellows), and any photos entered may be used to create a calendar. Your photos must be taken outside, and fit into one of these categories:



- Seasonal changes
- Water
- Wildlife
- Birds/Animals
- Scenic view
- Flowers

Closing date for entries is 18 February 2022
– lots of time to get in lots of practice!

So get snapping and make sure to encourage your friends and family to join in too.

Terms & Conditions for photographic competition

How to enter and competition rules:

To enter, submit up to ONE photo taken within the past year in an outdoors setting, within any or all of the six categories detailed above.

- Email your entry to concord@oddfellows.co.uk or post to Jane Nicole at 20 Greenfields Avenue, Alton GU34 2ED
- One entry per category per person allowed. The junior category is only open to under 16 years of age
- Entries must be submitted by 18 February 2022
- Include your name, telephone number and specify the photo category

- Your personal data will not be shared with any third parties and will be held for the purposes of this photographic competition. The competition is managed and fulfilled by the Concord Oddfellows (the Promoter), 20 Greenfields Avenue, Alton GU34 2ED
- The Promoter reserves the right to publish any photos submitted
- Concord Oddfellows may post entries on their Facebook page, [ConcordOddfellows](https://www.facebook.com/ConcordOddfellows).
- Photos will be judged and winners selected at Concord's Dinner Dance on 5 March 2022
- Winning entries will be announced on 5 March 2022, and the winners contacted either by email or by telephone
- The decision of the Promoter on any matter relating to these rules shall be final.

Fundraising for Alzheimer's Society



From April 2021 Concord members have been raising funds for the Alzheimer's Society – so how can you help?

1. Donating to a JustGiving page is a tax efficient way to donate if you are a tax payer. If you would like to donate in this way, look up Jane Nicole's JustGiving page on Facebook.
2. You could consider setting up a monthly standing order to go direct to Concord District Charity Bank Account, sort code 08 92 99, account number 67200364.
3. Look out for notices of fundraising events over the coming months.
4. If you would like to arrange a fundraising event, or have any ideas for raising funds, please do be in touch with the Branch Secretary, Jane Nicole on 07312 115323, or email: jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk

Thank you to all our members for your faithfulness in helping us to help others!

Is there someone you know who'd enjoy what we do?

Refer a friend today

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

*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



The Oddfellows Annual Movable Conference (AMC)

As much as we were all hoping for the opportunity to get together and host our 2021 AMC in person, the global pandemic had other plans and so we saw the conference held virtually over Zoom, and broadcast live via YouTube.

This is only the second time since 1944 that there hasn't been an in-person Annual Movable Conference. The AMC is usually a three-day conference which gives our network of 115 Branches a chance to have their say in the way the Society is run, celebrate its successes and developments over the past 12 months, and enjoy a catch-up with other Branches over dinner.

This year however, the Directors gathered in the Unity Office Boardroom whilst everyone else stayed at home and Deputies logged in via Zoom to listen in and make their contributions to conference.

Despite the distance between us all, the AMC was its usual hive of activity, and thanks go to all the Deputies who attended, debated and voted on the different clauses. We would also like to extend our thanks to the incredible IT team who worked tirelessly to ensure all Deputies were able to log in successfully, the conference was broadcast seamlessly, and everything ran as it should.

Welcoming our newest Grand Master, David Ogden

One of the key elements of AMC is the installation of the new Grand Master, or Chairman of the Society. This is the most prestigious and respected roles in the Society, and requires a considerable commitment. As Grand Masters, they need to have progressed through the ceremonial side of the Society and usually will have served for at least four years as a Director, before being nominated to be Grand Master.

Our Immediate Past Grand Master, David Randall, spent two years in the role, instead of the usual one, due to the coronavirus

pandemic, and has this year welcomed his successor, David Ogden. Despite there being no live audience, the ceremony featuring his installation as Grand Master was streamed on YouTube.



The Society would like to thank David Randall for his hard work during his time as Grand Master, and wish David Ogden all the best for his term. Keep an eye out for our interview with the new Grand Master in the next edition of Society News!

Face-to-face get-togethers are back, but online events are here to stay

Many members have been missing that wonderful feeling of seeing and socialising with friends in a group setting, and we're pleased to let you know that our Branches have restarted their face-to-face events, or are getting ready to restart them again very soon.

So whether you're feeling up to a walk in the great outdoors, or you're keen to get back to your local coffee morning, our Branches are beavering away behind the scenes to make sure their events are COVID-secure, and our members are safe.

Not feeling up to getting together yet? That's fine too. Lots of people will still feel anxious about mixing with groups indoors or outdoors, and we know it will take a while for things to feel "normal" again. But we don't want you to miss out, which is why our online events are here to stay.



From local guest talks streamed live from your Branch, to our weekly national coffee mornings, online events will continue for as long as our members would like them to.

Help is available to get you set up to access the online events, should you need it. Call our membership team on **0800 028 1810**, or email **events@oddfellows.co.uk** to receive a how-to guide for using Zoom video conferencing.

If you'd like to join in with one of our events, in-person or online, find out what's coming up by visiting our website: **www.oddfellows.co.uk/events** or speak to your local Branch Secretary to request a local events diary.



Congratulations to our Making a Difference Award winners!



Each year, we recognise and celebrate the efforts of members who have gone above and beyond for their local Branch, fellow members, and the Society as a whole. Without these individuals (and there are many!), the Oddfellows wouldn't be the warm and welcoming organisation it is today.

This year, faced with a global pandemic and numerous lockdowns which left many members isolated, the kindness and dedication of our Making a Difference Award nominees truly shone through. Our judges were blown away by the way Oddfellows communities rallied together to help each other through such a difficult year, and so choosing the winners was more difficult than ever. Without further ado, our 2021 Making a Difference Award winners are...

Wendy Atkins, from Ipswich Oddfellows, for Working in the spirit of mutuality

Wendy said: "It was a big surprise and I feel honoured to have won. I've done all sorts for the Ipswich Oddfellows over the years, but I enjoy my role as social organiser most of all. Since we've started running online events, I've had to think outside the box and see how our in-person events can translate onto Zoom, which has been a fun challenge."



Wendy, from Ipswich Oddfellows

I've extended the hand of friendship to other Branches to offer help and support with their online meetings."



Paul, from South London Oddfellows

Paul Fitton, from South London Oddfellows, for Enriching lives socially

Paul said: "It was a lovely surprise when I found out I'd won. Organising social events for my local group is more than just a job for me, it's fun and fulfilling. Helping people meet and make new friends in the area is wonderful."

Janice Tomlin, from Reading Oddfellows, for Giving a helping hand

Janice said: "I had no idea I'd even been nominated, so it was a shock when I was told I'd won the award, but I was incredibly pleased! I know how it feels to be on your own a lot, so being a listening ear for other members during such a difficult year has been a tonic for me as well, in many ways."



Janice, from Reading Oddfellows

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says: "Our members are at the heart of everything we do as a Society, and it's people like Paul, Wendy and Janice who keep the wheels turning."

"As much-loved members of their local Branches and the Society as a whole, these Awards are truly well-deserved."

Working together to Make a Difference for 2022

We are excited to introduce a new 'Achieving Together' category for our Making a Difference Awards.

Members nominated for the Achieving Together Award should be a team of two, and could be married, partners, family relations, or good friends who collaborate with, and support each other, to achieve more than they could alone.



Have your say!

If you know a Society star who goes above and beyond, or a duo whose combined efforts make your Branch a warm and welcoming place for all, download a Member Nomination form from www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference, or contact your Branch Secretary to have a form sent to you.

Make friends, smile more often



Looking to make friends and meet new people - backed with a great range of benefits? Then find out more about the Oddfellows. With a warm welcome guaranteed, and a calendar of events at your local Oddfellows Branch, how much you get involved is up to you.

Join the Oddfellows for as little as £25 a year, or add extra benefits for £35 a year.*

£25 a year membership* gives you access to...

- Local social events
- Care & Welfare Helpline
- Oddfellows Travel
- Oddfellows news by email
- Branch Care & Welfare Support
- Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line
- Money saving partner offers
- Benevolence Grants
- Emergency Financial Aid (Household)
- Convalescence & Carer Support (after 2 years' membership)
- Accidental Death Benefit
- Legal Aid Scheme
- Educational & Apprenticeship Awards
- 24/7 access to our historical online archive

£35 a year membership* with the additional benefits of...

- Optical benefit of up to £30 every second year of membership (after 1 year's membership)
- Dental benefit of up to £30 every membership year (after 1 year's membership)

For more information or to join, call freephone **0800 028 1810**.
9am-5pm Mon to Thurs, 9am-4pm Fri, or visit
www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits.

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*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services. For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions, or call us on 0800 028 1810.



the
Oddfellows
SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

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.

At a glance

October 2021

Sat 2	Walk 'n' Talk or Sit 'n' Sip, Camberley	10.30am
Mon 4	Lunch at the Gallery, Farnborough	12 noon
Wed 13	Drinks at Daisy's, High Street, Fleet	10.30am
Fri 15	Half Yearly District Business Meeting, Ash	11am
Wed 20	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning, Farnham	10.30am
Thurs 21	Concord versus Reading Pub Quiz, Blackwater	7.30pm
Sun 24	Walk and Sunday Lunch, Fleet	11am
Fri 29	Noontime Natters, Camberley	12 noon

November

Mon 1	Craft and Coffee, Ash	11am
Wed 3	Book Club and Buffet Lunch, Church Crookham, Fleet	1pm
Wed 10	Drinks at Daisy's, High Street, Fleet	10.30am
Thurs 11	Writing the Self Workshop, Church Crookham	10am
Wed 17	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning, Farnham	10.30am
Mon 22	Salsa and Supper, Ash	8pm
Thurs 25	The Ely Pub Quiz, Blackwater	7.30pm
Fri 26	Noontime Natters, Camberley	12 noon

December

Wed 1	Book Club and Buffet Lunch, Church Crookham, Fleet	1pm
Mon 6	Viva España - Learn Spanish!, Ash	11am
Wed 8	Drinks at Daisy's, High Street, Fleet	10.30am
Mon 13	Crackers and Turkey, Pudding and Cream, Farnham	12 noon
Fri 17	Crackers and Turkey, Pudding and Cream, Woking	12.30pm
Mon 20	Crackers and Turkey, Pudding and Cream, Fleet	12 noon
Fri 31	Noontime Natters, Camberley	12 noon

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At a glance

January 2022

Mon 3	Games and Bring and Share Lunch, Ash	11am
Wed 5	Book Club and Buffet Lunch, Church Crookham, Fleet	1pm
Wed 12	Drinks at Daisy's, High Street, Fleet	10.30am
Wed 19	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning, Farnham	10.30am
Thurs 20	The Ely Pub Quiz, Blackwater	7.30pm
Tues 25	Burns Night Supper, Guildford	7.30pm
Fri 28	Noontime Natters, Camberley	12 noon

February

Wed 2	Book Club and Buffet Lunch, Church Crookham, Fleet	1pm
Mon 7	Taster Yoga Session, Ash	11am
Wed 9	Drinks at Daisy's, High Street, Fleet	10.30am
Wed 16	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning, Farnham	10.30am
Thurs 17	The Ely Pub Quiz, Blackwater	7.30pm
Fri 25	Noontime Natters, Camberley	12 noon
Mon 28	Squire's Garden Centre, Horsell, Woking	12 noon

March

Wed 2	Book Club and Buffet Lunch, Church Crookham, Fleet	1pm
Sat 5	Concord District Dinner Dance, Farnham	6.30pm
Sun 6	Concord District Church Service, Farnham	11am
Mon 7	Fundraising Cake and Coffee Morning, Ash	11am
Wed 9	Drinks at Daisy's, High Street, Fleet	10.30am
Wed 16	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning, Farnham	10.30am
Thurs 17	The Ely Pub Quiz, Blackwater	7.30pm
Fri 25	Noontime Natters, Camberley	12 noon
Mon 28	Oddfellows Graves at Brookwood Cemetery, Woking	11am

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at  OddfellowsUK

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