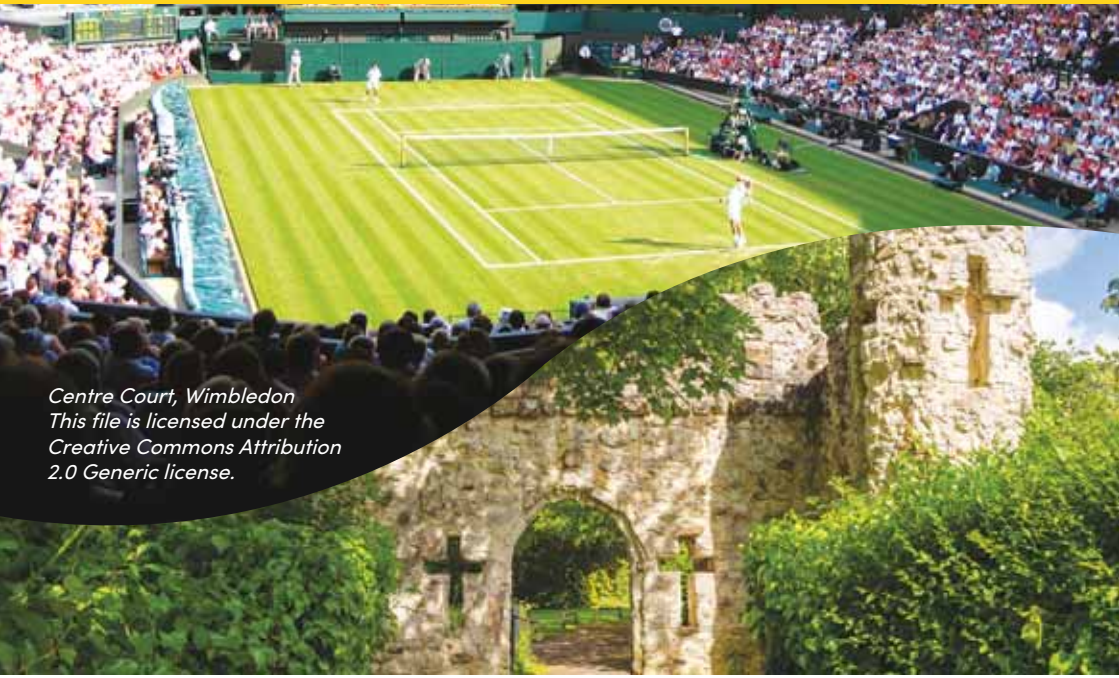
October 2026 - March 2027

THE ODDFELLOWS SINCE 1810

making friends, helping people

out & about

Mitcham, Reigate and Crawley Branch



Centre Court, Wimbledon
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Reigate Castle - Jonathan Wilson (Adobe Stock)

- Theatre/ Culture
- Dining Out
- Travel
- Online
- Quizzes
- Coffee Morning
- Walks
- Music
- Talks
- Games
- Social
- Meetings



Annual Dinner Dance - Saturday 31 October 2026

Welcome to the latest edition of Mitcham, Reigate and Crawley Branch Oddfellows Out & About. Inside you'll find local and national Oddfellows news, information about our events, and plenty of useful information about your membership – so do have a read and keep it somewhere handy.

We have lots of great events coming up and we'd love to see you at one soon. All our events are open to everyone, so feel free to bring a friend or family member along.

Branches across the country also host a wide range of free online events, giving you the chance to enjoy friendship from the comfort of your own home. You can check out the latest online events on our website at https://www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/

Remember, you can always find details of Branch events, member benefits and the latest Oddfellows news on our website at www.oddfellows.co.uk.

Contact Details

Branch Secretary: Dawn Taylor
Telephone: 01293 785083
Email:
dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: 27 Bolters Road South, Horley, Surrey RH6 8HS.

The best time to ring is during the week between 10am and 2pm, but if there is no reply please do leave your name, telephone number, and a short message and I will call you back.



Please try and let us know you're attending any event in advance, by calling the contact number for each event, so we can update you with any changes.

Committee Meetings

Are held on Zoom on the third Tuesday of each month.

2026 - 20 October, 17 November, 15 December

2027 - 19 January, 16 February, 16 March

When sending in your claims for Dental or Optical Benefits please bear in mind that the cheques are prepared a few days in advance of these meetings so your claim needs to be with me by the preceding Wednesday.

Contact Details

Social Organiser:
Amanda Saunders
Telephone: 07884 820323
Email:
amanda.saunders@oddfellows.co.uk

Amanda works 8 hours a week, so if you can't reach her, please leave your name and telephone number, and she'll be happy to return your call.



Annual Summoned Meeting

Saturday 17 October 2026 at 2.30pm in
St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Horley Row, Horley, Surrey RH6 8DF

All members, new and old, are invited to this meeting where we elect the representatives to Southern Group and AMC, and plan the year ahead. We do need your input to let us know what activities and events you would like to see provided.

Refreshments will be served during/after the meeting.

Regular Events

Craft Club in South Norwood



2pm £ Free

Knitting, crochet and crafts with coffee and a chat, from 2pm to 4pm. Norma will teach these crafts, but as the finished goods are for charity, you will need to be a quick learner. It will be great fun and with friendly chat. St Mark's Church Hall, Albert Road, South Norwood SE25 4JE. Contact Amanda on 07884 820323.

Sutton Coffee and Chat



2.30pm £ As per menu

Friendship is what we are all about, making new friends and keeping in touch with old ones and this café upstairs in Waterstones book shop in Sutton High Street is a perfect place to do just that. Waterstones, 71-81 High Street, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1DU. Please let Valerie know on 07738 379013 that you are coming so she can watch out for you.

5 October 2026
2 November 2026
7 December 2026
4 January 2027
1 February 2027
1 March 2027

Friendship Lunch in Wallington



12pm £ As per menu

Dobbies Garden centre has a great atmosphere to chat with old friends and new. There is also a large range of goods that are a bit different from the usual garden centre, so take a look at their various items. Dobbies Garden Centre, 4a Woodmansterne Lane, Woodvote, Wallington SM6 0SU. Please note, December is the second week, otherwise it's too close to Christmas. Dobbies Garden Centre, Wallington SM6 0SU. Contact Amanda to book your place on 07884 820323.

19 October 2026
14 December 2026
8 February 2027

Regular Events

Coffee in the Potting Shed



Fourth Monday at 11am

11am £ As per menu

Another great place to meet old friends and make new ones, the Potting Shed is a café next door to the Morden Hall Garden Centre, so is handy for all your gardening needs as well. The Potting Shed, Morden Hall Park, 21 Morden Hall Road, Morden SM4 5JD. Contact Valerie on 07738 379013.

26 October 2026
23 November 2026
28 December 2026
25 January 2027
22 February 2027
22 March 2027

Coffee and Chat with Friends in Crawley

First Tuesday at 10.30am



10.30am £ As per menu

A wonderful way to spend a Tuesday morning, coffee and chat with friends and the opportunity to shop for your gardening needs or presents as well. It's a big place so watch out for the Blue and Yellow tablecloth or rolled up Oddfellows umbrella. Haskins Garden Centre, West Park Road, Copthorne, Crawley RH10 3HG. Contact Susan on 01293 785083 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

6 October 2026
3 November 2026
1 December 2026
5 January 2027
2 February 2027
2 March 2027

Coffee and Chat in Haywards Heath

Second Tuesday at 10.30am



10.30am £ As per menu

Everyone is welcome to come along and join us for a coffee and chat in the Waitrose Restaurant, Market Place, Haywards Heath RH16 1DJ. For info contact Amanda on 07884 820323.

13 October 2026
10 November 2026
8 December 2026
12 January 2027
9 February 2027
9 March 2027

Regular Events

Reigate Friends

7.30pm | £ Donations

Second Tuesday at 7.30pm

Activities vary each month as decided by the members, so please call Dawn, or review the monthly newsletter for details of each month. Activities may include: indoor bowls, a quiz, beetle drive, easy exercises for the over 60s, Charades, crafts, or guest speakers from Help at Home, fire or ambulance, wills/estate planning/Oddfellows history, or any suggestions from members. Cost: Suggested donation for tea, coffee and cakes - 50p. The Woodhatch Centre, Whitebeam Drive, Woodhatch, Near Reigate RH2 7LS. Find out each month's activities in our regular email newsletters or call Dawn on 01293 785083.

13 October 2026
10 November 2026
8 December 2026
12 January 2027
9 February 2027
9 March 2027

Friendship Lunch in Sutton

1pm | £ As per menu

Third Tuesday at 1pm

A leisurely lunch with time to chat in alternate months? The Plough Harvester Restaurant, 224 Sutton Common Road, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9PW. Book 5 days in advance please, contact Dawn on 01293 785083.



17 November 2026
19 January 2027
16 March 2027

Coffee and Chat in Horsham

10.30am | £ As per menu

Third Tuesday at 10.30am

Everyone is welcome to come along and join us for a coffee and chat in the garden centre. Combine a happy morning chat with friends with a look around the centre to boost your garden. Hilliers Garden Centre, Brighton Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 6JA. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083 or Amanda on 07884 820323.

20 October 2026
17 November 2026
15 December 2026
19 January 2027
16 February 2027
16 March 2027

Regular Events

Countryside Walk and a Cuppa

10.30am | £ As per menu



Join us for a countryside walk followed by a cuppa and chat. We'll be meeting for the walk at 10.30am and should be back by around 11.30am. The location will change each month to try new walks but always around Earlswood, Horley, Reigate. Contact Amanda on 07884 820323.

27 October 2026
24 November 2026
22 December 2026
26 January 2027
23 February 2027
23 March 2027

Chit Chat and Quiz from Home

8pm | £ Free | Online



Grab a drink of your choice and join us for chat and an easy quiz. A great way to make and keep in touch with friends across the country. Zoom Meeting ID: 843 7341 8571, Contact Dawn for any further information and the passcode on 01293 785083.

7 October 2026
4 November 2026
2 December 2026
6 January 2027
3 February 2027
3 March 2027

Beginners Tai Chi

12.45pm | £ First class free, then £10 per week



This a gentle and relaxed class for all ages and levels of fitness, run by Neil Johnson who has many years experience and makes it fun and easy to understand. Tai Chi can help in many ways such as muscle rehabilitation, balance, general posture, joint stiffness, mental health and cardiac regulation. No uniform needed, just comfortable clothes and footwear. Try the first class free, then £10 pay as you go. Each class is followed with a coffee and chat afterwards in the bar downstairs. Haywards Heath Social Club (upstairs hall), 6-8 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 4EG. Contact Amanda on 07884 820323.

Regular Events

Traditional Branch Meeting

First Thursday at 8pm

8pm £ Free

Our heritage is unique with founding traditions and values that we feel are worth preserving. The Surrey Branch, meeting in Mitcham after it was founded in 1832, is the oldest in the District and likes to keep up the traditions of the Society, so we start and finish with the words that have been used for the last 216 years and have a lot of fun in between, with tea, coffee and cakes afterwards. If you are at all interested in the traditions of the Society, or you would like to get more involved, this is the branch to come to and all are welcome. St Mark's Church Hall, St Mark's Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LF. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083 or Colin on 020 8640 5002.

1 October 2026 **3 December 2026** **4 February 2027**
5 November 2026 **7 January 2027** **4 March 2027**

Live Jazz with Lunch or Coffee

Second Thursday at 11.30am

11.30am £ £10

World Class Jazz at the Clocktower Café on the second Thursday of every month. Each month we'll be treated to different jazz artists at the event which has been going for 25 years. Join us for a coffee and/or lunch and some fabulous live jazz. Booking is essential within one week in advance, so that we can reserve seating together. Cost: £10 cash payable on the day. Clocktower Café, 9 Katharine Street, Croydon CR9 1ET. Please contact Amanda to book your place on 07884 820323.

8 October 2026 **12 November 2026** **10 December 2026**

Lunch with Friends in Crawley

Third Thursday at 1pm

1pm £ As per menu

Lunch with friends in various locations, a leisurely lunch with time to chat. The venue changes according to the vote of members at each lunch, though the usual choice being the Parsons Pig, Balcombe Road, Crawley RH10 3NL, so please call Dawn on 01293 785083 to check the venue and book your lunch.

15 October 2026 **17 December 2026** **18 February 2027**
19 November 2026 **21 January 2027** **18 March 2027**

Regular Events

Friday Friends in South Norwood

Second Friday at 2pm

2pm | £ Suggested donation for tea, coffee and cakes 50p

An afternoon of fun and friendship with coffee, chat and maybe a quiz, or a beetle drive, fitness session, sing along, or similar fun activity. St Mark's Church Hall, Albert Road, South Norwood SE25 4JE. For information and details call Norma on 020 36690702.

9 October 2026
13 November 2026
11 December 2026
8 January 2027
12 February 2027
12 March 2027

Friendship Club in Purley

Last Friday at 2pm

2pm | £ Suggested donation for tea, coffee and cakes 50p

This club is mainly for TLC - Tea, Laughter and Chat (or coffee/cake?). Activities include easy quizzes, easy exercises for the over 60s, carpet bowls, beetle drives, charades, talks from local organisations or about the Oddfellows history. Content of the meetings is decided by members, so find out each month's activities in our regular email newsletters or call Dawn for information.We meet in the Phillipi room, at the back of the church, so walk around the church and come in the back gate and door and you will find us on the right. Christ Church, Brighton Road, Purley CR8 2BN. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

25 September 2026
23 October 2026
27 November 2026
29 January 2027
26 February 2027
26 March 2027

October 2026

SAT 03

Inter-District Short Mat Bowls



11am | £ Members £10 Guests £15

Short mat bowls is the indoor version of bowls and is great fun and good exercise. You don't have to be super fit, we have members who play from their wheelchairs, but the venue asks that you please wear flat soled shoes, so as to not mark the mats. We are challenging other Districts from across the Southern Group, so a team or two from Mitcham would be great. You don't need to be an expert, or play regularly, just come and enjoy the afternoon. Sandwiches with tea or coffee will be supplied too, so it as much a social occasion as a competition. Book by Saturday 26 September 2026. The Woodhatch Centre, Whitebeam Drive, Woodhatch, Nr Reigate RH2 7LS. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083 or Lyne on 07718 102337. Price includes all equipment hire, finger buffet and 5 free raffle tickets.

October 2026

SAT 17

Summoned Meeting

2.30pm £ Free



The Summoned Meetings, held twice per year, are where the future of the Branch is decided. There are reports of past events and plans for the future, so if you have an opinion on the running of the Society, this is your opportunity to come and tell us. We are always happy to welcome new members to the Committee of Management, so if you would like to put your name forward for this, or maybe just to enquire what is involved, you will be very welcome. Refreshments are served during or after the meeting at no cost. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Horley Row, Horley, Surrey RH6 8DF. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083, Lyne on 07718 102337, Valerie on 07738 379013 or Amanda on 07884 820323.

SAT 31

Annual Dinner Dance

7pm £ Members £42 Guests £45



Our dinner dance is the pinnacle of our year. Held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, where they have treated us like royalty for the last few years. One can expect food of the highest quality, as their chef trained at the Savoy Hotel in London and with staff who are always very helpful and cheerful, it makes the whole evening a marvellous experience. Stay for the night in one of their comfortable rooms and have breakfast with your friends in the morning, what a super way to start a Sunday. The hotel has once again held the prices at £119 for a double room and £109 for a single, but as all their rooms are doubles, you get plenty of space if you are on your own. Book by Friday 9 October 2026. Crowne Plaza Hotel - Gatwick Airport, Langley Drive, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7SX. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.



Annual Dinner Dance

All welcome

Saturday 31 October 2026
7pm for dinner at 7.30pm

Our annual event for all who enjoy a good dinner and dancing with friends.

Bed and Breakfast is available in the hotel:
Double or twin room £119
Single occupancy £109

To book call 01293 608608 and give the date and the code: ODDFELLOWS or call Dawn.

Cost: £45 (members £42)

Crowne Plaza Hotel Gatwick
Langley Drive
Crawley
West Sussex
RH11 7SX

For further information contact Dawn **01293 785083**
dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

This overnight stay is operated by a Crowne Plaza. Your booking, and any subsequent changes will be subject to the terms and conditions. It's important that you read and understand them.
www.ihg.com/content/gb/en/customer-care/tc

THE ODDFELLOWS SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

f MitchamReigateandCrawleyOddfellows
www.oddfellows.co.uk

*The overnight stay is operated by Crowne Plaza Hotel Gatwick (www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/gb/en/crawley/lgwuk/hoteldetail). Please understand their terms and conditions before booking at www.ihg.com/content/gb/en/customer-care/tc. The Oddfellows cannot be held responsible for any bookings made with Crowne Plaza Hotel Gatwick.

November

SAT 21

South of England Winter Fair

10am

£ Seniors £8.10
Adults £9.45



The South of England Winter Fair is the very best place for Christmas shopping and will be followed by a Christmas lunch at the Gardeners Arms Pub, Ardingly. Visitors to the Ardingly Winter Fair can shop until they drop from a large selection of stalls boasting artisan products, gifts, and food and drink from independent and local vendors We will arrange lifts/minibus from the local mainline train stations. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. South of England Showground, Selsfield Road, Haywards Heath RH17 6TL. Contact Amanda on 07884 820323.



December

TUES 01

Christmas Lunch

12.15pm

£ £25



Members are invited to join the Woodhatch Community Centre three course Christmas lunch. It is £25, payment in advance please. Wine, entertainment and a gift are included. Booking is essential and of course, please let us know of any dietary requirements. Book by Monday 16 November 2026. The Woodhatch Centre, Whitebeam Drive, Woodhatch, Near Reigate RH2 7LS. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083 or Lyne on 07718 102337.

Booking and Cancellations

Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support. Booking can also be taken by email, see contact section at the front of the booklet.

February 2027

TUES 02

Beekeeping Talk

2pm | £3 for members, £5 for guests | Q&A



Join us for a fun and interactive talk on beekeeping by Reigate Beekeepers. Learn about the processes and tools needed, and enjoy a tasting of different honeys. There will also be a selection of honey, candles, lip balms and other local honey products to buy too. The Home Cottage Pub, Redstone Hill, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 4AW (only a 4 minute walk from Redhill train station) Contact Amanda to book your place on 07884 820323 by Friday 22 January.

WED 24

Coffee Morning at Squires Garden Centre, Reigate

11am | £ As per menu

A wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy the company of fellow members from across our Oddfellows family! Join us for a relaxed coffee morning at Squires Garden Centre, Reigate, where we'll be meeting up with members from Reigate and Crawley Branches. Come along, enjoy a cuppa, a chat, and the chance to connect with members from another branch. It's a lovely way to make new friends, share stories, and see how much we all have in common. Contact Amanda to book your place on 07884 820323.

Keeping In Touch

A quick reminder to all members. Please update us with your email address and phone number so we can keep you informed about upcoming events. We send out weekly email reminders with details of forthcoming events. We also plan to set up a WhatsApp group to share event reminders and important updates. Finally, please remember to follow our Facebook page to keep up with the latest news, events and announcements. Thank you for helping us stay connected!

Data Protection Notice

The email address and phone number you provide will be used solely for communicating with you about upcoming events, reminders and other relevant club information, including communications by email and WhatsApp. Your details will be kept securely and will not be shared with third parties without your consent. You can withdraw your consent or ask for your information to be updated or deleted at any time.

Recent Events:

The Southern Group Christmas Card Competition for Junior members

The competition was sponsored by one of our members, Vivienne Thomas, who is pictured here with Colin Way presenting a cheque for £425 to the Grand Master of the Order, John Mann, for the orphan Gift Fund.



A Wonderful Day at Denbies Wine Estate

Our recent joint visit to Denbies Wine Estate with Mid-Surrey Branch was a delightful day out, combining beautiful scenery, good food and, of course, some excellent wine!



We began with a fascinating tour of the vineyard, learning about the history of Denbies and how the grapes are grown and harvested. It was lovely to see the vines up close and discover more about the winemaking process. We also of course sampled some refreshing sparkling wine.We then enjoyed a delicious lunch, giving us plenty of time to relax, chat and share our thoughts about the morning's experience. With wonderful views, interesting insights, good food and great company, our visit to Denbies was a thoroughly enjoyable day. Cheers to another successful Oddfellows outing!

From Pétanque to Carpet Bowls: Rain Can't Stop the Roll!



In June we had planned to have our Inter-District Pétanque competition in Haywards Heath, but rain stopped play due to torrential downpours. However, we didn't let the weather dampen our spirits, and we arranged at the last minute to swap to an Indoor Carpet bowls competition at Haywards Heath Social Club.

Great fun was had by all, with members from our branch competing with members from Brighton Branch. There was a lot of laughter, and we followed it up with a fabulous lunch at the Harvester.

Coffee mornings and lunches around the District







Woodland Walks & Good Company

Each month, we meet up for a friendly walk and a chance to enjoy the great outdoors together. Our walks have taken us through a variety of lovely local settings, giving us the opportunity to enjoy the changing seasons and discover new places along the way.



Whether you're a keen walker or simply enjoy a gentle stroll, everyone is welcome. There's no pressure to rush — the emphasis is on getting some fresh air, keeping active and, most importantly, enjoying good company.

Our monthly walks are a wonderful way to meet new people, catch up with friends and enjoy a chat as we wander. There's always plenty of conversation, laughter and time to appreciate the scenery. We then always finish with a cuppa and chat.



So, lace up your walking shoes and come along — good walks, great company and a little bit of adventure await! We meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 10.30am, followed by a coffee at 11.30am. Contact Amanda for details.

All that Jazz

Once a month, our Oddfellows group heads out for lunch and great music at the Croydon Jazz Café. It has become a much-loved regular event, giving us the chance to enjoy fantastic live jazz in good company.



There's nothing quite like settling in, listening to talented musicians and soaking up the lively atmosphere. Whether you're a lifelong jazz fan or simply enjoy good music, good food and good company, there's always something to enjoy.

Our monthly visits have been a wonderful way to get together, discover new performers and enjoy a few hours of live entertainment. With plenty of laughs, toe-tapping and friendship, we're already looking forward to our next visit — so come along, bring your love of music and get jazzy with the Oddfellows! We visit on the second Thursday of every month, meeting at 11.30am for a 12pm start at the Clocktower Café, Croydon.

Tai Chi: Balance, Breathe, Belong



A lovely new group has formed starting weekly Tai Chi in Haywards Heath, with Neil from White Crane Fighting Arts. Tai Chi is a gentle, enjoyable form of exercise that can be particularly beneficial for older people. Its slow, controlled movements help improve balance, coordination, flexibility and strength, while also providing gentle cardiovascular exercise.

Regular Tai Chi practice can help people feel steadier and more confident on their feet, supporting mobility and independence as we get older. It is also a relaxing way to stay active, with the flowing movements encouraging focus, calm and wellbeing. A gentle exercise with big benefits — helping you move better, feel stronger and stay active at any age. We meet weekly on Wednesdays at 12.45pm at Haywards Heath Social Club. We also follow up with a coffee and a natter afterwards. The first class is free, and then it's £10 per week.

Members take centre stage

Look out for some familiar faces this autumn!

Throughout October and November, the Oddfellows is running an upbeat new advertising campaign across the UK aimed at reaching the nation's retirees.

Built around the theme of 'real people, real joy, real experiences', the campaign shines a spotlight on the authentic friendships and shared laughter found within our local groups.

Member models

Members from Leeds, Derbyshire Peak, Mersey, Handforth and Altrincham, Mid-Staffordshire, Nottingham Trent, and Ormskirk and Southport Oddfellows all stepped forward to help.

They spent an exciting day at a professional studio shoot in Manchester working alongside an experienced production crew.

"It was such a fun day," said Andrea Jenner from Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows. "There was lots of laughter and interaction with Oddfellows from other areas."

Carol Pitchford from Leeds Oddfellows agreed, adding: "It was lovely to meet up with a crowd of strangers who then became friends."



Spreading the word

The adverts will be appearing on Facebook and Instagram, online via Rest Less and in upcoming print editions of Saga Magazine, Yours, and Woman's Weekly.

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey, said: "We wanted the campaign to reflect the real people at the heart of our Society. Our groups are places where people can simply be themselves, enjoy real companionship, and feel genuinely supported."

How you can help

While we hope this campaign inspires more retirees to give us a try, as members, you're our best ambassadors. If you know someone who would benefit from our social events, travel opportunities or welfare support, please encourage them to head to www.oddfellows.co.uk/retirement to find out more.

Celebrating our 2026 Making a Difference Award winners

We are thrilled to announce this year's incredible Making a Difference Awards winners: Richard West of the Royal Berkshire Branch in the Reading District, and husband-and-wife duo Roger and Susan Williamson of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk District.

The Awards highlight the wonderful ways our members go above and beyond to ensure their branches are the best they can be for their fellow members.

Richard West: Reading's 'guardian angel'



Debbie Jex and Richard West

Presented with the 'Enriching Lives Socially' Award by Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chair) Debbie Jex, 88-year-old Richard West helps to bring joy and positivity to his fellow members in all he does in organising and hosting social events.

Since joining the Reading District in 1992, Richard has worked tirelessly to build a varied and exciting social programme for his fellow members.

Alongside his late friend Doug Walters, Richard helped establish popular singing and exercise groups, and even relaunched a folded group in the nearby village of Pangbourne, which is now in its tenth year.

From coordinating monthly quizzes to organising glamorous annual trips to the Ascot Races, Richard pours his heart into everything he does.

For many, his efforts have been transformative. "We have a number of ladies who say the choir has become a lifeline for them," Richard shared. "I like seeing them enjoy themselves. You can see how it benefits them individually."

Debbie Jex is also Reading Oddfellows' Branch Secretary. She added: "I don't know where we'd be without Richard. His energy is boundless and his enthusiasm even more so. One member has even described him as a 'guardian angel'."

Roger and Susan Williamson: A wonderful team



(L to R) Roger Williamson, Susan Williamson, John Mann and Alison Schultz

The Oddfellows' Grand Master (Chair), John Mann, presented the 'Achieving Together' Award to Roger and Susan Williamson. Both in their 80s and Oddfellows members since 2008, the couple's commitment and kindness are renowned at their Branch.

Both take a seat on the King's Lynn Oddfellows' Committee of Management, ensuring members' voices are always at the heart of decision-making.

Roger, a Trustee and three-time Past Provincial Grand Master, hosts walks, bingo sessions for up to 40 members, and a popular monthly quiz.

Meanwhile, Susan coordinates the kitchen, manages supplies, and runs the raffles.

The couple were incredibly modest about their win. "Initially, I thought it was a joke because the letter turned up on the first of April," laughed Roger.

Susan added: "We're only doing what anybody else would do, but it's nice to know that people appreciate it. To win the award together is special."

Branch Secretary Alison Schultz praised their selflessness, saying: "They offer friendship to so many in the way Oddfellows should, and treat everyone with consideration, kindness and compassion."

Shining examples

Richard, Roger and Susan are proof that our Society thrives because of the generosity and warmth of our members.

Thank you to all who go above and beyond to help and support others within their Branch.

You can find out more about our Making a Difference Awards, including previous years' winners, at www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

It's never too early to talk about money

At Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's never too early to talk to the young people in our lives about their finances.



Today's younger generations have a lot to consider, with rising costs, student debt and spending temptations online. Simple chats about saving, budgeting and planning ahead can help young people feel more confident about money as they grow and become more independent.

Passing on more than money

Helping younger family members financially is wonderful, but sharing knowledge can be even more valuable.

Explaining different saving tips, how debt works, or pensions and retirement, gives younger generations practical lessons they may not hear elsewhere. Even small conversations can leave a lasting impression.



Don't wait to save

One way to encourage good saving habits is through a Unity Mutual Junior ISA*, which allows children to start saving and is a great way to introduce them to finances and investment.

Opened by a parent or guardian, family and friends can contribute up to £9,000 per tax year, with any growth free from UK tax. All the money saved belongs to them and once they reach the age of 18 can be put towards things like university costs, driving lessons, or even a deposit on their first home.

Making money conversations normal

The best financial lessons are often the simplest ones. Talking openly about saving for goals, comparing prices, or handling debt helps children develop healthy habits. Younger family members are more likely to feel confident about money if the adults around them discuss it calmly and honestly.

UnityMutual
a proud part of the Oddfellows

To find out more about Unity Mutual and the products we offer, visit www.unitymutual.co.uk or call 0161 214 4650.

*Terms and conditions apply to all our products. Capital at risk with investment products.

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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 Dawn on **01293 785083** or email **dawn.taylor@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

EDCWA50223



Set the Table Wordsearch



Answers on page 25.

T	X	M	K	Z	V	R	V	R	E	C	U	A	S	H	Z	W	V	K
T	O	P	A	E	T	E	O	I	G	V	Q	G	X	L	P	U	C	O
I	I	E	X	H	P	K	S	Y	U	X	P	X	K	N	H	P	M	I
H	C	Z	U	N	Z	A	M	K	T	U	R	G	D	L	A	V	E	U
V	K	R	O	F	M	H	Y	K	N	A	P	K	I	N	R	S	A	U
Z	G	L	A	S	S	S	C	L	G	N	O	E	V	E	X	R	Y	C
Y	S	L	T	S	W	T	X	Q	U	X	E	B	G	V	U	K	K	A
S	I	U	R	A	L	L	E	C	E	I	P	R	E	T	N	E	C	S
T	J	B	A	M	Q	A	S	U	T	R	A	Y	U	C	H	X	B	S
E	C	B	Y	O	G	S	E	A	X	H	Q	Y	R	O	U	D	D	E
S	J	C	K	V	T	H	G	H	C	R	U	N	N	E	R	A	L	R
W	L	Z	Q	A	H	I	H	T	O	L	C	E	L	B	A	T	S	O
J	S	Q	B	R	N	D	K	N	I	F	E	M	U	G	M	A	W	L
U	K	A	S	E	F	V	H	D	G	R	R	D	W	P	I	V	O	E
G	U	C	L	P	Q	I	I	Z	U	J	Z	M	A	G	L	H	G	P
N	X	Y	Z	V	O	E	V	T	T	D	A	B	Y	U	S	A	Y	N
B	T	P	E	J	E	O	L	U	Q	U	O	V	G	I	N	A	T	Q
L	W	O	B	V	C	R	N	I	R	E	T	T	A	L	P	Z	S	E
P	I	T	C	H	E	R	Y	R	A	M	E	K	I	N	H	R	I	E

Bowl
Casserole
Centerpiece
Charger
Cup
Fork
Glass
Jug
Knife



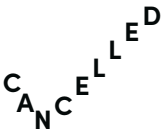
Mug
Napkin
Pitcher
Plate
Platter
Ramekin
Runner
Salt Shaker
Salver

Samovar
Sauce Boat
Saucer
Spoon
Tablecloth
Tagine
Teapot
Tray
Tureen



Wacky Words

Answers on page 25.

Get it Get it Get it Get it	Jack	Somewhere 	
1.	2.	3.	4.
READ	**Blood** Water	Beeeeee	
5.	6.	7.	8.
once 	Egg Egg **HAM**	*Try* Stand 2	T o w n
9.	10.	11.	12.
NI bump GHT	Aid ← Aid Aid	Mill1on	 3.14
13.	14.	15.	16.
ice^3	R G O N C  I K	Think 	GROUND feet feet feet feet feet feet
17.	18.	19.	20.
1 KNOWS	**Big Big** ignore ignore		KNEE light light
21.	22.	23.	24.

Contact Details

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

Branch Secretary: Dawn Taylor – 27 Bolters Road South Horley, Surrey RH6 8HS
Telephone: 01293 785083. **Email:** dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Amanda Saunders
Telephone: 07884 820323. **Email:** Amanda.Saunders@oddfellows.co.uk

Regular Branch Meetings

In addition to Branch meetings, the branches of the Mitcham, Reigate, and Crawley meet on a regular basis as follows:

Banstead, Star of Banstead & Temple of Friendship.

Third Tuesday of alternate months at The Plough Harvester 224 Sutton Common Road, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9PW, Contact Sue or Peter on 07958 195159 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

Crawley, Sussex Weald Branch

First Tuesday of each month coffee at Haskins, Third Thursday of each month lunch at the Parsons Pig or alternative. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

Mitcham, Surrey Branch

First Thursday of each month at 8pm at St Mark's Church Hall, St Mark's Road, Mitcham CR4 2LF. Contact Colin on 020 8640 5002 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

Morden, Duchess of Devonshire

Third Monday of every month at 11am at The Potting Shed Café, Morden Hall Park, 21 Morden Hall Road, Morden SM4 5JD. Contact Valerie on 07738 379013.

Norwood, Surrey Branch

Second Friday of each month at 2pm at St Mark's Church Hall, Albert Road, South Norwood SE25 4JE. Contact Norma on 020 3669 0702.

Reigate, Major Barclay Branch

Second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm usually at The Woodhatch Centre, Whitebeam Drive, Reigate RH2 7LS. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

South Croydon, Pride of Wimbledon & Warlingham.

Last Friday of each month at 2pm at Christ Church Hall, Brighton Road, Purley CR8 2BN. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

Sutton, Squire Cressingham

First Monday of each month at 2.30pm at the Upstairs Café, Waterstones, High Street, Sutton SM1 1DL. Contact Valerie on 07738 379013.

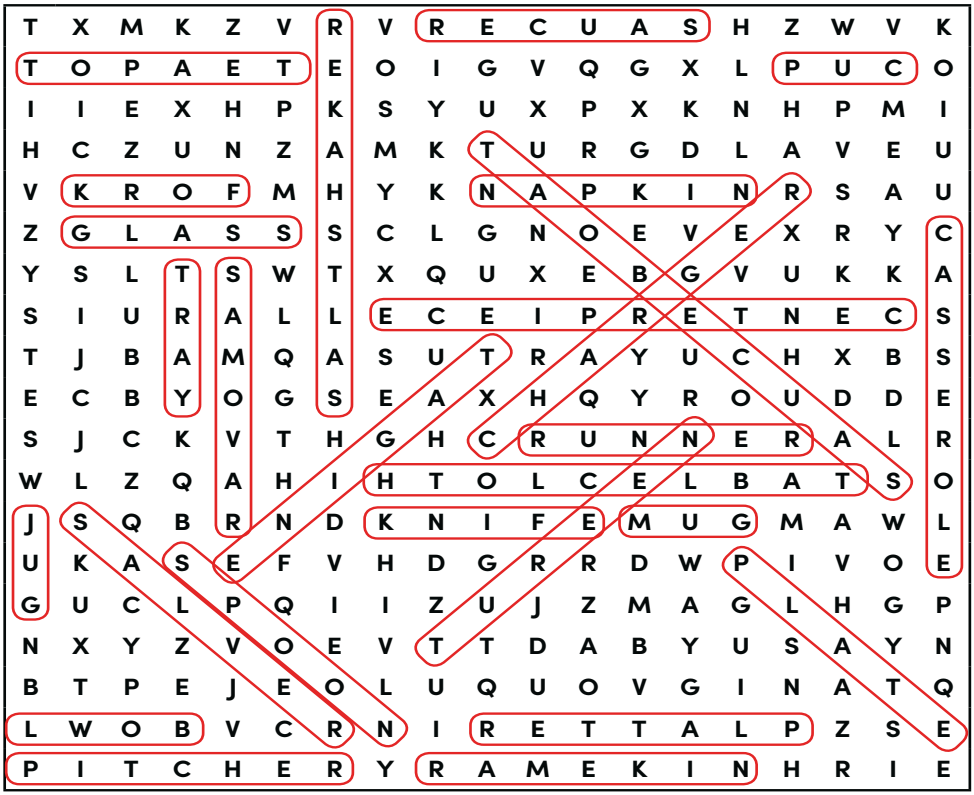
Haywards Heath

Every second Tuesday, Waitrose, Haywards Heath RH16 1DJ. Contact Amanda 07884 820323 or amanda.saunders@oddfellows.co.uk

Answers to the Wacky Words on page 23

1. Forget it
2. Jack in the box
3. Somewhere over the rainbow
4. Back door
5. Read between the lines
6. Blood is thicker than water
7. Bee line
8. Cancelled cheque
9. Once upon a time
10. Green eggs and ham
11. Try to understand
12. Downtown
13. Bump in the night
14. First Aid
15. One in a million
16. Apple pie
17. Ice cube
18. Rocking around the Christmas tree
19. Think outside the box
20. Six feet underground
21. Won by a nose
22. Too big to ignore
23. Half baked
24. Neon lights

Answers to the Set the Table Wordsearch on page 22



At a glance

Weekly Events

Every Monday	Craft Club in South Norwood	2pm
Every Wednesday	Beginners Tai Chi and a Cuppa	12.45pm

October 2026

Thurs 1	Traditional Branch Meeting in Mitcham	8pm
Sat 3	Inter-District Short Mat Bowls	11am
Mon 5	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
Tues 6	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
Wed 7	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
Thurs 8	Live Jazz with Lunch or Coffee	11.30am
Fri 9	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
Tues 13	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
Thurs 15	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
Sat 17	Summoned Meeting	2.30pm
Mon 19	Friendship Lunch in Wallington	12 noon
Fri 23	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm
Mon 26	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
Tues 27	Coffee and Chat in Horsham	10.30am
Tues 27	Countryside Walk and a Cuppa	10.30am
Sat 31	Annual Dinner Dance	7pm

November

Mon 2	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
Tues 3	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
Wed 4	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
Thurs 5	Traditional Branch Meeting in Mitcham	8pm
Tues 10	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
Thurs 12	Live Jazz with Lunch or Coffee	11.30am
Fri 13	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
Tues 17	Friendship Lunch in Sutton	1pm

At a glance

November

Thurs 19	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
Sat 21	South of England Winter Fair	10am
Mon 23	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
Tues 24	Coffee and Chat in Horsham	10.30am
Tues 24	Countryside Walk and a Cuppa	10.30am
Fri 27	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

December

Tues 1	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
Tues 1	Christmas Lunch	12.15pm
Wed 2	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
Thurs 3	Traditional Branch Meeting in Mitcham	8pm
Mon 7	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
Tues 8	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
Thurs 10	Live Jazz with Lunch or Coffee	11.30am
Fri 11	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
Mon 14	Friendship Lunch in Wallington	12 noon
Thurs 17	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
Tues 22	Countryside Walk and a Cuppa	10.30am

January 2027

Mon 4	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
Tues 5	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
Wed 6	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
Thurs 7	Traditional Branch Meeting in Mitcham	8pm
Fri 8	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
Tues 12	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
Tues 19	Friendship Lunch in Sutton	1pm
Thurs 21	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
Mon 25	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am

At a glance

January 2027

Tues 26	Coffee and Chat in Horsham	10.30am
Fri 29	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

February

Mon 1	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
Tues 2	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
Tues 2	Beekeeping Talk	2pm
Wed 3	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
Thurs 4	Traditional Branch Meeting in Mitcham	8pm
Tues 9	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
Fri 12	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
Mon 15	Friendship Lunch in Wallington	12 noon
Thurs 18	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
Mon 22	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
Tues 23	Coffee and Chat in Horsham	10.30am
Wed 24	Coffee Morning at Squires Garden Centre, Reigate	11am
Fri 26	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

March

Mon 1	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
Tues 2	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
Wed 3	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
Thurs 4	Traditional Branch Meeting in Mitcham	8pm
Tues 9	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
Fri 12	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
Tues 16	Friendship Lunch in Sutton	1pm
Thurs 18	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
Mon 22	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
Tues 23	Coffee and Chat in Horsham	10.30am
Fri 26	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

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