

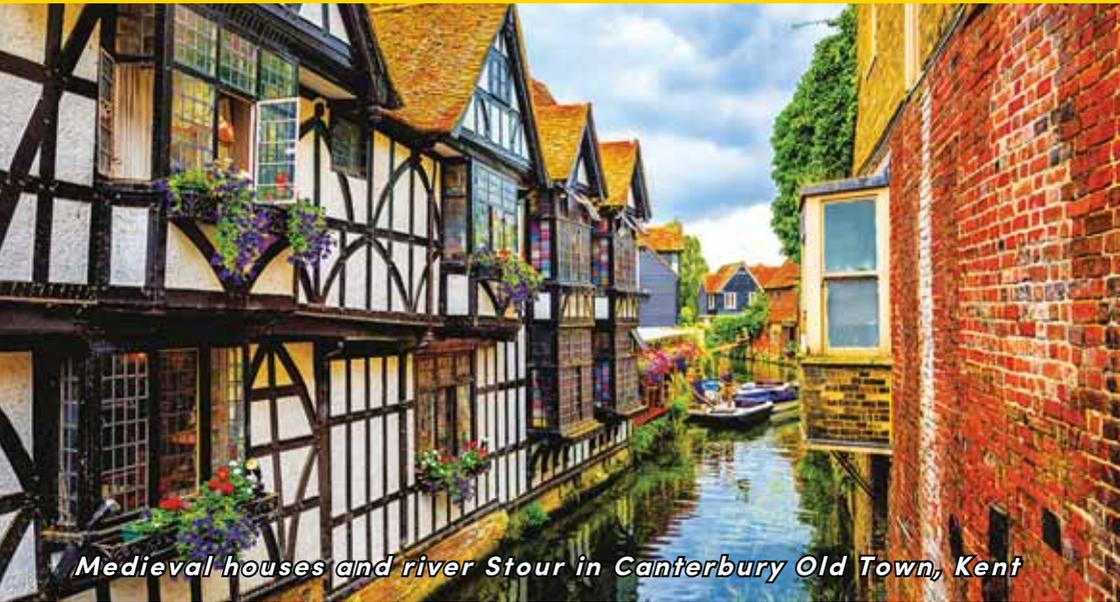
January - June 2026



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

out & about

Canterbury District Oddfellows



Medieval houses and river Stour in Canterbury Old Town, Kent



Games



Quiz



Dining Out



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Travel



Crafts



Social



Meetings



Talks



Culture



Walks



Wellbeing

Welcome to the latest edition of the Events Diary and Newsletter for Canterbury District of Oddfellows.

We hope you've had a lovely Christmas and New Year and welcome to 2026.

It is with great pleasure that I present Canterbury's social diary for Spring and early Summer. As these days lengthen and the world awakens in vibrant colour, so too does our branch's spirit. It offers us a wealth of further opportunities to connect, share laughter and make cherished memories together. The season ahead promises a delightful tapestry of events, thoughtfully curated to cater to every interest and you will be promised a warm welcome from all members and friends at every occasion.

We hope to continue spreading the simple joy of good company and the chance to strengthen the bonds of friendship that makes, we think, our branch and Society so special.

I encourage to browse the upcoming schedule, mark your calendars and fill your diaries whilst you join us, in making this year another unforgettable chapter in our shared history. Your presence is key and I look forward to seeing many familiar and new faces throughout the months ahead.

It has been said many times before but please let us know you are coming – we never want anyone to miss out or feel excluded.

Key Colours:

Canterbury/Sandwich

Faversham/Herne Bay/Whitstable

Folkestone/Ashford

Thanet

Other Events

Contact Details

Secretary: Sammie Rayson

Address: Oddfellows Hall,
14 Delf Street, Sandwich,
Kent CT13 9BZ

Telephone: 07885 436025

Email:
sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk

f [OddfellowsCanterbury](#)

Remember too that your membership also brings many more benefits than a busy social calendar. We want you to know we are there for you at other times too. From financial aid, to a listening ear we have got you covered and if you can't get out, we have a whole host of online events from up and down the country to keep you smiling and sane through these tough times. Just in touch if you want to know more.

Also, don't forget that being a member of this branch doesn't exclude from enjoying other branches' activities – just let us know when you are going away and we can see what is going in other areas for you.

I'm proud to be your secretary and friend and look forward to spending time with you soon – no matter the reason.

Yours in friendship

Sammie x

January 2026

MON
05 Sandwich Office
Opening Party!

 12 noon

 Free



After 180 years, we sadly sold our office in Canterbury, but we are proud to begin a new chapter and



have relocated to Sandwich. At this exciting event, there will be one of our long time and trusted Sandwich members cutting the ribbon to welcome you all to our newly refurbished office.

Come and join us and surround yourself with friendly faces as we not only celebrate our move but the beginning of 2026 too! Hot drinks and light refreshments will be provided! Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road, or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station.

There are also car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS
08 Thanet Thursdays
come to Margate

 11.30am

 As per menu



Want to beat those winter blues? What's nicer than meeting friends over a coffee and watching the world go by? We've found a great location - Forts Café! Perfect for overlooking Kent's coastline and with a delicious menu, come with us as we discuss how we are looking forward to 2026 - especially with you! We will potentially (weather permitting) go for a walk afterwards.

Please let us know you are coming in advance, so we can sit together. Buses from Margate Bus Station 8A or the Loop service and nearest bus stop is Dane Hill and then five minutes walk to venue. Forts Café, 8 Cliff Terrace, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 1RU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

January 2026

TUES 06 Lunch at The Captain's Table



Ahoy there! Come on by and anchor yourself down whilst joining our friendly and social crew. Today, we visit The Captain's Table Café at Folkestone Harbour and of course you don't have to have fish, as there are many other delicious alternatives available. We only ask if you let us know in advance if you are plan on coming aboard so we can all be seated together. Nearest bus stop - Harbour Street then walk 200 metres (approximately) to location. The Captain's Table Café, 26 The Stade, Folkestone CT19 6AE. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

TUES 13 Sandwich Drop In



Welcome to the first of our regular Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss any enquiries about your membership or anything else in our beautiful new office, the office will be open until 3pm Drinks will be provided. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.

WED 14 Quiz Afternoon at Whitstable Revivals Café



Our member's feedback tells us that everyone loves a fun and engaging quiz! Never one to shy away from a challenge, our Quiz Master, Oliver, returns with a new selection of thought-provoking and light-hearted questions and themed rounds that are designed to make you smile and unlock the bits of trivia that might be stuck inside your brain. Set in a new venue - the Revivals Café is in the heart of the High Street - it offers a snug and inviting space. We hope you can make it! Drinks and refreshments will be made available, (first hot drink is on us) and donations are always welcome. Nearest bus stop - St Alphege Church, Whitstable (No 400 or 401 from Canterbury Bus Station) then walk two minutes to venue. Revivals Café, 58 High Street, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



January 2026

THURS
15

Lunch at The Conningbrook Hotel



12 noon



As per menu



Come with us as we go to Ashford's acclaimed Conningbrook Hotel for lunch, This traditional pub is praised for its helpful staff and wide selection of food and drinks that are sure not to disappoint. Booking is essential, so we can all be seated together. Buses are the 514 from Ashford Town Centre. Nearest bus stop: Willesborough Road then 200 metres across the road to the venue. Book by Friday 9 January. The Conningbrook Hotel, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 9QR. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport and tickets).

SAT
17

Genesis Tribute at The Granville Theatre



7pm



Members £35
Guests £37



Get ready for a night to remember as something is truly special in the air tonight! It's the ultimate live tribute to the one and only Phil Collins and Genesis, which is sure to capture the unmistakable energy and emotion that define Phil and the band's greatest moments! The tribute will be featuring all of his classics including 'Take Me Home', 'One More Night', 'In The Air Tonight' and many more! Booking is essential for this event.

Please note: The show starts at 7.30pm, but we will be meeting beforehand in the lobby to ensure you have enough time to get anything from the Granville's bar and to find your allocated seat. Nearest bus stop: Wellington Crescent (served by the Thanet Loop), then 300 metres walk. Book by Monday 12 January. The Granville, Victoria Parade, Ramsgate CT11 8DG. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

January 2026

MON
19 **Catch Up at The Hampton By Hilton**

 11.30am  As per menu 

Back by popular request and located in the heart of Canterbury, the Hampton By Hilton is lovely venue that serves some of the best drinks and light bites in Canterbury in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. Accompany this with our warm and inviting social group, sure to leave you happy. Just let us know you are coming, we hope to see you there. Nearest bus stop is Canterbury Bus Station. Followed by a five minutes walk through the Whitefriars Shopping area to the venue. Hampton By Hilton, 7 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury CT1 2TP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS
22 **Thanet Thursdays come to Westgate-on-Sea**

 11.30am  As per menu 

Want to beat those winter blues? What's nicer than meeting friends over a coffee and watching the world go by? We've found a great location - the West Bay & Beach Bar! Perfect for overlooking Kent's coastline and with a delicious menu, come with us as we discuss how we are looking forward to 2026 - especially with you! We will potentially (weather permitting) go for a walk afterwards. Please let us know you are coming in advance, so we can sit together. Buses from Margate Bus Station 8 or 8A or the Loop service to nearest bus stop: Hengist Road and then 10 minutes to venue. West Bay & Beach Bar, Sea Road, Westgate CT8 8QA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport and tickets).

January 2026

MON
26

Monday Matinees in Sandwich



1pm



Members £3, Guests £5



Welcome the start of Monday matinees - a fun and interactive afternoon event that will be held throughout 2026 for the foreseeable future which will be supported by your attendance. What will we watch, who knows? By spinning a wheel this will choose the film's genre, afterwards a selection of films will be provided and a vote cast to determine what we will watch. We welcome any of your film/suggestions to be added to our future film selections.



We kindly ask to let us know in advance, if you want to come. Popcorn and ice-cream included. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

WED
28

Coffee Morning in The CM Coffee Lounge



11am



As per menu



Are you still feeling that winter chill? Then we warmly invite you to come and spend the morning with us at Herne Bay's charismatic CM Lounge, which is under new ownership. The CM Lounge, offers delightful drink choices and freshly baked treats, all in a cozy, relaxed space that will leave you craving for more. If you wish to attend, let us know, so we can accommodate you. Buses are the 600, 601 and 602 nearest bus stop to the venue: High Street/Beach Street junction (near Morrisons). CM Coffee Lounge, 91-95 High Street, Herne Bay CT6 5LQ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



January 2026

THURS
29

Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



As per drink (cash only for food)



Welcome back to one of our favourite and regular venues - the Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, with its friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Their coffee is excellent and good value for money and their food never disappoints, whether you like a fish and chips or a roast. Please let us know if you would like to come. We are always happy to welcome you. Buses are the 16 or 17 from Canterbury, or the 102 from Folkestone - nearest bus stop is directly outside the bowls club or nearest train station is Folkestone Central/West and is approximately five minutes walk to the venue. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

February

MON
02

Canterbury Catch Up at The Umbrella Centre



11.30am



Free



We are back at the popular and friendly Umbrella Centre and invite you to join our regular events here ranging from craft workshops and guest speakers to interactive games and much more.

The centre also has an on-site kitchen, with supportive staff on hand preparing various meals (they don't always do a menu). It would be great if you let us know you are coming. There

is a small car park on site, and the nearest bus stop is Canterbury Bus Station and then a 15 minute walk to the venue. Canterbury Umbrella, 22 St Peter's Place, Canterbury CT1 2DB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

The CANTERBURY UMBRELLA



February

TUES 03 Sandwich Drop In



Welcome to our new monthly Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss any enquiries about your membership or anything else in our beautiful new office, which will be open until 3pm. Drinks will be provided. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.

TUES 03 Folkestone Fun with Helen



Have a few hours free today? Then come and join Helen in this new Folkestone group. New and familiar faces are welcome. Our venues and activities may change from time to time. So, be sure to keep in touch to find out what's happening. Some help with transport may be possible and any drivers wishing to help out is also encouraged. Please note: That this group will change between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month. Make sure to get in touch so you don't miss out! The Captain's Table Café, 26 The Stade, Folkestone CT19 6AE. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

THURS 05 Thanet Thursdays come to Broadstairs



Still feeling those winter blues? Then we may have found the solution. What's nicer than meeting friends over a coffee and watching the world go by? We've found another great location, The Lounge in Westwood! It's a colourful comfortable café not far from Westwood Cross shopping centre, perfect if you want to do some shopping before or afterwards. Let us know you are coming in advance, so we can sit together. Buses from Margate Bus Station 8 or 8A or the Loop service. Nearest bus stop: Gordon Road stop and then a five minutes walk to venue. The Lounge, Unit 6a Westwood Business Park, Broadstairs CT9 4JJ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



February

SAT
07

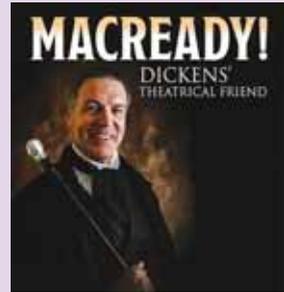
Macready! Dickens' Theatrical Friend in Broadstairs



7pm



Tickets from £18



Written and performed by Mark Stratford, discover the remarkable true story of Macready! An unwilling young man plunged into his father's theatre company. With passion, humour, emotion and array of characters, he will take on a journey into the fascinating world of Victorian theatre.

Booking is essential for this event. Some help with transport may be able to be arranged. Please note: The show starts at 7.30pm, but we will be meeting beforehand in the lobby to ensure you have enough time to get anything from the theatre to find your allocated seat. Book by Monday 26 January. Sarah Thorne Theatre, Fordoun Road, Broadstairs CT10 2BN. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

WED
11

Whitstable Catch Up at The Horsebridge Arts Centre



1.30pm



Members £3
Guests £5



Why not join us for a get-together at another new venue in Whitstable? The centre is a popular and welcoming space, with local artwork and creative spaces. It is the perfect place to catch up with familiar faces (and maybe meet a few new ones too). Whether you pop in or stay the whole time, it would be lovely to see you.



Drinks and refreshments will be made available (first hot drink is on us) and donations to the centre are always welcome. Nearest bus stop - Horsebridge, Whitstable (No 400 or 401 from Canterbury Bus Station). Horsebridge Arts Centre, 11 Horsebridge Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1AF. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

February

THURS 12 **Bowling at Ashford's Hollywood Bowl**



Be sure to strike this date down in your calendar, as we invite you to participate in friendly game of ten pin bowling! Even if you have to use the ramp or have the bumper barriers up, we encourage you to give it a go. We are sure you be bowled over by the amount of fun to be had at the event. Booking is essential for this event - so make a spare slot in your calendar for this. Get in touch for transport information. Book by Friday 6 February. Hollywood Bowl Ashford, 43-79 Station Road, Ashford TN23 1PP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Helen on 07514 464710.

THURS 12 **Creative Crafts Afternoon at The CM Lounge**



Ever wanted to try a new craft? Come to our creative skills afternoon, where no experience is needed to join these activities. Some materials will be provided, but feel free to do your own or donate any materials you can spare. If not just join us for a nice warm drink with friends. Buses are the 600, 601 and 602 nearest bus stop to the venue: High Street/Beach Street junction (near Morrisons). CM Coffee Lounge, 91-95 High Street, Herne Bay CT6 5LQ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON 16 **Exploring The Beaney House of Art and Knowledge in Canterbury**



Image by geni under CC BY-SA 4.0

We've all walked passed it, but how many of you have been inside one Canterbury's most interesting buildings? Obviously, the library has been in residence for a long time, but did you know that the Beaney has many exciting and ever changing exhibitions throughout the year? Come with us as we find out what's currently going on, or what has been or what might be. Booking is important so we can let the museum know our numbers and so we can look out for you! Everybody welcome. Get in touch as soon as possible - maybe we will go for a coffee and/or a lunch afterwards too. Cost: Free, but there may be some charge for certain exhibitions. Book by Monday 9 February. The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, 18 High Street, Canterbury CT1 2RA. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

February

TUES 17 Sandwich Drop In with Pancakes!



11am



Members £2
Guests £3



Today, being our monthly Sandwich drop in and with the day being Shrove Tuesday - we will be attempting to make pancakes - maybe you can show Sammie/Oliver how to flip one! You can discuss any enquiries about your membership or anything else in our beautiful new office and we will be there until 3pm. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



THURS 19 Thanet Thursdays Come to Ramsgate



11.30am



As per
menu



Ahoy! Still feeling those winter blues? Then we have found another great location - The Ship Shape Café in Ramsgate Harbour. Set under the Royal Parade's arches and with its notoriously generous portions and plentiful options, we guarantee there is something for all. Please let us know you are coming in advance, so we can sit together. Public transport and parking all very close by. The Ship Shape Café, 3 Military Road, Ramsgate CT11 9LG. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



MON 23 Monday Matinees in Sandwich



1pm



Members £3
Guests £5



Welcome to Monday Matinees - a fun and interactive afternoon event that will be held throughout 2026. What will we watch, who knows? By spinning a wheel, we will choose a film genre, then a selection of films will provided and a vote will be cast to determine what we will watch. We welcome any of your film suggestions to be added to our future film selections and kindly ask to let us know in advance, if you want to come. Tea, biscuits and ice cream/popcorn included in price. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also public car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

February

WED
25

Blast From The Past in Herne Bay!



11am



As per menu



Looking for something a little bit different or hankering for something familiar? Then we've got you covered. With its quirky mix of old and new independent shops and old fashioned seaside promenade, we will today be visiting The Vintage Empire (tucked around the corner from Morrisons) - a fabulous 1940s inspired tea room with nostalgic decor and loose teas, home-made cakes, breakfast and lunches - Everybody is welcome, but please let us know if you are coming as soon as possible so we can let the venue know and can be together. We hope to see you there. The Vintage Empire Tearooms, 104 High Street, Herne Bay CT6 5LE. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS
26

Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



As per menu
(cash only)



Welcome back/to one of our favourite and regular venues - the Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, with its friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Their coffee is excellent and good value for money and their food never disappoints. No need to book, but please let us know if you would like to come. Buses are the 16 or 17 from Canterbury, or the 102 from Folkestone - nearest bus stop is directly outside the bowls club or nearest train station is Folkestone Central/West and is five minutes walk to the venue. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

March

THURS
05

Thanet Thursdays Comes Back to Westgate-on-Sea



12.30pm



As per menu



Millie's Beach Bar & Restaurant - perfect for overlooking stunning Kent's coastline and catching up! Stop for coffee or stay for lunch? The choice is yours and perhaps we will go for a walk afterwards (weather permitting). Everyone welcome, but please let us know you are coming in advance, so we can sit together. Buses from Margate Bus Station 8 or 8A or the Loop service and nearest bus stop is Norman Road stop and then five minutes walk. Millie's Beach Bar & Restaurant, Beach Road, Westgate CT8 8AD. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

March

THURS
05

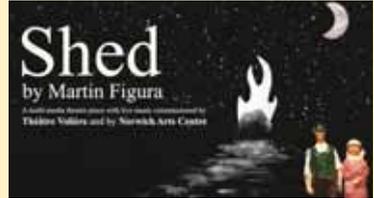
SHED by Martin Figura in Margate



7pm



Tickets from £12



We invite you to join us at one of the world's smallest theatres! Seating a maximum of only 45 guests, booking is certainly essential for this event. SHED is a contemporary, multimedia one man's performance recounting his past life in poignant, but sometimes funny way.

Retreating into his privately constructed world, he finds comfort from finding keepsakes from a sometimes imagined life. Please note: The show starts at 7.30pm, but we will be meeting in the lobby beforehand to ensure you have time to get a drink and to find your allocated seat. Please get in touch if you are not able to use public transport. Book by Monday 16 February. Tom Thumb Theatre, 2A Eastern Esplanade, Margate CT9 2LB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON

09

Canterbury Catch Up at The Hampton By Hilton



11.30am



As per menu



Back by popular request and located in the heart of Canterbury, the Hampton By Hilton is lovely venue. It serves some of the best drinks and light bites in Canterbury in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. Accompany this with our warm and inviting social group, we are sure that your attendance will leave you feeling happy.



Let us know you are coming, we hope to see you there. Nearest bus stop is Canterbury Bus Station. Followed by a five minutes walk through the Whitefriars Shopping area to the venue. Hampton By Hilton, 7 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury CT1 2TP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

March

WED
11

Oliver's Trip to Japan - Talk at Whitstable's Revival Café

🕒 1.30pm

💷 Members £3, Guests £5



Many of you will know that Oliver visited Japan last year and lots of you had questions, so we thought it would be nice to showcase his experiences in a friendly setting. No need to book - just turn up and be amazed at how much he squeezed into two weeks.



Drinks and refreshments will be made available (first hot drink is on us). Donations to the centre are always welcome. Nearest bus stop - St Alphege Church, Whitstable (Number 400 from Canterbury Bus Station), then walk approximately five minutes to the venue. Whitstable Revivals Café, 58 High Street, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS
12

Exploring the Ashford Area with Helen and Oliver

🕒 12 noon

💷 As per menu



Recently, we have had influx of people wishing to join us from the Ashford area of Kent. This week we visit Wye and its popular The Sawyers Public House with maybe, afterwards, enjoy a gentle walk around this picturesque village - part of the North Downs Way. Please let us know if you want to come as soon as possible, so we can book a table. Some help with transport may be available, but buses and trains will be close by. Book by Monday 2 March. The Sawyers Public House, Bridge Street, Wye TN25 5DP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Helen on 07514 464710.



March

SUN **15** **The Blackheart Orchestra at Faversham**

 6.30pm

 Members £20
Guests £21



British multi-award winning instrumentalists Chrissy Mostyn and Rick Pilkington comprise a two person orchestra playing up to 13 instruments in this unique live show. Inspired by artists such as Kate Bush and Portishead to modern composers such as Steve Reich and Philip Glass. Described by Genesis founder Steve Hackett as 'powerful and inspiring'. Book tickets through Sammie as soon as possible to save disappointment. Some help with transport may be able to be arranged - contributions welcome. Book by Monday 23 February. The Alexander Centre, 15-17 Preston Street, Faversham ME13 8NZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.

WED **18** **Folkestone Fun With Helen**

 11am

 As per menu



Have a few hours free today? Then come and join Helen in this Folkestone group.



New and familiar faces welcome. Venues and activities may change from time to time so be sure to keep in touch. Some help with transport may be possible and any drivers wishing to help out is also encouraged. Please note that this group will swap between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month, so get in touch so as to not miss out! Costa Coffee Shop, 36A Cheriton High Street, Folkestone CT19 4ET. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

TUES **17** **Sandwich Drop In - St Patrick's Day Themed Quiz**

 11am

 Members £2, Guests £3



Welcome to our Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss anything related to your membership. Also, on this particular occasion, resident Quiz Master Oliver, returns with a St Patrick's Day themed quiz - everyone partaking will receive a novelty gift and the winner/s will get an additional prize! Please note: The quiz will start at mid-day, but we will be leaving the office at 3pm. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minute walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also local car parks close by. Drinks and refreshments will be available. Donations to chosen charities welcome, Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

March

THURS 19 Thanet Thursdays Return to Margate



11.30am



Free



So we know it's not yet time for sun-cream and ice-creams, but we think Margate still has a lot to offer, so we are returning for fun filled afternoon where anything is possible. Will it be a trip to the Turner Contemporary or perhaps somewhere a bit more off track? You decide. Meeting point will be at the popular 'Mechanical Elephant' (Wetherspoons), but who knows where we will end up today? Please let us know if you are coming, so we can look out for you. Buses from/or short walk from Margate Bus Station to The Clocktower. The Mechanical Elephant - Wetherspoons, 28-30 Marine Terrace, Margate CT9 1XJ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



MON 23 Coffee Morning at Café No. 35



11.30am



Members £3
Guests £5



Café No. 35, is more than just a café, it is an exceptional retreat where they have locally sourced food and tranquil surroundings. All welcome. We request that you let us know if you plan on coming to this event, so we can let them know. Located opposite the Hampton By Hilton - access is easy just a few minutes walk through the Whitefriars shopping area. Café No. 35, 35 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury CT1 2TG. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

WED 25 Coffee Morning in The CM Lounge



11am



As per menu



We invite you to come and spend another morning with us at Herne Bay's charismatic CM Lounge, which is sure to have what you are looking for... from comforting aromas, delightful drink choices to quench your thirst and freshly baked treats. Just let us know if you wish to attend, so they can accommodate you. See you there. Buses are the 600, 601 and 602 nearest bus stop to the venue: High Street/Beach Street junction (near Morrisons). ccCT6 5LQ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



March

THURS
26 **Folkestone Coffee**
Morning and Lunch Club



Welcome back to one of our favourite and regular venues - the Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, with its friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Their coffee is excellent and good value for money and their food never disappoints, whether you like a fish and chips or a roast. No need to book, but please let us know if you would like to come. We are always happy to welcome you. Buses are the 16 or 17 from Canterbury, or the 102 from Folkestone - nearest bus stop is directly outside the bowls club or nearest train station is Folkestone Central/West and is approximately five minutes walk to the venue. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

FRI
27 **Port Lympne**
Safari Visit



Nestled between Hythe and Ashford, Port Lympne a unique experience to traverse this 600-acre savannah. Get up close with some of the world's majestic animals set in unique and stunning surroundings. We're hoping to see incredible animals like giraffes, zebras, lions, tigers, rhinos and gorillas (and many more). Booking is essential for this event and some help with transport may be available - get in touch early to avoid disappointment. Cost from £30 plus contribution towards travel. Book by Monday 2 March. Port Lympne Safari Park, Aldington Road, Lympne CT21 4LR. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport and tickets).

March

SAT
28

Freddie Mercury/Queen Tribute Night



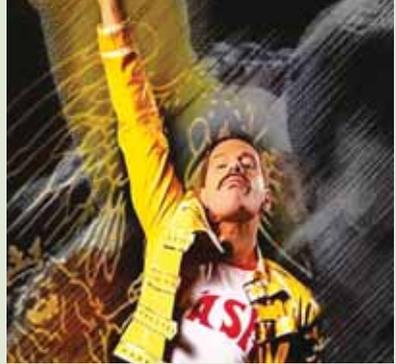
7pm



£12.50



We will, we will... rock you! Let's pay tribute to one of greatest singers in history of rock music... we are talking about Freddie Mercury! The singer behind the iconic band known as Queen. The tribute act will be singing all of Queen's greatest hits.



We are sure you will want to break free and join us in singing and dancing along to hit after hit. Don't stop me now as I'm having such a good time. Booking early and is essential, so you don't miss out before this one bites the dust! Help with transport would be appreciated; users' contributions are welcome to cover costs. Book by Monday 2 March. Baypoint Club, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich CT13 9QL. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON
30

Monday Matinees in Sandwich



1pm



Members £3
Guests £5



What will we watch today, who knows? By spinning the wheel this will choose a film's genre, afterwards a selection of films will be provided and a vote cast to determine what we will watch. We welcome your film recommendations/suggestions and these will be added to our future film selections. Tea, biscuits and ice cream/popcorn included in price. Bus number 43 runs regularly from Canterbury - the nearest bus stop is Sandwich Guildhall followed by a two minutes walk across the road or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. There are also local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



April

THURS
02

Thanet Thursdays Return to Ramsgate



1.30pm



From £9



Today, we thought, we would do some exploring and visit Ramsgate Tunnels and discover history literally underneath our feet! The tunnels were reopened to the public back in 2014 and are full of interesting information from Thanet's past. Due to the nature of the visit there may be accessibility problems for those with mobility issues. However, we are informed that there is a virtual tour also available, so please advise us if you specifically would like to do this. With it's vast array of eateries close by, we'll be sure to discover refreshments afterwards. Book now to save disappointment. Located 15 minutes walk from Ramsgate's main harbour and with some car parking nearby. Book by Monday 16 March. Ramsgate Tunnels, Marine Esplanade, Ramsgate CT11 8FH. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

SAT
04

Broadstairs Food Festival



11am



Free



Come and join us for this wonderful, free and friendly food event that surely has something for everyone - we're certain you'll love every bite! This Broadstairs event is a celebration of Kent's finest flavours and features a vibrant gathering filled with local produce and artisan delights.



Browse an irresistible array of farm-fresh vegetables, handcrafted baked goods, small-batch preserves and award-winning cheeses. You also have the chance to meet the passionate makers behind every creation. The nearest bus stops are: The Royal Albion Hotel, Albion Street and Queens Road at The Wrotham Arms. If you wish to attend this event with us, then let us know. So, we can look out for you on the day. Victoria Gardens, Broadstairs CT10 1QL. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

April

TUES 07 Sandwich Drop In and Events Planning Meeting



11am



Free



Welcome to our new monthly Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss any enquiries about your membership in our beautiful offices. It is also time for us to start thinking about what will go into our next events diary and we would love to hear your ideas and suggestions so please pop along. We also intend to launch a new arts and crafts group just around the corner (all abilities welcome and we will have talks from various local artists too) - so get in touch to find out more. All materials provided, but donations welcome. Please note the office will close at 3pm. Drinks and refreshments will be available. Donations are welcomed. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS 09 Exploring the Ashford Area With Helen and Oliver



12 noon



As per
menu



Following on from the successes of past events. This week we visit the historical town of Rye. With its cobbled streets and unique shops there's sure to be something for all. We will book a table at famous Mermaid Inn, where quality exceeds expectations.

Please let us know if you want to come as soon as possible, so we can let the venue know how many chairs we need. Some help with transport may be available, but buses and trains also are close by. Helps with lifts/fuel contributions always welcome. Book by Monday 16 March. The Mermaid Inn, Mermaid Street, Rye TN31 7EY. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Helen on 07514 464710.

April

MON 13 Canterbury Catch Up at The Umbrella Centre



11.30am



Members £2
Guests £3



We are back at the popular and friendly Umbrella Centre. Be with us as we invite you to join our regular activities ranging from craft workshops, guest speakers, interactive games and much more. The centre also has a full on-site kitchen to cater for all your refreshments needs with supportive staff on-hand. No need to book, but it would be great if you let us know you are coming. Small car park on site and nearest bus stop is Canterbury Bus Station and then by walking 10 minutes to the venue. Canterbury Umbrella, 22 St Peter's Place, Canterbury CT1 2DB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

TUES 14 Folkestone Fun With Helen



11am



TBC



Come and join Helen at this friendly Folkestone group. New and familiar faces welcome.



Meet-up locations, venues and activities may change from time to time, so be sure to keep in touch to find out what's going on. Please note that the date will change between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month. Everyone welcome. Some help with transport may be offered - contributions and drivers always appreciated. Costa Coffee Shop, 36A Cheriton High Street, Folkestone CT19 4ET. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

MON 13 The Renaissance Portrait From Van Eyck to Titian



6.30pm



£7



The Arts Society in Sandwich proudly presents Sarah Nuttalls's lecture as a must for lovers of renaissance. Often cited as the rebirth of classical Greek and Roman culture, art and philosophy, it was fueled by a new focus on humanism, which emphasized human potential and achievement and was a bridge between the Middle Ages and the modern era. Come study some of these classic works. This is a bookable event, so get in touch with Sammie nearer the time. The centre is centrally located in Sandwich and easy transport links are available. Book by Monday 30 March. Sandwich Guildhall, The Cattle Market, Sandwich CT13 9AH. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



April

WED 15 Whitstable Catch Up at the Horsebridge



1.30pm



Members £3
Guests £4



Why not join us for another catch-up at Whitstable's Horsebridge Centre. With its vibrant and creative artwork on display (hopefully we'll be inspired to have a go at something?) it really is the perfect space to release your inner artist. So come and meet old friends and perhaps make some new ones, it will be lovely to see you. Nearest bus stop: Horsebridge (400 or 401 from Canterbury Bus Station) - stops right outside venue. Horsebridge Arts Centre, 11 Horsebridge Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1AF. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS 16 Thanet Thursdays Come Back to Broadstairs



1.30pm



Free



Today we will be taking in the wonders of the North Foreland Lighthouse. Built in 1691, high upon a promontory of near-vertical cliffs, the lighthouse has been a beacon to seafarers for centuries and commands stunning views over this stretch of the Thanet coastline. Today we will marvel at the beauty of this location by indulging in a picnic outside the lighthouse (the lighthouse is sadly not open to the public). We hope you can join us - everyone is welcome. Please let us know if you would like to join us or help with transport and fuel contributions are always welcome. North Foreland Lighthouse, 36 North Foreland Road, Broadstairs CT10 3NN. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

TUES 21 Sandwich Drop In and Launch of Our New Book Club



11am



Members £2
Guests £3



Today, as well as being here to discuss all your membership queries, we invite you to join our new book club and will be discussing how this will all work going forward. Light refreshments will be provided and the office will be open until 3pm. We look forward to seeing you. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport and tickets).

April

MON 27 Monday Matinees in Sandwich



1pm



Members £3
Guests £5



Lights, camera, action! What will we watch today? Have a part in helping us decide



at this popular event. Come for the friendship, stay for the film and share the fun in discussing it afterwards. Popcorn, ice-cream and refreshments included - we hope you can make it. Everyone welcome. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS 30 Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



As per menu
(cash only)



With its friendly and relaxed atmosphere, the Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club never disappoints. Come for a coffee and/or stay for lunch, you are promised good company and quality food. Whether you've been here a few times before or is your first time coming, we are always happy to welcome you. No need to book, but please let us know if you would like to come so we can look out for you. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

May

TUES 05 Sandwich Drop In and Launch of New Arts and Crafts Club



11am



From £2 - £10



Welcome to another of our regular drop-ins where you can come and discuss anything related to your membership. We also are try to launch a new arts and craft club (all abilities and experience welcomed). We will be working closely with the local St Mary's Church and Sandwich Art Centre and having guest speakers, regular workshops and more. All materials will be provided, but donations still welcomed. If you have a special talent to share then we'd love to hear from you and perhaps we can feature this too. Everyone welcome and we hope to see you soon. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



May

TUES 05 Folkestone Fun With Helen



11am



As per menu



Come and join Helen at this friendly Folkestone group. New and familiar faces welcome. Venues and activities may change from time to time, so be sure to keep in touch to find out what's going on. Note that the meeting place may not be the final destination and that this group will change between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month, so get in touch so as to not miss out! Costa Coffee Shop, 36A Cheriton High Street, Folkestone CT19 4ET. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

THURS 07 Thanet Thursdays is back in Margate



12.30pm



Free



Summer's here and who needs to sit around in airports when we have Margate on our doorstep!? Lots of laughter and fun to be had as we explore it's unique twist of nostalgia and retro around every corner. So grab your bucket and spade... well maybe not, but do bring your happy faces along and we might even treat you to an ice-cream! Meet up first at the Wetherspoons, then decide where we go from there. Everyone welcome. As usual please let us know you are coming. The Mechanical Elephant - Wetherspoons, 28-30 Marine Terrace, Margate CT9 1XJ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

SAT 09 Pre-loved Market - Indoor Boot Fair



10am



Free



This popular Faversham indoor boot



fair is sure to attract treasure seekers and bargain hunters alike. Whether you trying start a new collection or build upon an existing one, or perhaps just curious to see what's out there, we invite you along to this unique event which ever-changing stock items will make a different and unpredictable experience each time. The market closes at 3pm. The Alexander Centre, 15-17 Preston Street, Faversham ME13 8NZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



May

MON
11

Canterbury Catch Up



11.30am



Free



We're back at the Hampton By Hilton a wonderful venue that is very popular with lots of our Canterbury members and we might indulge ourselves in a little trip out somewhere in the afternoon or take a leisurely stroll through the beautiful Westgate Gardens and along the Stour - the choices are endless. All we ask is to let us know you want to come. We would love to see you there. Only less than 10 minutes from Canterbury Bus Station - we think it's a great find - hope you do too. Hampton By Hilton, 7 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury CT1 2TP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS
14

Exploring the Ashford Area with Helen and Oliver



12 noon



As per menu



With so many beautiful villages around Ashford, we've found it hard to choose somewhere, but today we meet at The Dering Arms - a traditional pub with exceptional food and a lovely gardens. Let us know if you are coming as soon as possible, so we can let the restaurant know. Everyone welcome. Some help with transport may be available but regular buses and trains also are close by. Book by Friday 1 May. The Dering Arms, The Grove, Pluckley TN27 0RR. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Helen on 07514 464710.

WED
13

Fun and Games at Whitstable Revivals Café



1.30pm



Members £3, Guests £5



By popular demand we intend to host a fun packed games afternoon - no competition here - it's the taking part that counts. Choose your teams on the day or have a go individually. Nothing too serious, we just like everyone to feel included. Suggestions welcome. Drinks and refreshments will be made available. (first hot drink is on us) and donations to the centre are always appreciated. Nearest bus stop - St Alphege Church, Whitstable (No 400 or 401 from Canterbury Bus Station) then walk approx 5 mins to venue. Whitstable Revivals Café, 58 High Street, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport and tickets).

May

FRI
15

A Day Out to The Great Dixter House and Gardens



10.30am



Members £15, Guests £17



You asked, we listened... Step into the vibrant world of The Great Dixter House and Gardens in East Sussex – a historic home and garden where creativity, biodiversity and community flourish. Wander through this beautiful house and grounds with its accessible pathways and quiet spaces. There is also an on-site café offering local options, with vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options to hand or bring your own picnic. We believe there is no reason not to book yourself on this trip – so make sure to let us know as soon as possible. We will organise transport and nearer the time, we will announce pick-up points via WhatsApp. Cost: £15 for members and £17 for guests entry (plus contributions towards travel arrangements). Book by Sunday 12 April. Great Dixter House & Gardens, Northiam, Rye, Sussex TN31 6PH. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

WED
20

Folkestone Fun With Helen



11am



As per menu



Have a few hours free today? Then come and join Helen in this new Folkestone group. New and familiar faces welcome. Venues and activities may change from time to time, so be sure to keep in touch to find out what's going on. Some help with transport may be possible and any drivers wishing to help out is also encouraged. Please note that this group will change between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month, so get in touch so as to not miss out! The Captain's Table Café, 26 The Stade, Folkestone CT19 6AE. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

SAT
23

Margate Mod/ Sixties Weekender



12 noon



TBC



Enjoy the Whitsun Bank Holiday Weekend (well part of it) with us. A stellar line-up of live bands and talents will be the backdrop to this regular but nostalgic event. There will be food stalls, vintage markets and much more – all designed to take you back down memory lane. There will be some ticketed performances, so please get in touch to find out more as we are not hosting this event. Everyone welcome. Old Town Piazza, Old Town, Margate CT9 1HG. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Helen on 07514 464710.



May

TUES 26 Sandwich Drop In and Book Club



11am



Members £2
Guests £3



Welcome to our monthly Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss any enquiries about membership anything else relating to the Society in our lovely offices. We will be hosting the book club at this event and drinks will be provided. The office will be open until 3pm. Bus No 43 from Canterbury - nearest stop: Sandwich Guildhall then two minutes walk or 10 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station) or local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



THURS 28 Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



As per menu
(cash only)



Welcome to one of our favourite and regular venues - the Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, with its friendly and relaxed atmosphere. The food never disappoints, whether you like a fish and chips or a roast. If you do not have time for lunch, their coffee is also excellent and good value for money! This venue also has parking. Whether you've been here a few times before or it is your first time coming, we are always happy to welcome you. No need to book, but please let us know if you would like to come. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

WED 27 High Tides and Fun Times in Herne Bay



1pm



As per menu



Back in Herne Bay today and we'll explore the other end of the High Street and visit its own Seaside Museum and perhaps some fish and chips and an ice-cream afterwards. Enjoy this quintessentially English day out amongst friends with memories hoped to last forever. Meet us outside the museum. We hope you can make it - we would love for you all to join us. Booking may be required due to limited space, so please get in touch early by Monday 11 May. Herne Bay Seaside Museum, 12 William Street, Herne Bay CT6 5EJ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



May

THURS
28 **Thanet Thursdays**
returns to Birchington



Back by popular demand, we return to The Smugglers Bar & Restaurant. We had a wonderful afternoon there last year and hope to make this event a repeat success. Everyone is welcome and booking is required, so we get an idea of numbers and can be seated together. We hope you can make it. We'd love for you to join us. Book by Monday 11 May. The Smugglers Bar & Restaurant, 212 Canterbury Road, Birchington-on-Sea CT7 9AQ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

June

TUES
02 **Folkestone Fun**
With Helen



Have a few hours free today? Then come and join Helen at the fabulous Folkestone group. New and familiar faces welcome. Venues and activities may change from time to time, so be sure to keep in touch to find out what's going on. Please note that the days of this group will change between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month. The Captain's Table Café, 26 The Stade, Folkestone CT19 6AE. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

June

MON
01 **Canterbury Catch Up**
at The Umbrella Centre



We are back at the popular and friendly Umbrella Centre. Be with us as we invite you to join our regular activities ranging from craft workshops, guest speakers, interactive games and much more. The centre also has a full on-site kitchen to cater for all your refreshments needs with supportive staff on-hand. No need to book, but it would be great if you let us know you are coming. Small car park on site and nearest bus stop is Canterbury Bus Station and 10 minutes walk to venue. Canterbury Umbrella, 22 St Peter's Place, Canterbury CT1 2DB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport and tickets).

June

SAT

06

Wine Garden of England Summer Celebration



11am



£45



Come and join a summer celebration by attending this event hosted by Squerryes Winery.

Get to taste up to nine different resident wines, enjoy live music and savour delicious food whilst (hopefully) basking in the idyllic surroundings of the castle. Get in touch to purchase a ticket or find out more. Book by Monday 4 May. The Castle, Stone Street, Westenhanger CT21 4HX. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Helen on 07514 464710.



TUES

09

Sandwich Drop In with Arts and Crafts Club



11am



Free



Welcome to our Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss any enquiries about membership, benefits or anything else relating to the Society in our beautiful offices. We have a new arts and crafts group just around the corner (all abilities welcome and we will have talks from various local artists) – so get in touch to find out more. All materials provided but donations welcome. Please note the office will close at 3pm. Nearest bus stop: Sandwich Guildhall (43 from Canterbury then two minutes walk or 10 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station) or local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.

SUN

07

Manston International Air Show



10.30am



Tickets from £17



Based at the former Manston Airport, we are delighted to invite you to one of the most exciting air and land based show in the South East of England. Showcasing historic and modern aircrafts from across the world, some of which will perform aerial acrobatic displays. This event is sure to blend entertainment, education and national pride. You won't want to miss this one. Tickets are required for this event, so book early to save yourself disappointment. Member transport to and from this event may be able to be arranged – some local bus services might be also provided. Cost: Tickets from £17 (but to be announced nearer to the time). Book by Monday 20 April. RAF Manston History Museum, 821 Manston Road, Ramsgate CT12 5DF. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



June

WED **10** Creative Fun at Whitstable's Horsebridge Arts Centre

 1.30pm

 Members £3
Guests £5



Let's be inspired! Whether you are a beginner or professional, come and join our friendly group for a catch up and a chance to explore your creative side. Everybody is welcome here. Using different mediums provided by the centre - you can make your own masterpiece! Let us know you are coming so we get things ready. Nearest bus stop - Horsebridge, Whitstable (No 400 or 401 from Canterbury Bus Station) stops right outside venue. Horsebridge Arts Centre, 11 Horsebridge Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1AF. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS **11** Thanet Thursdays Back at Ramsgate

 11.30am

 As per menu



Summer is here! So, why not indulge yourself a visit to The Royal Pavilion (cited as the largest Wetherspoons in the UK) - located in Ramsgate's Harbour, the place is full of rich history and stunning architecture and views, which makes it worth the visit alone! The building is literally on Ramsgate's beach and said to be inspired by the Palace of Versailles (who knew?). After your meal with us, we encourage to feel the summer sun and the local sand - we may even perhaps treat you to an ice-cream too! Please let us know if you want to join us. We'd love to see you. Royal Victoria Pavilion - JD Wetherspoon, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate CT11 8LS. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON **15** Mystery Day Out

 9am

 Approximately
£35 - £50



Based on feedback from members and on the back of previous successes we are planning another mystery day out that will be based on polls taken earlier in the year. Last time we ended up having a fabulous day out at Penshurst Place - this trip, who knows?

The location will be revealed nearer the time and booking will be essential as we are sure to need transport. Everyone is welcome and we are sure to have lots of fun whilst we decide on the day! So keep in touch to find out more and be kept up to date. This will be one that you won't want to miss! Book by Sunday 10 May. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

June

WED
17

Folkestone Fun With Helen

L 11am

£ As per menu



Have a few hours free today? Then come and join Helen in this new Folkestone group. New and familiar faces welcome. Venues and activities may change from time to time so be sure to keep in touch to find out what's going on. Some help with transport may be possible and any drivers wishing to help out is also encouraged. Please note that this group will change between Tuesdays and Wednesdays each month so get in touch so as to not miss out! The Captain's Table Café, 26 The Stade, Folkestone CT19 6AE. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

TUES
23

Sandwich Drop In and Book Club

L 11am

£ Members £2
Guests £3



Welcome to our new monthly Sandwich drop ins. You can call by and discuss any enquiries about membership, benefits or anything else relating to the Society in our beautiful office. We will starting a new book club at this event and choices of material will be discussed and decided upon. Drinks will be provided. The office will be open until 3pm. Nearest bus stop: Sandwich Guildhall (43 from Canterbury then two minutes walk or 10 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station) or local car parks close by. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.

SUN
21

Summer Garden Party with Dr Tony McDonnell

L 11am

£ Free



One of our newer members, Dr Tony McDonnell cordially invites you to the following; 'Mid Summer Delight!'. What's more English at this time than a game of croquet and a set of iconic Jacques on the lawn? Played before? No matter, you have a partner and rules will be sent to you beforehand. Surrounded by grapevines and not a few attractive classic statues peeking through the foliage, we will enjoy a Pimms or an iced fruit drink alternative. A light lunch will be provided followed by freshly picked Kent strawberries and cream. Places and space are limited, so please get in touch with us directly to discuss your requirements. Book by Monday 18 May. McDonnell Residence, Whitstable Road CT2 8EF. Contact Tony on 07933 543338.



June

THURS
25

Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



As per menu
(cash only)



Welcome to one of our favourite and regular venues - the Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club with its friendly and relaxed atmosphere. The food never disappoints, whether you like a fish and chips or a roast. If you do not have time for lunch, their coffee is also excellent and good value for money! This venue also has parking. Whether you've been here a few times before or it is your first time coming, we are always happy to welcome you. No need to book, but please let us know if you would like to come. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Helen on 07514 464710.

MON
29

Monday Matinees in Sandwich



1pm



Members £3
Guests £5



What will we watch today? Who knows, but come for the friendship, stay for the film and share the fun in discussing it afterwards.

Everyone is welcome. Popcorn and ice-cream included. Nearest bus stop: Sandwich Guildhall then 20 metres walk or 15 minutes walk from Sandwich Train Station. Sandwich Oddfellows Office, 14 Delf Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



TUES
30

Sandwich Summer Party!



1pm



Free



Yes, another party! Made popular by last year attendance our 'Sandwich Summer Party' returns! This the perfect opportunity to reflect the past six months of social events we hosted and look forward to the future as the next six months of social events as they literally are around the corner.

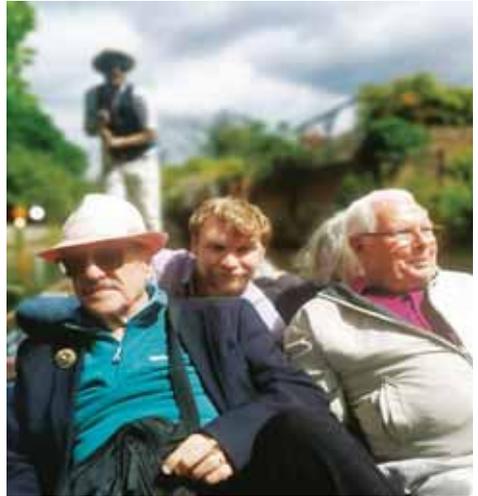
Please keep in touch for more details of location and times. Did we mention the best bit of the event... all are welcome to join and it's free! Donations are welcomed. Book by Monday 25 May. Sandwich Cricket Club, Strand Street, Sandwich CT13 9HZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



Photos of past events...



A scrumptious dinner at The Smugglers in Birchington in October.



Enjoying Punt on Canterbury's Stour.



Delicious lunches at Folkestone Bowls Club



Fun Times during September's Friendship Month

Make friends with the Oddfellows



A wonderful but full day at Le Touquet in September.

Some lovely words from our members...

" I have found Oddfellows the most friendly group I have ever joined , met new friends, Sammie, Ollie and Helen are so helpful and lovely people. Thank you "
Norma from Folkestone

" Thank you Canterbury Oddfellows – You have made such a difference to my life. I feel I have made genuine connections after a difficult period in my life and look forward to many more events with you. "
Peter in Margate

" Really enjoying, been on a few events- lots to look forward to. Very well organised Branch. "
Jen In Canterbury

" I am most impressed with Sammie and Oliver. They and others have made me feel very welcome and I feel I belong to a group "
Charles from Canterbury



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 Sammie on **01227 452517** or email **sammie.rayson@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@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**

Unity Mutual: A brand-new website and exciting Oddies member benefits

Unity Mutual, the financial arm of the Oddfellows, is delighted to have launched a brand-new website.

The fresh design reflects its updated brand identity, but more importantly, it has been built with accessibility and inclusion at its heart – a continuation of the Oddfellows’ ethos.



Whether looking for information on savings, investments or life insurance, the new site is easier to use, clearer to navigate and designed so that everyone can get the most from it.

Unity Mutual has partnered with Recite Me to introduce a full suite of accessibility tools, allowing visitors to customise their browsing experience. These include a text-to-speech function, styling features and translation options, which ensure their online services are available to all –

including those who may face barriers due to disability, neurodivergence or limited English language ability.

James Gilliver, Chief of Operations at Unity Mutual, explained: “Accessibility is extremely important to us at Unity Mutual. Our new website reflects our promise to inclusivity, ensuring all customers can access information in the way that best meets their needs.”

“But it’s not just about accessibility. We’ve also worked hard to make our content clearer and more engaging, so you can feel confident in understanding your financial choices. Our aim is to empower you and your family to make informed decisions about saving for the future.”

An extra reason to take a look is that Oddfellows members can currently benefit from special Guaranteed Investment Bond rates, available exclusively through Unity Mutual.

To see the new website, its new accessibility features and for more information about its products and rates, go to www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows, and discover how Unity Mutual can help build a brighter financial future.

Thank you for saying 'yes' to friendship

This Friendship Month, we've been encouraging people to say 'yes' to trying new things, making new friends, and discovering all the brilliant things happening at our Branches throughout the nation.

It's safe to say, September 2025 has been another fabulous celebration of friendship. The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Friendship Month 2025 has once again demonstrated what the Oddfellows is all about, and I'm thankful of every single

person up and down the country who had been a part of it."

"Saying 'yes' to trying new things can be daunting, but you've all done an excellent job of showing how positive it is to be a part of friendship groups like ours. So, thank you for saying 'yes' to helping make your Friendship Month events a success, whether that's organising events, serving cups of tea, or simply making people feel welcome and comfortable. It all adds up to another wonderful Friendship Month."



Birmingham Oddfellows



Bradford Oddfellows



Brighouse and Huddersfield Oddfellows



Albert Oddfellows



Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows



Cambridge Oddfellows



Heart of the West Oddfellows



Concord Oddfellows



Halifax Oddfellows



Sudbury Oddfellows

Application deadlines approach!

Whether it's enhancing careers or highlighting fantastic people, the Oddfellows has a number of ways we can give our members a boost – but we can only do so if we hear about them.

Deadlines for applications to be submitted for two of our wonderful schemes are fast approaching – the Apprenticeship Educational Award and the Making a Difference Awards.

Apprenticeship Educational Awards



Each year, the Oddfellows grants up to three Apprenticeship Educational Awards, which consist of £250 per year for the duration of the apprenticeship.*

Eligible members must apply via their Branch. If you, or someone you know, has been an Oddfellows member for five or more years, which includes Young Oddfellows membership, and started or plan to start an apprenticeship in 2025, get in touch with your Branch Secretary.

The Branch's deadline for submitting applications for consideration is **Wednesday 31 December 2025**.

*Each case is reviewed on personal merit. For previous recipients' stories, details on eligibility and how to apply, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards

Making a Difference Awards



Want to shine a light on those special people at your Branch who go above and beyond? Every Branch has them, so make sure we hear about their brilliance.

Any member can nominate a fellow member, so if there are people at your Branch who make a difference, speak to your Branch Secretary to find out how you can nominate them.

The deadline for Branches to submit their shortlist is **Saturday 31 January 2026**, so get your nominations in as soon as possible so they can be considered.

To find out more about our Making a Difference Awards, the categories, nomination process and the prior winners, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference

If you've missed these deadlines this time don't worry, just make a note for next year!

Meet the team



Sammie Rayson
Secretary
Number: 07885 436025
E-mail: sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk



Oliver Rayson
Social Organiser
Number: 07762 180498
E-mail: oliver.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk



Helen Lawrence
Welfare Officer
Number: 07514 464710
E-mail: helen.lawrence@oddfellows.co.uk

Branch and District Business Meetings

We regularly hold meetings in your area and all members and prospective members are welcome to attend. The purpose of the meetings is to share and discuss the business of the Branch, including our benevolence grants, finances, social planning, care and welfare development, publicity and volunteering opportunities.

This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. Following the business meeting, time permitting, most evenings are rounded off with a drink, biscuit and chance to socialise. Our meetings are generally quite informal round the table discussions and we invite all members to come and find out more.

Canterbury District

Secretary: Sammie Rayson
Telephone: 07885 436025 **Email:** sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk

These meetings are for representatives of the Branches of the District.

All meetings starts at 11am on the first Friday of the month except January and September. We hold 10 meetings per year, please contact Sammie for more details.

Meeting address to be confirmed nearer the time.

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Find us at **f** OddfellowsCanterbury

Social Events at a glance

January 2026

Mon 5	Sandwich Office Opening Party!	12 noon
Tues 6	Lunch at The Captain's Table	11.30am
Thurs 8	Thanet Thursdays Come to Margate	11.30am
Tues 13	Sandwich Drop In	11am
Wed 14	Quiz Afternoon at Whitstable Revivals Café	1.30pm
Thurs 15	Lunch at The Conningbrook Hotel	12 noon
Sat 17	Genesis Tribute at The Granville Theatre	7pm
Mon 19	Catch Up at The Hampton By Hilton	11.30am
Thurs 22	Thanet Thursdays Come to Westgate-on-Sea	11.30am
Mon 26	Monday Matinees in Sandwich	1pm
Wed 28	Coffee Morning in The CM Coffee Lounge	11am
Thurs 29	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

February

Mon 2	Canterbury Catch Up at The Umbrella Centre	11.30am
Tues 3	Sandwich Drop In	11am
Tues 3	Folkestone Fun with Helen	11am
Thurs 5	Thanet Thursdays Come to Broadstairs	11.30am
Sat 7	Macready! Dickens Theatrical Friend in Broadstairs	7pm
Wed 11	Whitstable Catch Up At The Horsebridge Arts Centre	1.30pm
Thurs 12	Bowling at Ashford's Hollywood Bowl	1pm
Thurs 12	Creative Crafts Afternoon At The CM Lounge	1pm
Mon 16	Exploring The Beany House of Art and Knowledge in Canterbury	12 noon
Tues 17	Sandwich Drop In With Pancakes!	11am
Thurs 19	Thanet Thursdays Come to Ramsgate	11.30am
Mon 23	Monday Matinees in Sandwich	1pm
Wed 25	Blast From The Past in Herne Bay!	11am
Thurs 26	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

Social Events at a glance

March

Thurs 5	Thanet Thursdays Comes Back to Westgate-on-Sea	12.30pm
Thurs 5	SHED by Martin Figura in Margate	7pm
Mon 9	Canterbury Catch Up At The Hampton By Hilton	11.30am
Wed 11	Oliver's Trip to Japan - Talk at Whitstable's Revival Café	1.30pm
Thurs 12	Exploring the Ashford Area With Helen and Oliver	12 noon
Sun 15	The Blackheart Orchestra at Faversham	6.30pm
Tues 17	Sandwich Drop In - St Patrick's Day Themed Quiz	11am
Wed 18	Folkestone Fun With Helen	11am
Thurs 19	Thanet Thursdays Return to Margate	11.30am
Mon 23	Coffee Morning at Café No. 35	11.30am
Wed 25	Coffee Morning in The CM Lounge	11am
Thurs 26	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
Fri 27	Port Lympne Safari Visit	12 noon
Sat 28	Freddie Mercury/Queen Tribute Night	7pm
Mon 30	Monday Matinees in Sandwich	1pm

April

Thurs 2	Thanet Thursdays Return to Ramsgate	1.30pm
Sat 4	Broadstairs Food Festival	11am
Tues 7	Sandwich Drop In and Events Planning Meeting	11am
Thurs 9	Exploring the Ashford Area with Helen and Oliver	12 noon
Mon 13	Canterbury Catch Up at The Umbrella Centre	11.30am
Mon 13	The Renaissance Portrait From Van Eyck to Titian	6.30pm
Tues 14	Folkestone Fun With Helen	11am
Wed 15	Whitstable Catch Up at the Horsebridge	1.30pm
Thurs 16	Thanet Thursdays Come Back to Broadstairs	1.30pm
Tues 21	Sandwich Drop In and Launch of our New Book Club	11am
Mon 27	Monday Matinees in Sandwich	1pm
Thurs 30	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

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

Social Events at a glance

May

Tues 5	Sandwich Drop In and Launch of New Arts and Crafts Club	11am
Tues 5	Folkestone Fun With Helen	11am
Thurs 7	Thanet Thursdays is back in Margate	12.30pm
Sat 9	Pre-loved Market - Indoor Boot Fair	10am
Mon 11	Canterbury Catch Up	11.30am
Wed 13	Fun and Games at Whitstable Revivals Café	1.30pm
Thurs 14	Exploring the Ashford Area With Helen and Oliver	12 noon
Fri 15	A Day Out to The Great Dixter House and Gardens	10.30am
Wed 20	Folkestone Fun with Helen	11am
Sat 23	Margate Mod/Sixties Weekender	12 noon
Tues 26	Sandwich Drop In and Book Club	11am
Wed 27	High Tides and Fun Times in Herne Bay	1pm
Thurs 28	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
Thurs 28	Thanet Thursdays returns to Birchington	1.30pm

June

Mon 1	Canterbury Catch Up at The Umbrella Centre	11.30am
Tues 2	Folkestone Fun With Helen	11am
Sat 6	Wine Garden of England Summer Celebration	11am
Sun 7	Manston International Air Show	10.30am
Tues 9	Sandwich Drop In with Arts and Crafts Club	11am
Wed 10	Creative Fun at Whitstable's Horsebridge Arts Centre	1.30pm
Thurs 11	Thanet Thursdays Back at Ramsgate	11.30am
Mon 15	Mystery Day Out	9am
Wed 17	Folkestone Fun With Helen	11am
Sun 21	Summer Garden Party With Dr Tony McDonnell	11am
Tues 23	Sandwich Drop In and Book Club	11am
Thurs 25	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
Mon 29	Monday Matinees in Sandwich	1pm
Tues 30	Sandwich Summer Party!	1pm