

August 2026 - January 2027  
Issue 7



**O**the **ODD**fellows SINCE 1810  
making friends, helping people

# out & about

**Bury St Edmunds and Colchester District Lodge**  
Covering Colchester, St Edmundsbury, Stowmarket and Sudbury Social Lodges



- |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
|  Wellbeing |  Quiz  |  Talks  |  Social     |  Film  |
|  Dinner    |  Walks |  Crafts |  Games      |  Trips |
|  Tennis    |  Golf  |  Sports |  Friendship |   |



*East Anglian Group Conference Care and Welfare Seminar -  
Saturday 27 February 2027*

## **Welcome to the latest edition of our District Social Lodges Events Diary and news review**

### **Message from the Secretary**

The District Social Events Organisers (DSEO's) at the four Social Lodges, along with their Social Committees, have been very busy arranging events for the next six months. There is a varied selection to keep you entertained and to get involved in and remember, you can attend an event, at any Social Lodge, although I would advise confirming this with the relevant DSEO, as for some events, booking is essential.

September is Friendship Month and we encourage any prospective new members to come to events, so please, do bring your friends along. There is always a warm welcome for all and we are happy to see new faces - don't forget to tell them that

there are many benefits Oddfellows membership can give you.

I would like to give a huge "thank you" to the volunteers at each of the four Social Lodges. Without your help at events the DSEO's would not be able to dedicate as much time as they do now to conversing etc. with the members.

We had a very successful 2025 on the recruitment front and won two East Anglian Group Conference awards and one national award - well done to all.

On another note, could I please request that, when submitting a benefit claim, you ensure that the claim form you are using is the most recent issue (will have the facility to insert your bank details) and that it is sent, along with your receipt(s) to the office in Bury St Edmunds and not to Manchester.

I look forward to hopefully seeing you at one of the events.

**Tony Nunn  
District Secretary**

# District and Social Lodge Contacts

For more information on our events, and for encouragement and support if attending an event for the first time, please contact your local Social Lodge contact:

## **Bury St Edmunds and Colchester District Lodge**

**District Secretary:** Tony Nunn

85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1NX

**Telephone:** 01284 754345 **Email:** tony.nunn@oddfellows.co.uk

**District Assistant Secretary:** Sue Whitehead

**Telephone:** 01284 754345 **Email:** sue.whitehead@oddfellows.co.uk

**Care, Welfare and Benevolence Administrator:** Alice Crane

**Telephone:** 01284 755068 **Mobile Telephone:** 07761 201966

**Email:** alice.crane@oddfellows.co.uk

## **Colchester Social Lodge (Events listing page 5)**

**Social Events Organiser and Care and Welfare Coordinator:** Diana Randall

**Telephone:** 07761 202016 **Email:** diana.randall@oddfellows.co.uk

 [OddfellowsColchester](#)

## **St Edmundsbury Social Lodge (Events listing page 10)**

**Social Events Organiser and Care and Welfare Coordinator:** Jacky Nunn

**Telephone:** 01284 755068 or 07761 202062 **Email:** jacky.nunn@oddfellows.co.uk

 [Oddfellows St Edmundsbury](#)

## **Stowmarket Social Lodge (Events listing page 24)**

**Social Events Organiser and Care and Welfare Coordinator:** Alice Crane

**Telephone:** 01284 755068 **Mobile Telephone:** 07761 201966

**Email:** alice.crane@oddfellows.co.uk

 [OddfellowsStowmarket](#)

## **Sudbury Social Lodge (Events listing page 31)**

**Social Events Organiser and Care and Welfare Coordinator:** Helen Patel

**Telephone:** 07761 202092 **Email:** helen.patel@oddfellows.co.uk

 [OddfellowsSudbury](#)

# Planned District Events

## Coffee Morning



**Saturday**

Join us for a warm welcome and a friendly chat over a cuppa and toast and biscuits. Great company is always on offer. Everyone welcome, along with a friendly smile and good conversation. You can pop in for a few minutes or stay the whole morning. This is a free event from 10.30am to 1pm. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 01284 755068 or 07761 202062

## February 2027

SAT  
**27**

### East Anglian Group Conference Care and Welfare Seminar



We are pleased to invite you to the East Anglian Group Conference Care and Welfare Seminar. John Aitken, Head of Care and Welfare, will be joining us to deliver a Care and Welfare presentation.

Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket IP14 1BE. Book by Friday 12 February 2027. To book contact David Randall on 07736 777197.

Who can you invite  
along to join in the  
friendship and fun?

**All welcome**



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



To see what's on and find out more about  
Friendship Month visit [www.friendshipmonth.com](http://www.friendshipmonth.com)

# Colchester Events

## August 2026

### WED 05 Wednesday Walkers



Meet in the car park off Queens Road. Circular walk towards Colne Engine. Lunch to be advised. Car Park, Queens Road, Earls Colne CO6 2RB. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

### MON 10 Coffee Morning - British Sign Language



Lindsay Barrell returns to Colchester, not in a basque this time. She will be giving a talk on British sign language. It will be both informative and funny. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.



### WED 19 Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk



Details to follow via email the preceding week. Location to be arranged around the Colchester area. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

### TUES 25 Afternoon Social - Bingo



Come along for a relaxing afternoon playing bingo. Prizes to be won and refreshments will be served. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.



## September

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



### WED 02 Wednesday Walkers



Meet in Stoneham Street car park for a circular walk to Nunns Bridge. Lunch to be advised. Car Park, Stoneham Street, Coggeshall CO6 1NY. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# September

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1- 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS  
03

## Orwell Lady Cruise and Cream Tea

 12.30pm

 Members £33  
Guests £38



A lovely afternoon outing following our traditional September boat trip theme. Taking a coach to Ipswich then boarding the Orwell Lady for a trip along the Orwell, passing the beautiful Pin Mill and on to Felixstowe. A cream tea will be served and there is a bar and snacks on board. Relax and enjoy the lovely views. Marks Tey Hotel, London Road, Copford CO6 1DU. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

MON  
14

## Coffee Morning - History of Stained Glass

 10.30am

 Charity  
donation



Michele Russell is joining us to talk about the history and making of stained glass. She will also have some of her beautiful work for sale. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

WED  
16

## Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk

 11am

 Free




Details to follow via email the preceding week. Location to be arranged around the Colchester area. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

TUES  
22

## Afternoon Social - Art Class

 1.30pm

 Members £5 cost  
for materials  
Guests £7.50



Sarah from Sunflower Artistry will be coming to do an art class for all you budding artists that have never given it a try. Follow Sarah's example as she paints a beautiful scene on canvas using acrylics. Anyone can do it, trust us we have tried. You will be so pleased with your end result. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# October

WED  
07

## Wednesday Walkers

 11am

 Free



Meeting at the Walls Mistley for a circular walk taking in countryside, woodland and estuary views. The Walls, Kiln Lane, Manningtree, Essex CO11 1HP. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# October

## MON 12 Coffee Morning - Chocolate

 10.30am

 Charity donation



Chocolate heaven for Colchester members this morning. Tempered chocolate – loud, sweet and proud. A talk on this lovely chocolate made in Maldon – a family-run business. Come along and hear their story then try and buy this lovely chocolate, with 21 flavours to choose from. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.



## WED 21 Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk

 11am

 Free



Details to follow via email the preceding week. Location to be arranged around the Colchester area. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

## TUES 27 Afternoon Tea

 1.30pm

 Members £10  
Guests £13



Come along for a lovely afternoon tea with friends and just relax and enjoy the sandwiches and cakes. There will be a table quiz to play at your leisure and also a steal me raffle. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# November

## WED 04 Wednesday Walkers

 11am

 Free



Mystery walk around Harwich. More details to follow. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

## MON 09 Coffee Morning - Speaker

 10.30am

 Charity donation



Gary, the big man with the big voice returns. We have had the funny side of policing, now the funny side of tour guiding. This is bound to be a very funny and also informative talk from Gary, so come along and enjoy. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

## TUES 17 Christmas Shopping Coach Trip

 9.30am

 Members £14  
Guests £20



Christmas shopping coach trip to Polhill Nursery near Sevenoaks in Kent. This garden centre and shopping village is vast, so there will be plenty of time to browse and have lunch. The Marks Tey Hotel, London Road, Copford CO6 1DU. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.



# November

## WED 18 Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk

🕒 11am

£ Free



Details to follow via email the preceding week. Location to be arranged around the Colchester area. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

## TUES 24 Games and Crafting Afternoon with Kay

🕒 1.30pm

£ Charity donation



An afternoon of making Christmas crafts with the delightful and very helpful Kay. If this is not your cup of tea, then have a cuppa anyway whilst you sit at tables and play card or board games. Something for everyone and a good opportunity to chat with friends. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# December

## WED 02 Wednesday Walkers - Nayland

🕒 11am

£ Free



Meet in the Harpers Hill Lay-By for a walk around Nayland, with short distances on minor roads. Countryside and riverside views. Harpers Hill Lay-By, Harpers Hill, Nayland CO6 4NT. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# December

## MON 14 Christmas Coffee Morning

🕒 10.30am

£ Charity donation



The Twelve Days of Christmas quiz presented by our very own District Secretary, Tony Nunn from Bury St Edmunds. A fun quiz to enjoy with your friends at your table. Prizes to be won. Mince pies served with tea or coffee after and time for a chat. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

## WED 16 Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk

🕒 11am

£ Free



Details to follow via email the preceding week. Location to be arranged around the Colchester area. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# December

TUES  
22

## Christmas Party

12.30pm



Members £15, Guests £20

It's party time. A buffet will be served again this year, followed by entertainment. Christmas table quiz to do at your leisure and a raffle will be held. Come along and enjoy good food, good company and wine if you bring your own! Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.



# January 2027

MON  
11

## Coffee Morning

10.30am

Charity donation



Speaker to be arranged. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

WED  
20

## Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk

11am

Free



Details to follow via email the preceding week. Catch a bus for a walk. Location to be arranged around the Colchester area. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

TUES  
26

## Afternoon Social - Film Afternoon

1.30pm

Charity donation



We will be screening the hilarious film - 'Quartet' about a posh retirement home for musicians as they scramble to put on a fundraising event. Lion Walk Church, Lion Walk Precinct, Colchester CO1 1LX. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.



# January 2027

WED  
06

## Wednesday Walkers

11am

Free



Meet in the car park off Station Road, Sudbury (near leisure centre) CO10 2FA. Circular walk along the disused railway track and through Sudbury common lands along the river. Lots of cafés and pubs for lunch. Contact Diana on 07761 202016.

# St Edmundsbury Events

## August 2026

### TUES 04 Positive Ageing with Christine Webber



10am



Members Free  
Guests £5



Most of us will remember Christine Webber from her days on Anglia TV. Since then, she has been an agony aunt for many major publications, trained as a psychotherapist and started a small practice in Harley Street. She has written 12 non-fiction and four fiction novels, with the vast majority of the characters over the age of 50. Her talk covers many subjects - improving your memory, humour, diet, mental attitude and your balance to name but a few. So come along for an upbeat and hopefully inspiring talk. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



### THURS 06 Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa



11am



Cost of  
refreshments



Once a month we pop over to Newmarket to meet up with our friends and hopefully make new ones. We meet at The Day Centre, where we are able to have a breakfast, a cake or two, or stay for a home-cooked lunch. Most of all, it's about getting together and having fun. The Day Centre, Fred Archer Way, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8NT. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



### WED 12 Craft and Games Afternoon



1.30pm



Donations if  
able



Join us for an afternoon of fun playing Crib, Chess, Dominoes, Scrabble or join the craft table for the latest project on offer. It's a chance to learn something new while catching up with friends over a cuppa and cake. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# August 2026

## FRI 14 Brandon Meet-Up with Friends



Our monthly meet-up with friends at Brandon is held at Valentino's on the High Street, with plenty of free parking nearby. While some of us arrive early for a wonderful breakfast, the majority come in from 11am for a cuppa and cake. It's always good to see members and friends, while enjoying the warmth that comes from friendship. Please note change of venue. Valentino's, 30 High Street, Brandon IP27 0AQ. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## THURS 20 Film Club Afternoon - 'Moulin Rouge'



Our doors open at 1pm for refreshments and a chance to catch up with friends. Grab a bag of popcorn and take your seat before the film starts at 1.30pm. This month's film is 'Moulin Rouge,' starring Nicole Kidman, Natalie Mendoza, Ewan McGregor and Jim Broadbent to name but a few. Run time is two hours and seven minutes. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## MON 17 A Day at the Races



It's time to get the glad rags on and join us in the Royal Enclosure for the 'Oddfellows Summer Stakes'.



The Pimms will be flowing and the strawberries will be plentiful for this afternoon of excitement and fun. Once again, 'Honest Tone' will be on hand to take your bets and the winner will receive the 'Oddfellows Cup'. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## WED 26 Strawberries and Cream with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association



One of our charities has extended the hand of friendship and invited us to join them for 'Strawberries



and Cream' and a chance to see their wonderful work. Places will be very limited, so payment is needed at the time of booking to secure your place. Book by Wednesday 12 August 2026. Deaf & Hard of Hearing Association, 28 Northgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1HY. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# August 2026

**WED**  
**26** **New Age Curling Afternoon**

**L** 1.30pm

**£** Members Donations for refreshments if able, Guests £5.



It's a head to head between the blues and reds as we have an afternoon of competitive fun playing curling. Join us for this popular event from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Refreshments will be available at the halftime point. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# September

**TUES**  
**01** **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association with Dawn Vickery**

**L** 10am

**£** Members Free  
Guests £5



As one of our chosen charities for 2026, Dawn will take us through how this wonderful group helps its members deal with everyday living, while coming to terms with the loss of their hearing. Many people suffer without realising help is on hand via this great charity. They receive no funding from the government, so every penny raised is always welcome. Doors open from 10am for refreshments and Dawn will take the floor at 10.30am. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



## ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



**THURS**  
**03** **Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa**

**L** 11am

**£** Cost of refreshments



Once a month we pop over to Newmarket to meet up with our friends and hopefully make new ones. We meet at The Day Centre, where we are able to have a breakfast, a cake or two, or stay for a home-cooked lunch. Most of all, it's about getting together and having fun. The Day Centre, Fred Archer Way, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8NT. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



# September

SAT  
05

## Friendship Month 'Meet-Up and Make New Friends



10.30am



Free



Friendship Month is a time to showcase our wonderful organisation. We encourage you all to talk to your neighbours, friends and even that friendly stranger you smile to at the bus stop and invite them to come along and join in the fun. With the darker nights just around the corner, now is the time to introduce them to our group which offers friendship by the bucket load. As it's Friendship Month, bacon butties will be available. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



FRI  
11

## Brandon Meet-Up with Friends



11am



Cost of refreshments



Our monthly meet-up with friends at Brandon is held at Valentino's on the High Street, with plenty of free parking nearby. While some of us arrive early for a wonderful breakfast, the majority come in from 11am for a cuppa and cake. It's always good to see members and friends while enjoying the warmth that comes from friendship. Valentino's, 30 High Street, Brandon IP27 0AQ. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

THURS  
17

## Friendship Month Film Club Afternoon - 'Saving Mr Banks'



1pm



Free



This months offering is 'Saving Mr Banks,' starring Tom Hanks, Emma Thompson, Pamela Lyndon,



Colin Farrell and more. The doors open from 1pm for refreshments and time for a catch up with friends. Then, grab a bag of popcorn and take your seat as the film starts at 1.30pm. The film run time is two hours and five minutes. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

WED  
09

## Craft and Games Afternoon



1.30pm



Donations if able



Join us for an afternoon of fun playing Crib, Chess, Dominoes, Scrabble or join the craft table for the latest project on offer. It's a chance to learn something new while catching up with friends over a cuppa and cake. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# September

FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT

Join the fun

## WED 23 Friendship Music Afternoon with Graeme Hopson

🕒 1.30pm

£ Free



Graeme's stage name is 'Ed North,' so join him for an afternoon of mixed genres of music from the 50s, 60s and 70s. We all like to sing along and perhaps take to the dance floor and nothing beats live music. Doors open at 1.30pm for refreshments and the music starts at 2pm. Why not bring a friend along for free. Come join in the fun and help celebrate Friendship Month. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



## MON 28 Friendship Month 'Big Quiz'

🕒 1.30pm

£ Members Free  
Guests £5



Our big quiz has moved to 'Friendship Month'. It's a chance to show your competitive side, but at the same time have fun with friends. Teams of up to six are welcome, so come by yourself or together and share your knowledge as we play for the Oddfellows Cup. Doors open at 1pm and the quiz starts at 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
Invite a friend

## WED 30 New Age Kurling Afternoon

🕒 1.30pm

£ Members Donations for refreshments if able, Guests £5.



It's a head to head between the blues and reds as we have an afternoon of competitive



fun playing kurling. Join us for this popular event from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Refreshments will be available at the halftime point. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# October

## THURS 01 Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa



Once a month we pop over to Newmarket to meet up with our friends and hopefully make new ones. We meet at The Day Centre, where we are able to have a breakfast, a cake or two, or stay for a home-cooked lunch. Most of all, it's about getting together and having fun. The Day Centre, Fred Archer Way, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8NT. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## TUES 06 Bury Drop In Centre



Robert Green from the Bury Drop In Centre will explain how the charity works with their guests, including the street homeless, rough sleepers, sofa-surfers, those in temporary accommodation and people who were homeless, but need support to avoid falling back into homelessness. This is one of our chosen charities for 2026 and fundraising will go on throughout the year. Doors open from 10am for refreshments and the talk will start at 10.30am. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



## FRI 09 Brandon Meet-Up with Friends



Our monthly meet-up with friends at Brandon is held at Valentino's on the High Street, with plenty of free parking nearby. While some of us arrive early for a wonderful breakfast, the majority come in from 11am for a cuppa and cake. It's always good to see members and friends, while enjoying the warmth that comes from friendship. Valentino's, 30 High Street, Brandon IP27 0AQ. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## WED 14 Craft and Games Afternoon



Join us for an afternoon of fun playing Crib, Chess, Dominoes, Scrabble or join the craft table for the latest project on offer. It's a chance to learn something new while catching up with friends over a cuppa and cake. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



# October

## THURS 15 Film Club Afternoon - 'Tea with Mussolini'



1pm



Members Free  
Guests £5



This month, we'll be watching 'Tea with Mussolini,' starring Maggie Smith, Judi Dench, Cher and Joan Plowright. The film is about a young Italian boy being raised by English women in pre-WWII Italy. When war breaks out, his life changes, along with those of the women. Run time is one hour and 57 minutes. Doors open at 1pm for refreshments, film starts 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## TUES 20 Indian Cooking Demonstration with Bob and Donna



11am



Members £8, Guests £12



Bob and Donna will demonstrate the art of Indian cooking, making butter chicken (or a vegetarian alternative) and pilau rice. This meal will be boxed up for you to take home. Plus side dishes of chapattis and a potato with ginger and garlic, an authentic mint dipping sauce and home-made banana chutney. Their mantra is 'Good Food, Good Fun and Good People!' Book by Thursday 1 October 2026. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## WED 21 Country Music Lunch with Friends



TBC



Members £35  
Guests £40



Are you a country music fan? Then join us for a two-course carvery lunch, followed by an afternoon of country music at the Wherry Hotel, Oulton Broad, Suffolk. Cost includes coach travel, your meal and the entertainment. We only have a set number of tickets, as this is a sellout on their website. A £10 deposit must be paid at the time of booking. Booking closes on Thursday 1 October 2026 or once we have reached full capacity. Pick-up: Bury St Edmunds only - sorry. Wherry Hotel, Bridge Road, Oulton Broad, Suffolk NR32 3LN. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# October

## WED 28 New Age Kurling Afternoon

L 1.30pm

£ Members Donations for refreshments if able Guests £5.

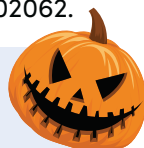


It's a head to head between the blues and reds as we have an afternoon of competitive fun playing kurling. Join us for this popular event from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Refreshments will be available at the halftime point. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## FRI 30 Halloween Fish and Chips Lunch followed by the Auction

L 12 noon

£ Members £8, Guests £13



Join us for a spooky themed fish and chips lunch, followed by the Oddfellows Bargain Hunt Annual Auction. All monies raised will be donated to our two chosen charities. Doors will open at 12 noon and the food will arrive at 12.30pm. Once all the tables have been cleared, Honest Tone will start the auction. All auction items 'Must' be with us by Friday 23 October 2026, so that we can photograph them ready for the day. Book by Monday 19 October 2026. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



# November

## TUES 03 Mr Soanes Came to Breakfast; Sir John Soanes and James Oakes' House with Adrian Tindall

L 10am

£ Members Free, Guests £5



How did 'Mr Bury St Edmunds,' James Oakes persuade renowned architect Sir John Soanes to design an extension to his home in Guildhall Street in 1788? Adrian will describe this unlikely collaboration and show the evidence of it that can still be seen today. Doors open 10am for refreshments, the talk starts 10.30am Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# November

## THURS 05 Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa



Once a month we pop over to Newmarket to meet up with our friends and hopefully make new ones. We meet at The Day Centre, where we are able to have a breakfast, a cake or two, or stay for a home-cooked lunch. Most of all, it's about getting together and having fun. The Day Centre, Fred Archer Way, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8NT. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## WED 11 Craft and Games Afternoon with Diana



Join us for an afternoon of fun playing Crib, Chess, Dominoes, Scrabble or join the craft table for the latest project on offer.



It's a chance to learn something new while catching up with friends over a cuppa and cake. We will be joined by Diana from the Colchester Social Lodge and she will be making Christmas decorations. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## FRI 13 Brandon Meet-Up with Friends



Our monthly meet-up with friends at Brandon is held at Valentino's on the High Street, with plenty of free parking nearby. While some of us arrive early for a wonderful breakfast, the majority come in from 11am for a cuppa and cake. It's always good to see members and friends, while enjoying the warmth that comes from friendship. Valentino's, 30 High Street, Brandon IP27 0AQ. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



## THURS 19 Film Club Afternoon - 'Brief Encounter'



'Brief Encounter', starring Celia Johnson, Trevor Howard and Noel Coward, tells the story of a jaded suburban wife and a doctor. This is a classic film, run time one hour and 26 minutes. Doors open at 1pm for refreshments and the film will start at 1.30pm. So grab the popcorn and come along. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# November

FRI  
20

## St Edmunds Day Cream Tea



2pm



Members £4, Guests £9



St Edmund was the first Patron Saint of England and we, the population of Bury St Edmunds, are very proud of this. Join us for a celebratory cream tea at the Oddfellows Hall. Payment is required at the time of booking, as we only have limited space.

Booking is essential by Friday 30 October 2026. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



WED  
25

## New Age Kurling Afternoon



1.30pm



Members Donations for refreshments if able  
Guests £5.



It's a head to head between the blues and reds as we have an afternoon of competitive fun playing kurling. Join us for this popular event from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Refreshments will be available at the halftime point. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



FRI  
27

## Winter Wine Tasting with Kevin and Teresa



2pm



Members £12, Guests £17



Back by popular demand, Kevin and Teresa bring their expertise and knowledge on wines to the table. We will taste six different wines and learn all about the aroma, taste and grape variety. Afterwards, we will have cheese and biscuits. A £5 deposit is required at time of booking by Friday 30 October 2026. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



# December

TUES  
01

## Christmas Traditions with Stephen Moody



10am



Members Free, Guests £5



To get us into the Christmas spirit, Stephen's illustrated talk looks back to Christmas past to discover the origins of some of our cherished traditions. Charles Dickens gave us a blueprint that we still associate with

Christmas today. It's a lighthearted look at everything from the turkey and trimmings to today's family pyjama sets. Refreshments will be served from 10am and the talk will start at 10.30am. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

WED  
09

## Christmas Craft and Games Afternoon



1.30pm



Donations if able



Join us for an afternoon of fun playing Crib, Chess, Dominoes, Scrabble or join the craft table for the latest project on offer. It's a chance to learn something new, while catching up with friends over a cuppa and cake. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



FRI  
11

## Christmas Music Afternoon



1.30pm



Free



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and once again we will be joined by Jane and Julie, aka

Tyler-Kemp from Ipswich. They will lead us through an afternoon of carols, readings and Christmas music. Mulled wine will be served on arrival and Christmas refreshments after the music. Book by Tuesday 1 December 2026. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



# December

## TUES 15 Christmas Lunch with Friends



12 noon



TBC



Edmunds Restaurant at West Suffolk College is once again the venue for our Christmas lunch. The students work very hard to make the festive dining experience an enjoyable one and that is why we keep coming back. After the meal, we will hold the big festive raffle, raising money for our two chosen charities. All donations will be gratefully received. The cost was not available at the time of going to print, but a £10 deposit is required at the time of booking by Friday 27 November 2026. Edmunds, West Suffolk College, Out Risbygate, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3RL. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## THURS 17 Festive Bingo with Santa Calling



1.30pm



Members £4  
Guests £8



Doors will open at 1pm and the bingo will start at 1.30pm. Festive jumpers, hats or earrings are actively encouraged as we

get closer to Christmas. Santa will be on hand to call the bingo, along with tipples and nibbles to get us in the mood. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

get closer to Christmas. Santa will be on hand to call the bingo, along with tipples and nibbles to get us in the mood. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



## WED 23 Festive Film Club Afternoon - 'The Polar Express'



1pm



Free



The Polar Express is the story of a young boy taking a train ride to the North Pole to meet Father Christmas. His life takes a turn after he encounters special people that make his journey memorable. Starring Tom Hanks, Josh Hutcherson and Eddie Deezen to name but a few. Run time is one hour and 39 minutes. Festive pyjamas are encouraged with hot chocolate and popcorn on offer. Doors open at 1pm for refreshments and the film starts 1.30pm. Please note the change of date. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## WED 30 New Age Kurling Afternoon



1.30pm



Members Donations for refreshments if able, Guests £5.



It's a head to head between the blues and reds as we have an afternoon of competitive fun playing kurling. Join us for this popular event from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Refreshments will be available at the halftime point. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# January 2027

## TUES 05 The Beauty of the Night Sky with Julian Lisher

L 10am

£ Members Free  
Guests £5



Come and join Julian for a slideshow presentation on all things magical concerning constellations that dominate the northern



skies in the winter months. Observe the Orion Nebula as well as the famous Horsehead Nebula. There is nothing like the beauty of a night sky. Questions will be welcomed. Doors open from 10am for refreshments and Julian will take the floor at 10.30am Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## THURS 07 Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa

L 11am

£ Cost of refreshments



Once a month we pop over to Newmarket to meet up with our friends and hopefully make new ones. We meet at The Day Centre, where we are able to have a breakfast, a cake or two, or stay for a home-cooked lunch. Most of all, it's about getting together and having fun. The Day Centre, Fred Archer Way, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8NT. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## FRI 08 Brandon Meet-Up with Friends

L 11am

£ Cost of refreshments



Our monthly meet-up with friends at Brandon is held at Valentino's on the High Street, with plenty of free parking nearby. While some of us arrive early for a wonderful breakfast, the majority come in from 11am for a cuppa and cake. It's always good to see members and friends, while enjoying the warmth that comes from friendship. Valentino's, 30 High Street, Brandon IP27 0AQ. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## MON 11 Circle Dancing with Jen

L 2pm

£ Members £3  
Guests £5



Join us for an afternoon of fun, as Jen takes us through the many styles of 'Folk Dancing'.



This can be done either standing or seated or a mixture. All dances will be taught beforehand and no partners needed. Refreshments will be available afterwards. Doors open at 1.30pm, the session starts at 2pm. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# January 2027

## WED 13 Craft and Games Afternoon

🕒 1.30pm

£ Donations if able



Join us for an afternoon of fun playing Crib, Chess, Dominoes, Scrabble or join the craft table for the latest project on offer. It's a chance to learn something new while catching up with friends over a cuppa and cake. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## THURS 21 Film Club Afternoon - 'The Duchess'

🕒 1pm

£ Members Free  
Guests £5



This month's film is 'The Duchess,' starring Keira Knightley, Ralph Fiennes, Hayley Atwell, Dominic Cooper and more. It is based on the life of Georgiana Spencer and the Duke of Devonshire. She soon realises that her husband doesn't love her and he only wants a son, to carry on the male line in his family. Run times one hour and 50 minutes. Doors open at 1pm for refreshments and the film starts at 1.30pm. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.



## SAT 16 Cinderella - Rock 'n' Roll Panto

🕒 TBC

£ Members £35  
Guests £45



Christmas may be over but the fun continues for the cast and crew at the New Wolsley Theatre, Ipswich.



Join us as we celebrate the last day of the panto season with their performance of 'Cinderella'. If you have never been to a Rock 'n' Roll panto then this is your chance. This will be an afternoon performance and the cost covers coach travel and tickets. £10 deposit needed at the time of booking. Book by Wednesday 6 January 2027. The New Wolsley Theatre, Civic Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 2AS. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

## WED 27 New Age Kurling Afternoon

🕒 1.30pm

£ Members Donations for refreshments if able, Guests £5.



It's a head to head between the blues and reds as we have an afternoon of competitive fun playing kurling. Join us for this popular event from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Refreshments will be available at the halftime point. Oddfellows Hall, 85 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NX. Contact Jacky on 07761 202062.

# Stowmarket Events

## Lunch Club in Stowmarket

Every Monday



The lunch club is run by Red Gables every Monday. The door opens at 11am, where members are welcome to attend. You will be served tea or coffee or squash on arriving. There will generally be bingo, a short talk or a quiz before lunch, which is cooked on the premises. There are two groups attending on alternative weeks. When you register to attend, you will be allocated either group A or B. Cost is £7 per person. Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. To make a booking, please call Red Gables on 01449 673947 or speak to the Social Organiser, Alice on 07761 201966. Bookings will need made seven days in advance of when you wish to attend.

## Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up

First Wednesday



All members and friends are welcome to join us on the first Wednesday of the month for our cuppa and catch up. Have a chat, a hot drink, a snack or stay for lunch. Items are purchased at your own cost. The 1936 Café Bar, The Regal, Ipswich Street, Stowmarket IP14 1AY. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



- 5 August 2026
- 2 September 2026
- 7 October 2026
- 4 November 2026
- 2 December 2026
- 6 January 2027

# August 2026

WED  
12

## Fish and Chips with Bingo in Stowmarket



Come along for an evening of fun with friends. Doors open at 7pm and we will enjoy our fish and chips supper at 7.30pm, followed by bingo with plenty of prizes to be won! Booking is essential as places are limited. Please advise us of any dietary requirements at the time of booking by Friday 31 July 2026. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



# August 2026

## TUES 18 Rummikub Tournament and Games Afternoon in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



All are welcome to come and take part in our friendly tournament of the classic game Rummikub. If you fancy friendly competition, then this is the event for you! Join us to see who our Rummikub champion will be, or simply come along to have a cuppa or play another board game with friends. Doors open from 2pm and refreshments will be served on arrival. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

## WED 26 Ipswich Town Football Club Foundation Talk with Leanne Smith in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Ipswich Town FC Foundation is the charitable arm of Ipswich Town Football Club. Since relaunching in 2019, the foundation has provided impactful and inclusive activities to improve the health, skills, opportunities and lives of all generations in communities across Suffolk and its borders. Leanne Smith, their Community Engagement Manager, will join us to speak about the fantastic work that they do in our community. Refreshments will be available on arrival. Doors open from 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

# September

## TUES 08 Afternoon Tea and Bargain Hunt Auction in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members £10  
Guests £12



Join us for a classic afternoon tea with finger sandwiches, scones with clotted cream, cakes and pastries. This will be followed by our own take on the 'Bargain Hunt' challenge auction with our esteemed auctioneer, Honest Tone. All money raised will go to our charities of the year: Suffolk Animal Rescue and Redwoods Lunch Club.

If you would like to volunteer to bring a charity shop bargain for the auction, please contact Alice. The coveted golden gavel will be won by the volunteer whose lot makes the most profit. Booking is essential for this event. A £5 deposit and any dietary requirements will be needed at the time of booking. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Book by Monday 24 August 2026. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

# September

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1- 30 SEPTEMBER



FRI  
11

## Friendship Lunch at Chestnut Tree Farm with Stowmarket



12.30pm



As per menu



We will be heading to Chestnut Tree Farm Restaurant for this Friendship Month meal out. Whether you fancy a carvery or another pub classic, there is something for everyone. There is plenty of parking available at the restaurant. Booking is essential for this event. Please let Alice know about any dietary requirements at the time of booking by Monday 31 August 2026. Chestnut Tree Farm Restaurant, Pinewood, Ipswich IP8 3LQ. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



WED  
30

## Cry in the Dark Talk in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Join us as we welcome Beth Johnson, Charity Manager and Coordinator of 'Volunteers at Cry in the Dark,' an inspiring charity supporting vulnerable children, young people and families through projects, including children's care, hospice support and community outreach in Romania. Beth will share the charity's remarkable story. An uplifting and thought-provoking afternoon not to be missed. Doors open from 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

MON  
14

## Speed Friending in Stowmarket



7.30pm



Free



This evening of 'speed friending' will feature quick, rotating 3-to-5-minute conversations paired with icebreakers. It's the perfect, low-pressure format for getting to know old friends a little better and for meeting new ones. Come alone or bring a friend - everyone is welcome! Refreshments will be served. Doors open from 7pm and we will start the rotating conversations at 7.30pm. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
Join the fun

# October

## MON 12 Paranormal Talk with Judith Hood in Stowmarket

🕒 7.30pm

£ Members Free  
Guests £3



Join us for a fascinating evening with Judith Hood, an experienced public speaker, author, psychic and medium convey some information. In this lighthearted talk, Judith will share her personal journey into the paranormal, recounting real-life experiences, spirit connections and unexplained events that have shaped her work over the years. Drawing on stories from her investigations and mediumship, this promises to be an intriguing, thought-provoking and unforgettable evening, exploring the world beyond what we can see. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

## WED 28 Cherry Bombe on 'Burlesque, Me and the WI' in Stowmarket

🕒 2.30pm

£ Members Free  
Guests £3



Join us for a lively and entertaining afternoon with Cherry Bombe as she presents 'Burlesque, Me and the WI' - a witty, uplifting and wonderfully candid talk about her journey into the world of burlesque, self-expression, confidence and her unique experiences with the Women's Institute. Full of humour, personality and a few surprises along the way, this promises to be a fun and inspiring event not to be missed. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

## TUES 20 Karaoke Afternoon in Stowmarket

🕒 2.30pm

£ Members Free, Guests £3



Get ready for an afternoon of music, laughter and plenty of fun at our karaoke afternoon! Whether you're a seasoned performer or simply fancy singing along with friends, come and enjoy a relaxed and entertaining afternoon filled with favourite songs, great company and a few memorable performances along the way. Everyone is welcome - whether on the mic or cheering from the audience! Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



# November

**MON**  
**09**

## Blood, Sweat and Fears - Mary Newton's Talk on Forensic Science in Stowmarket



7.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Join us for a fascinating talk with Mary Newton as she presents 'Blood, Sweat and Fears' - an intriguing look into the world of forensic science. Drawing on real cases, including the Russell Family murders and the murder of Stephen Lawrence and first-hand experience, Mary will reveal how science helps uncover the truth behind crime scenes. The challenges investigators face and the realities of working in this gripping field. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Refreshments will be served. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

**TUES**  
**17**

## Craft and Games Afternoon in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Come along to Red Gables for a relaxed, friendly afternoon and a nice cuppa. Join in with our craft project or bring your own along with you. If craft isn't for you, there will be plenty of games to choose from: Crib, Chess or Scrabble to name a few. Everyone is welcome. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

**WED**  
**25**

## An Afternoon of Music with Tony and Mick in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members £1  
Guests £3



Join us for an afternoon of music with musicians Mick and Tony. They will keep us entertained performing classics from the 60s and 70s. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Book by Wednesday 11 November 2026. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

# December

**THURS**  
**10**

## Christmas Lunch in Stowmarket



12.30pm



TBC



We are heading to Stowmarket Town Football Club for our Christmas lunch this year. It promises to be a wonderful festive afternoon, with fantastic food, friends and our Christmas raffle. Menu choices will be available nearer to the time. Booking is essential. A £10 deposit is needed when you book. Please make Alice aware of any dietary requirements at the time of booking by Friday 6 November 2026. Stowmarket Town Football Club, Greens Meadow, Bury Road, Stowmarket IP14 1JQ. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



# December

MON  
14

## Carols and Mince Pies in Stowmarket

7.30pm

Members £3  
Guests £5



Join us for our annual carols and mince pies evening. A warm and festive celebration, filled with some of our favourite Christmas carols, followed by a light buffet and seasonal refreshments. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Book by Monday 30 November 2026. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

TUES  
15

## Christmas Film Club in Stowmarket

2.30pm

Members Free  
Guests £3



Join us for our Christmas film club afternoon as we settle in to watch this year's festive choice - 'The Holiday' (runtime two hours and 16 minutes). There will be tea, coffee and of course, plenty of popcorn. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

MON  
21

## A Christmas Carol with Mike Wabe in Stowmarket

10.30am

Members Free  
Guests £3



Mike Wabe brings Charles Dickens' beloved 'A Christmas Carol' to life in his own unique and engaging style, performing a specially shortened version of this timeless festive tale for everyone to enjoy. Refreshments will be served on arrival. Doors open from 10am for a 10.30am start. Book by Friday 4 December 2026. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.

WED  
30

## The 2026 Quiz of the Year in Stowmarket

2.30pm

Members £1  
Guests £3



Test your knowledge and look back on the biggest stories, moments and surprises of the past year at our '2026 Quiz of the Year'. Join us for a fun and friendly afternoon of trivia, teamwork and plenty of laughs. Refreshments will be served on arrival. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



# January 2027

SUN  
10

## Blockbuster Game Night in Stowmarket



7.30pm



Members Free, Guests £3



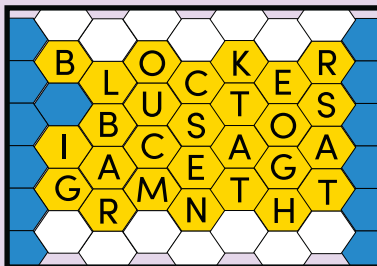
Join us for a lively 'Blockbuster Game Night,' inspired by the classic TV game show. Put your knowledge to the test with quick-thinking trivia, word games and plenty of friendly competition in an evening full of fun and laughter.

Refreshments will be served on arrival.

Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Red Gables, Redwood Community Centre,

Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact Alice on 07761 201966.



TUES  
19

## Brian Heard on Forensic Science in Hong Kong in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Back by popular demand, Brian Heard returns to share fascinating stories and experiences from his time



working as a forensic scientist in Hong Kong, offering a unique insight into the world of forensic investigation.

Refreshments will be served on

arrival. Doors open at 2pm for a

2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood

Community Centre, Ipswich Road,

Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact

Alice on 07761 201966.

WED  
27

## Tiptree Jam with Nick Wickenden in Stowmarket



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Join us for a fascinating talk by Nick Wickenden, curator of the famous Tiptree Jam Factory, as he explores the rich history of the factory



and its journey through to the present day. Refreshments will be served

on arrival. Doors open at 2pm for a

2.30pm start. Red Gables, Redwood

Community Centre, Ipswich Road,

Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE. Contact

Alice on 07761 201966.

# Sudbury Events

## August 2026

### TUES 04 A Countryside Walk with Mark

 10.30am  Free



We will meet at Bridge Farm Barns (formally known as Corncraft) for a four-mile walk, where we will visit St Mary Magdalene Church in Bildeston. This walk will use footpaths, quiet country lanes and some woodland, so please wear appropriate footwear. We will then return to Corncraft tearooms for refreshments. This will be at your own cost. If you do not fancy the walk, you can still meet us for lunch. We will be at the tearooms at 12.30pm. Book by Wednesday 29 July 2026. Bridge Farm Barns, Hadleigh Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 7AY. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

### WED 12 Pirates of the Caribbean

 2.30pm  Members Free  
Guests £3



Nearly 2,500 men and a few women were engaged in piracy in the Caribbean between the 1500s and the 1830s. As these brazen buccaneers rampaged around the islands, what were their home countries doing about them? What brought about their demise? And why are we still entranced by their dastardly deeds? We will get the answers to all of these questions and more as we welcome back Cathy Shelbourne. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

### THURS 06 Afternoon Tea

 2pm  Members £10, Guests £15



Please join us at Acton Village Hall for afternoon tea with friends. An event not to be missed! Places are limited, so early booking is essential. Please advise of any dietary requirements at the time of booking. Book by Wednesday 29 July 2026. Acton Village Hall, The Green, Acton, Sudbury CO10 0AL. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# August 2026

THURS  
20

## Coffee and Chat



2pm



Members Donations  
for refreshments if  
able, Guests £3



A new location for our coffee and chat afternoon. We will be in The Commonlands Room at The Christopher Centre between 2pm and 3.45pm. All members and guests are welcome to come along for a chance to catch up over a coffee or tea! Why not bring along your latest craft project or game to play? We look forward to seeing you all. The Christopher Centre, 10 Gainsborough Street, Sudbury CO10 2EU. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
26

## Lee Miller: 20th Century Woman



10.30am



Members Free  
Guests £3



This talk focuses on the extraordinary life of the American photographer Lee Miller, model, muse, photographer, WWII war correspondent and gourmet cook. Lee Miller has been the subject of a 2025 movie 'Lee,' starring Kate Winslet, as well as a recent major exhibition at Tate Britain. A professional photographer himself, Derek Adams has spent years meticulously researching the life story of Lee Miller. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

# September

TUES  
01

## Friendship Walk with Mark



10.30am



Free



Join us for a leisurely stroll around Nowton Park and beyond! On this four-mile walk, we will visit the outskirts of Bury St Edmunds and Hardwick Heath, stopping at St Peter's Church, Nowton. The park and its manor house were built in 1837 and were owned by the Oakes Family. Now a nursing home, the house was once a boarding school attended by Nigel Havers. We will cover mostly parkland and paved areas, but it could be uneven, so please wear appropriate footwear. It is Friendship Month, so do please bring along a friend. There is a cafeteria on site with toilets, so we will be stopping for refreshments after the walk. This will be at your own cost. Parking is available at a cost of £3 for over two hours and £2 all day for Blue Badge Holders. Book by Wednesday 26 August 2026. Nowton Park, Bury Road, Nowton, Bury St Edmunds IP29 5LU. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# September

## WED 02 Friendship, Coffee, Cake and Chatter at Painters



We are meeting at Painters for a morning of friendship, coffee, cake and chatter. An ideal opportunity to get to know other



Oddfellows. Everyone is welcome, so please do bring along a friend to join in the fun of Friendship Month. Please let us know if you are coming along, so that we can make sure we reserve enough space. Hopefully, the sun will be shining and we can sit outside. Refreshments will be at your own cost. Book by Wednesday 26 August 2026. Painters, Gainsborough Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2EU. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

## WED 16 Friendship Bingo with Fish and Chips



It is back! Our most popular event returns for Friendship Month. A great way to



meet new friends or meet up with your old ones. Why not bring along a guest who would like to find out more about what we do? Everyone is welcome. Bingo will start at 10.30am, followed by fish and chips at 12 noon. Booking for this event is essential and must be made by Wednesday 2 September. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

## WED 09 Rock Choir



We are delighted to welcome the Rock Choir for an afternoon of music. We will be treated to songs, including 'Dreams' by Fleetwood Mac, 'You Got It' by Roy Orbison and 'Someone You Loved' by Lewis Capaldi, to name just a few. Music makes us all feel better, so please come along and enjoy the afternoon with friends. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# September

## TUES 22 Croquet



10am



Members £7  
Guests £10



Let's have a go at croquet. You might have come along last time or be a complete beginner, but this is a morning not to be missed. A very sociable game, where all players are on the lawn at the same time. Golf croquet does not require much strength or agility, men and women of all ages can play equally. Refreshments will be available for a donation. Book by Tuesday 8 September 2026. Unity Croquet Club, Quay Lane, Sudbury CO10 2GA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

## WED 30 Burlesque, Me and the WI



10.30am



Members Free  
Guests £3



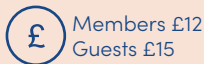
WI President Lindsey Barrell will give us a fabulously funny and heartwarming talk about how her love for the Women's Institute and the art of Burlesque came together. As it is Friendship Month, please do bring along a friend for this not to be missed morning. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



## THURS 24 Day Trip to Cambridge



9.30am



Members £12  
Guests £15



Join us for a wonderful day out in Cambridge, the beautiful city that has so much to see and do. Coach travel from the choice of five pick-up points in the Sudbury area. On the way, we will be stopping at Madingley American Cemetery for an hour for a chance to visit the memorials of the servicemen from the 486th Bomb Group who were based in Sudbury. A flyer with helpful information to find the memorials will be given out. Then it will be into the city centre, where the time is your own; shopping, a visit to a museum, lunch or just a wander are all options. We will leave Cambridge for our return at 4pm. As it is Friendship Month, please do bring along a friend to enjoy the fun! Book by Wednesday 9 September 2026. Queens Road, Cambridge CB3 9AQ. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# October

TUES  
06

## Boogie Woogie with Susan and Steve



10am



Members Free  
Guests £5



Learn fun and easy Swing Jive dance steps, dance to the big bands of the 1940s, have a sing along and learn 'The Stroll,' when we welcome Susan and Steve for a morning of fun. They will play all of the favourites, including Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman and Vera Lynn. Refreshments will be served from 10am and the dancing will start at 10.30am. If you do not fancy dancing, please do still come along and enjoy the music. Book by Tuesday 22 September 2026. Acton Village Hall, The Green, Acton, Sudbury CO10 0AL. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
14

## Meet the Patients



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Emergency Departments embody the complete spectrum of society and incorporate every type of illness and injury. Gary Jones, sometimes referred to as the real life Charlie Fairhead, is back to give another fascinating talk. It includes those that frequently visit emergency departments at night, to those suffering life threatening injuries and the 'body' that came back to life. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

THURS  
22

## New Age Kurling



10.30am



Members Free  
Guests £3



Split into two teams and take turns to see how many points you can score. A bit of light hearted competition with lots of laughs thrown in. Will you be on the winning team? Book by Wednesday 14 October 2026. Acton Village Hall, The Green, Acton, Sudbury CO10 0AL. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
28

## Farm, Fruit, Factory and Family: The Story of Wilkin and Sons



10.30am



Members Free  
Guests £3



Nick Wickenden is the Museum Curator and Archivist for Wilkin and Sons at Tiptree. Using an illustrated powerpoint, he will talk about the origins and growth of the jam firm, which celebrated 140 years of making jam in 2025. The company is proud to have the King's Royal Warrant, something it has enjoyed since 1911. Attendees will receive a free miniature jar of jam! The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# November

TUES  
03

## Romford Greyhound Racing



11am



Members £36.50  
Guests £40



We are off on our annual trip to Romford Greyhound Racing. The cost



includes return coach travel, entrance to the stadium and a three-course meal. We will sit and watch the action from the warmth of the Paddock Restaurant, which overlooks the whole track. Will you be a winner? Early booking for this event is recommended as it is always a sellout trip. Book by Sunday 1 October 2026. Romford Greyhound Stadium, London Road, Romford RM7 9DU. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
11

## Bruntons Propellers



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



We are joined by Brian Mansfield to give a talk about the history of Bruntons Propellers which was based in Sudbury, and his working life as a Patternmaker in the foundry industry. Brian will bring along some photos and examples of things he has made for us all to see. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
18

## Coffee and Chat



2pm



Members Donations  
for refreshments if  
able, Guests £3



Why not join us for coffee and a chat at the Quaker Meeting House? We are trying a new venue this afternoon, but the welcoming faces will be the same. We will be there from 2pm until 3.45pm, so please do come along. A great way to get to know other members. Sudbury Quaker Meeting House, Friars Street, Sudbury CO10 6AA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
25

## Windsor Castle



10.30am



Members Free  
Guests £3



Windsor Castle - from medieval fortress to royal palace. Windsor Castle is the largest and oldest inhabited castle in the world. An official residence of King Charles III, it has certainly seen major development over the years. This talk with Claire Partner will explore that development, including the restoration after the fire of 1992, and explain its transition from a defensive role along the River Thames to the castle we know and love today. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# December

WED  
02

## Christmas Lunch at The Bull Hotel



12 noon



Members £25, Guests £30



The Bull Hotel at Long Melford will be our venue for our Christmas lunch this year. The cost includes a two-course meal with tea or coffee and the service charge. The menu will be available nearer the time, so please see Helen for more details. We will be holding a raffle with all money raised going to our chosen charity,

so please bring along a prize if you are able. Please advise of any dietary requirements at the time of booking. Please arrive at 12 noon for a 12.30pm sit down. Book by Wednesday 18 November 2026. The Bull Hotel, Hall Street, Long Melford CO10 9JG. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



WED  
09

## Christmas Around the World



2.30pm



Members Free  
Guests £3



Christmas may be a global celebration, but how it's done depends on where you live. From cozy



fireplaces to sandy beaches, each country has its unique twist and plenty of quirks to keep things interesting! Join us as we welcome back Mike Wabe to give his fascinating talk. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

WED  
16

## The 12 Days of Christmas Quiz with Tone



10.30am



Members Free  
Guests £3



The 12 Days of Christmas quiz is a bit of fun to get us all in the Christmas spirit! Come along to see how much about Christmas we



really know. We will be serving mince pies and Christmas treats so booking is essential. Why not wear a Christmas jumper or hat to really get in the festive spirit? Book by Wednesday 9 December 2026. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

# January 2027

## WED 06 Coffee Morning



Members Donations for refreshments if able, Guests £3

All members and guests are welcome to come along for a chance to catch up over a coffee. Why not bring along your latest craft project or game to play? We will be at the Quaker Meeting House from 10am until 11.45am and we look forward to seeing you all. Sudbury Quaker Meeting House, Friars Street, Sudbury CO10 6AA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

## WED 13 The Art of Conservation at Ickworth



Members Free  
Guests £3

Discover the behind-the-scenes work of conservation staff and volunteers to ensure our collections remain in good condition. Find out about the different methods of care and the practicalities of looking after historic items, including buildings, paintings and textiles, when we welcome back Allen Burbridge. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



## WED 20 Coffee, Cake and Chatter at Painters



As per menu

We are meeting at Painters for a morning of friendship, coffee, cake and chatter. This is an ideal opportunity to get to know other Oddfellows. Everyone is welcome, so please do bring along a friend to join in the fun. Let us know if you are coming along, so that we can make sure we reserve enough space. Refreshments will be at your own cost. Book by Wednesday 13 January 2027. Painters, Gainsborough Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2EU. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.

## WED 27 Ghosts of West Suffolk



Members Free  
Guests £3

Do you believe in ghosts and other things that go bump in the night? We are welcoming back Graham Higgins to share stories of local ghosts and apparitions found in West Suffolk and to give the historical facts behind them. Graham will also talk about ghosts from famous places including the Tower of London. The Masonic Hall, North Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 1NA. Contact Helen on 07761 202092.



# Colchester Social Lodge

**Dear friends,**

The last six months has flown by and the next Out and About diary issued with a variety of events for you to enjoy during the Autumn and Winter.

There are two coach trips to enjoy, one includes a river cruise on the Orwell with afternoon tea. The other is a Christmas shopping trip.

Lots of events are planned as usual at Lion Walk church hall, an art session, craft mornings, quizzes games etc and an interesting and varied array of speakers. Aside from these, it is an opportunity to come in to town and meet your friends for coffee and a chat in a relaxed and friendly environment.

I would like to thank to our social members for supporting these events and making them such a success. I would also like to thank my wonderful committee



members and group of volunteers, who help everything run smoothly.

To all those members that are unable to attend social events, I wish you all the very best and the Oddfellows society support both locally and nationally is there for you should you need it.

I very much look forward to seeing you at a forthcoming event.

**Best wishes, Diana**



# Wednesday Walkers

Twice a month throughout the year, the Wednesday walkers turn out for a walk in the countryside no matter what the weather. As we all know, fresh air and exercise is good for us, and just as importantly, good for the soul. Enjoying the views and chatting with friends is what it is all about. The lunch at a pub after the walk is always enjoyable. Good meals, good service and sometimes the opposite all adding to the experience! Thanks go to Paul Sharp for leading the walks. Much appreciated by all.



# Still knitting for Ukraine



For over two years now Colchester members have raised funds for Ukraine. Firstly helping fill baby carrycots with baby items and hand-knitted baby blankets, followed by fundraising cash. Cheques were presented to Ukraine via the Harwich Ukraine support charity.

The many items are sent via Tony Elliston, a friend of mine, who on numerous occasions has driven trucks of aid to Ukraine and still does to this day. Several members have continued knitting baby items that are regularly handed over to Tony to take with him. Tony is very pleased to be taking our donations and I would like to thank him and all the members who have contributed and all those still knitting.



# Woodbridge Trip

**A day trip to Woodbridge at the end of April was enjoyed by 50 members. First priority for most was a coffee at one of the tea rooms and then on to browse around the shops in the main street.**



Some members made their way up to the town square and the church whilst others wandered down to the river Deben with



lovely views of the famous Tide Mill and Marina. The newly redeveloped waterside area was a good place for lunch or coffee. There is also the Longshed and museum where a replica longboat is being built. A good day with lovely weather albeit a cold breeze enjoyed by all.

# Norfolk Trip

**In May, an additional coach trip was added to the events calendar. It seemed a shame to miss out on good weather and beautiful gardens at this time of year. We travelled to Norfolk and had free time in Wroxham on the Norfolk Broads. Then it was off to the Old Vicarage Gardens at East Runton for the afternoon. This was our first visit to these gardens and they did not disappoint. A delightful mix of small gardens plus woodland spread across 32 acres. The roses were at**



**their absolute best. A very enjoyable day out for all.**



# St Edmundsbury Social Lodge

**Dear Friends,**

Wow, what a busy six months we have just had! I hope you were able to find a few events to entertain you.

Since the kitchen at the district hall had its refit, we have been able to provide hot food at some events. These have been very

well attended and long may this continue. Fingers crossed the next six months events will just be up your street.

Please remember, until you have paid (a deposit if required) or full payment for the event, your place is NOT secured.

**Yours in Friendship, Jacky**

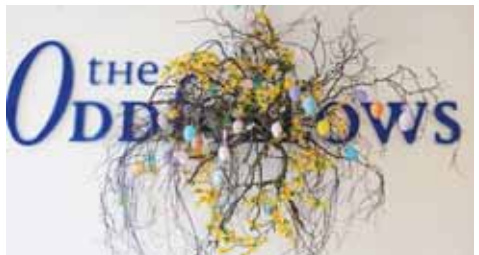
**It's the year of the Horse in the Chinese Calendar and what better way to celebrate than with friends.**



**Luke Deal from BBC Radio Suffolk broadcast from the hall while the Winter Olympics were in full swing. They wanted to try a game of kurling, so we obliged.**



**Easter Tea with a few bonnets on display. Well done ladies.**



**Celebrating 100 years of British Sugar with a tour of the site.**



**Barbara and Bridget had the pleasure of presenting the charity donation to Meg from Suffolk Sight. Well done ladies.**



# Stowmarket Social Lodge

## Dear Friends,

We've had a busy start to the year in Stowmarket, with lots of interesting speakers, musical events and games afternoons. It has been fantastic to enjoy these with friends, old and new, as we have welcomed several new members to Stowmarket Oddfellows.

We are delighted to be supporting Suffolk Animal Rescue and Redwoods Lunch Club as our charities for 2026. All donations for refreshments at events, as well as any money raised through our monthly raffle held at our evening event on the second Monday of every month, will go towards these worthy causes. Raffle prize donations are gratefully received.

In the coming months, we will be joined by several interesting speakers and musical acts. We also have a number of games events planned for the competitive among us, including our Rummikub tournament, Quiz of the Year and classic Blockbuster Game Night. There will be plenty for those who enjoy food and drink, with fish and chips and bingo, as well as an afternoon tea with a Bargain Hunt auction to look forward to.

I would like to say a big thank you to our Stowmarket Social Committee, whose help is invaluable when organising and running events.

**Best wishes, Alice**



*Artistic workshop.*



*Cupcake decorating master pieces.*



*Some friendly chess rivalry.*



*Getting musical at our 'We Drum' event.*



*Learning about some local history.*



*Coffee and catch up at The Mix.*



*Social Committee 'Thank You Afternoon Tea'.*



*Piano Legends Concert at The Regal.*

# Sudbury Social Lodge

**What a busy six months we have had at Sudbury! I am so pleased to have seen so many of you coming along to all the events. It certainly makes me smile when I see you having fun and making lasting friendships.**

As a social lodge, we are delighted to have been able to donate £1,731 to local charities, which included £881 being raised by refreshments, donations and the Christmas raffle. We thank you all so much for your generosity.

We have lots of events lined up for the next diary. We will be walking, kurling, dancing and quizzing! Those events, along with days out, coffee mornings and some fantastic speakers, will make it another busy time. I am sure you will find lots of things of interest and I look forward to seeing you throughout the months.

Once again, I must thank the social committee and volunteers who help at each event. I really could not do it without you. And finally, thank you to all of you, our members, for your support.

**Best wishes, Helen**



*Accessible Fitness.*



*Kurling.*



*Croquet.*



*Social Committee.*



*Bowling.*

# Suffolk Adventure Golf

We spent a fantastic morning at Suffolk Adventure Golf. There was certainly some Rory McIlroy's amongst us, with Margaret and Alan both winning a free round for

getting the ball down the red hole on the 19th! This was followed by lunch and chat in the café. Lots of fun and laughter had by everyone.



# Meet your Bury St Edmunds and Colchester District Lodge Care and Welfare Team

The Oddfellows looking after you  
Care, Advice and Support



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

Alice Crane is the Bury St Edmunds and Colchester District Lodge Care, Welfare and Benevolence Administrator. She can talk you through branch benefits and benevolence support, help signpost you to local services and information or help arrange for a Welfare Visitor to contact you. You can contact Alice on 07761 201966 or at [alice.crane@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:alice.crane@oddfellows.co.uk).

## Our Welfare Visitors and Telephone Befrienders are:

### Bury St Edmunds

Jill Brown - 07718 140180  
Jacky Nunn - 07761 202062

### Stowmarket

Mick Abbott - 07873 216966  
Alice Crane - 07761 201966

### Colchester

Diana Randall DSEO – 07761 202016  
Diana will help to connect you with one of the Colchester Care & Welfare team

### Sudbury

Alan and Jane Brockbank -  
01787 376050

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

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

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

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

## Care and Welfare Helpline

Telephone: 0800 0149 822

Email: [care@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:care@oddfellows.co.uk)

## Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line\*

Telephone: 0800 0149 821

Email:

[oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)

\*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.

## Oddies autumn getaway to Llandudno

**Join us as we take a trip to Llandudno, North Wales, on an Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.**

Oddfellows members and guests will take in some breathtaking scenery during a four-night stay at the Hydro Hotel from Saturday 26 September to Wednesday 30 September 2026.

From £369 per person, half board, the price includes coach pick up and drop off from locations across the South East via Reading, or a self-arrival option.



### Outstanding natural beauty

Two optional day trips are included in the price of the holiday.

On day two, you'll head by coach to the Isle of Anglesey, where the entire coastline has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You'll call at the seaside town of Beaumaris with its mix of Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian buildings.

On day four, the second day trip will head to Caernarfon, home to Wales' most famous castle and a UNESCO World

Heritage Site. Afterwards, you'll venture into the Snowdonia National Park, calling at Llanberis, situated at the foot of Mount Snowdon, and Porthmadog.

### Relax in great company

We'll be organising some group drinks and times to dine together during the stay, and enjoying the hotel's evening entertainment, but your days will be largely free to plan as you please.

The hotel has a large entertainment suite with a dance floor and entertainment most evenings, and there are sun lounges and a games room with a snooker table.

You'll also find spectacular views over the bay or over the town to the Snowdonia mountain range from many of the hotel's bedrooms and from its Looking Glass Bar.

### Interested in joining us?

This group holiday is open to any members and their guests and will be hosted by our Oddfellows Travel coordinator and South East Lancashire Branch member, Emma Gorst.

For any enquiries, and to find out how to book, get in touch with Emma by calling **0161 214 4634**, or email [travel@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:travel@oddfellows.co.uk).

Please read and understand Alfa Travel's terms and conditions before booking at [www.alfaholidays.co.uk/booking-conditions](http://www.alfaholidays.co.uk/booking-conditions).

## Support with fundraising and donations

**Donating to good causes is a cornerstone of Oddfellowship, and symbolises what it is all about – helping to improve lives through friendship and support.**

It's a thread that runs right through every Branch of the Society. Whether it's members dropping some spare change into a collection at a coffee morning, or the HA Andrews Memorial Fund supporting cutting-edge medical research projects, it all adds up and contributes to that ethos.

### Branch donations add up to huge 2025 total



Reading Oddfellows donated £4,300 to Camp Mohawk

Oddfellows branches and members are avid fundraisers. In 2025, more than £148,000 was handed over to a huge range of wonderful causes throughout the country.

Beneficiaries included schools, charities for people with special needs, animal sanctuaries, causes to improve health conditions, lifeboat and air ambulance

charities, and one branch provided the funds required to buy state-of-the-art medical equipment.

As well as handing over funds, many members bought and collected for foodbanks, including tinned goods and other long-life foods, toiletries and further everyday items.

To find out how you can get involved with Branch fundraising initiatives, speak to your Branch Secretary.

### £10,000 raised for Hurricane Melissa relief efforts

The Oddfellows recently donated £10,000 to support the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of Oddfellows branches across the UK, and with additional support from central funds, the donation will help communities affected by the devastating storm rebuild their lives.

Hurricane Melissa, a Category 5 hurricane, made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October 2025. The strongest hurricane ever to strike the island, it caused catastrophic damage and impacted nearly 1.9 million people.

The funds have been sent to the Jamaica Red Cross, via the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), to support ongoing emergency relief and recovery efforts. This includes providing essential supplies, shelter, and longer-term assistance to those whose homes and livelihoods were affected.



Further information about the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal can be found at [www.ifrc.org/emergency/jamaica-hurricane-melissa](http://www.ifrc.org/emergency/jamaica-hurricane-melissa).

### HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipient announced

In October 2025, representatives of the Oddfellows visited the impressive facilities at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) to present a cheque for £67,068 to Prevent Breast Cancer, courtesy of our HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

The money will fund an innovative breast cancer prevention research project for two years.

Carried out by University of Manchester PhD student Anthony Wilby and Dr Hannah Harrison, the project is aiming to discover alternative preventative breast cancer therapies for pre-menopausal women.

The HA Andrews Memorial Fund, which was set up in 1971 to back UK-based medical research projects and organisations, has donated over £1.1m

since its launch. Head to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews) to find out more about the Fund, including previous recipients.

### The very best of Oddfellowship

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey (pictured below at MCRC), said: "The work the Oddfellows does for charities and good causes always astounds me. It reflects the very best of Oddfellowship and it makes me incredibly proud.

"Donating to good causes, no matter how big or small, or how much we can contribute, can make a huge difference. Our efforts might well have saved a life, put some food on a young family's table, or simply have made someone's day a little brighter.

"Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way. You're all a huge credit to yourselves and the Society."



For more on how the Oddfellows raises money for good causes, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back)

## Spring clean your finances for the new tax year

**The start of the new tax year on Monday 6 April might sound like an event reserved for accountants, but at Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's a time everyone can make the most of.**

Here are some simple ways to spring clean your finances and get on top of your money for the tax year ahead.

### Make the most of your ISA

Every adult receives a fresh £20,000 ISA allowance at the beginning of each tax year, so if your savings are lying dormant, why not move them somewhere your interest is protected from tax?



For those comfortable with investment risk, the Unity Mutual Stocks and Shares Flexible ISA\* offers potentially higher growth than traditional Cash ISAs (capital is at risk).

### Guaranteed returns, less hassle

If you have a lump sum sitting idle or an investment coming to maturity, a Unity

Mutual Fixed Rate Bond\* provides a predictable, low-effort option. Simply deposit your money for a set term to secure a guaranteed return.

Even better, Oddfellows members benefit from preferential rates on our 2, 3, and 5-year Bonds.

### Make savings work harder

With many banks still offering low rates, a quick comparison is essential to ensure your money is working for you. Even moving savings to a higher-interest account with your current provider can significantly boost your balance over the year.

### Find out more

Unity Mutual has over 200 years of experience managing Oddfellows members' funds, and our friendly team is on hand to help you navigate the year ahead. Visit [www.unitymutual.co.uk](http://www.unitymutual.co.uk) to find out more.

*\*Terms and conditions apply to all products. With stocks and shares, your investment can go down as well as up meaning your capital is at risk.*

### New tax year, new scams

Stay vigilant against common scams such as fake HMRC tax rebates or urgent payment requests for 'unpaid tax'. While these communications can look genuine, always verify them by going directly to the official government website.

# Colchester At a glance

## August 2026

<b>Wed 5</b>	Wednesday Walkers	11am
<b>Mon 10</b>	Coffee Morning - British Sign Language	10.30am
<b>Wed 19</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk	11am
<b>Tues 25</b>	Afternoon Social - Bingo	1.30pm

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Wed 2</b>	Wednesday Walkers	11am
<b>Thurs 3</b>	Orwell Lady Cruise and Cream Tea	12.30pm
<b>Mon 14</b>	Coffee Morning - History of Stained Glass	10.30am
<b>Wed 16</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk	11am
<b>Tues 22</b>	Afternoon Social - Art Class	1.30pm

## October

<b>Wed 7</b>	Wednesday Walkers	11am
<b>Mon 12</b>	Coffee Morning - Chocolate	10.30am
<b>Wed 21</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk	11am
<b>Tues 27</b>	Afternoon Tea	1.30pm

## November

<b>Wed 4</b>	Wednesday Walkers	11am
<b>Mon 9</b>	Coffee Morning - Speaker	10.30am
<b>Tues 17</b>	Christmas Shopping Coach Trip	9.30am
<b>Wed 18</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk	11am
<b>Tues 24</b>	Games and Crafting Afternoon with Kay	1.30pm

## December

<b>Wed 2</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Nayland	11am
<b>Mon 14</b>	Christmas Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Wed 16</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk	11am
<b>Tues 22</b>	Christmas Party	12.30pm

## January 2027

<b>Wed 6</b>	Wednesday Walkers	11am
<b>Mon 11</b>	Coffee Morning - Speaker	10.30am
<b>Wed 20</b>	Wednesday Walkers - Bus Walk	11am
<b>Tues 26</b>	Afternoon Social - Film Afternoon	1.30pm

# St Edmundsbury At a glance

First Saturday of the month in August and September  
Every Saturday, October – January 2027

Coffee Morning

10.30am

## August 2026

<b>Tues 4</b>	Positive Ageing with Christine Webber	10am
<b>Thurs 6</b>	Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa	11am
<b>Wed 12</b>	Craft and Games Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Fri 14</b>	Brandon Meet-Up with Friends	11am
<b>Mon 17</b>	A Day at the Races	2pm
<b>Thurs 20</b>	Film Club Afternoon - 'Moulin Rouge'	1pm
<b>Wed 26</b>	Strawberries and Cream with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association	10.30am
<b>Wed 26</b>	New Age Kurling Afternoon	1.30pm

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Tues 1</b>	Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association with Dawn Vickery	10am
<b>Thurs 3</b>	Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa	11am
<b>Wed 9</b>	Craft and Games Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Fri 11</b>	Brandon Meet-Up with Friends	11am
<b>Thurs 17</b>	Friendship Month Film Club Afternoon - 'Saving Mr Banks'	1pm
<b>Wed 23</b>	Friendship Music Afternoon with Graeme Hopson	1.30pm
<b>Mon 28</b>	Friendship Month 'Big Quiz'	1.30pm
<b>Wed 30</b>	New Age Kurling Afternoon	1.30pm

## October

<b>Thurs 1</b>	Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa	11am
<b>Tues 6</b>	Bury Drop In Centre	10am
<b>Fri 9</b>	Brandon Meet-Up with Friends	11am
<b>Wed 14</b>	Craft and Games Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Thurs 15</b>	Film Club Afternoon - 'Tea with Mussolini'	1pm
<b>Tues 20</b>	Indian Cooking Demonstration with Bob and Donna	11am
<b>Wed 21</b>	Country Music Lunch with Friends	TBC
<b>Wed 28</b>	New Age Kurling Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Fri 30</b>	Halloween Fish and Chips Lunch followed by the Auction	12 noon

## November

<b>Tues 3</b>	Mr Soanes Came to Breakfast; Sir John Soanes and James Oakes' House with Adrian Tindall	10am
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa	11am
<b>Wed 11</b>	Craft and Games Afternoon with Diana	1.30pm
<b>Fri 13</b>	Brandon Meet-Up with Friends	11am
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Film Club Afternoon - 'Brief Encounter'	1pm
<b>Fri 20</b>	St Edmunds Day Cream Tea	2pm
<b>Wed 25</b>	New Age Kurling Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Fri 27</b>	Winter Wine Tasting with Kevin and Teresa	2pm

## December

<b>Tues 1</b>	Christmas Traditions with Stephen Moody	10am
<b>Wed 9</b>	Christmas Craft and Games Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Fri 11</b>	Christmas Music Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Tues 15</b>	Christmas Lunch with Friends	12 noon
<b>Thurs 17</b>	Festive Bingo with Santa Calling	1.30pm
<b>Wed 23</b>	Festive Film Club Afternoon - 'The Polar Express'	1pm
<b>Wed 30</b>	New Age Kurling Afternoon	1.30pm

## January 2027

<b>Tues 5</b>	The Beauty of the Night Sky with Julian Lisher	10am
<b>Thurs 7</b>	Meet-Up with Friends at Newmarket Over a Cuppa	11am
<b>Fri 8</b>	Brandon Meet-Up with Friends	11am
<b>Mon 11</b>	Circle Dancing with Jen	2pm
<b>Wed 13</b>	Craft and Games Afternoon	1.30pm
<b>Sat 16</b>	Cinderella - Rock 'n' Roll Panto	TBC
<b>Thurs 21</b>	Film Club Afternoon - 'The Duchess'	1pm
<b>Wed 27</b>	New Age Kurling Afternoon	1.30pm

# Stowmarket At a glance

Every Monday

Lunch Club in Stowmarket

11am

## August 2026

<b>Wed 5</b>	Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up at The 1936 Café Bar in The Regal	10.30am
<b>Wed 12</b>	Fish and Chips with Bingo in Stowmarket	7.30pm
<b>Tues 18</b>	Rummikub Tournament and Games Afternoon in Stowmarket	2.30pm
<b>Wed 26</b>	Ipswich Town Football Club Foundation Talk with Leanne Smith in Stowmarket	2.30pm

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Wed 2</b>	Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up at The 1936 Café Bar in The Regal	10.30am
<b>Tues 8</b>	Afternoon Tea and Bargain Hunt Auction in Stowmarket	2.30pm
<b>Fri 11</b>	Friendship Lunch at Chestnut Tree Farm with Stowmarket	12.30pm
<b>Mon 14</b>	Speed Friending in Stowmarket	7.30pm
<b>Wed 30</b>	Cry in the Dark Talk in Stowmarket	2.30pm

## October

<b>Wed 7</b>	Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up at The 1936 Café Bar in The Regal	10.30am
<b>Mon 12</b>	Paranormal Talk with Judith Hood in Stowmarket	7.30pm
<b>Tues 20</b>	Karaoke Afternoon in Stowmarket	2.30pm
<b>Wed 28</b>	Cherry Bombe on 'Burlesque, Me and the WI' in Stowmarket	2.30pm

## November

<b>Wed 4</b>	Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up at The 1936 Café Bar in The Regal	10.30am
<b>Mon 9</b>	Blood, Sweat and Fears - Mary Newton's Talk on Forensic Science in Stowmarket	7.30pm
<b>Tues 17</b>	Craft and Games Afternoon in Stowmarket	2.30pm
<b>Wed 25</b>	An Afternoon of Music with Tony and Mick in Stowmarket	2.30pm

## December

<b>Wed 2</b>	Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up at The 1936 Café Bar in The Regal	10.30am
<b>Thurs 10</b>	Christmas Lunch in Stowmarket	12.30pm
<b>Mon 14</b>	Carols and Mince Pies in Stowmarket	7.30pm
<b>Tues 15</b>	Christmas Film Club in Stowmarket	2.30pm
<b>Mon 21</b>	A Christmas Carol with Mike Wabe in Stowmarket	10.30am
<b>Wed 30</b>	The 2026 Quiz of the Year in Stowmarket	2.30pm

## January 2027

<b>Wed 6</b>	Stowmarket Coffee and Catch Up at The 1936 Café Bar in The Regal	10.30am
<b>Sun 10</b>	Blockbuster Game Night in Stowmarket	7.30pm
<b>Tues 19</b>	Brian Heard on Forensic Science in Hong Kong in Stowmarket	2.30pm
<b>Wed 27</b>	Tiptree Jam with Nick Wickenden in Stowmarket	2.30pm

# Sudbury At a glance

## August 2026

<b>Tues 4</b>	A Countryside Walk with Mark	10.30am
<b>Thurs 6</b>	Afternoon Tea	2pm
<b>Wed 12</b>	Pirates of the Caribbean	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 20</b>	Coffee and Chat	2pm
<b>Wed 26</b>	Lee Miller: 20th Century Woman	10.30am

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Tues 1</b>	Friendship Walk with Mark	10.30am
<b>Wed 2</b>	Friendship, Coffee, Cake and Chatter at Painters	10.30am
<b>Wed 9</b>	Rock Choir	2.30pm
<b>Wed 16</b>	Friendship Bingo with Fish and Chips	10.30am
<b>Tues 22</b>	Croquet	10am
<b>Thurs 24</b>	Day Trip to Cambridge	9.30am
<b>Wed 30</b>	Burlesque, Me and the WI	10.30am

## October

<b>Tues 6</b>	Boogie Woogie with Susan and Steve	10am
<b>Wed 14</b>	Meet the Patients	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 22</b>	New Age Kurling	10.30am
<b>Wed 28</b>	Farm, Fruit, Factory and Family: The Story of Wilkin and Sons	10.30am

## November

<b>Tues 3</b>	Romford Greyhound Racing	11am
<b>Wed 11</b>	Bruntons Propellers	2.30pm
<b>Wed 18</b>	Coffee and Chat	2pm
<b>Wed 25</b>	Windsor Castle	10.30am

## December

<b>Wed 2</b>	Christmas Lunch at The Bull Hotel	12 noon
<b>Wed 9</b>	Christmas Around the World	2.30pm
<b>Wed 16</b>	The 12 Days of Christmas Quiz with Tone	10.30am

## January 2027

<b>Wed 6</b>	Coffee Morning	10am
<b>Wed 13</b>	The Art of Conservation at Ickworth	2.30pm
<b>Wed 20</b>	Coffee, Cake and Chatter at Painters	10.30am
<b>Wed 27</b>	Ghosts of West Suffolk	10.30am