

April - September 2021



**The ODDfellows** SINCE 1810  
making friends, helping people

# out & about

**Concord District Branch**



**Covering West Surrey and North East Hampshire**



Film/  
Movie



Music/  
Concert



Online



Games



Crafts



Walk/  
Activities



Social



Dining Out



Quizzes



Talks



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



*Bramshot Farm Country - Walk and Picnic - Saturday 28 August*

## **Hello and a very warm welcome to our fourth edition of the newsletter for Concord District Branch.**

We do hope that you enjoyed reading the last edition which included a feature on a couple of our members – Peter and Judy Edwards and their joint passion for poetry.

Please remember that this is a newsletter for you, so if you have any ideas for articles then please do get in touch. This could be an article, a picture, some artwork, a poem, short story, joke or anecdote. Pictures to support your article are always welcome too. Any and all content will be gratefully received. Any member wishing to contribute to an article should send items to us (details on the right). We look forward to hearing from you.

**Jane Nicole and Kristen Reid**

## **Contact Details**

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

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



**Telephone:** 07312 115323  
**Email:** jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk  
**Address:** 20 Greenfields Avenue, Alton, Hampshire GU34 2ED.

**For anything regarding the social events eg confirming attendance, offering event suggestions or providing feedback please contact our Social Event Co-Ordinator, Kristen Reid.**



**Telephone:** 07388 871260  
**Email:** kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk  
**Address:** 68 Christchurch Drive, Blackwater GU17 0HH.

# Regular Event

## Farnham Friends Casual Coffee Morning

🕒 10.30am

£ Free



Third Wednesday of  
the Month

Do you live in Farnham and are looking for a chance to see old friends, make new friends and have a natter? If so, please join us at the lovely Mercure Farnham Bush Hotel between 10.30am and 12.30pm in the Oak Lounge. Everyone is welcome and all will be warmly greeted. Mercure Farnham Bush Hotel, The Borough, Farnham GU9 7NN. Please confirm attendance with Kristen on 07388 871260 at least two days prior.



## April 2021

FRI  
09

### Annual District Meeting

🕒 7pm

£ Free

Online



Due to lockdown our annual meeting will still need to be held via Zoom - we do hope you can join us for this important meeting via video or phone to have your say on the running of our District. Hopefully by October we will be able to have our half yearly meeting in person! Contact Jane on 07312 115323.

SUN  
11

### Passing the Harp

🕒 3pm

£ Free

Online



A chance for you to share a poem or short story that you've written or resonates with you. Or perhaps your



favourite picture and why it means so much to you. A simple way to think of it is like 'show and tell' from your school days. A light hearted and interactive style event suitable for anyone. Zoom Meeting ID: 842 0196 3671. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

# April 2021

**FRI**  
**16** 'A policeman's lot can be quite an interesting one' Talk



Neil Sadler spent 30 years as a police officer. He started on the beat in the exotic holiday



resort of Bognor Regis in the 1970s. You may be amazed whom he met on his first night shift at 3am. Changes in police equipment and why not to be squirted with pepper spray. Where not to try and escape the traffic cops and a novel use for a policeman's helmet. Together with a theme tune musical quiz to get those grey cells working! Zoom Meeting ID: 859 1683 5048. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

**MON**  
**26** Zingo



It's a classic game, but with a slight twist! All you will need to take part is a game of playing cards. We'll teach you how to play during the call so beginners welcome! Let's have some fun. Zoom Meeting ID: 822 8833 4462. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

# May

**TUES**  
**04** 'Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage' Talk



In 2006, Concord member Bruce Nicole walked from Camberley to Santiago de Compostela, following in the footsteps of countless pilgrims from all over the world who have made this journey over the ages. Six years later he walked from Camberley to Lindisfarne. Join him as he shares the fascinating people and places that he encountered on the way. Bruce says "Neither of these was a long walk". Find out why... Zoom Meeting ID: 843 6957 6133. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

**SAT**  
**15** 'The Gag Trade' Talk



Bob Sinfield spent 25 years scripting every star on the box, from Lenny Henry and Jasper Carrott to Tracey Ullman and Rory Bremner. Now he tells all about the life of a jobbing joksmith and the celebs he tried to 'gag'. Bob thoroughly entertained us back in October with his 'Great Unwatched' talk and we are thrilled to have him take the reins again for another amusing Zoom talk. Zoom Meeting ID: 850 4349 4044. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

# May

THURS  
27

## Virtual Pub Quiz



Hopefully things will return to 'normal' soon and we can host the quiz back at the Ely. But until then get comfy at home, grab a drink, pen and paper and enjoy a pub style quiz with us. A prize is available for the winner. Zoom Meeting ID: 834 5617 7492. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.



# June

SAT  
26

## Canal Walk and Coffee



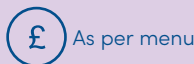
Join us outside for a wander along the Basingstoke Canal and a drink from the café. Hopefully, it will be glorious sunshine after being cooped up indoors for so long during lockdown. Book by Wednesday 23 June. Frimley Lodge Park, Sturt Road, Frimley Green, Camberley GU16 6HY. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.



# June

MON  
07

## Pyrford Lock Pub Lunch



Adjacent to Pyrford Lock and situated on the banks of the Wey Navigation Canal, a short distance from West Byfleet, The Anchor is a perfect example of the traditional quintessential English country pub. With a beautiful terrace that runs along the riverside, the pub is glorious in the summer months and continues to attract guests with its cosy charm.



A traditional pub menu is available serving soup, salads, burgers, fish and chips etc to please any palate. Book by Monday 31 May. The Anchor, Pyrford Lock, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QW. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

# July

THURS  
08

## Ely Pub Style Quiz

7.30pm

Members £2  
Guests £3



All are welcome for a fun, pub style quiz whilst you also enjoy good food and great company.

No need to come with a pre-made team as teams will be created on the night. Please confirm attendance in advance with Kristen via email at [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk). If you are requiring dinner - please confirm your menu choice at least three days prior. Book by Monday 5 July. The Ely, London Road, Blackwater GU17 9LJ.



MON  
19

## Cream Tea

2.15pm

£13.95



With an unbeatable combination of home cooked food and great lakeside views, The Lake House is Aldershot's hidden gem. Delight with us over cream tea comprising of a selection of finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones dusted with powdered sugar, strawberry preserve and clotted cream. Yummy food with a beautiful view and who can say no to that? Book by Friday 9 July. The Lake House, Gold Valley Lakes, Government Road, Aldershot GU11 2PT. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.



FRI  
16

## Coffee and Cake

10am

£ As per menu



Do you like hot drinks, cakes and socialising with others? If so, why not come along and make some new friends in Woking. We'll be in the cafe from 10am, just pop in whenever suits you for a good old chat. I hope to see you there! Only £4 for any hot drink and cake. Book by Wednesday 14 July. Seasons Café, The Lightbox, Chobham Road, Woking GU21 4AA. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

SAT  
31

## Tasty Tapas

7.30pm

£17.50 for set menu



The perfect food to enjoy with good friends and great company. Get lost in conversation as you dig into delectable delights all traditionally made and presented. Join us as we are transported to Spain-Olé! Please confirm attendance in advance for catering purposes. Parking available at La Casita car park, 14a Chapel St, Guildford GU1 3UL. Book by Friday 23 July. La Casita Restaurant, 4-5 Chapel Street, Guildford GU1 3UH. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

# August

## MON 09 Get to know you Garden Party



3pm



Members Free  
Guests £5



Having moved to Alton within the last year in the middle of the pandemic, Jane and Bruce look forward to getting to know some of our members and their friends based in and around Alton. Weather permitting we will enjoy getting to know you over afternoon tea in the garden (or retreat indoors if the heavens open!). Cost: Free for members, but a donation to the Chairman's Charity welcome, £5 for guests. Pre-booking essential as numbers limited. 20 Greenfields Avenue, Alton GU34 2ED. Book by Friday 6 August. Contact Jane on 07312 115323.

## MON 23 Bill's Breakfast



10.30am



As per menu



Join us at Bill's restaurant located in Park Street. Serving up a variety of breakfast and brunch options including toast, porridge and smoothies to more filling dishes such as full breakfast, buttermilk pancakes, eggs benedict and smashed avocado on toast. Parking is available within the Atrium and costs £1.80 for up to two hours and up to three hours is £2.20. Book by Wednesday 18 August. Bill's, The Atrium, 42 Park Street, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3PL. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

## SAT 28 Bramshot Farm Country Park - Walk and Picnic



12 noon



Free



Bramshot Farm Country Park provides 91 acres of open meadows and woodlands, and a total of 2.5 kilometres of surfaced and unsurfaced pathways to cater for all abilities and interests. A surfaced 1.3 kilometre (approximately 30 minutes' walk) path loops out from the car park and is suitable for buggies and wheelchairs alike.



Carved benches are dotted along the route at regular intervals so that you can take a seat and enjoy the scenery. Let's start off by enjoying a picnic (bring your own!) and those that want to can then go for a walk. Free parking is available on-site. Bramshot Farm Country Park, Bramshot Lane, Fleet GU51 2RU. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

# September - Friendship Month

## FRI 03 Lovely Light Lunch



12.15pm



As per menu



Come and join us for lunch before you explore all that the garden centre has to offer. Everyone is welcome so feel free to bring guests with you. Plenty of lunch items available such as soup, salads, sandwiches, jacket potatoes and paninis. Please confirm attendance in advance for catering purposes. Book by Friday 27 August. Bourne Valley Garden Centre, Woodham Park Road, Addlestone KT15 3TH. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.



## FRI 24 Noontime Natters



12 noon



As per menu



We hope you can join us for our drop in between 12 noon and 2pm. Grab some lunch, a hot drink, or maybe just a naughty treat. This event is free to attend - the only costs are for items purchased in the bakery. Book by Wednesday 22 September. Mullans (formerly Good Taste Coffee Shop), 67 High Street, Camberley GU15 3RB. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.



## SUN 12 Afternoon Tea Party



2.30pm



Members £6, Guests £12



One of our most popular events is back - our afternoon tea party. After years of returning to the Bush Hotel in Farnham, we decided we want to try out another beautiful venue to host us. All are welcome, so please encourage friends and family to come along.

We will host a charity raffle during the afternoon, so please bring prizes and/or cash along to join in. Parking is available at the property free of charge. To confirm attendance please contact Kristen. Book by Friday 3 September. Season's Cafe, Guildford Cathedral, Stag Hill, Guildford GU2 7UP. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.



MON

27

## Lunch at the Gallery



12 noon



£12



The Gallery Restaurant is a fully-licensed fine dining restaurant, which is run by award winning catering and hospitality students and staff. Expect cuisine of the highest quality, just as you'd expect at a high-end restaurant.

You'll enjoy a three course meal with excellent standards of hospitality, all within a quiet, relaxing atmosphere all for a fraction of the price.



Book by Monday 13 September. The Gallery, Farnborough College of Technology, Boundary Road, Farnborough GU14 6SB. Please email [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk) for more information.

## COVID-19 Guidelines

Depending on the up to date Covid rules our events may be face-to-face or virtual on Zoom. If face to face they may well be number limited and require booking. If you are on our email group you will be emailed with up to date information, otherwise, please call us, or look online at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events).

## Dinner Dance and Annual Church Service

Save the Date

We have rearranged last year's cancelled Dinner and Dance at the Mercure Bush Hotel in Farnham for Saturday 4 December 2021 at the same location. Our annual church service will be hosted the following day in a church close to the Bush hotel as yet to be determined. Please put the date in your diaries now so you don't miss out!

# Member Profile: Norma Duke

**My name is Norma Duke. I was born at Farnham in Surrey, and grew up living in the Upper Hale area. I attended schools in Hale and Farnham. I also grew up in an Oddfellows family and loved the social events alongside friends. A particularly fond memory was taking part in nativity scenes at the Christmas socials at Hale Institute.**

I left school hoping to work at the International Telephone Exchange in London, but this was not to be. I trained as a nursery nurse, leaving home only two days after my 16th birthday, as the course was residential in the 1960s. Eventually, I worked in a day nursery in Aldershot. I joined a club called '18+' and met my husband. Our first child was born in 1973 and a second followed in 1975, with a third completing the family in 1979. We lived at Headley Down where I worked at a nursing home for severely disabled young people – I worked there for 30 years.

We moved to Alton in 1984 and sadly my marriage finished. Having moved to Alton, I decided to go on the bank at my local hospital, leaving the job at the nursing home. Just six months later I returned to work at the nursing home, so for most of the remaining years of my working life, I had two jobs.

I left working on the wards at Treloar Hospital and became the outpatient receptionist where I worked until 2012. I had to finish working at the nursing home

in 2007 so that I could care for my mother.

Both of my parents remained involved in the Oddfellows, but it was some while before I became actively involved, this was because I adore travelling and thus had many trips overseas.



In the lead up to 1999, I was asked to go and help in a Romanian orphanage, an offer which I declined at the time. However, in 1999, I received through unusual circumstances the opportunity to go and visit a Romanian family – after much deliberation and wondering whether or not it was the right thing for me to do, I took up the opportunity to go to Romania.

I gathered together supplies of pencils, and drawing books from my church family, and was able to find an orphanage to donate them to. This was the start of a commitment to that orphanage that I am happy to continue today. I bought a flat in a Romanian city called Ploiste in late 2002.

Working now in an environment caring for the elderly, I decided, as a result of the reports coming to me, that I must change my tactics. So now when I make my trips

to Romania, I take all sorts of equipment for a hospital caring for the elderly, such as incontinence wear, wound dressings etc. To add variety to my time in Romania, I teach in a school in the city, something I've now been involved with since 1999. Sadly, my normal activity in Romania was very different in 2020, due to Covid-19.

I enjoy the Concord monthly coffee mornings at the Mercure Bush Hotel in Farnham and I'm really looking forward to the time when it will be safe for us to continue with these meetings. Everybody is very welcoming and the Oddfellows programme features something for everyone. I am a fairly busy person. My youngest grandchild lives with me, two others stay at night when their mum works and another grandchild visits.

I have been fortunate enough to visit many, many countries in the world and was pleased to attend the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany. During my travels, I've had some unusual things happen to me. I've been stuck in a tunnel in South Africa and got lost on a mountain in Romania – an area in which I'm told a wolf has recently been spotted!

I have been blessed with wonderful friends and family – I just feel that I couldn't have had a better life. I'd like to finish by adding how I stay positive whilst things return to normal; I like to say to people, "Hey I am Norma plus 'L', the 'L' stands for learning, listening, letters and living!"

## Refer a Friend Scheme

**Don't forget that we are always looking to expand our membership 'family' so if you know of any friends that might be interested please ask Kristen or Jane for a 'Refer a Friend' form. Not only will they get to experience all that the Oddfellows has to offer, but you will be rewarded too!\***

### Bronze Recruiter

You only need to refer one friend to receive your Bronze card. We'll also send you a £10 Love2shop voucher, which can be used in a huge range of high-street retailers.

### Silver Recruiter:

As soon as you've referred five friends in total, you'll get your Silver card and £60 in Love2shop vouchers.

### Gold Recruiter:

Once you hit 20 referrals, you can look forward to receiving your Gold card and £120 in Love2shop vouchers. Or if you'd prefer the £120 can be donated to a charity of your choosing.

### Platinum Recruiter:

This is the big one. On your 40th referral, we'll send you your Platinum card and £250 in Love2shop vouchers. Or, donate your £250 reward to a charity of your choice instead.

**\*Terms and conditions apply to the Refer a Friend reward scheme. For full details visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/refer](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/refer).**

# Social Events

**Like with the last event diary, you will no doubt spot that there are noticeably less social events planned than in previous event diaries, especially in the initial months. This is for our continued safety - as well as yours - until a vaccine has been rolled out to as many people as possible within the UK.**

We obviously want to be able to offer some social events as soon as it is deemed safe to do so, but please don't feel in any way obligated to do so until you are ready.

Many events noted in this events diary are repeated events from previous event diaries that were cancelled due to Covid-19 and consequent lockdowns. Fingers crossed it will be third time lucky!

As with before, we continue to ask that you always book into events prior to attending (even if they are only 'virtual' events) - that way, we know who to contact should we need to cancel the event. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing patience, we very much looking forward to seeing you all soon.

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## Facebook

**It's that dreaded phrase- 'Social Media' - that scares the living daylights out of people. Facebook continues to grow every year since it launched in 2004, in both active users and time spent on the platform. It's still the most used social platform with nearly 2.45 billion monthly active users. And has a whopping 1.62 billion users visit Facebook every single day.**

Many think of Facebook as a 'young person's game' but you may be surprised to know that in terms of active users in 2019, the most significant change in Facebook user demographics was among those born in 1945 or earlier. According to an article in Sprout Social, this age group has grown on the platform from 26% in 2018 to nearly 40% in 2019 and continues to increase. So why is it that these 'young at heart' groups starting to use Facebook you ask? The answer is simple - because

Facebook allows you to see pictures and videos, stay in touch with and talk to friends and family from the comfort of your own home! Plus it reminds you of people's birthdays, upcoming events, current news and topics of conversation as well as giving you the opportunity to see what is happening in your local area.

It may be daunting but Facebook can be a very helpful well of staying in touch with loved ones as well and with us at the Concord Branch of the Oddfellows. Our Facebook page can be found at [www.facebook.com/ConcordOddfellows](http://www.facebook.com/ConcordOddfellows) or you can find us by using the search bar at the top of the page (next to the Facebook logo) and typing in 'Concord Oddfellows' then pressing enter. If you're interested in joining Facebook but don't know how, please get in touch with Kristen who can help.

# Chairman's Nominated Charity



**I am thrilled to inform you that at last count we have raised over £950 for the Challengers Disabled Play Scheme charity, which will hopefully have increased even more by the time this goes to print and gift aid has been collected. We do hope you can join us in September at our annual tea party, where we will present the donation to a representative from Challengers.**

From April onwards, Addrienne Khajeh will be our Provincial Grand Master (Chairman)

and has selected Alzheimer's Society as the charity we will be supporting during her year in office. Alzheimer's Society is the UK's leading dementia charity. They campaign for change, fund research to find a cure and support people living with dementia today.

Dementia is the UK's biggest killer. Someone develops it every three minutes and there's currently no cure. It is a very cruel disease, affecting not only the person suffering from dementia, but also those nearest and dearest to them. Please help us to be able to donate a good amount by the end of our year of fundraising. You can donate by cheque to: 'The Oddfellows, Concord Branch'. A Concord District Charity Account has been set up. The bank details are: Sort code: 08 92 99. Account number: 67200364.

## Volunteering

**After spending so much of 2020 (and the start of 2021) stuck at home, why not become one of our volunteers? We are always looking for members who can offer help, and I assure you it isn't as arduous or as big of a commitment as you may think! For example, perhaps you could be a friendly face and welcome members at the door, make hot drinks, help to setup/tidy away the venue, maybe you could provide lifts to those without transport, or even host an event of your own?**

It doesn't need to be a big gesture and you wouldn't be signing up to do it for all events, but when it comes to putting on Oddfellows social events, a little help from our volunteers can really go a long way.

If you think you can help, please get in touch with Kristen on 07388 871260 or by email at [kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:kristen.reid@oddfellows.co.uk).

Thanks in advance!

# Meet your Concord Care and Welfare Team

The Oddfellows looking after you  
Care, Advice and Support



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



**Bruce Nicole**  
Welfare Visitor



**Jane Nicole**  
Welfare Visitor



**Hannah Appleby**  
Welfare Visitor

Have you been unwell or in hospital, or find it difficult to get out to Oddfellows meetings and would like a visit for a cup of tea and a chat?

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!

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

To arrange for a Welfare Visitor to contact you, or for local help and information about Branch benefits or benevolence support, please ring **Jane Nicole** on **07312 115323** or email **[jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:jane.nicole@oddfellows.co.uk)**.

# National Oddfellows Helplines



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

## Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line\*



**Call 0800 0149 821**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)



Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

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

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

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

## Care and Welfare Helpline\*



**Call 0800 0149 822**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)



Monday to Thursday, 9.30am - 4.30pm, Friday, 9.30am - 4pm

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

Run by the Oddfellows Care and Welfare Department, members can access information and guidance on issues such as accessing health and care services, supported housing, support for carers, and planning for later life. The helpline will try and identify any Oddfellows benefits or services in the community which may be of help.

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

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



# Social distancing can still be social

Your guide to online events you can enjoy  
from the comfort of your own home

**April - June 2021**

Social restrictions have meant that our usual face-to-face events had to be suspended, but that doesn't mean we can't get together! Our network of 121 Branches are running a huge variety of nationwide online events, and everybody is welcome to join – no matter where in the country you are.

This guide lists the current regular and featured events available for you to attend.

**Not attended an online event yet - you don't even need to be on the internet? Need help? Check out our 'How to' overleaf...**

# Featured events

Featured events are usually one-offs – they may be repeated but not necessarily weekly or monthly. As with the other listed events, you can find out more about them via [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events) or by contacting the event organiser.

Date/Time and Event	Meeting ID	Code	Contact
<b>April</b>			
2 2pm Marie Curie Charity	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
3 3pm Easter Fun Afternoon	872 9621 0277		sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
9 10.30am Social Prescribers	940 0419 6205		emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
9 2pm The Great Unwatched – Bob Sinfield	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
13 4pm The Carry on Films and their Stars	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
14 2pm The Contrast of China	853 5928 5951		helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
14 7pm Charity Schools in York	894 5983 8236		peter.needham@oddfellows.co.uk
15 7pm A Question of Taste? – Henderson's Relish	829 8042 3134	1810	toni.siddall@oddfellows.co.uk
16 2pm RSPB	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
21 2pm Sing Along	896 1081 9201		helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
22 7.30pm Peculiar Words and Phrases	835 7286 6270	1810	sarah.robinson@oddfellows.co.uk
23 10.30am Nutrition and Wellness Talk	916 0511 4104		emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
28 2pm Discovering Family History	853 5928 5951		helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>May</b>			
5 2pm And So To Ted	853 5928 5951		helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
5 7pm My Derbyshire Life'	821 0037 5056	200051	toni.siddall@oddfellows.co.uk
7 2pm Dead and Breakfast – Bob Sinfield	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
11 4pm From Phil Silvers to Sergeant Bilko	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
19 2pm Sing Along	896 1081 9201		helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
25 4pm Skeletons in the Cupboard	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
27 7.30pm Winston Churchill "I'll be sober in the morning"	847 8664 4646	1810	sarah.robinson@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>June</b>			
1 4pm Oddfellows Membership Benefits	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
8 4pm The Lives and Music of The Everly Brothers	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
11 2pm Blasts from the Past	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
18 2pm John Scott Cree's Christmas Special	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
22 4pm Your Hundred Best Tunes	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
29 4pm 60s Karaoke	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk

## More online events are added every week!

If you'd like the latest online event listing, email your Secretary or Social Organiser with the subject line 'Please send the online events list'. You can also receive the latest Oddfellows news straight to your inbox. Just make sure your Branch Secretary has your up-to-date email address or call our Membership team to check on **0800 028 1810**. You can opt out at any time by contacting your Branch Secretary or [unsubscribe@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:unsubscribe@oddfellows.co.uk). We'll never share your details with any third party without your consent.

# How to join a Zoom event for the first time



You will need a device that is connected to the internet with a camera and microphone (most computers, laptops, smart phones and tablets have them). Don't worry if you don't have these, you can still join an event using your landline phone – you'll be able to hear and speak to everyone but not see them. Here's some simple steps to help get you started.

## 1. Connecting to Zoom via an app or website

You can download the free Zoom app from your app store – once you've 'signed in' and set up a password you'll be ready to start. Alternatively you can connect to Zoom via

**www.zoom.us** – just click on 'Join a Meeting' and enter the 'Meeting ID'.

## 2. Using the 'Meeting ID' to join an event

The 'Meeting ID' is a unique set of numbers listed with the event information in this leaflet - you need to enter these once you've logged onto Zoom (either via the app or website). For some events you may have to pre-register with the event organiser and/or enter a 'Passcode'.

## 3. Getting your audio and video settings right

When prompted, make sure your video and audio is on – if you see a red line through the microphone and/or camera icons, click on them to activate otherwise you won't be seen or heard!

## 4. Joining an event with a landline phone

You can use your landline to phone into an event – there is a charge, (please check your operator for details), but the standard rate number is **0330 0885830**. You will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID number followed by # and may also be asked for a Passcode followed by # . For additional information on how to join meetings, here's a few useful links:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-joining-a-meeting>

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/bp-assets/globalassets/trafford/how-to-use-zoom-for-the-first-time.pdf>

## Monthly events

Frequency/time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact
3rd Mon 11am	Coffee in the Virtual Potting Shed	848 9002 1785	493398	valerie.ashcroft@oddfellows.co.uk
4th Mon 4pm	Zingo Bingo	542 724 7603	-	joanne.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Tues 2pm	Brainiest Brain Fun Quiz	231 522 2288	1810	judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Tues 2pm	Word Games and Chat	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues 2pm	Busy Fingers, Crafts and Coffee	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues 4pm	Beetle Drive	542 724 7603	-	joanne.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues 7.30pm	Games, quizzes and more	860 2803 8495	-	dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

# Weekly events

Below are events that occur every week - for a full description visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events) and type "online" in the location search box or contact the local organiser listed.

Time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact
<b>Monday</b>				
10.30am	Online Games - All Welcome	950 0863 2889	1810	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Chi Gung	824 6194 4085	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Monday Music & Musing	420 044 9988	942052	marett.heap@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Weekly Monday Games Night	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Tuesday</b>				
4pm	Art, Talks, Fun and Games	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Fun Quiz - Open to all	869 8507 8184	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Wednesday</b>				
11am	National Coffee Morning	988 3920 7187	-	peter.needham@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Fun Quiz - Open to all	854 769 23503	-	debbie.jex@oddfellows.co.uk
6pm	Tai Chi	873 2888 5615	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Thursday</b>				
10.30am	Coffee Morning	949 4131 7445	1810	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
11am	Easy Zumba Gold	9468 1625 757	PRE-REG	debbie.jex@oddfellows.co.uk
11am	Coffee Morning	798 2731 5650	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Oddfellows Fun Thursdays	988 3920 7187	-	events@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Weekly Quiz Night	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Friday</b>				
2pm	The Weekend Starts Here!	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Friday Fun and Games	420 044 9988	942052	marett.heap@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Saturday</b>				
11am	Fun, Quiz and Games	894 5983 8236		peter.needham@oddfellows.co.uk
<b>Sunday</b>				
5pm	Facebook Live @ 5 Quiz	www.facebook.com/Oddfellowslpswich		wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk

**\*please contact the event organiser to register in advance of the event**

1st Wed	2.30pm	Nationwide Quiz	852 9201 2067	1810	syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Wed	2pm	Sing Along	853 5928 5951	-	helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Wed	7pm	Talks from Tunbridge Wells	984 8355 1408	1810	karen.rose@oddfellows.co.uk
1st and 3rd Fri	7pm	Fun on Friday	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd and 4th Fri	7pm	Fun on Friday	845 7787 3384	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
1st and Last Fri	10.30am	Corona Club Coffee Morning	231 522 2288	1810	judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk
Last Sat	5pm	Saturday Sing Along	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk
3rd Sat	7pm	Saturday Night Fun	460 928 7642	1810	karen.pye-smith@oddfellows.co.uk

## Oddfellows spirit shines throughout Friendship Month 2020

Friendship Month looked very different this year, with many of our events held

**ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH**  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



online, or restricted to a maximum of six people meeting face-to-face. However, we couldn't be more proud of the way that the Oddfellows spirit shone through, as we once again celebrated the power of friendship.

We saw Branches organising COVID-secure walks and outdoor picnics, making the most of the last bit of sunshine. Lots of Branches also turned their hands to organising virtual

events, Zooming across the country to link up with members and guests all over the UK! We've picked out a selection of our favourite pictures from September, to share with you a little warmth and happiness during these cold and difficult days. We know how important face-to-face events are to our members and as soon as Branches are able to safely hold these again, we will let you know.

If you have any pictures from an Oddfellows event that you'd like to share with us, feel free to tag us in them on Facebook! We're at [www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK](https://www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK)



*Ipswich Oddfellows celebrate the launch of a new Friendly Bench, Boston and Lincoln Oddfellows plant some seeds of friendship with their potted plants, Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows host a picnic in the park, Stockport and Combermere Oddfellows network with a Zoom guest talk from local radio stars and Bradford Oddfellows enjoy a stroll along the canal.*

# Lupus research pushes through pandemic

2020 has seen our second instalment of the HA Andrews Memorial Fund given to the research team at the Lupus Trust. The £28,000 donation supports the day to day running of the team, which includes Bekki Velounias, who is currently working towards completing her PhD through her research with the Lupus Trust.

The team is looking into what causes the breakdown of certain cells, triggering the autoimmune reaction in lupus. Throughout lockdown, the team managed to avoid too many significant setbacks, working in the lab when they could, and analysing huge datasets when national lockdown was enforced.



*Professor Jo Spencer with Bekki Velounias and our very large cheque!*



*Member of Ware Branch, Paul, has lupus and inspired our decision to support the Lupus Trust over 3 years.*

Professor Jo Spencer, from the Lupus Trust, says, “Bekki has been a fantastic addition to the research team, and her commitment to pushing forward with work throughout lockdown has been commendable. We’re pleased with how the research is progressing in the face of so many difficulties.”

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says, “We’re so pleased to hear that the research has been able to move forward despite social restrictions. It’s been a difficult year for many, and this research is needed more than ever.”

If you would like to find out more about the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, please visit the ‘Giving Back’ section of our website.

# A year like no other...

**2020 has been a year unlike any I've experienced before. In March, we entered our first lockdown. Among many others, it placed restrictions on how we could spend time with friends and family, make visits to loved ones in hospitals and care homes, and even how we all earn our living.**

Most devastatingly, many people were held back from saying a proper, supported farewell to those friends and family members who passed. My heart goes out to anyone who has lost someone special in the recent months. I know from personal experience how difficult it is, so if you need any comfort or help please remember to lean on us.

## Coming together

It's human nature to come together in a time of crisis – to squeeze a hand, to offer a shoulder to cry on, to hug, or to simply sit side-by-side. However, despite it all, we are finding ways around things, as best we can. Nothing will ever stop us resourceful Oddfellows from giving comfort and support to each other and those in desperate need.

This year, I've witnessed compassion and human kindness on a scale I've never known within the Society before, and this has really lifted me on my difficult days.



## Being there for each other

I hope that if you needed help this year, you received it. I know that the staff and volunteers in our Branches have worked flat out to make sure members know they have someone to turn to. They've made thousands of calls and sent thousands of emails to check in with members and see if any help is needed. This has meant that many members were able to access critical food and medical supplies, as well as financial and emotional support. So, if anything is troubling you, please make sure you get in touch.

## Keeping spirits lifted

I've seen some incredible innovation to keep spirits lifted and people connected. We'd only hosted a few online events here and there before 2020, but we're now broadcasting talks, quizzes, and even fitness sessions, straight into people's front rooms almost daily. I know online

events won't ever replace getting together in person, but they're a wonderful way to make sure we can still keep in touch, safely. I do hope you try one if you haven't already. I've also been kept in the loop on so many unexpected acts of kindness from members and Branches, such as quizzes and puzzles being posted through letterboxes, and afternoon tea hampers and flowers being dropped off on members' doorsteps. Such small gestures make a huge difference to people, so if there is anything you can do to keep this going, then please do. Kindness is infectious.

### Helping others

Oddfellows have always looked further than their own front door when it comes to charitable giving, and this year was no exception. In spring, a nationwide appeal to raise critical funds for The Silver Line and the National Emergencies Trust resulted in a donation of £19,210. It helped some of those hardest hit by the coronavirus pandemic. £7,600 was also raised and sent overseas to help Australian people to rebuild their lives following the 2019/2020 bushfires.

We know there have been countless other examples of charitable giving made by members and Branches this year, so thank you for helping where you can, and being wonderful ambassadors for our Society. I would also like to give a special mention to this year's four Making a Difference Award winners, members Margaret Wells, Barry Bedford, Bruce Nicole and our youngest to date,

seven-year-old Effie Bowman. Our Society is powered by the hard work and selflessness of such wonderful members. Huge congratulations to them and all who were nominated. Shortlisting these awards is such a difficult task, but it's an absolute joy to know that we have so many members out there living and breathing our motto of friendship, love and truth.

### A truly special family

Looking forward to 2021, please try and stay positive. We have news of a vaccine, and therefore hope that we can be back together again, and that we can resume our daily lives with less fear, difficulty and uncertainty.

I've always known this, but the events of 2020 have confirmed just how caring, supportive, generous, friendly, and resourceful our Oddfellows family is. I am immensely proud to be a member of something so incredibly special and purposeful. I do hope you feel the same. Please accept my very warmest wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. Until we're all able to meet together freely again, let's stay in touch. We're always here if you need us.

Take care, stay safe and stay well.  
Yours always in friendship,

**Jane Nelson**  
**CEO, the Oddfellows**

# At a glance

## April 2021

<b>Fri 9</b>	Annual District Meeting	7pm
<b>Sun 11</b>	Passing the Harp	3pm
<b>Fri 16</b>	'A policeman's lot can be quite an interesting one' Talk	7pm
<b>Mon 26</b>	Zingo	2pm

## May

<b>Tues 4</b>	'Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage' Talk	11am
<b>Sat 15</b>	'The Gag Trade' Talk	7pm
<b>Thurs 27</b>	Virtual Pub Quiz	7pm

## June

<b>Mon 7</b>	Pyrford Lock Pub Lunch	12 noon
<b>Wed 16</b>	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Sat 26</b>	Canal Walk and Coffee	10.30am

## July

<b>Thurs 8</b>	Ely Pub Style Quiz	7.30pm
<b>Fri 16</b>	Coffee and Cake	10am
<b>Mon 19</b>	Cream Tea	2.15pm
<b>Wed 21</b>	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Sat 31</b>	Tasty Tapas	7.30pm

## August

<b>Mon 9</b>	Get to know you Garden Party	3pm
<b>Wed 18</b>	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Mon 23</b>	Bill's Breakfast	10.30am
<b>Sat 28</b>	Bramshot Farm Country Park - Walk and Picnic	12 noon

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Fri 3</b>	Lovely Light Lunch	12.15pm
<b>Sun 12</b>	Afternoon Tea Party	2.30pm
<b>Wed 15</b>	Farnham Friends - Coffee Morning	10.30am
<b>Fri 24</b>	Noontime Natters	12 noon
<b>Mon 27</b>	Lunch at the Gallery	12 noon