



the ODDfellows
SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

Summer 2020
www.oddfellows.co.uk

Nene and Welland

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Welcome to the latest edition of the Nene and Welland District Branch Newsletter

Hello from June, Christine, John, Barry, Roly and all your friends at Nene and Welland Oddfellows District Branch.

We hope that you are all keeping safe and well at this difficult time. You are probably expecting to receive your half yearly 'Out and About' magazine from us listing all our events for the second half of this year, along with news from the past six months.

Well, as we all know we can't arrange anything at the moment. That does not mean we do not think of you all. So, we have produced this Newsletter to share with you an update of what we have been doing before, during and our hopes for after lockdown. Also an update of information from our Unity Offices.

Along with all this we want to share some news items you may have missed since we cannot get together at our events. We've

Contact Details

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

District Secretary:

Karen Earth

T: 01778 571555

E: karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk

Address:

57 Church Street,
Market Deeping,
Peterborough
PE6 8AN

District Social Organiser:

Andrew Spencer

T: 07729 519122

E: andrew.spencer@oddfellows.co.uk



OddfellowsNeneWelland

Picture above: The Guildhall, Peterborough.

even included some Boredom Busters you may like to have a go at.

Don't forget, even though we may not be able to come out to you, we are here for you. Whether you want to just have a chat, want help with something (we have people who can help with different things), just generally have a moan at someone, or just feel there is someone else out there - **WE ARE HERE**

FOR YOU and do not mind at all if you want to call any of us at any time. Also, if you talk to any Oddfellow friends who you think we may not have an e-mail address for, please encourage them to share that with us, and if we have not telephoned you and you are a member in our District, please make sure we have an up to date telephone number. You'll find all our contact details in this Newsletter.

A message from the Secretary of the East Anglian Group Conference

**To all affiliated Districts,
District Branches, Branches,
Executive Committee.**

This year's BBQ due to have been held on Sunday 26 July 2020 here in Wisbech has had to be postponed because of the current situation we are in.

If we have the chance to arrange one while the weather is still good and the lockdown over then we will try to arrange one later in the year.

Dates for your Diaries for 2021.

Presidents Reception will be held at Orton Hall Hotel, Peterborough on Sunday 18 April 2021 and will take the form of a Sunday lunch. This event had to be arranged so we didn't lose the deposit for 2020.

Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 8 May 2021 in Peterborough.

Yours faithfully

Alison Adamson, Secretary

Congratulations

To Barry and Janice Bedford becoming grandparents to Bertie Bedford in April and to Bertie's parents Johnathan and Kate. Sadly Barry and Janice have not been able to meet their grandson yet, but, Bertie was enrolled as a young Oddfellow to our Branch at just

two hours old. Also to Barbra and Brian Spencer on the arrival of their granddaughter Willow Skye in April. Again, no cuddles yet. Both families have to make do with video calls at the moment. Watch out kids once this is all over!

Chairman's Charity Update

Little did poor June Holt know that when she was installed as our Chairman for 2020-21 on Tuesday 25 February that within a few weeks her year was to be halted by lockdown. June had chosen as her charity for the year, the exotic pet refuge in Deeping St James.

Pam and Caz from the refuge came and gave us a most interesting talk about their work and the history of the refuge and how they rely totally on public support. We all had such wonderful hopes and ideas for raising not only money for them but also practical support by way of collecting donations of food, blankets and towels that they need. Unfortunately we have not been able to do any of this over these past months. We have heard from the refuge that they are having a very hard time at the moment as they could not have their first open day of the year at Easter to boost funds. They are relying on the supermarkets around to let them collect food which cannot be sold in the shops for the animals. Pam is even using her own money to help keep them going. Andrew has managed to get some towels to them.

Our Trustees spoke together and decided that we should send them a donation for now so, a cheque for £200 was sent as we know that we would have under normal times have raised this amount by now. So, when we can get back together again we will have to work hard to make up for lost time. However if when you are getting



*June Holt District Chairman
2020 - 2021*

your shopping and would like to prepare to help the refuge for when we are back together perhaps you might pick up an extra item such as; tinned dog food, dried cat and dog food, mixer biscuits, bird food, nuts and any other dried or non-perishable animal food.

Please sort out any towels and blankets you no longer need. Then when we can get together again we can fill a box or three to send to them. Alternatively as we have not been able to raise funds for the Chairman's charity these past months if you would like

to make a donation to the charity you can send a cheque to Karen at the office with a note to say that it is for the Chairman's charity and she will add it to the fund. Please make cheques payable to I.O.O.F.M.U.F.S. Nene and Welland District.

Table Cloths for our Oddfellows Hall



Over the last year we have been building up a stock of vintage crockery at our Oddfellows Hall, to make our Afternoon Tea events and special meetings even more special with beautiful old china crockery. We now have a good stock thanks to the generosity of members. We then decided when using this crockery it would be nice to have some old embroidered table cloths, like the ones that mothers and grandmas had and only used on special occasions. So, we put out a call to find some.

Chris Briance one of our members took up the challenge and he has now collected several of these in different sizes. Chris was amazed that with each table cloth came a story of memories of who made

it, when it was made and why it was made. Many of these cloths were never used once made, they were made in the times before television or social media to pass the time away.

Beautifully stitched by mainly the female members of families then put away as a keep sake. Many have been kept in cupboards and drawers by families especially after the person who made it has passed away.

Chris has done a great job collecting the ones he has but, we still need more to cover all our tables and a few spare. If you have a cloth that you no longer need and you would like to see it go to good use and be enjoyed by many please contact Andrew on 07729 519122.





News since our last Out and About

Here are a few memories of events and news items since our last diary came to you at the beginning of this year, which we managed before lockdown began.

We hope the pictures bring some pleasant memories of the times when we are together sharing fun and friendship. We hope the photographs give you something to look forward to because **'We will be together again soon'** and **'We'll meet again'**.

Christmas Carol Service

Once again Sam Holbird came and played the keyboard for us along with his children. We asked Sam to nominate a charity for the collection to go to. He chose CAP (Christians Against Poverty). This charity supports families who are

struggling for whatever reasons not just financially.



New Year's Day Walk in Burghley Park



Haven of Happiness Sunday Lunch at the Ship Inn Pinchbeck (January)

Around 50 members enjoying Sunday lunch together. Thanks again to Christine for organising this annual event for us.

This year we changed this event from an evening to Sunday lunch which enabled more members to attend. We were given the choice from the Inn's Christmas menu, so it was like having a second festive time together. The raffle on the day raised £156 for the Chairman's charity fund.



Quick Recipes

Have you been passing time by baking for your family? Here are a couple of recipes that are quick and easy. If you're not a great fan of baking these are so easy to have a go at. If you suffer from a gluten intolerance the gluten free recipe is so easy and so easy to vary the tastes and the whole family can enjoy these.

Quick Lemon Drizzle Cake



Ingredient

6oz Self raising flour
1teaspoon baking powder
6oz Castor sugar
4oz Soft margarine
3 eggs
2 Tablespoons milk
½ teaspoon Bi-Carb
Grated rind of 1 lemon

Method

Grease and line eight inch round cake tin (fairly deep). Place all ingredients in mixing bowl together. Drop eggs in whole. Mix with an electric hand mixer until pale and creamy. Pour into prepared tin and shake gently to level the mixture. Place in the middle of the oven (third shelf down). Bake at gas mark four for 45-50minutes or 170°C for 45 minutes until cake is well risen and firm to touch or pierce with a skewer which should come out clean. Remove from oven and leave in tin for five minutes then turn out onto a wire rack.

Coating

Squeeze the lemon and add four oz granulated sugar. Mix well (tip - warm in microwave for 30 seconds). Gently pierce the top of the cake with a fork then using a pastry brush spread over the top and sides of the cake. Will keep up to three weeks in a tin.

Gluten Free Sponge Basic Recipe Makes a Nine Inch Tray Bake

Ingredient

10oz Gluten free self raising flour
10oz Castor sugar
8oz Soft margarine
4 Eggs beaten

Method

Cream the sugar and margarine together. Add the beaten eggs and flour. Mix with an electric hand mixer until pale and creamy.

Flavour Options

Add any of the following to the basic mixture and mix well for different flavour cakes.

Lemon: Six tablespoons of lemon juice, grated rind of two lemons.

Lemon and Orange: Six tablespoons lemon juice, grated rind of two oranges.

Coffee and Walnut: Mix together two tablespoons instant coffee, two tablespoons hot water, two tablespoons cold water two tablespoons milk and add to basic cake mixture. Stir in two oz chopped walnuts.

Ginger: Mix together two tablespoons ground ginger, two tablespoon milk, four tablespoons water four chopped pieces of stem ginger and add to the basic mixture.

Chocolate: Reduce the flour in the basic mixture by one oz and replace with one oz of cocoa powder. The chocolate cake

can be either decorated or served as a pudding with custard.

Once your mixture is done pour into the greased and lined tin and bake in the centre of the oven 170°C or gas three to four for 40-50 minutes until a skewer comes out clean. Remove and cool on a wire rack. For a smaller seven inch round cake just halve the mixture.



Deeping Youth Group Awards

Christine, Barry and Andrew were invited to an evening of entertainment and refreshments hosted by the Deeping Youth Group, which has been the Chairman's charity choice for the past two years.

We were entertained by the youngsters of the youth group along with the trustees of the group taking their part. A light buffet supper was provided by the youngsters and helpers of the group. Certificates of thanks were presented to those businesses and organisations who have supported the group over the past year.

Christine accepted a certificate on behalf of the Nene and Welland Branch of



Oddfellows. In Barry's year of office 2018-19 we raised £3,000 in support of maintaining the group for the youngsters of the area.

Christine continued the support in her year of office 2019-20 and has raised £4,700. Unfortunately we have not been able to formally present the group with their cheque this year, due to yes, lockdown. Staying optimistic we will soon!

New Branch Officers Installed



At our Annual General Meeting held at the end of February we installed our new Branch Officers for this year (picture above): June Holt Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman), John Sargeant Deputy Provincial Grand Master (District Deputy Chairman), and Christine Sargeant Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master (Immediate Past District Chairman).

This photograph of our new officers being installed was the last one we were able to take before lockdown. Since then we have all been isolated from our family and friends. But, this does not mean we have forgotten all our members out there. Like

you we miss the time we spend together as Oddfellows, enjoying meals, outings, craft club, bingo and many more.

Our officers and staff have been trying to keep in touch with as many of you as we can with telephone calls and emails. Not only to check that you are OK but to have a chat. We know that many of you also call each other to chat and bolster each other as these long weeks go by. If we have not managed to call any of you and you have a need of any kind or you would just like a chat please use any of the telephone numbers in this Newsletter at any time.



Garden tidied.



Shopping for members and friends.



June knitting toys.

Most of us have kept ourselves busy with jobs around the house and gardens during this time. Catching up on those jobs we've been putting off for ages, getting the

gardens ready for summer and planting the veg plots for this year. Below are a few photographs of how some of us have passed the time.



Holly gets a bath.



Garage door before.



Garage door after.



Garage roof cleaned.



Barbra's baking.



Chris and John's vegetable patch.

Christine Sargeant's Birthday

Our Chairman for 2019-20 Christine celebrated a significant birthday in March (70). At our last meeting before lockdown, we were able to present her with gifts from the members of the Branch.



Social Organisers Report

Many of you know me in the branch usually running about with a tea pot, collecting money, calling bingo, giving out information and several other things.

Well of course I can't organise any events for us at this time. However, that doesn't mean I am sitting here looking at a blank computer screen sipping tea and eating biscuits. When lockdown first came in on Monday 23 March I had to sadly cancel all our events that were booked and printed in our current diary, along with cancelling our regular meetings and events at the Hall. This was nearly as hard as arranging them in the first place. Then as time has gone on I have had to sadly cancel events we had prepared for the second half year, not least the Oddfellows Brass Band concert in July, which, was to be held in Spalding this year with the Spalding Community Choir also joining us.

Now under normal times our second half year diary is full of lots of annual events, our Friendship Month, our Branch Annual Lunch and of course our Christmas events. Sadly, we cannot promise as to how much or how little we will be able to provide at this time but, just as soon as we can we will be in touch. I have got lots of ideas running

around in my head. We may not be able to hold our big events because of forward booking and preparation, but I hope that once we can meet again we will be able to organise some small events at the hall just to get us back together.

As to our big events and outings which I have had to cancel and those I may still have to cancel these are not lost forever. Just as soon as I can I will be re-booking these when the circumstances allow and we'll make up for all the fun and friendship we have missed. You will also find in with this Newsletter a postcard from us with lots of useful phone numbers on.

Please keep it handy and don't be afraid to call any one of us, for help, information or just a chat. Don't forget if you like to use a bit of technology have a look at our Facebook page or let me have your email address and I'll send you an invitation to join us at a Zoom meeting. You'll find the instructions for Zoom in this Newsletter. For now stay safe and don't forget, "We are here for you".

Looking forward to us all being together again soon

**Andrew Spencer Social organiser
07729 519122**

Obituary

Brother Gerald Gordon Baxter Past Provincial Grand Master 20 July 1930 to 8 April 2020

Brother Baxter will be sadly missed by the members of the Nene and Welland District Lodge where he had given so much, offering help and guidance over very many years, always being available to share his experience whilst giving support and advice to young up and coming members or those who were less experienced in the ways of the Society. He could be counted on to help and advise with the serious business of Oddfellowship but also had a sense of humour, a twinkle that could lighten the darkest moments.

Gerald had been a lifelong active Oddfellow having served in various capacities over many years. He was Provincial Grand Master on a number of occasions, had been a Lodge Trustee and until very recently was a long serving District Trustee and member of the District Committee of Management. He served as President of the East Anglian Group Conference from 1988 to 1989, as well as being a Past Worthy Master and mainstay of the John William Viner Provincial Lodge of Past Grands. When you list those offices it doesn't do justice to the gentleman that Gerald was, he had friends and was respected across

the Society having attended AMC and Group Conference Meetings for many years. He mentored many people who then because of him became more active themselves at all levels of the Society and like many of his generation helped strengthen the Society and his Branch by his influence.



A farmer in his working life, Gerald and his wife Maureen had a family of four sons and three daughters who were all duly joined into Oddfellowship, so it became a family affair and he treated his friends as family, never forgetting them when times got tough, always being on the end of the telephone to offer an arm to lean on. We know those close to him miss him and offer our sympathy and support to Sister Maureen and the rest of the family.

Gerald, we will miss your knowledge, experience and smile but most of all your friendship.

A message from Janice at Craft Club

Over the last couple of years we have built our Craft Club up to over 20 regular attendees.

It is so sad that we cannot meet and carry on learning new skills and having fun together. I hope some of what you have learnt at Craft Club has helped pass some time at home for you, using materials you have available at home. Please be assured I am so looking forward to starting up again. Unfortunately I cannot see us being able to restart for some time as it is impossible to show you how to make things whilst socially distancing.

I have spent much of the time at home preparing things for us to make once we are able to restart. I will be in touch as soon as we are able to get together again. However, having spoken to several

members over these past weeks it appears that getting hold of nice Birthday cards has been a struggle. Mainly because the card shops are shut and you cannot get out to the shops. So, I had a thought.

I would be happy to put a Birthday card kit together and send it to you in the post for you to make, then hopefully you would have that special card to send whilst helping to pass a pleasant hour or so in the long days at home.

Now I know it's only June but if anyone would like to start their Christmas preparations whilst in lockdown, I have also got some Christmas card kits to help pass the time away. All you have to do is give me a call 01778 560059 and I'll get it out to you. Below are a couple of examples for you.

Stay Safe

Janice Bedford





Zoom

Have you heard of Zoom? Zoom is a video tool used through the internet or via your computer, mac, smartphone or tablet. Whilst we have been in lockdown many of our branches and Unity office have been meeting by this platform. It allows multiple people to get together by video link for meetings or socially with friends.

For several branches they have used it to hold events on line such as, coffee mornings, quizzes, keep fit and many more. A few of us at Nene and Welland have tried this out meeting together for a chat and of course being able to see each other. We are now thinking about holding some events on Zoom.

If you would like to join us all you need to let Andrew have your email address. You can if you wish download Zoom onto your device or you can just join us at a meeting. On the right are the instructions of how to join a meeting. To let Andrew have your email address contact andrew.spencer@oddfellows.co.uk

How to join a Zoom Meeting

Once Andrew (the meeting host) has your email address he will send you an invitation to an event with a joining code/meeting ID. This is made up of 9, 10 or 11 numbers. Click on the blue highlighted link in the invitation which starts <https://> then click on 'join a meeting'. This may then bring you straight into the meeting or ask you to enter your email address and the meeting ID number. It is very easy to follow the on screen instructions.

If you want to download Zoom onto your device and create your own account, then either open it up in your APPS store or search www.zoom.us on Google and follow the on screen instructions. If you do create an account you will find that when you click on the blue link in the invitation, it will bring you straight in to the meeting. As you join a meeting by whichever of the two ways described here you will be asked on screen how you want to join the meeting you need to click on join with video and join with audio. Then you can see and hear everyone.

Quiz

1. What is the sign Aquarius often called?
2. What was the basic monetary unit of Greece before the Euro?
3. Who conquered Mount Everest in 1953?
4. What colour is the Genie Peridotite?
5. What is an Affenpinscher?
6. What was Elvis Presley's middle name?
7. Who painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel?
8. In what year did John Major become leader of the Conservative Party?
9. Who was the only British Prime Minister to be murdered?
10. What is the study of fossils called?
11. Where is the Umbria mountain range?
12. Where is the Cook Strait situated?
13. What is the fifth book of the Old Testament?
14. What is the capital of the Philippines called?
15. Who wrote the book 'War and Peace'?
16. What is the date of St George's Day?
17. What was the biggest hit for Bing Crosby?
18. Which French town is known for its mustard?
19. Where in the body is the Ulna?
20. What would you use a Dibber for?

Facebook

Many of us today have a Facebook page which we use to keep up with our friends and family or for information. Did you know that we have a Facebook page for our branch Nene and Welland Oddfellows.
















If you have never taken a look at our page please do. At this time it is another way to keep up with what is happening not only in our branch but with the Oddfellows society as a whole. We try to put helpful information around the Covid-19 pandemic, information from our Unity

office with many useful phone numbers, also some fun things too, photographs, memories and quizzes of different sorts to help pass some time for you.

If you visit the page please click on 'like the page' then it should keep you automatically updated of things we put there. Under normal times you'll also find all the information you need for our events each month and photos of past events. Sadly they are not there at this time, but, there's lots still there.

Christine's Garden Quiz:

Name the plants and flowers










		
1.	2.	3.
		
4.	5.	6.
		
7.	8.	9.
		
10.	11.	12.
		
13.	14.	15.




Dingbats Quiz: Say what you see

<p>WHERE FRILLY</p>	<p>WISH</p> 	<p>T</p>
1.	2.	3.
<p>ON RO AD</p>		<p>WET</p> <p>EARS EARS</p>
4.	5.	6.
<p>NOW IN HERE</p>	<p>JAN</p> <p>OB</p>	<p>YOU JUST ME</p>
7.	8.	9.
<p>WAETHER</p>	<p>COVER COP</p>	<p>GRA 12"VE</p>
10.	11.	12.

Quiz Page

This puzzle is for 11 year old children. Find the value of each shape.
How long will it take you?

	+		+		=	108
	+		+		=	102
	+		+		=	100
Find the value for each shape						

 = _____  = _____  = _____

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

Refer a friend today

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

*Terms and conditions apply to the Refer a Friend offer. It cannot be used in conjunction
with any other member offer. For full terms and conditions and for details of the rewards
visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers.

Ref 1644

Museum Update



Inside Angus Grooby's workshop.

For some time the District Committee has been discussing utilising the upstairs room in our building as a museum to display all the regalia, books and other items of interest that we have in our possession. It was agreed by the full committee that this project should be carried out on a professional level and with that in mind the Trustees contacted several bespoke carpenters. In 2019, the Committee agreed with the Trustees to commission Angus Grooby to make the cabinets for our museum.

Angus has been making cabinets for many years and studied furniture design



Side and front view of our cabinets there will be six in all.

and making at Rycotewood College in Oxfordshire for three years where he gained a diploma. He then worked for a company making fine bespoke furniture in Oxfordshire. In 2005 he started his own business in Deeping St James and has been making interesting, bespoke items ever since, incorporating modern and traditional techniques to make quality furniture which will last for generations.

Two different cabinet types have been designed for our museum. The wall units will comprise of cupboards at the bottom and glass units at the top. There will also be six centre display units with lift up sloped lids and a shelf underneath. All the units are being made from solid and veneered ash. Angus has already started on the centre units and it is hoped they will be installed in the museum as soon as our premises are open again.

Included in this museum update are pictures of the work being carried out. One of the photos shows his workshop and on the left you can see the museum cabinets stacked up and the rails for the bases to the right of these. In the bottom



Detailed beading to the frames.



Our new museum room being prepared for the new cabinets before lockdown.

left you can see timber stacked ready for the next lot of museum cabinets. The next pictures are of the centre cabinets without the shelves. There will be one shelf in the centre which will be adjustable in height.

It is hoped that all the installation will be completed by the end of the year

then the hard work will continue for us in arranging all the artefacts. Members have already cleaned and decorated the room and a new ceiling and lighting installed. Our sincere thanks goes to all our members who carried out this valuable work.

Writing Letters

In the days of mobile phones, email and text messages, letter writing feels like something from the past, but don't you think the art of writing a letter and receiving a letter in the post offers an experience that modern technology cannot touch.

Letters create a connection that modern, impersonal forms of communication will never approach. With that in mind and with many of us staying safe in

our homes, how would you like to write a letter to another Nene and Welland member?

Why not become a pen pal friend?

If you are interested please do let Karen know. We will only share postal information with your prior permission. We can also provide help with paper and stamps if you need it!



Meet your Nene and Welland 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.



Barry Bedford
Near Bourne,
Lincolnshire

Telephone:
07852 282776



John Sargeant
Near Spalding,
Lincolnshire

Telephone:
01775 769487



Christine Sargeant
Near Spalding,
Lincolnshire

Telephone:
01775 769487
07714 096801

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 Karen Earth on **01778 571555** or email **karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk**.

National Oddfellows Helplines



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

Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line*



Call 0800 0149 821

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)



Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@manchestercab.org

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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline*



Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)



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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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

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

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

Time to say “Thank you!”



It's true that lights shine brightest on the darkest of days as, since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic, we've witnessed countless acts of kindness and the best of humankind.

Jane Nelson, CEO, says, “Oddfellows has its own very special brand of friendship which goes a long way in helping our members through some difficult times, and these past few weeks have been extremely difficult for so many people. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of our Branches and all our volunteers for the fantastic way that they all rose to the challenge, and we can't thank them enough for their efforts.”

As with other local organisations supporting older or vulnerable people, including many who live alone or who

are shielding, our volunteers make a huge difference to the scale of help we can offer, such as making welfare check-in calls, organising essential shopping and providing company through befriending and online events.

Once again, our most heartfelt thanks go to the individuals who have given their time freely to be a friend to those in desperate need. We will not forget your kindness, and we hope that their example continues to inspire many others to offer their help where possible, long into the future.

Interested in becoming an Oddfellows member volunteer? Speak with your Branch Secretary, or take a look at www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/social/volunteering/

Our emergency appeals

At times of crisis, the Society has always looked for ways to help. Which is why, when our friends in Australia were fighting against bush fires at the end of 2019, our members rallied to offer their support.



Reflecting on the donations, Oddfellows CEO Jane Nelson said: “Thank you again to all who have contributed to the Appeals, and for enabling those in need to receive the support they so desperately need, as well as to draw comfort from the knowledge that they have not been forgotten.”

We're pleased to tell you that the total amount raised by our members was £7,600. This money has gone directly to those affected, to help rebuild communities and provide valuable support.

We also launched our Coronavirus Emergency Appeal, in support of The Silver Line and the National Emergencies Trust's critical work during the pandemic. Both organisations work hard to ensure help and comfort is provided to those who desperately need it.



We'd love to see you at our online events

Just because you aren't able to come along to our usual face-to-face events at the moment, doesn't mean that you should have to miss out on all of the fun!

Lots of our Branches are hosting online events, open to members from across the country, through Facebook Live or Zoom video conferencing. Don't have a smartphone or a computer with a camera? There's a phone-in option as well, so it's accessible to all.

Whether you're looking for exercise motivation with our Seated Yoga class, hosted by Swansea and Bridgend, or you'd like to test your general knowledge with Ipswich's weekly trivia quizzes, there is something for everyone. If you're struggling to get set up on Zoom, our Branches are on hand to help.



Give your local Social Organiser a call and they can talk you through the process. It's a free-to-use video conferencing tool, and it's a great way for you to stay in touch with your fellow members.

Facebook is another option. Lots of Branches have their own Facebook page updated regularly with events, news, fun quizzes and a little bit of humour to keep us smiling through these tough times. If you haven't liked your local Oddfellows page yet, get in touch with your Branch Secretary to ask for the link.

Oddfellows Travel Unveiled

Despite there being restrictions on how and where we can travel at the moment, we're busy behind the scenes creating a brand-new line-up of short breaks, longer trips and cruises for 2021 under the new name Oddfellows Travel (formally Active Travel Club).

Rest assured, we're still working with our trusted third-party travel partners, Fred. Olsen, Warner Leisure Hotels, Haven and Leger Holidays who are ABTA and ATOL

protected, so you can be confident your booking is in good hands.

When you're thinking about taking your next trip, don't forget to look at what we have to offer. Whether you're a foodie, a culture vulture or a history buff, we hope to have a holiday that you'll love.

Visit Oddfellows Travel at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Boredom busters

We've put together some fun puzzles to help distract your mind and pass the time. How quickly can you crack them?

Anagrams – rearrange the letters to guess the word!

Doledwolfs

Henisfirpd

Clodkonw

Behpmimers

Beefnits

Riddles

Can you guess the answers to these quarrelsome questions?

- 1, What has to be broken before you can use it?
- 2, What goes up, but never comes down?
- 3, What question can you never honestly answer yes to?
- 4, This belongs to you, but everybody else uses it. What is it?
- 5, How can a pocket be empty, but still have something in it?

Where is the ping pong ball?



Dingbats

What's this well-known phrase?

E Y E S

Answers:

Where is the ping pong ball? (C)

Riddle: 1, An egg 2, Your age! 3, Are you asleep? 4, Your name 5, There's a hole in the pocket!

Dingbats: Eyes wide open

Anagrams: Oddfellows, Friendship, Lockdown, Membership, Benefits

Quiz Answer on page 16

- 1. The Water Carrier
- 2. Drachma
- 3. Edmund Hillary
- 4. Pale Green
- 5. Small dog
- 6. Aaron
- 7. Michelangelo
- 8. 1990
- 9. Spencer Perceval
- 10. Palaeontology
- 11. Central Italy
- 12. Between the North and South Islands of New Zealand
- 13. Deuteronomy
- 14. Manila
- 15. Leo Tolstoy
- 16. 23 April
- 17. White Christmas
- 18. Dijon
- 19. In the arm elbow to wrist
- 20. Making holes in the ground for planting

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Answers to Dingbats Quiz on page 18

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- 1. Frilly Underwear
- 2. Wish upon a star
- 3. High Tea
- 4. On the open road
- 5. First in the queue
- 6. Wet behind the ears
- 7. In the middle of nowhere
- 8. An Inside Job
- 9. Just between you and me
- 10. Bad spell of weather
- 11. Undercover Cop
- 12. One foot in the grave

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Answers to Christine's Garden Quiz on page 17

- 1. Lemon Ice
- 2. Fuchsia (in bud)
- 3. Crocus
- 4. Geranium
- 5. Camellia
- 6. Mahonia Trifoliolata
- 7. Common Daisy
- 8. Old English Marigold
- 9. Bergenia (Elephant's Ears)
- 10. Periwinkle
- 11. Snow in Summer
- 12. Honesty
- 13. Pansy
- 14. Quince Blossom
- 15. Apple Blossom

Quiz Page Answer on page 19

 = 38  = 32  = 30

This is how you work it out: Add the top two lines together. That gives you 3 triangles and 3 circles equalling 210. Divide it all by 3. That gives you 1 triangle and one circle equalling 70. Take 70 away from 108. That is the same as taking 1 triangle and one circle away, so the remaining triangle is 38. Repeat with 102 and that gives you a circle value 32. I am sure you can work out the square.