

March - June 2025



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

out & about

West London Branch



Terrace gardens, Richmond, London by Edson Rosas



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea

Welcome to our latest events diary

Booking for events will be open from Monday 17 February from 9am

We have some great events and trips coming up, but please do remember that the diary is prepared well in advance and it could be possible that events have to be altered. We do also add new events so please check the website www.oddfellows.co.uk/events/ or our Facebook page, West London Oddfellows, for up to date information. If you would like to receive updates by email please let me know so that I can add you to the list.

Please note that many events sell out well before the booking deadline. We do operate a waiting list for events that sell out, so even if the booking deadline has passed it is worth asking if there is something that you are interested in. We require a deposit at the time of booking with the balance being due at least two weeks before the event. We can accept cash, cheques and bank transfers. We can now take card payments using a secure link as well as in person. If you are unable to attend an event and we are able to resell the place we will of course give you a full refund. Please note that if you are attending an event that involves a service charge on the final bill, you will be expected to pay your share, the Branch is unable to pay this on your behalf.

This year we are hosting two holidays! One to Warner's on Hayling Island and one to The Algarve in November. Please see the individual entries in the



We hope to see you at our events!

Contact Details

Branch Secretary:

Barbara Moorhouse

Telephone: 020 8741 5297

Mobile: 07727 026707

Email:

barbara.moorhouse@oddfellows.co.uk

Care and Welfare Officer

Zoe Khowega

Telephone: 020 8741 5297

Mobile: 07727358456

Email:

zoe.khowega@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Rosalind Earp

Telephone: 07421 140970

Email:

rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk

Office Address: The Oddfellows,
186 Hammersmith Road,
Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ.

diary for more information,
booking for these is open now.

The art class continues to be held every Thursday starting at 10.30am. All are welcome, even if you think you cannot draw or paint why not pop along, you may be surprised at yourself! Please see the advert later in the diary for more information.

Our Care and Welfare Officer, Zoe Khowega, is running a craft club on Monday afternoons from 2-4pm, please see the advert later in the diary for more details.

There are still many virtual events run by different Oddfellows branches throughout the country, taking place on Zoom and Facebook each week. Again up to date information can be found on the website. If you would like to receive information by email each fortnight please let me know.

If you have any ideas or would like something included in our next diary please get in touch. I can be contacted on the office number 020 8741 5297 on Thursdays from 10am-3pm or Monday to Friday 9am-3pm on 07421140970. Alternatively email me rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk.

I hope to see you at an event soon.

Best wishes
Rosalind

Regular Events

Craft Club

Every
Monday



2pm



Free



Pop in with your favourite craft: Crochet, knit or sew whatever you enjoy. You can even teach or learn something new. We also have equipment. Refreshments available. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Zoe on 07727 358456.



Weekly Watercolour Art Class

Every
Thursday



10.30am - 1pm



Free



Beginners weekly watercolour art class. Everyone can draw, everyone can paint with a little help. Join us for our weekly class, which is designed for beginners, but more experienced painters are welcome. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Heather on 07951 546958.



March 2025

TUES 04 Social and Games Afternoon



Join us for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served.



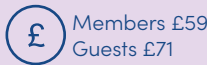
Free - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

THURS 06 Warm Hub



Join our Care and Welfare Officer, Zoe Khowega, every Thursday during the winter months. The event takes place at 245 Hammersmith Road (opposite our building at 186). Play board and card games, have a chat, bring your book, newspaper or knitting! Zoe will be on the mezzanine level, ask at reception and they will point you in the right direction. 245 Hammersmith Road, London W6 8PW. Contact Zoe on 07727 358456.

SUN 09 Faulty Towers - The Dining Experience



Join us for a quintessentially British experience like no other as Basil, Sybil and Manuel serve up theatre and chaos alongside a 70s-style three course meal. The trio have spent over a decade setting West End records for the longest running immersive experience, longest running show based on a TV series and the longest running Faulty Towers show of any kind worldwide! This is the show where you step inside the TV series and become part of the action itself. Highly improvised, highly interactive, and fully immersive, join the action for an unforgettable afternoon where guests are not just audience members, but welcomed as highly esteemed guests of Torquay's most aspirational hoteliers. Drinks and merchandise can be pre ordered. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. Cost: Members: £59 plus the cost of your travel and drinks. Guests: £71 plus the cost of your travel and drinks. Book by Friday 21 February. President Hotel, 56 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1DP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

March 2025

WED
12

Traditional English Scone Making and Tea Workshop



3pm



Members £23
Guests £28



There's nothing more British than scones with jam and clotted cream. In this fun workshop, led by a professional local baker, we will learn how to make scones from scratch and then feast on our creations with clotted cream, jam and tea. We will hear the history of this classic treat whilst we make three or more freshly baked scones. You will also receive a scone baking certificate. Book by Friday 21 February. Americana London, 11 Haymarket SW1Y 4BP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



TUES
18

The Kray Twins



2pm-4pm



Free



We are joined by historian Ian Porter, who will tell us the real story of the Kray twins, the first and still only celebrity villains. A tale of tasty geezers, dodgy characters and lots of porkies. Ian will start with their childhood and how they had promising boxing careers. He will cover Ron's mental illness and how the twins became celebrity villains and gained friends in high places. We will also learn about Reggie's marital problems and how the twins came into conflict with the Richardson gang including one Mad Frankie Fraser. We will hear all about three infamous murders and how this leads eventually to their arrest. Lastly, Ian will tell us about the 'nice little earners' they had whilst they were in prison! Light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

THURS
13

Warm Hub



1pm-4pm



Free



Join our Care and Welfare Officer, Zoe Khowega, every Thursday during the winter months. The event takes place at 245 Hammersmith Road (opposite our building at 186) Play board and card games, have a chat or bring your book, newspaper or knitting! Zoe will be on the mezzanine level, ask at reception and they will point you in the right direction. 245 Hammersmith Road, London W6 8PW. Contact Zoe on 07727 358456.



March 2025

THURS 20 Warm Hub



1pm-4pm



Free



Join our Care and Welfare Officer, Zoe Khowega, every Thursday during the winter months. The event takes place at 245 Hammersmith Road (opposite our building at 186) Play board and card games, have a chat or bring your book, newspaper or knitting! Zoe will be on the mezzanine level, ask at reception and they will point you in the right direction. 245 Hammersmith Road, London W6 8PW. Contact Zoe on 07727 358456.

THURS 27 Monthly Meal - Pub Food



1.30pm



Cost of your travel, food and drink



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines. This month we will be trying the pub food at The Swan in Hammersmith. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. The table is booked for 1.30pm. Book by Thursday 6 March. The Swan, 46 Hammersmith Broadway W6 0DZ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

FRI 21 Lunchtime Concert - St Martins in the Fields with Fish and Chips Lunch



12 noon



Members £15, Guests £20



A multi-talented duo on a mission to break down musical barriers, Eleanor Grant on bass and Gus McQuade on guitar present a programme of music spanning over 400 years, from John Dowland and Elizabeth Poston to Joni Mitchell. We be treated to a lunchtime of intimate story-telling, with their own tailor-made arrangements



for the combination of voice, guitar and double bass. Ticket includes a fish and chips lunch before the concert. Lunch is at midday, the concert starts at 1pm. Book by Friday 7 March. St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square WC2N 4JH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

March 2025

SAT
29

Annual General Meeting



2pm



Free

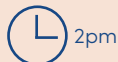


We encourage all our members to join us as we discuss all the important topics relating to the development and running of the Branch. **Please note you must inform Barbara by Friday 21 March if you wish to attend this meeting.** Light refreshments will be served. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Barbara on 07727 026707.



MON
31

Tea Dance at The Musical Museum



2pm



Members £5
Guests £8



The tea dance is a social event featuring dancing, music and a tea or coffee. Join us at The Musical Museum for a delightful afternoon of music, dancing and good company with Chris Powell and Matthew Bason at the Wurlitzer Cinema Organ. Book by Friday 7 March. The Musical Museum, 399 High Street, Brentford TW8 0DU. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



April

TUES
01

Agatha Christie: Queen of Crime!



2pm-4pm

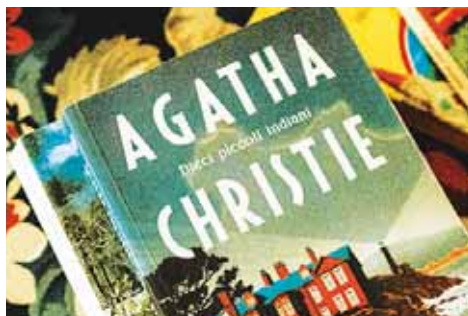


Free



We are joined again by Nick Dobson, a former professional librarian, champion fuchsia grower and amateur opera singer, for his talk on Agatha Christie: Queen of Crime!

Agatha Christie is the world's all-time best-selling novelist and the author of 'The Mousetrap', the world's longest running play. Despite all the success she enjoyed, her own life included more than a share of mystery and drama - find out more in this illustrated look at her life and works. Light refreshments will be served, donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



April

WED 09 Docklands Museum - Secrets of the Warehouse

🕒 11.30am 💷 Members £5
Guests £10 🗨️🗨️



Join us for a 45 minute guided tour. We will explore the hidden history of the Georgian warehouse and its neighbouring streets. We will also visit some areas not regularly open to the public and gain an insight into the working lives of the dockers who once walked the floors. Afterwards, explore over 400 years of history in the museum's nine galleries, with each one exploring a different theme of London's river, port and people. Optional late lunch. Tour starts at 11.30am. Book by Friday 7 March. No 1 Warehouse, West India Quay, London E14 4AL. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SAT 12 Torvill and Dean - Our Last Dance

🕒 7.30pm 💷 Members £59, Guests £75 🎵



Seize your chance to see the world's most famous ice dancing duo, Torvill and Dean perform together on ice, before they retire from skating for good! Join us to see British ice skating legends Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean as they embark on their last ever tour together, Torvill and Dean: Our Last Dance. A tribute to their half-century legacy, this brand new show will give audiences a unique opportunity to experience and celebrate their iconic partnership for one last time in an arena spectacular. See them in action as they reflect on their illustrious career, writing the final chapter in what has been a truly remarkable story in British sport. Show starts at 7.30pm. Book by Friday 21 February. OVO Arena Wembley, Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0AA. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

TUES 15 Social and Games Afternoon

🕒 2pm-4pm 💷 Free 🗨️

Join us for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

April

SUN
20

Easter Sunday and St George's Day



11am



Cost of your travel, food and drink



We will be heading to Trafalgar Square for the Mayor of London's annual St George's Day Festival which is now in its 18th year. London's most iconic square will be turned red and white in honour of our patron saint. An afternoon of live music, dance and performances celebrating English culture, there will be tasty treats from food vendors and you can take a selfie with one of London's famous Pearly Kings and Queens. We will then head to Westminster Abbey for one of their Easter services (time to be confirmed). Optional meal after the service. Join us for any or all of the elements of this day. Times are subject to change. Book by Friday 11 April. Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DS. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Diliff

WED
23

Monthly Meal - Vietnamese and Filipino



7pm



Cost of your travel, food and drink



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines. Join us at Sprigs Vietnamese Eatery to sample Vietnamese and Filipino cuisine. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. The table is booked for 7pm. Book by Thursday 3 April. Sprigs Vietnamese Eatery, 24 Shepherd's Bush Green W12 8PH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

MON
28

Holiday to Warners Hayling Island



10.30am



£425



We will be returning to Warners at Hayling Island this year for a four night break. Costs includes bed, breakfast and evening meal and return coach travel from 186 Hammersmith Road. Please note this holiday is for members only. Book by Friday 14 March. Sinah Warren, Ferry Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0BZ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Alan Ford

This holiday is operated by Warner Hotels. Please understand their terms and conditions before booking at www.warnerleisurehotels.co.uk/company/terms-and-conditions.

The Oddfellows cannot be held responsible for any bookings made with Warner Hotels.

May

TUES
06

Chris Truran - Digital Forensics

🕒 2pm-4pm

£ Free



Chris Truran was a Scene of Crimes Officer (SOCO). He worked in central, north and north west London. During his 38½ years he examined over 25,000 crime scenes ranging from shop-lifting to murder. Chris returns to talk to us about the use of digital forensics to prove the guilt of criminals using imaging such as CCTV to catch them. He will also cover dealing with scam calls from criminals, how to triangulate the position of suspects using their mobile phones placing them at the scene of the crime, hacking and how our data is harvested. Light refreshments will be available - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

THURS
08

Monthly Meal - Mediterranean

🕒 1.30pm

£ Cost of your
travel, food
and drink



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines.



Join us at Megan's at the Flower Market for our meal this month. Megan's is a loosely Mediterranean, all day dining café/restaurant with a mainly Turkish influence. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. The table is booked for 1.30pm. Book by Thursday 1 May. Megan's at the Flower Market, 214 Chiswick High Road W4 1PD. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SAT
10

Comedy at The Stand Up Club

🕒 7.45pm

£ Members £5
Guests £17.50



Join us for a night of laughter at the UK's best independent Comedy Club. Comedians to be confirmed. Show starts at 7.45pm. Optional pre-show meal - table booked for 5.15pm. Book by Friday 18 April. The Stand-Up Club, 7 Oxendon Street, Piccadilly SW1Y 4EE. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

May

WED
14

The Spirit of Water Exhibition at Salisbury Cathedral



10.30am



Members: £12 plus £15 for the coach
Guests: £17 plus £20 for the coach



The 2025 festival, The Spirit of Water, is a companion piece to the cathedral's summer art exhibition, Living Water. The exhibition explores the power of water, its ability to hold memories and shape the identity of a place. The Flower Festival also takes its inspiration from water in all its different forms. There will be a huge array of arrangements, from displays representing 'A world without water', to a journey along a 'River of flowers' and a display depicting the seabed which will include hundreds of fish made by local community groups.



After visiting the exhibition you will be able to visit other attractions in Salisbury. The coach will depart from Hammersmith at 10.30am and from Salisbury at 6pm. Tickets for the exhibition are for 1.30pm.

Cost: Members: £12 plus £15 for the coach. Guests: £17 plus £20 for the coach. Book by Friday 11 April. Salisbury Cathedral, The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

TUES

20

Social and Games Afternoon



2pm-4pm



Free



Join us for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

May

WED
28

Kenwood House

L 10am

£ Free



On the edge of Hampstead Heath and surrounded by tranquil landscaped gardens, Kenwood is one of London's hidden gems. The interiors are breathtaking and there is a stunning world-class art collection, which includes Rembrandt's 'Self-Portrait with Two Circles' and paintings by Vermeer, Gainsborough, Turner and Constable. There are 112 acres of glorious parkland designed by Humphry Repton to explore and characters from Kenwood's past to discover, including Dido Belle, a British gentlewoman who was born into slavery. Expert volunteers offer Highlight Tours of the house that introduce visitors to Kenwood, its history and inhabitants. You'll also hear about some of the highlights of the collection and the great masterpieces of the Iveagh Bequest.

The tour runs at 2.30pm and last approximately one hour. If you wish to take part you can pay on the day - £10 for adults/£5 for English Heritage members. Please also note, that Kenwood will be hosting a Singer Sargent exhibition in the Green and Music rooms and entry to these rooms will be subject to a fee (to be confirmed). The rest of the house will be free to visit. We will be leaving Hammersmith at 10am to travel on public transport to Kenwood House. Book by Thursday 15 May. Kenwood House, Hampstead Lane, Hampstead NW3 7JR. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

Photo by Mrs Ellacott

June

TUES
03

Town Crier

L 2pm-4pm

£ Free



Jonathan Jones was the official Town Crier for Farnham in Surrey for 17 years, having first been appointed in June 2003. Jonathan's talk covers how he came to be elected as Town Crier, his duties, responsibilities and the significance of the uniform. He will also tell us about the origins of Town Criers in days gone by. Light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

June

SUN
08

Abba Voyage



1pm



Members £59
Guests £70



Agnetha, Björn, Benny and Anni-Frid have created the kind of concert they always wanted, performing for their fans at their very best: As digital versions of themselves backed by today's finest musicians. Featuring a setlist of ABBA's biggest, most popular hits - each handpicked with great care by the band. Blurring the lines between the physical and digital, see the magic of ABBA brought to life using the latest in motion capture technology. It's the greatest ABBA performance the world has never seen. Until now! Dig out your platformers, flares and join us at this very special event. Show starts at 1pm. Optional post show meal. Please note these are seated tickets. Cost: Members: £59 plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Guests: £70 plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 23 May. ABBA Arena, Pudding Mill Lane, Newham, London E15 2RU. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

Photo by Raph_PH

SAT
14

Beefeater VIP Gin Distillery Tour and Tasting



3.30pm



Members £39
Guests £45



Join us for a VIP tour! We start with a welcome cocktail as we explore the interactive gin exhibition, uncovering the fascinating history of gin and Beefeater's journey to becoming a global favourite. We will then enjoy a guided tour of the full production site, including the iconic Still House, with an in-depth explanation of the gin-making process. We then visit the private speakeasy-style bar, where we will taste four Beefeater gins and see our favourites transformed into cocktails or G&Ts. We will also experience an interactive talk in the botanical storeroom, learning about the carefully selected ingredients behind The World's Most Awarded Gin. Your VIP ticket includes: A welcome cocktail, access to the self-guided gin exhibition, guided tour of the full distillery (with insights into the production process), a tasting of four Beefeater gins and a G&T or cocktail of your choice. Tour commences at 3.30pm. Optional early dinner afterwards. Cost: Members: £39 plus the cost of your travel, food and drinks. Guests: £45 plus the cost of your travel, food and drinks. Book by Friday 30 May. Beefeater Gin Distillery, 20 Montford Place SE11 5DE. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

June

TUES
17

Social and Games Afternoon

🕒 2pm-4pm

£ Free



Join us for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

WED
18

Walthamstow Market

🕒 10.30am

£ Cost of your travel, purchases, food and drink



Join us for a mooch about the market. Walthamstow market started in 1885 and is now Europe's longest outdoor street market, spanning a kilometre of the High Street. As well as stalls selling food, clothes and household goods, you'll find cafés offering tasty treats from around the world. Expect everything from Caribbean curried goat to cockney pie and mash, and even jellied eels! Book by Monday 16 June. Walthamstow Market, High Street, Walthamstow E17 7JX. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



WED
25

Chiswick House and Gardens Tour with Lunch

🕒 11am

£ Members £21.25
Guests £26.25



Chiswick House is a glorious example of Neo-Palladian architecture. Join us for a day as we enjoy a guided tour of the house and garden. The tour of the house starts at 11am. Cost: Members: £21.25 plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Guests: £26.25 plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 23 May. Chiswick House, Burlington Lane W4 2RP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Michael Coppins

June

SAT
28

Monthly Meal - Brazilian



6.30pm



Traditional dishes £24.95, Rodizio grill £29.95



Experience the excitement and flavours of Brazil with traditional rodizio style dining! The rodizio includes a variety of grilled meats cooked on a churrasco (Brazilian BBQ) and a selection of food from the hot buffet and salad bar. When you are ready, take a plate from the food bar and customize your own salad with fresh greens and veggies, and savour the flavours of the hot buffet dishes, from rice and beans to stews and casseroles.



Grab your tongs and flip your card to the green side, signalling to the passadors (meat servers) to begin bringing around a variety of grilled meats. From succulent beef, juicy pork, tender chicken, marinated lamb and more, the meats are seasoned to perfection and sliced right onto your plate. When you're satisfied or just want to take a break, simply flip your card to the red side.

Traditional Brazilian dishes: Help yourself to an unlimited selection from the gourmet salad bar and traditional Brazilian hot dishes (no meat included) £24.95. Rodizio grill traditional Brazilian dishes as above and unlimited servings of freshly prepared spit roasted meats presented on skewers and served table side by authentic passadors £29.95. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf.

A £10 deposit will be required when booking. The table is booked for 6.30pm. Book by Friday 13 June. Preto Brazilian Steakhouse and BBQ, 31-33 Putney High Street, Putney SW15 1SP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

Booking and cancellations

Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support. Please note that a place is not guaranteed at any event until full payment has been received.

Forthcoming Event in November

WED
12

Holiday to the Algarve



12 noon



£1,995



Holiday to the Algarve, Wednesday 12 – 19 November. Staying in a four star hotel in Tavira. All rooms double for sole use £110 upgrade for a pool view room. Discounts for anyone wishing to share a twin room.

Cost includes return flights, coach travel (where applicable) for transfers and activities in Portugal. Tour guide, tour managers and entertainment all available at hotel on three evenings.

Coach pick up from 186 Hammersmith Road to and from Gatwick Airport. Cost for return journey approx. £40.

Deposit of £350 required and balance payable eight weeks before departure. Itinerary listed below:

Day 1: Flight London (Gatwick) to Faro transfer to hotel in Tavira, welcome drinks and dinner.

Day 2: Breakfast then walking tour of Tavira with lunch.

Day 3: Breakfast then day at leisure.

Day 4: Breakfast then Ria Formosa boat tour and walking tour Culatra Island with lunch.

Day 5: Breakfast then day at leisure.

Day 6: Breakfast then Cork Oak walk and talk and olive oil tasting with lunch.

Day 7: Breakfast then Loule Market then onto wine tasting (light lunch) farewell dinner in local tapas restaurant.

Day 8: Breakfast then transfer to Faro airport for return flight to London (Gatwick).

To register your interest, contact Rosalind on 07421 140970 or email rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk.

Book by Friday 29 August. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ.

This holiday is operated by Travel Editions Group Travel.

Please read and understand their terms and conditions before booking.

www.traveleditions.co.uk/terms-and-conditions

The Oddfellows cannot be held responsible for any bookings made with Travel Editions.

Oddfellows Extra

– big brand offers and savings



From cinema tickets, holidays and new cars to grocery shopping, health spas and home insurance – Oddfellows Extra* can help you save on life's little extras or necessities.

Oddfellows Extra is an online collection of money-saving discounts and offers from many well-known brands and major retailers.

All Oddfellows Extra deals are open to Standard members and members with Extra Benefits from day one, for no extra charge.

Access Oddfellows Extra

If you're a member, sign in to the Member's Area and select 'Oddfellows Extra' from the member offers section. If you've not yet registered for the Member's Area, there are instructions on how to do so on our website: www.oddfellows.co.uk/login

OEA50723

*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits.
Visit the Oddfellows Extra website for details.



Oddfellows Extra is operated on behalf of Oddfellows by Parliament Hill Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for under register number 308446.

Photos of past events...



Carols in the stunning Chapel of St Peter & St Paul at the Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich.



We had a wonderful time at The Musical Museums Christmas Concert.



The staff attended a Christmas Networking Event at Americana in Soho. Jasper the dog was the star of the day.



Jasper the dog.



Exchanging ideas with other group organisers.



We were joined by Nic Dobson for a talk on the Swinging Sixties.

REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile

To refer someone you know and make their day, either fill in the Refer a Friend form available from your Branch Secretary, or call Membership on 0800 028 1810, or visit our Members' Area at www.oddfellows.co.uk



*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

Scottish Ceilidh

Members enjoyed dancing at the National Army Museums Scottish Ceilidh.



Christmas at Warwick Castle

We visited Warwick Castle for their Christmas Decorations and Winter Lights Trail.



Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



None of us know what is around the corner...

Local Care and Welfare Support

To request contact from a Welfare Visitor and for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence on **020 8741 5297**.

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on welfare benefits, money and debt issues, consumer problems, housing, fuel bills, employment issues and many other issues.

*The Oddfellows cannot provide legal advice and accepts no liability whatsoever for advice provided by Citizens Advice, which is an independent advice agency. If you have any queries about the advice you have received or wish to make a complaint then you should contact Citizens Advice directly. Citizens Advice operate a formal complaints process.

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

Visit our website page at www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care
for care and welfare information

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Harnessing the warmth of friendship

I hope this message finds you well. Where has 2024 gone?

As we move into a new year, it's a perfect time to reflect on 2024 and prepare ourselves for fresh opportunities and challenges.

The best changes bring happiness to our lives, and better still, the lives of those around us.

Last September, during Friendship Month, we introduced the nation to 'frenergy' – the positive energy exchanged between friends. True friendships are more than just companionship, they thrive on mutual support and uplifting one another – something that, I'm proud to say, is evident throughout our Society. We all have those special people who are there for us in the good times but are equally importantly when life throws us challenges.

Spreading friendship

Let's continue to create that warm, positive feeling everywhere we go this year. Offer encouragement, make a new face at an Oddfellows event feel welcome, or simply make sure to really listen to each other.

A kind word or a helping hand can be transformative for ourselves and those around us, and create ripples of positivity that extend beyond our personal circles.



Frenergy can even be transferred through an unexpected smile or a nod at a stranger in the street. I know it makes my day when it happens and you'd be surprised how often they smile back – confirmation that it has lifted their spirits too.

2025's positive foundations

We welcomed more new members to the Society in 2024 than we have for many years, which is a credit to the atmosphere created within our Branches.

This is a positive foundation to build on, but more can always be done. There will always be people who could benefit from our friendship and support, so let's keep spreading the word.

In this season of reflection and renewal, I hope we all have the drive to pursue our goals while providing and receiving friendship's invigorating energy. One thing is for sure – whether tackling adversity or celebrating success, we are stronger together.

Wishing you and all those close to you a very happy and healthy 2025.

Yours always in friendship,

Jane Nelson, CEO, the Oddfellows

Oddfellows Travel 2025

With Oddfellows Travel, not only will you have a wealth of unforgettable experiences, but you'll holiday with confidence and in good company.

All our group holidays are hosted by an Oddfellows member, and we only work with experienced travel partners that we trust.

Whether you want to break up your diary with a short UK getaway, or you have your sights on a once-in-a-lifetime cruise, take a look at our upcoming holidays. We'd love to have you along.

Our holidays are exclusively for our members and accompanying family and friends.

South Devon Delights 31 March to 4 April (4 nights)



Enjoy the resort of Torquay, affectionately known as the 'English Riviera', with its sandy beaches, public gardens, promenades and hustle and bustle of evening entertainment.

Staying at the Metropole Hotel, Torquay. From £295 per person. Half board. Includes coach pick up and drop off from certain locations, or a self-arrival option.

Join us as we head to the south Devon coast on this Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.

Oddfellows Summer Holiday in Somerset 7 to 11 July (4 nights)



Our annual Oddfellows Summer Holiday, hosted by the incoming Grand Master (Chairman), is open to all members and their guests. It's a chance to enjoy some quality time out in wonderful and welcoming company.

We'll be staying at Warner Hotels' Cricket St. Thomas Hotel, Somerset. Half board from £350 per person, based on two people sharing a double or twin room. A limited number of solo occupancy rooms are available at a reduced rate of £450. Come and holiday among friends in this charming retreat.

Whales, Waterfalls and Geysers of Iceland

17 to 29 July (12 nights)



Witness the incredible energy of Iceland's geysers, thundering waterfalls and fascinating wildlife with us, as we set sail on this Oddfellows-escorted group cruise.

From £1,799 per person. Full board. Departing from Dover on Fred. Olsen's Borealis.

Take in Iceland's spectacular natural wonders on this thrilling Oddfellows group cruise.

Scarborough

1 to 5 October (4 nights)



You'll be staying in the Cumberland Hotel in the charming seaside town of Scarborough. With its castle, beaches, theatres, parks and cafés, you'll be spoilt for things to do.

From £325 per person. Half board. Includes coach pick up and drop off from certain locations, or a self-arrival option.

Join us as we head to North Yorkshire on this Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.



A recent Oddfellows Travel 'Mystery Cruise' trip

For Oddfellows Travel questions and bookings, please contact Emma Gorst **0161 214 4634** or email travel@oddfellows.co.uk
More information can be found at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Measuring and offsetting our carbon footprint

We're a Carbon Neutral Plus Organisation and have been calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint since 1 April 2020.

Such measurements have resulted in a number of changes to how we operate, with the focus being on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.



Our carbon footprint

Our carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases generated by our actions and measured in units of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e).

Between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, 77.78 tonnes of CO₂e was identified as being produced through the operations of the Oddfellows' Manchester and former Liverpool offices, and its associated transport activities, which includes our financial services brand, Unity Mutual.

The amounts include fuel consumption, company-owned vehicles, staff business travel and homeworking. And, for the first time, emissions as a result of employee commuting have been included in the 2023/2024 assessment.

Reducing and offsetting

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Our focus is to keep learning through our assessments and to make incremental changes to the way we operate so we can bring our greenhouse gas emissions down and play our part in tackling climate change."

To offset our market-based carbon footprint for 2023-24, the Society has funded a range of carbon dioxide-saving initiatives around the world, including in Ghana, Zambia, Thailand, Turkey and India.

Jane added: "We aim to become Net Zero as a Society. This is where we reduce our carbon emissions to the lowest amount possible and offset as a last resort.

"While we are on that journey, our promise is to always offset our carbon footprint."

Find out more at
www.oddfellows.co.uk/climate-change

Events at a glance

In addition to our regular events, we are holding the **Craft Club** every Monday and **Weekly Watercolour Art Class** every Thursday, please see page 3 for full details.

March 2025

Tues 4	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm - 4pm
Thurs 6	Warm Hub	1pm-4pm
Sun 9	Faulty Towers - The Dining Experience	1.30pm
Wed 12	Traditional English Scone Making and Tea Workshop	3pm
Thurs 13	Warm Hub	1pm-4pm
Tues 18	The Kray Twins	2pm-4pm
Thurs 20	Warm Hub	1pm-4pm
Fri 21	Lunchtime Concert - St Martins in the Fields with Fish and Chips Lunch	12 noon
Thurs 27	Monthly Meal - Pub Food	1.30pm
Sat 29	Annual General Meeting - Booking essential	2pm
Mon 31	Tea Dance at The Musical Museum	2pm

April

Tues 1	Agatha Christie: Queen of Crime!	2pm-4pm
Wed 9	Docklands Museum - Secrets of the Warehouse	11.30am
Sat 12	Torvill and Dean - Our Last Dance	7.30pm
Tues 15	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm-4pm
Sun 20	Easter Sunday and St George's Day	11am
Wed 23	Monthly Meal - Vietnamese and Filipino	7pm
Mon 28	Holiday to Warners Hayling Island	10.30am

May

Tues 6	Chris Truran - Digital Forensics	2pm-4pm
Thurs 8	Monthly Meal - Mediterranean	1.30pm
Sat 10	Comedy at The Stand Up Club	7.45pm
Wed 14	The Spirit of Water Exhibition at Salisbury Cathedral	10.30am
Tues 20	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm-4pm
Wed 28	Kenwood House	10am

Events at a glance

June

Tues 3	Town Crier	2pm-4pm
Sun 8	Abba Voyage	1pm
Sat 14	Beefeater VIP Gin Distillery Tour and Tasting	3.30pm
Tues 17	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm-4pm
Wed 18	Walthamstow Market	10.30am
Wed 25	Chiswick House and Gardens Tour with Lunch	11am
Sat 28	Monthly Meal - Brazilian	6.30pm

Assistance at events

Please be aware that we do not provide staff to give assistance to individuals at any events, including, but not limited to, pushing wheelchairs, providing physical support or to provide individual attention for any personal needs. If you need any such assistance, in the interest of your own safety we cannot accept your attendance unless it includes a companion or carer to accompany you. If a carers rate is available it will be passed to you. Thank you for your understanding.

Interested in volunteering?

Helping others is at the heart of being an Oddfellow and that's exactly what our wonderful volunteers do. There are lots of ways you can get involved as a volunteer, from one-off help to regular support.

You can help us by:

- Welcoming members, guests and speakers at events
- Helping prepare refreshments
- Being the volunteer host at external events
- Organising events as part of a social committee
- Joining the Committee of Management
- Becoming a Volunteer Welfare Visitor or befriender.



To find out more, contact Rosalind on 07421 140970
rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk.

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www.oddfellows.co.uk

The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F.
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