

May – October 2022
Issue 6



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

out & *about*

North West Kent



Low tide at Stone Bay, Broadstairs, Kent



Games



Travel



Coffee/Tea



Dining
Out



Concerts



Talks



Social



Quiz



Theatre



Film



To
book

To Book Events



Online



We hope you can join us to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June

Welcome to the latest edition of the news and events diary for North West Kent Branch

This events diary and newsletter is a handy guide for you to keep so that you know what is happening in our area.

Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary. Alternatively, keep the events diary in a handy place – by the phone, fixed to the fridge or pinned to your notice board.

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to you and your friends to attend any of our events that take your fancy – we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

Contact Details

Address:

42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN

Hope of Dartford Branch

Social Organiser: Sarah Robinson

Telephone: 01322 274822

Email:

sarah.robinson@oddfellows.co.uk

Newtown Branch

Social Organiser: Chris Jordan

Telephone: 01322 221129

Branch Secretary: Lesley Pimm

Telephone: 01322 292 374

Email:

lesley.pimm@oddfellows.co.uk

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a not-for-profit friendly society that's been around for over 200 years. Our aim is to bring people together through our social events, as well as support our members with a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for the members. For more information visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call **0800 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

May

WED 04 Coffee Morning and Beetle Drive (Newtown Branch)



Come and join us for fun with friends. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



MON 16 Bingo! (Hope of Dartford Branch)



Eyes down for our fun bingo evening, come and join friends, have a drink and see if you can win. **Book by Monday**

9 May. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.



WED 18 Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)



It's coffee morning time, come for company and a natter. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

June

WED 01 Jubilee Celebrations



Come and join us celebrate the Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II with friends and fun. **Book by Wednesday 18 May.** The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

June

SUN
12

Outing to Mount Ephraim Gardens (Hope of Dartford Branch)



10am



TBC



To
book



Mount Ephraim Country House and Gardens is a privately-owned family home in the heart of Kent, comprising over 800 acres of woodland, pasture, and a fruit farm. At the heart of the estate lies the main house and gardens with stunning views over the surrounding countryside. Situated between Canterbury and Faversham and just an hour from London, it boasts 10 acres of Edwardian gardens open to the public between April and September. **Book by Monday 23 May.** Mount Ephraim Gardens, Staple Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 9TX. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.

WED
15

Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)



11am



Free



It's coffee morning time, come for company and a natter. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

July

MON
11

Games Night/Quiz (Hope of Dartford Branch)



7.30pm



£5



Come and Join us for a fun evening with friends and the chance to make new friends with our games or quiz night. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.



Please bring your friends to our events, so they can enjoy all that the Oddfellows is about. Unless otherwise stated please contact Sarah Robinson on **01322 274822** or email sarah.robinson@oddfellows.co.uk to book or find out more information on any of our events.

July

WED
20

Coffee Morning
(Newtown Branch)



11am



Free



It's coffee morning time, come for company and a natter. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



September

Friendship Month

MON
12

Tea, Cake and a Film
(Hope of Dartford Branch)



7.30pm



£5



Come and join us for our film night with a difference, instead of popcorn and sweets you will receive tea and cake. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



August

WED
03

Coffee Morning
(Newtown Branch)



11am



Free



It's coffee morning time, come for company and a natter. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

October

SAT
01

Dinner Dance



At last, our dinner dance is back, come and join us for fantastic food and



entertainment and celebrate friendship. **Book by Friday 2 September.** Princes Park, Grassbanks, Darenth Road, Dartford DA1 1RT. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.

WED
05

Fish and Chips Lunch (Newtown Branch)



Fish and chips time with some conversation with friends.

You must book with Chris by Wednesday 28 September.



The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

Further events are being added, see:
www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

WED
19

Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)



It's coffee morning time, come for company and a natter. The Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

Forthcoming Events December

SUN
17

Cinderella at the Orchard Theatre



Come and join us for a trip to the theatre. Details to be confirmed.

Booking is essential.

Contact Sarah on 01322 274822 for more details and to book.

New to the Oddfellows?



Join us at one of our online
new member welcome events

Tues 12 July, 7pm

Weds 13 July, 1.30pm

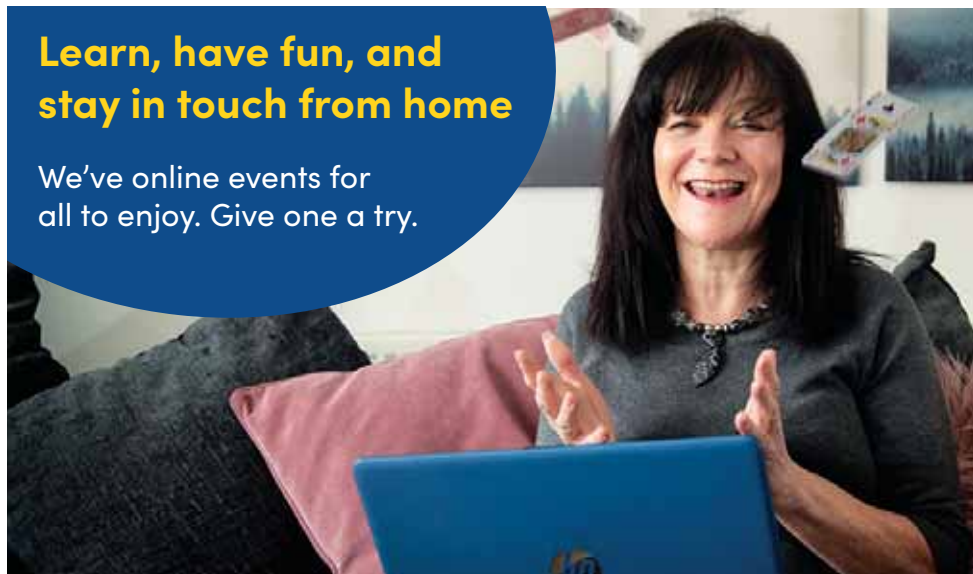
Tues 18 October, 7pm

Weds 19 October, 1.30pm

For further information visit: www.oddfellows.co.uk/welcome

Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

We've online events for
all to enjoy. Give one a try.



To see what's coming up visit oddfellows.co.uk/events
and enter 'Kelso' in the place name search box

OE/0521A6

Get away with the Oddfellows



London Theatre Break

Friday 17 June 2022
(2 nights)

We'll be staying at the 3*
St Giles Hotel, located in
central London.

£245 per person[†] includes
breakfast and theatre ticket
to see **Wicked**, at the Victoria
Apollo Theatre.

[†]Based on 2 people sharing



Look what's coming up in 2022:

- **Oddfellows Summer Holiday: Warner's Nidd Hall Hotel:**
N Yorkshire from £351 per person. 4 July (4 nights).
- **Scenic Norwegian Fjords:**
Cruise from £1,149 per person. Departs 12 August (7 nights).
- **Church Stretton, Shropshire Hills Discovery Tour:**
From £655 per person. 19 September (4 nights).

Prices correct at time of printing – 25 February 2022

For further information and to book contact Mike Hall
0161 832 9361 (Ext 2224) travel@oddfellows.co.uk
www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Spring Wordsearch

Answers on page 15



April
Baseball
Bloom
Bunny
Butterfly
Chick

Easter
Eggs
Flowers
Green
Grow
Hatch

June
March
May
Nest
Passover
Puddle

Rainbow
Raincoat
Seeds
Showers
Spring
Umbrella

Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



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

Local Care and Welfare Support

To request contact from a Welfare Visitor and for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence contact Ann Yearsley on **01322 345587**.

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 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**

Our Branches raised a magnificent £151,000 for charitable causes in 2021!

Congratulations to our Branches and their members for a tremendous fundraising achievement in 2021. Helping struggling communities and those in need is something the Oddfellows has been doing for over two centuries. And despite the pandemic, last year was no exception.

Branches and their members raised over £151,000 to support causes close to their hearts, a figure up on 2020's already significant total of £145,700. Fifth generation Oddfellow, Society historian and South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Branch member, Paul Eyre,



West London Branch

reflects on the tradition of local giving. He said: "For many years, it has been fairly common practice for the Provincial Grand Master of a District to choose a charity to support during their year of office, with funds being raised by raffles, donations or other fundraising activities."

Oddfellows CEO, Jane Nelson, added: "It always astounds me when we look at the collective yearly fundraising figure. The generosity of our members and Branches, especially at such times where household budgets are becoming increasingly tight and unpredictable, is incredible.



South East Lancashire Branch

"I feel immensely proud to represent such a caring bunch of people, those who don't hesitate to help a neighbour in need.

"For those who receive support, it's not just about the financial help, it's knowing that their situation is acknowledged and that there are people out there who care and listen."



Concord Branch

Fundraising for Ukraine

The Society is collecting donations to support the work the Red Cross is doing in Ukraine. The Red Cross is part of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), which unites 15 member charities who are experts in humanitarian aid and specialists in different areas of disaster response.

In some areas in Ukraine, water, electricity, and phone connectivity have been affected. Many people are taking cover from the shelling in basements and bomb shelters, but are going without the most basic supplies, like food and water.

Any donations will be used to reach people in urgent need, If you would like to contribute,



cheques should be made payable to "The Oddfellows", and sent to:

**Ukraine Support
The Oddfellows
Oddfellows House
184-186 Deansgate
Manchester, M3 3WB**

The Society has already pledged £10,000 from central Funds in support of this appeal.

Access to expert legal help

From day one of membership, all members have access to the Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme.*

We hope it's something you never have to call on, but if you do it gives you access to the expert help of our appointed solicitors should you need to make a claim for medical negligence, a personal injury, or an employment dispute which is at pre or tribunal stage. It also covers your family members for personal injury and medical negligence cases.

Help with a medical negligence claim

Medical negligence is when a healthcare provider – NHS or private – has failed in their duty to take care of you and you have suffered an injury. This could be, for example, that you've been given a wrong drug, they've made a mistake during a treatment, or failed to diagnose your condition, or made a wrong one.

Matthew Heap, a Solicitor and Partner at CL Medilaw (www.clmedilaw.co.uk), which is one of the Society's approved solicitors, further explained: "Some people get in touch with us and they know the exact point at which they feel they've been failed. For others, it's less clear-cut, but they know that somewhere along the line, the care they've received has fallen short of medically-acceptable standards.

"Knowing how to raise your case, and to be heard, can be daunting when you don't know the process, have the contacts, or legal knowledge.

"But the support that's available through the Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme can help you to get the answers you need and, hopefully, the compensation you deserve."

Who can make a claim?

You can bring the legal action yourself or, as the executor or next of kin, on behalf of someone who has died because of medical negligence, or on behalf of a family member if that person is unable to take action themselves because they don't have capacity.

Oddfellows members and their family can receive Legal Aid Scheme support as long as the accident, incident or issue happened while you were a member and you have remained a member since that time.

You must start your legal claim within three years from the date that you either realised you'd been injured or when the incident occurred. For children, this three-year time limit doesn't start until the child's 18th birthday.

If you're looking to make a claim on behalf of someone close to you because they don't have capacity, such as they're unable to manage their own affairs or have a mental disability, then the three-year time limit doesn't apply, unless they recover from this incapacity.

"Taking legal action for compensation is a way to try and secure the support that you now need and deserve – financial or medical. The Oddfellows and CL Medilaw will have your back every step of the way," added Matthew.

Continues on next page

From previous page

How to apply for the Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme

The first step is to call the Care and Welfare Helpline for a non-committal conversation. If you wish to move forward, you'll need to fill in an Oddfellows Legal Aid application form. The Care and Welfare Helpline number can be found on your membership card or by calling **0800 028 1810**.

Further information

Read this article in full at:

www.oddfellows.co.uk/news/help-to-make-a-claim-for-medical-negligence

The Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme:

www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/legal-aid-scheme

*Terms and conditions apply to all financial benefits. All Oddfellows benefits are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Read the full list of Oddfellows member benefit terms and conditions at www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-fcs or call Membership on 0800 028 1810.

Member-only offers from Unity Mutual

Unity Mutual is the Society's financial services brand and they've created a dedicated section on their website to share special deals and rates that are only available to Oddfellows members.

Unity Mutual's current member-only deal, launched in spring 2022, is a 5 Year Guaranteed Investment Bond with a special fixed rate of 1.75% annual interest, which equates to 9.06% over the full term. It also offers a guaranteed return on your savings and 100% capital protection. The minimum single investment per member is £1,000.

They're only accepting a limited number of applications, however, so this product will be offered to Oddfellows members on a first-come, first-served basis.

*T&Cs apply.



To find out more, or view their full range of savings, investment and protection products, call **0161 214 4628** or go to **www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows**



*To view Unity Mutual's Guaranteed Investment Bond terms and conditions, go to **www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows/gib**. If you're in any doubt about whether any Unity Mutual product is right for you, it's a good idea to talk to an Independent Financial Advisor (IFA). You can find a local financial advisor by visiting **www.unbiased.co.uk**. You may need to pay for a financial advisor's help, so make sure you ask them about their fees first.

Branch Meetings

We regularly hold Branch meetings and all members are welcome to attend. Visitors are generally welcome to attend and observe all meetings with permission granted by the secretary prior to the meeting. We share and discuss the business of the Branch includes social events, finance, care, development, publicity and promotion.

This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. Most evenings are rounded off with refreshments and a chance to socialise.

Meeting address: 42 The Brent, Dartford DA1 1YN. Start at 8pm.
The dates are:

Wednesday 4 May

Monday 1 August

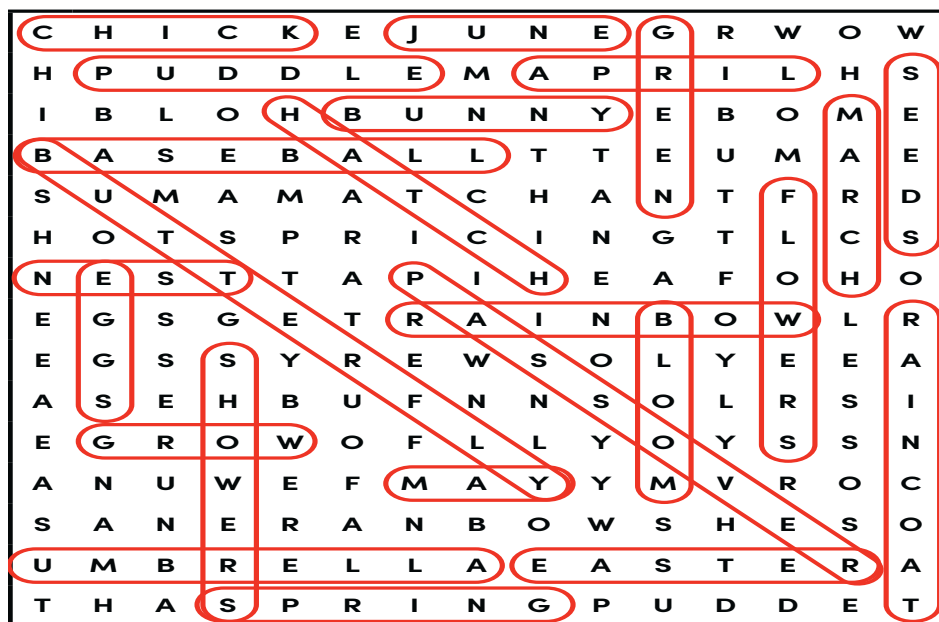
Monday 6 June

Monday 5 September

Monday 4 July

Monday 3 October

Spring Wordsearch Answers on page 9



At a glance

May 2022

Wed 4	Coffee Morning and Beetle Drive (Newtown Branch)	11am
Mon 16	Bingo! (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7.30pm
Wed 18	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am

June

Wed 1	Jubilee Celebrations	11am
Sun 12	Outing to Mount Ephraim Gardens (Hope of Dartford Branch)	10am
Wed 15	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am

July

Mon 11	Games Night/Quiz (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7.30pm
Wed 20	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am

August

Wed 3	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am
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September - Friendship Month

Mon 12	Tea, Cake and a Film (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7.30pm
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October

Sat 1	Dinner Dance	6.30pm
Wed 5	Fish and Chips Lunch (Newtown Branch)	1pm
Wed 19	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! If you're on Facebook or Twitter, make sure you've liked and followed our Oddfellows social media pages.



OddfellowsUK



OddfellowsUK

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