

January – June 2024



*O*<sup>the</sup> **DD**fello**WS** SINCE 1810  
making friends, helping people

# *out* & *about*

## Canterbury District Oddfellows



*Canterbury*



Games



Quiz



Dining Out



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



Travel



Crafts



Social



Meetings



Talks



Culture



Walks



Wellbeing

Welcome to the latest edition of the Events Diary and Newsletter for Canterbury District of Oddfellows.

As your local Branch of a national organisation called the Oddfellows, we like to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when they need them. See us like a group of friends brought together through a shared interest in socialising and helping people.

**Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to**

## Key Colours

Canterbury

Thanet/  
Sandwich

Folkestone

Faversham/  
Ashford

Other Events in  
the Area

## Contact Details

**Secretary:** Sammie Rayson

**Address:** Oddfellows Hall,  
15 Orange Street,  
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**Telephone:** 01227 452517

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[sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk)

f [OddfellowsCanterbury](#)

**you and your friend/family to attend any of our events that takes your fancy – if you like what we have to offer, you may then want to join.**

## Meet the team



**Sammie Rayson**

**Secretary**

**07885 436025**

[sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk)



**Oliver Rayson**

**Social Organiser**

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**Join the conversation @  
OddfellowsUK**

Find us at f [OddfellowsCanterbury](#)

# January 2024

THURS  
04

## Canterbury Catch Up



12 noon



Free



Happy New Year Everyone! Let's all come back together and find out how we all are after the Christmas period and perhaps recycle some of those cracker jokes or play some games (or perhaps we will have a little quiz?). Any excuse to welcome you back and into the Oddfellows way. Everybody is welcome and if this your first event, please call ahead so we know to look out for you! Tea or coffee or hot chocolate provided. Hope to see lots of you soon. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON  
08

## Film Afternoon at The Carlton in Westgate-on-Sea



2pm



Members £4, Guests £5



You are invited to join us (time to be confirmed) to see a newly released film showing of 'One Life'. Telling the inspiring true story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, whose unsung endeavours on the eve of World War II saved more than 600 children from their doom at the hands of the Nazis. He did what he believed was the right thing to do - the thing that anyone decent would do and so he dedicated himself to this cause. War was approaching and it was a race against time. How many children could he liberate before it ran out? 50 years on and we find out what happened to them and Nicholas too of course.



Booking is essential, so please get in touch as soon as possible in the new year. Book by Thursday 4 January. Carlton Cinema, 29 St Mildreds Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8RE. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

# January 2024

THURS  
11

## Trip to Wildwood



12 noon



Members £13 – £15  
Guests £14 – £16



Pull on your jumpers, boots, coats, hats and gloves and come with us to Wildwood. Their mission is to 'protect, conserve and rewild British wildlife'. The animals there are ambassadors for their species and this will give you the chance to experience and reconnect with our native wildlife. They teach us about the threats wildlife face and what we can do to protect them. Booking essential and there is some walking involved but there are different routes available and we can go at our own pace. **Last day to book is Monday 8 January.** Wildwood, Wealden Forest Park, Canterbury Road, Herne Common, Herne Bay CT6 7LQ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON  
15

## Canterbury Coffee Morning



11am



Free



The kettle is on and Christmas has been and gone, but what better way to beat the January blues than by joining us for a nice cuppa and chat. So grab your coats on and come along to the Oddfellows Hall to see us! We look forward to seeing you. Donations towards refreshments is always appreciated. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



FRI  
19

## Lunch at the Mermaid Inn - Rye



12 noon



As per menu



As requested by some of our members, we will be having lunch at the beautiful Mermaid Inn in Rye. With a huge open fire and delicious menu, there is no better way to spend a dreary January day! We will maybe have the chance to wonder around Rye after lunch if the weather permits. Please don't forget to phone us to book as this is essential for this event. Please note: Lifts to this event may be possible due to the kindness of other, so let us know if you want to come and we will do our best to find someone in your area. Donations towards fuel is always appreciated. **Book by Friday 12 January.** The Mermaid Inn, Mermaid Street, Rye TN31 7EY. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# January 2024

SAT  
20

## Deaf Comedy Evening with Gavin Lilley



5pm



Members £14  
Guests £15



Join us at the Canterbury Spitfire Ground for an evening of comedy entertainment with the hilarious Gavin Lilley. Price includes buffet and one raffle ticket. Essex-born Gavin Lilley, through his masterful use of sign language, has done stand-up shows all over UK and the Europe, bringing laughter to many deaf and hearing people with his stories. Gavin's experiences, from a deaf person's perspective, on language, culture, family, travel and work are bound to open your laughter-induced teary eyes to a new world.



Doors open at 5pm, show starts at 6pm, break at 7pm, second half of show at 7.30pm. Finish 9pm. Warning: Show presented in British Sign Language with voice over in English - Some occasional strong language used. **Booking essential by Sunday 14 January.** Harris Suite, The Spitfire Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3NZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Sammie on 07885 436025

MON  
22

## Whitstable Meet-Up plus Mini Quiz



2.30pm



Free



Usually held every third Monday in the month. We return to our favourite venue in Whitstable. So who doesn't love a quiz? This mini quiz consists of 10 categories and three questions in each. There will be tea, coffee, biscuits and great company as always. Everybody welcome. See you there! Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

THURS  
25

## Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£10 for main  
course



Bowl on down to this fantastic venue! With a great bar, amazing food and friendly staff, we look forward to it every month. We often like to sit down in the bar area for a friendly catch up before heading to the restaurant area for lunch at about 12 noon - 12.30pm. Different food options are available. You do not have to stay for lunch if you have other commitments. It will be lovely seeing you there and if this is your first event with us, please let us know so we can look out for you. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# January 2024

SUN

28

## Love, Life and Laughter - An Evening in Ramsgate



5pm



£10



Love, Life and Laughter is an anthology in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Come along to the Sarah Thorne Theatre in Broadstairs to hear this collection of songs, poems and sketches. All profits from this event will go to Macmillan Cancer Support. Lifts to and from this event can sometimes be arranged due to the kindness of other members, so please get in touch with us to find out more and to also book this event. **Book by Tuesday 16 January.** Sarah Thorne Theatre, Fordoun Road, Broadstairs CT10 2BN. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



MON

29

## Meet-Up and Light Lunch in Margate



12 noon



As per menu



The Brewers Fayre in Margate is by the train station and has a car park, which makes it a good choice for a get together. It is also by the sea, so a stroll along the beach (weather permitting), or a trip to the Turner Contemporary or walk around the old town could be a possibility afterwards. Booking is essential for this event so that we can let the venue know our numbers. **Book by Monday 22 January.** Promenade Brewers Fayre, Station Road, Margate CT9 5AF. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

## 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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport, tickets etc...).

# February

MON  
05

## Pub Lunch in Sandwich



12 noon



As per  
menu



We are meeting at the Fleur de Lis in Sandwich, which is a traditional pub and hotel, situated in the heart of this historic town and a three minute walk from the Guildhall Car Park. Please let us know in advance if you plan on coming, so that we can send you the menu, **pre-booking is essential for this event by Monday 29 January!** The Fleur de Lis, 6-8 Delf Street, Sandwich CT13 9BZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

FRI  
09

## Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop



1pm



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



We will be continuing the photography club with a twist. Oliver will be on hand to help you with any technology difficulties and/ or any questions you may have. If you need help setting up your devices, working your new phone/tablet or signing up on social media, then come along to this workshop! Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



FRI  
09

## Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club



11am



Members £2.50,  
Guests £3



Welcome to our creative hub where all are welcome to bring in whatever activity makes you happy! For the cookery aspect, as we do not have the facilities to accommodate any form of cooking/ baking, the idea is for you to bring in your favourite dish or recipe and introduce it to other. For the art and crafts, we can provide some basic materials and patterns, but you are more than welcome to bring in your own projects. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# February

## FRI 16 Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Book Club



Come along for this regular coffee morning where we will also be running a book club. Like a traditional book club and hosted by Rose, we will be discussing our opinions on a set book. The book we will be discussing this time is 'Where the Crawdads Sing' by Delia Owens. It is available to purchase from most online bookstores, including Amazon and Ebay. You can read it before this event as it will be the topic of our discussion. Future books will be chosen during our book club, but if you missed which one it is, please give Rose a call and she will let you know! Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Rose on 07377 390037.

## MON 19 Whitstable Meet-Up plus Talk by Homes4Heroes



You are invited to be with us in welcoming a representative from Homes4Heroes. This is a charity that provides support for UK veterans who may find themselves homeless. They have agreed to come and give us a talk about the wonderful work they do. Please come along for a cuppa and the chance to know more and support this amazing charity! Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



## SAT 17 Outing to the Ashford International Model Railway Education Centre



The Ashford International Model Railway Education Centre (AIMREC) is a charity which has a model railway museum and education centre. Come along to learn about Ashford's railway history through the award winning model railway. Price includes visit, light refreshments, a ride on the miniature railway (if you wish) and a donation to the centre. Lifts to this event can be perhaps arranged - so please get in touch with us soon. **Book by Saturday 10 February.** AIMREC Unit 2, Mill Farm Business Units, Fridd Lane, Bethersden TN26 3DB. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# February

FRI  
23

## Isle of Sheppey Meet Up at the Bluetown Criterion



1pm



Members £3, Guests £4



We are returning to the Criterion for another fun filled afternoon. This place has a lot to offer: Film screenings every Friday, a museum, a tea room and more. Warm welcome guaranteed at this friendly venue, so come along for a catch up! Please don't forget to book as it is essential

for this event! Lifts can be perhaps arranged. **Book by Friday 16 February.** The Criterion Bluetown, 69 High Street, Bluetown, Sheerness ME12 1RW. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



THURS  
29

## Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£10 for main course



The Indoor Bowls Club is indeed one of our favourite venues! With a great bar, food and atmosphere, we look forward to it every month. We like to sit down in the bar area before the meal for a friendly catch up before heading to the restaurant area at 12 noon - 12.30pm. As always, it will be lovely seeing you there, or even meeting you if this is your first event with us! Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# March

FRI  
01

## Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Talk by Greenpeace



11am



£1 minimum donation suggested



Come along to make new friends or make new ones at our regular coffee morning. This week, we will welcome a representative of the Greenpeace organisation. This long serving charity have campaigned for years to protect our planet from all kinds of threats. There will be a questions and answers afterwards, so you can have any of your questions answered. Tea or coffee and biscuits will be provided. No booking required. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# March

MON  
04

## Lunch at the Tickled Trout and Stroll around Wye



12 noon



As per menu



For our next pub lunch excursion, we have opted for this cosy pub, situated on the banks of the River Stour. This charming restaurant is the perfect venue if the weather is a bit cold or dull, with its open fire and intimate atmosphere. If the weather permits, we will have a little stroll after lunch in the beautiful village of Wye, with spectacular views of the North Downs. Pre-booking is essential so that you can choose your menu in advance. Lifts can also perhaps be arranged, so please get in touch with us well in advance. **Book by Monday 26 February.** The Tickled Trout, Bridge Street, Wye, Kent TN25 5EB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

THURS  
07

## Les Miserables at the Sondheim Theatre in London



8am



Members £82.50, Guests £85



We are teaming up with Bayliss Travel for a trip to the theatre in London to see *Les Miserables*. *Les Misérables* is the story of Jean Valjean, a French peasant and his desire for redemption, released in 1815 after serving 19 years in jail, five for stealing a loaf of bread for his sister's starving child, the other 14 for numerous escape attempts. Valjean decides to break his parole and start his life anew after a bishop inspires him with a tremendous act of mercy. But a police inspector named Javert refuses to let him get away.



Price includes transport and ticket to the theatre, deposit required to secure seat. Hopefully, we will be arriving in London to grab a bite to eat nearby before making our way to the theatre at 2pm for the show at 2.30pm.

**Please book early by Friday 9 February!** Sondheim Theatre, 51 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1D 6BA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# March

## WED 13 Meet-Up in Birchington

 12 noon  As per menu 

We return to the fabulous Fields Café in Birchington for a light bite and perhaps a stroll along the high street



or nearby sea front. Please book with us so as soon as possible, we can all be seated together. See you there!

**Book by Friday 1 March.** Fields Coffee House, 8 The Square, Birchington CT7 9AB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

## FRI 15 Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club

 11am  Members £2.50  
Guests £3 

Welcome to our creative hub where all are welcome to bring in whatever activity makes you happy! For the cookery aspect, as we do not have the facilities to accommodate any form of cooking/baking, the idea is for you to bring in your favourite dish or recipe and introduce it to other! For the art and crafts, we can provide some basic materials and patterns, but you are more than welcome to bring in your own materials and projects. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

## FRI 15 Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop

 1pm  Members £2.50  
Guests £3 

Oliver is back and is on hand to help you with any technology difficulties or questions you may have. If you need help setting up your devices, working your new phone/tablet or signing up on social media, then come along for this workshop! No question is a silly one and all abilities catered for. Tea or coffee and biscuits provided. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## MON 18 Whitstable Meet-Up plus Guest Speaker on Power of Attorneys

 2.30pm  Members £1.50  
Guests £2.50 

Following the cancellation last year. We are welcoming a new guest speaker to talk about the basics of Power of Attorney and Succession

Planning and afterwards we might have little a quiz. In any event, we will have a lovely time catching up with all of you at our regular Whitstable meet up. Light refreshments available – donations to the centre welcomed. Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# March

## THURS 21 Meet-Up in Ashford



12 noon



As per menu



We are meeting at Café Grace in Ashford, A new bistro style café that is both warm and welcoming in the heart of Ashford and only five minutes walk from the train station. We are trialling different venues to see which ones are most suitable for our events. Please let us know if you would like to come along so we are aware of numbers. **Book by Thursday 14 March.** Café Grace, Water House, Unit B Victoria Road, Ashford TN23 7AJ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



## THURS 28 Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£10 for main course



We are back again at one of our favourite Folkestone venues! With a great bar, amazing food and friendly staff, we look forward to it every month. We often like to sit down in the bar area for a friendly catch up before heading to the restaurant area for lunch at about 12 noon - 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome. If you are coming for the first time, please let us know so we can look out for you. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# April

## THURS 04 Pub Lunch at The Ship in Herne Bay plus Walk



12 noon



As per menu



The Ship Inn has stood on Herne Bay's seafront since the 14th century, which makes it one of the oldest buildings in the town! It is a truly historical place to eat and the views of the beach are stunning. We could go for a little walk after lunch if the weather permits. Please be sure to book with us early (so that we have an idea of numbers) and so we can send you the menu, as pre-ordering is essential! **Book by Thursday 28 March.** The Ship Inn, 17 Central Parade, Herne Bay CT6 5HT. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# April

## MON 08 Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Book Club



11am



Members £2  
Guests £2.50



You are all welcome to this coffee morning and book club, where we will be discussing a book selected at our previous meeting. Please contact Rose to find out which book that is and where to find it! Any donations towards tea and coffee are most welcome! Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Rose on 07377 390037.



## MON 15 Meet-Up and Film Afternoon in Broadstairs



12 noon



Members £4  
Guests £5



The Palace is different from the multiplex experience. It brings something personal to your evening out. It may have only one screen and said to be the smallest cinema in Kent, but that doesn't prevent it from showing a variety of the latest films, many unlikely to be showing anywhere else in Thanet. Get in touch to book and find out what film they have to offer this month. Popcorn included. **Book by Wednesday 10 April.** The Palace Cinema, Harbour Street, Broadstairs CT10 1ET. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

## FRI 12 Trip to Smallhythe Place



1pm



Members £10, Guests £12



Come and join us as we visit Smallhythe Place and its long and varied history. It has existed as a simple working farm, one of the most significant shipyards in medieval England and later the home of distinguished Victorian actress, Dame Ellen Terry. The barn was transformed into a theatre upon her death in 1928. Booking is advised and lifts can perhaps be arranged, so please get in touch to find out more.



**Book by Friday 29 March.** Smallhythe Place, Smallhythe, Tenterden TN30 7NG. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# April

## **FRI** **19** **Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club**



11am



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



Welcome to our creative hub where you are all welcome to bring in whatever activity makes you happy! For the cookery aspect, as we do not have the facilities to accommodate any form of cooking/baking, the idea is for you to bring in your favourite dish or recipe and introduce it to other members! For the art and crafts, we can provide some basic materials and patterns, but you are more than welcome to bring in your own projects. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

## **FRI** **19** **Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop**



1pm



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



Oliver is once again on hand to help you with any technology/ computer difficulties and questions you may have. If you need help setting up your devices, working your new phone/tablet or signing up on social media, then don't be afraid to ask - he doesn't bite! If the weather is nice perhaps we will go outside and take some pictures. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



## **MON** **22** **Whitstable Meet-Up plus Talk by Strode Park Foundation**



2.30pm



£1 minimum donation suggested



The Waterloo Community Centre in Whitstable opens its doors to us once again for a regular catch up. This time, we are delighted to welcome a representative from Strode Park Foundation, a charity which provides support and care for children and adults with disabilities. So come along, enjoy a cuppa and learn about what wonderful work this charity does for some of the most vulnerable people in our area! Donations most welcome!

Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# April

WED  
24

## Royal Opera House Live: Swan Lake at The Quarterhouse, Folkestone



7.30pm



Members £14, Guests £15



This production of Swan Lake is streamed live from the Royal Opera House to the Quarterhouse Theatre in Folkestone. With a beautiful choreography and stunning music by Tchaikovsky, this ballet is one of the best-loved works of classical music. So get ready to be transported into a magical world filled with music and dance. Booking is essential so hurry before tickets sell out! **Book by Monday 8 April.** Quarterhouse Theatre, Mill Bay, Folkestone CT20 1BN. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Rose on 07377 390037.



THURS  
25

## Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



As per menu



You are welcome to join us at our regular meet up place in Folkestone. Different food options available. You do not have to stay for lunch if you have other commitments but it will be lovely seeing you there, even if this is your first event with us, please let us know so we can look out for you. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

THURS  
25

## Psychic Sally comes to Ramsgate!



7.30pm



Members £30  
Guests £32



Sally Morgan, aka Psychic Sally, has been entertaining audiences



for over 12 years! She is a medium who will wow you with her great personality and unbelievable skill. Her tour will bring her to Ramsgate, so don't miss this opportunity to see her for yourself! **Please book early so that we are aware of numbers by Friday 12 April.** The Granville, Victoria Parade, Ramsgate CT11 8DG. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

# April

## MON 29 Coffee Morning plus Talk by Porchlight



11am



£1 minimum donation suggested



During this coffee morning, we are delighted to welcome a speaker from Porchlight, which is a charity that tackles homelessness in Kent. So come along to learn more about and support this wonderful charity! Donations most welcome. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

# May

## THURS 02 Coffee Morning and Light Lunch near Ashford



11.30am



As per menu



The Harvester at Bybrook Barn welcomes us for a coffee and bite to eat. Situated next to the Longacres garden centre, we could have a stroll around there afterwards. Please let us know if you would like to attend and lifts can sometimes be arranged due to the kindness of some of our members - contributions to fuel always appreciated. **Book with us by Thursday 25 April.** Harvester Bybrook Barn, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 8QQ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# May

## THURS 09 Mystery Day Out



11am



TBC



Due to the success of last year's mystery day out - we will be doing this again. It will have been up to you in deciding where we are going by entering into either our online polls or submitting your suggestions face to face up until the end of April. Last year, Sissinghurst was wonderful and so let's see where we end up this year!

Depending on how many and where we end up, a small bus or coach may be possible to arrange. Or sometimes lovely members can help with transport and a contribution towards their fuel is always welcomed. **Book by Monday 29 April.** Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON  
13

## Meet-Up and Light Lunch in Ramsgate



11.30am



As per menu



The Royal Victoria Pavilion is a stunning example of seaside architecture. This Grade II listed building is now the largest Wetherspoons in the country. We will be meeting here for a catch-up and light lunch – hopefully, we will be able to sit outside and enjoy the beautiful view onto the beach. There is no need to book for this event, but do let us know if you would like to come so that we can look out for you on the day. Royal Victoria Pavilion – JD Wetherspoon, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate CT11 8LS. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



FRI  
17

## Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club



11am



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



Welcome to our creative hub where you are all welcome to bring in whatever activity makes you happy! For the cookery aspect, as we do not have the facilities to accommodate any form of cooking/baking, the idea is for you to bring in your favourite dish or recipe and introduce it to others! For the art and crafts, we can provide some basic materials and patterns, but you are more than welcome to bring in your own projects. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

FRI  
17

## Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop



1pm



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



We will be continuing the photography club with a twist. Oliver is always on hand to help you with any photography or technology difficulties and questions you may have. If you need help setting up your devices, working your new phone/tablet or signing up on social media etc. To practice our photography skills we will perhaps venture outdoors to hopefully capture some amazing shots of beautiful Canterbury. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

SUN  
19

## 1940s Weekend on the Kent and East Sussex Railway



11am



TBC



Step back to the 1940s with the Kent and East Sussex Railway (K&ESR), who are hosting vintage stalls, re-enactments, live performers and other wartime displays. Each station will have attractions designed to take you back in time. So don't forget your 1940s finery (if you have some, but this is not essential) and come along on this fun filled day out! Please book early so we are aware of numbers. Lift to event maybe possible. **Last day to book is Sunday 28 April.** Meeting at Tenterden Town Station, Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HE. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

MON  
20

## Whitstable Meet-Up plus Mystery Guest Speaker



2.30pm



Members £2  
Guests £2.50



As always we welcome all of you to the Waterloo Centre, where this week we will be meeting a mystery speaker that we hope you will enjoy. No need to book and perhaps we will grab a bite to eat afterwards at one of any of Whitstable's fine establishments. See you at the Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS  
23

## Alpaca Meet and Greet



3.30pm



Members £8.50  
Guests £9.50



By request, we have organised this meet and greet with some alpacas. We will be shown how to interact with these lovely creatures and will be given the opportunity to feed them and take pictures with them. Book your space now to avoid disappointment, so that we can have an idea of numbers. Help with transport may be available - contributions towards fuel always welcome. **Book with us by Thursday 2 May.** Haguelands Village, Burmarsh Road, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 0JR. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# May

## THURS 30 Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



Here we are again at the ever popular Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club. We often like to sit down in the bar area before heading to the restaurant area for lunch at about 12 noon - 12.30pm. Different food options available. Please let us know so we can look out for you. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# June

## MON 10 Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Guest Speaker from Pilgrims Hospice



You may be familiar with the Pilgrim's Hospices charity shops, but what exactly does their charitable work consist of? We are welcoming a speaker from this wonderful local organisation to talk about all the amazing work they do. So come along to this coffee morning to find out all you need to know, from their humble beginnings to where they are now. Donations welcomed, Tea or coffee and biscuits provided. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# June

## MON 03 Lunch in Minnis Bay plus Beach Stroll



12 noon



As per menu



The Minnis Bay Bar and Brasserie will welcome us on this (hopefully) sunny day by the seaside. It is beautifully located with stunning beach views. If you fancy it, we will have a little stroll along the beach after lunch. Please book in advance so we have an idea of numbers and so that we can send you the menu, as preordering is essential for this event! **Book by Monday 22 May.** The Minnis Bay Bar and Brasserie, The Parade, Birchington CT7 9QP. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Rose on 07377 390037.



# June

FRI  
14

## Isle of Sheppey Meet Up at the Bluetown Criterion



1pm



Members £4, Guests £5



We are returning to the Criterion for another fun filled afternoon. This place has a lot to offer: Film screenings every Friday, a museum, a tea room...Warm welcome guaranteed at this friendly venue, so come along for a catch up over a cuppa! **Please don't forget to book as it is essential for this event by Monday 10 June!** The Criterion Bluetown, 69 High Street, Bluetown, Sheerness ME12 1RW. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



MON  
17

## Whitstable Cream Tea at the Waterloo Centre



3pm



Members £4  
Guests £5



Well Summer is here and cordially invite you to a cream tea in the Waterloo Community Centre. Hosted by the staff at the centre and served in the only and traditional way with bone china and fresh clotted cream (yum)! Please book with us well in advance so they know how many to cater for. We look forward to seeing you there! - All proceeds go back to the centre. **Book by Monday 10 June.** Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS  
20

## Meet-Up at Amy's Pantry in Tenterden



12 noon



As per  
menu



For those who missed out last year, or wish to return, Amy's Pantry opens its doors to us once again for a light lunch. Choose from the delicious locally produced food - we promise you won't be disappointed. Afterwards, there will be a chance to explore Tenterden's historic and charming village with something to suit everyone. Please make sure you book with us if you want to attend, so we can let the venue know as it can get very busy and we wouldn't want you lose out! See you there! **Book by Thursday 13 June.** Amy's Pantry, 4 East Cross, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6AD. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.

# June

FRI  
21

## Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club



11am



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



Welcome to our creative hub where you are all welcome to bring in whatever activity makes you. We can provide some basic materials and patterns, but you are more than welcome to bring in your own projects or ideas. We would love to hold an exhibition of all your handwork to showcase your creations or admire others. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



FRI  
21

## Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop



1pm



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



We will be continuing the photography club theme and Oliver will be on hand to help you with any technology or photography related difficulties or questions you may have. Hopefully, we will soon have enough material to host the postponed exhibition of last year where you can perhaps showcase your camera skills or admire others! Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS  
27

## Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£10 for main  
course



The Indoor Bowls Club welcomes us back for our monthly event, where you can meet up for a cuppa and natter before sitting down to an optional lunch at around 12 noon - 12.30pm. The choice is yours, but we always look forward to seeing all of you. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498 or Rose on 07377 390037.



FRI  
28

## Godinton House and Gardens Visit



1pm



Members £15, Guests £16



For the last event in this current diary. We invite you to come with us to explore Godinton House and Gardens. The house is said to date back to the 14th century and others are from as recent as the last century. A truly remarkable country house, nestled in the heart of Kent, reflecting the taste of the last owner,

Alan Wyndham Green: It was designed to feel comfortable and more informal than other properties – a house, rather than a museum.



Visitors can imagine what life might have been like here. Unravelling the 600 years of history and revealing an exquisite collection of furniture, art, porcelain and curios. The famous yew hedge surrounds the formal gardens with the wild, Italian and walled gardens beyond, full of colour and interest through the seasons, maintained close to Blomfield's original designs. Don't miss out on this trip to visit one of East Kent's finest properties and our cover star! Please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

Transport can be arranged if demand is high enough or through the kind courtesy of our members for a contribution towards costs on top of the admission price stated. **Book by Thursday 13 June.** Godinton House and Gardens, Godinton Lane, Ashford TN23 3BP. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Rose on 07377 390037.

## A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is one of the largest and oldest friendly societies in the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. As a mutual and non-profit, our Society is run by our members for our members and raises thousands of pounds each year for good causes. We welcome everyone of all ages. For more information visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call 0800 028 1810.

## 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](http://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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers)**.

Ref 1644

## Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

Our online events are  
here to stay



To see what's coming up visit **[oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://oddfellows.co.uk/events)** and enter 'Ayr' in the place name search box

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## Interested in volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without our wonderful volunteers. 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 teas/coffees
- 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

### Want to deliver a new activity?

We encourage all our members to arrange events for other members and friends. If you'd like help to run a new event, like a book club, singing group, a one-off walk in the country or coffee morning, get in touch and we'll support you every step of the way.

**If you're interested in finding out more about helping us as a volunteer, contact Sammie by phone on 01227 452517, email at [sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk)**

"Supporting events as a volunteer makes me feel more committed to the Oddfellows and what I do. I enjoy meeting up with other members/friends, any outings that take place, the lunches and some of the talks are especially interesting".

*Cynthia, volunteer*

## Meet the Grand Master

**Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham was officially welcomed as the Society's Grand Master (Chairman) during the annual conference in May, a position she'll hold for two years.**



The oldest of five in a close family, at weekends they would often travel around Yorkshire and go camping. It was during these trips she met Peter, a member of the Oddfellows since birth who would go on to become Grand Master himself.

Barbara joined the Oddfellows' Good Samaritan Lodge in Goole when she married Peter in 1973. "It was all arranged within four weeks," she said. "Nothing like the expensive events that happen today!"

"I borrowed my sister-in-law's wedding dress. Peter got a new suit. We catered ourselves in the local village hall. I think the wedding cost us £14, which is all you had to pay for the licence, and then we went away camping for our honeymoon."

Barbara and Peter would later welcome daughter Claire into the world, herself an Oddfellow, who would go on to have a successful accountancy career.

Barbara's career was in primary education, most notably a 30-year stint at a school

in Broughton where she ultimately became Head Teacher.

"It was something that I'd always wanted to do ever since I went to school. I never wanted to do anything else," Barbara said.

Despite representing the Society in a variety of roles, Barbara says that never in her wildest dreams did she anticipate becoming Grand Master.

"It's a great honour because you're just a custodian," she said. "Although you wear the chain and you're the figurehead, that's not what makes you an Oddfellow. What makes you an Oddfellow is what's in your heart."

"I just want to do my best, because the ethos of Oddfellows is what we should all live by. The whole world would be a better place if people looked after each other."

**Find out all the ways you can get involved in the Society by visiting**  
[www.oddfellows.co.uk/society-involvement](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/society-involvement)



*Barbara Needham (middle right) with daughter Claire (left), husband Peter (middle left) and sister Vivienne (right).*

# Thanks for filling your September with friendship!

**Jane Nelson, the Oddfellows' CEO, has reflected on another successful Friendship Month:**

"Wow, what a brilliant Friendship Month we had! All our Branches have worked extremely hard to make each and every one of near 250 special taster events a great success.

"Be it coffee mornings, music events, walks, meals or games, we've loved seeing

the happy, smiling faces of people enjoying the benefits of friendship.

"To everybody who attended, hosted or volunteered at our Branches' Friendship Month events this year, I'd like to say a big THANK YOU! It's your hard work that ensures our continued success."

Take a look at some of the fun that's been had by some of our Branches!



*Brighton and Sussex members enjoying a coffee morning.*



*Dog race night at Dorset and Yeovil.*



*Mitcham, Reigate and Crawley friends keeping cool from the sunshine.*



*A friendly game of badminton in Mid-Surrey.*



*Delicious pancakes at a Handforth and Altrincham event.*



*Too many friends to fit in a frame at Ipswich.*



*Relishing friendship and fresh air on a walk in Nottingham Trent.*

# Help with Lasting Power of Attorneys

**Arranging a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) can seem daunting, so our Head of Care and Welfare, John Aitken (pictured right), has answered some frequently asked questions about them.**



## What is an LPA?

There are two types and you can do one or both:

A property and financial affairs LPA covers decisions about money matters, for example buying and selling property, dealing with bills and running bank accounts. You can start using this at any time.

A health and welfare LPA covers decisions about health and care matters including medical treatment, where someone should live and who they should have contact with. This can only be used once the person has lost capacity.

## What is 'losing capacity'?

This means no longer having the understanding or mental faculties to make decisions. Once someone loses capacity it is too late to set up a Power of Attorney. If this were to happen, family members would need to apply to the Court of Protection to take control of their assets and finances, which can be a lengthy and costly process.

## How do LPAs work?

The person making the application is the 'donor' and can give power to an 'attorney' to make decisions and take actions on their behalf.

The donor can choose multiple attorneys and specify which decisions they can make. If there is more than one attorney, the donor can specify whether they can act alone or must make decisions together.

The LPA must be signed either by a solicitor or someone else of the donor's choosing to certify the LPA and confirm that they understand and have not been pressured into it.

Family members can't do an LPA for someone. Like a will, people must do it for themselves with no coercion.

## How much does it cost?

It costs £82 to register each type of LPA (so £164 in total) with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG). People on means-tested benefits or a low income can get an exemption or reduction of this fee. If you choose to use a solicitor, their costs will need to be added.

For more advice on LPAs, including how to make an application and links to relevant websites, go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/news/help-with-lasting-power-of-attorneys](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/news/help-with-lasting-power-of-attorneys)



# 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 Sammie on **01227 452517** or email **sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk**.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care)  
for care and welfare information**

# Social Events at a glance

## January 2024

<b>Thurs 4</b>	Canterbury Catch Up	12 noon
<b>Mon 8</b>	Film Afternoon at The Carlton in Westgate-on-Sea	2pm
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Trip to Wildwood	12 noon
<b>Mon 15</b>	Canterbury Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Fri 19</b>	Lunch at the Mermaid Inn - Rye	12 noon
<b>Sat 20</b>	Deaf Comedy Evening with Gavin Lilley	5pm
<b>Mon 22</b>	Whitstable Meet-Up plus Mini Quiz	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
<b>Sun 28</b>	Love, Life and Laughter - An Evening in Ramsgate	5pm
<b>Mon 29</b>	Meet-Up and Light Lunch in Margate	12 noon

## February

<b>Mon 5</b>	Pub Lunch in Sandwich	12 noon
<b>Fri 9</b>	Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club	11am
<b>Fri 9</b>	Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop	1pm
<b>Fri 16</b>	Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Book Club	11am
<b>Sat 17</b>	Outing to the Ashford International Model Railway Education Centre	11am
<b>Mon 19</b>	Whitstable Meet-Up plus Talk by Homes4Heroes	2.30pm
<b>Fri 23</b>	Isle of Sheppey Meet Up at the Bluetown Criterion	1pm
<b>Thurs 29</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

## March

<b>Fri 1</b>	Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Talk by Greenpeace	11am
<b>Mon 4</b>	Lunch at the Tickled Trout and Stroll around Wye	12 noon
<b>Thurs 7</b>	Les Miserables at the Sondheim Theatre in London	8am
<b>Wed 13</b>	Meet-Up in Birchington	12 noon
<b>Fri 15</b>	Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club	11am
<b>Fri 15</b>	Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop	1pm
<b>Mon 18</b>	Whitstable Meet-Up plus Guest Speaker on Power of Attorneys	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 21</b>	Meet-Up in Ashford	12 noon
<b>Thurs 28</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

# Social Events at a glance

## April

<b>Thurs 4</b>	Pub Lunch at The Ship in Herne Bay plus Walk	12 noon
<b>Mon 8</b>	Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Book Club	11am
<b>Fri 12</b>	Trip to Smallhythe Place	1pm
<b>Mon 15</b>	Meet-Up and Film Afternoon in Broadstairs	12 noon
<b>Fri 19</b>	Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club	11am
<b>Fri 19</b>	Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop	1pm
<b>Mon 22</b>	Whitstable Meet-Up plus Talk by Strode Park Foundation	2.30pm
<b>Wed 24</b>	Royal Opera House Live: Swan Lake at The Quarterhouse, Folkestone	7.30pm
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Psychic Sally comes to Ramsgate!	7.30pm
<b>Mon 29</b>	Coffee Morning plus Talk by Porchlight	11am

## May

<b>Thurs 2</b>	Coffee Morning and Light Lunch near Ashford	11.30am
<b>Thurs 9</b>	Mystery Day Out	11am
<b>Mon 13</b>	Meet-Up and Light Lunch in Ramsgate	11.30am
<b>Fri 17</b>	Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club	11am
<b>Fri 17</b>	Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop	1pm
<b>Sun 19</b>	1940s Weekend on the Kent and East Sussex Railway	11am
<b>Mon 20</b>	Whitstable Meet-Up plus Mystery Guest Speaker	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 23</b>	Alpaca Meet and Greet	3.30pm
<b>Thurs 30</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

## June

<b>Mon 3</b>	Lunch in Minnis Bay plus Beach Stroll	12 noon
<b>Mon 10</b>	Canterbury Coffee Morning plus Guest Speaker from Pilgrims Hospice	11am
<b>Fri 14</b>	Isle of Sheppey Meet Up at the Bluetown Criterion	1pm
<b>Mon 17</b>	Whitstable Cream Tea at the Waterloo Centre	3pm
<b>Thurs 20</b>	Meet-Up at Amy's Pantry in Tenterden	12 noon
<b>Fri 21</b>	Arts, Crafts and Cookery Club	11am

# Social Events at a glance

## June

<b>Fri 21</b>	Canterbury Photography and Technology Workshop	1pm
<b>Thurs 27</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
<b>Fri 28</b>	Godinton House and Gardens Visit	1pm

Further events are being added, see: [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events).

## Branch and District Business Meetings

We regularly hold meetings in your area and all members and prospective members are welcome to attend. The purpose of the meetings is to share and discuss the business of the Branch, including our benevolence grants, finances, social planning, care and welfare development, publicity and volunteering opportunities.

This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. Following the business meeting, time permitting, most evenings are rounded off with a drink, biscuit and chance to socialise. Our meetings are generally quite informal round the table discussions and we invite all members to come and find out more.

### Canterbury District

**Secretary:** Sammie Rayson

**Telephone:** 01227 452517

**Email:** [sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk)

These meetings are for representatives of the Branches of the District.

All meetings starts at 12 noon or 1pm. We hold 10 meetings per year, please contact Sammie for more details.

**Meeting Address:** Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA.