



**the ODDfELLOWS**  
SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

Summer 2021  
[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

# Beds and Bucks News and Views

News and views from your local friendship group

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## Welcome to the latest edition of the Beds and Bucks District Newsletter.

At last the outlook is positive as we return slowly to normality and learn how to live with and manage Covid. It will be lovely to meet up and take part in the social events and friendship that we are renowned for.

Branches in the District are discussing how and when events and meetings will return. The Loyal Grenville Branch have shared with us their plans for future meetings and events and the Beds & Bucks

District are pleased to announce dates for the Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) lunch, the Annual Church service and the Half Yearly Meeting.

Do you have a hobby or favourite pastime that you would like to share with our readers? We would love to hear from you if you do.

I do hope you enjoy this edition of our Newsletter.

Stay safe

**Doreen**

## Who are the Oddfellows?

The Beds and Bucks District are a group of four Branches across Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire. Each Branch has a monthly business meeting and as many social events as they can fit in.

Through friendship and social events we help our members to get more enjoyment out of life. With the help of the Unity office in Manchester we offer care and support in times of need. We welcome people of all ages – our youngest member being three months and the eldest 100 years. To find out more please visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk), call on 0800 028 1810, or contact the Branch Secretaries.

## 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.

Find us at:



**OddfellowsBedfordshire  
Buckinghamshire**

## Branch Contacts

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# News from the Grenville Branch

## Some news at share with members in our District

**Trustees, Committee of Management and members of the Branch have held discussions regarding future meetings and events. With this in mind we would like to share our new meeting times. We will still meet on the first Monday of the month (except May and August) in the Buckingham Library however, our meeting times will be from 12 noon until 3pm. We will conduct our business meeting and then have a light bite with a themed event.**

Government guideline allowing we will commence our meetings on Monday 6 September 2021.

### **Loyal Grenville Branch Bring, Buy and Swap Jigsaw Puzzles**



Government guidelines allowing, we will be back at the Buckingham Library on the first Tuesday of every month raising funds for charity with our bring, buy and swap jigsaw coffee mornings. These will commence on Tuesday 7 September at 10am.

### **MK Tree Cathedral Visit and Lunch**



*Tree Cathedral image by Colin Park and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence.*

On Tuesday 22 June members and friends of the Grenville Branch will be visiting the Tree Cathedral in Milton Keynes and then meeting at Willen Lake for lunch. Again Government guidelines allowing.

All members of the District and their friends are welcome to join us.

Please contact Doreen if you wish to attend.



## Meteor showers, and when is the best time to spot one?



I thought I would share with you an activity my family and I take part in every August. We stay up till the early hours of the morning and watch The Perseids meteor shower.

The Perseids are one of the best known meteor showers and can be seen every August. (Weather permitting) The radiant is in the constellation of Perseus, just below the familiar 'W' of the constellation of Cassiopeia. In August this can be seen reasonably high in the north-eastern sky at nightfall.

This year the shower begins on Monday 16 July until Monday 23 August. The height of the shower will be on Thursday 12 and Friday 13 August, an estimated rate of 150 bright fast meteors with trains per hour will light up the sky. It is quite spectacular and worth staying awake for.

Should you miss The Perseids the next large shower for 2021 will be Geminids which begins on Friday 3 to Thursday 16 December. The height of the shower will be on Tuesday 14 December when 120+ bright meteors with few trains can be seen per hour.

Enjoy!

**Doreen**

## Some event news from Victoria Branch

### Monday 12 July, 7.30pm

Victoria Branch will hold a Branch meeting with a fish and chips supper afterwards at Rushden Rugby Club, Bedford Road, Rushden NN10 0SA. The fish and chips supper will include fish, chips, tea or coffee, and bread and butter. Cost £7. Please contact Emily to book your place.

### Sunday 22 August, 5pm for 6pm

Victoria Branch meal. A two course meal will be on offer for £20. A menu will be available nearer the date. This will also be held at Rushden Rugby Club, Bedford Road, Rushden NN10 0SA. Tickets will be available from Emily from mid-July.



## An invitation from Beds & Bucks District Provincial Grand Master

Please save the date and join us for our celebratory lunch

**Saturday 23 October, 12.30pm**

**At The Bell Hotel, Market Square, Winslow MK18 3AB**

Our guest of honour will be Director Barbara Needham

Menus and cost of lunch will be confirmed nearer the time.

**RSVP to: Doreen Sams on 07707 818001 or email  
doreen.sams@oddfellows.co.uk**

**The Beds & Bucks District invites you to our**

## **Annual Church Service**

**Our service will be held on Sunday 28 November**

**The first Sunday in Advent. It will be held at St Mary's Church  
in Thornborough, Near Buckingham MK18 1DG.**

**The service will begin at 2pm**

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

To accept our invitation or for more information  
please contact Doreen on 07707 818001 or email  
doreen.sams@oddfellows.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you in this early  
Norman Grade 2 listed church with its substantial  
herringbone stonework.



# It's Spring!

By Tim Harvey

**It is time to don my veil, a pair of rubber gloves and to light the smoker.**

The bees have survived the winter. So last month I gave each colony a clean hive and some new frames of wax and a little feed of syrup just to give them some encouragement. The bees which hatched in September are at the end of their life so the queen needs to be laying lots of eggs to replace them.

This week I looked in my hives and I was pleased to see masses of young bees from eggs up to adults. It will take twenty one days from egg laying until they emerge as workers and eight more days until they start flying. Hopefully by mid-May the hives should be full of bees with the foragers returning with nectar and pollen.

It's now my busiest time with twice a week visits to the apiary to check all is well

## **What am I looking for each time I visit?**

My priority is their health. I am told there are incidents of bee diseases in the locality. American foulbrood has been found. This is caused by a spore forming bacterium. The bacterium grows in the



gut of the larva which soon dies spreading to the rest of the hive. When this happens the only control is through compulsory destruction of the colony. My apiary is due for inspection during May.

Apart from this, I first need to see that the brood chamber is filling up. There needs to be eggs, larva, capped cells of pupa and some emerging adults. Later on I hope to find the larger queen cells developing to replace this year's egg layers. I need also to provide space enough for them to store the honey, with the hope that I can steal it!

## **How can you help? Plant bee friendly flowers**

Bees prefer flat open flowers that they can walk over like daisies and buttercups and old fashioned bedding such as asters, gaillardia and lavender, that produce nectar and pollen.

But the big no no! are the showy bedding that are so often available at garden centres, because these are often F1 hybrids in which the nectar and pollen producing parts have become petaloid to make them pretty but infertile.

To ensure you get a good fruit crop you need the bees to pollinate the flowers.

So plant native wild flowers to encourage bees to visit your garden.

# Stretching our legs, or wind in the whiskers

**After a few months spending our weekends at home the recent rollback of restrictions has meant that we have been able to go a little further afield.**

One Sunday in April when the weather was set as fair Helen and I decided to have a picnic. Sandwiches and a flask of tea were prepared and loaded into the car (which had covered just over 200 miles in the first three months of this year) as well as the Bassets (must not forget them) and we sallied forth. I keep a Walkman in the car and we set it on random so our trip was accompanied by music as diverse as Sir Harry Christopher and the Sixteen, Sid Lawrence, Aker Bilk, Julie Fowlis, JS Bach, CPE Bach, GP Telleman and the Shepherds to name but a few. The lunch destination of our expedition was Braggs Windmill, Ashton nr Haverhill. There is a pleasant little car park adjacent to the mill and the lane is quiet and secluded. A table and chairs were unloaded and our repast was set out before us.

Following our meal whilst Helen went on a photographic exploration of the area I spent an enjoyable few minutes playing my Northumbrian Smallpipes.

Braggs Mill was built by a local carpenter William Haylock in 1757 and is a very well kept example of a traditional post mill, the whole mill weighting approximately two tons rests on a single central post and the whole mill is manually turned into the wind using the tail pole. The mill is in full working order and we were very disappointed to find that the millwright Paul Kemp had her turning a couple of hours after we had left.

After our lunch and exploration around the mill we moved on to the Great Chrishill windmill. This is another post mill dating back to 1592, the current mill was re-built in 1819, it is in the county of Cambridgeshire but has also been in the counties of Suffolk and Essex in the past . This is a slightly more advanced mill having a fantail to keep the mill facing into the





wind, this is automatic and the mill will be constantly moving as the wind changes direction. This mill is very close to being in full working order and is undergoing further work to bring this about. We parked up to finish our tea and enjoy a hot cross bun. 'Mutton Chops' can be seen posing in front of this grade II\* mill.

The day would not have been complete without a stop at our local mill, Cromer in Hertfordshire.

Dating back to 1681 although this mill does not turn due to its proximity to the road it is maintained in full working order, there is currently a blade missing from the fantail. However, we are led to believe the this will be rectified shortly. Although closed at the moment it is regularly open for visitors.

The three mills are all within a 25mile radius of home, making a nice excursion. As the restrictions have been lifting we have had a couple of other excursions like this and it has reminded me of joining my grandparents in the late 60's and 70's when armed with a flask of tea and a box of biscuits they took their Austin A35 for a gentle ride on a nice afternoon just around

the local villages and beauty spots, finding a field gateway to stop for ½ hour for a tea break and rarely venturing more than 20 miles from home. My grandfather was a miller and during these rides he would point out the bake houses he delivered to in the 20's driving a Foden steam waggon (at a maximum speed of 12 miles an hour.

### Mutton Chops



# My chosen charity to support this year will be Children's Air Ambulance

**Hello my friends, I hope you and your family are well and like me are looking forward to seeing the end of COVID restrictions. As we learn to live with this dreadful virus let's hope we have the ability to keep one step ahead of it.**



*Provincial Grand Master (Chairman)  
Michael McSiraw*

As you are aware District Officers are staying in their posts for another year. One of the many duties I undertake as the Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) is to select a charity to receive money from all the District's fundraising events as well as Branch donations. I will continue to support the Children's Air Ambulance during my term in office as I believe that it is a worthy cause.

The Children's Air Ambulance (TCAA) is a charity-funded air ambulance service

that transfers critically ill children from local hospitals to specialist paediatric centres throughout Great Britain. It also moves specialist teams and equipment to local hospitals when a child is too sick to travel. The service also sometimes acts as a patient transport service, returning children and families home after treatment. It was founded in 2005 and has been operated by The Air Ambulance Service charity since 2011.

The Children's Air Ambulance operates two helicopters from Oxford Airport and Doncaster Sheffield Airport. These locations are important as the helicopters can reach anywhere in the UK within two hours and can reach all the UK's specialist children's units within 70 minutes. Children are transported in a bespoke stretcher nicknamed 'Shrek' which can also carry babies up to 8kg in the specialist 'baby pod'. A very important addition to these helicopters is the extra seat for parents to accompany their child. Imagine seeing your child taken away on a lifesaving transfer and not be able to be beside them.

This Service does not receive government funding and is entirely supported by public and corporate donations. Each mission costs about £3500 and this



### *G-PICU, one of the helicopters based at Oxford Airport*

*By James from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire  
- G-PICU Leonardo AW169 Helicopter  
Specialist Aviation Services Ltd, CC BY-SA 2.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=67907026>*

service is provided free of charge to hospitals and the NHS.

I hope you agree with me that this is a commendable charity to support and hope that none of our families will ever have the need to use this service.

Yours fraternally

**Michael McStraw**

## Home Cook Recipes

Amanda Buckmaster, The Bedford Branch secretary has shared these two recipes for us to try out in this edition. I look forward to giving these a try but might opt for gravlax salmon instead of smoked.

### Avocado & Smoked Salmon Spaghetti

#### Ingredients

200g spaghetti  
1 ripe avocado , stoned and peeled  
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil  
1 garlic clove  
1 small bunch parsley  
1 lemon  
100g smoked salmon trimmings,  
sliced into strips

#### Method

Cook the spaghetti in boiling salted water following pack instructions. Meanwhile, put the avocado in a food processor along with the oil, garlic, half the parsley, a good squeeze of lemon and a large pinch of seasoning.



When the pasta is cooked, reserve 100ml of the cooking water and drain. Toss the avocado sauce through the pasta with the salmon and the reserved cooking water. Season with lots of black pepper and another squeeze of lemon, to taste. Chop the remaining parsley and stir through to serve.

*Continued on the next page...*

*Continued from the previous page...*

## **Lemon Yogurt Cake**

### **Ingredients**

#### **Cake**

190g plain flour  
2 tsp baking powder  
½ tsp salt  
240ml natural whole-milk yoghurt  
280g caster sugar, divided  
3 extra-large eggs  
2 tsp grated lemon zest (2 lemons)  
½ tsp pure vanilla essence  
120ml vegetable oil  
80ml freshly squeezed lemon juice

### **For the glaze**

110g icing sugar  
2 tbsp freshly squeezed lemon juice

### **Method**

Preheat the oven to 180°C/Gas 4.  
Grease a 21 by 11 by 6cm loaf tin. Line the bottom with greaseproof paper and grease and flour.

Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt into a bowl. In another bowl, whisk together the yoghurt, 200g of sugar, eggs, lemon zest and vanilla. Slowly whisk the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients.

With a rubber spatula, fold the vegetable oil into the batter, making sure it's all incorporated. Pour the batter into the prepared tin and bake for about 50 minutes, or until a cake tester placed in the centre of the loaf comes out clean.



Meanwhile, heat the fresh lemon juice and the remaining 80g of sugar in a small pan until the sugar dissolves and the mixture is clear. Set aside to cool.

When the cake is done, allow it to cool in the pan for 10 minutes. Carefully place the cake on a baking rack over a sheet tray. While the cake is still warm, pour over the lemon-sugar mixture and allow it to soak in. Cool.

For the glaze, combine the icing sugar and lemon juice and pour over the top of the cake.

**I don't usually make the glaze but add a little more lemon to the cake mixture. Lovely and light and refreshing.**

**Amanda**



# Holiday Clothes

## By Paul Fitton

In which countries did all these things happen? The countries rhyme with the clothes. Each dash is a missing letter of each answer. Find out where on page 15.

1. I took off my pyjamas in the B \_\_\_\_\_  
(West Indian country)
2. My smelly shoes are in B \_\_\_\_\_  
(landlocked country in Eastern Europe)
3. She loosened her chemise in B \_\_\_\_\_  
(Central American country)
4. I found an espadrille in B \_\_\_\_\_  
(South American country)
5. I wore a pinny in G \_\_\_\_\_  
(West African country)
6. I pulled on my jeans in the P \_\_\_\_\_  
(South east Asian country), or the  
G \_\_\_\_\_  
(Caribbean country)
7. I lost my shoe in  
T \_\_\_\_\_ (Pacific island)  
or V \_\_\_\_\_ (South  
Pacific island)
8. I loosened my tie in B \_\_\_\_\_  
(South east Asian country)
9. I lost my toupee in G \_\_\_\_\_  
(French Overseas Department in the  
Caribbean)
10. ... and not rhyming but cryptic  
– the wind blew off my hat in H \_\_\_\_\_  
(Caribbean island)

# Call My Bluff

## By Paul Fitton

Four possible meanings for the word discombobulation from this week's four guests from the world of pantomime. However, only one is telling the truth! Who is right? The answer is below.

## Jeannie Slamp

I think that everyone will know this. It goes back to the days of the cotton factories. It's when the weaving machine jams and usually a small child crawls through the machine to free up the bobbins.

## Harley Quinn

The answer I quite simple. I'm sure that you'll know that it's when there's a failure setting an object alight.

## Matty Neigh

A discombobulation is a cacophony - there's another big word! - of sound. A tumultuous noise, at a crowded street party.

## Bob Slay

This word means to be in a state of confusion.

Bob Slay is right. Discombobulation means to be in a state of confusion.

**Call my Bluff Answer**

# Celebrity Geography Quiz

By Paul Fitton

**Name these famous people whose surname is an English town, city or county. The answers are on page 15.**

1.	Dionne	(US singer)
2.	David	(UK singer)
3.	Susannah	(English film actress)
4.	Rod	(UK comic)
5.	Belinda	(UK singer)
6.	Barbara Taylor	(UK author)
7.	Victoria	(UK cyclist)
8.	Tony	(UK DJ)
9.	Sarah	(English television actress)
10.	Eric	(UK comedian)
11.	Judith	(Australian lead singer)
12.	Horatio	(UK Admiral)
13.	Charlie	(UK radio personality)
14.	Richard	(UK film actor)
15.	David	(UK runner)
16.	Barbara	(UK actress)
17.	Fiona	(UK model and actress)
18.	Burt	(US film star)
19.	Jimmy	(UK radio comic actor)
20.	H G	(English author)
21.	Jean	(US actress)
22.	George	(UK comic film actor)
23.	Jack	(US writer)
24.	Leslie	(UK actor)
25.	Joy	(UK singing sister)

# Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Beth, Em and Ann on the birth of their beautiful daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughter, Hallie. Hallie is the newest member of the Loyal Victoria Branch and was born on 7 April, which incidentally is also mum’s Beth birthday.



## A personal note from Emily from the Loyal Victoria Branch

I just wanted to thank everyone from the District for the kind words and cards that I have received since the passing of my husband Lee. It has been a difficult eighteenish months for everyone with the Covid pandemic but I hope that life will soon return to the new normal so that we can all meet again soon.

As many of you know Lee was a member of the Victoria Branch and recruited many new members, his aim was to make his mother-in-law, Ann have to get up on the stage at the Annual Movable Conference (AMC) one of these years. Sadly despite his best efforts this will not be the case. Many thanks.

Yours in friendship, **Emily**

## Holiday Clothes Quiz Answers on page 13

- |             |                              |               |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Bahamas  | 5. Guinea                    | 8. Brunei     |
| 2. Belaruse | 6. Phillipines or Grenadines | 9. Guadeloupe |
| 3. Belize   | 7. Tuvalu or Vanuatu         | 10. Haiti     |
| 4. Brazil   |                              |               |

- |             |               |             |               |              |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 5. Carlisle | 10. Morecambe | 15. Bedford | 20. Wells     | 25. Beverley |
| 4. Hull     | 9. Lancashire | 14. Burton  | 19. Clitheroe | 24. Grantham |
| 3. York     | 8. Blackburn  | 13. Chester | 18. Lancaster | 23. London   |
| 2. Essex    | 7. Pendleton  | 12. Nelson  | 17. Richmond  | 22. Formby   |
| 1. Warwick  | 6. Bradford   | 11. Durham  | 16. Windsor   | 21. Harlow   |

## Celebrity Geography Quiz Answers on page 14

# 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 Doreen on **01280 822399** or email **doreen.sams@oddfellows.co.uk**.

## Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

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



Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on 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 distancing can still be sociable

With online events you can enjoy  
from the comfort of your own home

**June – August 2021**

Not attended an online event yet? Need help? Just give  
your local Social Organiser or Branch Secretary a call



[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

 **OddfellowsUK**

# Here's what one member said about socialising online...

“ Oddfellows has been absolutely **AMAZING** during lockdown – for me living alone it has been a lifeline

I only joined in August 2019 not long before lockdown and hadn't met any other members. It was difficult to get to meetings, most of which were 40 miles away. However once we were on Zoom everything changed. I have met so many lovely people. I thoroughly enjoy the quizzes and games, and the excellent talks we have.

One thing that really touched me was at Christmas which I was dreading as I have no close family, but one Branch asked us if any of us were on our own on Christmas Day, as it was Friday (their usual Zoom meeting day) and a few of us put our hands up.



The Secretary actually put on an event for us. I was so moved by her kindness, I was in tears. It was the highlight of my Christmas Day!



**Janet G, North Yorkshire**

## Monthly events

Frequency/time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact
3rd Mon 11am	Coffee in the Virtual Potting Shed	811 7156 0475	1810	valerie.ashcroft@oddfellows.co.uk
4th Mon 4pm	Zingo Bingo	985 163 7526	-	joanne.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Tues 2pm	Brainiest Brain Fun Quiz	231 522 2288	1810	judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk
1st Tues 2pm	Word Games and Chat	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues 10am	Busy Fingers, Crafts and Coffee	542 724 7603	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues 4pm	Beetle Drive	985 163 7526	-	joanne.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
2nd Tues 7.30pm	Games, quizzes and more	860 2803 8495	-	dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

# Weekly events

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

Time	Event	Meeting ID	Passcode	Contact
<b>Monday</b>				
10.30am	Online Games – All Welcome	950 0863 2889	1810	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Chi Gung	824 6194 4085	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Monday Music and Musing	420 044 9988	942052	maretta.heap@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Weekly Monday Games Night	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk

## Tuesday

4pm	Art, Talks, Fun and Games	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Fun Quiz – Open to all	869 8507 8184	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Easy Exercise from Home	839 2552 1325	1810	alex.walker@oddfellows.co.uk

## Wednesday

11am	National Coffee Morning	988 3920 7187	-	peter.needham@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Fun Quiz – Open to all	854 769 23503	-	debbie.jex@oddfellows.co.uk
6pm	Tai Chi	873 2888 5615	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk

## Thursday

10.30am	Coffee Morning	949 4131 7445	1810	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
11am	Easy Zumba Gold	9468 1625 757	PRE-REG	debbie.jex@oddfellows.co.uk
11am	Zoom Confidence Drop In	798 2731 5650	-	sarah.north@oddfellows.co.uk
2pm	Oddfellows Fun Thursdays	988 3920 7187	-	events@oddfellows.co.uk
7pm	Weekly Quiz Night	967 996 1868	-	charles.venables@oddfellows.co.uk

## Friday

2pm	The Weekend Starts Here!	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
3pm	Friday Fun and Games	420 044 9988	942052	maretta.heap@oddfellows.co.uk

## Saturday

11am	Fun, Quiz and Games	894 5983 8236	-	peter.needham@oddfellows.co.uk
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## Sunday

5pm	Facebook Live @ 5 Quiz	www.facebook.com/Oddfellowslpswich	-	wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
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**\*Please contact the event organiser to register in advance of the event**

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

# Featured events

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

Date/Time and Event			Meeting ID	Code	Contact
<b>June</b>					
1	4pm	Advantages of being an Oddfellow	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
4	10.30am	Oceans, Air, Biodiversity	986 0062 1135	-	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
7	6.30pm	Zingo Bingo and More	483 041 8410	-	david.randall@oddfellows.co.uk
8	11am	Britain's Home Guard	879 422 7670	-	demi.trotman@oddfellows.co.uk
11	2pm	Blasts from the Past	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
14	1pm	Menopause MOT	932 2372 7840	-	emma.leighton@oddfellows.co.uk
14	2pm	Homes for Wildlife with Bob Keene	895 0812 1413	-	karen.dyke@oddfellows.co.uk
16	2pm	Summer Garden	853 5928 5951	-	helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
22	4pm	Your Hundred Best Tunes	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
25	2pm	Eric Sykes: What a Life!	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
29	7.30pm	Patrick and Maria Brontë	227 108 7843	-	emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk
30	7pm	The 60's: A Decade of Change	879 422 7670	-	demi.trotman@oddfellows.co.uk

<b>July</b>					
2	2pm	Cybercrime: Frauds and Scams	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
5	11am	Family Feud	460 9827 642	1810	karen.pye-smith@oddfellows.co.uk
6	4pm	Cheese Presentation and Sampling	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
7	2pm	Classic Comedy Clips	853 5928 5951	-	helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk
9	2pm	Johnny Clamp Reveals All	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
16	2pm	Tears of a Clown	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
17	7pm	Only Connect	460 9827 642	1810	karen.pye-smith@oddfellows.co.uk
23	2pm	'You've Never Had It So Good!'	879 422 7670	-	demi.trotman@oddfellows.co.uk
27	7.30pm	The Joy of bird song	227 108 7843	-	emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk

<b>August</b>					
6	2pm	Johnny Clamp Reveals All!	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
13	2pm	Ostend: More than just Flip-Flops	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
16	11am	East London, Cockneys and Rhyming Slang	879 422 7670	-	demi.trotman@oddfellows.co.uk
20	2pm	First Date for Guinea Pigs	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
27	2pm	Secret London	910 7968 6020	1810	paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk
31	7.30pm	Talk: A visit to Gaping Gill	227 108 7843	-	emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk

## More online events are added every week!

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



## Branches raise over £145,000 for good causes in 2020

**A big part of the Oddfellows is about giving back. We're run by our members, for our members, and that means providing them with the support they, their friends, family and communities may need.**

The societal impact of the worldwide pandemic and nationwide lockdowns truly showed us the importance of coming together as a community. And despite many facing funding and resource crises themselves, charitable organisations stepped up to play a huge part in helping people to get through the struggles of last year.

To show our continued support, our UK Branches raised £145,742.59 for good causes in 2020.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says: "In one way or another, we've all needed somebody to lean on at various points during the pandemic, so it's wonderful to see how our Branches and members have been helping their local communities and good causes."

Oddfellows Branches and members also made significant contributions to Society fundraising initiatives during the past year, such as our Coronavirus Emergency

Appeal, in which £19,210 was raised to split between The Silver Line and the National Emergencies Trust.

Our 115 UK Branches regularly donate to a long list of local organisations and charities. From supporting homeless shelters through to funding public defibrillators, they work tirelessly to help make their towns great places to live for people of all ages, from all walks of life. Here are a few examples...

### Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Sponsored a local mum with £550 who was raising money for the Children with Cancer charity by running a marathon across town. Every day, 12 families are given the heartbreaking news that their child has cancer, and CWC funds over 60 research projects which all work towards giving children the very best chance of survival.



### Mid-Staffordshire Oddfellows

donated £1,000 to Midland Air Ambulance Charity, which has air bases in Staffordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire, and provides emergency care in hard-to-reach places.



### North Gloucestershire Oddfellows

donated £6,000 to Merton House Hotel to get it back on its feet after early closures in 2020 due to government restrictions. Merton House Hotel offers respite and convalescence care to a number of Oddfellows members.

### The Great Berkhamstead District

donated £2,000 to a local school last year that runs a charity called "No Child Without". Many children were left at a disadvantage following school closures, due to a lack of access to tablets and laptops at home. No Child Without makes sure that every child has the basic necessities to learn, no matter their background.

### Nene and Welland Oddfellows

raised £1,000, plus £400 worth of food and bedding for the Exotic Pet Refuge, which runs entirely on public donations to support its menagerie of wolves, snakes, monkeys and meerkats – to name a few!



### Leigh and Bolton Oddfellows

donated £500 to Bolton Hospice, which offers local support for people with life-limiting or terminal illnesses. The hospice costs £4 million per year to provide its specialist care.

If there's a cause close to your heart which you'd like to support, have a chat with your local Branch Secretary, and share some of your fundraising ideas with them.

# Apprenticeship Educational Awards 2020

Each year, we offer members who are undertaking an apprenticeship the opportunity to apply for a financial grant to help them with their training. Applications are open from March each year, until 31 December, and of those who apply, three members are selected by our Fraternal Board to receive £250 for every year of their studies.

Meet our 2021 Apprenticeship Educational Award Winners!

**Fenton Gaymer, 16, is completing a plumbing apprenticeship at Gayges Ltd in Swanley, Kent, through Bexley College.**

He says: "I'm really excited to start my career in plumbing. It's an essential service and I feel that there will always be a need for plumbers. An apprenticeship is a great way to begin a career, as it offers the opportunity to earn a wage whilst learning a skill, meaning that when I'm fully qualified, I'll be able to get started straight away."

**Jack Lockwood, 18, is completing an apprenticeship in Carpentry with Alan Bender Ltd in Colchester, through the Colchester Institute.**

He says: "I'm hoping to put as much of it as I can towards a van and some tools to help me get set up in the trade."



*Fenton, Jack and Rhiana*

My Grandad was a carpenter, but I really got into woodwork at school. It's always satisfying to see a project from start to finish, and feel proud that you've created it yourself."

**Rhiana Lees, 17, is completing an apprenticeship in Manufacturing Engineering at Rolls Royce in Derby, through the University of Sheffield.**

She says: "I'm extremely grateful for the award. It will go a long way in helping me to purchase essential course textbooks. My mum's always encouraged me and my twin brother to dream big and go for what we want. She's really made me who I am today."

We also offer Educational Awards for members who are undertaking their first University Degree. If you'd like to be considered for our First Degree Course Educational Awards, contact your Branch Secretary for an application form. The deadline is 31 August each year, and member eligibility applies.

# Peak District Friendship Tour

Oddfellows Travel is hosting a special three night guided tour of the Peak District. All members and their guests are invited.



Staying at HF Holiday's Peveril of the Peak Country House Hotel, in Dovedale. You'll get the chance to explore some of the Peak District's signature attractions.

For further information  
contact tour host Mike Hall:  
**0161 832 9361 (Ext 2224)**  
[travel@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:travel@oddfellows.co.uk)

**3 - 6 September 2021**  
**From £355 per person**

Full board - single rooms available



To find out more about Oddfellows Travel  
visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel)



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*making friends, helping people*