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Nene and Welland District





Travel and Trips Arts and Crafts Arts

















Welcome to your Events Diary and Newsletter for the Nene and Welland District of Oddfellows

As a local Branch of a national membership organisation called the Oddfellows, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when you need them. We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared interest in socialising, making friends and helping people. This issue features details of all our upcoming events from eating out to trips out.

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

Contact Details

District Secretary: Karen Earth **Telephone:** 01778 342006

Email:

karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk

Address:

57 Church Street, Market Deeping, Peterborough PE6 8AN.

District Social organizer:

Andrew Spencer

Telephone: 07729 519122

Email:

andrew.spencer@oddfellows.co.uk

you and your friends to attend any of our events that take your fancy - and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

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.

Follow us on Facebook at: Nene and Welland Oddfellows



The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F. Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB

January 2020



Annual New Year's Day Walk in Burghley Park







Have you overdone the festive celebrations? Do you feel the need of some fresh air? Then come and join us for a gentle walk in the wonderful grounds of Burghley House, Stamford. We meet in the car park at 2pm and enjoy the sights and sounds of the surroundings, not to mention the fresh air. We finish with a hot drink, more eats and a chat before heading home. Burghley Park, Burghley House, Stamford PE9 3JY. Contact Chris on 01780 755705.



Craft Club







Our Crafty Crafters are meeting for their first gathering of 2020 to make a calendar. If you fancy having a go, then come and join them. It does not matter what your skill level is Janice will guide you every step of the way. You'll have lots of fun and laughs with this friendly group, plus a lovely calendar to take home. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Janice on 01778 560059.



Annual Branch Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm



Two Course £16.95, Three Course £19.95



This year for the first time we are having a Saturday lunch instead of our annual Friday evening dinner. So that people don't have to drive in the dark, we hope you will approve of this and be able to join us. The Ship Inn Pinchbeck will let us have the pre-Christmas menu even though it's a lunch.



This will be at 12.30pm for 1pm at the Ship Inn. We shall need your menu selection and payment by no later than Monday 16 December 2019. The Ship Inn, Northgate, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3SE. Contact Christine on 07714 096801.

January 2020



Cold Pudding Club





£1 Bring a Pud £2 to enjoy



Surprise Bingo







Our Cold Pudding Club is a chance for you to share a favourite pudding you



make with others or a chance to come and enjoy the puddings others make. Everyone is welcome to come and have a tasty fun evening with friends and possibly learn something new to share with your family and friends. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact David on 01778 347876.

Once again, we meet for a just for fun afternoon of bingo. Why do we call it Surprise Bingo? Well just to add to the fun we wrap all the prizes up so when you win you get a surprise. We also add to our fun with some tea, cake and natter. All the money we raise in the afternoon is added to our Chairman's charity. So, you have a fun afternoon out and the charity benefits. Come on your own or bring your friends. You don't have to be a member to try us out, just be prepared to have fun. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.



Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm



As per menu



If you have never tried our Friendship Lunch you are missing a real treat. We meet for good food, good company and great friendship. All in the lovely setting of the Riverside Hotel, Surfleet.



If you or your friends, members or not, are looking for something new to try, then please do come and join us. If you're not sure then give Christine a call and she will explain how easy it is to book your place and enjoy yourself. Book by Friday 10 January. The Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding PE11 4DG. Contact Christine on 07714 096801.

February



Talk: Reflections of a Schools Inspector



) 2pm





Following the howling afternoon talk Alan Holt gave us last year, he has again agreed to come and share another aspect of life with us called 'Reflections of a schools inspector'. If you came last time you'll remember what a great afternoon we had. If you missed Alan's last talk don't miss this one it really is a howler and will bring back many memories of school days. No need to book just come and enjoy, you don't even have to be a member. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.



Craft Club







Again our Crafters are getting together. This month they're making a Waterfall Card. Don't be afraid to come and have a go. It's a real fun afternoon with a great group. If you're looking to make new friends then come and try us out. We welcome everyone to come and have a go and see how much fun you can have in one afternoon, along with something beautiful to take home. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Janice on 01778 560059 to find out more.



Visit to Warners Print Works Bourne and Lunch









Come and join us on this fascinating tour of the world of printing. Find out how this industry has changed over the years. From print setters to computers, this really is a fascinating morning.

It is followed by a get together lunch at Bourne Eau Terrace. Places are limited so book early. The tour is free you only have to pay for your lunch according to what you order.

Book by Tuesday 11 February. Warner's Print Works, The Maltings, Manor Lane, Bourne PE10 9PH. For more information and book your place just call Barry on 01778 560059.

February



Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm





Our monthly Friendship Lunch group are waiting to welcome more to join them for an afternoon of good food, great company and friendship. Everyone, member or not, is welcome. If you find yourself looking for something new to do then what better than trying lunch with us. Book by Friday 14 February. The Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding PE11 4DG. To take that first step to finding new friends and having fun, just call Christine on 07714 096801 and book your place.





Branch Annual General Meeting



) 10am



Free



All members are welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Branch. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Karen on 01778 342006.



Surprise Bingo







It's time for another fun afternoon playing the great game of Bingo. So, get your dobbers ready. Every prize is a surprise. Come and enjoy yourself, win fun prizes and meet friends who love having fun. Half way through the afternoon we break to enjoy some tea and cakes, along with a lot of chatter. Don't be afraid to come and play. We play for fun whilst raising money for charity. A whole afternoon of fun and friendship for just £1 per book. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.

March

TUES 03

Cold Pudding Club







Do you have a favourite pudding you love to make? Well we would love to taste it. So, come and join us and bring your pudding along to share with our other pudding makers and tasters. If you prefer to just eat puddings you're just as welcome to join us and enjoy all the wonderful tastes, along with lots of chatter. It's a great tasty way to spend an evening. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact David on 01778 347876.

March



Supper and Talk at the Ship (Providence Branch)



7.30pm





Everyone is welcome to join us at the Ship Inn Oundle for another evening of good company and an interesting speaker. After the talk we enjoy a tasty light supper together at the Ship Inn, with lots of friendly chat before heading off home. Book by Friday 6 March. The Ship Inn, 20 West Street, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4EF. For more information on the topic for this evening and book your place for



Craft Club

supper, call Roly on 01832 273664.



£

Members £2 Guests £4



This month one of our club members Doreen is going to lead us in an Easter Project. Why not come and have a go? You'll have a fun afternoon with the ladies and gentlemen of our group, enjoy some tea and cake, along with load of chat and laughter. Then after all this fun you'll have something great to take home and brighten up your Easter. Remember you don't have to be a skilled crafter, there's lots of help available throughout the afternoon. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact lanice on 01778 560059.



Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm





If you enjoy good food and good company, come and join us at this beautiful waterside location. Everyone welcome, bring your friends. Don't be afraid to come on your own, you won't be for long. If you're not a member and for whatever reason you are looking for something new, especially friendship, then come and give us a try. You have nothing to lose and perhaps a lot to gain. Book by Friday 13 March. The Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding PE11 4DG. Contact Christine on 07714 096801 to find out more.



Indoor Games (Haven of Happiness)







If you enjoy playing games and having fun then come and join us for all this and more. For no other reason than



getting together having a chat and having fun with friends is what we do. Playing all sorts of games old and new. There's lots of tea and cake as well. We are sure you will come back again. The Hub/Library, Knight Street, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3RU. Contact Christine on 07714 096801.

March



Surprise Bingo





Do you enjoy the great game of Bingo? Then come and enjoy a fun afternoon out and play our Surprise Bingo with a really friendly group of bingo lovers. We also enjoy a cuppa, cake and chat all included. So, come and have fun and remember, all the money we raise goes into our Chairman's charity. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping

April

07729 519122.

April



Craft Club







This month our **Craft Crafters** are making a plaque. If this makes you curious and you would



like to know more, then come and join us. You'll have a fun afternoon out, learn something new and meet a areat aroup of friends. As always lanice is on hand to help you through. Oddfellows Hall. 57 Church Street. Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact lanice on 01778 560059.



PE6 8AN. Contact Andrew on



1.30pm





By popular demand we are once again meeting at Waterside for a wander around

the centre to enjoy the displays and maybe pick up something new for the garden. Then enjoy a fabulous Afternoon Tea in the restaurant. If wandering is your thing, then we will start meeting at 1.30pm at the main entrance.

If you would just like to enjoy the Afternoon Tea and chatter then come along a little later. Why not invite your friends to come along? Everyone is welcome. Just make sure you book your place with Andrew. Book by Wednesday 25 March. Waterside Garden Centre, King Street, Baston, Peterborough PE6 9NY. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.



April



Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm





Our regular monthly Friendship Lunch is a great way to meet new people. If your life has changed in anyway and you feel the need to try new things and meet new people, then this could be a perfect first step. If you come alone we promise you won't be for long with this group. If you would feel more comfortable by bringing a friend with you please do. Book by Friday 10 April. The Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding PE11 4DG. All you have to do is call Christine on 07714 096801 and book your place.



Playing Card Bingo (Haven of Happiness)



£ Free



What is this? Well come along to the Hub/Library in Pinchbeck to find out. You will have a fun afternoon with friends, lots of chatter, nice things to eat and fun trying a different way to play bingo. What more could you ask for? If you have never been to one of our events just call Christine, she will put you at ease and make sure there is someone to meet you when you arrive. The Hub/Library, Knight Street, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3RU. Contact Christine on 07714 096801.



Surprise Bingo



 (\mathfrak{L}) £1 per book



This time of year it is just nice to get out and have some fun. So, why not come and join us at our monthly Surprise Bingo? It really is a lot of fun playing the great game, a chance to win some great prizes, which are all wrapped up, that's the surprise bit. Along with all this fun you get to enjoy tea, cake and a natter with a great group. The more the merrier, so don't be afraid come and have some fun. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.

May



Cold Pudding Club





£1 Bring a Pud £2 to enjoy



Once again it's time to create those wonderful puddings or just come along and enjoy the



wonderful tastes. Perhaps you can swap a recipe or two, meet new and old friends. One thing for certain you will have a great night out. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact David on 01778 347876.

May



Craft Club







Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm





Once again the ladies and gents of the Craft Club meet to have a fun afternoon, learning something new, whilst enjoying the great company there. This month they are making a Shaker Card. Now what is a Shaker Card? Curious, then come and find out. Janice and the others will guide you through. You get to have fun, make new friends and have something special to take home. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street. Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Janice on 01778 560059.

Once again we meet in the lovely setting of the Riverside Hotel for lunch. Come and enjoy a great afternoon out with this very friendly group. We love to welcome new people to join us, so don't be afraid to come alone or bring a friend with you, we will make you so welcome. We feel sure once you have tried this afternoon out you'll come again. All you have to do is make one telephone call to book your place with Christine, then come along and enjoy. Book by Friday 15 May. The Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding PE11 4DG. Contact Christine on 07714 096801.



Visit to Burtey Fen Collection







Come and enjoy the sounds of two mighty cinema organs, the Wurlitzer and the Compton, in this purpose built music hall, decorated in the style of a 1930's theatre. You will hear music that includes



show songs, marches, light classics and favourite sing-a-long tunes. Along with the music we also get to look round the vast display of theatre and music memorabilia. At the interval enjoy tea and biscuits. There is a large car park at the centre and we will meet here from 1.30pm.

Book your place with Andrew for a memorable afternoon out. Book by Wednesday 13 May. The Burtey Fen Collection, 3 Burtey Fen Lane, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3SR. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.

May



Surprise Bingo









Here we go again for another fun afternoon of the great game of bingo. With fun surprise prizes and the bonus is, it also includes tea, cake and natter with friends. So, do come and have a fun afternoon. Whilst you have fun all the money from the afternoon goes to the Chairman's charity. You don't have to be a member to come along and have fun. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.

June



Pork Pie Making



12 noon





Following the success of our last visit to Brockleby's Food at Melton Mowbray, we are going again! Don't miss your chance to come and have a great afternoon out. We meet at the on-site garden centre at 12 noon for a chance to do some shopping therapy or enjoy a delicious snack in the restaurant.



Then at 1pm we take a short walk across the car park to the pie factory and spend the afternoon learning how to make your own hand raised Melton Mowbray pork pie, which you take home to bake. Everything you need is provided. Just be prepared to laugh, learn and get messy.

Places are limited so, book early with Andrew. Book by Tuesday 26 May. Brockleby's Bakery, Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray LE14 3QU. Contact Andrew on 07729 519122.

June



Supper and Talk at the Ship (Providence Branch)



7.30pm





Join us at the Ship Inn Oundle, for another evening of convivial company and an interesting talk, all followed by a delicious supper and lots of friendly chatter. To find out more details of this month's speaker and book your place just give Roly a call, it's that easy to have a great evening out. Book by Monday 8 June. The Ship Inn, 20 West Street, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4EF. Contact Roly on 01832 273664.



Craft Club



2pm

Members £2 Guests £4



Our Crafty Crafters are making a Pyramid Card this month. Fancy finding out what this is and having a go, well come along and join us. Don't be afraid if you can't do it, Janice will guide you at every stage until you have something great to take home. Everything you need is supplied all you do is come and have fun. To keep you going through the afternoon we supply tea, cake and chatter. If you are not sure just give Janice a call and she will explain everything to you. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street. Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact lanice on 01778 560059.



Pinchbeck Carnival



2 noon







Come and enjoy this lovely village carnival and support us on our Oddfellows stalls. There's lots to see and enjoy including stalls, displays, animals and refreshments.

It's a real family day out. Don't forget to spend a little of your money on our stall and help boost the Chairman's charity fund. If you would like to offer a little time in the day to help on our stalls then give Christine a call, we are always grateful for any time people can spare.

Playing Fields, Rotten Row, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3RU. Contact Christine on 07714 096801.

June



Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)



12.30pm





4

Sunday Lunch Falcon Hotel (City Branch)







Our regular diners are meeting again at the Riverside Hotel for lunch. Just for a great way to spend an afternoon with friends. We are always glad to welcome new friends joining us. So, if you fancy something new, meeting new friends and enjoying good food, then come and give it a go. All you have to do is give Christine a call and book your place, then come and enjoy yourself. You have nothing to lose and perhaps a lot to gain. Book by Friday 12 June. The Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding

Come and join us at this olde English Coaching Inn,the Falcon Hotel, for a family style carvery lunch. Why not invite your family and



friends to come along. It's a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon with friends. Remember if you are on your own don't be afraid to come along, you will soon have people to talk to. Please book your place by Friday 19 June. Falcon Hotel, London Street, Whittlesey, Peterborough PE7 1BH. Contact Lucy on 01733 203558.

SUN 21

07714 096801.

Annual Church Service



6pm



PE11 4DG. Contact Christine on

Free



Our annual Branch church service will be held at Deeping Methodist Church. Please do come and join us to celebrate the work of the Oddfellows Society and give thanks for the work of the officers of our Branch, working to serve our area. Afterwards join us in the church lounge for some refreshments and enjoy some time of friendship and fellowship together.



Deeping Methodist Church, 64 Church Street, Deeping St James PE6 8HD. Contact Karen on 01778 342006.

June



Surprise Bingo







Here we go again, dobbers at the ready for another fun packed afternoon of Bingo and surprise prizes. Also enjoy some tea, cake and chatter with your fellow players. You get a great afternoon out and at the same time help boost our Chairman's charity fund. Everyone is welcome to come and play. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN.

Forthcoming **Events**

Wednesday 8 July - Craft Club, 2pm Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Cost: Members £2, guests £4.

Tuesday 14 July - Cold Pudding Club, 7pm

Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. **Cost:** £1 Bring a pud, £2 to enjoy.

Wednesday 15 July - Friendship Lunch, 12.30pm

Riverside Hotel, 123 Station Road, Surfleet PE11 4DG.

Cost: According to menu choices.



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

Refer a friend today

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

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

Ref 1644



Oddfellows Summer Holiday

Join with other Oddfellows and enjoy a wonderful break at this classic country house, set in splendid parkland.

6 - 10 July 2020:

4 nights (half-board)

Standard room from £321 per person Signature room from £361 per person

Warner Cricket St Thomas Hotel. Chard, Somerset TA20 4DD



To book call Warner on **0330 1009 772** (Booking reference 4373341) and quote ODDFELLOWS

All holidays are booked through third party travel companies and terms and conditions apply.

Holidays are open to Oddfellows members and their quests only. For more information ask the reservations team when booking.

Visit by Jane Nelson

We held a refresher morning at our Branch in Market Deeping Hosted by Jane Nelson CEO of Oddfellows for training to advance to the positions of Chairmanship and Committee of Management within a Branch. Several other branches from around the region joined us for this most interesting and informative morning.





Sponsorship of new First Responder vehicle

Christine is seen presenting the cheque for the first part of our three year sponsorship of the new vehicle for the Oundle and district First Responders. Our Branch name will be listed with the other sponsors on the vehicle.











Sunday Lunch







In September the Oddfellows Brass Band came to Bourne as part of our Friendship Month events. A fantastic evening was enjoyed by over 90 members and guests. With over £300 raised on the evening towards our Chairman's charity, 'The Deepings Youth Group'.









July Bingo







Games in the Garden







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.

Presentation to Gerald Baxter

We recently celebrated a life time's dedication to the Oddfellows of Gerald Baxter. Gerald has been a trustee of our Branch for many years, along with being Provincial Grand Master (Local Chairman) several times.

Gerald has now decided to step down from office and to mark all his years of dedication

The state of the s

and hard work for our Branch and the Society, we had a wooden carved fruit bowl made for him with a special plaque inlaid into the base of the bowl. The presentation was made to Gerald and his wife Maureen at a buffet lunch in his honour. Whilst thanking Gerald for all his work we were able also to thank Maureen for all her support for Gerald's work over the years.



Cold Pudding Club We have Dyp We have by So Cousp You'll







Poppies Window











New Museum Gets Underway

Over the past few months our plans have now been put in to production for our new permanent museum. It is to be housed on the first floor of our Building in Market Deeping. So far we have cleared the rubbish, installed new lighting, installed a new suspended ceiling and decorated.



All in readiness for new display cabinets to be installed. The museum will be open by appointment for anyone to visit. We are also supplying areas with seating and tables where visitors can conduct research in comfort. We hope to complete the project in early 2020.













Nene & Welland Care Team



Barry Bedford Welfare Visitor Near Bourne, Lincolnshire

Telephone: **07852 282776**



Christine Sargeant Welfare Visitor Near Spalding, Lincolnshire

Telephone: 01775 769487 07714 096801



John Sargeant Welfare Visitor Near Spalding, Lincolnshire

Telephone: 01775 769487

Or contact your Branch Secretary, Karen Earth for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence on 01778 342006 or email karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk

Welfare Officers



We are looking for members who would be interested in giving some time for the benefit of other members who are ill, housebound,or lonely and need some support and guidance to the Welfare services of the Oddfellows, or just someone to talk to.

If you think you could give time and support to these members please contact Christine Sargeant 07714 096801 for more information about the support and training for this role.



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 Karen on **01778 342006** or email **karen.earth@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@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 Oddfellows Hall is available for hire at £12 per hour.

Seats 40, projector and screen, small car park and kitchen with crockery. Ideal for meetings, training and small functions.

For special occasions vintage crockery and table linen available at £10 per hire.

For details please contact Karen on **01778 342006** or email us at karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk





Society News



www.oddfellows.co.uk

Oddfellows memorial unveiled at the National Memorial Arboretum

Sixty-two Branches donated funds to establish a stunning new memorial to honour Oddfellows war heroes who died in battle. It stands in Staffordshire's National Arboretum, Britain's largest site of remembrance containing over 300 war memorials.

The inscription on the 6ft, blue granite memorial reads: "In memory of the many members of the Oddfellows who gave their lives in defence of their country. We will always remember them.

Founded in 1810, the Oddfellows has a long history of caring for its members, their families and supporting worthy causes. During the First and Second World Wars, the Society's lodges paid the contributions of the members who were fighting, so their families would continue to be looked after. The Oddfellows established the Orphan Gift Fund after the First World War to care for the children of members orphaned as a result of the conflict.

The Fund still exists today and is part of the Society's mission to improve lives by making friends and helping people".

Jane Nelson, CEO said: "This memorial stands as testament to how our Society



Reverend Bruce Nicole delivering the service to members from across the UK

still feels incredibly indebted to those members who serve our country. Thank you to all the Branches who made this memorial a reality. Its setting at the National Arboretum makes this tribute feel even more significant, being part of a community of others who we will never forget".

If you would like to visit our memorial, it can be found near the wild meadow and Millennium shelter. There are also a number of volunteers at the Arboretum who are more than happy to help you find your way around.

To find out more, visit: www.thenma.org.uk/

Society News Issue 7

100 years of the Orphan Gift Fund



After WW1, members wanted to do something to help the children of those lost to the war.

The fund was proposed at the 1918 AMC in Cheltenham, after the Grand Master William Henry Hayes wrote to Branches saying: "The whole nation rejoices at the victorious end of a war which has entailed heavy sacrifices on the part of the whole people, and the most heroic effort by the best and bravest of our manhood, and in what worthier manner can we build a memorial as a thank-offering for victory than by undertaking responsibility for

the care and up-bringing of the orphans of our members?"

Overwhelming support meant the fund received the equivalent of £232,000 in today's money, in just one year.

The Orphan Gift Fund continues to help children thrive, and is available as a benefit of membership from day one, open to any child who loses one or both parents through death or desertion, if either the child or one of the parents are members at the time of the loss or desertion. Currently, there are over 50 recipients, and in 2018, the Fund made grants totalling £36,604.

Would you like to donate to the Orphan Gift Fund?

Contributions can be made by cheque or electronic bank transfer. To make a donation, please contact the Finance team on 0161 832 9361.

Can you spot a Society Star?

Nominations are open for our annual Making a Difference Awards. These awards have been designed to recognise members who go above and beyond for individual members, their Branch, or the Society as a whole, and truly embody the spirit of the Oddfellows. If you know a member worthy of nomination, ask for a form



from your Branch Secretary. Make sure you have a read of the categories first though! And if you need another form, to nominate someone for a different category, simply download from www.oddfellows.com/makingadifference or ask your Branch Secretary.

Society News Issue 7



We recently discovered that almost half of adults with significant friends (48%) only get together with them less than once a month.

Our research also shows that a fifth (20%) of GB adults, aged 55 and over, go for at least six months without being socially active. That includes attending things like social events, going to church, or simply grabbing a coffee with a friend.

But by contrast, 83% of the Oddfellows' own members say they spend time with a significant friend once a month or more, with 50% saying they see their good mates at least once a week.

We know how much regular company is essential to living a happier life. In fact, some would say that spending time with friends is as important as eating healthily or exercising. Friends aren't just there to socialise with, they provide support and comfort in times of need.

Most of us make our friends through work, family or education. As we age and our life changes, we have less access to these everyday social opportunities, which can contribute towards social isolation in a huge way.

The YouGov study found that 21% of adults haven't met anyone who became a significant friend in over 10 years. 43% of adults cited work as a place they've met significant friends, followed by during their school and university years (37%), through mutual friends (26%) and through family or children (15%).

If you know somebody who might be in need of a friend, or would benefit from coming along to your next local Oddfellows event, why not bring them along? You can be sure of a warm welcome at your local Branch, and you could really make a difference to somebody's life.

Society News Issue 7

Another BRR-illiant Cruise with the Oddfellows' Active Travel Club



Our members weren't afraid to get up close and personal with some massive icebergs!

With our Active Travel Club, you can explore a variety of different places with friendly faces. Here, Wendy Atkins from the Ipswich Branch of the Oddfellows shares her account of their most recent trip to Iceland and Greenland.

Greenland has a land mass of around one-third the size of Australia, and a total population of just 56,000, which is about the size of Kettering or Macclesfield, and has an average August temperature of 11 degrees Celsius. However, the 16-night Fred. Olsen cruise more than made up for the lack of sunshine. The diary was to be jam-packed with Ukelele lessons, singing in the choir, drawing, dancing and crafting, to name a few! And if that wasn't enough, three quizzes every day would certainly keep us on our toes.

As we left Dover on 7 August, the Captain changed course, due to a large storm about to hit the South-West of England.

So instead of a bumpy start across the Atlantic, we enjoyed calm waters and sunny days as we journeyed up the North Sea, making the most of the ship's activities. We then spent two days in Reykjavik, wandering at leisure, visiting museums and checking out some of the incredible 'moonscape' scenery.

We travelled onto Greenland and the spectacular scenery of Prins Christian Sund, with its craggy peaks, imposing glaciers, waterfalls and icebergs.

Whilst in Greenland, we visited three communities; Qaqortoq (a small village nestled on the edge of the Qoorow Ice Fjord), Narsarsuaq (the site of a WWII USAF air base), and Nanotalik, where the local choir entertained us, and the open air museum gave us an insight into life throughout the seasons. We were extremely fortunate to visit in beautiful weather. It's hard to imagine what life is like there during the harsh winters.

The trip was an amazing experience, and the pictures don't do the sights justice. You'll have to come along with us next time to see for yourself! Thank you to Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines for making such a memorable trip possible.

Where is the Oddfellows Active Travel Club off to next? You can see all of our upcoming holidays at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel, alternatively call Wendy on 01473 251 867, or email wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk

Events at a glance

January 2020

Wed 1	Annual New Year's Day Walk in Burghley Park	2pm
Sat 4	Annual Branch Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Wed 8	Craft Club	2pm
Tues 14	Business Meeting	10am
Tues 14	Cold Pudding Club	7pm
Wed 15	Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Tues 28	Surprise Bingo	2pm

February

Wed 5	Talk: Reflections of a Schools Inspector	2pm
Wed 12	Craft Club	2pm
Tues 18	Visit to Warners Print Works Bourne and Lunch	10am
Wed 19	Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Tues 25	Branch Annual General Meeting	10am
Tues 25	Surprise Bingo	2pm

March

Tues 3	Cold Pudding Club	7pm
Tues 10	Business Meeting	10am
Tues 10	Supper and Talk at the Ship (Providence Branch)	7.30pm
Wed 11	Craft Club	2pm
Wed 18	Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Wed 25	Indoor Games (Haven of Happiness)	2pm
Tues 31	Surprise Bingo	2pm

April

Wed 1	Afternoon Tea (City Branch)	1.30pm
Wed 8	Craft Club	2pm
Tues 14	Business Meeting	10am
Wed 15	Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Wed 22	Playing Card Bingo (Haven of Happiness)	2pm
Tues 28	Surprise Bingo	2pm

Events at a glance

May

Tues 12	Business Meeting	10am
Tues 12	Cold Pudding Club	7pm
Wed 13	Craft Club	2pm
Mon 18	Visit to Burtey Fen Collection	2pm
Wed 20	Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Tues 26	Surprise Bingo	2pm

June

Tues 2	Pork Pie Making	12 noon
Tues 9	Business Meeting	10am
Tues 9	Supper and Talk at the Ship (Providence Branch)	7.30pm
Wed 10	Craft Club	2pm
Sat 13	Pinchbeck Carnival	12 noon
Wed 17	Friendship Lunch (Haven of Happiness)	12.30pm
Sun 21	Annual Church Service	6pm
Sun 28	Sunday Lunch Falcon Hotel (City Branch)	1pm
Tues 30	Surprise Bingo	2pm

District Business Meetings

Branch business meetings are open for all members to attend and are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10am. There will be no meeting on Tuesday 11 February as we shall be holding our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25 February at 10am. Meetings are held at the Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. It is best to contact Karen at the office prior to making a special journey to check for any meeting changes.

Provincial Corresponding Secretary (District Secretary): Karen Earth.

Telephone: 01778 342006. Email: karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: 57 Church Street, Market Deeping, Peterborough PE6 8AN

14 January	14 April
25 February (AGM)	12 May
10 March	9 June