

November 2026 – February 2027



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

out & about

West London Branch



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



We hope to see you at our events!

Hello and welcome to our latest edition to our Out and About.

Booking for events for West London members and their guests will be open from 11.30pm on Wednesday 28 October. Booking for members of other districts and non members will open on Monday 2nd November at 9am.

This is to make it fair to those who do not have internet access. Please call, text, WhatsApp or email me to book your places.

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

Contact Details

Branch Secretary:

Barbara Moorhouse

Telephone: 020 8741 5297

Mobile: 07727 026707

Email:

barbara.moorhouse@oddfellows.co.uk

Care and Welfare:

Christine Rattray

Telephone: 07727 358456

Email:

christine.rattray@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Rosalind Earp

Telephone: 07421 140970

Email:

rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk

Office Address:

The Oddfellows

186 Hammersmith Road

Hammersmith

London

W6 7DJ.

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

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

The Craft Club continues to run on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 2-4pm at 186 Hammersmith Road. On the first, third

and fifth Tuesdays it is held at 245 Hammersmith Road. Bring along a project that you are working on or we do have some equipment available to use. Refreshments are provided. For more information, please contact Barbara Moorhouse on 020 8741 5297 or 07727026707 or email barbara.moorhouse@oddfellows.co.uk

There are still many virtual events run by different Oddfellows branches throughout the country, taking place on Zoom and Facebook each week. Again up to date information can be found on the website.

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

I hope to see you at an event soon.

Best wishes

Rosalind

Assistance at events

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

Regular Events

Craft Club



2pm - 4pm



Free



Craft Club is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm. Bring along a project that you are working on. We also have some equipment available to use. Refreshments are provided. Donations are welcomed. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Barbara on 07727 026707.

**Second and
Fourth Tuesday**



Weekly Watercolour Art Class



10.30am - 1pm



Free



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

Every Thursday



Members Benefits

Don't forget, if you have opted for the benefits package you are entitled to make a claim following a visit to the dentist or optician.

*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services. For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions, or call us on 0800 028 1810.

November 2026

TUES 03 Social and Games Afternoon



2-4pm



Free



Join us from 2pm to 4pm for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free – donations are welcomed. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970. **Please note that the afternoon starts at 2pm, latecomers may not be admitted.**

THURS 05 Monthly Meal at Poppy's IV (Thai)



6.30pm



As per
menu



Each month we have a meal in a different area of our district and try different cuisines. This month we will be visiting Poppy's IV. Poppy's believe that great food brings people together. Every dish is freshly cooked to order using quality ingredients, authentic Thai recipes and carefully selected herbs. Their goal has always been simple – to serve honest Thai food with genuine hospitality, creating a dining experience that feels both authentic and welcoming. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Thursday 29 October 2026. Poppy's IV, 270 – 272 King Street W6 OSP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

WED 11 Six



8pm



Members £44
Guests £49.50



Think you know the Six Wives of Henry VIII? Think again... The crowning glory of the West End, Broadway and beyond, history is about to get over-throne in the homegrown hit musical sensation – SIX! Created by Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss, prepare to lose your head and experience the Tudor Wives' lives as they turn back the clock and take to the stage to reclaim their crowns and retell their stories of love, loss and the infamous ex they all have in common.

We will join Aragon, Boleyn, Seymour, Cleves, Howard and Parr, backed by their fierce on-stage band, the Ladies in Waiting, and Get Down to a royal retelling of the sassiest story in British Her-story. Book by Thursday 5 November 2026. Vaudeville Theatre, 404 Strand, London WC2R 0NH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

Otto Colwill, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons



November 2026

FRI
13

Paddington - The Musical



7pm



Members £89
Guests £95



Join us for a rather wonderful adventure! Hold onto your hats! Packed with show-stopping songs, dazzling choreography, mishaps and mayhem at every turn and of course, marmalade sandwiches – Paddington The Musical is based on the iconic characters from Michael Bond's books, with a story inspired by the award-winning 2014 film. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. Savoy Theatre, Savoy Court, Strand WC2R 0ET. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

TUES
17

Join the fight for Mental Health!



2pm



Free



Today we are joined by Nick Smith from Mind. Everyone deserves the help and respect they need to recover. West London Mind, listen, support recovery, fight stigma and work with partners to take action on mental health. They provide services for adults, children and young people and training and consultancy for employers and will be joining us for a short talk on all things mental health and an opportunity to speak to their staff about any information regarding their services across West London and how you can access them. Light refreshments will be served – donations are welcomed. Please note that the afternoon starts at 2pm, latecomers may not be admitted. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SAT
21

Isle Ave A Shanty - Live on The Golden Hinde



7.30pm



Members £12
Guests £17



Following on from the fantastic Sea Shanty Workshop given by Stuart Green in August, we have secured tickets for a performance by his group Isle 'Ave A Shanty on The Golden Hinde. Isle - Ave A Shanty are a six piece A Capella male harmony group based on the Isle of Ely. They specialise in traditional songs from the sea and the country in a folk style as well as putting a folk twist on some modern classics! They are a rarity in being a sea shanty band from a landlocked county, but they bring their own style to traditional songs and songs they made up themselves. Join us for a sea-riously great night! Book by Friday 13 November 2026. The Golden Hinde, St Mary Overie's Dock, Cathedral Street SE1 9DE. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

November 2026

WED
25

Agatha Christie Exhibition



11am



Members £15

Guests £20



Join us as we head to The British Library for The Agatha Christie Exhibition.

The exhibition takes visitors on a journey through Christie's upbringing,

her interests, travels and how she adapted her novels for the stage. There are five immersive sections filled with items from her personal life, including her typewriter, professional and personal correspondence with other writers, family photographs, notebooks and typescripts for novels. There will also be clues and 'Easter eggs' dotted throughout the exhibition for Christie fans to sleuth out. Christie's impact on the wider crime fiction genre will be explored through interviews within the exhibition with leading writers, broadcasters and notable fans. Book by Wednesday 18 November 2026. British Library, 96 Euston Road NW1 2DB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



CC BY-ND 2.0

THURS
26

The Chimney Lift at Battersea Power Station



5.45pm



Members £15

Guests £19



Proud recipient of a Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Award 2026. The Chimney Lift at the iconic Battersea Power Station is London's most epic viewing experience. Our journey begins in the Power Station's magnificent Art Deco Turbine Hall A, where through a carefully curated exhibition of original records and multimedia displays, we will discover more about the building's rich heritage, its architectural significance and enduring presence in popular culture. Then prepare to immerse your senses and elevate your perspective as we make a thrilling ascent 109 metres to the top of the north-west chimney, where stunning 360-degree views of the city skyline await, with your choice of drink to sip. Book by Thursday 12 November 2026. The Chimney Lift, Turbine Hall A, Level 1, Battersea Power Station, Circus Road West, Nine Elms SW8 5BN. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



wetwebwork derivative work: MrPanyGoff, CC BY 2.0,
via Wikimedia Commons

November 2026

SAT 28 Scented Candle Making Workshop



2pm



Members £45
Guests £50



MON 30 Blenheim Palace Christmas Lights



11am



Members £64
Guests £76



Join us for an afternoon creating scented soy candles. Crafting Joy will guide us through the process to combine scents and experiment with fragrance combinations to create a personalised candle. Soy wax is eco friendly and sustainable, made from renewable soybeans, soy candles burn slower and last longer than paraffin wax candles. Book by Friday 13 November 2026. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by No Revisions on Unsplash

Join us as we head to Blenheim Palace to explore the story of Cinderella inside the palace. Entering The Great Hall we will be welcomed by a towering Christmas tree that marks the start of the timeless tale of Cinderella, while each State Room tells a different chapter of the much-loved family favourite. Then as the light fades, we will walk through the Illuminated Trail. Boasting more than a million lights, the enchanting trail winds through gardens and grounds, past glistening treetops and shimmering waterfalls. Stock up for Christmas on tasty treats and gifts at one of the best Christmas Markets in the country. You might like to have a go at skating on the spectacular covered ice rink or take your Christmas experience to new heights on the festive Observation Wheel (not included in your ticket price). Cost includes return coach travel from 186 Hammersmith Road, entry to the palace and light trail. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxfordshire OX20 1UL. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Bryan Dickerson on Unsplash

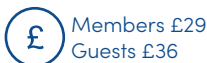
December

TUES 01 Social and Games Afternoon



Join us from 2pm to 4pm for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free – donations are welcomed. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

WED 02 Sing Along Christmas Lights Tour with Festive Snacks and Drinks

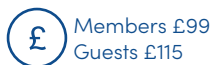


Join us on this 90 minute jolly festive tour as we discover the magnificent Christmas lights in London. We will tuck into a festive mince pie, shortbread biscuits and mulled wine (or hot chocolate or orange juice), whilst we have a sing along to all our favourite Christmas tunes. Book by Wednesday 25 November 2026. Bus Stop 1, Bulleid Way, Victoria SW1W 9SR. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Gaby Dyson on Unsplash

SUN 06 Cinderella at The London Palladium



We shall go to the ball! Join us for an unforgettable afternoon at The London Palladium. Comedy legends Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders reunite on the West End stage for the first time in 17 years as the hilarious Ugly Sisters. Panto sensation Julian Clary is back as the glittering Fairy Godfather joined by Palladium panto favourites Paul Zerdin, Nigel Havers and Rob Madge. Book by Friday 4 December 2026. The London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street W1F 7TF. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Copyright Disney

FRI 11 G4 Christmas



Join us for G4's annual Christmas show at Central Hall Westminster. G4 shot to fame in the first series of the X Factor with their exquisite harmonies and unique arrangements. Book by Friday 4 December 2026. Central Hall Westminster, Storey's Gate SW1H 9NH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

December

SAT
12

St Martin-in-the-Fields - The Joys of Christmas by Candlelight



4pm



Members £21
Guests £26



The Joys of Christmas is a one-hour programme of music, carol singing and festive readings. Interspersing traditional favourites with

contemporary classics, the captivating performances give something for everyone. The choir - St Martin's Voices - will sing much loved classics, alongside uplifting numbers. There will be audience carols for all to join in with. Book by Friday 4 December 2026. St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square WC2N 4JH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Jonas Von Werne on Unsplash

TUES
15

Social Afternoon with Christmas Carols



2-4pm



Free



Today we will be joined by the choir from Sir John Lillie Primary School, who will be bringing us an abundance of Christmas cheer! They will be singing carols and songs, which we can join in with (optional). Please note that the afternoon begins at 2pm, latecomers may not be admitted. Afterwards light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The afternoon runs from 2pm to 4pm. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

Please note that the afternoon starts at 2pm, latecomers may not be admitted.



Photo by David Beale on Unsplash

THURS
17

Christmas Lunch at The Lamb



1pm



Members £49
Guests £55



We had such a wonderful time last year, we are returning to The Lamb in Chiswick for our annual Christmas lunch. Please note payment in full will be required when booking. The cost includes three courses and the service charge. Drinks and extras will be at your own expense. Book by Thursday 3 December 2026. The Lamb, 9 Barley Mow Passage, Chiswick W4 4PH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Johannes Plenio on Unsplash

January 2027

SAT
02

Monthly Meal at Brook Green Hotel & Pub



1pm



As per menu



Each month we try a different cuisine in a different area. This month we will be visiting the Brook



Photo by Aleisha Kalina on Unsplash

Green Hotel & Pub to indulge in the best of British seasonal food. From pub classics to vegan delights, each dish is lovingly prepared by their head chef and his team. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Wednesday 16 December 2026. Brook Green Hotel & Pub, 170 Shepherds Bush Road W6 7PB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SUN
10

Electric Shuffleboard



11am



Members £5
Guests £10



Join us for an hour of Electric Shuffleboard at London Bridge. Optional lunch afterwards at your own expense. Book by Friday 8 January 2027. Electric Shuffle, 10 Bermondsey Street SE1 2ER. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

TUES
12

London on Trial Exhibition



12 noon



Members £5
Guests £10



Join us at The London Archives for this exhibition which explores the history of law and order in London. It uncovers the stories of London's criminals, victims and law enforcers from the medieval period to modern times. It examines how the growing city was governed and Londoners' enduring fascination with true crime. Through cases involving figures such as Moll Cutpurse, Dick Turpin, Jack Sheppard, Oscar Wilde and Sylvia Pankhurst, the exhibition reveals how historical records can illuminate lives, homes and the streets of London's past. Book by Friday 8 January 2027. The London Archives, 40 Northampton Road EC1R 0HB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by T. Selin Erkan on Unsplash

January 2027

TUES 19 Social and Games Afternoon



Join us from 2pm to 4pm for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free – donations are welcomed. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SAT 23 London's Ultimate Baking and Cocktail Competition



Join us for a Bake Off inspired afternoon. No experience needed. How it works: 1. Bake and Battle – we will pair up to create and bake our own showstopping cakes. 2. Cocktails – while our cakes bake we will enjoy a cocktail or mocktail making session. 3. Decorate and Compete – we will bring our cakes to life with creative decorating before presenting it to the judge for the final showdown. All ingredients and equipment are provided. Gluten-free and vegan options available – please advise when booking. Book by Friday 8 January 2027. Bake Master London, Studio 8, 6 Hornsey Street N7 8GR. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

TUES 26 Somerset House - Historical Highlights Tour



Join us for this fascinating experience. We will take a walk through the varied and surprising history of the site, take a peek behind closed doors, step into the fascinating Deadhouse, explore an unrivalled architectural gem and learn more about the very special story of this building and amazing individuals who have lived and worked here across the centuries. Book by Tuesday 19 January 2027. Somerset House, Strand WC2R 1LA. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

The wub, CC-BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons



January 2027

SUN
31

Cirque du Soleil - KURIOS Cabinet of Curiosities



1pm



Members £99
Guests £115



From a group of 20 street performers at its beginnings in 1984, Cirque du Soleil is a major Canadian-based organization providing high-quality artistic entertainment. The company has close to 4,000 employees, including 1,200 artists from more than 80 different countries. An organisation that revolutionised the circus arts by eliminating performing animals and focusing on human acrobatics, dramatic storytelling and elaborate artistic design. Kurios tells the story of the Seeker and his larger-than-life curio cabinet, with spectacular acrobatics, contortionists, trapeze and even a yoyo artist, prepare to be astounded and delighted at this extravaganza. Book by Tuesday 15 December 2026. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, Kensington, London SW7 2AP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Image by Leonhard Niederwimmer from Pixabay

February

TUES
02

A Soldier's Story: 40 Years in the Infantry



2pm



Free



Today we will be joined by our friend and neighbour, Jamie Dwyer, from the Princess Louise Coldstream Guards Army Reserve Centre. Jamie was an infantry soldier, who spent 40 years serving in the ranks. His talk offers a rare and authentic perspective on life, service and experience within the British Forces - a side of military life that is seldom seen or heard. Please note that the afternoon begins at 2pm, latecomers may not be admitted. Afterwards light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The afternoon runs from 2pm to 4pm. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970. **Please note that the afternoon starts at 2pm, latecomers may not be admitted.**

WED
10

Kew Orchid Festival



12.45pm



Members £18
Guests £23



Join us for Kew Gardens annual Orchid Festival, a vibrant winter floral celebration held inside the Princess of Wales Conservatory. The theme is yet to be announced. Book by Tuesday 2 February 2027. Royal Botanical Gardens Kew, Kew Road TW9 3AB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

February

SAT
13

Fullers Brewery Tour



3pm



Members £23
Guests £28



Join us as we discover what goes into making Fuller's ales taste so good. We will learn how much brewing has changed, how they continue to thrive in an ever-changing world and the secrets of their success. Book by Tuesday 2 February 2027. Griffin Brewery, 160 Chiswick Lane South W4 2QB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Meritt Thomas on Unsplash

TUES
16

Social and Games Afternoon



2pm



Free



Join us from 2pm to 4pm for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free - donations are welcomed. Oddfellows Lodge, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

WED
17

Monthly Meal at Sebastian's Italian



6.30pm



As per
menu



Each month we have a meal in a different area of our district and try different cuisines. This month we will be visiting Sebastian's Italian in Richmond. Using the finest and freshest ingredients, their chefs pride themselves on creating mouthwatering dishes. All their pizza's are cooked fresh in a real wood fired oven, which ensures diners experience the true flavour of Italy. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Thursday 11 February 2027. Sebastian's Italian, 12-13 King Street, Richmond TW9 1ND. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Amar Preciado on Pexels

February

THURS
18

Cinema Trip



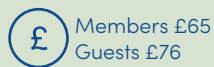
Join us for an afternoon at the flicks. Due for release in January/February are: *The Comeback King* – a comedy about a country western star who experiences a dramatic downfall and must navigate their career in free fall. *Remain* – M Night Shyamalan's new thriller. A grieving architect moves to Cape Cod for work after leaving a psychiatric facility. While staying at a historic B and B, he meets a mysterious woman who makes him question his rational beliefs about life and loss. *Narnia: The Magician's Nephew* – based on the 1955 novel – *The Magician's Nephew*, the sixth published and first chronological novel in the children's book series – *The Chronicles of Narnia* by CS Lewis. Book by Tuesday 16 February 2027. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Image by Devon Breen from Pixabay

SUN
21

The Blue Man Group



Blue Man Group will rock your world, blow your mind and unleash your spirit. As three bald and blue men explore our world, together we'll discover music, laughter and surprises at every turn. By the end of this spectacular journey, you'll be saying 'I don't even know what just happened, but I loooved it!' 50 million people of all ages, languages and cultures have experienced the unexpected with Blue Man Group. Now it's our turn to see what all the hype is about! Book by Tuesday 16 February 2027. The London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street W1F 7TF. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Photo by Alena Darmel on Pexels

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! If you're on Facebook, make sure you've liked and followed our Oddfellows social media pages. Find us at [f OddfellowsUK](#)

February

TUES **23** **London Transport** **Museum - Acton Depot** **Tour**



£ Members £14
Guests £18



Join us as we get an exclusive glimpse behind the scenes and explore the hidden collection. The London Transport Museum Depot in Acton is a working store, home to more than 370,000 fascinating objects. It is a space where curators and volunteers look after the extensive collection of historic objects and vehicles. Normally closed to the public, depot tours offer a behind the scenes experience of the museum's vast and extensive transport collection. Book by Tuesday 16 February 2027. London Transport Museum Depot, 118-120 Museum Way, Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SUN **28** **Paddington -** **The Musical**



£ Members £89
Guests £95



Join us for a rather wonderful adventure! Hold onto your hats! Packed with show-stopping songs, dazzling choreography, mishaps and mayhem at every turn and of course, marmalade sandwiches - Paddington The Musical is based on the iconic characters from Michael Bond's books, with a story inspired by the award-winning 2014 film. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. Savoy Theatre, Savoy Court, Strand WC2R 0ET. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile



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

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

Ref 1644

Photos of past events...



Our first event during Friendship Month was a packed room for bingo.



Stuart Green joined us for an afternoon looking at the history of Sea Shanty's and a sing along.



We had a wonderful evening at Beating the Retreat.

We had a delicious Afternoon Tea and fascinating guided tour of The Cutty Sark.



We had such a wonderful lunch on the Thames we decided to make it an annual event!



Get the most out of your membership

As well as making friends and meeting new people, the Oddfellows offers a wide range of benefits to members.



From advice and financial aid through to travel opportunities, we provide a helping hand to make life a little easier. With your standard benefit membership, for £25 a year*, you have access to:

- Local social events
- Money saving partner offers
- Care and Welfare Helpline and local support
- Dedicated Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line
- Convalescence and Carer Support (after 2 years' membership)
- Benevolence Grants
- Member referral rewards scheme
- Access to group holidays and travel discounts
- Educational and Apprenticeship Awards
- 24/7 access to our historical online archive

If you're an extra benefit member, your £35 a year membership* enables access to additional benefits of:

- Optical benefit of up to £30 every second year of membership
- Dental benefit of up to £30 every membership year (after 1 year's membership)

Find out more about the benefits and support available

You'll find more information about member benefits in your member handbook. You can also call **0800 028 1810** 9am-5pm Mon to Thurs, 9am-4pm Fri, or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits

To make sure you receive our monthly emails for updates on benefits and offers, just email us with your full name, postcode and membership number (if you know it): membership@oddfellows.co.uk

*Terms and conditions apply to all Oddfellows benefits, which are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Financial benefits are awarded at the Society's discretion, not guaranteed, and claim applications may be declined. For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-tcs or call 0800 028 1810.



the Oddfellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

Carers Rights Day



Did you know that 19 November is Carers Rights Day? According to a Carers UK census in 2021, there are approximately 5.8 million unpaid carers in the UK, and 1.7 million people in the UK, who provide 50 hours or more of care per week. Also, women (59%) provide more unpaid care compared to men.

The census also found that 3 million carers aged 16 years and older are in paid employment, but are more likely to work part-time due to their caring role. A further 2.6 million people had to give up employment due to caring responsibilities.

As such, unpaid carers may face financial hardship due to reduced income which may affect mental wellbeing and opportunities for social interaction with others.

Caring can also have an impact on health, and 72% of patients in a 2025 GP survey reported physical and mental health conditions lasting or expected to last 12 months or more. In addition, a Carers UK State of Caring Survey 2025 found that 42% of carers reported a decline in physical health because of their caring responsibilities, and 74% of carers stated that they felt stressed or anxious.

Carers Rights Day is dedicated to raising awareness and recognition about the vital role of unpaid carers, along with informing carers of their rights and support available.

Source: carersuk.org/policy-and-research/key-facts-and-figures/

Keeping warm in winter

The change of weather in the winter months can make it difficult for older people to keep warm and manage energy bills. Living in a cold home can affect physical wellbeing, especially for people with underlying health conditions or low mobility. It can also exacerbate existing health needs and impact mental wellbeing, but help is available.

Age UK has a Warm Homes Programme which provides advice for older people in how to keep warm, reduce energy bills and make their home more energy efficient. The Warm Homes Programme can provide:



- Benefit checks to ensure that you have applied for all the benefits you are entitled to.
- Support through the benefit application process.
- Energy checks by a trusted handyperson to check the energy

- efficiency of your home and advice on how to reduce energy costs.
- Home improvements e.g. draught excluders, reflective radiator panels and energy saving light bulbs, fitted by a trusted handyperson to improve energy conservation.

For more information about the Warm Homes Programme, details can be found on the Age UK website:
ageuk.org.uk/services/in-your-area/warm-homes/



Dementia support

Caring for a loved one or friend with dementia can be challenging and can impact relationships, along with health and wellbeing. Dementia is a complex condition that requires specialist information and support, which is what Admiral Nurses from the charity Dementia UK provide.

Founded in the 1990s, Admiral Nurses provide free expert advice to families and friends of people affected by dementia, helping them understand how to care for their loved one and where to go to for support. Admiral Nurses offer a listening ear and practical support through a

dedicated helpline, online webchat, virtual clinic or a face-to-face appointment at a community clinic.

There is also a Dementia UK podcast of first-hand stories from people affected by dementia, with information and advice from Admiral Nurses. In addition, Dementia UK has a free online programme for people affected by Dementia called 'Dementia: What Next', with expert information about dementia and planning for the future.

For more information, see the Dementia UK website
dementiauk.org/

Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



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

Local Care and Welfare Support

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

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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

EDCWA50223

Meet Grand Master Debbie Jex



For Debbie Jex, the Oddfellows has been part of her life for more than 50 years. Recently elected as Grand Master, she remains characteristically modest about the honour.

“I know it’s a huge honour and I am immensely proud,” she says. “But half the time I’m just the District Secretary at Reading Oddfellows until somebody reminds me I’m the Grand Master.”

Debbie first joined the Society as a child when her parents became members. However, it was in 1993, when she became Lodge Secretary, that her deeper involvement began.

“That’s when I got pulled in,” she jokes.

Over the years, the Society has provided much more than a role. It has become a source of friendship, connection and lasting memories.

“It’s not just a job now, it’s a way of life. It’s a huge part of my social life, a huge part of my friendship group.”

Looking back, Debbie believes the relationships she has built through the Oddfellows have enriched her life.

“I’ve attended some lovely events and made friends with lots of lovely people all over the country. So it’s definitely enriched my life.”

As Grand Master, Debbie sees her role as representing and championing members.

“I’m there to champion our members and make sure we’re doing the best we can for them.”

She is also excited about meeting members across the country and helping more people discover the support and friendship the Society offers.

“I’d like more members to know what a wonderful caring and benevolent Society this is.”

After decades of service, Debbie’s message remains simple:

“The Oddfellows is there for you if you need it.”

Read the full interview on the Oddfellows’ website at:
www.oddfellows.co.uk/news

Friendship Month 2026: celebrating connection, community and companionship

Another Friendship Month has come to a close, with Oddfellows branches across the UK welcoming members, friends and guests to a wide range of free and low-cost taster events designed to bring people together and celebrate the value of friendship.

From coffee mornings and social lunches to walks, talks and special gatherings, September provided countless opportunities for people to reconnect with existing friends, make new connections and enjoy good company.

Keep friendships warm

This year's campaign focused on the importance of staying in touch as we move into the colder months, when opportunities to get together can sometimes reduce and feelings of isolation can become more common.

The campaign struck a chord with people across the country. Branches reported strong attendance at events and were especially pleased to welcome newcomers discovering the Oddfellows for the first time.

"A huge thank you"

Pam Casey, Secretary of the Order, said: "A huge thank you goes to every branch, volunteer, organiser, member and guest who helped make Friendship Month 2026 such a success.

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Concord Oddfellows celebrated Friendship Month in style at their popular coffee morning in Aldershot.

"Your enthusiasm and willingness to reach out to others demonstrated the positive difference that friendship can make in our communities."

Steph Hopes, Branch Secretary for Concord Oddfellows, said: "We welcomed several people who had never attended an Oddfellows event before. By the end of the morning, everyone was chatting as though they'd known each other for years. It was a fantastic atmosphere."



Handforth and Altrincham Oddfellows met up for a round of adventure golf.

Sharon Hulse-Cottle, Branch Secretary of Handforth and Altrincham Oddfellows, said: “Our members did a brilliant job of helping newcomers feel at ease. By the end of the event, there was a real buzz in the air. It was lovely to see new faces becoming part of the group.”

Expert support

Friendship Month also helped raise awareness of the wider benefits of friendship. During the campaign, expert anthropologist Dr Anna Machin supported the initiative by sharing insights into the importance of maintaining meaningful relationships and making time for regular face-to-face contact.

While Friendship Month may be over, the opportunities certainly aren't. With a busy

programme of events planned throughout autumn, winter and beyond, there are still plenty of ways to meet new people, try something different and strengthen existing connections.

You can always find details of upcoming local and online events at
www.oddfellows.co.uk/events



Birmingham Oddfellows shared positive messages of friendship at its events.

Important update to some membership benefits

As part of our regular review of the services and support we provide, three discretionary, non-contractual membership benefits were withdrawn on 16 September 2026.

The benefits affected are **Legal Aid Scheme, Accidental Death Benefit and Emergency Financial Aid.**

The change applies to new Standard, Extra Benefits and Young Oddfellows members joining from 16 September 2026, and to existing Standard, Extra Benefits and Young Oddfellows members when they renew their membership.

Existing members will continue to have access to these benefits until their renewal date.

Any claims, applications or cases already received and in progress will continue

to be considered and fulfilled in accordance with the relevant benefit terms and conditions.*

As with all member benefits, the Society regularly reviews its offering to ensure it remains relevant, appropriate and sustainable. While these three discretionary benefits have been withdrawn, no other membership benefits have been affected.

The Society remains committed to providing members with valuable support, friendship and opportunities to connect with others.

Members who have questions about how this change affects them or their membership can contact the Membership team on **0800 028 1810** for further information, or email **membership@oddfellows.co.uk**

Apprenticeship Educational Awards

If you're starting an apprenticeship, the Oddfellows' Apprenticeship Educational Awards could help with some of the costs along the way. Each year, up to three eligible members can apply to receive a non-repayable bursary of £250 per year for the duration of their apprenticeship.*

The award can be used towards expenses such as textbooks, equipment, rent, bills and other practical costs.

To apply, members must have at least five years of continuous Oddfellows membership (which can include Young Oddfellows membership) and be starting their first apprenticeship. This is a discretionary benefit and applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

To find out more or request an application form, contact your Branch Secretary as soon as possible. Applications must be submitted by 31 December each year.

*Terms and conditions apply to all Oddfellows benefits, which are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Financial benefits are awarded at the Society's discretion, not guaranteed, and claim applications may be declined. For full details, call 0800 028 1810 or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-tcs

Events at a glance

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

November 2026

Tues 3	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm
Thurs 5	Monthly Meal at Poppy's IV (Thai)	6.30pm
Wed 11	Six	8pm
Fri 13	Paddington - The Musical	7pm
Tues 17	Join the fight for Mental Health!	2pm
Sat 21	Isle - Ave A Shanty - Live on The Golden Hinde	7.30pm
Wed 25	Agatha Christie Exhibition	11am
Thurs 26	The Chimney Lift at Battersea Power Station	5.45pm
Sat 28	Scented Candle Making Workshop	2pm
Mon 30	Blenheim Palace Christmas Lights	11am

December

Tues 1	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm
Wed 2	Sing Along Christmas Lights Tour with Festive Snacks and Drinks	6pm
Sun 6	Cinderella at The London Palladium	1pm
Fri 11	G4 Christmas	7.30pm
Sat 12	St Martin-in-the-Fields - The Joys of Christmas by Candlelight	4pm
Tues 15	Social Afternoon with Christmas Carols	2pm
Thurs 17	Christmas Lunch at The Lamb	1pm

January 2027

Sat 2	Monthly Meal at Brook Green Hotel & Pub	1pm
Sun 10	Electric Shuffleboard	11am
Tues 12	London on Trial Exhibition	12 noon
Tues 19	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm
Sat 23	London's Ultimate Baking and Cocktail Competition	2.30pm
Tues 26	Somerset House - Historical Highlights Tour	12 noon
Sun 31	Cirque du Soleil - KURIOS Cabinet of Curiosities	1pm

Events at a glance

February

Tues 2	A Soldier's Story: 40 Years in the Infantry	2pm
Wed 10	Kew Orchid Festival	12.45pm
Sat 13	Fullers Brewery Tour	3pm
Tues 16	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm
Wed 17	Monthly Meal at Sebastian's Italian	6.30pm
Thurs 18	Cinema Trip	Tbc
Sun 21	The Blue Man Group	2.30pm
Tues 23	London Transport Museum - Acton Depot Tour	11am
Sun 28	Paddington - The Musical	2pm

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 social events, as well as supporting our members through a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for our members. For more information visit **www.oddfellows.co.uk** or call **0800 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

Interested in volunteering?

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

You can help us by:

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



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

VA160423/v1



www.oddfellows.co.uk

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