

October 2025 - March 2026  
Issue 22



*O*<sup>the</sup> **DDfeLLows** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

# *out & about*

**North Wales & Chester Branch**



*Conwy Castle, Conwy, Wales. Photo by K. Mitch Hodge*



Online



Theatre



Art/Crafts



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



Quiz

# Hello everyone and welcome to the latest edition of our Out & About

## Chairman's Charity 2025-2026

**This year our Chairman Paul picked Ark Angels as his chosen charity. Paul is a real animal lover especially dogs. Paul had seen this charity online some years ago and has followed their story.**

The Charity was set up over 34 years ago by Kelly Roberts. Kelly has a long history of working with animals. Kelly worked for the RSPCA and was a police dog trainer before becoming the Manager of a Veterinary Practice.

Ark Angels Animal Rescue is a registered charity dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming abandoned and neglected animals. As a small foster based-rescue they rely entirely on the kindness of volunteers and supporters to help them care for the animals in their care.

They provide a safe haven for dogs, cats, horses and wildlife in need, ensuring they receive the love and medical attention and training necessary to find their perfect



*Ark Angels Animal Rescue*

forever homes. Kelly says that 'every donation, foster placement, and act of support makes a life-changing difference for these animals'.

During the year we are holding raffles, bingo games, table top sales, collecting 5p or 20p coins in jars as well as holding a fund raising evening.

Paul would like to thank everyone who has supported his chosen charity this year so far. If you haven't had a chance to make a donation and would like to please contact the Office on 01244 675757 to speak to Denise or Caroline.

## Branch Meetings, various Thursdays, 12.45pm, Free

Come along to our Branch meeting where you will be updated with all the Branch and Society matters. Douglas Place Community Centre, Woodall Avenue, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Denise or Caroline on 01244 675757.

Thursday 16 October, 12.45pm  
Thursday 20 November, 12.45pm  
December – no meeting

Thursday 15 January 2026, 12.45pm  
Thursday 19 March, 12.45pm

## Contact Details

**New Office address:**

214 Prospect House  
Factory Road  
Sandycroft  
Flintshire  
CH5 2QJ

**Telephone:** 01244 675757**Mobile:** 07960 720299**Office hours:**

Monday and Tuesday 9am to 4pm,  
Wednesday - Closed  
Thursday 1pm to 4pm and Friday  
9am to 2pm

**(Answer phone available)****Facebook:**

NorthWalesChesterOddfellows

**Secretary:** Denise Turner**Email:**

denise.turner@oddfellows.co.uk

**Social Organiser:** Caroline Davey**Email:**

caroline.davey@oddfellows.co.uk

**Llandudno Social Organiser****Volunteer/Welfare Visitor:**

Gordon Hinett

**Email:**

gordon.hinett@oddfellows.co.uk

**Telephone:** 01492 515530

## In Memory of Rose Cugley

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the sad passing of Rose Cugley in June. Many of you will remember Rose, who lived in Flint, as Secretary of the District. Rose joined the Society in 1966. Rose worked her way through the various levels of the Society serving on many committees over the years until she retired in 2008.

Once fully retired Rose continued to support the District by attending Lodge meetings and social events, setting up and running the Scrabble club and helping with the coffee morning. Rose continued to keep in contact with members becoming a telephone befriender when her own mobility was failing.



*Sister Rose Cugley*

Many of you will have fond memories of times spent with Rose or telephone conversations you may have had with her. Rose will be sorely missed but not forgotten by us.

# Regular Events

## Llandudno Coffee Morning



11am



As per menu



**Every Monday**

Every Monday you are welcome to join us at Gwesty Links, Llandudno for a coffee and a chat. Both members and visitors are very welcome. We occasionally stay for lunch and enjoy some local trips out. Gwesty Links, 77 Conway Road, Llandudno LL30 1PN. Contact Gordon on 01492 515530.



## Monday Night Chatterboxes



7pm



Free



**Online  
Every Monday**

Members from across the Society meet to catch up and chat over a brew from the comfort of their own homes. Everyone is greeted with a friendly smile and a warm welcome. Why not come and join us? Head to Zoom and enter the Meeting ID: 844 1660 9433, you don't need a password. Contact Tracey on 07774 229010.



## Anglesey Coffee and Chat



10.30am



As per menu



**Third Tuesday  
of the month**

Join us at our new meet up in Gaerwen, Anglesey. Enjoy a coffee and a chat plus a wander around the garden centre if you fancy it after. Holland Arms Garden Centre, Gaerwen, Anglesey, North Wales LL60 6LA. Contact Nancy on 07788 871041.



# Regular Events

## Wrexham Coffee and Chat



10.30am



As per menu



Join us for a coffee and chat in Wrexham. We meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month and everyone is welcome. The Lemon Tree, 29 Rhosddu Road, Wrexham LL11 2LP. Contact Denise or Caroline on 01244 675757.

**First and Third  
Wednesday**



## Saltney Coffee Morning



10.30am



Members £2  
Guests £3



Join us for coffee and biscuits along with plenty of lively chatting! We enjoy an occasional quiz and fun themed coffee mornings. We also hold raffles both free and paid for. Douglas Place Community Centre, Woodall Avenue, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Denise or Caroline on either 01244 675757 or 07960 720299.

**Every Thursday**



Except Thursday 25 December 2025  
and Thursday 1 January 2026

## Thursday Quiz and Games Night



7pm



Free



Every week we team up with other branches to bring you a quiz and games night via Zoom. Join us? Why not put your general knowledge to the test and join in the games with friendly members from up and down the country? Not sure how to access Zoom? Just give us a call for some support - it is super easy we promise! Head to Zoom and enter the Meeting ID 844 1660 9433, you don't need a password. Contact Tracey on 07774 229010.

**Online Every  
Thursday**



Including Thursday 25 December  
2025 and Thursday 1 January 2026



# October

## **FRI** **24** A Gentle Stroll Around Acton Park, Wrexham

 11.30am

 Walk Free,  
lunch as per  
menu




Come and join us for a gentle stroll around Acton Park, the walk we will do takes around 45 minutes. It's an easy flat tarmac path all the way round, so accessible for all abilities. Acton Park is about half a mile north of Wrexham City Centre and covers 24 hectares (64 acres). We will park and meet in the Cunliffe Arms car park, where we will return to for refreshments and a light lunch. Lunches will need to be pre-ordered two weeks before, so please ensure you book by Thursday 9 October 2025. The Cunliffe Arms, Jeffreys Road, Wrexham LL12 7PD. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.

# November

## **SAT** **01** The Building of the Manchester Ship Canal Talk

 2.30pm

 Members £6,  
Guests £8



The Manchester Ship Canal, often referred to as the Channel Tunnel of the Victorian age, is a magnificent

feat of engineering, 36 miles long linking the birthplace of the industrial revolution, Manchester to the Mersey Estuary, allowing direct trade to world markets for both import and export of goods of all kinds loaded on ocean going ships. The talk tells of the history of the building of the canal, the people who worked on it, the ships that sailed up it, some incidents that occurred and some strange visitors, all contributing to the fascinating and continuing story of this great North West waterway.



The talk is delivered by Peter, one of two volunteers from the Talks Team of the Daniel Adamson Preservation Society, custodians of a restored and fully operational 1903 built former Manchester Ship Canal tug tender. At the end there will be an opportunity to ask questions too. The talk will be followed by a cuppa and slice or two of cake and possibly a short quiz linked to boating! Please book and pay in full (non-refundable) by Thursday 16 October 2025 and feel free to bring a friend. Douglas Place Community Centre, Douglas Place, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.

Photo by John Eyres

# November

MON  
24

## Christmas Shopping at Barton Grange Garden Centre



10.30am



Members £20,  
Guests £25



Join us for a day out Christmas shopping at Barton Grange Garden Centre, Preston, a family run business with its heart in Lancashire. It is an independent, family run and environmentally conscious garden centre. They have (to name but a few) a lovely gift shop, cookshop, farm shop and home decor, as well as plenty of wonderful Christmas decorations that can be both admired and purchased!

You can enjoy a leisurely lunch in the Riverside café or Willows restaurant; they both serve delicious, freshly made dishes using the best local and seasonal ingredients. Deposit of £10 payable by Thursday 23 October 2025 and full payment by Thursday 13 November 2025 – all payments are non-refundable. Coach pick-up is from Morrison's car park, Saltney at 10.30am. Barton Grange Garden Centre, Garstang Road, Brock, Preston PR3 0BT. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.

SAT  
29

## Our Annual Christmas Fundraising Social Afternoon



2.30pm



Members £12,  
Guests £13



Let's begin the festive season with a Saturday afternoon full of fun and fundraising for our Chairman's chosen charity Ark Angels. There will be a variety of games to participate in such as the card game HOY! our

very own Christmas racing game, a Christmas cups race and possibly a quiz. We will hold a raffle. There are prizes to be won so do come along.

A light tea will be provided consisting of sandwiches, cake and a cuppa. Please book and pay in full (non-refundable) by 13 November. Douglas Place Community Centre, Douglas Place, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.



# December

MON  
01

## Festive Lunch at The Links hotel, Llandudno



12.45pm



As per menu



Let the festivities begin! Why not head down to Llandudno to join our members there for a festive lunch at The Links Hotel, the home of one of our regular weekly coffee mornings. You can choose from their tasty festive menu or regular menu. Book by Monday 17 November 2025. The Links Hotel, 77 Conway Road, Llandudno LL3 01PN. Contact Gordon on 01492 515530 or Caroline on 01244 675757.



THURS  
18

## Saltney Christmas Coffee Morning



10.30am



Members £2,  
Guests £3



Join us for a festive and fun packed Christmas coffee morning. This is our last one until 2026! We will see you all on Thursday 8 January 2026. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. Douglas Place Community Centre, Douglas Place, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Denise or Caroline on 01244 675757.

THURS  
11

## Christmas Lunch at Flint Mountain Park Hotel



1pm



Two courses £25.95,  
Three courses £28.95



Why not get into the festive spirit and join us for our Christmas lunch at the Flint Mountain Park Hotel, set in the breathtaking countryside of North Wales. They offer a two or three course lunch which will need to be pre-ordered. The cost of the meal includes a £1 Christmas tip. A deposit of £5 is required by Thursday 13 November 2025, with full payment required by Thursday 27 November 2025 – all payments are non-refundable. Flint Mountain Park Hotel, Northop Road, Flint, Flint Mountain CH6 5QG. Contact Denise or Caroline on 01244 675757.





# January 2026

# February

FRI  
02

## Stroll Around the Countess of Chester Country Park

11am

£ Walk Free, Lunch as per menu



Wrap up warm and join us for a New Year stroll around the Countess of Chester Country Park where you can enjoy natural, peaceful surroundings as you wander around the park's pathways. We will then head to The Little Owl pub for some lunch and a well deserved drink or two! Meet us in the Little Owl pub car park. Please book by Thursday 18 December 2025. The Little Owl Pub, NR Gawer Park, Chester, Cheshire CH1 4DA. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.

SAT  
07

## A Virtual Trip along the Coast with Meirion and Tracey

2.30pm

£ Members £5, Guests £7.50



Photo by Jeff Buck

Come and join us for a virtual trip along the coast with Meirion and Tracey, followed by a cuppa and slice of cake or two. Feel free to bring a friend, the more the merrier. As always we will be holding a raffle. Full payment (non-refundable) is due by Thursday 29 January 2026. Douglas Place Community Centre, Douglas Place, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.



Photo by Jeff Buck

THURS  
22

## Pudding Taster at our Coffee Morning!

10.30am

£ Members £2, Guests £3



Fancy your favourite pudding at our coffee morning? Why not bring either a home-made or shop bought pud, hot or cold to share with your friends? We can heat up any puddings at Douglas Place, so that's not a problem. Douglas Place Community Centre, Douglas Place, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.

# February

THURS  
12

## Lunch at The Orangery, Derwen College, Gobowen



12.45pm



As per menu



Once again we are joining together with our Oswestry friends for lunch at The Orangery, Derwen College. There you will enjoy good food, great company and a lovely venue. There is a little garden centre and gift shop you can potter around after to help your lunch go down! Meals will need to be pre-ordered a week before. Please book by Thursday 29 January 2026 and meal choices will need to be with us on Thursday 5 February 2026. The Orangery, Derwen College, Whittington Road, Gobowen SY11 3JA. Contact Caroline on 01244 675757.



SAT  
21

## Annual Meeting with Light Refreshments



2pm



Free



You are all invited to come along to our annual meeting, where we present short reports on all matters relating to the Branch, including financial and social information. We conclude by installing our new District Chairman, which will demonstrate one of the ceremonial aspects of the Society. We will provide a cuppa and a slice of cake once the formal meeting has finished. A collection will be held for an Oddfellows charity. Please just let us know if you are planning to attend. Douglas Place Community Centre, Douglas Place, Saltney CH4 8PB. Contact Denise or Caroline on 01244 675757.

## Please note

Deposits and payments are all non-refundable. Once a deposit has been received Caroline, our Social Organiser, is more than happy for the remainder of the payment to be made in instalments if this helps. However, they must be made before the **full payment** deadline date. Receipts will be given for any money received.

# March

SAT  
21

## District Saturday Lunch



2pm



Members £28.50,  
Guests £33.50



Following on from last years' success our new Chairman decided it would be good to have a slightly later lunch followed by dancing, optional of course, with DJ Mike Roberts, who is happy to play a wide range of songs/music from across the decades until 10pm. We will be celebrating Colin Thwaites' appointment as Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) and hold a raffle to raise funds for his chosen charity.

The two course meal will be available for pre-ordering and accommodation is available if required. A deposit of £10 is due by Thursday 12 February 2026 and full payment by Thursday 5 March 2026 – all payments are non-refundable. Holiday Inn A55 Vivaldi Suite, Westbound, A55, Chester, Mold CH7 6HB. Contact Denise or Caroline on 01244 675757.

## 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 telephone befriender



To find out more, contact [denise.turner@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:denise.turner@oddfellows.co.uk) or [caroline.davey@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:caroline.davey@oddfellows.co.uk)



THE Oddfellows  
SINCE 1810  
making friends, helping people

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

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# Members in the Spotlight:

## Pam and Ray Cook

**Before moving to live in the Conwy area, we lived on The Wirral for almost 31 years. We had an active life there and enjoyed regular visits to classical concerts at the Liverpool Phil, belong to various groups in our church, travelling both in the UK and worldwide and enjoyed a busy social life with family and friends.**



Eventually, we knew we'd be looking to downsize and retire to pastures new to start the next adventure in our life together. We already had a property in Llandudno Junction, so in October 2020, we made our new home there and looked forward to picking up our social life again and enjoying discovering new places as we travelled around Wales. What we didn't bargain for was Covid. Obviously, this put huge restrictions on what we could do and it was many months before we could get out and about exploring our new home.

Our first step was going along to the weekly classical music concert in St. Mary's, Conwy, where we were given a very warm welcome and listened to some first class music. This was the start of our life there and since then, we've both joined the choir and have a most enjoyable and happy time with the new friends we've made and the many things they do. As Covid restrictions were lifted even further, we then got out and about and discovered many beautiful places, just on our doorstep, and have since made many visits to the local theatres and various other

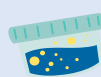
venues as we love to watch anything live, be it plays, shows, various types of music, whatever.

It was on one of these outings, that we went along to the Oddfellows brass band concert in May 2024 at Venue Cymru in Llandudno and once again were welcomed very warmly and were very impressed with the standard of music we heard. We spoke to a few existing members who told us about Oddfellows and the good work they do. It was a thoroughly enjoyable time and upon leaving, we got more information about the organisation and subsequently joined that very same afternoon. It has been one of the best things we've ever done. We look forward to our weekly Monday coffee mornings and meeting up with the lovely new friends we've made there. It's a wonderful way to start our week and a highlight on our calendar. It is also reassuring to know, that as we get older, there is the support, help, friendship

and care for us and that we'll never be alone. Oddfellows is now a very important part of our life and we feel lucky to be a part of such a caring and friendly society. We still enjoy an active life, supporting as many local events as we can, gardening, reading, visiting the theatre and also travelling, be it in the UK or on the many cruises we've been on.

In September we are looking forward to a cruise on the River Danube to celebrate Ray's 80th birthday and our Ruby Wedding. We are surrounded by good friends and enjoy all we do, but if things have to slow down or even stop, we still have our wonderful life here in Conwy and our treasured time with Oddfellows to look forward to and enjoy. Each day is a new adventure to us both.

## Science & Nature Quiz – multi choice (Courtesy of Ken's Quiz Site)



### Answers on page 24

1. A fossil the size of a gorilla was recently found in New Zealand, what creature was it discovered to be?  
(A) Dog, (B) Kangaroo, (C) Penguin or (D) Spider
2. Which of the following scientists discovered radioactivity?  
(A) Marie Curie, (B) Rontgen, (C) Faraday or (D) Becquerel
3. Which acid was known as 'Oil of Vitriol'?  
(A) Nitric, (B) Sulphuric, (C) Hydrochloric or (D) Citric
4. Which of the following is the name of a British butterfly?  
(A) Gamekeeper, (B) Gatekeeper, (C) Doorkeeper or (D) Peacekeeper
5. Which country's lunar lander reached the dark side of the moon in 2023?  
(A) China, (B) Russia, (C) India or (D) USA
6. In the natural world, what is a serval?  
(A) Snake, (B) Wild Cat, (C) Bird or (D) Fish
7. Which of the following is NOT a chemical symbol for a member of the Halogens (Group 7)?  
(A) Br, (B) Ts, (C) As or (D) Cl
8. Which of the planets in our solar system has the highest surface temperature?  
(A) Venus, (B) Mercury, (C) Mars or (D) Uranus
9. Which precious stone represents 9 on the Moh's scale of mineral hardness? (A) Topaz, (B) Sapphire, (C) Ruby and (D) Diamond
10. The element Selenium derives its name from which heavenly body?  
(A) The Sun, (B) Saturn, (C) The Moon or (D) Venus





# Members in the Spotlight:

## Jackie and Harold

**Whilst clearing out a loved ones home Harold and Jackie came across a watch and as an avid collector of watches it was of great interest to Harold.**

Taking a closer look at the watch, Harold and Jackie realised that it was unlike any that they'd seen before. Decorating the face was an image of two women, a crest and inscription which read 'The Independent Order of the Oddfellows Manchester Unity'. Having realised they might have an interesting piece of history on their hands, Harold and Jackie visited a horologist (clock maker) to service and clean up the watch so that it could be shown to someone from the Oddfellows at some stage.

It wasn't until they moved from Ancoats, Greater Manchester to Llandudno that they heard any mention of the Oddfellows again and spotted an advert for a local regular meet up in Llandudno so they thought they would go along and find out what it was all about and see if anyone knew about the pocket watch. They both joined the Oddfellows there and then and have never looked back.

At the time the Oddfellows resident historian, Paul Eyre commented, "the watch is an example of the type of presentation made to a past officer or secretary, usually to mark long service, in the first half of the 19th century. These would have been individually produced



and painted by a local craftsman of the time, so this pocket watch is truly a unique piece."

As a Mancunian and having lived in Ancoats for most of his life, Harold was keen to ensure the watch was returned to its roots, so visited Manchester's central office to hand deliver the watch to the CEO and Secretary of the Order, Jane Nelson.

Jane said "It's wonderful that the discovery of this watch has brought Harold and his wife to the Oddfellows and inspired him to join. We are always appreciative when our members share their history with us and we'll be displaying Harold's fantastic donation with a specially engraved plaque to thank him, alongside some of our other important historical artefacts."

Harold and Jackie have enjoyed being members of the Oddfellows for the past 7 years now and attend the weekly coffee mornings at the Links Hotel, Llandudno and participate regularly in many of the outings arranged by the branch.

# Congratulations to...

## Junior members birthdays...

**November**

Sophie



**January 2026**

Samuel

**December**

Joseph



**February**

Archie and Jake



## Gordon and Kath



**Thank you for the brilliant and selfless work they do for our Branch, Making a Difference Award 2025 – Achieving Together.**

We wanted to present a small gift to both Gordon and Kath following the presentation at the AMC this year so on Monday 16 June Denise and Caroline popped into their coffee morning and made a presentation.

**Denise and Paul on their 40th Wedding Anniversary on 12 July 2025**



**Ray celebrated his 80th birthday on 19 August**



# Photos of past events...



*The Little Owl pub – Chester*



*The Little Owl pub – Chester*



*Countess of Chester Country Park*



*Countess of Chester Country Park*



*Annual Summoned meeting*



*Llandudno coffee morning*



*Saturday social afternoon*



*Wepre Park walk*



*Saltney coffee morning*



*District Sunday lunch*



*District Sunday lunch*



*District Sunday lunch*



*Listening to Liz's talk about ten years at Belsen*



*First Anglesey coffee morning*



*VE Day*



*Chirk aqueduct walk*



*River Dee boat trip*



*River Dee boat trip*





*Grosvenor Park*



*Grosvenor Park*



*The Orangery, Derwen College*

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

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



To see what's coming up visit [oddfellows.co.uk/events](https://oddfellows.co.uk/events)

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## Scarborough hosts the nation's Oddies



**For the 20th time in more than 200 years the Society's Annual Movable Conference (AMC) was held in beautiful Scarborough, hosted by Vale of York Oddfellows.**

Members representing their Branches converged on the seaside town from

all corners of the country to assess the previous 12 months and to decide on the direction of the next.

There was change at the top, as South London Oddfellows' John Mann replaced Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham as Grand Master.

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, including indulging in the delights of an Oddfellows Brass performance, the annual Roy Harmer Memorial Bowls Tournament, and a day trip to Whitby and Scarborough Fair.

## Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

**Nur Zainal, whose PhD at the University of Southampton has been supported by the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, and Professor of Cancer Biology Tim Fenton (pictured), addressed the Society's annual conference as three years of funding comes to an end.**

"My PhD – made possible by the generous support of the Oddfellows – has made some significant contributions to cancer research," said Nur. "My ultimate goal is to find ways to prevent or overcome drug resistance, and my model will let us run

the pre-clinical studies needed to move promising strategies toward the clinic."

Tim added: "Until recently, we did not understand enough about how our immune system recognises and responds to tumours, or about how tumours learn to switch off our immune responses to deploy cancer vaccines effectively. This is changing rapidly, and cancer vaccines hold great promise for kinder, more effective therapy, though significant challenges remain."



# Making a Difference Awards 2025

The Oddfellows is full of remarkable people, none more so than the six winners of this year's Making a Difference Awards. They have been nationally recognised for their selflessness and dedication to making their Branch and wider Society as good as they can be.

For more information about the Awards, including how to nominate someone for 2026, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference).

## Jean Logan, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Jean's contributions to the running of the Branch's social events. She's key to coming up with new ideas, organising and hosting events, and making sure everyone has a good time.

"Socialising keeps your brain busy and keeps you active and keeps you younger.

You can sit on the sofa and watch telly all day long but I'm a doer. I'm always up and about."



On winning the award, Jean, from Bourne, Lincolnshire, says she had to read the letter twice, adding: "You've got so many branches all over the country and I end up as the overall winner. It was a nice surprise."

## Gordon and Kath Hinett, North Wales and Chester Oddfellows

Achieving Together

The married couple from Conwy, North Wales, have been recognised for their teamwork and commitment to improving the lives of members.



As a Welfare visitor, Gordon regularly assists members however they might need, be that giving lifts to appointments or events, or going to the shops for them. Kath takes the lead on organising social events such as trips to the cinema, the theatre or a day out somewhere.

Kath says they could've been knocked down with a feather when they learnt they'd won. Gordon added: "We don't do it to get rewarded. We do it because we love doing it."

## Chris Sargeant, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

*Working in the Spirit of Mutuality*

Chris, from Pinchbeck in Lincolnshire, has been highlighted for her passion and dedication for her Branch and the Society as a whole.



Having held almost every role possible locally and represented Nene and Welland Oddfellows on regional and national committees, Chris said: "Oddfellows gives to me as much as I give to it. You get to know people. I've friends all over the country through Oddfellowship. I love it, absolutely love it."

She added: "How proud was I that someone had thought I was worthy of this Award?"

## Ann Kight, Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

*Giving Something Back*

Nottingham-based Ann's selfless commitment to raising money for worthy causes, both in connection with her Branch and of her own accord, is why she has been singled out for praise.

"I've been doing it about 10 years, if not more," she said. "I reckon I've raised around £10,000."

"I've always had the motto of, 'if you go through life and behave and you help somebody on your way you've done your job'."



She added: "You do things because you do them, not for awards. To get an award is a bonus."

## Barry Bedford, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

*Giving a Helping Hand*

Barry, from Peterborough, has been recognised for his dedication to looking after his fellow members and being counted on when it matters, or in times of need. He's been known to give members lifts to and from events and the shops, and has assisted in all manner of DIY projects, including clearing driveways, repairing doors, decorating and gardening.



He said: "I am very proud of what they think I've achieved. It's the way I live my life and always have done and if that transforms into helping other people then I'm thankful."

# Incredible total raised for good causes



*Brownsea Oddfellows raised £1,608.50 for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.*

members. We know that money is tight for many people, but they still dig deep and have compassion for those in need.

“It’s what binds us as Oddfellows – caring for people’s welfare and looking out for the needs of others. This humanitarian spirit makes me feel incredibly proud to be part of the Society. Where we can help, we must.”

**Giving back to our communities has always mattered to us. Last year, our branches and members donated over £163,000 to good causes.**

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Every year, when we work out the collaborative total, I’m astounded by the generosity of our Branches and their

**Find out more about how the Society gives back to its communities, including information about our support for the RNLI, Oddfellows Brass, our Orphan Gift Fund and HA Andrews Memorial Fund, at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back)**

## Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



**In February, we announced the completion, by transfer of engagements, of Tees Mutual.**

The acquisition was approved and agreed on by Tees Mutual's members and their Board. Both the Oddfellows and Tees Mutual share a similar ethos and complementary values. This is the Society's sixth acquisition since

2007 and follows the last transfer of engagements in 2021.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Tees Mutual has been providing life and savings products to the people of Teesside and South Durham for well over a century.

“We are both passionate about mutuality and are pleased to be able to provide Tees Mutual members with a secure future.”

# 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 Denise on **01244 675757** or email **denise.turner@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@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)



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

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

## Care and Welfare Helpline

**Call 0800 0149 822**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

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

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

**Visit our website page at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care)  
for care and welfare information**



## Events at a glance

In addition to our regular events see page 4 and 5 for full details.

### October 2025

<b>Thurs 16</b>	Branch Meeting	12.45pm
<b>Fri 24</b>	A Gentle Stroll Around Acton Park, Wrexham	11.30am

### November

<b>Sat 1</b>	The Building of the Manchester Ship Canal Talk	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 20</b>	Branch Meeting	12.45pm
<b>Mon 24</b>	Christmas Shopping at Barton Grange Garden Centre	10.30am
<b>Sat 29</b>	Our Annual Christmas Fundraising Social Afternoon	2.30pm

### December

<b>Mon 1</b>	Festive Lunch at The Links hotel, Llandudno	12.45pm
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Christmas Lunch at Flint Mountain Park Hotel	1pm
<b>Thurs 18</b>	Saltney Christmas Coffee Morning	10.30am

### January 2026

<b>Fri 2</b>	Stroll Around the Countess of Chester Country Park	11am
<b>Thurs 15</b>	Branch Meeting	12.45pm
<b>Thurs 22</b>	Pudding Taster at our Coffee Morning!	10.30am

### February

<b>Sat 7</b>	A Virtual Trip along the Coast with Meirion and Tracey	2.30pm
<b>Thurs 12</b>	Lunch at The Orangery, Derwen College, Gobowen	12.45pm
<b>Sat 21</b>	Annual Meeting with Light Refreshments	2pm

### March

<b>Thurs 19</b>	Branch Meeting	12.45pm
<b>Sat 21</b>	District Saturday Lunch	2pm

## Answers to Quiz questions on page 13

1.(c) 2. (d) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (a) 9. (a) 10. (c)