

Bradford Out & About and News and Views

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July 2026 - January 2027
Issue 16



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

out & about

Bradford Branch



Games



Online



Day Trip/
Travel



Social



Meetings



Quizzes



Talks



Films



Dining Out



Music



*Friendship Walk with the Halifax Branch - Ogden Water -
Friday 4 September 2026*

Welcome to the latest edition of your events diary for Bradford Branch of the 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. In addition our members are provided with a range of advice and support services when needed. We are basically a group of friends brought together through a shared interest in socialising, making friends and helping people.

This issue features details of upcoming events that we are hoping to be able to offer.

If you have any ideas about events you would like to see included just email the team
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Everybody is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member we want to extend an invitation to you and your friends to attend any events that take your fancy. So come along and join the fun.

Carlton House

46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA.
Meets alternate weeks. Licensed bar open.

Woodbottom Social Club

Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP
Meet alternate weeks. Licensed bar open.

Zoom Online

Zoom Meeting ID: 311 202 1697.

Various Locations

See description of the event for further details.

Regular Events

Oddies Scribblers



10am



Members £5
Guests £7



Monthly creative writing group. No previous experience necessary, just bring pen and paper and have a go. Limited places. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

27 July 2026

17 August 2026

21 September 2026

26 October 2026

16 November 2026

14 December 2026

18 January 2027

Usually the Third
Monday of the month



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.

July 2026

THURS
02

Country Line Dancing Display



7.30pm



Members £8
Guests £10



We are so pleased to have previous members Marilyn and Alwyne Clapham join us tonight with their friends to do a



country line dance display. If you fancy it you will have the chance to join in. We will be serving a hotdog/ burger supper. Book by Monday 29 June 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

THURS
09

A Year Looking for Kingfishers Talk



7.30pm



Members £8
Guests £10



We are joined tonight by wildlife photographer Steve Midgley. He will do a talk about how he got into photography and the animals he met whilst trying to photograph kingfishers, including owls, deer, eagles, seals, otters and foxes. A sandwich supper will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 6 July 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS
16

Members Night with Speaker



7.30pm



Members £6
Guests £8



A night run by members with a speaker. A cold savory platter supper will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 13 July 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI
17

Oddies Wanders Walk - St Aidens Nature Reserve



10.30am



Members £10
Guests £12



Join us for a visit to St Aidens Nature Reserve. Steve Warrillow will lead a short bird walk. For those wanting a longer walk maps can be provided. Followed by a drink/snack at the RSPB café. We have arranged a mini bus that will pick-up from Shipley (Costa on Market Square) and Carlton House, Bradford. However, you can make your own way there and meet us at 10.30am at the RSPB car park. Although the walk is free, there will be a cost for mini bus transport (£10 per person depending on numbers using). It is an early booking date to allow us to arrange transport. Booking by Friday 10 July 2026 with £5 deposit for mini bus. St Aidens RSPB Nature Reserve, Astley Lane, Leeds LS26 8AL. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

July 2026

THURS
23

Skittles



7.30pm



£6



Join us tonight for a game of skittles. A sandwich super will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 20 July 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

WED
29

Lunch Club - Dine with Friends



12 noon



Members £8
Guests £10



Join your friends and enjoy a home-made three-course lunch. Booking must be made at least two days before the event. Book by Monday 27 July 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

FRI
31

Oddies Wanderers Walk - Denso Marston Nature Reserve



11am



Free



Our annual visit to see member Steve Warrillow today, as he takes us on a walk around this lovely nature reserve. Meet Steve at the Half Way House BD17 7JR. We will arrange for a meal in the Half Way House afterwards, for those who would like to join us. There is no charge for this walk, but please bring a donation for the reserve. Book by Friday 26 June 2026. Denso Marston Nature Reserve, Otley Road, Baildon, Shipley BD17 7JR. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS
30

History of the Oddfellows Talk



7.30pm



Members £6, Guests £8



Emma will do a brief talk about the history of the Oddfellows, followed by a short documentary that was made as part of our Oldiewood short film course by tutor Ian. Pie and peas supper will be served during the evening. Welcoming ceremony will take place at the end of the evening for those who would like to take part. Book by Monday 27 July 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



August

MON
03

Film - I Swear (2025)



12 noon



Members £5
Guests £7



Join us for a lunch followed by a big screen showing of 'I Swear' (2025) (two hours and one minute). John Davidson grows up with Tourette's Syndrome in 1980s Scotland. He faces a society that does not understand his condition. He eventually becomes a campaigner to raise public awareness. Starring Robert Aramayo. **Warning:** Due to the subject matter, this film contains extreme bad language that some people may find offensive. Book by Friday 31 July 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.



FRI
07

Community Meal at Woodlands Hotel



12 noon



As per
menu



Rearranged from July. Join us for a community meal at the award-winning Woodlands Hotel. Booking is essential with food choices to secure a table. If you need transport let us know and we will try to organise a lift. Book by Friday 24 July 2026. The Woodlands, 14 Mill Carr, Mill Road, Oakenshaw BD12 7EZ. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS
06

Catchphrase



7pm



Members £6, Guests £8



A fun evening of Catchphrase (Oddies style) with cornish pasty supper. Book by Monday 3 August 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



August

TUES
11

Resonate with Hope - Soothing Sound Bath



11am



Members £15, Guests £20



We are delighted to give you the opportunity to try sound bathing. Paula from 'Resonate with Hope' provides sound baths using gongs, crystal and tibetan bowls, shamanic drums, rain sticks, koshi chimes and more. This can be done lying down on mats or we will have some comfy chairs available.

Participants are immersed in these beautiful sounds. They are taken into a deep meditative state, where the resonations' help support sleep, stress, anxiety, pain, brain chatter and much more. A must try experience. Maximum 15 places available and cost will be reduced if more than 10 book on. Please book early to avoid disappointment by Monday 3 August 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

THURS
13

Meal and Evening Walk



6.30pm



Free



Meet us for a meal at The Boathouse Inn, Saltaire (cost as per menu), followed by an evening walk out along the canal to Hirst Wood locks and back through to Roberts Park. If you don't fancy the walk just join us for the meal and if you don't fancy the meal just join us for the walk. Limited places for the meal, so early booking is recommended by Friday 31 July 2026. The Boathouse Inn, Victoria Road, Saltaire, Shipley BD18 3LA. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS
20

'Life in the Lord Mayor's Office' Talk



7pm



Members £8
Guests £10



We are joined tonight by Lorraine Radcliffe, who will share memories of her life working in the Lord Mayors Office, including some royal visits. A sandwich supper will be served during the evening. Booking by Monday 17 August 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



August

TUES
25

Zoom - Poems on the Underground



7.30pm



Free



Have you ever notice the poems on the underground? We are joined tonight by Sara Chernaik, who will give us an history of the project that was set up by her mother 40 years ago. Book by Monday 24 August 2026. Zoom Meeting ID: 311 202 1697. Please contact Emma on 07432 047213 or email emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk to confirm your attendance.

WED
26

Lunch Club - Dine with Friends



12 noon



Members £8
Guests £10



Join your friends and enjoy a home-made three-course lunch. Booking must be made at least two days before the event. Book by Monday 24 August 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

FRI
28

Oddies Wanderers - Goit Stock Waterfall



11am



Free



Let us hope for good weather for this walk up to Goit Stock waterfall. The first part of the walk is flat and even, it is on a road with vehicle access,



but once we leave the road the track runs along the side of the river and as it nears the waterfall, the track is very rocky and uneven. So this is not suitable for anybody with mobility issues. Meet Emma in the Malt Shovel car park at 10.55am. We will be going to The Malt pub afterwards for lunch and will be booking a table for 12.15pm. If you do not want to do the walk, but would like to join us for lunch that would be great. Book by Friday 31 July 2026. The Malt, Wilsden Road, Harden, Bingley BD16 1BG. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

THURS
27

BBQ with Pasta and Pizza



7.30pm



Members £8, Guests £10



Join us for our annual BBQ night (weather permitting) with additional pizza and pasta. Book by Monday 24 August 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS
03

Friendship Afternoon Tea



12 noon



£8



Help us to launch this year's Friendship Month with a special afternoon tea. Book by Monday 31 August 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI
04

Friendship Walk with the Halifax Branch - Ogden Water



11am



Free



This Friendship Month we will join the Halifax Branch for a walk at Ogden Water, followed by lunch at the Causeway Foot Pub at 12 noon. If you don't fancy the walk, why not join us for lunch. Meet at the notice board in the lower car park. Book by Friday 21 August 2026. Ogden Water Country Park, Ogden Lane, Halifax HX2 8XZ. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

MON
07

Film - Maria (2024)



12 noon



Members £5
Guests £7



Join us for a lunch followed by a big screen showing 'Maria' (two hours and three minutes). The renowned opera singer Maria Callas takes refuge in Paris during the 1970s after living a glamorous, but turbulent life in the public eye. Starring Angelina Jolie. Book by Friday 4 September 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS
10

Casino Night



7.30pm



£6



Come and try your luck at our casino night, a small buffet will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 7 September 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



MON 14 Special Friendship Month Brunch and Painting Pots



Come along and join us for a free breakfast sandwich (bacon or sausage) and a cuppa to celebrate Friendship Month. Followed by a relaxed session painting pots for those who are interested. This will cost £8 for anybody who wants to have a go. We need to know numbers beforehand for the pottery painting. Book by Friday 28 August 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS 17 District Officer's Visit with Ukulele Henry



Join us for our District Officers evening with entertainment from Ukulele Henry. A buffet supper will be served during the evening. The District Officer's visit is now just a social gathering, but used to be when the District Officers visited Branch members and inspected their books. Book by Monday 14 September 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS 24 Bradford - Through The Lens Talk



We are joined by Mark Nicholson for his talk about Bradford through the lens that looks at images from Bradford in the past. A sandwich supper will be served before the talk. Book by Monday 21 September 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI 25 Friendship Walk with Leeds Branch



We are meeting up with the Leeds Branch today for a guided tour around the abbey with



optional visit to the museum. Price is for tour and museum entrance. Walk meeting place: Kirkstall Abbey Museum car park (LS5 3EJ). Lunch venue: The Horsforth, 57 Featherbank Lane, Horsforth LS18 4NA. If you don't fancy the walk, why not just come and meet us for lunch at 12.30pm, we'll be at The Horsforth. Book by Friday 28 August 2026. Kirkstall Abbey, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3EJ. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



WED
30

Friendship Lunch Hitching Post



12 noon



As per menu



Come along and join us for a Friendship Month lunch at The Hitching Post, lunch cost as per menu. Early booking advised by Wednesday 26 August 2026. The Hitching Post, 54 Leeds Road, Idle/Thackley, Bradford BD10 9SX. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



October

THURS
01

Call My Bluff



7pm



Members £6
Guests £8



CALL MY BLUFF

Players try to guess the definition of an obscure word. Come along and join the fun. Sandwich supper will be served. Book by Monday 28 September 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI
02

Day Trip to Richmond and Aysgarth Falls



9am



Members £20, Guests £22



Travelling with JAK Coaches, picking up at Bingley, Shipley and Bradford. A trip up to Richmond and calling at Aysgarth Falls on the way back. Arriving back at 5.55pm. Tickets are likely to sell fast, so we advise you to book early. £5 deposit to secure a place payable on booking by Friday 4 September 2026.

Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 4RT. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



October

MON
05

Film - Kinda Pregnant
(2025)

 12 noon

 Members £5
Guests £7



Join us for a lunch followed by a big screen showing of the comedy 'Kinda Pregnant' (one hour and 38 minutes). When Lainey's plan to settle down and start a family falls apart, she puts on a fake baby bump, tells a lie and accidentally falls for her dream guy. Starring Amy Schumer and Brianne Howey. Book by Friday 2 October 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

FRI
09

Community Meal
at Wibsey Ancient
Foresters Pub

 12 noon

 As per
menu



Join us at The Ancient Foresters pub for a community meal. This makes a good lunch meet up. The Greene King menu is varied, with good value smaller portion offers. There is no charge to attend the event but you will need to buy your own food and drink. Book by Friday 4 September 2026 to help us reserve table. The Ancient Foresters, 230 High Street, Wibsey, Bradford BD6 1QP. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS
08

Card Bingo Night

 7.30pm

 Members £6
Guests £8





Join us for a fun bingo night using cards. Corned beef slab pie supper will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 5 October 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS
15

Half Annual Summomed
Meeting

 7pm

 Free



Join us for our Half Annual Summomed Meeting. Please attend to support our annual business meeting and participate in discussions which affect the running of your Branch. Followed by a free pie and peas supper. Book by Monday 12 October 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

October

SAT
17

Chairman Charity Afternoon with The Sultans of Swing



2.30pm



Members £10
Guests £12



Chairman Chris Henry would like to invite you to join him at a charity event to raise money for his charity - Solving Kids Cancer. Entertainment will be provided by award-winning 'The Sultans of Swing' and a buffet will be

served during the event. Free raffle ticket on entry. Book by Wednesday 30 September 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



SAT
17

Play 'She Kills Monsters'



2.30pm



Members £15
Guests £18



Another chance to go to the theatre at Carriage Works in Leeds. Member Spike Marshall is producing this play by Qui Nguyen. Blending pop culture, comedy and heart-felt. She kills monsters, explores storytelling as a way to process loss, celebrate identity and find connection after tragedy. You will have to find your own way there, but we may be able to arrange lifts. We have a limited number of tickets available, so early booking is advised by Thursday 1 October 2026. The Carriageworks Theatre, Millenium Square, Electric Press 3, Leeds LS2 3AD. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



MON
19

Social Planning Coffee Morning



11am



Free



Come along and join us for an informal social planning session. We are keen to get members input. First cup of tea or coffee is free. Charge as per menu. Book by Friday 25 September 2026. Tiffin Coffee, The Wool Exchange, 22 Bank Street, Bradford BD1 1PR. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



October

THURS 22 **Becoming a young shepherdess Talk**

 7.30pm

 Members £8
Guests £10



After having to cancel this in April, we have managed to rebook Gracie. Ever wondered what it is really like being a woman in



wellies, wrangling sheep and shearing wool for a living? Well now is your chance to find out.

In this lively hands-on talk Gracie Arnold will share her journey from a young girl playing the harp to a full blown shepherdess – mud, muscles, mishaps and all. She will chat about what it is like carving out a space in the farming world as a woman, the history of women out in the fields long before her, the future of agriculture and what British wool (and the people behind it) deserve a bit more love.

You will also get chance to feel different types of wool from various breeds she has sheared. So it is not just a talk, it's a bit of show and tell as well bringing the countryside to life. We will be serving shepherds pie for supper. Book by Monday 19 October 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

TUES 27 **Zoom - Garden Birds**

 7.30pm

 Free



Join Steve Warrillow as he talks about the birds you see in your garden. Book by Monday 26 October 2026. Zoom Meeting ID: 311 202 1697. Please contact Emma on 07432 047213 or email emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk to confirm your attendance.

WED 28 **Lunch Club - Dine with Friends**

 12 noon

 Members £8
Guests £10



Join your friends and enjoy a home-made three-course lunch. Booking must be made at least two days before the event. Book by Monday 26 October 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS 29 **Home-made Fish and Chips**

 7pm

 Members £8
Guests £10



Join us for home-made fish and chips and mushy peas. Please note early booking date to plan the food. Book by Thursday 1 October 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

October

FRI
30

Oddies Wanderers - 5 Rise Locks

L 11am

£ Free



Join us for a short walk along the canal to the famous 5 Rise Locks. We will meet at the Main Street car park in Bingley (BD16 2HZ). This is a short walk, but people can chose to walk out to the swing bridge or to Crossflatts on the canal if they would like a longer walk. The main group will be walking from Bingley, across the bridge to the canal and walking along the canal up the side of the 5 Rise Locks to the café where we can get a cuppa. This is along clear paths, but there are a couple of steep inclines. Book by Friday 25 September 2026. Main Street Car Park, Bingley BD16 2JH. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

November

MON
02

Film - The Upside (2017)

L 12 noon

£ Members £5
Guests £7



Join us for a lunch followed by a big screen showing of 'The Upside' (two hours and five minutes). Phillip is a wealthy quadriplegic, who needs a caretaker to help him with his day-to-day routine in his New York penthouse, he decides to hire Dell a struggling parolee. An unlikely friendship starts to flourish as they rediscover the joy of living life to the full. Starring Bryan Cranston and Kevin Hart. Book by Friday 30 October 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS
05

Meal Out at Golden Palms

L 7pm

£ As per menu



Welcome to Golden Palms, where the worlds flavours come together in a vibrant and exciting buffet experience. Charge as per menu (from £20 to £30). Early booking essential to enable us to book table by Friday 2 October 2026. Golden Palms, The Glass Building, Hall Ings, Bradford BD1 1AL. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



November

THURS 12 **Movie Night - The Sheep Detective**



7pm



Members £6
Guests £8



Join us for an evening showing of 'The Sheep Detective' (2026) (109 minutes).

George Hardy (Hugh Jackman) is a shepherd, who loves to read murder mysteries to his sheep, never suspecting that they can understand him. When George is found dead under suspicious circumstances, the sheep decide to solve the case themselves. Burgers/hotdogs and popcorn will be served at the beginning of the evening. Book by Monday 9 November 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



WED 25 **Lunch Club - Dine with Friends**



12 noon



Members £8
Guests £10



Join your friends and enjoy a home-made three-course lunch. Booking must be made at least two days before the event. Book by Monday 23 November 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS 26 **James Bond Themed Dinner Party**



7pm



Members £8
Guests £10



A chance to dress up posh for a James Bond themed dinner party. Dinner will be served at the table tonight. Book by Monday 23 November 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



THURS 19 **Charity Race Night**



7.30pm



Members £6
Guests £8



Come and join us for 20p bets on horse racing on the big screen. All bets in aid of our Chairman's charity appeal. A sandwich supper will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 16 November 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



November

FRI 27 Oddies Wanderers - Walk Yeadon Tarn



Join us for a gentle stroll around Yeadon Tarn (LS19 7TB), followed by lunch at Murgatroyds Fish Restaurant. If you can not manage the walk, why not just join us for lunch. This walk starts by the notice board in the Tarnfield car park at 11am. Lunch afterwards at Murgatroyds LS19 7BN at 12 noon. The walk is free, but you will have to pay for your meal. Booking is essential to secure a table by Friday 30 October 2026. Yeadon Tarn, Tarnfield Car Park, High Street, Yeadon LS19 7TB. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



MON 30 Christmas Art and Craft Session



Join us for some festive art and craft, details to be confirmed. A light lunch will be provided. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

December

THURS 03 Turkey, Tinsel and Tunes Evening



Join us for a turkey supper and lets see how many people can wear tinsel to make it a bit festive. Festive music quiz during the evening. Book by Monday 30 November 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI 04 Community Meal at The Marsh



The Marsh pub is a five minute walk from the bus station, so still easy to get to and it has its own car park. Early booking essential. The event is free, but pay for your food and drink. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. The Marsh, 28 Bradford Road, Cleckheaton BD19 5BJ. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

December

MON **07** Special Christmas Pot Luck Cinema Event - Cineworld

 12 noon

 Members £8.50
Guests £10.50



We thought we would try something different, so we have hired a small cinema room at Cineworld for a special Oddfellows screening. It is called Pot Luck cinema because we will be given a list of movies nearer the time to pick what we would like to see. Why not make it a family day out or bring along a friend? The cinema will hold 20 to 30 people and the price we have given is based on 20 people attending, so if we get more we can reduce the price. Sam will provide small tuck box with sandwich, popcorn, chocolate and water as part of the deal. Book by Friday 30 October 2026. Cineworld, Leisure Centre, Vicar Lane, Bradford BD1 5LD. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS **10** Festive Afternoon Special

 12 noon

 Members £6
Guests £8



Join us for a fun filled festive afternoon. Tombola/quizzes and ukulele band. A light lunch will be served. Book by Monday 7

December 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



SAT **12** Panto - Wizard of Oz

 11am

 Members £20
Guests £22



We have a limited amount of tickets for the Wizard of Oz panto. Thought, we would try a new panto venue. Please note that this theatre is not fully accessible. There is some on street parking or near by car parks. Full payment is due on booking by Friday 27 November 2026. Bradford Playhouse, 4-12 Chapel Street, Bradford BD1 5DL. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.

WED **16** Special Christmas Lunch Club - Dine with Friends

 12 noon

 Members £10
Guests £13



Join us for a home-made Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. Booking must be made by Monday 2 December 2026. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

December

THURS 17 Christmas Party with James Martyn

L 7.30pm

£ Members £10
Guests £12



Join us for our Christmas party with entertainment from James Martyn. A buffet will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 14 December 2026. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI 18 Glow at Harlow Carr

L 4.45pm

£ £16



This magical walk around Harlow Carr with its beautiful light display is well worth a visit and will certainly make you feel festive. The queues to get drinks at Bettys are usually too long, but hot chocolate is normally on sale inside the gardens. We will be operating a car share for this event, so please let us know if you need transport, or if you can offer lifts and if so where from. A £5 deposit will be required when you book your place. We need to confirm the booking by beginning of November, so early booking is essential. The cost is only estimated because ticket information has not been confirmed yet. Book by Friday 6 November 2026. Harlow Carr, Crag Lane, Beckwithshaw, Harrogate HG3 1QB. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



TUES 29 Oddies Wanderers - Twixmas Walk

L 11am

£ Free



After all your festive indulgence, join us for a Twixmas walk to recover from the turkey and puddings. A nice stroll around Lister Park (longer and shorter routes available). If the café is open we can have a cuppa, if not we can head to ACW. Book by Friday 27 November 2026. Lister (Manningham) Park & Cartwright Hall, North Park Road, Bradford BD9 4NS. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



TUES 29 Zoom - The Pagan Way

L 7.30pm

£ Free

Online

Join Emma as she talks about the pagan ceremony wheel. Book by Monday 28 December 2026. Zoom Meeting ID: 311 202 1697. Please contact Emma on 07432 047213 or email emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk to confirm your attendance.

January 2027

THURS
07

Community Meal at The Stone Trough



To start the new year we thought we would get together for a meal, cost as per menu. Come along and join us. Early booking advised by Tuesday 1 December 2026. The Stone Trough, 64 Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds LS19 6LP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

FRI
08

Pantomime - Jack And The Beanstalk at The Alhambra



More fun and games at the panto with Jack And The Beanstalk. These shows are always amazing, book early to avoid disappointment by Thursday 1 October 2026. Alhambra Theatre, Morley Street, Bradford BD7 1JA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

MON
11

Film - Irena's Vow (2023)



Join us for a lunch followed by a big screen showing of 'Irena's Vow' (two hours and one minute). Caught in a German roundup to be used as a slave labourer, Polish nurse, Irena becomes a German army majors housekeeper during World War II. She risks her life to conceal a dozen Jews within the major's house. Starring Sophie Nelisse and Dougray Scott. Book by Friday 8 January 2027. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS
14

Murder Mystery Evening



Join us for a murder mystery evening (can you figure out who the murderer is?) Sausage and mash supper will be served during the evening. Book by Monday 11 January 2027. Woodbottom Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



January 2027

THURS
21

Not Quite Burns Night



7pm



Members £6
Guests £8



Join us for an evening of Scottish lore with haggis/tatties and neeps for supper. Book by Monday 18 January 2027. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.

WED
27

Lunch Club - Dine with Friends



12 noon



Members £8
Guests £10



Join your friends and enjoy a home-made three-course lunch. Booking must be made not less than two days before the event. Book by Monday 25 January 2027. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA. Contact Sam on 07940 025397.

THURS
28

Taste of the Orient



7.30pm



Members £8
Guests £10



Join us for a taste of the orient. Book by Monday 25 January 2027.

Woodbottom

Social Club, Otley Road, Baildon Bridge, Shipley BD17 7EP. Contact Sam on 07940 025397 or Emma on 07432 047213.



FRI
29

Oddies Wanderers - Wibsey Park



11am



Free



Join us for a short stroll around Wibsey Park. On street parking is available on Wibsey Park Avenue and we will meet by gates on Wibsey Park Avenue. We can go for a cuppa at the park café if it is open or find a local café. Book by Tuesday 29 December 2026. Wibsey Park, Wibsey Park Avenue, Bradford BD6 3QD. Contact Emma on 07432 047213.



At a glance

July 2026

● Thurs 2	Country Line Dancing Display	7.30pm
● Thurs 9	A Year Looking for Kingfishers Talk	7.30pm
● Thurs 16	Members Night with Speaker	7.30pm
● Fri 17	Oddies Wanders Walk - St Aidens Nature Reserve	10.30am
● Thurs 23	Skittles	7.30pm
● Mon 27	Oddies Scribblers	10am
● Wed 29	Lunch Club - Dine with Friends	12 noon
● Thurs 30	History of the Oddfellows Talk	7.30pm
● Fri 31	Oddies Wanderers Walk - Denso Marston Nature Reserve	11am

August

● Mon 3	Film - I Swear (2025)	12 noon
● Thurs 6	Catchphrase	7pm
● Fri 7	Community Meal at Woodlands Hotel	12 noon
● Tues 11	Resonate with Hope - Soothing Sound Bath	11am
● Thurs 13	Meal and Evening Walk	6.30pm
● Mon 17	Oddies Scribblers	10am
● Thurs 20	Life in the Lord Mayors Office Talk	7pm
● Tues 25	Zoom - Poems on the Underground	7.30pm
● Wed 26	Lunch Club - Dine with Friends	12 noon
● Thurs 27	BBQ with Pasta and Pizza	7.30pm
● Fri 28	Oddies Wanderers - Goit Stock Waterfall	11am

September - Friendship Month

● Thurs 3	Friendship Afternoon Tea	12 noon
● Fri 4	Friendship Walk with the Halifax Branch - Ogden Water	11am
● Mon 7	Film - Maria (2024)	12 noon
● Thurs 10	Casino Night	7.30pm
● Mon 14	Special Friendship Month Brunch and Painting Pots	11am
● Thurs 17	District Officer's Visit with Ukulele Henry	7pm
● Mon 21	Oddies Scribblers	10am

At a glance

September - Friendship Month

● Thurs 24	Bradford - Through The Lens Talk	7.30pm
● Fri 25	Friendship Walk with Leeds Branch	11am
● Wed 30	Friendship Lunch Hitching Post	12 noon

October

● Thurs 1	Call My Bluff	7pm
● Fri 2	Day Trip to Richmond and Aysgarth Falls	9am
● Mon 5	Film - Kinda Pregnant (2025)	12 noon
● Thurs 8	Card Bingo Night	7.30pm
● Fri 9	Community Meal at Wibsey Ancient Foresters Pub	12 noon
● Thurs 15	Half Annual Summoned Meeting	7pm
● Sat 17	Chairman Charity Afternoon with The Sultans of Swing	2.30pm
● Sat 17	Play 'She Kills Monsters'	2.30pm
● Mon 19	Social Planning Coffee Morning	11am
● Thurs 22	Becoming a young shepherdess Talk	7.30pm
● Mon 26	Oddies Scribblers	10am
● Tues 27	Zoom - Garden Birds	7.30pm
● Wed 28	Lunch Club - Dine with Friends	12 noon
● Thurs 29	Home-made Fish and Chips	7pm
● Fri 30	Oddies Wanderers - 5 Rise Locks	11am

November

● Mon 2	Film - The Upside (2017)	12 noon
● Thurs 5	Meal Out at Golden Palms	7pm
● Thurs 12	Movie Night - The Sheep Detective	7pm
● Mon 16	Oddies Scribblers	10am
● Thurs 19	Charity Race Night	7.30pm
● Wed 25	Lunch Club - Dine with Friends	12 noon
● Thurs 26	James Bond Themed Dinner Party	7pm
● Fri 27	Oddies Wanderers - Walk Yeadon Tarn	11am
● Mon 30	Christmas Art and Craft Session	11am

At a glance

December

● Thurs 3	Turkey, Tinsel and Tunes Evening	7.30pm
● Fri 4	Community Meal at The Marsh	12.30pm
● Mon 7	Special Christmas Pot Luck Cinema Event – Cineworld	12 noon
● Thurs 10	Festive Afternoon Special	12 noon
● Sat 12	Panto – Wizard of Oz	11am
● Mon 14	Oddies Scribblers	10am
● Wed 16	Special Christmas Lunch Club – Dine with Friends	12 noon
● Thurs 17	Christmas Party with James Martyn	7.30pm
● Fri 18	Glow at Harlow Carr	4.45pm
● Tues 29	Oddies Wanderers – Twixmas Walk	11am
● Tues 29	Zoom – The Pagan Way	7.30pm

January 2027

● Thurs 7	Community Meal at The Stone Trough	7pm
● Fri 8	Pantomime – Jack And The Beanstalk at The Alhambra	7.15pm
● Mon 11	Film – Irena’s Vow (2023)	12 noon
● Thurs 14	Murder Mystery Evening	7.30pm
● Mon 18	Oddies Scribblers	10am
● Thurs 21	Not Quite Burns Night	7pm
● Wed 27	Lunch Club – Dine with Friends	12 noon
● Thurs 28	Taste of the Orient	7.30pm
● Fri 29	Oddies Wanderers – Wibsey Park	11am

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  **OddfellowsBradford**

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



the
ODDFELLOWS SINCE 1810
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Summer 2026 – Winter 2027 | Issue 16

www.oddfellows.co.uk

Bradford News and Views

News and views from Bradford Branch Oddfellows

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Welcome to the Summer edition of the Bradford District News and Reviews.

We hope that this finds you all happy and well and enjoying the sunshine.

As we go to press we have received the sad news that lifelong member Brother Bill Sunderland has passed to the higher lodge. He was an active social member who will be greatly missed.

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.

Contact Details

For more information about membership and the wider range of benefits available please contact.

Branch Secretary and tenant's manager:

Lisa Waugh

Address:

374 Shetcliffe Lane,
Bradford,
West Yorkshire BD4 6DB



T: 07983 496831

E: lisa.waugh@oddfellows.co.uk

For social events information, welfare and booking please contact:

Emma Marshall

T: 07432 047213

E: emma.marshall@oddfellows.co.uk



Catering and Social Coordinator:

Sam Henry

T: 07940 025397

E:

samantha.henry@oddfellows.co.uk



Welcome from our New Provincial Grand Master

Hello Everyone,

My name is Chris Henry, and I am lucky enough to have been elected as your Chairman for the upcoming year. I am certain that I can maintain the high principles and values of the Bradford District Branch of the Oddfellows.

I am extremely happy to support this friendship society, as my wife (Sam) has been working here from before lockdown. This period of time made many people aware of how important a society such as this is to the health and wellbeing of so many people.

On a personal note, I enjoy spending time with our family, specifically by taking our boats (rib-dinghies) out on the lake in Windermere. Whilst Sam is always going to beat me in a cooking competition, I do like to try and create new dishes that our friends will enjoy... which I hope reflects in our own personal wood fired pizza oven at home.

This year, I hope that you will all join me in supporting a charity that is very dear to my own family's heart. Unfortunately, just over 10 years ago, my cousin's son (Adam), had passed away with a devastating form of brain cancer at the age of only 9 years old, after himself suffering since the age of



5 years old. This cruel illness is so unique that only a handful of kids are diagnosed. Treatment and research is therefore scarce also. Solving Kids' Cancer UK aim to help and improve this situation for all of those involved.

There will be a number of events throughout the year that we can all support to help to raise money for this charity, and we can all have a lot of fun whilst doing this. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing our members at the Bradford branch of the Oddfellows: "A Great Year, and Happy Year For Us All."

Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master Presentations

Steve Warrillow ended his year as Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) by awarding merit awards to Sue Jones and Terry Toolin at our annual summoned meeting in April. He then

did a cheque presentation of £2,000 to his chosen charity Northcliffe Environmental Enterprise Team (NEET) in May. Well done Steve.



Branch News

Social Planning Coffee Morning

Thanks to all who attended our new social planning coffee morning on Monday 9 March 2026, both Sam and Emma have found it very useful and ideas will be taken forward when planning future event

diaries. If you want to share ideas please join us at our next social planning coffee morning at Tiffins (next to Waterstones) at 11am in October 2026, details are in the event diary.



Announcements

Workers Hours

Our workers all work part time so can we request that you only contact us Monday to Friday (unless there is a weekend event) between 9am and 5pm (except for Thursday evenings when we have events on).

Change of opening hours Carlton House

After consultation with some members we have decided to change our Thursday evening opening hour at Carlton House to 7pm, starting in August.

Cash Only

Due to ongoing problems with the card machines and the fact that we get charged for every transaction we have decided to go cash only and cancel our card machine subscription.

Christmas Lunch Club

During our continuing review of our branch finances, it has been decided by Committee of Management that we will no longer give out gifts at the Christmas Lunch Club. We do not give out gifts at any other events so this seems to be an equitable decision to be fair to all our members.

Emails

The cost of postage has increased greatly in the last few years, we are hoping to send more information (including our newsletter and event diary) via email. If you are happy to receive information via email in future, please contact lisa.waugh@oddfellows.co.uk.

Thanks for your help.

Members News

Members old and new

Terry Toolin

Terry has been with Bradford Oddfellows for over 50 years, in his words he found us later in life when he was busy working as a plumber. He was on a job when the client invited him to his 'club' that was the Bradford Globe Oddfellows based at Rawson Square and his client was the Provincial Grand Master (Chairman). Now in his nineties Terry has fond memories of fun busy Friday nights at Carlton House. He has been on our Committee of Management for many years. After Covid he started to come on the walks and then on the weekends away (where he was often seen on the dance floor). In recent years he has been less able



to do the walks or trips but he still comes to socials when he can, he is affectionately known as Terry Tea because he loves his cuppas.

Andrew Hudson

Andrew has just joined us this year, he says "I was searching the website and found Oddfellows and thought it look interesting and inviting so thought



I would give it a go.' He has been on several walks with his little dog Dora (to Oakwell Hall, St Ives and Chevin Woods) and has said he enjoys going to new places and making new friends. He has recently attended his first lunch club and recommends this, saying 'the food is excellent and people are very friendly'.

Creative Members

Oddies Scribblers

Our creative writing group is still going strong and we meet monthly to have a scribble under the guidance of Steve Warrillow. Why not come along and give it a go? No experience needed.

A bit of free form writing from
June Mitchell:

'In winter it's lovely to have a proper fire with logs, all cut into similar size shapes. The pictures that you see in the flames are fascinating and magical. You can see flames dancing over the logs. It's just lovely to sit and watch whilst having a cup of hot chocolate and letting your imagination work overtime.

Inter District Quiz

An exciting IDQ final was held in May with Bradford, Halifax and Vale of York Oddfellows competing for the winners trophy. It was a tight run battle but Halifax took

first place, Vale of York runners up and Bradford third place. Well done all. Thank you to Steve Warrillow and Emma Marshall for all their hard work.



Halifax



Vale of York



Bradford



Mindfulness

We were very fortunate to have the opportunity to get in Claire Coles from Acacia Mindfulness to run a six-week mindfulness course in the Spring. Nine members did the course and although some found it challenging (learning a new way of thinking and being) all came out of it feeling they had learnt a lot and were equip with a 'toolbox' of exercises to help them bring mindfulness into their lives. Building on this we have managed to arrange to have a sound bath meditation session in August and hopefully another mindfulness course, details are still being agreed.



Tutor Claire Coles.

Welfare Team

We all face difficult times when we need some extra support. That's where our welfare team comes in. Maybe you just need somebody to talk to or need support convalescing after illness. We are here to help. All our welfare team members have undertaken training and are DBS checked.

Emma Marshall Welfare Officer
 Susan Waine Welfare Officer
 Emmerson Walgrove Welfare Officer
 June Mitchell Telephone Befriender



Emma. Emmerson, Susan and June.

Recipe from Sam

Normandy Pork with Apple and cider

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp rapeseed oil or olive oil
 - 600g pork shoulder or pork cheeks, fat and sinew trimmed, cut into chunky pieces
 - 1 large onion chopped
 - 2 carrots cut into chunky pieces
 - 2 celery sticks cut into chunky pieces
 - 200g pack smoked bacon lardons
 - 250ml dry cider (or use 100ml apple juice mixed with 3 tbsp cider vinegar and 100ml water)
 - 2 eating apples (we used Braeburn), cored and cut into chunky pieces
 - 1 chicken stock cube
 - 1 bay leaf
 - 3-4 thyme sprigs
- Plus extra to serve (optional)
- 140g crème fraîche
 - 1-2 tbsp Dijon mustard
 - 1-2 tsp cornflour

Method

Heat half the oil in a large pan and brown the meat in batches. Don't overcrowd the pan, and only turn the meat when it has a deep brown crust on the underside, as this will add lots of flavour to the stew. When one batch is cooked, tip it into the slow cooker and continue with the next batch, adding more oil as you need it.



When all the meat has been transferred to the slow cooker, add the onion, carrots and celery to the pan and cook for 5-10 minutes to just soften, scraping any meaty bits up from the bottom of the pan.

Tip the vegetables into the slow cooker. Add the lardons to the pan and fry until crispy. Pour in the cider, bubble for one minute, again scraping the bottom of the pan, then tip the cider and lardons into the slow cooker too. Add the apples, stock cube and herbs to the slow cooker, pour in 400ml water, season well and turn the heat to low.

Cover with the lid and cook for six to eight hours until the meat is very tender. (If you don't have a slow cooker, tip all the ingredients back into the pan, cover with a lid and cook for three hours over a low heat, stirring every now and then to prevent it from catching on the bottom. You may have to add a splash of water during cooking if the sauce looks dry.)

Oddies Wanderers

It has been wonderful to have two new people join our walking group, Andrew with his dog Dora and Tom. Both have started to do the walks to get to know new people and have both now joined as Oddfellows members. So far this year we have been very lucky with the weather on

our walks at Cliffe Castle, Oakwell Hall, St Ives, Chevin Forest and Harewood House. As well as our usual monthly walks we have two shared friendship walks coming up in September, Ogden Water with Halifax Oddfellows and Kirkstall Abbey with Leeds Oddfellows.



Chevin Forest.



Harewood House.



Cliffe Castle.



St Ives Estate.



Oakwell Hall.

Weekend Holiday

Twenty four members had a great weekend away at Lytham St Annes in May. The weather was kind to them and they enjoyed trips out to Cleverleys and Grasmere. Thanks to JAK coaches and Lionel the driver for

a wonderful weekend. Thanks also to Susan Waine who was group leader for weekend with support from Sue Jones, Pat Pickles and Alex McLelland. Details of our next break will be available in the next newsletter.



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
- Emergency Financial Aid (Household)
- Accidental Death Benefit
- Legal Aid 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 member benefits and services. For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions, or call us on 0800 028 1810.



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Self-help for Living Alone

More people are living alone either due to choice or personal circumstances. While it can have its benefits such as greater independence and opportunities for personal growth, living alone can also have its disadvantages.



If not managed well, living alone can be isolating. Not having someone readily available to talk to and share feelings with may lead to loneliness, which can affect mental wellbeing.

It can also be easy to adopt unhealthy habits and neglect self-care such as eating well and having a good sleep routine, which may impact physical wellbeing. But there are simple ways to support wellbeing through self-care, including:

- Staying active and doing something you enjoy e.g. a hobby, which gives a sense of purpose.
- Having a regular routine to give structure to the day e.g. getting up and going to bed at the same time, going for a walk or doing gentle exercise.
- Maintaining connections with friends and family e.g. meeting up for a chat or visiting.
- Creating a calming atmosphere at home e.g. relaxing music and soft lighting.

Silver Stories

The joy of reading is intergenerational, and the charity, Silver Stories, links children and older people through this medium to reduce loneliness in older people and provide a richer reading experience for children.

Founded by a retired Police Sergeant and Headteacher, Silver Stories bridges generational gaps through weekly supervised phone calls in which a child reads a story to a matched older person. The concept of Silver Stories is simple but has a positive impact on both children (Silver Readers) and older people (Silver Listeners). Children learn

important social skills, and older people are less socially isolated. Silver

Listeners are approached by local participating schools, care providers and charities working with older people that are isolated, who identify those that may benefit from being read to by a child.

Schools and parents can get involved with Silver Stories, and the charity has useful information and resources on their website on how to get involved (silverstories.co.uk).



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 Lisa on **07983 496831** or email lisa.waugh@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



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

Give someone a great start in life **for only £10!**



**It's never too early to start
making friends for life.**

We laugh as we learn together and give each other a helping hand through the ups and downs of growing up. That's what being a Young Oddfellow is all about.

If you have a family member aged 17 or under, and would like them to experience the friendship and support of the Oddfellows, we'd love to welcome them.

There are lots of great reasons* to join Young Oddfellows – to find out more, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/young-oddfellows

**As a parent, grandparent or guardian,
you can join them online or ask your
Branch Secretary for an application form.**



**Young
Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

***Terms and conditions apply to membership and financial benefits.
Call 0800 028 1810 for details or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions**

Members take centre stage

Look out for some familiar faces this summer!

Throughout June and July, the Oddfellows is running an upbeat new advertising campaign across the UK aimed at reaching the nation's retirees.

Built around the theme of 'real people, real joy, real experiences', the campaign shines a spotlight on the authentic friendships and shared laughter found within our local groups.

Member models

Members from Leeds, Derbyshire Peak, Mersey, Handforth and Altrincham, Mid-Staffordshire, Nottingham Trent, and Ormskirk and Southport Oddfellows all stepped forward to help.

They spent an exciting day at a professional studio shoot in Manchester working alongside an experienced production crew.

"It was such a fun day," said Andrea Jenner from Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows. "There was lots of laughter and interaction with Oddfellows from other areas."

Carol Pitchford from Leeds Oddfellows agreed, adding: "It was lovely to meet up with a crowd of strangers who then became friends."



Spreading the word

The adverts will be appearing on Facebook and Instagram, online via Rest Less and Saga, and in upcoming print editions of People's Friend, Saga Magazine, Yours, and Woman's Weekly.

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey, said: "We wanted the campaign to reflect the real people at the heart of our Society. Our groups are places where people can simply be themselves, enjoy real companionship, and feel genuinely supported."

How you can help

While we hope this campaign inspires more retirees to give us a try, as members, you're our best ambassadors. If you know someone who would benefit from our social events, travel opportunities or welfare support, please encourage them to head to www.oddfellows.co.uk/retirement to find out more.

Celebrating our 2026 Making a Difference Award winners

We are thrilled to announce this year's incredible Making a Difference Awards winners: Richard West of the Royal Berkshire Branch in the Reading District, and husband-and-wife duo Roger and Susan Williamson of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk District.

The Awards highlight the wonderful ways our members go above and beyond to ensure their branches are the best they can be for their fellow members.

Richard West: Reading's 'guardian angel'



Debbie Jex and Richard West

Presented with the 'Enriching Lives Socially' Award by Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chair) Debbie Jex, 88-year-old Richard West helps to bring joy and positivity to his fellow members in all he does in organising and hosting social events.



Since joining the Reading District in 1992, Richard has worked tirelessly to build a varied and exciting social programme for his fellow members.

Alongside his late friend Doug Walters, Richard helped establish popular singing and exercise groups, and even relaunched a folded group in the nearby village of Pangbourne, which is now in its tenth year.

From coordinating monthly quizzes to organising glamorous annual trips to the Ascot Races, Richard pours his heart into everything he does.

For many, his efforts have been transformative. "We have a number of ladies who say the choir has become a lifeline for them," Richard shared. "I like seeing them enjoy themselves. You can see how it benefits them individually."

Debbie Jex is also Reading Oddfellows' Branch Secretary. She added: "I don't know where we'd be without Richard. His energy is boundless and his enthusiasm even more so. One member has even described him as a 'guardian angel'."

Roger and Susan Williamson: A wonderful team



(L to R) Roger Williamson,
Susan Williamson, John Mann
and Alison Schultz

The Oddfellows' Grand Master (Chair), John Mann, presented the 'Achieving Together' Award to Roger and Susan Williamson. Both in their 80s and Oddfellows members since 2008, the couple's commitment and kindness are renowned at their Branch.

Both take a seat on the King's Lynn Oddfellows' Committee of Management, ensuring members' voices are always at the heart of decision-making.

Roger, a Trustee and three-time Past Provincial Grand Master, hosts walks,

bingo sessions for up to 40 members, and a popular monthly quiz.

Meanwhile, Susan coordinates the kitchen, manages supplies, and runs the raffles.

The couple were incredibly modest about their win. "Initially, I thought it was a joke because the letter turned up on the first of April," laughed Roger.

Susan added: "We're only doing what anybody else would do, but it's nice to know that people appreciate it. To win the award together is special."

Branch Secretary Alison Schultz praised their selflessness, saying: "They offer friendship to so many in the way Oddfellows should, and treat everyone with consideration, kindness and compassion."

Shining examples

Richard, Roger and Susan are proof that our Society thrives because of the generosity and warmth of our members.

Thank you to all who go above and beyond to help and support others within their Branch.

You can find out more about
our Making a Difference Awards,
including previous years'
winners, at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/
makingadifference](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference).

It's never too early to talk about money

At Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's never too early to talk to the young people in our lives about their finances.



Today's younger generations have a lot to consider, with rising costs, student debt and spending temptations online. Simple chats about saving, budgeting and planning ahead can help young people feel more confident about money as they grow and become more independent.

Passing on more than money

Helping younger family members financially is wonderful, but sharing knowledge can be even more valuable.

Explaining different saving tips, how debt works, or pensions and retirement, gives younger generations practical lessons they may not hear elsewhere. Even small conversations can leave a lasting impression.



Don't wait to save

One way to encourage good saving habits is through a Unity Mutual Junior ISA*, which allows children to start saving and is a great way to introduce them to finances and investment.

Opened by a parent or guardian, family and friends can contribute up to £9,000 per tax year, with any growth free from UK tax. All the money saved belongs to them and once they reach the age of 18 can be put towards things like university costs, driving lessons, or even a deposit on their first home.

Making money conversations normal

The best financial lessons are often the simplest ones. Talking openly about saving for goals, comparing prices, or handling debt helps children develop healthy habits. Younger family members are more likely to feel confident about money if the adults around them discuss it calmly and honestly.



To find out more about Unity Mutual and the products we offer, visit www.unitymutual.co.uk or call 0161 214 4650.

*Terms and conditions apply to all our products. Capital at risk with investment products.