

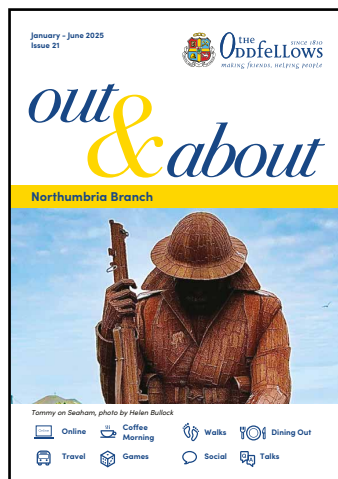
Leeds News & Events and Northumbria Out & About

Please scroll down to the first page for Leeds News & Events and page 33 for Northumbria Out & About

Please scroll to page 1 or click
the link below
[Leeds News & Events](#)



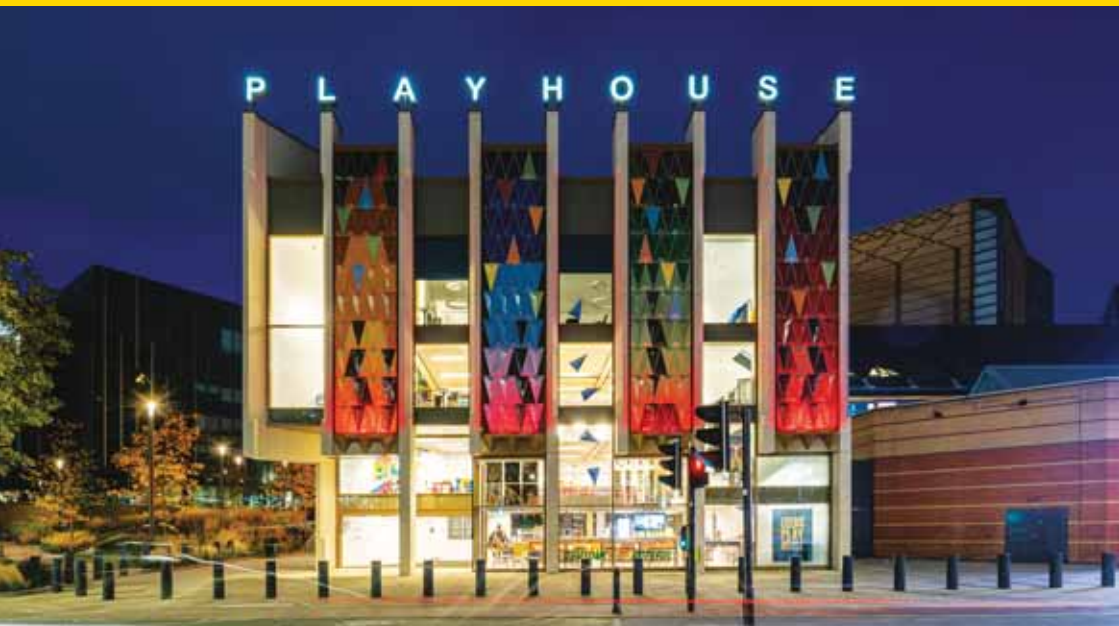
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[Northumbria Out & About](#)



January - June 2025
Issue 21

News & Events

Leeds District



Long exposure of Leeds Playhouse in the evening, Leeds by Paul Rigel



Music



Sports



Online



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz

Welcome to the latest edition of our Events Diary and Newsletter for the Leeds District Oddfellows.

As a local District of a national membership organisation called the Oddfellows, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also offer our members a range of advice and support services when you need them.

We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared interests in socialising and making friends and helping people! This issue features listings of our upcoming events, from 'Food with Friends' to 'Cuppa & Chats' and we hope there is something to interest you.

We have included a handy back page listing month by month for events at a glance.



*Food with Friends at the Calverley Arms with Bradford Branch
Friday 4 April*

We hope you find it useful.
We look forward to seeing you at an event very soon!

For more details about becoming a member and the wide range of benefits available, please call our membership team on 0800 028 1810 or visit our website at www.oddfellows.co.uk.

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

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! If you're on Facebook or Twitter (X), make sure you've liked and followed our Oddfellows social media pages.

Find us at: **f** LeedsOddfellows

X OddfellowsUK

January 2025

TUES **07** **Leodis Branch** **Business Meeting**



12 noon



Lunch £2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Susan on 0113 2930901.

MON **13** **Nelson Branch** **Business Meeting**



1.30pm



Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 0113 2590091.

MON **13** **Fun Quiz**



6.30pm



£4



Come along and stretch your brain with various quizzes. Hot meal included. For catering purposes, please notify George if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact George on 0113 2585036.

WED **08** **My Life in Writing**



2pm



£4



Chris Berry has been a writer for the Yorkshire Post for



over 20 years, he is the author of a series of crime thriller novels, four children's books and a number of books he has written for celebrities such as Tony Christie, Joe Longthorne, Bruce Jones (aka Les Battersby) to name a few. Chris is going to give us an insight into his life as a writer. Light refreshments included. Gracious Street Methodist – Dales Room, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



January 2025

TUES 14 Fish, Chips and Bingo



12.30pm



Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy fish and chips followed by several games of fun bingo. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



THURS 16 Festive Antidote Lunch



12 noon



As per menu



Come and detox from Christmas with good food and good company. Please



note the earlier start time. Booking essential. Toby Carvery, Bruntcliffe Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 0LY. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

WED 15 History of Keighley and Worth Valley Railway



12 noon



£2



Nigel Hyde is delivering a talk about the history of the rail industry and the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway. Nigel will be telling us about his experiences during 36 years with British Rail and about his current role as a volunteer for the Engine Shed Museum. Light lunch included. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.

THURS 16 Zoom Sing Along



2pm



Free



Come along for a good old sing song. Don't worry if you are tone deaf, because no one will hear you, if you don't want to sing, you can just listen and enjoy. Send your requests to Helen and get ready to sing, sing, sing. Zoom Meeting ID: 8961 0879 201. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



January 2025

TUES 21 Real Life Sing Along



12 noon



£3



Back by popular request. Come along for a good old Sing-Song. Hot lunch included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 0113 4148437.



FRI 24 Vale of York Games Afternoon



12 noon



£3



Our friends from Vale of York Branch are calling in for a visit. We are going to enjoy a hearty lunch of sausage and mash, followed by fun games. Everyone welcome. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



THURS 30 Celebration and Installation of New Chairman



7pm



£3



We have lots to celebrate. Why not come along and celebrate the new year, installation of the new Noble Grand and the up and coming events. Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Christine on 01924 480364.

February

TUES 04 Leodis Branch Business Meeting



12 noon



Lunch £2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact 0113 2930901.



February

THURS
06

Food with Friends at Bengal Brasserie, Leeds

⌚ 6.30pm

£ As per menu



This award winning menu offers a wide range of traditional and speciality Bengali dishes and a wide vegetarian selection. Booking essential. Bengal Brasserie, 5 Merrion Way, Leeds LS2 8BT. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



MON
10

Nelson Branch Business Meeting

⌚ 1.30pm

£ Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 0113 2590091.

Further events are being added, see:
www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

MON
10

Taking Care of Barney

⌚ 6.30pm

£ £4



Pauline Moorhouse has very kindly agreed to come and visit us with her Barn Owl 'Barney'. Pauline is



going to tell how she takes care of this beautiful bird of prey. Hot meal included. For catering purposes, please notify George if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact George on 0113 2585036.

TUES
11

Fish, Chips and Bingo

⌚ 12.30pm

£ Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy fish and chips followed by several games of fun bingo. Booking essential.



Unity Court,
431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD.
Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

February

WED
12

Rise and Fall of Bradford Canal



2pm



£4



Stuart Lines is going to take us on a virtual journey down the Bradford Canal. He will tell us about the rise and fall of the canal, how the canal system reached the city of Bradford and why it died. Light refreshments included. Gracious Street Methodist – Dales Room, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



TUES
18

History of the Oddfellows



12 noon



£3



Our very own Tracey Garczynski is going to take us through



the history of the society. Our origins, our traditions and how we became the society we are today. Everyone welcome. Hot lunch included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 0113 4148437.

WED
19

Yorkshire Dialect



12 noon



£2



Why do we say that? Have you ever wondered why we use certain expressions and phrases? John Lyte returns to give an interesting talk about the origins of our favourite and most used sayings. Light lunch included. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



THURS
20

Zoom Talk - How to Survive and Thrive in an Impossible World



2pm



Free



Online



In this talk Steve Carter brings together his years of experience as an award-winning psychologist with his 'parallel' life as a musician, author and adventurer. The result is a highly motivating, often funny, inspiring way of thinking about ourselves and the life we are living. People have called the talk 'liberating' and 'oddly practical'. After reviewing the current 'state of play' we all face in life, work and the dangerous assumptions about success that underpin it. Steve underlines 'five rules of the road' for a more fulfilling life. Zoom Meeting ID: 8535 9285 951. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

February

THURS
20

Beetle Drive



7pm



£4



Shake those dice as fast as you can. Hot supper and raffle included. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



THURS
27

Charity Cheque Presentation



7pm



£3



Charity cheque presentation to a chosen local charity. Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Christine on 01924 480364.



FRI
21

Breakfast and Chat



10.30am



50p per item



Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows is all about, whilst enjoying a



breakfast. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome, that's a promise! Everyone is welcome. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

March

TUES
04

Leodis Branch Business Meeting



12 noon



Lunch £2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact 0113 2930901.

March

THURS
06

Food with Friends at Ask, Wetherby



12 noon



As per
menu



Lunch out at this modern restaurant, which offers a wide range of Italian food. Booking essential.

Ask Italian,
1 Market Place, Wetherby LS22 6LQ.
Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



SUN
09

Celebration Lunch



12.45pm



Members £25
Guests £30



Come and join us for a celebratory lunch for this year's Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) Helen Bullock. Arrive at 12.45pm for 1pm start. Menu available upon request. Engine Shed, York Road, Wetherby LS22 7SU. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



MON
10

Nelson Branch Business Meeting



1.30pm



Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 0113 2590091.

MON
10

Film Showing - Thelma



6.30pm



£4



When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she sets out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her. Hot meal included. For catering purposes, please notify George if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact George on 0113 2585036.

March

TUES 11 Fish, Chips and Bingo



12.30pm



Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy fish and chips followed by several games of fun bingo. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

WED 12 Yorkshire Coastal Secret



2pm



£4



Incredible but True. The beautiful Yorkshire coastline was scarred for life with the birth of a new and unique industry never seen before in England. Find out why thousands of tons of human urine were needed! David Banks is going to tell us all about our wonderful coast. Light refreshments included. The Dales Room, Gracious Street Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

TUES 18 Living and Dying in a Victorian City



12 noon



£3



Over the years, Beckett Street Cemetery became the final resting place for thousands of individuals, including notable figures such as members of the local gentry, industrialists and community leaders. Alun Pugh is going to talk to us about what it was like to live and die in Victorian Leeds. Hot lunch included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 0113 4148437.

WED 19 Flower Fairies



12 noon



£2



Bradford Oddfellows Social Coordinator Emma, shares her enthusiasm and love of the flower fairies. She will tell us about the artist who drew the flower fairies, the poems connected to them and the meaning behind them. Light lunch included. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



March

THURS
20

Racing Pigs



7pm



£4



Who's got the leanest, fastest little piggy? Hot supper and raffle included. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



FRI
21

Cuppa and Chat



10.30am



Free



Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows is all about. If you've not been to one of



our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome, that's a promise! Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

TUES
25

Ceremonial Branch Meeting



12 noon



Token fee



Come and join us to find out more about the business and historic traditions of the Society as we celebrate our shared values of Friendship, Love and Truth. Lunch included. Members only. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

THURS
27

Mothers Day Quiz



7pm



£3



Join in the celebration and test your knowledge. Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Christine on 01924 480364.



April

TUES

01

Leodis Branch Business Meeting



12 noon



Lunch £2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact 0113 2930901.

TUES

08

Fish, Chips and Bingo



12.30pm



Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy fish and chips followed by several games of fun bingo. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



WED

09

The Nightingale Shore Murder



2pm



£4



We are going to be installed as a jury as Rosemary Cook presents the evidence for the unsolved murder of Florence Nightingale's goddaughter, on a train back in 1920. Will we be able to solve who did it? Light refreshments included. Gracious Street Methodist - Dales Room, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



FRI

04

Food with Friends at the Calverley Arms with Bradford Branch



12 noon



As per
menu



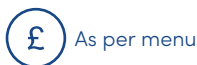
We are meeting our friends from Bradford Branch for lunch at this wonderful countryside inn, with valley views, pub grub and cask ale. Booking essential. The Calverley Arms, Calverley Lane Pudsey, Leeds LS28 5QQ. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

April

FRI 11 Friendship Cuppa



11am



As per menu



Come along and join us for a friendship coffee morning that is being organised jointly between us and our friends at the Bradford Branch. Why not take the opportunity to meet Oddfellows from both Districts, share a cuppa, chat and have some fun. We have chosen The Livery Rooms because it is very spacious, it is central and close to car parks, bus station and the railway station. Plus food and drinks are reasonably priced. Wetherspoons - The Livery Rooms, 89-97 North Street, Keighley BD21 3AA. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



SAT 12 Leodis Branch Annual General Meeting



12 noon



Free



The Annual General business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Lunch included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact 0113 2930901.

MON 14 Nelson Branch Annual General Meeting



1.30pm



Free



The Annual General business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 0113 2590091.

MON 14 Remember the Sixties



6.30pm



£4



Come along and reminisce about our younger days. Get your thinking caps on for your record requests. Hot meal included. For catering purposes, please notify George if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact George on 0113 2585036.



April

TUES 15 The Booth's Disaster



12 noon



£3



Our very own Richard Heath is going to talk to us about one of the worst mill fires in Huddersfield.

Don't worry it's not all gloomy, Richard will tell us about an unlikely hero Barbara Chadwick, which will be a surprise for everyone. Hot lunch included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 0113 4148437.



WED 16 Fountains Abbey - From Simplicity to Splendour to Ruin



12 noon



£2



407 years of Cistercian life in a remote valley of Yorkshire which almost didn't happen. David Banks from the National Trust recounts the incredible story of poverty to unimaginable wealth and status, only to lose it all. Light lunch included. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



THURS 17 Zoom Sing Along



2pm



Free



Come along for a good old sing song. Don't worry if you are tone deaf, because no one will hear you, if you don't want to sing, you can just listen and enjoy. Send your requests to Helen and get ready to sing, sing, sing. Zoom Meeting ID: 8961 0879 201. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

THURS 17 Wonderful Things



7pm



£4



The story of the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. Eric Jackson regales us with the trials and tribulations of this find. Hot supper and raffle included. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

April

THURS
24

Easter Themed Evening



7pm



£3



Join us for an evening of fun. Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Christine on 01924 480364.



FRI
25

Breakfast and Chat



10.30am



50p per item



Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows is all about, whilst enjoying a breakfast.



If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome, that's a promise! Everyone is welcome. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

May

THURS
01

Food with Friends at Taverna, Harrogate



6.30pm



As per menu



Come along and enjoy traditional Greek cuisine at this authentic restaurant. Booking essential. Taverna, 23 Cheltenham Crescent, Harrogate HG1 1DH. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



TUES
06

Leodis Branch Business Meeting



12 noon



Lunch £2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact 0113 2930901.

May



MON 12 Nelson Branch Business Meeting

 1.30pm  Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 0113 2590091.

MON 12 Film Showing - The Long Game

 6.30pm  £4



In 1955, five young Mexican-American caddies, out of the love for the game, were determined to learn how to play, so they created their own golf course in the middle of the South Texas desert. Hot meal included. For catering purposes, please notify George if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact George on 0113 2585036

TUES 13 Fish, Chips and Bingo

 12.30pm  Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy fish and chips followed by several games of fun bingo. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

WED 14 Lunch at Taylor's on the Green, Keighley

 12 noon  As per menu 

We are meeting for lunch in Keighley this month. Come along for a bite to eat or just a cuppa. Afterwards you can visit the pub's onsite brewery shop. Please note that this event is on the second Wednesday of May, instead of the usual third Wednesday of the month. Taylor's on the Green, Church Street, Keighley BD21 5HT. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



May

WED
14

My 40 Years in Publishing



2pm



£4



David Asquith worked in book publishing for 40 years and got to know numerous famous authors like Michael Palin, Joanna Lumley, Ian Rankin, Brian Clough, Richard Cole and many more. A most interesting talk about a normal bloke escorting famous people around the country to book signings and book advertising venues. Light refreshments included. Gracious Street Methodist - Dales Room, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



THURS
15

Zoom Talk - Lifeboats and Lighthouses



2pm



Free



Helen Baggott is going to take us on a journey using postcards sent more than a hundred years ago, to look at some of the coastal landmarks that reveal stories written by our ancestors. As well as sharing the stories of who sent and received some of the cards, this talk will also explore the families who called 'the lighthouse' their home. Zoom Meeting ID: 8535 9285 951. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

THURS
15

Fish and Chips Supper with Bingo



7pm



£7



Enjoy a fish supper followed by several games of bingo. Booking is essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

FRI
16

Cuppa and Chat



10.30am



Free



Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows is all about. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome, that's a promise! Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



May

TUES 20 Games Afternoon

⌚ 12 noon £ £3



We could be racing pigs or Play Your Cards Right. The world is our oyster. Two course lunch included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 0113 4148437.



June

TUES 03 Leodis Branch Business Meeting

⌚ 12 noon £ Lunch £2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact 0113 2930901.

THURS 29 Racing Pigs

⌚ 7pm £ £3



Who's got the leanest, fastest little piggy? Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Christine on 01924 480364.



THURS 05 Food with Friends at Hickory's Smokehouse

⌚ 12 noon £ As per menu



Something a little different for us. This restaurant offers the authentic taste of the Deep South with a menu bursting with smokehouse classics and barbecue favourites. Booking essential. Hickory's Smokehouse, Otley Road, Adel, Leeds LS16 7PH. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



June

MON 09 Nelson Branch Business Meeting

L 1.30pm

£ Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 0113 2590091.

MON 09 Crime Writer

L 6.30pm

£ £4



Chris Berry has been a writer for the Yorkshire Post for over 20 years, he is the author of a series of crime thriller novels,

four children's books and a number of books he has written for many celebrities. Chris is going to give us an insight into his life as crime writer. Hot meal included. For catering purposes, please notify George if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact George on 0113 2585036.



TUES 10 Fish, Chips and Bingo

L 12.30pm

£ Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy fish and chips followed by several games of fun bingo. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



TUES 17 Music Quiz

L 12 noon

£ £3



Hosted by our very own Susan Taylor. Come and try your luck against an avid music fan. Lunch included. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 0113 4148437.



June

WED

18

Visit to Cliffe Castle, Keighley



12 noon



As per menu



Meet at the café for lunch or a cuppa and good conversation. The museum is free and if the weather is fine we can stroll around the grounds. The car park is located on Spring Gardens Lane BD20 6LQ. Everyone welcome. Cliffe Castle Museum 32 Ashleigh Street, Keighley BD21 3BJ. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



THURS

19

Zoom Sing Along



2pm



Free



Come along for a good old sing song. Don't worry if you are tone deaf, because no one will hear you, if you don't want to sing, you can just listen and enjoy. Send your requests to Helen and get ready to sing, sing, sing. Zoom Meeting ID: 8961 0879 201. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

THURS

19

Speed Dominoes



7pm



£4



Don't worry about the spots before your eyes! Hot supper and raffle included. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



FRI

20

Breakfast and Chat



10.30am



50p per item



Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows is all about, whilst enjoying a breakfast. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome, that's a promise! Everyone is welcome. Booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.



June

TUES 24 Ceremonial Branch Meeting



12 noon



Token fee



Come and join us to find out more about the business and historic traditions of the Society as we celebrate our shared values of Friendship, Love and Truth. Lunch included. Members only. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

THURS 26 Play Your Cards Right



7pm



£3



Higher or Lower? Come and join in the fun. Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Christine on 01924 480364.



Further events are being added, see:
www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.



REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile

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

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

Ref 1644

Changes to Dental and Optical Care Benefit claims



If you're a member on the Extra Benefits package (£35 a year), it means you can claim up to £30 every other membership year towards the cost of optical care and up to £30 every membership year towards dental costs.*

Claims against dental and optical payment plans were previously excluded, but from 1 June 2024 this has changed. You can now claim £30 every membership year towards check-ups, treatments and dental payment plan costs and £30 every other membership year towards an eye test, new glasses, contact lenses and optical payment plan costs.

Life, Associate and Widow members can also now claim towards optical or dental payment plans as a result of this recent benefit update.

Further information

- Want to find out more about the Dental and Optical Care Benefit and how to claim? Speak with your Branch Secretary, or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/dental-and-optical-care-benefit.
- Unsure of which membership package you're on, or want to learn more about switching membership packages? Speak with your Branch Secretary or contact our Membership team on 0800 028 1810 / membership@oddfellows.co.uk.

*Terms and conditions apply to all financial benefits. All Oddfellows benefits are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Extra Benefits members can read the full list of member terms and conditions on our website at www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-tcs. Life, Associate and Widow members should contact their Branch Secretary for details about entitlements.

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 www.oddfellows.co.uk/events

OE/1024A6

Oddfellows Travel 2025

We have a great selection of escorted holidays for you to enjoy



South Devon Delights – Torquay Mon 31 March – Fri 4 April (4 nights)

With Alfa Travel and staying at The Metropole Hotel. Solo rooms from £295. Twin room based on 2 people sharing £295 per person. Half board. Coach pick up available from certain locations.

Oddfellows Summer Holiday – Warner's Cricket St. Thomas (Somerset) Mon 7 – Fri 11 July (4 nights)

Half board from £350 per person, based on 2 people sharing a double or twin room. A limited number of solo occupancy rooms are available at a reduced rate of £450.



Whales, Waterfalls and Geysers of Iceland Thurs 17 – Tues 29 July (12 nights)

Departing from Dover on Fred. Olsen's Borealis. From £1,799 per person, based on 2 people sharing a cabin. Full board.

Scarborough Weds 1 – Sun 5 October (4 nights)

With Alfa Travel and staying at the Cumberland Hotel. Solo rooms from £325. Twin rooms based on 2 people sharing £325 per person. Half board. Coach pick up available from certain locations.



OTA5F0924

For Oddfellows Travel questions and bookings, please contact
Emma Gorst **0161 214 4634** or email **travel@oddfellows.co.uk**

Oddfellows Travel holidays are arranged through third party providers, please reference their terms and conditions before booking. Find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Branch Contacts

Provincial Corresponding

Secretary:

Tracey Garczynski

Unity Court, 431 Meanwood
Road, Leeds LS7 2LD

Telephone: 07534 211132

Email:

tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk

Social/Welfare Office:

Helen Bullock

Telephone: 07709 295317

Email:

helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk

Leodis Branch

Telephone: 0113 2930901

Meetings are held at 12 noon on the first Tuesday of the month at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds, LS7 2LD. Unless specified.

Nelson Branch

Secretary: Margaret Lickess

The Oddfellows, 19 Victoria
Walk Leeds LS18 4PP

Telephone: 0113 2590091

Email:

margaret.lickess@oddfellows.co.uk

Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 1.30pm at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD unless specified.

Northumbria Branch

Secretary: Tracey Garczynski

Northumbria Lodge, 23 Queensway,
Guiseley, Leeds LS20 9JL

Telephone: 07534 211132

Email:

tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 12 noon at The Bluebell Pub, Sunderland, unless specified.

District Meeting Date

Thursday 20 March, 10.30am

Castle Grove Masonic Lodge, Castle Grove Drive, Headingley, Leeds LS6 4BR

If you wish to attend please contact your Branch Secretary.

Keeping in touch...

Communication is important to us, we would be grateful if you could get in touch with your Branch Secretary to ensure that we have all your up to date contact details so that we can keep in touch with you.

Thank you.

Branch Meetings

District: Helen Bullock

Telephone: 07709 295317

Email:

helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk

Meet on adhoc days and times at various venues.

Fox St George: Anne Fleming

Telephone: 0113 4148437

Mobile: 07858 411215

Email: anniebuster70@gmail.com

Meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 12 noon at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD, unless specified.

Britons: Ian Cawood

Telephone: 0113 2311013

Email: i.cawood@sky.com

Meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Miners Arms, Albert Road, Leeds LS27 8LG, unless specified.

Harmony: Helen Bullock

Telephone: 07709 295317

Email:

helen.bullock@oddfellows.co.uk

Meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Dales Room, Gracious Street Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN, unless specified.

Byworth: Susan Taylor

Telephone: 07849 119512

Email: susanxtaylor23@gmail.com

Meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 12 noon at 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR, unless specified.

Earl Grey: Christine Sykes

Telephone: 01924 480364

Mobile: 07957 910153

Meet on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm at Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall LS5 3AS, unless specified.

Princess Victoria/Mechanics:

George Lickess

Telephone: 0113 2585036

Meet on the second Monday of the month at 6.30pm at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD, unless specified.

The Lawrence Oates Ceremonial:

Ian Cawood

Telephone: 0113 2311013

Email: i.cawood@sky.com

Open to members interested in the ceremonial aspect and history of the Oddfellows. Starts at 12 Noon at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD

Tuesday 25 March

Tuesday 24 June

The Past Grands Meeting:

Colin Woodward

Telephone: 07881 841819

Email: colin.g.woodward@gmail.com

This is for members who have the title of Past Noble Grand, have completed their Purple Degree and is wishing to further their understanding of the degrees and symbolism of the Oddfellows. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD.

Tuesday 28 January, 2pm

Tuesday 29 April, 2pm

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 Tracey on **0113 2424002** or email **tracey.garczynski@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**

At a glance

January 2025

Tues 7	Leodis Branch Business Meeting	12 noon
Wed 8	My Life in Writing	2pm
Mon 13	Nelson Branch Business Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 13	Fun Quiz	6.30pm
Tues 14	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12.30pm
Wed 15	History of Keighley and Worth Valley Railway	12 noon
Thurs 16	Festive Antidote Lunch	12 noon
Thurs 16	Zoom Sing Along	2pm
Tues 21	Real Life Sing Along	12 noon
Fri 24	Vale of York Games Afternoon	12 noon
Thurs 30	Celebration and Installation of New Chairman	7pm

February

Tues 4	Leodis Branch Business Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 6	Food with Friends at Bengal Brasserie, Leeds	6.30pm
Mon 10	Nelson Branch Business Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 10	Taking Care of Barney	6.30pm
Tues 11	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12.30pm
Wed 12	Rise and Fall of Bradford Canal	2pm
Tues 18	History of the Oddfellows	12 noon
Wed 19	Yorkshire Dialect	12 noon
Thurs 20	Zoom Talk - How to Survive and Thrive in an Impossible World	2pm
Thurs 20	Beetle Drive	7pm

February

Fri 21	Breakfast and Chat	10.30am
Thurs 27	Charity Cheque Presentation	7pm

March

Tues 4	Leodis Branch Business Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 6	Food with Friends at Ask, Wetherby	12 noon
Sun 9	Celebration Lunch	12.45pm
Mon 10	Nelson Branch Business Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 10	Film Showing - Thelma	6.30pm
Tues 11	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12.30pm
Wed 12	Yorkshire Coastal Secret	2pm
Tues 18	Living and Dying in a Victorian City	12 noon
Wed 19	Flower Fairies	12 noon
Thurs 20	Racing Pigs	7pm
Fri 21	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
Tues 25	Ceremonial Branch Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 27	Mothers Day Quiz	7pm

April

Tues 1	Leodis Branch Business Meeting	12 noon
Fri 4	Food with Friends at the Calverley Arms with Bradford Branch	12 noon
Tues 8	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12.30pm
Wed 9	Nightingale Shore Murder	2pm
Fri 11	Friendship Cuppa	11am
Sat 12	Leodis Branch Annual General Meeting	12 noon

At a glance

April

Mon 14	Nelson Branch Annual General Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 14	Remember the Sixties	6.30pm
Tues 15	The Booth's Disaster	12 noon
Wed 16	Fountains Abbey - From Simplicity to Splendour to Ruin	12 noon
Thurs 17	Zoom Sing Along	2pm
Thurs 17	Wonderful Things	7pm
Thurs 24	Easter Themed Evening	7pm
Fri 25	Breakfast and Chat	10.30am

May

Thurs 1	Food with Friends at Taverna, Harrogate	6.30pm
Tues 6	Leodis Branch Business Meeting	12 noon
Mon 12	Nelson Branch Business Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 12	Film Showing - The Long Game	6.30pm
Tues 13	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12.30pm
Wed 14	Lunch at Taylor's on the Green, Keighley	12 noon
Wed 14	My 40 Years in Publishing	2pm
Thurs 15	Zoom Talk - Lifeboats and Lighthouses	2pm
Thurs 15	Fish and Chips Supper with Bingo	7pm
Fri 16	Cuppa and Chat	10.30am
Tues 20	Games Afternoon	12 noon
Thurs 29	Racing Pigs	7pm

June

Tues 3	Leodis Branch Business Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 5	Food with Friends at Hickory's Smokehouse	12 noon
Mon 9	Nelson Branch Business Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 9	Crime Writer	6.30pm
Tues 10	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12.30pm
Tues 17	Music Quiz	12 noon
Wed 18	Visit to Cliffe Castle, Keighley	12 noon
Thurs 19	Zoom Sing Along	2pm
Thurs 19	Speed Dominoes	7pm
Fri 20	Breakfast and Chat	10.30am
Tues 24	Ceremonial Branch Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 26	Play Your Cards Right	7pm

Important Notice - Food Allergies or Intolerance

If you have a food allergy or intolerance, it is really important you tell the event organiser before the event. This will enable us to arrange alternative refreshments.

A brilliant Baltic experience

In late June, 17 Oddfellows from across the country met in Dover to board Fred. Olsen's Borealis and set sail to discover the delights of the Baltics.

Lots to see and do

During their 14 nights, the Oddies crew, made up of members from Ipswich, Norwich, Leeds, Worcester, Derby and Tunbridge Wells, visited seven different ports throughout the region, stopping off in Germany, Poland, Sweden, Estonia and Finland.

There was plenty on offer, with organised excursions and chances to explore independently at each stop-off.

On board there were interesting talks, crafts sessions and plenty of opportunities to simply find a quiet corner with a book.



Warnemünde, Germany

Ipswich Oddfellows member and host for the fortnight, Wendy Atkins, said:

“We experienced mostly fair weather but more importantly calm seas.

“In each of the ports we observed maritime traditions, stories of war-torn devastation, magnificent architecture and saw evidence of Russian aggression.”

On-board Oddfellowship

Wendy added: “Our group sat together for dinner where we were able to share the experiences of the day and to learn more about Oddfellowship. New friendships were made!

“The Oddfellows party had two organised get-togethers – a welcome hot chocolate and coffee meeting as we sailed and a drinks party when members were able to get to know one another.

“In the evenings there was varied entertainment in the main theatre but also music in the bars to suit all tastes. Of course, there was plenty to eat and drink too!”



Dressed for dinner

Travel in good company

With Oddfellows Travel group holidays, you can travel in confidence and great company. All our group holidays are hosted by an Oddfellows member and we only work with experienced travel partners that we trust.

For more information about Oddfellows Travel and to read the full review go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Our biggest celebration of friendship yet!

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, has expressed her thanks to everyone involved in making 2024's Friendship Month a huge success:

"Once again I am so proud of each and every person at our brilliant Branches for all the efforts they have put into making this year's Friendship Month so wonderful.

"It's hard to believe that this is the 15th time we've claimed September as our month-long celebration of all the benefits

of friendship, but it's safe to say it's been our biggest yet, with over 300 taster events throughout the country – that's a huge amount of work!

"Coffee mornings, walks, talks, music events, meals, games, quizzes, day trips – whatever it might be, you've pulled out all the stops to let the nation know that we're here and ready to offer support, fun and friendship to all."



A day trip to Provender House with Canterbury Oddfellows



Mersey Oddfellows took a walk in Birkenhead



Brighton and Sussex Oddfellows enjoying a coffee morning



Bury St Edmunds Oddfellows getting crafty



Cakes galore at Halifax Oddfellows



Friendship and laughter at Ipswich Oddfellows



Humber Wolds Oddfellows' Teatime get-together

Our survey said...

Earlier this year, we asked a random sample of members about their experience of being an Oddfellow. Thank you to the near 1,500 who took the time to respond to our survey. We really value your thoughts and opinions as they help us to ensure we can continue to improve on what we do.

In terms of overall membership satisfaction, with 10 being 'completely satisfied' and one 'not at all satisfied', the average member gave a score of 8.6, which is wonderful to know. This score is better than the average of other organisations that carry out a similar survey, and is something the Society is very proud of.

Using the same scale, members indicated they were most satisfied with the friendliness and supportiveness of their Branch (8.9), the way their Branch communicates with them (8.9), and that their membership represents value for money (9). Perhaps unsurprisingly, those who indicated they were most satisfied with the friendliness and supportiveness of their Branch, and the face-to-face events on offer, were the most likely to recommend the Oddfellows to someone else.

People also told us why they joined, revealing that the most popular reasons were because friends or family suggested it (55.1%), to attend social events (45.1%) and to make friends (43.6%).

Our monthly meetings are always friendly. We always enjoy some sort of activity and have an uplifting afternoon.

Would be quite nice to be reminded of exactly what benefits are now given/provided. I've been a member for so many years that I have lost track.

I love all the events. My life would be empty and lonely without Oddfellows.

We were also pleased to receive feedback on how we can improve. One thing a number of members suggested we could change is their ability to claim for payment plans against their Dental and Optical Care Benefit. We're pleased to say that this is now possible.

It was also suggested that awareness of support, offers and benefits is quite low, with some members not understanding what they are entitled to.

To learn more about your membership entitlements, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits. Terms and conditions apply.

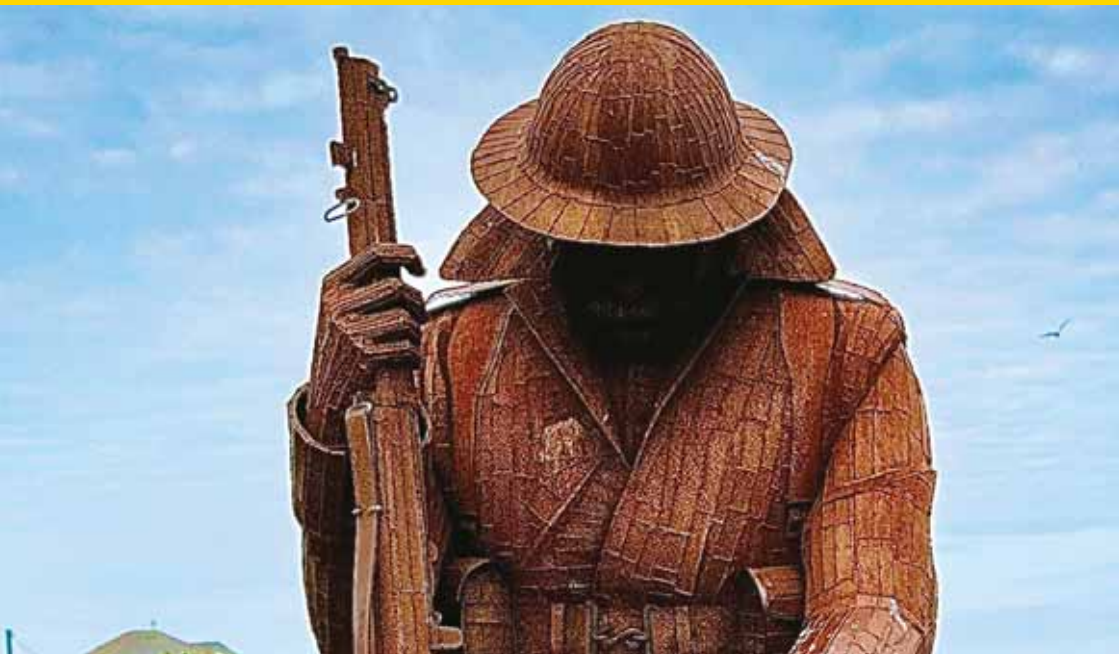
January - June 2025
Issue 21



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

out & *about*

Northumbria Branch



Tommy on Seaham, photo by Helen Bullock



Online



Coffee
Morning



Walks



Dining Out



Travel



Games



Social



Talks



Lunch at Hinnies, Whitley Bay – Wednesday 16 April, we hope you can join us!

Welcome to the latest edition of our Events Diary and Newsletter for the Northumbria Oddfellows

As a local District of a national membership organisation, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends along with access to a wide range of benefits and support services when you need them. We are basically a group of friends brought together through a shared love of socialising, making friends and helping people! This issue features our get-togethers not only in the real world but online too. We hope there is something to interest you.

We have included a handy back page listing month by month for events at a glance.

Contact Details

Tracey Garczynski

Address:

23 Queensway,
Guiseley,
Leeds LS20 9JL

Telephone: 07534 211132

Email:

tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you at an event very soon.

For more information about becoming a member and the wide range of benefits available, please call our membership team on 0800 028 1810 or visit our website at www.oddfellows.co.uk

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 support our members through a range of benefits and services. For more information visit **www.oddfellows.co.uk** or call **0800 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

January 2025

WED
08

Branch Meeting



12 noon



Free



The regular monthly business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

THURS
16

Zoom Sing Along



2pm



Free



Come along for a good old sing song. Don't worry if you are tone deaf, because no one will hear you. If you don't want to sing, you can just listen and enjoy. Send your requests to Helen and get ready to sing, sing, sing. Zoom Meeting ID: 8961 0879 201. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

WED
15

Lunch at Marina Vista, Roker



12.30pm



As per menu



What could be nicer than delicious food with a grand view over the harbour and excellent company. Come and join us. Booking essential. Marina Vista, Marine Activity Centre, North Dock, Sunderland SR6 0PW. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.



February

WED
05

Branch Meeting



12 noon



Free



The regular monthly business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

February

WED
19

Food with Friends at South Causey Inn, Stanley



12.30pm



As per
menu



Join us in the heart of the Beamish Valley in this beautiful 'country feel' family pub and sample a range of northern flavours.

Booking essential. South Causey Inn, Beamish Burn Road, Stanley, County Durham DH9 0LS.

Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.



March

WED
05

Branch Meeting



12 noon



Free



The regular monthly business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

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.

THURS
20

Zoom Talk – How to Survive and Thrive in an Impossible World



2pm



Free



In this talk, Steve Carter brings together his years of experience as an award-winning psychologist with his 'parallel' life as a musician, author and adventurer. The result is a highly motivating, often funny, inspiring way of thinking about ourselves and the life we are living. People have called the talk 'liberating' and 'oddly practical'. After reviewing the current 'state of play' we all face in life and work and the dangerous assumptions about success that underpin it. Steve underlines five rules of the road for a more fulfilling life. Zoom Meeting ID: 8535 9285 951. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

March

WED 19 Lunch at The Poachers, Metal Bridge

🕒 12.30pm 🌳 As per menu 🍴🍴🍴

We are going to this very warm, friendly and inviting pub which offers great food as well as great service. Why not join us? Booking essential. The Poachers, Bridge Street, Metal Bridge, Durham DH6 5LQ. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.



April

WED 02 Branch Annual General Meeting

🕒 12 noon 🌳 Free 👥

Join us for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and have your say. We will be discussing Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

April

WED 16 Lunch at Hinnies, Whitley Bay

🕒 12.30pm 🌳 2 courses £20 3 courses £25 🍴🍴🍴

This award winning restaurant serves a good plate of freshly - cooked food, in a relaxed setting and with good conversation. Booking essential. Cost: Set lunch: £20 for two courses or £25 for three courses. Hinnies, 10 East Parade, Whitley Bay NE26 1AP. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.



THURS 17 Zoom Sing Along

🕒 2pm 🌳 Free 📺 Online 🎵

Come along for a good old sing song. Don't worry if you are tone deaf, because no one will hear you. If you don't want to sing, you can just listen and enjoy. Send your requests to Helen and get ready to sing, sing, sing. Zoom Meeting ID: 8961 0879 201. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

May

WED 07 Branch Meeting

🕒 12 noon 📄 Free



The regular monthly business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

THURS 15 Zoom Talk - Lifeboats and Lighthouses

🕒 2pm 📄 Free  



Helen Baggott is going to take us on a journey using postcards sent more than a hundred years ago, to look at some of the coastal landmarks that reveal stories written by our ancestors. As well as sharing the stories of who sent and received some of the cards, this talk will also explore the families who called 'the lighthouse' their home. Zoom Meeting ID: 8535 9285 951. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

WED 21 Lunch at Colmans Fish and Chip, South Shields

🕒 12.30pm 📄 As per menu 

What could be better than traditional fish and chips, washed down with a good cuppa. Everyone welcome. Booking essential. Colmans Fish and Chip Restaurant, 176-186 Ocean Road, South Shields NE33 2JQ. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.



June

WED 04 Branch Meeting

🕒 12 noon 📄 Free

The regular monthly business meeting, where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

June

WED
18

Lunch at Humbles Bistro, Seaham



12.30pm



As per
menu



This lovely little bistro which promises to not only wow us with stunning food but boasts gorgeous views as well. To have a look at the menu visit: <https://humblescafébistro.co.uk/> Booking essential. Humbles Bistro, 10 North Terrace, Seaham SR7 7EU. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.



THURS
19

Zoom Sing Along



2pm



Free



Come along for a good old sing song. Don't worry if you are tone deaf, because no one will hear you. If you don't want to sing, you can just listen and enjoy. Send your requests to Helen and get ready to sing, sing, sing. Zoom Meeting ID: 8961 0879 201. Please note there is no password. Contact Helen on 07709 295317.

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile

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



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

Ref 1644

Oddfellows Extra

– big brand offers and savings



From cinema tickets, holidays and new cars to grocery shopping, health spas and home insurance – Oddfellows Extra* can help you save on life's little extras or necessities.

Oddfellows Extra is an online collection of money-saving discounts and offers from many well-known brands and major retailers.

All Oddfellows Extra deals are open to Standard members and members with Extra Benefits from day one, for no extra charge.

Access Oddfellows Extra

If you're a member, sign in to the Member's Area and select 'Oddfellows Extra' from the member offers section. If you've not yet registered for the Member's Area, there are instructions on how to do so on our website: www.oddfellows.co.uk/login

OEA50723

*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits.
Visit the Oddfellows Extra website for details.



Oddfellows Extra is operated on behalf of Oddfellows by Parliament Hill Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for under register number 308448.

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 www.oddfellows.co.uk/events

OE/1024A6

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

f OddfellowsUK

X OddfellowsUK

Interested in volunteering?

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

You can help us by:

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



To find out more, contact Tracey by phone on **0113 3226169**
or email tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk

 **the Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people
www.oddfellows.co.uk

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Oddfellows Travel 2025

We have a great selection of escorted holidays for you to enjoy



South Devon Delights – Torquay **Mon 31 March – Fri 4 April (4 nights)**

With Alfa Travel and staying at The Metropole Hotel. Solo rooms from £295. Twin room based on 2 people sharing £295 per person. Half board. Coach pick up available from certain locations.

Oddfellows Summer Holiday **– Warner's Cricket St. Thomas (Somerset)** **Mon 7 – Fri 11 July (4 nights)**

Half board from £350 per person, based on 2 people sharing a double or twin room. A limited number of solo occupancy rooms are available at a reduced rate of £450.



Whales, Waterfalls and **Geysers of Iceland** **Thurs 17 – Tues 29 July (12 nights)**

Departing from Dover on Fred. Olsen's Borealis. From £1,799 per person, based on 2 people sharing a cabin. Full board.

Scarborough **Weds 1 – Sun 5 October (4 nights)**

With Alfa Travel and staying at the Cumberland Hotel. Solo rooms from £325. Twin rooms based on 2 people sharing £325 per person. Half board. Coach pick up available from certain locations.



OTA5F0924

For Oddfellows Travel questions and bookings, please contact
Emma Gorst **0161 214 4634** or email **travel@oddfellows.co.uk**

Oddfellows Travel holidays are arranged through third party providers, please reference their terms and conditions before booking. Find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

A brilliant Baltic experience

In late June, 17 Oddfellows from across the country met in Dover to board Fred. Olsen's Borealis and set sail to discover the delights of the Baltics.

Lots to see and do

During their 14 nights, the Oddies crew, made up of members from Ipswich, Norwich, Leeds, Worcester, Derby and Tunbridge Wells, visited seven different ports throughout the region, stopping off in Germany, Poland, Sweden, Estonia and Finland.

There was plenty on offer, with organised excursions and chances to explore independently at each stop-off.

On board there were interesting talks, crafts sessions and plenty of opportunities to simply find a quiet corner with a book.



Warnemünde, Germany

Ipswich Oddfellows member and host for the fortnight, Wendy Atkins, said: "We experienced mostly fair weather but more importantly calm seas.

"In each of the ports we observed maritime traditions, stories of war-torn devastation, magnificent architecture and saw evidence of Russian aggression."

On-board Oddfellowship

Wendy added: "Our group sat together for dinner where we were able to share the experiences of the day and to learn more about Oddfellowship. New friendships were made!

"The Oddfellows party had two organised get-togethers – a welcome hot chocolate and coffee meeting as we sailed and a drinks party when members were able to get to know one another.

"In the evenings there was varied entertainment in the main theatre but also music in the bars to suit all tastes. Of course, there was plenty to eat and drink too!"



Dressed for dinner

Travel in good company

With Oddfellows Travel group holidays, you can travel in confidence and great company. All our group holidays are hosted by an Oddfellows member and we only work with experienced travel partners that we trust.

For more information about Oddfellows Travel and to read the full review go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Our biggest celebration of friendship yet!

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, has expressed her thanks to everyone involved in making 2024's Friendship Month a huge success:

"Once again I am so proud of each and every person at our brilliant Branches for all the efforts they have put into making this year's Friendship Month so wonderful.

"It's hard to believe that this is the 15th time we've claimed September as our month-long celebration of all the benefits

of friendship, but it's safe to say it's been our biggest yet, with over 300 taster events throughout the country – that's a huge amount of work!

"Coffee mornings, walks, talks, music events, meals, games, quizzes, day trips – whatever it might be, you've pulled out all the stops to let the nation know that we're here and ready to offer support, fun and friendship to all."



A day trip to Provender House with Canterbury Oddfellows



Mersey Oddfellows took a walk in Birkenhead



Brighton and Sussex Oddfellows enjoying a coffee morning



Bury St Edmunds Oddfellows getting crafty



Cakes galore at Halifax Oddfellows



Friendship and laughter at Ipswich Oddfellows



Humber Wolds Oddfellows' Teatime get-together

Our survey said...

Earlier this year, we asked a random sample of members about their experience of being an Oddfellow. Thank you to the near 1,500 who took the time to respond to our survey. We really value your thoughts and opinions as they help us to ensure we can continue to improve on what we do.

In terms of overall membership satisfaction, with 10 being 'completely satisfied' and one 'not at all satisfied', the average member gave a score of 8.6, which is wonderful to know. This score is better than the average of other organisations that carry out a similar survey, and is something the Society is very proud of.

Using the same scale, members indicated they were most satisfied with the friendliness and supportiveness of their Branch (8.9), the way their Branch communicates with them (8.9), and that their membership represents value for money (9). Perhaps unsurprisingly, those who indicated they were most satisfied with the friendliness and supportiveness of their Branch, and the face-to-face events on offer, were the most likely to recommend the Oddfellows to someone else.

People also told us why they joined, revealing that the most popular reasons were because friends or family suggested it (55.1%), to attend social events (45.1%) and to make friends (43.6%).

Our monthly meetings are always friendly. We always enjoy some sort of activity and have an uplifting afternoon.

Would be quite nice to be reminded of exactly what benefits are now given/provided. I've been a member for so many years that I have lost track.

I love all the events. My life would be empty and lonely without Oddfellows.

We were also pleased to receive feedback on how we can improve. One thing a number of members suggested we could change is their ability to claim for payment plans against their Dental and Optical Care Benefit. We're pleased to say that this is now possible.

It was also suggested that awareness of support, offers and benefits is quite low, with some members not understanding what they are entitled to.

To learn more about your membership entitlements, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits. Terms and conditions apply.

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 Tracey on **0113 2424002** or email **tracey.garczynski@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**

At a glance

January 2025

Wed 8	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Wed 15	Lunch at Marina Vista, Roker	12.30pm
Thurs 16	Zoom Sing Along	2pm

February

Wed 5	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Wed 19	Food with Friends at South Causey Inn, Stanley	12.30pm
Thurs 20	Zoom Talk - How to Survive and Thrive in an Impossible World	2pm

March

Wed 5	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Wed 19	Lunch at The Poachers, Metal Bridge	12.30pm

April

Wed 2	Branch Annual General Meeting	12 noon
Wed 16	Lunch at Hinnies, Whitley Bay	12.30pm
Thurs 17	Zoom Sing Along	2pm

May

Wed 7	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 15	Zoom Talk - Lifeboats and Lighthouses	2pm
Wed 21	Lunch at Colmans Fish and Chip, South Shields	12.30pm

June

Wed 4	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Wed 18	Lunch at Humbles Bistro, Seaham	12.30pm
Thurs 19	Zoom Sing Along	2pm

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.