



the **ODDFELLOWS** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

April – September 2024
www.oddfellows.co.uk

VALLEYS LINK

Brighouse and Huddersfield District News and Events

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**Three generations of
Oddfellows**



By David Kennedy



Young Oddfellows



Out and About

Welcome to our latest Valleys Link from the Brighthouse and Huddersfield District.

Everyone 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 of our events that take your fancy and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

This Events Diary and Newsletter is a handy guide for you to keep so that you know what is happening in our area. Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary. Alternatively, keep the



*Whit Friday Brass Band Contest,
Friday 24 May, 4pm*

Events Diary in a handy place – by the phone, fixed to the fridge or pinned to your notice board.

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a friendly society with Branches across the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. Find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk or call **0800 028 1810**.

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

Contact Details

District Secretary: Lynn Bradbury
Telephone: 07764 255181
Email:
lynn.bradbury@oddfellows.co.uk

Office Address: 196 Cowlersley Lane, Huddersfield HD4 5UT

Social Branches

Strangers Refuge Branch

(Holmfirth)

Social Organiser: Pat Whitworth
Telephone: 01484 684324
Email:
patricia.whitworth@oddfellows.co.uk

Peace & Village Pride Branch

(Brighouse)

Brontë Branch (Cleckheaton)
Social Organiser: Anthea Beaumont
Telephone: 01924 525804
Email:
anthea.beaumont@oddfellows.co.uk

Victory Branch (Huddersfield)

Social Organiser: Lynn Bradbury
Telephone: 07764 255181
Email:
lynn.bradbury@oddfellows.co.uk

Plantagenet Branch (Wakefield)

Social Organiser: Josephine Douglas
Telephone: 01924 363736

Young Ones Co-ordinator

Faye Klemp
Telephone: 07775 431307
Email: youngones@oddfellows.co.uk

Message from our Chairman

Time seems to be passing by quicker with each month, it feels as though Christmas and the New Year were just yesterday and now we are steadily heading towards the warmer months. It's times like this we should stop and enjoy the little moments in life, whilst appreciating everything we have gone through and overcome in years past.



I am enjoying my time so far as Provincial Grand Master and look forward to seeing what the year ahead holds, but for some the year may seem daunting, that is why this year my chosen charity is the Andy's Man Club. This charity holds a special place in my heart as they are a men's suicide prevention charity that offer support and advice through support groups and aim to end the stigma surrounding men's mental health issues by giving them someone to talk to.

This year, I am aiming to improve my own mental health by spending time with family and friends, this includes attending one of the many wonderful Oddfellows events on offer each month, be it the light lunch, the bowling or one of the many quiz nights. These events are social and entertaining, allowing members the chance to get out and about, meet new or existing members and are available to all Oddfellows from each branch. I look forward to the rest of the year as Provincial Grand Master and hope to meet many of you and make friendships that will last for years to come.

Rhiannon Bradbury

April 2024

TUES

02

Ten Clues Quiz



7.30pm



£5 including
buffet supper



Join us and enjoy taking part in this popular, lighthearted quiz. You'll have fun finding out how many clues are needed to name a



person, place or object. The sooner you answer correctly the more points for your team. There are prizes for the winners. Book by Thursday 28 March. Old Bank WMC, Old Bank Road, Mirfield WF14 0HY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

THURS

04

Ten Pin Bowling



7pm



£12



Come and try this exciting sport as we once again go ten pin bowling. No matter what your skill level is, we can guarantee a fun evening amongst friends who like to enjoy themselves. We play two games with a prize for everyone. We have a start of 7pm, please be early so you can choose your ball. The cost is £12 per person and basket meals are available at extra cost. Book by Wednesday 3 April. UK Superbowl, Leeds Road, Huddersfield HD2 1YL. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

SAT

06

Whist Drive



2pm



£2 including
refreshments



Join us and spend a relaxing afternoon playing whist in good friendly company. There are refreshments at half time and prizes for the highest and lowest scores. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

SAT

13

Coffee and Chat with our Care and Welfare Officer



10am



Free



An opportunity for members to have a chat over coffee and cake, with time to discover what the Oddfellows can help with. Anyone is welcome to come and join us. If you are thinking about coming along just let us know for catering purposes. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Gillian on 01484 645836.



April 2024

THURS
18

Three Course Light Lunch



12.30pm



£5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 15 April. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

WED
24

Brunch



11am



As per
menu



Join us for a friendly walk, followed by brunch and a get together at Field Café. Here you can explore the area and enjoy a catch up with friends. We will be meeting at the venue at 11am. Book by Wednesday 10 April. Field Café, Unit 3, Field Lane, Farnley Tyas, Huddersfield HD4 6BS. Contact Pat on 01484 684324.

THURS
25

Coffee with Friends



11am



As per menu



A comfy get-together for coffee (or whatever else you want) and chat in good company, with the opportunity to shop around among the gorgeous plants on offer as well as cards, gifts, books and clothing. Book by Thursday 18 April. Notcutts Victoria Garden Centre, Wakefield Road, Streethouse, Featherstone WF7 6BS. Contact Josephine on 01924 363736.



THURS
25

Three Course Light Lunch



12.30pm



£5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 22 April. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

May

THURS
02

Ten Pin Bowling



Come and try this exciting sport as we once again go ten pin bowling. No matter what your skill level is, we can guarantee a fun evening amongst friends who like to enjoy themselves. Book by Wednesday 1 May. UK Superbowl, Leeds Road, Huddersfield HD2 1YL. For further details please refer to Thursday 4 April.



SAT
04

Whist Drive



Join us and spend a relaxing afternoon playing whist in good friendly company. There are refreshments at half time and prizes for the highest and lowest scores. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

TUES
07

Steal it Raffle



Join us for our very popular raffle with a difference, there will be the opportunity to win some excellent prizes. You'll have an enjoyable, lighthearted, fun evening whilst at the same time helping our District Chairman Rhiannon Bradbury raise much needed funds for her charity Andy's Man Club. Cost: £6 including buffet supper and raffle tickets. Old Bank WMC, Old Bank Road, Mirfield WF14 0HY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

THURS
09

Three Course Light Lunch



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 6 May. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

May

THURS 16 Three Course Light Lunch

🕒 12.30pm 🧾 £5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 13 May. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

THURS 23 Lunch - Norman's Neighbourhood Kitchen

🕒 12.30pm 🧾 As per menu



All members are welcome to join us for lunch at Norman's Neighbourhood Kitchen. A great menu that changes regularly giving you chance to try lots of different dishes. Book by Friday 10 May. Norman's Neighbourhood Kitchen, 22A North Road, Kirkburton, Huddersfield HD8 0RH. Contact Pat on 01484 684324.

FRI 17 Eastern Delight

🕒 12.30pm 🧾 As per menu



Just for a change, a Chinese meal – at a popular venue about 150 yards from the large local Asda store. You could do your shopping while you were out and save another journey! Convenient or what? Book by Thursday 9 May. Pagoda Cantonese Restaurant, Units 2-4, Sandal Castle Centre, Asdale Road, Wakefield WF2 7JE. Contact Josephine on 01924 363736.

FRI 24 Whit Friday Brass Band Contest

🕒 4pm 🧾 As per menu



Whit Friday Brass Band Contest from 4pm onwards, outside Denshaw Oddfellows Hall. Hot and cold food and refreshments will be available. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

May

THURS 30 **Bingo at Brighthouse**



1.30pm



£2 including refreshments



Meet up with friends old and new for bingo and enjoy a pleasant afternoon playing and chatting in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. There will be prizes for the lucky winners and refreshments halfway through. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighthouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.



June

TUES 04 **Taste the Difference**



7.30pm



£5 including buffet supper



Test your taste skills and find out if you can tell the difference between supermarket own brands and more expensive named brands. There will be a good variety of products to sample and you may even save money on your shopping in the future. Book by Thursday 30 May. Old Bank WMC, Old Bank Road, Mirfield WF14 0HY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

June

SAT 01 **Whist Drive**



2pm



£2 including refreshments



Join us and spend a relaxing afternoon playing whist in good friendly company. There are refreshments at half time and prizes for the highest and lowest scores. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighthouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

THURS 06 **Three Course Light Lunch**



12.30pm



£5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 3 June. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighthouse HD6 1TY. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

June

THURS
06

Ten Pin Bowling



Come and try this exciting sport as we once again go ten pin bowling. No matter what your skill level is, we can guarantee a fun evening amongst friends who like to enjoy themselves. Book by Wednesday 5 June. UK Superbowl, Leeds Road, Huddersfield HD2 1YL. For further details please refer to Thursday 4 April.

THURS
13

Lunch with Friends



Our second visit of the year to this well-regarded fish restaurant which always delights our members. Book by Wednesday 5 June. Wetherby Whaler, 550 Leeds Road, Outwood, Wakefield WF1 2DF. Contact Josephine on 01924 363736.



WED
19

Afternoon Tea



Come and join us for afternoon tea at the Seed Room Coffee Shop and Bistro. Enjoy your afternoon tea and then stroll around the garden centre. Book by Monday 10 June. Seed Room, New Road, Overton, Wakefield WF4 4RG. Contact Pat on 01484 684324.

THURS
20

Three Course Light Lunch

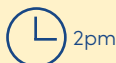


We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 17 June. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

June

SAT
22

Family Fun Day



2pm



TBC



Who knows what you will find at the Oddfellows Hall in Denshaw at our great family fun day! Stalls, games, face painting, teddy pull etc. There will be food and drink available with free hotdogs for all our Young Oddfellows. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.



July

THURS
04

Three Course Light Lunch



12.30pm



£5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 1 July. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

THURS
04

Ten Pin Bowling



7pm



£12



Come and try this exciting sport as we once again go ten pin bowling. No matter what your skill level is, we can guarantee a fun evening amongst friends who like to enjoy themselves. Book by Wednesday 3 July. UK Superbowl, Leeds Road, Huddersfield HD2 1YL. For further details please refer to Thursday 4 April.

SAT
06

Whist Drive



2pm



£2 including refreshments



Join us and spend a relaxing afternoon playing whist in good friendly company. There are refreshments at half time and prizes for the highest and lowest scores. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

July

TUES
02

Beetle Drive



7.30pm



£5 including buffet supper



Please join us for this popular event. You'll enjoy taking part in this fun game, where there are sure to be plenty of laughs as everyone tries to complete their beetles. There are prizes for the lucky winners. Old Bank WMC, Old Bank Road, Mirfield WF14 0HY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

July

WED
10

Lunch and Get Together

 12 noon

 As per menu



Why not join us for lunch and have a fantastic meal. The Waggon and Horses is traditional English family friendly pub, where you can enjoy home cooked pies and puddings. Book by Monday 1 July. Waggon and Horses, Langsett, Sheffield S36 4GY. Contact Pat on 01484 684324

THURS
11

The Great Yorkshire Show

 9.30am

 £35 per adult, £13 per child (age 5-18)



A great summer's day out to the Yorkshire Show at Harrogate, leaving Huddersfield around 9.30am by train and arriving at the show around 10.30am. There is plenty to see, do and eat at the Yorkshire's premier event. You can return home when you wish by train but the show is open until 6pm. Book as soon as possible to be sure of ticket availability. Railway Road Great Yorkshire, Showground, Harrogate HD6 1TY. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

THURS
18

Three Course Light Lunch

 12.30pm

 £5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 15 July. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

THURS
25

Ten Clues Quiz

 1.30pm

 £2 including refreshments



We're bringing this very popular quiz to Brighouse. You'll have fun finding out how many clues are needed to name a person, place or object. The sooner you answer correctly the more points for your team. There are prizes for the winners. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

SUN
28

Lazy Sunday

 1pm

 As per menu



Relax and be looked after instead of preparing - and clearing up after - Sunday lunch at home. Book by Friday 19 July. Rustico Italian Restaurant, 29-29A Northgate, Wakefield WF1 3BJ. Contact Josephine on 01924 363736.

August

THURS
01

Lunch with Friends at Toby Carvery



12.30pm



As per menu



Come meet up and join friends for a spot of lunch at the warm and inviting Toby Carvery. Choose from the carvery on offer or the menu provided, there's something for everyone. Book by Sunday 28 July. Toby Carvery, Brighouse Road, Elland, Huddersfield HD2 2LB. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.



THURS
01

Ten Pin Bowling



7pm



£12



Come and try this exciting sport as we once again go ten pin bowling. No matter what your skill level is, we can guarantee a fun evening amongst friends who like to enjoy themselves. Book by Wednesday 31 July. UK Superbowl, Leeds Road, Huddersfield HD2 1YL. For further details please refer to Thursday 4 April.

SAT
03

Whist Drive



2pm



£2 including refreshments



Join us and spend a relaxing afternoon playing whist in good friendly company. There are refreshments at half time and prizes for the highest and lowest scores. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

TUES
06

Fun Quiz



7.30pm





£5 including buffet supper



Enjoy a relaxed evening in good, friendly company. Our popular general knowledge quiz will be lighthearted and fun, with questions on a wide variety of topics. Teams will compete round by round to see who will be the winners and take home the prizes. Old Bank WMC, Old Bank Road, Mirfield WF14 0HY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

August

THURS 08 **Three Course Light Lunch**

 12.30pm  £5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 5 August. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

FRI 16 **Afternoon Tea with Friends**

 2.30pm  £17.95 (payable in advance) 

Savour a delightful afternoon tea, served in the old-fashioned manner - possibly after you have checked out the plants, the shoe shop, the home department, card and gift selections... oh and let's not forget the Aladdin's Cave of a food hall. So by then, you'll be ready for a sit down and a gourmet's treat. Enjoy! Book by Friday 2 August. The Garden Room, Bloom's Kitchen, Tingley Garden Centre, Thorpe Lane, Tingley WF3 1SL. Contact Josephine on 01924 363736.



SUN 25 **Sunday Lunch**

 12.30pm  As per menu 

Come and join us for Sunday lunch and enjoy the afternoon with friends. High quality dishes all made fresh to order. Book by Thursday 15 August. Travellers Rest, 88 New Mill Road, Brockholes, Holmfirth HD9 7AZ. Contact Pat on 01484 684324.

September

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS 05 **Ten Pin Bowling**

 7pm  £12



Come and try this exciting sport as we once again go ten pin bowling. No matter what your skill level is, we can guarantee a fun evening amongst friends who like to enjoy themselves. Book by Wednesday 4 September. UK Superbowl, Leeds Road, Huddersfield HD2 1YL. For further details please refer to Thursday 4 April.

September

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



SAT
07

Whist Drive

L 2pm

£ £2 including refreshments



Join us and spend a relaxing afternoon playing whist in good friendly company. There are refreshments at half time and prizes for the highest



and lowest scores. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

SAT
14

Coffee and Chat with our Care and Welfare Officer

L 10am

£ Free



An opportunity for members to have a chat over coffee and cake, with time to discover what the Oddfellows can help with. Anyone is welcome to come and join us. If you are thinking about coming along just let us know for catering purposes. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Gillian on 01484 645836.



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Invite a friend

TUES
10

Friendship Month Special with Gary Stokes

L 7.30pm

£ £8 including buffet supper



Join us for an evening of entertainment with the talented Gary Stokes. He's a brilliant vocal entertainer with a large repertoire of songs spanning from the 50s all the way to the present day. He performs many styles and genres with a touch of humour thrown in. Old Bank WMC, Old Bank Road, Mirfield WF14 0HY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.



September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS 19 Three Course Light Lunch

🕒 12.30pm 🧾 £5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 16 September. Denshaw Oddfellows Hall, 5 Huddersfield Road, Denshaw OL3 5SD. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

FRI 20 Lunch

🕒 12.30pm 🧾 As per menu



Join us for lunch at Bennett's Eggs and enjoy delicious home cooked food with an extensive menu to suit a dietary



requirements. Book by Tuesday 10 September. Bennett's Eggs, Croft Farm, Clough Lane, Liversedge WF15 8AD. Contact Pat on 01484 684324

THURS 26 Three Course Light Lunch Followed by Beetle Drive

🕒 12.30pm 🧾 £5



We'd love to see you at our Oddfellows Hall for our three course light lunch. Book by Monday 23 September. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Lynn on 07764 255181.

THURS 26 Beetle Drive

🕒 2pm 🧾 £2 including refreshments



We're almost at the end of our September Friendship Month, so come and join us and enjoy an afternoon playing this popular game, in good friendly company. There's sure to be lots of laughs and friendly competition to find out who will be the first to complete their beetles. There are refreshments at halftime and prizes for the lucky winners. Oddfellows Hall, Bradford Road, Brighouse HD6 1TY. Contact Anthea on 01924 525804.

TUES 24 Comfort Food

🕒 1pm 🧾 As per menu



Relax and enjoy food cooked in the old-fashioned way, at this ever-popular restaurant. £5 deposit required when booking, please. Book by Monday 16 September. Nostalgic Kitchen at the Shepherd's Arms, Cluntergate, Horbury, Wakefield WF4 5DA. Contact Josephine on 01924 363736.

Join the fun in Friendship Month

Make someone's day
and invite them along to
share the friendship fun.

All welcome



To see what's on and find out
more about Friendship Month
visit **www.friendshipmonth.com**

**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH**
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Please Note

In the unlikely event that dates and times at any of the following
events change, you are advised to contact the event organiser or your
Branch Secretary to ensure your place and to avoid disappointment.

Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

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



To see what's coming up visit **oddfellows.co.uk/events** and enter 'Ayr'
in the place name search box

OE/0521A6

Out and about around the District

Our Social Secretaries have been busy this summer organising events for all.

Denshaw Oddfellows Hall

We have recently refurbished our hall at Denshaw and would love to see you at some of our events.

Many of the events are in the diary, we are also planning the following events:

17 August 2024 - Race Night

7 September 2024 - Flower Show Event

14 September 2024 - Mini Golf

Times and locations to be confirmed.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page – Denshaw Oddfellows, for more information.



Christmas Meal

On 15 December 2023 members at Holmfirth gathered for their annual lunch at The Dunkirk, Denby Dale. All members

thoroughly enjoyed their time at the venue and the extensive menu was very much appreciated by all.

Wakefield

A group of 14 members and friends from Wakefield enjoyed fish and chips at Outwood's Wetherby Whaler, followed by delicious rhubarb crumble—appropriate as we were in the centre of the rhubarb triangle and it is almost time for the annual rhubarb festival! Our taste buds were duly tingled.





Tapas with friends

In January 2024 members new and old had a very enjoyable time at Harvey's Kitchen and Wine Bar in Holmfirth, they were able to spend an evening dining in good company, catching up with friends.



Three generations of Oddfellows under one roof

As the school half term comes to an end, it has been refreshing to hold the monthly light lunch at the Oddfellows hall in Brighouse and this month we had extra help from one of our younger members. Catherine Bradbury is a third generation member with both her Grandparents and Mother helping the Oddfellows for years and now even Catherine has the Oddfellows spirit of giving back. Catherine attended the light lunch and volunteered in the kitchen helping to prepare food, set tables and serve soup and sandwiches to the many wonderful members that attended.

In a time where teenagers and children are sometimes lost to technology and it is no longer 'cool' to lend a helping hand

it is nice to see that there are still younger members that have a passion for volunteering and helping to make one of the many social events a success. Catherine has also helped at many other events including the recent family fun day where she helped run the pig race and made it both enjoyable and entertaining for all who played.



Going forward we hope that many other younger members will join Catherine in volunteering at any of the events be it helping to set up, running a stall or serving food and drinks.



Steal it Raffle

Bronte branch Steal It Raffle is a very popular and successful way to raise money for charity and at the same time have an enjoyable evening in good company, coupled with the opportunity to win lovely prizes. But what is a steal it raffle?

It's a raffle with a difference, in most raffles you hope that your ticket is the first one out, but not so in this one, it's the last ticket that's the most wanted. Everyone has two tickets and there are lots of prizes. The raffle starts as normal, but winners must leave the chosen prize on display. Once all

the prizes have been chosen the fun begins as the owners of the last few tickets can take any prize from the original winner. Coveted litre bottles of whisky and gin along with delicious boxes of chocolates travel from table to table. It's all very jovial and everyone takes home at least one prize.

Our next Steal It Raffle is on Tuesday 7 May at Old Bank WMC, Mirfield where we hold different social events once a month, so please check your diaries and come along and join us.

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at [f HuddersfieldOddfellows](#)

[f OddfellowsYoungOnes](#)

Young Oddfellows

Our Young Ones have had a fun-packed few months!

Our Family Fun Day at Broad Oak Bowling Club, Linthwaite, was a great success! The kids really enjoyed the bouncy castle, hook a duck, teddy pull, pig racing, Dixons ice creams and a visit from West Yorkshire Fire Service to name a few.



Our young members enjoyed attending the Crafter-noon and made some wonderful Christmas biscuits, baubles and more.

Fun was had by all at the annual Christmas party, with party food, a



children's entertainer and even a visit from Santa and his helpers, where everyone got a present.

Once again the Pantomime was outstanding, with this year's production being Cinderella. It was entertaining and all our young members received free admittance.





Interested in volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without our wonderful volunteers. 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 teas/coffees
- 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

Want to deliver a new activity?

We encourage all our members to arrange events for other members and friends. If you'd like help to run a new event, like a book club, singing group, a one-off walk in the country or coffee morning, get in touch and we'll support you every step of the way.

If you're interested in finding out more about helping us as a volunteer, contact Lynn by phone on 07764 255181, email at lynn.bradbury@oddfellows.co.uk

“Supporting events as a volunteer makes me feel more committed to the Oddfellows and what I do. I enjoy meeting up with other members/friends, any outings that take place, the lunches and some of the talks are especially interesting”.

Cynthia, volunteer

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 Gillian on **01484 645836** or email gillian.longbottom@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**

Society-funded cancer research on track

The Centre for Cancer Immunology, current beneficiaries of the Society's HA Andrews Memorial Fund, recently received its second donation instalment.

The Centre, based at the University of Southampton, was chosen as the recipient of the £100,000 grant, split over three years, in 2022. The money is sponsoring the PhD studies of Nur Zainal, who is looking into a specific gene which it is believed can be manipulated to target cancer cells in a new vaccine.

Nur's first year

The first year of Nur's studies has been spent preparing for the execution of her PhD project over the next three years. She has been learning appropriate techniques, skills and procedures, as well as being introduced to theories and connecting with relevant research groups.

Nur, who travelled to the UK from Malaysia with her family to undertake the PhD, said: "I believe the invaluable experiences and knowledge I have acquired over the past year have equipped me to be a more productive and capable student."



Nur updating AMC last year

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Oddfellows for their support in making my studies possible."

On the right path

Some of Nur's work on 3D cell culture – growing cancer cells in a way that more closely resembles the environment they experience in our bodies than traditional 2D cell culture – is included in a manuscript which will be published in a major international journal, for which she will be listed as a co-author.

Dr Tim Fenton, Associate Professor in Cancer Biology, says Nur has "excelled during her first year", adding: "We hope that Nur's studies will lead to improvements in the design of cancer



Dr Tim Fenton

vaccines, which is a key theme in the work being undertaken at the Centre for Cancer Immunology here in Southampton."

HA Andrews Memorial Fund

The Fund provides financial support to UK-based medical research projects or organisations. For more information about the Fund, and how you can donate, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews

Our fantastic four

Congratulations to 2023's First Degree Course Educational Awards winners. George, Benedict, Jamie and Charlotte will each receive £3,600 over the next four years of their respective university courses to help ease the financial pressures of student life and create opportunities.

George LeBon

Heart of Norfolk
Branch member

George began his studies at the University of Southampton in September 2023 – a four-year course in Computer Science with Cybersecurity.



His dream job is to become a “white hat hacker”, which he explained is someone who is “hired by companies to try and hack into their databases and report back the vulnerabilities”.

He says he and his family were overjoyed to discover he'd be receiving the funding and has thanked the Society, adding: “It will go towards buying textbooks so I can enhance my knowledge further and better understand the industry that I want to work in.”

Benedict Weis

Leodis Branch member

Benedict hasn't yet decided what his ideal future job role might be. He is studying Aerospace Engineering at Queen's University Belfast and hopes a career path might become clearer over the next few years.

Since starting in September 2023, Benedict has joined the University's rowing club and the money will help him pay for training camps and trips, which he says will allow him to study more effectively without worrying as much about his finances.



“I would like to thank the Oddfellows for the award and just to say how grateful I am for it,” he said.

Jamie Messett

Loyal Lord Byron
Branch member

Jamie started his first of four years of Chemistry at the University of Oxford's Balliol College in October 2023, and will put the money towards



learning materials. He would like his future to be in the pharmaceutical industry, but a PhD and a career in research is also a potential avenue.

He said: "Nobody should underestimate how valuable funding can be towards determining how well a student performs.

"I would like to thank everyone involved in helping me with this award, and also everyone involved with providing the funding."

Charlotte Stevenson,

Pride of Woolwich
Branch member

Charlotte started her four-year course in Physics and Philosophy at the University of Oxford's Brasenose College in October 2023.

She is hoping to do a PhD in astrophysics and then continue researching within the field beyond that.



The funding will allow her to take part in unpaid research programmes during university holidays, covering the cost of travel, accommodation and food, as well as contributing to the cost of textbooks and other resources. She said: "This award will be an immense help throughout my degree and I'm so, so grateful to have received it."

Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society, Barbara Needham, said: "Ordinarily, we hand out three First Degree Course Educational Awards each year, but such was the strength of the applications of this year's winners that we felt they all deserved the financial boost. "I'm delighted for all four of them, and I wish them every success over the next few years at university and beyond."

For more information and T&Cs, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards

Striving for a greener future

The Oddfellows is committed to being as green as possible. That's why we've been calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint since 1 April 2020.

Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, 106.38 tonnes of CO₂e was recorded as being produced through the operations of our Liverpool and Manchester offices and associated transport activities, which includes our financial services brand, Unity Mutual.

Although this figure is up 5.4% on the previous year, benchmarked against employee numbers, carbon emissions have remained almost constant (up 0.2%).



The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Our focus is to keep learning through our assessments and to make incremental changes to the way we operate so we can bring our greenhouse gas emissions down and play our part in tackling climate change."

The Society's aim is to be Net Zero, where our carbon emissions are as low as possible. As a last resort, we have offset our 2022-23 carbon footprint by funding carbon dioxide-saving initiatives, including in Eritrea, Cambodia, Brazil, Bulgaria and India.

Jane added: "Climate change is real. It's the greatest environmental challenge we've ever faced. But there is hope, because we can all do something about it."

Investing in futures

Unity Mutual discovered a genuine interest in its children's savings accounts – a topic many grandparents and parents hadn't considered before – while at the 2023 Baby and Toddler Show in Manchester.

The Junior ISA (JISA), offered in partnership with Mini First Aid to include a free paediatric first aid course*, turned heads, especially when parents realised once they'd set it up, anyone could contribute.



Unity Mutual at the Baby and Toddler show

Unity Mutual's Head of Sales and Marketing, Abi Jones, said: "No more brainstorming gift ideas for that first birthday or Christmas – a shared investment in a secure future sparked enthusiasm. Because, sometimes, the best gifts are the ones that grow over time."

*T&Cs apply.

At a glance

April 2024

Tues 2	Ten Clues Quiz	7.30pm
Thurs 4	Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Sat 6	Whist Drive	2pm
Sat 13	Coffee and Chat with our Care and Welfare Officer	10am
Thurs 18	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Wed 24	Brunch	11am
Thurs 25	Coffee with friends	11am
Thurs 25	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm

May

Thurs 2	Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Sat 4	Whist Drive	2pm
Tues 7	Steal it Raffle	7.30pm
Thurs 9	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Thurs 16	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Fri 17	Eastern Delight	12.30pm
Thurs 23	Lunch - Norman's Neighbourhood Kitchen	12.30pm
Fri 24	Whit Friday Brass Band Contest	4pm
Thurs 30	Bingo at Brighthouse	1.30pm

June

Sat 1	Whist Drive	2pm
Tues 4	Taste the Difference	7.30pm
Thurs 6	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Thurs 6	Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Thurs 13	Lunch with Friends	12.30pm
Wed 19	Afternoon Tea	12 noon
Thurs 20	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Sat 22	Family Fun Day	2pm

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

At a glance

July

Tues 2	Beetle Drive	7.30pm
Thurs 4	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Thurs 4	Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Sat 6	Whist Drive	2pm
Wed 10	Lunch and Get Together	12 noon
Thurs 11	The Great Yorkshire Show	9.30am
Thurs 18	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Thurs 25	Ten Clues Quiz	1.30pm
Sun 28	Lazy Sunday	1pm

August

Thurs 1	Lunch with Friends at Toby Carvery	12.30pm
Thurs 1	Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Sat 3	Whist Drive	2pm
Tues 6	Fun Quiz	7.30pm
Thurs 8	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Fri 16	Afternoon Tea with Friends	2.30pm
Sun 25	Sunday Lunch	12.30pm

September - Friendship Month

Thurs 5	Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Sat 7	Whist Drive	2pm
Tues 10	Friendship Month Special with Gary Stokes	7.30pm
Sat 14	Coffee and Chat with our Care and Welfare Officer	10am
Thurs 19	Three Course Light Lunch	12.30pm
Fri 20	Lunch	12.30pm
Tues 24	Comfort Food	1pm
Thurs 26	Three Course Light Lunch Followed by Beetle Drive	12.30pm
Thurs 26	Beetle Drive	2pm