

July - December 2023



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

# *out & about*

North West Kent



Westgate Towers and Guildhall



Games



Travel



Coffee/Tea



Dining  
Out



Concerts



Talks



Social



Quiz



Theatre



Film



To  
book

To Book Events



Online



*Wednesday 19 July – Cream Tea Newtown Branch, we hope you can join us!*

## Welcome to the latest edition of the news and events diary for North West Kent Branch

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

**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 – we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.**

## Contact Details

### Address:

42 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA11YN

### Hope of Dartford Branch

**Social Organiser:** Sarah Robinson

**Telephone:** 01322 274822

### Email:

sarah.robinson@oddfellows.co.uk

### Newtown Branch

**Social Organiser:** Chris Jordan

**Telephone:** 01322 221129

**Branch Secretary:** Lesley Pimm

**Telephone:** 01322 292 374

### Email:

lesley.pimm@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 our social events, as well as support our members with a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for the members. For more information visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call **0800 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

Please bring your friends to our events, so they can enjoy all that the Oddfellows is about. Unless otherwise stated please contact Sarah Robinson on **01322 274822** or email **sarah.robinson@oddfellows.co.uk** to book or find out more information on any of our events.

# July

## WED 05 Coffee Morning Newtown Branch



It's coffee morning time! Come and have a tea or coffee and a chat with friends. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

## MON 17 Lodge of Games Hope of Dartford Branch



Have you heard and watched Richard Osman's House of Games? Well this is the same but the Lodge of Games! Instead of individuals there will be teams of four, answering questions and having some fun, to try and win a prize. Come and join in! Book by Monday 3 July. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.

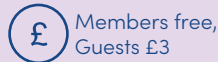
## THURS 06 Quiz Online



Come and join us for our online quiz, no matter where you are in the country/world. Fun with friends and chance to get your brain working. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 9201 2067. Passcode: 1810. Contact Syd on [syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk).



## WED 19 Cream Tea Newtown Branch



This cream tea is in memory of Jean Watts, who sadly passed away



recently. Places will need to be booked in advance by Tuesday 4 July. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

# August

**THURS**  
**03** Quiz Online

🕒 2.30pm    💷 Free    🖥️ Online    ❓

Come and join us for our online quiz, no matter where you are in the country/world. Fun with friends and chance to get your brain working. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 9201 2067. Passcode: 1810. Contact Syd on [syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk).

**WED**  
**09** Coffee Morning  
Newtown Branch

🕒 11am    💷 Members free, Guests £2    ☕

It's coffee morning time! Come and have a tea or coffee and a chat with friends. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



## 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.

# September

**WED**  
**06** Macmillan  
Coffee Morning  
Newtown Branch

🕒 11am    💷 Members free, Guests £3    ☕

It's coffee morning time! Come and have a tea or coffee and a chat with friends. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



FRIENDSHIP MONTH EVENT  
Invite a friend

**THURS**  
**07** Quiz Online

🕒 2.30pm    💷 Free    🖥️ Online    ❓

Come and join us for our online quiz, no matter where you are in the country/world. Fun with friends and chance to get your brain working. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 9201 2067. Passcode: 1810. Contact Syd on [syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk).

# September

**ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH**  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



SAT  
**16**

**Annual Celebration  
Dinner Dance**



Our Annual Celebration Dinner Dance is always very popular, so book your place as early as you can. A lovely way to spend an evening with great friends, fabulous food and good entertainment. Book by Sunday 27 August. Princes Park, Grassbanks, Darenth Road, Dartford DA1 1RT. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.



# October

WED  
**04**

**Coffee Morning and Quiz**  
Newtown Branch



It's coffee morning time! Come and have a tea or coffee and a chat with friends. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.

# October

THURS  
**05**

**Quiz Online**



Come and join us for our online quiz, no matter where you are in the country/world. Fun with friends and chance to get your brain working. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 9201 2067. Passcode: 1810. Contact Syd on [syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk).

MON  
**16**

**Art Night**  
Hope of Dartford Branch



Back by popular demand... don't worry if you didn't attend the last one, all are welcome. Come and test your skills and have a lot of fun with us as. Book by Monday 25 September. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.



# November

## WED 01 Winter Luncheon Newtown Branch



Come and join us get together with friends. Book by Tuesday 17 October. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



## THURS 02 Quiz Online



Come and join us for our online quiz, no matter where you are in the country/world. Fun with friends and chance to get your brain working. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 9201 2067. Passcode: 1810. Contact Syd on [syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk).



## MON 20 Film or Bingo Night Hope of Dartford Branch



We may play a film, or we may play bingo... It's a surprise! Come and join us for a fun, relaxed evening with friends. Book by Wednesday 1 November. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.



# December

## WED 06 Christmas Celebration Newtown Branch



Come join us and start the Christmas celebrations. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



# December

## THURS 07 Quiz Online



Come and join us for our online quiz, no matter where you are in the country/world. Fun with friends and chance to get your brain working. Zoom Meeting ID: 852 9201 2067. Passcode: 1810. Contact Syd on [syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:syd.goodwin@oddfellows.co.uk).



## WED 20 Coffee Morning Newtown Branch



It's coffee morning time! Come and have a tea or coffee and a chat with friends. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Chris on 01322 221129.



## FRI 08 Christmas Evening Tea Hope of Dartford Branch



Time to start celebrating Christmas and we are choosing to do it by having another themed evening tea. This is a very popular event, so please book as soon as possible. The usual gift applies to put under the tree (please make sure the gift can be given to either a male or female. Book by Wednesday 1 November. Oddfellows Hall, 42 The Brent DA1 1YN. Contact Sarah on 01322 274822.



Further events are being added, see:  
[www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events).

# Make the most of your membership



## Your membership provides you with a great range of benefits...

### Standard £25 a year membership\* gives you access to...

- Local social events
- Care & Welfare Helpline
- Oddfellows Travel
- Oddfellows news by email
- Branch Care & Welfare Support
- Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line
- Money saving partner offers
- Benevolence Grants
- Emergency Financial Aid (Household)
- Convalescence & Carer Support (after 2 years' membership)
- Accidental Death Benefit
- Legal Aid Scheme
- Educational & Apprenticeship Awards
- 24/7 access to our historical online archive

### £35 a year membership\* provides you with additional benefits of...

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

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Different benefits apply to other membership categories.  
Contact your local Branch Secretary for further information.

For more information visit: [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits).

\*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services.

For full details, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions) or call us on 0800 028 1810.



# Pride of Woolwich Events

## Wednesday 26 July – Speaker, Tony Harris. Comedian and Historical ‘in character’ performer, 2pm

Speaker, Tony Harris, will be talking to us about Henry VIII. For two years Tony lived and worked at Hampton Court Palace and played Henry VIII every other day for the benefit of more than half a million tourists. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available after the talk, free of charge. Members will also be able to purchase drinks from the bar. Cost: free for members and £5 for guests. 151 Club, 151 Broadway, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7EZ. Contact Nicola on 07309 728748.



## Wednesday 30 August – Speaker, Steve Hookins ‘Bits That Don’t Fit’, 2pm

A return visit from Steve Hookins presenting a talk entitled “Bits that don’t fit”. This presentation gives Steve the chance to talk about some of the weird and wonderful historical square pegs that don’t fit into any of his other presentations. Who invented gunpowder and why? What exactly did the Roman’s leave behind? Plus a wry look at our cousins from across the pond. From Newcastle Brown to Bollinger Champagne via Salvador Dali and Pigeon Guided Bombs, this is “Stand-Up History”. History doesn’t always have to be serious, sometimes it’s just nice to have a bit of a giggle! Cost: free for members and £5 for guests. 151 Club, 151 Broadway, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7EZ. Contact Nicola on 07309 728748.

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

Our online events are  
here to stay



To see what’s coming up visit [oddfellows.co.uk/events](https://oddfellows.co.uk/events) and enter ‘Kelso’ in the place name search box

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# 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 Ann Yearsley on **01322 345587**.

## Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

**Email:** [oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)



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

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

## Care and Welfare Helpline

**Call 0800 0149 822**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

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

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

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

## Congratulations to our latest Educational Award winners

**Each year, we invite Oddfellows undertaking their first degree at university to apply for our Educational Awards. Each winner receives a grant worth £900 per year for the duration of their studies.\***

Congratulations to our three 2022 winners, Ava, Francesca and Amelia.

Ava Craven, a member of Leodis Branch, is studying Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nottingham. Ava plans to use the funds to support her during her work experience.



*Ava Craven.*

Francesca Brennan-Brown, a member of Leodis Branch, is studying Education Studies at the University of Bristol. Francesca will use the funds to get involved with extra-curricular activities at university.



*Francesca Brennan-Brown.*

After deferring her studies for a year, our 2021 winner, Amelia Davies, a member of South East Lancashire Branch, is beginning



*Amelia Davies.*

her Psychology course at Liverpool John Moores University.

Jane Nelson, our CEO, said: “Being able to support our members with their studies is a huge honour. We hope the Award will give them the best start at university and the freedom to pursue their dream careers.”

The Oddfellows also grants up to three Apprenticeship Educational Awards annually, where winners receive £250 of financial support for each year of their training.\*

### How to apply for a 2023 Award

Eligible candidates must have five years of continuous membership (Young Oddfellows membership is taken into account) and must be starting their first degree or first apprenticeship.

### Dates and deadlines:

First Degree Course Educational Award – members are invited to apply via their Branch Secretary around April.

Apprenticeship Educational Award – members are invited to apply via their Branch Secretary around September.

**\*For more information and T&Cs visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/educational-awards](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/educational-awards)**

# Thank you for your kindness

**Across the UK, multiple charities and good causes have received a much-needed financial lift because of your collective generosity.**

In 2022, over £180,000 was donated by our branches and their members to causes close to their hearts. It's an incredible amount, especially considering money is tight for many. It beats 2021's already significant total of over £160,000.

Jane Nelson, our CEO, said: "I couldn't believe the final figure when it was revealed. We're in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis and our members and branches are digging even deeper into their pockets. I feel immensely proud to be part of such a caring Society that does what it can to help those in need.

"Grassroots charities and good causes rely heavily on financial contributions to exist, especially in today's challenging economic climate, so it's great to see so many different causes, right across the UK, being given the support they desperately need. And, of course, it goes much further than just financial help, it's an appreciation of the incredible work that they do. Also, for those they help, they'll know there are people out there who care about their wellbeing."

Find out more about the Society's on-going charitable giving, including how we're supporting the University of Southampton Centre for Cancer Immunology and the RNLI, by visiting [www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/givingback](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/givingback)



*Tunbridge Wells Branch donated £1,000 to the Pickering Cancer Trust.*



*Erewash Valley Branch donated £418.63 to the John Eastwood Hospice in Sutton in Ashfield.*



*Derby Branch donated £7,810 to Derbyshire Blood Bikes, which was used to purchase the pictured bike.*



*Leeds Branch donated £462 to Hidden Homeless.*



*Nottingham Trent Branch donated £500 to the Netherfield Parent and Toddler Group.*



*Severn and Trent Branch donated £1,000 each to both The Shrewsbury Ark and the Newport Cottage Care Centre.*



*Handforth and Altrincham Branch donated £100 to Macmillan Cancer Support in memory of much-loved members who have recently died from cancer.*



*Trafalgar Branch donated £1,250 each to The Benjamin Foundation, The Hamlet Centre Charity, the Norfolk and Norwich Liver Group and the North Walsham Community Shop.*

## Explore the South Downs and surrounds with Oddfellows Travel

**Hosted group holiday | 4-8 September 2023**

**Full board | Daily excursions with guide | From £659 per person**

Join us as we explore England's newest National Park. This active break is jam-packed with



things to do and places to see, with coach trips to the Roman city of Chichester, Arundel Castle and gardens, Devil's Dyke and Amberley Open Air Museum already on the agenda.

We've a few spaces left, and you'll be well looked after by our Oddfellows

member and host, John Galligan, and our knowledgeable HF Holidays guide. Call Mike Hall to find out more on 0161 832 9361 (ext 2224) or email [travel@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:travel@oddfellows.co.uk).

This holiday is operated by HF Holidays. We recommend that you check their terms and conditions before booking at [www.hfholidays.co.uk](http://www.hfholidays.co.uk)

To view more Oddfellows Travel holidays, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel)

## We're now Carbon Neutral Plus

**In our second year of calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint, the Society's central offices in Manchester and Liverpool have been certified as Carbon Neutral Plus.**

Between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, 100.89 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e were recorded as being produced, which has been offset through tree planting projects in the UK and a deforestation prevention initiative in Brazil.

Our annual assessments not only track how much greenhouse gas we produce, but also identify ways in which we can reduce our carbon footprint. A number of measures have already been put in place, such as

switching the Manchester office's energy tariffs from 'brown' to 'green' and installing LED lighting



which operates on a timed or sensor system.

To learn more about how the Society is reducing its carbon footprint and managing the risks of climate change, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/governance/climate-change](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/governance/climate-change)

## Branch Meetings

We regularly hold Branch meetings and all members are welcome to attend. Visitors are generally welcome to attend and observe all meetings with permission granted by the secretary prior to the meeting. We share and discuss the business of the Branch includes social events, finance, care, development, publicity and promotion.

This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. Most evenings are rounded off with refreshments and a chance to socialise.

Meeting address: 42 The Brent, Dartford DA1 1YN. Start at 8pm.  
The dates are:

**Monday 3 July**

**Monday 2 October**

**Monday 7 August**

**Monday 6 November**

**Monday 4 September**

**Monday 4 December**

Further events are being added, see: [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events).

## Introduce the Oddfellows to someone you know

### Refer a friend today



**Why not make someone's day by telling them about the Oddfellows? You might be surprised who would appreciate getting involved – membership brings lots of benefits and so much more\*.**

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

\*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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers).

Ref 1644

# At a glance

## July 2023

<b>Wed 5</b>	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am
<b>Thurs 6</b>	Quiz Online	2.30pm
<b>Mon 17</b>	Lodge of Games (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7.30pm
<b>Wed 19</b>	Cream Tea (Newtown Branch)	11am

## August

<b>Thurs 3</b>	Quiz Online	2.30pm
<b>Wed 9</b>	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Wed 6</b>	Macmillan Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am
<b>Thurs 7</b>	Quiz Online	2.30pm
<b>Sat 16</b>	Annual Celebration Dinner Dance	6.30pm

## October

<b>Wed 4</b>	Coffee Morning and Quiz (Newtown Branch)	11am
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Quiz Online	2.30pm
<b>Mon 16</b>	Art Night (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7.30pm

## November

<b>Wed 1</b>	Winter Luncheon (Newtown Branch)	11am
<b>Thurs 2</b>	Quiz Online	2.30pm
<b>Mon 20</b>	Film or Bingo Night (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7.30pm

## December

<b>Wed 6</b>	Christmas Celebration (Newtown Branch)	12 noon
<b>Thurs 7</b>	Quiz Online	2.30pm
<b>Fri 8</b>	Christmas Evening Tea (Hope of Dartford Branch)	7pm
<b>Wed 20</b>	Coffee Morning (Newtown Branch)	11am