

October 2025 - March 2026



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

# out & about

## Mitcham, Reigate and Crawley Branch



Centre Court, Wimbledon  
This file is licensed under the  
Creative Commons Attribution  
2.0 Generic license.



Reigate Castle - Jonathan Wilson (Adobe Stock)



Theatre/  
Culture



Dining Out



Travel



Online



Quizzes



Coffee Morning



Walks



Music



Talks



Games



Social



Meetings



**September is such an exciting time when we are planning the year ahead and have so many ideas and possibilities that we would like to pursue.**

Your committee are always looking for new ideas and we are grateful to those of you who have made suggestions, thank you for your interest.

Among the ideas is an afternoon musical session, perhaps a tea dance? Or professional entertainment of some sort. We are looking at possibilities and a suitable venue.

We would like to attract younger members, for those with young families, those who are still in their 20's at heart, and those who really are still in their 20's, see page 13.

Sadly, trips to the seaside and other places of interest are becoming very expensive, the cheapest starting from £35 per head and going up to approximately £60 per head.

However, if this is something you would like to do, and the price doesn't put you off, then do please call Dawn, and if there is enough interest, we will look at organising an event like this..

In December we have 'Christmas in the Land of Oz' at Hever Castle, which is another new event to look forward to, (see details on page 10).

The main feature in the calendar to look forward to, of course, is the Annual Dinner Dance to be held on Saturday 1 November, so put this date in your diary and call Dawn NOW to book your dinner and overnight hotel stay at 2021 prices, courtesy of the hotel where we have held the dance for the last four years.

Our guest speaker will be John Mann, Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society and it promises to be a great evening, even if you don't dance anymore, so do come and bring as many friends as you can.

We are also looking to employ a new Social Organiser by the end of the year, so watch out for new ideas and activities.

Keep an eye out for events from October 2025 to March 2026 and do, please, call the contact number given before you come because sometimes even the best laid plans of mice and men go astray, so things might be changed at short notice. If we know you are intending to come, we do make every effort to contact you if there is a change, and I apologise if you have been missed in the past. It really is important to let us know you are coming.

## Contact Details

**Branch Secretary:** Dawn Taylor

**Telephone:** 01293 785083

**Email:**

dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

**Address:** 27 Bolters Road South,  
Horley, Surrey RH6 8HS

The best time to ring is during the week between 10am and 2pm, but if there is no reply please do leave your name, telephone number, and a short message. And I will call you back.



## Committee Meetings

Are held on Zoom on the third Monday of each month.

In 2025 - 20 October, 17 November and in 2026 19 January, 16 February, and 16 March

When sending in your claims for Dental or Optical Benefits please bear in mind that the cheques are prepared a few days in advance of these meetings so your claim needs to be with me by the preceding Wednesday.

## Half Year Summoned Meeting

**Saturday 25 October 2025 at 2.30pm in**

**St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Horley Row, Horley RH6 8DF**

Called the Summoned Meeting because ALL members are actually summoned to attend, the Society is run **for** the members **by** the members, but we can't comply with your requests if you don't come and let us know what you want, so do come and tell us, please.

Refreshments will be served during/after the meeting.

**Closing date to book your place - 13 October 2025.**

# Regular Events

## Sutton Coffee and Chat



2.30pm



Price of coffee



**First  
Monday  
at 2.30pm**

Friendship is what we are all about, making new friends and keeping in touch with old ones and this café upstairs in Waterstones book shop in Sutton High Street is a perfect place to do just that. Waterstones, 71-81 High Street, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1DU. Please let Valerie know on 07738 379013 that you are coming so she can watch out for you.

**6 October 2025  
3 November 2025**

**1 December 2025  
5 January 2026**

**2 February 2026  
2 March 2026**

## Coffee in the Potting Shed



11am



Cost of coffee and your  
choice to eat



**Fourth  
Monday  
at 11am**

Another great place to meet old friends and make new ones, the Potting Shed is a café next door to the Morden Hall Garden Centre, so is handy for all your gardening needs as well. The Potting Shed, Morden Hall Park, 21 Morden Hall Road, Morden SM4 5JD. Contact Valerie on 07738 379013.

**27 October 2025  
24 November 2025**

**26 January 2026  
23 February 2026**

**23 March 2026**



## Coffee in Crawley



10.30am



Price of coffee



**First Tuesday  
at 10.30am**

Haskins is a huge garden centre, so look out for the rolled up blue and yellow Oddfellows umbrella. This is the ideal place to come and relax with friends, just sit and chat about nothing in particular and everything in general, then spend a bit of time shopping for your gardening needs. A perfect way to spend a morning. New members and friends are welcome, we love to make new friends. Haskins Garden Centre, West park Road, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 3HG. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

**7 October 2025  
4 November 2025**

**2 December 2025  
6 January 2026**

**3 February 2026  
3 March 2026**

# Regular Events

## Reigate Friends



7.30pm



Free



**Second  
Tuesday  
at 8pm**

Activities vary each month as decided by the members, so please call Dawn, or check the monthly newsletter for details of each month. Activities may include: indoor bowls, a quiz, beetle drive, easy exercises for the over 60s, Charades, crafts, or guest speakers from Help at Home, fire or ambulance, wills/estate planning/Oddfellows history, or any suggestions from members. December will be a party with Christmas activities. Cost: The event is free, but suggested donation for tea, coffee and cakes 50p. The Woodhatch Centre, Whitebeam Drive, Woodhatch, Nr Reigate RH2 7LS. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

**14 October 2025**  
**11 November 2025**

**9 December 2025**  
**10 February 2026**

**10 March 2026**

## Friendship Lunch in Sutton



1pm



Cost of lunch  
from £8 upwards



**Third  
Tuesday  
at 1pm**

A leisurely lunch with time to chat in a pleasant atmosphere with excellent food, the perfect place to meet old and new friends. Please

book five days in advance to make sure of your place. Cost of lunch from £8 upwards. The Plough Harvester, 224 Sutton Common Road, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9PW. Contact Susan on 01293 785083 or Dawn on 01293 785083.



**18 November 2025**

**20 January 2026**

**17 March 2026**

## Chit Chat and Quiz from Home



8pm



Free



Online



**First  
Wednesday  
at 8pm**

Grab a drink of your choice and join us for chat and an easy quiz. A great way to make, and keep in touch with, friends across the country. Zoom Meeting ID: 843 7341 8571, passcode is the year of the Oddfellows founding. If you don't know what that is call Dawn on 01293 785083 and ask.

**1 October 2025**  
**5 November 2025**

**7 January 2026**  
**4 February 2026**

**4 March 2026**  
**1 April 2026**

# Regular Events

## Traditional Branch Meeting



**First  
Thursday  
at 8pm**

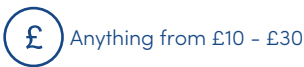
Our heritage is unique with founding traditions and values that we feel are worth preserving. The Surrey Branch, meeting in Mitcham was founded in 1832, is the oldest in the District and likes to keep up the traditions of the Society, so we start and finish with the words that have been used for the last 214 years and have a lot of fun in between, with tea, coffee and cakes afterwards. If you are at all interested in the traditions of the Society, or you would like to get more involved, this is the Branch to come to and all are welcome. St Mark's Church Hall, St Mark's Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LF. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083 or Colin on 020 8640 5002.

**2 October 2025**  
**6 November 2025**

**4 December 2025**  
**5 February 2026**

**5 March 2026**

## Lunch in Crawley



**Third  
Thursday  
at 1pm**

We have discovered a new venue for our lunches in Crawley, The Parsons Pig on the Balcombe Road is welcoming and friendly, but the menu is outstanding, it covers an A3 sized sheet with a variety of dishes covering each side. There is also a huge car park, so this is where we have elected to lunch in the foreseeable future. These things do change however, depending on the wishes of the attending members who usually decide where the following month will be, so watch the newsletters and do call Dawn a week beforehand for information and to book your place. Book five days in advance. The Parsons Pig, Balcombe Road, Crawley RH10 3NL. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

**16 October 2025**  
**20 November 2025**

**18 December 2025**  
**15 January 2026**

**19 February 2026**  
**19 March 2026**

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

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

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



# Regular Events

## Friday Friends in South Norwood



2pm



Free



**Second  
Friday  
at 2pm**

An afternoon of fun and friendship with coffee, chat and maybe a quiz, or a beetle drive, fitness session, sing along, or similar fun activity. Cost: The event is free, but suggested donation for tea, coffee and cakes 50p. For information and details call Norma or Ann. St Mark's Church Hall, Albert Road, South Norwood SE25 4JE. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.



**12 December 2025**  
**9 January 2026**

**13 February 2026**  
**13 March 2026**

## Fun, Games and Friendship in Purley



2pm



Free



**Last  
Friday  
at 2pm**

This club is mainly for TLC, tea, laughter and chat (or coffee/cake?). Activities include easy quizzes, easy exercises for the over 60s, carpet bowls, beetle drives, Charades, talks from local organisations, or about the Oddfellows history. Content of the meetings is decided by the members, so to find out what is going on and when, please check the monthly newsletter or call Dawn for information and details. December is usually a Christmas party.

The Phillipi room is at the back, so walk around the church and come in the back gate and door and you will find us on the right. Cost: The event is free, but suggested donation for tea, coffee and cakes 50p. Christ Church, Brighton Road, Purley CR8 2BN. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.



**31 October 2025**  
**28 November 2025**

**30 January 2026**  
**27 February 2026**

**27 March 2026**

# Friendship Month

When we welcome new friends

## South Norwood Afternoon Tea

**Friday, 12 September, 2.30pm**

St Mark's Church Hall, Albert Road,  
South Norwood SE25 4JE

Our usual meeting in South Norwood will be a free afternoon tea where everyone can enjoy Norma and Ann's home cooking as well as an easy quiz.

## Lunch at The Plough Harvester

**Tuesday 16 September, 1pm**

224 Sutton Common Road,  
Sutton, Surrey SM3 9PW

A lunch to welcome all new and prospective members as well as the usual friendly and leisurely chat with friends. Do please book in advance so that we can book your place, call Dawn on 01293 785083.

ODDFELLOWS

**FRIENDSHIP MONTH**

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



## Lunch at The Parsons Pig

**Thursday 18 September, 10.30am**

Balcombe Road, Crawley RH10 3NL

A restaurant with a fabulous menu, a good car park, and a friendly atmosphere to sit and chat with friends old and new.

## Purley Afternoon Tea

**Friday 26 September 2pm**

Christ Church, Brighton Road,  
Purley, Surrey CR8 2BN

Another free Afternoon Tea, this time in Purley, no home cooking but plenty of cuppas and cakes.

# October 2025

SAT  
25

**Half Year Summoned Meeting**

L 2.30pm

£ Free



At the October Summoned Meeting we nominate our choices for District Officers for the following year and we elect the members who are going to represent us at the Southern Group Conference (all the Districts across the South of England) and the Annual Movable Conference (National). It is also your opportunity to meet the members of the District Committee of Management, the people who decide what activities and/or events or trips during the following year, so it really is important that members do come and take part in the discussions so that we know what you would like.

We need to know how many members intend to come because afternoon tea is served either during or after the meeting, so please call to book your place at least one week beforehand. Book by Thursday 16 October 2025. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Horley Row, Horley, Surrey RH6 8DF. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083, Lyne on 07718 102337 or Valerie on 07738 379013.



# November

SAT  
01

## Annual Dinner Dance



7pm



Members £42  
Guests £45



One of the biggest events of our year, the annual dinner dance is not to be missed. Our guest speaker this year is the Grand Master of the Order (Chairman), John Mann and this is a marvellous opportunity to meet him in a good social atmosphere.



The Chef at the Crowne Plaza is in a class of his own, serving up excellent cuisine that is always thoroughly appreciated by all. Dancing usually goes on until midnight, so it is a good idea to take advantage of the offer of a room for the night, the hotel has held the price of rooms to the same as we paid four years ago – £119 for a double room and £109 for a single. All of their rooms are actually doubles, so if you are on your own you have plenty of space. There is a huge car park, but you must register your number because the hotel is close to Gatwick Airport (not too close, you don't hear the planes at all). Everyone is welcome, but you need to book early as there is a limit on numbers. Book by Monday 13 October 2025. Crowne Plaza – Gatwick Airport, Langley Drive, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7SX. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

FRI  
14

## Explore The Wilderness



2pm



TBC



The Wilderness is a unique heritage garden located in Croydon. First established by the secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society over 100 years ago, it delivers an engaging programme of nature based activities together with a tranquil hideaway from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Mainly for members of the South Norwood Branch, the time for this meeting has not yet been decided, so please call before you come. Book by Wednesday 1 October 2025. MHA The Wilderness, 17 Shirley Church Road, Croydon CR9 5AL. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

# December

WED  
03

## Christmas in the Land of Oz



4.30pm



TBC



Begin in Kansas at Dorothy's house, meet familiar characters along the way and be swept into the colourful Land of Oz through charming displays. Then step inside the castle to enjoy the warmth of a traditional Christmas. As darkness falls from 4pm, the grounds are magically transformed. Wrap up warm and step into a land of wonder. There is limited capacity, so early booking is vital. Please call Dawn just as soon as you possibly can to book your place by Friday 26 September 2025. Hever Castle, Hever, Edenbridge TN8 7NG. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

# March

SAT  
21

## Annual Summoned Meeting



2.30pm



Free



This is called a 'Summoned Meeting' because all members, new and long standing, are actually summoned to attend the meeting. In the old days you were fined for non-attendance, though we don't do that now and we would have difficulty getting all 400+ members into the hall, but it would be nice to see more of you interested in the running of the District. We know that Annual General Meetings are a bit boring, but this is the meeting where we elect the District Committee of Management for the following year, so do come and register your vote. We also plan the future of the District and we need your input to help us decide on events. As always, afternoon tea is served either during the meeting or afterwards, so it is a social gathering as well as formal. St Mark's Church Hall, St Mark's Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LF. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083, Lyne on 07718 102337 or Valerie on 07738 379013.



# January 2026

TUES  
13

## Reigate Lunch with Friends



12.30pm



As per menu



Our annual post Christmas lunch, time to relax and forget the hustle and bustle of the Christmas rush, just join friends for a peaceful, leisurely lunch and chat. The Mill House, Brighton Road, Salfords, Redhill RH1 5BT. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083 or Lyne on 07718 102337.



# Annual Dinner Dance

**Saturday 1 November**  
**Meet at 7pm, dinner at 7.30pm**

Our annual event for all who enjoy a good dinner and dancing with your friends. Bed and Breakfast is available in the hotel at £119 for a double or twin room and £109 for single occupancy\*. To book call **01293 608608** and give the date and the code: **ODDFELLOWS**

**Tickets now available:**  
**£42 per member**  
**£45 per guest**

*Crowne Plaza Hotel Gatwick*  
*Langley Drive*  
*Crawley*  
*West Sussex*  
*RH11 7SX*

Call Dawn for more information  
on **01293 785083** or email  
**dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk**



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

**f mitchamoddfellows.oddfellows**  
**www.oddfellows.co.uk**

\*The overnight stay is operated by Crowne Plaza Hotel Gatwick, The Oddfellows cannot be held responsible for any bookings made with Crowne Plaza Hotel Gatwick. Terms and conditions apply.

# Future District Events.

## Christmas In The Land Of Oz

**Wednesday 3 December 2025 4.30pm-8.30pm**

**Hever Castle, Hever Road, Hever, Edenbridge TN8 7NG**

Begin in Kansas at Dorothy's house, meet familiar characters along the way, and be swept in to the colourful Land of Oz, through charming displays. Then step inside the Castle to enjoy the warmth of a traditional Christmas. The Castle shop has delightful and unusual presents for your friends and family too. There is limited capacity for this trip so please call Dawn as soon as you can to book. Closing date for booking will be Friday, 26 September.





## Denbies Wine Estate Saturday 18 April 2026

Denbies Wine Estate in Dorking is one of England's largest single estate vineyards. It comprises 380 acres with 265 acres currently under vine.

There is a train to take one around the estate and a good café, though a bit expensive, and gift shop. Members enjoyed the visit last year and have asked to repeat the experience.



## Ten-Pin Bowling

For those of us who believe we are still in our 20's, and for our younger members who are still in their 20's or have families who don't often come out, we'd like to try a session at either the Purley Bowling Alley or the Hollywood bowl in Crawley.

It's supposed to be very good exercise while having a whale of a time, but we won't book unless there is sufficient interest, so if you would like to try your hand, and show the youngsters that we can still beat them, do please call Dawn as soon as you can so that we can gauge the level of interest to book.



Don't forget the Zoom meetings: First Wednesday of each month at 8pm. Call Dawn on **01293 785083** for codes and passwords.

## 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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call 0800 028 1810.**

# Recent events around the District

## The Barbecue and Garden Party at my home address

**Was very hot, fortunately there are enough trees to give shade to all who came, and there was a good breeze blowing which did cool us all down, the only problem with that being that the wind was strong enough to blow over people's drinks. I don't know how Garion managed to spend most of the afternoon cooking at the barbecue, when I walked past it was terribly hot so he must have been sweltering and, probably, suffering, but I have had lots of emails saying how good the food was, even describing it as excellent, so well done Garion and thank you.**

Two young nieces of one of our members, Emma and Melissa, took on the role of waitresses for the afternoon and did a trojan job making sure everyone had drinks as and when needed, so a special vote of thanks to them for making the afternoon go well. It was also nice to see new faces and make new friends, and we've been asked to do it again next year, but I'll have to think about that.





Then there was the Inter-District Quiz, where we challenged neighbouring Districts to compete for a silver cup. The winners were Mid-Surrey District, so they have the cup, maybe we'll get it back next year.

Many thanks to Karen and her cohorts from the Tunbridge Wells District for the refreshments and their hard work washing up, etc, and again thanks to Garion for setting up the tables and chairs and to all who helped to put them away again.

## The trip to Nymans

Was interesting, members from Brighton joined us for a trip to this beautiful estate in Handcross. The gardens are well worth the visit and those who came have asked for another visit to be arranged. There were buggies to take people around the gardens, but the weather was not good and some members on the later buggy were soaked, but they still enjoyed the trip immensely.

## And the picnic in Morden Hall Park

Had loads of sunshine, so the afternoon was great fun for everybody. There is a café area and a picnic area and some members brought their own chairs, so there was room for everyone to sit in the sunshine and enjoy chatting with friends.



## More Recent Events Around The District



When Ann was our Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) her fund-raising activities resulted in a cheque to the Alzheimer's Society for £1,065.

# 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 Dawn on **01293 785083** or email **dawn.taylor@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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care)  
for care and welfare information**

## Scarborough hosts the nation's Oddies



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

Members representing their Branches converged on the seaside town from

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

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

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

## Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

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

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

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

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



## Making a Difference Awards 2025

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

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

### Jean Logan, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Enriching Lives Socially

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

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

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



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

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

Achieving Together

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



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

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

## Chris Sargeant, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

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



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

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

## Ann Kight, Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Giving Something Back

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

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

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



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

## Barry Bedford, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Giving a Helping Hand

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



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

# Incredible total raised for good causes



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

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

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

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

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

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

## Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



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

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

2007 and follows the last transfer of engagements in 2021.

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

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



# Contact Details

For more details about any of the events listed, membership, and the wide range of benefits available, please call:

**Branch Secretary:** Dawn Taylor  
27 Bolters Road South  
Horley, Surrey RH6 8HS

**Telephone:** 01293 785083  
**Email:**  
dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk

## Regular Branch Meetings

In addition to Branch meetings, the branches of the Mitcham, Reigate, & Crawley meet on a regular basis as follows:

### Banstead, Star of Banstead & Temple of Friendship

Third Tuesday of alternate months at Heathside Restaurant, Brighton Road, (A217) Burgh Heath KT20 6BW. Contact Sue or Peter on 07958 195159 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

### Crawley, Sussex Weald Branch

Third Thursday of alternate months, coffee mornings and lunches as listed. Contact Janet on 01293 414405 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

### Mitcham, Surrey Branch

First Thursday of each month at 8pm at St Mark's Church Hall, St Mark's Road, Mitcham CR4 2LF. Contact Colin on 020 8640 5002 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

### Morden, Duchess of Devonshire

Fourth Monday of every month at 11am at The Potting Shed Café, Morden Hall Park, 21 Morden Hall Road, Morden SM4 5JD. Contact Valerie on 020 8715 3938.

### Norwood, Surrey Branch

Second Friday of each month at 1.30pm at St Mark's Church Hall, Albert Road, South Norwood SE25 4JE. Contact Norma on 020 3669 0702.

### Reigate, Major Barclay Branch

Second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm at The Woodhatch Centre, Whitebeam Drive, Reigate RH2 7LS. Contact Dawn on 01293 785083.

### South Croydon, Pride of Wimbledon & Warlingham

Last Friday of each month at 1.30pm at Christ Church Hall, Brighton Road, Purley CR8 2BN. Contact Valerie on 020 8715 3938 or Dawn on 01293 785083.

### Sutton, Squire Cressingham

First Monday of each month at 2.30pm at the Upstairs Café, Waterstones, High Street, Sutton SM1 1DL. Contact Valerie on 020 8715 3938.

# At a glance

## Say *yes* to friendship in September

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

All welcome

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



To see what's on and find out more about Friendship Month visit [www.friendshipmonth.com](http://www.friendshipmonth.com)

## October 2025

<b>Wed 1</b>	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
<b>Thurs 2</b>	Traditional Branch Meeting	8pm
<b>Mon 6</b>	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
<b>Tues 7</b>	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
<b>Tues 14</b>	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
<b>Thurs 16</b>	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
<b>Sat 25</b>	Half Year Summoned Meeting	2.30pm
<b>Mon 27</b>	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
<b>Fri 31</b>	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

## November

<b>Sat 1</b>	Annual Dinner Dance	7pm
<b>Mon 3</b>	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
<b>Tues 4</b>	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
<b>Wed 5</b>	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
<b>Thurs 6</b>	Traditional Branch Meeting	8pm
<b>Tues 11</b>	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
<b>Fri 14</b>	Explore The Wilderness	2pm
<b>Tues 18</b>	Friendship Lunch in Sutton	1pm
<b>Thurs 20</b>	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
<b>Mon 24</b>	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
<b>Fri 28</b>	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

# At a glance

## December

<b>Mon 1</b>	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
<b>Tues 2</b>	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
<b>Wed 3</b>	Christmas in the Land of Oz	4.30pm
<b>Thurs 4</b>	Traditional Branch Meeting	8pm
<b>Tues 9</b>	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
<b>Fri 12</b>	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
<b>Thurs 18</b>	Lunch in Crawley	1pm

## January 2026

<b>Mon 5</b>	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
<b>Tues 6</b>	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
<b>Wed 7</b>	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
<b>Fri 9</b>	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
<b>Tues 13</b>	Reigate Lunch with Friends	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 15</b>	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
<b>Tues 20</b>	Friendship Lunch in Sutton	1pm
<b>Mon 26</b>	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
<b>Fri 30</b>	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

## February

<b>Mon 2</b>	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
<b>Tues 3</b>	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
<b>Wed 4</b>	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Traditional Branch Meeting	8pm
<b>Tues 10</b>	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
<b>Fri 13</b>	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
<b>Mon 23</b>	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
<b>Fri 27</b>	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

# At a glance

## March

<b>Mon 2</b>	Sutton Coffee and Chat	2.30pm
<b>Tues 3</b>	Coffee and Chat in Crawley	10.30am
<b>Wed 4</b>	Chit Chat and Quiz from Home	8pm
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Traditional Branch Meeting	8pm
<b>Tues 10</b>	Reigate Friends	7.30pm
<b>Fri 13</b>	Friday Friends in South Norwood	2pm
<b>Tues 17</b>	Friendship Lunch in Sutton	1pm
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Lunch in Crawley	1pm
<b>Sat 21</b>	Annual Summoned Meeting	2.30pm
<b>Mon 23</b>	Coffee in the Potting Shed	11am
<b>Fri 27</b>	Friendship Club in Purley	2pm

## 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 Dawn by phone on  
**01293 785083** or email [dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:dawn.taylor@oddfellows.co.uk)

VA160423/v1

 **the Oddfellows** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*  
[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F.  
Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB