

June - September 2026



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

out & about

North Gloucestershire



???



Online



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz



Bristol Balloon Fiesta - Saturday 8 August.

Welcome all to the North Gloucestershire Summer Out and About

We are all looking forward to a lovely summer and here at North Gloucestershire we are planning lots of wonderful Social Events for you to attend.

We are all aware though that some of our members find themselves in emotional, financial or physical hardship. North Gloucestershire District Lodge would like to reassure all its members that we are here for all of you, for support on the end of a phone or email and hopefully in the near future face to face too! We would also like to reassure you that there are many ways to reach out either through the society, through our links to citizens advice, or through our active and confidential welfare officers.

With all our social events we ask you to book on to the ones that state 'book on', this ensures tickets, seats, and resources are available if you attend, however we still host lovely coffee mornings, Zoom events, and catch up events where you can take it at your own pace and attend on the day if you feel like it!

Contact Details

Branch Secretary: Stuart Walker

Address: 10 The Gresleys,
Ross-on-Wye,
Herefordshire HR9 5JN

Telephone: 01452 905010 option: 6

Email:
stuart.walker@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Event Organiser:

Dani Brown
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danielle.brown@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Event Organiser:

Louise Quemby
Telephone: 01452 905010 option: 1
Email:
louise.quemby@oddfellows.co.uk.

Welfare Visitor: Garth Morgan
Telephone: 01452 905010 option: 3

Weekly Zoom Meeting

Our Mindfulness and Meditation and seated Yoga events on zoom are still really popular and we meet every Monday evening at 7pm. The login for these events is listed in this diary.

Regular Events

Free Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky

Monday Bi-Weekly



Why not join us and Nicky from Yeleni Therapy and Support for a free relaxation and meditation session. Help yourself to unwind and de-stress from the comfort of your own home using mindful breathing techniques and visualisation to achieve a feeling of peace and relaxation in mind, body and spirit. To access the event please go to www.zoom.us and click on 'Join a Meeting' in the top right, enter the following Zoom Meeting ID: 858 3806 2233, then click 'Join' to enter. If you have any problems or questions, please contact Alex on 01452 905010. We look forward to seeing you.

1 June

15 June

29 June

13 July

27 July

10 August

24 August

31 August

14 September

28 September

Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike

Monday Bi-Weekly



Join Mike from Yoga Skies to practise seated chair yoga. Even if you have limited mobility, this yoga will suit as there will be no getting up and down off the floor! Help yourself to unwind and de-stress from the comfort of your own home using easy talked through yoga. Achieve a state of relaxation and wellbeing brought about by posture and stretching. To access the event please go to www.zoom.us and click on 'Join a Meeting' in the top right, enter the following Zoom Meeting ID: 858 3806 2233, then click 'Join' to enter. If you have any problems or questions, please contact Alex on 01452 905010. We look forward to seeing you.

8 June

22 June

6 July

20 July

3 August

17 August

7 September

21 September

Regular Events

Shhh! Secret Cinema

Second Monday of the month



It's back! Our popular Secret Cinema event returns. If you fancy catching one of the latest blockbusters while it's on the big screen then join us on our monthly visit to Cineworld. Each month we will see what's on and in advance choose a movie for us all to enjoy along with popcorn if you fancy too! Cineworld Gloucester, Quays Outlet Centre, Merchants Road, Gloucester GL1 5SH. To book on please contact Alex on 01452 905010 at least two days before the event to let him know you're coming and he can tell you what time to meet as the times are set by Cineworld for the start of different movies. We look forward to welcoming you.

8 June

17 August

14 September

Oddfellows Drop In and Digital Help Workshop

Second Thursday of the month



Join us for a relaxed coffee and chat at Whispering Willows Bistro. Stop by to enjoy a cup of coffee, meet the Social Organiser over coffee and connect in a welcoming, comfortable setting. This drop-in service is open to everyone and is a great opportunity to: Learn about upcoming events in the area, share what kinds of activities and programs you'd like to see, ask questions and stay informed, enjoy friendly conversation with others and 'Digital Help Workshop' - whether you need help with your phone, laptop or tablet, we can support you to develop your basic skills and safely when getting involved with the online world. Whispering Willow Bistro, Willow Gardens, Russell Way, Chipping Norton OX7 5FX. Please contact Dani on 07587 708263 if you would like to request a slot for the 'Digital Help Workshop' - drop in anytime. Bring a friend!

11 June

9 July

13 August

10 September

Regular Events

Monthly Carvery at Toby (Purple Pub Club)

Various Wednesday of the month



7pm



As per menu



Come and join us as we indulge into a lovely carvery at Toby's in Gloucester, with dishes from as little as £4.29 and a full roast at only £11.49! Come along for some friendly conversation and great grub. The Toby Carvery, Over Farm Market, Highnam, Gloucester GL2 8DE. If you'd like to join us call Alex on 01452 905010 or email alex.walker@oddfellows.co.uk and he'll meet you there.

3 June

9 September

Oddfellows Crafters Coffee Club

Second Thursday of the month



12.30pm



As per refreshment cost



Join us for Crafters Coffee Club, a friendly and informal crafting session held on the second Thursday of every month at The Rustic Bean. Each session features a small, café-friendly craft – simple projects using paper, yarn and basic tools. All crafts are designed to be beginner-friendly, low-mess and easy to complete in one sitting. Come along to make something, enjoy a coffee, a light lunch and spend time with others in a welcoming, social space. Free coffee refreshment for new attendees and a friend! The café is accessible via local bus services to Chipping Norton town centre, with nearby bus stops just a short walk away. A full range of drinks and refreshments will be available to purchase from The Rustic Bean's menu during the session. Materials will be provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own supplies if preferred. The Rustic Bean, 1 Market Street, Chipping Norton OX7 5DD. Contact Dani on 07587 708263.

11 June

Pom pom minis and crochet flowers

13 August

Origami and crochet flowers

9 July

Beaded charms and crochet flowers

10 September

Friendship focus

Regular Events

Scrambled!

Second Thursday of the month



2pm



Free



Join us as we play Scrambled! (no eggs involved), a fun game where a jumbled up word or words are shown on screen each round and you have to decipher what the word/s are. If you would like to take part simply go to Zoom and use Meeting ID: 883 2254 1666. The Game Host is Alex, if you have any questions please drop him an email at alex.walker@oddfellows.co.uk or call on 01452 905010.

4 June

6 August

3 September

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Find us at  [OddfellowsUK](https://www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK)

Interested in volunteering?

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

You can help us by:

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



To find out more, contact Louise on 01452 905010 option: 1
louise.quemby@oddfellows.co.uk.

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www.oddfellows.co.uk

June 2026

SAT
06

Line Dancing Lesson

L 12 noon

£ Members Free
Guests £5



Meeting in the café for a drink we will then be heading on through to our room for an afternoon one hour lesson in line dancing. You may have danced or even line danced before, or you may have two left feet, either way why not come along and join us for a fun and as energetic as you like afternoon, that is guaranteed to be filled with giggles and music. Parton Road Community Centre. The Café, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. Contact Louise on 01452 905010.

SUN
21

Classic Car Show and Brunch in Cirencester

L 10am

£ As per menu



Join us for a fun-filled morning and early afternoon at the Cirencester Car Show, one of the town's most popular local events! Join us for brunch at Toro Lounge before heading to the Cirencester Car Show, featuring classic and modern vehicles.



Brunch is optional, but booking is essential if attending. Free entry to the car show. Brunch is available at menu cost. Transport and accessibility: By car - multiple car parks are available near the town centre. The closest is the Abbey Grounds Car Park, a short walk from both Toro Lounge and the Market Place. By bus - check local timetables for the latest service information. Additional notes: Wear comfortable shoes for walking, and consider bringing a light jacket depending on the weather.

Booking only required if you are joining us for brunch. The Classic Car Show is located at Market Place, a short distance from the Toro Restaurant. Book by Sunday 7 June. Toro Lounge, 34 Cricklade Street, Cirencester GL7 1JH. Contact Dani on 07587 708263.

June 2026

THURS
25

Cerney House Gardens Visit in Cirencester



Step into the charm of Cerney House Gardens on this special National Garden Scheme Open Day! Wander through beautiful, carefully tended grounds, take in the scenery and soak up the peaceful atmosphere. Treat yourself to tea and cake while you relax in the garden's setting, perfect for a mid-week escape!



Cost: Garden entry is £7. Garden entry plus tea and cake is £13. Booking is recommended, so make sure you don't miss out. Getting there: Limited parking opposite North Cerney Church; a short 400m walk uphill along a narrow lane leads to the garden. Wear comfortable shoes - the walk is short but uphill. A perfect day out for garden lovers, friends, or anyone who enjoys a bit of beauty and calm in the countryside. Cerney House, North Cerney, Cirencester GL7 7BX. Contact Dani on 07587 708263 to book onto this event.

FRI
26

A Night Out at The Roses to watch Tux Fizz



Meet at 7pm, this is going to be an evening of live music from the countries biggest wedding band. Amazing cover songs covering many eras, this will be an evening of singing and dancing along to some classic wedding party anthems. Members will be asked to pay for their own tickets at £35 a seat and this is a first come first serve event as it will book up fast. Roses Theatre, Sun Street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire GL20 5NX. Please contact Louise on 01452 905010 to make your booking by Friday 29 May.



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June 2026

TUES
30

Oddfellows Information Event

10am

£ Free



Find out what the Oddfellows can offer at this friendly drop-in session at the Co-op, Chipping Norton. Learn about events, benefits, and community support, and ask any questions in an informal setting.



Come along, grab a slice of cake, and learn how Oddfellows can make a difference for you and your loved ones. We look forward to seeing you there! Free event- open to all. No prior registration required - just drop in any time between 10am and 1pm. Midcounties Co-operative Food Store (Co-op), 9-11 High Street, Chipping Norton OX7 5NA. Contact Dani on 07587 708263.



July

WED
01

Food and Friends – Midday Meet

12 noon

£ Free



Take a break and join us for a relaxed, friendly catch-up over coffee and cake on the house for members! If you fancy something more, the full menu can be enjoyed at cost price. Perfect for meeting up with friends, making new ones and enjoying a cozy mid-week treat. Getting there: Parking: Plenty of spaces on-site, with upto two hours free parking. Bus: Easy access via local bus routes. Bus Stagecoach service 'D' and 'E' stop within walking distance (one minute). Come for the chat, stay for the cake - everyone's welcome! The Royal Oak, Church Road, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham GL52 8LR. Contact Dani on 07587 708263.



July

SAT
04

Baking Sausage Rolls and Other Pastries



12 noon



Members Free
Guests £10



Meeting at the café at Parton Road Community Centre this afternoon. Baked goods with a guest speaker coming to show us the tips of the baking trade, this is a follow on event after our popular baking afternoon, learning how to make classic sausage rolls and other pastries. Members are asked to bring their own baking tray and cling film or large zip lock bag as all baking will have to take place when members return to their own homes after the event. This is a free event for members covering costs and ingredients and charged at £10 to guests per head. Parton Road Community Centre. The Café, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. Please book on to this event with Louise on 01452 905010 to ensure a space.

SUN
12

Stow District and Civic History Walk



10.15am



Members £7, Guests £9



Step back in time with the Stow and District History Tour! Explore the history of Stow with a guided walk covering its architecture, markets, and role in the English Civil War. A light, engaging tour with local stories throughout. We'll finish with refreshments at Lucy's Tearoom (one drink included).



Meeting point: Market Square (arrive 10-15 minutes early). Comfortable shoes recommended. Some uneven surfaces. Transport and accessibility: By car - parking is available at Market Place Car Park which is within a short walk of the Square and Lucy's Tearoom. By bus - local bus services stop near the town centre. Accessibility - the walking tour includes some uneven surfaces. Additional notes: Wear comfortable shoes for walking and bring weather-appropriate clothing. A small notebook or camera can enhance your tour experience. Book by Sunday 28 June. Market Square, Stow-on-the-Wold, Cheltenham GL54 1AF. Booking: Places are limited - please pre-book to avoid disappointment by emailing danielle.brown@oddfellows.co.uk or call Dani on 07587 708263.

July

SUN 19 A Sunday Meal at the Clavell and Hind

 12.30pm  As per menu 

Back by popular demand we will be meeting at the entrance of the Clavell and Hind at 12.15pm ready for our meal at 12.30pm. With a summer menu with a wide range of meal this is always a popular event and if the sun is shining we may as well eat in the lovely beer garden. Members are asked to pay for their own orders and book in advance. Clavell and Hind, Unit 2, Elmstone Business Park, Elmstone House, Cheltenham GL51 9SY. Please contact Louise on 01452 905010 to reserve your seat by Wednesday 1 July.

August

August

SAT 08 Bristol Balloon Fiesta

 12 noon  Members £14.99
Guests £19.99 

Join us as we visit the Ashton Court Estate for the annual Balloon Fiesta, with pick-ups in Ross-on-Wye and Gloucester, we will take you down for a day of fun! A programme of entertainment, traders, exhibitors, caterers and activities allow you to experience the magic of ballooning even when the weather prevents the balloons from taking flight. Cost includes transport, parking and one drink on arrival. Ashton Court Estate, Long Ashton, Bristol BS41 9JN. To reserve your place contact Alex on 01452 905010 by Saturday 1 August.



SAT 01 Vintage Country Extravaganza Day Visit

 11.30am  Members £15.50/£17
Guests £18/£20 



Enjoy a day out at this popular vintage event, featuring classic vehicles, machinery, and rural crafts—perfect for enthusiasts and families alike. Cost: From £15.50 for members and from £18 for guests (both includes a drink). Pre-booking recommended. Outdoor event - please dress for the weather. Additional notes: Wear comfortable shoes and bring weather-appropriate clothing as the event is largely outdoors. A drink is included with your ticket. Consider bringing a picnic or exploring onsite food stalls for lunch. This is a busy all day event; we will find a space to gather beforehand. Meeting point will be confirmed nearer the time. There is the option to hire a mobility scooter if needed for this event. South Cerney Airfield, Northmoor Lane, South Cerney GL7 5QD. Please contact Dani on 07587 708263 on the details provided, for more information and to book by Saturday 18 July.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



SAT
05

Decoupage Craft Afternoon



12 noon



Members Free
Guests £5



Come along for one of our Friendship Month key events. This will be a fun afternoon of crafting with all materials provided. Members can enjoy this event for free and guests can come along at a discounted price of £5 a head to see how we work and have a taster of one of our crafty social events. A hot or cold drink will be provided in the café where we will meet before the event. Parton Road Community Centre. The Café, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucestershire GL3 2JH. Contact Louise on 01452 905010 to book you space.

FRI
11

Ten-Pin Bowling at Cheltenham Hollywood Bowl



6.30pm



£15.80



Meet at 6.30pm in the down stairs entrance. We will be enjoying two games of ten-pin bowling with friends.



This is a physical event and open to all young and old. Hollywood Bowl, The Brewery Oxford Passage, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 4EF. This event will book up quickly, so we ask that members pre-book through Louise on 01452 905010 to ensure a space by Friday 7 August.

THURS
17

Picnic in the Park



1pm



Free



Join us for a relaxed afternoon at Pittville Park on Thursday 17 September at 1pm. Bring a picnic, meet friends old and new, and enjoy refreshments, fresh air, and fun lawn games. Everyone's welcome - come solo or with a friend. We'll be on the lawn near the Pump Rooms, opposite the play area. Look for our gazebo and our social organiser in an Oddfellows jacket.

Toilets and cafés are nearby, and the park is easy to reach by bus, with parking at the Pump Rooms and surrounding streets. This free event promises good vibes, games, and plenty of smiles. Bring a blanket or chair and make your September feel a little more connected. Pittville Park - Pittville Pump Room, East Approach Drive, Pittville, Cheltenham GL52 3JE. Contact Dani on 07587 708263.

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 Garth on **01452 905010 option 3** or email our Secretary Stuart on **stuart.walker@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**

Riverside Walk and Tearoom Visit

A small group of us recently set off for a delightful late-morning walk in Bourton-on-the-Water, often described as the 'Venice of the Cotswolds', and it certainly didn't disappoint!

With the sun shining, we enjoyed a leisurely riverside stroll through the beautiful village, taking in the charming bridges, pretty stone buildings and relaxed atmosphere. There was plenty of time to chat, wander and simply enjoy being out together.

Of course, no trip would be complete without a little spontaneity! A tempting shop or two caught our eye along the way,

leading to an impromptu browse (and a few purchases!). We also treated ourselves to a visit to a cosy tearoom, where we relaxed over refreshments and good conversation.

A stop at the local perfume distillery added an extra highlight to the day - a perfect way to round things off.

With lovely weather, great company, and a perfect mix of strolling, shopping and socialising, it was a thoroughly enjoyable outing. If you've not joined us on a trip yet, this is exactly the kind of relaxed and friendly day you can look forward to - we'd love to have you with us next time!

Mobility Equipment

Thanks to Alex, our District Development Officer, North Gloucestershire District Branch can now loan a mobility scooter to its members for FREE!

It has fresh batteries and has had a full service so is ready to go.

We can provide access to a Quingo Classic Mobility Scooter for up to six months, all we require is that you provide insurance on the unit while it's on loan to you, proof of insurance will be required.

A waiver must be signed before item is loaned.



Full information and how to loan these can be obtained by calling **01989 601314** or by emailing **alex.walker@oddfellows.co.uk**



Nana's Spring Chicken, Leek and Herb Pot

This was passed down from my Nana - Laura Worgan. A simple, honest cooking that fed everyone well. I used to run pubs and restaurants before COVID, and this kind of dish was always a quiet favourite. Not flashy, but the sort people came back for again and again. A gentle, nourishing dish - easy to cook, full of flavour and perfect for sharing or saving for the next day.

Ingredients (serves 3-4)

2-3 diced chicken breasts
2 leeks, sliced
1 carrot, finely chopped
1 stick celery, chopped
2 diced small potatoes
2 minced cloves garlic
500 ml chicken stock
100 ml single cream
1 tsp Dijon mustard (optional)
A handful of herbs (Parsley and Tarragon)
1 tbsp butter and 1 tbsp olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Start gently. Melt butter with olive oil in a large pan. Add leeks, carrot and celery. Cook slowly for 8-10 minutes until soft.

Add garlic and cook for another minute. Stir in the chicken pieces and cook until just sealed.

Par boil the potatoes and then pour in the stock. Bring to a gentle simmer, cover and cook for 20-25 minutes.

Turn down the heat and stir in cream and mustard. Let it warm through. Do not boil.

Add chopped herbs right at the end. Taste and adjust seasoning.

Serve with warm crusty bread.

Tip:

Add peas or asparagus in the last five minutes. Swap chicken for smoked haddock

Past Events

We had some wonderful winter events, in the last diary. Firstly, we would like to say a big thank you to all our members for their attendance and to all the outside organisations who supplied experienced and knowledgeable

staff to host our events. We enjoyed a wide range of events including bread making from scratch, patchwork and potting plants, as well as some lovely meals out, coffee morning and crafting events!

Bread Making



Defibrillator Awareness



Crafts - Quilt Making



Interest Call

Hi everyone,

I just wanted to check interest in a potential upcoming event on Thursday 15 October - the Christmas Fashion and Gift Fair at Cheltenham Racecourse.

Entry will be free, but I'll need to request tickets in advance, so it would really help to have an idea of numbers beforehand.

If you think you'd like to come along, please save the date and let me know as soon as possible.

You can contact Dani on 07587 708263 or email danielle.brown@oddfellows.co.uk to register your interest or ask any questions.

Thanks!



Sponsorship for Youth Rugby Team

Here at North Gloucestershire, we value all of our members Young and Old, and one of our junior members who has been a member for life, reached out after he was trying to plan an Under 16's Rugby tour from Gloucestershire to Bournemouth. The Team of 18 members aged 15 and 16 had done an amazing job raising their own money to attend this tour but still needed to reach target.

North Gloucestershire happily sponsored the team to enable them to have tour playing shirts and proudly wore them with the Oddfellows Logo on them and were very proud to wear them, while playing in the tournament. They even went on to win the award for best sportsmanship as a team for their attitude, positivity and commitment.



Cheques and payments to the Branch directly

If you need to make a payment to the Oddfellows at North Gloucestershire please can we ask for cheques to be made out to North Gloucestershire District Lodge and forwarded to our Branch Secretary Stuart Walker, however if you prefer to pay electronically by debit/credit please contact Alex Walker on either 01989 601314 or via alex.walker@oddfellows.co.uk for a link to be sent.

Oddies autumn getaway to Llandudno

Join us as we take a trip to Llandudno, North Wales, on an Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.

Oddfellows members and guests will take in some breathtaking scenery during a four-night stay at the Hydro Hotel from Saturday 26 September to Wednesday 30 September 2026.

From £369 per person, half board, the price includes coach pick up and drop off from locations across the South East via Reading, or a self-arrival option.



Outstanding natural beauty

Two optional day trips are included in the price of the holiday.

On day two, you'll head by coach to the Isle of Anglesey, where the entire coastline has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You'll call at the seaside town of Beaumaris with its mix of Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian buildings.

On day four, the second day trip will head to Caernarfon, home to Wales' most famous castle and a UNESCO World

Heritage Site. Afterwards, you'll venture into the Snowdonia National Park, calling at Llanberis, situated at the foot of Mount Snowdon, and Porthmadog.

Relax in great company

We'll be organising some group drinks and times to dine together during the stay, and enjoying the hotel's evening entertainment, but your days will be largely free to plan as you please.

The hotel has a large entertainment suite with a dance floor and entertainment most evenings, and there are sun lounges and a games room with a snooker table.

You'll also find spectacular views over the bay or over the town to the Snowdonia mountain range from many of the hotel's bedrooms and from its Looking Glass Bar.

Interested in joining us?

This group holiday is open to any members and their guests and will be hosted by our Oddfellows Travel coordinator and South East Lancashire Branch member, Emma Gorst.

For any enquiries, and to find out how to book, get in touch with Emma by calling **0161 214 4634**, or email travel@oddfellows.co.uk.

Please read and understand Alfa Travel's terms and conditions before booking at www.alfaholidays.co.uk/booking-conditions.

Support with fundraising and donations

Donating to good causes is a cornerstone of Oddfellowship, and symbolises what it is all about – helping to improve lives through friendship and support.

It's a thread that runs right through every Branch of the Society. Whether it's members dropping some spare change into a collection at a coffee morning, or the HA Andrews Memorial Fund supporting cutting-edge medical research projects, it all adds up and contributes to that ethos.

Branch donations add up to huge 2025 total



Reading Oddfellows donated £4,300 to Camp Mohawk

Oddfellows branches and members are avid fundraisers. In 2025, more than £148,000 was handed over to a huge range of wonderful causes throughout the country.

Beneficiaries included schools, charities for people with special needs, animal sanctuaries, causes to improve health conditions, lifeboat and air ambulance

charities, and one branch provided the funds required to buy state-of-the-art medical equipment.

As well as handing over funds, many members bought and collected for foodbanks, including tinned goods and other long-life foods, toiletries and further everyday items.

To find out how you can get involved with Branch fundraising initiatives, speak to your Branch Secretary.

£10,000 raised for Hurricane Melissa relief efforts

The Oddfellows recently donated £10,000 to support the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of Oddfellows branches across the UK, and with additional support from central funds, the donation will help communities affected by the devastating storm rebuild their lives.

Hurricane Melissa, a Category 5 hurricane, made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October 2025. The strongest hurricane ever to strike the island, it caused catastrophic damage and impacted nearly 1.9 million people.

The funds have been sent to the Jamaica Red Cross, via the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), to support ongoing emergency relief and recovery efforts. This includes providing essential supplies, shelter, and longer-term assistance to those whose homes and livelihoods were affected.



Further information about the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal can be found at www.ifrc.org/emergency/jamaica-hurricane-melissa.

HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipient announced

In October 2025, representatives of the Oddfellows visited the impressive facilities at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) to present a cheque for £67,068 to Prevent Breast Cancer, courtesy of our HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

The money will fund an innovative breast cancer prevention research project for two years.

Carried out by University of Manchester PhD student Anthony Wilby and Dr Hannah Harrison, the project is aiming to discover alternative preventative breast cancer therapies for pre-menopausal women.

The HA Andrews Memorial Fund, which was set up in 1971 to back UK-based medical research projects and organisations, has donated over £1.1m

since its launch. Head to www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews to find out more about the Fund, including previous recipients.

The very best of Oddfellowship

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey (pictured below at MCRC), said: "The work the Oddfellows does for charities and good causes always astounds me. It reflects the very best of Oddfellowship and it makes me incredibly proud.

"Donating to good causes, no matter how big or small, or how much we can contribute, can make a huge difference. Our efforts might well have saved a life, put some food on a young family's table, or simply have made someone's day a little brighter.

"Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way. You're all a huge credit to yourselves and the Society."



For more on how the Oddfellows raises money for good causes, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back

Spring clean your finances for the new tax year

The start of the new tax year on Monday 6 April might sound like an event reserved for accountants, but at Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's a time everyone can make the most of.

Here are some simple ways to spring clean your finances and get on top of your money for the tax year ahead.

Make the most of your ISA

Every adult receives a fresh £20,000 ISA allowance at the beginning of each tax year, so if your savings are lying dormant, why not move them somewhere your interest is protected from tax?



For those comfortable with investment risk, the Unity Mutual Stocks and Shares Flexible ISA* offers potentially higher growth than traditional Cash ISAs (capital is at risk).

Guaranteed returns, less hassle

If you have a lump sum sitting idle or an investment coming to maturity, a Unity

Mutual Fixed Rate Bond* provides a predictable, low-effort option. Simply deposit your money for a set term to secure a guaranteed return.

Even better, Oddfellows members benefit from preferential rates on our 2, 3, and 5-year Bonds.

Make savings work harder

With many banks still offering low rates, a quick comparison is essential to ensure your money is working for you. Even moving savings to a higher-interest account with your current provider can significantly boost your balance over the year.

Find out more

Unity Mutual has over 200 years of experience managing Oddfellows members' funds, and our friendly team is on hand to help you navigate the year ahead. Visit www.unitymutual.co.uk to find out more.

**Terms and conditions apply to all products. With stocks and shares, your investment can go down as well as up meaning your capital is at risk.*

New tax year, new scams

Stay vigilant against common scams such as fake HMRC tax rebates or urgent payment requests for 'unpaid tax'. While these communications can look genuine, always verify them by going directly to the official government website.

At a glance

June 2026

Mon 1	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Wed 3	Monthly Carvery at Toby (Purple Pub Club)	7pm
Thurs 4	Scrambled!	2pm
Sat 6	Line Dancing Lesson	12 noon
Mon 8	Shhh! Secret Cinema	6.30pm
Mon 8	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Thurs 11	Oddfellows Drop In and Digital Help Workshop	10.30am
Thurs 11	Crafters Coffee Club	12.30pm
Mon 15	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Sun 21	Classic Car Show and Brunch in Cirencester	10am
Mon 22	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Thurs 25	Cerney House Gardens Visit in Cirencester	TBC
Fri 26	A Night Out at The Roses to watch Tux Fizz	7pm
Mon 29	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Tues 30	Oddfellows Information Event	10am

July

Wed 1	Food and Friends – Midday Meet	12 noon
Sat 4	Baking Sausage Rolls and Other Pastries	12 noon
Mon 6	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Thurs 9	Oddfellows Drop In and Digital Help Workshop	10.30am
Thurs 9	Crafters Coffee Club	12.30pm
Sun 12	Stow District and Civic History Walk	10.15am
Mon 13	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Sun 19	A Sunday Meal at the Clavell and Hind	12.30pm
Mon 20	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Mon 27	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm

August

Sat 1	Vintage Country Extravaganza Day Visit	11.30am
Mon 3	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Thurs 6	Scrambled!	2pm

At a glance

August

Sat 8	Bristol Balloon Fiesta	12 noon
Mon 10	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Thurs 13	Oddfellows Drop In and Digital Help Workshop	10.30am
Thurs 13	Crafters Coffee Club	12.30pm
Mon 17	Shhh! Secret Cinema	6.30pm
Mon 17	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Mon 24	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Mon 31	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm

September - Friendship Month

Thurs 3	Scrambled!	2pm
Sat 5	Decoupage Craft Afternoon	12 noon
Mon 7	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Wed 9	Monthly Carvery at Toby (Purple Pub Club)	7pm
Thurs 10	Oddfellows Drop In and Digital Help Workshop	10.30am
Thurs 10	Crafters Coffee Club	12.30pm
Fri 11	Ten-Pin Bowling at Cheltenham Hollywood Bowl	6.30pm
Mon 14	Shhh! Secret Cinema	6.30pm
Mon 14	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm
Thurs 17	Picnic in the Park	1pm
Mon 21	Bi-Weekly Seated Yoga with Mike	7pm
Mon 28	Bi-Weekly Relaxation with Nicky	7pm

Meetings

Committee of Management meetings are held every month. Why not come along and meet new friends, whilst finding out about your own Branch and how it runs! If you are interested in getting more involved, please give us a call to find out how.

Payment for events

You can always pay for forthcoming events at the meeting the month before the event itself, if you are not going to be able to attend the preceding event. Please contact Louise on **01452 905010** to discuss payment methods.