

January - June 2025



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

out & about

Derbyshire Peak



Walks



Day Trip



Day Trip by
coach



Social



Quizzes



Talks



Coffee
Morning



Dining Out

Dear Members and Friends

Welcome to our Out & About Events Guide for January – June 2025.

Once again you will find a busy diary of events for you all to enjoy as we begin the new year.



I am looking forward to the remainder of my term as Provincial Grand Master (otherwise known as Chairman) of our thriving branch. I've been along to some of our social events in recent months and it has been fantastic to meet so many new members as well as catching up with our long term Oddfellows.

As well as being chair of our Committee of Management I'm head of our Social Committee. I'm also proud to be part of the branch Care & Welfare Committee and enjoy chatting with some of our older and housebound members during our weekly phone calls.

I'm pleased to note that our fundraising for Treetops Hospice – a charity very close to my heart – is going well and I'm sure we will reach a great total for them before the end of my term as Provincial Grand Master. Thanks to all the members who have helped with our fundraising events.

If you have any questions relating to your membership, benefits or social plans please get in touch on the office number above.

Contact Details

District Secretary: Lucy Halliday

Telephone: 01246 273076

Email:

lucy.halliday@oddfellows.co.uk

Lucy is our Branch secretary and is responsible for the day to day running of our Branch, monthly accounts, care and welfare claims, meeting minutes and administration.



For more information or to book any event please call the Social Event

Organiser: Trudy Ford

Telephone:

01246 273076

Mobile: 07933 626720

Email:

trudy.ford@oddfellows.co.uk



Address: 126 Saltergate,
Chesterfield S40 1NG

Office Opening Hours:

Our office is now open Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday
9.30am – 12 noon.

If you would like to visit please
arrange this beforehand.

f OddfellowsDerbyshirePeak

I hope to see you soon.

Yours fraternally,

Peter Wilkinson Provincial Grand Master (Chairman) & The Committee of Management

Please note that all events must be booked in advance with the Social Organiser.

Regular Event

Rambling On Walking Group



10.30am



Walk Free
Pay your own meal



First Friday
of the month

Our friendly walking group walks for roughly 60-90 minutes at a steady pace. We then visit a nearby pub or café for lunch. Pay for whatever you order in the café. Location to be confirmed. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

3 January
7 February

7 March
4 April

2 May
6 June

Best Foot Forwards Walking Group



10am



Walk Free
Pay your own meal



Third Friday
of the month

Our longer walking group walks for 2.5 to three hours before enjoying lunch or tea and cakes nearby. Location to be confirmed. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

17 January
21 February

21 March
18 April

16 May
20 June

Pop-in Coffee Mornings



11am



£2



First Wednesday
of the month

Join us for our Pop-in Coffee Morning. We will enjoy coffee, cakes and chat along with a quiz or two. Book five days in advance. Quaker Friends Meeting House, 27 Ashgate Road for car park entrance, No stairs entrance via the end of Brockwell Lane, Chesterfield S40 4AG (with the exception of 8 January). Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

8 January (Held at Club Chesterfield,
Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road,
Chesterfield S40 1DL)
5 February

5 March
2 April
7 May
4 June

Regular Event

Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering



**Second Wednesday
of the month
(except January)**

Pop along to our office for this small group. Bring your chosen craft and enjoy coffee, biscuits and a natter. Alternatively you can prune and care for the Oddfellows garden pots. Book by five days in advance. 126 Saltergate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 1NG. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

15 January
12 February

12 March
9 April

14 May
11 June

January 2025



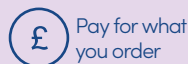
Pop in Coffee Morning



Join us for our Pop-in Coffee Morning. We have a speaker joining us - Emma Marshall from Bradford Oddfellows. Emma will be talking about her travels in the Western Highlands of Scotland. We will also enjoy coffee, cakes and a chat afterwards. Book by Friday 3 January. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



Friday Night Social - The Sanctuary Inn



Enjoy a Friday night meal in the heart of Bolsover. The Sanctuary Inn serves authentic Spanish tapas, main dishes and even paella. Parts of the building date back over 300 years. Book by Wednesday 1 January. The Sanctuary Inn, Market Place, Bolsover S44 6PN. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

January 2025

WED 22 Coffee Morning at Quaker Friends Meeting House

⌚ 11am

£ £2



Join us for coffee, cakes, quiz or games and a chat. Book by Friday 17 January. Quaker Friends Meeting House, 27 Ashgate Road for car park entrance, No stairs entrance via the end of Brockwell Lane, Chesterfield S40 4AG. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

MON 27 Dining in Derbyshire - Oakhill

⌚ 12.30pm

£ Pay for what you order



Oakhill is a beautiful Grade 2 listed building built by the Arkwright family in the mid 19th century as a private family dwelling. Choose from their bar or restaurant menus. Why not visit nearby Cromford Mills with us beforehand, meeting in the car park at 11am. Pre-order required. Book by Tuesday 14 January. Oakhill, Intake Lane, Cromford DE4 3RH. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



THURS 30 Ten Pin Bowling at Chesterfield Bowl

⌚ 10.45am

£ £6



Meet for an hours bowling at Chesterfield Bowl. Always a great fun trip. Let's enjoy lunch in the café afterwards. Book by Monday 20 January. Chesterfield Bowl, Storforth Lane, Chesterfield S40 2TU. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

February

MON 10 Dining in Derbyshire - The White Hart at Calow

⌚ 12.30pm

£ Pay for what you order



Enjoy lunch with a warm and friendly atmosphere with lots of delicious no-nonsense traditional pub meals and drinks, including a selection of real ales. Book by Friday 31 January. The White Hart, Top Road, Calow, Chesterfield S44 5TE. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

February

THURS
13

Coffee Morning at Buxton Fire Station Community Room



Let's meet for coffee, cake and a quiz in the community room at Buxton Fire Station.



Buxton Fire Station, Staden Lane, Buxton SK17 9RZ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

WED
19

Coffee Morning with Speaker - Peter Slater



Join us for our coffee with morning with Peter Slater, Sports Commentator with his talk 'Don't you know who I am? 45 years being ignored by sport's rich and famous'.



Peter will share stories from his career and the famous people he has interviewed as a radio sports reporter, for both independent radio and the BBC. Book by Friday 14 February. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

SUN
23

Visit to Barrow Hill Roundhouse

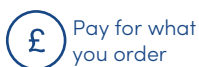


Barrow Hill Roundhouse is the last surviving railway roundhouse in the UK with an operational turntable. It was built in 1870 and saved after the site was closed by dedicated volunteers who have transformed it into a unique railway museum.

Meet at the entrance at 10.45am, Signal box demonstration at 11am, turntable demonstration at 12 noon, lunch in the café at 12.30pm. Book by Friday 14 February. Barrow Hill Roundhouse Railway Centre, Campbell Drive, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield S32 2PR. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

February

FRI 28 Friday Night Social - The Woodyard, Bakewell



Join us for dinner in a relaxed and friendly environment accompanied with fresh, home-made



food. Built in 1810 as a Marble Works, The Woodyard has a long history in Bakewell. Some of the main features of the mill are still visible in the restaurant. The glass floor in front of the bar shows the old millstream running through the building. Book by Friday 14 February. The Woodyard, Coombs Road, Bakewell DE45 1AQ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

March

FRI 14 Friday Night Social - Lombardi's Italian Restaurant



Lombardi's offer 'The true taste of Napoli'. Authentic rustic Italian dishes bursting with flavour, cooked with passion in this family run restaurant. Pre-order and £10 per person deposit required. Book by Saturday 1 March. Lombardi's Italian Restaurant, 2 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 7LL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

March

WED 19 Coffee Morning with Speaker - Neil Anderson



Join us for our coffee with morning with Neil Anderson, author of many local books including the 'Dirty Stop Outs' guides to Chesterfield, Sheffield and many other towns. Neil is bringing his talk 'Working Mens Clubs and The Aquarius'. Book by Friday 14 March. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



MON 24 Dining in Derbyshire - The Kelstedge Inn



Enjoy lunch at The Kelstedge: Always a warm, friendly welcome at our cosy country pub and kitchen! Pre-order required. Book by Wednesday 12 March. The Kelstedge Inn, Matlock Road, Kelstedge, Chesterfield S45 0DX. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

March

THURS
27

Car Treasure Hunt



10.30am



Treasure Hunt Free, Pay for your lunch



Each team in a car will be given an identical list of items to find or tasks to achieve, these could include an item from a shop, a leaflet from a tourist attraction, a flower, etc. We will then meet up at a pub for lunch and see who has the most items and who returned first. Pick your team, choose a driver and you're ready to go. Book by Thursday

13 March. The Greyhound Pub Car Park, Main Road, Old Higham Village, Derbyshire DE55 6EF. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



April

WED
02

Pop in Coffee Morning



11am



£2 plus £2 charity donations



Join us for our Pop-in Coffee Morning. We will enjoy coffee, cakes and chat along with a charity card bingo game. Two

rounds at £1 donation each game. Game hosted by Anthony and Sybil Deane. Book by Monday 31 March. Quaker Friends Meeting House, 27 Ashgate Road for car park entrance, No stairs entrance via the end of Brockwell Lane, Chesterfield S40 4AG. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



THURS
10

Thursday Night Social - The Peacock at Owler Bar



6pm



Pay for what you order



Surrounded by the beauty of the Peak District this pub offers traditional pub food in a cosy atmosphere. Book by Tuesday 1 April. The Peacock, Baslow Road, Owler Bar, Sheffield S17 3BQ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



April

WED 16 Coffee Morning with Speaker - Lily Tinkler



Join us for our coffee with morning with speaker and Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows member, Lily Tinkler. Lily's talk is called 'Cerebral Palsy and Me', describing her journey through life with Cerebral Palsy. Coffee and cake too. Book by Friday 11 April. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



MON 28 Dining in Derbyshire - Senior Spireites Lunch



Please note this date may change to tie in with the Spireites Lunch. A return to the enjoyable lunch at the SMH Stadium for a two course lunch with an entertaining speaker. Book by Friday 11 April. Chesterfield Football Club, SMH Stadium, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 8NZ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



THURS 24 Yorkshire Wildlife Park Trip



Let's have a fun day out at the wildlife park. The park is home to 100s of rescued and rehomed animals, including lions, tigers, leopards, polar bears, sea lions and much more. All living in spacious comfortable environments. A truly worthwhile animal experience to support. We will also enjoy lunch at the Safari Café. Outside the wildlife park you can find 'The Hive', a range of shops and attractions to visit before or after your day at the park. Book by Thursday 3 April. Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Hurst Lane, Doncaster DN9 3QY. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



April

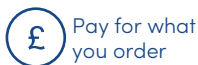
WED **30** Coffee Morning at Litton Village Hall



Meet for coffee, cakes, chat and hopefully a speaker at Litton Village Hall. Details to be confirmed. Book by Friday 18 April. Litton Village Hall, 3 Church Lane, Litton SK17 8RA. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

May

FRI **09** Friday Night Social - Cromford Tapas Bar



Established in 2014, Cromford Tapas Bar brings a slice of Spain to the small village of Cromford. Serving small plates from gambas to pizza, paella to chicken wings, there's something for everyone. Book by Tuesday 29 April. Cromford Tapas Bar, 16-18 The Market Place, Cromford DE4 3QE. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



TUES **13** Day Trip by Train to York



Let's enjoy a day out in York, see the City Walls, visit a museum or two, explore the charming shambles shops and meet for lunch. Prices approximate. Details to be confirmed. Book by Friday 18 April. Chesterfield Train Station, Corporation Street, Chesterfield S41 7UB. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

MON **19** Dining in Derbyshire - African Caribbean Association of Chesterfield



We will be joining the African Caribbean Association for lunch, cooked by their own team. A chance to try a different cuisine and meet members of the association. Book by Monday 5 May. The African Caribbean Association of Chesterfield, Saxton Close, Hasland, Chesterfield S41 0SJ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

May

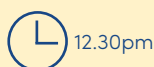
WED 21 Coffee Morning with Speaker - Peter Matkin



Join us for our coffee with morning with speaker Richard Matkin, talking to us all about beekeeping. Coffee, cakes and a chat afterwards too. Book by Friday 16 May. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

June

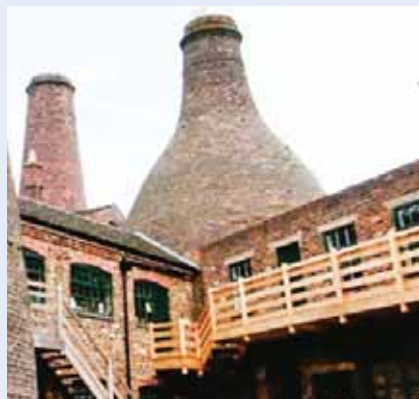
SUN 08 Annual Summer Lunch



Join us for our popular annual summer lunch. A lovely three course meal with welcome drink and coffee or tea with a charity raffle. A great annual occasion not to be missed. Formal invitations will be sent out close to the event. Book by Friday 16 May. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

June

TUES 10 Gladstone Pottery Museum Day Out



Visit the only complete Victorian pottery factory from the days when coal burning ovens made the world's finest bone china. Gladstone Pottery Museum offers a fascinating insight into the history of Stoke-on-Trent, famously known the world over as The Potteries.

Meet at the entrance for 10.45am. Visit the café for coffee at 11am before our guided tour at 11.30am. Lunch in the café at 1pm - free time in museum afterwards. Book by Friday 23 May. Gladstone Pottery Museum, Uttoxeter Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 1PQ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

June

FRI
13

Friday Night Social - Thailand No.1



6pm



Pay for what
you order



Join us for a delicious Thai meal in the lovely town of Matlock. Thailand No.1 have assembled a range of classic Thai dishes using the freshest ingredients including herbs, spices and exotic vegetables sent to them every week from growers in Thailand. Book by Monday 2 June. Thailand No.1, 43 Dale Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3LT. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

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.

WED
18

Coffee Morning at Club Chesterfield



11am



£2



Join us for our coffee morning - tea, cakes and chat. Speaker to be confirmed. Book by Friday 13 June. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, Off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



MON
23

Dining in Derbyshire - Deja Vu



12.30pm



Pay for what
you order



Tapas takes a trip to France at Deja Vu! They aim to pack heaps of french hearty goodness into a less formal, more sociable tapas format. Book by Friday 13 June. Deja Vu, 19 Old Road, Chesterfield S40 2RE. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



Oddfellows Travel 2025

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

Scarborough Weds 1 – Sun 5 October (4 nights)

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



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

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

www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Committee of Management

Member Profile – Jean Nelson

I joined the Committee of Management in 2024, but my husband Reg and I have been members of Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows for 3 years. We can both be found at most of the social events!



I wasn't sure what to expect when I first attended a committee meeting, but after a couple of visits I was invited to join the Committee and decided to give it a try. It's been fascinating gaining an insight into how the branch is run, and helping out with decisions regarding care and welfare, branch property and social events.

Away from the Oddfellows I enjoy theatre visits, live music and comedy, playing Canasta, and quizzes/puzzles. I also spend lots of time with my family, helping out

with my lovely grandchildren Ellie and Heath, who are also young Oddfellows.

I'm originally from Sheffield, but relocated to Chesterfield 40 years ago when we built our own property here. On leaving school I spent 18 years on the technical staff at Sheffield University and following an employment break, I ended my working life with a 12-year stint at Chesterfield Royal Hospital's Pathology Department.

Last year, Reg and I adopted a new canine companion, a cross-breed rescue dog from overseas. We saw this as a potential challenge and big change from the Border Collies we had owned in the past. However, Joey has settled brilliantly and it's been fun to get away on holidays in the UK with him and spending lots of time out in the fresh air once again.

I'm looking forward to the events we have in store for January to June 2025. I hope to see many of you out and about.

Jean Nelson

Social Forum

In recent months a number of members have come along to our Social Forum meetings. They have given feedback to recent events and made valuable contributions of ideas to our plans for the next

six months. We'd just like to say a big thank you to them all for their help, it's been fantastic to have extra input into the planning of our Out & About Guide.

Welcome to our new members

We love to meet new people and we'd like to say a big welcome to all of our new Oddfellows.

Our branch thrived again during 2024 and we were joined by a record number of new members including Junior Members – if you don't know about Junior Membership please ask Trudy or Lucy for details. A couple of ladies came along to our Clay Pigeon Shoot as their very first event – very brave!

You're always welcome to bring a friend to our events, invite them to come along and see what they think.



Our Charity Fundraising



We continue to fundraise for our chosen charity this year – Treetops Hospice. As well as our summer and winter raffles we have also held two charity quizzes, both organised and hosted by Anthony & Sybil Deane – for which we are very grateful! The

proceeds of the quiz entries will also be donated to Treetops.

Treetops provides nursing care and emotional support for adults and their families in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. All of their services are provided free of charge and not means-tested.

If you have any fundraising ideas please let Trudy know. For more information about the hospice you can visit www.treetopshospice.org.uk.

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at  **OddfellowsDerbyshirePeak**  **OddfellowsUK**



Receiving the Oddfellows Welcome

A further group of members received the Oddfellows official welcome recently from Ken Lupton. They have now been given a 3 links badge as a memento. Ken is happy to chat to members about Oddfellows traditions and can also offer the 'Lectures', a series of short pieces about the morals and ethics of the Oddfellows.

Historically these were very important to each Lodge and holding the Purple Lecture meant that a member could hold

an official position in the Committee of Management for the Lodge. If anyone would like more info please let Trudy know.

Picture above: Members Kath James, Ann Davies, Sandra Johnson, Anna Smith, Jean Moul, Jeff Alexander, Marlene Copeland, Alan Davies, Marie Booth, Joanne Richardson, Olga Mrozikowa, Greg Monks and Celia Monks receiving the welcome from Ken Lupton.

Traditional Terms

Provincial Grand Master (Prov GM): District Chairman

Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Prov DGM):
District Deputy Chairman

Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master (IPPGM):
Immediate Past District Chairman

Provincial Corresponding Secretary (Prov CS):

District Secretary - responsible for administering Branches

Past Provincial Grand Master (PPGM): Past District Chairman

Lodge: Branch

Getting to know our members

Rolna Worrall

Rolna joined the Oddfellows in 2022. For over 20 years Rolna helped out at the Ashgate Hospice Fun Run which was held in Queens Park. She handed out the medals to those that completed the run and enjoyed it very much. These days Rolna enjoys her friendship group coffee mornings and walking her dog.



Sandra Johnson

Sandra has lived in Chesterfield since 1984 after a brief spell living in Sheffield. She worked in Public Health for the NHS until retiring in 2015.



Sandra joined the Oddfellows almost two years ago and enjoys the friendship and social activities and is a regular member of the walking groups. As well as walking every day with her dog Cai she enjoys bird watching, jigsaws, knitting and is learning how to dry felt.

Once a month Sandra volunteers for the Alzheimer's Society, helping out at Chesterfield Memory Café.

Olga Mrozikova

Olga is a very social member of our branch who is looking forward to turning 93 years young next April. She has lived in Dronfield for over 40 years, and previously in Hathersage and Dore. She was previously a member of South Yorkshire branch.



Olga has spent over 50 years of her life volunteering, firstly as an officer in the Girls Venture Corps before helping with fundraising and reading at Lenthall Infant School for over 40 years. She has always enjoyed walking, gardening, bird watching and yoga.

Nowadays Olga spends her spare time reading, doing puzzles and enjoys playing scrabble and dominoes. She loves the company of her Dachshund St. John, who is over 17 years old!

Olga is pictured (above) waving from the steam train on one of our recent trips.



Buxton Summer Lunch 2024

Our summer lunch 2024 was once again held at The Leewood Hotel in Buxton. A great afternoon was had by all with a delicious dinner, speeches, raffle and chat. We were very proud to host guests from other branches

as well, including Grand Master of the Oddfellows, Barbara Needham and her husband Peter. We hope that you can all join us for our annual summer lunch in June. The venue will be confirmed in early 2025.



A look at some of our recent events

Clay Pigeon Shoot



In September ten of our members enjoyed a fantastic morning trying Clay Pigeon Shooting, with others coming along to watch. The event took place at Joe Neville Shooting Ground in Tansley. Joe Neville MBE is an Olympian, Commonwealth medallist and UK team coach, so along



with his son, he makes an excellent teacher! Many of the members achieved great hits, and all had a good time. As usual we followed up the event with a lovely pub lunch.

Peak Railway Trip

We enjoyed a great day out at Peak Rail in July, taking a steam train from Rowsley to Matlock and back. In between journeys we had a stroll around Matlock town and called for a Fish & Chip lunch. The nostalgic steam train ride was great fun.





Self Portrait Fun



At a recent coffee morning we attempted self portraits – made purely from homemade green play-do. Although the artwork was a little simple everyone had lots of fun and Sandra Johnson was crowned our winner by judges Alan and Jean.

Oddfellows Kingpins

As usual there were lots of laughs at our bi-annual trip to Chesterfield Bowl. This is always a popular visit, with lunch in the snack bar after play.



Buxton Events

Over recent months we have been making an effort to visit our members in the Buxton and High Peak areas, as well as recruiting new members over there. In August we hosted a coffee morning at Litton Village Hall, followed in September by a coffee morning on tour at the Pavilion Gardens in Buxton.

Our November walk visited Buxton and a further coffee morning was also held. We hope to continue to visit the area for additional events. Our committee member Ken Lupton was originally from Buxton and heavily involved in the Buxton branch so he was especially happy to come along.



Friendship Month

September is Friendship Month at the Oddfellows. Our September events were open to all, with two special Friendship Month coffee mornings as well. We even recruited new members during the month. Several of our members helped out by posing with our Friendship Month photo frame – I think you'll agree the results are great!



Care & Welfare

Our Care and Welfare team offer a 'ringaround' service to our more elderly or housebound members. If you think you might benefit from

this service please let Lucy know. Other care and welfare packages are available for members in need, contact Lucy for more details.

Liverpool Trip

Our branch hosted our first overnight trip in recent years in October. 27 members travelled to Liverpool for an overnight stay by train, with activities including an open top bus tour, ferry across the Mersey and

The Beatles Story. It was a great trip with good food and plenty of drinks enjoyed too. All enjoyed getting to know the city better and exploring the Albert Docks. We hope to plan another overnight trip for 2025.



A brilliant Baltic experience

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

Lots to see and do

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

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

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



Warnemünde, Germany

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

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

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

On-board Oddfellowship

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

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

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



Dressed for dinner

Travel in good company

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

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

Our biggest celebration of friendship yet!

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

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

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

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

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



A day trip to Provender House with Canterbury Oddfellows



Mersey Oddfellows took a walk in Birkenhead



Brighton and Sussex Oddfellows enjoying a coffee morning



Bury St Edmunds Oddfellows getting crafty



Cakes galore at Halifax Oddfellows



Friendship and laughter at Ipswich Oddfellows



Humber Wolds Oddfellows' Teatime get-together

Our survey said...

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

At a glance

Please note that all events must be booked in advance with the Social Organiser.

January 2025

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Fri 3 | Rambling On Walking Group | 10.30am |
| Wed 8 | Pop in Coffee Morning | 11am |
| Fri 10 | Friday Night Social - The Sanctuary Inn | 6pm |
| Wed 15 | Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering | 11am |
| Fri 17 | Best Foot Forwards Walking Group | 10am |
| Wed 22 | Coffee Morning at Quaker Friends Meeting House | 11am |
| Mon 27 | Dining in Derbyshire - Oakhill | 12.30pm |
| Thurs 30 | Ten Pin Bowling at Chesterfield Bowl | 10.45am |

February

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Wed 5 | Pop in Coffee Morning | 11am |
| Fri 7 | Rambling On Walking Group | 10.30am |
| Mon 10 | Dining in Derbyshire - The White Hart at Calow | 12.30pm |
| Wed 12 | Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering | 11am |
| Thurs 13 | Coffee Morning at Buxton Fire Station Community Room | 11am |
| Wed 19 | Coffee Morning with Speaker - Peter Slater | 11am |
| Fri 21 | Best Foot Forwards Walking Group | 10am |
| Sun 23 | Visit to Barrow Hill Roundhouse | 10.45am |
| Fri 28 | Friday Night Social - The Woodyard, Bakewell | 6pm |

March

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Wed 5 | Pop in Coffee Morning | 11am |
| Fri 7 | Rambling On Walking Group | 10.30am |
| Wed 12 | Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering | 11am |
| Fri 14 | Friday Night Social - Lombardis Italian Restaurant | 5.30pm |
| Wed 19 | Coffee Morning with Speaker - Neil Anderson | 11am |
| Fri 21 | Best Foot Forwards Walking Group | 10am |
| Mon 24 | Dining in Derbyshire - The Kelstedge Inn | 12.30pm |
| Thurs 27 | Car Treasure Hunt | 10.30am |

April

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Wed 2 | Pop in Coffee Morning | 11am |
| Fri 4 | Rambling On Walking Group | 10.30am |

At a glance

April

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Wed 9 | Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering | 11am |
| Thurs 10 | Thursday Night Social - The Peacock at Owler Bar | 6pm |
| Wed 16 | Coffee Morning with Speaker - Lily Tinkler | 11am |
| Fri 18 | Best Foot Forwards Walking Group | 10am |
| Thurs 24 | Yorkshire Wildlife Park Trip | 10.30am |
| Mon 28 | Dining in Derbyshire - Senior Spireites Lunch | 12 noon |
| Wed 30 | Coffee Morning at Litton Village Hall | 11am |

May

| | | |
|----------------|--|---------|
| Fri 2 | Rambling On Walking Group | 10.30am |
| Wed 7 | Pop in Coffee Morning | 11am |
| Fri 9 | Friday Night Social - Cromford Tapas Bar | 6pm |
| Tues 13 | Day Trip by Train to York | 9am |
| Wed 14 | Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering | 11am |
| Fri 16 | Best Foot Forwards Walking Group | 10am |
| Mon 19 | Dining in Derbyshire - African Caribbean Association of Chesterfield | 12.30pm |
| Wed 21 | Coffee Morning with Speaker - Peter Matkin | 11am |

June

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Wed 4 | Pop in Coffee Morning | 11am |
| Fri 6 | Rambling On Walking Group | 10.30am |
| Sun 8 | Annual Summer Lunch | 12.30pm |
| Tues 10 | Gladstone Pottery Museum Day Out | 10.45am |
| Wed 11 | Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering | 11am |
| Fri 13 | Friday Night Social - Thailand No.1 | 6pm |
| Wed 18 | Coffee Morning at Club Chesterfield | 11am |
| Fri 20 | Best Foot Forwards Walking Group | 10am |
| Mon 23 | Dining in Derbyshire - Deja Vu | 12.30pm |

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)

For more information visit: 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, or call us on 0800 028 1810.





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 Lucy on **01246 273076** or email **lucy.halliday@oddfellows.co.uk**

Oddfellows 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**