

September 2025 - February 2026  
Autumn/Winter Issue



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

# *out* & *about*

**Erewash Valley Branch**



Mansfield NG18, Nottinghamshire, England. Photo by Jane Gott



Music



Games



Online



Dining Out



Walks



Talks



Quiz



Meetings



Social



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



*We hope you can join us for jewellery and craft making social events.*

## Welcome to the latest edition of your 'Out and About' Events Diary and Newsletter for the Erewash Valley Branch of the Oddfellows.

As a local Branch of a national membership organisation, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when you need them.

We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared

interests in socialising and making friends and helping people! This issue features our upcoming events. From meals out, to trips out, we hope there is something to interest you. We have also included the handy listing month by month at a glance section at the end of the events diary. We hope you find it useful! Looking forward to seeing you at an event very soon!

For more details about becoming a member and the wide range of benefits available, please call our membership team on 0800 028 1810 or visit our website at [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk).

## 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. We welcome everyone of all ages. Find out more at [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk) or call **0800 028 1810**.

# Regular Events

## Coffee Morning

First Tuesday of the month



11am



As per menu



Spend an enjoyable morning chatting with friends. Sir John Warren, Market Place, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 5QB. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

2 September 2025

7 October 2025

4 November 2025

2 December 2025

6 January 2026

3 February 2026



## 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.

## Contact Details

**Secretary:** Melanie Archer

For more information on any of the events or the Oddfellows, please make any enquires to Melanie: 9.30am – 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

**Address:** 10 Kingsway Road, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire NG15 6BS

**Telephone:** 07514 608427

**Email:**

[melanie.archer@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:melanie.archer@oddfellows.co.uk)

## Games Afternoon

Fourth Friday of the month



1pm



Free



Enjoy a sociable afternoon in great company. Lots of assorted games including Rummikub. Free tea, coffee and a biscuit. Awsworth Village Hall, 60 The Lane, Awsworth, Nottingham NG16 2QQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



26 September 2025

24 October 2025

28 November 2025

19 December 2025

23 January 2026

27 February 2026

Join the conversation  
@OddfellowsUK



ErewashOddfellows

# Message From Your Branch Secretary

**We have some exciting news! Two new professional guest speakers are joining us on our zoom events both of whom give talks on cruise liners find out more about them below.**

## Shelley Lozano

is an experienced traveller and enthusiastic speaker on a variety of topics. She has travelled to every continent



of the world, apart from Antarctica. Her work has taken her as far-afield as Kathmandu, India and the Middle East.

With over 40 years' experience as a professional entertainer, cabaret artiste, and speaker, Shelley is passionate about her work. She has also studied big cats and feline behaviour, presented her own wildlife show on local radio, and raised thousands of pounds for big cat conservation projects. She has had the pleasure of supporting many celebrities throughout her career, such as Tony Christie, Frankie Vaughan and Bob Monkhouse, and has made several guest appearances on various TV and radio shows.

## Sandy Leong

is a member of the Royal Historical Society, telling stories to bring history to life. She specialises in the Tudor period, an exciting and



fascinating time in the country and in the Vikings, who are much more than the stereotype of raiders in horned helmets. She also loves to tell the stories from history that don't get into the mainstream history books in a light-hearted way.

She is a professional speaker and published author, spending time living and working in the UK & Malaysia.

She has had a lifelong career as an educator and developer of people. She is a qualified teacher, and a guest Lecturer at Universities and Colleges of Further Education. She is a regular speaker at conferences, a guest speaker with Regent Seven Seas, Cunard, Viking, P & O, Fred Olsen, Saga cruise ships and other lines, as well as a sought after speaker for U3A's, WT's, Historical Societies and other groups.



# September 2025

ODDFELLOWS

**FRIENDSHIP MONTH**

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS  
**04**

## Friendship Month Meal



12 noon



As per menu



Start Friendship Month with good friends and a great meal. Book by Friday 29 August 2025. Hole in the Wall, Main Road, Underwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 5GQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

**FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT**

*Join the fun*

FRI  
**05**

## Speakers Corner



11am



Free



Guest speaker Shelly Lozano presents - 'An Entertainers Life'. Some 'funny but true' stories from Shelley's life in showbiz as a Cabaret Artiste, DJ and Children's Entertainer, in her varied and interesting career. Zoom Meeting ID: 864 4337 0871. Passcode: 719421. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
**11**

## Gentle Walk



11.30am



Free



If you don't fancy a walk, just sit and watch the birds and the boats. Book by Thursday 4 September 2025. Kings Mill Reservoir, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire NG17 4JP. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



THURS  
**11**

## Lunch Out



1pm



As per menu



Enjoy a pleasant afternoon of good food and great company. Book by Thursday 4 September 2025. Talbot Inn, 151 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 4AE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# September 2025

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS  
11

## Ilkeston Dine Out



Enjoyable food and great company. Book by Thursday 4 September 2025. Rutland Cottage, Heanor Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8TE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

FRI  
19

## Speakers Corner



Robert Mee will give you a (virtual) guided tour of Heanor Cemetery. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Eastwood Conservative Club, Church Street, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 3BP. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
18

## Friendship Afternoon Tea



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT

Come and help us celebrate Friendship Month in style with a delicious afternoon tea, complete with dainty sandwiches and cakes. Enjoy the company of people from all walks of life. Find out how we make friends, while having good fun. Places are limited, so book early. Book by Thursday 11 September 2025. Awsworth Village Hall, 60 The Lane, Awsworth, Nottinghamshire NG16 2QQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

Join the fun



THURS  
25

## Workshop Dine Out



Good food in good company. Book by Thursday 18 September 2025. The Dukes Beefeater, View, High Grounds Road Ryton, Workshop S80 3GN. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# September 2025

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES  
30

## Meet and Greet



2pm



As per menu



A relaxing afternoon of being social.  
Book by Tuesday 23 September 2025.  
Ciao Bella, Cattle Market House,  
15 Nottingham Road, Mansfield,  
Nottinghamshire NG18 1BJ. Contact  
Melanie on 07514 608427.



# October

FRI  
03

## Speakers Corner



11am



Free



Guest speaker Sandy Leong  
presents - 'New Moons,  
Black Cats and Ladders'  
- Origins of Superstitions.  
A belief in luck and fate  
are the key components of  
superstitions and that they  
can be controlled by various  
actions of human beings.

Do you throw salt over your  
shoulder if you spill it, know  
that it's good luck if you see  
two magpies together; wonder if things didn't go as planned because it  
was Friday 13th and touch wood for good luck? But where did these beliefs  
originate? Find out more in this engaging talk.



Meeting ID: 851 2454 0608. Passcode: 677677 Contact Melanie on  
07514 608427.

# October

THURS  
09

## Lunch Out



Enjoy a pleasant afternoon of good food and great company. Book by Thursday 2 October 2025. Talbot Inn, 151 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 4AE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



THURS  
09

## Ilkeston Dine Out



Enjoyable food and great company. Book by Thursday 2 October 2025. Rutland Cottage, Heanor Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8TE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



FRI  
17

## Speakers Corner



Professional speaker. Subject to be advised. Eastwood Conservative Club, Church Street, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 3BP. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
23

## Workshop Dine Out



Good food in good company. Book by Thursday 16 October 2025. The Dukes Beefeater, View, High Grounds Road Ryton, Workshop S80 3GN. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

MON  
27

## Jewellery Making and Crafting



This workshop offers a fun and creative experience for individuals of all levels. Participants can learn new skills, create unique pieces and enjoy a relaxing, social environment. The workshops provide guidance, tools and materials to help beginners and experienced crafters alike. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Book by Monday 20 October 2025. Awsworth Village Hall, 60 The Lane, Awsworth, Nottinghamshire NG16 2QQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



# October

TUES  
28

## Meet and Greet



2pm



As per menu



A relaxing afternoon of being social.

Book by Tuesday 21 October 2025.

Ciao Bella, Cattle Market House, 15 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 1BJ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



# November

FRI  
07

## Speakers Corner



11am



Free



Guest speaker Shelley Lozano presents - 'From Cabaret to Conservation'. Shelley shares her journey from entertainer to conservationist and talks about some of the big cat projects she has been involved with and the wildlife charities she's helped support, includes excerpts from poems from her book 'Wild and Free'. Meeting ID: 896 0721 5583. Passcode: 763131 Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



THURS  
13

## Lunch Out



1pm



As per menu



Enjoy a pleasant afternoon of good food and great company. Book by Thursday 6 November 2025. Talbot Inn, 151 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 4AE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
13

## Ilkeston Dine Out



7pm



As per menu



Enjoyable food and great company. Book by Thursday 6 November 2025. Rutland Cottage, Heanor Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8TE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# November

FRI  
21

## Speakers Corner



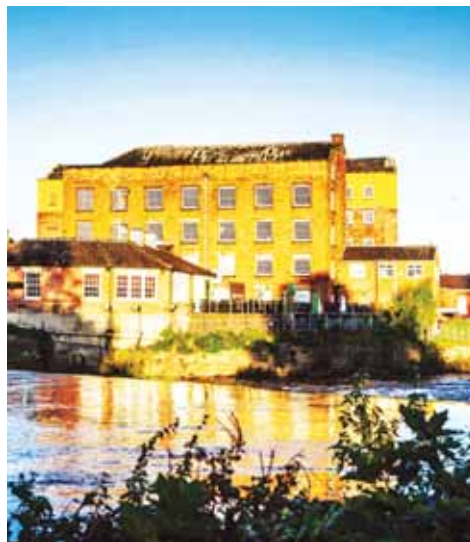
11am



Free



Guests speaker Robert Mee presents 'The Derwent Valley Heritage Way 60 miles of history'. In this talk, Robert follows the route of the River Derwent in Derbyshire, from its source in the Peak District, to its confluence with the Trent near Derby. Along the route, we will dip into the wealth of history on the riverbanks. The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site will, of course, be covered, but this is not the main emphasis of the talk. Fully illustrated with photographs and paintings. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Eastwood Conservative Club, Church Street, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 3BP. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



MON  
24

## Jewellery Making and Crafting



1.30pm



Members £1,  
Guests £2



This workshop offers a fun and creative experience for individuals of all levels. Participants can learn new skills, create unique pieces and enjoy a relaxing, social environment. The workshops provide guidance, tools and materials to help beginners and experienced crafters alike. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Book by Monday 24 November 2025. Awsworth Village Hall, 60 The Lane, Awsworth, Nottinghamshire NG16 2QQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



TUES  
25

## Meet and Greet



2pm



As per menu



A relaxing afternoon of being social. Book by Tuesday 18 November 2025. Ciao Bella, Cattle Market House, 15 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 1BJ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# November

THURS  
27

## Workshop Dine Out



1pm



As per menu



Good food in good company. Book by Thursday 20 November 2025. The Dukes Beefeater, View, High Grounds Road Ryton, Workson S80 3GN. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# December

FRI  
05

## Guest Speaker



11am



Free



Guest speaker Robert Mee presents - 'The Christmas Radio Times'.



The BBC's Radio Times has been an integral part of Christmas for as long as the BBC has been there. This talk looks at the changing nature of festive programmes, both on the radio and that new-fangled television thing, from 1923 to 2000. A genuine 'history' talk, but one which is likely to bring back a fair few memories. Meeting ID: 817 0756 6744. Passcode: 162718 Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# December

TUES  
09

## Christmas Lunch



12 noon



As per menu



A great way to celebrate Christmas with good food and friends. Book by Tuesday 2 December 2025. Hole in the Wall, Main Road, Underwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 5GQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



THURS  
11

## Lunch Out



1pm



As per menu



Enjoy a pleasant afternoon of good food and great company. Book by Thursday 4 December 2025. Talbot Inn, 151 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 4AE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



# December

THURS  
11

## Ilkeston Dine Out



Enjoyable food and great company. Book by Thursday 4 December 2025. Rutland Cottage, Heanor Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8TE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



FRI  
19

## Speakers Corner



Guest speaker Robert Mee presents - 'The Christmas Radio Times'. The BBC's Radio Times has been an integral part of Christmas for as long as the BBC has been there. This talk looks at the changing nature of festive programmes, both on the radio and that new-fangled television thing, from 1923 to 2000. A genuine 'history' talk, but one which is likely to bring back a fair few memories. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Branch, 10 Kingsway Road, NG15 6BS. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

# January 2026

FRI  
02

## Speakers Corner



Guest speaker Sandy Leong presents - 'From the Fury of Vikings'. For 300 years the vikings took the northern world by storm. In search of land, slaves, gold and silver, brave warriors and explorers set sail from Scandinavia. The speed and daring of the vikings was legendary and Christian monks wrote with horror about violent raids on monasteries and towns. Come and find out about when the vikings came to England and what they got up to. Meeting ID: 842 2124 2254. Passcode: 088860 Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
08

## Lunch Out



Enjoy a pleasant afternoon of good food and great company. Book by Friday 2 January 2026. Talbot Inn, 151 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 4AE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.





# January 2026

THURS  
08

## Ilkeston Dine Out



7pm



As per  
menu



Enjoyable food and great company. Book by Thursday 1 January 2026. Rutland Cottage, Heanor Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8TE. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



FRI  
16

## Speakers Corner



11am



Free



Guest speaker Robert Mee presents - 'Langley Mill and Aldercar - 1,000 years'. A talk on the industrial history of Langley Mill, situated right on the Derbyshire/Nottinghamshire border. This talk looks at all aspects of the parish's history. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Eastwood Conservative Club, Church Street, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 3BP. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
22

## Workshop Dine Out



1pm



As per  
menu



Good food in good company. Book by Thursday 15 January 2026. The Dukes Beefeater, View, High Grounds Road Ryton, Worksop S80 3GN. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

MON  
26

## Jewellery Making and Crafting



1.30pm



Members £1,  
Guests £2



This workshop offers a fun and creative experience for individuals of all levels. Participants can learn new skills, create unique pieces and enjoy a relaxing, social environment. The workshops provide guidance, tools and materials to help beginners and experienced crafters alike. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Book by Monday 19 January 2026. Awsworth Village Hall, 60 The Lane, Awsworth, Nottinghamshire NG16 2QQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



# January 2026

TUES  
27

Meet and Greet

 2pm



 As per menu



A relaxing afternoon of being social.  
Book by Tuesday 20 January 2026.  
Ciao Bella, Cattle Market House,  
15 Nottingham Road, Mansfield,  
Nottinghamshire NG18 1BJ. Contact  
Melanie on 07514 608427.

# February

FRI  
06

Speakers Corner

 11am



 Free





Guest speaker  
Sandy Leong  
presents - 'Bitter is  
the Wind Tonight'.  
This is the first  
line of an old Irish  
poem hoping that  
the wind is too  
strong for a viking



attack and it probably sums up the  
hopes of others living on the islands  
around the British coast. However, it  
wasn't all about raiding it was also  
about trading and settling. Dublin was  
founded as a viking centre for trade  
and Orkney, Shetland and the Isle of  
Man became desirable real estate for  
vikings. Meeting ID: 842 6135 7069.  
Passcode: 965694 Contact Melanie  
on 07514 608427.

# February

THURS  
12

Lunch Out

 1pm



 As per menu



Enjoy a  
pleasant  
afternoon of  
good food  
and great  
company.  
Book by  
Thursday



5 February 2026. Talbot Inn, 151  
Nottingham Road, Mansfield,  
Nottinghamshire NG18 4AE.  
Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
12

Ilkeston Dine Out

 7pm



 As per menu



Enjoyable food and great company.  
Book by Thursday 5 February 2026.  
Rutland Cottage, Heanor Road,  
Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8TE. Contact  
Melanie on 07514 608427.



# February

Photo by Immanuel Giel

FRI  
20

## Speakers Corner

L 11am

£ Free



Guest speaker Robert Mee presents - 'Nottinghamshire Castles'. "I've been doing a talk on Derbyshire castles for a number of years and have given it many times in Nottinghamshire. So it was time to switch counties!". Not just the obvious couple of castles, but also other known sites and perhaps the odd surprise. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Eastwood Conservative Club, Church Street, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 3BP. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

MON  
23

## Jewellery Making and Crafting

L 1.30pm

£ Members £1,  
Guests £2



This workshop offers a fun and creative experience for individuals of all levels. Participants can learn new skills, create unique pieces and enjoy a relaxing, social environment. The workshops provide guidance, tools and materials to help beginners and experienced crafters alike. Free tea, coffee and biscuits. Book by Monday 16 February 2026. Awsworth Village Hall, 60 The Lane, Awsworth, Nottinghamshire NG16 2QQ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



TUES  
24

## Meet and Greet

L 2pm

£ As per menu



A relaxing afternoon of being social. Book by Tuesday 17 February 2026. Ciao Bella, Cattle Market House, 15 Nottingham Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 1BJ. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.

THURS  
26

## Workshop Dine Out

L 1pm

£ As per menu



Good food in good company. Book by Thursday 19 February 2026. The Dukes Beefeater, View, High Grounds Road Ryton, Worksop S80 3GN. Contact Melanie on 07514 608427.



*As per  
menu*

# Dine Around the World

## **Dragon Wells**

**Friday 26 September 2025, 6pm**

Great Chinese food. Book by Friday 19 September 2025. Dragon Wells, 19 Nottingham Road, Eastwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 3AP.

## **Gurkha Chulo**

**Friday 31 October 2025, 6pm**

A fine dining experience. Book by Friday 24 October 2025. Gurkha Chulo, 240 Nottingham Road, Selston, Nottinghamshire NG16 6AD.

## **Vaadi**

**Friday 28 November 2025, 6pm**

A taste of the mediterranean. Book by Friday 21 November 2025. Vaadi, 150 Annesley Road, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire NG15 8AY.

## **Luigi's**

**Friday 30 January 2026, 6pm**

A taste of Italy. Book by Friday 23 January 2026. Luigi's, 98-100 Nottingham Road, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LF.

## **Persian Empire**

**Friday 27 February 2026, 6pm**

A taste of the Middle East. Book by Friday 20 February 2026. Persian Empire, 69-71 Upper Parliament Street, Nottingham NG1 6LD.

**Contact Melanie on**

**07514 608427 for more  
information and to book.**



## 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.”



# 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 Melanie on **07514 608427** (9.30am to 4.30pm) or email **melanie.archer@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](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)



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

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

## Care and Welfare Helpline

**Call 0800 0149 822**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

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

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

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

# At a glance

## September 2025 - Friendship Month

<b>Tues 2</b>	Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Thurs 4</b>	Friendship Month Meal	12 noon
<b>Fri 5</b>	Guest Speaker	11am
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Gentle Walk	11.30am
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Lunch Out	1pm
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Ilkeston Dine Out	7pm
<b>Thurs 18</b>	Friendship Afternoon Tea	1.30pm
<b>Fri 19</b>	Speakers Corner	11am
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Worksop Dine Out	1pm
<b>Fri 26</b>	Games Afternoon	1pm
<b>Fri 26</b>	Dine Around the World	6pm
<b>Tues 30</b>	Meet and Greet	2pm

## October

<b>Fri 3</b>	Guest Speaker	11am
<b>Tues 7</b>	Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Thurs 9</b>	Lunch Out	1pm
<b>Thurs 9</b>	Ilkeston Dine Out	7pm
<b>Fri 17</b>	Speakers Corner	11am
<b>Thurs 23</b>	Worksop Dine Out	1pm
<b>Fri 24</b>	Games Afternoon	1pm
<b>Mon 27</b>	Jewellery Making and Crafting	1.30pm
<b>Tues 28</b>	Meet and Greet	2pm
<b>Fri 31</b>	Dine Around the World	6pm

## November

<b>Tues 4</b>	Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Fri 7</b>	Guest Speaker	11am

# At a glance

## November

<b>Thurs 13</b>	Lunch Out	1pm
<b>Thurs 13</b>	Ilkeston Dine Out	7pm
<b>Fri 21</b>	Speakers Corner	11am
<b>Mon 24</b>	Jewellery Making and Crafting	1.30pm
<b>Tues 25</b>	Meet and Greet	2pm
<b>Thurs 27</b>	Workshop Dine Out	1pm
<b>Fri 28</b>	Games Afternoon	1pm
<b>Fri 28</b>	Dine Around the World	6pm

## December

<b>Tues 2</b>	Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Fri 5</b>	Guest Speaker	11am
<b>Tues 9</b>	Christmas Lunch	12 noon
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Lunch Out	1pm
<b>Thurs 11</b>	Ilkeston Dine Out	7pm
<b>Fri 19</b>	Guest Speaker	11am
<b>Fri 19</b>	Games Afternoon	1pm

## January 2026

<b>Fri 2</b>	Guest Speaker	11am
<b>Tues 6</b>	Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Thurs 8</b>	Lunch Out	1pm
<b>Thurs 8</b>	Ilkeston Dine Out	7pm
<b>Fri 16</b>	Speakers Corner	11am
<b>Thurs 22</b>	Workshop Dine Out	1pm
<b>Fri 23</b>	Games Afternoon	1pm
<b>Mon 26</b>	Jewellery Making and Crafting	1.30pm
<b>Tues 27</b>	Meet and Greet	2pm
<b>Fri 30</b>	Dine Around the World	6pm

# At a glance

## February

<b>Tues 3</b>	Coffee Morning	11am
<b>Fri 6</b>	Guest Speaker	11am
<b>Thurs 12</b>	Lunch Out	1pm
<b>Thurs 12</b>	Ilkeston Dine Out	7pm
<b>Fri 20</b>	Speakers Corner	11am
<b>Mon 23</b>	Jewellery Making and Crafting	1.30pm
<b>Tues 24</b>	Meet and Greet	2pm
<b>Thurs 26</b>	Workshop Dine Out	1pm
<b>Fri 27</b>	Games Afternoon	1pm
<b>Fri 27</b>	Dine Around the World	6pm

## Can you help by volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without wonderful volunteers. We need help to make sure we can keep our events as fun as they can be for all our members. There's lots of ways you can pitch in to help us, from one-off help to regular support. You can commit an hour a month, or more if you've got the time!

Volunteering could include meeting and greeting newcomers to make sure they feel welcome, or arranging activities, like quizzes or presentations, which we can help you run and promote.



If you can help by volunteering or want to find out more, contact Melanie by phone on 07514 608427 or email [melanie.archer@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:melanie.archer@oddfellows.co.uk)

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

[www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)

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