

July - December 2025



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DDfeLLows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

Cinque Ports Warden



Shopping



Craft



Talks



Social



Food with Friends



Holiday



Games



Coffee Morning



Film



Walks



Meeting



Welcome to our latest edition of the Out and About for Cinque Ports Warden Branch of the Oddfellows.

A message to our members

I cannot believe as I write this that we are approaching the half way mark of 2025 already! It felt like rather a long winter but we have since had some glorious sunny weather and seeing all the flowers in bloom, blossom trees and the sun it makes you look forward to the summer months.

We have had a very busy six months here in the office with lots of events going on right from when we came back after Christmas until now! We have introduced the bi-monthly film morning, which has been well received, and events like the Food With Friends, Breakfast Club and Craft, Cuppa and Chat have all continued to be well attended. For the coming 6 months we have lots

Contact Details

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

Secretary: Jan Reading

Address:

Oddfellows Club,
29 Pencester Road, Dover,
Kent CT16 1BT

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm

Mobile number: 07594 220715

Telephone: 01304 202556

Email:

jan.reading@oddfellows.co.uk

of exciting trips and events planned and we hope that you will enjoy the programme of events that we have put together. Both myself and Jan would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported our events and the Branch over the last six months; things like putting tables and chairs away, washing up, talking to those people who have joined us for the first time and making them feel welcome. We look forward to welcoming you all to the branch over the coming months and to continue having a wonderful rest of 2025.

Yours in friendship

Jan and Charmaine

Regular Events

Prince Arthur Meeting and Social

Wednesday

L 10.30am

£ Free

2 July 3 September 5 November
6 August 1 October 3 December

The first Wednesday of every month is our Prince Arthur Branch meeting, where members can come along and catch up with Branch and society wide news, as well as having a cuppa and a chat with people followed by a couple of games of bingo. Don't miss out come along and find out! Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

Bingo

Tuesday

L 1pm

£ Members 30p
Guests 50p

1 July 2 September 4 November
5 August 7 October 2 December

Come along and join us for our monthly bingo afternoon. Please note that the doors open at 12.30pm and it's eyes down at 1pm. You never know you may win big! Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.



Coffee Morning

Wednesday

L 10.30am

£ Free

16 July 17 September 19 November
20 August 15 October 17 December

Come and join us for our monthly coffee morning where you are guaranteed a warm and friendly welcome! On offer we have tea, coffee, cake and our raffle and who can forget Jan's legendary cheese scones, so we have something for everyone! No need to book just come along. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

Craft, Cuppa and Chat

Thursday

L 10am

£ Members £2
Guests £3

24 July 25 23 October
28 August September 27 November

Come along and join us for a morning of crafting, fun and friendship with lots of chatting and cuppa's in between! Whether you like to colour, knit, crochet or simply would like a cuppa and a chat, everyone is welcome! You are more than welcome to bring along any crafting that you enjoy doing. No need to book just come along! Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

Regular Event

Food with Friends

L 12 noon

£ £7

Wednesday

Food with Friends continues to be one of our most well attended events. Our monthly lunch is just £7 for two courses along with tea and coffee. Food and friendship is at the heart of what we do at the Oddfellows and it is lovely to be able to continue to share that with you all. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

Our menu is as follows but can be subject to change:

9 July

Ploughmans followed by
Ice-Cream selection

13 August

Quiche with New Potatoes and
Salad followed by Gateaux

10 September

Jacket Potatoes with a selection of
fillings followed by Cheesecake

8 October

Cottage Pie followed by
Sponge and Custard

12 November

Curry, Rice and Naan or Sweet
and Sour Chicken followed by
Crumble and Custard

10 December

Pie, Mash and Vegetables followed by
Christmas Pudding

Oddfellows Breakfast Club

L 10am

£ £5.50

Thursday

17 July

21 August

18 September

16 October

20 November

18 December

Come and enjoy a six item cooked breakfast with tea, coffee and toast for just £5.50. We have sausage, bacon, scrambled egg, hash browns, mushrooms, beans or tomatoes. It is one of our most popular events and those that come along always enjoy fun, food and friendship, so what's not to love. For catering purposes you have to book your space no later than midday on the Monday prior to the event. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.



July 2025

WED
23

Film Morning



10.30am



Members £5
Guests £8



Our bi-monthly film morning has really started to grow in popularity and the first half of this year we have had a growing attendance. For just £5 for members and £8 for guests you get all of the usual cinema style treats and snacks, as well as tea and coffee! The films for the second half of 2025 are as follows but may be subject to change: 23 July: Mamma Mia, 24 September: City of Angels, 26 November: White Christmas. If you would like to book a space please contact the office no later than midday on the Monday prior to the event. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

August

MON
04

Barbara's Lunch Club



12.30pm



£16.50/
£21.95



Come along to the Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, where you can have the choice of a delicious two or three course meal. Two courses are £16.50 and three courses are £21.95. If you would like to book a space, then we need menu choices and payment no later than a week prior to the event. Menus are available in the office. Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, Dover Waterfront, Dover CT17 9BP. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.



WED
30

Trip to Dover Transport Museum



10.30am



£10



Come and join us for a lovely trip out to the Dover Transport Museum that is steeped in local history. We will be making our own way there and the local bus stop is just around the corner. We will have an opportunity to purchase drinks, snacks in the café when we are there. Book by Wednesday 23 July. Dover Transport Museum, Willington Road, Whitfield CT16 2JX. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.



August

FRI
08

Trip to Crabble Corn Mill

L 11am

£ TBC



Come and join us as we take a trip to Crabble Corn Mill. A local working mill with lots to see and also a café area to have a drink or a snack! We will be making our own way there using the local bus service. Book by Friday 1 August. Crabble Corn Mill, Lower Road, River, Nr Dover CT17 0UY. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Join the fun

September

FRI
12

Friendship Month Trip to Dover Town Hall

L 11am

£ TBC



Come along and join us as we take a trip to the newly refurbished Dover Town Hall (Maison Dieu). This has just had a £10 million makeover, re-fit and it is steeped in hundreds of years of history. We will be taking advantage of their new catering facilities with prices available for food and drink nearer the time. Book by Friday 5 September. Dover Town Hall, Biggin Street, Dover CT16 1DW. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

TUES
16

Lord Palmerston Branch Meeting and Social

L 10.45am

£ TBC



Come and join us for this fun meeting and social, where you can get to catch up with other members and the Branch and society wide news. Prior to the meeting from 10.45am to 11.45am, we have an hour of beetle drive (£2.50 cost) and then after the meeting we have a fish and chips lunch (£6.50 cost). When booking please let the office know whether you will be attending just the meeting, beetle drive and/or having fish and chips. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Invite a friend

MON
22

Oddfellows Information Morning



10.30am



Free



September marks Friendship Month with the Oddfellows. If you have any friends that are not sure who the Oddfellows are or what we do, then please bring them along to our free information morning. We offer friendship and a warm welcome along with a cuppa and cake. Come and show all of your friends what they are missing! Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

WED
24

Film Morning



10.30am



Members £5
Guests £8



Our bi-monthly film morning has really started to grow in popularity and the first half of this year we have had a growing attendance. For just £5 for members and £8 for guests you get all of the usual cinema style treats and snacks, as well as tea and coffee! The films for the second half of 2025 are as follows but may be subject to change: 23 July: Mamma Mia, 24 September: City of Angels, 26 November: White Christmas. If you would like to book a space please contact the office no later than midday on the Monday prior to the event. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

Say *yes* to friendship in September

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

All welcome

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



To see what's on and find out more about Friendship Month visit www.friendshipmonth.com

October

MON
06

Barbara's Lunch Club



12.30pm



£16.50/
£21.95



Come along to the Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, where you can have the choice of a delicious two or three course meal. Two courses are £16.50 and three courses are £21.95. If you would like to book a space, then we need menu choices and payment no later than a week prior to the event. Menus are available in the office. Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, Dover Waterfront, Dover CT17 9BP. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

FRI
31

Turkey and Tinsel Holiday to Llandudno



10am



£299 per
person



Following on from the success of our Easter break to Weymouth, we are delighted to be able to tell you about our next trip to Llandudno. The Branch hasn't done a Turkey and Tinsel holiday since before COVID, so we are delighted to be able to offer this again. Staying at the Somerset Hotel on a half board basis, we have double and twin rooms available as this goes to print.

The cost is £299 per person. If you would like to join us, then there will be a £30 per person non-refundable deposit to pay and the balance of the holiday will be due no later than Friday 5 September. Somerset Hotel, Central Promenade, St Georges Crescent, Llandudno LL30 2LF. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.



Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Find us at



oddfellowscinqueportwarden

November

WED
26

Film Morning



10.30am



Members £5
Guests £8



Our bi-monthly film morning has really started to grow in popularity and the first half of this year we have had a growing attendance. For just £5 for members and £8 for guests you get all of the usual cinema style treats and snacks, as well as tea and coffee! The films for the second half of 2025 are as follows but may be subject to change: 23 July: Mamma Mia, 24 September: City of Angels, 26 November: White Christmas. If you would like to book a space please contact the office no later than midday on the Monday prior to the event. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

December

MON
08

Shopping Trip to London



8am



£22



Come along for a day of Christmas shopping fun! Pick-up and drop-off will be from Dover (location and time to be confirmed nearer the time), you will have approximately five to six hours free time around the Oxford Street/Regent Street area of London. This trip is being operated by Crosskeys Coaches and the seats are on a first come first serve basis. Regents Street, London W1B 3HH. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

SUN
14

Branch Christmas Dinner



12.30pm



TBC



Come along and join us as we celebrate all things Christmas! We are hosting our Branch Christmas dinner at the Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, as we enjoy our delicious three course meal as well as our annual Christmas raffle. Book by Monday 1 December. Dover Marina Hotel & Spa, Dover Waterfront, Dover CT17 9BP. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

December

TUES
16

Lord Palmerston Branch Meeting and Social



10.45am



TBC



Come and join us for this fun meeting and social, where you can get to catch up with other members, the Branch and society wide news. Prior to the meeting from 10.45am to 11.45am, we have an hour of beetle drive (£2.50 cost) and then after the meeting we have a fish and chips lunch (£6.50 cost). When booking please let the office know whether you will be attending just the meeting, beetle drive and/or having fish and chips. Oddfellows Club, 29 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent CT16 1BT. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.

Forthcoming Event in January 2026

FRI
09

Marlowe Theatre Canterbury Pantomime Trip



1.30pm



£32



Although this is a little while away yet, we have managed to secure seats to watch the ever so popular pantomime at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury. The cost is £32 per person plus mini bus fare and these seats are on a first come first serve basis. Payment must be made to Branch no later than Friday 19 September. Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury CT1 2AS. Contact Jan or Charmaine on 01304 202556.



Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

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

To see what's coming up visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/events

Event Write Ups

Sunday 15 December 2024 – Branch Christmas Dinner

We were joined by 82 members and guests for a wonderful three course Christmas lunch at the Dover Marina Hotel & Spa. We were lucky to be seated in the new part of the hotel, where we had a lovely spacious room and it was beautifully decorated with a wonderful Christmas tree. Afterwards we had a raffle which raised £246. Everyone who came said that they had really enjoyed themselves, We even had a pair of Christmas angels pay a visit, who were truly angelic!



Tuesday 17 December 2024 – Charity Cheque Presentation

At the Lord Palmerston Lodge meeting, we welcomed Jenny, a trustee and Lynn Bannon from the League of Friends at the Kent & Canterbury hospital, who received a cheque for £756 on behalf of the Cathedral Day Unit. This unit deals with men and women having chemotherapy and other treatments from 7.30am til gone 6pm each day. On a recent visit to the day unit, Sister Angie expressed her thanks and said “The money will go towards equipment that will benefit all. I would like to thank everyone who helped raise this amount of money for my chosen charity.” – Cynthia Tucker.



Wednesday 8 January 2025 – Food with Friends

We saw our first event of the year with our Food with Friends lunch. We were joined by 18 members and guests who enjoyed a roast chicken dinner followed by apple crumble and custard. This year was the first year that we ran events in January, as normally we tend to have a quiet month after Christmas, however, the events that we did run in January were well attended and it was lovely to see everybody after the Christmas break.



Tuesday 18 March 2025 – Lord Palmerston Meeting

We held the first of our quarterly Lord Palmerston Lodge meetings. This meeting consists of a Beetle Drive in the first hour as a social activity, followed by the meeting and then fish & chips for lunch once the meeting has completed. These meetings are a great opportunity to come and meet other members, catch up with the Branch and society wide news, as well as have fun with the Beetle Drive. For more information or if you would like to come along, please speak to Jan or Charmaine.



Saturday 22 March 2025 – Annual Summomed Meeting

We held our Annual Summomed Meeting which saw our Provincial Grand Master Anne Collins re-elected to serve a second term. Deputy Provincial Grand Master Charmaine Pitchford and Past Provincial Grand Master Cynthia Tucker also remained in their positions to serve a second term. The charity that Anne has chosen to fundraise for this year is the Cardiomyopathy Association, as this is a charity close to her heart, due to Anne having this condition.



Friday 11 April 2025 – Easter Pig Racing and Lunch

We were joined by 18 members and guests who joined us for our Easter pig race and lunch. Lots of laughs, giggles and cheering was coming from the hall as the pigs were gearing up for lots of racing fun! Everyone enjoyed a wonderful buffet lunch and the young Oddfellows got to enjoy their Easter egg hunt and Easter hat competition. A great morning was had by all!



Wednesday 30 April 2025 – Seafront Walk and Talk

Seven of us took a gentle stroll along Dover Seafront. We were extremely lucky that we had really hot weather, blue skies and sunshine. We met up at the Best Western hotel and we took a walk right to the other end of the seafront taking in all of the sights and then went back to the hotel to enjoy a nice cool drink. Everyone that came with us said that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and look forward to doing another walk soon!



A Pipe Dream

By Ron Wood

As a schoolboy living in Dover during the Second World War I witnessed the Battle of Britain and the Heroes of the Day were the pilots who flew the Spitfires and Hurricanes. I was going to be a pilot when I grew up but life does not always pan out as you plan, but 80 plus years later I lived the Spitfire dream.

Rita and I spent a sunny May afternoon watching the planes fly in and out of Headcorn Aerodrome when a Spitfire flew in. Over in the Aero Legends office they said the weather was perfect for a flight and the plane was ready and waiting. I signed the form presented my bank card and the deal was done.

After a half hour safety briefing I was kitted out in flying overalls, helmet, boots and gloves and with the help of the ground crew I was seated in the backseat of a Spitfire.

With a blast of noise and smoke the engine then settled to a steady beat, it was time to taxi down to the end of the runway, the pilot asked if I was ok and ready to go, I said 'Yes', I said 'Yes'. So with full power we were soon off the runway and climbing towards the Kent coast.

We crossed the coast and turn north toward Folkestone and on to the Battle of Britain memorial at Capel; which we flew round before flying along the coast to Dover. We did a roll just outside the breakwater and then onto St Margaret's Bay, here we turned inland around Dover and headed south.

The pilot asked if I would like to have a go at flying it, I did and few wobbly turns and handed control back to the pilot, he then showed me what a Spitfire can do in steep turn, roll, loops, dives, climbs at high speed, soon the Kent countryside is below you and next it is over your head then it is rolling round in front of you but now it is time to head back to Headcorn. The pilot said we would do a low run down the runway into a steep climb and roll off the top and then land. We did a smooth landing and taxi and with the help of the ground crew climbed out of the Spitfire.

Dream completed!

Obituaries

Sadly the following members of the Branch who have passed away:

Elizabeth Smith	Janice Pitcher
Myra Williams	Albert Wain

80th Anniversary of VE Day 2025

Oddfellows Cinque Ports warden would like to express our gratitude in memory of those members that had served their country, those that were injured and those that were fallen in the second world war.

Weymouth Holiday April 2025

Bank Holiday Monday saw 42 Oddfellows and friends leave Dover at 9.30am for a mini break to Weymouth. Thankfully we had our own coach so no pick-ups on route. Our first comfort stop was at Cobham Services and then a further one because we were making good time at Rownham Services. We arrived at the Russell Hotel a little early but were soon in our rooms and luggage delivered. We all had plenty of time for a little walk, relax or just get ready for dinner which was at 6.30pm. The first evening's entertainment saw one of our group win the bingo which was a great start to the holiday for them, the bingo was followed by a male singer.

Tuesday, Mike and I walked up to Nothe Fort. While we waited for the fort to open, we had a walk through Nothe Gardens and I was talking to the squirrels and one came



over and grabbed my finger with both his hands; I was squealy excited. We had a coffee in the Nothe café; run by a lovely couple who took it over after retiring. We then spent three or four hours at the fort and have been before and always enjoyed it, but I find the nuclear bunker part of it; which was adapted in 1984, gives me anxiety, no idea why but it does.

The weather was really lovely and we saw Anne and Nigel and also heard later that evening, that a couple of others of our party had been there. After the fort we walked along the Stone Pier and stopped for another coffee at the Stone Pier café.



On Wednesday we went off to Dorchester and Vera came along with us. The market was open and we went in for a look around and then we went into Dorchester town centre, to look around the shops. It got a little chilly so we then decided to make our way back to Weymouth.

Wednesday was also Day Trip day and the hotel had arranged a trip to Poole and Swanage. Quite a few of our group went along and they all seemed to enjoy it. Sorry, I cannot say much about it, I didn't go, but we have visited Poole and Swanage previously and love Swanage.

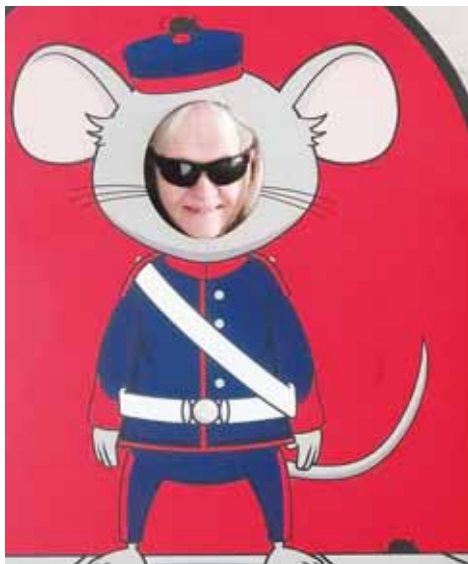
There was entertainment at the hotel every night, including bingo; which is a firm favourite with our group. The entertainment was mostly enjoyed by those who stayed to listen/watch, but I drew the line at an Elvis impersonator (I just couldn't watch it, I think it's the white jumpsuit).

The Weymouth Land Train got well used by our group and I think from listening



and being told that nearly everyone had been on it at some time during the week. Mike and I went on it on Thursday and went back up to Nothe Gardens to see my squirrel friends (yes I did get another squirrel finger cuddle) and a lovely cup of coffee from the café.

The journey back was very straightforward with no holdups and we arrived back in Dover around 2.15pm. Mike and I had a lovely mini break, it was nice just to chill and relax and do things at our leisure. Thank you all that came for making it enjoyable too. Here's to the next one in October when we will be revisiting Llandudno! **Jan and Mike**



New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to the Oddfellows Cinque Ports Warden Branch:

Debra Harper
John Harper
Judith Pilatowicz
Sally-Ann Raine

Linda White
Tony White
Robert Philpott
Brenda Chidwick

Graham Dangerfield
Ann Freeth

Your Branch Needs You!

In any Branch we cannot work without the help of our volunteers. We are looking for people who would like to join both the social committee and our Committee of management. The social committee meet once a quarter to discuss the contents of our Out and About magazine and to discuss the events that we as a branch would run over the next six month period.

Our Committee of Management meet once a month on the second Tuesday. We discuss everything to do with the running of the Branch and more. If you would like to join our management committee then all we ask is that you are over the age of 18 and you have to of been an Oddfellows member for two years or more. If you have any questions or would like more information regarding either of the committees then please contact Jan or Charmaine.

Meet your Cinque Ports Care and Welfare Team

The Oddfellows looking after you
Care, Advice and Support



We would like to introduce you to our friendly Care and Welfare team who are here to help you.



Cynthia



Jenny

Have you been unwell or in hospital, or find it difficult to get out to Oddfellows meetings?

Are you living on your own and would like someone to keep in touch through a chat on the phone? Or do you just need a friendly 'listening ear' to offer a bit of support in a difficult situation?

You may just want to ask a simple question about any help available to you through the Oddfellows. Whatever your situation, our care and welfare team are here to do what they can to help – or to point you in the right direction – so do get in touch!

Our Welfare team receive induction training and ongoing support, as well as regular care and welfare information updates. They undergo screening appropriate to their role and carry a photo ID badge, so you can be reassured about who they are.

To arrange for a member of the Welfare team to contact you, or for local help and information about Branch benefits or benevolence support, please ring Jan on **01304 202556** or email jan.reading@oddfellows.co.uk.

National Oddfellows Helplines

As well as the help available at your local Branch, you can also contact our free, confidential national helplines.

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 areas such as welfare benefits, money and debt, consumer problems, housing, and employment issues.

Citizens Advice is an independent advice agency and is solely responsible for all advice provided.

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, members 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.

Our Oddfellows care, advice, support services and benefits* are available to all members from day one, except the convalescence and carer benefits which are available after two years of membership. If you would like more information ask your Branch Secretary for a copy of our '**Looking After You**' Care, Advice and Support booklet or visit our website page at

www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/

Meet the Team

Jan

Where is the time going, certainly does not seem six months since the last Out and About. My ongoing shoulder issue is still preventing me from helping to set up for events so I go where I am kind of useful and that's in the kitchen. We had our Annual Spring holiday to Weymouth with 42 members and friends coming along and from the feedback received it went well but as with everything you cannot please all of the people all of the time. Our events have continued to on the whole be well attended and some of the smaller events have been well received by those who attended; such as the History Talks given by Phil Eyden. I had my 12th Anniversary in April here at Cinque Ports Warden but it so does not feel like it, certainly does not feel like two years since my 10th Anniversary, it's crazy!



Charmaine

Well it's that time of year again and we are nearly half way through 2025 which doesn't seem possible! We have had a busy first half of the year with lots going on in the office and with the events that we have been holding in the hall. April saw one of the most well attended branch holidays for a long time with 42 members and guests going to Weymouth for a five day break. We have lots planned for the second half of this year with lots of fun trips out and the continuation of our regular events in the hall. This year also saw me stay in my position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Deputy Chairman) serving for a second term. I have now been with the Oddfellows for five and a half years which again doesn't seem possible the time has certainly flown by, I continue to thoroughly enjoy my job and getting to spend time with our members. I look forward to the second half of this year and everything that we have going on!



Anne

Gosh, the last six months seem to of flown by. I have now been at the Oddfellows for almost 14 years and I am really looking forward to the events for the second half of this year. The annual summoned meeting held in March of this year saw me re-elected as your chairperson for a second term. It is my great privilege to find myself in this very special role and I hope with all of your continued support that I will continue to do justice to this position. For my second term I have chosen to support the Cardiomyopathy Association, This charity is very close to my heart (quite literally) as I have a condition called Dilated Cardiomyopathy and I have my own implanted cardiac device with a defibrillator to keep my heart functioning as near normal as possible. If anyone would like to know more then please ask me. All of the usual Oddfellows charity fundraising events will continue to take place during this year so my grateful thanks to the regular groups of our members who support these events.



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 Hamer Memorial Bowls Tournament, and a day trip to Whitby and Scarborough Fair.

Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

Nur Zainal, who's 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.

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

Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



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



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.”

At a glance

July 2025

Tues 1	Monthly Bingo Afternoon	12.30pm
Wed 2	Prince Arthur Branch Meeting and Social	10.30am
Wed 9	Food with Friends Lunch	12 noon
Wed 16	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 17	Breakfast Club	10am
Wed 23	Film Morning	10.30am
Thurs 24	Craft, Cuppa and Chat	10am
Wed 30	Trip to Dover Transport Museum	10.30am

August

Mon 4	Barbara's Lunch Club	12.30pm
Tues 5	Monthly Bingo Afternoon	12.30pm
Wed 6	Prince Arthur Branch Meeting and Social	10.30am
Fri 8	Trip to Crabble Corn Mill	11am
Wed 13	Food with Friends Lunch	12 noon
Wed 20	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 21	Breakfast Club	10am
Thurs 28	Craft, Cuppa and Chat	10am

September - Friendship Month

Tues 2	Monthly Bingo Afternoon	12.30pm
Wed 3	Prince Arthur Branch Meeting and Social	10.30am
Wed 10	Food with Friends Lunch	12 noon
Fri 12	Friendship Month Trip to Dover Town Hall	11am
Tues 16	Lord Palmerston Branch Meeting and Social	10.45am
Wed 17	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 18	Breakfast Club	10am
Mon 22	Oddfellows Information Morning	10.30am
Wed 24	Film Morning	10.30am
Thurs 25	Craft, Cuppa and Chat	10am

October

Wed 1	Prince Arthur Branch Meeting and Social	10.30am
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At a glance

October

Mon 6	Barbara's Lunch Club	12.30pm
Tues 7	Monthly Bingo Afternoon	12.30pm
Wed 8	Food with Friends Lunch	12 noon
Wed 15	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 16	Breakfast Club	10am
Thurs 23	Craft, Cuppa and Chat	10am
Fri 31	Turkey and Tinsel Holiday to Llandudno	10am

November

Tues 4	Monthly Bingo Afternoon	12.30pm
Wed 5	Prince Arthur Branch Meeting and Social	10.30am
Wed 12	Food with Friends Lunch	12 noon
Wed 19	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 20	Breakfast Club	10am
Wed 26	Film Morning	10.30am
Thurs 27	Craft, Cuppa and Chat	10am

December

Tues 2	Monthly Bingo Afternoon	12.30pm
Wed 3	Prince Arthur Branch Meeting and Social	10.30am
Mon 8	Shopping Trip to London	8am
Wed 10	Food with Friends Lunch	12 noon
Sun 14	Branch Christmas Dinner	12.30pm
Tues 16	Lord Palmerston Branch Meeting and Social	10.45am
Wed 17	Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 18	Breakfast Club	10am

Social Committee

We are still looking for people who would be interested in joining our Social Committee. We hold meetings roughly every quarter to discuss and share ideas for our events diary that

is published every six months. If you feel that you would like to become involved with helping to bring our events schedule to life then please contact Jan or Charmaine.