

July - December 2024



# out & about

Canterbury District Oddfellows



*Ramsgate - sunrise*

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
|  Games  |  Quiz    |  Dining Out |  Coffee Morning/<br>Afternoon Tea |
|  Travel |  Crafts  |  Social     |  Meetings                         |
|  Talks  |  Culture |  Walks      |  Wellbeing                        |

Welcome to the latest edition of the Events Diary and Newsletter for Canterbury District of Oddfellows.

As your local Branch of a national organisation called the Oddfellows, we like to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when they need them. See us like a group of friends brought together through a shared interest in socialising and helping people.

**Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to**

## Key Colours

Canterbury

Thanet/  
Sandwich

Folkestone

Faversham/  
Ashford

Other Events in  
the Area

## Contact Details

**Secretary:** Sammie Rayson

**Address:** Oddfellows Hall,  
15 Orange Street,  
Canterbury CT1 2JA.

**Telephone:** 01227 452517

**Email:**

sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk

f OddfellowsCanterbury

**you and your friend/family to attend any of our events that takes your fancy – if you like what we have to offer, you'll be made very welcome.**

## Meet the team



**Sammie Rayson**

**Secretary**

**07885 436025**

sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk



**Oliver Rayson**

**Social Organiser**

**07762 180498**

oliver.rayson@oddfellows.co.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 f OddfellowsCanterbury

# July 2024

SUN

14

## National Garden Scheme Open Day at Quex Park



12 noon



£4



Come and join us in the summer sun, on this informative open day. Head Gardener Sue, will be on hand to tell you the history of these beautiful gardens, which spans several acres, all of which is full of flora and fauna and natural woodlands. For those wanting not to wander too far, a ticket to this event, also grants you entrance to The Powell-Cotton Museum and it's natural history and perhaps even the chance to visit the Waterloo Tower! We might even have some lunch at their popular café. Please let us know if you would like to come so we can advise them of numbers etc. Book by Thursday 4 July. The Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex Park, Birchington-on-Sea CT7 0BH. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



MON

15

## RNLI's 200th Anniversary Exhibition! at Chatham Dockyard



12.30pm



Members £28  
Guests £29



Ahoy! Due to the popular requests by our members, we are going to Chatham Dockyard! All are welcome at this event as we will be visiting the Royal National Lifeboat Institutions' Historic 200th Year Anniversary Exhibition! This is sure to amaze you with all the brilliant things to see and do, so make sure to anchor this unmissable event down and pull up to this significant event. Booking and 50% deposit is required by Monday 8 July. Chatham Dockyard, Main Gate Road, Chatham ME4 4TZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

FRI

19

## Pub Lunch at The Coastguard in St Margaret's Bay



12.30pm



As per menu



This historic over 300 year old sea-side pub and restaurant in St Margaret's Bay, near Dover is said to be Britain's nearest pub to France. We welcome you all to dive into its local food and drink while enjoying an epic view over the waves – a perfect venue for a summer's day. Booking is essential as we may need to pre-order by Friday 12 July. The Coastguard Pub, Bay Hill, St Margarets Bay, Dover CT15 6DY. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

# July 2024

## MON 22 Meet Up at The Marine Hotel in Whitstable



3pm



As per menu



As it's summer, we thought, another venue by the sea would be nice! So please come along to the coffee lounge in the hotel for a friendly chat and enjoy a nice cold or hot drink. No need to book, but it would be nice to let us know, so we know who to lookout for. The Marine Hotel, 32-33 Marine Parade, Tankerton, Whitstable CT5 2BE. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## THURS 25 Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£11 for main course



The Indoor Bowls Club welcomes us back for our monthly event where you are free to meet up for a drink and a chat before sitting down to an optional lunch, the choice is yours but we always look forward to seeing you. Although booking isn't required for this event it is a good idea to let us know if you are coming in advance to be seated with us. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## WED 24 Water Gala at Broadstairs



1.30pm



Free



Who doesn't like a day beside the seaside? Just make sure to bring your bring sunscreen, sunglasses and bring a few extra pennies to perhaps splash out on an ice cream or lolly! Everyone is welcome, so bring friends and family to enjoy this lovely day out! We might even visit local attractions like Dickens House and/or Crampton Tower Museum if enough interest is shown. We will be meeting in Morelli's Ice Cream Parlour first. Please let us know in advance if you intend to join us as phone reception is poor in this area. Broadstairs' Morelli Ice Cream Parlor, 14 Victoria Parade, Broadstairs CT10 1QS. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## Booking and cancellations

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# July 2024

WED  
31

## Special Fish and Chips evening on board The Kent and East Sussex Railway



6pm



Members £40  
Guests £43



Do you fancy fish and chips in style? Booking is essential if you choose this event! Please make sure to arrive at 6pm to allow us enough time to help you aboard one of Kent's iconic steam locomotives that will be departing the Tenterden Station at 6.30pm. Your pre-ordered menu choices will be served as we journey for approximately 45 minutes to the beautiful Bodiam Castle with the option to explore its ruins before making tracks back home. Book by Friday 12 July. Tenterden Town Station, Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HE. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



Image by Paul Farmer and licensed for reuse under the Creative Commons Licence.

# August

SAT  
03

## Outdoor Theatre: The Dressing Book at Godinton Park



5.30pm



From £20 - £24



We are pleased to lift the curtain to introduce The Rudes - This exciting outdoor performing theatre group bring brand-new plays full of songs, poems and slapstick in unusual locations. Their plays are always funny, but thought-provoking too. 'The Dressing Book' is about when two ladies turn up to a ball in identical dresses with a twist in its tale. So book now and confirm this in your diary. Please bring your own blanket or low-backed chairs and a picnic. The performance will begin at 6pm. Book by Thursday 18 July. Godinton House & Gardens, Godinton Lane, Ashford TN23 3BP. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



# August

## **SUN** **04** Faversham Town's Safari 10th Anniversary!



11am



Free



Be part of a fantastic community event raising money for Faversham Creek. Over 150 Faversham residents will open their doors by selling their wares. Using the map provided we will have fun exploring this charming market town whilst maybe picking a few bargains along the way and finding some treasures that you didn't know you needed! We will be meeting outside The Alexander Centre at 11am. Be sure to let us know you are attending. Everyone is welcome. The Alexander Centre, 15 - 17 Preston Street, Faversham ME13 8NZ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## **THURS** **08** Lunch at Bybrook Barn and Godinton Garden Sculptures



11.30am



As per menu  
and £8 entry  
to Godinton



Following on May's success we are back to Ashford's Bybrook Barn Harvester for lunch, our reservation is for 11.30am, but please feel free to arrive a little earlier for a drink. Please note: Our table is limited to only 12 people. Perhaps, afterwards, you may want to follow us for a visit to the ever popular Godinton House and it's beautiful gardens which will be hosting to an impressive sculpture collection. Book by Friday 26 July. Harvester Bybrook Barn, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 8QQ. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## **MON** **05** Day Out to London Zoo with Bovy Coaches



8am



Members £55, Guests £60, including your travel



"We're all going to the zoo tomorrow, zoo tomorrow" - well maybe not actually tomorrow but hopefully on the 5 August we will be! So, who wants to come? With the help of Bovy Coaches we will visit this historic London landmark and take in all its amazing space and their impressive animals of all shapes and sizes. All are welcome - even the grandchildren! Spaces are limited so booking is essential. 50% deposit is required to secure your place. Get in touch sooner rather than later. Book by Monday 22 July. London Zoo, Regents Park, London NW1 4RY. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.





# August

## MON 12 Coffee Morning in Canterbury



11am



Free



Our meeting venue changes as we explore this beautiful and historic city but one thing that will never change is our warm welcome to all. Occasionally we also introduce guest speakers from a wide range of charities or useful organisations. Please get in touch to find out where we will be, this will also give us an idea of numbers to see if booking will be required. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## MON 19 Meet Up at The Waterloo Centre in Whitstable



3pm



Free

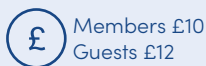


New faces and familiar faces are always welcome. We are invite you to come to the popular Waterloo Centre for another afternoon full of fun and friendship. We might even have a quiz and some cake! No need to book, but it would be nice to let us know whether you will be coming! Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

## FRI 16 The Greatest Showman at The Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema



8pm



Members £10  
Guests £12



Dare to dream by joining us at The Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema as we will watch this well loved and charming musical drama... The Greatest Showman! Follow the story of visionary, P.T. Barnum, who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that has become a worldwide sensation with valuable themes like diversity, finding reconciliation, kindness, unconditional love and more! Book early to ensure your spot! Book by Friday 9 August. Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2HL. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



## 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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport, tickets etc...).

# August

MON  
26

## The Kent Country Show at Birchington



10.30am



Members £12  
Guests £12.50



Wondering what to do this Bank Holiday and not want get stuck in Detling's busy traffic? Why not come up to Birchington's own Country Show (with free parking). There is something for everybody. Set to be an amazing day out with an array of attractions including a classic car show, barrel racing, wrestling, horse/gun dog performances, motorbike stunts, falconry displays and more! For those foodies out there, there are cooking demonstrations, don't forget to support some the small and local businesses stalls. Tickets are required so get in touch as soon as possible. Book by Friday 16 August. Quex Park, Manston Road, Birchington CT7 0HR. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS  
29

## Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£11 for main course



The Indoor Bowls Club welcomes us back for our monthly event where you are free to meet up for a drink and a chat before sitting down to an optional lunch, the choice is yours but we always look forward to seeing you. Although booking isn't required for this event it is a good idea to let us know if you are coming in advance to be seated with us. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



## Booking and cancellations

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# September

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



MON  
02

&

TUES  
03

## Summer Picnic at Westgate Gardens



12 noon



Free



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
*Invite a friend*

Let's hope that the summer sun is still shining as we begin Oddfellows special Friendship Month by inviting you all to a picnic in Canterbury's Westgate Gardens.



This beautiful park along the banks of the River Stour might even tempt you to partake in a punt along its rich and winding course (extra costs will be applied) or perhaps inspire you to walk some of the paths date back to the Roman era! Everyone is welcome to bring their favourite foods and drinks as sharing is always appreciated here.

The meeting place is to be decided. Let us know if you are planning to attend so we know who to look out for, We hope you can make it! Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

## Join the fun in Friendship Month

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

**All welcome**



ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



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

# September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



FRI  
06

## Grease The Musical at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate

 7pm

 See below



"Summer sun, something's begun... Those Summer Nights..." Voted the world's best loved musical! Catch this live performance of Danny, Sandy, The T-Birds and The Pink Ladies singing the songs from the hit motion picture in this high energy, electrifyin' musical smash hit. So if this is the one that you want (uh oh ohh...). Tickets will sell lightning fast! A 50% deposit is required. Cost: From £20 (some concessions may be available). Book by Monday 19 August. The Granville Theatre, Victoria Parade, Ramsgate CT11 8DG. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

FRI  
13

## Light Lunch at Badgers Hill Farm

 11.30am


 As per menu



Badgers Hill Farm and Cidery has a lot to offer. You can go and see the animals, visit the garden centre and stop for a lovely meal at the café. If enough interest shown we could also take in a short walk to Chilham village with its quaint timber fronted buildings, pretty church and castle. This walk may not be suitable for all as there is a slight hill to climb but there is parking in the village. Would be lovely to see you so let us know if you want to join us. Badgers Hill Farm & Cidery, New Cut Road, Chilham CT4 8BW. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

TUES  
10

## Friendship Month: Day Trip to Provender House in Faversham

 12 noon

 See below



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
*Join the fun*

Provender House, is a breathtaking 13th Century house with walled garden. Steeped in the history of its various owners, the house breathes with a life and personality all of its own, full of quirks, secrets and romance. It is truly a remarkable and memorable venue for all that visit. Cost: From £16 (plus optional cream tea at an extra cost). Booking required and help with transport may be able to be possible. Book by Monday 26 August. Provender House, Provender, Provender Lane, Norton, Faversham ME13 0ST. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.



# September

ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT  
Invite a friend

MON  
16

## Friendship Month: Cream Tea at Tiny Tim's Tearooms in Canterbury



2pm



As per menu



All are welcome but we will require a 50% deposit for attending this event. Tiny Tim's claims to be the only traditional English tearoom in Canterbury, offering a relaxing and luxurious 1930's atmosphere which is widely regarded as one of best afternoon in Kent! Freshly prepared sandwiches, warm home baked scones with lashings of clotted cream and a tempting selection of handmade pastries (gluten and dairy free options available). Warning, their food is delicious! So, let us know because seating is limited. Book by Tuesday 27 August. Tiny Tim's Tearooms, 34 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury CT1 2TG. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS  
19

## Meet Up at The Tudor Restaurant in Whitstable



11am



As per  
menu



Come join us in Whitstable, only this month we are at a different time and venue. Follow us to legendary actor Peter Cushing's favourite place in the town, The Tudor Restaurant. Choose from a varied menu with polite service. No booking required. Please let us know you are coming so we can look out for you and prepare get a big enough table. All are welcome. The Tudor Restaurant, 29 Harbour Street, Whitstable CT5 1AH. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



## Booking and cancellations

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# September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



SAT  
21

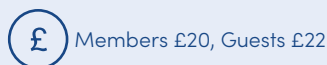
## Echoes of Pink Floyd at The Gulbenkian in Canterbury



"Hello. Can anybody hear me?..." A highly imaginative show which recreates the atmosphere of this legendary band live! Get comfortably numb as this show features meticulous detailed musicianship, a stunning light show with videos and over two hours of incredible music every Floyd fan would expect and love! Delving deep into the band's songbook history, expect authentic recreation of iconic songs from albums such as The Dark Side of The Moon, Wish you Were Here, Animals, The Wall, Division Bell and Meddle and more including the much requested epic, Echoes! A true celebration of everything Floyd. A 50% deposit is required. The event is expected to last approx 160 minutes (including interval). Help with transport may be able to be arranged. Book by Thursday 29 August. Gulbenkian Theatre, University of Kent, Tyler Hill, Canterbury CT2 7NB. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025.

MON  
23

## Seal Watching and North East Coast Boat Trip



Back by popular demand and for all those who missed out on last year's excursion, we team up with River Runner! This time we will travel out of the Ramsgate Royal Harbour and head North around Thanet's coastline, passing Ramsgate Mains Sands (maybe spotting some seals), Dumpton, Broadstairs, all the way to Joss Bay and North Foreland Lighthouse. This is the perfect opportunity to see the Isle of Thanet from a different angle. With a 10/15 minutes float at sea so you can take in the peacefulness, admire the views and capture great photos and memories. Time of the trip is according to the tides, so this will be announced nearer to the date. Booking and deposit is required. Duration approximately: One hour and 30 minutes. Book by Monday 2 September. Royal Victoria Pavilion - JD Wetherspoon, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate CT11 8LS. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



# September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



FRIENDSHIP  
MONTH  
EVENT

Join the fun

FRI  
27

## Friendship Month Lunch in Folkestone



12.30pm



As per menu



The Clifton Hotel is one of the most historic hotels in Folkestone. We invite you to join us in having a two or three course meal in the acclaimed Marco Pierre White Restaurant. We will be arriving at 12.30pm and sitting down for lunch at 1pm. So, please book as soon as possible and will send you a copy of their menu in advance to help you make your selections and to also let us know of any allergies/dietary requirements. We hope to see as many of you as possible to make this a true celebration of friendship! Book by Monday 16 September. Best Western Clifton Hotel, 1-6 Clifton Gardens, Folkestone CT20 2EB. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



# October

MON  
07

## Afternoon at RAF Manston Museum



12.30pm



£5 suggested  
donation for entry



Due to many members not being able to make it last time, we return to the RAF Manston History Museum. It started life as the RAF Manston History Club in 1986 with the intention of presenting exhibits and artefacts connected with this famous airfield. A small dedicated troop of enthusiasts drawn from RAF Manston and local aviation-minded civilians, the museum has largely grown, houses some impressive exhibits and holds lots of interesting local history. There is also a popular shop and café for those wishing to have some lunch or maybe bring your own. Book by Monday 23 September. RAF Manston History Museum, 821 Manston Road, Ramsgate CT12 5DF. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## Booking and cancellations

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# October

THURS  
10

## Mystery Guest Speakers Event in Whitstable



1pm



Donations  
welcome



We cordially invite you this event, where we will introduce guest speakers from all over East Kent to represent their charity or company and the passion behind why they do what they do. Refreshments will be provided. Donations are most welcome. Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

### Booking and cancellations

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MON  
21

## Meet Up at Beach Creative in Herne Bay



12 noon



Donations  
welcome



Highly recommended by a couple of our long standing members we visit Herne Bay's own community hub. Within its walls it holds a fantastic creative space with a full and varied programme of learning, events, ever changing exhibitions by local artists and even has its coffee shop. Booking advised as space are limited and will let us know you are coming. Car parking opposite. Book by Monday 14 October. Beach Creative, Beach House, Beach Street, Herne Bay CT6 5PT. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

MON  
14

## Events Planning Meeting



11am



Free



Welcome are all to attend this event. Together to see and hear what has worked well (or maybe not so well) over these past few months. Everyone gets the chance



to suggest ideas our next year's Out and About, so come along to have your say! Many of you know that our branch strives to try to make these things happen - within budget constraints of course! The venue to be decided upon nearer to the time. Those not able to attend are always welcome to phone/text, email or post in suggestions at any time. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.





# October

THURS  
24

## Canterbury Festival: Taster Day



12 noon



Free



Canterbury Festival returns for. From 19 October until the 2 November for an extravaganza of music concerts, eclectic gigs, theatre, circus, talks, science discussions all in the historic heart of Canterbury. Join us as try out some its many delights. Full programme of activities available by request. We will meet at the Canterbury Office to begin the afternoon. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



## Oddfellows Travel 2024

Yorkshire Dales Discovery Tour - Malhamdale

Fri 11 - Mon 14 October (3 nights)

Staying at Newfield Hall with HF Holidays. Classic single room £454. Classic twin room or double room £454 per person – based on 2 people sharing. Full board.

Contact Emma Gorst **0161 214 4634** or email [travel@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel)

# October

FRI  
25

## Afternoon Tea in Chilham

 1.30pm

 £18



The Church Mouse Tea Rooms in Chilham is opening its doors to us for a lovely afternoon tea. Situated in the heart of Chilham, this grade 2 listed property is famous locally for the quality of its afternoon teas and friendly atmosphere. Booking is essential so that we know numbers. Book by Monday 14 October. The Church Mouse Tea Rooms, The Square, Chilham, Canterbury CT4 8DA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS  
31

## Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club

 11am

 £11 for main course



The Indoor Bowls Club welcomes us back for our monthly event where you are free to meet up for a drink and a chat before sitting down to an optional lunch, the choice is yours but we always look forward to seeing you. Although booking isn't required for this event it is a good idea to let us know if you are coming in advance to be seated with us. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

# November

SUN  
03

## Holistic Health and Psychic Fair in Ashford

 12 noon

 £3



From psychic readings, tarot, healing sessions, holistic therapists, esoteric products, handmade jewellery/incense/crystals/candles. There will be lots of fabulous things here to see and purchase, all from local practitioners. Tickets and booking required. So, get in touch soon to reserve your place. All advance tickets receive a free goody bag. Meeting at the venue but feel free to explore at your own pace. Onsite (free) parking available. Book by Friday 20 September. Lake House Kent, Maidstone Road, Ashford TN26 1AR. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

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# November

MON  
11

## Coffee Morning in Canterbury



11.30am



Free



Coming along to these coffee mornings in Canterbury is a great way to learn about Oddfellows and get to know others over a cup of tea or coffee.

Please get touch to find out where will be. Oddfellows Hall, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



THURS  
14

## Lunch at The Conningbrook Hotel in Ashford



12.30pm



As per menu



We are returning to Ashford, but this time to a member suggested venue - Conningbrook Hotel is in Kennington. It prides itself in offering a delectable array of culinary delights, ranging from mouthwatering burgers to classic roast dinners and an assortment of traditional pub favourites all within a relaxing atmosphere. Booking required by Monday 14 October. The Conningbrook Hotel, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 9QR. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

FRI  
15

## Midwinter Fair at Paddock Wood



10.30am



£18



Join us for a day of stylish shopping at the Wealden Times Midwinter Fair at The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood. Can there be a no lovelier way to shop for original, handmade and desirable Christmas gifts than browsing amongst 250+ handpicked exhibitors' stands.

Choose from a wide selection of high-end gifts for the family, home and garden. You'll also find everything for the festive season, from perfect decorations for your Christmas tree to yummy festive treats. So, why not invite your friends and family and make a special day of it? Tickets and a 50% deposit required. Book by Monday 21 October. The Hop Farm, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge TN12 6PY. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.



# November

## MON 18 Whitstable Festive Quiz with Mince Pies



3pm



Members £2.50  
Guests £3



With Christmas fast approaching, step in from the cold and enjoy mince pies and a hot drink and let us entertain you with a fun quiz and festive raffle! Please let us know if you will be there! We look forward to seeing you. Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## THURS 28 Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club



11am



£11 for main course



The Indoor Bowls Club welcomes us back for our monthly event where you are free to meet up for a drink and a chat before sitting down to an optional lunch, the choice is yours but we always look forward to seeing you. Although booking isn't required for this event it is a good idea to let us know if you are coming in advance to be seated with us. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

## SAT 30 Trip to Winchester Christmas Market



8.30am



See below



Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market now attracts over 350,000 visitors each year and has achieved a reputation as being amongst the very best in Europe. Within the stunning surroundings of the cathedral's historic inner and outer close you'll find over 100 attractive wooden chalets brimming with festive treats. The stallholders are individually selected to ensure superior quality, uniqueness and a wide range of products. There's a strong emphasis on British and artisan amongst the stallholders. A large outdoor Ice Rink provides the perfect winter playground for adults and children alike. With the dramatic medieval architecture as a backdrop, it's an idyllic setting at any time of day, but it really comes into its own after twilight when the cathedral is lit up and a warm glow radiates from the market stalls.

Don't forget to step inside the cathedral itself to explore over 1,000 years of history and attend Advent and Christmas services sung by an internationally acclaimed choir. With various pick up points across East Kent, a coach will be provided to ensure a comfortable and stress-free journey to remember. Cost: £40 for members and £45 for guests, plus optional entry fee to the cathedral. A 50% deposit is required to secure your attendance. Book by Thursday 24 October. Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market, The Close, Winchester SO23 9LS. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

# December

SAT  
07

## Festive Wreath Making Experience at Quex Park



10am



Members £50, Guests £55



Join us for an exclusive festive wreath-making workshop at the beautiful Quex House. During this workshop will be led around Quex's grounds to collect the perfect fresh foliage to make your unique wreath. When the materials are gathered, you will return inside to be treated to a delicious vegetarian lunch using local produce.

Following this, you will be guided through the best wreath-making techniques to create a beautiful outdoor wreath that will last you throughout the festive season. Price includes the materials, workshop and lunch. Please bring your gardening gloves and ensure you wear suitable footwear and warm clothes. Course finishes at

3pm. Booking your ticket is essential and a 20% discount offered to anyone booking before Sunday 20 October. Help with transport to and from this venue may be available at a small extra cost. Book by Friday 1 November. The Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex Park, Birchington-on-Sea CT7 0BH. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.



### 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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport, tickets etc...).

# December

MON  
09

## Christmas Party! At The Waterloo Centre in Whitstable



1pm



Members £5  
Guests £7



Christmas wouldn't be the same without spending time together with friends - so come join us for a fun-filled afternoon of games and laughter spreading festive cheer! Light refreshments will be provided and all are welcome so bring your favourite dishes or snacks. Will be also doing a Secret Santa gift exchanges (maximum £10 spend) and smiles a plenty - you better have a good reason not to come. All profits from this event go to various charities. Whitstable Waterloo Community Centre, Waterloo Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1BP. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS  
12

## Light Lunch at The Waterfront in Hythe



12.30pm



As per  
menu



Ten feet from Hythe's beach, we visit for the first time this highly popular and member recommended establishment specialising in locally produced food and even caters for gluten free fish and chips and vegan options. Maybe afterwards, we can perhaps do some last minute Christmas shopping in this pretty and charming town. Please let us know if you would like to come along as booking is required and some help with lifts may be available at a small extra cost. Book by Friday 29 November. The Waterfront, Marine Parade, Hythe, Kent CT21 6AW. Contact Oliver on 07762 180498.

THURS  
19

## Annual Christmas Lunch Party at Folkestone Bowls Club



12.30pm



Members £25  
Guests £30



"Ho Ho Ho!" The magic never ends when you are in the company of friends. With Christmas just around the corner, we cordially invite you (and perhaps your

family) to celebrate with us at our annual Christmas lunch. Held at the ever popular Bowls Club, you can expect live music, crackers, a raffle and a lovely traditional carvery. We will be starting the meal at 1.30pm, so please arrive earlier to grab yourself a drink! Booking is essential! Book by Thursday 5 December. Folkestone Indoor Bowls Club, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5JU. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.





# December

FRI  
20

## The Snowsmith Theatre Production in Faversham



3pm



Adults £10, Children under 12 £8



What better way to end the year with a play that will enthrall the whole family? Legends tell of a soft white snow that blankets the ground and inventor Eira is determined to make this happen for all to see and believe. Join us as we follow her madcap adventure and get lost in a world of breathtaking puppetry, live folk music and captivating storytelling! Join us



for a festive drink before or after the show. Booking and tickets required. Showtime: One hour. Book by Friday 29 November. The Alexander Centre, 15 - 17 Preston Street, Faversham ME13 8NZ. Contact Sammie on 07885 436025 or Oliver on 07762 180498.

### 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 (larger events will require a 50% deposit to help book transport, tickets etc...).

### REFER A FRIEND

## Share the love and make someone smile

To refer someone you know and make their day, either fill in the **Refer a Friend form** available from your Branch Secretary, or call Membership on 0800 028 1810, or visit our Members' Area at [www.oddfellows.co.uk](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk)



\*Terms and conditions apply to the Refer a Friend offer. It cannot be used in conjunction with any other member offer. For full terms and conditions and for details of the rewards visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers).

Ref 1644



# **Online events you can enjoy** from the comfort of your own home...

**Talks, coffee mornings, exercise classes,  
quizzes, fun & games and much more**

**Visit [oddfellows.co.uk/events](https://oddfellows.co.uk/events)  
and enter 'Ayr' in the place name box**

Need help to attend an online event? Just give your local Social Organiser  
or Branch Secretary a call or email [events@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:events@oddfellows.co.uk)

# 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](http://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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions), or call us on 0800 028 1810.



## Interested in volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without our wonderful volunteers. There are lots of ways you can get involved as a volunteer, from one-off help to regular support.

### You can help us by:

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

### Want to deliver a new activity?

We encourage all our members to arrange events for other members and friends. If you'd like help to run a new event, like a book club, singing group, a one-off walk in the country or coffee morning, get in touch and we'll support you every step of the way.

**If you're interested in finding out more about helping us as a volunteer, contact Sammie by phone on 01227 452517, email at [sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:sammie.rayson@oddfellows.co.uk)**

"Supporting events as a volunteer makes me feel more committed to the Oddfellows and what I do. I enjoy meeting up with other members/friends, any outings that take place, the lunches and some of the talks are especially interesting".

**Cynthia, volunteer**

## Members meet in Llandudno for AMC

**The late May Bank Holiday weekend in the beautiful North Wales coastal town of Llandudno was the setting for this year's Annual Movable Conference (AMC).**

Hosted by Deeside Oddfellows, members from throughout the UK made the trip to reflect on the previous 12 months and discuss and vote on the course of the next, all presided over by the Grand Master (Chairman), Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham.



*Business conducted, AMC Llandudno*

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, with Oddfellows Brass putting on another wonderful performance.



*Oddies on the coach to Portmeirion*

Members also took part in a ceilidh at the welcome evening, graced the green at the annual Roy Harmer Memorial Bowls Tournament, took a day trip to Portmeirion and got all dressed up for the Farewell Dance.

## Who should be our next major Fund recipient?

**Our HA Andrews Memorial Fund provides major financial support over a two or three year period to a project or organisation involved in, or conducting, medical research in the UK.**



The funding for Southampton University's Centre for Cancer Immunology, which was nominated by a member in Guernsey, is in its final year, so we're now open to suggestions on who to support from 2025.

If you've a suggestion of who we can support next, let us know. Go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews) to find out more about the criteria, how to nominate and our deadlines.



# Making a Difference Awards 2024

Five members have received national recognition for the brilliant and selfless work they put into making their Branch and the Society as wonderful as they can be.



## Terry Rendle, Oswald Branch Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Terry's contributions to the running of Oswald Branch's social events.

He regularly comes up with ideas for events, plans and advertises them, organises and purchases supplies, arranges



catering, sells tickets, physically arranges chairs and tables in the room, taxis people to and from, hosts and clears up after. All this at the age of 84.

"Socialising is so important as you get older," Terry said. "It keeps your brain busy and your body busy which means you might last a bit longer."

He added: "I was flabbergasted. I had to read the letter three times before I realised what I was reading."

## Pat and David Lang, Three Counties Branch Achieving Together

The married couple from Didcot, Oxfordshire, joined the Oddfellows over half-



century ago, and in that time have taken on many voluntary roles, including serving as Branch Chairman five times between them.

They are Welfare Visitors, regularly checking in on around 50 fellow members, and are well known for providing food for events and meetings. They are also responsible for an annual Christmas lunch event which, since 2009, has raised over £2,100 for the HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

David said: "It has never been about being rewarded. We love what we do, it's as simple as that.

Pat added: "I'm honoured. We have much to thank the Oddfellows for and have met so many lovely people."



## Peter Coe, City of Norwich Branch

*Working in the Spirit of Mutuality*

As a mutual society, the Oddfellows is run by and for our members and this award seeks to recognise those who have gone the extra mile to assist in the running of their Branch and the Society as a whole.

Peter has gone several extra miles, having held a number of voluntary roles, including Branch and District Chairman,



and is still a member of the social committee to this day, helping to organise many wonderful events.

Peter said: "The Oddfellows is full of very, very friendly people. We all get on. I've made some very good friends here over the years.

"It's my life. It's what I do. The best thing I did was join the Oddfellows."

## Claire Needham, Vale of York District

*Giving Something Back*

Lifelong member Claire has been recognised for the work she does to raise money and awareness for worthy causes.



She donated nearly £3,000 for Motor Neurone Disease Association and Martins House Children's Hospice having run the Rob Burrows Leeds Marathon last year, and has helped raise more than £30,000 through her role as Chairman of her workplace's Charity Committee.

Claire has also held positions on the Oddfellows' Benevolence Committee and Investigations Committee, making a positive difference to the lives of her fellow members.

"I was completely surprised and I feel really honoured," Claire said. "It's a really nice feeling. It's nice that other people think it's making a difference and it's having an impact."

**The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Each of the winners are fully deserving of this recognition and I'm very proud of all of them. They typify what it is to be an Oddfellow and the Society and their respective branches are lucky to have them."**

**Who is your local Branch star? Member nominations are now open for the 2025 awards. To find out more, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference).**

# Financial worries revealed



**Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, recently surveyed 2,000 people throughout the UK to uncover what's keeping them up at night when it comes to their finances. Here's what they discovered. Do any of these resonate with you?**

## Cost of living

The worry peaks for those aged 40-49, with 63% feeling the pinch, closely followed by those in their 50s and 60s (both at 62%).

## Emergency planning

35% of those surveyed worry they don't have enough money set aside for emergencies like car repairs or medical treatments. Additionally, 28% fret about potential home repair costs.

## Pension and retirement

Living on a tight pension is a reality for 22% of respondents, and 18% worry they aren't contributing enough to their pension pot. Many in their 60s regret not paying more into their pensions earlier.



## Savings and financial planning

Only 39% of people have money in savings or investments, but this number jumps to 61% for those in their 70s. Yet, just a third have a financial life plan.

## Stress and anxiety

Financial stress affects 58% of respondents. Those in their 60s and 70s are less worried compared to younger age groups, with only 35% and 27% respectively reporting anxiety.

## Financial regrets

Over half (51%) have financial regrets, including not saving enough each month (46%) and spending on pointless things (43%). Interestingly, more than one in 10 (12%) wish they'd married someone with more money.

These findings show that, while financial worries are largely universal, planning and saving can make a significant difference, especially as we age. Whether you're setting up your first financial plan or adjusting your retirement strategy, it's never too late to take control of your financial future.

**Go to [www.unitymutual.co.uk](http://www.unitymutual.co.uk) to find out more.**

**Oddfellows members have access to a dedicated Citizens Advice Line. Its advisers can help you to find a way forward with any money or debt problems but are unable to give financial advice. Visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/citizens-advice) to find out more.**

# 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 Sammie on **01227 452517** or email **sammie.rayson@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](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**

# Social Events at a glance

## July 2024

<b>Sun 14</b>	National Garden Scheme Open Day at Quex Park	12 noon
<b>Mon 15</b>	RNLI's 200th Anniversary Exhibition! at Chatham Dockyard	12.30pm
<b>Fri 19</b>	Pub Lunch at The Coastguard in St Margaret's Bay	12.30pm
<b>Mon 22</b>	Meet Up at The Marine Hotel in Whitstable	3pm
<b>Wed 24</b>	Water Gala at Broadstairs	1.30pm
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
<b>Wed 31</b>	Special Fish and Chips evening on board The Kent and East Sussex Railway	6pm

## August

<b>Fri 2</b>	Committee of Management Meeting	11.30am
<b>Sat 3</b>	Outdoor Theatre: The Dressing Book at Godinton Park	5.30pm
<b>Sun 4</b>	Faversham Town's Safari 10th Anniversary!	11am
<b>Mon 5</b>	Day Out to London Zoo with Bovy Coaches	8am
<b>Thurs 8</b>	Lunch at Bybrook Barn and Godinton Garden Sculptures	11.30am
<b>Mon 12</b>	Coffee Morning in Canterbury	11am
<b>Fri 16</b>	The Greatest Showman at The Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema	8pm
<b>Mon 19</b>	Meet Up at The Waterloo Centre in Whitstable	3pm
<b>Mon 26</b>	The Kent Country Show at Birchington	10.30am
<b>Thurs 29</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

## September - Friendship Month

<b>Mon 2</b>	Friendship Month: Summer Picnic at Westgate Gardens	12 noon
<b>Tues 3</b>	Friendship Month: Summer Picnic at Westgate Gardens	12 noon
<b>Fri 6</b>	Committee of Management Meeting	11am
<b>Fri 6</b>	Grease The Musical at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate	7pm
<b>Tues 10</b>	Friendship Month: Day Trip to Provender House in Faversham	12 noon
<b>Fri 13</b>	Light Lunch at Badgers Hill Farm	11.30am

# Social Events at a glance

## September – Friendship Month

<b>Mon 16</b>	Friendship Month: Cream Tea at Tiny Tim's Tearooms in Canterbury	2pm
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Meet Up at The Tudor Restaurant in Whitstable	11am
<b>Sat 21</b>	Echoes of Pink Floyd at The Gulbenkian in Canterbury	7pm
<b>Mon 23</b>	Seal Watching and North East Coast Boat Trip	12 noon
<b>Fri 27</b>	Friendship Month Lunch in Folkestone	12.30pm

## October

<b>Fri 4</b>	Committee of Management Meeting	11.30am
<b>Mon 7</b>	Afternoon at RAF Manston Museum	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 10</b>	Mystery Guest Speakers Event in Whitstable	1pm
<b>Mon 14</b>	Events Planning Meeting	11am
<b>Mon 21</b>	Meet Up at Beach Creative in Herne Bay	12 noon
<b>Thurs 24</b>	Canterbury Festival: Taster Day	12 noon
<b>Fri 25</b>	Afternoon Tea in Chilham	1.30pm
<b>Thurs 31</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am

## November

<b>Fri 1</b>	Committee of Management meeting	11.30am
<b>Sun 3</b>	Holistic Health and Psychic Fair in Ashford	12 noon
<b>Mon 11</b>	Coffee Morning in Canterbury	11.30am
<b>Thurs 14</b>	Lunch at The Conningbrook Hotel in Ashford	12.30pm
<b>Fri 15</b>	Midwinter Fair at Paddock Wood	10.30am
<b>Mon 18</b>	Whitstable Festive Quiz with Mince Pies	3pm
<b>Thurs 28</b>	Folkestone Coffee Morning and Lunch Club	11am
<b>Sat 30</b>	Trip to Winchester Christmas Market	8.30am

# Social Events at a glance

## December

<b>Fri 6</b>	Committee of Management Meeting	11.30am
<b>Sat 7</b>	Festive Wreath Making Experience at Quex Park	10am
<b>Mon 9</b>	Christmas Party! At The Waterloo Centre in Whitstable	1pm
<b>Thurs 12</b>	Light Lunch at The Waterfront in Hythe	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Annual Christmas Lunch Party at Folkestone Bowls Club	12.30pm
<b>Fri 20</b>	The Snowsmith Theatre Production in Faversham	3pm

## Branch and District Business Meetings

**We regularly hold meetings in your area and all members and prospective members are welcome to attend. The purpose of the meetings is to share and discuss the business of the Branch, including our benevolence grants, finances, social planning, care and welfare development, publicity and volunteering opportunities.**

This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. Following the business meeting, time permitting, most evenings are rounded off with a drink, biscuit and chance to socialise. Our meetings are generally quite informal round the table discussions and we invite all members to come and find out more.

### Canterbury District

**Secretary:** Sammie Rayson

**Telephone:** 01227 452517

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

These meetings are for representatives of the Branches of the District.

All meetings starts at 11.30am or midday. We hold 10 meetings per year, please contact Sammie for more details.

**Meeting address to be confirmed nearer the time.**