

May - July 2025
Issue 32



The **ODDfELLOWS** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

Combermere Branch

Making friends across Manchester, Stockport, Glossop, Leigh and Bolton



Online



Music/
Concert



Travel



Films



Crafts



Health/
Wellbeing



Social



Food and Drink



Quizzes



History



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea

WE NEED YOU!

to join our Committee of Management



For more details see page 16.

Hello and welcome to our latest Out and About Diary and hope you will enjoy some of the many events we have planned

Firstly I am so sorry that the proposed weekend break to Lytham St Anne's in October, had to be cancelled. This is due a review of new legislation in regards to breaks/holidays being arranged by organisations that are not

registered as a travel company. We will endeavour to plan to have a weekend break as soon as possible for members, once things are clearer with the legislation. **When booking on events please contact the named person against the event, by our preferred method of either email or text.** Please note that our Social Team work part-time hours and may not respond to calls, emails or texts immediately.

**In Friendship,
Sarah**

Hello!

Hello! As I write this the sun is shining through my window, and I can see the spring flowers starting to appear, summer is finally on its way! I wish to thank you all for using our preferred methods of payment (Bank transfer or debit/credit card via the SumUp machine), it is much appreciated and streamlines the payment process. If you prefer not to pay by either of the above methods, we still accept

cheque payments, which you can send direct to me at my address detailed on page 3. When making any payment, remember to advise what event(s) you are paying for, to allow us to allocate your payment correctly. For all payment details please see page 5.

**Many thanks
Pam**

Contact Details

Combermere Branch
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Regular Monthly Meeting Places

Bolton

First Monday of the month

Note due to the first Monday in
May being a bank holiday the
Social will be Monday 12 May

Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over
Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ at 11am

Glossop

First Tuesday of the month

Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road,
Glossop SK13 7PU at 11.30am

Please can you contact the Golf Club
directly for catering purposes if you
wish to stay for lunch 01457 856247

Leigh

Third Tuesday of the month

Cucina, 198 Chapel Street,
Leigh WN7 2DW at 11am

Manchester

Second Wednesday of the month

Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street,
Northern Quarter, Manchester
M4 1NA at 1pm

Stockport

First Thursday of the month

Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club,
Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme
SK8 5AT at 7pm

Weekly Online Events

Chi Gung and Meditation



Every Monday

Join Graeme for Chi Gung and Meditation. Chi Gung is a set of standing exercises and gentle slow flowing movements that can help with muscle strength, balance, flexibility and cognitive function.

The session will last approximately 45 minutes and finishes off with meditation. You will need a chair and space to stand and stretch and will also have time at the end to ask questions. It starts at 2pm but you will not be able to join after 2.05pm as the class will have started.



Zoom Meeting ID: 824 6194 4085.

Tai Chi with Graeme



Every Wednesday

Join Graeme for Tai Chi. Originally developed for self-defence, Tai Chi has evolved into a graceful form of exercise that's now used for stress reduction and a variety of other health conditions. Often described as meditation in motion, it promotes serenity through gentle flowing movements.

The class will last approximately 45 minutes, please wear comfortable clothes.



Please note the new meeting ID and passcode. Zoom Meeting ID: 889 0330 1327
Password: 331259.

For further details for any of these events call Sarah on 07873 581975.

Booking on Events

Please remember the importance of the booking deadline date for events, as we cannot guarantee a place on an event once the book by date has past, although we will always do our best to accommodate where possible.

When bookings are made for events that require a deposit or a purchase of ticket(s), payment must be made at time of booking to secure your place. Refunds will only be made where the event is cancelled, no refunds will be given in any other circumstance, unless the place can be refilled by another member. There are various ways to make payment (with a bank transfer or SumUp (debit/

credit card) being the preferred method), which are as follows:

Bank transfer – Please ensure that you advise the secretary by email/text/phone of the event(s) you are making payment for. For bank details please contact your secretary Pam on 07966 934747 or email pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk

SumUp – Available at events (Social Organisers) or over the phone via a payment link from the Secretary.

Cheque – Please make payable to 'Combermere District Lodge' and pass to a Social Organiser at any event or send direct to the Secretary.

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

OEW/1024SMALL

Please remember that where an event has price per menu, that it is the members responsibility to check prices and dietary requirements with the venue before booking on the event.

May 2025

THURS 01 Social Evening - Stockport



7pm



Free



Join us for our monthly social and enjoy complimentary tea, coffee whilst looking at events across the District to book on and ideas for ones to go in the next diary. There is a bar at the venue and the evening finishes around 9pm and non-members are most welcome to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AT. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



FRI 02 Out and About - Heritage Walk Buxton



1pm



£12



This guided, in-depth, non-strenuous amble around lower Buxton allows you to get up close and personal with the fascinating history and the lower town and its landmarks. Meeting at the Buxton Opera House, we will head to the Old Hall and on to St Ann's Well to sample the famous waters and continue onto other interesting sites before returning to our starting point. The tour takes approximately 1/5 hours and is the original and iconic tour, so please book early as places limited. Buxton Opera House, Pavilion Gardens, Water Street SK17 6XN. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SUN 04 Sunday Special - Green Walk Open House



2pm



Free



The very popular Green Walk Open House Arts and Crafts Weekend is an event organised by a group of Green Walk residents who open their houses to local artists/designers to use as exhibition space

to showcase and sell their work. This will include paintings, ceramics, glass, photography, jewellery and much more with close to 50 artists taking part. Green Walk is in Whalley Range with access from Wood Road, off Upper Chorlton Road or College Road with the nearest tram stop being Firwood. Parking is on surrounding roads. We will meet at 2pm outside No 1 Green Walk. Book by Thursday 1 May. Green Walk Open Weekend, 1 Green Walk, Whalley Range, Manchester M16 9RE. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



May 2025

TUES 06 Social Morning - Glossop



11.30am



Free



Join us for our monthly social morning where we can catch up with other members to discuss events across the District, book on them and what we would like to see in the diary next time. If the golf club is not too busy with golfers, staying for lunch we maybe able to stay and have something to eat later. Meeting at Glossop Golf Club set amid the rolling hills of the Peak District. The tea or coffee is complimentary and is open to non-members to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS 08 Coffee Morning - Outside the Box



11am



As per menu



Outside the Box is a social board games café in the heart of Bramhall.

If you wish you can play board games in the small and friendly neighbourhood space or just enjoy tasty food and drinks. There is limited car parking outside and a larger car park two minutes walk away. Book by Thursday 1 May. Outside the Box Board Games Café, 34 Woodford Road, Bramhall, Stockport SK7 1PA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



WED
07

Out and About - Museum of Transport



12 noon



£7.50



Meeting in the café which sells a wide range of drinks and snacks in the surroundings of a traditional 1950s cafeteria. As the birthplace of the industrial revolution, the North West has a fascinating industrial history with Greater Manchester playing a key role. The transport heritage can still be viewed today with the collections housed at the museum with vehicles, objects, documents, images, film and video. Admission is £7.50 and can be paid on entry on the day. Book by Thursday 1 May. Museum of Transport, Greater Manchester, Boyle Street, Cheetham Hill, Manchester M8 8UW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



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May 2025

FRI **09** **Friday Fun -** **B'Js Bingo Leigh**



Enjoy an afternoon of bingo where food and drinks if required are bought to your table. So lets have some fun and see if we can have any winners amongst the Oddfellows with non-members most welcome. Book by Thursday 1 May. BJ's Bingo, Unit 1, Ellesmere Street, Leigh WN7 4LQ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



MON **12** **Social Morning - Bolton**



Meeting for our monthly social we can catch up over a tea or coffee with the first one being complimentary and have lunch later if you wish. At the regular socials we discuss what events are being held across our District, booking on them and ideas to go in future diaries etc. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

TUES **13** **Coffee Morning -** **Glossop Garden Centre**



Meeting in the café at this lovely garden centre in the heart of Glossop, we can catch up then browse the array of wonderful plants on offer. Book by Tuesday 6 May. Glossop Garden Centre, Town Centre, Off Railway Street, Glossop SK13 7AG. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED **14** **Social Afternoon -** **Manchester**



Please join us for our monthly social in the heart of the Northern Quarter in Manchester. Catch up with old friends, make new friends whilst enjoying complimentary tea or coffee. We can discuss the events across the District and book on ones we would like to join and ideas for future diaries. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



May 2025

THURS
15

Out and About - The Bridgewater Hall



12.30pm



£13



Jess Gillam is celebrated as a leading figure of the saxophone with her electrifying performances, vibrant stage presence and magnetic personality. She is joined by Sam Becker and Zeynap Ozsucu as 'The Jess Gillam Trio' making their debut at the Manchester Middays. Book by Thursday 1 May. The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3WS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



TUES
20

Social Morning - Leigh



11am



Free



Join us at this family run coffee shop to meet like-minded semi-retired and retired people over tea or coffee with the first one complimentary. We can discuss events in the diary and book on them and share ideas for future events. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Cucina, 198 Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2DW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



SAT
17

Saturday Special - Damhouse Tour



2pm



£12.50



Enjoy a tour of Damhouse with a guided tour of the historic building, a gentle stroll round the lake and 17 acres of woodlands, a presentation by one of the Trustees telling the history of the house and the development of the trust finished off with refreshments. Meeting at the entrance at 2pm. Book by Thursday 1 May. Damhouse, Astley Hal Drive, Astley, Manchester M29 7TX. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



May 2025

WED 21 Tea Dance - Stockport Town Hall



1pm



£4.35



This weekly tea dance and social get together takes part in the stunning ball room at Stockport Town Hall. Gently led by Evelyn Kennedy, attendees have the opportunity to practice and learn a variety of different dances. With regular breaks to catch your breath, the pace and atmosphere allows everyone to join in and enjoy, or if you wish, just sit and watch waltzing experts to fresh foxtrot newcomers as there is always a range of experience and ability on show. The cost is £4.35 payable on the door and the ball room bar will be open for refreshments and light snacks. If you wish you can have a bite to eat before the Tea Dance at Bask over the road opposite the train station. The venue is ideally situated on a main bus route and over the road from Stockport Train Station with plenty of car parks nearby. Book by Monday 12 May. Stockport Town Hall, Edward Street, Stockport SK1 3XE. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS 22 Let's Lunch - Alfredo's Social



6.30pm



As per menu



Step into Alfredo's Social in Stockport's on Little Underbank in the Winter's building for an authentic Italian dining experience with a modern twist. Book by Thursday 1 May. Alfredo's Social, 23-27 Little Underbank, Stockport SK1 1LA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



FRI 23 Foodie Friday - Norfolk Arms



7pm



As per menu



In the heart of Glossop with a friendly vibe and good food we can enjoy a Friday night in the company of fellow Oddfellows. Book by Monday 12 May. Norfolk Arms, Norfolk Street, Glossop SK13 8BP. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



May 2025

TUES
27

Out and About - Castleton



11.30am



Free



Meeting at Glossop Golf Club car park we will car share to take a trip out to Castleton. The beautiful village at the head of the Hope Valley in the heart of the Peak District National Park is very popular with its show caves, history, shops and much more. Book by Tuesday 6 May. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED
28

Dine Around - Chakalaka Manchester



6pm



As per
menu



From their South African bar and kitchen to the Northern Quarter, they serve up a true taste of the cape. With 50% off main meals, what not to enjoy. Chakalaka, 105a Oldham Street, Manchester M4 1LW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
29

Digital Support - Bramhall Library



2pm



Free



Do you want to improve your digital skills and are struggling with your devices, then friendly volunteers are available to help you tackle your digital issues. The session is aimed at beginners but you are welcome to come along and ask questions at this free drop in session at Bramhall Library. Book by Monday 26 May. Bramhall Library, 70 Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



FRI
30

Let's Lunch - Signatures Bolton College



12 noon



Main £5
Dessert £1.50



Signature's is the training restaurant for Bolton College and open to the general public you will enjoy fine food and exceptional service served by the talented catering and hospitality students. Join us for the Bistro lunch at £5 for the main course and £1.50 for dessert. Book by Monday 12 May. Signature Restaurant, Deane Road Campus, Deane Road, Bolton BL3 5BG. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



June

MON
02

Social Morning - Bolton

L 11am

£ Free



Meeting for our monthly social we can catch up over a tea or coffee with the first one being complimentary and have lunch later if you wish. At the regular socials we discuss what events are being held across our District, booking on them and ideas to go in future diaries etc. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

TUES
03

Social Morning - Glossop

L 11.30am

£ Free



Join us for our monthly social morning where we can catch up with other members to discuss events across the District, book on them and what we would like to see in the diary next time. If the golf club is not too busy with golfers, staying for lunch we maybe able to stay and have something to eat later. Meeting at Glossop Golf Club set amid the rolling hills of the Peak District. The tea or coffee is complimentary and is open to non-members to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED
04

Out and About - The Fusilier Museum Bury

L 12 noon

£ £3.95



The Fusilier Museum tells the fascinating story of the royal regiment of Fusiliers and records over 300 years of history and heritage of the people who served. The museum is located in the heart of the cultural quarter just minutes away from the tram and train stops in the heart of Bury. Meeting in Olives Kitchen housed in the museum you can, if you wish have refreshments before looking round the museum. The Fusilier Museum, Moss Street, Bury BL9 0DF. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



THURS
05

Social Evening - Stockport

L 7pm

£ Free



Join us for our monthly social and enjoy complimentary tea, coffee whilst looking at events across the District to book on and ideas for ones to go in the next diary. There is a bar at the venue and the evening finishes around 9pm and non-members are most welcome to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AT. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

June

SUN
08

Sunday Special - The Clink



1pm



Two courses £26.95, Three courses £33.95



The Clink Restaurant at HMP Styal is frequently in the top 10 restaurants in the surrounding area with great reviews. The delicious high quality meals are cooked and served by students in training who are working towards gaining their City and Guilds NVQs in Food and Beverage Service, Professional Cookery and Food Hygiene.



Situated in a converted chapel, the restaurant allows students to learn, engage with the public and take their first steps towards a new life. The leather upholstery and boardroom tables are made by prisoners at HMP Frankland and poetry from Clink graduates. Please Note: No alcohol is served in the restaurant. Afterwards, you are near the historic village of Styal and Quarry Bank which is well worth a visit even just for a stroll to walk off the calories eaten at lunchtime. Book by Monday 5 May. The Clink Styal, HMP, Styal Road, Styal SK9 4HR. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

MON
09

Dine Around - Casa Nostra



6pm



As per menu



Great Italian with freshly made authentic food in a friendly atmosphere and great



staff. Book by Monday 26 May. Casa Nostra, 2-4 Church Street, Westhoughton, Bolton BL5 3RS. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

TUES
10

Let's Lunch - Windy Harbour



12 noon



As per menu



Windy Harbour is set in lovely countryside on the edge of the Peak District, with a warm welcome and good food



it is always popular with members. Book by Tuesday 3 June. Windy Harbour, Woodhead Road, Padfield, Glossop SK13 7QE. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

June

WED
11

Social Afternoon - Manchester



Please join us for our monthly social in the heart of the Northern Quarter in Manchester. Catch up with old friends, make new friends whilst enjoying complimentary tea or coffee. We can discuss the events across the District and book on ones we would like to join and ideas for future diaries. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
12

Dine Around - Piccolo Bar and Restaurant



This Italian serves traditional, contemporary, fusion food in lovely surroundings in the heart of Gatley. Book by Thursday 29 May. Piccolo Bar and Restaurant, 61a Church Street, Gatley SK8 4NG. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



SAT
14

Saturday Special - Kargo MKT



Kargo MKT is Salford's newest and biggest food hall with 19 independent kitchens serving up dishes from around the world, there's something for everyone. Situated in Quayside shopping centre with waterfront sun terrace, it offers breathtaking views of Central Bay. With so many nearby attractions including the Imperial War Museum, Lowry Theatre, Media City, you can spend the afternoon at leisure enjoying what's on offer. Meeting either on the terrace weather dependent or just inside the entrance, we can find seating and decide what food takes our fancy or just join for a coffee. Book by Thursday 5 June. Kargo MKT, Unit 32, Quayside Media City, Central Bay, Salford M50 3AG. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

TUES
17

Social Morning - Leigh



Join us at this family run coffee shop to meet like-minded semi-retired and retired people over tea or coffee with the first one complimentary. We can discuss events in the diary and book on them and share ideas for future events. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Cucina, 198 Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2DW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

June

WED 18 Dine Around - Climat Manchester



This rooftop restaurant with outdoor seating and great cocktails has a relaxed feel. With panoramic views of Manchester City Centre and a forever changing menu and a cellar with over 400 different wines to choose from, we are in for a real treat in the heart of Manchester. Book by Monday 26 May. Climat, 8th Floor, Blackfriars House, St Mary's, Manchester M3 2JA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI 20 Let's Lunch - Six Six Three



Hindley Green's newest venue for coffee, cocktails and freshly prepared food is the perfect place for a catch up in contemporary surroundings. Book by Monday 2 June. Six Six Three, 663 Atherton Road, Hindley Green, Wigan WN2 4SD. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

MON 23 Out and About - Queens Park Bolton

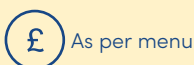


Meeting in the Pavillion Café we can stroll round this 22 acre Victorian Park nestled in the heart



of Bolton. Considered to be the finest park in the area it still retains many of its original Victorian features and thanks to recent funding the park has undergone significant restoration and now resembles something close to its original glory. Suitable for everyone including dog walkers we can enjoy some peace and quiet from the hustle and bustle of town life. Book by Friday 16 May. Queens Park, Park Road, Bolton BL1 4RU. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

THURS 19 Out and About - Vintage Tea Rooms



Housed in Pear Mill within the Vintage Emporium the tea rooms are a great place to meet for refreshments. Afterwards, you can browse at leisure at the array of stalls selling vintage items. Book by Thursday 5 June. The Vintage Emporium, Unit B, Pear Mill, Pear Mill Industrial Estate, Stockport SK6 2BP. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

June

WED
25

Out and About - The Portico Library



2pm



Free



The venue in its original 1806 building, celebrates Manchester's historic and contemporary culture and is home to an eclectic range of events and exhibitions. Along with the main library we can visit the Echoes-China and Hong Kong exhibition which seeks to navigate Britain's complex colonial relations with China and Hong Kong, and features commissioned artistic responses from local filmmakers. We will meet in the café area at 1.45pm, but please note if you wish to come in earlier for refreshments the café shuts at 2pm. The library is located next to two tram stops and the free city bus. Book by Wednesday 11 June. The Portico Library, 57 Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3HY. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
26

Special Event - Oddfellow Degrees and Committee



11am



Free



Members only. There is a lot more to Oddfellows than just Social Events. The Branch would not be able to function without a dedicated Volunteer Committee of Management, and we are always looking for new people to join and have their say on how the Branch is run. This event allows members to find out information regarding joining the Committee of Management, and Oddfellows Degrees, what they are and how to complete them. The event will last approximately 1.5 hours. If you would like to know more about what this event involves please get in touch with Pam or Sarah. Refreshments will be available. Book by Thursday 5 June. Stockport Masonic Guildhall, 169-171 Wellington Road South, Stockport SK1 3UA. Contacts Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI
27

Foodie Friday - La Corrente



7pm



As per
menu



Join us for our monthly Foodie Friday this month at La Corrente for delicious Italian food in the heart of Glossop. As the nights are lighter we are meeting at the slightly later time of 7pm. Book by Tuesday 3 June. La Corrente, Howard Town Shopping Centre, Unit 6, Glossop SK13 8HS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



June

SAT
28

Saturday Special - Canal Trip

🕒 1pm

£ £19



Our annual barge trip along the Macclesfield canal with great views is always popular with members across our District. This time we will be sailing for three hours whilst we enjoy afternoon tea, prosecco and other treats along the way. The dedicated team of volunteer skippers and crew make sure we always have a wonderful afternoon. Please book early for this event as places are limited and even by the deadline we may have to have a waiting list, but we will endeavour if there is enough demand to run another trip in August. Meet at the Wharf at 12.45pm there is limited parking between the cottages and facilities building which is 15 yards from the canal boat. Book by Monday 12 May. The Wharf, Church Street, Marple SK6 6BW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

Image by Alan Murray-Rust and licensed for reuse under the Creative Commons Licence.

SUN
29

Sunday Family Special - The Clubhouse Barton Airport

🕒 1pm

£ As per menu



The Club House MCR renowned for good food and friendly staff has moved to Barton Aerodrome.

Come along with family and friends to enjoy their fabulous food including alongside the main menu, afternoon tea, lighter bites and burger menu whilst watching the great views of planes and helicopters land and take off. Book by Monday 2 June. Barton Airport, Liverpool Road, Eccles, Manchester M30 7SA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



July

TUES
01

Social Morning - Glossop

🕒 11.30am

£ Free



Join us for our monthly social morning where we can catch up with other members to discuss events across the District, book on them and what we would like to see in the diary next time. If the golf club is not too busy with golfers, staying for lunch we maybe able to stay and have something to eat later. Meeting at Glossop Golf Club set amid the rolling hills of the Peak District. The tea or coffee is complimentary and is open to non-members to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

July

WED
02

Metro Munchers - Altrincham



12 noon



Free



Meeting in Alty Market we can have refreshments before browsing this interesting market town in Trafford, south of the river Mersey. The town is easy accessible by tram, bus and has plenty of car parks. Book by Monday 23 June. Altrincham Market, Greenwood Street, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 1SA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



THURS
03

Social Evening - Stockport



7pm



Free



Join us for our monthly social and whilst we maybe in the Stockport area lets enjoy a Spanish evening with Sangria and tasty Spanish treats finishing with a quiz to see how much we know about Spain. There is a bar at the venue and the evening finishes around 9pm and non-members are most welcome to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AT. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SAT
05

LADGC Bowling Event



10am



TBC



The annual Lancashire and District Group Conference bowling



competition once again returns to Garswood Hall Bowling Club. Beginners and experienced bowlers are most welcome to join us. A buffet lunch is included in the price with tea or coffee available on the day. Garswood Bowling Club, Nicol Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan WN4 8LU. For more information please contact Sarah on 07873 581975 by Monday 16 June.

MON
07

Social Morning - Bolton



11am



Free



Meeting for our monthly social we can catch up over a tea or coffee with the first one being complimentary and have lunch later if you wish. At the regular socials we discuss what events are being held across our District, booking on them and ideas to go in future diaries etc. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

July

TUES
08

Out and About - Ladybower Reservoir



11.30am



As per menu



Going to Ladybower Reservoir we can meet in the car park at Glossop Golf Club so can car share or members can make



their own way there. We can have a walk and then enjoy a meal at the Yorkshire Bridge Inn at Bamford. The reservoir is a large Y-shaped artificial reservoir, the lowest of three in the Upper Derwent Valley at the heart of the Peak District National Park. Book by Tuesday 1 July. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED
09

Social Afternoon - Manchester



1pm



Free



Please join us for our monthly social in the heart of the Northern Quarter in Manchester. Catch up with old friends, make new friends and to celebrate the summer month of July, which we hope is in glorious sunshine we will enjoy a good old British favourite ice-cream. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
10

Dine Around - Turkish Bistro



6pm



As per menu



This newly opened Turkish restaurant in the heart of Poynton has quickly become a favourite with its attention to detail with every dish crafted with passion, care and the finest ingredients ensuring a dining experience that delights the senses. Book by Monday 16 June. Turkish Bistro, 13a Fountain Place, Poynton SK12 1QX. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SAT
12

Saturday Special - Stockport Heritage and More



11.30am



Free



Meeting in the café area inside St Mary's Church in the Market Place we can have refreshments and look round the church and heritage centre before taking the short walk across to the Dungeons, used during the 15th-18th century as the place to lock up people whilst awaiting trial, you may also meet the bobby on the beat in uniform of the era. Lunch can be taken at one of the many eateries around the market place including the Produce Hall or even in the Market Hall itself, the Makers Market is also on showcasing crafts, artisan foods and more for you to browse and enjoy. Book by Thursday 3 July. St Mary's Church, Churchgate, Stockport SK1 1YG. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

July

TUES
15

Social Morning - Leigh



11am



Free



Join us at this family run coffee shop to meet like-minded semi-retired and retired people over tea or coffee with the first one complimentary. We can discuss events in the diary and book on them and share ideas for future events. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Cucina, 198 Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2DW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

WED
16

Dine Around - Hawksmoor



6pm



Two courses £26
Three courses £29



Renowned as the best steak house in Manchester with great reviews for its prime cuts and other British classics.



Housed in a beautiful building on Deansage next to Spinningfields which is also home to the head office for Oddfellows, we can enjoy the early evening specials menu which is great value for such wonderful food. Book by Monday 30 June. Hawksmoor, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
17

Out and About - Portland Basin Museum



12 noon



Free



Meeting in the café area we can browse this wonderful museum which is free to visit. Housed within the restored 19th century Ashton Canal Warehouse in Ashton-under-Lyne. The museum combines a lively modern interior with a peaceful canal side setting. Enjoy the temporary exhibitions and step back in time on our 1920s street, as the sights and sounds of bygone Tameside are brought to life. Find out more about local crafts, industries and marvel at the historic machines and explore the area's industrial heritage. We can also check out the barge trips from the canal alongside for a future visit. The museum is accessible by car, bus and train. The car park is free and fully accessible, but as the area is laid with cobbles assistance maybe required. Book by Thursday 3 July. Portland Basin Museum, Portland Place, Ashton-under-Lyne OL7 0QA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

July

FRI
18

Foodie Friday - The Oakwood



Join us for Foodie Friday in the heart of Glossop. With its architectural windows, the Oakwood brings a bit of the big city style to Glossop and with a good choice of food and great staff its always worth a visit and if we have scorching July weather we can eat outside. Book by Monday 7 July. The Oakwood, 67 High Street, Glossop SK13 8AZ. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



MON
21

Let's Lunch - The Archer



Start the week with great food, good service, nice atmosphere and the enjoyable company of fellow Oddfellows. Book by Monday 7 July. The Archer, 62 Manchester Road, Astley, Manchester M29 7EJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



TUES
22

Out and About - Bring your Doggies Walk



Led by our fabulous member Marjorie and her gorgeous dogs, lets enjoy a walk round Bottoms Reservoir with your lovely dogs, but you do not need to have a dog to enjoy this walk. The Bottoms Reservoir is a man made lake in North Derbyshire with a nice footpath with an easy circular walk around this pretty lake with fine views of woodland, hills and countryside along the way. Afterwards, we can all enjoy refreshments at Pixies Bakes Cakery and Coffee Shop in Tintwhistle. Book by Tuesday 22 July. Bottoms Reservoir, 50 Woodhead Road, Tintwhistle, Glossop SK13 1JX. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



July

WED
23

Out and About - Trip to Nantwich



11am



Travel Costs



Meeting at Piccadilly with stops at Stockport and Wilmslow, we will visit Nantwich a market town in Cheshire East. Situated on the banks of the River Weaver, it is famous for the medieval timbered buildings dotted around the town. Stroll through the atmospheric streets visit bijoux boutiques, contemporary craft shops, one of the many eateries or even browse round the museum. Book by Wednesday 9 July. Piccadilly Station, Piccadilly Station Approach, Manchester M60 7RA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
24

Coffee Morning - Art Club Café



11.30am



As per
menu



Art club is a creative community café, set in the heart of Heaton Moor. The café runs a full timetable of classes and workshops, but you are welcome to come in to the café to relax with a brew and cake, or a glass of wine later if you fancy. Take a look at the work on show, pick up a sketchbook and pencil if you feeling inspired, or you can sign up to a wide range of arts activities and creative workshops to learn a new skill. Book by Monday 14 July. Art Club Café, 25 Shaw Road, Heaton Moor SK4 4AG. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI
25

Friday Special - Canal Trip



1pm



£19



Our annual barge trip along the Macclesfield canal with great views is always popular with members across our District. This time we will be sailing for three hours whilst we enjoy afternoon tea, prosecco and other treats along the way. The dedicated team of volunteer skippers and crew make sure we always have a wonderful afternoon. Please book early for this event as places are limited and even by the deadline we may have to have a waiting list, but we will endeavour if there is enough demand to run another trip in August. Meet at the Wharf at 12.45pm there is limited parking between the cottages and facilities building which is 15 yards from the canal boat. Book by Monday 12 May. The Wharf, Church Street, Marple SK6 6BW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



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reuse under the Creative Commons Licence.

SUN
27

Sunday Special - The British Commercial Vehicle Museum



12.30pm



Adult £10, Child (4-16 year old) £5, Under 4's Free



For places to go, come rain or shine there's something for all ages at this unique Motor Museum which displays antiquarian buses, early fire engines and other historical and commercial vehicles produced by the British manufacturing industry. Thought provoking games and tasks for young ones, a nostalgic trip into the past for parents and grandparents, there is a wealth of history to research which all contribute to a great day out in Lancashire. Easy to find three minutes from Junction 28 for Leyland brown tourist signposts give directions. Meeting in the café area at 12.30pm. Book by Monday 7 July. The British Commercial Vehicle Museum, King Street, Leyland PR25 2LE. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



TUES
29

Coffee Morning - Bohemian Bus Café



11.30am



As per menu



The quirky café and coffee shop is housed in a double decker bus serving great food and drinks. You can walk along

the canal from New Mills or there is parking near the bus. The great reviews make this unique venue, ideal for Oddfellows to get together. Book by Tuesday 1 July. Bohemian Bus Café, Business Centre, Calico Lane, Furness Vale SK23 7SW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



WED
30

Let's Lunch - The Oast House



12 noon



As per menu



Lets enjoy lunch in the heart of Spinningfields and hopefully have some fabulous summer weather and eat Al Fresco. This rustic style pub offers international food including deli boards to share with great beers and cocktails on offer. As the vibrant City Manchester has so much to offer with historic buildings, culture and much more you can take a stroll after lunch to the nearby Rylands Library or wander further afield. Book by Wednesday 9 July. The Oast House, The Avenue, Courtyard, Manchester M3 3AY. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

Oddfellows Travel: Destination Mystery

In November last year, 16 Oddfellows and three friends boarded a cruise ship with no idea of its destination.

With six mystery ports scheduled in 11 days, there was a lot to pack in, and there was plenty to keep them entertained on board: interesting talks, a murder mystery, craft sessions, quizzes and a drinks party.

Port one

Dawn broke on day two, revealing Gijon in northern Spain as the first destination. Some set out on organised excursions while others explored independently.



Port two

An overnight hop delivered our travellers to their second secret Spanish stop – Ferrol.

Wendy, an Ipswich Oddfellows member and cruise host, said: “It was an interesting port, not well known to many regular passengers. There was a mix of interesting architecture and maritime history – the naval museum was a must.”

Port three

The ship next docked in Porto, Portugal, where the group were greeted by a broad

esplanade and a sweeping sandy beach, and they discovered a thriving fish market.

Port four

Back in Spain, the fourth port was a warm, sunny Malaga. “It was amazing,” said Wendy. “The cathedral was well worth a visit, also the Roman amphitheatre.”

Port five

The Spanish odyssey and Roman themes continued at the penultimate stop in Cadiz.

“The sea defences were testament to the city’s position close to the entrance of the Mediterranean,” Wendy said.

Port six

Having worked out their next stop, Wendy said: “Lisbon wasn’t quite such a mystery, but a delight nevertheless. The highlight was a lift ride to see magnificent views over Lisbon and the River Tejo.”

Surprises and celebrations

Before returning, the Oddfellows crew received a mystery gift bag containing souvenirs from Spain and Portugal, Fred. Olsen gifts and chocolates, and celebrated a member’s birthday with cake provided by the chef and singing waiters.

See Oddfellows Travel’s 2025 group holiday schedule, including a cruise to Iceland in July, by visiting www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Unity Mutual: Seasonal scam spotting



With tax season coming to a close, scammers start to move their attention to new opportunities.

As new financial scams emerge, people get targeted in different ways. Our financial services brand, Unity Mutual, has assessed what to watch out for in the coming months.

April to May: The tax refund scam

With key tax deadlines passing, fraudsters may take advantage of taxpayers hoping for a refund. You may receive emails, phone calls or text messages claiming you're due reimbursement.

Verify any tax-related communication through official government channels before responding to avoid being caught out.

Summer scams: Holidays, events and ticket fraud

From June to August, scammers often aim to exploit the excitement of summer holiday planning by offering fake 'not to be missed' deals on accommodation and flights, often through unofficial websites.

Concert and sporting event fraud is also on the up, and attempts to sell fake tickets on social media platforms are becoming increasingly common. Avoid these traps

by booking through reputable travel agencies and official events websites.

August to September: Back to school scams

As students and their families prepare for a new school year, fraudsters like to create fake offers for school supplies, loans and student rental accommodation.

If an offer seems too good to be true, verify it with official sources before taking action.

Stay vigilant year-round

While some scams are season-specific, fraudsters are always on the lookout for their next victim.



Stay informed, be sceptical of unsolicited requests for money or personal information, and always verify who you're dealing with before taking action.

For more financial tips and resources visit www.unitymutual.co.uk/knowledge-hub
To view Unity Mutual's range of family friendly financial products* visit www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows

For more information call 0161 214 4628.

*Terms and conditions apply

Trio receive university funding

Congratulations to the latest recipients of our First Degree Course Educational Awards: Lillie Buckley, Edward Smith and Torsten Ellis.

Easing the pressure

Each year, a selection of Oddfellows members heading to university for the first time are chosen to receive a non-repayable bursary of £900 per year for the duration of their studies.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: "I'm delighted that the Society can play a part in enhancing Lillie, Edward and Torsten's university experiences.

"Attempting to budget finances alongside studying is as tough as it's ever been but this funding from our Educational Awards will help to ease those stresses as they embark on this exciting stage in their lives."

Each year, our Fraternal Board chooses who will receive the funding, based on the applications received.

Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society, Barbara Needham, added: "I'm so proud that we are able to give the younger generation a bit of a financial boost, which will help them to take these all-important next steps on their way to making their mark on the world.

"I wish them every success over the next few years and beyond."

Lillie Buckley, Nottingham Trent Branch member

Lillie started studying Veterinary Science at the University of Bristol in September 2024.



She says the funding will allow her to purchase a new laptop for doing her university work, as well as helping to cover travel costs for work placements which she'll complete as part of her studies.

She said: "When I found out I would be receiving the funding, I was extremely happy and honoured to have been chosen. I want to say a huge thank you to the Oddfellows, as this will help support me throughout my degree and I can't wait to see what the future holds.

"I am loving the course so far. We've learnt lots of interesting things. In the future I would like to be a small animal vet, however I am keeping an open mind as I love cows!"

Edward Smith, Erewash Valley Branch member

Chemical Engineering student Edward began his course at the University of Manchester in September 2024.

He plans to follow his studies with a chartership while working as a Process Engineer. A Process Engineer designs, optimises and manages the processes used to transform raw materials into finished products in manufacturing or chemical plants.

“I felt very proud, honoured and relieved to receive extra funding to help with my studies,” he said. “I would encourage all eligible students to have a go at applying for this award.”



Edward says the money will go toward purchasing books and other learning materials.

Torsten Ellis, Derby Derwent Valley Branch member

Torsten has been reading Theoretical Physics with Mathematics at Lancaster University since October 2024.



He says the funding will allow him to budget better when purchasing learning materials, such as textbooks, and taking part in extra-curricular activities.

He added: “It felt great to learn I had been chosen for the funding. I was also somewhat relieved as it means I will have to worry less about my finances over the course of each year.

“My modules are split between the physics and maths departments, which is great because I’ll get a rich understanding of both and I’m looking forward to next year when I can pick modules and advance my understanding of both fields.”

At a glance

May 2025

Thurs 1	Social Evening	7pm
Fri 2	Out and About	1pm
Sun 4	Sunday Special	2pm
Tues 6	Social Morning	11.30am
Wed 7	Out and About	12 noon
Thurs 8	Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 9	Friday Fun	1pm
Mon 12	Social Morning	11am
Tues 13	Coffee Morning	11.30am
Wed 14	Social Afternoon	1pm
Thurs 15	Out and About	12.30pm
Sat 17	Saturday Special	2pm
Tues 20	Social Morning	11am
Wed 21	Tea Dance	1pm
Thurs 22	Let's Lunch	6.30pm
Fri 23	Foodie Friday	7pm
Tues 27	Out and About	11.30am
Wed 28	Dine Around	6pm
Thurs 29	Digital Support - Bramhall Library	2pm
Fri 30	Let's Lunch	12 noon

June

Mon 2	Social Morning	11am
Tues 3	Social Morning	11.30am
Wed 4	Out and About	12 noon
Thurs 5	Social Evening	7pm
Sun 8	Sunday Special	1pm
Mon 9	Dine Around	6pm
Tues 10	Let's Lunch	12 noon
Wed 11	Social Afternoon	1pm
Thurs 12	Dine Around	6.30pm
Sat 14	Saturday Special	1pm

June

Tues 17	Social Morning	11am
Wed 18	Dine Around	6pm
Thurs 19	Out and About	11am
Fri 20	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Mon 23	Out and About	11.30am
Wed 25	Out and About	2pm
Thurs 26	Special Event	11am
Fri 27	Foodie Friday	7pm
Sat 28	Saturday Special	1pm
Sun 29	Sunday Family Special	1pm

July

Tues 1	Social Morning	11.30am
Wed 2	Metro Munchers	12 noon
Thurs 3	Social Evening	7pm
Sat 5	LADGC Bowling Event	10am
Mon 7	Social Morning	11am
Tues 8	Out and About	11.30am
Wed 9	Social Afternoon	1pm
Thurs 10	Dine Around	6pm
Sat 12	Saturday Special	11.30am
Tues 15	Social Morning	11am
Wed 16	Dine Around	6pm
Thurs 17	Out and About	12 noon
Fri 18	Foodie Friday	7pm
Mon 21	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Tues 22	Out and About	11am
Wed 23	Out and About	11am
Thurs 24	Coffee Morning	11.30am
Fri 25	Friday Special	1pm
Sun 27	Sunday Special	12.30pm
Tues 29	Coffee Morning	11.30am
Wed 30	Let's Lunch	12 noon

Make the most of your membership



Your membership provides you with a great range of benefits...

Standard £25 a year membership* gives you access to...

- Local social events
- Care & Welfare Helpline
- Oddfellows Travel
- Oddfellows news by email
- Branch Care & Welfare Support
- Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line
- Money saving partner offers
- Benevolence Grants
- Emergency Financial Aid (Household)
- Convalescence & Carer Support (after 2 years' membership)
- Accidental Death Benefit
- Legal Aid Scheme
- Educational & Apprenticeship Awards
- 24/7 access to our historical online archive

£35 a year membership* provides you with additional benefits of...

- Optical benefit of up to £30 every second year of membership (after 1 year's membership)
- Dental benefit of up to £30 every membership year (after 1 year's membership)

For more information visit: www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits.

*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services.
For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions or call
Pam Casey (07966 934747) or Sarah North (07873 581975).

Exciting News!

At our Annual Summoned Meeting in March, it was agreed that the Branch will sponsor one local community project up to a maximum of £500 per calendar year. The Branch Committee of Management is asking for members to submit applications for any project they feel would fit the criteria; the project must be within the Branch's boundaries, and it must be clear that the Combermere Branch has provided sponsorship of project, this can be anything from a sport team kit to a community garden! If multiple applications are received, the Committee of Management will award sponsorship, based on the most worthy project.

As an example, last year the Branch sponsored local football team Sale Communities Eagles U11, purchasing their new home/away kits. As you can see from the picture below the team's kit (which I hope you agree that they look amazing!) I'm also pleased to report that the Eagles U11s did really well in the Autumn Cup, finishing second in the table and just missing out on a winner's medal!

If you have any queries regarding qualification of a project or you wish to submit an application please contact Pam Casey (see contact details on page 3).

Closing date for all applications 31 August 2025.



Member's Story

We often hear everyone has a story - it would be lovely to hear yours and I'm offering to help anyone who would like to share their story.

This is my story, just a small part, but what has probably been the most significant part. As a small child, I was inspired of learning about the Olympic Games, not knowing anything of how one could participate. But I had the good fortune of attending a Manchester School where sport played a vital part of its curriculum and where my talent was nurtured. I represented Great Britain in the pentathlon (five events) and the high jump between 1958 and 1970. This enabled me to compete in all major events around the world including two Olympic Games three European Championships and four Commonwealth Games.

An Olympic silver medal being my most acclaimed honour thus fulfilling that childhood dream along with several medals from many other competitions at National and international level. Reflecting on my life in sport I recognise my achievement could not have been possible without the help and support of many people who gave up their time to coach train and officiate at meetings I took part in. Volunteers who willingly encouraged participation in athletics through their own love of the sport. After retirement from international competition, I too became a volunteer to give something back as my mother would have said for the pleasure I had from opportunities and enjoyment afforded to me. I served on local committees to encourage sport for all coaching, organising courses for athletes and mentoring people of all ages and abilities.

Dorothy

Are You?!

Are you a budding photographer?! Do you want to see your picture on the cover of the next 'Out and About'?! If the answer is yes, we would love you to send in your photos to Pam Casey (see contact details on page 3). Your photo can be anything you feel would make a great picture for the front cover, from a picture showing Friendship to Summer flowers the choice is yours. If you are submitting pictures from places of interest they must be within the Branch's boundaries.
Closing date 1 June 2025.



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 Pam on **07966 934747** or email **pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk**.

Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

**Visit our website page at www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care
for care and welfare information**