

July - December 2026



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

out & about

Derbyshire Peak



Walks



Bowling



Day Trip



Social



Quizzes



Talks



Coffee Morning



Dining Out

Dear Members and Friends

Welcome to our Out and About events diary for July to December 2026.

As usual there are lots of events for you to look forward to and my wife Ann and I plan to come along to many of them. We always enjoy our coffee mornings, meeting so many of you and welcoming our new members.

I've been a member of The Oddfellows since December 1994 and my family have very much benefitted from and enjoyed our membership. After a career as a maintenance fitter, I retired in 2004 and then worked as a painter and decorator for six years. In my spare time I enjoy holidays with my wife, gardening and spending time with my family.

My chosen charity for the year is PACT – a small charity offering emotional, social, and practical support to families in South Yorkshire who have children and young individuals battling cancer, aiming to enhance their quality of life. They help any users of the Sheffield Children's Hospital. I hope you will

support our fundraising for this worthy cause. There will be raffles held at our Christmas and summer meals, as well as other fundraising games and quizzes throughout the year. Thank you to our team and our valuable volunteers for your hard work. It's great to have our members so involved in our events.



Many of my family are members of our society and it makes me very happy to see our branch continue to thrive and grow.

If you have any questions relating to your membership, benefits or social plans please get in touch with us using any of our contact details.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours fraternally

Alan Davies
Provincial Grand Master
(Branch Chairman) and the
Committee of Management

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at  OddfellowsUK

Contact Details

Address: 126 Saltergate, Chesterfield S40 1NG

Facebook: DerbyshirePeakOddfellows

Office Opening Hours: Our office is open to visitors Wednesdays 9.30am - 3.30pm. Other times can be arranged if needed. Please let us know if you would like to call in.

District Secretary: Tracey Thornton

Telephone: 01246 273076

Email: tracey.thornton@oddfellows.co.uk



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

Social Events Organiser: Trudy Ford

Telephone: 01246 273076

Mobile: 07933 626720

Email: trudy.ford@oddfellows.co.uk



Social Events Host: Lynn Jones

Telephone: 01246 273076

Email: lynn.jones@oddfellows.co.uk



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

Regular Event

First Tuesday of the month

Ten Pin Bowling Gang



10.45am



TBC



Join our bowling gang. Meet at Chesterfield Bowl for 10.45am to bowl at 11am, with snacks or lunch too. Cost varies depending on numbers and current offers. Chesterfield Bowl, Storforth Lane, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 2TU. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

7 July

4 August

1 September

6 October

3 November

1 December

Regular Event

Pop in Coffee Morning



Join us for our pop-in coffee morning. We will enjoy coffee, cakes and chat along with quizzes or games. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

1 July
5 August
2 September

4 November
2 December

**First Wednesday
of the month**



Crafting Hour/Garden Potting



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

8 July
12 August

9 September
14 October

11 November
9 December

**Second Wednesday
of the month**



Just for Fun Singing Group



Come along for a just-for-fun singsong. No pressure and no skill required! 126 Saltergate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 1NG. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

8 July
12 August

9 September
14 October

11 November
9 December

**Second Wednesday
of the month**

Regular Event

Table Top and Board Games

Fourth Wednesday
of the month



10am



£1



Come and try some familiar and unfamiliar games. Or bring your own and teach us all something new. No knowledge of games needed and everyone welcome. 10am to 12 noon. 126 Saltergate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 1NG. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

22 July
26 August
30 September

28 October
25 November



Rambling On Walking Group

First Friday
of the month



10.30am



Walk Free
Pay your own meal



Our friendly walking group walks for roughly 60–90 minutes at a steady pace. We then visit a nearby pub or café for lunch. Walk is free – pay for your lunch. Location to be confirmed. Call Trudy on 01246 273076 to confirm location.

3 July
7 August

4 September
2 October

6 November
4 December



Best Foot Forwards Walking Group

Third Friday
of the month



10am



Walk Free
Pay your own meal



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

17 July
21 August

18 September
16 October

20 November
18 December

July 2026

THURS
09

Car Treasure Hunt - Team Adventure

🕒 10.30am

£ Free



Meet at Peak Village Shopping Centre Car Park at Rowsley to begin at 10.30am. Follow the clues and find the items to score the most points! We will have lunch at the Grouse and Claret in Rowsley afterwards at 1pm to check the scores. Work in teams of three or four. Eight cars maximum. Book by Thursday 18 June. Peak Village, Rowsley, Chatsworth Road, Rowsley, Derbyshire DE4 2JE. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



MON
13

Dining in Derbyshire - The Hardwick Inn

🕒 12.30pm

£ As per menu



15th Century local sandstone inn, family run, serving local ales and classic pub food. Book by Friday 3 July. The Hardwick Inn, Hardwick Park, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S44 5QJ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



WED
15

Coffee Morning with Speaker - Neil Hallam

🕒 11am

£ £2



Neil will join us with his talk - from policeman to author. His police career, in both uniform and as a detective, took some unusual turns.



As a specialist in CBRN terrorism, he was involved in cases like the Alexander Litvinenko assassination and the Salisbury Novichok poisonings. Neil is also an accomplished mountaineer and adventure cyclist. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

July 2026

THURS
23

Visit to Wentworth Garden Centre and Wentworth Woodhouse



11am



£18 for guided tour



Let's meet up and enjoy this lovely garden centre, before having lunch in their on-site café. Afterwards, we go to Wentworth Woodhouse for a guided tour of the house. Meet at 11am at the garden centre. Enjoy lunch at 12.30pm. Optional tour of Wentworth Woodhouse at 2pm. Guided tour £18 each. Book by Thursday 9 July. Wentworth Garden Centre, Hague Lane, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TF. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



WED
29

Coffee Morning on Tour - Litton Village Hall



11am



£2



Join us for our coffee morning at the lovely Litton Village Hall. Games, cakes and chat with our members from the Peak. Litton Village Hall, 3 Church Lane, Litton SK17 8RA. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

FRI
31

Friday Night Social - The Blue Stoops



6pm



As per
menu



Offering a warm welcome, delicious homemade dishes and fresh produce. Book by Friday 17 July. The Blue Stoops, 20 Matlock Road, Walton, Chesterfield S40 3JQ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

Booking and cancellations

Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support. Please note that a place is not guaranteed at any event until full payment has been received.



August

WED 12 Wednesday Night Social - The Batch House with Quiz

🕒 5.45pm

£ As per menu



Let's enjoy a quiz together and a choice of food from independent outlets ranging from burgers, Mexican, Korean and more. Meet for food at 5.45pm. Quiz starts at 7pm. Book by Friday 24 July. The Batch House, The Glass Yard, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 8JY. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

WED 19 Coffee Morning with Speaker - Gerry Kreibich

🕒 11am

£ £2



A return visit from Gerry Kreibich, talking about his long music career. Plus coffee, cake and chat. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

MON 24 Dining in Derbyshire - The Terrace Café, Whitworth Park

🕒 12.30pm

£ As per menu



We have hired the Terrace Café to enjoy a summertime lunch together with scenic park views. This charming Victorian style tearoom offers freshly made meals and home-made cakes. Why not stay for a walk around the park after lunch? Book by Friday 12 June. The Terrace Café, Whitworth Park, Station Road, Darley Dale DE4 2EQ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



THURS 27 Visit to the National Mining Museum

🕒 10.15am

£ £13 for guided tour (estimate)

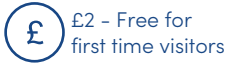


Let's enjoy a day out together at this fascinating museum. Discover 180 years of mining history and find out about the people and communities at the heart of the industry. Uncover how miners lived at work and play. Arrive at 10.15am for the 10.30am tour. Book by Thursday 6 August. National Coal Mining Museum, Caphouse Colliery, New Road, Overton, Wakefield WF4 4RH. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



September

WED 02 Friendship Month Pop in Coffee Morning



Join us for our pop in coffee morning, open to all guests for Friendship Month. We will be giving out information about the Oddfellows and providing our existing members with up-to-date news on Oddfellows offers and events. Plus cakes and chat of course. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



MON 14 Dining in Derbyshire - The Gate Inn, Tansley



Open for guests for Friendship Month. A return visit to this lovely traditional pub. With an exceptional team of chefs, they offer a varied menu of high quality food at affordable prices. Book by Thursday 3 September. The Gate Inn, The Knoll, Tansley, Matlock DE4 5FN. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



WED 16 Coffee Morning with Speaker - Paul Newsham



Join us for our coffee morning with popular speaker Paul, a retired Forensic Scientist who has a catalogue of entertaining talks. Plus tea, cakes and chat. Open to all for Friendship Month. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

THURS 17 Friendship Month Ten Pin Bowling Gang



Open to guests for Friendship Month, an informal way to come and chat to the group whilst having fun. Meet at Chesterfield bowl for 10.45am to bowl at 11am, with snacks or lunch too. Cost varies depending on numbers and current offers. Chesterfield Bowl, Storforth Lane, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 2TU. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

September

TUES

22

Overnight Trip - Nottingham with Show



9am



TBC. Show tickets £35



Join us for a couple of days of fun and sightseeing in Nottingham. Plus a chance to see 'Sounds Of The 60s', an evening of 60s classics performed by the 'Sounds Of The 60s All Star Band' and singers, hosted by Radio 2's legendary DJ, Tony Blackburn OBE. We will visit the historic sights, shop and enjoy good food. Staying at Travelodge Nottingham Central - travel details to be confirmed. Book by Friday 10 July. Travelodge Nottingham Central, New City House, Maid Marian Way, Nottingham NG1 6AJ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



THURS

24

Friendship Month Coffee Morning on Tour - Litton Village Hall



11am



£2



Join us for our coffee morning at the lovely Litton Village Hall. Games, cakes and chat with our members from the Peak. Open to all guests for Friendship Month with lots of information about the Oddfellows. Litton Village Hall, 3 Church Lane, Litton SK17 8RA. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



FRI

25

Friday Night Social - The Ticked Trout



6pm



As per menu



Join us to celebrate Friendship Month with an evening meal. The Ticked Trout prides itself on serving great pub food alongside innovative specials, using the highest quality artisan ingredients available. Book by Friday 11 September. The Ticked Trout, 33 Valley Road, Barlow, Chesterfield S18 7SL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



October

WED 07 Coffee Morning with Speaker - Charlotte Smith



Join us for our coffee morning with speaker Charlotte Smith, talking about the History of Chesterfield. Plus tea, cakes and chat. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



FRI 09 Friday Night Social - The Arkwright Arms



Dinner in a traditional pub with a welcoming atmosphere, real ales and delicious home-cooked food. Pre-order required. Book by Friday 25 September. The Arkwright Arms, Chesterfield Road, Duckmanton, Chesterfield S44 5JG. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



SAT 10 Midland Rail Steam Train Ride from Butterley Station



Meet at Butterley Station (free parking) at 10.30am to browse the shop and station, then take the 11am steam train to Swanwick Junction. Take a look in the museum and enjoy a bite to eat in the café before returning on either the 1.30pm or 2.50pm train back to Butterley. Cost: £17 per person for open riding all day and entry to the museum. Optional £3 ticket for the Narrow Gauge Railway. Book by Thursday 10 September. Midland Railway Trust, Butterley Station, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 3QZ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



October

WED
21 **Coffee Morning with Speaker - Member Brian Gibbs**



Join us for our coffee morning. Our extra speaker this month is our own member and history enthusiast Brian Gibbs, talking about the 'Battle of Trafalgar', which took place on this date in 1805. We will also enjoy coffee, cakes and chat. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

MON
26 **Dining in Derbyshire - The Barley Mow, Wingerworth**



Join us for lunch at The Barley Mow Inn. A traditional pub offering a wide variety of food and drinks and a great atmosphere. Book by Monday 12 October. The Barley Mow, Langer Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield S42 6TX. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



November

FRI
13 **Friday Night Social - Zaika Indian Restaurant**



Visit this lovely family restaurant serving authentic Indian food. You can bring your own wine (corkage may apply). £10 deposit each. Book by Monday 2 November. Zaika Indian Restaurant, Unit 6 Wardgate Way, Holme Hall, Chesterfield S40 4SL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



WED
18 **Coffee Morning with Speaker - Neil Anderson**



Join us for our coffee morning with speaker, local author Neil Anderson. Neil will be talking to us about 'Sheffield Blitz'. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

November

THURS
26

Christmas Trees at the Spire and Chesterfield Museum



11am



Free entry to the church and museum. Lunch as per menu



Join us for our annual visit to the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's, The Crooked Spire Church. We also plan to visit the new 1435 building containing the former Chesterfield Museum if it has reopened. Then lunch at The Pig & Pump. Meet from 11am at The Crooked Spire. Book by Friday 13 November. The Pig & Pump, 16 St Mary's Gate, Chesterfield S41 7TJ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



MON
30

Dining in Derbyshire - Spireites Lunch



12 noon



£25



A visit to Chesterfield FC for this popular lunch, hosted by Nick Johnson and featuring a special guest speaker. Cost includes two-course meal from the set menu, plus raffle and a game. Book by Thursday 5 November. Chesterfield Football Club SMH Stadium, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 8NZ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



December

SUN
06

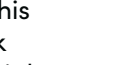
Christmas Lunch at Santos Higham Farm



12.30pm



TBC



Join us for our annual festive lunch at Santos. Meet for a drinks reception at 12.30pm followed by lunch at 1pm. Cost includes welcome drink, three-course meal, tea or coffee and mince pies. Invitations will be sent nearer the time and cost to be confirmed. There will be a festive quiz as well as a charity raffle to raise funds for PACT, our chosen charity for the year. Book by Thursday 12 November. Santos Higham Farm Hotel, Main Road, Higham DE55 6EH. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



December

THURS 10 Festive Visit to Tissington Hall



Enjoy a guided tour of the historic Tissington Hall, decorated for the festive season, led by Sir Richard FitzHerbert, 9th Baronet. Followed by a festive afternoon tea in the main hall. Book by Friday 13 November. Tissington Hall, Tissington, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1RA. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



WED 16 Festive Coffee Morning with Ukelele Band and Buffet



Join in the fun as Dronfield Baptist Church Ukelele Band join us once again for some festive fun



and singsong. Bring a small plate to contribute to our buffet lunch, which will be served at 12 noon with a glass of fizz. Club Chesterfield, Chester Street, off Ashgate Road, Chesterfield S40 1DL. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

MON 21 Dining in Derbyshire - The Three Cottages, Hasland



Our last gathering before Christmas. A pub lunch in this friendly pub offering traditional classics. Bring a 'Secret Santa' gift to share (wrapped and up to £3 value). £5 per person deposit and pre-order needed. Book by Friday 4 December. The Three Cottages, 229 Mansfield Road, Hasland, Chesterfield S41 0JJ. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.

SAT 26 Boxing Day Lunch at The Blue Bell Inn



Join a group of our members as they get together for a Boxing Day meal at The Blue Bell, North Wingfield. A traditional 15th century Inn. Two-courses £24.95 or three-courses £29.95. £10 per person deposit required. Numbers limited, so early booking needed by Friday 30 October. The Blue Bell Inn and Chantry Restaurant, Station Road, North Wingfield, Chesterfield S42 5HY. Contact Trudy on 01246 273076.



Join in with our neighbours!

Don't forget as an Oddfellow, you're welcome to join other branches for their social events. Here are a few examples. Let Trudy or Lynn know if you'd like more information or to book.

Bradford District Branch

Oddies Wanders Walk - St Aidan's Nature Reserve

Friday 17 July at 10.30am

A visit to St Aidan's Nature Reserve. Steve Warrillow will lead a short bird walk. For those wanting a longer walk, maps can be provided. Followed by a drink/snack at the RSPB. Meet at 10.30am at the RSPB car park. St Aidan's RSPB Nature Reserve, Astley Lane, Leeds LS26 8AL

Friendship Afternoon Tea

Thursday 3 September at 12 noon. Cost: £8 for members and £10 for guests. Carlton House, 46 Little Horton Lane, Bradford BD5 0BA.

Nottingham Trent District Branch

Visit to Wollaton Park and Museum

Friday 10 July at 11am. Cost: £12 for members and £15 for guests

Meet at the top car park which is pay and display. Enjoy a delightful walk with a blend of natural beauty and historic architecture in the stunning Elizabethan mansion and surrounding gardens. Visit Wollaton Hall and the Natural History Museum. Entry cost includes entry to the museum for a year. Lunch afterwards nearby. Wollaton Hall and Deer Park, Wollaton Road, Wollaton, Nottingham NG8 2AE.

Joint Nottingham Trent and South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire District Branch

Princess River Cruise Navigator Dinner

Wednesday 9 September at 12 noon. Cost: £25 for concessions and £25.50 for adults

Take in the views of the historic city of Nottingham between Holme Pierrepont and Wilford Church. Enjoy either chicken breast, scampi or crispy battered fish with chips, peas or beans followed by black forest gateaux and cream with tea or coffee. An informative live commentary is included. Princess River Cruises, The River Lodge, Princess Park, Racecourse Road, Colwick, Nottingham NG2 4RF.

South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Branch Social Afternoon

Wednesday 4 November at 1.30pm, with a talk by Natwest Bank on Fraud and Scams. Central United Reformed Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield S1 2BG.



Join in the fun at o





ur social events....



The Oddfellows and the Committee of Management

True friendships are priceless. They provide us with memories that we cherish for a lifetime, they help us to grow and become better people, and help us make a better society, built on better values.

For over 200 years the Oddfellows has helped its members forge friendships and offered help in times of need. We currently have a national network of 91 branches.

We've no political or religious affiliations – we're here for everyone – from all walks of life and ages. We're also very proud to be a not-for-profit and mutual that believes in



a community bonded by friendship, care and charitable support.

Each branch is looked after by a voluntary committee, who meet most months. Any members can come to our committee meetings, and those who have been members for more than two years can be invited to join the committee. If you'd like to find out more about getting involved, please let us know.

Each year we appoint a new Chairperson – also known as the Provincial Grand Master and a deputy – also known as the Provincial Deputy Grand Master.

Last year's Chair was Barbara Lupton. Her Deputy, Alan Davies has now stepped into the role as Chair for the 2026/2027 year. The new deputy is Trudy Ford. Here they are pictured receiving their chains alongside Barbara and Ken Lupton.



Welcome to our new members

We love to meet new people and we'd like to say a big welcome to all of our new Oddfellows. It's great to see new faces – don't forget you can always bring a friend! Invite them along to see what we are all about.



Getting to know our members

Brian and Elizabeth Gibbs

Brian and Elizabeth joined us in 2024. Brian, from Oxford, worked all over the country in his career with the NHS, settling with his family in Chesterfield.



He is an avid Oxford United supporter and still visits for lots of matches. Brian is also a history buff and the couple are members of The Lord Nelson Society. He has a particular interest in the Battle of Trafalgar and will be our speaker on the subject at our October coffee morning.

Elizabeth is originally from Newcastle, she began her career as a teacher, before becoming a Mum and later returning to work in retail.

They both love to travel, one of their favourite destinations is Vilamoura in Portugal. They love cruising too and have visited close to 40 countries both on holidays and through Brian's work.

They joined the Oddfellows to meet friends in the area, as their life had heavily revolved around their family until recently. They have two sons and a grandson, Henrik.

Gill Goddard

Gill is now in her 4th year of membership with us. She told me "I have made lots of new friends and really enjoy the events and coffee mornings. I love a meal out too. I travel abroad quite often to see my children and it's great that I can slot back in on my return and always have plenty to do."



Julia Watts

Julia has been a member of our branch since 1994. She joined because her late partner David Rawson was a member and he



later went on to join the committee and become a trustee before he passed away in 2023. They would attend branch coach trips and Christmas parties together.

After Dave passed, Julia braved the coffee mornings alone and found our other members very welcoming so was encouraged to continue. She now enjoys the coffee mornings and occasional meals and trips with the groups. She brings lovely cakes sometimes too!

Julia enjoys going out for meals with friends and spending time with her family as well as gardening, sewing, and trips in her caravan. She is working on her family tree, which is keeping her very busy! Before retirement, she worked for the NHS for 37 years, 34 of which were in occupational therapy.



Our Charity Fundraising

Our chosen charity for the current year is PACT – a charity offering emotional, social, and practical support to families in South Yorkshire and surrounding area who have children and young individuals battling cancer, aiming to enhance their quality of life.

PACT is run by parents who are passionate about helping parents and children; they share what helped them through their journey and support each other through their personal experiences.

They were founded in 1977 with a donation of £113, when eight parents created a support group for families whose children had cancer. They started raising funds for a Christmas party and a summer trip for the children. The charity expanded its remit to include children with leukaemia in 1978 and, as funds were secured, services grew to include new ideas like the provision of equipment and facilities for families. PACT has continued to raise money to help support the families, and increasingly to support the ward and clinic at the hospital.

The charity own and run a house right next to Sheffield Childrens Hospital. They also provide practical support by purchasing



equipment for the ward, school room and clinic and for the community nurses who look after the children in their own homes.

Every year they provide trips and treats for the children and their families and they own three caravans at local well known holiday parks. These facilities provide a welcome opportunity for a holiday break and some quality family time.

Where possible they provide breakfast and lunch for the parents whose children are inpatients, to ease the financial burden, as well as providing a treat trolley for the children. Their support is offered to every family who is referred to the Oncology unit at Sheffield Children's Hospital and whose child has cancer, irrespective of where they live. The help continues when the child is in remission or even if the child does not survive and it only stops when the child moves on to adult services.

I'm sure you will agree this is a worthy cause, please help us in our fundraising efforts if you can.

Receiving the Oddfellows Welcome and hearing Oddfellows Degrees

Many of our members have expressed interest in the Oddfellows traditions. This includes a formal Oddfellows welcoming ceremony, which lots of you have taken part in. It's a nod to our history and the way that the Oddfellows meetings were conducted in the past when ritual and ceremony were an important part of our meetings.

If you'd like to be 'welcomed', please let us know – our committee member Ken Lupton is happy to come along to a coffee morning to welcome a few members together. It's a simple spoken welcome that you simply affirm to at the end. You can also receive our lectures – a series of short spoken pieces that relay the morals and ethics of our society. If this is something that you are interested in and haven't experienced yet, please let Trudy or Lynn know.

Friendship Month



September is Friendship Month at The Oddfellows. We'd love to welcome anyone that is interested in joining our Society to come along and give us a try. Bring a friend or family member, tell your other groups about us – bring someone along to our friendly events this September. Leaflets about our Friendship Month events will be available nearer the time.

Christmas Lunch



Our Christmas lunch will take place on Sunday 6 December at Santo's Higham Farm. This is a wonderful annual celebration to get everyone in the festive mood. There will be a welcome drink, three course festive lunch plus tea/coffee and mince pies. There will be a short speech and toast, with a table quiz and fundraising raffle. Invitations will be sent out nearer the time, with the price to be confirmed. Address: Santo's Higham Farm, Main Road, Higham, Alfreton DE55 6EH.

A look at some of our recent events

The Lights of Abraham

In December we enjoyed a festive albeit rainy evening at The Lights of Abraham. We took the cable car up the heights which were all adorned with festive light trails. We also enjoyed supper up there, taking in the view of the pretty lights down the hillside. We were a brave bunch as it wasn't the best of evenings, but as always we had a lovely time.



Festive Ukelele Band Visit

We were very lucky to be visited by Dronfield Baptist Ukelele Band before Christmas, who entertained us with their music, songs and general fun. It was a fabulous morning including a snowball fight and got us all into the festive mood.



Wine Tasting Evening

In January Lynn and Trudy hosted a wine tasting evening at our Saltergate branch office. It was great fun and plenty of wine flowed! We learned about types of wine and their origins as well as enjoying a delicious buffet. We hope to repeat this event soon.



Tour of Chesterfield Football Club

We had a wonderful day out at Chesterfield Football Club, where we enjoyed a full guided tour of the stadium and site before enjoying a lovely two course meal. We even met a player or two!



Litton Coffee Mornings

We continue to hold our occasional coffee mornings in Litton Village Hall, as part of our plan to widen our social offering in that area. Some members often enjoy a lunch afterwards at The Red Lion. If you have any ideas for tasty meals or places to visit in the Buxton area please get in touch!



Our annual summer lunch will be held in Tideswell and we will be visiting the area for a meal or two over the next few months as well.

Photo Shoot Fun

Three of our members, including Trudy, took part in an Oddfellows photoshoot in Manchester last December. The Oddfellows use real

members to showcase our society and Mary, Andrea and John were happy to take part. It was a fun experience and we learned a lot about the set.



Andrea



John



Mary



Trudy

Junior Oddfellows

We have several Junior Oddfellows in our branch, ranging from infants up to 18 years old, when they can choose to continue as a Standard or Extra Benefits member. Our Junior Members even receive a Christmas gift card.

Pictured is lovely Cara, granddaughter of committee member Corinne Hoban, enjoying the fun at one of our events with Trudy. Ask Tracey or Trudy for more information about Junior Membership.



Care and Welfare

Our branch Care and Welfare representatives are Peter Wilkinson and Jean Nelson. This Out and About Guide contains details of our Care and Welfare benefits for members. If you think you might benefit from this service or would like more information please contact Tracey in the first instance.

Oddies autumn getaway to Llandudno

Join us as we take a trip to Llandudno, North Wales, on an Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.

Oddfellows members and guests will take in some breathtaking scenery during a four-night stay at the Hydro Hotel from Saturday 26 September to Wednesday 30 September 2026.

From £369 per person, half board, the price includes coach pick up and drop off from locations across the South East via Reading, or a self-arrival option.



Outstanding natural beauty

Two optional day trips are included in the price of the holiday.

On day two, you'll head by coach to the Isle of Anglesey, where the entire coastline has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You'll call at the seaside town of Beaumaris with its mix of Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian buildings.

On day four, the second day trip will head to Caernarfon, home to Wales' most famous castle and a UNESCO World

Heritage Site. Afterwards, you'll venture into the Snowdonia National Park, calling at Llanberis, situated at the foot of Mount Snowdon, and Porthmadog.

Relax in great company

We'll be organising some group drinks and times to dine together during the stay, and enjoying the hotel's evening entertainment, but your days will be largely free to plan as you please.

The hotel has a large entertainment suite with a dance floor and entertainment most evenings, and there are sun lounges and a games room with a snooker table.

You'll also find spectacular views over the bay or over the town to the Snowdonia mountain range from many of the hotel's bedrooms and from its Looking Glass Bar.

Interested in joining us?

This group holiday is open to any members and their guests and will be hosted by our Oddfellows Travel coordinator and South East Lancashire Branch member, Emma Gorst.

For any enquiries, and to find out how to book, get in touch with Emma by calling **0161 214 4634**, or email travel@oddfellows.co.uk.

Please read and understand Alfa Travel's terms and conditions before booking at www.alfaholidays.co.uk/booking-conditions.

Support with fundraising and donations

Donating to good causes is a cornerstone of Oddfellowship, and symbolises what it is all about – helping to improve lives through friendship and support.

It's a thread that runs right through every Branch of the Society. Whether it's members dropping some spare change into a collection at a coffee morning, or the HA Andrews Memorial Fund supporting cutting-edge medical research projects, it all adds up and contributes to that ethos.

Branch donations add up to huge 2025 total



Reading Oddfellows donated £4,300 to Camp Mohawk

Oddfellows branches and members are avid fundraisers. In 2025, more than £148,000 was handed over to a huge range of wonderful causes throughout the country.

Beneficiaries included schools, charities for people with special needs, animal sanctuaries, causes to improve health conditions, lifeboat and air ambulance

charities, and one branch provided the funds required to buy state-of-the-art medical equipment.

As well as handing over funds, many members bought and collected for foodbanks, including tinned goods and other long-life foods, toiletries and further everyday items.

To find out how you can get involved with Branch fundraising initiatives, speak to your Branch Secretary.

£10,000 raised for Hurricane Melissa relief efforts

The Oddfellows recently donated £10,000 to support the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of Oddfellows branches across the UK, and with additional support from central funds, the donation will help communities affected by the devastating storm rebuild their lives.

Hurricane Melissa, a Category 5 hurricane, made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October 2025. The strongest hurricane ever to strike the island, it caused catastrophic damage and impacted nearly 1.9 million people.

The funds have been sent to the Jamaica Red Cross, via the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), to support ongoing emergency relief and recovery efforts. This includes providing essential supplies, shelter, and longer-term assistance to those whose homes and livelihoods were affected.



Further information about the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal can be found at www.ifrc.org/emergency/jamaica-hurricane-melissa.

HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipient announced

In October 2025, representatives of the Oddfellows visited the impressive facilities at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) to present a cheque for £67,068 to Prevent Breast Cancer, courtesy of our HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

The money will fund an innovative breast cancer prevention research project for two years.

Carried out by University of Manchester PhD student Anthony Wilby and Dr Hannah Harrison, the project is aiming to discover alternative preventative breast cancer therapies for pre-menopausal women.

The HA Andrews Memorial Fund, which was set up in 1971 to back UK-based medical research projects and organisations, has donated over £1.1m

since its launch. Head to www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews to find out more about the Fund, including previous recipients.

The very best of Oddfellowship

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey (pictured below at MCRC), said: "The work the Oddfellows does for charities and good causes always astounds me. It reflects the very best of Oddfellowship and it makes me incredibly proud.

"Donating to good causes, no matter how big or small, or how much we can contribute, can make a huge difference. Our efforts might well have saved a life, put some food on a young family's table, or simply have made someone's day a little brighter.

"Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way. You're all a huge credit to yourselves and the Society."



For more on how the Oddfellows raises money for good causes, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back

Spring clean your finances for the new tax year

The start of the new tax year on Monday 6 April might sound like an event reserved for accountants, but at Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's a time everyone can make the most of.

Here are some simple ways to spring clean your finances and get on top of your money for the tax year ahead.

Make the most of your ISA

Every adult receives a fresh £20,000 ISA allowance at the beginning of each tax year, so if your savings are lying dormant, why not move them somewhere your interest is protected from tax?



For those comfortable with investment risk, the Unity Mutual Stocks and Shares Flexible ISA* offers potentially higher growth than traditional Cash ISAs (capital is at risk).

Guaranteed returns, less hassle

If you have a lump sum sitting idle or an investment coming to maturity, a Unity

Mutual Fixed Rate Bond* provides a predictable, low-effort option. Simply deposit your money for a set term to secure a guaranteed return.

Even better, Oddfellows members benefit from preferential rates on our 2, 3, and 5-year Bonds.

Make savings work harder

With many banks still offering low rates, a quick comparison is essential to ensure your money is working for you. Even moving savings to a higher-interest account with your current provider can significantly boost your balance over the year.

Find out more

Unity Mutual has over 200 years of experience managing Oddfellows members' funds, and our friendly team is on hand to help you navigate the year ahead. Visit www.unitymutual.co.uk to find out more.

**Terms and conditions apply to all products. With stocks and shares, your investment can go down as well as up meaning your capital is at risk.*

New tax year, new scams

Stay vigilant against common scams such as fake HMRC tax rebates or urgent payment requests for 'unpaid tax'. While these communications can look genuine, always verify them by going directly to the official government website.



Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?

None of us know what is around the corner...

Local Care and Welfare Support

Our branch Care and Welfare representatives are Peter Wilkinson and Jean Nelson. If you think you might benefit from this service or would like more information please contact Tracey in the first instance.

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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

At a glance

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

July 2026

Wed 1	Pop in Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 3	Rambling On Walking Group	10.30am
Tues 7	Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Wed 8	Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering	11am
Wed 8	Just for Fun Singing Group	1pm
Thurs 9	Car Treasure Hunt - Team Adventure	10.30am
Mon 13	Dining in Derbyshire - The Hardwick Inn	12.30pm
Wed 15	Coffee Morning with Speaker - Neil Hallam	11am
Fri 17	Best Foot Forwards Walking Group	10am
Wed 22	Table Top and Board Games	10am
Thurs 23	Visit to Wentworth Garden Centre and Wentworth Woodhouse	11am
Wed 29	Coffee Morning on Tour - Litton Village Hall	11am
Fri 31	Friday Night Social - The Blue Stoops, Walton	6pm

August

Tues 4	Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Wed 5	Pop in Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 7	Rambling On Walking Group	10.30am
Wed 12	Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering	11am
Wed 12	Just for Fun Singing Group	1pm
Wed 12	Wednesday Night Social - The Batch House with Quiz	5.45pm
Wed 19	Coffee Morning with Speaker - Gerry Kreibich	11am
Fri 21	Best Foot Forwards Walking Group	10am
Mon 24	Dining in Derbyshire - The Terrace Café, Whitworth Park	12.30pm
Wed 26	Table Top and Board Games	10am
Thurs 27	Visit to the National Mining Museum	10.15am

September - Friendship Month

Tues 1	Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Wed 2	Friendship Month Pop in Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 4	Rambling On Walking Group	10.30am
Wed 9	Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering	11am

At a glance

September - Friendship Month

Wed 9	Just for Fun Singing Group	1pm
Mon 14	Dining in Derbyshire - The Gate Inn, Tansley	12.30pm
Wed 16	Coffee Morning with Speaker - Paul Newsham	11am
Thurs 17	Friendship Month Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Fri 18	Best Foot Forwards Walking Group	10am
Tues 22	Overnight Trip - Nottingham with Show	9am
Thurs 24	Friendship Month Coffee Morning on Tour - Litton Village Hall	11am
Fri 25	Friday Night Social - The Tickled Trout	6pm
Wed 30	Table Top and Board Games	10am

October

Fri 2	Rambling On Walking Group	10.30am
Tues 6	Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Wed 7	Coffee Morning with Speaker - Charlotte Smith	11am
Fri 9	Friday Night Social - The Arkwright Arms	6pm
Sat 10	Midland Rail Steam Train Ride from Butterley Station	10.30am
Wed 14	Crafting Hour/Garden Potting	11am
Wed 14	Just for Fun Singing Group	1pm
Fri 16	Best Foot Forwards Walking Group	10am
Wed 21	Coffee Morning with Speaker - Member Brian Gibbs	11am
Mon 26	Dining in Derbyshire - The Barley Mow, Wingerworth	12.30pm
Wed 28	Table Top and Board Games	10am

November

Tues 3	Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Wed 4	Pop in Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 6	Rambling On Walking Group	10.30am
Wed 11	Crafting Hour/Garden Potting	11am
Wed 11	Just for Fun Singing Group	1pm
Fri 13	Friday Night Social - Zaika Indian Restaurant	6pm
Wed 18	Coffee Morning with Speaker - Neil Anderson	11am
Fri 20	Best Foot Forwards Walking Group	10am
Wed 25	Table Top and Board Games	10am

At a glance

November

Thurs 26	Christmas Trees at the Spire and Chesterfield Museum	11am
Mon 30	Dining in Derbyshire - Spireites Lunch	12 noon

December

Tues 1	Ten Pin Bowling Gang - Chesterfield Bowl	10.45am
Wed 2	Pop in Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 4	Rambling On Walking Group	10.30am
Sun 6	Christmas Lunch at Santos Higham Farm	12.30pm
Wed 9	Crafting Hour/Garden Pottering	11am
Wed 9	Just for Fun Singing Group	1pm
Thurs 10	Festive Visit to Tissington Hall	2pm
Wed 16	Festive Coffee Morning with Ukelele Band and Buffet	11am
Fri 18	Best Foot Forwards Walking Group	10am
Mon 21	Dining in Derbyshire - The Three Cottages, Hasland	12.30pm
Sat 26	Boxing Day Lunch at The Blue Bell Inn	12 noon

Learn, have fun,
and stay in touch
from home

Our online events are
here to stay



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

OEM/1024A6

The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F.
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