

September 2019 - February 2020
Autumn Issue



O^{the} ODDfellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

Mid-Surrey District



Deepdene Trail



Music



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz



Oddfellows Hall Dorking

Welcome to the latest edition of the news and events diary for Mid-Surrey District

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

We are basically a group of friends brought together through a shared interest in socialising, making new friends and helping people. This events diary and newsletter is a handy guide for you to keep so that you know what is happening in the area. Please call or email the office for more information on any of these events.

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

Contact Details

Secretary: Maeve Stott
maeve.stott@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: Oddfellows Hall,
270 High Street, Dorking
Surrey, RH4 1QT

Telephone: 01306 877792

Email:
mid-surrey@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Roxane Butterworth
roxane.butterworth@oddfellows.co.uk

Membership: Jenny Vincent
jenny.vincent@oddfellows.co.uk

Dates are subject to change. Please call to confirm your attendance.

you and your friends to attend any of our events that take your fancy - we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a not-for-profit friendly society that's been around for over 200 years. Our aim is to bring people together through our social events, as well as support our members with a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for the members. For more information visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call 0800 028 1810 to speak to one of our team.

If you have any ideas for events, talks or articles please contact Cynthia, Brenda or Roxane via the office 01306 877792 or mid-surrey@oddfellows.co.uk.

Tea and Tunes

First Monday and third Thursday of the month



Members: £1
Guests £2



Mid Surrey District are setting up a regular Tea and Tunes group in The Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, Dorking . These will be every first Monday of the month and third Thursday from 2pm to 4pm in the lounge. Please contact the office for exact dates.



All welcome to pop in to enjoy tea, coffee and light refreshments either regularly or as a one off. Simply relax and chat whilst listening to a range of easy listening music. All welcome and bring a friend. Just let the office know if you can make it. **Free during September Friendship Month**, then costs for Oddfellows members will be £1 and guests £2.

This is a members for member's group so all welcome to coordinate refreshments and suggest music. Look forward to seeing you!

Please check the 'At a glance' section on the back page for dates. Oddfellows Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact us on 01306 877792.

Friendship Month



As September is Friendship Month there will be several events in and around Dorking and Leatherhead. This year Oddfellows celebrates 10 years of Friendship Month. We hope you will be able to join us and welcome to bring along a friend.

Monday 2 - Tea and Tunes

Monday 9 - Mole Valley Life

Thursday 19 - Tea and Tunes

Tuesday 24 - Afternoon Tea

Sunday 29 - Nutcracker Ballet Trip

September - Friendship Month

MON
02

&

THURS
19

Tea and Tunes



ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Celebrating 10 years

This Friendship Month all are invited to join us for tea, coffee and light refreshments. Relax, chat, listening to a range of easy music and find out more about the Oddfellows.

Free event, see page 3.



MON
09

Mole Valley Life Talk and Demonstration



Mole Valley Life are coming along to introduce you to their wide range of services and facilities. Mole Valley Life is Mole Valley District Council's services promoting independence.

Many of their services use the very latest technology.

It offers solutions including transport to residents in the Mole Valley area who may require assistance in their everyday lives and focuses on allowing people to remain in their own homes for as long as possible. Followed by a chance to chat, with tea and coffee. All welcome.

Oddfellows Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT.
Contact us on 01306 877792.



For details on all events unless alternative contact given please contact the office on 01306 877792 or via email mid-surrey@oddfellows.co.uk

September - Friendship Month

TUES
24 Afternoon Tea for
Macmillan Cancer
Support



Oddfellows are celebrating Friendship Month by welcoming you to join us for Afternoon Tea. Relax and chat with friends and enjoy Brenda's delicious home-made scones, cakes and finger sandwiches.



For those who wish to take part there will be a local history photo quiz available. Donations to Macmillan coffee morning. All welcome to this popular event and bring a friend.

Please let the office know in advance for catering purposes.

Oddfellows Hall Leatherhead,
45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead
KT22 8BN. Contact us on
01306 877792.

SUN
29 Nutcracker Ballet



Why not join us at the Dorking Halls to watch the **National Russian Ballet** perform - The Nutcracker, featuring this timeless score from Tchaikovsky. This ballet has captured the imagination of many generations and continues worldwide, full of mystery and romance. This is the ultimate and beautiful fairy tale where goodness and beauty triumph.

Tickets from £23. Please contact the Mid-Surrey office to book and more details. Book by Monday 2 September.

Dorking Halls, Reigate Road,
Dorking RH4 1SG. Contact Maeve on
01306 877792.



Image by Nikola Bradonjić and is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license.

October

FRI 04 Pub Lunch with Friends

🕒 12.15pm 💷 As per menu 🍴🍷



Our lunch clubs are a chance to get together with friends over a meal with good conversation. If you haven't joined us before don't worry, it's not an exclusive club. All Oddfellows and their friends and visitors are welcome. As this is Friendship Month you are especially welcome to join in and bring along a friend to see what a friendly bunch the Oddfellows are!

This month we are meeting at The Royal Oak at Stonebridge. The Royal Oak, has been recommended by a local Oddfellow and is a traditional pub serving daily specials and has stunning views. If you have a recommendation for a pub lunch please let the office know. Booking essential via the office. Just pay for your own meal and drinks on the day.

Book by Tuesday 1 October. The Royal Oak, Chart Lane South, Stonebridge, North Holmwood, Dorking RH5 4DJ. Contact us on 01306 877792.

FRI 11 Wellbeing Talk - Paracise Exercise

🕒 1pm 💷 Free ❤️

Victoria Stansfield will be giving a talk on a new low intensity exercise class. Paracise offers an entry point to the millions of people who would benefit physically and mentally from lower intensity exercise.



Ideal for those who find regular fitness classes too demanding or who haven't exercised for a long time or who are coming back from injury. It may be accessible to those with a wide range of health conditions such as arthritis, bad backs etc. Paracise follow the same formula so wherever you attend a class you can be confident it will be low impact.

Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact us on 01306 877792.

October

SAT 12 Inter-District Quiz

🕒 2.30pm 💷 TBC



Come and help make up a team to challenge neighbouring Districts at this Inter-District quiz hosted by Mitcham Branch. Please contact the office for more information. St Andrews Hall, Northey Avenue, Cheam, Surrey SM2 7HF. Contact us on 01306 877792.



MON 14 Members Quiz Night with Fish and Chip Supper

🕒 7.30pm 💷 Pay for your fish and chips



Members only. Quiz with fish and chips supper. All members welcome. Please contact the office to book. Book by Monday 14 October. Oddfellows Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Cynthia on 01306 877792.



MON 21 Mid-Surrey Half Yearly Business Meeting (Leatherhead)

🕒 10.30am 💷 Free



Mid-Surrey District meeting. These meetings are open to members only, however all members are welcome to attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to share and discuss the business of the Branch, subjects include finance, social planning, care development, publicity and promotion.

If you have not attended before please do call the Secretary beforehand, so we can look out for you and make sure you are welcomed to the business meeting. Often members meet for lunch locally after the meeting.

Oddfellows Hall Leatherhead, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead KT22 8BN. Contact Maeve or Jenny on 01306 877792.

November

MON
11

An Introduction to Family History



7.30pm



Members Free, Guests £3



An introduction to family history and how to get started with Elizabeth Owen from local group Merlin Genealogy Solutions. There is an increasing popularity to find out where we come from and to trace your family tree or family history. At this fascinating talk Elizabeth will provide an introduction on how to get started researching your family history.

Looking at reasons why people may wish to research their family history and the outcomes they might like to achieve. Information sources and where to find them before moving onto the basics of how to get started with research and documenting the results while taking into account current laws and security considerations. Followed by tea, coffee and a chance to chat.

Oddfellows Lounge (Oddfellows Hall), 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT.
Contact the Social Organiser on 01306 877792.

December

MON
09

Christmas Gathering



7.30pm



Free



Members only. All Mid-Surrey Oddfellows welcome to this 'bring a dish to share' Christmas gathering. This is a members only event as also will be finalising events for next years Events Diary. Please co-ordinate with Cynthia what you are bringing to this pot luck supper. Any events and ideas for the Events Diary please contact the office. Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking RH4 1SG. Contact Cynthia on 01306 877792.



December

MON
16

Christmas Lunch

12.30pm

£ As per menu



All members and visitors welcome to this Christmas lunch at The Running Horse. Our lunch clubs are a chance to get together with friends over a meal with good conversation.

If you haven't joined us before don't worry, it's not an exclusive club, all Oddfellows and their friends and visitors are welcome to this festive lunch at The Running Horse. This historic pub dating back to 1403, overlooks the River Mole and serves authentic home-made food and known for its supreme cellarmanship. All are welcome.

Pay for own meal and drinks on the day. Please book in advance. Book by Monday 9 December.

The Running Horse, 38 Bridge Street, Leatherhead KT22 8BZ. Contact us on 01306 877792.

January 2020

MON
13

Oh No It Isn't - A History of Pantomime Talk

7.30pm

£ Members Free
Guests £3



We warmly welcome back Pete to speak on the History of Pantomime. What is it about pantomime that attracts thousands of people every year to



this strange concoction of fairy tales, music, dance and cross-dressing?

Why do normally reserved, respectable, theatregoers find themselves chomping at the bit to gleefully shout out contradictory comebacks and what is it really like to play the back end of a Pantomime Cow? All this and the answer to whether something really is behind you will be answered in this festive talk about one of the great British seasonal traditions.

Book by Friday 10 January. Oddfellows Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Cynthia on 01306 877792.

February

FRI
07

Cinnamon Trust Information Morning



11am



Free



The Cinnamon Trust will be coming to speak followed by tea, coffee and a chat. The Cinnamon Trust is a national charity for the elderly (aged 60 and over), the terminally ill and their pets. Their primary aim is to help keep people and their pets together, by assisting with pet related tasks such as dog walking, pet care and short-term fostering (when an owner faces a spell in hospital). Friday 7 February. Oddfellows Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact the office on 01306 877792.

MON
10

Wild Life Trust Talk



7.30pm



Members Free, Guests £3



Locally based Wildlife Aid Foundation are dedicated to the rescue, care and rehabilitation of sick, injured or orphaned wildlife. Founded in 1980, they deal with 20,000 wildlife emergencies in and around Surrey each year.

The illustrated presentation showing tonight is informed by the expertise and experiences of founder Simon Cowell (not that one), the hospital's veterinary team and over 300 volunteers. They believe passionately in the importance of education to promote understanding of the many threats to Britain's wild animals, advise what we can all do to help the environmental issues that affect us all.



Followed by light refreshments and a chat. Book by Friday 7 February.

Oddfellows Lounge, Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Cynthia on 01306 877792.

February

TUES
25 **Pub Lunch with Friends**



12.15pm



As per menu



Our lunch clubs are a chance to get together with friends over a meal with good conversation. If you haven't joined us before don't worry, it's not an exclusive club, all Oddfellows and their friends and visitors are welcome. Book by Thursday 21 February. The Star, Kingston Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 ODP. Contact us on 01306 877792.



Travel places with Friendly Faces

With group holidays, short breaks, exclusive discounts, travel offers and the opportunity to get to know other Oddfellows travellers, the Active Travel Club has something for everyone to enjoy.



**Fred. Olsen
Cruise Lines**



**Haven
Holidays**



**Warner Leisure
Holidays**



**Travel
Insurance***

Check out the latest holidays at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel
Contact **0161 832 9361** or email active@oddfellows.co.uk

All holidays are booked through third party travel companies and terms and conditions apply.

Please ask for further details before booking.

Holidays are open to Oddfellows members and their guests.

*Oddfellows Support Services Limited will introduce members to the above organisation. Oddfellows Support Services Limited receives a commission payment for any introduction. Oddfellows Support Services Limited is registered in England and Wales, Company No. 8309175. Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB and is a non-regulated wholly owned subsidiary of The Independent Order of Oddfellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited.

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Supporting Charities

Did you know that the Mid-Surrey District donates to these charities annually?

Air Ambulance

Combat Stress

Orphan Gift Fund

HA Andrews Fund

Princess Alice Hospice

The Brigitte Trust

The Aplastic Anaemia Trust

Friends of Dorking
Community Hospital

Age Concern

Leatherhead Swans

Dorking Talking Newspaper

And thanks to the talks given by their volunteers or links to events this year Mid Surrey also gave donations to Patchworking Garden Project, Dementia Friends (Alzheimer's Society), Brigitte Trust, Water Aid.

If there is a talk you would be interested in hearing or event you would like help organising for Mid-Surrey District please let the office know.

If you have any ideas or contacts for future events and can't make the meeting please contact the office.

Care and Welfare Visitors



Pat Christmas



David Day

David and Pat are available to visit any members with any health or welfare concerns. Please contact Jenny or Maeve in the office who can also put you in touch with the Oddfellows Care and Welfare Department.

Lounge Area Available to Hire

Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1QT. Ideal for small regular groups – comfortably seating 30 people. Contact Maeve Stott on 01306 877792 or email: maeve.stott@oddfellows.co.uk.

- Kitchen Facilities
- Available for hire during the day and evening
- Carpeted throughout
- Use of digital projector and screen

Did you know the Oddfellows Hall in Bridge Street, Leatherhead is also available for hire? **Please contact Roxane or the office on 01306 877792.**

Mid-Surrey District Dinner Dance

Saturday 6 April 2019

Many years ago, holding Dinner Dances at the Historic Oddfellows Hall in Dorking High Street was a regular occurrence that was widely enjoyed by the local community.

Writes Jenny Vincent

To celebrate 175 years of the Oddfellows in Mid-Surrey on Saturday 6 April 2019 the Mid-Surrey Oddfellows had a lovely evening attended by Oddfellows members and friends from Mid-Surrey and other areas including Manchester, Liverpool, Reading, Portsmouth, West London and Mitcham. A delicious three course meal was served by local caterers, Balsamic Fig from Brockham, the DJ for the night was Andy Skinner of Nightsoundsdisco playing music from the 50's and 60's and the beautiful flowers and table decorations were displayed by Flowers by Elaine of Dorking. It was nice to be able to support local businesses on this memorable occasion. One of the first couples on the dance floor were Linda and John Foskett, Ballroom Dancers, who are regular hirers of the Oddfellows Hall for their Surrey Hills Dance classes – others soon took their lead for some classic waltzes followed by general dancing.

The raffle raised money for two local charities, The Brigitte Trust and The Patchworking Garden Project.

The Patchworking Garden Project based in a peaceful walled garden tucked away in Dorking and run entirely by volunteers



they offer gardening, crafting or to simply sit and enjoy nature and the company of others. They especially welcome those with a need because of physical or mental health conditions, learning disabilities, dementia, isolation or bereavement.

www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk

The Brigitte Trust is an independent charity founded in Dorking over 30 years ago, now covering the whole of Surrey. The Trust offers a free volunteer service of emotional support and practical help at home when a life-threatening illness has been diagnosed. **www.brigitte-trust.org**

The local Mid-Surrey branch organises events, in and around the Mid-Surrey District for Oddfellows members and visitors. Regularly getting together to enjoy social events such as teas, talks, trips out, lunches, dances, care talks and evening get-togethers. All are open events and all welcome. Please check the website for more details on Oddfellows www.oddfellows.co.uk. For more information on joining or attending local events which are open to all please contact 01306 877792 or mid-surrey@oddfellows.co.uk.

1927 - 2018 Ivan Longhurst

Ivan Longhurst-Long standing Mid-Surrey Oddfellows member, sadly passed away last year.

Ivan was a member of the Army Cadets until March 1944 before joining the Home Guard, then enlisted for the regular army in November 1944. Ivan initially with the Argyle Southern Gordon Highlanders. He then transferred to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. In total, he served eight years in the regular army and four on reserve serving in Gartmore and Egypt. Ivan was always a very practical and technical gifted man who put those skills to full use during his entire army career and working life.

He met Val on Valentine's Day and married her in August 1954. They then had three children and now proudly also have six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Ivan enjoyed travelling afar and in particular going away on cruise ships with Val and their Oddfellows friends Phill and Mary Alderman. One of Ivan's greatest



Ivan at the Dorking War Memorial

pleasures was gardening and especially his award-winning fuchsias.

Ivan was not only a very proud and respected gentleman, but a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather who will be sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

(Taken in part from the eulogy read at Ivan's funeral).

Share the love -

Help your friends get more out of life...

Why not invite them to become an Oddfellow? The more you refer that join, the greater rewards you'll receive - starting with a £10 Love2shop voucher.*

To refer a friend, call Membership on **0800 028 1810**, visit our Members' Area at www.oddfellows.co.uk or fill in a Refer a Friend form available from your Branch Secretary.

Terms and conditions apply*

The Refer a Friend offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other membership offer. For full terms and conditions, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/offers.

Mary Alderman



We remember Mary Alderman, an active Mid-Surrey Oddfellows member and part of the Oddfellows family who sadly passed away this year. Mary was Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) of Mid-Surrey in 2012.

Mary was born in London in 1936. At four years of age Mary was evacuated to Wiltshire. Mary enjoyed school, and was very popular with many friends, some of those friends from Camden Grammar School for Girls she was still in contact with until very recently. On leaving school, Mary worked for Scotland Yard in the offices. One of the pleasures she enjoyed was to 'buy' a stool outside the London Palladium to reserve a seat to see Frankie Laine, Guy Mitchell, Frankie Vaughan and many others.

Whilst at school Mary started writing to a pen friend - his name was Phill Alderman.

When Phill returned home (from being stationed in Ceylon) they met on Euston Station on the 6 October 1955 and, as they say, the rest is history. Mary and Phill got engaged. They married in April 1958, and had three children.

Mary always put on a feast for visitors and was a very good cook. Mary worked at NEL at Milton Court for many years returning to London for work following an office transfer, until her retirement.

Mary and Phill enjoyed all their holidays especially the many cruises they did with Val and Ivan Longhurst. Val was a very close friend who Mary always said she was like a sister she never had. In 2014, Mary lost Phill after 56 years of marriage.

In July last year, Mary suffered a stroke, which took away a lot of her independence and confidence as she loved to socialise.

Mary was a loving mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, whose family meant everything to her. She will be missed by all who knew her.

(Taken from the eulogy read at Mary's funeral).



Want to get involved?

Looking for something to do? And meet new friends?

If so, there is plenty for you to get involved in with at the Oddfellows. Mid-Surrey are always looking for volunteers to help with social events and care support. This can just be as a one off or regular help such as friendly face to welcome at the evening or afternoon events, help preparing teas/coffees, welcoming speakers, deciding events and suggesting ideas for events.

Is there is an activity you want to do with friends we are not currently running? We encourage all members to put on events for other members and friends to join them on. Would you like to help run a new event like a book club, singing group, dancing or cinema group or a one off walk in the country or coffee morning? After all

Oddfellows is run by members for members- so you can help decide what events you would like to be running in Mid-Surrey. Of course you will get the support and encouragement of the other members and office staff for any these events.

Did you also know that all members are welcome to attend business meetings and become more involved with the running of the branch? You could also become a volunteer welfare visitor keeping on touch with members with health and welfare concerns.

If you are interested in any of the above or just would like more information on getting more involved please call Maeve or Roxane in the office 01306 877792, mid-surrey@oddfellows.co.uk, or pop in to the office on a Friday morning.

Dementia Friends Presentation

On Tuesday 30 April John Shaw a volunteer who is trained and supported by the Alzheimer's Society gave a short informal Dementia Friends Information Session to Mid Surrey Oddfellows and visitors. It was a really informative talk to learn more about dementia and how we all as a community can help create a dementia

friendly society. Many signed up to become a Dementia Friend. Please contact the office for more information and leaflets from the Alzheimer's Society.



Wellbeing and Welfare

The Mid-Surrey district has regular wellbeing and welfare talks, in both Dorking and Leatherhead where there is an informal talk on a health and wellbeing organisation or local charity and chance to enjoy a cup of tea and relaxed chat with other members and visitors. These are free events open to all.

Mole Valley Life

Monday 9 September 2019

Mole Valley Life are coming along to introduce you to their wide range of services and facilities. Mole Valley Life is Mole Valley District Council's services promoting independence. Many of their services use the very latest technology. It offers solutions including transport to residents in the Mole Valley Area who may require assistance in their everyday lives and focuses on allowing people to remain in their own homes for as long as possible. Followed by a chance to chat, tea and coffee. All welcome. Free admission. Oddfellows Hall, Dorking.

Afternoon Tea for Macmillan

Tuesday 24 September 2019

Oddfellows are celebrating Friendship Month by welcoming you to join us



for Afternoon tea. Relax and chat with friends, and enjoy Brenda's homemade afternoon tea of delicious scones, cakes and finger sandwiches. For those who wish to take part there will be a local history photo quiz available. Donations to Macmillan Coffee Morning. All welcome to this popular event -and bring a friend. Please let the office know in advance for catering purposes.

Wellbeing Talk

Friday 11 October 2019

Victoria Stansfield will be giving a talk on Paracise. This is an introduction talk not an exercise class. Gentle on the joints yet effective, Paracise flows through movements designed to improve posture, balance, mobility and flexibility, whilst improving your muscle memory. All to fabulous music and with no floor work. Victoria will be on hand to answer questions and has classes starting at Oddfellows which you can book. Followed by a chance to chat, tea and coffee. All welcome. Free admission. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT.



Cinnamon Trust Information

Morning Talk

Friday 7 February 2020

All welcome to hear more about the work of the Cinnamon Trust a national charity with the primary aim to keep the elderly or those terminally ill and their pets together. Assisting with pet related tasks on a long term or short term basis. Free Admission. Followed by tea, coffee and a chat.



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 Maeve on **01306 877792** or email **maeve.stott@oddfellows.co.uk**

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@manchestercab.org



**citizens
advice**

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**

184,000 reasons why we LOVE our members...

Our Branches work tirelessly to fundraise for some fantastic causes. Whether it's a bake sale to fund cancer research, or a coffee morning to purchase some much-needed equipment for their local hospital, every single penny counts.

In 2018, Oddfellows Branches raised over £184,000 for good causes – all of which could not have been achieved without the support of our members and wider community! Every cupcake sold, each raffle ticket purchased, they all add up to make real, tangible differences to people's lives across the country.

Congratulations to everybody involved in any and all fundraising activities. Please continue to keep up the good work and dig deep wherever you can! If you can't spare a little bit of cash, maybe you could help in different ways? There's always a need for an extra pair of hands, whether you're rounding up the troops, baking some delicious goodies, or tidying up after an event – your time is just as valuable to charity fundraisers as any money you're able to donate.



North Gloucestershire District Branch present Cheltenham hospital with £6,644.00.



HA Andrews Memorial Fund presents University of Bradford with £29,000



Oddfellows raise £2532 for the British Heart Foundation



Ormskirk & Southport District Branch present Southport Offshore Rescue Trust with £775

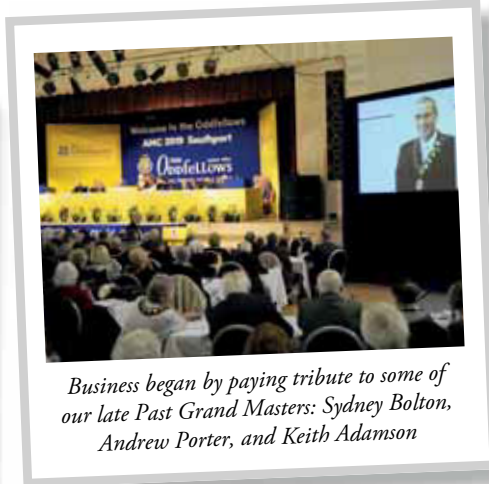
Oddfellows Annual Movable Conference takes place in Sunny Southport

For 2019, our Annual Movable Conference (AMC) returned to Southport and we really did have the weather on our side! Each year our members get together to catch up, celebrate the past 12 months, vote on important Society matters, and of course, welcome the new Grand Master (Society Chairman).

With a jam-packed schedule mixing business with pleasure, AMC is a great opportunity for members to learn about the business side of the Society and our traditions, as well as meet and mingle with other Branches.



Oddfellows members enjoyed the annual bowls competition



Business began by paying tribute to some of our late Past Grand Masters: Sydney Bolton, Andrew Porter, and Keith Adamson



Oddfellows Brass gave a rousing public performance on Sunday



A 60s themed dance kicked off the celebrations at the Grand Master's Welcome Party

At our conference, Deputies vote on decisions that will impact the Society’s business focus moving forward. For example, this year it was decided that our H A Andrews Memorial Fund would support Lupus Trust with a donation of £85,000 over three years. Plus, to celebrate our growing membership, we presented a number of Branches with our annual recruitment awards.

These include the Ken Hughes Silver Salver Award, won this year by Pride of Woolwich Branch, and the Lillian Ogden Recruitment trophy, awarded to Ormskirk and Southport Branch. Members can help their Branches to win awards too, as we also present the Refer a Friend Awards, to recognise Branches which have a great network of strong member advocates.



An array of Oddfellows merchandise was available for members to purchase



The “Refer a Friend” Award for the highest number of member advocates was awarded to Ormskirk and Southport Branch, with 31 members recruiting a new member in 2018

Thank you Bill Henchcliff

A huge thank you as always to our now Immediate Past Grand Master Bill Henchcliff, who says:

“It has been a great honour to be Grand Master of the Order. I couldn’t possibly choose a favourite moment from the past year, but meeting all the members across the country, especially the two Centurions from Hartlepool and Derby, has been quite special. The support and advice I have received from my colleagues on the Board, from the CEO and Insurance Director, and the External Non-Executive Directors has been invaluable.”

Bill has some sound words of advice to welcome the new Grand Master, David Randall: “Be yourself and enjoy the year, it goes very quickly!”



If you have a business head, or a passion for organisation, why not get involved with your Branch’s Committee of Management? And if you’d be interested in becoming a Deputy at a future AMC, you can find out how by visiting our website, or speaking to your Branch Secretary.

Sharing is caring

Who do you know who'd love to share the benefits of Oddfellows membership? From fun and friendly events through to care and welfare support, you're more than just a number with the Oddfellows – you're part of our family.

Last year, over 700 members joined the Oddfellows after being referred by one of their friends. Sharing the experiences you've had with the Oddfellows could truly make a big difference to somebody else's life? When you refer a friend, not only will they receive the amazing care and support from our community, but they'd have the chance to make some great new friends. If you have somebody in mind, bring them along to the next Branch event, so they can enjoy the benefits of membership for themselves!

When you refer your first friend, we'll send you a £10 Love2shop voucher as a thank you – perfect for buying your pal a coffee, or grabbing a bite to eat. As you encourage more of your friends to join, you'll move



up through our Bronze, Silver and Gold referrer levels. And once you've referred 40 friends, we'll send you a whopping £250 in Love2shop vouchers, which could pay for a much-needed break away!

So if you'd like to share your Oddfellows membership with some of your nearest and dearest, or anyone you think could benefit, pick up one of our new Refer a Friend leaflets from your local Branch, or call Membership on 0800 028 1810.

*T&Cs apply, please see our website for details: [www.oddfellows.co.uk / terms-conditions](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions)

Barry Bedford becomes our FIRST-EVER Platinum-Plus member

It's no secret that Barry Bedford, from Nene and Welland District is our most successful current member when it comes to recruitment. To thank Barry for all his hard work, we're rewarding him with £10 worth of Love2shop vouchers for every new member he introduces to the Oddfellows moving forward. Well done, Barry!

District Business Meeting

All members are welcome to come and take part in the business meeting to help with or just see what is involved in the running of the Mid-Surrey branch. This covers social planning, finance, care, development, property, publicity and promotion. Tea, coffee and refreshments are served and often members meet locally for lunch after the meeting. We encourage any members to join us as a one off or regularly. Please contact the office in advance if you would like to attend.

The meetings are every month at 10.30am alternately between Leatherhead Oddfellows Hall and Dorking Oddfellows Hall. For further information please contact Maeve Stott or Jenny Vincent on 01306 877792.

2019

Monday 16 September	Business	Dorking
Monday 21 October	Half Yearly	Leatherhead
Monday 18 November	Business	Dorking
Monday 16 December	Business	Leatherhead

2020

Monday 20 January	Business	Dorking
Monday 17 February	Business	Leatherhead

These meetings are open to members only, however members from any Oddfellows Branch would be made most welcome to attend.

A call to the office beforehand will ensure you are fully welcomed into our Branch meeting. Please contact Jenny or Maeve on 01306 877 792 or email jenny.vincent@oddfellows.co.uk if you would like to join us.

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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



OddfellowsUK



OddfellowsUK

At a glance

September 2019 - Friendship Month

Mon 2	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Mon 9	Mole Valley Life Talk and Demonstration	7.30pm
Mon 16	Mid-Surrey Meeting (Dorking)	10.30am
Thurs 19	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Tues 24	Friendship Month Afternoon Tea for Macmillan Cancer Support	2pm
Sun 29	Nutcracker Ballet	5pm

October

Fri 4	Pub Lunch with Friends	12.15pm
Mon 7	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Fri 11	Wellbeing Talk - Paracise Exercise	1pm
Sat 12	Inter-District Quiz	2.30pm
Mon 14	Members Quiz Night with Fish and Chip Supper	7.30pm
Thurs 17	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Mon 21	Mid-Surrey Half Yearly Business Meeting (Leatherhead)	10.30am

November

Mon 4	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Mon 11	An introduction to Genealogy Family History	7.30pm

November

Mon 18	Mid-Surrey Meeting (Dorking)	10.30am
Thurs 21	Tea and Tunes	2pm

December

Mon 2	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Mon 9	Christmas Gathering	7.30pm
Mon 16	Mid-Surrey Meeting (Leatherhead)	10.30am
Mon 16	Christmas Lunch	12.30pm
Thurs 19	Tea and Tunes	2pm

January 2020

Mon 6	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Mon 13	Oh No It Isn't - A History of Pantomime Talk	7.30pm
Thurs 16	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Mon 20	Mid-Surrey Meeting (Dorking)	10.30am

February

Mon 3	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Fri 7	Wellbeing Talk - Cinnamon Trust Information Morning	11am
Mon 10	Wild Life Trust Talk	7.30pm
Thurs 20	Tea and Tunes	2pm
Tues 25	Pub Lunch with Friends	12.15pm