

April - September 2023



the
ODDfelloWS SINCE 1810
making friends, HeLPing people

out & about

South East Lancashire District



Music



Art/Crafts



Online



Dining Out



Health &
Wellbeing



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Cinema



Coronation of Charles III and Camilla – Saturday 6 May

Welcome to the latest edition of the South East Lancashire Branch Events Diary. Members of the Branch have organised a varied programme of events for you all.

This Events Diary is a handy guide for you to keep so that you know what is happening in our area. Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary. Alternatively, keep the Events Diary in a handy place – by the phone, fixed to the fridge or pinned to your notice board.

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

Contact Details

For more information or to book any events contact the Secretary

Secretary: Sheila Kendall

Address: 10 Broadstone Close,
Prestwich, Manchester M25 9QA

Telephone: 0161 773 3138

Email:
sheila.kendall@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser (SO):

Telephone: 07564 641909

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

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a friendly society with Branches across the UK. Through friendship and social events, we help our members get more enjoyment out of life, and offer care, advice and support in times of need. We welcome everyone of all ages. Find out more at www.oddfellows.co.uk or call 0800 028 1810.

Tribute to our Deputy Chairperson Deborah Howarth

29 July 1963 to 9 December 2022

Although the sad passing of our Provincial Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chairman), Deborah Howarth happened some months ago at the end of last year it is no less distressing for the District to have to record Debbie's death in this magazine.

It appears that Debbie's health deteriorated and she was admitted to hospital Monday 5 December and passed away there on Friday 9 December.

This came as such a shock as it was not expected. Although Debbie had ongoing health issues she always faced them with courage and never let them prevent her getting on with life. She really loved being an Oddfellow both at District and Regional Level as well as attending AMCs as a Deputy. She will be so badly missed by us all. At the time of her passing Debbie was also President of the Lancashire and Associate Districts Group Conference (LADGC).

Having had major surgery many years ago Debbie carried on her life with her customary courage and enthusiasm. Indebted to the heart specialists who had treated her Debbie worked as a volunteer in the British Heart Foundation shop in Wigan.

At her funeral on Tuesday 10 January a packed Wigan Crematorium heard



a heartfelt Eulogy telling, often with humour, how Debbie had faced life with health problems yet had remained a loving and vital family member sticking up for her younger brother and becoming a 'friend' and companion to her mother.

The family were obviously appreciative of what the Oddfellows had done for Debbie and how she loved her very great involvement not only at District and Group Conference level but nationally as a Deputy at Annual Movable Conferences (AMC).

She will be remembered at our Annual Dinner on the Saturday 1 April 2023.

Monthly Events

Craft & Coffee Morning

Fourth
Monday



10.30am



£3



A two hour session where we have a chat over tea or coffee and cakes whilst painting or crafting. There will be various resources provided, but you can bring your own projects if you wish, for example knitting, crochet, sewing, model making, artwork, sketch book, etc. There may be an optional raffle in aid of the Annual District charity. Information available at the meeting. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

24 April
29 May
26 June

24 July
28 August
25 September

Blackburn Social Club

Second
Tuesday



12 noon



Members £4
Guests £5



Join us for a friendly afternoon with speakers, games and good company. Lunch included in the cost. Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.

11 April
9 May
13 June

11 July
8 August
12 September

Line Dancing

First
Tuesday



7.30pm



Members £4
Guests £5



No need for a partner: Bring your two left feet for a great session of Line Dancing with a qualified teacher. The emphasis is on fun, not technical skills, so come along and don't be shy, you will be amongst friends. Light refreshments included. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



4 April
2 May
6 June

4 July
1 August
5 September

Bury Ten Pin Bowling

Wednesday



7pm



Seniors from
£6.75



Hollywood Bowl is an American themed ten pin bowling alley, with an upbeat atmosphere, amusements, American diner serving burgers, hotdogs and more. Great for spending quality time with friends. Book five days in advance. Hollywood Bowl, 11 The Rock, Bury, Lancashire BL9 0JX. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

26 April
24 May
28 June

26 July
23 August
27 September

Monthly Events

Bury Film Club



Wednesday

Do you fancy seeing a film but, have no-one to go with? This event is for you, meet up with friends at Bury Vue Cinema and enjoy the latest releases in 2D or 3D, or experience big screen entertainment at its best with VueXtreme. Vue Bury also features Big Screen Events from around the world, including the best in theatre, opera and dance performances. Choice of film or performance will be by show of hands on the night. Book seven days in advance. Vue Bury The Rock, 9 Rock Place, Bury BL9 0YB. Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

26 April
31 May

28 June
26 July

30 August
27 September

Wigan Coffee Morning



First
Thursday

Come and join us for our monthly social coffee morning with talks, games and friendly chat. Held on the first Thursday of the month. Adjacent to bus station and close to railway station. Limited parking by permit. Easily accessible for all. Wigan Stars, Hallgate House, Frank Street, Wigan WN1 1HP. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.



6 April
4 May

1 June
6 July

3 August
7 September

Bury Dine Around



Second
Friday

A chance to catch up with old friends and new at a local restaurant close to Bury Town Centre. All venues have been tried and tested by our members, so you can be sure of good food, enjoyed in good company. Restaurant venue to be confirmed. Please contact Vera on 07887 617742 for further details of this months chosen restaurant. Book five days in advance.



14 April
12 May

9 June
14 July

11 August
8 September

Weekly Events

Games Night

Every
Monday



Every Monday night starting at 7pm. Join our weekly games night for fun, games and banter. All are welcome to come along. We have variety of games, talks and sing alongs. Why not join us and make new friends from across the UK and maybe even further. Zoom Meeting ID: 883 9960 6393 (no password). Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



Bury Thursday Friends

Every
Thursday



Our Thursday Friends Group is a friendly mixed group that enjoys chat and games, as well as the occasional talk and outing. Why not bring your own lunch and join us? We will provide tea, coffee and cake, included in the cost. Meet new friends and enjoy our social afternoon. A football card is usually passed around to raise some much needed funds for local charities. £1 for the football card (optional). Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Vera on 07887 617742.

Coffee Morning Meet Up

Every Wednesday
and Friday



All are welcome to drop in between 11am and 1pm to enjoy good company and make new friends over a brew and maybe a bite to eat at this popular local café. Just the place to take a break from shopping at Bury's famous market. Coffee Creations, Millgate Shopping Centre, 2 Union Arcade, Bury BL9 0QF. Contact Vera on 07887 617742.



Weekly Quiz Night

Every
Thursday



Weekly Quiz Night via Zoom. Test your general knowledge, just for fun. A warm and friendly welcome guaranteed, with chat and banter. Zoom Meeting ID: 883 9960 6393 (no password). Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



April 2023

SAT

01

Annual District Dinner



6pm



£25



All are welcome to join us for our annual celebration. Following a delicious formal dinner, there will be customary toasts, speeches and presentations to representatives of our chosen charities.



After the formalities, there will be music, dancing and a fabulous raffle to raise funds for the late Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Deputy Chairman), Deborah Howarth's chosen charity, the British Heart Foundation. Dress to impress. Advance booking is essential for this event by Friday 24 March. Masonic Hall, 27-50 Silverwell Street, Bolton BL1 1PP. Contact Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

TUES

04

Leisurely Scenic Walk, Witton Country Park



11am



Free



The walking group meet on the first Tuesday of every month until October and walks are less than four miles. Walks are not suitable for anyone who has a mobility difficulty or a specific health problem or is seriously unfit. Comfortable shoes or trainers can be worn. Witton Country Park, Blackburn BB2 2TP. Contact Chris on 07564 641909 or Joan on 07414 816521.

TUES

11

Blackburn Social Club - Talk by Kay Heyes of Macmillan Cancer Support



12 noon



Members £4
Guests £5



Join us for a friendly afternoon with speaker and good company. Buffet lunch and refreshments included in the cost. Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.

April 2023

TUES
18

Bury Horse or Pig Racing Evening



7.30pm



Members £3
Guests £4



Enjoy the thrill of virtual horse racing, as close as you can get to the real thing. Using real footage from horse racing events. Guests will be able to choose and bet on their fancy, gaining points, with prizes for the top two performers on the night. Profits from the event to go to the Chairman's charity. Cost including light refreshments. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

WED
19

Blackburn/Bury Meet Up Lunch



12 noon



As per
menu



The Olympus Fish and Chips Restaurant is the perfect stop off for individuals, family visits, large or small groups and so our members from Blackburn and Bury social groups decided to have a meet up at this favourite location. In the smart surroundings of the restaurant, you will always find a warm welcome and the promise of the best possible service from the Olympus staff. Although fish and chips are a speciality here, a varied menu caters for all tastes and offers superb, top quality food at reasonable prices which, when combined with friendly and efficient service, ensures a truly memorable dining experience. Olympus Fish and Chips Restaurant, 35-39 Great Moor Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 1SW. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Joan on 07414 816521.

THURS
20

Wigan Dine Around - The Wheatlea Park, Wigan



12 noon



As per
menu



Come and join us for some great value pub grub and service with a smile. We're passionate about looking after our guests and making every visit a meal to remember. Whatever the occasion, this cosy restaurant is ideal when you're looking for great places to eat in Lancashire thanks to their laid-back atmosphere, friendly staff and mouth-watering choice of meals. Book by Thursday 13 April. The Wheatlea Park Brewers Fayre, Warrington Road, Wigan WN3 6XB. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.



April 2023

TUES 25 Dine Around - The Dog Inn, Whalley



12 noon



As per menu



The Dog Inn offers British cuisine. Try nicely cooked onion cakes, cheese pies, meat pies and fish. You will be offered delicious draft beer, cask ale or cider. The warm atmosphere of this spot makes guests feel relaxed and comfortable. The knowledgeable staff show a high level of hospitality. Book by Tuesday 18 April. The Dog Inn, 55 King Street, Whalley BB7 9SP. Contact Joan on 07414 816521.

May

TUES 02 Blackburn Walking Group - Avenham Park, Preston



11am



Free



The Walking group meet on the first Tuesday of every month until October and walks are less than four miles. Walks are not suitable for anyone who has a mobility difficulty, a specific health problem or is seriously unfit. Comfortable shoes or trainers can be worn. Book by Tuesday 25 April. Meet at McDonalds, The Capitol Centre Retail Park, Preston PR5 4AW. Contact Chris on 07564 641909.

SAT 29 LADGC Lancashire Lunch



1.30pm



£25



At Hindley Hall Golf Club in Wigan on Saturday 29 April. It has been decided to hold this lunch in memory of Debbie, LADGC President who sadly passed away in December. The lunch will be a three course meal with choices and will cost £25. There will be the usual formalities including toasts and a speaker. We will though not be having entertainment but just some background music and time after the formalities for people to relax with a drink and have time to chat. Book by Saturday 15 April. Hindley Golf Club, Hindley Hall Lane, Aspull, Pennington Green WN2 2SQ. Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



SAT
06

Coronation of Charles III and Camilla



10am



Members £4, Guests £4.50



Whilst full details of the Coronation have yet to be confirmed, we will be holding an event to watch on TV and celebrate Charles III and Camilla's Coronation, together with friends at Oddfellows House in Bury. There will be lots of bunting, a prize quiz, games, and a raffle in aid of late Chairman's charity. Afternoon tea will be served. Please let us know if you want to come along for catering purposes. Book by Saturday 29 April. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



TUES
09

Blackburn Social Club - Celebration for a Coronation



12 noon



Members £4
Guests £5



Join us for a friendly afternoon with speakers, games and good company. Buffet lunch and refreshments included in the cost.

Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.



SAT
13

Let's Go Eurovision Crazy



7pm



Members £4
Guests £4.50



The Grand Final of the Eurovision Song Contest. Will be taking place at Liverpool Arena. The UK hasn't hosted Eurovision since 1998, so why not come along, support your favourite country and celebrate with friends. Dress to impress, there's no such thing as too much glitz and glitter for Eurovision! You are welcome to bring your own alcohol. We will provide tea, coffee, soft drinks and supper. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

May

TUES **16** **Third Tuesday** **Social Event**

 7.30pm

 Members £4
Guests £4.50



We hold a social event every third Tuesday in the month, during the evening at Oddfellows House in Bury. Each of these events has a different theme, which gives us the opportunity to canvas our members, and implement any new suggestions or ideas they may have for these events. Check out the website events list or call Sheila to find out what we are doing on a particular Third Tuesday. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

THURS **18** **Wigan Dine Around -** **Summat to Ate, Hindley**


 12 noon


 As per menu



Located in the heart of Hindley town centre, the restaurant premises have a fantastic history dating back to 1856. The building was fully renovated in 2009 to restore the building to its natural beauty. The restaurant is managed and owned by Kai Binder, who is actively involved in the day to day running of the business. The restaurant has a strong emphasis on sourcing the best quality local produce. We believe home-made and fresh is best and strive to offer the very best quality from starters through to desserts. Summat to Ate, 48, Market Street, Hindley, Wigan WN2 3AN. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.

TUES **23** **Dine Around - Ice and Spice, Clitheroe**

 12 noon

 As per menu



This small café located in Clitheroe, is a favourite venue for our Blackburn Social Group, where good cooking, reasonable prices and friendly staff, ensure it will remain on the 'go to' list. British and Chinese menu. Book by Tuesday 16 May. Ice and Spice, 11-13 King Street, Clitheroe BB7 2EU. Contact Joan on 07414 816521.



June

TUES
06

Blackburn Walking Group - Visit to Skipton Oddfellows



11am



Free



This month we will visit Skipton Oddfellows and enjoy a fish and chips lunch, a few games of bingo with time to have a walk around Skipton. Cost as per fish and chips menu. Book by Tuesday 30 May. The Three Links Club, Oddfellows Hall, 26 Rectory Lane, Skipton BD23 1ER. Contact Chris on 07564 641909.

TUES
13

Talk by North West Blood Bikes Blackburn Social Club



12 noon



Members £4
Guests £5



Join us for a friendly afternoon with speakers, games and good company. Buffet lunch and refreshments included in the cost. Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.

WED
14

Visit to Manchester Museum



11am



Free entry to the Museum. Café, as per menu



Manchester Museum, one of the largest University museums in the UK, is over 130 years old. The original neo-Gothic building was designed by renowned architect Alfred Waterhouse (1830–1905) and is home to around four and a half million objects from natural sciences and human cultures. Golden Mummies of Egypt. After a hugely successful tour across the USA and China, this stunning exhibition offers unparalleled access to the museum's world-class Egypt and Sudan collections. Please note that entry to this exhibit is subject to a £5 donation.



Hello future is the name given to the £15 million capital project, which transformed the museum and completed in February. The galleries and facilities, including the museum café, that you find across the museum have been co-curated, co-designed and displays include new and diverse perspectives. Book by Wednesday 7 June. Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL. Contact Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

June

THURS
15

Wigan Dine Around - Golden Days Garden Centre



12 noon



As per menu



Based in the pretty village of Appley Bridge, our garden centre offers the best in outdoor and indoor plants, fertilisers, gardening tools, garden furniture and BBQ's. There's also fine clothing from Edinburgh Woollen Mill and Mountain Warehouse, arts, crafts and aquatics. There's also glorious food. Their artisan snacks make perfect gifts and they have also recently refurbished their indoor food hall, Masseralla's Wild Mint Café, offering a revered dining experience for all our hungry visitors. Book by Thursday 8 June. Golden Days Garden Centre, 181 Back Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan WN6 8RS. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.

TUES
27

Dine Around - Grey Mare Inn, Blackburn



12 noon



As per menu



A traditional country, award-winning pub, offering a relaxed atmosphere and warm welcome to locals, visitors and families. They are one of the highest pubs in England, situated on the moors of Lancashire, so you can enjoy some spectacular panoramic views. Book by Tuesday 13 June. Grey Mare Inn, Elton Road, Oswaldtwistle, Blackburn BB1 2PG. Contact Chris on 07564 641909 or Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.



TUES
20

Croquet for Beginners



7pm



TBC



Croquet is played with hoops, four balls and mallets and a patch of grass. Sounds easy enough. Croquet is a game of skill and strategy, angles, tactics and guile, a bit like snooker on grass. Will your balls get through the hoops and peg out before your opponents? It is played on equal terms by men and women and between young and old. Come along and have a go, or just spectate and chat with friends. Café on site. Bury Croquet Club, Whitehead Park, Ainsworth Road, Bury BL8 2PY. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



July

TUES
04

Leisurely Scenic Walk, Astley Park, Chorley

⌚ 11am

£ Free



The walking group meet on the first Tuesday of every month until October and walks are less than four miles. Walks are not suitable for anyone who has a mobility difficulty or a specific health problem or is seriously unfit. Comfortable shoes or trainers can be worn. Book by Tuesday 27 June. Astley Park Gates, Park Road, Chorley PR7 1QS. Contact Chris on 07564 641909.



TUES
11

Blackburn Social Club - Talk about Guide Dog Training

⌚ 12 noon

£ Members £4
Guests £5



Join us for a friendly afternoon with speaker. Please bring tombola prizes. Buffet lunch and refreshments included in the cost. Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.



SAT
08

LADGC Annual Bowling Competition at Garswood Hall

⌚ 10am

£ Bowlers £10.50, Non-Bowlers £7.50



All are invited to attend, either to play, or as a spectator. The competition will start promptly at 10.30am The club bar will be open and hot drinks are also available throughout the day. A splendid cold buffet with (hot) chips will be provided at lunchtime.

A raffle will be held in aid of the President's

charity. Cost including buffet. Book by Saturday 1 July. Garswood Hall Bowling and Community Club, 47 Nicol Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan WN4 8LU. Contact Charles on 01942 259569 or Robert on 07905 524885.



July

TUES
18

Third Tuesday Social Event

🕒 7.30pm

£ Members £4
Guests £4.50



We hold a social event every third Tuesday in the month, during the evening at Oddfellows House in Bury. Each of these events has a different theme, which gives us the opportunity to canvas our members, and implement any new suggestions or ideas they may have for these events. Check out the website events list or call Sheila to find out what we are doing on a particular Third Tuesday. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

THURS
20

Wigan Dine Around - La Mama, Standish

🕒 12 noon

£ As per menu



Everything you want and need from a fantastic Italian restaurant. La Mama Italian Restaurant



is located in the heart of Standish, Wigan. Our fantastic, recently refurbished restaurant provides a culinary experience that is far beyond anywhere else in the area; it is the place to dine. La Mama, 19 High Street, Standish WN6 0HA. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.

TUES
25

Dine Around - Lytham

🕒 12 noon

£ As per menu



Seniors is an award winning, family run chain of fish and chips shops



on the Fylde coast, where quality and value matter to every one of us, everyday. Their fish is sustainably caught and locally sourced. Chips come from potatoes grown in the area, and all of their premises are designed for your comfort and convenience. Book by Tuesday 18 July. Seniors @ Lytham, 97-99 Clifton Street, Lytham FY8 5EH. Contact Joan on 07414 816521.

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. We have the right to cancel any events.

August

TUES 01 **Blackburn Walking Group - Ribble Valley Sculpture Park**

⌚ 11am

£ Free



The Ribble Valley Sculpture Trail was launched in 1993. The first of its kind to be established in Lancashire, which now includes over 20 permanent works of art. The trail travels through Brungerley Park and Cross Hill Quarry, a local nature reserve managed by the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, only a mile from Clitheroe town centre. Comfortable shoes or trainers can be worn. Book by Tuesday 25 July. Brungerley Park, 103 Waddington Road, Clitheroe BB7 2HN. Contact Chris on 07564 641909.

TUES 08 **Blackburn Social Club - Talk by Pat Ashcroft, Irish Horse Power**

⌚ 12 noon

£ Members £4
Guests £5



Join us for a friendly afternoon with our speaker in good company. Buffet lunch and refreshments included in the cost. Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.



TUES 15 **Third Tuesday Social Event**

⌚ 7.30pm

£ Members £4
Guests £4.50



We hold a social event every third Tuesday in the month, during the evening at Oddfellows House in Bury. Each of these events has a different theme, which gives us the opportunity to canvas our members, and implement any new suggestions or ideas they may have for these events. Check out the website events list or call Sheila to find out what we are doing on a particular Third Tuesday. Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH. Contact Sheila on 0161 773 3138.

THURS 17 **Wigan Dine Around - Forbes On The Lane, Wigan**

⌚ 12 noon

£ As per menu



Formerly a large private residence, this is just a short walk from the gates of Haigh Hall Country Park and just one mile from Wigan town centre. British food menu, tapas plates and drinks including large selections of wines, cocktails, gins and two real ales. Book by Thursday 10 August. Forbes on the Lane, 236 Wigan Lane, Wigan WN1 2NU. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.



August

TUES 22 **Dine Around - The Traders Arms, Blackburn**



Situated in the village of Mellor, between Preston and Blackburn. The Traders Arms is well-known for its wonderful views. We offer an excellent range of premium spirits, ales and wines. Their food is all home-made and ingredients are locally sourced wherever possible. Their menu offers choice for all, making them the perfect place to eat with family and friends. Book by Tuesday 15 August. The Traders Arms, Mellor Lane, Mellor, Blackburn BB2 7EW. Contact Chris on 07564 641909 or Joan on 07414 816521.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES 12 **Blackburn Social Club**
This is Friendship Month



Join us for a friendly afternoon with games and good company. Buffet lunch and refreshments included in the cost. Meet from 12 noon to 2pm. Salvation Army, Vicar Street, Blackburn BB1 5BE. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.

September

TUES 05 **Blackburn Walking Group - Oak Hill Park and Haworth Art Gallery Accrington**



The Haworth Art Gallery is a public art gallery located in Accrington and is the home of the largest collection in Europe of Tiffany Glass from the studio of Louis Comfort.

Oak Hill Park is the main park serving both the town of Accrington and the Borough of Hyndburn. Oak Hill Park is one of the largest parks in the Borough at 8.7 hectares with a range of features and facilities. As the name suggests it is a sloping site with a large war memorial at one of the highest points within the park. Book by Tuesday 29 August. Oak Hill Park, Manchester Road, Accrington BB5 2BN. Contact Chris on 07564 641909.



FRIENDSHIP MONTH EVENT
Invite a friend

September

FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT

Join the fun

TUES
19

Picnic in the Park with Bowling



12 noon



Members £4, Guests £5



Held for the first time in 2022, this event was so enjoyable we decided to repeat it. Join us for an afternoon on the bowling green at Manchester Road Park, approximately 300 yards from Oddfellows House. Lunch will be served in the Welly Café, with tea and coffee available. Included in the price. Book by Tuesday 12 September. Welly Café, Manchester Road Park, 157 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TD. Contact Vera on 07887 617742 or Chris on 07564 641909 or Sheila on 0161 773 3138.



THURS
21

Wigan Dine Around - The Wheel, Parsons Walk Centre, Wigan



12 noon



As per
menu



The award Parsons Walk Centre serves excellent cuisine, prepared and served by Catering and Hospitality students. The Wheel is a hidden gem in the heart of Wigan. They pride ourselves on using local, seasonal produce to create high quality dishes. The Wheel introduces a new mouth-watering menu every week, so there is plenty to choose from. Relax in the warm. Friendly atmosphere and choose your tipple from their refreshing drinks menu. The Wheel Restaurant, Wigan and Leigh College, Parsons Walk Centre, Wigan WN1 1RS. Contact Charles on 01942 259569.

TUES
26

Dine Around - The Swan Royal, Clitheroe



12 noon



As per
menu



The hotel is set in the centre of the historic market town of Clitheroe. The Swan Royal is a former coaching inn, dating back to the 1830's.

In its early years it was a hostelry, it boasts guests both famous and some say infamous in the local area and throughout the country. Book by Tuesday 19 September. The Swan & Royal, 26 Castle Street, Clitheroe BB7 2BX. Contact Joan on 07414 816521 or Valerie on 01254 698716.



Join the fun in Friendship Month

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

All welcome

**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH**
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Make friends with the Oddfellows



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

Oddfellows Travel 2023

It's never too soon to start planning your
next holiday. So if you're keen to discover
somewhere new, take a look at our upcoming
holidays with Oddfellows Travel!

Mon 3-Fri 7 July **Oddfellows Summer Holiday**

Warner's Thoresby Hall
Nottinghamshire
From £351*

Sat 1-Sat 15 July **Lapland and Scandinavia**

Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines
From £2,099*

Mon 7-Sun 13 August **Isles of Scotland and the Faroes**

Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines
From £999*

Mon 4-Fri 8 September **South Downs Discovery Tour**

HF Holidays
Premium single room £739.
Classic twin room £659*

Fri 13-Mon 16 October

Warner's Alveston Hall
Hotel Cheshire
From £248*

***Prices are per person based on 2 people sharing**

For further information and to book contact
Mike Hall 0161 832 9361 (ext 2224) or email
travel@oddfellows.co.uk





Hearts on The Wall

At a quiet but none-the-less poignant occasion on the afternoon of Thursday 3 November 2022 commemorative hearts were placed on 'The Wall' in Bury Hospice for Mel Bradburn, Dyanne (Chris and Margaret McGarraghy's daughter-in-law), Jenny Peters and Patricia Anne Seddon. These were in acknowledgement by Bury Hospice of £4,411.20 raised for them by Chris McGarraghy during his year in office as SEL Provincial Grand Master (Chairman).

Representing the four recently departed Oddfellows were Margaret Bradburn, Chris McGarraghy and his wife, Margaret McGarraghy, Robert Peters and Provincial

Grand Master (Chairman) Dennis Hilton stood in for Martyn Seddon who was unwell on the day.

An old friend of the Oddfellows, Dale Mulgrew, the Bury Hospice representative greeted everyone on arrival and provided refreshments in their café before going to 'The Wall' where he gave out the commemorative hearts bearing the names and dates of those whose lives were being commemorated.

It was a moving yet joyous occasion and those names will now live on, thanks to Bury Hospice's 'Wall'.

RWP

Sad News

On pages 16 and 17 of the October 2022 issue of this magazine we acknowledged the 100th birthday of Jim Wilson of SEL (Blackburn). He is pictured with his wife, Lily and family as they celebrated Jim's 'century'.

Unfortunately, only a few weeks after that article was published Jim passed away on Sunday 16 October 2022 of old age. Exactly a week later his wife, Lily, passed away at a similar time in the middle of the night to Jim from Covid and probably a broken heart.

Fittingly, they had a joint funeral at Woodlands United Reformed Church, Blackburn and buried at Pleasington Cemetery.

Their family can take comfort, if any is to be gained, from the fact that they



were apart for so little time. They were remembered in the Vote of Condolence at the SEL Half Yearly Meeting on Saturday 29 October.



A visit to Towneley Hall and Park



LADGC Bowling Competition



Christmas Lunch at Bury Oddfellows Hall

Thank you for keeping each other's spirits lifted

When you're going through a tough time, joy can frequently feel in short supply.

Despite the challenges and upsets we've faced as a nation this past year, it has been reassuring to see so many instances of our members coming together to enjoy each other's company. When I look at our Facebook pages and see the comfort you give each other, and the happiness being cultivated, it never fails to make me smile.



I've been an Oddfellow for 27 years, which compared to many members is no time at all. However, over time you notice what brings us together as members and makes us such a powerful, collective force. We've a desire to make the most of our situation, and to improve the lives of those around us. And that is so special. There's a lot happening at the moment and so much of it is out of our control. But there is one thing we can influence – our wellbeing – by adding more mini-moments of peace or happiness into our days.



Please stick on some music that makes your heart sing. Call someone you haven't spoken to in a while. Bake something to share. Try something new. And, of course, make sure you pop one of our socials in your diary. Joy is infectious. You only need to share a smile to witness this. Even if you don't know them, they're likely to smile back and feel happier for it.

We've been sowing the seeds of friendship and support for over two centuries now, and I know I can count on you to continue to do this.

I know a little extra dose of happiness won't solve all our problems, but it will help us to cope with them better, and hopefully create a positive 'Oddies' chain reaction with those around us. We've been told to brace ourselves for difficult economic times, so I also want to remind you that we are always here and ready to help where we can. Thank you again for all that you do and for being such wonderful examples of Oddfellowship.

I wish you, your family and all those you care for good health, happiness and fortune for 2023.

**Yours always in friendship,
Jane Nelson, CEO, the Oddfellows.**

Help with the cost of living

It's a worrying time for everyone with rising household bills, food price inflation and dramatic increases in fuel costs. However, now is always the best time to seek guidance with maximising income, coping with bills and debts, and seeking help with mental and physical health issues.

Our colleagues from the Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line have shared information on help available, and ways in which we can alter our behaviour to save money.

Speak to your local council

Some people can access support from the “Household Support Fund” (also known as “welfare assistance”). Check your local council website to find out if you're eligible.

Budget your outgoings

Having a very clear picture of where your money is spent can help you identify any unnecessary spends, or highlight an opportunity to cancel or find a better deal on subscriptions.

Create a meal plan

Make a list of everything in your cupboards before writing a shopping list to avoid purchasing items you may already have tucked away.

Check your benefits

Some people may be entitled to unclaimed benefits or more than they currently receive. Check <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk> or contact the Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line.

Sell your spares

It's never been easier to get rid of unwanted clothes, toys or unused items. Use websites such as eBay or Vinted to make a little money from items which would otherwise be sat around your home.

Be scam aware

There has been a huge increase in the number of scams happening, so be vigilant and if you're ever unsure, speak to a friend, family member, or the Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line for their input.

Other help available (qualifying criteria applies)

Such as the £400 Energy Bills Support Scheme, £150 Council Tax rebates, £650 Cost of Living Payment, £150 disability Cost of Living Payment and up to a £300 pensioner cost of living payment. Plus more help to be announced for 2023.

If you are worried about the cost of living, and would like more information, please call the Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line. The number can be found on the back of your membership card or call Membership on 0800 028 1810.

HA Andrews Memorial Fund



Representatives from the Oddfellows visited the Centre for Cancer Immunology to present the first installment of funding from the Society's HA Andrews Memorial Fund and discover how it will support developments in cancer research.

Immunology is a ground-breaking development in the fight against cancer. It offers less invasive treatment for patients, and the results so far are extraordinary.

The Centre, which opened at Southampton General Hospital in 2018, and is funded entirely by donations, is the most recent beneficiary of a gift from the HA Andrews Memorial Fund. The Fund will provide three years of support for a talented PhD student, Nur Zainal, whose research will focus on a specific gene which can potentially be manipulated to target cancer cells in a new vaccine.

Guernsey Oddfellows member, Eric Ferbrache, nominated the project for funding after learning about the Centre's work when it initially opened.

He said: "I personally think it is such a worthwhile project, and the research they are doing around how we can use our body's immune system to better treat different types of cancers is a great advancement. I'm so pleased that it was chosen for the most recent round of funding."

Dr Tim Fenton, Associate Professor in Cancer Biology at the University of Southampton, said: "Our proposal to study the role of RNA editing in cancer cells was selected from amongst a list of 27 submitted from different universities across the UK. We'd like to extend our gratitude to the Guernsey Oddfellows, who supported our application to the HA Andrews Memorial Fund."

Jane Nelson, CEO at the Oddfellows, said: "Sadly, many of our members and their families have been affected by cancer, which is why we are proud to support this incredible research with the HA Andrews Fund. Anything we can do to help the efforts to find a cure is hugely important to us."

We recently received a kind thank you note with a beautiful picture from His Majesty King Charles III, and wanted to share it with you.

When we heard about the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Society sent a letter of condolence on behalf of the Oddfellows and its members.



Unity Mutual – here for you

At Unity Mutual, we believe looking after your finances shouldn't feel scary. It should feel achievable to anyone in any circumstance. Whether you're interested in a deposit on your dream home, saving to give your grandchildren a great start in life, or wanting to leave a little something to loved ones should the worst happen, we're here to help you achieve it.

We have a range of savings and insurance products that could work for you, such as a Junior ISA or Child Tax Exempt Savings Plan, which can offer your child, grandchild, niece or nephew a great head start into adulthood that will mean the world.

Or our new Over 50s Life Insurance Plan, so that when the time comes (hopefully a long time from now), the people you love

are taken care of. Visit our website: www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows or call our friendly team on **0161 214 4628** for more information and the terms and conditions that apply to each product.

Keep a look out for the next Society News, where we will feature our individual products in more detail as part of our 'Introducing Series'.



 **Unity Mutual**
FAMILY FRIENDLY FINANCE

*To view Unity Mutual's Guaranteed Investment Bond terms and conditions, go to www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows/gib. If you're in any doubt about whether any Unity Mutual product is right for you, it's a good idea to talk to an Independent Financial Advisor (IFA). You can find a local financial advisor by visiting www.unbiased.co.uk. You may need to pay for a financial advisor's help, so make sure you ask them about their fees first.

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 Sheila on **0161 773 3138** or email **sheila.kendall@oddfellows.co.uk**.

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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**

Meetings

Ceremonial Meetings (King William the Fourth Lodge)

The Oddfellows have a long and rich history stretching back more than 200 years and in line with other guild and fraternal organisations of a similar age, we have certain traditions, ceremonies, titles and regalia that have been used over the years. In the modern Oddfellows there is no need for any member to take part in any of the Ceremonial side of the Society but it does give a fascinating insight into the history of the Oddfellows and Guilds in general.

Our King William the Fourth Lodge is our living embodiment; keeping the history and traditions alive. It is where new members can be formally welcomed to the Oddfellows (if they wish) and people wishing to stand for an officers position in the society can complete their Oddfellows education, in the form of what we call Oddfellows Degrees.

Our regalia is used, as are traditional terms and room layouts. Why not come along and find out more about what Oddfellowship is about, and for members, it is the opportunity to practice and to keep up to date on the running of a traditional and ceremonial meeting.

These meetings are for members only (although members of any Oddfellows Branch are welcome to join us).

District Meetings

We regularly hold meetings in your area and all members and prospective members are welcome to attend. The purpose of the meetings is to share and discuss the business of the District, including finance, social planning, care and welfare, publicity and promotion. This is a fine opportunity to get to know other members and committee members, as well as make new friends. No need to book, just come along.

Contact: Sheila Kendall for further details on ceremonial meetings or District meeting dates Telephone: 0161 773 3138.

Email: sheila.kendall@oddfellows.co.uk

Oddfellows House, 94 Manchester Road, Bury BL9 0TH

Annual Summoned Meeting (AGM) – Saturday 22 April at 1.30pm.

Half Yearly Meeting – Saturday 16 September at 1.30pm.

Events at a glance

Weekly Events

Games Night - Every Monday at 7pm - Online

Bury Thursday Friends - Every Thursday at 12 noon

Weekly Quiz Night - Every Thursday at 7pm - Online

Coffee Morning - Every Wednesday and Friday at 11am

April 2023

Sat 1	Annual District Dinner	6pm
Tues 4	Leisurely Scenic Walk, Witton Country Park	11am
Tues 4	Bury Line Dancing	7.30pm
Thurs 6	Wigan Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 11	Blackburn Social Club - Talk by Kay Heyes of Macmillan Cancer Support	12 noon
Fri 14	Bury Dine Around - Venues in Bury Town Centre	12 noon
Tues 18	Bury Horse or Pig Racing Evening	7.30pm
Wed 19	Blackburn/Bury Meet Up Lunch	12 noon
Thurs 20	Wigan Dine Around - The Wheatlea Park, Wigan	12 noon
Mon 24	Craft and Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 25	Dine Around - The Dog Inn, Whalley	12 noon
Wed 26	Bury Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Wed 26	Bury Film Club	7pm
Sat 29	LADGC Lancashire Lunch	1.30pm

May

Tues 2	Blackburn Walking Group - Avenham Park, Preston	11am
Tues 2	Bury Line Dancing	7.30pm
Thurs 4	Wigan Coffee Morning	10.30am
Sat 6	Coronation of Charles III and Camilla	10am
Tues 9	Blackburn Social Club - Celebration for a Coronation	12 noon
Fri 12	Bury Dine Around - Venues in Bury Town Centre	12 noon
Sat 13	Let's Go Eurovision Crazy	7pm
Tues 16	Third Tuesday Social Event	7.30pm

Events at a glance

Weekly Events

Games Night - Every Monday at 7pm - Online

Bury Thursday Friends - Every Thursday at 12 noon

Weekly Quiz Night - Every Thursday at 7pm - Online

Coffee Morning - Every Wednesday and Friday at 11am

May

Thurs 18	Wigan Dine Around - Summat to Ate, Hindley	12 noon
Tues 23	Dine Around - Ice and Spice, Clitheroe	12 noon
Wed 24	Bury Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Mon 29	Craft and Coffee Morning	10.30am
Wed 31	Bury Film Club	7pm

June

Thurs 1	Wigan Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 6	Blackburn Walking Group - Visit to Skipton Oddfellows	11am
Tues 6	Bury Line Dancing	7.30pm
Fri 9	Bury Dine Around - Venues in Bury Town Centre	12 noon
Tues 13	Talk by North West Blood Bikes Blackburn Social Club	12 noon
Wed 14	Visit to Manchester Museum	11am
Thurs 15	Wigan Dine Around - Golden Days Garden Centre	12 noon
Tues 20	Croquet for Beginners	7pm
Mon 26	Craft and Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 27	Dine Around - Grey Mare Inn, Blackburn	12 noon
Wed 28	Bury Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Wed 28	Bury Film Club	7pm

July

Tues 4	Leisurely Scenic Walk, Astley Park, Chorley	11am
Tues 4	Bury Line Dancing	7.30pm
Thurs 6	Wigan Coffee Morning	10.30am
Sat 8	LADGC Annual Bowling Competition at Garswood Hall	10am

Events at a glance

Weekly Events

Games Night - Every Monday at 7pm - Online

Bury Thursday Friends - Every Thursday at 12 noon

Weekly Quiz Night - Every Thursday at 7pm - Online

Coffee Morning - Every Wednesday and Friday at 11am

July

Tues 11	Blackburn Social Club - Talk about Guide Dog Training	12 noon
Fri 14	Bury Dine Around - Venues in Bury Town Centre	12 noon
Tues 18	Third Tuesday Social Event	7.30pm
Thurs 20	Wigan Dine Around - La Mama, Standish	12 noon
Mon 24	Craft and Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 25	Dine Around - Lytham	12 noon
Wed 26	Bury Film Club	7pm
Wed 26	Bury Ten Pin Bowling	7pm

August

Tues 1	Blackburn Walking Group - Ribble Valley Sculpture Park	11am
Tues 1	Bury Line Dancing	7.30pm
Thurs 3	Wigan Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 8	Blackburn Social Club - Talk by Pat Ashcroft, Irish Horse Power	12 noon
Fri 11	Bury Dine Around - Venues in Bury Town Centre	12 noon
Tues 15	Third Tuesday Social Event	7.30pm
Thurs 17	Wigan Dine Around - Forbes On The Lane, Wigan	12 noon
Tues 22	Dine Around - The Traders Arms, Blackburn	12 noon
Wed 23	Bury Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Mon 28	Craft and Coffee Morning	10.30am
Wed 30	Bury Film Club	7pm

Events at a glance

Weekly Events

Games Night - Every Monday at 7pm - Online

Bury Thursday Friends - Every Thursday at 12 noon

Weekly Quiz Night - Every Thursday at 7pm - Online

Coffee Morning - Every Wednesday and Friday at 11am

September - Friendship Month

Tues 5	Blackburn Walking Group - Oak Hill Park and Haworth Art Gallery Accrington	11am
Tues 5	Bury Line Dancing	7.30pm
Thurs 7	Wigan Coffee Morning	10.30am
Fri 8	Bury Dine Around - Venues in Bury Town Centre	12 noon
Tues 12	Blackburn Social Club - This is Friendship Month	12 noon
Tues 19	Picnic in the Park with Bowling	12 noon
Thurs 21	Wigan Dine Around - The Wheel, Parsons Walk Centre, Wigan	12 noon
Mon 25	Craft and Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 26	Dine Around - The Swan Royal, Clitheroe	12 noon
Wed 27	Bury Ten Pin Bowling	7pm
Wed 27	Bury Film Club	7pm

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 oddfellows.co.uk/events and enter 'Kelso' in the place name search box

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