

March - August 2025
Spring/Summer Issue



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

out & about

Mid-Surrey Branch



Norbury Park



Sports



Art/Crafts



Wellbeing



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Friendship



Meetings



Music



Talks



**Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea**



Quiz



*Sing Along Morning with Mandy
Wednesday 5 March*

Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2025 edition of the Mid-Surrey news and events diary.

It has been lovely to see so many of you at events recently and a warm welcome to our many new members. We look forward to seeing more of you at events in 2025.

There is more to Oddfellows than just our social events. Oddfellows membership includes Care and Welfare, Oddfellows Extra for money saving offers, Oddfellows Travel and Unity Mutual for family friendly finance options. Do take time to explore and make the most of your membership.

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is one of the largest and oldest friendly societies in 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. As a mutual and non-profit, our Society is run by our members for our members and raises thousands of pounds each year for good causes. We welcome everyone of all ages. For more information visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call **0800 028 1810**.

Contact Details

Secretary and Membership:

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: Carly Farrer
carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk

Property Administrator: June Wright
june.wright@oddfellows.co.uk

Please check website for latest events listings and call or email to confirm attendance. The Mid-Surrey office is open on a Friday morning or leave a phone message or email us.

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows. If you are not a member or have friends that would like to join an event please remember all events are open to you and your friends to enjoy, have a good time and find out more about Oddfellows.

Message from our Secretary

Welcome to our Spring Events Diary! As we look forward to the warmer months ahead, we hope you enjoy browsing through our upcoming activities and find plenty of exciting events to try. We're thrilled to share that our call for volunteers has been a success.

After an incredible combined 75 years of service, Alan Cole and Michael

Bright have stepped down from their roles as Trustees. We're grateful for their dedication and hard work. In this edition, we're pleased to introduce one of our new Trustee, David Smith, and share a little bit about his background and vision for the future.

**In Friendship,
Maeve Stott**

Introducing Our New Trustee, David Smith

David Smith began his career in 1965 as an apprentice at The Automatic Telephone and Electric Company in Liverpool. During his 24 years with the company, which later became Plessey Telecoms and GEC, David worked on various telecommunications projects across the UK and the USA. He also earned a Postgraduate Diploma in Telecommunications Technology and an M.Sc. in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Aston University, sponsored by his employer.

In 1989, David moved to Surrey with his wife and two young children to join the British Approval Board for Telecommunications (BABT). There, he developed a regulatory compliance scheme for billing accuracy, later expanding his role to audit telecoms operators in the UK and abroad. In 1998, he left BABT to start a consultancy business, offering training and audit services to telecoms operators across the UK, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

David's wife, who was a key part of their business, sadly passed away in 2013. Despite this, David continued to build the business and was invited to speak at numerous international conferences. In 2011, he closed the consultancy and shifted focus to auditing compliance with industry standards. He retired in 2016 but remained active in the telecoms sector, receiving a "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Risk Assurance Group in 2018 for his outstanding contribution.

David enjoys restoring WW2 military radios, painting, and playing guitar, and is involved with the Chessington Art Group. He was introduced to Oddfellows by his partner, Felicia, and quickly became an active member. David joined the Committee of Management and became a Trustee in 2024, with a keen interest in the Society's history and operations.

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

Regular Events

Badminton



10am



Donation for equipment



A friendly badminton group set up jointly for Mid-Surrey Oddfellows and Dorking U3A members. Nothing serious, just a chance to dust off your racket and have some fun, catch up with friends and also have a cup of tea together. Held on Tuesdays between 10am to 12 noon. This is a self-running group with small donation for equipment. Do join us. All welcome. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.

Tuesdays



Pickle Ball



1pm



Donations welcome



Come along and join us for the start of the Pickle Ball, this is new to everyone, it's something new to learn, everyone welcome, donations please. Chance to meet new friends, have fun and learn the new up and coming sport that is big in America and China. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.

Thursday



Regular Events

Zumba Gold



10.30am



Members £5
Guests £8



Join us for this low impact Zumba Gold with Jo on Fridays from 10.30am followed by a chance for tea and a chat. All welcome just pop along and try this low impact, low intensity, go at your own pace exercise for older adults. Please see there is a special discounted price for members. Pay as you go. Every Friday in school term times only. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Please call the office on 01306 877792 for more information or contact Jo via www.lowimpactandseatedfitness.com

Every Friday

Term times only, please
see at a glance for dates



Tai Chi Qi Gong

with Tea and Coffee



12 noon



Members £5
Guests £8



Qigong (pronounces chee-gong) is an ancient Chinese exercise and healing technique that involves meditation, controlled breathing and movement exercises, under the umbrella of Tai Chi. All welcome to this low impact, gentle exercise and meditation with Jo. Please note the special price for members. Welcome to arrive 11.40am and share a cup of tea or coffee and chat. Pay as you go. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Please contact the office on 01306 877792 or Jo at www.lowimpactandseatedfitness.com for more information.

Every Friday

Term times only, please
see at a glance for dates



Regular Events

Friday Badminton



8pm



Donation welcome



Fridays

A friendly badminton group set up for Mid-Surrey Oddfellows. Nothing serious, just a chance to dust off your racket and have some fun, catch up with friends and also have a cup of tea together. Every Fridays from 8pm. This is a self-running group with small donation for equipment. Do join us. Everyone welcome. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.



Interested in volunteering?

Helping others is at the heart of being an Oddfellow and that's exactly what our wonderful volunteers do. There are lots of ways you can get involved as a volunteer, from one-off help to regular support.

You can help us by:

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



To find out more, contact Paula on **01306 877792**
mid-surrey@oddfellows.co.uk



the Oddfellows
since 1810
making friends, helping people

www.oddfellows.co.uk

VA160423/v1

March

WED
05

Sing Along Morning with Mandy

L 11am

£ Members £5,
Guests £7



Come and join us for a heartwarming journey through the decades, featuring sing along favourites from the 40s to today. From timeless standards and toe-tapping rock 'n' roll to Beatles classics, ABBA hits, swing, musical numbers and more. This uplifting performance is designed to get everyone singing, smiling, and sharing the joy of music together! Followed by tea, coffee and delicious cakes. Oddfellows Hall, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead KT22 8BN. To book your place, please contact carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 by Monday 3 March.

MON
17

Branch Business Meeting (Annual General Meeting)

L 10.30am

£ Free



All members are welcome to come and take part in the business meeting to help 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 served. We encourage any members to join us a one off or regularly. Please contact the office if you would like to attend. The meetings alternate between Dorking and Leatherhead. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Maeve on 01306 877792.

MON
10

National Trust Talk on Clandon Park - The Fire and The Future

L 11am

£ Members Free,
Guests £3



Step back in time and discover the incredible story of Clandon Park's restoration following its devastating fire. Join us for a captivating talk by National Trust volunteers, who will share their fascinating insights into the history, tragedy and exciting future of this magnificent estate.

Come for the history, stay for the refreshments! Enjoy tea, coffee and delicious cake while you learn about the plans to restore this treasured building to its former glory. Don't miss out! We'd love to see you there! Book by Wednesday 5 March. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.

March

MON
17

Lunch Out - The Arkle Manor



12.30pm



As per
menu



After the meeting, we'll head to the charming Arkle Manor for a delicious pub lunch. All are welcome to join us for great food and even better company. Lunch costs as per the menu. Come along and enjoy the day with us! The Arkle Manor, Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey RH3 7HB. Please contact carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or 01306 877792 to book your place by Friday 14 March.



WED
26

Denbies Walk and Talk



11am



As per menu



Join us for a leisurely 1.5 mile walk around the stunning Denbies Vineyard estate in Dorking, renowned for its breathtaking views and peaceful



atmosphere. Whether you're a nature lover or just looking for a relaxing stroll, this is a perfect way to enjoy the beauty of the countryside. After the walk, we'll gather at the café for a well-earned coffee and cake. Feel free to join us for either the walk, the coffee and cake, or even just the cake! Everyone is welcome! Starts at 11am. Cost: As per menu choices or free if you just join the walk. We look forward to seeing you there! Book by Friday 21 March. Denbies Wine Estate, Bradley Lane, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6AA. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.

Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

We've online events for all to enjoy.
Give one a try.



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

OEW/1024SMALL

April

WED

02

Easter Concert and Spring Picnic Lunch



11am



Members £5,
Guests £10



We're excited to welcome back the choir from Leatherhead Trinity School for a special Easter concert! If their Christmas carol performance was anything to go by, we're in for another delightful morning filled with beautiful singing, hymns, and Easter-themed songs. Followed by a light picnic-style lunch.



Oddfellows Hall, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead KT22 8BN. To reserve your seat and lunch, contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. Please confirm your attendance so we can finalize catering and hall numbers. Book by Friday 28 March.

MON

14

Spring Quiz and Games with Fish and Chips



7pm



Members £10,
Guests £15



Join us for an evening of fun, friendly competition and delicious food at our 'Spring Quiz and Games' night! Candis and Helen will be hosting, ensuring plenty of laughs and exciting challenges throughout the evening. 7pm: Fish and chips served. 7.30pm: Quiz and games start (for those not eating). This is a great chance to test your knowledge, enjoy a tasty meal and spend time with old friends and have the chance to meet new ones. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. To book your fish and chips, and secure your place, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 by Friday 11 April.

MON

28

Lunch Out - Blue Café



12.30pm



As per
menu



Join us for a relaxed and enjoyable lunch at the Blue Café in Leatherhead! It's the perfect opportunity to catch up with old friends, make new ones and enjoy some delicious food in a friendly setting. Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring a friend along! Book by Friday 25 April. Blue Café, 52-56 Church Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8DW. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.



April

WED
30

National Gardening Week - Gardening Talk



7pm



Members £10,
Guests £15



In celebration of National Gardening Week, join us for an inspiring evening dedicated to all things gardening! We'll be hosting a talk with gardening tips and advice that will benefit both seasoned gardeners and beginners.

Event details: 7pm: Fish and chips, followed by the gardening talk. 7.30pm: Gardening talk (without fish and chips). Although we haven't confirmed our speaker yet, we're sure it will be an enjoyable and informative evening. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. To book your fish and chips or reserve a seat for the talk, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 by Friday 25 April.

May

THURS
01

Celebrate VE with a Trip to Land of Hope and Glory



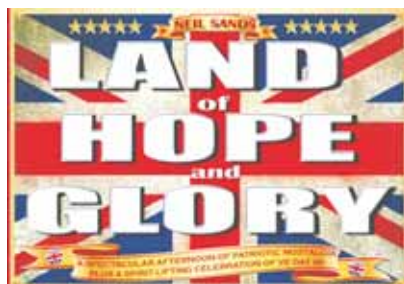
2.30pm



£15



In celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day, we have the exciting opportunity to attend Neil Sands 'Land of Hope and Glory' at Epsom Playhouse. This wonderful production is packed with patriotic and nostalgic entertainment, celebrating the very best of British music, including a rousing selection from the Last Night of the Proms, old-time sing alongs, great British show tunes and classic favourites from the 40s, 50s and 60s.



If there's enough interest, we can arrange a mini-bus for transport to and from the venue. The cost of the mini-bus will depend on the number of people who sign up, so please let us know if you'd like to join us! This is the perfect way to commemorate VE Day in style with great company and a celebration of British heritage. Epsom Playhouse, 42 Ashley Avenue, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5AL. If you'd like to reserve your place or need more information, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. Book by Friday 28 March.

May

MON
12

Cheese and Wine Tasting Evening

7.30pm

Members £10,
Guests £15



Indulge your senses at our exclusive cheese and wine tasting evening! Join us for a delightful night of carefully selected wines paired with a variety of delicious cheeses. Whether you're a connoisseur or simply love to explore new flavours, this event promises a fun and informative evening.

It's also a fantastic opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones while enjoying great food and drink in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. It's going to be a night to remember! Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. To reserve your place, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. We look forward to seeing you there for a wonderful evening of conversation. Book by Wednesday 30 April.

WED
21

Spanish Taps Night - El Rincon

7pm

As per menu



Join us for another fantastic evening at El Rincon, a family-run Spanish tapas restaurant, where we'll enjoy a delicious selection of traditional Spanish dishes! We're excited to return for another night of great food, lively conversation, and a welcoming atmosphere. Event details: Time: 7pm (table booked). Mini-bus departure: Collection times may vary depending on the number of pick-ups, but we'll ensure everyone is informed once we have a full 16-seat mini-bus.

Cost: £12.50 for the mini-bus return trip (per person). Please note that we will need to pre-order your meal. All orders must be in by Friday 9 May along with a £10 deposit. El Rincon, 16 Tattenham Crescent, Tattenham Corner, Epsom KT18 5QB. To reserve your place, pre-order your meal, and confirm your mini-bus seat, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 by Friday 9 May.

June

MON
02

The Big Lunch



11am



Free



This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community, share a delicious picnic and make new friends while catching up with old ones. We'll be hosting a 'Picnic-Themed Big Lunch', where everyone is invited to bring a store-bought dish to share. To ensure the health and safety of all, we ask that all food be store-bought (no home-made items, please), so we can easily check ingredients for allergies and intolerances.

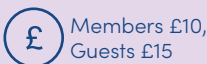
We'll provide a list of suggested items, we'll have a few fun games to add to the excitement. Plus, our 'Jigsaw Library' will be open! Feel free to take home a puzzle. Oddfellows Hall, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead KT22 8BN. To let us know what you'll be bringing or for more information, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 by Wednesday 28 May.

FRI
06

National Fish and Chips Day



7pm



Members £10,
Guests £15



It's National Fish and Chips Day and we can't think of a better way to celebrate than with fish and chips from the fabulous Marino's Fish Bar in Dorking and a bit of fun thrown in!

Join us for a relaxed evening with friends, delicious fish and chips with a few rounds of bingo to keep the laughs rolling. Whether you're a bingo pro or just here for the tasty food, it's sure to be a great time!

Bonus: A complimentary glass of wine to accompany your meal!

Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. To book your spot, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. We can't wait to see you there! Book by Friday 30 May.



June

MON
09

Loneliness Awareness Week - Scam Awareness Talk with AgeUK



L 7.30pm

£ Suggested
Donation £3



We're inviting you to join us at Oddfellows Hall, Dorking for an important Scam Awareness talk presented by AgeUK. Scams are becoming more sophisticated and it's essential for all generations to stay informed and protect themselves from these ever-evolving threats. This talk will equip you with valuable knowledge to recognize and avoid scams.

Refreshments: Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided. Bring a friend, the more, the merrier! We want to ensure everyone has the opportunity to learn, share experiences and stay safe in today's world. Let's come together to stay informed, stay connected and keep ourselves and our loved ones safe from scams. We look forward to seeing you there! Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. To RSVP, please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. Book by Friday 6 June.

MON
16

Lunch Out - Osteria Toscana

L 12.30pm

£ As per
menu



Lunchtime social at Osteria Toscana! Looking for a chance to enjoy great food and make new friends? Join us for a relaxed and delicious lunch at the charming new Italian restaurant,

Osteria Toscana in Leatherhead. Whether you're a pasta lover or just looking to enjoy good company, this is the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow members! The cost is as per the menu, so you can choose whatever you're craving.

Osteria Toscana, 24 High Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8AN. Simply book your spot by contacting Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. We can't wait to see you there for a great time and even better conversation! Book by Wednesday 11 June.

June

WED
25

Glass Fusing Workshop - Trinket Making



10.30am



Members £20,
Guests £25



Come along and have a go at making a couple of fused glass trinket dishes. Your pieces will be either 10cm or 12cm (your choice) and will be decorated using frit (crushed glass) in a range of colours. Sample designs will be available and lots of help and support for you making your own designs.



The finished pieces will be taken away at the end of the session and then fired once to fuse all the glass together and then a second time on a mould to give it shape. Oddfellows Hall, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead KT22 8BN. Please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792. Book by Friday 13 June.

July

WED
02

Needlefelting Workshop



10.30am



Members £20
Guests £25



Join us for a fun workshop where you'll needlefelt a cute little elephant using wool and merino veneer. A relaxing and creative way to catch up with friends and make new ones! Tea, Coffee & treats provided. Oddfellows Hall, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8BN. Please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792.



July

MON
14

Buzzing with Knowledge - Beekeeping Talk



7.30pm



Members £5,
Guests £10



Join us as we welcome members from the Reigate Beekeepers Group, Karen and Simon who are based in Dorking, for a fascinating talk all about the world of beekeeping! What to expect: An Insightful talk about the crucial role bees play in our environment, the process of beekeeping and how we can all help support these incredible creatures.

Our talk will last around 30 minutes, followed by a lively Q and A session where you can ask all your burning bee-related questions! See some authentic beekeeping equipment up close, Honey tasting quiz: We're sweetening the evening with a fun, interactive honey tasting quiz! Sample seven different types of honey sourced from Dorking, test your taste buds and compete for the chance to win a jar of delicious honey! Honey for sale: perfect for taking home a little taste of Dorking's finest. Refreshments: After the talk, enjoy some light refreshments while mingling with fellow bee enthusiasts. Book by Wednesday 9 July. Oddfellows Hall, 270 High Street, Dorking RH4 1QT. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.

MON
21

Pub Lunch - The Royal Oak



12.30pm



As per
menu



Join us for a traditional pub lunch, come along and catch up with friends and have the chance to meet new ones, we've been recommended this pub by a few of our members so guaranteed to be a lovely lunch. Book by Wednesday 16 July. The Royal Oak, Chart Lane South, Stonebridge, North Holmwood, Dorking RH5 4DJ. Contact Carly on 01306 877792.



July

THURS
24

Micro Brewery - Claygate



3pm



Variable



Thanks to a great recommendation from one of our trustees, we're excited to invite you to join us at a fantastic microbrewery in Claygate on Thursday 24 July at 3pm till 7.30pm. It's a great chance to explore the world of craft beer, taste some unique brews and enjoy a relaxed evening with friends and fellow supporters.



Whether you're a craft beer pro or just up for something new, it's sure to be fun! We hope you can make it! This event will be weather dependant. Platform 3 - Brightwater Brewery, The Parade, Claygate, Surrey KT10 0PB. Please contact Carly at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 to book your place by Friday 18 July. www.brightwaterbrewery.co.uk/

August

MON
18

Lunch Out - JD Wetherspoons



12.30pm



As per
menu



Lunchtime meet-up at Wetherspoons! Join us for a relaxed and casual lunch at Wetherspoons in Leatherhead! It's a great chance to enjoy some classic pub food, have a good chat and make new friends. Whether you're in the mood for a hearty meal or just a light bite, there's something for everyone on the menu. JD Wetherspoons - Edmund Tylney, 30-34 High Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8AW. Let Carly know at carly.farrer@oddfellows.co.uk or call 01306 877792 you're coming by reaching out.



Harnessing the warmth of friendship

I hope this message finds you well. Where has 2024 gone?

As we move into a new year, it's a perfect time to reflect on 2024 and prepare ourselves for fresh opportunities and challenges.

The best changes bring happiness to our lives, and better still, the lives of those around us.

Last September, during Friendship Month, we introduced the nation to 'frenergy' – the positive energy exchanged between friends. True friendships are more than just companionship, they thrive on mutual support and uplifting one another – something that, I'm proud to say, is evident throughout our Society. We all have those special people who are there for us in the good times but are equally importantly when life throws us challenges.

Spreading friendship

Let's continue to create that warm, positive feeling everywhere we go this year. Offer encouragement, make a new face at an Oddfellows event feel welcome, or simply make sure to really listen to each other.

A kind word or a helping hand can be transformative for ourselves and those around us, and create ripples of positivity that extend beyond our personal circles.



Frenergy can even be transferred through an unexpected smile or a nod at a stranger in the street. I know it makes my day when it happens and you'd be surprised how often they smile back – confirmation that it has lifted their spirits too.

2025's positive foundations

We welcomed more new members to the Society in 2024 than we have for many years, which is a credit to the atmosphere created within our Branches.

This is a positive foundation to build on, but more can always be done. There will always be people who could benefit from our friendship and support, so let's keep spreading the word.

In this season of reflection and renewal, I hope we all have the drive to pursue our goals while providing and receiving friendship's invigorating energy. One thing is for sure – whether tackling adversity or celebrating success, we are stronger together.

Wishing you and all those close to you a very happy and healthy 2025.

Yours always in friendship,

Jane Nelson, CEO, the Oddfellows

Oddfellows Travel 2025

With Oddfellows Travel, not only will you have a wealth of unforgettable experiences, but you'll holiday with confidence and in good company.

All our group holidays are hosted by an Oddfellows member, and we only work with experienced travel partners that we trust.

Whether you want to break up your diary with a short UK getaway, or you have your sights on a once-in-a-lifetime cruise, take a look at our upcoming holidays. We'd love to have you along.

Our holidays are exclusively for our members and accompanying family and friends.

South Devon Delights 31 March to 4 April (4 nights)



Enjoy the resort of Torquay, affectionately known as the 'English Riviera', with its sandy beaches, public gardens, promenades and hustle and bustle of evening entertainment.

Staying at the Metropole Hotel, Torquay. From £295 per person. Half board. Includes coach pick up and drop off from certain locations, or a self-arrival option.

Join us as we head to the south Devon coast on this Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.

Oddfellows Summer Holiday in Somerset 7 to 11 July (4 nights)



Our annual Oddfellows Summer Holiday, hosted by the incoming Grand Master (Chairman), is open to all members and their guests. It's a chance to enjoy some quality time out in wonderful and welcoming company.

We'll be staying at Warner Hotels' Cricket St. Thomas Hotel, Somerset. Half board from £350 per person, based on two people sharing a double or twin room. A limited number of solo occupancy rooms are available at a reduced rate of £450. Come and holiday among friends in this charming retreat.

Whales, Waterfalls and Geysers of Iceland

17 to 29 July (12 nights)



Witness the incredible energy of Iceland's geysers, thundering waterfalls and fascinating wildlife with us, as we set sail on this Oddfellows-escorted group cruise.

From £1,799 per person. Full board.
Departing from Dover on
Fred. Olsen's Borealis.

Take in Iceland's spectacular natural wonders on this thrilling Oddfellows group cruise.

Scarborough

1 to 5 October (4 nights)



You'll be staying in the Cumberland Hotel in the charming seaside town of Scarborough. With its castle, beaches, theatres, parks and cafés, you'll be spoilt for things to do.

From £325 per person. Half board.
Includes coach pick up and drop off from certain locations, or a self-arrival option.

Join us as we head to North Yorkshire on this Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.



A recent Oddfellows Travel 'Mystery Cruise' trip

For Oddfellows Travel questions and bookings, please contact
Emma Gorst **0161 214 4634** or email **travel@oddfellows.co.uk**
More information can be found at **www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel**

Measuring and offsetting our carbon footprint

We're a Carbon Neutral Plus Organisation and have been calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint since 1 April 2020.

Such measurements have resulted in a number of changes to how we operate, with the focus being on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.



Our carbon footprint

Our carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases generated by our actions and measured in units of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e).

Between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, 77.78 tonnes of CO₂e was identified as being produced through the operations of the Oddfellows' Manchester and former Liverpool offices, and its associated transport activities, which includes our financial services brand, Unity Mutual.

The amounts include fuel consumption, company-owned vehicles, staff business travel and homeworking. And, for the first time, emissions as a result of employee commuting have been included in the 2023/2024 assessment.

Reducing and offsetting

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Our focus is to keep learning through our assessments and to make incremental changes to the way we operate so we can bring our greenhouse gas emissions down and play our part in tackling climate change."

To offset our market-based carbon footprint for 2023-24, the Society has funded a range of carbon dioxide-saving initiatives around the world, including in Ghana, Zambia, Thailand, Turkey and India.

Jane added: "We aim to become Net Zero as a Society. This is where we reduce our carbon emissions to the lowest amount possible and offset as a last resort.

"While we are on that journey, our promise is to always offset our carbon footprint."

Find out more at
www.oddfellows.co.uk/climate-change

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 Citizens Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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

Surrey Industrial History Group

Programme 2025

Thursday 20 February, 7.15pm - Victorian Dynamo:

the life and work of Sir Henry Cole by Nick Pollard (Zoom)

Thursday 6 March, 7.15pm - The Stations of the London Brighton

and South Coast Railway by Benny O'Looney (Zoom)

Thursday 20 March, 2pm - The Panama Canal by John How (Leatherhead)

Thursday 3 April, 2pm - The Ashted Pottery: Post-war Rehabilitation

through an Alliance of Art and Industry by Anne Anderson (Leatherhead)

April-June 2025

Day(s) out, maybe a museum visit and/or a canal barge trip, there will be a small entrance fee for all Leatherhead talks. Free for Oddfellows members, Leatherhead meetings are at Oddfellows Hall, 45-47 Bridge Street, Leatherhead. Zoom talks are free. For more details, please visit

www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/sihg_front or email meetings@sihg.org.uk

Branch Meetings

Monday, 10.30am - Free

Ever wondered how the Oddfellows Mid-Surrey District Branch operates? Join us for an insightful meeting where we'll cover everything from social events to finances, care, property, publicity, and more. It's great opportunity to learn how our Branch runs and how you can get involved! The Committee of Management meet four times a year.

Monday 17 March - Business Meeting, Dorking

Monday 17 March - Annual General Meeting, Dorking

Monday 28 April - Business Meeting, Leatherhead

Monday 19 May - Business Meeting, Dorking

Monday 16 June - Business Meeting, Leatherhead

Monday 21 July - Business Meeting, Dorking

Monday 18 August - Business Meeting, Leatherhead

At a glance Zumba Gold and Tai Chi Qi Gong – Term times only.

Badminton every Tuesday and Friday. **Pickle Ball** every Thursday, see page 4.

March 2025

Tues 4	Badminton	10am
Wed 5	Sing Along Morning with Mandy	11am
Thurs 6	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 7	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 7	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 7	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 10	National Trust Talk on Clandon Park – The Fire and The Future	11am
Tues 11	Badminton	10am
Thurs 13	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 14	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 14	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 14	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 17	Business Meeting – Dorking	10.30am
Mon 17	Branch Business Meeting (Annual General Meeting)	10.30am
Mon 17	Lunch Out – The Arkle Manor	12.30pm
Tues 18	Badminton	10am
Thurs 20	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 21	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 21	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 21	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 25	Badminton	10am
Wed 26	Denbies Walk and Talk	11am
Thurs 27	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 28	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 28	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 28	Friday Badminton	8pm

Further events are being added, see: www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

At a glance Zumba Gold and Tai Chi Qi Gong – Term times only.

Badminton every Tuesday and Friday. **Pickle Ball** every Thursday, see page 4.

April

Tues 1	Badminton	10am
Wed 2	Easter Concert and Spring Picnic Lunch	11am
Thurs 3	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 4	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 4	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 4	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 8	Badminton	10am
Thurs 10	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 11	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 11	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 11	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 14	Spring Quiz and Games with Fish and Chips	7pm
Tues 15	Badminton	10am
Thurs 17	Pickle Ball	1pm
Tues 22	Badminton	10am
Thurs 24	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 25	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 25	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 25	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 28	Business Meeting – Leatherhead	10.30am
Mon 28	Lunch Out – Blue Café	12.30pm
Tues 29	Badminton	10am
Wed 30	National Gardening Week – Gardening Talk	7pm

May

Thurs 1	Pickle Ball	1pm
Thurs 1	Celebrate VE with a Trip to Land of Hope and Glory	2.30pm
Fri 2	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 2	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 2	Friday Badminton	8pm

At a glance Zumba Gold and Tai Chi Qi Gong – Term times only.

Badminton every Tuesday and Friday. **Pickle Ball** every Thursday, see page 4.

May

Tues 6	Badminton	10am
Thurs 8	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 9	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 9	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 9	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 12	Cheese and Wine Tasting Evening	7.30pm
Tues 13	Badminton	10am
Thurs 15	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 16	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 16	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 16	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 19	Business Meeting – Dorking	10.30am
Tues 20	Badminton	10am
Wed 21	Spanish Taps Night – El Rincon	7pm
Thurs 22	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 23	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 23	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 23	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 27	Badminton	10am
Thurs 29	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 30	Friday Badminton	8pm

June

Mon 2	The Big Lunch	11am
Tues 3	Badminton	10am
Thurs 5	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 6	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 6	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 6	National Fish and Chips Day	7pm
Fri 6	Friday Badminton	8pm

At a glance Zumba Gold and Tai Chi Qi Gong – Term times only.

Badminton every Tuesday and Friday. **Pickle Ball** every Thursday, see page 4.

June

Mon 9	Loneliness Awareness Week – Scam Awareness Talk with AgeUK	7.30pm
Tues 10	Badminton	10am
Thurs 12	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 13	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 13	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 13	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 16	Business Meeting – Leatherhead	10.30am
Mon 16	Lunch Out – Osteria Toscana	12.30pm
Tues 17	Badminton	10am
Thurs 19	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 20	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 20	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 20	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 24	Badminton	10am
Wed 25	Glass Fusing Workshop – Trinket Making	10.30am
Thurs 26	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 27	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 27	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 27	Friday Badminton	8pm

July

Tues 1	Badminton	10am
Wed 2	Needlefelting Workshop	10.30am
Thurs 3	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 4	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 4	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 4	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 8	Badminton	10am
Thurs 10	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 11	Zumba Gold	10.30am

At a glance Zumba Gold and Tai Chi Qi Gong - Term times only.

Badminton every Tuesday and Friday. **Pickle Ball** every Thursday, see page 4.

July

Fri 11	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 11	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 14	Buzzing with Knowledge - Beekeeping Talk	7.30pm
Tues 15	Badminton	10am
Thurs 17	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 18	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 18	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 18	Friday Badminton	8pm
Mon 21	Business Meeting - Dorking	10.30am
Mon 21	Pub Lunch - The Royal Oak	12.30pm
Tues 22	Badminton	10am
Thurs 24	Pickle Ball	1pm
Thurs 24	Micro Brewery - Claygate	3pm
Fri 25	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 25	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 25	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 29	Badminton	10am
Thurs 31	Pickle Ball	1pm

August

Fri 1	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 5	Badminton	10am
Thurs 7	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 8	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 8	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 8	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 12	Badminton	10am
Thurs 14	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 15	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 15	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 15	Friday Badminton	8pm

At a glance Zumba Gold and Tai Chi Qi Gong - Term times only.

Badminton every Tuesday and Friday. **Pickle Ball** every Thursday, see page 4.

August

Mon 18	Business Meeting - Leatherhead	10.30am
Mon 18	Lunch Out - JD Wetherspoons	12.30pm
Tues 19	Badminton	10am
Thurs 21	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 22	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 22	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 22	Friday Badminton	8pm
Tues 26	Badminton	10am
Thurs 28	Pickle Ball	1pm
Fri 29	Zumba Gold	10.30am
Fri 29	Tai Chi with Tea and Coffee	12 noon
Fri 29	Friday Badminton	8pm

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at **f** Mid-Surrey Oddfellows **X** OddfellowsUK

REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile

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



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

Ref 1644

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.
Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB