

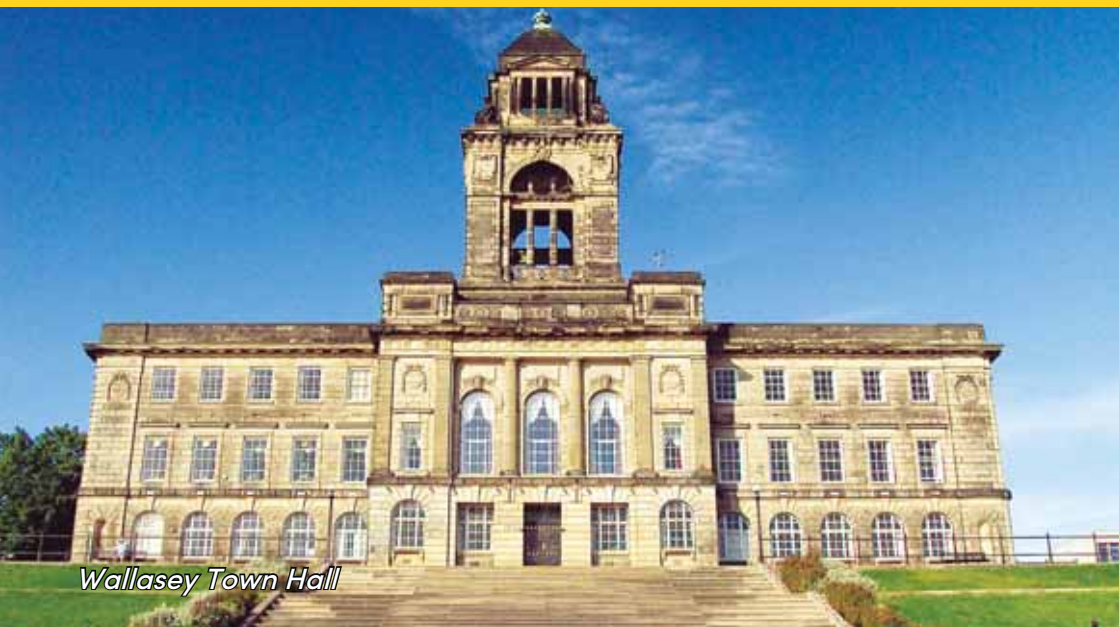
October 2023 - March 2024



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

out & about

Mersey Branch



Wallasey Town Hall



Social



Talks



Quizzes



Dining Out



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Meetings



Travel



Games



Walks



Coffee Morning
/Afternoon Tea



Please book

Hello Everyone

Welcome to the latest edition of your Out and About Newsletter and Diary taking us through to April 2024. As you will see from the newsletter part of this magazine, we have been up to lots of things during the past few months. Check out the photos and see if you can see anyone familiar!

Over the last year, we have reviewed member engagement at our regular get togethers to ensure their viability for the Branch. Whilst Upton and Childwall have really grown, sadly the same cannot be said for Rainhill and Garston. We have therefore taken the disappointing decision to cancel the meetings in Rainhill and Garston. However, we will look at this again in the future. Childwall, Upton and Wallasey are all still going strong and you will be more than welcome to join us at any of these venues. If you have any questions, concerns or enquiries, please do get in touch.

You will notice that during the winter months we won't be meeting as often, as the weather usually lets us down and people don't want to come out in the cold. However, should you be feeling lonely or just want a chat, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will happily talk to you.

The online events will be taking place as usual, including Christmas Day, so feel free to join in with any of those activities. If you don't receive the weekly listing from us, it means we don't have your email address. Just email me at the address below and I will add you to the list. If you are unsure on how to use zoom, let me know and I will send you the guide. There is also help from our Head Office if you are still struggling to get on.

Contact Details

General Enquiries:

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Branch Secretary: Margaret Hughes

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Social Organiser: Angela Murray

Telephone: 07912 605677

Email:

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Care and Welfare Officer:

Angela Jones

Telephone: 0151 425 2452



Left to right: Angela Murray, Social Organiser, Margaret Hughes, Branch Secretary, Angela Jones, Care and Welfare Officer

This is YOUR magazine so if you have anything to share with us, please do so, be it a story, joke, recipe for your favourite dish or anything else you can think of! All items will be gratefully received and you will get to see your name in print. Deadline for items is 28 February 2024, to give us time to print the next edition ready for April.

Take care, stay safe and stay warm everyone.

Margaret Hughes, Branch Secretary

A Message from your Social Organiser

Hi everyone,

I can't believe how quickly time passes - we must obviously be having fun!

We have had a jam packed six months filled with fundraising events, lunches, day trips and our regular get togethers. As always it's so lovely to welcome new members to our groups.

We have had a few challenges along the way with external partners (no one mention the coach trips!) but we are working hard to try and resolve this moving forward, so we'll keep you posted.



We have lots of exciting things coming up and we hope you bring your friends along to one of our Friendship Month events as it is always great to meet new people.

You'll notice that we have looked at putting a few more City centre based events on this time around and hope that this will be a brilliant opportunity for our members from both sides of the water to get together.

As always feel free to get in touch if you have any queries.

See you soon

Angela Murray

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

OE/0521A6

Regular Get Togethers

Join us at any one (or all!) of our regular 'Get Togethers' for a cuppa and catch up plus lots more in a warm and welcoming environment. Each month there will be a different theme and fun & games are guaranteed!



Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring a friend along. Worried about going along for the first time? Just give Angela M or Margaret a call and we will know to look out for you, remember you are only a stranger the first time you walk through the door.

Childwall

 10.30am  Members Free
Guests £2 (first visit free) 

**Fourth Monday
of the month**

Childwall Abbey Hotel, Childwall Abbey Road, Liverpool L16 5EY. Bus Routes 79, 79a.

**23 October 2023
27 November 2023**

**22 January 2024
26 February 2024**

25 March 2024

Upton

 1pm  Members Free
Guests £2 (first visit free) 

**Third Wednesday
of the month**

Victory Hall, 61 Salacre Lane, Upton, Wirral CH49 0TN. Bus Routes 418, 437.

**18 October 2023
15 November 2023**

**17 January 2024
21 February 2024**

20 March 2024

Wallasey

 10.30am  Members Free
Guests £2 (first visit free) 

**First Friday of
the month**

Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP.
Bus Routes 411, 413 to King Street.

**6 October 2023
3 November 2023**

**1 December 2023
2 February 2024**

**1 March 2024
5 April 2024**

Regular Event

Wellbeing Walk with Richie the Ranger



We will be checking out Richie the Rangers monthly walks and joining in where we can. Please let us know if you would like to be included in receiving this information, as the walks change from month to month, and (as we found to our cost!) sometimes even the days.

We have teamed up with Deeside so do feel free to join in with their walk on New Year's Day along Parkgate Prom. Get those cobwebs swept away ready to start the New Year with some gusto!

Please contact Angela on 07912 605677 or angela.murray@oddfellows.co.uk or Margaret on 0151 639 2777 or margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk

Can you help by volunteering?

We couldn't run all our events without wonderful volunteers. We need help to make sure we can keep our events as fun as they can be for all our members. There's lots of ways you can pitch in to help us, from one-off help to regular support. You can commit an hour a month, or more if you've got the time!

Volunteering could include meeting and greeting newcomers to make sure they feel welcome, or arranging activities, like quizzes or presentations, which we can help you run and promote.



If you can help by volunteering or want to find out more, contact Margaret by phone on 0151 639 2777 or email margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk

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 **the Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
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www.oddfellows.co.uk

October 2023

THURS
12

Visit to Speke Hall



12.30pm



£12 plus £9 for mini bus from Wirral if required



Come and join us for a spot of history at the beautiful Speke Hall. We will be able to go around the Tudor house and the gardens. The estate boasts a 'green oasis' of semi-ancient woodland and acres of fields and paths on the edge of the River Mersey. We can then meander our way to the Stables Tea room for some light refreshment. There is also a second hand bookshop called 'Speke's Volumes', where you can browse to your heart's content.



There will be a mini bus available to take members from Wirral at a cost of £9 each, total £21, unless you are a National Trust Member, in which case you only need to pay for the coach. We will all meet at the front of the Hall and all go in together. National Trust Members are free. Book by Thursday 5 October 2023. Speke Hall, The Walk, Speke L24 1XD. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677.

SAT
21

Half Yearly Meeting combined with Welcome Event



2pm



£3 for buffet plus £5 if requiring mini bus from Liverpool



This is our formal business meeting and provides an opportunity for Members to receive updates from the Committee of Management on key issues affecting the Branch. We will also be officially welcoming our New Members to the Society and presenting the three links badges. If you have not yet been formally welcomed and would like to receive your badge, please do let us know so we can cater accordingly. A buffet will be provided prior to the meeting. I hope you can join us and we look forward to seeing you. A minibus will be available for Liverpool members wishing to join, at a cost of £5 each. Book by Saturday 14 October 2023. Victory Hall, 61 Salacre Lane, Upton, Wirral CH49 0TN. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677 or Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

December

SAT
02

Christmas Craft Fair at Tatton Hall



9.30am



£22



Join us for a festive start to December by visiting the lovely Tatton Hall Estate. We will be venturing 'down the rabbit hole' as we find ourselves in the magical world of Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland. We will follow Alice through the Duchess's garden, the Queen of Hearts Grand Palace and the amazing Magic Forest. Once we find ourselves back in our own world, we will visit the Craft Fair, which is being held in the seldom opened Tenants Hall. The stalls will be selling everything from jewellery and candles, to crafts and gin. Book early to ensure your place, as numbers are limited, but make sure it's before Friday 17 November 2023. Tatton Hall, Knutsford WA16 6QN. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677.

SUN
10

Christmas Lunch



12 noon



£13.99



Join us for Christmas lunch at the Mercure Atlantic Hotel in Liverpool City Centre.



This is being subsidised by the Branch so members will receive a £10 discount off the main price. The menu will be available nearer the date so please let us know if you would like to join us. The maximum number we have is 40, so will be on a first come, first served basis, so get in quick to reserve your place! For this reason, this lunch is open to members only. Book by Thursday 30 November 2023. Mercure Liverpool Atlantic Tower Hotel, Chapel Street, Liverpool L3 9AG. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677 or Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

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.

January 2024 March

MON
01

New Year's Day Walk

🕒 11am

£ Free



Let's kick off the New Year by dusting off those cobwebs and enjoying a gentle stroll in Parkgate. Deeside District are hosting this walk and will meet at the Old Quay end of the promenade and put our best foot forward from there! You can do as little or as much walking as you wish! We will stop for a warming hot drink either en-route or at the end! Book by Thursday 21 December 2023. Old Quay, Station Road, Neston, Wirral CH64 6QJ. **Contact** the Deeside Branch Secretary, Denise or the Social Organiser, Caroline on 01244 675757.



March

SAT
23

Annual Summoned Meeting

🕒 1.30pm

£ £5 towards buffet



This is our formal business meeting where we update members on the work of the committee and give you the chance to have your say and vote on the recommendations from the committee. A light buffet lunch will be served and the meeting will commence immediately after that. Book by Friday 15 March 2024. Sara Hall, Rundel Road, Liverpool L17 0AQ. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677 or Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

THURS
28

Canal Trip and Afternoon Tea

🕒 12 noon

£ £20



We are joining up with St Helens and Warrington to have a canal cruise along the Mersey Seafront and afternoon tea. This is a lovely scenic way to see the waterfront from a different angle and make new friends along the way. Places are limited so booking early is essential to secure your place by Thursday 7 March 2024. The Floating Grace, Salthouse Quay, Salthouse Dock, Royal Albert Dock Complex L3 4AE. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677 or Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

April

TUES
09

Race Night at Childwall Abbey



6.30pm



Members £3, Guests £5, plus your stake



This event was so popular last year, we thought we would run it again. Come and join us for a flutter at our very own Grand National event. There will be races and games and is open to all our groups. As we are celebrating the Grand National, do feel free to don your best outfit for the occasion. All proceeds will be going to the Chairman's charity of the year, as yet to be announced. Book by Tuesday 2 April 2024. Childwall Abbey Hotel, Childwall Abbey Road, Liverpool L16 5EY. **Contact** Angela on 07912 605677.



Caption Competition

What do you think Jean is saying to Val in this photo taken on the trip to Llangollen? Answers to the Branch Secretary (details at the beginning of the book). The best caption will be published in the next edition.

Please email your caption to Margaret Hughes at margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk



Report back on Merton House Hotel



Two of our Members took advantage of our Convalescence Care Home Benefit and Les and Marina Pierce were really pleased. If you have been a Member for two years or more and have had a stay in hospital, or need help at home, then the Convalescence Care Benefit is there to help you. If you feel this would be of benefit to you, please contact the Branch Secretary for more details.

Here's what Les and Marina had say, "Dear Oddfellows, we have just returned from a two week DB & B Convalescence break at Merton House Hotel in Ross-on-Wye. We are both Members of Oddfellows and the booking process through the Care and Welfare department was easy to follow and help given when asked. I am registered disabled with poor health and my wife, who is my full time carer also deserved a break. A requirement in the application was a note from my GP explaining why I would benefit from Convalescence.

We were both apprehensive about the trip but after two most enjoyable and restful weeks we would recommend the hotel to anyone who may be considering a visit in the future.

The Hotel staff were fantastic especially Kelly the Hotel Manager, nothing was too much trouble for them. The rooms were selected per guest requirements, they were wheelchair friendly and there were hoists and other equipment available to assist special needs guests. The hotel also had 4 mobility scooters, walking aids and wheelchair available for guests use and I was lucky enough to have a powerful mobility scooter for the two weeks. We had a 2nd floor twin room easily accessed via the lift, it was very comfortable with Tea making Facilities, TV, Table and chairs, an en-suite shower/toilet/sink. The views of the river Wyre from the room were amazing and very relaxing. Tea/coffee was also provided if required but as it delivered to the room at 7am we stopped after the first week so we could have more beauty sleep. Newspapers could be ordered and collected at reception in the morning.

Breakfast was at 8.30am, lunch at 1pm and evening meal was at 5.30pm. Breakfast was the usual selection available in most hotels, lunch was optional and charged for if required, Evening meals the choices varied daily and we really enjoyed everything we chose especially the excellent sweet selection.

Trips out were available Monday to Friday in the Hotels Minibus (Mondays trip each week was included in the stay cost) a variety of half day or full day trips were available during the week. Don the driver was a local and very knowledgeable about the area and was happy to share it with all. The minibus could also take two

mobility scooters and walking frames if guests needed them. We took advantage of the minibus trips our first week and had most enjoyable trips to the Forest of Dean, Abergavenny, Hereford, Boughton-on-the-Water, and Monmouth. For the second week we revisited some of the nearer places to spend more time there. Seeing the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library in Hereford Cathedral was really interesting especially as it had appeared in Bargain Hunt (one of my wife's favourite TV programmes) a few days earlier. A trip to Lydney in the Forest of Dean with its famous steam train and views of the river Severn was well worth doing. Tintern Abbey was another must see visit. During the weekends we were able to enjoy what Ross on Wyre had to offer, from shopping to pleasant walks along the river Wyre (I used the mobility scooter as the walk

down to the river is quite steep but is also accessible by car).

Evening entertainment was provided which included guest musical artists, quizzes, a clog dancing display, raffles, and a night of bingo each week, followed by hot drinks and biscuits. Bar facilities were available for those requiring something stronger.

We found most other guests very friendly and welcoming, each with a tale to tell and by the end of the week it was as though we were all one big happy family.

All in all it was an excellent much needed break and we must give our thanks again to Oddfellows for arranging it for us".

Les and Marina Pierce

Celebration Lunch

April also saw us enjoy our first Celebration Luncheon event which was held at The Racquet Club in Liverpool to celebrate Steve Code's year in office as Branch Chair, or Provincial Grand Master. It was lovely to have members from both sides of the river in attendance.

Jane Nelson, the Chief Executive Officer attended as his guest of honour and music was provided by Jason Garbutt, a fantastic violinist who played in the background, but still managed to get people singing! We enjoyed a wonderful meal and were very pleased to be able to present The Whitechapel Centre with a cheque for £750 - PLUS we raised another whopping



Steve Code presenting the full amount of £1,127 to Ruth McCaughley from The Whitechapel Centre.

£377 for The Whitechapel Centre on the day!

Our 2023 Adventures

This is what we have been up to since the last newsletter!



Port Sunlight Visit on 17 February 2023.

On the steps of the Lady Lever Art Gallery in Port Sunlight ready to see the Pure Brilliance of Boodles the Jewellers. The jewellery was stunning but totally out of our price range!



Sudley House on 5 March 2023.



Croquet Calling!

Members from Liverpool and Wirral had a really warm welcome from The Victory Hall Croquet team when we gave the game a try. It's not as easy as it looks but we all had a fun filled day, the sun shone and of course it was all topped off with a welcome cuppa!

Picture above: Exhausted but happy.



Concentration is the key!

Coach Trip to Llangollen and Betws-y-Coed



What a glorious day out to Llangollen and Betws-y-Coed in April.

A group of us braved the early start to join the coach trip to North Wales, which included a lot of walking and exploring this lovely part of North Wales. We were really lucky with the weather and all that walking was such hard work it only seemed right to have a cooling drink! Cheers!

Treacle Market



Time for a welcome cuppa at the Treacle Market.

Sunday 30 July saw 11 of us head off to the Treacle Market in Macclesfield. A wide array of artisan crafts and tempting foodstuffs awaited us! Everything from Heritage fruit preserves to Italian inspired cakes and cannolis! The whole town comes alive on Treacle day! It was a lovely day out which of course included a very welcome cuppa!

Coronation Jazz Afternoon Tea



Coronation Jazz Afternoon Tea Childwall Abbey.

Back in May one of our favourite venues The Childwall Abbey Hotel held an Afternoon Tea event in honour of the coronation of King Charles. A fantastic live jazz band really livened up the occasion and we all enjoyed a scrumptious Afternoon Tea and did a fair bit of flag waving to celebrate the occasion!

The World Famous Bury Market

Taking control of our departure time (not at the crack of dawn!!) we all headed off to Bury to bag some bargains!! We were lucky enough to meet some of the members of Bury Oddfellows to share a cuppa and catch up at one of their favourite meeting places. There were so many stalls it was hard to keep up but we all made it back armed with all of our shopping – we'll definitely have to do it again sometime soon!



Enjoying a cuppa with fellow Oddfellows from Bury at the World Famous Bury Market.

Trip to Portmeirion Italianate Village



*Visit to Portmeirion Italianate Village
10 June 2023 (I am not a number!).*

June saw us off to North Wales again, to the amazingly beautiful Portmeirion Village– it was a gloriously sunny day and it just looked amazing. We did plenty of walking up and down the winding roads and steps so it was only right that we all deserved a delicious ice cream from one of their famous Gelaterias!

Trip to Bowness on Windermere

May was really a busy month with another early start for our trip to Bowness – we were so lucky with the weather once again and we were able to enjoy a boat ride on the lake as well as a lakeside picnic and a few cheeky drinks out in the sunshine!



*Boat ride on day trip to
Bowness and Windermere.*

I had surgery on my funny bone yesterday. The GP says I'll be in stitches for weeks.

Next weekend is the European Hoovering Championships. The Slovaks have been disqualified for not being quick enough.

My car broke down this morning, so I looked under the bonnet and saw a bat sitting on the engine. Amazingly, he said 'Hello sir'. You are a handsome fellow and very nicely dressed too'. I realised the problem straight away. Bat flattery!!

Wells next the Sea Lifeboat 'Launch a Memory'

In June this year, Margaret and her husband Ray, went to the Open Day at Wells Next the Sea Lifeboat station in Norfolk. Why go there, you might ask, when there is a perfectly good RNLI station in New Brighton? The reason is simple.

Ray's Dad, Edward George Hughes (known as George), was a very active member of the Mersey Branch for many, many years and he often raised money for the RNLI as his Charity of the Year when he was Provincial Grand Master, or Chair. When he passed away, his ashes were scattered from the back of the New Brighton Lifeboat in a very moving ceremony. Ray's Mum, Doris Hughes, passed away in February 2022 whilst visiting with her other son, Chris, in Norfolk. Both Doris and George loved the sea and spent many hours watching the River Mersey from their home on the promenade in Egremont.

It was at this time that Wells next the Sea RNLI station were promoting their 'Launch a Memory' to raise funds towards a new lifeboat. This involved making a donation and then the name of your loved one would be painted on the boat. What more fitting tribute to them both than to have their names on the side of this Lifeboat?

Unbeknownst to him at the time, Ray's cousin also had the same idea, so Doris's name appears on both the starboard and port sides of the boat. There are hundreds of names on the boat and in order to make it easy to find your loved ones names,



Chris, Ray and Margaret Hughes with Launch a Memory Lifeboat.

there is a link on their website where you can type in the name you are looking for and it will highlight the area, tell you which letter and whether it is port, starboard or even on the roof!

It was so nice to see this in real life, rather than a picture and the day itself was glorious. Celebrations then took place in the local café where Doris and George were toasted with a cold drink and an ice cream.

The RNLI and The Oddfellows - with thanks to David Randall, Past Grand Master (Past Chairman)

The Oddfellows have been involved with the Sheringham Life Boat station since 1961, but the first connection with the RNLI was in Cleethorpes in 1868 when, following an application from the local community, a 33ft Life Boat called the Manchester Unity was built at a cost of £286 and launched on 17th August of that year.

In 1887 a new 38ft Lifeboat, also named Manchester Unity was built at a cost of £625. This was replaced in 1893 by a further

Did You Know?

The very first lifeboat was actually built in the early 1770s in Formby to save lives off the very treacherous Formby coast. The idea for the lifeboat station was the brainchild of William Hutchinson, a Liverpool Dock Master. Formerly a privateer (pirate), he went on to invent the parabolic mirror for lighthouses. He knew the Formby coast could be a deadly place for shipwrecks with its shifting sandbanks, constantly changing water channels and often fierce gales.

A guinea reward was paid for each human life saved. The boat house was effectively a large shed and stood about 100 yards inland above the high tide line, to protect it from the sea. This meant that the lifeboat had to be dragged down the beach to be launched. After being taken over by the RNLI in 1894, it continued in use until 1918, finally being demolished in 1970. Some of the remains of the first boathouse station can still be seen, along with part of the slipway. The rest of the structure remains hidden beneath the dunes.

Afternoon Garden Party

The mixed weather forecast for the day didn't put us off from holding our 'Summer' Garden Party in July – fortunately we had plenty of covered areas just in case – it wasn't typical Summer weather (well maybe for the UK!) but still we all managed to enjoy the afternoon and raised almost £100 for The British Heart Foundation. Paul and Helen were wonderful hosts and we were so grateful that they welcomed us into their amazing garden with its many hidden corners, which they had opened just for us!



Sitting in the beautiful garden enjoying afternoon tea.

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

District Merit Jewel

Whilst at the luncheon, Mersey Branch was delighted to take the opportunity of recognising and honouring one of our longest standing members, Betty Mostyn.

Betty has been a member of the Odd Fellows for over 90 years – she was enrolled at birth - and is one of the most

recognisable faces in the Branch, and the Odd Fellows more widely as a constant companion to her late husband and former Society Chair (Grand Master) Brother Len Mostyn OBE.

Betty was presented with a District Meritorious Service Jewel by Society Chief Executive, Jane Nelson.



Betty Mostyn and Jane Nelson CEO.



Betty with her jewel and flowers- but still in shock!

Easter Eggstra Race Night

There were winners and there were losers but we all got involved in some fun fundraising for The British Heart Foundation at the Childwall Abbey Hotel back in April – it just so happened to be the week of The Grand National so it had to involve horses (and some very cute pigs!). Big thank you to Cathy and The Old Girls Netball team for volunteering to help out at this event – we raised a fantastic £260 which was a great start to our annual fundraising drive.



And they're off!

Puzzle Corner (answers on the back page)

General Knowledge Quiz

With thanks to our friends Les and Paul Fitton at North London Oddfellows

1. What colour is the Spanish word Amarillo?

2. Tom Kitten appeared in a book written by who?

3. What is the common name for the plant Gerbera?

4. If a person is insouciant, what are they?

5. In the abbreviation DVLA, what does the letter A stand for?

6. What is the USA's 50th State?
7. Bill, Brian, Charlie, Mick and Keith were original members of which group?

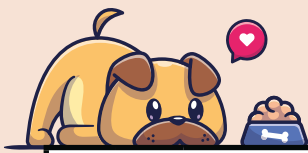
8. What is the correct spelling of the MCCs cricket ground in St John's Wood in North London? Is it: Lords, Lord's or Lords'?

9. How many UK cities have an underground rail system? A bonus point for each one you can name.

10. What is the widest part of the Amazon River during the dry season?

Dingbats

blood water	spalostce	SKπY
1.	2.	3.
w word r d	ICE³	DEDNAH
4.	5.	6.
WOK FLASH	travel ccccc	Reading
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Types of Dogs

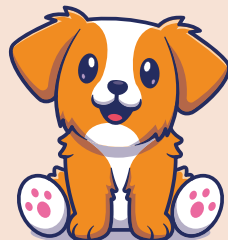


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D	H	O	S	R	R	R	E	E	N	N	E	A	D
P	B	X	U	S	T	H	O	U	N	D	L	R	D

Beagle
Boxer
Bull dog
Chihuahua
Collie

Corgi
Dachshund
Dalmatian
Hound
Mastiff

Pinscher
Rottweiler
Setter
Shepherd
Terrier



Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



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

Local Care and Welfare Support

We have a wonderful Care and Welfare Department who can help you out with convalescence or help at home after a stay in hospital, but if you are feeling lonely, don't forget that we have a local Care and Welfare Visitor, Angela, who is more than happy to phone you and have a chat. Just let Margaret know on **0151 639 2777** or email **margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk** your phone number and she will sort it out for you.

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**

Annual conference returns to Eastbourne



Conducting important business in Eastbourne.

The May sun shone on the south coast as members from up and down the UK converged on the seaside town for the Society's annual conference. A highlight in the Oddfellows' calendar, the Annual Movable Conference (AMC) is a chance for members to catch up, reflect on the previous year, and discuss and vote on how the Society is run, as well as welcome the new Grand Master (Chairman) – Vale of York's Barbara Needham.

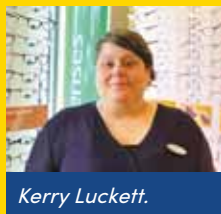
Hosted by Brighton and Sussex Oddfellows, there were a number of social activities in the schedule too. Before business got underway, members and the public were treated to another fantastic performance by Oddfellows Brass – a high point for many each year. Other events held throughout the week included the black and white-themed welcome evening, a church service where remembrance wreaths were laid, a day trip to Rye, a bowls tournament, and the Farewell Dance.



Members enjoyed the Roy Harmer Bowls Tournament.

Apprenticeship Educational Award Winner

Kerry Luckett, from Coventry Godiva Oddfellows, has been chosen as the latest recipient of an Oddfellows Apprenticeship Educational Award.



Kerry Luckett.

the classroom elements of her Optical Assistant course with Specsavers.

The Oddfellows has been backing its members who choose to undertake an apprenticeship since 2017 by providing selected applicants with a £250 non-refundable grant to go towards their studies.

Kerry, who says she is “very honoured” to have received the award, will use the money to buy a new laptop to help with

Find out more about the Educational Awards by visiting
www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards

Five stars shone at the 2023 Making a Difference Awards

This year we were privileged to recognise five of our wonderful members with a Making a Difference Award during a ceremony at our annual conference.



Sue Davies Cleveland and Durham Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

This award recognises Sue's embodiment of the ethos of the Society. She joined the Oddfellows after her husband died in 2004, and within just three months of becoming a member she had already volunteered to write the Branch's newsletter.



Sue went on to organise a popular luncheon club and has helped out at a variety of other social events and on the Committee of Management.

"Oddfellows has been a lifeline to me because I have made so many new friends since joining. I have had so many new experiences and learned so much," said Sue.

"With the Oddfellows, you are never alone for long. You are made welcome at any event."

Keith and Margaret Glanville Derby Derwent Valley Achieving Together

With more than 120 years of membership between them, husband and wife, Keith



and Margaret Glanville, topped the 'Achieving Together' category for their team effort to significantly improve the lives of other members and make their Branch and the Society the best they can be.

Both have served in various roles at the Derby Derwent Valley Branch, from volunteering to both becoming Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) – Keith twice!

Margaret described how they enjoy what they do and they were both in "absolute disbelief" when they found out. Keith added: "I've been around the block a bit and I wouldn't have missed Oddfellowship for the world."

Karen Dyke Thames and Kennet Giving a Helping Hand

Branch Secretary at Thames and Kennet, Karen frequently goes way beyond the role's expectations. She is also a welfare visitor, providing a friendly face while checking in on fellow members, often in her own time.

She is also known to give members lifts to appointments and hospital visits, and is always just a phone call away if she is needed.

Karen described working for the Oddfellows as "more than just a job", adding: "You can do a nine-to-five but for me it's more than that. It's about making my members happy and being there when they need me."



Marilyn Hayward Thames and Kennet Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Marilyn's contributions to the running of Thames and Kennet Branch's social events.



Marilyn moved to Reading from Sidcup to be closer to her son when her husband died, which she described as a "big step to make".

After trying a number of social groups without much success, she then discovered the Oddfellows.

She said: "I've tried to make people feel welcome and let them know that we want to see them again. That often doesn't happen at other places. You feel like you belong here."

CEO of the Oddfellows, Jane Nelson, said: "Congratulations to all this year's winners – each of you are shining examples to us all and we are lucky to have you. The contributions you have made are invaluable to the Society and our members."

Who is your local Branch star? Member nominations are now open for the 2024 awards. To find out more, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

Members updated on HA Andrews Memorial Fund project



Left to right: Professor Edd James, the Oddfellows' CEO Jane Nelson, Nur Zainal, and Immediate Past Grand Master (Past Chairman) David Ogden.

The recipients of the HA Andrews Memorial Fund have described the honour they feel and explained how the Oddfellows' backing is fundamental to what they do.

Nur Zainal, a PhD student at the University of Southampton whose studies are being sponsored by the Fund, and one of the leaders of the research, Professor Edd James, came to the Society's annual conference in Eastbourne in May to discuss their project's progress.

The first year has been spent teaching Nur the skills she will need to carry out the research. She described the funding as "essential" and said she was honoured to receive the Oddfellows' backing.

Edd added: "Funding is shrinking, so the Oddfellows' ability to have this funding means that we can do these projects.

"This could be a step to going into clinical trials and getting much bigger sources of

funding to then take what Nur identifies and finds out during her PhD to patients and clinics in the future."

In 2022 the Centre for Cancer Immunology was awarded £100,000, which will be split over three years. The research team is looking into a specific gene which it is believed can be manipulated to target cancer cells in a new vaccine. If successful, this could profoundly change outcomes for patients with cancer, particularly lung, breast, head and neck, oesophageal and bladder cancers.

The HA Andrews Memorial Fund was created in 1971 to honour a remarkable Society Secretary, Herbert Arthur Andrews. It provides financial support over a two or three year period to a UK project or organisation involved in, or conducting, medical research. To date, thanks to generosity of individuals and Branches, it has donated £1,214,000.



Nur Zainal addresses AMC.

Find out more about the HA Andrews Memorial Fund at www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews

At a glance

October 2023

Fri 6	Wallasey Get Together	10.30am
Thurs 12	Visit to Speke Hall	12.30pm
Wed 18	Upton Get Together	1pm
Sat 21	Half Yearly Meeting combined with Welcome Event	2pm
Mon 23	Childwall Get Together	10.30am

November

Fri 3	Wallasey Get Together	10.30am
Wed 15	Upton Get Together	1pm
Mon 27	Childwall Get Together	10.30am

December

Fri 1	Wallasey Get Together	10.30am
Sat 2	Christmas Craft Fair at Tatton Hall	9.30am
Sun 10	Christmas Lunch	12 noon

January 2024

Mon 1	New Year's Day Walk	11am
Wed 17	Upton Get Together	1pm
Mon 22	Childwall Get Together	10.30am

February

Fri 2	Wallasey Get Together	10.30am
Wed 21	Upton Get Together	1pm
Mon 26	Childwall Get Together	10.30am

March

Fri 1	Wallasey Get Together	10.30am
Wed 20	Upton Get Together	1pm
Sat 23	Annual Summoned Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 25	Childwall Get Together	10.30am
Thurs 28	Canal Trip and Afternoon Tea	12 noon

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At a glance

April

Tues 9 Race Night at Childwall Abbey

6.30pm

Puzzles Answers for page 20

General Knowledge Quiz

1. Yellow
2. Beatrix Potter
3. Daisy
4. Showing a casual lack of concern
5. Agency
6. Hawaii
7. The Rolling Stones
8. Lord's
9. Four; London, Newcastle, Glasgow and Liverpool
10. Nearly 7 miles (6.8). Its 24.8 miles at its widest during the rainy season

Dingbats

1. Blood is thicker than water
2. Lost in Space
3. Pie in the Sky
4. Crosswords
5. Ice Cube
6. Back handed
7. Flash in the pan
8. Travel Overseas
9. Reading between the lines

Types of Dogs for page 21

