

September 2021 – April 2022



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

out & about

Mersey Branch



Social



Talks



Quizzes



Dining Out



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Meetings



Travel



Games



Walks



Coffee Morning
/Afternoon Tea



Please book

Hello from your Branch Secretary – Margaret Hughes

I hope this newsletter finds you well and happy to be approaching the end of lockdown as we know it. I am so looking forward to meeting you all again very soon and our thoughts here at Mersey are turning to event planning again. To this end, for the first time in over a year, I am really pleased to say that we have an Events Diary with this newsletter!

However, until we can physically meet up, I have included some more puzzles in this edition, just to keep you going in the meantime.

We've got a few things up our sleeve. September is Friendship Month and we have a couple of things on the go. Unfortunately, the afternoon tea cruise on The Floating Grace barge is sold out, but we still have an afternoon tea and fund raiser at The Heart of Egremont in Wirral on the 25th September, so feel free to come along and help us raise money for Wirral MIND, our Chairman's charity of the year.

In November we have our trip to Bolesworth Castle Christmas Lights. See page 4 for full details, but please make sure you book early, as going by the barge trip, places will go pretty quickly!

A bit about us...

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

Contact Details

Branch Secretary:

Margaret Hughes

Telephone: 0151 639 2777

Email:

margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: 12 Crescent Road,
Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BQ

As you go through the Events Diary, you will notice that Wirral are getting together more often. However, due to the problems we are currently experiencing with our normal venues, we will be looking to set up Liverpool Get Togethers in the New Year. We will, of course, let you know as soon as possible, but keep an eye on the website and our Facebook page for updates as well.

Don't forget, if you are feeling a little low, please don't hesitate to ring either myself or our Care and Welfare Officer, Angela Jones, for a chat. If we don't answer, you can leave a message and we WILL get back to you.

Take care everyone and stay safe.
Hope to see you very soon!!

Margaret Hughes, Branch Secretary
0151 639 2777

margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk

September

FRI
10

Wirral Get Together



10.30am



Free



Join us for a brew and a good natter. We will be looking at doing different activities each month, so keep an eye out. Everyone welcome and it's free! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1-30 SEPTEMBER



SAT
25

Friendship Month Afternoon Tea



2pm



Free



Who doesn't love an afternoon tea? Come and help us celebrate Friendship Month and help raise money for our charity of the year, which for 2021/22 is 'Wirral MIND'. As well as sandwiches and scones (plus the obligatory brew of course!), there will be various activities for you to have a go at and help raise as much as we can for this worthy cause, so don't forget your wallets. We look forward to seeing you there and bring your friends too! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



October

FRI
15

Wirral Get Together



10.30am



Free



Join us for a brew and a good natter. We will be looking at doing different activities each month, so keep an eye out. Everyone welcome and it's free! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



November

FRI
12

Wirral Get Together



10.30am



Free



Join us for a brew and a good natter. We will be looking at doing different activities each month, so keep an eye out. Everyone welcome and it's free! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

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

November

SAT
27

Christmas at Bolesworth



2.30pm



Members £30 for adult, £25 for children aged 3-12 years, Guests £35



Start your Christmas off with an atmospheric visit to the lights at Bolesworth Castle at Tattenhall. There is a mile of lights and reindeer could well be spotted along the way and at the end is a wonderful Christmas Market, where you can wander around the stalls and try out the different foods and pick up a present or too along the way. Children are welcome to come along and visit Santa in his Grotto. However, please let us know at the time of booking if you would like to do this and we will book you in. It costs an extra £5 per child aged 3-12 years old. Ice skating is also available at an additional cost of £7 per adult and £5 per child. Again let us know at time of booking if this is something you would like to do and we will book you in. Pick-up and drop-off will be Liverpool South Parkway Railway Station and Wallasey Town Hall on King Street. Pick-up times will be confirmed nearer the time. Book early to avoid disappointment! Book by Friday 12 November 2021. Bolesworth Castle, Tattenhall, Chester CH3 9HQ. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



December

FRI
10

Wirral Christmas Party



10.30am



Members Free,
Guests £10



Come and join us for some festive fun! There will be a bit of a party with games and activities before enjoying a Christmas lunch prepared by the staff at The Heart of Egremont. Book by Friday 3 December 2021. Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



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

December

TUES
14

Liverpool Christmas Party



7pm



Members free
Guests £15



It's time to party! Come and join us for a lovely three course meal, good company and some fun and games thrown in. It isn't Christmas without the games now, is it? Book by Wednesday 1 December 2021. Garston Masonic Hall, 9 Island Road South, Garston, Liverpool L19 5NT. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

SAT
18

Robin Hood - Rock 'N' Roll Panto



7pm



£32



Why not join in with the fun and have a great laugh with us at our annual visit to the Rock N Roll Panto. This year is Robin Hood, a classic tale of heroism, social injustice... and tights - apparently! Tickets are selling fast, so let the Secretary know as soon as possible if you would like any. It's first come, first served and once they've gone, they've gone. Book by Tuesday 30 November 2021. Everyman Theatre, Hope Street, Liverpool L1 1EL. **Contact** Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



Booking

Please remember the importance of booking early for our events. Please note a non-refundable deposit is required at time of booking to confirm your place and full payment is due before the event. Sometimes large amounts of money is collected so, for safety reasons, where possible a cheque (made payable to The Oddfellows) would be appreciated.

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

February 2022

FRI
11

Wirral Get Together



10.30am



Free



Join us at our regular meeting for a cuppa and a chat. We will decide what we are going to be doing going forward at these meetings, so all ideas welcome. We hope to see you there! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP.
Contact Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



April

FRI
08

Wirral Get Together



10.30am



Free



Join us at our regular meeting for a cuppa and a chat. We will decide what we are going to be doing going forward at these meetings, so all ideas welcome. We hope to see you there! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP.
Contact Margaret on 0151 639 2777.



March

FRI
11

Wirral Get Together



10.30am



Free



Join us at our regular meeting for a cuppa and a chat. We will decide what we are going to be doing going forward at these meetings, so all ideas welcome. We hope to see you there! Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 0BP.
Contact Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

People who are interested in attending any of our meetings, please contact Margaret in advance so she can give you all the relevant details.

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

April

SAT
30

Annual Dinner Dance



7pm



Members £25,
Guests £35



Come and join us for our annual dinner dance in aid of our retiring Chairman, Alex Hughes. There will be a three course meal followed by music and dancing until midnight.

It's been a while since we had our last one, so dust off your dancing shoes, glam up and let's get ready to party! We are back at the Woolton Golf Club, which has been refurbished since we were last there and is looking good. Don't forget to let us know if you would like to come in good time and the menu will be sent out for your choice of meal.



We hope to see you there. Book by Friday 1 April 2022. Woolton Golf Club, Doe Park, Speke Road, Liverpool L25 7TZ. Contact Margaret on 0151 639 2777.

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 'online' in the place name search box

OE/0521A6

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

Never underestimate the Elderly!

Here is something for young people to consider.

The old woman handed her debit card to a bank teller and said, "I would like to withdraw £500."

The teller told her, "For withdrawals less than the £5,000, please use the ATM."

The old woman asked, "Why?"

The irritated teller told her, "Because those are the rules. Please leave if there is no other matter, there is a queue behind you." She then returned the card to the old woman.

The old woman remained silent, but returned the card to the teller and said, "Then I want to withdraw all my money,"

The teller was astonished when she checked the account and discovered

the account had a balance of £3.5 million dollars. "My apologies, ma'am, but our bank does not have that much money available at this branch. Could you make an appointment and come back tomorrow?"

The old woman then asked, "How much can I withdraw today?" The teller told her, "Any amount up to £300,000."

The old woman then told the teller that she wanted to withdraw £300,000 from her account. The teller swiftly did so and handed the money to the old woman who put £500 in her purse and then asked the teller to deposit the balance of £299,500 back into her account.

**Don't be difficult with old people—
we can outwit the young and dumb.**

Lockdown - The Oddfellows and Me

*I got myself a laptop
But wondered what to do
To keep in touch with people
For without them, I'd be blue.*

*And then I heard of Oddfellows
Thought 'At least give them a try.'
Well - a whole new world
I entered,*

*And I'm telling you no lie.
There were quizzes, talks and all sorts,
and though I felt strange at the start Soon,
thanks to all you friendly folks
Of each group I felt a part.*

*And now that things are opening up,
And I see you less and less
Before I say adieu there's
One or two things I'll confess.*

*My life, without your friendship,
Would have been narrower by far.
So now I say sincerely,
'Thanks, each one of you is a star!'*

By Martha Wells of Aberdeen



Join us for Christmas at Bolesworth Castle

Join us as we wander through the magical light trail and enjoy the Christmas Market at this wonderful location in Tattenhall, Chester. We will walk along the lakeside with the castle lit up and then wander through the woods where we may even spot a reindeer or two. The trail is 1.2 miles long and travels over bridges and spectacular grounds. You will then be able to purchase food at any of the stands at the Christmas Market.

Pick-ups will be at Liverpool South Parkway and Wallasey Town Hall and the cost is £30 for adults, £35 for guests and £25 for children aged between 3 and 12 years.

Under 3 go free. There is a Santa's grotto, but let me know if you wish to visit as I will book that for you. There is an additional cost of £5 to visit Santa and you must be aged 3-12 years old. You can leave your Christmas list with him and have your photograph taken as a memento. There is also ice skating at an additional cost of £7 for adults and £5 for children. Again, let me know if you would like to do this so I can book it accordingly.

Places are limited for this event, so please get in touch quickly if you wish to come with us for what will be a spectacular evening!



Birkenhead Park Guided Walk

A few of us ventured back out into the world on Friday 16 July with a visit to the historic Birkenhead Park. We were met by Simon the Ranger, who was to be our guide for the walk. He was full of information and really willing to impart as much as he could to the group. There were eight of us in total and it was a lovely sunny day.

We started out at the visitor centre in the middle of the park, which was opened in 2006. The design is based on Joseph Paxton's Crystal Palace and was opened by the Duke of Gloucester.

We moved off on our journey through the park and Simon pointed out to us that wherever you are in the park, you can very rarely see the road. The park was

opened on the 5 April 1847 and was the World's first publicly funded Municipal Park. Renowned gardener and architect, Sir Joseph Paxton, designed the park and was supervised by Edward Kemp, who was himself an English Landscape Architect.

The creation of the park was a response to the poor health conditions brought on by the industrial revolution and also represented a vision of what a city of the future could offer society, providing everyone - regardless of class, age race or creed - the opportunity to engage in the beauty of the countryside like surroundings. Birkenhead Park has been the inspiration for the development of several significant urban parks across the world - including Sefton Park in Liverpool and Central Park in New York.

We managed to get round to see the Grand Entrance, the Swiss Bridge (also known as the Chinese Bridge), the Roman Boathouse, the cricket pavilion and the Jackson Memorial drinking fountain. The cricket pavilion was built in 1849 and is one of the earliest surviving cricket pavilions in the country. The cricket club itself was founded in 1846.

During World War II, a spitfire MK2A crashed into the park during a test flight from Hawarden. The pilot, Sergeant Goudie of the Royal Canadian Air Force, lost control and bailed out. In an effort to save lives on the ground, he was aiming for the River Mersey, but it carried on further than expected and buried itself 18 feet deep in the park. Sgt Goudie survived with a sprained ankle and there were no other casualties. The remains of the

spitfire can be seen at Fort Perch Rock in New Brighton.

In 2016, a master plan was developed to build on the success of the restorations already taking place throughout the park. The Roman Boathouse was originally built for small concerts with ambient music playing across the lower lake. This is being built upon and indeed, we can put our hands on our hearts and testify that the acoustics in the boathouse are great, having sung there with my choir.

We were lucky enough to see the geese, swans and cygnets on the lake before ending up back in the café for a well-earned ice cream and sit down, phew!

Picture top left: With Simon the Ranger on the Swiss or Chinese Bridge



In the Roman Bath House looking over the lake.

Thank you letters to Mersey Branch for various donations

We've had letters and emails from CALM, Alzheimers Research UK and Kind thanking us for our various donations and support. If you would like to read those letters and emails please let Margaret know.



Ode to the Spell Checker

*Eye halve a spelling check her
It came with my pea sea
It plain lee marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea
Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight 4 it 2 say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.
As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weight
My chequer tolled me sew!*



Why not become an Oddfellows pen pal friend?

With so many of us staying safe in our homes, how would you like to write a letter to another member and become a Penfellow? If the answer is yes, get in touch.

Contact Margaret on 0151 639 2777 or margaret.hughes@oddfellows.co.uk

Flowers Wordsearch

Answers on page 18

B Q P H J Z B W C C Q I A P D A F F O D I L Z
E A S Y U Y T G A X H P W L O X R E A H N D A
L B Q E P V R G R E H R E A Y P B F I O E K E
L S E L I X A L N A Z O Y T S S P H L L I A L
F I V L T Y E A A U P J N S U T S Y L L T T L
L T O A E L H D T D F E L E A N E U E Y A G I
O A L V R I G I I L F A H A Y N I R M H P E V
W M G E S L N O O O R N S Y R S T A A O M R N
E E X H B N I L N G E E Z V A K U H C C I A I
R L O T E A D U Z I E M D O U C S C E K P N A
K C F F A I E S E R S O Z T U L I P K M D I G
K O L O R V E Z S A I N A N G J E N U L U U U
V V I Y D U L P O M A E O R C H I D T R E M O
Q U N L H R B U R B A B Y S B R E A T H H P B
A K G I L E M U I N I H P L E D A I L H A D U
J H Z L Q P X E L L V C R E W O L F N U S O W

Alyssum
Anemone
Aster
Babys Breath
Bellflower
Bougainvillea
Camellia
Carnation
Chrysanthemum
Clematis
Daffodil

Dahlia
Delphinium
Foxglove
Freesia
Geranium
Gladiolus
Grape
Hyacinth
Hollyhock
Honeysuckle
Impatien
Jupiters Beard

Larkspur
Lily of the Valley
Marigold
Orchid
Peruvian Lily
Petunia
Poppy
Rose
Sunflower
Tulip

Music Quiz

Who sang the following songs with a question?

1. Who Put The Bomp (In The Bomp, Bomp, Bomp?) (1961)
2. What Kind Of Fool Am I? (1962)
3. When Will I See You Again? (1974)
4. Where Is The Love? (1972)
5. Why Do Fools Fall In Love? (1956)
6. How Much Is That Doggy In The Window? (1952)
7. Have I Told You Lately (That I Love You)? (1989)
8. What's Love Got To Do With It? (1984)
9. Would I Lie To You? (1991)
10. How Deep Is Your Love? (1984)
11. Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow? (1960)
12. Could It Be Magic? (1975)



People and Places Quiz

Can you identify the 10 celebrities below? Their surname is a town or city in Britain. Good luck!

1. Brian (UK singer, Dorset town)
2. Jack (US author, English city)
3. Tony (DJ and Lancashire town)
4. Richard (UK actor and Staffordshire town)
5. Barbara Taylor (UK/US author and Yorkshire city)
6. George (UK variety entertainer, Merseyside town)
7. David (UK long distance runner and county town)
8. Charlie (UK radio presenter and Cheshire city)
9. Jayne (US actress and Nottinghamshire town)
10. Dionne (US singer and West Midlands city)



Both quizzes by Paul Fitton (All answers on page 18)

Make friends, smile more often



Looking to make friends and meet new people - backed with a great range of benefits? Then find out more about the Oddfellows. With a warm welcome guaranteed, and a calendar of events at your local Oddfellows Branch, how much you get involved is up to you.

Join the Oddfellows for as little as £25 a year, or add extra benefits for £35 a year.*

£25 a year membership* gives you access to...

- Local social events
- Care & Welfare Helpline
- Oddfellows Travel
- Oddfellows news by email
- Branch Care & Welfare Support
- Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line
- Money saving partner offers
- Benevolence Grants
- Emergency Financial Aid (Household)
- Convalescence & Carer Support (after 2 years' membership)
- Accidental Death Benefit
- Legal Aid Scheme
- Educational & Apprenticeship Awards
- 24/7 access to our historical online archive

£35 a year membership* with the additional benefits of...

- Optical benefit of up to £30 every second year of membership (after 1 year's membership)
- Dental benefit of up to £30 every membership year (after 1 year's membership)

For more information or to join, call freephone **0800 028 1810**.
9am-5pm Mon to Thurs, 9am-4pm Fri, or visit
www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits.

MFSMO/A5/0820

*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services. For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions, or call us on 0800 028 1810.



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.



Wirral Get Together

Members enjoying a cuppa and some cake!

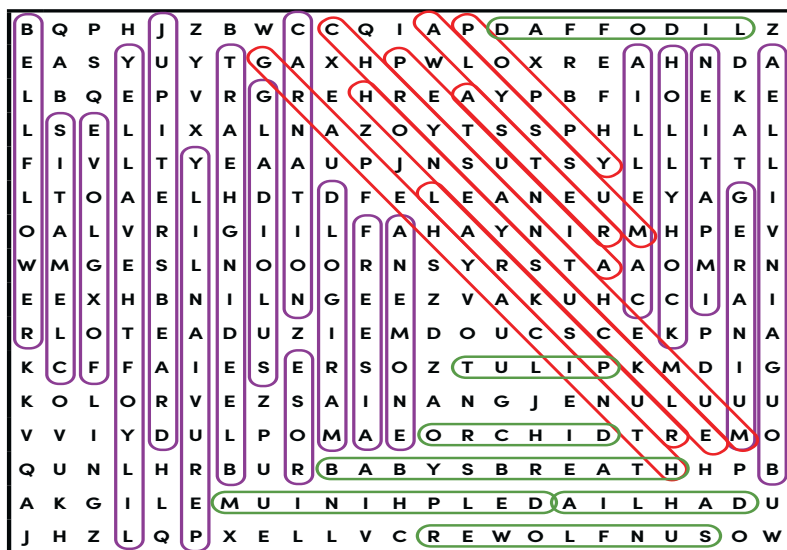
It was so lovely to meet up again at the first of our regular Wirral Get Togethers being held at The Heart of Egremont on the second Friday of the month. We meet from 10.30am to about 12 noon and

have a good gossip and a cuppa, whilst deciding what activities we would like to do going forward. Why not come and join us? You will be made very welcome!

Twelve Commandments for Seniors

1. Talk to yourself. There are times when you need expert advice.
2. 'In style' are the clothes that still fit.
3. You don't need anger management. You need people to stop irritating you.
4. The biggest lie you tell yourself is 'I don't need to write that down'.
5. 'On time' is when you get there.
6. It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.
7. Lately, you've noticed people your age are so much older than you.
8. Growing old should have taken longer.
9. Ageing has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.
10. You still haven't learned to act your age, and hope you never will.
11. You only need two things in life: WD40 to make things go and duct tape to make things stop.
12. 'One for the road' means peeing before you leave the house.

Flowers Wordsearch on page 14



Music Quiz Answers on page 15

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Barry Mann | number one hit in the UK and the |
| 2. Songwriter Anthony Newley and
Sammy Davis Jr | song was also the first with a question |
| 3. The Three Degrees | to reach the same spot |
| 4. Robert Flack and Donny Hathaway | 7. Van Morrison |
| 5. Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers | 8. Tina Turner |
| 6. American Patti Page in 1952 but we
are more familiar with Lita Roza's
version recorded the following year.
Lita was the first woman to have a | 9. Charles and Eddie |
| | 10. The Bee Gees |
| | 11. The Shirelles |
| | 12. Barry Manilow |

People and Places Answers on page 15:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Brian Poole | 5. Barbara Taylor
Bradford | 8. Charlie Chester |
| 2. Jack London | 6. George Formby | 9. Jayne Mansfield |
| 3. Tony Blackburn | 7. David Bedford | 10. Dionne Warwick |
| 4. Richard Burton | | |

The Oddfellows Annual Movable Conference (AMC)

As much as we were all hoping for the opportunity to get together and host our 2021 AMC in person, the global pandemic had other plans and so we saw the conference held virtually over Zoom, and broadcast live via YouTube.

This is only the second time since 1944 that there hasn't been an in-person Annual Movable Conference. The AMC is usually a three-day conference which gives our network of 115 Branches a chance to have their say in the way the Society is run, celebrate its successes and developments over the past 12 months, and enjoy a catch-up with other Branches over dinner.

This year however, the Directors gathered in the Unity Office Boardroom whilst everyone else stayed at home and Deputies logged in via Zoom to listen in and make their contributions to conference.

Despite the distance between us all, the AMC was its usual hive of activity, and thanks go to all the Deputies who attended, debated and voted on the different clauses. We would also like to extend our thanks to the incredible IT team who worked tirelessly to ensure all Deputies were able to log in successfully, the conference was broadcast seamlessly, and everything ran as it should.

Welcoming our newest Grand Master, David Ogden

One of the key elements of AMC is the installation of the new Grand Master, or Chairman of the Society. This is the most prestigious and respected roles in the Society, and requires a considerable commitment. As Grand Masters, they need to have progressed through the ceremonial side of the Society and usually will have served for at least four years as a Director, before being nominated to be Grand Master.

Our Immediate Past Grand Master, David Randall, spent two years in the role, instead of the usual one, due to the coronavirus

pandemic, and has this year welcomed his successor, David Ogden. Despite there being no live audience, the ceremony featuring his installation as Grand Master was streamed on YouTube.



The Society would like to thank David Randall for his hard work during his time as Grand Master, and wish David Ogden all the best for his term. Keep an eye out for our interview with the new Grand Master in the next edition of Society News!

Congratulations to our Making a Difference Award winners!



Each year, we recognise and celebrate the efforts of members who have gone above and beyond for their local Branch, fellow members, and the Society as a whole. Without these individuals (and there are many!), the Oddfellows wouldn't be the warm and welcoming organisation it is today.

This year, faced with a global pandemic and numerous lockdowns which left many members isolated, the kindness and dedication of our Making a Difference Award nominees truly shone through. Our judges were blown away by the way Oddfellows communities rallied together to help each other through such a difficult year, and so choosing the winners was more difficult than ever. Without further ado, our 2021 Making a Difference Award winners are...

Wendy Atkins, from Ipswich Oddfellows, for Working in the spirit of mutuality

Wendy said: "It was a big surprise and I feel honoured to have won. I've done all sorts for the Ipswich Oddfellows over the years, but I enjoy my role as social organiser most of all. Since we've started running online events, I've had to think outside the box and see how our in-person events can translate onto Zoom, which has been a fun challenge."



Wendy, from Ipswich Oddfellows

I've extended the hand of friendship to other Branches to offer help and support with their online meetings."



Paul, from South London Oddfellows

Paul Fitton, from South London Oddfellows, for Enriching lives socially

Paul said: "It was a lovely surprise when I found out I'd won. Organising social events for my local group is more than just a job for me, it's fun and fulfilling. Helping people meet and make new friends in the area is wonderful."

Janice Tomlin, from Reading Oddfellows, for Giving a helping hand

Janice said: "I had no idea I'd even been nominated, so it was a shock when I was told I'd won the award, but I was incredibly pleased! I know how it feels to be on your own a lot, so being a listening ear for other members during such a difficult year has been a tonic for me as well, in many ways."



Janice, from Reading Oddfellows

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says: "Our members are at the heart of everything we do as a Society, and it's people like Paul, Wendy and Janice who keep the wheels turning."

"As much-loved members of their local Branches and the Society as a whole, these Awards are truly well-deserved."

Working together to Make a Difference for 2022

We are excited to introduce a new 'Achieving Together' category for our Making a Difference Awards.

Members nominated for the Achieving Together Award should be a team of two, and could be married, partners, family relations, or good friends who collaborate with, and support each other, to achieve more than they could alone.



Have your say!

If you know a Society star who goes above and beyond, or a duo whose combined efforts make your Branch a warm and welcoming place for all, download a Member Nomination form from www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference, or contact your Branch Secretary to have a form sent to you.

Face-to-face get-togethers are back, but online events are here to stay

Many members have been missing that wonderful feeling of seeing and socialising with friends in a group setting, and we're pleased to let you know that our Branches have restarted their face-to-face events, or are getting ready to restart them again very soon.

So whether you're feeling up to a walk in the great outdoors, or you're keen to get back to your local coffee morning, our Branches are beavering away behind the scenes to make sure their events are COVID-secure, and our members are safe.

Not feeling up to getting together yet? That's fine too. Lots of people will still feel anxious about mixing with groups indoors or outdoors, and we know it will take a while for things to feel "normal" again. But we don't want you to miss out, which is why our online events are here to stay.



From local guest talks streamed live from your Branch, to our weekly national coffee mornings, online events will continue for as long as our members would like them to.

Help is available to get you set up to access the online events, should you need it. Call our membership team on **0800 028 1810**, or email **events@oddfellows.co.uk** to receive a how-to guide for using Zoom video conferencing.

If you'd like to join in with one of our events, in-person or online, find out what's coming up by visiting our website: **www.oddfellows.co.uk/events** or speak to your local Branch Secretary to request a local events diary.

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@manchestercab.org

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

*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.

Is there someone you know who'd enjoy what we do?

Refer a friend today

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



*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

At a glance

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

September 2021 - Friendship Month

Fri 10	Wirral Get Together	10.30am
Sat 25	Friendship Month Afternoon Tea	2pm

October

Fri 15	Wirral Get Together	10.30am
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November

Fri 12	Wirral Get Together	10.30am
Sat 27	Christmas at Bolesworth	2.30pm

December

Fri 10	Wirral Christmas Party	0.30am
Tues 14	Liverpool Christmas Party	7pm
Sat 18	Robin Hood - Rock 'N' Roll Panto	7pm

February 2022

Fri 11	Wirral Get Together	10.30am
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March

Fri 11	Wirral Get Together	10.30am
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April

Fri 8	Wirral Get Together	10.30am
Sat 30	Annual Dinner Dance	7pm

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  MerseyOddfellows  OddfellowsUK

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