

Leeds News & Events and Northumbria Out & About

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July - December 2026
Issue 24



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

News & Events

Leeds District



Waterloo Lake, Roundhay Park, May 2026



Music



Sports



Online



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz

Welcome to the latest edition of our Events Diary and Newsletter for the Leeds District Oddfellows

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

We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared interests in socialising and making friends and helping people! This issue features listings of our upcoming events, from 'Food with Friends' to 'Cuppa & Chats' and we hope there is something to interest you.

We have included a handy back page listing month by month for events at a glance.



Knaresborough Viaduct

We hope you find it useful. We look forward to seeing you at an event very soon!

For more details about becoming a member and the wide range of benefits available, please call our membership team on 0800 028 1810 or visit our website at www.oddfellows.co.uk.

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 support 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.

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

Share your news, start a conversation or simply stay up-to-date! We post photos and events regularly here and you can see details of them, past and present.

Find us at: **f** LeedsOddfellows

July 2026

THURS 02 Afternoon Tea at Butlers



2pm



As per menu



Join us for a delicious afternoon tea at Butler's, a family run and independent café and bar. Just £20 per head, includes glass of bucks fizz and unlimited tea or coffee. Please book as soon as you can on receipt of this new events diary and advise of any dietary requirements. Butler's at Kirkstall Forge, Number One, Great Exhibition Way, Kirkstall Forge, Leeds LS5 3BF. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



WED 08 Knaresborough Forest



2pm



£4



Kathy Allday from the Knaresborough Heritage Centre, joins us too tell us all about their current exhibition titled 'Knaresborough Forest, Community and Nature' showcasing the beauty of our local woodland and the historic sites that remain in Knaresborough Forest. Light refreshments included. Booking essential. Gracious Street Methodist, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Claire on 07830 988120 or Margaret on 07817 968379.

FRI 10 Canal Walk



10.30am



As per menu



Enjoy a stroll along the canal and return, starting from TVC Hollybush Conservation Centre. We will end with the option of coffee and cake from Café 21, based at the centre and ran by 'Sunshine and Smiles', a unique charity in Leeds supporting people with down syndrome and their families. Their café employs people with down syndrome as part of the team! The walk duration will be 45/60 mins, weather dependent. Please book so we know to expect you. Walk is free, coffee and cake cost as per your menu choice. TVC Hollybush Conservation Centre, Broad Lane, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3BP. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

TUES 07 Leodis Branch Meeting



12 noon



£2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Please let us know if you are joining us for catering purposes, a small donation of £2 is requested for your meal. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Kerry on 0113 2930901.

July 2026

MON 13 Nelson Branch Meeting



1.30pm



Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Please let us know if you are joining us. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 07817 968379.

MON 13 Are you strong, lass?



6.30pm



£4



Are you strong, lass? As you'll need to be, working here! Retired Teacher, Kath Padgett joins us to talk about her memoirs from a 70s Yorkshire Classroom. Her



recollections of inner city secondary school life are as poignant and entertaining as they are nostalgic. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Booking essential for catering purposes, please let George know on 0113 2585036 if you are attending and of any dietary requirements by the Friday before.

TUES 14 Fish, Chips and Bingo



12 noon



Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy a small fish, chips and peas or curry with lashings of tea or coffee with bread and



butter. We aim to eat for 12.30pm. All followed by several fun games of bingo. Booking essential please with your food order. Please book by 4pm the Friday prior. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

WED 15 National Trust Talk



12 noon



£2



David Banks from the National Trust returns to give us another of his fascinating and illustrated talks. Includes a light lunch. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.

THURS 16 Call My Bluff



7pm



£4



Come and see if you can tell fact from fiction. Hot supper and raffle included. Booking essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

July 2026

TUES 21 Creative Writing

🕒 12 noon 💷 £4



An interactive creative writing event with published author Jenny Beaumont. We may all be budding authors in the making! Hot lunch provided. Please book with Anne before Friday 17 July and advise of any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 07858 411215.



FRI 24 Breakfast and Chat

🕒 10.30am 💷 £3



Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows are all about. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We totally understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome. Everyone welcome. This month we will serving hot and fresh bacon and sausage baps with optional hash browns, tea or coffee. There will be a little quiz to make you smile. Please book early for numbers and catering. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

THURS 23 Crown Green Bowling Competition

🕒 6pm 💷 £3



Join in, or come along and watch. Trophies will be awarded to both the winners and runners up. No experience needed, beginners and experts welcome. Supper included. Menu to be confirmed. Rain may halt play! Booking essential by Thursday 16 July. Meanwood Crown Green Bowling Green, Meanwood Park, Leeds LS6 4LT. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



July 2026

MON
27

Sound Bath with Kerry



2.30pm



£2



Join us for a Sound Bath, a deeply immersive, full-body meditative experience where participants are 'bathed' in sound waves, soothing tones and powerful vibrations created by Kerry using Singing Bowls, Chimes and Tuning Fork. All you have to do is listen and allow the sounds and vibrations to wash over you, just quiet your mind, the sound itself is the focal point. You may also want to bring a cushion or a blanket for your comfort. A 45 minutes session followed by tea or coffee. 15 places only, booking essential. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

THURS
30

Quiz Night



7pm



£4



General quiz night for teams of four. Come test your knowledge! Supper included. Booking essential. Please book by 4pm the Tuesday before. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

FRI
31

Fairburn Ings Nature Reserve Walk



11am



Free



Join us for an exploration around Fairburn Ings Nature Reserve to discover a landscape shaped by coal mining, now enjoying a second life as a haven for wildlife. We will follow the Roy Taylor trail covering 1.5 miles (2.4km), taking 45 minutes. For those wanting a shorter stroll you can enjoy the 0.3mile (500m) flat 'Discovery Trail', accessible for wheelchairs, Stopping off at the bird hide for spot of twitching. Why not bring a packed lunch and we can eat together in the visitor centre. Meet in the car park. Free event, but you will need to pay for parking. RSPB Fairburn Ings Visitor Centre, Newton Lane, Castleford WF10 2BH. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

August

THURS
06

La Bistro



6pm



As per menu



TUES
11

Fish, Chips and Bingo



12 noon



Members £7
Guests £8



Join us at La Bistro Mediterranean Kitchen for a two course early bird menu for £21.95.

Established in March 2015. La

Bistro is a family run Mediterranean restaurant which thrives on serving a wide variety of delicacies from the Mediterranean. Offering a range of cuisine to suit every taste, La Bistro stands out for it's extensive menu and prides itself on using only the freshest and finest ingredients for each dish. 16 persons maximum. Booking essential by Thursday 30 July. La Bistro, 124 Long Row, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5AT. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



Enjoy a small fish, chips and peas or curry with lashings of tea or coffee with bread and butter. We aim to eat for 12.30pm. All followed by several fun games of bingo. Booking essential please with your food order. Please book by 4pm the Friday prior. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

MON
10

My Search for Kingfishers



6.30pm



£4



Back by popular demand, Wildlife Photographer Steve Midgely talks us through his ups and downs of a year trying to photograph the beautiful Kingfisher.

Along the way there were stags, seals, falcons, kites, hundreds of ducks, mink and foxes as well as some really interesting and helpful people. Come along to hear more! Hot meal included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Booking essential for catering purposes, please let George know on 0113 2585036 if you are attending and of any dietary requirements by the Friday before.



August

TUES 18 Quiz Time



12 noon



£4



Come and exercise your brain cells with a general knowledge quiz set by our friend Pat Davis. Two course home-made hot lunch provided. Please book with Anne before Friday 14 August and advise of any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 07858 411215.

THURS 20 Beetle Drive



7pm



£4



Spots before your eyes? Don't worry, it's only the dice! Hot supper and raffle included. Booking essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



WED 19 Wildlife, Street Life and Tigers



12 noon



£2



Wildlife photographer Steve Midgely recounts to us his fascinating journey to India where he photographed Bengal tigers and everything else along the way! Includes a light lunch. Booking essential. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



FRI 21 Breakfast and Chat - Fruit Salad



10.30am



£3



Come and meet old and new friends and see what the Oddfellows are all about. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We totally understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome. Everyone welcome. This month we will serving a delicious home-made fruit salad and fruit toast with tea or coffee. There will be a little quiz to make you smile. Please book by Thursday 20 August for numbers for catering. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



August

TUES
25

Hidden Gems and Curious Corners - Walking Tour



11am



£15 on the day



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Photo by Malcom Morris



Rachael Unsworth, urban geographer of Leeds City Walking Tours takes us on a mystery tour of intriguing sights in Leeds City Centre across streets, public spaces and public buildings. Have your attention drawn to overlooked features and hear about the significance of some unusual elements. Our tour starts at Leeds Minster. Please book by Tuesday 18 August. Leeds Minster, 2-6 Kirkgate, Leeds LS2 7DJ. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

THURS
27

Puddings Galore



7pm



£4



Puddings! What's not to love? Bring your own dessert to share. We at Oddfellows, love home-made treats. Prizes for best taste and presentation. Supper Included. Please book by 4pm the Tuesday before. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



Who can you invite
along to join in the
friendship and fun?

All welcome



Circle
September for
new friendships

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1-30 SEPTEMBER



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

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES
01 Leodis Branch Meeting



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Please let us know if you are joining us for catering purposes, a small donation of £2 is requested for your meal. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Kerry on 0113 2930901.



SUN
06 Blind Jack - Guided Walk of Knaresborough



Mike Doss, volunteer of the Knaresborough Heritage Centre takes us on an Oddfellows exclusive guided tour of Knaresborough, where we are going to learn all about 'Blind Jack'. Please book by Friday 31 August. Meet at the Heritage Centre, opposite the bus station. Knaresborough Heritage Centre, 12 High Street, Knaresborough HG5 0EQ. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



Image by Immanuel Giel

THURS
03 Great British Cheese Tasting



We have collaborated with local business 'Homage 2 Fromage' to bring you a 'Great British Cheese Tasting' event. You will get to try and be guided by your host through five British cheeses, with plenty of bread, crackers, chutney and grapes.

Free glass of wine or non-alcoholic fizz for each guest. Please book early for numbers and catering. We would hate to not order enough cheese! Booking is essential by Thursday 27 August. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES

08

Fish, Chips and Bingo



12 noon



Members £7,
Guests £8



Enjoy a small fish, chips and peas or curry with lashings of tea or coffee with bread and butter. We aim to eat for 12.30pm. All followed by several fun games of bingo. Booking essential please with your food order. Please book by 4pm the Friday prior. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



WED

09

The Mitford Men



2pm



£4



Joanne Aston talks us through a selection of the men who were in the lives of the notorious Mitford sisters. Some very well known men from history! Light refreshments



The Mitford Sisters

included. Booking essential please. Gracious Street Methodist, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Claire on 07830 988120.

FRI

11

Pancakes Galore



10.30am



£5 plus drink
cost



Yes you heard that right, a plate of buttermilk beauties are just £5! Go bottomless when you purchase any drink. Go classic with berries and whipped vanilla cream, biscoff crumb, maple and banana, triple choccy or smoked streaky bacon pancakes. Vegan and gluten-free options available. Booking essential by Friday 4 September. Bill's Leeds Restaurant, 1 Albion Place, Leeds LS1 6JL. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



MON

14

Nelson Branch Meeting



1.30pm



Free



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Please let us know if you are joining us. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 07817 968379.

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



MON

14

Play Your Cards Right



6.30pm



£4



Pop down for some fun as we play 'Play Your Cards Right'. Is lady luck on your side tonight? Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Booking essential for catering purposes, please let George know on 0113 2585036 if you are attending and of any dietary requirements by the Friday before.



TUES

15

Forget Me Not



12 noon



£4



A talk from 'Forget Me Not Children's Hospice'. It's not all sadness, they are places of great laughter, love and care. Two course home-made hot lunch provided. Please book with Anne before Friday 11 September and advise of any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 07858 411215.



forget me not
children's hospice

WED

16

Lunch at the Endless Kettle, Keighley



12 noon



As per menu



Back by popular demand! Come along to The Endless Kettle for an all day breakfast or lunch. Situated in the old bank building, this café/bistro achieves great reviews. The Endless Kettle, 61 North Street, Keighley BD21 3SL. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



THURS

17

Bingo Time



7pm



£4



Bingo Fun Time. Dabbers at the ready. Hot supper and raffle included. Booking essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.





September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



FRI
18 **Polymer Clay Earrings Workshop**

 10.30am  £15



Come and get creative! Shelby from Clayrings will guide us through a fun polymer earring making session, where you can make two pairs of your own design creation. Refreshments provided. Booking essential, with payment in full by Tuesday 18 August. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



TUES
22 **Coffee Morning with Stone Art**



 10.30am  FREE



Come and meet old and new friends and see what the Oddfellows are all about at our coffee morning. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We totally understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome. Try out some stone art, you will be amazed how much fun it is to be creative. Tea or coffee and cake will be served. Please book for numbers. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



SAT
19 **Sea Shanty Workshop**

 4pm  £5



Folk Singer Stuart Green leads us through his workshop designed to teach a little history of sea shanties. We will sing along with some and have a lot of fun. It includes a variety of activities and group singing and is suitable for all ages.

Audience participation required, but this is a sing along workshop, not a choral masterpiece! Not to be missed. Light refreshments will be provided (it's thirsty work!). Please book by Friday 11 September. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS
24

Bingo Fun



Eyes down for a full house. Supper included. Booking essential by 4pm the Tuesday before. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

TUES
29

The Lawrence Oates
Ceremonial

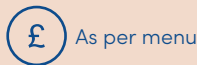


Come and join us to find out more about the Oddfellows and the historic traditions of the Society as we share with you our shared values of Friendship, Love and Truth. Light lunch afterwards. Members only. New time of 1pm. Please book. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

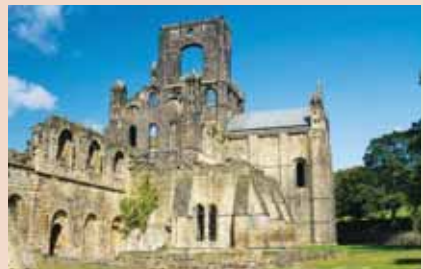


FRI
25

Friendship Walk and Lunch with
the Bradford Branch



Join us as we meet up with members from the Bradford Branch for a stroll around Kirkstall Abbey followed by lunch. Walk meeting place: Kirkstall Abbey Museum Car Park LS5 3EJ. Lunch venue: The Horsforth, 57 Featherbank Lane, Horsforth LS18 4NA at 12 noon. If you don't fancy the walk, why not just come and meet us for lunch? Booking essential (for lunch) by Friday 18 September. Kirkstall Abbey, Abbey Road, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3EH. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Join the fun

October

THURS 01 Sukhothai, South Parade



You enjoyed Sukhothai Chapel Allerton so much we are headed back to try the city centre branch. We will enjoy their early evening



menu, one starter and one main for £22. Please book by Thursday 24 September. Sukhothai, 15 South Parade, Leeds LS1 5QS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

TUES 06 Leodis Branch Meeting



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Please let us know if you are joining us for catering purposes, a small donation of £2 is requested for your meal. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Kerry on 0113 2930901.

MON 12 Nelson Branch Meeting



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Please let us know if you are joining us. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 07817 968379.

MON 12 Memories from your early years!



Do you remember outside loos, Spangles sweets and Space Hoppers? So do we! Member Keith Jones joins us tonight with his presentation about the best nostalgic memories from your childhood, combined with some music tracks from the 60s and 70s. Take a walk down memory lane with us. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Booking essential for catering purposes, please let George know on 0113 2585036 if you are attending and of any dietary requirements by the Friday before.



October

TUES 13 Fish, Chips and Bingo



12 noon



Members £7,
Guests £8



Enjoy a small fish, chips and peas or curry with lashings of tea or coffee with bread and butter.

We aim to eat for 12.30pm.

All followed by several fun games of bingo. Booking essential please with your food order. Please book by 4pm the Friday prior. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



THURS 15 Speed Dominoes



7pm



£4



Who will have the quickest reflexes? Hot supper and raffle included. Booking essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



TUES 20 The Meaning of Place Names



12 noon



£4



Speaker Professor Hill joins us to discuss the meaning of place names and why certain places have the names that they do. Hot lunch provided. Please book with Anne before Friday 16 October and advise of any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 07858 411215.



WED 14 The Galton Sisters



2pm



£4



Pauline Robson join us to tell us about the Galton Sisters. Evelyne Isabella Galton and Laura Gwendolen Douglas Galton led two very different lives. This talk shows how the sisters took different paths in adulthood, but stayed friends throughout. Evelyne married an Italian count and Gwendolen became Mrs Gascoigne of Lotherton Hall, Aberford. Light refreshments included. Booking essential. Gracious Street Methodist, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Claire on 07830 988120.

October

WED 21 Lunch at Steeton Hall

🕒 12 noon 💷 As per menu 🍴🍷



Join us for lunch at Steeton Hall, situated just off the main Keighley to Skipton Road. This beautiful hotel has free parking and is easily accessible by bus or train. Situated next to Steeton and Silsden railway station. Choose from the early bird menu of two courses for £16.95 or three courses for £19.95, or just choose a main or a light bite. Booking essential. Steeton Hall, Station Road, Steeton, West Yorkshire BD20 6RY. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.

FRI 23 Breakfast and Chat

🕒 10.30am 💷 £3 🍴🍷

Come and meet old friends and new and see what the Oddfellows are all



about. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We totally understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome. Everyone welcome. This month we will serving hot and fresh bacon and sausage baps with optional hash browns, tea or coffee. There will be a little quiz to make you smile. Please book early for numbers and catering. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

THURS 29 Play Your Cards Right

🕒 7pm 💷 £4 🎲

Higher or Lower? You don't get anything for a pair! Supper included. Booking essential. Please book by 4pm the Tuesday before. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

PLAY
YOUR CARDS
RIGHT

November

TUES 03 Leodis Branch Meeting



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Please let us know if you are joining us for catering purposes, a small donation of £2 is requested for your meal. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Kerry on 0113 2930901.

THURS 05 Carvery Lunch



Join us at Hawthorne Farm for a hearty carvery lunch, then we can all get home before the chaos of 'Bonfire Night' commences.



They offer three sizes of carvery, small, medium and large! Booking essential by the Tuesday before please. Hawthorne Farm, Warren House Lane, Yeadon LS19 7FT. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

MON 09 Nelson Branch Meeting



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Please let us know if you are joining us. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Margaret on 07817 968379.

MON 09 A Taste of Italy



We're off to Italy tonight for the evening. Why not wear white, green and red?" Bring your stories and memories of holidays in Italy and we will talk through some of the incredible landmarks and sights. Try your luck at our Italian quiz! Hot Italian inspired meal included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Booking essential for catering purposes, please let George know on 0113 2585036 if you are attending and of any dietary requirements by the Friday before. Grazia!

November

TUES

10

Fish, Chips and Bingo



12 noon



Members £7,
Guests £8



12 noon



£4



Enjoy a small fish, chips and peas or curry with lashings of tea or coffee with bread and butter. We aim to eat for 12.30pm. All followed by several fun games of bingo. Booking essential please with your food order. Please book by 4pm the Friday prior. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

TUES

17

Crafting or Magic?



Shirley Cass returns to entertain us with crafting and magic. Book early as this one will be popular. Two course hot lunch provided. Please book with Anne before Friday 13 November and advise of any dietary requirements. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 07858 411215.

WED

11

Railways of Knaresborough



2pm



£4



We will be joined by a volunteer from the Knaresborough Heritage Centre to tell us about their new exhibition titled 'Railway', which looks at the history of Knaresborough's Railway. Light refreshments included. Booking essential. Gracious Street Methodist, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN. Contact Claire on 07830 988120.



WED

18

The History of Leeds



12 noon



£2



Alan Pugh returns to give us another of his illustrated talks, delving into the fascinating history of the City of Leeds. Includes a light lunch. 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



November

THURS 19 Racing Pigs



Back by popular demand. Can you pick the streaky little piggy? Hot supper and raffle included. Booking essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



FRI 20 Breakfast and Chat - Fruit Salad



Come and meet old and new friends and see what the Oddfellows are all about. If you've not been to one of our events before then this is the perfect introduction. We totally understand that coming to new things can be a scary prospect, but we are a friendly bunch and you will be made to feel very welcome. Everyone welcome. This month we will serving a delicious home-made fruit salad and fruit toast with tea or coffee. There will be a little quiz to make you smile. Please book by Thursday 19 November for numbers for catering. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

TUES 24 The Lawrence Oates Ceremonial



Come and join us to find out more about the Oddfellows and the historic traditions of the Society as we share with you our shared values of Friendship, Love and Truth. Light lunch afterwards. Members only. New time of 1pm. Please book. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.

THURS 26 Desert Island Discs



Our version of the fabulous radio show - 'Desert Island Discs'. We will have two special member guests, who will give us an insight into their lives and the music associated. Supper included. Booking essential by 4pm the Tuesday before. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.



December



TUES 01 Leodis Branch Meeting



12 noon



£2



The regular monthly business meeting where all members are welcome to attend. We share and discuss the Branch business, which will include social events, finance, care, development, publicity and much more. Refreshments will be served from 12 noon and the meeting will commence at 12.45pm. Please let us know if you are joining us for catering purposes, a small donation of £2 is requested for your meal. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Kerry on 0113 2930901.



TUES 08 Fish, Chips and Bingo



12 noon



Members £7
Guests £8



Enjoy a small fish, chips and peas or curry with lashings of tea or coffee with bread and butter. We aim to eat for 12.30pm. All followed by several fun games of bingo. Booking essential please with your food order. Please book by 4pm the Friday prior. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

THURS 10 Noel Themed Evening



7pm



£4



Everyone welcome for some festive fun. Supper included. Booking essential. Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3AS. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

FRI 04 Christmas Wreath Making



2pm



£23





Artist and garden centre owner Ruth Dorrington will guide us through Christmas wreath making in her Greenscapes Art Shed. Think beautiful greenery, berries and accessories for all colour schemes to make your dream wreath. Cost includes all materials. Booking essential. Book early as this is a bargain and is sure to be popular. Maximum 15 people, refreshments supplied. Greenscapes Nursery, Brandon Crescent, Leeds LS17 9JH. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

December



MON
14 Christmas Fuddle
and Fun

 6.30pm  £4



Join us for a festive fuddle (that's food if your not from Yorkshire!). Christmas starts here, come get in the festive spirit with food and games. Meal included. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. For catering purposes, please notify George on 0113 2585036 if you are attending and if you have any dietary requirements.

WED
16 Festive Lunch

 12 noon  As per menu 

Join us for a festive meal at Toby Carvery, Keighley. Please note that booking for this event is essential. Toby Carvery, Bradford Road , Keighley BD21 4BB. Contact Susan on 07849 119512.



TUES
15 Sing-a-long Christmas
Lunch

 12 noon  £6



It's Christmas! Join us for home cooked two course Christmas lunch and enjoy a musical performance from singer Karen Clegg. Please book with Anne before Tuesday 8 December and advise of any dietary requirements. Numbers are limited for this one so don't delay. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD. Contact Anne on 07858 411215.



December



THURS
17

Secret Santa and Christmas Quiz



7pm



Free



Free event, just bring a festive wrapped gift to the value of £5 for the Secret Santa. Hot supper and raffle included. Booking essential. Miners Arms, Albert Road, Morley, Leeds LS27 8LG. Contact Ian on 0113 2311013.



TUES
29

Twixmas Stroll



11am



Free



After all your festive indulgence join us for a twixmas walk to recover from all the turkey, puddings and cheese. A nice stroll around Roundhay Park, sticking to the accessible paths. If the café is open we can have a cuppa. Meet on the benches outside the Lakeside Café. If it's poor weather, we will meet at Unity House for a catch up and probably more food treats! Please book so we know to expect you. The Lakeside Café, Roundhay Park, Roundhay, Leeds LS8 2JL. Contact Eleanor on 07709 295317.

Outdoor Events

All outdoor events are subject to weather conditions. It is essential that you book in advance for all events and provide up-to-date contact details, enabling us to notify you promptly of any changes or cancellations.

Bookings and Cancellations

We kindly encourage early booking for all events to avoid disappointment. Please note that, where charges apply, full payment must be made in advance. A place at an event will only be confirmed once payment has been received.





In June we said a fond goodbye to Marcia Goldstone, our Secretary's Assistant. After a wonderful 17 years working in our Meanwood office processing optical and dental claims, Marcia has decided to retire. Congratulations Marcia, you will be missed. Thank you for your commitment to Leeds Oddfellows and we wish you and husband Phil a very happy and healthy retirement together.



We welcome Claire Kilburn as our new Social Organiser for Knaresborough and Harrogate. Claire has a pharmaceutical background having recently left the NHS. She also has years of senior experience in Girlguiding and has recently been working towards a qualification in coaching and mentoring. In her free time Claire enjoys West Coast Swing Dance. We are delighted to have Claire join the Social Organiser team working alongside Eleanor Tamlyn. Claire can be contacted regarding Knaresborough and Harrogate events at claire.kilburn@oddfellows.co.uk and mobile 07830 988120.



Charity Donations

Our regional Chairman Bob Eyre selected CHECT, The Children's Eye Cancer Trust and Crohns and Colitis UK to be the lucky recipients of our charitable donations.

John Phillips who volunteers for Crohns and Colitis UK popped into our monthly breakfast social to tell a little bit about his story and diagnosis and the amazing work that the charity does.



Regional Chairman Bob Eyre (left) and John Phillips of Crohns and Colitis UK (right)

Hug On A Tray

Local charity Hug on a Tray also benefited from a charity donation of £470 raised by our monthly Tuesday group. Hug On A Tray supply TVs and tea/coffee to patients at St James' Hospital Wards J88 and J89 saving



each patient £10 per day. We are so delighted that Lesley the key volunteer for Hug On A Tray is also now a member of Leeds Oddfellows. Amazing work Lesley!

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

Dietary Requirements

We are always more than happy to arrange alternative refreshments for you if you have dietary requirements, food intolerances or food allergies. It is really important that you tell us in plenty of time prior to the events so we can make arrangements for you.



Booking Deadlines

We politely ask that you book onto events as soon as you can so that we are aware of numbers for catering. Many of the event are subsidised and we need to ensure that catering numbers are accurate to keep costs down. Events are also getting very popular and are reaching maximum numbers too. Please try call us Monday to Friday only where possible. Remember our two Social Organisers both work part time. Leave a message and they will get back to you.



Parking

Reminder when attending Unity Court, Meanwood, the 4 top yellow parking bays don't belong to us. Please note, this used to be 3.



A bit about us...

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

Oddfellows Online Events

Discover the five Rs for a happier retirement with Dr Anna Machin

Tuesday 14 July, 7pm

Join author, broadcaster and world-renowned Anthropologist, Dr Anna Machin as she offers her expert advice on how to navigate the emotional and social aspect of retirement.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/AnnaMachin2

Murder Most Austen

Tuesday 28 July, 7pm

Whether you're a fan of Austen or just thrilled by a good detective story, join crime writer and scholar Dr Lucy Andrew for this engaging talk on how Austen's works have shaped the evolution of detective fiction.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/MurderMostAusten

Staying Safe from Financial Scams

Tuesday 18 August, 7pm

Financial scams are becoming more sophisticated, using new tactics to exploit trust. This talk with Unity Mutual explains how these scams work, highlights key warning signs, and provides practical strategies to help you protect yourself and your finances.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/FinancialScams1

Understanding Diabetes

Tuesday 15 September, 7pm

Join us for this informative talk covering what type 1 and type 2 Diabetes are, signs and symptoms, who's at risk of type 2 Diabetes, how to access support, and how to live well.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/OddfellowsDiabetesUK

More Ghostly Tales to be Told

Tuesday 27 October, 7pm

Get ready for Halloween with another fascinating evening of stories and poems by Dr Ann Featherstone, a retired university lecturer, teacher and writer who has appeared on numerous BBC programmes and documentaries.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/MoreGhostlyTales



Oddfellows Extra

– big brand offers and savings



From cinema tickets, holidays and new cars to grocery shopping, health spas and home insurance – Oddfellows Extra* can help you save on life's little extras or necessities.

Oddfellows Extra is an online collection of money-saving discounts and offers from many well-known brands and major retailers.

All Oddfellows Extra deals are open to Standard members and members with Extra Benefits from day one, for no extra charge.

Access Oddfellows Extra

If you're a member, sign in to the Member's Area and select 'Oddfellows Extra' from the member offers section. If you've not yet registered for the Member's Area, there are instructions on how to do so on our website: www.oddfellows.co.uk/login

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*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits.
Visit the Oddfellows Extra website for details.



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 Tracey on **0113 2424002** or email **tracey.garczynski@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**

Give someone a great start in life for only £10!



**It's never too early to start
making friends for life.**

We laugh as we learn together and give each other a helping hand through the ups and downs of growing up. That's what being a Young Oddfellow is all about.

If you have a family member aged 17 or under, and would like them to experience the friendship and support of the Oddfellows, we'd love to welcome them.

There are lots of great reasons* to join Young Oddfellows – to find out more, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/young-oddfellows

**As a parent, grandparent or guardian,
you can join them online or ask your
Branch Secretary for an application form.**



**Young
Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

***Terms and conditions apply to membership and financial benefits.
Call 0800 028 1810 for details or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions**

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 Eleanor by phone on 07709 295317 or email eleanor.tamlyn@oddfellows.co.uk

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www.oddfellows.co.uk

Keeping In touch

More important than ever to keep in touch and correct contact details are key.

We are setting up WhatsApp communities to keep you updated around social events. If you would like to join the WhatsApp community we just need your mobile number please and your permission to add you to the group.

To check we hold an email address and correct contact details for you please contact Eleanor on **07709 295317** or **eleanor.tamlyn@oddfellows.co.uk** or chat with Eleanor or Claire at an event.



Branch Contacts

Provincial Corresponding

Secretary:

Tracey Garczynski
Unity Court, 431 Meanwood
Road, Leeds LS7 2LD
Telephone: 0113 2424002
Mobile: 07534 211132
Email:
tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Eleanor Tamlyn

Telephone: 0113 2424003
Mobile: 07709 295317
Email:
eleanor.tamlyn@oddfellows.co.uk

Leodis Branch

Secretary: Kerry Cawthray
Telephone: 0113 2930901
Meetings are held at 12 noon on the
first Tuesday of the month at Unity
Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds,
LS7 2LD. Unless specified.

Nelson Branch

Secretary: Margaret Lickess
The Oddfellows, 19 Victoria
Walk Leeds LS18 4PP
Telephone: 07817 968379
Email:
margaret.lickess@oddfellows.co.uk
Meetings are held on the second
Monday of the month at 1.30pm at
Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road,
Leeds LS7 2LD unless specified.

Northumbria Branch

Secretary: Tracey Garczynski
Northumbria Lodge, 23 Queensway,
Guiseley, Leeds LS20 9JL
Telephone: 07534 211132
Email:
tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk
Meetings are held on the first
Wednesday of the month at 12 noon
at The Bluebell Pub, Sunderland,
unless specified.

District Meeting Date

Thursday 17 September, 10.30am

Castle Grove Masonic Lodge, Castle Grove Drive, Headingley, Leeds LS6 4BP.
Meeting commences at 10:30am and will include a hot lunch.
If you wish to attend, please contact your Branch Secretary.

Life members, Widow Members, Associate members and National members

Don't forget, if you have opted for the benefits package you are entitled to make a claim following a visit to the dentist or optician.



Branch Meetings

District: Eleanor Tamlyn
Telephone: 07709 295317

Email:
eleanor.tamlyn@oddfellows.co.uk
Meet on adhoc days and times at various venues.

Fox St George: Anne Fleming
Telephone: 0113 4148437
Mobile: 07858 411215
Email: anniebuster70@gmail.com
Meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 12 noon at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD, unless specified.

Britons: Ian Cawood
Telephone: 0113 2311013
Email: i.cawood@sky.com
Meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Miners Arms, Albert Road, Leeds LS27 8LG, unless specified.

Harmony: Claire Kilburn
Telephone: 07830 988120
Email:
claire.kilburn@oddfellows.co.uk
Meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Dales Room, Gracious Street Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Knaresborough HG5 8AN, unless specified.

Byworth: Susan Taylor
Telephone: 07849 119512
Email: susanxtaylor23@gmail.com
Meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 12 noon at 4 Henry Street, Keighley BD21 3DR, unless specified.

Earl Grey: Eleanor Tamlyn
Mobile: 07709 295317
Meet on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm at Milford Sports Club, Beecroft Street, Kirkstall LS5 3AS, unless specified.

Princess Victoria/Mechanics:
George Lickess
Telephone: 0113 2585036
Meet on the second Monday of the month at 6.30pm at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD, unless specified.

The Lawrence Oates Ceremonial:
Ian Cawood **Telephone:** 0113 2311013
Email: i.cawood@sky.com
Join us to find out more about the Oddfellows and the historic traditions of the Society as we share our shared values of Friendship, Love and Truth. Light lunch afterwards, Members only. Starts at 1pm at Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD.
Tuesday 29 September and Tuesday 24 November.

The Past Grands Meeting:
Colin Woodward
Telephone: 07881 841819
Email: colin.g.woodward@gmail.com
This is for members who have the title of past Noble Grand, have completed their Purple Degree and are wishing to further their understanding of the degrees and symbolism of the Oddfellows. Unity Court, 431 Meanwood Road, Leeds, LS7 2LD. **Tuesday 28 July at 2pm with refreshments, and Saturday 31 October at 12 noon with lunch.**

At a glance

July 2026

Thurs 2	Afternoon Tea at Butlers	2pm
Tues 7	Leodis Branch Meeting	12 noon
Wed 8	Knaresborough Forest	2pm
Fri 10	Canal Walk	10.30am
Mon 13	Nelson Branch Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 13	Are you strong, lass?	6.30pm
Tues 14	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12 noon
Wed 15	National Trust Talk	12 noon
Thurs 16	Call My Bluff	7pm
Tues 21	Creative Writing	12 noon
Thurs 23	Crown Green Bowling Competition	6pm
Fri 24	Breakfast and Chat	10.30am
Mon 27	Sound Bath with Kerry	2.30pm
Thurs 30	Quiz Night	7pm
Fri 31	Fairburn Ings Nature Reserve Walk	11am

August

Thurs 6	La Bistro	6pm
Mon 10	My Search for Kingfishers	6.30pm
Tues 11	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12 noon
Tues 18	Quiz Time	12 noon
Wed 19	Wildlife, Street Life and Tigers	12 noon
Thurs 20	Beetle Drive	7pm
Fri 21	Breakfast and Chat - Fruit Salad	10.30am
Tues 25	Hidden Gems and Curious Corners - Walking Tour	11am
Thurs 27	Puddings Galore	7pm

September - Friendship Month

Tues 1	Leodis Branch Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 3	Great British Cheese Tasting	6pm
Sun 6	Blind Jack - Guided Walk of Knaresborough	10.30am
Tues 8	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12 noon

At a glance

September - Friendship Month

Wed 9	The Mitford Men	2pm
Fri 11	Pancakes Galore	10.30am
Mon 14	Nelson Branch Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 14	Play Your Cards Right	6.30pm
Tues 15	Forget Me Not	12 noon
Wed 16	Lunch at the Endless Kettle, Keighley	12 noon
Thurs 17	Bingo Time	7pm
Fri 18	Polymer Clay Earrings Workshop	10.30am
Sat 19	Sea Shanty Workshop	4pm
Tues 22	Coffee Morning with Stone Art	10.30am
Thurs 24	Bingo Fun	7pm
Fri 25	Friendship Walk and Lunch with the Bradford Branch	11am
Tues 29	The Lawrence Oates Ceremonial	1pm

October

Thurs 1	Sukhothai, South Parade	6pm
Tues 6	Leodis Branch Meeting	12 noon
Mon 12	Nelson Branch Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 12	Memories from your early life!	6.30pm
Tues 13	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12 noon
Wed 14	The Galton Sisters	2pm
Thurs 15	Speed Dominoes	7pm
Tues 20	The Meaning of Place Names	12 noon
Wed 21	Lunch at Steeton Hall	12 noon
Fri 23	Breakfast and Chat	10.30am
Thurs 29	Play Your Cards Right	7pm

November

Tues 3	Leodis Branch Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 5	Carvery Lunch	12.30pm
Mon 9	Nelson Branch Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 9	A Taste of Italy	6.30pm

At a glance

November

Tues 10	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12 noon
Wed 11	Railways of Knaresborough	2pm
Tues 17	Crafting or Magic?	12 noon
Wed 18	The History of Leeds	12 noon
Thurs 19	Racing Pigs	7pm
Fri 20	Breakfast and Chat - Fruit Salad	10.30am
Tues 24	The Lawrence Oates Ceremonial	1pm
Thurs 26	Desert Island Discs	7pm

December

Tues 1	Leodis Branch Meeting	12 noon
Fri 4	Christmas Wreath Making	2pm
Tues 8	Fish, Chips and Bingo	12 noon
Thurs 10	Noel Themed Evening	7pm
Mon 14	Christmas Fuddle and Fun	6.30pm
Tues 15	Sing Song Christmas Lunch	12 noon
Wed 16	Festive Lunch	12 noon
Thurs 17	Secret Santa and Christmas Quiz	7pm
Tues 29	Twixmas Stroll	11am

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

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

Oddies autumn getaway to Llandudno

Join us as we take a trip to Llandudno, North Wales, on an Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.

Oddfellows members and guests will take in some breathtaking scenery during a four-night stay at the Hydro Hotel from Saturday 26 September to Wednesday 30 September 2026.

From £369 per person, half board, the price includes coach pick up and drop off from locations across the South East via Reading, or a self-arrival option.



Outstanding natural beauty

Two optional day trips are included in the price of the holiday.

On day two, you'll head by coach to the Isle of Anglesey, where the entire coastline has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. You'll call at the seaside town of Beaumaris with its mix of Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian buildings.

On day four, the second day trip will head to Caernarfon, home to Wales' most famous castle and a UNESCO World

Heritage Site. Afterwards, you'll venture into the Snowdonia National Park, calling at Llanberis, situated at the foot of Mount Snowdon, and Porthmadog.

Relax in great company

We'll be organising some group drinks and times to dine together during the stay, and enjoying the hotel's evening entertainment, but your days will be largely free to plan as you please.

The hotel has a large entertainment suite with a dance floor and entertainment most evenings, and there are sun lounges and a games room with a snooker table.

You'll also find spectacular views over the bay or over the town to the Snowdonia mountain range from many of the hotel's bedrooms and from its Looking Glass Bar.

Interested in joining us?

This group holiday is open to any members and their guests and will be hosted by our Oddfellows Travel coordinator and South East Lancashire Branch member, Emma Gorst.

For any enquiries, and to find out how to book, get in touch with Emma by calling **0161 214 4634**, or email travel@oddfellows.co.uk.

Please read and understand Alfa Travel's terms and conditions before booking at www.alfaholidays.co.uk/booking-conditions.

Support with fundraising and donations

Donating to good causes is a cornerstone of Oddfellowship, and symbolises what it is all about – helping to improve lives through friendship and support.

It's a thread that runs right through every Branch of the Society. Whether it's members dropping some spare change into a collection at a coffee morning, or the HA Andrews Memorial Fund supporting cutting-edge medical research projects, it all adds up and contributes to that ethos.

Branch donations add up to huge 2025 total



Reading Oddfellows donated £4,300 to Camp Mohawk

Oddfellows branches and members are avid fundraisers. In 2025, more than £148,000 was handed over to a huge range of wonderful causes throughout the country.

Beneficiaries included schools, charities for people with special needs, animal sanctuaries, causes to improve health conditions, lifeboat and air ambulance

charities, and one branch provided the funds required to buy state-of-the-art medical equipment.

As well as handing over funds, many members bought and collected for foodbanks, including tinned goods and other long-life foods, toiletries and further everyday items.

To find out how you can get involved with Branch fundraising initiatives, speak to your Branch Secretary.

£10,000 raised for Hurricane Melissa relief efforts

The Oddfellows recently donated £10,000 to support the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of Oddfellows branches across the UK, and with additional support from central funds, the donation will help communities affected by the devastating storm rebuild their lives.

Hurricane Melissa, a Category 5 hurricane, made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October 2025. The strongest hurricane ever to strike the island, it caused catastrophic damage and impacted nearly 1.9 million people.

The funds have been sent to the Jamaica Red Cross, via the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), to support ongoing emergency relief and recovery efforts. This includes providing essential supplies, shelter, and longer-term assistance to those whose homes and livelihoods were affected.



Further information about the Jamaica Red Cross' Hurricane Melissa Emergency Appeal can be found at www.ifrc.org/emergency/jamaica-hurricane-melissa.

HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipient announced

In October 2025, representatives of the Oddfellows visited the impressive facilities at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) to present a cheque for £67,068 to Prevent Breast Cancer, courtesy of our HA Andrews Memorial Fund.

The money will fund an innovative breast cancer prevention research project for two years.

Carried out by University of Manchester PhD student Anthony Wilby and Dr Hannah Harrison, the project is aiming to discover alternative preventative breast cancer therapies for pre-menopausal women.

The HA Andrews Memorial Fund, which was set up in 1971 to back UK-based medical research projects and organisations, has donated over £1.1m

since its launch. Head to www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews to find out more about the Fund, including previous recipients.

The very best of Oddfellowship

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey (pictured below at MCRC), said: "The work the Oddfellows does for charities and good causes always astounds me. It reflects the very best of Oddfellowship and it makes me incredibly proud.

"Donating to good causes, no matter how big or small, or how much we can contribute, can make a huge difference. Our efforts might well have saved a life, put some food on a young family's table, or simply have made someone's day a little brighter.

"Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way. You're all a huge credit to yourselves and the Society."



For more on how the Oddfellows raises money for good causes, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back

Spring clean your finances for the new tax year

The start of the new tax year on Monday 6 April might sound like an event reserved for accountants, but at Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's a time everyone can make the most of.

Here are some simple ways to spring clean your finances and get on top of your money for the tax year ahead.

Make the most of your ISA

Every adult receives a fresh £20,000 ISA allowance at the beginning of each tax year, so if your savings are lying dormant, why not move them somewhere your interest is protected from tax?



For those comfortable with investment risk, the Unity Mutual Stocks and Shares Flexible ISA* offers potentially higher growth than traditional Cash ISAs (capital is at risk).

Guaranteed returns, less hassle

If you have a lump sum sitting idle or an investment coming to maturity, a Unity

Mutual Fixed Rate Bond* provides a predictable, low-effort option. Simply deposit your money for a set term to secure a guaranteed return.

Even better, Oddfellows members benefit from preferential rates on our 2, 3, and 5-year Bonds.

Make savings work harder

With many banks still offering low rates, a quick comparison is essential to ensure your money is working for you. Even moving savings to a higher-interest account with your current provider can significantly boost your balance over the year.

Find out more

Unity Mutual has over 200 years of experience managing Oddfellows members' funds, and our friendly team is on hand to help you navigate the year ahead. Visit www.unitymutual.co.uk to find out more.

**Terms and conditions apply to all products. With stocks and shares, your investment can go down as well as up meaning your capital is at risk.*

New tax year, new scams

Stay vigilant against common scams such as fake HMRC tax rebates or urgent payment requests for 'unpaid tax'. While these communications can look genuine, always verify them by going directly to the official government website.

July - December 2026
Issue 24



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

out & about

Northumbria Branch
Covering Northumberland, Tyne and Wear



Members at the Tremelo Lounge



Talks



Coffee
Morning



Walks



Dining Out



Travel



Games



Social



Online

Hi everyone and welcome to the latest edition of Out and About.



We are delighted to share another 6 months of opportunities to get together, make memories and enjoy good company. Our programme includes a variety of lunches, coffee meet-ups, days out and special events, with something for everyone to enjoy.

Don't forget about all the benefits of being a member. These include online discounts, care and welfare support, convalescent benefits, benevolence grants, legal aid, and the Citizens Advice service. Terms and conditions apply to some of these benefits so feel free to contact Tracey if you need any further information.

Don't forget we also have lots of exciting online events and activities over Zoom, including everything from arts and crafts and interesting talks to a regular quiz, to name just a few.

Contact Details

Secretary: Tracey Garczynski

Address: Unity Court, 431
Meanwood Road, Leeds LS7 2LD.

Telephone: 07534 211132

Email:
tracey.garczynski@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Suzanne Armstrong

Telephone: 07352 348740

Email:
suzanne.armstrong@oddfellows.co.uk

A message from your Social Organiser, Suzanne Armstrong



Hello everyone, it has been wonderful to see so many new faces joining us over the past year and becoming part of our community, whilst also seeing existing members embracing new experiences and trying different events. Your support, enthusiasm and friendships are what make our group so special.

We are also pleased to continue our recently launched monthly coffee meet-up in Sunderland, offering another chance to socialise and catch up in a relaxed setting. Dates and venue details will be shared on our Facebook page, on the website and if you're a member when you log in. In addition, extra activities will be also

be added, including a fun treasure hunt in Newcastle so please keep an eye out for the latest updates and opportunities to join us.

We look forward to sharing another enjoyable 6 months together and hope to see you at many of our upcoming events.

Please be mindful of the booking date. However, if the deadline has passed and you would like to attend an event, please ask whether there is any availability. We won't always

be able to accommodate you, but sometimes it is possible to amend our booking and sometimes cancellations, so it's great if we can fill those places. If you know you would like to attend an event, it is really helpful for our planning if you could let us know as early as possible.

We look forward to seeing many members and friends at our events. If you would like to attend any of the events but may struggle with transport, please contact me and I will see whether we can work out a solution.



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

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.

July 2026

MON
06 **Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge**



10.30am



Cost of refreshments



Why not come along and join us for coffee in the relaxed atmosphere of Tremolo Lounge, located in Gosforth High Street. Please let us know if you are coming so we can look out for you and ensure we have sufficient space for everyone. A warm welcome awaits you. Book by Monday 29 June. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



MON
06 **Glass Painting at Tremolo Lounge**



11.15am



Free £10 (cash only)



Alongside our regular coffee morning, we have decided to add something a little different to the mix. For just £10 (cash only), why not join one of the staff members at Tremolo Lounge, who will guide you through decorating two glasses using paints and stencils. We may add other activities at future coffee meet ups depending on how this session goes. Book by Monday 22 June. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

WED
08 **Visit to Beamish - The Living Museum of the North**



11am



From £26, Lunch as per menu



Join us on our second visit this year to award-winning open air Beamish Museum. Meet at the ticket office. We will stop for lunch. There are several buses which run from Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland to the main entrance. If driving, there is a large free car park. Cost: Unlimited annual pass from £26, for lunch pay for what you order. Book by Wednesday 1 July. Beamish Museum, Beamish, County Durham DH9 0RG. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



July 2026

WED 15 Lunch at The Fox & Tree



12.30pm



As per menu



Join us for lunch at this lovely gastro pub/restaurant, which skillfully blends the simplicity of a traditional tavern with a modern dining experience. A £5 deposit is required to secure your reservation. A pre-order is also necessary. The Fox & Tree, Dalton le Dale, Seaham SR7 8QA. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



TUES 21 Lunch at City of Newcastle Golf Club



12.30pm



As per menu



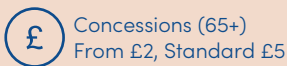
Why not join us for lunch in this friendly well-appointed clubhouse, which offers lovely views across the golf course. A pre-order from the extensive bar menu is required. Book by Tuesday 7 July. City of Newcastle Golf Club, Three Mile Bridge, Great North Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 2DR. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



SUN 26 Party and Picnic in the Park



12.30pm



Concessions (65+)
From £2, Standard £5



Get ready for a fabulous event in Bents Park with pop legends ABC and high energy Chesney Hawkes. An afternoon not to be missed. This event is part of South Tyneside Council's 'This is South Tyneside' festival. Meet at 12.30pm on the Sea Road entrance (Gate 1) near the toilets. Bring your own picnic or purchase food/drink from the serveries on site. Don't forget a picnic rug or chair. Please be prepared for all weathers. Make sure you bring water and sun cream in case it is hot. Also be prepared for wet weather and bring waterproof clothing as Bents Park is an open air venue with no shelter. In the event of heavy rain or strong winds it may be necessary to cancel the concert for safety reasons. There are various car parks in the area, but please be aware it is a popular event and as such the car parks will be busy. There has been paid parking at Bents Recreation Ground in previous years, which is next to Bents Park. Cost: Tickets from £2 for 66+ years and from £5 for 17-65 years. Bents Park, Sea Road, South Shields NE33 2LD. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

August

MON 03 Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge



10.30am



Cost of refreshments



Why not come along and join us for coffee in the relaxed atmosphere of Tremolo Lounge, located in Gosforth High Street. Please let us know if you are coming so we can look out for you and ensure we have sufficient space for everyone. A warm welcome awaits you. Book by Monday 27 July. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



THURS 06 Light Lunch at the Church of St James' and St Basil's



12.15pm



As per menu



After our bell ringing experience, we will remain at the church to enjoy a light lunch together.



The menu will include items such as soup, sausage sandwich roll, cakes with tea or coffee. A pre-order would be appreciated. If you would prefer to join us just for lunch (we have the bell ringing experience prior to lunch) you would be very welcome. Book by Thursday 23 July. St James' and St Basil's Church, Wingrove Road North, Fenham NE4 9EJ. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

THURS 06 The art of bell ringing and the Church of St James' and St Basil's



11am



Donations welcomed



Why not join us for this fascinating experience at St James' and St Basil's Church, where we will learn about the art of bell ringing and the church. Please note that access to the bell ringing room involves climbing a steep and narrow staircase. For anyone unable to use the stairs, hand bells will be brought down to the accessible ground floor, so everyone can take part and enjoy the experience. Book by Thursday 16 July. St James' and St Basil's Church, Wingrove Road North, Fenham NE4 9EJ. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

August

TUES

11

Visit to Hexham Gaol



11am



From £6



Join us for a visit to Hexham Old Gaol, England's oldest gaol, built in 1333 from the stone of the Corbridge Roman site. Cost: Admission ticket from £6. Your ticket is an Annual Pass, allowing repeat visits. Book by Tuesday 28 July. Hexham Old Gaol, Hall Gate, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 1XD. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

TUES

11

Lunch at The County Hotel



12.30pm



As per menu



Why not join us for lunch in this lovely hotel pub, located minutes away from the historic centre of Hexham. Book by Tuesday 28 July. The County Hotel, Priestpopple, Hexham NE46 1PS. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



WED

19

Visit to the Sunderland Maritime Heritage Centre



11am



Entrance Free, Donations welcomed



Join us at this interesting self funded, volunteer manned local history and heritage organisation. They promote and maintain Sunderland's maritime history through the use of an interactive visitor centre, demonstrating the crafts, skills and trades associated with one of the greatest ship and boat building centres of the last century. Book by Wednesday 5 August. Sunderland Maritime Heritage, Unit 2, Church Street East, Sunderland SR1 2BB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



WED

19

Lunch at Bella Vista Sunderland



12.30pm



As per menu



Join us for lunch after our trip to the Sunderland Maritime Heritage Centre at this recently opened Bistro. You're welcome to join us for lunch, whether or not you have been to the Heritage Centre beforehand. A £5 deposit is required to secure your reservation. A pre-order will also be necessary. Book by Wednesday 5 August. Bella Vista Sunderland, Sunderland Docks, 134 High Street East, Sunderland SR1 2BL. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

September

MON
07 **Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge**

 10.30am  Cost of refreshments 

Why not come along and join us for coffee in the relaxed atmosphere of Tremolo Lounge, located in



Gosforth High Street. Please let us know if you are coming so we can look out for you and ensure we have sufficient space for everyone. A warm welcome awaits you. Book by Monday 31 August. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

WED
16 **Friendship Lunch at Star of Siam at the Highfield Hotel**

 12.30pm  As per menu 

Why not come and join us at the longest established Thai restaurant in the North East with magnificent views of Penshaw Monument and surrounding valley. A £2 deposit is required to secure your reservation. Book by Wednesday 2 September. Star of Siam at The Highfield Hotel, 101 Durham Road, East Rainton, Houghton le Spring DH5 9QT. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



WED
30 **Pre-Theatre Food at Butakun**

 5pm  As per menu 



Why not join us for a delicious meal at Butakun, which is conveniently located for our trip to the Northern Stage in the evening. Renowned for its authentic Japanese cuisine, Butakun offers a tempting menu featuring freshly prepared sushi, flavourful donburi rice bowls and comforting bowls of ramen. Whether you're already a fan of Japanese food or keen to try something new, this is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy great food and good company in a relaxed and welcoming setting. Book by Wednesday 2 September. Butakun, 105-115 Percy Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RY. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

September

WED
30

Theatre Trip to see '5 Mistakes that changed history' at Northern Stage, Newcastle

L 7.30pm

£ Theatre tickets £12



The '5 Mistakes that changed history' is a hilarious historical storytelling show performed by historian and comedian Paul Coulter, about five people and how their mistakes (big and small) changed the world. Meet inside Northern Stage by the ticket desk at 7pm. Running time: One hour and 50 minutes including the interval. Book by Wednesday 5 August. Northern Stage, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RH. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

October

MON
05

Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge

L 10.30am

£ Cost of refreshments



Why not come along and join us for coffee in the relaxed atmosphere of Tremolo Lounge, located in Gosforth High Street. Please let us know if you are coming so we can look out for you and ensure we have sufficient space for everyone. A warm welcome awaits you. Book by Monday 28 September. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

October

THURS
08

Theatre Trip to see 'All at Sea' at Live Theatre, Newcastle

L 2pm

£ Concessions (65+) £18, Standard tickets £23



Join us at the matinee performance of this mesmerising new play inspired by the notorious Canoe Man insurance fraud case. Meet by the ticket office at 1.30pm. Book by Tuesday 8 September. Live Theatre, 27-29 Broad Chare, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 3DQ. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



THURS
08

Post-Theatre Food at Quayside Buffet Restaurant

L 4.30pm

£ Fixed price £21.99



Join us for food at this popular restaurant with an extensive buffet, including Indian, Chinese, Italian, live stir fry and pasta bar. All welcome, there is no requirement to attend the theatre beforehand. Book by Wednesday 2 September. Quayside Buffet Restaurant, Forster Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 2NH. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.

October

WED 14 Visit to Beamish - The Living Museum of the North



11am



From £26,
Lunch as
per menu



Join us on our third visit this year to award-winning open air Beamish Museum. There is so much to do and with the benefit of an annual ticket you can go again and again. Meet at the ticket office. We will stop for lunch at Beamish. There are several buses which run from Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland to the main entrance. If driving, there is a large free car park. Cost: Unlimited annual pass from £26, for lunch pay for what you order. Book by Wednesday 7 October. Beamish Museum, Beamish, County Durham DH9 0RG. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



WED 21 Lunch at South Causey Inn



12.30pm



As per
menu



Join us for a locally sourced lunch at this family run inn in the Beamish Valley. Book by Wednesday 7 October. South Causey Inn, Beamish Burn Road, Stanley, County Durham DH9 0LS. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



November

MON 02 Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge



10.30am



Cost of
refreshments



Why not come along and join us for coffee in the relaxed atmosphere of Tremolo Lounge, located in Gosforth High Street. Please let us know if you are coming so we can look out for you and ensure we have sufficient space for everyone. A warm welcome awaits you. Book by Monday 26 October. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



TUES 10 Lunch at Raffaello



12.30pm



As per
menu



Join us for lunch at Raffaello, Gosforth where a cosy and warm atmosphere awaits. Enjoy authentic Italian cuisine, great conversation and the chance to spend time with friends old and new. A £5 deposit is required to confirm your booking. A pre-order is also necessary. Book by Tuesday 13 October. Raffaello Gosforth, 149 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HA. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



November

WED 18 Lunch at Colemans Fish & Chips Restaurant



Join us for lunch at this welcoming restaurant where they have been serving freshly cooked fish and chips and seafood for over five generations. Book by Wednesday 4 November. Colmans Fish & Chips Restaurant, 176-186 Ocean Road, South Shields NE33 2JQ. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



December

MON 07 Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge



Why not come along and join us for coffee in the relaxed atmosphere of Tremolo Lounge, located in Gosforth High Street. Please let us know if you are coming so we can look out for you and ensure we have sufficient space for everyone. A warm welcome awaits you. Book by Monday 30 November. Tremolo Lounge, 92 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1HB. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



December

FRI 04 Christmas Lunch at the Spanish City



From soul to swing with Jason King, we're raising the roof in the St Mary's Lighthouse Suite at Spanish City this Christmas. Enjoy a sumptuous three course festive lunch, unrivalled sea views and dance like nobody's watching. You'll need to book early as this popular events sells out very quickly. Full payment is required to secure your booking. Book by Tuesday 30 June. Spanish City, Whitley Bay NE26 1BG. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



WED 16 Christmas Lunch at Wearside Farm Restaurant



Enjoy a Christmas lunch or choose from the carvery at this cosy pub. If you choose the Christmas lunch, a £5 deposit and a pre-order is required. Book by Wednesday 25 November. The Wearside Farm Restaurant, 3 Turbine Way, Sunderland SR5 3NZ. Contact Suzanne on 07352 348740.



Oddfellows Online Events

Discover the five Rs for a happier retirement with Dr Anna Machin

Tuesday 14 July, 7pm

Join author, broadcaster and world-renowned Anthropologist, Dr Anna Machin as she offers her expert advice on how to navigate the emotional and social aspect of retirement.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/AnnaMachin2

Murder Most Austen

Tuesday 28 July, 7pm

Whether you're a fan of Austen or just thrilled by a good detective story, join crime writer and scholar Dr Lucy Andrew for this engaging talk on how Austen's works have shaped the evolution of detective fiction.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/MurderMostAusten

Staying Safe from Financial Scams

Tuesday 18 August, 7pm

Financial scams are becoming more sophisticated, using new tactics to exploit trust. This talk with Unity Mutual explains how these scams work, highlights key warning signs, and provides practical strategies to help you protect yourself and your finances.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/FinancialScams1

Understanding Diabetes

Tuesday 15 September, 7pm

Join us for this informative talk covering what type 1 and type 2 Diabetes are, signs and symptoms, who's at risk of type 2 Diabetes, how to access support, and how to live well.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/OddfellowsDiabetesUK

More Ghostly Tales to be Told

Tuesday 27 October, 7pm

Get ready for Halloween with another fascinating evening of stories and poems by Dr Ann Featherstone, a retired university lecturer, teacher and writer who has appeared on numerous BBC programmes and documentaries.

To register, type this link into your browser:
tinyurl.com/MoreGhostlyTales



Charity Donations

As many of you are aware, every year our Branches raise funds for a chosen charity.

For the year to end March, we raised funds for Daft as a Brush Cancer Patient Care, which provides a free transport service to and from the Freeman and RVI Hospitals, for outpatients undergoing chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy treatment.

We were delighted to be able to provide a cheque for £1,000 to support this worthy cause.

This year we will be raising funds for Children's Cancer North. The charity's main objectives are to invest in revolutionary research, provide support for children and their families and raise awareness of children's cancer.



A bit about us...

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

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 Tracey on **0113 2424002** or email **tracey.garczynski@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**

Members take centre stage

Look out for some familiar faces this summer!

Throughout June and July, the Oddfellows is running an upbeat new advertising campaign across the UK aimed at reaching the nation's retirees.

Built around the theme of 'real people, real joy, real experiences', the campaign shines a spotlight on the authentic friendships and shared laughter found within our local groups.

Member models

Members from Leeds, Derbyshire Peak, Mersey, Handforth and Altrincham, Mid-Staffordshire, Nottingham Trent, and Ormskirk and Southport Oddfellows all stepped forward to help.

They spent an exciting day at a professional studio shoot in Manchester working alongside an experienced production crew.

"It was such a fun day," said Andrea Jenner from Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows. "There was lots of laughter and interaction with Oddfellows from other areas."

Carol Pitchford from Leeds Oddfellows agreed, adding: "It was lovely to meet up with a crowd of strangers who then became friends."



Spreading the word

The adverts will be appearing on Facebook and Instagram, online via Rest Less and Saga, and in upcoming print editions of People's Friend, Saga Magazine, Yours, and Woman's Weekly.

Spokesperson for the Oddfellows, Pam Casey, said: "We wanted the campaign to reflect the real people at the heart of our Society. Our groups are places where people can simply be themselves, enjoy real companionship, and feel genuinely supported."

How you can help

While we hope this campaign inspires more retirees to give us a try, as members, you're our best ambassadors. If you know someone who would benefit from our social events, travel opportunities or welfare support, please encourage them to head to www.oddfellows.co.uk/retirement to find out more.

Celebrating our 2026 Making a Difference Award winners

We are thrilled to announce this year's incredible Making a Difference Awards winners: Richard West of the Royal Berkshire Branch in the Reading District, and husband-and-wife duo Roger and Susan Williamson of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk District.

The Awards highlight the wonderful ways our members go above and beyond to ensure their branches are the best they can be for their fellow members.

Richard West: Reading's 'guardian angel'



Debbie Jex and Richard West

Presented with the 'Enriching Lives Socially' Award by Deputy Grand Master (Deputy Chair) Debbie Jex, 88-year-old Richard West helps to bring joy and positivity to his fellow members in all he does in organising and hosting social events.



Since joining the Reading District in 1992, Richard has worked tirelessly to build a varied and exciting social programme for his fellow members.

Alongside his late friend Doug Walters, Richard helped establish popular singing and exercise groups, and even relaunched a folded group in the nearby village of Pangbourne, which is now in its tenth year.

From coordinating monthly quizzes to organising glamorous annual trips to the Ascot Races, Richard pours his heart into everything he does.

For many, his efforts have been transformative. "We have a number of ladies who say the choir has become a lifeline for them," Richard shared. "I like seeing them enjoy themselves. You can see how it benefits them individually."

Debbie Jex is also Reading Oddfellows' Branch Secretary. She added: "I don't know where we'd be without Richard. His energy is boundless and his enthusiasm even more so. One member has even described him as a 'guardian angel'."

Roger and Susan Williamson: A wonderful team



(L to R) Roger Williamson,
Susan Williamson, John Mann
and Alison Schultz

The Oddfellows' Grand Master (Chair), John Mann, presented the 'Achieving Together' Award to Roger and Susan Williamson. Both in their 80s and Oddfellows members since 2008, the couple's commitment and kindness are renowned at their Branch.

Both take a seat on the King's Lynn Oddfellows' Committee of Management, ensuring members' voices are always at the heart of decision-making.

Roger, a Trustee and three-time Past Provincial Grand Master, hosts walks,

bingo sessions for up to 40 members, and a popular monthly quiz.

Meanwhile, Susan coordinates the kitchen, manages supplies, and runs the raffles.

The couple were incredibly modest about their win. "Initially, I thought it was a joke because the letter turned up on the first of April," laughed Roger.

Susan added: "We're only doing what anybody else would do, but it's nice to know that people appreciate it. To win the award together is special."

Branch Secretary Alison Schultz praised their selflessness, saying: "They offer friendship to so many in the way Oddfellows should, and treat everyone with consideration, kindness and compassion."

Shining examples

Richard, Roger and Susan are proof that our Society thrives because of the generosity and warmth of our members.

Thank you to all who go above and beyond to help and support others within their Branch.

You can find out more about our Making a Difference Awards, including previous years' winners, at www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

It's never too early to talk about money

At Unity Mutual, the Oddfellows' financial services brand, we believe it's never too early to talk to the young people in our lives about their finances.



Today's younger generations have a lot to consider, with rising costs, student debt and spending temptations online. Simple chats about saving, budgeting and planning ahead can help young people feel more confident about money as they grow and become more independent.

Passing on more than money

Helping younger family members financially is wonderful, but sharing knowledge can be even more valuable.

Explaining different saving tips, how debt works, or pensions and retirement, gives younger generations practical lessons they may not hear elsewhere. Even small conversations can leave a lasting impression.



Don't wait to save

One way to encourage good saving habits is through a Unity Mutual Junior ISA*, which allows children to start saving and is a great way to introduce them to finances and investment.

Opened by a parent or guardian, family and friends can contribute up to £9,000 per tax year, with any growth free from UK tax. All the money saved belongs to them and once they reach the age of 18 can be put towards things like university costs, driving lessons, or even a deposit on their first home.

Making money conversations normal

The best financial lessons are often the simplest ones. Talking openly about saving for goals, comparing prices, or handling debt helps children develop healthy habits. Younger family members are more likely to feel confident about money if the adults around them discuss it calmly and honestly.



To find out more about Unity Mutual and the products we offer, visit www.unitymutual.co.uk or call 0161 214 4650.

*Terms and conditions apply to all our products. Capital at risk with investment products.

At a glance

July 2026

Wed 1	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Mon 6	Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge	10.30am
Mon 6	Glass Painting at Tremolo Lounge	11.15am
Wed 8	Visit to Beamish - The Living Museum of the North	11am
Wed 15	Lunch at The Fox & Tree	12.30pm
Tues 21	Lunch at City of Newcastle Golf Club	12.30pm
Sun 26	Party and Picnic in the Park	12.30pm

August

Mon 3	Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge	10.30am
Thurs 6	The art of bell ringing and the Church of St James' and St Basil's	11am
Thurs 6	Light Lunch at the Church of St James' and St Basil's	12.15pm
Tues 11	Visit to Hexham Gaol	11am
Tues 11	Lunch at The County Hotel	12.30pm
Wed 19	Visit to the Sunderland Maritime Heritage Centre	11am
Wed 19	Lunch at Bella Vista Sunderland	12.30pm

September - Friendship Month

Wed 2	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Mon 7	Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge	10.30am
Wed 16	Friendship Lunch at Star of Siam at the Highfield Hotel	12.30pm
Wed 30	Pre-Theatre Food at Butakun	5pm
Wed 30	Theatre Trip to see '5 Mistakes that changed history' at Northern Stage, Newcastle	7.30pm



Who can you invite along to join in the friendship and fun?

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



All welcome

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

At a glance

October

Mon 5	Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge	10.30am
Wed 7	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Thurs 8	Theatre Trip to see 'All at Sea' at Live Theatre, Newcastle	2pm
Thurs 8	Post-Theatre Food at Quayside Buffet Restaurant	4.30pm
Wed 14	Visit to Beamish - The Living Museum of the North	11am
Wed 21	Lunch at South Causey Inn	12.30pm

November

Mon 2	Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge	10.30am
Wed 4	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Tues 10	Lunch at Raffaello	12.30pm
Wed 18	Lunch at Colemans Fish & Chips Restaurant	12.30pm

December

Wed 2	Branch Meeting	12 noon
Fri 4	Christmas Lunch at the Spanish City	12 noon
Mon 7	Coffee and Chat at Tremolo Lounge	10.30am
Wed 16	Christmas Lunch at Wearside Farm Restaurant	12.30pm

Branch Meetings

First Wednesday of the month at 12 noon. All welcome at the monthly business meeting. We share and discuss all Branch business, which includes social events, finance, care and much more. Blue Bell, 93 Fulwell Road, Sunderland SR6 9AD. Contact Tracey on 07534 211132.

Dates are:



1 July, 2 September, 7 October, 4 November and 2 December