

April – October 2025
Issue 19



O^{the} **DD**fellows SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

St Helens & Warrington District



Music



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea



Quiz

Carr Mill Dam, photo by Ian Bonnell photography



We hope you can join us for our various bowling social events, for more information see pages 10 and 11.

Welcome to the latest edition of our latest Events Diary and Newsletter for the St Helens and Warrington Branch of Oddfellows.

Where possible, when we are on our day trips could we please leave the first few rows on the coach for those who have mobility issues or who suffer from travel sickness. Can we also please try and sit in the same seats on the return journey to save confusion especially as some people do leave items on the coach.

Please remember, to keep our trips affordable and convenient for all members we book one pick-up/drop off in both Warrington (pull in at Central Station, Winwick Street) and St Helens (URC). To ensure we stick to our agreed booking (and insurance) we cannot have any extra drop offs.

On return to St Helens can we please let those who need to catch a bus home get off the bus first, hopefully this will help to stop some having to wait in town for an hour for their next bus.

Thank you for your co-operation.

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 our social events, as well as support our members with 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.

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

Branch Contacts

Branch Secretary: Pam Casey

Address:

12 Northdale Road
Paddington
Warrington WA1 3HH

Telephone: 07482 130531

Email:

pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Organiser: Julie Webster

Telephone: 07456 915655

Email:

julie.webster@oddfellows.co.uk

Care and Welfare/ Safeguarding Adults Officers

Pam Casey

(contact details above)

Margaret Harrison Ingham

Telephone: 01744 739561

Where possible please contact
between the hours of 9am and
5.30pm, thank you.

Branch meetings are held on
various Tuesdays throughout the
year at the URC (United Reformed
Church), Ormskirk Street,
St Helens WA10 2JZ.

For further details or if you would
like to attend any of the meetings
please contact Pam or Julie.

New Social Organiser

After more than 10 years in the
role, Julie has decided to retire
and hand over the reins so she
can go travelling and enjoy a well
earned rest.

As of Friday 30 May, Julie's contact
details will no longer be valid. Her
role is currently being advertised, once
a new Social Organiser is in place
their contact details will be sent to
all members.

New contact details coming soon



Branch Contact Hours

Please remember that both Pam
and Julie work part time and
flexi hours, Pam is best reached
between **9am and 3pm**, Julie
9am and 5pm.

If you cannot reach them please
leave a message/email and they
will respond as soon as possible.

Regular Events

Tuesday Drop In

Every Tuesday



1.30pm



Members £2.50,
Guests £3

Join us at the URC for our Tuesday social, due to popularity we are now in the larger lower hall. This is a great chance to come along and make new friends, have a chat, bring your chosen craft, or pastime to work on, join in with some games or pick up/drop off any membership documents. Cost includes refreshments. There is a small on site car park, but please remember to sign in with your car registration number at reception. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



1 April

8 April

22 April

3 June

10 June

17 June

5 August

12 August

19 August

7 October

14 October

21 October

6 May

13 May

20 May

1 July

8 July

15 July

22 July

2 September

9 September

23 September

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

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.

Booking on Events

Please remember the importance of the booking deadline date for events, as we cannot guarantee a place on an event once the booking deadline has passed, although we will always do our best to accommodate where possible.

When bookings are made for events that require a deposit or a purchase of ticket(s), payment must be made within 7 days of booking to secure your place. Refunds will only be made where the event is cancelled. No refunds will be given in any other circumstance, unless the place can be filled by another member.

There are various ways to make payment, which are as follows:

- Sum up - Available at events (Julie) or over the phone via a payment link from the Secretary (Pam)
- Cash at events (Please put in a sealed envelope, with your name, amount and event(s) name(s))
- Cheque either at events or send direct to Pam payable to St Helens and Warrington District Lodge.
- Bank transfer – Please ensure that you advise Pam by email/text /phone of the event you are making payment for, bank details.
- If you would like to pay by bank transfer, please get in touch with the Branch, contact details can be found on page 3.

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 Pam by phone on 07482 130531 or email pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk

 **The Oddfellows** since 1810
making friends, helping people
www.oddfellows.co.uk

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April

THURS
10

Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café



10.30am



As per
menu



The canal side Kaleidoscope Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an on site pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



TUES
15

Annual General Meeting



1.30pm



Free



Join us for our Annual General Meeting to keep up to date on all Branch matters. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS
17

Catch up in Warrington at The Dorado Lounge



10.30am



As per
menu



Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. We meet up at the Dorado Lounge located in the Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre. The Dorado Lounge serves a variety of hot and cold drinks as well as a full bar selection, there is also a wide menu to choose from with breakfast items, sandwiches, tapas, pizzas, burgers and of course a selection of sweet treats for those who feel a little peckish. Cost as per menu. The Dorado Lounge, 19-21 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



**Join the conversation
@OddfellowsUK**

Find us at

f oddfellows.sthandw

April

THURS
24

Lytham Hall



9am



Members £32,
Guests £35



Lytham Hall is an 18th-century Georgian country house in Lytham, Lancashire, one mile from the centre of the town, which sits in 78 acres of wooded parkland. It is the only designated grade I listed building in the Borough of Fylde. On arrival, we will have our morning coffee and an introduction talk from a guide before we tour the hall (please note there are no lifts to access upstairs, please speak to Julie if you cannot manage stairs).

We will have a soup and sandwich lunch with tea or coffee before free time to walk the parklands, kitchen garden, visit the gift shop and the animal and gardening hubs. A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, final numbers and balance by Thursday 10 April please. Lytham Hall, Lytham Hall Park, Lytham St Annes FY8 4JX. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

April

TUES
29

Warrington Coffee Morning



10.30am



As per
menu



Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

May

TUES
06

Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In



1.30pm



Donations
towards
refreshments



Come along and be updated with all the latest information regarding the Oddfellows at both local and national level. This is also your chance to see how the Branch is run and share your views, remember we are run by our members for our members. Following the meeting, refreshments and the normal Tuesday social will go ahead for those wishing to stay. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

WED
07

Cotebrook Shire Horse Centre and Rose's Farm



9am



Members £32,
Guests £35



For over 50 years Cotebrook Shire Horse Stud Farm have been breeding champion Shires, the largest breed of horse in the world. The centre now has farm animals, red squirrels, red deer, otters, owls, Scottish wild cat, red foxes and polecats for visitors to see and enjoy. We will have our morning coffee

on arrival at the Lakeside Café then have free time to learn about the Shire horses at the visitor centre, enjoy the woodland trail, see the animals and listen to the keepers talks while feeding the animals.

At approximately 2pm we set off for the short ride to Rose Farm and Shop, here you can meet the animals, enjoy a Cheshire Farm ice-cream, have a brew in the café or enjoy a spend in the shop which is full of locally sourced produce. The shop is brimming with goods including the butchery, deli, fruit and vegetable, flowers and ready meals which are all freshly prepared ready to go. Please wear suitable clothing/shoes as it is mostly outdoors and we are visiting working farms. Please note places are limited on this trip. A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, final balance by Tuesday 29 April please. Cotebrook Shire Horse Centre, Cotebrook, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 9DS. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



THURS
15

Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café



10.30am



As per menu



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May

MON 19 Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge

L 10.30am

£ As per menu



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TUES 27 Warrington Coffee Morning

L 10.30am

£ As per menu



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WED 28 Trentham Estate

L 9am

£ Members £20, Guests £23



Enjoy a day at the Trentham Estate, whether you fancy a stroll around the gardens, a fun day at The Monkey Forest, or a day of retail therapy at the huge garden centre, or a unique shopping experience with a blend of independent and nationally renowned high street leading names housed in over 80 timber lodges, the choice is yours. There are a host of eateries in the gardens, shopping area, garden centre and monkey forest so you won't come home hungry. Please note there is an extra charge to enter The Monkey Forest (approximately £15) and gardens (approximately £12). A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your seat on the coat, final balance by Tuesday 20 May please. Trentham Estate, Stone Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8JG. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

June

THURS
05

Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café



10.30am



As per menu



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MON
09

Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge



10.30am



As per menu



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THURS
19

Ten Pin Bowling and Crazy Golf at Superbowl Warrington



10.30am



TBC



We love a session of ten pin bowling, so we thought we would give it a go in Warrington with the added bonus of Crazy Golf. If you have never played before we have the bumpers up to keep us in a straight line and for those who may struggle to bowl there are frames available to help out. Price to be confirmed, but at the time of going to press one game of bowling is £6, two games £8, one round of crazy golf £6, combo deal one game of bowling and one round of golf £10. If you don't want to play, you are more than welcome to come along and watch others attempt to get a strike or a hole in one, grab a coffee and have a chat. Superbowl Warrington, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QE. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



June

TUES 24 Warrington Coffee Morning

 10.30am  As per menu 

Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS 26 Ten Pin Bowling at Superbowl St Helens

 10.30am  £7.99 TBC 

This has always proved to be a great morning, if you have never been before we have the bumpers up to keep us in a straight line and for those who may struggle to bowl there are frames available to help out. If you don't want to bowl you are welcome to come along and watch, grab a coffee and have a chat. Price to be confirmed, but we do usually have the 'Nifty Fifty' deal which gives us two games of bowling, toast or bacon barm and a tea or coffee for £7.99, we cannot guarantee this deal will be on in June, so please check closer to the time. SuperBowl St Helens, Linkway West, St Helens WA10 1QA. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

July

THURS 03 A Day at the Races - Haydock Park

 10.45am  £20 if pre booked £27 on the day 



Come and join us for a day at the races at Haydock Park. The gates open at 10.40am with the first of seven races starting at 12.20pm, the last race starts at 3.40pm. County Enclosure tickets give access to the premium stands, indoor eateries, seating and first floor viewing over the finishing post, there is also access to the viewing area around the Parade Ring and Winners Enclosure. Cash can be used to place bets on the tote and course bookmakers, please note no credit cards or Apple Pay is accepted in accordance with betting laws, but all refreshments are on a 'Cashless' basis, this includes all concessions. Dress Code: Dress to feel your best. Ample free car parking is available. Pre-purchased tickets are £20 per person (group rate) if booked by Thursday 19 June, pay on the day £27. Haydock Park Racecourse, Newton-le-Willows WA12 0HQ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

July

SAT
05

LADGC Bowling

L 10am

£ TBC



The annual LADGC Bowling Competition once again returns to Garswood Hall Bowling Club. This has proved to be growing in popularity over the last few years, with beginners and more experienced along with spectators enjoying the day. Tea or coffee is available all day with a pay bar open from 12 noon, a buffet lunch is included in the price (to be confirmed closer to the time) for both player and spectators. Limited transport may be available, please speak to your social organiser about this. Book by Thursday 19 June. Garswood Hall Bowling Club, Nicol Road, Ashton in Makerfield WN4 8LU. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



THURS
17

Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café

L 10.30am

£ As per menu



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MON
07

Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge

L 10.30am

£ As per menu



Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. We meet up at the Dorado Lounge located in the Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre. The Dorado Lounge serves a variety of hot and cold drinks as well as a full bar selection, there is also a wide menu to choose from with breakfast items, sandwiches, tapas, pizzas, burgers and of course a selection of sweet treats for those who feel a little peckish. Cost as per menu. The Dorado Lounge, 19-21 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



July

TUES
29

Warrington Coffee Morning



10.30am



As per menu



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THURS
31

Chirk Castle and Gardens



9am



Members £35,
Guests £38, Children £15,
National Trust members
£20 (coach only)



Displaying over 700 years of history, the construction of Chirk Castle began around 1295 and is the last castle from this period still lived in today. The castle has lavish interiors and a beautiful and eclectic collection of artefacts. The interior includes a 17th-century Long Gallery, grand parade of three 18th-century State Rooms with rich furniture, paintings and tapestries, the unique servants' hall, and the Chapel Music room furnished to display Chirk Castle's connections to high society in the 1920s and 1930s. The award-winning gardens cover 5.5 acres of manicured lawns, clipped yews, herbaceous borders, beautiful rose, shrub and rock gardens. It also has over 480 acres of estate parkland to explore, with sheep, cattle, veteran trees and wildflower meadows.

There is a shuttle bus which takes visitors up and down the hill to the castle and runs throughout the day. Cost £35 for members, £38 for guests, £15 for children and £20 for National Trust members (coach only). A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, final balance by Tuesday 22 July please. Please note National Trust members are free (just pay for the coach), but you must bring your National Trust membership card on the day to gain entry. Chirk Castle, Chirk, Wrexham LL14 5AF. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

August

MON
04

Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge



10.30am



As per menu



Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. We meet up at the Dorado Lounge located in the Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre.

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TUES
05

Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In



1.30pm



Donations
towards
refreshments



Come along and be updated with all the latest information regarding the Oddfellows at both local and national level. This is also your chance to see how the Branch is run and share your views, remember we are run by our members for our members. Following the meeting, refreshments and the normal Tuesday social will go ahead for those wishing to stay. Members only for the meeting, non-members are welcome to attend following at approximately 2pm. URC (Lower Hall), Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



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

August

WED
13

A Day in Oswestry



9am



Members £22,
Guests £25,
Children £10



Oswestry is a friendly and traditional market town situated in north west Shropshire and is almost surrounded by Wales. You will be free to visit Oswestry market and wander around the award winning independent shops, pubs and cafés or follow the town trail to Cae Glas Park and look out for the sculpture of Wilfred Owen and Oswald's Well. For the train enthusiasts take a short walk to the Cambrian Heritage Railways and Museum with heritage trains running daily, restored signal box, period ticket office, waiting room and shop to support the railway to explore.



Heritage trains operate using steam, vintage diesel or diesel multiple units and operate between Oswestry and Weston Wharf. The journey takes you through the suburbs of Oswestry and onward to views of open fields before arrival at Weston Wharf one and 3/4 miles to the south. Facilities at Weston Wharf include a period waiting room, toilets, snacks on Tracks Café, picnic area and displays of railway artifacts. You can also chose to explore the local Morda Valley area with its rich industrial heritage or visit the adjacent Stonehouse Brewery. A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, final balance by Tuesday 5 August please. Oswestry, Oswestry Market SY11 1JR. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

THURS
21

Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café



10.30am



As per menu



The canal side Kaleidoscope Café within The World of Glass Museum provides a wonderful setting for our coffee mornings in St Helens. There is a gift shop and gallery showcasing original pieces including ceramics and glassware as well as regular exhibitions which are free to enter. There is also an on site pay and display car park. The Hotties Café, World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



August

FRI
22

Beatles City Explorer



11am



TBC

approximately £13



We are once again meeting up with our friends from Mersey District to have a wonderful private tour around Liverpool to experience the best Beatles locations on board the iconic yellow double decker bus. We will have a guided tour, stopping at locations such as Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields, passing Ringo's home in Matthew Street, John and Paul's homes and onto Sefton Park, where the original bass guitarist Stuart Sutcliffe lived. We will take in the sights including the Cavern Club and admire the many statues, murals and monuments of Liverpool.



Tour lasts approximately 90 minutes. Times, prices and pick-up location to be confirmed but we would expect it to be in the region of £13 per person and around 11am/11.30am pick-up at the Albert Dock. Book by Tuesday 12 August. Albert Dock, Albert Dock, Gower Street, Liverpool L3 4AF. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

TUES
26

Warrington Coffee Morning



10.30am



As per menu



Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington. Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



September - Friendship Month

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS 04 Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café



Join us for this special Friendship Month coffee morning at the Kaleidoscope Café inside the World of Glass Museum. This is a great chance to see what the Oddfellows are all about, meet some of our members and see what they like about being an Oddfellow and of course make new friends along the way. As it's Friendship Month why not stay and have a spot of lunch to help us celebrate. The World of Glass, Chalon Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

TUES 16 Half Yearly Summomed Meeting



Join us for our Half Yearly Summomed Meeting to keep up to date on all Branch matters. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. URC, Ormskirk Street, St Helens WA10 2JZ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

WED 17 St Helens Friendship Month Breakfast



**FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT**
Invite a friend

After the success of last years Friendship Month breakfast, we are back for more. We can meet from 9.45am at the Toby Carvery Waterside, where we will have our own private room at the back overlooking Carr Mill Dam. You can choose as much or as little as you like from the breakfast carvery or for those with smaller appetites toast, porridge and cereals are available.

Please note the breakfast carvery closes at 11am to get ready for the lunch offerings, refillable tea or coffee will still be available after this time. Cost as per menu. There is free on site parking for diners, but please remember to register your car once inside. Buses, the number 352 stops outside, please ask for times/stops. Booking by Tuesday 9 September is preferred but not essential. Toby Carvery Waterside, East Lancs Road, St Helens WA11 7LX. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

September - Friendship Month

MON
22

Brunch in Warrington



10.30am



As per menu



Everyone is encouraged to come along and help us celebrate Friendship Month with a brunch at the Dorado Lounge. Whether you fancy coming along just for a coffee, a piece of toast or a full English breakfast the choice is yours. This is a great opportunity to come and see what the Oddfellows are all about, what our Branch gets up to, meet some of our members and of course make new friends. The Dorado Lounge, 19-21 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Julie on 07456 915655.



**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH**

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES
30

**Warrington
Coffee Morning**



10.30am



As per menu



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Join the fun in Friendship Month

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

All welcome

**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER**



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

October

MON 06 Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge



Come along for a coffee and a catch up in Warrington. We meet up at the Dorado Lounge located in the Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre. The Dorado Lounge serves a variety of hot and cold drinks as well as a full bar selection, there is also a wide menu to choose from with breakfast items, sandwiches, tapas, pizzas, burgers and of course a selection of sweet treats for those who feel a little peckish. Cost as per menu. The Dorado Lounge, 19-21 Old Market Place, Golden Square Shopping Centre, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



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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

OEW/1024SMALL

October

TUES **28** **Warrington** **Coffee Morning**

 10.30am  As per menu 

Rhode Island Coffee situated just outside the Golden Square Shopping Centre is the venue for our monthly coffee morning in Warrington.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us upstairs in the Latte Lounge for a chat and catch up. Rhode Island Coffee, 23-25 Market Place, Golden Square, Warrington WA1 1QB. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.



WED **29** **Bury Market**

 9am  Members £18,
Guests £21,
Children £9 

Bury Market is a very large traditional market in a modern setting. It's a unique shopping experience and great day out for everyone. Bury's World Famous Market is open for bargains galore, quite simply it is the biggest and best market in the North West! The market has over 200 unique stalls brimming with bargains and is located next door to the Mill Gate Shopping Centre which has an abundance of independent and national chains.



For those not wanting to shop, the town centre is home to Bury Art Museum, The Fusilier Museum and the East Lancs Railway, which are all a few minutes walk away. A £5 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, final balance by Tuesday 21 October please. Bury Market, Bury Market BL9 0BJ. Contact Pam on 07482 130531 or Julie on 07456 915655.

Are your contact details up to date? If not please get in touch



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 Extra is operated on behalf of Oddfellows by Parliament Hill Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for under register number 308448.

Friendship Month Breakfast anyone?

Yes Please!

What a fabulous time we had in September for a Friendship Month breakfast at the Toby Carvery Waterside in St Helens.

A room to ourselves and we needed it, as once we had eaten from the lovely breakfast selection that was on offer there was fun and games with a 'Steal a Prize Raffle'.

It was what it says, as until the final ticket is drawn no prize is safe in anyone's hands. Prizes are won as raffle tickets are drawn, until all prizes are claimed.



That's when the fun begins...

As raffle tickets numbers continue to be called, the only option is to 'Steal' a prize from someone who already has one or more. That's when it gets really amusing as parcels are passed back and forth and winners become losers.

Until finally all the tickets have been drawn and those in possession of a gift bag or present eagerly open it to discover if it's a bottle of wine or a pack of toilet rolls, or whatever fun buys Julie has decided to raise a laugh with.



It certainly was a very different breakfast time but one we will be repeating again this September. The raffle also raised £64 towards our charity for the year Willowbrook Hospice.

Each year, Unity offer a £50 prize for the winning Branch to put towards their charity of the year. Branches need to post Friendship Month photos on their Facebook pages, the branch with the most likes and shares win the prize. After many years of trying we have finally won, funnily enough with one of our photos from the Toby Carvery Breakfast. Thanks to everyone who liked and shared, another £50 has been added to our Willowbrook kitty.



**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH**
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER
😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊

Charity Event for Willowbrook Hospice

Last October saw us host a Charity Afternoon at the URC in aid of our charity of the year Willowbrook Hospice. Members and friends turned out in force to support this very worthy cause, huge pieces of cake and unlimited tea/coffee was included in the ticket price, a massive selection of crafts were available to purchase, tombola, bottle stall and the raffle all helped us raise over £1100.

We had some fantastic raffle prizes donated from both local businesses and members including a signed Everton football shirt, (ironically won by a Liverpool fan), a flower work shop at Zsa Zsa Flowers, artisan gin, a Radley handbag and tickets to various theatre shows to name a few.

A huge thank you to everyone who came and supported us on the day, made craft items, bought raffle tickets, donated prizes and of course the helpers on the day who worked so hard running stalls and serving the tea and cake as the afternoon could not have been possible without all your help.



Well done to Elaine Murray who won one of the great raffle prizes from the Charity Afternoon. Elaine managed to win a floral workshop generously donated by Zsa Zsa Flowers, Elaine said she had a great time and was very impressed and proud of her creation.



Fun at our past events



Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members who have joined us since the last diary.

Paul Dandy
Debbie Flanagan
Edmund Geelcher
Patsy Hodson

Elizabeth Lovett
Janet Makinson
Christine Malone
Lorraine Owens

Dee Platt
Ken Roberts
Margaret Sullivan
Elizabeth Taylor

Bring friendship to your front room



There are many reasons that might prevent you from being able to attend some of our events in person. A clash in the diary might mean something else takes priority, you might not be able to spare the cost this time, or perhaps you just want to stay close to home that day.

We want people to enjoy the benefits of friendship no matter what. That's why Branches all over the country host around 50 free online events each month, ranging from talks, arts and crafts and games, to exercise and meditation sessions.

These online events are a great opportunity to catch up with familiar faces and meet new and interesting people from all corners of the country from the comfort of home. You might even discover a new favourite hobby.

What's coming up online

We have lots of national online events that all our members can enjoy, the events below are just a flavour.

**On Tuesday 8 April 10am, Liver Health Awareness Talk with the British Liver Trust. Join us on Zoom, Meeting ID: 891 3103 9250
Passcode: 576521.**

**Tuesday 10 June 7pm, Food and Mood with Valentina Cartago (Registered Nutritionist). Join us on Zoom, Meeting ID: 862 5077 7538
Password: 616704.**

Anyone is able to attend an Oddfellows online event, no matter where they live so spread the word.

All our online events are hosted on Zoom. If you haven't tried Zoom video-conferencing before and would like help on how to use it, let us know. You can come to me, or email the Events team on events@oddfellows.co.uk, with any questions and we'll help you get logged on and ready to join in.

To find out about all upcoming in-person and online events, including online events hosted by other branches, go to www.oddfellows.co.uk/events or ask me to send you a list by email.

Branch Secretary Pam Casey

Oddfellows Travel: Destination Mystery

In November last year, 16 Oddfellows and three friends boarded a cruise ship with no idea of its destination.

With six mystery ports scheduled in 11 days, there was a lot to pack in, and there was plenty to keep them entertained on board: interesting talks, a murder mystery, craft sessions, quizzes and a drinks party.

Port one

Dawn broke on day two, revealing Gijon in northern Spain as the first destination. Some set out on organised excursions while others explored independently.



Port two

An overnight hop delivered our travellers to their second secret Spanish stop – Ferrol.

Wendy, an Ipswich Oddfellows member and cruise host, said: “It was an interesting port, not well known to many regular passengers. There was a mix of interesting architecture and maritime history – the naval museum was a must.”

Port three

The ship next docked in Porto, Portugal, where the group were greeted by a broad

esplanade and a sweeping sandy beach, and they discovered a thriving fish market.

Port four

Back in Spain, the fourth port was a warm, sunny Malaga. “It was amazing,” said Wendy. “The cathedral was well worth a visit, also the Roman amphitheatre.”

Port five

The Spanish odyssey and Roman themes continued at the penultimate stop in Cadiz.

“The sea defences were testament to the city’s position close to the entrance of the Mediterranean,” Wendy said.

Port six

Having worked out their next stop, Wendy said: “Lisbon wasn’t quite such a mystery, but a delight nevertheless. The highlight was a lift ride to see magnificent views over Lisbon and the River Tejo.”

Surprises and celebrations

Before returning, the Oddfellows crew received a mystery gift bag containing souvenirs from Spain and Portugal, Fred. Olsen gifts and chocolates, and celebrated a member’s birthday with cake provided by the chef and singing waiters.

See Oddfellows Travel’s 2025 group holiday schedule, including a cruise to Iceland in July, by visiting www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Unity Mutual: Seasonal scam spotting



With tax season coming to a close, scammers start to move their attention to new opportunities.

As new financial scams emerge, people get targeted in different ways. Our financial services brand, Unity Mutual, has assessed what to watch out for in the coming months.

April to May: The tax refund scam

With key tax deadlines passing, fraudsters may take advantage of taxpayers hoping for a refund. You may receive emails, phone calls or text messages claiming you're due reimbursement.

Verify any tax-related communication through official government channels before responding to avoid being caught out.

Summer scams: Holidays, events and ticket fraud

From June to August, scammers often aim to exploit the excitement of summer holiday planning by offering fake 'not to be missed' deals on accommodation and flights, often through unofficial websites.

Concert and sporting event fraud is also on the up, and attempts to sell fake tickets on social media platforms are becoming increasingly common. Avoid these traps

by booking through reputable travel agencies and official events websites.

August to September: Back to school scams

As students and their families prepare for a new school year, fraudsters like to create fake offers for school supplies, loans and student rental accommodation.

If an offer seems too good to be true, verify it with official sources before taking action.

Stay vigilant year-round

While some scams are season-specific, fraudsters are always on the lookout for their next victim.



Stay informed, be sceptical of unsolicited requests for money or personal information, and always verify who you're dealing with before taking action.

For more financial tips and resources visit www.unitymutual.co.uk/knowledge-hub
To view Unity Mutual's range of family friendly financial products* visit www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows

For more information call 0161 214 4628.

*Terms and conditions apply

Trio receive university funding

Congratulations to the latest recipients of our First Degree Course Educational Awards: Lillie Buckley, Edward Smith and Torsten Ellis.

Easing the pressure

Each year, a selection of Oddfellows members heading to university for the first time are chosen to receive a non-repayable bursary of £900 per year for the duration of their studies.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: "I'm delighted that the Society can play a part in enhancing Lillie, Edward and Torsten's university experiences.

"Attempting to budget finances alongside studying is as tough as it's ever been but this funding from our Educational Awards will help to ease those stresses as they embark on this exciting stage in their lives."

Each year, our Fraternal Board chooses who will receive the funding, based on the applications received.

Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society, Barbara Needham, added: "I'm so proud that we are able to give the younger generation a bit of a financial boost, which will help them to take these all-important next steps on their way to making their mark on the world.

"I wish them every success over the next few years and beyond."

Lillie Buckley, Nottingham Trent Branch member

Lillie started studying Veterinary Science at the University of Bristol in September 2024.



She says the funding will allow her to purchase a new laptop for doing her university work, as well as helping to cover travel costs for work placements which she'll complete as part of her studies.

She said: "When I found out I would be receiving the funding, I was extremely happy and honoured to have been chosen. I want to say a huge thank you to the Oddfellows, as this will help support me throughout my degree and I can't wait to see what the future holds.

"I am loving the course so far. We've learnt lots of interesting things. In the future I would like to be a small animal vet, however I am keeping an open mind as I love cows!"

Edward Smith, Erewash Valley Branch member

Chemical Engineering student Edward began his course at the University of Manchester in September 2024.

He plans to follow his studies with a chartership while working as a Process Engineer. A Process Engineer designs, optimises and manages the processes used to transform raw materials into finished products in manufacturing or chemical plants.

“I felt very proud, honoured and relieved to receive extra funding to help with my studies,” he said. “I would encourage all eligible students to have a go at applying for this award.”



Edward says the money will go toward purchasing books and other learning materials.

Torsten Ellis, Derby Derwent Valley Branch member

Torsten has been reading Theoretical Physics with Mathematics at Lancaster University since October 2024.



He says the funding will allow him to budget better when purchasing learning materials, such as textbooks, and taking part in extra-curricular activities.

He added: “It felt great to learn I had been chosen for the funding. I was also somewhat relieved as it means I will have to worry less about my finances over the course of each year.

“My modules are split between the physics and maths departments, which is great because I’ll get a rich understanding of both and I’m looking forward to next year when I can pick modules and advance my understanding of both fields.”

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 Pam on **07482 130531** or email **pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk**.

Oddfellows Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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

At a glance

April 2025

Tues 1	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 8	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 10	Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Tues 15	Annual General Meeting	1.30pm
Thurs 17	Catch up in Warrington at The Dorado Lounge	10.30am
Tues 22	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 24	Lytham Hall	9am
Tues 29	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am

May

Tues 6	Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Wed 7	Cotebrook Shire Horse Centre and Rose's Farm	9am
Tues 13	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 15	Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Mon 19	Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge	10.30am
Tues 20	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 27	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am
Wed 28	Trentham Estate	9am

June

Tues 3	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 5	Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Mon 9	Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge	10.30am
Tues 10	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 17	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 19	Ten Pin Bowling and Crazy Golf at Superbowl Warrington	10.30am
Tues 24	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 26	Ten Pin Bowling at Superbowl St Helens	10.30am

July

Tues 1	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 3	A Day at the Races - Haydock Park	10.45am
Sat 5	LADGC Bowling	10am
Mon 7	Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge	10.30am

At a glance

July

Tues 8	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 15	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 17	Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Tues 22	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 29	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am
Thurs 31	Chirk Castle and Gardens	9am

August

Mon 4	Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge	10.30am
Tues 5	Branch Meeting followed by Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 12	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Wed 13	A Day in Oswestry	9am
Tues 19	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 21	Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Fri 22	Beatles City Explorer	11am
Tues 26	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am

September – Friendship Month

Tues 2	Friendship Month Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 4	Friendship Month Coffee Morning at Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Tues 9	Friendship Month Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 16	Half Yearly Summoned Meeting	1.30pm
Wed 17	St Helens Friendship Month Breakfast	9.45am
Mon 22	Friendship Month Brunch in Warrington	10.30am
Tues 23	Friendship Month Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 30	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am

October

Mon 6	Catch Up in Warrington at the Dorado Lounge	10.30am
Tues 7	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 14	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Thurs 16	Coffee Morning at The Kaleidoscope Café	10.30am
Tues 21	Tuesday Drop In	1.30pm
Tues 28	Warrington Coffee Morning	10.30am
Wed 29	Bury Market	9am