



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

events **diary**

Oswestry District

September 2019 - January 2020



Old Oswestry, 3000 year old hill fort



Friday 18 October - Remembering Where with Afternoon Tea, we hope you can join us!

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Oswestry District Events Diary. Members of the District have organised a varied programme of events for you all.

This Events Diary is a handy guide for you to keep so that you know what is happening in our area.

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to you and your friends to attend any of our events that take your fancy - we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

Remember to put the dates of interest in your personal diary. Alternatively, keep the Events Diary in a handy place - by the phone, fixed to the fridge or pinned to your notice board.

Contact Details

For more information or to book any events contact the Secretary



Office Manager:
Lucie Byrne

Branch Secretary:
Vivien Byrne



Address:
23 Oswald Road,
Oswestry
SY11 1RB

Telephone: 01691 679016

Email:
vivien.byrne@oddfellows.co.uk

Do you have a story or great photograph to share?

Please send us your news stories!
Or perhaps a picture with a caption!
Email, post, hand in, or telephone
Samantha, (or any member of the Management Committee) We'd love to hear anything heart-warming, humorous, or simply very interesting!

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.

September - Friendship Month

EXTEND

Exercise Class

Every Monday afternoon, 2pm

The Oswald Room,
Memorial Hall, Oswestry

Whether you are recently retired or determined to improve your fitness level, EXTEND Exercise can help you to achieve this. These classes will always contain 20 minutes of seated exercise, but do not be discouraged as seated exercises can be very active. You will be very surprised at just how much active exercise can be performed whilst sitting in a chair. Suitable for all genders and across all ages. **Cost:** £3 for one hour.



ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Celebrating 10 years

September 2019 - Friendship Month

Friday 13 - Friendship Month People Power
Exhibition, 10am

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Oddfellows Friendship Month and in collaboration with the Heritage Open Days 25th Anniversary, a special exhibition in Oswestry for People Power. How people coming together can help one another and ways in which local organisations help people. **Address:** The Guildhall, Walford Davies Room, Bailey Head, Oswestry SY11 2NL. **Cost:** Free. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



October

Wednesday 9 - Coffee Morning, 11am

Coffee mornings are held in the Wilfred Owen Room at the Memorial Hall, Oswestry, usually on the first Wednesday of the month but check the diary for exact dates. **Address:** The Wilfred Owen Room, Smithfield Street, Oswestry SY11 2EG. **Cost:** Free. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



events diary

October

Friday 18 - Remembering Where Quiz with Afternoon Tea, 2pm

Remembering where will be a simple fun quiz based on Oswestry, seeing if people can remember locations of the old shops, cafés and leisure places. Followed by a scrumptious afternoon tea. **Address:** The Memorial Hall, Festival Square, Oswestry SY11 3EH. **Cost:** £5 per person. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



November

Wednesday 6 - Coffee Morning, 11am

Coffee mornings are held in the Wilfred Owen Room at the Memorial Hall, Oswestry, usually on the first Wednesday of the month but check the diary for exact dates. **Address:** The Wilfred Owen Room, Smithfield Street, Oswestry SY11 2EG. **Cost:** Free. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



Thursday 14 - Lunch with Friends, 12.30pm

Another opportunity to meet up with friends for lunch. **Address:** The Greyhound Inn, Overton Road, St Martins, Oswestry SY11 3SE. **Cost:** Per Menu selection. Please book by Thursday 4 November. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



Festive

Christmas Lunch

Friday 6 December, 12.30pm for 1pm

The Great Weston,
Weston Cotton Farm,
Weston near Oswestry SY10 9ER

A lovely Christmas Lunch in festive surroundings at The Great Weston. **Cost:** Three course Christmas lunch £16 per person. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



events diary

January 2020

Wednesday 8 - Coffee Morning, 11am

Coffee mornings are held in the Wilfred Owen Room at the Memorial Hall, Oswestry, usually on the first Wednesday of the month but check the diary for exact dates. **Address:** The Wilfred Owen Room, Smithfield Street, Oswestry SY11 2EG. **Cost:** Free. Contact Vivien Byrne on 01691 679016.



Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at:  OddfellowsUK



Travel places with Friendly Faces

With group holidays, short breaks, exclusive discounts, travel offers and the opportunity to get to know other Oddfellows travellers, the Active Travel Club has something for everyone to enjoy.



**Fred. Olsen
Cruise Lines**



**Haven
Holidays**



**Warner Leisure
Holidays**



**Travel
Insurance***

Check out the latest holidays at www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel
Contact **0161 832 9361** or email active@oddfellows.co.uk

All holidays are booked through third party travel companies and terms and conditions apply.

Please ask for further details before booking.

Holidays are open to Oddfellows members and their guests.

*Oddfellows Support Services Limited will introduce members to the above organisation. Oddfellows Support Services Limited receives a commission payment for any introduction. Oddfellows Support Services Limited is registered in England and Wales, Company No. 8309175. Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB and is a non-regulated wholly owned subsidiary of The Independent Order of Oddfellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited.

TPA60419

Friendship and Social activities across the UK

At Oswestry District Oddfellows we put on a range social activities each month for us to enjoy together in friendship. We always welcome new people to come along and give us a try... No longer living in the Oswestry District? Why not check out the social activities being put on by the Branch nearest to where you are living...



Visit the Oddfellows Website (www.oddfellows.co.uk) and click on the events tab to search for local events. Alternatively, contact us, (details on the front page) and we can request that your local secretary gets in touch and sends you a copy of their Events Diary.

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

Refer a friend today



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

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

Our Making a Difference 2019 Award winners!

To celebrate our wonderful members and their contributions to the Society as a whole, we launched the first official Making a Difference Awards late last year, and after careful consideration from the judges, we're ready to reveal the winners!

The judges had a hard time selecting this year's winners, with many worthy nominations received across the awards' categories. But after much deliberation, four fabulous members were announced at this year's annual conference.

Jane Nelson, CEO said: "So many of our members make the Society a wonderful place to form friendships, access advice and get support. It's important that we reward those who go above and beyond for their Branch when we can and the Making a Difference Awards is the perfect way to do this.

"Huge congratulations to this year's winners, and thank you to everybody else who was nominated! Your hard work and dedication is much appreciated, and doesn't go unnoticed."

Member nominations for 2020 are now open. Do you know someone who always goes the extra mile when volunteering, fundraising, caring for other members, or doing their very best for the Branch? Download a member nomination form from www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference or contact your Branch Secretary.



Bill, Vivienne, David and Faye with Grand Master Bill Henchcliff after being presented with their awards.

2019 Making a Difference Award Winners

FOR GIVING A HELPING HAND

Vivienne Simpson

Burton-on-Trent District

FOR WORKING IN THE SPIRIT OF MUTUALITY

Bill Rainsbury

North West Kent District

FOR GIVING SOMETHING BACK

David Smith

Cleveland and Durham District

FOR ENRICHING LIVES SOCIALLY

Faye Chadwick

Huddersfield District

Oddfellows Annual Movable Conference takes place in Sunny Southport

For 2019, our Annual Movable Conference (AMC) returned to Southport and we really did have the weather on our side! Each year our members get together to catch up, celebrate the past 12 months, vote on important Society matters, and of course, welcome the new Grand Master (Society Chairman).

With a jam-packed schedule mixing business with pleasure, AMC is a great opportunity for members to learn about the business side of the Society and our traditions, as well as meet and mingle with other Branches.



Oddfellows members enjoyed the annual bowls competition



Business began by paying tribute to some of our late Past Grand Masters: Sydney Bolton, Andrew Porter, and Keith Adamson



Oddfellows Brass gave a rousing public performance on Sunday



A 60s themed dance kicked off the celebrations at the Grand Master's Welcome Party

At our conference, Deputies vote on decisions that will impact the Society’s business focus moving forward. For example, this year it was decided that our H A Andrews Memorial Fund would support Lupus Trust with a donation of £85,000 over three years. Plus, to celebrate our growing membership, we presented a number of Branches with our annual recruitment awards.

These include the Ken Hughes Silver Salver Award, won this year by Pride of Woolwich Branch, and the Lillian Ogden Recruitment trophy, awarded to Ormskirk and Southport Branch. Members can help their Branches to win awards too, as we also present the Refer a Friend Awards, to recognise Branches which have a great network of strong member advocates.



An array of Oddfellows merchandise was available for members to purchase



The “Refer a Friend” Award for the highest number of member advocates was awarded to Ormskirk and Southport Branch, with 31 members recruiting a new member in 2018

Thank you Bill Henchcliff

A huge thank you as always to our now Immediate Past Grand Master Bill Henchcliff, who says:

“It has been a great honour to be Grand Master of the Order. I couldn’t possibly choose a favourite moment from the past year, but meeting all the members across the country, especially the two Centenarians from Hartlepool and Derby, has been quite special. The support and advice I have received from my colleagues on the Board, from the CEO and Insurance Director, and the External Non-Executive Directors has been invaluable.”

Bill has some sound words of advice to welcome the new Grand Master, David Randall: “Be yourself and enjoy the year, it goes very quickly!”



If you have a business head, or a passion for organisation, why not get involved with your Branch’s Committee of Management? And if you’d be interested in becoming a Deputy at a future AMC, you can find out how by visiting our website, or speaking to your Branch Secretary.

Meet our new Grand Master: David Randall, Gipping Branch Secretary

How did it feel being installed in front of such a large crowd at the AMC?

It was such a proud moment and one I will cherish forever. My involvement in the Oddfellows is something I take very seriously, and I'm pleased to be able to use my time as Grand Master to raise awareness of the Oddfellows and the benefits of becoming a member with the general public, as well as doing my best to meet as many members as possible around the country.



So what's your Oddfellows background?

I became a member in 1992. However, I had been attending the local Branch's social events for about 20 years prior. So recruiters... never give up on a possible new member! My father-in-law was a long-serving Castle Branch (Colchester) officer and trustee, so he encouraged me to finally sign up. I guess I was always going to join once I married his daughter! For those of you who don't know, my wife of 47 years is Diana Randall, Secretary of Castle Branch, so there's always a little healthy Branch competition.

Do you have a standout memory from your 47 years of being involved with the Society?

Yes – the pride I felt when attending my District's Provincial Grand Master Dinner in 2010. We were celebrating 200 years of Oddfellowship, my wife was the Provincial Grand Master and the then Grand Master, Alan Cole, was our guest of honour. I was Provincial Deputy Grand Master and I couldn't have felt happier to be part of such a meaningful Society.

How would you sum up the Oddfellows in just six words?

Friendship that just keeps giving more.

And now for some less serious questions...

Where's your favourite place in the world?

That would have to be the Amalfi Coast in Italy.

Who is your favourite author?

John Grisham, I have read every one of his fiction books and his one non-fiction book.

You're stranded on a desert island.... What three items would you take with you?

Matches, a sharp knife and the woman I love, if she'd come with me! If she wouldn't, then I'd probably take a fishing line.

Who would play you in the movie of your life?

Matt Damon.



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 Vivien on **01691 679016** or email **vivien.byrne@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@manchestercab.org



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

September 2019 - Friendship Month

Fri 13	Friendship Month People Power Exhibition	10am
Mon 16	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Mon 23	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Mon 30	Extend Exercise Class	2pm

October

Mon 7	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Wed 9	Coffee Morning	11am
Mon 14	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Fri 18	Quiz with Afternoon Tea	2pm
Mon 21	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Mon 28	Extend Exercise Class	2pm

November

Mon 4	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Wed 6	Coffee Morning	11am
Mon 11	Extend Exercise Class	2pm
Thurs 14	Lunch with Friends.	12.30pm
Mon 18	Extend Exercise Class	2pm

December

Fri 6	Festive Christmas Lunch	12.30pm
--------------	-------------------------	---------

January 2020

Wed 8	Coffee Morning	11am
--------------	----------------	------

Do we have your email address?

Call us on **01691 679016** or email vivien.byrne@oddfellows.co.uk

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