

May - September 2022
Issue 12



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

out & about

Ipswich Branch



Travel



Games



Social



Meetings



Talks



Walks



Dining Out



Online



Quizzes



Theatre



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea

Welcome to the spring/ summer edition of your 'Out and About' Events Diary for the Ipswich Branch of Oddfellows.

As a local branch 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 supply our members with 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!

Everybody welcome

Everybody 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 events that take your fancy – all are welcome and we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time. Let us know you're coming and we'll look out for you and welcome you at the door.

This issue features listings of our upcoming events from eating together to trips out. We hope there is something to interest you. We have also included a handy back page listing month by month for events at a glance. We hope you find it useful! Extra events are organised during the



Oddfellows Hall, Ipswich

span of this diary. Keep in touch with the Office for regular updates (have we got your email address? We send a regular What's On email, don't miss out). Looking 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.

Our business meetings are open to all members unless indicated otherwise.

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.

Regular Events

Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street,
Ipswich IP1 3QH.

Learn to Dance

Monday



10.30am



Members £1.50
Guests £2.50



Strictly not yet! Learn to dance! Ever wished you'd learnt to dance? Lynne and Sherry can help at 10.30am. The emphasis is on fun! All welcome. Unsure? Come along and have a look. There'll be a cuppa too! For more details contact ipswich.branch@oddfellows.co.uk 01473 251867.

23 May
20 June
18 July

22 August
19 September
24 October

Activity Morning Kurling and Boccia

Every
Thursday



10am to
11.30am



£2.50



Join us for some light exercise and plenty of laughs! Kurling is played in teams using sticks and stones (no ice!). Boccia is a seated boules. Refreshments served. Contact Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



Zoom-In for Fun on Friday

Every
Friday



7pm



Free

Online

Our usual fun hour. All welcome. Zoom Meeting ID: 542 724 7603. Fourth Friday is hosted by Sarah at Stockport Branch and Zoom Meeting ID is 845 7787 3384. Contact Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



Contact Details

Branch Secretary: Lynne Wyatt

Email:

ipswich.branch@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Secretary: Wendy Atkins

Email:

ipswichevents@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Host: Sherry Harrow

Email:

sherry.harrow@oddfellows.co.uk

Address:

37 High Street,
Ipswich IP1 3QH.

Telephone: 01473 251867



[Oddfellowsipswich](https://www.facebook.com/Oddfellowshipsipswich)

Regular Events

Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street,
Ipswich IP1 3QH.

Coffee Morning (with a difference!)

Friday



10.30am



Members £1
Guests £2



Come and join in for a cuppa and a chat. The perfect time to catch up with old friends and make new ones too. All welcome. **Contact** Sherry or Wendy on 01473 251867.

27 May
24 June
29 July

19 August
23 September

Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!

First
Tuesday



2pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Tuesday Together is a chance to get-together for Scrabble and other games available Refreshments will be served. All welcome. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



3 May
7 June
5 July

2 August
6 September

Live@5 Weekly Quiz

Every
Sunday



5pm



Free

Online

Since 5 April 2020, we've presented a weekly fun 'virtual' quiz. That's over 100 weeks of quizzing! We aim to continue broadcasting until we have no audience!

Zoom Meeting ID: 542 724 7603.
Contact Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat

Second
Tuesday



10am



Free



What project will Teresa have for us this month?

This is an online get-together making simple things to help our hand-eye

coordination. We use materials which are easily available. Most importantly we have a laugh! Zoom Meeting ID: 542 724 7603. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



10 May
14 June
12 July

9 August
13 September

May 2022

WED
04

Ten Pin Bowling



10am



£6.99



Join in the fun of ten pin bowling. Meet at Superbowl in Buttermarket around 10am. Two games, shoe hire, plus hot drink and snack included. Superbowl, The Buttermarket Centre, St Stephens Lane, Ipswich IP1 1DT. Please contact Lynne in the office on 01473 251867 to book your place or email lynne.wyatt@oddfellows.co.uk.

MON
09

Monday Lunch Out - The Plough



12.30pm



As per menu



Our regular lunch date and back to The Plough (Dog's Head Street, Ipswich). Booking essential. Menus available from the Office and online. Pre-orders preferred please by Wednesday 4 May. All welcome. The Plough, 2 Dogs Head Street, Ipswich IP4 1AD. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

TUES
17

Members' Meeting



1.30pm



Free



All members welcome to attend to hear reports from the committee and discuss issues which affect the Branch. Refreshments served. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

Our online events are here to stay

To see what's coming up visit oddfellows.co.uk/events and enter 'Kelso' in the place name search box

OE/0521A6

June

SUN
05

Jubilee Jamboree Afternoon Tea

4pm

Members £5
Guests £7



Join us to celebrate an historic moment of the Queen's reign. Lots of savoury and sweet delights, plenty of flag waving, singing and games. At 5pm, we will join other members for our Live@5 quiz (Zoom Meeting ID: 542 724 7603). All welcome. Book by Wednesday 1 June. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

WED
08

Walk in the Park Christchurch Park

10.30am

Free



Enjoy a stroll in Ipswich's Christchurch Park. Meet at the Soane Street entrance around 10.30am. Walk with others at your own pace. Bring a camera/phone too. A chance to meet new friends too. All welcome. Finish with coffee and cake, or even lunch! Booking helpful in case we cancel due to inclement weather by Thursday 2 June. Christchurch Mansion, Soane Street, Ipswich IP4 2BE. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

July

MON
04

The Green Issue - Recycling and so much more

1.30pm

Free



Sarah Clarke the community outreach officer for Ipswich Borough Council will be our guest speaker. Her entertaining talk takes about an hour with a fun quiz with a prize at the end. All welcome. Book by Thursday 30 June. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



MON
11

Monday Lunch - Fish and Chips

12.30pm

TBC



Our regular date for lunch. Enjoy fish and chips in the hall. All welcome. Costs to be confirmed. Book by Thursday 7 July. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



July

WED
13

Walk in the Park Holywells Park



10.30am



Free



Let's go and explore Holywells Park. Meet at the Stable cafe area. Bus number 2 from Tower ramparts at 10.25am to Cliff Lane. All welcome. Stroll at your own pace. Don't forget a camera/phone. Finish with coffee and cake or even lunch! Booking advised in case of inclement weather by Thursday 7 July. Holywells Park, Cliff Lane entrance, Ipswich IP3 0PG. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

WED
13

Calling all Oddfellows - You are invited...



1.30pm



Free



Being a member of the Oddfellows is so much more than tea and biscuits. Come along to a visual presentation by our colleagues in Manchester's head office, to learn more about what your membership offers and how best to make the most of your annual subscription. After the presentation there will time for questions and an informal chat with others over a cuppa and cake! All welcome. If you are unable to join us in person the presentation will be available online. Follow the link for joining instructions <https://www.oddfellows.co.uk/welcome/> Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

TUES
19

Members' Meeting



1.30pm



Free



All members welcome to attend to hear reports from the committee and discuss issues which affect the Branch. Refreshments served. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



August

SUN
07

Sunday Afternoon Tea



4pm



Members £5
Guests £7



A members' favourite event. Enjoy a selection of savoury and sweet delights and gallons of tea! Booking essential. Our Live@5 quiz will be broadcast from the hall on Zoom Meeting ID: 542 724 7603. All welcome. Book by Thursday 4 August. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

August

TUES 23 Suffolk Women Throughout History

7.15pm

Members £2
Guests £3



Beth Wyatt, a local history graduate is our guest speaker. She will highlight



some of the Suffolk characters who have played an important part in the county's rich history. From activists to doctors, archaeologists to pilots and many more stories of women who have challenged expectations and led changes. All welcome. Book by Thursday 18 August. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

September

MON 12 Monday Lunch

12.30pm

TBC



Our regular date for lunch. More details to follow.

Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH.

Contact Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.



TUES 20 Members' Meeting

1.30pm

Free



All members welcome to attend to hear reports from the committee and discuss issues which affect the Branch. Refreshments served. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

September

FRI 02 Friendship Month Cream Tea

2pm

Free



September is Friendship Month when we extend a hand of friendship to members and non-members alike. Join us for a free cream tea; catch up with old friends and make new ones. Talk to us about what we do and what membership has to offer. Bring a non-member friend and you could win a prize. There will be a raffle in aid of the Chairman's charity. Book by Thursday 25 August. Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street, Ipswich IP1 3QH. **Contact** Sherry or Wendy or Lynne on 01473 251867.

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Get away with the Oddfellows



London Theatre Break

Friday 17 June 2022
(2 nights)

We'll be staying at the 3*
St Giles Hotel, located in
central London.

£245 per person[†] includes
breakfast and theatre ticket
to see **Wicked**, at the Victoria
Apollo Theatre.

[†]Based on 2 people sharing



Look what's coming up in 2022:

Scenic Norwegian Fjords:

Cruise from £1,149 per person

- Depart Southampton on 12 August (7 nights)
- Scenic cruise Lysefjord and Maurangerfjord
- Explore the Briksdal Glacier from Olden
- Kayak the glassy waters of Hardangerfjord



For further information and to book contact Mike Hall
0161 832 9361 (Ext 2224) travel@oddfellows.co.uk

www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Foot Care Service

Toe-nail clipping and general foot care consultations. Marion Ward, a qualified Foot Health Practitioner is at your service*.

£15
for
45 minutes

To make an appointment in the Hall please contact Marion 07818 455903.

*The foot care clinics advert does not constitute an endorsement by the Oddfellows and the use of the service is entirely at your own risk.



New to the Oddfellows?

Join us at one of our online new member welcome events

Tues 12 July, 7pm
Weds 13 July, 1.30pm

Tues 18 October, 7pm
Weds 19 October, 1.30pm



For further information visit: www.oddfellows.co.uk/welcome

At a glance

Regular Events

Every Thursday	Activity Morning - Kurling and Boccia	10am
Every Friday	Zoom-In for Fun on Friday	7pm
Every Sunday	Live@5 Weekly Quiz	5pm

May 2022

Tues 3	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Wed 4	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 9	Monday Lunch Out - The Plough	12.30pm
Tues 10	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Tues 17	Members' Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 23	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Fri 27	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

June

Sun 5	Jubilee Jamboree Afternoon Tea	4pm
Tues 7	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Wed 8	Walk in the Park - Christchurch Park	10.30am
Tues 14	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Mon 20	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Fri 24	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

July

Mon 4	The Green Issue - Recycling and so much more	1.30pm
Tues 5	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Mon 11	Monday Lunch - Fish and Chips	12.30pm
Tues 12	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Wed 13	Walk in the Park - Holywells Park	10.30am
Wed 13	Calling all Oddfellows - You are invited...	1.30pm
Mon 18	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Tues 19	Members' Meeting	1.30pm
Fri 29	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

At a glance

Regular Events

Every Thursday	Activity Morning – Kurling and Boccia	10am
Every Friday	Zoom-In for Fun on Friday	7pm
Every Sunday	Live@5 Weekly Quiz	5pm

August

Tues 2	Tuesday Together – Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Sun 7	Sunday Afternoon Tea	4pm
Tues 9	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Fri 19	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am
Mon 22	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Tues 23	Suffolk Women Throughout History	7.15pm

September – Friendship Month

Fri 2	Friendship Month Cream Tea	2pm
Tues 6	Tuesday Together – Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Mon 12	Monday Lunch	12.30pm
Tues 13	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Mon 19	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Tues 20	Members' Meeting	1.30pm
Fri 23	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

Other events will be added during the life of this programme. Please stay in touch for more details. Make sure we have your email address, or check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/oddfellowspswich and the Oddfellows website www.oddfellows.co.uk

Booking and cancellations

Please remember the importance of early booking for all events to avoid disappointment or cancellation due to lack of support.

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



the Oddfellows
SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

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www.oddfellows.co.uk

Ipswich News and Views

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News from a 'Virtual' Friend



Dine Out



Monthly Coffee Morning



Welcome to Ipswich News and Views Spring 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of Ipswich News and Views, which we hope will be an interesting and informative read for members and friends. From details of events; messages from members and information about membership benefits.

At last we are able to reconnect with many of our members at face to face events and it's good to see everyone has kept well. We'd love to hear how you're doing, and to keep you updated with our news, so please contact us to make sure we have your current phone number. An email address makes it easier to keep in regular contact.

If you're unable to get to events in Ipswich then why don't join us online? Check out www.oddfellows.co.uk/events or on Facebook at Oddfellowsipswich. Don't hesitate to contact us if there's any way we can help.

Wendy Atkins, Editor

Contact Details

For more details about any of the events listed, membership and the wide range of benefits available, please call:

Branch Secretary: Lynne Wyatt

T: 01473 251867

E: ipswich.branch@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Secretary: Wendy Atkins

T: 07722 191437

E: ipswichevents@oddfellows.co.uk

Social Host: Sherry Harrow

E: sherry.harrow@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: 37 High Street,
Ipswich IP1 3QH

T: 01473 251867

Welfare Visitors:

Marion Ward

Teresa Marrable

T: 07818 455903

T: 01473 211940

From the oldest to the youngest – everyone enjoyed Christmas Lunch

At last members were able to get together for the annual Christmas lunch at the Suffolk New College. There was a wonderful festive feel. The students did a great job with preparing and serving the menu. We held a raffle towards our Little Hoot Fund (St Elizabeth's Hospice).



Mediterranean Evening

Barrie O'Neill played Spanish tunes on his guitar. There were suitable nibble and drinks. Spanish-themed puzzles kept members busy and there's was plenty of

chat – as usual. The Hall was decorated to give a cafe-feel. All that was missing was the sun! A n enjoyable evening organised by Teresa and Kevin.

Meet the Team

Introducing Teresa - 2022/23 Chairman, Welfare Volunteer and Social Host



*Teresa centre with fellow officers
Kevin Marrable Deputy and
Marion Ward Past Chairman.*

I am honoured to have been elected as the Provincial Grand Master (or Chair) of the Ipswich Branch at our recent (Annual General Meeting) AGM and I will do my very best over the coming year to continue the good work done by my predecessors.

We all thought that 2022 was going to be a better year with the Covid pandemic behind us and starting to be able to live a more normal life. However who would have predicted that we would be on the edge of another global crisis. Our hearts and thoughts go out to all those Ukrainians that have been forced to flee their own country. And also to those in Russia who oppose the war and who have also been forced to leave or have been imprisoned. We can only hope that world

leaders will be able to solve this crisis and bring peace once again to Europe.

As I go out in the park and walk the dog, I see that the daffodils are blooming, there are carpets of crocus flowers and the trees are bursting into bud and blossom. There is a definite air of spring around and, even though it is still a bit cold, the sun warms our hearts and minds. I read recently that being an optimist means you will live longer, so we all need to be optimistic about the future.

We are all looking forward to having more face to face meetings while still continuing with the Zoom calls that have been so successful. One of the good things over the past two years has been getting to know other Oddfellows from across the country. I look forward to welcoming many more new members over the coming year and seeing you all at forthcoming events.

In friendship

Teresa Marrable

Introducing Sherry - our new Social Host

I can't believe I have been with the Oddfellows Society for six months already! My role as Events Host started off fairly small, with running the weekly Kurling/Boccia



group, to now also hosting a monthly ten pin bowling session, a monthly coffee morning, and, from April, myself and my lovely colleague Lynne will be teaching Ballroom (although not to the Strictly level you understand!).

Before being offered my role, I was invited to come along to a kurling session to see how things worked, and I remember thinking to myself, 'even if I don't get the job, I am going to sign up for membership' – that's how welcome I was made to feel, and how fun I found it all.

I'm really looking forward to meeting more of you in the future and please pop in to introduce yourself and say 'hello' if you're passing.

Sherry Harrow

Where's Wendy ?

Wendy, our Branch Social Organiser, seems to have disappeared from sight!

Now that the Branch has the services of Sherry and Teresa to front the 'live' meetings, much of Wendy's work is behind the scenes, There's plenty to do planning events, hosting Zoom sessions, writing articles for magazines, working with agencies to promote the Oddfellows, attending training sessions and playing her part in the running of the Branch supporting Lynne, and as a Trustee and a member of the Committee of Management.

Chairman's Sunday Lunch at the Orwell Hotel Felixstowe



To honour our Chairman, Marion Ward, 40 members gathered in the rather atmospheric Library of the Orwell hotel. We wined and dined, held a raffle in aid of our Little Hoot fund and Marion gave a short speech about her time as Chairman during the past two extraordinary years. She referred to the chain of office saying how proud she was to wear it as her father and grandfather had before her. A wonderful reference to the legacy of the Oddfellows.

News from a 'Virtual' Friend

Tracey Edwards is a 'virtual' friend to Ipswich members. Her and husband Meirion are regular faces on our Zoom screens. They have helped out with Friday games and Sunday quizzes. They live in North Wales. Tracey is a nurse with Superdrug and wrote the following for her Company's newsletter.



I joined the Oddfellows in 1997 when I was introduced to the Society by my now husband, Meirion. Over the years we have both become more and more involved, not just at local branch level but at area and national level. We have always taken part in as many social activities as our busy lives allow. We have attended the annual conference every year since 2012 and go to our area conferences twice a year. We have also attended many dinner/dances which Branches hold to honour their chairman.

In March 2020, Oddfellows met its biggest ever challenge in how to support its members during the Covid-19 Pandemic. We were all in Lockdown. People were isolated. Many of our members live on their own. Many of our members are elderly. Some, like myself, were shielding. Our Branch Secretaries and the staff at our Head Office in Manchester were working flat out to support the members. We couldn't meet up to socialise and at first, we were limited to talking on the phone. Then something miraculous happened, and a new Virtual World started to appear. That of the world of 'Zoom'.

By May/June 2020 the first social events on Zoom started to appear. Branches

started holding Coffee Mornings. Then we started playing games during the Coffee Mornings. One of our social organisers invented a new form of Bingo with playing cards called... Zingo! 'Beetle' was also developed for playing virtually.

We had mini quizzes and scavenger hunts. Soon other events were being held – quizzes, talks, murder mystery evenings, art and craft sessions, gentle exercise classes. There was also a weekly Zoom Confidence session where people could go to gain Zoom skills. There was soon a wide range of events we could go to via Zoom, held all over the country. At its peak in Autumn 2020 we actually had more than 100 Zoom events happening each week. There was something different we could go to every day. We became involved with helping to organise events too. We have organised quizzes and given talks ourselves. We even helped to organise and take part in a murder mystery. To date we have given two talks - one about place names in Britain and funny signs, and one about Infectious Diseases, where I also gave a brief overview of the Superdrug Nurse Clinics.

By using Zoom, the Oddfellows has helped it's many members to feel less isolated. Many of us have made many more friends than we could have imagined. It has become one of our strongest assets, and it's because of Zoom that we have managed to gain more members during the pandemic as we offered friendship without having to leave the comfort of our own homes. It is because of this success that the Society is continuing to offer online events, even as we get back to attending face to face meetings and events.

Guest Speaker - Bill Tancred

One-time discus thrower and shot-putter Bill Tancred competed at the highest level of international athletics in the late 1960s and 1970s, bringing home a bronze and silver medal in his years competing in the Commonwealth and Olympic games.



However, now aged 78, the Felixstowe local sees no need to slow down and has written a book to help inspire others to keep fit, healthy and in a good frame of mind. Bill's 'Ageing Youthfully – A Way of Life' includes some of his top tips and tricks on keeping active while improving their mental health. We hope that Bill will return at a later date and tell us more about his sporting career.

Ipswich Hospital Radio celebrates 50!

Mark Keable an Oddfellow and radio volunteer, invited Wendy (Social Secretary) to his morning show to speak about the Oddfellows.



'Don't wait until it's too late' Talk by Wendy Chard, Home Instead

Wendy Chard is a representative from Home Instead a care provider and a partner of the Oddfellows. She addressed the audience giving lots of information about services available to us in times of crisis. The point of the meeting was to gather information before it's needed. 'Be prepared' was the message.

How does the word 'Care' make you feel? This was the question posed by Wendy. We should not think that having to have some sort of care is indicative of a failure in ourselves. Having your hair done, or your feet looked after or employing a cleaner could be considered as a sort of 'care'. It is a way of enabling us to continue to lead the life we want. Home Instead have worked with the Oddfellows for a number of years. If you need to claim convalescent benefit, Oddfellows can pay for 30 hours of help at home from Home



Instead. They are also trained specialists in dementia care.

Wendy also covered topics of making a Living Will, creating a Living journal and visiting care homes. After this interesting and informative talk, Wendy was presented with a bouquet of flowers from our own Wendy and members continued to have a more informal chat over tea and jam tarts.

'My Weekly' Festive Christmas

The magazine 'My Weekly' put together an online evening of festive cocktails and foodie recipes; make up and book reviews. Ipswich Branch was invited to lead the Christmas crafts contribution.

Teresa was our star showing how to make hearts to hang on the tree or

joining together to make a garland. Kevin was behind the cameras and edited a top-class performance. Participants chatted while crafting about being members of the Oddfellows and it's benefits of friendship. The whole evening was well received by the magazine as well as the viewers.

Day Trip to Ely Cathedral Christmas Market

12 members joined the coach trip to Ely Christmas Market. Although it seemed an early start, we arrived just as the Cathedral was opening. This meant that we had the advantage of fewer people at the wide range of stalls. The

stalls were brimming with goodies from pottery to books; children's games to artwork. They were all beautifully decorated and the back drop of the magnificent architecture gave the whole event a magical atmosphere.



Fun on Friday

Fridays wouldn't be the same without some fun and that's what happens on Fridays at 7pm. The success is down to a mix of people and activities. Different hosts

entertain us with a mix of puzzles and games interspersed with plenty of chat and laughter. It's a real tonic to finish the week and start the weekend with a smile.

Dine Out – The Plough, The Chequers, Royal George

We made the decision to take our regular Monday lunches 'on the road!' In November we met at The Plough in the town centre. January saw us at The Chequers in Great Blakenham and in March we were at

the Royal George. Members agreed that eating together is a great idea to make friends and more Monday lunches are planned. Check out the events list for dates. Please ask for details of venues.





ORCA - the charity looking out for whales and dolphins

A very interesting and informative talk given by Anna Bunney from ORCA. She explained the purpose of the charity and how its volunteers monitor the waters and spot the locations of marine life. She astounded us with some fascinating

facts including the whale that can dive almost 3000 meters and hold its breath for over two hours! The Branch has made a donation to the charity. If you'd like more information, or to make a donation please check out <https://www.orcaweb.org.uk/>



Blue Whale



ORCA's long-term dataset

- Contains hundreds of thousands of recorded animals
- Surveyed hundreds of thousands of km's of European waters
- Data for assessing conservation status
- Free access for researchers, governments & organisations



Blue whale

33 metres long!





Our virtual friends become reality

When Wendy and Paul Atkins decided on a short break to the Isle of Wight, they contacted Maretta the Branch Secretary to find out if there were any events they could attend. Members who had been virtual friends, welcomed the visitors at a live coffee morning.



Chess and Other Games



As an ongoing initiative to help members keep their brains active while engaging with others, our first Tuesday of the month continues with chess included and other board games. All welcome.

Make a date for Ten Pin Bowling at Super Bowl

If you'd like to join in the regular sessions then please contact Lynne in the Ipswich office to find out the next date.



Fond farewell to a stalwart of the Committee of Management

Hilary Norman joined the Oddfellows in 1973. After joining the Committee of Management, she became responsible for the ceremonial elements of the Branch and oversaw the delivery of various ceremonies. This involved monitoring the progression of members through the various stages from initiation to the highest office of the Branch.

Hilary progressed through the ranks and became Noble Grand Master of the May Tollemache lodge in 1984, the Gippeswyck/Orwell Lodge in 1997 and the Provincial Grand Master of the Ipswich District in 2002, 2006 and 2009.

She served as a Branch Trustee, an important and invaluable role in the running of the Branch, for several years.



Hilary represented the Branch at the Oddfellows' Annual conference on a number of occasions.

Overall Hilary has been a well-respected member of the Branch and Committee of Management. Her experience and knowledge will be missed but she has laid the foundations on which we can continue to build.

Thank you Hilary.

Contributed by Marion Ward, Branch Chairman (2020-22)



Celebrating Lynne's belated birthday with a 60s Night

Jane and Julie entertained us in their inimitable style and everyone had the best night ever!





The choir signs and we sing

Our traditional start to the Christmas season. The Ipswich Signing choir always welcome.

Monthly Coffee Mornings

A new initiative for 2022. We are opening the Hall for cuppa and chat between 10.30am and 12 noon. The first one in January welcomed a number of members and friends who were keen to meet our Little Hoot (in the nude!) Members were given a blank template of an owl

shape and asked to come up with ideas of how to decorate our Little Hoot in readiness for the Hoot Trail across the town from June.



Busy Fingers Crafts

Our online crafts sessions go from strength to strength thanks to Teresa who comes up with brilliant simple projects that can achieve success in an hour. Members join us from all over

the country and are keen to come back month after month. If anyone would like to join in the fun then please get in touch. We 'meet' every second Tuesday at 10am. There's plenty of chat too!





Scenic Summertime Norwegian Fjords

Cruise with us!
12–20 August 2022
(7 nights. Full board)
From £1,149 per person

Let Oddfellows member Wendy Atkins take care of you as you experience summer in the Norwegian fjordland, taking in the seasonal sights and highlights of the region's beautiful waterways. During hours

of scenic cruising, smaller ship Bolette takes you on journeys into mountain-flanked fjords, to see their summertime scenery at its best. Departs Southampton – Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines.

*For more information,
contact host Wendy Atkins at
wendy.atkins@oddfellows.co.uk
or call 01437 251 867*

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

Refer a friend today

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



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

Ref 1644

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 Lynne Wyatt on **01473 251867** or email **ipswich.branch@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@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**

Our Branches raised a magnificent £151,000 for charitable causes in 2021!

Congratulations to our Branches and their members for a tremendous fundraising achievement in 2021. Helping struggling communities and those in need is something the Oddfellows has been doing for over two centuries. And despite the pandemic, last year was no exception.

Branches and their members raised over £151,000 to support causes close to their hearts, a figure up on 2020's already significant total of £145,700. Fifth generation Oddfellow, Society historian and South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Branch member, Paul Eyre,



West London Branch

reflects on the tradition of local giving. He said: "For many years, it has been fairly common practice for the Provincial Grand Master of a District to choose a charity to support during their year of office, with funds being raised by raffles, donations or other fundraising activities."

Oddfellows CEO, Jane Nelson, added: "It always astounds me when we look at the collective yearly fundraising figure. The generosity of our members and Branches, especially at such times where household budgets are becoming increasingly tight and unpredictable, is incredible.



South East Lancashire Branch

“I feel immensely proud to represent such a caring bunch of people, those who don’t hesitate to help a neighbour in need.

“For those who receive support, it’s not just about the financial help, it’s knowing that their situation is acknowledged and that there are people out there who care and listen.”



Concord Branch

Fundraising for Ukraine

The Society is collecting donations to support the work the Red Cross is doing in Ukraine. The Red Cross is part of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), which unites 15 member charities who are experts in humanitarian aid and specialists in different areas of disaster response.

In some areas in Ukraine, water, electricity, and phone connectivity have been affected. Many people are taking cover from the shelling in basements and bomb shelters, but are going without the most basic supplies, like food and water.

Any donations will be used to reach people in urgent need, If you would like to contribute,



cheques should be made payable to “The Oddfellows”, and sent to:

**Ukraine Support
The Oddfellows
Oddfellows House
184-186 Deansgate
Manchester, M3 3WB**

The Society has already pledged £10,000 from central Funds in support of this appeal.

Access to expert legal help

From day one of membership, all members have access to the Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme.*

We hope it's something you never have to call on, but if you do it gives you access to the expert help of our appointed solicitors should you need to make a claim for medical negligence, a personal injury, or an employment dispute which is at pre or tribunal stage. It also covers your family members for personal injury and medical negligence cases.

Help with a medical negligence claim

Medical negligence is when a healthcare provider – NHS or private – has failed in their duty to take care of you and you have suffered an injury. This could be, for example, that you've been given a wrong drug, they've made a mistake during a treatment, or failed to diagnose your condition, or made a wrong one.

Matthew Heap, a Solicitor and Partner at CL Medilaw (www.clmedilaw.co.uk), which is one of the Society's approved solicitors, further explained: "Some people get in touch with us and they know the exact point at which they feel they've been failed. For others, it's less clear-cut, but they know that somewhere along the line, the care they've received has fallen short of medically-acceptable standards.

"Knowing how to raise your case, and to be heard, can be daunting when you don't know the process, have the contacts, or legal knowledge.

"But the support that's available through the Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme can help you to get the answers you need and, hopefully, the compensation you deserve."

Who can make a claim?

You can bring the legal action yourself or, as the executor or next of kin, on behalf of someone who has died because of medical negligence, or on behalf of a family member if that person is unable to take action themselves because they don't have capacity.

Oddfellows members and their family can receive Legal Aid Scheme support as long as the accident, incident or issue happened while you were a member and you have remained a member since that time.

You must start your legal claim within three years from the date that you either realised you'd been injured or when the incident occurred. For children, this three-year time limit doesn't start until the child's 18th birthday.

If you're looking to make a claim on behalf of someone close to you because they don't have capacity, such as they're unable to manage their own affairs or have a mental disability, then the three-year time limit doesn't apply, unless they recover from this incapacity.

"Taking legal action for compensation is a way to try and secure the support that you now need and deserve – financial or medical. The Oddfellows and CL Medilaw will have your back every step of the way," added Matthew.

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How to apply for the Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme

The first step is to call the Care and Welfare Helpline for a non-committal conversation. If you wish to move forward, you'll need to fill in an Oddfellows Legal Aid application form. The Care and Welfare Helpline number can be found on your membership card or by calling **0800 028 1810**.

Further information

Read this article in full at:

www.oddfellows.co.uk/news/help-to-make-a-claim-for-medical-negligence

The Oddfellows' Legal Aid Scheme:

www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/legal-aid-scheme

*Terms and conditions apply to all financial benefits. All Oddfellows benefits are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Read the full list of Oddfellows member benefit terms and conditions at www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-fcs or call Membership on 0800 028 1810.

Member-only offers from Unity Mutual

Unity Mutual is the Society's financial services brand and they've created a dedicated section on their website to share special deals and rates that are only available to Oddfellows members.

Unity Mutual's current member-only deal, launched in spring 2022, is a 5 Year Guaranteed Investment Bond with a special fixed rate of 1.75% annual interest, which equates to 9.06% over the full term. It also offers a guaranteed return on your savings and 100% capital protection. The minimum single investment per member is £1,000.

They're only accepting a limited number of applications, however, so this product will be offered to Oddfellows members on a first-come, first-served basis.

*T&Cs apply.



To find out more, or view their full range of savings, investment and protection products, call **0161 214 4628** or go to **www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows**



*To view Unity Mutual's Guaranteed Investment Bond terms and conditions, go to www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows/gib. If you're in any doubt about whether any Unity Mutual product is right for you, it's a good idea to talk to an Independent Financial Advisor (IFA). You can find a local financial advisor by visiting www.unbiased.co.uk. You may need to pay for a financial advisor's help, so make sure you ask them about their fees first.

Ipswich Events Schedule

More events may be added to this programme and members will be notified.
For the Zoom events the Meeting ID is 542 724 7603.

Regular Events

Every Thursday	Activity Morning - Kurling and Boccia	10am
Every Friday	Zoom-In for Fun on Friday	7pm
Every Sunday	Live@5 Weekly Quiz	5pm

May 2022

Tues 3	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Wed 4	Ten Pin Bowling	10am
Mon 9	Monday Lunch Out - The Plough	12.30pm
Tues 10	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Tues 17	Members' Meeting	1.30pm
Mon 23	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Fri 27	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

June

Sun 5	Jubilee Jamboree Afternoon Tea	4pm
Tues 7	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Wed 8	Walk in the Park - Christchurch Park	10.30am
Tues 14	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Mon 20	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Fri 24	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

July

Mon 4	The Green Issue - Recycling and so much more	1.30pm
Tues 5	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Mon 11	Monday Lunch - Fish and Chips	12.30pm
Tues 12	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Wed 13	Walk in the Park - Holywells Park	10.30am

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July

Wed 13	Calling all Oddfellows - You are invited...	1.30pm
Mon 18	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Tues 19	Members' Meeting	1.30pm
Fri 29	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

August

Tues 2	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Sun 7	Sunday Afternoon Tea	4pm
Tues 9	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Fri 19	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am
Mon 22	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Tues 23	Suffolk Women Throughout History	7.15pm

September - Friendship Month

Fri 2	Friendship Month Cream Tea	2pm
Tues 6	Tuesday Together - Scrabble and Other Games!	2pm
Mon 12	Monday Lunch	12.30pm
Tues 13	Busy Fingers Crafts and Chat	10am
Mon 19	Learn to Dance	10.30am
Tues 20	Members' Meeting	1.30pm
Fri 23	Coffee Morning (with a difference!)	10.30am

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  **Oddfellowsipswich**

 **OddfellowsUK**