

January - June 2026



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

# out & about

## Cleveland and Durham Branch



*Joining Humber Wolds to celebrate Friendship Month*



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Holiday



Quiz



Dining Out



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea

# Dear Readers

Welcome to the latest edition of your Out and About



Hello everyone, it is with much sadness that I greet everyone with the news of that David Smith our Provincial Corresponding Secretary passed away suddenly and peacefully at home in late September. I have included his photograph on this page because for several years we have shared and compiled the contents of this magazine together. One of his key words was stability and the Branch in his absence has endeavoured to remain stable.

Those of us that knew David well would testify to his humbleness, his loyalty and his love for Oddfellows and everything it stands for. His personal passion for fundraising knew no bounds he tirelessly

supported many charities: - The Army Benevolent Fund, ENSA concerts, youth choirs and Oddfellows Brass being a particular favourite along with supporting Hartlepool Football team. He would readily agree on many occasions that music enriched his daily life. He was a member of the Hartlepool Male Voice Choir making many new friends and he would always delight at attending theatre shows at every opportunity.

David leaves a huge space in our Oddfellows family, but I know he would want and expect us all to go forward. I invite you to take a moment to remember a happy memory or a funny story and we will look forward to creating new ones together.

On a personal note, I wish to give special thanks to my friends and family for their never-ending support and the entire team at Unity House. I couldn't do it without you all! Stay well, stay safe.

**Kind regards,  
Margaret**



## Food with Friends

**The Raby Arms, Front Street, Hart TS27 3AJ**

6 January                      7 April  
3 February                     5 May  
3 March                         2 June

The food with friends group have moved to a new venue for their monthly lunch. We now meet at 12 noon at The Raby Arms on the first Tuesday of the month. Members, friends and family are welcome. For further details contact Dianne on 07768 073098 before the preceding Sunday.

## Friendly Get Together

**Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW**

29 January                      30 April  
26 February                     28 May  
26 March                         25 June

Welcome to this new event, held on the last Thursday of the month at 12.30pm. It is open to everyone and will be a members choice event. You will have the opportunity to enjoy listening to speakers, play bingo, etc... but mainly to enjoy each others company. Complimentary tea or coffee and light refreshments will be provided. Contact Margaret on 07864 730910.

## Contact Details

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

**District Secretary**  
**Cleveland and Durham**  
To be announced

**Social Secretary**  
Margaret Wells

Clover Cottage  
Palace Row  
Hart Village  
Hartlepool  
TS27 3AY



**Telephone:** 01429 599323  
**Mobile:** 07864 730910

**District Chairman**  
**(Provincial Grand Master):**  
Ian Snowdon  
**Telephone:**  
07769 754764



**Luncheon Club Organisers**  
**Cleveland:** Dianne Clish  
**Telephone:** 07768 073098

**f OddfellowsClevelandDurham**

# Weekly Event

## New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall

🕒 12.30pm

💷 £4



Come and join the fun with a little effort and no skill required, but guaranteed to brighten your day. Includes tea or coffee and biscuits. Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW. Contact Margaret on 01429 599323.

Every Thursday



## 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 Margaret by phone on 01429 599323 or 07864 730910.

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# January 2025

MON  
12

Branch Meeting at Hart Village Hall

L 11am

£ Free



Only the committee meet at 11am. Good Intent Social Branch at 1pm to discuss future social events. District Business Meeting at 1.30pm. All members are welcome to attend. Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW. Contact Margaret on 07864 730910.

# February

THURS  
26

Friendly Get Together with  
Talk on Scamming

L 12.30pm

£ Free



Welcome to this new event. It is open to everyone and will be a members choice event. Eileen Manners has kindly arranged a guest speak from AgeUK, they will be giving advice on how to protect against scams. Anyone can fall victim to a scam. However, older people can be at greater risk of being targeted by scammers. Many scams play on the vulnerabilities of older people. So come and join us for this interesting talk.



Complimentary tea or coffee and light refreshments will be provided. Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW. Contact Margaret on 07864 730910.

## A bit about us...

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

— 25 January —

# BURNS NIGHT

## Burns Night Supper and Dance

**Sunday 25 January, 6.30pm**

Come and join us for a Burns Night celebration. Cost includes a traditional Scottish supper and toast to address the haggis. Dancing to a live Ceilidh band. Black tie, lounge suit optional. Early booking essential, this usually sells out very quickly. Book by Sunday 11 January.

**Cost: Members £20, Guests £23**

*West Hartlepool Rugby  
Football Club,  
Catcote Road,  
Hartlepool  
TS25 4HA*

Call Margaret for more  
information on  
**07864 730910**



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## St Patrick's Night Supper

**Tuesday 17 March, 6pm**

Come and join us for an Irish celebration. Cost to include a supper of Irish stew and Bailey's Irish Cream Cheesecake. Book by Tuesday 3 March.

**Cost: Members £12, Guests £14**

*St Joseph's Church Hall  
St Paul's Road  
Hartlepool  
TS26 9EY.*

Call Margaret for more  
information on  
**07864 730910**



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# March

MON  
09

## Annual General Meeting



2pm



Free



All members are invited to attend to hear a review of 2025 business and to accept the Financial Statements. After completion of business, the Branch Officers for 2026 will be installed followed by buffet. Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW. Contact Margaret on 07864 730910.

# May

MON  
11

## Branch Meeting at Hart Village Hall



11am



Free



Only the committee meet at 11am. Good Intent Social Branch at 1pm to discuss future social events. District Business Meeting at 1.30pm. All members are welcome to attend. Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW. Contact Margaret on 07864 730910.

# June

FRI  
19

## Sunderland Greyhound Racing



6.15pm



£11.95



You are invited to join us for greyhound racing. The ticket cost was correct when going to print but may vary. It includes admission, a pie and peas supper, one promotional drink and a printed race card. Transport will not be provided, but we recommend car sharing as previously discussed at a meeting. Book by Monday 1 June. Sunderland Greyhound Stadium, Newcastle Road, Sunderland SR5 1RP. Contact Margaret on 07864 730910.



## Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman) **Ladies Charity Luncheon**

**Thursday 2 April, 11.30am**

We return to the ever popular venue of the Hardwicke Hall Manor Hotel where we have hosted this event for a number of years. This year's charity will be in aid of Prostate Cancer. The luncheon will have an Easter theme, so dress to impress and fish out your hats ladies to come along and support a worthwhile cause. As always Kane our friendly photographer will be on hand to snap your beautiful outfits and record memories.

Cost will include a three course lunch followed by entertainment from Mea Dean - a local singer. Menu choice including specially dietary requirements, which should be given at the time of booking. Place will be limited to 60 people so book early by Thursday 19 March.

*Hardwicke Hall  
Manor Hotel  
Hesleden Road  
Blackhall Colliery  
Hartlepool  
TS27 4PA*

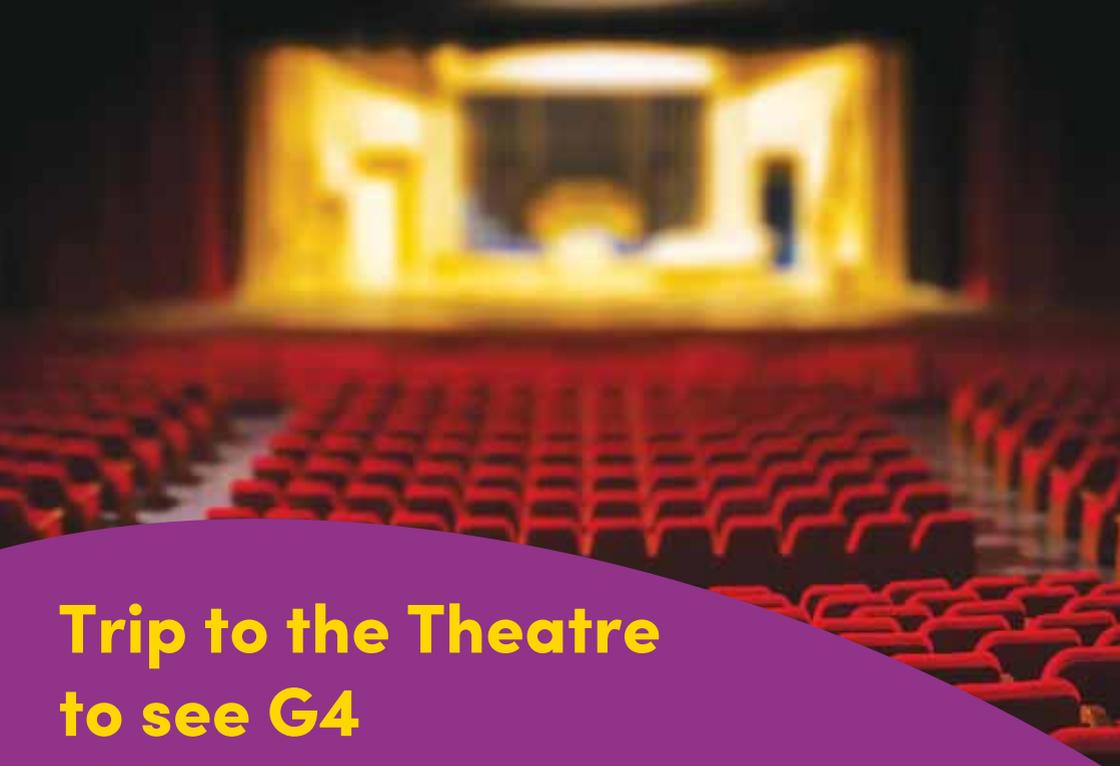
**Cost: £30 including lunch**

**Call Margaret for more  
information on  
07864 730910**



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# Trip to the Theatre to see G4

**Tuesday 12 May, 7.30pm**

This vocally dynamic evening showcases smash-hit songs from the West End and Broadway, brought to you by four of the world's finest voices. Join the guys on a spine-tingling rollercoaster of breathtaking show-tunes, riding the high and lows of uplifting melodies, heart-rending ballads and climactic anthems. Featuring classics from Les Mis, Phantom, South Pacific, Jersey Boys, Dear Evan Hansen, Jesus Christ Superstar, Greatest Showman, Miss Saigon, Chess, Book of Mormon, Lion King, Aspects of Love, We Will Rock You and many more. We have 25 places, so book early to avoid disappointment.

*Billingham Forum Theatre  
Queensway  
Billingham  
Stockton-on-Tees  
TS23 2LJ*

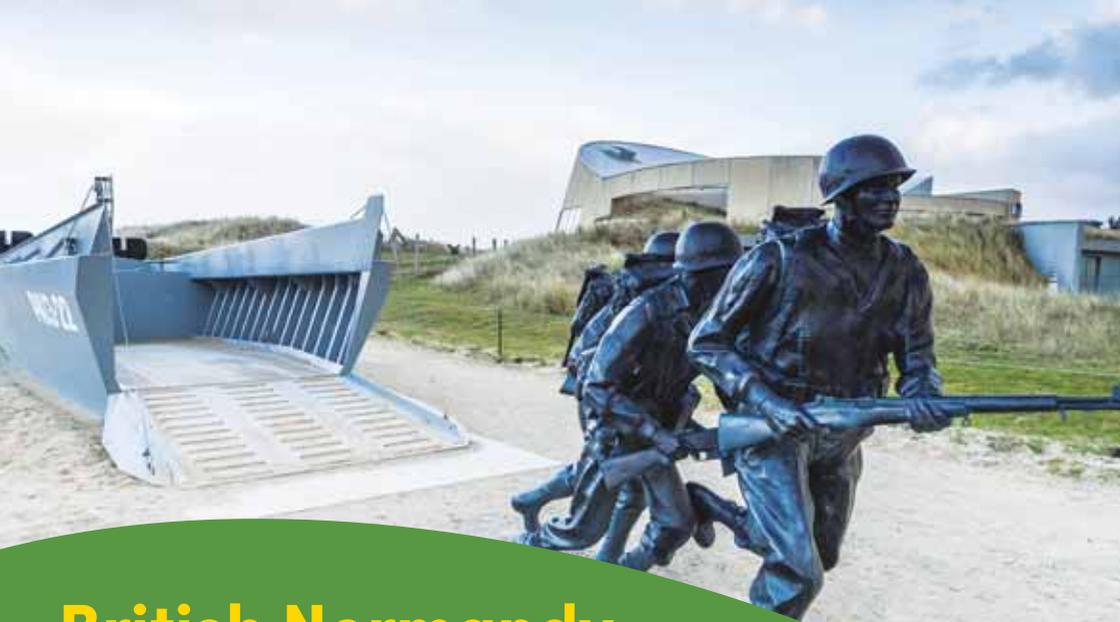
**Cost: £35**

**Call Margaret for more  
information on  
07864 730910**



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# British Normandy Memorial Coach Tour

**Monday 8 June, 8am**

As previously advertised we are taking a trip to Normandy. Anyone still interested we have two double or twin rooms left. No single rooms left.

**Cost: £550 per person**

*Grand Hotel de  
l'Esperance  
16 Boulevard Sainte Anne  
Lisieux  
Calvados  
France  
14100*

Call Margaret for more  
information on  
**07864 730910**



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# 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.

### **Tuesday 3 February, 7pm - 'Being Cheerful' with Nancy Radford**

Register in advance for this meeting at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/)

Or use this link to register directly on Zoom:

<https://tinyurl.com/BeingCheerfulOddfellows>

### **Tuesday 24 February, 7pm - 'Hedgehogs - In Need Of Your Help' and 'Getting Connected' with Stephen Powles**

Register in advance for this meeting at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/)

Or use this link to register directly on Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/HedgehogsOddfellows>

### **Tuesday 17 March, 7pm - 'An Introduction to British Sign Language (BSL)'**

Register in advance for this meeting at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/online-events/)

Or use this link to register directly on Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/BSLOddfellows>

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](mailto: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](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events) or ask me to send you a list by email.

**Margaret**

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



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

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

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

There are lots of great reasons\* to join Young Oddfellows – to find out more, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/young-oddfellows](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/young-oddfellows)

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



**Young  
Oddfellows** SINCE 1810  
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**\*Terms and conditions apply to membership and financial benefits.  
Call 0800 028 1810 for details or visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions)**



## The Charming Cotswolds

**On a bright clear Thursday morning the Oddfellows set off for the Cotswolds. After a good journey with no major hold up we were greeted by the friendly staff of the Blunston House Hotel, where we would stay for the next 4 nights. Once settled in our rooms and after a quick wash and brush up a delicious meal awaited us.**

We woke to a sunny day on Friday as we started our journey with a boat cruise through the Wye Valley, where we sat back and relaxed and let the captain of our ship guide us through the beautiful scenery of limestone gorges and views of the three counties of Gloucestershire Herefordshire and Worcestershire set against a wonderful woodland backdrop.

The next day we went on a trip to Stafford upon Avon a historic market town with the scenic background of the river Avon, best known as the birthplace of William Shakespeare. A small group of us visited the famous playwrights house showing Tudor artefacts many of which are mentioned in his plays and furnishings as they may have looked in 1574. The house also had a small but pretty cottage garden. There was much to experience in this bustling market town with lovely shops, many restaurants and unique local crafts.

No trip in the Cotswolds would be complete without visiting the beautiful city of Bath. On driving there, our coach driver Steve took us past stunning honey coloured Georgian architecture and picturesque villages. On arrival at Bath our trip included entrance to the Roman Baths one of the best preserved remains in the world. We were transported back in time surrounded by beautiful architecture and fascinating history with the interactive displays and audio guide blending history and culture. Some of us also visited Bath Abbey a piece of calm with majestic architecture and beautiful stained glass, there was so much to see and do in this elegant city. The weather was kind to us throughout our trip and remain pleasantly warm Monday arrived too quickly where we had to bid farewell to our lovely hotel which was an ideal place for exploring this beautiful part of England.

Many thanks once again to Margaret for organising this delightful trip made many fond memories and firm friendships.

**Margaret Chappell**

*Picture above: Group picture of Oddfellows in the Cotswolds.*

# Pauline Roberts, Author

**Hello, my name is Pauline,**

Can I introduce you to my book, Stop Whining and Just Get on with it. It describes my life growing up. When I was a baby of about 18 months old, I was a recipient of the Polio Virus. I say recipient rather than the victim because I have never considered myself a victim. We are each given one life and no matter what that entails, we should embrace it and live it as best we can life is precious, and so, what you won't get in my book is the, why me perception. What you will get is a tinge of sadness, some shocks maybe, but mostly a bucket full of humour.

## STOP WHINGING AND JUST GET ON WITH IT



**By  
Pauline  
Roberts**



It shares my journey through a sometimes-difficult life that inspired me to write this book. Its completion has given me

a sense of fulfilment that is far more important to me than the actual sales, it may even inspire some people who find themselves in a similar situation as myself, I do hope so.

As for me, I will continue to enjoy life alongside my adorable doggie called Dolly, she is my constant companion. I intend to keep working in a job that I love, I am a proud member of the Hartlepool Community Choir, and I recently joined the Oddfellows, benefiting from the many social activities that are on offer. Can I also take the opportunity to thank members for the warm welcome I received.

That's it for me. Take care everyone.

**Pauline**



*Pauline and her dog Dolly.*

# Fiendishly Friendly Fun

**We were nervous about coming to our first event, having been members for a year, but we should have had no fears; everyone was so welcoming and friendly, and the colourful costumes and sense of Halloween fun created a magical atmosphere.**

The Halloween quiz was cleverly created to include questions suitable for everyone. My son particularly loved all the horror film references, and the others that our table were brilliant at general knowledge and word play. The people at our table

were delighted to share their experiences of why they had joined the Oddfellows and what they had gained from become a member's. It felt very comfortable and safe to share challenges and life choices.

The food was gorgeous, including a flan and ice cream option [not together], which was great. Although we didn't win the raffle we did win the quiz. It was lovely how much people respected my son and he left with an increased confidence.

**Best wishes,  
Helen Woolley**

## Childhood Cancer Donation

**A cheque presentation was made recently to the Child Neuroblastoma UK charity by David Ison member of Cleveland and Durham Branch. During his year of office as President of the Oddfellows Yorkshire and Adjacent Districts Group Conference the money was raised at various events throughout the year.**



*David Ison (Member of the Cleveland and Durham Branch and Past President of the Yorkshire and Adjacent Districts Group Conference) presenting the cheque to Stephen Smith of Neuroblastoma UK.*

## Words of Inspiration

**Live with intention. Walk to the edge. Listen hard. Practice wellness. Play with abandon. Laugh. Choose with no regret. Appreciate your friends. Continue to learn. Do what you love. Live as if this is all there is.**  
**Mary Anne Radmacher**

# Fond Memories of David Smith



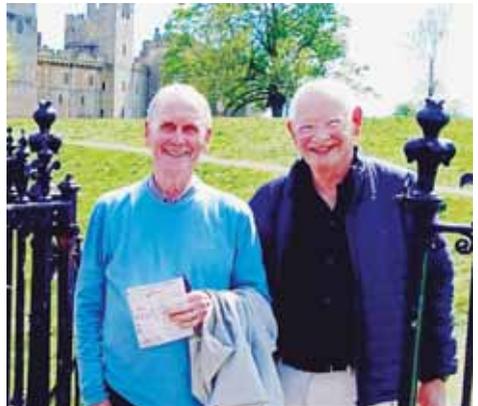
*Annual Movable Conference (AMC) 2024 Scarborough David, Michael, Edith, Ian and Wendy at the Farewell Night.*



*David, Michael and Fiona from Alzheimer's Research UK having lunch.*



*David and his love for ice-cream at Wensleydale.*



*David and Bill at Raby Castle.*



*David helping to raise money doing the raffle for another worthy cause.*



*David on the coach on his way to the Cotswolds.*

# Make the most of your membership



## Your membership provides you with a great range of benefits...

### Standard £25 a year membership\* gives you access to...

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

### £35 a year membership\* provides you with additional benefits of...

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

For more information visit: [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits).

\*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services.

For full details, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions), or call us on 0800 028 1810.

## Unity Mutual: A brand-new website and exciting Oddies member benefits

**Unity Mutual, the financial arm of the Oddfellows, is delighted to have launched a brand-new website.**

The fresh design reflects its updated brand identity, but more importantly, it has been built with accessibility and inclusion at its heart – a continuation of the Oddfellows’ ethos.



Whether looking for information on savings, investments or life insurance, the new site is easier to use, clearer to navigate and designed so that everyone can get the most from it.

Unity Mutual has partnered with Recite Me to introduce a full suite of accessibility tools, allowing visitors to customise their browsing experience. These include a text-to-speech function, styling features and translation options, which ensure their online services are available to all –

including those who may face barriers due to disability, neurodivergence or limited English language ability.

James Gilliver, Chief of Operations at Unity Mutual, explained: “Accessibility is extremely important to us at Unity Mutual. Our new website reflects our promise to inclusivity, ensuring all customers can access information in the way that best meets their needs.”

“But it’s not just about accessibility. We’ve also worked hard to make our content clearer and more engaging, so you can feel confident in understanding your financial choices. Our aim is to empower you and your family to make informed decisions about saving for the future.”

An extra reason to take a look is that Oddfellows members can currently benefit from special Guaranteed Investment Bond rates, available exclusively through Unity Mutual.

**To see the new website, its new accessibility features and for more information about its products and rates, go to [www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows](http://www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows), and discover how Unity Mutual can help build a brighter financial future.**

# Thank you for saying 'yes' to friendship

**This Friendship Month, we've been encouraging people to say 'yes' to trying new things, making new friends, and discovering all the brilliant things happening at our Branches throughout the nation.**

It's safe to say, September 2025 has been another fabulous celebration of friendship. The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Friendship Month 2025 has once again demonstrated what the Oddfellows is all about, and I'm thankful of every single

person up and down the country who had been a part of it."

"Saying 'yes' to trying new things can be daunting, but you've all done an excellent job of showing how positive it is to be a part of friendship groups like ours. So, thank you for saying 'yes' to helping make your Friendship Month events a success, whether that's organising events, serving cups of tea, or simply making people feel welcome and comfortable. It all adds up to another wonderful Friendship Month."



*Birmingham Oddfellows*



*Bradford Oddfellows*



*Brighouse and Huddersfield Oddfellows*



*Albert Oddfellows*



*Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows*



*Cambridge Oddfellows*



*Heart of the West Oddfellows*



*Concord Oddfellows*



*Halifax Oddfellows*



*Sudbury Oddfellows*

# Application deadlines approach!

**Whether it's enhancing careers or highlighting fantastic people, the Oddfellows has a number of ways we can give our members a boost – but we can only do so if we hear about them.**

Deadlines for applications to be submitted for two of our wonderful schemes are fast approaching – the Apprenticeship Educational Award and the Making a Difference Awards.

## Apprenticeship Educational Awards



Each year, the Oddfellows grants up to three Apprenticeship Educational Awards, which consist of £250 per year for the duration of the apprenticeship.\*

Eligible members must apply via their Branch. If you, or someone you know, has been an Oddfellows member for five or more years, which includes Young Oddfellows membership, and started or plan to start an apprenticeship in 2025, get in touch with your Branch Secretary.

The Branch's deadline for submitting applications for consideration is **Wednesday 31 December 2025**.

\*Each case is reviewed on personal merit. For previous recipients' stories, details on eligibility and how to apply, visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards)

## Making a Difference Awards



Want to shine a light on those special people at your Branch who go above and beyond? Every Branch has them, so make sure we hear about their brilliance.

Any member can nominate a fellow member, so if there are people at your Branch who make a difference, speak to your Branch Secretary to find out how you can nominate them.

The deadline for Branches to submit their shortlist is **Saturday 31 January 2026**, so get your nominations in as soon as possible so they can be considered.

To find out more about our Making a Difference Awards, the categories, nomination process and the prior winners, go to [www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference)

**If you've missed these deadlines this time don't worry, just make a note for next year!**

# Eagle-Eye Quiz

Why do you have a go at winning £25 in Marks & Spencer vouchers\* in our Eagle-Eye Quiz? All you need to do is find the answers to our eight questions below, which can be found throughout this newsletter. So, get reading and spotting!



Send your answers, along with the name, address, and contact number to [diane.clish@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:diane.clish@oddfellows.co.uk) by Saturday 28 February 2026. You can also enter by post: Margaret Wells, Clover Cottage, 3 Palace Row, Hart, Hartlepool TS27 3AY. The competition is open to Cleveland and Durham Oddfellows members only. Good Luck!

## Questions

1. What date is the Ladies Day Luncheon?
2. What charity will we support?
3. Who wrote a true story of her life?
4. Where will St Patrick's Supper be held?
5. What theatre is G4 coming to?
6. What is the prize for winning the quiz?
7. What is traditional meal on Burn's Night?
8. What subject is our first guest speaker going to talk to us about?

## \*Competition Terms and Conditions

- Entry to the competition is automatic on submission of the required information. We will not share your details with any other party. Only one entry per person. No cash alternative is available. The competition is managed and fulfilled by Cleveland and Durham Oddfellows Branch (the promoter), Clover Cottage, 3 Palace Row, Hart, Hartlepool TS27 3AY.
- The competition will close on Saturday 28 February at 23.59 hours. The draw will take place shortly afterwards.
- The winner will be notified by email or phone within four weeks of the close of the competition. The promoter, on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, will provide details of the winning entry.
- The promoter has the right to publicly disclose the name of the winner. The decision of the promoter on any matter relating to these rules shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

# Meet your Cleveland and Durham

## Care and Welfare Team

The Oddfellows looking after you  
Care, Advice and Support



**We would like to introduce you to our friendly Welfare Visitor team who are here to help you.**



Margaret Wells

Have you been unwell or in hospital, or find it difficult to get out to Oddfellows meetings and would like a visit for a cup of tea and a chat?

Are you living on your own and would like someone to keep in touch through a chat on the phone?

Or do you just need a friendly 'listening ear' to offer a bit of support in a difficult situation?

You may just want to ask a simple question about any help available to you through the Oddfellows. Whatever your situation, our care and welfare team are here to do what they can to help – or to point you in the right direction – so do get in touch!

*All our Welfare Visitors receive induction training and ongoing support, as well as regular care and welfare information updates. They undergo screening appropriate to their role and carry a photo ID badge, so you can be reassured about who they are when they visit.*

To arrange for a Welfare Visitor to contact you, or for local help and information about Branch benefits or benevolence support, please ring Margaret Wells on **01429 599323**.

# National Oddfellows Helplines

As well as the help available at your local Branch, you can also contact our free, confidential national helplines.

## Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line\*



**Call 0800 0149 821**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)



**Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm**

**Email: [oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk](mailto:oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk)**

Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on areas such as welfare benefits, money and debt, consumer problems, housing, and employment issues.

*Citizens Advice is an independent advice agency and is solely responsible for all advice provided.*

## 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](mailto:care@oddfellows.co.uk)**

Run by the Oddfellows Care and Welfare Department, members 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.

Our Oddfellows care, advice, support services and benefits\* are available to all members from day one, except the convalescence and carer benefits which are available after two years of membership. If you would like more information ask your Branch Secretary for a copy of our 'Looking After You' Care, Advice and Support booklet or visit our website page at

**[www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care/)**

# Branch Meetings

The Committee of Management Meetings are held at 11am followed by the Good Intent Social Branch at 1pm to discuss future Social Events. This is followed by the District Business Meeting at 1.30pm. All members are invited to attend the Good Intent Branch and the District Business Meeting.

## Monday 12 January, 11am

Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW

## Monday 9 March - Annual General Meeting, 2pm

Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW

## Monday 11 May, 11am

Hart Village Hall, Front Street, Hart Village, Hartlepool TS27 3AW

# 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.

# Join the conversation @ OddfellowsUK

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

[OddfellowsClevelandDurham](#)



# 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. We'd love to hear anything heart-warming, humorous, or simply very interesting!

# At a glance

## January 2026

<b>Tues 6</b>	Food with Friends at The Raby Arms	12 noon
<b>Thurs 8</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Mon 12</b>	Branch Meeting at Hart Village Hall	11am
<b>Thurs 15</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 22</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Sun 25</b>	Burns Night Supper and Dance	6.30pm
<b>Thurs 29</b>	Friendly Get Together	12.30pm

## February

<b>Tues 3</b>	Food with Friends at The Raby Arms	12 noon
<b>Thurs 5</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 12</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 19</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 26</b>	Friendly Get Together with Talk on Scamming	12.30pm

## March

<b>Tues 3</b>	Food with Friends at The Raby Arms	12 noon
<b>Thurs 5</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Mon 9</b>	Annual General Meeting	2pm
<b>Thurs 12</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Tues 17</b>	St Patrick Night Supper at St Joseph's	6pm
<b>Thurs 19</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 26</b>	Friendly Get Together	12.30pm

## April

<b>Thurs 2</b>	Provincial Grand Master's Ladies Charity Luncheon	11.30am
<b>Tues 7</b>	Food with Friends at The Raby Arms	12 noon
<b>Thurs 9</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm

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

# At a glance

## April

<b>Thurs 16</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 23</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 30</b>	Friendly Get Together	12.30pm

## May

<b>Tues 5</b>	Food with Friends at The Raby Arms	12 noon
<b>Thurs 7</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Mon 11</b>	Branch Meeting at Hart Village Hall	11am
<b>Tues 12</b>	Trip to the Theatre - G4 at Billingham Forum	7.30pm
<b>Thurs 14</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 21</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 28</b>	Friendly Get Together	12.30pm

## June

<b>Tues 2</b>	Food with Friends at The Raby Arms	12 noon
<b>Thurs 4</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Mon 8</b>	British Normandy Memorial Coach Tour	8am
<b>Thurs 11</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Thurs 18</b>	New Age Indoor Kurling at Hart Village Hall	12.30pm
<b>Fri 19</b>	Sunderland Greyhound Racing	6.15pm
<b>Thurs 25</b>	Friendly Get Together	12.30pm

Learn, have fun, and stay  
in touch from home

We've online events for all to enjoy.  
Give one a try.



To see what's coming up visit [www.oddfellows.co.uk/events](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/events)

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