

August – October 2025
Issue 33



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

out & about

Combermere Branch

Making friends across Manchester, Stockport, Glossop, Leigh and Bolton



Online



Music/
Concert



Travel



Films



Crafts



Health/
Wellbeing



Social



Food and Drink



Quizzes



History



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



September is Friendship Month. For more details see middle pages.

Hello and welcome to our latest Out and About Diary and hope you will enjoy some of the many events we have planned

Finally after over 12 months of advertising we have a Social Organiser Jane Sadler join us who will be working across the District 12 hours a week. I am sure you will all give her a warm welcome. Please remember

when booking on events please contact the named person against the event, by our preferred method of either email or text. Early booking would be appreciated as some events have limited availability.

Ideas will be most welcome for the festive period, from Christmas Lunches to a Christmas Market the choice is yours, please get in touch.

**In Friendship,
Sarah**

Hello!

In the last diary we asked for applications to be submitted to the committee for sponsorship of a local community project, sponsorship will be up to a maximum of £500! To date no applications have been received, and I wish to remind you the deadline is 31 August 2025. In order to qualify for the sponsorship, the project must be within the Branch's boundaries, and it must be clear that the Combermere Branch

has provided sponsorship of project, this can be anything from a sports team kit to a community garden!

Finally, there will be some changes for me in September, and you can read all about it in the news and views section of this diary.

**Many thanks
Pam**

Contact Details

Combermere Branch

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Ray Howard - Leigh and Bolton



Regular Monthly Meeting Places

Bolton

First Monday of the month

Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over
Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ at 11am

Glossop

First Tuesday of the month

Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road,
Glossop SK13 7PU at 11.30am

Please can you contact the Golf
Club directly for catering purposes
if you wish to stay for lunch
01457 856247

Leigh

Third Tuesday of the month

Cucina, 198 Chapel Street,
Leigh WN7 2DW at 11am

Manchester

Second Wednesday of the month

Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street,
Northern Quarter, Manchester
M4 1NA at 1pm

Stockport

First Thursday of the month

Cheadle Hulme Conservative
Club, Mellor Road,
Cheadle Hulme
SK8 5AT at 7pm

Weekly Online Events

Chi Gung and Meditation



Every Monday

Join Graeme for Chi Gung and Meditation. Chi Gung is a set of standing exercises and gentle slow flowing movements that can help with muscle strength, balance, flexibility and cognitive function.

The session will last approximately 45 minutes and finishes off with meditation. You will need a chair and space to stand and stretch and will also have time at the end to ask questions. It starts at 2pm but you will not be able to join after 2.05pm as the class will have started.



Zoom Meeting ID: 824 6194 4085.

Tai Chi with Graeme



Every Wednesday

Join Graeme for Tai Chi. Originally developed for self-defence, Tai Chi has evolved into a graceful form of exercise that's now used for stress reduction and a variety of other health conditions. Often described as meditation in motion, it promotes serenity through gentle flowing movements.

The class will last approximately 45 minutes, please wear comfortable clothes.



Please note the new meeting ID and passcode. Zoom Meeting ID: 889 0330 1327
Password: 331259.

For further details for any of these events call Sarah on 07873 581975.

August 2025

FRI
01

Live at Lunchtime - The Bridgewater Hall



12.45pm



Free



Meeting in the foyer of the Bridgewater at 12.30pm for this free lunchtime concert which finishes at 1.30pm. The Instituto Cervantes Manchester in collaboration with the Iberian and Latin American Music Society presents the concert 'Mujeres' featuring the celebrated soprano Lorena Paz Nieto and the pianist Helen Glaisher-Hernandez in an unique occasion to enjoy the compelling voices of Ibero-American women composers, spanning three centuries across the Latin world. Book by Monday 28 July. The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Moseley Street, Manchester M2 3WS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

MON
04

Social Morning - Bolton



11am



Free



Meeting for our monthly social, we can catch up over tea or coffee with the first one being complimentary and have lunch later if you wish. At the regular socials we discuss what events are being held across our District, booking on them and ideas to go in future diaries etc. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



TUES
05

Social Morning - Glossop



11.30am



Free



Join us for our monthly social morning where we can catch up with other members to discuss events across the District, book on them and what we would like to see in the diary next time. If the golf club is not too busy with golfers staying for lunch, we maybe able to stay and have a bite to eat. Meeting at Glossop Golf Club set amid the rolling hills of the Peak District the tea or coffee is complimentary and is open to non-members to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

August 2025

WED
06

Titanic Exhibition



2pm



£23



The Titanic Exhibition is a travelling exhibition about the RMS Titanic, featuring a variety of displays, artifacts, and recreations taking through Titanic's journey, from its construction to its sinking and recovery.



The collection features original and replica artifacts, including items from the wreck site and the Harland and Wolff shipyard. There is a 360 immersive experience with projection, interactive stories and virtual reality, with passenger stories and more. We only have a limited number of tickets for this event so please ask about availability as soon as you get the next diary and if unsuccessful we will endeavour to obtain tickets for another date. Meeting in the foyer at 1.45pm. Book by Monday 28 July. Exchange Hall, Manchester Central, Windmill Street, Manchester M2 3GX. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
07

Social Evening - Stockport



7pm



Free



Join us for our monthly social and enjoy complimentary tea, coffee whilst looking at events across the district to book on and ideas for ones to go in the next diary. There is a bar at the venue and the evening finishes around 9pm and non-members are most welcome to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AT. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI
08

Let's Lunch - Green Lane Chippy



12.30pm



As per menu



It's Friday and fish and chips are on the menu at the 'best chippy in the UK' as voted by the Good Food Award. Book by Monday 4 August. Green Lane Chippy, 507-509 Holden Road, Leigh WN7 2JJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



August 2025

SAT 09 Saturday Special - Buxton Opera House

 2.30pm

 Concession £34



The Pirates of Penzance is filled with witty dialogue, catchy melodies and whimsical characters.



It tells the tale of Frederic, a young pirate apprentice, and his adventure with a band of tender-hearted pirates, a spirited heroine and a eccentric Major-General. This much loved favourite offers humour, romance and dazzling musical entertainment. Please Note: As tickets may sell out very quickly for the matinee performance, we will endeavour to obtain tickets for another show. Buxton Opera House, Pavilion Gardens, Water Street SK17 6XN. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

TUES 12 Let's Lunch - Ciao Napoli

 1pm

 Two courses
£16.95



Relaxed modern restaurant with a Mediterranean-inspired menu including pizza options with a lunchtime special of two courses £16.95 plus coffee. Book by Friday 1 August. Ciao Napoli, 11 Mawdsley Street, Bolton BL1 1JN. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

WED 13 Social Afternoon - Manchester

 1pm

 Free



Please join us for our monthly social in the heart of the Northern Quarter in Manchester. Catch up with old friends and make new friends over complimentary tea, coffee and cake. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS 14 Out and About - Elizabeth Gaskell's House

 11.30am

 £8.50



This historic house and museum celebrates the life and literature of Elizabeth Gaskell, one of the UK's



most important Victorian writers. The restored former home of the famous author features period rooms, garden, tea room and bookshop. Meeting in the tea room we can look around this wonderful house and return for refreshments later. Payment can be made online direct to the venue. Payment on the door is by card only. Elizabeth Gaskell House, 84 Plymouth Grove, Manchester M13 9LW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

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August 2025

FRI
15

Foodie Friday - Tallow Bar and Grill



The menu here is a testament to local tradition and culinary passion with every dish crafted from the finest locally sourced ingredients. Book by Tuesday 5 August. Tallow, 12a Norfolk Street, Glossop SK13 8BS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SUN
17

Sunday Special - Street Art/Graffiti Walk



Manchester is known for many things, but one visitors and locals alike are always



surprised and delighted by is the fantastic array of street art we have adorning the sides of the buildings. One area that is particularly popular for artists in need of a canvas is the Northern Quarter, with official plots in the trendy neighbourhood being highly sought after. Meeting downstairs at the Terrace where we will start our tour. Book by Monday 11 August. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

TUES
19

Social Morning - Leigh



Join us at this family run coffee shop to meet like-minded semi-retired and retired people over a tea or coffee with the first one complimentary. We can discuss events in the diary and book on them and share ideas for future events. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Cucina, 198, Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2DW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

WED
20

Dine Around - Rozafa



Serving traditional Greek and Cypriot cuisine, Rozafa brings a touch of Greece to Manchester City Centre. Book by Wednesday 13 August. Rozafa, 63 Princess Street, Manchester M2 4EW. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



August 2025

THURS
21

Coffee Morning - The Vinery

 11am

 As per menu



In a beautiful setting we can meet for a coffee and catch up in this friendly café set in the heart of Bruntwood Park. Afterwards, weather permitting, we can have a leisurely stroll round the park. Book by Thursday 7 August. The Vinery, Bruntwood Park, Cheadle SK8 1HX. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI
22

Let's Lunch - Curley's

 12.30pm

 As per menu



Let's lunch at Curley's, where we are always assured a warm welcome, great service and fantastic food. Book by Monday 4 August. Curley's Dining Rooms, Wallsuches, Horwich BL6 6PP. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

TUES
26

Dine Around - The Italian

 6pm

 Two courses
£17.95



Always very popular with members this authentic Italian restaurant has great food with friendly service and its mid week special of two courses for £17.95 is great value. Book by Tuesday 5 August. The Italian, 110 High Street West, Glossop SK13 8AL. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED
27

Coffee Morning - Daisy Doodahs

 11am

 As per menu



A popular friendly café with great refreshments and good service. Book by Wednesday 13 August. Daisy Doodahs, 216 Sandy Lane, Droylsden, Manchester M43 7JX. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS
28

The Plaza - A Taste of Honey

 11am

 £8.25



This iconic 60s film, winning a Golden Globe Award is set in Salford and tells the story of Jo a working class schoolgirl and her mother Helen and starred Rita Tushingham, Melvin Murray and Dora Bryan. Meeting at the theatre at 10.45am. Book by Thursday 28 August. The Plaza, Mersey Square, Stockport, Cheshire SK1 1SP. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



Image The Plaza, Mersey Square by Stephen Armstrong
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August 2025

FRI **29** **Out and About -** **Millennium Walkway**



The Millennium Walkway located in New Mills provides a route through the previously impassable gritstone gorge at Torrs, which is an area of exceptional natural beauty and unique industrial archaeological heritage. Meeting in the nearby Torr Top Street Car Park. Book by Monday 25 August. Torr Top Street Car Park, New Mills, High Peak SK2 4BS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SUN **31** **Sunday Special -** **Treacle Market**



Treacle Market founded in 1988 and set in the town of Macclesfield is the biggest monthly event in the North West consisting of over 200 stalls offering all kind of wares from clothing and crafts, to plants, food, books and much more. The train station is a five minute walk away and car parks nearby. A meeting place will be arranged at the socials and Sarah will confirm where when members book on event. Book by Thursday 7 August. Treacle Market SK10 1EA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

September

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



MON **01** **Social Morning - Bolton**



Meeting for our monthly social we can catch up over a tea or coffee with the first one being complimentary and have lunch later if you wish. At the regular socials we discuss what events are being held across our District, booking on them and ideas to go in future diaries etc. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

**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

September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES 02 Social Morning - Glossop



11.30am



Free



Join us for our monthly social morning where we can catch up with other members to discuss events across the District, book on them and what we would like to see in the diary next time. If the golf club is not too busy with golfers staying for lunch, we maybe able to stay and have a bite to eat. Meeting at Glossop Golf Club set amid the rolling hills of the Peak District the tea or coffee is complimentary and is open to non-members to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED 03 Out and About - Liverpool



11am



Travel Costs



Meeting at Victoria Station, we can take the train to the Liverpool a city everyone can enjoy. With numerous art galleries, shops, Albert Docks, great eateries and so much more. We are guaranteed a great day out. Book by Monday 25 August. Victoria Station, Manchester M3 1NY. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



THURS 04 Social Evening - Stockport



7pm



Free



Join us for our monthly social and enjoy complimentary tea, coffee whilst looking at events across the District to book on and ideas for ones to go in the next diary. There is a bar at the venue and the evening finishes around 9pm and non-members are most welcome to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AT. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI 05 Friendship Month - Twentymans



12.30pm



Free



Our annual Friendship Month event sees us returning to Twentymans, where we were so well looked after last year. Celebrating everything joining the Oddfellows has to offer, members bringing along a non-member will both have a complimentary pizza and drink. Please book on early as places are limited by Monday 25 August. Twentymans, 117 Bradshawgate, Leigh WN7 4ND. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.





MON
08

Mindful Crafting - Gorton Monastery



10.30am



Free



This class is housed in the magnificent High Victorian Gothic style monastery built between 1863 and 1872 by Franciscan monks, which is well worth a visit. If you have any unfinished projects lying around or ideas for a new one, this informal crafts group meets twice a week, if you wish to continue in the future. No previous experience needed, the session is led by inspiring Manchester art teachers Louise Withers and Jane Telford. Release your inner artist, explore creativity and let your imagination go wild, you will need to bring your own project as materials are not supplied. The event is on between 10.30am to 2.30pm and you can turn up anytime. The café will be open for refreshments. Book by Thursday 4 September. Gorton Monastery, 89 Gorton Lane, Gorton, Manchester M12 5WF. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



TUES
09

Friendship Month - Windy Harbour



12.30pm



Free



Celebrating everything the Oddfellows has to offer in the beautiful setting of Windy Harbour, members bringing along a non-member will both have a complimentary lunch with drinks to be purchased by guests. Book by Tuesday 2 September. Windy Harbour, Woodhead Road, Padfield, Glossop SK13 7QE. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



WED
10

Social Afternoon - Manchester



1pm



Free



Please join us for our monthly social in the heart of the Northern Quarter in Manchester. Catch up with old friends and make new friends over complimentary tea, coffee and cake. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

September

ODDFELLOWS

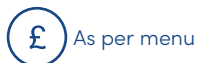
FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS
11

Coffee Morning - Abney Hall Café



With seating outside and quirky interior there are reasonably priced refreshments and a licensed bar at this community hub for locals and visitors. Set down a narrow road in the heart of Cheadle with a small car park there is plenty of green space for walking and dogs. Book by Monday 1 September. Abney Hall Café, Newlands House, Newland Road, Cheadle SK8 2BD. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI
12

Live at Lunchtime - The Bridgewater Hall



Meeting in the foyer at 12.30pm for this free lunch time concert which finishes at 1.30pm. Featuring the Duo Gimeno-Sanchis with the soprano Aida Gimeno Garcia and the pianist Carlos Sanchis Aguirre with a selection of Spanish repertoire that includes some of the most iconic romanzas from Spain's lyrical heritage. Book by Monday 1 September. The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Moseley Street, Manchester M2 3WS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



SAT
13

Friendship Month Extravaganza



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Join the fun

This year our annual Friendship Month extravaganza celebrating everything the Oddfellows has to offer will be held at the Guildhall, Stockport. There should be something for everyone with various stalls, fashion show, demos, magic show and more. Free tea or coffee with assortment of cakes and everyone is welcome family, friends and non-members. The event will finish at 3.30pm. There is free parking at the rear of the building, bus stop outside and Stockport Train Station an eight minute walk away. Book by Monday 8 September. Stockport Masonic Guildhall, 169-171 Wellington Road South, Stockport SK1 3UA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

September

ODDFELLOWS

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



TUES

16

Social Morning - Leigh



Join us at this family run coffee shop to meet like-minded semi-retired and retired people over a tea or coffee with the first one complimentary. We can discuss events in the diary and book on them and share ideas for future events. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Cucina, 198, Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2DW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

WED

17

Friendship Month Cloud 23



Visiting the iconic Cloud 23 bar and restaurant housed in the 47 storey Beetham Tower, we will have our own private space to enjoy a cocktail whilst taking in the great views of our magnificent city. Celebrating everything the Oddfellows has to offer, members bringing along a non-member will both get a free cocktail or mocktail. Food will be available to purchase and if you wish to have afternoon tea please let us know as it has to be pre-booked. Book by Wednesday 10 September. Cloud 23, Beetham Tower, 303 Deansgate, Manchester M3 4LQ. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



THURS

18

Friendship Month Last Drop



We have the pleasure of inviting you to this award winning venue in a wonderful setting nestled on the edge of the West Pennine Moors, rooted in history and rich in character. Members bringing a non-member will both have a complimentary cream tea whilst finding out more about everything the Oddfellows has to offer. Book by Monday 1 September. The Last Drop Village Hotel and Spa, Hospital Road, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9PZ. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Invite a friend

FRI

19

Foodie Friday - The Two Hares



The Two Hares is a cute, independent brunch space during the day and an upscale atmospheric dining venue in the evening with great food and service. Book by Tuesday 2 September. The Two Hares, 3 High Street East, Glossop SK13 8DA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

MON
22

Andy Powell Monday Matinee - The Plaza



1pm



£11



We have been eagerly awaiting the return of this event as we had such a great time a couple of years ago. This is an unforgettable afternoon of music and laughter with an extravaganza of variety and live entertainment from some of the UK'S finest performers hosted by legendary comedian Justin Moorhouse. Meeting in the Berretto lounge at Redrock which has a large car park from 11.30am you can have brunch before the event or just meet at 12.30pm to walk the five minutes to the Plaza. Book by Thursday 7 August. Berretto Lounge, Redrock, Bridgefield Street, Stockport SK1 1SA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

TUES
23

Dine Around - Chennai Indian



6pm



As per menu



Chennai beckons you to savour the highest quality produce and fresh seasonal ingredients from all corners of South East



Asia. The chefs possess a vast wealth of experience and knowledge that they combine with natural flair whilst daring to be different. Book by Monday 1 September. Chennai Indian Restaurant, 384 Warrington Road, Glazebury, Warrington WA3 5NX. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

WED
24

Dine Around - Members Choice



6pm



As per menu



With so much choice in the heart of Manchester for dining options, this month the members can pick where they would like to eat. We can discuss at the social in Manchester in August and if you are not attending please email Sarah with your ideas, so they can be put to the vote on Wednesday 13 August. Venue to be confirmed. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS
25

Dine Around - Red Lion



This large and welcoming community pub serves fantastic food and drinks and is firm favourite in Cheadle just outside the village. The snugs and fireplaces make it cosy and inviting whilst the open plan dining areas give light and space. Red Lion, 83 Stockport Road, Cheadle SK8 2AJ. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SUN
28

Sunday Special - Goose and Gander



Is there anything better than indulging in a roast dinner at a cosy pub on a Sunday and we can enjoy one at the Goose and Gander rated the second best place for one in Bolton. Book by Tuesday 2 September. The Goose & Gander, 38 Little Scotland, Blackrod, Bolton BL6 5LW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

TUES
30

Out and About - Cascade Gardens



Cascade Gardens is a public Meditation Garden and Bonsai Centre inspired by Japanese gardens and Buddhist Philosophy with over 30 years of development by the owner Alan Clement and with many features including the 'Karensanui' raked gravel garden, Japanese water garden and 80ft cliff, which towers over the lush natural planting it really is a wonderful place to visit.



Located in the historic village of Bonsall near Matlock it is a peaceful and natural garden to visit, with home-made cakes and hot drinks available in their café. Meeting in our regular place to car share at Pyegrove Road or you can make your own way to the gardens. Please confirm when booking which you prefer. Book by Tuesday 2 September. The Cascades, Clatterway, Bonsall, Matlock DE4 2AH. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

October

WED

01

Let's Lunch - Stocco



12.30pm



As per menu



This popular Italian restaurant is a five minutes walk from a tram stop and has free parking at the rear. With contemporary Italian inspired interior it serves a wide range of fantastic quality food. Book by Wednesday 10 September. Stocco Italian Restaurant, 125 Yorkshire Street, Oldham OL1 3TQ. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS

02

Social Evening - Stockport



7pm



Free



Join us for our monthly social and enjoy complimentary tea or coffee and this month its members who bring the cake. Do we have any bakers out there? Whether its a victoria sponge, cup cakes or brownies or maybe biscuits, you do not need to bring the whole batch for tasting and there will be a prize for the winner. Cheadle Hulme Conservative Club, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AT. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



SAT

04

Saturday Special - Secrets of Didsbury Walk



10am



£20



From love stories to notorious murderers and eccentric alderman, learn about Didsbury's fascinating story. There will be splendid buildings, great stories and beautiful gardens as well. Starting at the library and finishing at Fletcher Moss or the towers, the tour will last approximately 90 minutes. Book by Thursday 4 September. Didsbury Library, 692 Wilmslow Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 2DN. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

MON

06

Social Morning - Bolton



11am



Free



Meeting for our monthly social we can catch up over a tea or coffee with the first one being complimentary and have lunch later if you wish. At the regular socials we discuss what events are being held across our District, booking on them and ideas to go in future diaries etc. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Red Lion, 1-3 Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton BL5 1BJ. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

October



TUES 07 Social Morning - Glossop

 11.30am  Free



Join us for our monthly social morning where we can catch up with other members to discuss events across the District, book on them and what we would like to see in the diary next time. If the golf club is not too busy with golfers staying for lunch, we maybe able to stay and have a bite to eat. Meeting at Glossop Golf Club set amid the rolling hills of the Peak District the tea and coffee is complimentary and is open to non-members to join us to find out more about Oddfellows. Glossop Golf Club, Sheffield Road, Derbyshire SK13 7PU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

WED 08 Social Afternoon and Cake Competition - Manchester

 1pm  Free



Please join us for our monthly social in the heart of the Northern Quarter in Manchester. Catch up with old friends, make new friends over complimentary tea or coffee and this month its members who bring the cake. Do we have any bakers out there? Whether its a Victoria Sponge, cup cakes or brownies or maybe biscuits, you do not need to bring the whole batch for tasting, and there will be a prize for the winner. Terrace NQ, 43 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

THURS 09 Let's Lunch - The Ladybrook

 12.30pm  £6.95/
£7.95



Spacious, friendly mock-Tudor neighbourhood pub serving a great specials lunch menu at £6.95 for two courses and £7.95 for three courses. Book by Thursday 2 October. The Ladybrook, Fir Road, Bramhall, Cheshire SK7 2NP. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI 10 Billy's Brunch - Leigh

 11.30am  As per
menu



This Manchester Road Café also known as Billy's when it opens at night has the most fantastic food at great prices. Whether you want just a snack or a full English you will not be disappointed at this popular venue. Book by Monday 29 September. Manchester Road Café, 416 Manchester Road, Leigh WN7 2NP. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



October

SUN **12** **Out and About -** **Bolsover Castle**



The creation of a horse-mad Cavalier playboy, Bolsover Castle is something special. Discover the playful Little Castle with its star chamber and marble closet set with striking replica furnishings. You can explore the whole building, from its basement kitchen to its top-floor bedchambers. Outside stroll around the Fountain Garden, designed around a statue of Venus and with William Cavendish's passion for training horses this is reflected in the immense indoor riding house and great stables. There is a tea room for refreshments and parking if travelling directly to venue. For car share we will meet at our regular meeting point at Pyegrove Road at 11am. Book by Tuesday 7 October. Glossop Tennis Courts, Pyegrove Road, Glossop SK13 8QS. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



TUES **14** **Let's Lunch -** **The Cherry Tree**



This very popular restaurant is always a hit with members with great food and service and lunch time specials of two courses at £20.95 and three courses £25.95. Book by Tuesday 16 September. The Cherry Tree, Chorley Road, Blackrod, Bolton BL6 5LA. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

WED **15** **Out and About -** **The Lowry**



Meeting in the foyer of the Lowry Theatre we can make our way upstairs to the new Lowry 360 experience, this permanent installation gives you a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of LS Lowry's iconic work 'Going to the Match' there is also two other galleries of his work. Afterwards, the Harvester Restaurant in the Lowry Outlet opposite is great value for money with a fantastic salad bar free with all meals. There is a large car park and tram stops nearby. You may wish to only meet for lunch at 12.30pm or just visit the gallery or attend both please confirm on booking. Book by Wednesday 8 October. The Lowry, Pier 8, Salford Quays, Manchester M50 3AZ. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

October

THURS
16

Create It Pottery Studio - Cheadle



2pm



Cost of Item



This vibrant pottery painting studio with a range of items to choose from and help from staff, you can find you inner artist and create something unique for yourself or as a gift. Book by Thursday 2 October. Create It - Cheadle, 37 Wilmslow Road, Cheadle SK8 1DR. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

FRI
17

Foodie Friday - Sasso



7pm



As per menu



Indulge in authentic Italian flavours at Sasso in the heart of Disley in a charming and welcoming restaurant. Book by Tuesday 2 September. Sasso, 7 Market Street, Disley SK12 2AA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

SUN
19

Members Choice - Leigh



1pm



Free



This is a members choice event to be discussed at the socials. Do you fancy a walk locally or a trip to some historic Hall, maybe just a good hearty traditional Sunday lunch, you choose and a vote maybe needed but one thing is guaranteed you will have a great day out whatever you decide. Location to be confirmed. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.



TUES
21

Social Morning - Leigh



11am



Free



Join us at this family run coffee shop to meet like-minded semi-retired and retired people over a tea or coffee with the first one complimentary. We can discuss events in the diary and book on them and share ideas for future events. Non-members most welcome to come along and find out more about Oddfellows. Cucina, 198, Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2DW. Contact Ray on 07938 016678.

October

WED
22

Out and About - Blackpool Illuminations



1pm



Travel Costs

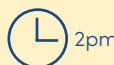


Meeting at Piccadilly Station we can take the train to Blackpool and whether its a walk on the pier, a stroll along the seafront, we can take in the sea air and meet up for fish and chips later in this famous seaside town. As daylight falls we can take a tram to see the world famous illuminations with six miles of traditional festoons, tableaux and interactive features along the Promenade. So its no wonder it's commonly known as the greatest free light show on Earth! Book by Wednesday 8 October. Piccadilly Station, Piccadilly Station Approach, Manchester M60 7RA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



THURS
23

Out and About - National Football Museum



2pm



Online £13, On door £15



The National Football Museum is located in Manchester's iconic Urbis Building and is the place to learn more and share stories about everybody's favourite game and is home to the world's largest public collection of football objects and archives. From the story of Bert Trautman the Manchester City goalkeeper who played with a broken neck in pursuit of success, the oldest surviving women's FA Cup trophy, the history of the first European Cup Final and the Englishman in the middle, there should be something of interest for the most popular sport in the UK guided tours are included in the price of admission which is £13 online and £15 on the door. Meeting in the foyer. Book by Monday 13 October. National Football Museum, Todd Street, Manchester M4 3BG. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



October

SAT
25

Saturday Special - Chads Theatre Production



2.30pm



TBC



Home, I'm Darling by Laura Wade is about married Judy and Johnny who live their dream 1950s lifestyle, each undertaking a traditional role. Judy is a stay at home housewife who dresses like a prom queen, making Johnny's breakfast and irons his shirts. Johnny has a full time job as an Estate Agent. But when Judy produces a laptop computer we realise this is not the 1950s but the 21st century.



Its a clever comedy which explores one woman's quest for a fulfilled life as Judy goes back to the future, in search of marital bliss. But as cracks begin to appear in their idealised lifestyle, questions arise of just how blissful nostalgia really is. Early booking is advised as its not a large theatre and tickets sell out very quickly. The price is to be confirmed but cost last year was £12, so hoping there will be only a slight increase. Book by Thursday 4 September. Chads Theatre Company, Mellor Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle SK8 5AU. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

TUES
28

Members Choice Walk Glossop



12 noon



Free



This is a members choice of walk.

With so many great places with beautiful views, we can discuss at the socials where we would like to explore and how long a walk. Location to be confirmed. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



WED
29

Dine Around - My Thai



6pm



As per menu



This low-key funky eatery offers classic and spicy Thai staples such as noodles, pad Thai, curries full of rich flavours at reasonable prices and with a great atmosphere in the heart of the Northern Quarter, what's not to like? Book by Wednesday 8 October. My Thai Restaurant, G19 Smithfield Buildings, 42 Tib Street, Manchester M4 1LA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.

October

THURS
30

Dine Around – Moss Nook Indian Restaurant



6pm



As per
menu



The Moss Nook Indian Restaurant was founded by friends with one shared vision, to bring the vibrant, authentic taste of Indian cuisine to the heart of the community. Among their team are talented chefs who share the passion for food and commitment to quality. Book by Thursday 2 October. The Moss Nook Indian Restaurant, 2 Trenchard Drive, Wythenshawe, Manchester M22 5NA. Contact Sarah on 07873 581975.



Booking on Events

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

When bookings are made for events that require a deposit or a purchase of ticket(s), payment must be made at time of booking to secure your place. Refunds will only be made where the event is cancelled, no refunds will be given in any other circumstance, unless the place can be refilled by another member. There are various ways to make payment (with a bank transfer or SumUp (debit/

credit card) being the preferred method), which are as follows:

Bank transfer – Please ensure that you advise the secretary by email/text/phone of the event(s) you are making payment for. For bank details please contact your secretary Pam on 07966 934747 or email pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk

SumUp – Available at events (Social Organisers) or over the phone via a payment link from the Secretary.

Cheque – Please make payable to ‘Combermere District Lodge’ and pass to a Social Organiser at any event or send direct to the Secretary.

Please remember that where an event has price per menu, that it is the members responsibility to check prices and dietary requirements with the venue before booking on the event.

Scarborough hosts the nation's Oddies



For the 20th time in more than 200 years the Society's Annual Movable Conference (AMC) was held in beautiful Scarborough, hosted by Vale of York Oddfellows.

Members representing their Branches converged on the seaside town from

all corners of the country to assess the previous 12 months and to decide on the direction of the next.

There was change at the top, as South London Oddfellows' John Mann replaced Vale of York Oddfellows' Barbara Needham as Grand Master.

As well as business, attendees enjoyed a range of social activities, including indulging in the delights of an Oddfellows Brass performance, the annual Roy Hamer Memorial Bowls Tournament, and a day trip to Whitby and Scarborough Fair.

Final update from HA Andrews Memorial Fund recipients

Nur Zainal, who's PhD at the University of Southampton has been supported by the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, and Professor of Cancer Biology Tim Fenton (pictured), addressed the Society's annual conference as three years of funding comes to an end.

"My PhD – made possible by the generous support of the Oddfellows – has made some significant contributions to cancer research," said Nur. "My ultimate goal is to find ways to prevent or overcome drug resistance, and my model will let us run

the pre-clinical studies needed to move promising strategies toward the clinic."

Tim added: "Until recently, we did not understand enough about how our immune system recognises and responds to tumours, or about how tumours learn to switch off our immune responses to deploy cancer vaccines effectively. This is changing rapidly, and cancer vaccines hold great promise for kinder, more effective therapy, though significant challenges remain."



Incredible total raised for good causes



Brownsea Oddfellows raised £1,608.50 for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

members. We know that money is tight for many people, but they still dig deep and have compassion for those in need.

“It’s what binds us as Oddfellows – caring for people’s welfare and looking out for the needs of others. This humanitarian spirit makes me feel incredibly proud to be part of the Society. Where we can help, we must.”

Giving back to our communities has always mattered to us. Last year, our branches and members donated over £163,000 to good causes.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Every year, when we work out the collaborative total, I’m astounded by the generosity of our Branches and their

Find out more about how the Society gives back to its communities, including information about our support for the RNLI, Oddfellows Brass, our Orphan Gift Fund and HA Andrews Memorial Fund, at www.oddfellows.co.uk/about/giving-back

Welcoming Tees Mutual to the Oddfellows



In February, we announced the completion, by transfer of engagements, of Tees Mutual.

The acquisition was approved and agreed on by Tees Mutual's members and their Board. Both the Oddfellows and Tees Mutual share a similar ethos and complementary values. This is the Society's sixth acquisition since

2007 and follows the last transfer of engagements in 2021.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: “Tees Mutual has been providing life and savings products to the people of Teesside and South Durham for well over a century.

“We are both passionate about mutuality and are pleased to be able to provide Tees Mutual members with a secure future.”

Making a Difference Awards 2025

The Oddfellows is full of remarkable people, none more so than the six winners of this year's Making a Difference Awards. They have been nationally recognised for their selflessness and dedication to making their Branch and wider Society as good as they can be.

For more information about the Awards, including how to nominate someone for 2026, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

Jean Logan, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Jean's contributions to the running of the Branch's social events. She's key to coming up with new ideas, organising and hosting events, and making sure everyone has a good time.

"Socialising keeps your brain busy and keeps you active and keeps you younger.

You can sit on the sofa and watch telly all day long but I'm a doer. I'm always up and about."



On winning the award, Jean, from Bourne, Lincolnshire, says she had to read the letter twice, adding: "You've got so many branches all over the country and I end up as the overall winner. It was a nice surprise."

Gordon and Kath Hinett, North Wales and Chester Oddfellows

Achieving Together

The married couple from Conwy, North Wales, have been recognised for their teamwork and commitment to improving the lives of members.



As a Welfare visitor, Gordon regularly assists members however they might need, be that giving lifts to appointments or events, or going to the shops for them. Kath takes the lead on organising social events such as trips to the cinema, the theatre or a day out somewhere.

Kath says they could've been knocked down with a feather when they learnt they'd won. Gordon added: "We don't do it to get rewarded. We do it because we love doing it."

Chris Sargeant, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

Chris, from Pinchbeck in Lincolnshire, has been highlighted for her passion and dedication for her Branch and the Society as a whole.



Having held almost every role possible locally and represented Nene and Welland Oddfellows on regional and national committees, Chris said: "Oddfellows gives to me as much as I give to it. You get to know people. I've friends all over the country through Oddfellowship. I love it, absolutely love it."

She added: "How proud was I that someone had thought I was worthy of this Award?"

Ann Kight, Nottingham Trent Oddfellows

Giving Something Back

Nottingham-based Ann's selfless commitment to raising money for worthy causes, both in connection with her Branch and of her own accord, is why she has been singled out for praise.

"I've been doing it about 10 years, if not more," she said. "I reckon I've raised around £10,000."

"I've always had the motto of, 'if you go through life and behave and you help somebody on your way you've done your job'."



She added: "You do things because you do them, not for awards. To get an award is a bonus."

Barry Bedford, Nene and Welland Oddfellows

Giving a Helping Hand

Barry, from Peterborough, has been recognised for his dedication to looking after his fellow members and being counted on when it matters, or in times of need. He's been known to give members lifts to and from events and the shops, and has assisted in all manner of DIY projects, including clearing driveways, repairing doors, decorating and gardening.



He said: "I am very proud of what they think I've achieved. It's the way I live my life and always have done and if that transforms into helping other people then I'm thankful."

At a glance

August 2025

Fri 1	Live at Lunchtime	12.45pm
Mon 4	Social Morning	11am
Tues 5	Social Morning	11.30am
Wed 6	Titanic Exhibition	2pm
Thurs 7	Social Evening	7pm
Fri 8	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Sat 9	Saturday Special	2.30pm
Tues 12	Let's Lunch	1pm
Wed 13	Social Afternoon	1pm
Thurs 14	Out and About	11.30am
Fri 15	Foodie Friday	7pm
Sun 17	Sunday Special	2pm
Tues 19	Social Morning	11am
Wed 20	Dine Around	6pm
Thurs 21	Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 22	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Tues 26	Dine Around	6pm
Wed 27	Coffee Morning	11am
Thurs 28	A Taste of Honey	11am
Fri 29	Out and About	11am
Sun 31	Sunday Special	11am

September - Friendship Month

Mon 1	Social Morning	11am
Tues 2	Social Morning	11.30am
Wed 3	Out and About	11am
Thurs 4	Social Evening	7pm
Fri 5	Twentymans	12.30pm
Mon 8	Mindful Crafting	10.30am
Tues 9	Windy Harbour	12.30pm
Wed 10	Social Afternoon	1pm
Thurs 11	Coffee Morning	11am
Fri 12	Live at Lunchtime	12.45pm
Sat 13	Friendship Month Extravaganza	1pm

September - Friendship Month

Tues 16	Social Morning	11am
Wed 17	Cloud 23	1pm
Thurs 18	Last Drop	1pm
Fri 19	Foodie Friday	7pm
Mon 22	Andy Powell	1pm
Tues 23	Dine Around	6pm
Wed 24	Dine Around	6pm
Thurs 25	Dine Around	6pm
Sun 28	Sunday Special	1pm
Tues 30	Out and About	11am

October

Wed 1	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Thurs 2	Social Evening	7pm
Sat 4	Saturday Special	10am
Mon 6	Social Morning	11am
Tues 7	Social Morning	11.30am
Wed 8	Social Afternoon	1pm
Thurs 9	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Fri 10	Billy's Brunch	11.30am
Sun 12	Out and About	11am
Tues 14	Let's Lunch	12.30pm
Wed 15	Out and About	11.30am
Thurs 16	Create It Pottery Studio	2pm
Fri 17	Foodie Friday	7pm
Sun 19	Members Choice	1pm
Tues 21	Social Morning	11am
Wed 22	Out and About	1pm
Thurs 23	Out and About	2pm
Sat 25	Saturday Special	2.30pm
Tues 28	Members Choice	12 noon
Wed 29	Dine Around	6pm
Thurs 30	Dine Around	6pm

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.

*Terms and conditions apply to all member benefits and services.
For full details, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/terms-conditions or call
Pam Casey (07966 934747) or Sarah North (07873 581975).

News and Views

A lot can change in 12 months! This time last year I was beginning the process to be nominated as a Member Non-Executive Director for the Society. However, mid-February this year everything changed!



Following a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/Secretary of the Order (SOO), Jane Nelson, I was informed that the individual who had commenced training in late 2024 to take over as SOO, had decided she was no longer able to continue with the role.

As a result, and due to me being so close at interview, the role was being offered to me. After due consideration I accepted the offer and am very honoured to do so. I will commence my employment in September 2025, and will shadow Jane until her retirement at the end of the 2026 Annual Movable Conference (AMC), where I will then take over as the SOO. I will still be working Thursday's and Friday's for Combermere District Lodge until the end of

December 2025, so please continue to send your benefit claims and feedback to me.

I feel that I should give a little bit of my background, I joined the Oddfellows as a child. In 2015 following my mother's retirement, I became the secretary for the Leigh & Bolton Branch. In January 2020 I became secretary of the Combermere Branch (on 1 April 2020, Leigh & Bolton Branch merged with Combermere Branch). In February 2023 I took on an additional secretary role, with the St Helens & Warrington Branch.

At the 2023 AMC, I was elected on to the Unity Investigations Committee, and then in 2024 I was elected as the Chair of the Investigations Committee. That's concludes my Oddfellows history!

Facts you may not know about me... I have a professional accounting and finance qualification, a diploma in Midwifery, I love to scuba dive and am Chairperson and volunteer for the local Synchronised Swimming Club, of which both my girls (aged 14 and 11) belong too.

Pam

September Friendship Month Events

Friday 5 - Twentymans - Leigh

**Tuesday 9 - Windy
Harbour - Glossop**

Saturday 13 - Guildhall - Stockport

**Wednesday 17 - Cloud 23 -
Manchester**

Thursday 18 - Last Drop - Bolton

**More information, addresses and
times are on the individual events
in the diary.**

Members bringing a non-member may attend another event across our District.

We would welcome donations at the monthly socials for Raffle and Tombola prizes for the Friendship Month Events, to raise funds for the Branch Chairperson's charities, 'Bolton Hospice' and 'AIM Northwest'.

**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER**

Thank you!

The first week of June is known as Volunteers' Week, and we felt that we would not miss the opportunity to thank all our volunteers across the Branch for all their hard work and commitment.

We have a wide range of volunteers across the Branch, from those who help prepare tea or coffee at events, or host an event, to those sitting on the Committee of Management. No matter what part you play in volunteering within the Branch, big or small we wish to THANK YOU all, we couldn't do it without you!

Finally, we can't let it go without saying a big THANK YOU to our long standing member Luba, who has been volunteering for the Branch for over 10 years! Luba has volunteered in a number of ways over the years from hosting of an events, her annual Macmillan fundraiser, to her famous Lockdown Ramblings during Covid-19! Luba is leaving the Branch, as she is moving out of the area to go and live closer to family, we wish you all the best for the future (and don't forget Luba if you are in the area, please come and join us for a brew and biscuit!)



Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



None of us know what is around the corner...

Local Care and Welfare Support

To request contact from a Welfare Visitor and for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence contact Pam on **07966 934747** or email **pamela.casey@oddfellows.co.uk**.

Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line

Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



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

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

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

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