

April - September 2025



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

out & about

Nene and Welland District



Travel and
Trips



Arts and
Crafts



Talks



Social



History



Coffee Morning



Dining Out



Walk



Games



We hope you can join us for our social events!

Due to the increased uptake of the Convalescence benefit over the last couple of years these benefits have reluctantly been halved by Head Office to ensure they're available to all. To find out more please talk to a Welfare Officer or Karen, the Branch Secretary. Please can we remind all members that you need to book on to events as it makes it easier to set up venues and provide refreshments if we know how many are coming and if there are any dietary requirements. Please don't be offended if we have to turn you away at the door as some events get booked fast

Contact Details

District Secretary: Karen Earth

Telephone: 01778 342006

Email:
karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk

Address: 57 Church Street
Market Deeping PE6 8AN

and may have a waiting list. If you're not able to attend an event you have booked please let us know so your place can be offered to someone else. Your help in this matter is much appreciated!

A bit about us...

The Oddfellows is a not-for-profit friendly society that's been around for over 200 years. Our aim is to bring people together through our social events, as well as support our members with a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for the members. For more information visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call **0800 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

Welcome from the Provincial Grand Master (Chairman)

Welcome to our new addition of Nene and Welland's Out and About events diary. We have included a variety of new events which we hope will appeal to members of all ages. Most of you know me as I have been your Chairman a few times over my nearly 60 years with Oddfellows. I still enjoy meeting friends old and new and love passing on the History of the Oddfellows and our District.

The Branch is continuing to support Pinchbeck's Under 9's boy's football team, and we wish them a successful season. I have chosen the Deepings Community Library as this year's Chairman's charity. The library is run by volunteers who provide a variety of services to the local area. On average they issue nearly 4,000 books a month and in 2024 they had 400 local children complete the Summer Reading Challenge, which is promoted by the Primary Schools. Unfortunately they have been hit hard like all of us by the increasing



fuel costs and any funds we can raise will be very gratefully received!

Don't forget to let the office have any updated phone numbers, addresses or email addresses so that we can keep in contact with you. Email addresses are especially useful as they help us reduce postage costs.

Chairman's Charity of the Year (February 2024 - February 2025)



Janice Bedford and the rest of the Committee of Management, would like to extend their thanks to

everyone who helped us to raise over £2,500 for the Chairman's charity - the Three Counties Dog Rescue, based in Bourne. We are sure they will be very grateful for the money, and we look forward to announcing the official total once all of the money has been collected and counted.

Regular Events

Cold Pudding Club

Tuesdays
(except August)

⌚ 6pm
(except August)

£ Members £4, Guests £5 – Tasting only
Free for contributors



Why not come along and enjoy a wonderful range of desserts and cakes. Whether you choose a favourite or a selection – the choice is yours. If you'd like to bring someone along, please do, otherwise just come along and enjoy! Don't forget to book your place beforehand five days in advance. Oddfellows Hall, 57



Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact David on 01778 347876.

Tuesday 6 May, 6pm
Tuesday 1 July, 6pm

Saturday 30 August, 3pm

Lunch Club

Tuesdays

⌚ 12.30pm

£ Members £5, Guests £6



What could be nicer than a lunch out with friends? Food served will be weather dependant. Find out what it will be when you book – don't forget to let us know any dietary requirements. Come by yourself or bring a friend. Please note these fill up quickly, so don't forget to book at least a week before! Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact David on 01778 347876.



1 April
3 June
5 August

Regular Events

Friendship Lunch

 12 noon for 12.30pm  As per menu



Wednesdays

Every month we will be meeting at The Crown Inn, Surfleet to enjoy good food and company in this traditional pub. Make sure you book early and provide your menu selection. Food will be served at 12.30pm. The Crown Inn, 6 Gosberton Road, Surfleet, Spalding PE11 4AB. Contact Christine on 0771 4096801.



16 April

Please note none in May due to the Annual Movable Conference (AMC).

18 June

16 July

20 August

17 September

Let's Do Lunch!

 12.30pm for 1pm  Currently £8 main course, additional courses per menu



Thorney Golf Club offer a fantastic menu for £8 (at time of going to press) for a main course. Events start at 12.30pm for 1pm food service. Please note Jenny is taking over the meal bookings from Barry. Bookings must be in at least seven days before the meal, as requested by the venue. Unfortunately, they will be unable to accommodate any bookings after this time. Thorney Golf Club, English Drove, Thorney, Peterborough PE6 0TJ. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.



Wednesday 30 April
Wednesday 25 June

Tuesday 26 August

Regular Events

A Crafty Cuppa



10.30am



Donation for refreshments



Wednesdays

Come and join us for a crafting morning, a natter with friends and a cuppa. Bring your own projects, knitting, sewing, paper-craft etc and have a relaxing time. Bring your friends or just come along for the company. Refreshments available for a donation to our Chairman's charity. Don't forget to book your place six days in advance.

Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Janice on 01778 560059.



9 April

11 June

13 August

Craft Club



10.30am



£3 includes refreshments

£5 for guests includes refreshments



Wednesdays

No diary would be complete without our very popular Craft Club! A different craft each time! Everything you need is provided for you. Due to the popularity of this event booking is essential two weeks before as space is limited. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Georgina on 01778 347876.

14 May

9 July



Regular Events

Museum Workshops

 10.30am
to 12 noon

 Members Only
Free



Did you know we are putting together an Oddfellows Museum above the main hall? Come and help us select and catalogue the artefacts for display. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Christine on 0771 4096801.

25 April

27 June

25 July

22 August


26 September



Friday

Surprise Bingo!

 2pm

 £1 per book of 10 games
£5 for 6 books



Why not join us for an afternoon of bingo fun? These sessions are open to all, so why not bring a friend? 10 games of bingo for the bargain price of £1 a book or £5 for a strip of six books, so why not play more than one book at a time? Donation for refreshments. Large print books are available on request. Winners of lines and Full Houses get to choose a bag containing a mysterious prize – who knows what you might be going home with... The sessions are informal and we have laughs along the way. There is a break half way for a chat with a cuppa and piece of cake. Remember to book your place as this is a popular event. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.

12 April - Special Easter flyers £1 each – who knows what you might be going home with (though we were told the Easter Bunny has scheduled a special delivery)!

17 May
26 July

Saturday



April 2025

THURS
03

We Need You!



2pm



Free



Can you help us by volunteering? We can't run events without our wonderful volunteers, but we need more people to help us. There are lots of ways you can pitch in - from one-off help to regular support. It can be as simple as greeting members, taking photos, running a raffle or helping run tombolas at a carnival. Come and find out what you can do to help us improve our events. Ideas for new events are very welcome! Free refreshments will be provided. Book by Wednesday 2 April. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

WED
23

Hub Fun and Games



2pm



Free



Join us for a free, light hearted afternoon of fun, games and refreshments. Come by yourself or why not bring a friend along with you? Don't forget to book for catering purposes, we look forward to seeing you there! Book by Monday 21 April. The Hub/Library, Knight Street, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3RU. Contact Christine on 0771 4096801.



SAT
26

Spring Quiz



6pm



Members £6
Guests £8



Come and challenge yourself with a traditional pub quiz with a buffet served at half time! Let us know any dietary requirements when booking. Limited places on a first paid basis. Book by Monday 14 April. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

SUN
04

Penfield Guided Tour



10.30am



Free



Join us at Penfield Nature Reserve in Langtoft for a guided tour. Opened to the public in 2021, on the site of a 20 acre former gravel pit loving restored by volunteers. Wildlife cameras have been installed that have picked up foxes, deer, hares, rabbits etc. Please note this is weather dependant, so may have to be rearranged at short notice if there is lots of rain. Book by Friday 2 May. Penfield Nature Reserve, Langtoft Outgang Road, Langtoft PE6 9RB. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.



WED
07

Lisa Lord Talk



2pm



Members £3
Guests £5



If you need help dealing with anxiety, PTSD, fears or phobias, low self-esteem, fatigue, or any other personal problems, then come and listen to Lisa Lord. It is about a two hour presentation with a break for coffee and cake in the middle. She will explain the marvellous IEMT (Integral Eye Movement Training) therapy she uses with great success. To find out more about this international therapist, look at: www.hellomindltd.com. Book by Thursday 1 May. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

TUES
20

The Coopers Arms Lunch Out



12 noon



As per
menu



We invite you to join us for a lunch out at the Coopers Arms. A two course senior lunch is £9.49, three courses £11.99. Food served at 12.30pm. Book early as there are limited places. Book by Monday 5 May. The Coopers Arms, 32-33 Copeland, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 6YJ. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.



May

THURS 22 Library Coffee Morning



10.30am



Donation



Join us at Deepings Community Library for a coffee morning. The library is closed to the public so it will just be our group. Come and find out what other things the library can offer you along with the usual hiring of books. Book by Tuesday 20 May. Deepings Community Library, High Street, Market Deeping PE6 8ED. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

FRI 23 Deepings Library Talk



10.30am



Donation



Find out more about the Deepings Community Library, which is our Chairman's charity of the year. Find out about its past and present. Discover about the building works they are hoping to carry out in the future. The library is also wanting to hear from members about what events they can put on to help the local community. Includes refreshments. Book by Friday 23 May. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



WED 28 Curry Night



6.30pm



Members £6, Guests £8

Try something new at our curry night. There will be a selection of curries (including some mild and vegetarian) along with side dishes. Why not bring a friend with you? This event must be booked, so we know how many to cater for. Book by Wednesday 21 May. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.

FRI 30 Reiki Talk



2pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. Some believe it to be accompanied by lots of eye rolling and arm waving, but there is so much more meaning and practicality behind it. Come and find out more from a practitioner, Tina Overton, who has been using it since 1997 to the benefit of her clients. Refreshment included. Book by Friday 23 May. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

June

SAT
14

Pinchbeck Carnival



12 noon



Gate charge if applicable



Come and enjoy Pinchbeck's Annual Carnival. A fun day out for everyone with lots of stalls, displays and refreshments. Help us raise money for our Chairman's charity by trying your hand at our games. If you are able to help man the stall on the day please let Christine know, we are always grateful for any time members can spare! Rotten Row Playing Field, Pinchbeck PE11 3RU. Contact Christine on 0771 4096801.



THURS
19

Degree Workshop



10.30am



Free



Members only – for those wishing to learn more about the background and meaning of the various degrees and the ceremonial side of the Oddfellows. These meetings specialise on the ceremonial side of our order, helping encourage members to take office in our District. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Christine on 0771 4096801.

SAT
21

Car Boot Sale



9.30am



£5 per table pre-booked, £10 on the day



We will be holding a car boot sale on the Glebe Park (next to John Eve, opposite Tesco in Deeping), so if you have been having a clear out why not have a table and convert it into cash! If you don't have enough items for a table please donate them to the Oddfellows stall or come and visit, you don't know what you will find! Pitches £5 if pre-booked, £10 on the day.



Please note this event is weather dependant! Stall holders allowed on the field from 8am to set up. Free entry for buyers. Book by Wednesday 18 June. Glebe Park/John Eve Field, Godsey Lane, Market Deeping PE6 8LH. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

June

SAT
28

Cat's Protection Talk



2pm



Members £2
Guests £3



Find out more about the work of the Cat's Protection charity. Learn what they do and how you can help. Cat's Protection look after neglected and mistreated animals, from fostering to arranging adoptions. There will be a raffle run by the group to raise funds for the charity. There will be refreshments provided at the end of the talk. Book by Monday 23 June. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



July

THURS
17

Library Coffee Morning



10.30am



Donation



Join us at Deepings Community Library for a coffee morning. The library is closed to the public so it will just be our group. Come and find out what other things the library can offer you along with the usual hiring of books. Book by Tuesday 15 July. Deepings Community Library, High Street, Market Deeping PE6 8ED. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



July

TUES
15

Chocolate Taste Testing



11am



Members £6, Guests £7



Firetree Chocolate, based in Orton Southgate, Peterborough will be carrying out a late morning chocolate tasting and Q and A session. Late morning is the optimal time for taste buds, so you will be able to experience the most from their chocolate (so they tell us). There will be a simple presentation of their cocoa-producing islands, which helps explain why they create the chocolate they do and brings the whole relationship to their farmers and islands to life. There should be three x 25g bars per attendee for the taste testing. Book by Friday 4 July. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



July

SAT
19

Summer Quiz and Buffet



6pm



Members £6
Guests £8



Come and challenge yourself with a traditional pub quiz, with a buffet tea half way through. Let us know any dietary requirements when booking. Limited places – they are on a first paid basis, so get in quick! Book by Thursday 10 July. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



WED
23

Afternoon Tea (City Lodge)



2.30pm



£15



For this year's City Lunch, we are hosting an afternoon tea with unlimited tea and coffee for £15 per person. Food served at 3pm. We look forward to seeing you there – please let us know dietary requirements. The venue needs to know the food choices at least a week before, so booking early is essential by Tuesday 8 July. Fayre Spot pub at The Cresset, Rightwell, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DX. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.



TUES
29

Molecey Mill Talk



10.30am



Members £3, Guests £5



Find out more about the Grade II Molecey House and Mill located on the left as you head out of Market Deeping towards Stamford. It has been lovingly restored over a number of years. One of the owners, Graham is going to be giving the talk about his home, which is now used as a wedding venue and for the popular November Frost Fair. Book by Monday 21 July. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



August

THURS
07

Degree Workshop



10.30am



Free



Members only – for those wishing to learn more about the background and meaning of the various degrees and the ceremonial side of the Oddfellows. These meetings specialise on the ceremonial side of our order, helping encourage members to take office in our District. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Christine on 0771 4096801.



SAT
16

Alpaca Meet and Greet



10.30am



£6



Spend two hours with alpacas inside their paddock – learn more about these gentle animals, feed them carrots and get to ask lots of questions about them! You can bring a picnic with you if you wish, as we are booked in from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Children must be 1:1 with an adult otherwise they will not be allowed in to the paddock. Book by Friday 8 August. Flatland Alpacas, The Common, Crowland PE6 0HL. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



SAT
09

Teddy Bear's Picnic



3pm



Donation



Bring a favourite toy to our teddy bear's picnic. There will be craft activities and we are hoping to arrange a story teller, as well as a chance for children to make their own picnic including sandwich, fruit and a biscuit. Must book – please let us know if there are any dietary requirements. Children must be supervised by an accompanying adult. Book by Friday 1 August. Deepings Community Centre, 2 Douglas Road, Peterborough PE6 8PA. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



August

SUN 31 Coffee Morning



11am



Pop in for a hot drink and a cake. We would love to see you. We will be asking for a donation for



refreshments to help us raise funds for Deepings Community Library, our Chairman's charity of the year. Come alone or why not bring a friend with you? Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

September

ODDFELLOWS FRIENDSHIP MONTH

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS 04 Dementia Talk



10.30am



Do you know anyone with dementia? Find out more from an Admiral Nurse who specialises in dementia care. They offer practical advice, as well as emotional and psychological support from diagnosis to post bereavement. Limited places, please book by Monday 1 September. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

September

WED 10 The Café at Eventus Lunch



12 noon



Join us for lunch out at The Café at Eventus on Market Deeping's Industrial Estate. Located in the Eventus Business Centre with free parking. Book early as there are limited places by Monday 1 September. The Café at Eventus, Eventus Business Centre, Sunderland Road, Market Deeping PE6 8FD. Contact Jenny on 07788 534290.



September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



SAT
13 **Craft Day**

🕒 10.30am 💷 See below



We will be holding a day of crafting from 10.30am to 4pm. In the morning there is a resin workshop and in the afternoon we have a selection of crafts for you to try. Book all day including a soup lunch for £30 (guests £32). Book the morning session only (10.30am to 12.30pm) for £20 (guests £22), or the afternoon session only (2pm to 4pm) for just £10 (guests £12). Book by Friday 5 September. Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

TUES
16 **Molecey Mill Tour**

🕒 10.30am 💷 Members £3
Guests £5



Experience the delights of the Grade II house and mill. Please note the house tour includes a number of stairs – both up and down. The mill wheel can be seen from outside and there are acres of gardens you can wander round, which have a number of fantastic statues on display. Drinks are included in the cost. Be wary of sat nav directions. Located on the left between Market Deeping roundabout and West Deeping. If coming from Stamford, it will be on your right. Car park signs should be out for you to follow. Book by Friday 12 September. Molecey Mill (Molecey Estates), Stamford Road, West Deeping PE6 9JD. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.

Join the fun in Friendship Month

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

All welcome

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



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

September

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



MON
22

Coffee Morning



Come and support our coffee morning. Donations for refreshments will go to our Chairman's charity of the year, The Deepings Community Library. Come by yourself or bring a friend. We look forward to seeing you there! Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping PE6 8AN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



WED
24

Ukulele Concert



Join us for the 'Ukulele2020' Concert. Come and join us for a pleasant afternoon of music. Book by Friday 12 September. Stamford and District Indoor Bowls Club, Exeter Gardens, Stamford PE9 2RN. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.



FRIENDSHIP
MONTH
EVENT
Invite a friend

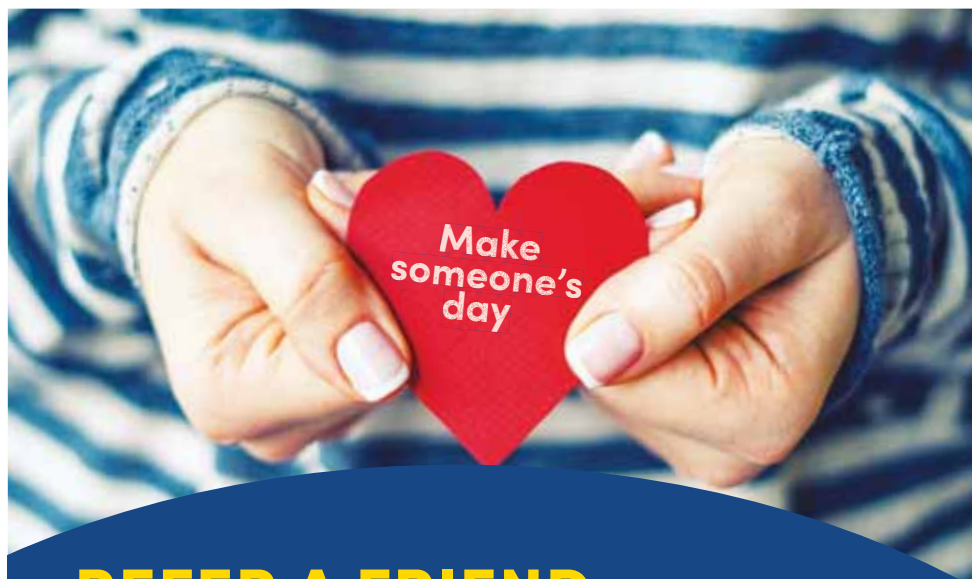
SAT
27

Quiz and Afternoon Tea



Pit your wits against others in this traditional pub quiz. Join us for a light hearted quiz. Enjoy an afternoon tea half way through, as well as taking part in a raffle to raise funds for the charity of the year - The Deepings Community Library. Please book at least seven days before as we need to organise the catering. Payment required upon booking by Friday 19 September. Deepings Community Centre, 2 Douglas Road, Peterborough PE6 8PA. Contact Sarah on 01778 342006.





REFER A FRIEND

Share the love and make someone smile

To refer someone you know and make their day, either fill in the **Refer a Friend form** available from your Branch Secretary, or call Membership on **0800 028 1810**, or visit our Members' Area at **www.oddfellows.co.uk**

*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

Office Notices

Reminder that cheques need to be made out to: IOOFMUFs Nene & Welland District Lodge.

The Nene & Welland Oddfellows would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes to allow the various events to take place. We have lots of ideas for new events but unfortunately we do not have enough volunteers at present to help us. If you can help out please get in touch with Jenny on 07788 534290.

We are looking for people who would be prepared to run coffee mornings in the local areas, marshal at the car boot in June, or help us to run stalls at local events to increase our membership. We would love to hear your ideas about events we can run in the winter. We're holding a 'We need you!' event on Thursday 3 April, 2pm at Oddfellows Hall in Market Deeping so please come along to find out more.

If you'd like to receive the monthly newsletter and/or the national online Zoom events please email

sarah.hitchcock@oddfellows.co.uk and state which you'd like to receive. If you wish to be removed at any time please email the same address and let us know.

Should any contact details change please let us know so that we can contact you if needed. If you move out of the area and would like to transfer to your local Branch get in touch- they will be able to help with local events and be able to give information more specific to your new area.

Unfortunately, due to the ever increasing costs it is with regret that the Committee of Management have made the decision that we will not be distributing Oddfellows diaries and calendars in the future.



*Sarah
Hitchcock*



Karen Earth

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.

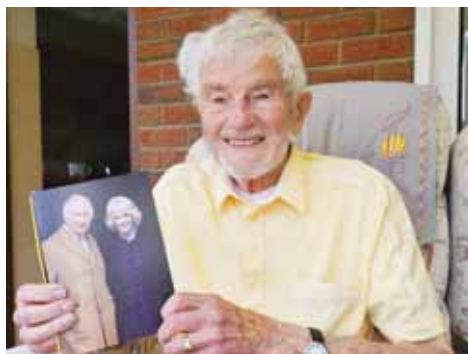
Find us at  OddfellowsNeneWelland  OddfellowsUK

Reginald Curtis

Reginald Curtis, who is a long term member who celebrated his 100th birthday last year. He was honoured to have it recognised by the Society, with the telegram signed by our Grand Master of the Order (Chairman of the Society) Barbara Needham taking pride of place alongside his telegram from the King and Queen. It was quite a talking point with visitors during his celebrations! Reg felt quite the celebrity when he reached 100 and was in the Eastern Daily Press. He was also invited to the Battle of Britain celebrations in Norwich, which he was proud to attend.

Reg had been married to his wife Liz for 74 years but sadly lost her just before his 100th birthday. He'd been Liz's carer for five years and misses her enormously. Although Liz and Reg had no family they have wonderful friends - he spent Christmas Day amongst them at the Village Party. He still looks after himself and prepares his own meals. He potters in the garden (weather permitting) and loves his fresh vegetables.

Reg and his late sister, Christine, were joined into the Oddfellows when he was 12 years old. Both his father and grandfather were Oddfellows at a time when there was no National Health, so help from the Oddfellows was very much appreciated when needed. His mother continued to pay his contribution while he was away during the Second World War.



During the war he spent three and a half years with bomber command then towards the end of the war he gained his driving license, which enabled him to drive many different vehicles including some large armoured ones. Reg still has his car but hasn't driven for three months now and thinks he will have to give it up, but will see how his next eye test goes.

For 25 years Reg and Liz had motorbikes which they used to travel all over the country. During their long marriage they built three houses and went on several overseas holidays. Although now living in Norfolk, Reg and his family originate from the Oundle area and so he decided to keep his membership with our District Branch. He enjoys reading the articles from the Out and Abouts, which keeps him current with the area he was born in.

“Reg is a true gentleman and it is always a pleasure to chat with him”, said Christine Sargeant (Welfare Officer for the Branch) who gathered the information for this article.

Photo of Reginald by Sonya Duncan.

Museum Information



Mr Colin Brown, who lives in Market Deeping donated some Oddfellows playing cards to our museum. As a young Oddfellows member he'd been given them to keep him occupied at the AMC in 1947, on the Isle of Man. His granddad (on his mum's side) - Mr Harry Edward Reiman was Grand Master of the Order in 1947 and presided over the 1947 AMC. He was born in 1933 near Croydon and was evacuated to the Peterborough area during the war.

If you have any old Oddfellows memorabilia you'd like to donate please get in touch with the office on 01778 342006.

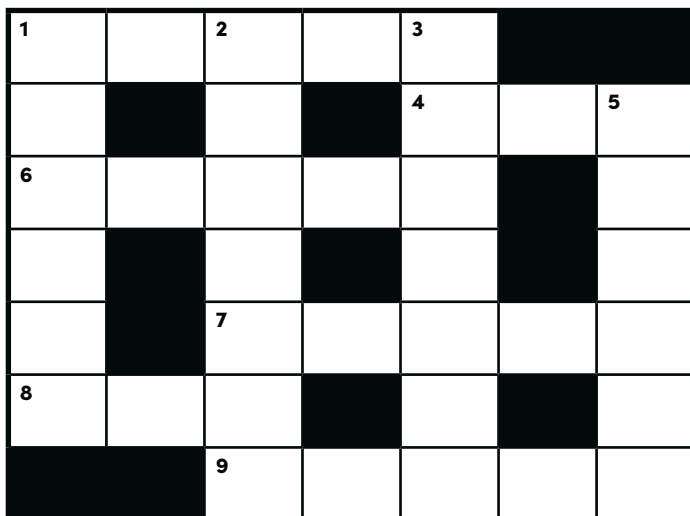
Barry's Sponsored Slim



In February 2024, Barry took on the challenge of losing the weight he (like many of us) had put on during COVID. At a starting weight of 20 stones, 12lbs he knew he had lots to do. With his wife Janice's support, (and a few 'helpful' moments from friends - such as photographic evidence when he strayed), Barry has lost over five stones in one year. To make the weight loss even more public he used it as a way of increasing the Chairman's charity as he decided to do it as a Sponsored Slim!

Mini Crossword

(By Chris Briance) Answers on page 27



Across

1. Polite (5)
4. Piece of corn (3)
6. Marina vessel (5)
7. Endangered atmosphere layer (5)
8. Large antelope (3)
9. Nasal cavity (5)

Down

1. Weeping (6)
2. Deliberately cruel (7)
3. Anti-climax (3-4)
5. Zelda currency (6)

Every Other Letter

(By Chris Briance) Answer on page 27

In this list of economic terms, every other letter is missing. Can you add the missing letters to see the full list of words?

_a_i_a_
l_v_s_m_n_
_e_e_u_
_o_s_m_t_o_
_n_l_t_o_

Booking and Cancellations

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

Harnessing the warmth of friendship

I hope this message finds you well. Where has 2024 gone?

As we move into a new year, it's a perfect time to reflect on 2024 and prepare ourselves for fresh opportunities and challenges.

The best changes bring happiness to our lives, and better still, the lives of those around us.

Last September, during Friendship Month, we introduced the nation to 'frenergy' – the positive energy exchanged between friends. True friendships are more than just companionship, they thrive on mutual support and uplifting one another – something that, I'm proud to say, is evident throughout our Society. We all have those special people who are there for us in the good times but are equally importantly when life throws us challenges.

Spreading friendship

Let's continue to create that warm, positive feeling everywhere we go this year. Offer encouragement, make a new face at an Oddfellows event feel welcome, or simply make sure to really listen to each other.

A kind word or a helping hand can be transformative for ourselves and those around us, and create ripples of positivity that extend beyond our personal circles.



Frenergy can even be transferred through an unexpected smile or a nod at a stranger in the street. I know it makes my day when it happens and you'd be surprised how often they smile back – confirmation that it has lifted their spirits too.

2025's positive foundations

We welcomed more new members to the Society in 2024 than we have for many years, which is a credit to the atmosphere created within our Branches.

This is a positive foundation to build on, but more can always be done. There will always be people who could benefit from our friendship and support, so let's keep spreading the word.

In this season of reflection and renewal, I hope we all have the drive to pursue our goals while providing and receiving friendship's invigorating energy. One thing is for sure – whether tackling adversity or celebrating success, we are stronger together.

Wishing you and all those close to you a very happy and healthy 2025.

Yours always in friendship,

Jane Nelson, CEO, the Oddfellows

Oddfellows Travel 2025

With Oddfellows Travel, not only will you have a wealth of unforgettable experiences, but you'll holiday with confidence and in good company.

All our group holidays are hosted by an Oddfellows member, and we only work with experienced travel partners that we trust.

Whether you want to break up your diary with a short UK getaway, or you have your sights on a once-in-a-lifetime cruise, take a look at our upcoming holidays. We'd love to have you along.

Our holidays are exclusively for our members and accompanying family and friends.

South Devon Delights 31 March to 4 April (4 nights)



Enjoy the resort of Torquay, affectionately known as the 'English Riviera', with its sandy beaches, public gardens, promenades and hustle and bustle of evening entertainment.

Staying at the Metropole Hotel, Torquay. From £295 per person. Half board. Includes coach pick up and drop off from certain locations, or a self-arrival option.

Join us as we head to the south Devon coast on this Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.

Oddfellows Summer Holiday in Somerset 7 to 11 July (4 nights)



Our annual Oddfellows Summer Holiday, hosted by the incoming Grand Master (Chairman), is open to all members and their guests. It's a chance to enjoy some quality time out in wonderful and welcoming company.

We'll be staying at Warner Hotels' Cricket St. Thomas Hotel, Somerset. Half board from £350 per person, based on two people sharing a double or twin room. A limited number of solo occupancy rooms are available at a reduced rate of £450. Come and holiday among friends in this charming retreat.

Whales, Waterfalls and Geysers of Iceland

17 to 29 July (12 nights)



Witness the incredible energy of Iceland's geysers, thundering waterfalls and fascinating wildlife with us, as we set sail on this Oddfellows-escorted group cruise.

From £1,799 per person. Full board.
Departing from Dover on
Fred. Olsen's Borealis.

Take in Iceland's spectacular natural wonders on this thrilling Oddfellows group cruise.

Scarborough

1 to 5 October (4 nights)



You'll be staying in the Cumberland Hotel in the charming seaside town of Scarborough. With its castle, beaches, theatres, parks and cafés, you'll be spoilt for things to do.

From £325 per person. Half board.
Includes coach pick up and drop off from certain locations, or a self-arrival option.

Join us as we head to North Yorkshire on this Oddfellows-hosted group holiday with Alfa Travel.



A recent Oddfellows Travel 'Mystery Cruise' trip

For Oddfellows Travel questions and bookings, please contact
Emma Gorst **0161 214 4634** or email **travel@oddfellows.co.uk**
More information can be found at **www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel**

Measuring and offsetting our carbon footprint

We're a Carbon Neutral Plus Organisation and have been calculating and offsetting our annual carbon footprint since 1 April 2020.

Such measurements have resulted in a number of changes to how we operate, with the focus being on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.



Our carbon footprint

Our carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases generated by our actions and measured in units of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e).

Between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, 77.78 tonnes of CO₂e was identified as being produced through the operations of the Oddfellows' Manchester and former Liverpool offices, and its associated transport activities, which includes our financial services brand, Unity Mutual.

The amounts include fuel consumption, company-owned vehicles, staff business travel and homeworking. And, for the first time, emissions as a result of employee commuting have been included in the 2023/2024 assessment.

Reducing and offsetting

The Oddfellows' CEO, Jane Nelson, said: "Our focus is to keep learning through our assessments and to make incremental changes to the way we operate so we can bring our greenhouse gas emissions down and play our part in tackling climate change."

To offset our market-based carbon footprint for 2023-24, the Society has funded a range of carbon dioxide-saving initiatives around the world, including in Ghana, Zambia, Thailand, Turkey and India.

Jane added: "We aim to become Net Zero as a Society. This is where we reduce our carbon emissions to the lowest amount possible and offset as a last resort.

"While we are on that journey, our promise is to always offset our carbon footprint."

Find out more at
www.oddfellows.co.uk/climate-change

Business Meetings Second Tuesday of the month at 10.30am.

Our monthly Business Meetings are open to all members to attend. If you would like to find out more about the running of the Branch, ask questions or become actively involved then please join us! All meetings are held at The Oddfellows Hall, 57 Church Street, Market Deeping. Further details from Karen Earth 01788 342006 nearer the time. General business meetings will take place on:

8 April

13 May

10 June

8 July

12 August

9 September

Mini Crossword Answers on page 22

C	I	V	I	L		
R		I		E	A	R
Y	A	C	H	T		U
I		I		D		P
N		O	Z	O	N	E
G	N	U		W		E
		S	I	N	U	S

Answers to **Every Other Letter**
on page 22: Capital, Investment,
Revenue, Consumption, Inflation.

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 Jenny by phone on
07788 534290**

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the Oddfellows
SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

www.oddfellows.co.uk

Meet your Nene and Welland Care and Welfare Team

The Oddfellows looking after you
Care, Advice and Support



We would like to introduce you to our friendly Care and Welfare team who are here to help you.



Barry Bedford
01778 560059



Janice Bedford
01778 560059



Jenny Collins
07788 534290



Christine Sargeant
07714 096801

Have you been unwell or in hospital, or find it difficult to get out to Oddfellows meetings?

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!

Our Welfare team 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.

To arrange for a Welfare Visitor to contact you, or for local help and information about Branch benefits or benevolence support, please ring Karen Earth on **01778 342006** or email **karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk**.

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

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

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/

*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits. All Oddfellows benefits are non-contractual and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Call 0800 028 1810 for details or visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/member-tcs

Events at a glance

April 2025

Tues 1	Lunch Club, Oddfellows Hall (David)	12.30pm
Thurs 3	We Need You!, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	2pm
Tues 8	Business Meeting, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 9	A Crafty Cuppa, Oddfellows Hall (Janice)	10.30am
Sat 12	Easter Surprise Bingo, Oddfellows Hall (Jenny)	2pm
Wed 16	Friendship Lunch, The Crown Inn, Surfleet (Christine)	12 noon
Wed 23	Hub Fun and Games, The Hub/Library, Pinchbeck (Christine)	2pm
Fri 25	Museum Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am
Sat 26	Spring Quiz, Oddfellows Hall (Sarah)	6pm
Wed 30	Let's Do Lunch!, Thorney Golf Club (Jenny)	12.30pm

May

Sun 4	Penfield Guided Tour, Penfield Nature Reserve, Langtoft (Jenny)	10.30am
Tues 6	Cold Pudding Club, Oddfellows Hall (David)	6pm
Wed 7	Lisa Lord Talk, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	2pm
Tues 13	Business Meeting, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 14	Craft Club, Oddfellows Hall (Georgina)	10.30am
Sat 17	Surprise Bingo, Oddfellows Hall (Jenny)	2pm
Tues 20	The Coopers Arms Lunch Out, Bretton (Jenny)	12 noon
Thurs 22	Library Coffee Morning, Deepings Community Library (Office)	10.30am
Fri 23	Deepings Library Talk, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 28	Curry Night, Oddfellows Hall (Jenny)	6.30pm
Fri 30	Reiki Talk, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	2pm

June

Tues 3	Lunch Club, Oddfellows Hall (David)	12.30pm
Tues 10	Business Meeting, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 11	A Crafty Cuppa, Oddfellows Hall (Janice)	10.30am
Sat 14	Pinchbeck Carnival, Rotten Row Playing Field (Christine)	12 noon
Wed 18	Friendship Lunch, The Crown Inn, Surfleet (Christine)	12 noon
Thurs 19	Degree Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am

Events at a glance

June

Sat 21	Car Boot Sale, Glebe Park/John Eve Field (Office)	9.30am
Wed 25	Let's Do Lunch!, Thorney Golf Club (Jenny)	12.30pm
Fri 27	Museum Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am
Sat 28	Cat's Protection Talk, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	2pm

July

Tues 1	Cold Pudding Club, Oddfellows Hall (David)	6pm
Tues 8	Business Meeting, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 9	Craft Club , Oddfellows Hall (Georgina)	10.30am
Tues 15	Chocolate Taste Testing, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	11am
Wed 16	Friendship Lunch, The Crown Inn, Surfleet (Christine)	12 noon
Thurs 17	Library Coffee Morning, Deepings Community Library (Office)	10.30am
Sat 19	Summer Quiz and Buffet, Oddfellows Hall (Sarah)	6pm
Wed 23	Afternoon Tea (City Lodge), Fayre Spot Pub (Jenny)	2.30pm
Fri 25	Museum Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am
Sat 26	Surprise Bingo, Oddfellows Hall (Jenny)	2pm
Tues 29	Molecey Mill Talk, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am

August

Tues 5	Lunch Club, Oddfellows Hall (David)	12.30pm
Thurs 7	Degree Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am
Sat 9	Teddy Bear's Picnic, Deepings Community Centre (Office)	3pm
Tues 12	Business Meeting, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 13	A Crafty Cuppa, Oddfellows Hall (Janice)	10.30am
Sat 16	Alpaca Meet and Greet, Flatland Alpacas, Crowland (Office)	10.30am
Wed 20	Friendship Lunch, The Crown Inn, Surfleet (Christine)	12 noon
Fri 22	Museum Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am
Tues 26	Let's Do Lunch!, Thorney Golf Club (Jenny)	12.30pm
Sat 30	Cold Pudding Club Saturday Afternoon Edition, Oddfellows Hall (David)	3pm
Sun 31	Coffee Morning, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	11am

Events at a glance

September - Friendship Month

Thurs 4	Dementia Talk, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Tues 9	Half Yearly Meeting, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Wed 10	The Café at Eventus Lunch, Deeping (Jenny)	12 noon
Sat 13	Craft Day, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10.30am
Tues 16	Molecey Mill Tour, Molecey Mill (Molecey Estates) (Office)	10.30am
Wed 17	Friendship Lunch, The Crown Inn, Surfleet (Christine)	12 noon
Mon 22	Coffee Morning, Oddfellows Hall (Office)	10am
Wed 24	Ukulele Concert, Stamford and District Indoor Bowls Club (Office)	2.30pm
Fri 26	Museum Workshop, Oddfellows Hall (Christine)	10.30am
Sat 27	Quiz and Afternoon Tea, Deepings Community Centre (Sarah)	2.30pm

Contact Details

Georgina/David: 01778 347876

Janice/Barry: 01778 560059

Christine: 07714 096801

Jenny: 07788 534290

Office (Karen or Sarah):
01778 342006

Nene and Welland Oddfellows office

Karen Branch Secretary email:
karen.earth@oddfellows.co.uk

Sarah Admin Assistant email:
sarah.hitchcock@oddfellows.co.uk

f OddfellowsNeneWelland

Learn, have fun, and stay in touch from home

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



To see what's coming up visit oddfellows.co.uk/events

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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.
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