

January – March 2021



*O*<sup>the</sup> **DDfellows** SINCE 1810  
*making friends, helping people*

# *out* & *about*

**North London District**



Music



Art/Crafts



Theatre



Dining Out



Walks



Games



Day Trip



Meetings



Social



Talks



Coffee Morning/  
Afternoon Tea



Quiz



## Welcome to the latest edition of Out and About, the Magazine and Events Diary of North London District

Oddfellows has done much to keep members in touch during 2020. We will continue to maintain that feeling of fellowship and wish all members a much better 2021. Behind the scenes, national, District and local officials and volunteers have been working extremely hard to ensure business as usual for you and other members. Business meetings have taken place by Zoom. Committee members have been in touch by phone all for your benefit. Claims have been paid, welfare visits and advice have been made and members have been assisted when seeking information.

We have adhered to government advice aimed at preventing the spread of Covid-19. In doing so, we have met when allowed, safely and made contact with members by post, email, phone, text, printed and electronic magazines and online events.

I am producing a weekly 21 page e-magazine with original stories, poems, puzzles, quizzes and competitions to members for whom I have an email address. Contact me – see the yellow box on this page – if you would like to receive a copy

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**Facebook:** Oddfellows.nld

every Saturday. You may also keep in touch by visiting 'North London Oddfellows' on Facebook. Nationally, the Oddfellows has provided over 20 events every week that you can attend via your computer, laptop, iPad or mobile phone. This magazine shows the programme of forthcoming events that our District has arranged for you.

No matter which way you choose to communicate with the Oddfellows, we are working hard to ensure to keep in touch with you and make sure that there's plenty for you to see and do and make you welcome.

**Paul Fitton**  
**Editor**

# Chairman's Letter

**Dear Brothers and Sisters**

**How wonderful to be writing to you just as we have news that this long nightmare could be coming to an end.**

The news of a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 is dominating the headlines and we must give our thanks to those men and women who have been working night and day to achieve this stunning result, which in medical terms is really quick.

As someone who is in The COVID-19 Testing Survey and Tests, I will be pleased to see an end to doorstep meetings.

It is reminiscent of boating holidays on the canals that I took my family on in the '60s and '70s. We always looked forward to the tunnels, especially Branson, the longest on the canal network. Charging along with a small halo of light surrounding the front of the boat, we were seeking that small halo of light, which was the exit. Even though we knew we were never in danger, we always breathed a big sigh when we emerged into the open air.

**Join the conversation  
@OddfellowsUK**



**OddfellowsUK**



**OddfellowsUK**



*Laurence Manning  
Provincial Grand Master*

Being in the most vulnerable group due to age, I hope that by the time you read this, I will have had my jabs and stopped being a potential danger to anybody I meet.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the new year, both at Lodges and at events.

Once again I want to thank Paul and Jackie for their efforts to keep us going.

As I have already said, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel and 2021 already seems a bright New Year.

**Sincerely**

**Laurence Manning  
Provincial Grand Master**

*Cover photo of Christmas robin and of London sunset on page 2 and Laurence Manning on page 3 by Paul Fitton.*

# January 2021

FRI  
08

## 'Australian Convicts' Talk (Online)

L 2pm

£ Free



Transportation to Australia was usually for a fixed term. However, as convicts had to pay to return to the UK. In practice, it was almost always a life sentence. However, this has not always proved to be a bad thing? A presentation by Ian Hutt. Book by Friday 8 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

TUES  
12

## 'The Life and Music of Elvis Presley' talk (Online)

L 4pm

£ Free



Elvis Presley would have turned 85 this week. Paul Fitton tells his story. Join at 1.50pm to warm up for the event with some Elvis tracks. Book by Tuesday 12 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



FRI  
15

## 'Three Women, One Man - Glamour, Wealth and Heartache' Talk (Online)

L 2pm

£ Free



A thought-provoking talk revealing how the lives of four mystery icons intertwine in their pursuit of wealth, status and power. Can money ever buy love and happiness? Book by Friday 15 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



TUES  
19

## 'Little Gems' Talk (Online)

L 4pm

£ Free



Following his presentation on diamonds, Paul Fitton takes you on a sparkling new journey, this time telling you about other gemstones.

There are only four precious stones in the world or are there? Book by Tuesday 19 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



# January 2021

## FRI 22 'Gentleman of Jazz' Talk (Online)



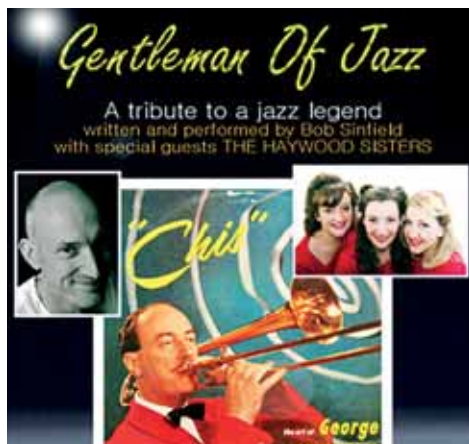
2pm



Free



Raconteur Bob Sinfield tells the fascinating story of George Chisholm, from his boyhood in a part of Glasgow that made the Gorbals seem upmarket to a 50-year career in jazz. Book by Friday 22 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



## TUES 26 'Tales of Animal Bravery' Talk (Online)



4pm



Free



Paul Fitton tells you some amazing and some sad tales about the recipients of The Dickin Medal, the bravery award for animals performing heroic deeds. Book by Tuesday 26 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

## FRI 29 'Scientific Errors' Talk (Online)



2pm



Free



During the current Covid crisis we are told it is important to follow the scientific advice. However scientists are human and therefore fallible so we always need to be on our guard! A presentation by Ian Hutt. Book by Friday 29 January 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

# February

## TUES 02 'Arsenic Poisoning in the Family' Talk (Online)



4pm



Free



Paul Fitton brings to life remote Suffolk life in the mid 19th century with a tragic Whodunit that is full of twists and turns. Book by Tuesday 2 February 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

# February

## FRI 05 'Buddy Holly' Talk (Online)

2pm

£ Free



Singer Buddy Holly would have been 85 tomorrow. Hear about his life and music in Paul Fitton's presentation. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



## TUES 09 Music Quiz (Online)

4pm

£ Free



Enjoy music from the 50s, 60s and 70s in Paul Fitton's music quiz. Book by Tuesday 9 February 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

## FRI 12 'The RSPB' talk (Online)

2pm

£ Free



Hear about birdlife and the work of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Book by Friday 12 February 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



## SAT 13 Italian Cookery - Tiramisu (Pudding) (Online)

5pm

£ Free



Join in this live cookery demonstration and make a delicious genuine Italian Tiramisu. Easy to follow and good for the kids and grandkids to make too! The main course will be demonstrated tomorrow - as this pudding is best made one day in advance of eating. For a list of ingredients that you will need, and for the Zoom login details - please contact Jackie. Book by Friday 12 February 2021. Contact Jackie on 07788 418267.



## SUN 14 Italian Cookery - Puttanesca Pasta Sauce (Online)

5pm

£ Free



Join in this Italian cooking demo and make a classic sauce to go with your pasta. (It can be vegan/vegetarian friendly). Easy for all the family to follow, including the kids. After you have had this lovely pasta, finish off your meal with the delicious dessert you made in yesterday's class. Yummy! Please contact Jackie to get a list of ingredients you will need to make this classic pasta sauce. Book by Friday 12 February 2021. Contact Jackie on 07788 418267.



# February

TUES  
16

## '200 Years of Oddfellowship' Talk (Online)



4pm



Free



Paul Fitton's brief presentation tells the story of the Oddfellows from how they lived their lives hundreds of years ago to how the organisation meets its members' needs in the 21st century. See some historical items worth hundreds of pounds. Book by Tuesday 16 February 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



FRI  
19

## 'Trafalgar Reimagined' Talk (Online)



2pm



Free



Another chance to sail with Paul Fitton on the Victory as and learn about England's unsung naval hero at the Battle of Trafalgar. Book by Friday 19 February 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



TUES  
23

## Art Unscrewed (Online)



4pm



Free



Join in our month art event. Today we are painting Monet's Water Lillies. All you need are some paints! A fun event with all welcome whatever your age and whether you have painted before or not. Contact Jackie on 07788 418267 to get your Zoom login details.



FRI  
26

## 'Art Along the Tyne' Talk (Online)



2pm



Free



David Hirst's 'Art along the Tyne' looks at the history of the river through the eyes of artists past and present. Book by Friday 26 February 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



# March

TUES  
02

## 'My Family and other Famous People - Part One' Talk (Online)



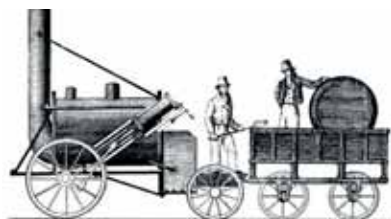
4pm



Free



Paul Fitton tells you about his ancestors who ranged from the man who revolutionised travel in the 19th century to the most hated Briton of the 14th century and many more in-between. Book by Tuesday 2 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



FRI  
05

## 'How an Illegitimate Slave Girl became an Heiress' Talk (Online)



2pm



Free



The extraordinary true story of Dido Belle. Contact Paul Fitton for the free and easy Zoom link. Book by Friday 5 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



TUES  
09

## The Oddquiz! (Online)



4pm



Free



When is a quiz not a quiz? Find out today at this comedy event. Book by Tuesday 9 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

FRI  
12

## 'The Mystery of Cleopatra' Talk (Online)



2pm



Free



Paul Fitton debunks many of the myths about one of the most famous women who has ever lived. Book by Friday 12 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



*You must book your place on our social events as they may need to be cancelled*



# March

TUES  
16

## Decades – The 1970s (Online)



4pm



Free



Paul Fitton's presentation in his Decades series looks at the 1970s – the decade that taste forgot! See and hear memories of that time and bring your own along! You can expect fun and banter as you remember items and events that you thought that you had safely left in the past. Book by Tuesday 16 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

FRI  
19

## 'The Life and Times of Edith Cavell' Talk (Online)



2pm



Free



Melanie Gibson-Barton explores the story of the British heroine who died in Brussels in 1915. Book by Friday 19 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).



TUES  
23

## 'My Family and other Famous People – Part Two' Talk (Online)



4pm



Free



Paul Fitton tell you more anecdotes from his forty years of family research. Whipped at the Manchester stocks, eaten alive by a tiger, The Bayard of India, shipwrecks and much more. Book by Tuesday 23 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

FRI  
26

## 'Jackie Lancaster's Food and Drink Quiz' (Online)



2pm



Free



Do you know your batch from your bap? Where could I buy a Bury Black pudding? Which grapes are Champagne made from? Join in the fun! Book by Friday 26 March 2021. Contact Paul Fitton for the Zoom link (details on page 2).

TUES  
30

## Art Unscrewed (Online)



4pm



Free



Please join us for our monthly art event. Today we will be painting a beautiful vase of Tulips. All you need is some paints. All levels welcome – even if you have never painted before, this guided class will bring out your artistic side! Contact Jackie on 07788 418267 to get your Zoom login.

# Extra! Extra! Read All Abaht It!

**One of our ways of keeping members in touch during lockdown has been to produce a weekly e-magazine. North London District has issued the 21 page edition to those members for whom we have an email address.**

Each edition is jam-packed with stories, poems, quizzes, puzzles and competitions to entertain members during lockdown. If you would like a regular 21 pages of entertainment dropping into your inbox every Saturday, email [paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk).

## Zoom Is Busting Out All Over!

**We have 30 online events every week for you to enjoy. You can join in and chat with other members locally and around the country, watch a presentation or take part in a quiz, or maybe an art tutorial, a music event, exercise or just sit back and look and listen from the comfort of your own home...**

and all these events are free! Zoom is so easy to access. You're just a couple of clicks away from enjoying all these events.

Whether you're using a computer, laptop, ipad or mobile phone you can join in so easily. You can read about our full programme listing of online social events in this emagazine. Please just email [paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk](mailto:paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk).

## Remembering Iris Gillett

**It is with deep sadness that I have to report the death of Sister Iris Gillett.**

She succumbed to Covid-19 virus and passed away on 9 January. She was not only a hard-working member of The Oddfellows, but a great personal friend. Iris suffered from type 1 diabetes, which did not stop her from enjoying her life of travelling. At an early age she visited Russia, Iceland, the Far East and Africa



before they became popular destinations. In later life cost of medical insurance prohibited foreign travel, but she travelled extensively in this country. Iris had a brilliant memory and became the go-to person if you wanted to know anything about rail travel in this country. She also volunteered for all the trials and tests on diabetes and often confounded many young doctors with her knowledge. She will be greatly missed.

Again with sadness,

**Laurence Manning**  
**Provincial Grand Master/Chairman**

# Letters and Feedback

**Leslie Needham's article in the last magazine has prompted a flurry of responses. The first is a copy of a personal letter to Leslie from Roger Burley, a previous Grand Master (National Chairman) of the Oddfellows.**

I am writing to thank you for your article 'Almost a Century in Oddfellowship' which brought many happy memories back to me.

As a member of the Flower of Kent Lodge, my father also played cricket pre-war in the South London District League and I remember many stories he told me as a child. In the early 1960s I transferred from Juvenile membership to adult and was tutored by another member of the Wickham Lodge, Wally Cutts, passing the Oddfellows Auditors Examination in 1964. As you say, at that time Lodge investments were mainly in British Government Stock, often undated. Thus I learned about investing in these and in property from him, leading to my election as Lodge Trustee later in the 1960s.

In 1970 I attended my first AMC national AGM). I well remember your addresses to Conference which sparked my interest in equities and I became an advocate of the Wider Range Fund. In 1980 I became District Secretary (Prov CS) where the knowledge and experience I had gained about investments was used for the benefit of the Lodges. In 1990 I was elected to the Board of Directors becoming Unity Trustee in 1996 and in these years I was actively involved in extending the range of equity investments available to Lodges through the International Wider Range and Higher Equity funds. The three equity funds were valued at almost sixty million pounds at the end of last year.

Thus what I learned from two members of that little Wickham Lodge from Brockley went on to benefit Oddfellowship across the country. Thank you for that. I am now retired from the Board and the senior Past Grand Master in the Society, but I have retained trusteeship of the Lodge and until the recent problems was a regular at meetings, where we usually had between twenty and thirty attending.

With every good wish that you get to see the 'ALMOST' deleted!

## Roger Burley

I was really stimulated by Leslie Needham's interesting account of his 'Almost a Century in Oddfellowship' and most particularly his reminiscences of playing cricket against the Lord Byron Lodge who were 'One of our fiercest opponents'. I'm sure that I must have played against Leslie because I was chosen by Lord Byron to make the numbers up (even though I couldn't field and couldn't bat) and played in a dozen or so games in the 1940s and 1950s. The 'Byron' had such a powerful side though about five of the team came from the same family, the 'Ash' family who all would have been worthy of playing for any of the minor counties teams. Other strong players were Bill Gristock, Johnnie Ovenden, Jim Slaughter, Bert Appleton and Jim Horton.

## Alan Coombe

I was surprised and delighted to read the article by Leslie Needham in the latest South Circular magazine. Leslie was a good friend of my parents, Jim and Mabel Misselbrook who were also active in Oddfellowship and the Wickham Lodge and the Elsa Lodge. Leslie's daughter Janet was also my bridesmaid.

**Sheila Messett**



*We have since put Sheila in touch with Leslie and Janet. Ed*

## Didn't we have a lovely time, the day we went to...

**Jackie Lancaster arranged a series of monthly guided tours. We were able to complete one before lockdown restrictions stopped us in our tracks.**

Indra Sidkar was on the first, Kings Cross tour. He enjoyed the event and said, 'The walking tour was great. Jackie wants to run one a month. I'll make the effort to attend. Apart from the company, the walks are good exercise and educational.'

Jeanette Beaney also attended the event. She said, 'We enjoyed Jackie Lancaster's guided tour. It was very interesting. Jackie made us very welcome and we all enjoyed ourselves.'

The other tours included a walk around Highgate Village, and 'Inside Kenwood House' in Hampstead. Jackie will reintroduce her walks into our events schedule on 20 March with a tour of Highgate Cemetery.



*Indra's photo shows St Pancras Station with the Great Northern Hotel in front.*

## Oddfellows spirit shines throughout Friendship Month 2020

**Friendship Month looked very different this year, with many of our events held online, or restricted to a maximum of six people meeting face-to-face. However, we couldn't be more proud of the way that the Oddfellows spirit shone through, as we once again celebrated the power of friendship.**

**ODDFELLOWS  
FRIENDSHIP MONTH  
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER**



events, Zooming across the country to link up with members and guests all over the UK! We've picked out a selection of our favourite pictures from September, to share with you a little warmth and happiness during these cold and difficult days. We know how important face-to-face events are to our members and as soon as Branches are able to safely hold these again, we will let you know.

If you have any pictures from an Oddfellows event that you'd like to share with us, feel free to tag us in them on Facebook! We're at [www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK](https://www.facebook.com/OddfellowsUK)



*Ipswich Oddfellows celebrate the launch of a new Friendly Bench, Boston and Lincoln Oddfellows plant some seeds of friendship with their potted plants, Derbyshire Peak Oddfellows host a picnic in the park, Stockport and Combermere Oddfellows network with a Zoom guest talk from local radio stars and Bradford Oddfellows enjoy a stroll along the canal.*

# A year like no other...

**2020 has been a year unlike any I've experienced before. In March, we entered our first lockdown. Among many others, it placed restrictions on how we could spend time with friends and family, make visits to loved ones in hospitals and care homes, and even how we all earn our living.**

Most devastatingly, many people were held back from saying a proper, supported farewell to those friends and family members who passed. My heart goes out to anyone who has lost someone special in the recent months. I know from personal experience how difficult it is, so if you need any comfort or help please remember to lean on us.

## Coming together

It's human nature to come together in a time of crisis – to squeeze a hand, to offer a shoulder to cry on, to hug, or to simply sit side-by-side. However, despite it all, we are finding ways around things, as best we can. Nothing will ever stop us resourceful Oddfellows from giving comfort and support to each other and those in desperate need.

This year, I've witnessed compassion and human kindness on a scale I've never known within the Society before, and this has really lifted me on my difficult days.



## Being there for each other

I hope that if you needed help this year, you received it. I know that the staff and volunteers in our Branches have worked flat out to make sure members know they have someone to turn to. They've made thousands of calls and sent thousands of emails to check in with members and see if any help is needed. This has meant that many members were able to access critical food and medical supplies, as well as financial and emotional support. So, if anything is troubling you, please make sure you get in touch.

## Keeping spirits lifted

I've seen some incredible innovation to keep spirits lifted and people connected. We'd only hosted a few online events here and there before 2020, but we're now broadcasting talks, quizzes, and even fitness sessions, straight into people's front rooms almost daily. I know online



events won't ever replace getting together in person, but they're a wonderful way to make sure we can still keep in touch, safely. I do hope you try one if you haven't already. I've also been kept in the loop on so many unexpected acts of kindness from members and Branches, such as quizzes and puzzles being posted through letterboxes, and afternoon tea hampers and flowers being dropped off on members' doorsteps. Such small gestures make a huge difference to people, so if there is anything you can do to keep this going, then please do. Kindness is infectious.

## Helping others

Oddfellows have always looked further than their own front door when it comes to charitable giving, and this year was no exception. In spring, a nationwide appeal to raise critical funds for The Silver Line and the National Emergencies Trust resulted in a donation of £19,210. It helped some of those hardest hit by the coronavirus pandemic. £7,600 was also raised and sent overseas to help Australian people to rebuild their lives following the 2019/2020 bushfires.

We know there have been countless other examples of charitable giving made by members and Branches this year, so thank you for helping where you can, and being wonderful ambassadors for our Society. I would also like to give a special mention to this year's four Making a Difference Award winners, members Margaret Wells, Barry Bedford, Bruce Nicole and our youngest to date,

seven-year-old Effie Bowman. Our Society is powered by the hard work and selflessness of such wonderful members. Huge congratulations to them and all who were nominated. Shortlisting these awards is such a difficult task, but it's an absolute joy to know that we have so many members out there living and breathing our motto of friendship, love and truth.

## A truly special family

Looking forward to 2021, please try and stay positive. We have news of a vaccine, and therefore hope that we can be back together again, and that we can resume our daily lives with less fear, difficulty and uncertainty.

I've always known this, but the events of 2020 have confirmed just how caring, supportive, generous, friendly, and resourceful our Oddfellows family is. I am immensely proud to be a member of something so incredibly special and purposeful. I do hope you feel the same. Please accept my very warmest wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. Until we're all able to meet together freely again, let's stay in touch. We're always here if you need us.

Take care, stay safe and stay well.  
Yours always in friendship,

**Jane Nelson**  
**CEO, the Oddfellows**

# Lupus research pushes through pandemic

**2020 has seen our second instalment of the HA Andrews Memorial Fund given to the research team at the Lupus Trust. The £28,000 donation supports the day to day running of the team, which includes Bekki Velounias, who is currently working towards completing her PhD through her research with the Lupus Trust.**

The team is looking into what causes the breakdown of certain cells, triggering the autoimmune reaction in lupus. Throughout lockdown, the team managed to avoid too many significant setbacks, working in the lab when they could, and analysing huge datasets when national lockdown was enforced.



*Professor Jo Spencer with Bekki Velounias and our very large cheque!*



*Member of Ware Branch, Paul, has lupus and inspired our decision to support the Lupus Trust over 3 years.*

Professor Jo Spencer, from the Lupus Trust, says, “Bekki has been a fantastic addition to the research team, and her commitment to pushing forward with work throughout lockdown has been commendable. We’re pleased with how the research is progressing in the face of so many difficulties.”

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, says, “We’re so pleased to hear that the research has been able to move forward despite social restrictions. It’s been a difficult year for many, and this research is needed more than ever.”

If you would like to find out more about the HA Andrews Memorial Fund, please visit the ‘Giving Back’ section of our website.

# 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 Angela on **020 7354 4748** or email **angela.hooker@oddfellows.co.uk**

## **Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line**

**Call 0800 0149 821\***

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

**Email:** oddfellows@manchestercab.org

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

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

## **Care and Welfare Helpline**

**Call 0800 0149 822**

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

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

**Email:** care@oddfellows.co.uk

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

**Visit our website page at [www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care](http://www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care)  
for care and welfare information**

# Penfellows<sup>©</sup>

**Find a new Penfriend with the Oddfellows Penfellows<sup>©</sup> can help you fulfil some joyous moments and make two people happy: You and your Penfellow<sup>©</sup>.**

Did you enjoy writing to a penfriend? Penfellows<sup>©</sup> is for members to rekindle those feelings and memories and help you to make new friends with other Oddfellows members. To find your new penpal, simply write a short note about yourself and email it to **paul.fitton@oddfellows.co.uk**. Your profile should be up to 120 words. This great new service is confidential and your details will not be released without your permission. Use this email address as a first step to contacting other Penfellows<sup>©</sup>.

## Penfellow 101

I am a 48 years old male living in North West London. I would like to have a Penfellow who is female and who is about my age or younger. I work for the Civil Service and am interested in reading, writing, public speaking, swimming, cycling, walking as well as watching films and gardening. The subjects I read about are quite wide ranging from current affairs, religion, geography, nature as well as Indian and English and other cultures. I enjoy meeting new people and learning about their hobbies and lifestyles and feel that this broadens my outlook on life.

## Penfellow 102

I'm a very independent lady, a widow for 26 years. I'm very active. Until lockdown, I played bowls several times a week. I'm Chairperson of the club. I also took up line dancing when I was 80, eight years ago. I love to walk, read and do crosswords and jigsaws. I live in a wonderful part of the country.

Our scenery is so lovely and I love walking along the cliffs. I walk at least two miles every day to keep fit. I would be pleased to write to anyone who cares to write to me, I promise I will answer all letters.

## Penfellow 104

I am interested in having new pen friends. I love writing and receiving letters. I write to about 10 pen friends but the more the merrier. Generally I love travelling, dancing going to watch musicals and meeting new friends - all of which are on hold for this year. I also enjoy walking and was able to do lots of that during lockdown.

I also enjoy guiding blind and partially sighted people on holidays and that is so rewarding - again that is on hold until next year. I work for a Hospice as a Shop Manager. I look forward to receiving a letter or two.

## Penfellow 108

I am a 76 year old male who has been single for a number of years. I live on the London/Kent border. I would like to have a Penfellow who is female and around 70 years old. I am a retired decorator, which I did for around 25 years, working for myself.

My interests include short country walks, nature programmes, swimming, watching a good film, having a meal out from time to time watered down with a glass of Shiraz. I consider myself to be a good mixer. I would be happy to attempt to start conversation with a complete stranger. I enjoy a wide range of music, including music from the sixties, orchestral and songs from shows.

## Penfellow 109

I am an independent lady, 79 years old and have been a widow for many years. I live in north London and came to this country from Jamaica in the 60s.

I enjoy walking, gardening and doing crosswords. I love to watch documentaries and current affair programmes. I would love to hear from anyone over 60, male or female.

## Penfellow 110

I am a lady in my sixties, living with arthritis. I try to keep as active and cheerful as possible, which has been challenging for everyone of late! I enjoy reading and walking. I like animals and have a cat. Because I have tinnitus, talking on the phone is difficult, which is why I would really value the opportunity to exchange letters with a friend.

It's a shame that we've lost the art of writing letters, as it is such a pleasure to see a handwritten envelope on your doormat and know that it's a letter from a friend and not just another bill!

## Penfellow 115

My particular interests are Girlguiding, Tennis, U3A. I have been a Guide for 75 years. I was a Brownie Guider for 25 years and am now a member of Trefoil Guild. Having always been an avid tennis player but have had to give up recently due to the onset of spinal stenosis but my husband and I follow the major tournaments on the television. Pre Covid I went to the Leisure Centre regularly for aerobics in lieu of short tennis. I now do aerobics with Oddfellows via Zoom. I am a member of Maidenhead U3A and am convenor for their Advanced German group. I have had a lifelong interest in the German language. I am also a member of the U3A.

# At a glance

## January 2021

<b>Fri 8</b>	'Australian Convicts' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 12</b>	'The Life and Music of Elvis Presley' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 15</b>	'Three Women, One Man - Glamour, Wealth and Heartache' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 19</b>	'Little Gems' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 22</b>	'Gentleman of Jazz' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 26</b>	'Tales of Animal Bravery' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 29</b>	'Scientific Errors' Talk (Online)	2pm

## February

<b>Tues 2</b>	'Arsenic Poisoning in the Family' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 5</b>	'The Life and Music of Buddy Holly' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 9</b>	Music Quiz (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 12</b>	'The RSPB' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Sat 13</b>	Italian Cookery - Tiramisu Pudding (Online)	5pm
<b>Sun 14</b>	Italian Cookery - Puttanesca Pasta Sauce (Online)	5pm
<b>Tues 16</b>	'200 Years of Oddfellowship' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 19</b>	'Trafalgar Reimagined' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 23</b>	'Art Unscrewed' Monet's Water Lilies Tutorial (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 26</b>	Art Along the Tyne (Online)	2pm

## March

<b>Tues 2</b>	'My Family and other Famous People - Part One' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 5</b>	'How an Illegitimate Slave Girl became an Heiress' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 9</b>	The Oddquiz! (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 12</b>	'The Mystery of Cleopatra' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 16</b>	'Decades - The 1970s' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 19</b>	'The Life and Times of Edith Cavell' Talk (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 23</b>	'My Family and other Famous People - Part Two' Talk (Online)	4pm
<b>Fri 26</b>	Food and Drink Quiz (Online)	2pm
<b>Tues 30</b>	'Art Unscrewed' Vase of Tulips Tutorial (Online)	4pm