

July - October 2025



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

out & about

West London Branch



Kew Gardens, photo by Diliff



Theatre



Crafts



Travel



Dining Out



Quizzes



History



Social



Talks



Games



Coffee Morning/Afternoon Tea



We hope to see you at our events!

Welcome to our latest events diary

Booking for events will be open from 9am on Tuesday 10th June.

We have some great events and trips coming up but please do remember that the diary is prepared well in advance and it could be possible that events have to be altered. We do also add new events so please check the website www.oddfellows.co.uk/events/ or our Facebook page, West London Oddfellows, for up to date information. If you would like to receive updates by email please let me know so that I can add you to the list.

Please note that many events sell out well before the booking deadline. We do operate a waiting list for events that sell out so even if the booking deadline has passed it is worth asking if there is something that you are interested in. We require a deposit at the time of booking with the balance being due at least two weeks before

Contact Details

Branch Secretary:

Barbara Moorhouse

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Mobile: 07727 026707

Email:

barbara.moorhouse@oddfellows.co.uk

Care and Welfare Telephone:

Telephone: 020 8741 5297

Mobile: 07727358456

Social Organiser: Rosalind Earp

Telephone: 07421 140970

Email:

rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk

Office Address:

The Oddfellows
186 Hammersmith Road
Hammersmith
London
W6 7DJ.

the event. We can accept cash, cheques and bank transfers.

We can now take card payments using a secure link as well as in person. If you are unable to attend an event and we are able to resell the place we will of course give you a full refund. Please note that if you are attending an event that involves a service charge on the final bill you will be expected to pay your share, the Lodge is unable to pay this on your behalf.

The deadline for booking the trip to the Algarve in November has been extended! If you are interested please contact me asap.

The art class continues to be held every Thursday starting at 10.30am. All are welcome, even if you think you cannot draw or paint why not pop along, you may be surprised at yourself! Please see the advert later in the diary for more information.

There are still many virtual events run by different Oddfellows branches throughout the country, taking place on Zoom and Facebook each week. Again up to date information can be found on the website. If you would like to receive information by email each fortnight please let me know.

If you have any ideas or would like something included in our next diary please get in touch. I can be contacted on the office number 020 8741 5297 on Thursdays from 10am – 3pm or Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm on 07421140970. Alternatively email me rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk.

I hope to see you at an event soon.

Best wishes
Rosalind

Regular Events

Weekly Watercolour Art Class



10.30am – 1pm



Free



Beginners weekly watercolour art class. Everyone can draw, everyone can paint with a little help. Join us for our weekly class, which is designed for beginners, but more experienced painters are welcome. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Heather on 07951 546958.

Every Thursday



July

TUES
01

Social and Games Afternoon



2pm



Free



Join us for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served.

Free - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



Booking and Cancellations

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

THURS
03

Fiddler On The Roof



2.30pm



Members £55
Guests £65



A theatrical triumph, the Regent's Park Open Air Theatre's completely sold-out electrifying 'Fiddler On The Roof' transfers to London this summer in what is set to be the theatre event of 2025. It's 1905 in the tiny village of Anatevka. Tevye, a Jewish milkman, lives his life by their proud traditions. For his five daughters, that means a visit from the matchmaker. As each daughter challenges his beliefs, against the backdrop of a changing world, can he hold on to his roots, or must he bend to the will of his children and embrace the unfamiliar? Book by Friday 20 June. Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

FRI
11

London Eye and River Cruise



11.45am



Members £39
Guests £46



Join us for a 40 minute circular sightseeing boat cruise along the famous River



Thames starting at 11.45am. We will then have an optional lunch nearby before boarding the London Eye at 2.30pm for a 30 minute rotation with iconic 360 degree views of the capital. Cost: £39 for members and £46 for guests, plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 27 June. The London Eye, Riverside Building County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7PB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

July

TUES
15

Bob Sinfield - No Laughing Matter?

L 2pm

£ Free



No Laughing Matter? What's So Funny About The News? Writer and performer, Bob Sinfield explores the relationship between comedy and current affairs, charting the course of TV and radio satire from TW3 to Mock the Week, exposing the pitfalls of poking fun at serious subjects and revealing what happens when the comic becomes the butt of the joke. Light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



FRI
18

Monthly Meal - Persian

L 7pm

£ As per menu



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines. Join us at Aquarium Restaurant in Acton this month for a Persian meal. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Friday 4 July. Aquarium Persian Restaurant, 4 The Broadway, Gunnersbury Lane, Acton W3 8HR. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

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 social events, as well as supporting our members through a range of benefits and services. The Society is run by our members for our members. For more information visit www.oddfellows.co.uk or call **0800 028 1810** to speak to one of our team.

THURS
24

The Comedy about Spies



7.30pm



Members £35
Guests £40



Brace yourself for hilarious mayhem and a not-so-secret mission. Mischief, the multi award-winning company behind *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *Peter Pan Goes Wrong* and *The Comedy About a Bank Robbery*, bring an uproarious 1960s spy escapade, bursting with bungled missions, tangled identities and miscommunication that's anything but covert. When a rogue British agent pilfers plans for a top-secret weapon, CIA and KGB spies converge on London's Piccadilly Hotel in pursuit of the elusive file.



Add to the mix a clueless young couple, a hapless actor angling for the role of James Bond and enough double agents to confuse even the sharpest operative and you've got a mission that's hilariously out of control. Optional pre-theatre meal. The show starts at 7.30pm. Cost: £35 for members and £40 for guests, plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 11 July. Noël Coward Theatre, 85-88 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4AU. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SAT
26

London Museum of Water and Steam



11am



Members £10
Guests £15



Discover the fascinating world of water and steam at the London Museum of Water and Steam. Share in the history and energy of the Kew Bridge Waterworks and marvel at the amazing working pumping engines that helped make London the city it is today. Book by Friday 11 July. London Museum of Water and Steam, Green Dragon Lane Brentford, Brentford TW8 0EN. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



August

TUES
05

Social and Games Afternoon



2pm



Free



Join us for an afternoon of games, bingo or a quiz and socialising. Light refreshments will be served. Free – donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



THURS
07

Whitstable by Train



10am



Cost of travel



Whitstable is a charming seaside town located on the north coast of Kent. It's known for its world-famous oysters, rich history and coastal beauty. Whitstable is a popular destination for both tourists and locals, offering a mix of attractions, activities and a vibrant food scene. We will be travelling by train – approximate cost £26 for an adult return ticket. Book by Friday 25 July. Whitstable, Kent CT5 1RB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



TUES
19

The History of the Red Arrows



2pm



Free



Today we are joined by aviation historian Guy Bartlett. Guy has been giving presentations on a range of aviation-related subjects since 2015. His talks are designed to be of relevance to everyone whether they have an interest in aircraft or not. Light refreshments will be served – donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

August

FRI
22

The Savill Garden and Heritage Tour by Coach



10am



See below



We will be travelling to the garden by coach. When we arrive you will have time to explore the garden at your leisure or on an optional guided tour. We can then have lunch in their restaurant before we board our coach for the Heritage Tour at 2.30pm. The coach will depart at 4.30pm to return to Hammersmith. Savill Garden is a 35-acre haven of gardens, woodland and seasonal displays which was commissioned by George V and created by Eric Savill in 1932.

The Heritage Tour, is led by an expert guide. We will learn about the long history of the estate and visit various parts of the park including The Coronation Groves - planted to commemorate the coronations of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II. The famous veteran oaks and The Royal School, founded by Queen Victoria and The Estate Village. To finish off the tour, we will have the rare opportunity to disembark from our coach at the top of the iconic Long Walk, to take a photo from The Copper Horse statue of George III to the historic Windsor Castle. The price includes all coach travel, entry to the garden, lunch and The Heritage Tour. There is an optional guided tour of the garden in the morning. Cost: £25 for entry to the Garden and Heritage Tour, Coach £15. Cost of any food and drink. Non-member Cost: £30 for entry to the Garden and Heritage Tour, Coach £25. Cost of any food and drink. Book by Friday 1 August. The Savill Garden, Wick Lane, Englefield Green, Egham W20 0UJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

WED
27

Monthly Meal - Gordon Ramsay Bar and Grill Mayfair



1pm



Members £15 - £20
Guests £20 - £25



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines. Join us at Gordon Ramsay Bar and Grill Mayfair for a special set menu. Cost: Members: £15 for two courses or £20 for three courses. Guests: £20 for two courses or £25 for three courses. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Friday 15 August. Gordon Ramsay Bar & Grill Mayfair, 10-13 Grosvenor Square W1K 6JP. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

September - Friendship Month

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



THURS
11

Oliver the Musical



7.30pm



Members £55
Guests £65



Cameron Mackintosh's new production of Lionel Bart's iconic musical, *Oliver!*, which he has fully reconceived with director and choreographer Matthew Bourne, is now playing at the Gielgud Theatre.

With a sensational score, including *Food Glorious Food*, *Consider Yourself*, *You've Got to Pick-a-Pocket or Two*, *I'd Do Anything*, *Oom Pah Pah*, *As Long As He Needs Me* and many more, the Olivier, Tony and Oscar-winning masterpiece vividly brings to life Dickens' ever-popular story of the boy who asked for more. Optional pre-theatre meal. Cost: £55 for members and £65 for guests, plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 29 August. Gielgud Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1D 6AR. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SAT
13

Buckingham Palace State Rooms and Garden Tour



11.30am



Members £35, Guests £42.30



The State Rooms offer a breathtaking glimpse into the grandeur and elegance of royal life. Used for official events and ceremonies, these rooms are adorned with some of the finest treasures from the Royal Collection, including exquisite paintings, opulent furnishings and stunning chandeliers.



Photo by Gryffindor

This summer, visitors to the State Rooms can enjoy a special exhibition *The King's Tour Artists* in the Palace Ballroom. The *Garden Highlights Tour* explains the history of the garden, taking us to the beautiful *Herbaceous Border*, the wisteria-clad summer house and *Rose Garden*, the *Waterloo Vase* and the Palace tennis court, where King George VI and Fred Perry played in the 1930s. Cost: £35 for members and £42.30 for guests, plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 5 September. Buckingham Palace, The Mall SW1A 1BB. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

September - Friendship Month

TUES
16

**I've Worn Hearing Aids for
Years - Here is What I've Learnt**



2pm



Free



ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



Join us for an honest, informative talk by our very own Katrina Williams. She will cover: Understanding hearing loss and test results NHS vs private hearing aids latest research and advice. Perfect for anyone curious about hearing care or living with hearing loss. All welcome - come and learn what can really make a difference. Light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



**Say *yes* to
friendship in
September**

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

All welcome

Make friends with the Oddfellows



www.friendshipmonth.com

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

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



September - Friendship Month

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER
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WED 17 Monthly Meal - Chinese

🕒 12.30pm

£ As per menu



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines. Join us at Four Regions Restaurant this month for a Chinese meal. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Friday 5 September. Four Regions, 102-104 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2PQ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

WED 24 Kensington Palace - Dress Codes Exhibition

🕒 11am

£ Members £5
Guests £24.70



Discover never-before-seen royal fashion treasures in Dress Codes, a new exhibition at Kensington Palace. Explore the codes and conventions of royal clothing and the powerful impact fashion can make when boundaries are pushed and dress codes evolve. Among the highlights of this exciting new exhibition are pieces worn by a young Queen Elizabeth II, Diana, Princess of Wales, Dame Vivienne Westwood, Princess Margaret and Queen Victoria.

Dress Codes showcases both recognisable and rarely-seen treasures from the Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection, a collection of 10,000 objects spanning 500 years, cared for by Historic Royal Palaces. Stunning items from the Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection on display in 2025 include an extremely rare Japanese court suit dating from the early 20th century and a never-before-seen 1920s Reville court dress worn to Buckingham Palace. Alongside these spectacular examples of royal and court dress, discover how dress codes can be reset and re-made for today through designs by Young Producers, aged 14-17. This new partnership with local youth groups paves the way for a new generation of young people to contribute to the arts and fashion industries. Cost: £5 for members and £24.70 for guests, plus the cost of your travel, food and drink. Book by Friday 12 September. Kensington Palace, Kensington Gardens W8 4PX. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

October

SAT
04

Madam Tussauds – VIP Experience



11am



Members £45
Guests £50



Join us for the VIP Champagne Bar Experience and skip the queues for an unforgettable journey into luxury at 'The 1835 Champagne Bar'. We will begin our star-studded adventure with a complimentary glass of premium champagne, a cold beer, or refreshing soft drink of your choice, plus fast-track entry. This exclusive experience, only available at the original Madame Tussauds in London, is your VIP pass to indulgence.



Experience exclusive displays including One Direction's iconic handprints, Cher's dress and meet the elegant Audrey Hepburn. Cost: £45 for members and £50 for guests, plus the cost of your travel and any additional food and drink. Book by 19 September. Madame Tussauds, Marylebone Road NW1 5LR. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SUN
05

Apple Day at Fulham Palace



11am



TBC



An autumn glow will light up Fulham Palace at their annual Apple Day. In previous years there has been live jazz music, crafts, storytelling and a seasonal artisan market with crafts and food market throughout the garden, with around 50 stalls hosting local and small businesses. With the orchard fruit taking a star turn during the harvest-style festival, the day will likely showcase: Apple pressing sessions, an apple cake baking competition, produce fresh from the heritage site's extensive garden. Please note this is subject to change as details have not yet been released for 2025. Book by Friday 19 September. Fulham Palace, Bishop's Avenue, Fulham, London SW6 6EA. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

October

WED
15

Bank of England Museum



11am



Members £5
Guests £10



Join us as we discover the story of the Bank of England through their fascinating historical objects and works of art. The collection contains tens of thousands of items and spans over 1,500 years of history.

It includes archaeology, banknotes, coins, artworks, sculpture, decorative art and social history. Book by Friday 3 October. Bank of England, Threadneedle Street EC2R 8AH. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.



SAT
18

Half Yearly Meeting



2pm



Free



As an organisation, which has been around for over 200 years and in line with other guild and fraternal organisations of similar age, we have certain traditions, ceremonies, titles and regalia which have been used over the years. The West London District of Oddfellows celebrate this rich tradition by continuing to hold such traditional meetings and welcome all members who are 'good on the books' to join us, take part, and find out more about the true meaning of Oddfellowship.

If you wish to attend this meeting you MUST let Barbara know by Friday 10 October please. You cannot be admitted to the meeting if you have not done so. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Barbara on 07727 026707.

October

TUES
21

Ian Porter - Call The Midwife



2pm



Free



Ian returns to tell us about 'Call The Midwife'. He will start with a short history of Poplar in London's East End, then a short history of nursing. He will then do an armchair walk through Poplar, looking at the places, stories and characters that are mentioned in the 'Call The Midwife' books and TV programmes. He will also explore how accurate 'Call The Midwife' is of the 1950s East End. You don't have to have watched the TV programmes to enjoy the talk. Light refreshments will be served - donations are welcomed. The Oddfellows, 186 Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7DJ. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

SUN
26

Monthly Meal - Italian



7pm



As per menu



Each month we will be having a meal in a different area of our District and trying different cuisines. Join us at Siracusa Restaurant in Brentford this



month for an Italian meal. Please note that attendees will be expected to pay any service charges included in the final bill. The Branch will not pay this on your behalf. A £10 deposit will be required when booking. Book by Friday 10 October. Siracusa Restaurant, Brentford Lock, High Street, Brentford TW8 8LF. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

FRI
31

Ghosts, Ghouls and Gallows Tour with Boat Ride



4pm



Members £15
Guests £21.60



Delve into London's dark history on an evening ghost tour of the city's royal parks, ideal for thrill-seekers and history buffs. Under the cloak of darkness, explore dimly lit parks and historic buildings while listening to spine chilling stories from our ghoulish guide. Plus, enjoy a Thames River cruise which ends at the Tower of London, allegedly London's most haunted landmark. Constance Fund Fountain of Diana, London SW1A 1RD. Contact Rosalind on 07421 140970.

Oddfellows Extra

– big brand offers and savings



From cinema tickets, holidays and new cars to grocery shopping, health spas and home insurance – Oddfellows Extra* can help you save on life's little extras or necessities.

Oddfellows Extra is an online collection of money-saving discounts and offers from many well-known brands and major retailers.

All Oddfellows Extra deals are open to Standard members and members with Extra Benefits from day one, for no extra charge.

Access Oddfellows Extra

If you're a member, sign in to the Member's Area and select 'Oddfellows Extra' from the member offers section. If you've not yet registered for the Member's Area, there are instructions on how to do so on our website: www.oddfellows.co.uk/login

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*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits.
Visit the Oddfellows Extra website for details.



Oddfellows Extra is operated on behalf of Oddfellows by Parliament Hill Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for under register number 308448.

Photos of past events...



Our newly installed Chairperson, Rosalind, the outgoing Chairperson Heather and Deputy Chairperson Dawn.

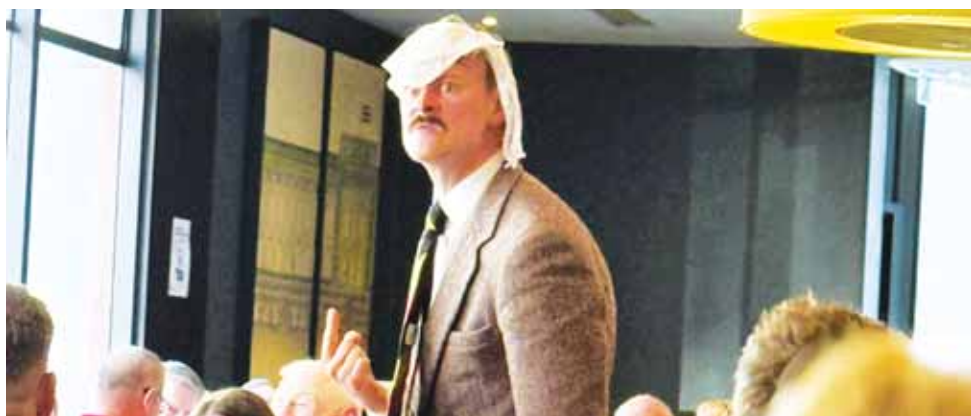


We had a lovely Vietnamese meal in Shepherd's Bush.



Fascinating fans at The Fan Museum in Greenwich.

We had a hilarious time at Faulty Towers – The dining experience!



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 on **020 8741 5297**.

Oddfellows 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**

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Oddfellows Travel: Destination Mystery

In November last year, 16 Oddfellows and three friends boarded a cruise ship with no idea of its destination.

With six mystery ports scheduled in 11 days, there was a lot to pack in, and there was plenty to keep them entertained on board: interesting talks, a murder mystery, craft sessions, quizzes and a drinks party.

Port one

Dawn broke on day two, revealing Gijon in northern Spain as the first destination. Some set out on organised excursions while others explored independently.



Port two

An overnight hop delivered our travellers to their second secret Spanish stop – Ferrol.

Wendy, an Ipswich Oddfellows member and cruise host, said: “It was an interesting port, not well known to many regular passengers. There was a mix of interesting architecture and maritime history – the naval museum was a must.”

Port three

The ship next docked in Porto, Portugal, where the group were greeted by a broad

esplanade and a sweeping sandy beach, and they discovered a thriving fish market.

Port four

Back in Spain, the fourth port was a warm, sunny Malaga. “It was amazing,” said Wendy. “The cathedral was well worth a visit, also the Roman amphitheatre.”

Port five

The Spanish odyssey and Roman themes continued at the penultimate stop in Cadiz.

“The sea defences were testament to the city’s position close to the entrance of the Mediterranean,” Wendy said.

Port six

Having worked out their next stop, Wendy said: “Lisbon wasn’t quite such a mystery, but a delight nevertheless. The highlight was a lift ride to see magnificent views over Lisbon and the River Tejo.”

Surprises and celebrations

Before returning, the Oddfellows crew received a mystery gift bag containing souvenirs from Spain and Portugal, Fred. Olsen gifts and chocolates, and celebrated a member’s birthday with cake provided by the chef and singing waiters.

See Oddfellows Travel’s 2025 group holiday schedule, including a cruise to Iceland in July, by visiting www.oddfellows.co.uk/travel

Trio receive university funding

Congratulations to the latest recipients of our First Degree Course Educational Awards: Lillie Buckley, Edward Smith and Torsten Ellis.

Easing the pressure

Each year, a selection of Oddfellows members heading to university for the first time are chosen to receive a non-repayable bursary of £900 per year for the duration of their studies.

Jane Nelson, CEO of the Oddfellows, said: "I'm delighted that the Society can play a part in enhancing Lillie, Edward and Torsten's university experiences.

"Attempting to budget finances alongside studying is as tough as it's ever been but this funding from our Educational Awards will help to ease those stresses as they embark on this exciting stage in their lives."

Each year, our Fraternal Board chooses who will receive the funding, based on the applications received.

Grand Master (Chairman) of the Society, Barbara Needham, added: "I'm so proud that we are able to give the younger generation a bit of a financial boost, which will help them to take these all-important next steps on their way to making their mark on the world.

"I wish them every success over the next few years and beyond."

Lillie Buckley, Nottingham Trent Branch member

Lillie started studying Veterinary Science at the University of Bristol in September 2024.



She says the funding will allow her to purchase a new laptop for doing her university work, as well as helping to cover travel costs for work placements which she'll complete as part of her studies.

She said: "When I found out I would be receiving the funding, I was extremely happy and honoured to have been chosen. I want to say a huge thank you to the Oddfellows, as this will help support me throughout my degree and I can't wait to see what the future holds.

"I am loving the course so far. We've learnt lots of interesting things. In the future I would like to be a small animal vet, however I am keeping an open mind as I love cows!"

Edward Smith, Erewash Valley Branch member

Chemical Engineering student Edward began his course at the University of Manchester in September 2024.

He plans to follow his studies with a chartership while working as a Process Engineer. A Process Engineer designs, optimises and manages the processes used to transform raw materials into finished products in manufacturing or chemical plants.

“I felt very proud, honoured and relieved to receive extra funding to help with my studies,” he said. “I would encourage all eligible students to have a go at applying for this award.”



Edward says the money will go toward purchasing books and other learning materials.

Torsten Ellis, Derby Derwent Valley Branch member

Torsten has been reading Theoretical Physics with Mathematics at Lancaster University since October 2024.



He says the funding will allow him to budget better when purchasing learning materials, such as textbooks, and taking part in extra-curricular activities.

He added: “It felt great to learn I had been chosen for the funding. I was also somewhat relieved as it means I will have to worry less about my finances over the course of each year.

“My modules are split between the physics and maths departments, which is great because I’ll get a rich understanding of both and I’m looking forward to next year when I can pick modules and advance my understanding of both fields.”

Unity Mutual: Seasonal scam spotting



With tax season coming to a close, scammers start to move their attention to new opportunities.

As new financial scams emerge, people get targeted in different ways. Our financial services brand, Unity Mutual, has assessed what to watch out for in the coming months.

April to May: The tax refund scam

With key tax deadlines passing, fraudsters may take advantage of taxpayers hoping for a refund. You may receive emails, phone calls or text messages claiming you're due reimbursement.

Verify any tax-related communication through official government channels before responding to avoid being caught out.

Summer scams: Holidays, events and ticket fraud

From June to August, scammers often aim to exploit the excitement of summer holiday planning by offering fake 'not to be missed' deals on accommodation and flights, often through unofficial websites.

Concert and sporting event fraud is also on the up, and attempts to sell fake tickets on social media platforms are becoming increasingly common. Avoid these traps

by booking through reputable travel agencies and official events websites.

August to September: Back to school scams

As students and their families prepare for a new school year, fraudsters like to create fake offers for school supplies, loans and student rental accommodation.

If an offer seems too good to be true, verify it with official sources before taking action.

Stay vigilant year-round

While some scams are season-specific, fraudsters are always on the lookout for their next victim.



Stay informed, be sceptical of unsolicited requests for money or personal information, and always verify who you're dealing with before taking action.

For more financial tips and resources visit www.unitymutual.co.uk/knowledge-hub
To view Unity Mutual's range of family friendly financial products* visit www.unitymutual.co.uk/oddfellows

For more information call 0161 214 4628.

*Terms and conditions apply

Join the conversation @OddfellowsUK

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

Find us at  OddfellowsUK

Assistance at events

Please be aware that we do not provide staff to give assistance to individuals at any events, including, but not limited to, pushing wheelchairs, providing physical support or to provide individual attention for any personal needs. If you need any such assistance, in the interest of your own safety we cannot accept your attendance unless it includes a companion or carer to accompany you. If a carers rate is available it will be passed to you. Thank you for your understanding.

Interested in volunteering?

Helping others is at the heart of being an Oddfellow and that's exactly what our wonderful volunteers do. There are lots of ways you can get involved as a volunteer, from one-off help to regular support.

You can help us by:

- Welcoming members Guests and speakers at events
- Helping prepare refreshments
- Being the volunteer host at external events
- Organising events as part of a social committee
- Joining the Committee of Management
- Becoming a Volunteer Welfare Visitor or befriender.



To find out more, contact Rosalind on 07421 140970
rosalind.earp@oddfellows.co.uk.

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THE **Oddfellows** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

www.oddfellows.co.uk

The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F.
Registered Office: Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB

Events at a glance

In addition to our regular events, we are holding the **Weekly Watercolour Art Class** every Thursday, please see page 3 for full details.

July 2025

Tues 1	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm
Thurs 3	Fiddler On The Roof	2.30pm
Fri 11	London Eye and River Cruise	11.45am
Tues 15	Bob Sinfield - No Laughing Matter?	2pm
Fri 18	Monthly Meal - Persian	7pm
Thurs 24	The Comedy about Spies	7.30pm
Sat 26	London Museum of Water and Steam	11am

August

Tues 5	Social and Games Afternoon	2pm
Thurs 7	Whitstable by Train	10am
Tues 19	The History of the Red Arrows	2pm
Fri 22	The Savill Garden and Heritage Tour by Coach	10am
Wed 27	Monthly Meal - Gordon Ramsay Bar and Grill Mayfair	1pm

September - Friendship Month

Thurs 11	Oliver the Musical	7.30pm
Sat 13	Buckingham Palace State Rooms and Garden Tour	11.30am
Tues 16	I've Worn Hearing Aids for Years - Here is What I've Learnt	2pm
Wed 17	Monthly Meal - Chinese	12.30pm
Wed 24	Kensington Palace - Dress Codes Exhibition	11am

October

Sat 4	Madam Tussauds - VIP Experience	11am
Sun 5	Apple Day at Fulham Palace	11am
Wed 15	Bank of England Museum	11am
Sat 18	Half Yearly Meeting	2pm
Tues 21	Ian Porter - Call The Midwife	2pm
Sun 26	Monthly Meal - Italian	7pm
Fri 31	Ghosts, Ghouls and Gallows Tour with Boat Ride	4pm