

Outings Group

LEIGHTON HALL AND BARTON GRANGE

Wednesday 26 November 2025

BOOKINGS FOR THIS TRIP ARE NOW CLOSED

Burnley Bus Station depart 0900, Padiham Town Hall depart 0920

Barton Grange depart 1530; due back around 1630

Contacts Anne Green , Howard & Nancy Mitchell.

Please note, there is no cause for alarm but if your Debit Card ends with 4751 please contact Howard

Committee Members

As we approach our AGM next April several of our committee members will have completed their term of service. We are therefore seeking volunteers to come forward and join the committee for the year ahead.

If you have an interest in helping to guide and support our u3a, we would warmly welcome your nomination. No prior committee experience is required, just enthusiasm, a willingness to contribute, and a desire to keep our group thriving.

If you would like to know more about what's involved or are considering putting your name forward, please speak to any current committee member.

Quiz Question

Which two of Santa's reindeer's names begin with the letter "C" ?

Forthcoming Meetings

November 27th	Steven P Taylor	Performance Poet
December 11th	Handbell Group	
January 22nd	Norman Harris	Gasping for breath in the Himalayas

Monthly Open Meetings are held at the Nazareth Unitarian Chapel, Padiham, BB12 8JH at 2:30 pm on the 4th Thursday in the month (except December). Visitors welcome at a charge of £2.

Burnley and District

Newsletter

u3a
learn, laugh, live

November 2025 Issue 204

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Groups Co-ordinator
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David Hunt

Group Tea Rota
November

Quiz
December
Committee
Members

January
Singing

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



Have you all recovered from celebrating Halloween? This event seems to grow in importance every year and is now a major celebratory time. Will the government soon be giving us Halloween holidays, like Christmas? Speaking of which, why is Christmas getting earlier and earlier? As soon as the Hal-

loween decorations are taken down, and many homes really go to town, up go Christmas lights and trees. Try buying a birthday card in November. Nightmare! Anyway, rant over. I actually started my Christmas shopping the other day, I bought some Christmas cards. It's a start!

The Knitting and Crochet group recently delivered several dozen knitted hearts to Pendleside Hospice. These are given out to bereaved families as keepsakes. Several cot blankets and baby hats have once again been taken to the Neo-Natal unit in Burnley. All were gratefully received.

I'd just like to ask groups to participate in our Christmas exhibition, which will be held at the December monthly meeting. It would be lovely to see what groups have been creating over the year.

I shall finish with this little quote, which I find very relevant as I can never remember passwords: "I changed my password to 'incorrect' so whenever I forget it, the computer reminds me.

Maria

December Newsletter Deadline is
Wednesday 3rd December 2025 12:00 noon

Book Group: Will meet in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church **on Monday 15th December from 10am to noon**. The book for discussion is A Week in Winter by Maeve Binchy. Our theme for next year will be debut novels starting on Monday **19th January 2026** with Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman. Pass those long winter evenings with a good book and join us. .

Marilyn Jones
Sonia Rawlinson

Exercise for Wellbeing Group: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at **10:30am** in the Unitarian Chapel. Everybody welcome. For further information contact Sonia or Maureen.

Sonia Rawlinson
Maureen Brown

The Coffee Group: There will be no meeting for the coffee club in December due to the clash with the main meeting . January meeting is also cancelled due to nobody coming forward to take over from me.

Freda Whittle

English Folk Dancing: Folk Dancing: Only one meeting this month on **5th December at 2.00pm**. Jacob's Join, every one welcome.

Eric Bushby

The French Conversation Group: meets on the **first and third Thursdays** of the month. Please note that this group is currently full. For further information contact Rhoda Gouldsbrough.

Rhoda Gouldsbrough

Intermediate German Group: There will no German Classes in December.

Laura Carter

Handbell Ringing Group: will meet at St. Leonard's Church, Padiham on **Wednesdays, 3rd & 17th December** between **2.00pm - 3.30pm**. Please contact Valerie Widdas for more information.

Valerie Widdas

History including Local History: Thursday 4th December 10.30 to 12.00 in the Hameldon Room Unitarian Church Padiham. Give a brief talk about " Victorian Christmas " either poor Victorian Christmas or The Rich Christmas

Enid Thorp

Indoor Bowls: Meets **1st and 3rd Thursday** of each month at the Methodist Church, Padiham Rd, Burnley, **10.00 am to 12 Noon**. There are a couple of spaces available, please ring Ian for details.

Ian Fletcher

Knitting and Crochet Group: The next meeting will be on **8th December at 10am** to midday in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church. Some of the meeting will be devoted to knitting and crochet, the rest will take the form of a Christmas Jacob's Join. May we wish you all a Merry Christmas! The first meeting of 2026 will be on **12th January**.

Melinda Jackson

Computer Group: Will meet every 2nd Thursday of each month 2pm-4pm for beginners and experts. Bring any problems along. It's at my house use my contact number or contact 'webmaster' on the u3a contact page.

Dave Hunt
07947 775666

The Lunch Bunch: December Xmas lunch Friday 19th at JJs at the **Dugdale 12 for 1230**. No lunch in January. Lunch Bunch will start again in February 2026. Venue TBA

Ukulele Group: meets on the **1st and 3rd Friday** of each month. **10:00am** at Padiham Rd Methodist Church, Ightenhill, Burnley. For December meeting arrangements please contact Jeff Salisbury.

Jeff Salisbury

Philosophy Group: Will meet at the Nazareth Unitarian Chapel **Tuesday 16th December at 10am**.

Jim Wallace

Photography Group: 2:00pm start on the second Friday each month Meet at the Unity Centre, Padiham BB12 8JH **No group meeting this month** – exhibition at the monthly meeting on 11th December

Peter Hartley
Stuart Chattle

Quiz Group: will meet on **Monday 15th December from 2-4pm** at Padiham Road Methodist Church

Ann Bullas

Scrabble Group: meets alternate Wednesday afternoons **1:30-3:30** at Pike Hill Library, Burnley. New members are always welcome, whether beginners or more experienced players. For further information contact Christine Potter.

Christine Potter

Singing Group: will meet on **Monday 1st December 11.00 to 12.30** in the Hameldon Room at Padiham Unitarian Church

Ann Bullas
Pamela Hopcroft

Spanish Beginners Group: There will only be one meeting of the Beginner's Spanish Group in December on **8th** (the 2nd Monday of the month) **between 2pm and 4pm** at Padiham Road Methodist Church. Newcomers welcome.

Jean Atherton

Intermediate Spanish Group: will meet on Fridays, **December only on Friday 12th** between **10.00am to 12:00 midday**.

Gil Beeke

Craft Group: will meet on the **3rd Wednesday** of the Month from 10am-12 noon in the Hameldon room at Padiham Unitarian Church

Julie Sharpley
Elizabeth Platt

Painting for Pleasure: meets at **10am to 12noon** on the first and third Mondays of the month at Padiham Road Methodist Church BB12 8AD. However we are only meeting on **1st December** due to early monthly meeting. If anyone would like to come along to try a class, perhaps in the New Year, we have a vacancy. We are a self-help group. January dates are 5th & 19th. Please contact Margaret or Jean if you are interested.

Jean Philips
Margaret Simpson

Walking Group: 10:30am start on the first (longer walk) and third (shorter walk) Friday each month.

Peter Hartley

Friday 5th December: Barley to Black Moss Reservoirs

Approx 3 miles mainly on hard surfaces but with a section across fields which may be muddy and a shallow ford crossing. Boots should keep feet dry but a towel may prove useful if there has been a lot of rain. No stiles. Start from Barley Car Park near The Cabin at 1030 prompt in order to arrive back by 12:00 for our Christmas meal.

Leader: Howard Mitchell

Friday 19th December: Irwell Vale

About 3 miles, start from East Lancs Railway Station, off Hardsough Ln, Irwell Vale BL0 0QG

Leader: Peter Hartley