

## Outings Group

Thank you to everyone who has travelled with us in 2025!  
We are working hard on planning the programme for 2026 but we still need to complete some of the details.  
Here are the destinations but even these are incomplete.

DALE TOWN  
APPLE  
LOW CAR  
EKE HALL  
CHEST

Can you guess where we will be going?  
More information available soon from Howard, Nancy and Anne.

## Peter Hughes

Peter Hughes was an early member of our u3a and will be greatly missed by everyone at the Burnley & District u3a. A long standing and dedicated committee member, he stepped up as Chair for 3 years when no other volunteers came forward. When Peter and his wife Sue moved to Leyland to be near family they were a great loss. Peter will be remembered with gratitude and affection. A memorial service is to be held at St. Peters in the new year.

## Merry Christmas

The Committee would like to wish all our members a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy new year. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and community spirit each of you brings to our groups and activities. We look forward to sharing many enjoyable moments and new experiences and opportunities together in the coming year.



## Quiz Question

Where is the festival of Up Helly Aa held on the last Tuesday in January?

## Forthcoming Meetings

December 11th	Handbell Group & Scott Robertson guitar virtuoso
January 22nd	Norman Harris Gasping for breath in the Himalayas
February 26th	Nikki Parmenter "Travels in Textiles"

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

December 2025 Issue 205

Chair  
Maria Chattle

Vice Chair  
Barry Greenwood

Secretary  
Margaret Bushby

Treasurer  
Alan Nicholls

Membership Secretary  
Peter Hartley

Groups Co-ordinator  
Elizabeth Platt

Speaker Secretary  
Jim Wallace

Minutes Secretary  
Freda Whittle

Reception  
Sandra Clarkson

Newsletter Editor  
Alan Nicholls

Website Administrator  
David Hunt

## Group Tea Rota

December  
Committee Members  
January  
Singing  
February  
Both  
Spanish Groups



## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

I apologise from the outset with regard to the brevity of my contribution this month (many will be pleased!). It seems only a few days since I was doing this and having a rant about how early Christmas seems to be, and now it's nearly Christmas!

I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting on the 11th December and hope you enjoy the entertainment and also the exhibition of work being exhibited by several groups.

On that note, I would like to wish you all a very Happy, Peaceful and Healthy Christmas and New Year.

See you in January.

Maria

January Newsletter Deadline is  
Wednesday 14th January 2026 12:00 noon

<b>Book Group:</b> Will meet in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church on <b>Monday 19th January 2026 from 10am to noon.</b> The book for discussion is Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman. Our theme for this year is debut novels and our choice for February is The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco. .	Marilyn Jones  Sonia Rawlinson
<b>Exercise for Wellbeing Group: 1st and 3rd Tuesday</b> of the month at <b>10:30am</b> in the Unitarian Chapel. Everybody welcome. For further information contact Sonia or Maureen.	Sonia Rawlinson  Maureen Brown
<b>The Coffee Group:</b> There will be no meeting for the coffee club in January.	Freda Whittle
<b>English Folk Dancing:</b> There will only be one meeting which will be on <b>15th January.</b> Meet in Higham Village Hall at <b>2.00pm.</b> Everyone welcome	Eric Bushby
<b>The French Conversation Group:</b> meets on the <b>first and third Thursdays</b> of the month. For further information contact Rhoda Gouldsbrough.	Rhoda Gouldsbrough
<b>Intermediate German Group:</b> This group is now full and at the moment we are not taking new members. We meet on the <b>2nd and 4th Tuesday</b> of the month in the reference room at Burnley Library <b>1 to 3pm.</b>	Laura Carter
<b>Handbell Ringing Group:</b> The Handbell Ringing group will meet at St. Leonard's church, Padiham on Wednesdays, <b>7th and 21st January between 2.00pm and 3.30pm.</b> For more information please contact Valerie Widdas	Valerie Widdas
<b>History including Local History:</b> January meeting cancelled as it's new years day.	Enid Thorp
<b>Indoor Bowls:</b> Meets <b>1st and 3rd Thursday</b> of each month at the Methodist Church, Padiham Rd, Burnley, <b>10.00 am to 12 Noon.</b> There are a couple of spaces available, please ring Ian for details.	Ian Fletcher
<b>Knitting and Crochet Group:</b> Meetings in <b>January</b> will take place on <b>Mondays 12th and 26th at 10am to midday</b> in the Hameldon Room of the Unity Centre in the Padiham Unitarian Church. The 12th will be a general session for members to work on their own projects, then on the 26th we shall venture into Lace Knitting with a workshop on this topic. For once, we shall make holes and mean it!	Melinda Jackson
<b>Computer Group:</b> 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
<b>The Lunch Bunch:</b> No lunch in January. Lunch Bunch will start again in February 2026. Venue TBA	Ann

<b>Ukulele Group:</b> meets on the <b>1st and 3rd Friday</b> of each month. <b>10:00am</b> at Padiham Rd Methodist Church, Ightenhill, Burnley. For December meeting arrangements please contact Jeff Salisbury.	Jeff Salisbury
<b>Philosophy Group:</b> The next meeting will be <b>Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 10am</b> Unitarian Chapel.	Jim Wallace
<b>Photography Group: 2:00pm</b> start on the second Friday each month Meet at the Unity Centre, Padiham BB12 8JH. <b>Wednesday 7th January :</b> Group lunch at JJ's 1:00pm <b>Friday 9th January :</b> Subject for this month: Arches	Peter Hartley  Stuart Chattle
<b>Quiz Group:</b> will meet on <b>Monday 19th January from 2-4pm</b> at Padiham Road Methodist Church	Ann Bullas
<b>Scrabble Group:</b> meets alternate Wednesday afternoons, <b>7th and 21st January, 1.30-3.30pm,</b> at Pike Hill Library. New members are always welcome, whether beginners or more experienced players. For further information contact Christine Potter.	Christine Potter
<b>Singing Group:</b> will meet on <b>Monday 5th January 11.00 to 12.30</b> in the Hameldon Room at Padiham Unitarian Church	Ann Bullas  Pamela Hopcroft
<b>Spanish Beginners Group:</b> will meet on the <b>2nd and 4th Mondays of January (January 12th and 26th) between 2pm and 4pm</b> at Padiham Road Methodist Church (Bassett Street). Newcomers welcome. This is a friendly group.	Jean Atherton
<b>Intermediate Spanish Group:</b> will meet on Fridays, <b>9th and 23rd January from 10.00am until midday.</b> For more information please contact Gil Beeke	Gil Beeke
<b>Craft Group:</b> will meet on the <b>3rd Wednesday</b> of the Month from 10am-12 noon in the Hameldon room at Padiham Unitarian Church	Julie Sharpley  Elizabeth Platt
<b>Painting for Pleasure:</b> meets at <b>10am to 12noon</b> on the first and third Mondays of the month at Padiham Road Methodist Church BB12 8AD. <b>January dates are 5th &amp; 19th.</b> Please contact Margaret or Jean if you are interested.	Jean Philips  Margaret Simpson
<b>Walking Group:</b> 10:30am start on the first (longer walk) and third (shorter walk) Friday each month. <b>Friday 2nd January:</b> <b>Friday 16th January:</b>	Peter Hartley
No walks organised yet for 2026 – to be agreed at the Christmas walk/meal on 5 December & details will be circulated by e-mail thereafter	