

Outings Group

SETTLE - CARLISLE RAILWAY TO APPLEBY IN WESTMORLAND
Wednesday 29 April - This is now fully-booked but here are the dates of future Outings

RHS HARLOW CARR GARDENS 24 June 2026
EDEN CAMP MODERN HISTORY MUSEUM 26 August 2026
SPEKE HALL (National Trust) 7 October 2026
CHESTER AT CHRISTMAS 25 November 2026

Bookings will usually open two months in advance.
If you cannot attend the u3a Open Meeting, payment may be made by Bank Transfer to:
Burnley & District u3a Account No 5297 2960 Sort code: 30 99 50
All payments are "Non-refundable" but name changes may be possible.
Everyone welcome!
Outings are open to all members of u3a!

Possible theatre visits for Mellow Dramas

Sunday April 26th	Burnley Municipal Choir Burnley Mechanics Theatre
Thursday April 30th	St Cuthberts Society Variety show Burnley
Saturday May 16th	G4 Phantoms of the Popera Municipal theatre Colne .

Notice of Annual General Meeting of Burnley and District u3a

The Annual General Meeting of Burnley and District u3a will take place on Thursday, 23rd April, 2026 at 2.00pm in The Unity Centre, The Unitarian Chapel, Padiham, BB12 8JN.

Nomination forms for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Committee Member will be available at the monthly meeting on 26th March, 2026 or from the Secretary, Margaret Bushby

Quiz Question

In April 1956 Elvis had his first No.1 hit in the USA with which record?

Forthcoming Meetings

March 26th	Christine Marshall	"Wordsworth"
April 23rd	Pete Mellor	"The assassination of President Kennedy"
May 28th	Melissa Sinden Gray	"Actor and voiceover artist!"

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

March 2026 Issue 208

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

Newsletter Editor
Alan Nicholls

Website Administrator
David Hunt

Group Tea Rota

March
Craft

April
Painting for Pleasure

May
Walking Group



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Spring has finally arrived! Gardens are blooming with colourful crocus, snowdrops, daffodils and bluebells and tulips are preparing to flower. But unfortunately, weeds are waking up too! As I started tidying up the flower beds, I thought to myself that it would be an easy job as there didn't appear to be many weeds. When "rain stopped play" and I ventured out several days later, the weeds had taken over!! Never mind, it keeps us fit and it's supposed to be good for us.

One of our members is hoping to start an Antiques Group, which sounds very interesting. Anyone wanting more information should contact Elizabeth, our Groups Coordinator.

Speaking of Antiques reminded me of an item I came across on Facebook. This is about the Burnley and Nelson Big Dig. It's a 2 year community archaeology project, which will be exploring the ancient history of Burnley and Pendle. It is scheduled to take place between April 2026 and 2028, focusing on Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Medieval history. A particular item of interest was The Battle of Brunanburch (AD937), which is reputed to have taken place near Burnley. Anyone can volunteer. Something to think about.

I'll finish with this unusual quote from Mike Myers: "My theory is that all Scottish cuisine is based on a dare". I'm thinking haggis, fried Mars bars and so on!!

Maria

April Newsletter Deadline is
Wednesday 15th April 2026 12:00 noon

Book Group: Will meet in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church on **Monday 20th April from 10am to noon**. The book for discussion is Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte. Our book choice for May is Fatherland by Robert Harris. New members welcome. .

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: will meet at **11:00-12:00 9th April** at the Bistro Prairie sports village Windermere Ave Burnley

Sonia Rawlinson

English Folk Dancing: will meet in Higham Village Hall at **2.00pm** on **Thursdays 2nd and 16th April**. Everyone welcome.

Eric Bushby

The French Conversation Group: meets on the **first and third Thursdays** of the month. For further information contact Rhoda Gouldsbrough.

Rhoda Gouldsbrough

Intermediate German Group: meets in the reference room of Burnley library on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday** each month from **1 -3pm**. For more information please text me on the mobile number given.

Laura Carter

Handbell Ringing Group: The Handbell Ringing group will meet at St. Leonard's church, Padiham on Wednesdays, **1st, 15th and 29th April between 2.00pm and 3.30pm**. For more information please contact Valerie Widdas

Valerie Widdas

History including Local History: Thursday 9th April (note date moved to 9th Easter 2nd).In the Hameldon Room Unitarian Church Padiham **10.30 to 12.00**. Give a brief Talk on what you know about shopping in the 20th/21st Century bring anything you have related to shopping in this century.

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: April meetings will be held on Mondays **13th and 27th** in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian church at **10am to midday**. Both meetings will be general sessions this month, with members working on their own projects. Do come and join us.

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

The Lunch Bunch: for April **Friday 24th April** at Palazzo Italian restaurant, Burnley **12 noon arrival for 12.30 sit down**

Anne

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: The next meeting will be **Tuesday 7th April 2 at 10am** Unitarian Chapel.

Jim Wallace

Photography Group: **2:00pm** start on the second Friday each month Meet at the Unity Centre, Padiham BB12 8JH.
Friday 10th April :Subject for this month: The natural world

Peter Hartley
Stuart Chattle

Quiz Group: will meet on **Monday 20th April** from **2-4pm** at Padiham Road Methodist Church

Ann Bullas

Scrabble Group: meets alternate Wednesday afternoons, **1st, 15th and 29th April, 1.30-3.30pm**, at Pike Hill Library. 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 13th April 11.00 to 12.30** in the Hameldon Room at Padiham Unitarian Church. This is due to our usual date falling on Easter Monday.

Ann Bullas
Pamela Hopcroft

Spanish Beginners Group: will be meeting on the **2nd and 4th Mondays** of the month - **April 13th and April 27th** between 2pm and 4pm at Padiham Road Methodist Church (Bassett Street). Newcomers are welcome.

Jean Atherton

Intermediate Spanish Group: will meet on Fridays, **10th and 24th April from 10.00am until midday**. For more information please contact Gil Beeke

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 12 noon** on the first and third Mondays of the month at Padiham Road Methodist Church BB12 8AD. 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.
3rd April: No Walk on April 3 because it's Good Friday.
17th April: Worsthorne – start from Hurstwood car park BB10 3LF W3W///urban.sunset.human
Leader: Dave Hunt

Peter Hartley