

Subscriptions

Annual Subscriptions are due in April. We ask that payment is made by Card, Cheque or Bank Transfer. Cheques made out to 'Burnley & District u3a' Fees remain unchanged at £20 per individual, £38 for two people at the same address.

Just a reminder that you can make an extra contribution if you are a tax payer by putting a cross in the box on the enrolment form for Gift Aid. It wont cost you anything but we will be able to claim £5 from HM Government, which will make a great deal of difference to our finances.

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, Prior to the monthly meeting** in The Unity Centre, The Unitarian Chapel, Padiham, BB12 8JN.

Outings Group

RHS HARLOW CARR GARDENS AND HARROGATE Wednesday 24 June 2026

Visit the beautiful idyllic gardens at Harlow Carr noted for their vibrant array of colourful plants in a natural setting. After 3 hours we visit neighbouring Harrogate or there is the option to remain at Harlow Carr if you wish.

Burnley dep 0900, Padiham dep 0920; Harrogate dep 1600, due back approx 1730

£32 includes travel by 49-seater coach, driver's gratuity and admission to RHS Harlow Gardens. (RHS Members may bring a U3A guest £18 each) All payments are "Non-refundable" but name changes may be possible.

Bank transfers may be made if you cannot attend the u3a Open Meetings, subject to availability, Burnley & District u3a Account No 5297 2960 Sort code: 30 99 50

Outings are open to all members of u3a!

Quiz Question

What famous May festival awards the Palme d'Or?

Forthcoming Meetings

April 23rd	Pete Mellor	"The assassination of President Kennedy"
May 28th	Melissa Sinden Gray	"Actor and voiceover artist!"
June 25th	Roger Browne	"George and Ira Gershwin"

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

April 2026 Issue 209

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



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Hope you all had a lovely Easter and managed to get through your Easter Eggs. We managed to see the whole family, but not all at once. It was spread over a week, which was actually quite nice as Easter lasted longer.

As you are aware this will be my final contribution to the newsletter. I can't believe that 2 years have passed so quickly. I can honestly say that I have enjoyed my time as Chair and have been grateful for the support of the committee. And of course for your support and your guidance on the (odd!) occasion that I have made mistakes. Much appreciated. I wish the new Chair and committee members the very best, they are joining a hard working and friendly group.

The weather has been interesting, with lovely spring days, some days more like summer and the, suddenly, sleet and heavy rain. Sometimes all in one day!! I think that we all feel so much happier when we can get out in the sunshine: everyone smiles more and is more friendly.

I was hoping that I would be able to finish my final contribution with a flourish. Sorry. However, I would like to finish with a quote which in some small way explains my past errors:

"No-one is perfect, that's why pencils have erasers".

Maria

Group Tea Rota

April
Painting for Pleasure

May
Walking Group

June
Outings Group

**May Newsletter Deadline is
Monday 18th May 2026 12:00 noon**

Book Group: Will meet in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church on **Monday 18th May** from **10am to noon**. The book for discussion is *Fatherland* by Robert Harris. Our choice for June is *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night* by Mark Haddon. 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 14th May** at the Bistro Prairie sports Golf Range Windermere Ave Burnley

Sonia Rawlinson

English Folk Dancing: will meet in Higham Village Hall at **2.00pm** will only have only **one** meeting this month on **21st May**. 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, **13th and 27th May between 2.00pm and 3.30pm**. For more information please contact Valerie Widdas

Valerie Widdas

History including Local History: **Thursday 7th May 2026** in the Hamledon Room Unitian Church Padiham **10.30 to 12.00** A Talk by Andrew Gill "Rifle Inspection at Rouge Croix"

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**.

Ian Fletcher

Knitting and Crochet Group: Our next meeting will be on Monday **11th May, at 10am until midday** in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian church. It will be a general session where members work on their own projects. We shall have only one meeting in May as the fourth Monday is a Bank Holiday. 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: **Thursday 29th May**, Trawden Arms, Trawden. Arrival **12 noon for 12:30pm** 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 12th May 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 8th May: Subject for this month: Using natural light

Peter Hartley
Stuart Chattle

Quiz Group: will meet on **Monday 18th May** from **2-4pm** at Padiham Road Methodist Church

Ann Bullas

Scrabble Group: meets alternate Wednesday afternoons, **13th and 27th May, 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 **not** meet in May as the 4th May is a Bank Holiday.

Ann Bullas
Pamela Hopcroft

Spanish Beginners Group: There will be only **one** meeting of the Beginner's Spanish Group in May on Monday **May 11th** (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, **8th and 22nd May 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 Phillips
Margaret Simpson

Walking Group: 10:30am start on the first (longer walk) and third (shorter walk) Friday each month.
Friday 1st May: Colne to Salterforth - Start from Colne Rugby club, Harrison Drive BB8 9SF 7.75 miles.
Leader: Peter Hartley

Peter Hartley

Friday 15th May: Ightenhill to Padiham - Start from junction Ightenhill Park Lane and Helvellyn Drive BB12 0AT 4.5 miles.
Leaders: Eric & Margaret Bushby

Possible theatre visits for Mellow Dramas

Sunday April 26th: Burnley Municipal Choir - Burnley Mechanics Theatre

Saturday May 16th: G4 Phantoms of the Popera - Municipal theatre Colne