

Outings Group

SPEKE HALL

Wednesday 7 October 2026

A rare Tudor-framed manor house with a Victorian personality. It is home to a Priest Hole, Gothic Revival Furniture and William Morris wallpaper. We also visit a popular Dobbies Garden Centre!

Burnley dep 0900; Padiham 0920; Speke Hall dep 1600 due back around 1730/1800

£34 includes travel by 49-seater coach, driver's gratuity and admission to the Speke Hall and its extensive grounds. (National Trust Members must produce their membership cards £18)

All payments are "Non-refundable" but name changes may be possible subject to availability. Bank transfers may be made if you cannot attend the u3a Open Meeting to Burnley & District u3a Account No 52972960 Sort code 30 99 50 but please text Anne or Howard to check availability.
Outings are open to all members of u3a!

Summer School 2027 Request for Tutors

The 2026 North West Regional Summer School takes place next week at Manchester Metropolitan University and we are now starting to plan for 2027. We are currently seeking people willing to share their specialist subject with fellow u3a members.

If you are interested in getting involved or want further information, please contact chair@nwru3a.org.uk.

Quiz Question

On which island was Barry Gibb born on 12th September 1946

Forthcoming Meetings

August 27th	Philip Caine	"From Barrow to Baghdad"
September 24th	Graham Kemp	"A Royal Romp"
October 22nd	Steve Welsh	"Life as a Roman Legionary"

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

August 2026 Issue 213

Chair
Terry Ferguson

Vice Chair
Barry Greenwood

Secretary
Margaret Bushby

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Alan Nicholls

Membership Secretary
Peter Hartley

Groups Co-ordinator
Elizabeth Platt

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Linda Sharples

Newsletter Editor
Alan Nicholls

Website Administrator
David Hunt



Hello Everybody,
I am sure some of you don't know me, but others might remember that a few years ago I was the association chairman. Looking back to then, my late wife, Pat, and I were active committee members for quite some time. Covid came along and my chairmanship was extended. This was a bleak time for the association and the country as almost all of our activities were suspended. Stuart Chattle became an inspiration to us, producing a short newsletter which extended to a longer monthly edition. This kept us in touch and cheered us all up. Well done, Stuart. On resumption after Covid, our membership numbers were depleted. Sadly, for some of these missing members we never knew if they had simply failed to rejoin or had passed away. Such was the isolation Covid produced. There followed a time when I was the treasurer. Owing to a family tragedy, Pat and I retired from the committee but followed from the sides, continuing to be group leaders. After Pat's sudden death I found myself with more time on my hands and was delighted when the committee most unexpectedly contacted me and asked me to consider being your new chairman. This came about from a direction from the u3a Trust and the NW Committee, from that I was duly appointed at the July committee meeting. I am certainly looking forward to working as a committee member to continue providing all the activities which give us members so much enjoyment, companionship and skills. Long may it continue.
With very best wishes,

Terry Ferguson

Group Tea Rota

August
Folk Dancing
September
History
October
Indoor Bowls

**September Newsletter Deadline is
Wednesday 16th September 2026 12:00 noon**

<u>Book Group:</u> Will meet in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church on Monday 21st September from 10am to noon . The book for discussion is The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd. Our choice for October is A Study in Scarlet by Arthur Conan Doyle.	Marilyn Jones Linda Sims
<u>Exercise for Wellbeing Group:</u> We meet at the Unitarian Chapel at 10.30 first and third Tuesday of the month. September meetings on 1st and 15th . All abilities welcome	Sonia Rawlinson Maureen Brown
<u>Coffee Morning:</u> Meet at the Prairie Windermere Ave at 11am the second Thursday of the month. Next meeting 10th September . Just come and join us.	Sonia Rawlinson
<u>English Folk Dancing:</u> We will meet in Higham Village Hall at 2.00pm on Thursdays 3rd and 17th September . Everyone welcome, no partner needed.	Eric Bushby
<u>The French Conversation Group:</u> meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month. For further information contact Rhoda Gouldsbrough.	Rhoda Gouldsbrough
<u>Intermediate German Group:</u> 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
<u>Handbell Ringing Group:</u> will meet on Wednesdays, 2nd, 16th and 30th September at St. Leonard's Church, Padiham between 2.00pm and 3.30pm . For further information please contact Valerie Widdas.	Valerie Widdas
<u>History including Local History:</u> Thursday 3rd September 10.30 to 12.00 in the Hambledon Room Unitarian Church Padiham. Talk by John Wilson from Clitheroe U3A." The lives of 2 People from opposite sides of world in the early 20th century"	Enid Thorp
<u>Indoor Bowls:</u> Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at the Methodist Church, Padiham Rd, Burnley, 10.00 am to 12 Noon .	Ian Fletcher
<u>Knitting and Crochet Group:</u> Next meetings in September fall on Mondays 14th and 28th at 10am to midday in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian church. Both meetings will be general sessions at which members work on their own projects. We hope to see you there.	Melinda Jackson
<u>Computer Group:</u> No meetings planned but Dave will provide one -to-one assistance for anyone having technical problems.	Dave Hunt

<u>Ukulele Group:</u> meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. 10:00am at Padiham Rd Methodist Church, Ightenhill, Burnley.	Jeff Salisbury
<u>Philosophy Group:</u> The next meeting will be Tuesday 8th September at 10am Unitarian Chapel.	Jim Wallace
<u>Photography Group:</u> 2:00pm start on the second Friday each month Meet at the Unity Centre, Padiham BB12 8JH. Subject for this month: People.	Peter Hartley Stuart Chattle
<u>Quiz Group:</u> will meet on Monday 21st September , from 2-4pm at Padiham Road Methodist Church. Our Group has sufficient members at the moment. Sorry for any disappointment.	Ann Bullas
<u>Scrabble Group:</u> meets alternate Wednesday afternoons, 2nd, 16th & 30th September 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
<u>Singing Group:</u> meet on Monday 7th September . Please support our Singing Group. New members would be welcome.	Ann Bullas Bob Marks
<u>Spanish Beginners Group:</u> will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of September on the 14th and 28th of September between 2pm and 4pm at Padiham Road Methodist Church. Newcomers are welcome.	Jean Atherton
<u>Intermediate Spanish Group:</u> will meet on Fridays, 11th and 25th September between 10am and midday . For further information please contact Gil Beeke.	Gil Beeke
<u>Craft Group:</u> 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
<u>Painting for Pleasure:</u> meet on the first & third Mondays of the month, on 7th and 21st September 10am to Noon at Padiham Road Methodist Church BB12 8AD . We are a self-help group and willing to share ideas. Please contact Margaret or Jean if you are interested.	Jean Philips Margaret Simpson
<u>Walking Group:</u> 10:30am start on the first (longer walk) and third (shorter walk) Friday each month. Friday 4th Sep: SRT from Clowbridge res- Start from Clowbridge car park BB11 5PF W3W///spiking.dizziness.norms - approx 7 miles Leader: Peter Hartley Friday 18th Sep: Gorpel Rd & Hurstwood res from Worsthorne- Start from St John's church, Worsthorne BB10 3NN W3W///cove.wrong.shine 3-4 miles Leaders: Margaret & Ian Fletcher	Peter Hartley