

## FEATURED OUTING

**Chester's Christmas Market**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2026**09:00**

Burnley departure

**09:20**

Padiham departure

**£20**

travel and admission

There's no better place to visit at this magical time of the year than the beautiful city of Chester as it comes alive with the spirit of Christmas! See the Christmas Market, the shops on the Rows, the magnificent Cathedral or take a walk by the river. But first, enjoy a hot drink and cake before we arrive in Chester!

Payments are non-refundable, although name changes may be possible. Before making a bank transfer, please text Anne or Howard to check availability. Burnley and District u3a: account 52972960, sort code 30 99 50. Open to all u3a members.

**Potential new groups**

**Calligraphy** - the art of beautiful writing. If you want to join a possible new group to learn calligraphy or improve your skills

**Tai Chi** – Combines good posture with gentle, slow, controlled, relaxed movements to strengthen the body and improve general health, Contact Maria

**Energy Advice Service**

Lancashire Age UK runs this free service for those aged 65+

Contact: 0300 303 1234. You have nothing to lose by phoning!

**QUIZ**

**Which English city, along with its cathedral, was bombed on the 14th - 15th November 1940?**

**Forthcoming meetings**

|               |                      |                                             |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>22 Oct</b> | <b>Steve Welsh</b>   | Life as a Roman Legionary                   |
| <b>26 Nov</b> | <b>Steve Ragnall</b> | To Hell in a Handcart or Heaven in a Basket |
| <b>10 Dec</b> | <b>Roger Browne</b>  | George & Ira Gershwin                       |

Monthly Open Meetings: fourth Thursday of the month (except December), 2:30 pm, Nazareth Unitarian Chapel, Padiham BB12 8JH. Visitors £2.

October 2026

ISSUE 215

## CONTACTS

**CHAIR**

Terry Ferguson

**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**

Linda Sharples

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Alan Nicholls

**WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR**

David Hunt

**GROUP TEA ROTA****Oct** Indoor Bowls**Nov** Knitting**Dec** Ukelele

## FROM THE CHAIR

**A note from Terry Ferguson****Hello Everybody,**

This month I fulfilled an ambition. I visited our History Group. I've always had a hankering to go but unfortunately it clashes with the Indoor Bowling Group. I saw that Rod Wilshaw was giving a talk on early town planning in Padiham and decided to go. It was interesting, informative and light hearted. Rod demonstrated that the part of the town around the Unity Centre was built in small units, single houses, two or three houses or even a terrace row. On old maps there seems to be no grand plan for streets coming from the main roads, just odd isolated buildings. There was however a plan, put together by the Huncourt and Padiham Board, a forerunner of the Town Council. The area has three distinct parts. Houses around the Unity Centre were well built, solid stone houses for the up and coming middle classes. Further along the main Whalley Road were bigger, more substantial houses and villas for the well off. Down the hill, close to the emerging factories, were very poor houses. These have mostly been demolished. and replaced.

One thing stands out clearly on the old maps. It is a dividing line marking the boundaries between the estates of Huntroyde Hall, home of the Starkie family and Gawthorpe Hall, home of the Shuttleworth family. It was the agents of these two extremely wealthy estates that sold the land, bit by bit, to allow the expansion of housing at this end of Padiham. The land would have mostly been sold with a lease, payable each year, back to the estates. Looking at the cost of some of these old leases now they might look pathetic, but back in the day they would have made a very solid income for the land owners.

Another historic hall, some distance from us, is Speke Hall. This was once a fine mansion surrounded by vast gardens and countryside but now sits close to John Lennon Airport. The Outings Group went there this month and by all accounts had a very enjoyable day out and a very interesting tour of the hall.

November Deadline

**Wednesday 18 November 2026 at 12 noon**  
 burnleyu3anewsletter@gmail.com

| Group Updates                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Book Group</b> Will meet in the Hameldon Room at the Padiham Unitarian Church on Monday 16th November from 10am to noon. The book for discussion is Guilty by Definition by Susie Dent. We will be meeting on 21st December to talk about 'One Christmas Morning' by Rachel Greenlaw and the books we hope to receive for Christmas. | Marilyn Jones<br>Linda Simms      |
| <b>Coffee Morning</b> Meet on the second Thursday of the month at the Prairie Windermere Road at 11am. Next meeting 12th November. Just come and join us.                                                                                                                                                                               | Sonia Rawlinson                   |
| <b>Computer Group</b> No meetings are planned, but Dave will provide one-to-one assistance for anyone having technical problems.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Dave Hunt                         |
| <b>Craft Group</b> Meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 10am–12 noon, in the Hameldon Room at Padiham Unitarian Church.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Julie Sharpley<br>Elizabeth Platt |
| <b>English Folk Dancing</b> We will meet in Higham Village Hall at 2.00pm on Thursdays 5 and 19 November. Everyone welcome; no partner needed.                                                                                                                                                                                          | Eric Bushby                       |
| <b>Exercise for Wellbeing</b> meet at the Unitarian Chapel on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10.30. November meetings 3rd and 17th. The group has sufficient members at the moment, but anyone interested can join the waiting list.                                                                                           | Sonia Rawlinson<br>Maureen Brown  |
| <b>French Conversation</b> Meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month. For further information, contact Rhoda Gouldsbrough.                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Rhoda Gouldsbrough                |
| <b>Handbell Ringing</b> Meets on Wednesdays 4 and 18 November at St Leonard's Church, Padiham, between 2.00pm and 3.30pm.                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Valerie Widdas                    |
| <b>History including Local History</b> Thursday 5th November in the Hameldon Room Unitarian Church Padiham 10.30 to 12.00 talk by Barbara Hepworth from Clitheroe U3A. "The Burnley Boys".                                                                                                                                              | Enid Thorp                        |
| <b>Indoor Bowls</b> Meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Methodist Church, Padiham Road, Burnley, 10.00am–12 noon.                                                                                                                                                                                                | Ian Fletcher                      |
| <b>Intermediate German</b> Meets in the reference room of Burnley Library on the second and fourth Tuesday each month from 1–3pm. For more information, please text the mobile number given.                                                                                                                                            | Laura Carter                      |
| <b>Intermediate Spanish</b> Meets on Fridays 13 and 27 November, 10am–midday. For further information, contact Gil Beeke.                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Gil Beeke                         |

| Group Updates                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Knitting and Crochet</b> November meetings are Monday 9 and 23, 10am–midday, in the Hameldon Room at Padiham Unitarian Church. Both are general sessions where members work on their own projects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Melinda Jackson                  |
| <b>Painting for Pleasure</b> Meets on the first and third Mondays: 2 and 16 November, 10am–noon, at Padiham Road Methodist Church BB12 8AD. A self-help group happy to share ideas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Jean Philips<br>Margaret Simpson |
| <b>Philosophy Group</b> The next meeting will be Tuesday 10 November at 10am at the Unitarian Chapel.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Jim Wallace                      |
| <b>Photography Group</b> 2.00pm start on the second Friday of each month at the Unity Centre, Padiham BB12 8JH. Friday 13 November, Subject for this month: Summer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Peter Hartley<br>Stuart Chattle  |
| <b>Quiz Group</b> Monday 16 November, 2–4pm, at Padiham Road Methodist Church. The group currently has sufficient members; apologies for any disappointment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Ann Bullas                       |
| <b>Scrabble Group</b> Alternate Wednesday afternoons: 11 and 25 November, 1.30–3.30pm, at Pike Hill Library. New members are always welcome, whether beginners or experienced players.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Christine Potter                 |
| <b>Singing Group</b> meet on Monday 2nd November 11:00:12:00 in the Hameldon Room at Padiham Unitarian Church. New members will be welcome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Ann Bullas<br>Bob Marks          |
| <b>Spanish Beginners</b> There will be only one meeting of the Beginner's Spanish Group in November on Monday 23rd at Padiham Road Methodist Church between 2pm and 4pm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Jean Atherton                    |
| <b>Ukelele Group</b> meets on the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month 10:00 at Padiham Rd Methodist Church, Ightenhill Burnley.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Jeff Salisbury                   |
| <b>Walking Group</b> 10.30am start on the first (longer walk) and third (shorter walk) Friday.<br><b>Friday 6th Nov: Ribble Valley:</b> Start from Festival Hall Car Park opp Gisburn Primary School, Burnley Road (A682), Gisburn BB7 4ET. W3W///fishnet.cold.accordian Approx 6.5 miles<br>Leader: Howard Mitchell<br><b>Friday 20th Nov: Trawden:</b> Start from Trawden Recreation Ground W3W///worksheet.bouncing.sobbed 2.8 miles<br>Leaders: David & Elizabeth Threlfall | Peter Hartley                    |