



NewsFlash

Registered Charity No: 1082254

The Newsletter of u3a Clitheroe May 2026

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/clitheroe>

Meet the New Members of the Team



Maureen Pickup (Chair) and Christine Snape (Treasurer) pictured with
Co-opted Committee member Ruth Mason
Janet Rees (our new Secretary)
Lesley Charnley (who with Ruth Mason will be taking over as Membership Secretaries)
John Wilson (our new Speakers' Secretary)
Co-opted Committee member Jenny Bank.

Group Schedule for MAY

	1	Friday	2pm	Garden
	5	Tuesday	10am	Singing for Pleasure
	6	Wednesday	2pm	Architecture
	6	Wednesday	10am	Circle Dancing
	7	Thursday	12.30pm	Lunch with Friends
	7	Thursday	2pm	German
	8	Friday	2pm	Poetry
	11	Monday	2pm	Music Appreciation
	11	Monday	9.45am	Photography
	13	Wednesday	2pm	Geology
	13	Wednesday	2pm	Scottish Country Dancing
	14	Thursday	2pm	Discussion
	18	Monday	2pm	Canasta
	19	Tuesday	1.30pm	MAIN MEETING
	19	Tuesday	2pm	French conversation
	19	Tuesday	10am	Singing for Pleasure
	19	Tuesday	10,15am	Plodders
	20	Wednesday	10am	Science & Scientific Enlightenment
	20	Wednesday	10am	Circle Dancing
	20	Wednesday	2pm	Board Games
	21	Thursday	3pm	Wine appreciation
	25	Monday		Strollers
	25	Monday	1.15pm	Play Reading
	26	Tuesday	10am	Genealogy
	26	Tuesday	2pm	Craft
	27	Wednesday	2pm	History
	28	Thursday	2pm	Book Discussion
	28	Thursday	1pm	Table Tennis
	28	Thursday	7pm	Food & Wine
	29	Friday	11am	Art Appreciation
	29	Friday	10.15am	Trekking into the past
	29	Friday	10am	Walking

May Meetings

Activity Group	Date	Time	Group Convenor	Information	How often
Architecture	May 6th	2 pm	Paul Fisher 07874 696374	Meet at Trinity Hub. 'Windows and Glass' by Philip Bradshaw.	1 st Wed
Art Appreciation	May 29th	2pm	Ann Ward topgm@hotmail.co.uk	No Meeting on 26 th . 29 th Trip to Harris Museum. See Page 10.	Usually 4 th Tues
Board Games	May 20th	2pm	Lesley Charnley 01200 538476 lwcharnley@gmail.com	Meet at Convenor's Home. 1 Meadowlands, Low Moor, Clitheroe BB7 2ND.	3 rd Wed
Book Discussion	May 28th	2pm	Ann Yates ann.yates01@gmail.com	Meet at Clitheroe Library. William Boyd – <i>Gabriel's Moon</i> .	4 th Thurs
Canasta	May 18th	2 pm	Christine Snape clitheroechristine@gmail.com	Meet at Christine's home BB7 1EZ. NOTE: Change of date.	Usually 3 rd Tues
Circle Dancing	May 6th/ 20th	10 am	Sally Maxwell 01772 379926	Meet at Pendleton Village Hall.	1 st /3rd Wed
Craft	May 26th	2pm	Sandra Marshall 07968 675419 sandra23marshall@gmail.com	Meet at Sandra's home. 23 Croasdale Drive BB7 1LQ Continuing with Art Work.	4 th Tues
Discussion Group 1 Group 2	May 14th	2pm	Susan Duckworth susanduckworth47 @gmail.com John Wilson john.eardswick @yahoo.co.uk	Meet at Whalley Old Grammar School. New to Discussion? Please inform Susan or John if you'd like to join.	2 nd Thurs
Food and Wine	May 28th	7pm	Gill Kilbey 07840 882775	Meet at Christine's Home BB7 1EZ. St. George's Day Food.	4 th Thurs
French Conversation	May 19th	2pm	Ann Connell 07568 172854 shudbtaylor@yahoo.co.uk	Meet at Whalley Old Grammar School, Station Road BB7 9RH.	3 rd Tues
Garden Group	May 1st	10.30 am	Jenny Grimes jennygrimes46@icloud.com	Meet at WBVH car park. Trip to Himalayan Gardens Ripon	1 st Fri
Genealogy	May 26th	10am	Marianne Wilson mrsmariannewilson@gmail.com	Meet at WBVH. " A Genealogy Miscellany." Short talks by Group Members	4 th Tues

Group	Date	Time	Group Convenor	Information	How often
Geology	May 13th	2pm	Frank Taylor frankhtaylor@yahoo.co.uk 07952 720778	Meet at WBVH. The Carboniferous and the East Lancs Coal Field.	2 nd Wed
German Conversation	May 7th	2pm	Denis Cassidy 01254 822345. David Grimes davidgrimes1@mac.com	Meet at the home of David Cassidy..	1 st Thurs
History	May 27th	2pm	Hazel Best hazelbest@gmail.com 01200 426756	Meet at WBVH. "My Mother came on Kindertransport" by Martin Hyman.	4 th Wed
Lunch with Friends	May 7th	12noon for 12.30pm	Ann Ward topgm@hotmail.co.uk	Meet at Clitheroe Golf Club. Fully Booked	1 st Thurs
Music Appreciation	May 11th	2pm	Frank Robinson bb7u3amusic@btinternet.com	Meet at WBVH NOTE David Newsome the DATE on late Schubert.	Usually 1 st Mon
Photography	May 11th	9.45am	Francis Garner 07477 626772.	Meet behind Barrow Village Hall for a trip out to Hebden Bridge.	2 nd Mon
Play Reading	May 25th	1.15 pm	Kate Hamlin 07732 721963 Helen Coles 07835 920887	Meet at Whalley Grammar School. Doors open 1.15 for 1.30pm.	4 th Mon
Plodders	May 19th	10.15 am	Marjorie Taylor 07716192447 marjorietaaylor@hotmail.co.uk	Meet at The Millstone BB2 7JR for a walk around Mellor. See page 6.	3 rd Tues
Poetry	May 8th	2pm	Roy Gonsalves rmgonsalves1953 @outlook.com	Meet at The Trinity Hub. 'Gardens and Flowers.'	2 nd Fri
Science and Scientific Enlightenment	May 20th	!0am	David Grimes davidgrimes1@mac.com 01254 240707	Meet at The Trinity Hub. Philip Bradshaaw - 'Science Fiction & Science Fact'.	3 rd Wed
Scottish Country Dancing	May 13th	2pm	Sandra Marshall 07968 675419	Meet at Pendleton Village Hall.	2 nd Wed
Singing For Pleasure	May 5th/ 19th	10am	Denise Hayton 07779 915392 u3aclitheroe@icloud.com	Meet at West Bradford Village Hall.	1 st /3 rd Tues
Strollers	May 25th	10.45am	In need of convenors	No walk due to Bank Holiday. See page 6 and 7.	Usually 4 th Mon
Table Tennis	May 28th	1-3pm	Janet Elliott 01254 248106 Jkelliott108@gmail.com'	Meet at The Trinity Hub.	4 th Thurs

Main Meeting on Tuesday **May 19th** at The Old School Rooms and Assembly Hall Lowergate BB7 1AD

NOTE the change of DATE

1.15pm onwards for Refreshments

A presentation by Julie Smalley.

SURNAMES

Origins

Occupations

Oddities

Like them or dislike them, inherited names are something we all have. Julie will help us find out how our surnames came about in a light-hearted and interactive talk.

Group	Date	Time	Group Convenor	Information	How often
Trekking into the Past	May 29th	10.15am	Ron Loebell 01200 374094	Meet at the free Village Car Park in Downham. See Page 6	Last Friday
Walking Group	May 29th	10.45am	Terri Fisk 07791 686967 Tafisk29@gmail.com	Meet at The Shireburn Arms Hurst Green BB7 9QJ for a 6 mile circular walk. See Page 6.	Last Friday
Wine Appreciation	May 21st	3pm	Christine Snape clitheroechristine@gmail.com	Meet at Christine's Home. Members presentations Muscat and Cabernet Franc. Please bring cheese and	3 rd Thurs

Group and Convenors Information

Convenors' Meeting.

The Meeting of the Group Convenors is at Foxfields Country Hotel BB7 9HY.
May 12th 9.30am – 1pm.

Strollers Group.

No Walk.....Convenors needed see page

Plodders Group.

No Plodders Meeting as The Main Meeting date has changed this month.
Group Convenor: Marjorie Taylor – 07716 192447.
marjorietaaylor@hotmail.co.uk

Walking Group

See you at 10.45 for a 11.00 am start.

Meet at The Shireburn Arms BB7 9QJ for a 6 mile circular route where there are steep steps to descend near the start and a hill back to the pub at the end for a meal. Most of the walk will be along the riverbank following the Tolkien Trail.

Parking on the road, but will speak to the Shireburn to ask if we can use their car park.

Group Convenor: Terri Fisk – 07791 686967. tafisk29@gmail.com

Trekking into the Past

Meet at Downham Village in the free Village Car Park
opposite the Ice Cream Shop BB7 4BS.

This is for an approx. 1 ¼ hour walk + The History of Downham.

Group Convenor: Ron Loebell – 01200 374094

WANTED Convenors

STROLLERS..... This Group will close unless a Convenor or Convenors can be found.

To plan the monthly walk between March and November from the suggestions put forward by other members of the group and enter the details via Robin into the monthly Newsflash. The walks are approximately 3 miles taking place on the 4th Monday in the month starting at 11am followed by a pleasant lunch at a local hostelry if required.

Please contact Ann on 07768322125 or Wendy on 07964802433 for details.

PLEASE don't let us loose this group which is so important for both our physical and mental health.

Join us for our Summer
Lunch at Longridge
Golf Club

Summer
Lunch £25

Tuesday July 14th 12.00 for 12.30

2 Courses + Tea /Coffee
+ Entertainment

u3a
Clitheroe



**LONGRIDGE
GOLF CLUB**
PR3 2TU

As in line with payments for all u3a events please pay by card or BACS.

Interactive Sessions

Summer 2026



There will be two more sessions coming up, all starting at 1:30pm at:

Whalley Methodist's Community Room
80 King Street,
Whalley
BB7 9SN
[Opposite Whalley Post Office]

➤ **Thursday 28 May ~ Fraud**

Roger Hussey of the Economic Crime Unit of Lancashire Police will be talking about crimes perpetrated especially against senior citizens including on our doorsteps.

➤ **Thursday 25 June ~ Dealing with Fires in Our Homes**

Caroline Griffith of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services will be talking about preventing fires in the home and how to deal with fire if it happens.

Coffee, tea and biscuits will be available at the beginning of each session with a voluntary donation box.

So that I can arrange the room, and provide enough refreshments, please let me know if you intend to join us for either one or both of these sessions ~ email at jacquiemelia@gmail.com

Jacquie Melia
April 2026

Why not start a NEW Group?

What about a PADEL Group (at Mytton Fold)
or CHESS Group or an INDOOR BOWLING
Group etc. (Bowls available at West Bradford Village Hall).
Contact our Group Co-ordinator Denise with your ideas.

Bus Pass Group

Bus Pass Group.

On April 16th the Bus Pass Group took the 280 bus from Clitheroe to Preston.

11 Members enjoyed a day in the Harris Museum looking at all the wonderful displays.



We went for lunch at the café there, where we met the History Group from Southport u3a.

Following on from that, they would like to come to Clitheroe to do a History walk of the town. In return they will plan a walk for us in Southport.

The next Bus Pass trip on May 5th will be to Settle.

Bus 11 Stand 3 at Clitheroe Interchange at 10.20.

Arriving in Settle at 11.37.

This trip includes a Tour and Talk at the Victoria Theatre.

Please get in touch with Marjorie Taylor if you would like to go.

marjorietaaylor@hhotmail.co.uk 07716192447

Art Appreciation

The Trip to the Harris Museum is on Friday 29th May.

The Coach leaves Clitheroe Bus Terminus at 11:00am and will pick up at the Whalley Bus Stop at 11:15 returning at 3:00pm from Preston.

There are still places available for u3a Members.

Please contact: Paul Fisher on pfisher3@btinternet.com to reserve your place.

Get involved!

Want to know more about how we manage your u3a?

Come along to any of our Committee meetings and observe -
(Just let Janet Rees know in advance if possible
secretaryu3aclitheroe@outlook.com)

Dates of 2026 meetings - 10.00am Clitheroe Golf Club
14th May; 16th July*; 10th September; 12th November
* 10.00am Barrow Community Centre.

Have you anything to contribute to the NewsFlash? We would like all our members to contribute. Anything that interests you, short pieces are fine. Text should be sent as Word Documents, or just within an email rather than attachments. Illustrations or photographs are best sent separate from text, in jpg format. May NewsFlash deadline: April 22nd. Please send contributions by email to the Editor Robin Taylor
newsflasheditoru3aclitheroe@outlook.com

Bird of the Month



The Avocet - *Recurvirostra avosetta*

This is the time of year to see this special bird in its breeding colonies on flat, open seashores or shallow lagoons of brackish water. The Avocet is a wading bird with a slim, bright white body, a black cap and long, blue-grey legs. When the wings are folded, it looks as though they are bordered in black, but in fact they have a curved, black band on each side on the back, a diagonal bar over the inner wings and black wing tips. They have a very fine, upcurved black bill with which they make their distinctive feeding action, sweeping it from side to side through the water to find small crustaceans, worms and insects.

The Avocet needs this specific environment to feed and to breed. The nest is a shallow scrape on bare ground near water, or on a raised mound of vegetation in shallow water.

They have three or four speckled, olive-coloured eggs, one brood from April to July. Once hatched, the young are able to run about and feed themselves.

The Avocet had disappeared from Great Britain, but when parts of the south and east coasts of England were flooded for defence during the second World War, it allowed the birds to return. Avocets overwinter in France, Spain and Portugal but many now stay in the south of England. This success story is due to much continued conservation work and the RSPB has chosen the Avocet as its emblem. We can see Avocets at the Leighton Moss reserve near Silverdale.

Gill Cameron

A Warm Welcome to New Members

Janice Nutter, Carolyn Landers, Sonia Garrod, Janet Dell
and Bob Semple.

History Group: Rimington Walk



On Wednesday afternoon the history group enjoyed an excellent guided tour and presentation on the history of Rimington and Newby. Led by our guide, local historian and archaeologist Trevor Marklew, we learned about the Roman road that passed nearby, the spinning and corn mills, the village abattoir, shops, the 2 schools and the Wesleyan Chapel where Francis Duckworth who composed the hymn tune Rimington, was the organist. We walked up to the early 19th Salem Chapel at Martin Top admiring the stunning scenery and returned to refreshments and an interesting display of archeological finds in the village Institute.

Future History Group Events

7th May

Meet at WBVH for a presentation by Martin Hyman,
“My mother came on Kindertransport”.

24th June

Half day visit to Towneley Hall Burnley. There are still vacancies. £12.60 self drive.

22nd July

Full day visit to Wentworth Woodhouse.

There are still vacancies. £50 to include coach travel, guided tour and lunch.

If you are interested in coming on our visits to Towneley or Wentworth (and haven't already put your name down) please do get in touch with me.

Best wishes,
Maureen

Food, Wine and Philosophy



The Food and Wine Group ventured out for their April Meeting to 'Scholars' Restaurant in Blackburn College.

We could choose from two menus, one being plant based.

We enjoyed the dishes that the students had prepared for us, along with a good get together over tea and coffee.

*Have you
Registered?*

PHILOSOPHY BITE 2

ON BEAUTY

Our ability to recognise and take pleasure in the beautiful is one of the good things in life. We shall look at the nature of this response and at some of the attempts to define or describe it.

Thursday mornings 10.30 - 12.30 on 14th, 21st, 28th May at Clitheroe Library.

There will be a modest fee payable at the first meeting.

PLEASE REGISTER ASAP AS THE NUMBER IS LIMITED.

email: shawmargret@gmail.com or <tel:01200426103>

Margret Shaw

Lunch with Friends.

Our May Lunch at Clitheroe Golf Club is now FULLY BOOKED.

The following lunch will be on THURSDAY JUNE 4TH.

The hosts are Wendy Blaber and Jenny Bank.

The venue is the BLUEBIRD INN on the

A59 Opposite British Aerospace BB2 7LE 1.00 for 1.30.

Please note change of time.

For Menu choices please contact Wendy at

wendybphil@outlook.com.

Forthcoming Lunches

JULY 2ND. Host Paul Brown, Venue TBA.

AUGUST 6TH

LOOMLOFT BISTRO host Christina Halstead

SEPTEMBER 3RD

HOWARTH ART GALLERY

GALLERY KITCHEN

TBC

For more details or to express interest in this

Group please contact

Ann Ward. topgm@hotmail.co.uk



Book your place at u3a Festival 26

Join us for u3a Festival 26, taking place at the University of York between 1-3 July, for a celebration of fun, learning and the community that makes u3a so special.

Clitheroe u3a Officers and Committee 2026/27

Chair:	Maureen Pickup	clitheroeu3achair@gmail.com
Vice Chair:	Jacque Melia	jacquiemelia@gmail.com
Secretary:	Janet Rees	secretaryu3aclitheroe@outlook.com
Treasurer:	Christine Snape 07896 877690	treasureru3aclitheroe@outlook.com

Committee Members

Groups Co-ordinator:	Denise Hayton	u3aclitheroe@icloud.com
Committee Members:	Su Penson , Ann Ward.	
Co-opted Members:	Jenny Bank, Ruth Mason, Jenny Pek	

Committee Support Team

Membership secretary:	David Grimes, 01254 240707,	davidgrimes1@mac.com
Newsletter editor:	Robin Taylor, 01254 249897,	newsflasheditoru3aclitheroe@outlook.com
Speakers Secretary:	John Wilson	john.speakersec@yahoo.com
ICT Support Team:	Jonathan Pickup	jon.pickup55@gmail.com
	Brian Hudson	mail@abhudson.co.uk
Publicity Officer:	Su Penson	
Refreshments	Liz Wolstenholme and Sue Monk	
Special Events:	Gill Kilbey, Liz Wolstenholme, Marjorie Taylor	
Webmaster:	Frank Taylor	frankhtaylor@yahoo.co.uk

We are very sad to announce the death of Ian Ramage. It was only a few weeks ago that his wife Joan died. They were Members of Clitheroe u3a for many years, particularly active in the Art and Music Appreciation Groups.

