



ROTARY CLUB OF
BURNLEY PENDLESIDE
NEWSLETTER



Kidz Away 2025
Whitehough Outdoor Centre, Pendleside

----- JOHN OSBORN

Amazingly another Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside Kidz Away week has come and gone at Whitehough for BPRCVS Children & Families, New Era Enterprises and TEAMRISE.

It's always very satisfying to see the success of the days at Whitehough, in that most of the children arrive as strangers to each other and by the end of their time they have established good friendships. TEAMRISE by their very special nature come as a very cohesive group and remain close throughout their stay, they always get a lot out of going to Whitehough and they just love it!

I think part of Whitehough's magic is that it encourages the young people to break out of their comfort zone and tackle new challenges. The walk (expedition) pushes the children into a totally new environment of the beautiful countryside surrounding the famous historic icon that is Pendle Hill. Plucking long stalks of grass, picking the colourful rose bay willow herb flowers and collecting pine cones, are just some of the new experiences we saw the young have pleasure doing. However some of the young people were not over impressed at what they deemed to be a hard slog from Barley village to Black Moss reservoir, a certain amount of bribery had to be adopted to get some of the attendees up that steep slope!

The walk not only gets the guys out and

about in Pendleside but also gives them the chance to see at close quarters the majestic hill that has featured so strongly for so many years in Lancashire's incredibly rich history. Once again we were very fortunate to have Ken Simmons, qualified outdoor leader to take charge of the walk. Whilst we at Kidz Away are no longer able to tempt the children to climb Pendle Hill we hope that maybe it can sow a seed of aspiration to one day climb it and savour the fantastic views from the Lancashire coast to the Yorkshire Dales peaks, from the Lake District and to the South towards Manchester, that is unless Pendle is clothed in its much famed mist.

Usually our group has exclusive use of the Outdoor Centre but this year we shared the facility with members of the Church of Latter Day Saints who were experiencing Whitehough the way founder Ken Oldham probably envisaged when it first opened in 1938, under canvas! Modern tents made of the most up to date fabrics though, are so, so much more superior to the good old fashioned Lancashire woven canvas ones, both in weather proof ability and ease of use. We think the campers were treated to having their meals in the Outdoor Centre main catering area, no cooking over camp stoves or open fires!

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Upcoming Meetings:
Wednesday Evenings

- ❖ **27th August 2025:**
Guest Speaker:
Christine Blythe.
BPRCVS.
- ❖ **3rd September 2025:**
Guest Speaker:
Mountain Rescue.
- ❖ **10th September 2025:**
Business Meeting.
- ❖ **17th September 2025:**
Guest Speaker:
Bob French.
Military Historian.

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ **Saturday**
4th October 2025:
Sheffield Trip.
- ❖ **Wednesday**
12th November 2025:
Burnley Light Opera:
The Hunchback Of
Notre Dame.
- ❖ **Friday**
28th November 2025:
Senior's Christmas
Party.





Children from New Era Enterprises enjoying the great outdoors and having an unforgettable day full of fun and adventure at Whitehough Outdoor Centre.

Kidz Away 2025

Whitehough Outdoor Centre,Pendleside

----- JOHN OSBORN

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A little known local bit of history is that people left north-east Lancashire including Pendleside to make the long journey to Salt Lake City in the early days of the Church of Latter Day Saints. Not too long ago Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside honorary member Steve Ragnall gave the club an excellent talk about the journey undertaken by early Pendleside Mormon church members on the long, often very difficult and demanding journey from North-East Lancashire to the historical symbol of refuge, Salt Lake City. A truly absorbing talk about the inspirational people who made the journey.

The wide array of outdoor activities at Whitehough Outdoor Centre includes; Jacob’s Ladder, Leap of Faith, Crate Stack, Archery, Survival Skills and Problem Solving.

The very experienced instructors at Whitehough by virtue of their outdoor training skills adapt the activities to reflect the abilities of the participants of that particular day. Witnessing all the group members over the five days it’s very obvious that the Whitehough instructors seem to enjoy the week equally as much as the attendees.

Special thanks from the Rotary Club of Burnley Pendle must go to Burnley Football Club in the Community staff, Lorna and Danusza who organise Kidz Away, the brilliant instructors; Sophie, Elliott, Jonny & Craig and Andy the site supervisor who is always present to help us make the week the success it is in whatever way he can, thanks Andy. Thanks also to the catering team for coping with the various demands of our groups. Everyday all attendees got a hot meal with the exception of the expedition day when a packed lunch was provided.

Founder Member Gordon Honoured At Special Social Evening

----- KEVIN MARTIN

The Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside has made founder member Gordon Haycock an honorary member at a special social evening held at the Hare & Hounds, Haggate.

The club, which was founded in 1982, recognised Gordon’s long-standing service and commitment over the years. Gordon, who served as club president in 2016-2017, attended the evening with his wife Jean, and was warmly thanked by fellow Rotarians for his dedication and support for the club’s activities within the community.



We were delighted to honour founder member Gordon Haycock as an honorary member at a social evening with members, partners and friends.

Thank You From New Era Enterprises

For The Children’s Day Out At Whitehough Outdoor Centre



Dear John,
A huge THANK YOU to the Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside for generously supporting New Era’s work by donating a free children’s day at Whitehough Activity Centre!

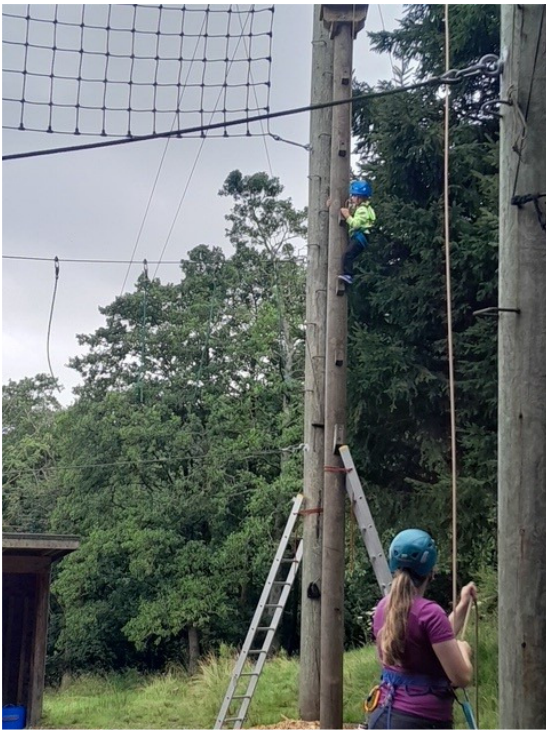
The children, supported by the Annexe community mental health hub, had an unforgettable day filled with fun, teamwork, and adventure.

From building confidence and resilience to making new friends and lasting memories — the impact was incredible Your support helped create a day full of smiles, courage, and first-time experiences. We’re so grateful!

Kind regards
Wendy Woodfine CEO
New Era Enterprises

Kidz Away @ Whitehough 2025 Photo's

New Era Enterprises, TEAMRISE & BPRCVS



Kidz Away @ Whitehough 2025 Photo's

New Era Enterprises, TEAMRISE & BPRCVS



Thank You From TEAMRISE

Whitehough – Kidz Away



Dear Rotary Club Members,

Once again I write with heartfelt thanks. The 2 days we had at Whitehough were brilliant and we thank each and everyone of you for making this happen.

Watching all our members “have a go” at all the activities is inspiring and seeing them working together and laughing is just wonderful.

From getting on the minibus to getting back to TEAMRISE, the day was perfect. Every single member of the Whitehough team is a credit to the organisation and made everyone so

welcome and engaged with every single member, and again for that we are extremely grateful.

No-one knows more than we do how difficult fund raising is and how precious every single penny is, so far for the Rotary Club to fund these memorable days once again is beyond kindness and means more than you will all ever know.

Once again, a very big thank you.

Best wishes always
Sharon Walsh CEO and all the gang.

Thank You From BPRCVS

Whitehough – Kidz Away



A great big thank you once again, to the Rotary for supporting our children and families project at BPRCVS.

We work with many different families throughout Pendle West, and we are grateful for your support in being able to give the children we work with the opportunity to attend Whitehough.

The work that we do is about supporting young people in building their confidence and self-esteem, exploring new opportunities and making new friendships along the way.

We always see new friendships blossoming during all our activities, though Whitehough supports these friendships further as we can offer the children consecutive days of being together.

The young people who attended were grateful for the opportunity and it was made clear to them that the Rotary make this opportunity possible. The young people have been able to challenge themselves and push their own boundaries during their time at Whitehough.

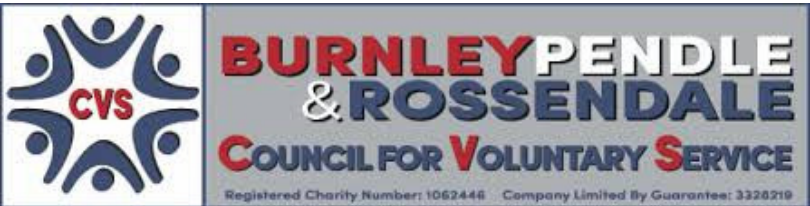
Our team are grateful that we can attend and take part in it alongside the children and young people. The team were encouraged to take part by the young people and modelled that success is not just in completion of a task but pushing yourself out of your comfort zone!

Whitehough is always successful with our young people, and we look forward to it every year. Without the support of the Rotary this would not be possible.

Again, I would like to thank everyone at the Rotary for making this both possible and a huge success.

Thanks so much.

Sammie Taylor and Team
Children and young people’s Social Prescriber
BPRCVS



Fellowship on the Green! John Slattery, Rob Walsh, Julius ‘Oh My God!’ Munyao and Grahame Trudgill enjoying Crown Green Bowling at Read Cricket & Bowling Club.

Social Evening: Crown Green Bowling

----- KEVIN MARTIN

Members from the Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside enjoyed a social evening of Crown Green Bowling at Read Cricket & Bowling Club, joined by fellow Rotarians from Padiham Rotary

Club and the Rotary Club of Burnley.

It was an excellent evening full of fun, fellowship and light-hearted competition in true Rotary spirit, with most members taking part and enjoying the relaxing and sometimes frustrating sport.

We managed to created two new deliveries on the night, the Kev shot 'in the gutter' and the 'Oh My God' shot created by Julius. The event started a bit damp but the rain stayed away for the most part.



A light supper of Pie & Peas followed the bowling, with plenty of conversation and laughter rounding



off an enjoyable evening. Many thanks to Read Cricket & Bowling Club for hosting, Alan Armstrong for organising the event and to all who attended and making the evening such a success.





John & Vanessa Osborn, Paul & Pauline Roberts, Mukhtar & Roxy Mirza, Keith Jackson, BYT Artistic Producer Hannah Kay, Gordon & Jean Haycock, George & Lynne Heys and BYT Chair of Trustees Anthony Preston at Burnley Youth Theatre for FirstByte’s preview showing of “Buried” before they take it to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Members Enjoy A Night At The Theatre To See FirstByte’s Preview Showing Of “Buried”

----- KEVIN MARTIN

Members of the Rotary Club of Burnley Pendleside and their wives were treated to an enjoyable evening at Burnley Youth Theatre to watch their young company FirstByte preview their brand new show “Buried” before it heads to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

The performance captivated the audience with its engaging storyline and impressive production quality, showcasing the young talent and creativity behind FirstByte’s latest production. Club members expressed their appreciation for the hard work and dedication put into writing and performing this excellent show. It was a great opportunity to support local arts and enjoy a fantastic evening together.

“Buried” by FirstByte Theatre devised by a group of emerging artists from Burnley explores complex issues faced by teenagers in a world facing environmental decline, specifically focusing on a future where Burnley reverts to its mining past at the expense of its people and the environment. The play follows a group of teenagers who travel through time to pivotal moments where they must make decisions that impact their world.


Burnley Youth Theatre, believe in the power of giving young people the platform to tell stories that matter. Their young company, FirstByte, is a group of ten talented and passionate young people aged 14-18 who have spent the last year writing and developing “Buried” their own original play.

Buried is not just a play, it’s an exploration of what young people feel, fear, and hope for. It’s about the things we hide, the things we bury deep inside, and the courage it takes to dig them up and share them with the world.

“A compelling piece of work from a youth company that continues to grow in confidence and craft. FirstByte have created a show that is thoughtful and urgent. ‘Outstanding Youth Theatre’ (FringeReview.co.uk, 2025).”


“Youth company FirstByte return to the Fringe with Buried, an ambitious and affecting piece of devised theatre, created and performed by a talented ensemble of emerging artists from Burnley. Since 2009, this company has been developing new work that speaks to the concerns of their generation, and Buried continues that tradition with confidence and emotional weight.”

FringeReview, 2025 Kate Saffin



Rotary Club Of Burnley Pendleside

Serving Our Local Community Since 1982



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