

Blackburn with Darwen



It's our first Newsletter of 2026!

We've been planning fun trips for the year. We're increasing the number of trips we run and adding more weekend trips so there's more opportunities for festivals and one-off events.

As we were looking at the calendar, we became aware of awareness days and so we're going to raise awareness of awareness!

1st of March is World Compliment Day. And of course, you look great and are very intelligent.

3rd of March is World Hearing Day; the World Health Organisation raises awareness regarding hearing loss and promoting ear and hearing care.

5th of March is World Book Day. The First world book day was in 1998.

The bestselling book that year was the second Harry Potter, the Chamber of Secrets...but personally I dressed as a fox from the Animals of Farthing Wood.

8th of March is International Women's Day. Commemorating women's fight for equality. It's on that date due to a strike by Russian women in 1917 which sparked the February Revolution and led to women gaining the right to vote in Russia.

March 9th is Commonwealth Day and Barbies Birthday. Commonwealth Day is a celebration of the 56 countries in the Commonwealth. Barbie will be 67 this year.

March 16-22nd is Neurodiversity Celebration Week. The aim of the week is focusing on challenging stereotypes while promoting understanding of neurological differences such as autism, ADHD.

27th of March is "Wear a Hat" day. It's designed to raise funds for brain tumour research and to support those affected.

01254 846200

Out and About w

NEW Pick up Points

You must be at the stop **on time** to be picked up
You still need to ring and book your trip

New Bus Route

Croft street (Darwen Town Centre) 09:00

Riverside Heights 09:10

Darwen Vale 09:20

Albion Mill 09:30

Brown Street (Blackburn Town Centre) 09:45

Kemp Court 09:50

***Lunch Club* Pick ups 1hr 30 mins later**



with



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Out and About Trips

Tuesday 17th February Fleetwood or Affinity-Heading to Fleetwood's beautiful, award winning Victorian Market with over 250 stalls and much more. Or stopping at Affinity Outlet store, you can find top brands, such as Cadburys outlet, Sketchers, Body Shop, Weird Fish and many more, all at low prices. **£20pp**

Thursday 19th February Chorely Market- Off to Chorley for the Thursday Market with a variety of 150 stalls lining the streets. As well as a M&S Food Hall and Chorelys' covered market, in the heart of the town. **£15pp**



Tuesday 24th February Cedar Farm- Boasting an unrivalled selection of independent shops selling a range of unique gifts, homeware, flowers, plants, food and British fashion that you won't find on the High Street. The newest attraction is the beautifully renovated Barn, which host 4 food outlets, with cuisine from around the world. **£20pp**

Thursday 26th February Altrincham Market- Altrincham has the Market House and two outdoor markets. With 6 eclectic kitchens, a chocolatier, a wine shop, fishmongers, florist, butchers, potter and many more stalls. **£20pp**

Tuesday 3rd March Blackpool- Where you can spend your day perusing the shops or entertainments, strolling along the sea front or along the piers. **£20pp**



Saturday 7th March The Big Spring Steampunk Weekend At Heskin Hall-With alternative stalls and entertainment, it's your chance (or not) to join in with your spendiferous attire. You can also take a look at Heskin Shopping Village across the road. **£15pp**

Wednesday 11th March Bury Market- Heading to the Award winning traditional Open Market with over 300 stalls with a wide variety of goods. There you can get something to eat at the multicultural cafes and takeaways, including the local delicacy of Bury black pudding. **£10pp**

Saturday 14th March Stockport-Heading to Stockport for the Indoor, Outdoor and Maker's Market. The indoor market is cosy and a great place to duck out of the weather, while the outdoor and Makers market offer artisan goods, gourmet treats and entertainment. **£20pp**

Wednesday 18th March Southport-Dropping off on Lord Street, the busy market has a variety of stalls, as well as shops and Gardens nearby. **£20pp**



Please turn over for more trips



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Saturday 21st March Trentham Shopping Village- Maker's Market-featuring over 80 picturesque timber lodges, home to a mix of high street names and unique independent shops. As well the markers Market with Local artisan stalls. There's the opportunity to take a look around the Italian Gardens, search for hidden fairies and enjoy other family attractions. **£25pp**

Tuesday 24th March Sparrowhawk-Back by request. Sparrowhawk is characterful country house converted into beautiful pub, set within five acres of woods and parkland. ***Lunch Club* £15pp**



Wednesday 25th March Skipton-It's Market Day, for those who love finding treasure not available on the high street. **£20pp**

Wednesday 1st April Lancaster Market-Heading up Lancaster with the Traditional Charter Market in the centre of town as well as high street shops and quirky boutiques and independent galleries. **£20pp**

Saturday 4th April Quayside Media City-Maker's Market- surrounded by BBC and ITV studios, the Maker's Market is a buzzing event with a mix of local makers, foodies and family fun. You'll also have the opportunity to explore the local attractons such as the Lowery and shopping mall. **£20pp**

Day Trips:

We can take all kinds of groups wherever they want to go. If your group requires transport for any activity, be it days out, meetings, or special occasions, we can do it

Bookings can be made by:

Telephone: 01254 846200 Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

Email: info@travelassist.org

Or via our Facebook Page

We require the names, contact number and addresses of all passengers
Travel Assist reserves the right to cancel any Out and About Trip