



## GLASGOW WEST END U3A December 2022 Newsletter

Dear All

Well, where has 2022 gone? It's hard to believe that it's only two weeks until Christmas. I hope everyone is able to enjoy the festive season with family and friends in a way that hasn't been possible over the last two years.

Thank you all for your patience with our website problems over the last few weeks. Unfortunately, these problems were out of our control and were very frustrating for all of us. I'm pleased to report that our website is now back up and running thanks to a lot of work by Charlotte Noble and Peter Taylor. We have however lost a lot of our photos though this has given us an opportunity to update some pages. If you feel anything is missing, please let us know.

Remember that our AGM will be at our December meeting - this Thursday December 15th at 10.30 in the hall at 24 Novar Drive. Coffee and tea will be served as usual from 10am. The AGM will be followed by our Christmas party.

I hope to see as many of you as possible on Thursday. All members are of course entitled to participate in the AGM. Afterwards we will have refreshments and some Christmas activities. The Christmas party is free of charge for all our members. We will have a raffle with some Christmas goodies. Tickets are £1 per strip or 6 strips for £5. Please bring some change with you!

A January date for your diary - our (post) Christmas lunch will be at The Bothy on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm (after the monthly meeting). I will send the menu later this week, but in the meantime please save the date!

Another date for your new diary! The January coffee and chat in the Puppet Theatre will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January. All are welcome.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2023.

Gail Donaldson - Chair u3a GWE

### **u3a Glasgow West End Events 2022/3**

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday in the month in Hyndland Community Hall in Novar Drive. Coffee and tea are available from 10.00 am onwards and the event begins at 10.30 am. All are welcome. Planned future meetings will include – subject to change:

- **Thursday 15 December 2022:** AGM and Christmas Party
- **Friday 7 January 2023:** Coffee and Chat
- **Thursday 19 January 2023:** (Post) Christmas Lunch

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/events>

### Local History Group

The group normally meets on Mondays. We enjoy a mix of visits to places of historical interest and presentations, both in-person and via Zoom.

Our last outing was an atmospheric, wintry tour of the Necropolis, guided by a volunteer from the Friends of the Necropolis, the organisation devoted to restoring and conserving this site. Our next meeting will be on 23 January when we'll be having a guided tour of the Govan Stones.

For a list of future events, visit our webpage.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/84166>

### History Book Group

The group reads non-fiction history books, meeting monthly on Mondays in the Three Crows in Crow Road to discuss them.

Below is a review by one of our members of our last read, 'The Anarchy: the rise of the East India Company', by William Dalrymple.

*"One of the very first Indian words to enter the English language was the Hindustani slang for plunder: loot." So begins Dalrymple's account of how a simple business operation, based in a London office, managed to replace the mighty Mughal Empire; a supreme act of corporate violence, as he describes it, and sadly not the last such activity in global history. Dalrymple's strengths as a writer lie in his ability to address the complexities of this story using historical sources from Britain and the sub-continent to tell a coherent, if at times depressing, but thoroughly engaging tale of how business traders transformed themselves into an organisation with a private army larger than the British State. Dalrymple provides a well-researched antidote to those politicians who urge us to focus solely on the positives of Britain's imperial past; the reputations of Clive of India and the Duke of Wellington will never be the same again.'*

Our next read is 'Hitler's British Traitors', by Tim Tate. For reviews of our previous reads and a list of our forthcoming reads, visit our webpage. If you're not a group member but enjoy reading any of the books we discuss, feel free to send us your thoughts on them.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/85727>

### Coffee and Chat

The ever-popular Coffee and Chat met on Saturday. We enjoyed lovely Christmas cake and good chat. We welcomed some new members giving people a chance to get to know each other.

We plan to meet again on the 7th January at 2pm.

Enjoy the festive season and see you in 2023

### Film Lovers

We plan to go to interesting films at the GFT (or wherever else they are showing) and to meet to chat about films. If you are interested, please click on the pigeon at the link below:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/125316>

## Science and Technology Group

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 3pm and are normally in person at Partickhill Bowling Club 46 Partickhill Road, Glasgow G11 5BY. Coffee is available from 2.45pm. (Occasional meetings will be held on zoom when the speaker would otherwise be unable to attend.)

Details of the next three meetings in 2023 meetings, all of which will be held in person at Partickhill Bowling Club are:

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm

John Davies: *"The mind of your microwave: the computers around us that nobody notices"*

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm

Rosalind Holmes: *"It's all in your genes – the mechanisms by which some features are controlled by our genes and the effects they can have on some of our (my) life experiences"*

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm

Alan Watt: *"Quantum Mechanics – it's not all rocket science"*

Look out on the website for details of other future meetings which will be posted as soon as the programme is finalised.

If you wish to join the group or have any enquiries, just click on the pigeon on the group web page

Val Kaye (convenor)

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/77856>

## Current Affairs (Update)

The group started during the pandemic and of course was on Zoom. We meet monthly on the last Friday of the month at 12.30 for an hour. We take turns to propose a topical issue for discussion in our fast-moving political scene that changes very quickly.

Last month we met face to face which was great. Thanks to the Garden Cafe in Ashton Lane. Our January meeting could go back to Zoom depending on the winter weather. We will keep the group informed of course.

We would be delighted to welcome new members. You don't need to be an expert, nor do you need to voice an opinion. All opinions and none are respected and no political agenda is pushed.

The website is up and running again so please contact the group coordinator using the pigeon.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/code/u3asite.php?site=960&page=110399>

## Theatre Group

The Theatre Group had a planning session on 8 December (oh yes, we did and then we went to the pantos!) and have started to put together a programme for next year. Firm dates so far are the *Lavender Hill Mob* 2 February at Theatre Royal, Cypress Avenue at the Tron Theatre on 2 March and *Wish You Were Dead* on 28 March also Theatre Royal. We are hoping to go to a Pie and a Play at Oran Mor in January. Looking ahead we are thinking of venturing further afield to Edinburgh, Pitlochry and Greenock. So, Theatre Group members keep an eye on the WhatsApp messages and book yourself in for some outings. Anyone who would like to join the Theatre Group contact me via the website pigeon. (Maggie Paterson)

<https://u3asites.org.uk/code/u3asite.php?site=960&page=81585>

## Groups

The following are the activities groups that are currently running. Contact a group via its page on our website and please get in touch with Peter Taylor, Activity Group Co-ordinator if you have any ideas or suggestions for activities, to discuss how we might make them happen – via the link below.

Art Appreciation, 2 Book Groups, British Sign Language, Cinema, Coffee and Chat, Current Affairs, Film Lovers, 2 French Conversation groups, French Intermediate, Genealogy, German Conversation, History Book Group, Italian Conversation, Knitting, Local History, Longer Walks, Lunch Bunch, Photography, Poetry Appreciation, Quilting, Recorder Playing, Science & Technology, Social Bridge, Spanish Conversation, Sunday Lunch Group, Table Tennis, Theatre, Ventures with a Bus Pass, Walking with a Bus Pass, Wine Appreciation, Yoga.

Click on 'IT Help' to get in touch with our volunteer who can offer this.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/groups>

## Meet your new Trustee for Scotland

Our new Trustee for Scotland is well known to us - it is our own Liz Ervine who was Chair of Glasgow WE u3a until 2022.

As part of her role, Liz will be holding regular open meetings on Zoom to hear your views and questions on the u3a, it's role and it's organisation and feed these back to the Trust.

The first of these open meetings will be held on Monday 19th December 2022 at 12.30pm.

Zoom link below: We will send a further reminder later this week.

Let's all support Liz and join the Zoom session if we are free

Time: Dec 19, 2022 12:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85621792997?pwd=V1o4b0EvYmpEYmJkb3M0ZlM0bWNzZz09>

Meeting ID: 856 2179 2997

Passcode: 878546

## Your Ideas

The u3a works on the principles of Self Help and Mutual Aid. Members form groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire, and these are run by the members, for the members. If there is an activity that you would like to join others in doing, why not help to bring people together to try it. You can then share your enthusiasms and skills – you don't have to be an expert or teacher.

Please get in touch with Peter Taylor, Activity Group Co-ordinator if you have any ideas or suggestions for activities, to discuss how we might make them happen via the link below:

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## 2023 Calendar

We have again put together a calendar with pictures taken by members of the Photography group. The calendars cost £5 each. They will be available at Monthly Meetings and some group meetings. Or contact Peter Taylor [peter@pdtaylor.com](mailto:peter@pdtaylor.com) to place an order and arrange how to collect it.

