



## GLASGOW WEST END U3A January 2021 Newsletter

Dear All

Happy New Year to you all. 2021 has got off to a shaky start but hopefully it will improve. We just want a vaccine...

The weather has been lovely though a bit treacherous underfoot in places. The hospital grounds at Gartnavel Royal have been well-gritted and are ideal for a sunny winter walk. Bingham's Pond provided much entertainment for children when most of it was frozen. Bit too much excitement for me, I prefer to be on firmer ground.

GWEU3A continues to be busy on Zoom/Facebook/WhatsApp. We had a lovely Christmas Event by Fool's Gold in December which all enjoyed. The David Hume Institute Focus Group on what we found important to happiness during lockdown, leading on to Equality and Fairness, proved very popular and stimulating.

A number of you walked for Shelter with a pal in December which was worthwhile exercise. Coffee and Chat continues to be popular and a good way to meet members.

The small groups are continuing very well with a new French group starting up. Edith Fleming is getting musicians together to play and listen to classical music. If you wish to join them please indicate through the website in the usual way.

After the Focus Group a number of people expressed an interest in being part of a Current Affairs Group. This would require members to be unbiased politically, and would require a structure and format a bit like the Focus group. If you are interested in further discussion about such a group please email me at [lizervine@hotmail.com](mailto:lizervine@hotmail.com) and I will try to facilitate it.

Our next monthly meeting is on the 21st January at 10am for 10.30 am. Kate Phillips will talk on "Black Lives in Scotland". It promises to be interesting and thought-provoking. It might even be a topic for Current Affairs? Please join us. The Zoom link will be sent out nearer the time. Chat from 10 to 10.30 and then the talk from 10.30 to 11.15 with questions from 11.15 until 11.30.

On a completely unrelated matter I have 10 bottles of mulled wine (non-alcoholic) left over from last Christmas. It belongs to you. I don't want to throw it out. Many of you walk near my flat. If interested email me and I will arrange safe pick up from my garden. Mulled wine in a wee flask might be just the thing on a cold winter walk.

Take care, stay safe.

Liz Ervine  
Chair  
GWEU3A

### **Classical Music Group**

Are you interested in listening to classical music, or playing a musical instrument with piano accompaniment? Simply contact Edith via the link below:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/108793>

### **Non-Fiction History Book Group**

The non-fiction history book group continues to meet monthly on Mondays via Zoom. Below is a brief review by one of our members of our last read, 'Threads of Life' by Clare Hunter:

*"At first sight, I thought this exploration of the joys and power of sewing an odd choice for a non-fiction history book group. However, it proved to be a fascinating account of the role of needlework in politics, protest and identity across the centuries. Hunter includes stories from such diverse contexts as a POW camp in Singapore, an imprisoned Mary Queen of Scots, and even two Edinburgh binmen participating in a sewing project. The only disappointment in this interesting read was the absence of illustrations."*

Our next read, which we'll be discussing on 11 January, is 'The Bullsh\*t Jobs' by David Graeber.

On our webpage you'll find a list of our planned reads from January to July 2021.

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

### **Table Tennis Group**

After seven weeks of very enjoyable (had to be singles) games in October-November, after the first long lockdown, Kelvin Hall closed for activities and will remain so until February at the earliest. Meanwhile, if you want to be on our list and so kept up to date with the situation by email, do make contact with us.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/84394>

### **Sign Language Group**

There are two groups learning and using British Sign Language at 10am on Tuesdays using Zoom. We do have some fun... YouTube is a great source of inspiration.

Currently 5 beginners are meeting on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays for an hour. The original group of 6 continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays but both groups can accommodate more members.

Should we gain our freedom, the meetings will revert to the former Grosvenor Terrace Cafe arrangement but we will keep up Zooming with beginners and those who find it more comfortable.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/85728>

### **Recorder Group**

A few of us were able to play during the good weather months in garden sessions, keeping our distance, and ignoring passing-by trains as much as possible.

Since November one of our members offered to set up Zoom meetings. Four of us have met up once a week. Although playing in unison is not ideal, we do enjoy chatting as well.

It will be a great joy to finally meet up with the whole group, once that is again possible.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/85729>

### **Local History Group**

The local history group has launched a programme of presentations that are open to all GWE members. These take place once or twice a month on Monday afternoons at 2.00. Shortly before each talk all members will receive an email containing the Zoom link and can click on this if they want to listen in.

The next talk on 11th January will be by Professor Eleanor Gordon of University of Glasgow who will be talking about '**Madeline Smith and her murder trial**'.

Following this, on 18 January, Glasgow historian and writer Peter Mortimer will be presenting '**Glasgow: A Potted History**'. Peter will be providing us with a few presentations over the coming months, including one on the history of Partick.

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

### **Quilting Group**

The Quilting group would welcome anyone who would like to try out our Zoom meetings. The next one is at 2pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January (contact Christian via the link below) and then fortnightly. We enjoy lots of happy chat. No experience needed.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/81787>

**Our Range of Interest Groups** The following are the other interest groups that have been keeping up or resuming activities in one way or another during Covid. Please note that this list can change at short notice. To find out a group's current situation, contact it via the pigeon on its website page.

1820 Risings, Art Appreciation, Book Groups, Bridge Group, Cinema Group, Coffee and Chat, Conversational French, Conversational German, Conversational Spanish, Crochet Group, Exploring Glasgow, Genealogy, History Book Group, Knitting Group, Local History Group, Photography, Poetry Appreciation, Quilting, Recorder Playing, Science & Technology Group, Shakespeare Reading Group, Sign Language, Survival French, Table Tennis, Theatre Group, Wine Appreciation, Yoga.

Would any member who is experiencing problems with contacting a group please let Jean Broadley, our Small Groups Coordinator, know. Jean can be contacted via:

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

### **New ways to share and promote u3a activities**

We have two new ways to share and promote our activities. There is now a public Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GWEU3A>. This will be primarily for telling people about forthcoming or past activities. Although anyone can post to it, their contributions will be 'moderated' by a Committee member before appearing (or not). Please feel free to ask any Facebook users that you know to follow or 'like' the page.

(For communications between u3a members there is still also a private Facebook group. Please email Peter Taylor [peter@pdtaylor.com](mailto:peter@pdtaylor.com) if you would like to join that).

We also now have a YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-dOE6n8PwxqMSLFpM1BN6w>. At present this includes a video of our November talk by Shelter. Other ideas for contributions would be welcome.

**December Quiz Answers – Can you identify these areas of Glasgow?**

- |     |                                  |              |
|-----|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1.  | Girl on top of small mountain    | MARYHILL     |
| 2.  | It's dark among the trees        | KNIGHTSWOOD  |
| 3.  | Girl before U.S. city            | BELLAHOUSTON |
| 4.  | Boy behind a vehicle             | CARDONALD    |
| 5.  | A girl's country                 | ANNIESLAND   |
| 6.  | Jump before the stream           | SPRINGBURN   |
| 7.  | Protect a large indoor space     | SHIELDHALL   |
| 8.  | Royal playground                 | QUEENSPARK   |
| 9.  | Pay your dues and get angry      | TOLLCROSS    |
| 10. | Healthy drink at grand residence | CASTLEMILK   |
| 11. | A shocked measure                | WHITEINCH    |
| 12. | Holy place with rhythm           | DRUMCHAPEL   |
| 13. | Green order to a vehicle         | GOVAN        |
| 14. | Heavyweight behind criminal      | CROOKSTON    |
| 15. | English city in front of a mound | YORKHILL     |
| 16. | Forbid a Scottish town           | BARLANARK    |
| 17. | Home for spring festival         | EASTERHOUSE  |
| 18. | Field to cheer you up            | MERRYLEAD    |
| 19. | A measure of the farm            | CROFTFOOT    |
| 20. | Nearly there?                    | HALFWAY      |