



GLASGOW WEST END U3A June 2021 Newsletter

Dear All,

Glasgow has finally made it to level 2, so now you can enjoy seeing relatives and friends in your own home, as well as the kinder weather.

Most of gweu3a groups and monthly meetings are on Zoom. As restrictions change we as a committee are looking at the way forward.

Another walk is planned for the end of June or beginning of July. Coffee and Chat plans its second outdoor meeting on Saturday afternoon. However, the three households indoors restriction means that, apart from exercise classes, groups cannot meet inside.

Leaders of any exercise classes should submit a risk assessment to Viv O'Duffy on the committee (voduffy@yahoo.com), and of course follow the government guidelines regarding numbers and social distancing.

Under the present restrictions we could have a monthly meeting in Novar Drive Community Hall, but numbers would be limited to 50 at present. Places would have to be booked in advance, and it would mean wearing a mask, sitting two metres apart (unless in the same household), and no coffee. We are willing to give it a go in October but we need to hear what your thoughts are. Would you be willing to attend? Please email lizervine@hotmail.com with your thoughts.

We need some of you to organise small groups, as some people are giving up their role as coordinators. This could be an opportunity for you. If you are interested then contact Jean Broadley using the gweu3a website.

There are also opportunities for you to consider supporting the committee. This would be an opportunity to meet others, be part of the u3a and learn new skills. You could simply serve on the committee or also support one of the post holders. Please contact me if you would like to consider this.

Thanks as ever for your support.

Liz Ervine

Chair gweu3a

June Monthly Meeting

Thursday, June 17th, 10am for 10.30am: **Andrea Fisher** is employed by The Children's Wood Community and North Kelvin Meadow as a Schools and Community Engagement Officer. Andrea will give details and the history of this project and area, and how she is working to get people outside more by facilitating outdoor learning for local schools and nurseries.

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, 'Pale Rider- the Spanish Flu of 1918 and how it changed the world' by Laura Spinney.

'As a group we initially debated whether, in the middle of the current pandemic, it would be too depressing to read about the global pandemic of 1918-19 in which between 50 and 100 million people died. However, this proved to be a fascinating, and immensely readable, account of a largely forgotten period in history.'

Laura Spinney, a science journalist, explores not only the potential causes but also the long-term impact of the misnamed 'Spanish' flu in shaping huge aspects of our modern lives. It should be compulsory reading for politicians everywhere.'

Our next read, which we'll be discussing on 11 May, is 'The Whisperers: Private Life in Stalin's Russia' by Orlando Figes

On our webpage you'll find a list of our planned reads until July 2021.

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

Art Appreciation

The Art Appreciation Group had a great catch-up on Tuesday afternoon, face-to-face in the sunshine, at GWR - a very welcome step forward and some normality back in our lives. No gallery visits arranged at present but hopefully we can look forward to that soon.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/80043>

Local History Group

The local history group has a monthly programme of presentations via Zoom that are open to all GWE members. These take place on Monday afternoons at 2.00. There's no need to register an interest. A couple of days before each talk all U3A members will receive an email containing the Zoom link and can click on this if they want to listen in.

In May we had a great turnout for our talk from Dr Valerie Wright of the University of Stirling on 'Women, the Rent Strike and Red Clydeside'.

Our next talk on 14 June will be from Professor Eleanor Gordon of the University of Glasgow. Many of you will remember her very popular talk on 'Madeleine Smith (you can find a recording of this on GWE u3a's YouTube channel). This time, her topic is 'The Myth of the traditional family'.

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

Science and Technology Group

Our next talk will be on Wednesday, 16 June at 2pm. Please find the Zoom link below.

The subject will be **A History of Termination of Pregnancies** and our speaker will be our one of our own members, **Dr Georg Kroker**.

The talk will cover how Georg got involved in terminations; Bronislaw Malinowsky, an influential anthropologist; the net of values; historical facts relating to values; illusions and delusions of Joseph Banks.

Georg was born in West Germany in 1949 into a conservative Catholic upbringing; he went to school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Rourkela, India; was an altar boy, aspired to the priesthood, went to Jesuit Boarding School, then lost his faith; trained at Medical School in Marburg and also took a degree in Psychology from Hamburg University. He specialised in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. From 2004 to 2019 he worked at Wishaw General with responsibility for Terminations of Pregnancy and Contraception.

Interests include Science/Epistemology; Belief systems(personally Atheist/Agnostic); Evolution, sexual Evolution, Psychobiological Evolution; Computer science, AI; Munro bagging, kayaking, climbing, aviation, scuba diving, cycling; popular Science books; baking bread.

If you are not a member of the group and wish to attend this meeting, please contact Alan using the pigeon link on the website.

Topic: Science and Technology Group

Time: Jun 16, 2021 02:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2408192456?pwd=ZXNhNlVPUkhHK0xZMEZaTWVVKRmlpQT09>

Meeting ID: 240 819 2456

Passcode: cawatt

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

Coffee and a Chat

Zoom Coffee and a Chat is currently taking place on the first Saturday of each month at 2pm.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/97567>

Local history group research projects

One of the history group's research projects is the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders (UCS) work-in which took place 50 years ago. As part of this project two of our members, Alan and Dot Dickson, have been highly creative and produced a video which you can find on the GWE u3a YouTube channel. There are guest appearances from some other GWE and Paisley and District u3A members.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJ5LBPGpLTI>

Wine Appreciation

The next wine tasting zoom will be on 23 June at 6.30.

Theme: *The Wines of Portugal*.

Anyone interested can contact me on this email.

allanmillward@aol.com

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/84698>

Our Range of Interest Groups

The following are the interest groups that, as far as we know, have kept up or are resuming activities in one way or another. Please note that this list can change at short notice. Contact a group via its page on our website.

Art Appreciation, Book Groups, Bridge Group, Cinema Group, Coffee and Chat, Conversational French, Conversational German, Conversational Spanish, Crochet Group, Current Affairs, Exploring Glasgow, 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>

u3a Archeology Group and Online Events

To join the u3a:onlineacrossscotland Archaeology Group or to join one of their online events, just follow the link below:

[RM 2-06-21 u3a In Touch Scotland: Archaeology Group and Online Events \(mailchi.mp\)](https://mailchi.mp/2-06-21-u3a-in-touch-scotland-archaeology-group-and-online-events)