



GLASGOW WEST END U3A March 2023 Newsletter

Dear All

I hope everyone is well and looking forward to the Spring.

Date for your diary:

Thursday 16th March 2023 - Donna Brennan of BTO Solicitors will talk to us on Wills and Powers of Attorney - specifically the Importance of having a Will and a Power of Attorney in place and will be happy to answer any questions we may have.

Thursday 20th April - Marion Maudsley will talk about the City of Nuremberg. Nuremberg is twinned with Glasgow so this should be very interesting.

During May, the u3a is organising a number of events relating to Hadrian's Wall and The Antonine Wall. Our May speaker is Dr Alan Leslie whose presentation to us is entitled "At the Edge of Empire: Rome & The Antonine Wall". We will also be organising a walk in May along part of the wall. The Ventures with a Bus Pass Group is visiting Falkirk on Friday 14th April and plan to visit Callendar House which currently has an exhibition on the history of The Antonine Wall. We will send further mailings with more details

Thanks to those who have already renewed their u3a membership. For those still to renew I'd just like to remind you that our membership year ends at the end of March, and renewal fees will be due on or before April 1st. Please see later in the newsletter for details on how to renew.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support.

Gail Donaldson - Chair u3a GWE

Last month our presentation was from Mike and Colleen of **The International Network of Street Papers** and it was really fascinating to learn about what is happening worldwide. Mike and Colleen are keen to keep in touch with us and there are various ways to support them and get involved. They have a newsletter: [Untold Stories](#) which brings a selection of voices and stories from street papers around the world on a monthly basis. Sign up to hear more about the lifechanging impact of street papers:

<https://www.insp.ngo/get-involved/newsletter>

Like most third sector organisations in Scotland, they face financial challenges and are currently fundraising so that they can continue to run their News Service, help their members street papers develop, and support more people in need. To make a donation, please visit here: <https://www.insp.ngo/donate/> Any amount is appreciated by them. You can also get involved by:

- Pitching a story <https://www.insp.ngo/get-involved/pitch-a-story>
- Volunteering <https://www.insp.ngo/get-involved/jobs-and-volunteering>
- Exploring street papers around the world <https://www.insp.ngo/network>
- And of course, supporting your local Big Issue vendor: <https://www.bigissue.com/vendors/>
- Mike Findlay's presentation can, by kind permission, be seen here (in .PDF format) <https://u3asites.org.uk/files/g/glasgow-west-end/docs/inspu3apresentation.pdf>

February Monthly Meeting: The International Network of Street Papers



u3a Glasgow West End Events 2023

We have an exciting line-up of varied speakers for our monthly meetings in the first half of 2023. All our speakers give of their time freely and we are very grateful for their contributions. Sometimes there can be unavoidable last-minute changes, but our Chair, Gail will come to our rescue with a quiz or similar!

Our 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 when there will be an opportunity to chat with old and new friends. The talks begin at 10.30 am. and we allow time for questions at the end. All are welcome.

Future meeting include:

- Thursday **16 March 2023** Donna Brennan, Solicitor, will speak to us about **Wills and Powers of Attorney** and will be happy to answer any questions we may have
- Thursday **20 April 2021** Marion Maudsley will talk about **the City of Nuremberg**, which is twinned with Glasgow.
- Thursday **18 May 2023** Alan Leslie will give a talk on the **Antonine Wall**.
- Thursday **15 June 2023** Allan Mauchline will tell us about the charitable work of **ScOTSERVS**.

<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.

Unfortunately, our Zoom presentation on 20 February about the Cuningar Stones had to be cancelled due to illness. We'll let you know when we re-arrange it.

Our next meeting is on 13 March when we'll be having a guided tour of Glasgow's historic Trades House. Our April meeting will be a tour of the Alasdair Gray archives.

For a list of future events, visit our webpage via the link below.

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

History Book Group

The group reads non-fiction history books and meets 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 Empireland – how imperialism has shaped modern Britain', by Sathnam Sanghera.

'Our group's feedback on this book was overwhelmingly positive. The writing style was straightforward, with just enough humour to aid understanding of a complicated subject. By easily acknowledging his own initial lack of understanding of the subject, the author lets the reader off the hook for our own ignorance - partly the result, in both our cases, of a Western-focused education.'

It's evident that this ignorance of Empire is widely shared and negatively shapes the views of many of the British public, as evidenced by the recent polls he quotes - 30% of respondents in the 2020 one believing former colonies were better off as part of the Empire (tell that to the indigenous people of Tasmania!). He explodes some myths behind these kinds of views e.g., that the British left India with a wonderful railway system.

Sanghera tackles the controversial nature of the issues head on, offering unsensational accounts of the dreadful cruelties and systematic pillaging undertaken in the name of 'Empire'. Today's multicultural Britain exists because "We are here because you were there", and he highlights a reluctance to examine this history.

The author manages to end on a positive note, suggesting that we move away the idea of tearing down the legacies of Empire and focus instead on creating, building, and widening people's knowledge base'.

Our next meeting is on 20 March when we'll be discussing 'Darien: A journey in search of Empire', by John McKendrick.

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

Flying the Flag

Liz Ervine can be spotted here promoting u3a whilst out near Inverkip with the Longer Walks group.



<https://u3asites.org.uk/code/u3asite.php?site=960&page=121788>

Coffee and Chat Dates

There were lively discussions at our March Coffee and Chat session in the Scottish Mask and Puppet Centre.

Next Dates:

8th April (Easter weekend) and 13th May



Science and Technology Group

The next meeting of the Science and Technology Group will take place as follows:

Wednesday 15th March at 3pm at Partickhill Bowling Club 46 Partickhill Road G11 5BY. Coffee from 2.45pm: Alan Watt: *"Quantum Mechanics – it's not all rocket science"*

Wednesday 19th April at 3pm

Valerie Kaye *"Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – What is it, what causes it and how can it be treated?"*

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>

Grosvenor Cinema Group

The Grosvenor Cinema group will meet next on Thursday 23rd of March.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/code/u3asite.php?site=960&page=117169>

Visiting Gardens

A lot of people have expressed an interest in a possible group that would arrange visits to gardens during appropriate months of the year. There is a meeting on the morning of Tuesday 14 March to discuss how this can be organised. Please get in touch via the link below if you are interested.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/127897>

Meet Your Trustee

The next "Meet Your Trustee" Meeting takes place on Friday 17th March at 11am. Everybody is welcome to attend. We will send more details separately. The zoom link is:

Liz Ervine is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Meet the Trustee

Time: Mar 17, 2023 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82289140198>

Meeting ID: 822 8914 0198

This meeting will include break out rooms to enable informal chat.

Membership News

Membership is due to be renewed at the end of March - this is an advance warning. You can renew any time from now onwards.

The annual subscriptions, unchanged from last year's, have been set as follows: Individual £15, Joint £12.50 each, Associate £10.

Our preferred method of payment is by bank transfer, to GLASGOW WESTEND U3A, sort code 87-37-21, business account number 87559068. Please put your name in the reference section and please let me know when you have done so at the email address below.

(We can also take payment by cash (at a monthly meeting, at a table by the door) or by cheque made payable to Glasgow Westend U3A and sent to me at 26 Clarence Drive, Glasgow, G12 9QX.)

gweu3amembership@yahoo.com

Facebook

Our previous public Facebook page has had to be discontinued. There is a new one at the link below. If you are a Facebook user, please follow this for announcements, pictures of activities etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090948576155>

Committee News

We are pleased to welcome Maureen Daniel to the Executive Committee.

Maureen will be helping Ann Brackenridge who is our Membership Secretary.

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, Creative Writing, Current Affairs, Film Lovers, 2 French Conversation groups, French Intermediate, Genealogy, German Conversation, History Book Group, Italian Conversation, Knitting, Latin, Local History, Longer Walks, Lunch Bunch, MOTO (Members on their own), 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>

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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