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**Paisley & District U3A Press Release:**

**No embargo: 00.00 Tuesday 22 November 2022**

**u3a Christmas treat for Mackintosh lovers**

**Lovers of Scottish architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh are in for a treat at Paisley & District u3a’s Christmas meeting. Artist and tour guide, James Winnett, will provide a festive insight into the life and work of this celebrated Glasgow figure. The public are welcome to attend this free talk at the Salvation Army Hall, Mill Street, Paisley PA1 1ND on Thursday 1 December at 2pm. Doors open 1.30pm for seasonal refreshments.**

u3a chair, Kathy O’Donnell said: “There is a huge interest in buildings designed in the Art Nouveau style. Paisley has many iconic landmarks and the town now has a Four Paisley Architects Walking Trail. While none of these were created by Charles Rennie Mackintosh, he served as an apprentice to the Paisley-born architect John Hutchison.

In 2019, our Art Appreciation Group enjoyed a guided tour of a House for an Art Lover, and a lovely lunch. Now more members have expressed an interest in paying a visit.”

Guest speaker James Winnett said: “My talk will include a selection of Charles Rennie Mackintosh’s most accomplished artistic and architectural works. I particularly want to focus on his 1901 designs for a House for an Art Lover. His designs appear timeless.”

Details of local u3a activities and groups at: https://u3asites.org.uk/paisley/welcome

**ENDS**

**Notes to the Editor**

1. **Photo and** **Copyright** of **James Winnett**, the speaker at Paisley & District u3a’s monthly meeting on Thursday 1 December 2022 at 2pm in the Salvation Army Hall, Paisley, PA1 1ND. James Winnett is available for interview. For further information, contact u3a chair Kathy O’Donnell using the General enquiry: <https://u3asites.org.uk/paisley/contact>
2. James Winnett is an artist, stone carver and workshop leader interested in the crossovers between sculpture, archaeology and memory. Working primarily in public art and sculpture, he has developed a range of public art projects across the UK with recent projects in Aberdeenshire, Newton Mearns and County Kildare in Ireland.
3. Paisley & District u3a is Scotland’s 50th self-help learning co-operative for people no longer in full time work.  u3as, run by local volunteers who share their learning, are part of a UK-wide and international educational movement. Its motto is ‘Learn, laugh, live.’  Scotland has around 10,000 members in 52 u3as who have fun as they enjoy the social side of taking up new activities, interests and hobbies:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/scotland/members>

2022 is u3a’s ruby anniversary. A series of events will celebrate 40 years of this national learning organisation which has more than 1,000 u3as in the UK. Details available at: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>