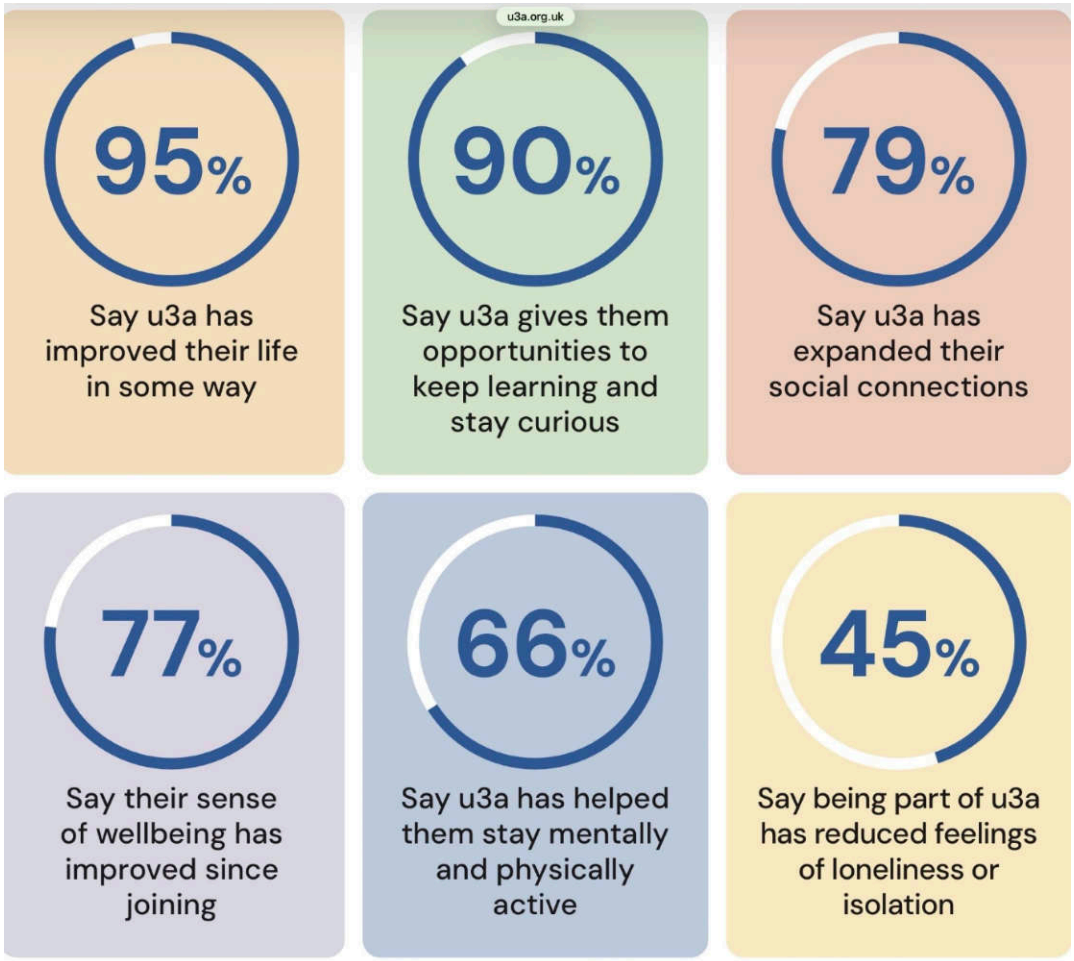


The clocks have changed; we're coping with the darker evenings but hopefully the interest and fun that we all enjoy in u3a will carry us through the next few months. Some of the eternal optimists among us may even be reminding ourselves that in less than two months the days will start to lengthen again. Before that we have our Christmas lunch at the Bothy on 3rd December and then our monthly meeting on 17th December when we will have festive entertainment from Hyndland Secondary School, mulled wine and seasonal sweetmeats to get us in the mood for Christmas.

Also, at the meeting on 17th December, we will hold our AGM, when we will have a report from the Co-Chairs, a financial report and the election of our Committee for the year ahead.

The u3a recently carried out a survey of 10,000 u3a members under the banner 'u3a and Me' to gain an insight about how the movement impacts later life. The key findings were:



These really are compelling figures and confirm our own view that u3a is an organisation which is very worthwhile supporting. Our group leaders will probably agree, too, that feeling that they are doing something which improves the life of others gives even more positives. However, to keep our u3a vibrant and active we need not only group leaders but also Committee members.

We have a great team but we have to plan for the future and we need three more people to step up to join us in keeping your own u3a in good heart. **If you can identify with one, or even all,of the key findings, PLEASE consider this.** If you would like to discuss what's involved, contact Hazel and Jane and we can have a chat. The Committee meets ten times a year and every meeting is followed by coffee/wine and chat in Cottiers. Give it a go!



Science and Technology

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18th November when Professor Kate Stalin will talk about "Diseases Shared with Animals".

Meetings take place on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to June (omitting December) at 3 pm at Partickhill Bowling Club, 46 Partickhill Road, Glasgow G11 5BY.

For more information about the group and to join, click on this link.

Pickleball 3

A further Pickleball group is starting on a Friday afternoon at Scotstoun. This group is for players who have some experience and wish to play in a more competitive environment. Our original group for players of all abilities (from beginner to advanced) who wish to have a social and fun time will continue to play on a Wednesday.

Find out more here.



Monthly Meeting

Brian Young will be the speaker at our November Monthly meeting. His subject is ‘The Secrets of Hadrian’s Wall’. Brian is a graduate of Strathclyde University In electrical engineering. He works for a Swiss company which does cancer testing across hospitals in Scotland. However, his passion is history and in particular the Roman period and he has written two books about that time.



Every year thousands of people walk along the wall, yet very few are aware of its hidden secrets. Most guide books don’t mention the significant modifications made during its construction or the formidable challenges made by Hadrian himself. It has long been accepted that at some point in the programme of building the wall, forts and turrets, construction was halted for a period of time. This event is referred to as “dislocation.” The most popular explanation given is that fighting erupted in the region around the wall and the soldiers had to immediately stop building to put down a rebellion. This was not just an enormous civil engineering project for the Romans; it was a time of maximum danger in the province. Brian’s book is based on real events and real people who existed at the time. Whilst some events are fictitious, many are not. His book on the subject aims to provide the reader with a plausible explanation of what took place in Britain in summer 122 AD.

Join us at the monthly meeting in The Community Hall, Novar Drive, on Thursday 19th November, to hear Brian’s fascinating talk.

https://glasgowwestend.u3asite.uk/events/

Local History Group

The group normally meets monthly on Mondays though sometimes must meet on another day to accommodate opening days of venues.

Our October event was a double treat visit to Dunfermline. Firstly, we made our way to the Abbey where so many of Scotland’s medieval monarchs are buried, including, of course St Margaret and (some of) Robert the Bruce. Following an absorbing visit, we made our way to the Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum. Most of us acknowledged that our knowledge of Carnegie’s life and continuing impact had been fairly scant till then.

As an added bonus, we enjoyed some east coast sunshine, having left and returned to a very wet Glasgow.

Find out more about the group here.







Mark Atkinson



Gordon Saunders



Robert Marshall

Photography

The weather is growing colder and damper yet we squeezed in one last photography group outing before returning to monthly themes. We met at the Riverside Museum to shoot around the Clyde. The subjects selected ranged from bridges to boats, taking in cityscapes and a ferris wheel along the way.

Our next theme is Nostalgia. We're looking forward to looking back next month.

For more information please get in touch here.

Art Appreciation 2

Unfortunately, our proposed October visit to 'The Big Art Show' at the Art Department in Paisley was cancelled due to the ongoing effects of Storm Buelo.

Here's a relevant pic of what we missed!

For a list of future events, keep an eye on our webpage.



Quiz Night

On 23rd October we held a Quiz Night in Novar Drive. Our Quiz Master, Ian Matheson, really challenged us with the range of topics, all gleaned from Trivial Pursuit, and it was a great evening. Even those of us who feel that we would not do well on University Challenge were able to get a few answers – very encouraging! Best of all, thanks to the generosity of those present, we were able to donate £550 to Glasgow Street Aid.



Travel Reading

The Travel Reading Group held its first meeting in October. We plan to meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 2pm and have chosen our first two books:

November 23rd: *"Slow Trains to Venice"* by Thomas Chesshyre

(No meeting in December)

January 25th: *"From the Holy Mountain"* by William Dalrymple

Please get in touch via this link if you are interested in joining us.

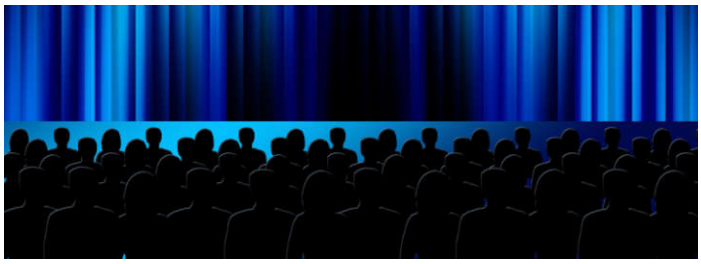


Christmas Concert 2026

Come and join the Mackintosh Choir at their Christmas Concert on Sunday 13th December 2026 at 7pm in St. John's Renfield Church, Beaconsfield Road, Glasgow G12.

There will be a medley of seasonal music featuring our well-known accompanist, Gordon Cree, under the baton of Au Arias, our Musical Director.

There will also be an opportunity for the audience to test their vocal cords with a selection of Christmas carols! https://mackintoshchoir.com/



People's Emergency Briefing Film

Save the date … 15th January 2027 2pm, Clarice Pears Building, Byres Road.

All are invited to attend a free screening of the People's Emergency Briefing Film on the changing climate and areas of British life affected by this; cost of living, food prices, flooding etc. The film lasts 50 minutes, after which there will be a discussion on what this means for a sustainable future for Glasgow.



Could you be a mentor for a young person?

We have been approached by Laura Paterson, who recently started work for MCR Pathways as their Community Partnerships and Recruitment Coordinator.

Laura says, 'By way of a quick introduction to what we do if you haven't heard of us already, MCR Pathways is an award-winning mentor charity, driven by the belief that no young person should be held back by their circumstances. We ask volunteer mentors to dedicate just 1 hour a week during term time to support a young person at school who is either care experienced or experiencing some sort of instability in their life.

Their mentor is there to just be a trusted adult they can speak to about anything they wish - so no special skills needed, just the ability to listen! Through encouragement, empathy and belief, mentors help young people to find the confidence to pursue their passions, believe in themselves and overcome challenges.

We also believe that this transformation can work both ways - with many mentors gaining a renewed sense of purpose, and learning lots of things they didn't know before.
You can learn more and register to volunteer for this valuable work by clicking here.