



## What is the u3a?

The u3a is an international movement that actively brings together retired and semi-retired people to learn informally (without tests or exams!) and enjoy leisure activities.

Originally founded in France in 1973, the idea reached the UK in 1981, where it now comprises over 1,000 branches and some 400,000 members!

All u3a's are volunteer led and work hard to provide varied, low-cost opportunities to members that help strengthen communities and promote a sense of belonging.

### The Third Age Trust ([u3a.org.uk](http://u3a.org.uk))

The Third Age Trust (or TAT) is a national body that provides advice and resources to local u3a's, as well as limited insurance for members. TAT also publishes *u3amatters*, our members' magazine. It's sent free, five times a year, to those members who opt to receive it. A digital version is also now available.



## About Perth u3a

Perth u3a is a formally structured, self-financing charity (regulated by OSCR). Managed by a volunteer committee on behalf of it's c. 550 members, it's one of 54 local groups with membership of u3a Scotland.

Meetings traditionally take place from September until May, though some activities do now continue throughout the summer.

Our main venue for meetings is a dedicated room (Unit 7) in the NCOC at 28 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 ONX. Located close to the city centre, it's handy for travel by bus, train, and car (with inexpensive parking available close by at the Dewars Centre).

## Programme

Each year, members of Perth u3a receive a copy of our Programme which contains:

- a welcome from our Chair
- the dates of our Open meetings and details of our guest speakers and their chosen topics
- the names of our committee members, a description of their roles and contact details
- brief details of our 70+ Interest Groups including contact details for group leaders.

## Open Meetings

Open meetings start at 10 30 am and are held in St. Matthew's Church, Tay Street, Perth, PH1 5LQ on a Monday morning every 4 weeks from September to April/May. Doors open at 10 am and members are invited to bring along guests. Refreshments are available from the church's own servery.

## Speakers and topics for 2026–27

- 31st August 2026 *The Secrets of Hadrian's Wall* – Brian Young
- 28th September 2026 *Bridgescapes* – Bruce Keith
- 26th October 2026 *A Perthshire Tea Garden* – Pinkie Methven
- 23rd November 2026 *The Construction of the Falkirk Wheel* – Alasdair MacLennan
- 11th January 2027 *High Constables of Perth* – Sandy Scrimgeour
- 8th February 2027 *The Mysterious Case of the Victorian Female Detective* – Dr Sara Lodge
- 8th March 2027 *One Club, One City, One Community and the St Johnstone Way* – Francis Smith
- 5th April 2027 *Treasure of Mediaeval and Renaissance Perthshire* – Dr Kylie Murray

St. Matthew's is a comfortable and warm venue where members and their guests can chat and share news before learning something new from our speakers.

Find out more online at  
[www.perth.u3asite.uk](http://www.perth.u3asite.uk)