

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER 2023 MHu3a NEWSLETTER

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ALL READERS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

Dear Member of Mill Hill u3a,

We shall be holding our Annual General Meeting on
Thursday 16 November at 2 p.m., immediately before
the Speaker.

This is a very important event for us not least because
the meeting must be quorate in order to appoint the
Executive Committee for the coming year; to be quorate
we must have a 10% attendance i.e. at least 112 people.
We do hope that you will come along to support us.

All the documents required for the AGM may be read on
our website under 'Documents' by clicking this [LINK](#).

Best wishes,

MHu3a Executive Committee.

Quarterly Social Event

The first of our quarterly Social events was held in September and we are delighted to report that it was well received and attended by 67 members!

These events are :

- Relaxed, informal gatherings,
- Opportunities to meet other members and u3a friends,
- Forums for group leaders to promote their groups,
- Opportunities to chat informally with committee members,
- Places where tea/coffee biscuits are provided!

The next of these gatherings will be held on:

**Tuesday 23 January, 2 - 4 p.m.
at the Eversfield Centre,
11 Eversfield Gardens, NW7 2AE.**

A reminder will be sent nearer the event but, in the meantime, ***save the date*** and, if you are a group leader and would like at table at this event, please contact Barbara Lenton:

barbaralenton369@btinternet.com

07534 252772

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Last month's plea for help with our Monthly Meeting equipment was successful - many thanks to the kind gentlemen who came forward to help!

This month we are appealing to another kind person.

June Burton has worked diligently for many years acquiring speakers for our Monthly Meetings, but she has also been acting as Chair of our Executive Committee until we appoint a successor at the AGM.

So, she would really appreciate some help in contacting potential speakers who are recommended to us by fellow u3as and others. If you are able to help, please contact June on

07775 830651

or at

jdburton2000@yahoo.com

FORTHCOMING MONTHLY TALKS:

**(The venue is Hartley Hall unless stated otherwise.
Doors open at 1.30 pm; talks begin at 2.00 pm.
unless shown otherwise).**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Info</i>
16 th Nov.	Veronica King	"Tense Tales of Lurking in The Shadows"	Veronica has been an under-cover agent, a store detective, and a close protection officer. She has had a fascinating life and will talk about it in great detail. There was an article about her in February 2023 <i>Third Age Matters</i> .

FORTHCOMING MONTHLY TALKS:

(The venue is Hartley Hall unless stated otherwise.
Doors open at 1.30 pm; talks begin at 2.00 pm.
unless shown otherwise).

Date	Speaker	Title	Info
14 th Dec.	Festive Event. Triggerfish will return to supply the music, with afternoon tea.		
2024			
18 th Jan.	David Burnell	“The Underground at War.”	This should be particularly fascinating especially to those members who were involved in sheltering in the underground during World War Two.
15 th Feb.	Janet Diamond	“Tutankhamen and his Treasures”	Janet is an Egyptologist and comes highly recommended.
21 st Mar.	Michael Lewis	“Freemasonry”	Michael’s talk has been rescheduled from 2023.
18 th Apr.	Richard Furnival Jones	“Harrods”	Richard will give a highly-recommended talk on the famous department store.
16 rd May NOTE DATE	Peter Altman	“Crooners”	Peter, who gave us a fascinating talk on Aliens, returns with another topic – Crooners. How many can you name?
20 th June	Chris Truran	“Digital Forensics – Who’s watching You”	Chris gave us a talk <i>on Dabs and DNA Detects Criminals</i> in 2020 and returns to give us this talk, advising on how to recognise and to avoid scams.

We'd love you to join us each month for our meetings at Hartley Hall so you get an opportunity to enjoy the live speaker, lovely refreshments and, most importantly, to meet old friends as well as other members.

For those of you unable to attend in person at our meetings in Hartley Hall, we have ceased to offer live Zoom transmissions of the talk but aim to make available a YouTube video within a couple of days, of which you will be notified by email.

NEWS FROM THE INTEREST GROUPS

Beginners Chess Group

The Beginners Chess Group will be holding their inaugural meeting at 2 p.m. on Thursday 23rd November at Mill Hill Library. For more information please contact Melvyn Sandler at:

msandler1952@gmail.com

Bridge: for Intermediate players and above

Will members of this group please note that the charge for bridge has been increased from £2.00 to £3.00 with effect from 1/10/23.

Interior Design Group

It is with much regret that Cheryl Gurner has decided to terminate the Interior Design Group forthwith.

She extends thanks to all those who supported the group throughout its 6 happy and successful years.

NEWS FROM THE INTEREST GROUPS

Music in the Afternoon

The group started in February this year with up to 19 attending each month. Everyone said how much they enjoyed it. But recently, for one reason or another, numbers have fallen: 4 in September, 2 in October. If the November turnout does not improve, then the group will be discontinued.

The November date is Wednesday 15 at Hartley Hall, 3 pm.

For details of format etc. please contact David Becker:

davidbecker2637@gmail.com

or phone 07985 703 444.

The Science Group

Before the pandemic Gary Chamberlin ran a popular science group but unfortunately is not in a position to resume this, unless perhaps a co-leader could be found.

If you have a background, or have an interest, in Science, you might just be the person we need to get this group up and running again.

Please contact either Gary or Barbara Lenton (New Group co-ordinator) for an exploratory chat :

gary@ariesps.co.uk

barbaralenton369@btinternet.com - Tel 07534252772

NEWS FROM THE INTEREST GROUPS

Play Reading

Our Play Reading group meets monthly and is always open to new members - and those able to take on male parts are especially welcome!

The group is friendly and informal. Interested?

Contact : Carole Abbey:

caroleabbey@gmail.com

Tel: 07944 619211

New groups

Our u3a relies on people willing to run groups. If you have an interest in a subject and a group does not yet exist, please speak to **Barbara Lenton** - **07534 252772** - to find out just how easy it can be getting a group started!

We know, for example, that the **Jazz group** is missed - might you be the person to restart this group ?....how about Astronomy, Comparative religions, Remarkable women, etc etc...

FORTHCOMING OUTINGS

Date	Venue	Link to Flyer	Places available?
20 & 27 Nov.	Backstage at Drury Lane (see Flyer on page 10)	LINK	SOLD OUT
Tues. 12 Dec.	Outings & Travel Christmas Lunch	LINK	Yes, booking now
Mon. 26 Feb. 2024	Trinity House	LINK	Booking opens on Mon 4th Dec.

By clicking on the [LINK](#) in the table above you can read details of the Outing in its **Flyer**. If you wish to book a trip, please note **on the Flyer** the **earliest** time and date for requesting a place. ***Any email received BEFORE 9 am. on the date will be discounted.***

THE CANCELLATION of MHU3A OUTINGS.

We realise that members can fall ill at the last minute, have home emergencies or sudden hospital appointments, but we do have to cover the cost of the venue and coach (when used) which has already been paid for.

The Outings Group therefore regrets that refunds cannot be issued unless there are replacements still available on the waiting list.

Our first Outing in 2024. Monday, February 26th.

TRINITY HOUSE.

Venue: Tower Hill, EC3N 4DH. (1 min walk from Tower Hill Station)



Trinity House, an ornate and beautiful building, is home to a charity which, since its inauguration in 1514 to regulate pilotage on the Thames and provide for aged mariners, is dedicated to the safety of shipping and seafarers. Annually, it donates around £4m to the provision of cadet training schemes, provision for retired mariners and educational programmes teaching safety-at-sea skills.

Duration: about 1hr 15 mins. **N.B.** there are some stairs on this tour.

Date: Mon, 26th February at 10.45 for tea/ coffee & tour at 11.00.

Cost: £15.00 p/p.

Only 30 places available.

Bookings, by email only, will be logged in order of receipt and successful applicants will be contacted with details of how to make their payment by BACS or cheque. All unsuccessful emails are acknowledged the same day & lets members know that they have been placed on the waiting list. Payment must be received within one week of receiving the Request for Payment, or the place will be offered to another member.

BOOKING OPENS at 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 4th December 2023.

N.B. Any emails arriving before exactly 9.00 will be rejected.

Apply to: outingsbookings@millhillu3a.co.uk and **include the following:-**

- 1) "Trinity House" Monday 26th February 2024
- 2). Your name/s and membership number/s
- 3). Number of tickets @ £15.00 (max 2)
- 4). Contact phone number/s (for use on the day)

OUTINGS (cont.)

HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT OUTINGS ARE AVAILABLE?

Outings Flyers are displayed on the website, with details of when and how to book:

[**https://millhillu3a.co.uk/group/outings/**](https://millhillu3a.co.uk/group/outings/)

HOW DO I BOOK?

By emailing:

[**outingsbookings@millhillu3a.co.uk**](mailto:outingsbookings@millhillu3a.co.uk)

Booking will open at the exact time* and date stated on the relevant Flyer and will be logged in order of receipt.

****Any emails received before 9 a.m. (exactly!) on the given date will not be accepted.***

Should you not have email you will be allocated a 'booking-buddy'. Please enquire by writing to:

*Outings MHu3a, c/o 6 Lyndhurst Avenue,
NW7 2AB.*

FORTHCOMING TRAVEL TRIPS

The table below shows the planned Travel trips for 2023.

By clicking on the [LINK](#) you can read details of the trip and print a booking form.

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Link to Flyer</i>	<i>Places available?</i>
8 - 10 Nov.	Thursford Winter Spectacular (King's Lynn)	LINK	Twin & Double rooms only.
12 th Dec.	Travel & Outings Christmas Lunch	LINK	Yes, booking now

FUTURE OUTINGS AND TRAVEL TRIPS PLANNED FOR 2024. Subject to change!!

<u>2024</u>	<u>OUTING</u>	<u>TRAVEL TRIP</u>
Mon 26 th FEB	Trinity House	
MARCH	Somerset House	WINCHESTER & THE NEW FOREST? SHORT-BREAK .
APRIL	Windsor	
MAY	Leighton House and Kyoto Gardens	7 th - 14 th MAY, IRELAND.
JUNE	Burghley House	
JULY	Chelsea Physic Garden	
SEPT	Down House, Knole or Audley End	PORTUGAL. A WEEK IN LISBON AND OPORTO.
OCT	Fishmongers Hall	
NOV	The Brunel Museum	CARDIFF AND SOUTH WALES ? SHORT-BREAK .
DEC		

FANCY A TRIP TO DUBLIN AND THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH-WEST OF IRELAND?

The Travel Team are looking ahead to May 2024, and are planning a trip to Dublin and the beautiful Southwest of Ireland, (a revival of the holiday we had arranged for 2029/2020 but which had to be cancelled twice because of Covid), and we are inviting you to write us so that we can see how many might be interested subject, of course, to cost:

travelmhu3a@gmail.com

THIS WILL NOT CONSTITUTE A BOOKING, *merely an expression of interest*, to give us an idea of the uptake.

For details, please click on this [LINK](#) to see the rough itinerary. We are hoping that the brochure and prices will be forthcoming soon and then we will be in a position to set a time and date on which booking will open.

We look forward to hearing from you.... just a “YES” or “NO” and your name, will suffice.

Please support all your MHu3a groups in the work and efforts they make on behalf of the membership,

Best wishes from The Mill Hill U3A Travel Committee,

The **London Region of u3a** frequently asks us to pass on wider news to you. Here are this month's items:

Summer School Under Threat

As you'll know, London Region has run very successful Summer Schools over many years. But now they're under threat – currently it looks like we will not be able to put one on next summer. This is due to the lack of volunteers to help organise. Catherine Ware in particular is standing down from the SS Committee (and thanks go to Catherine for establishing such successful Summer Schools) and other volunteers are also stopping. If you would be willing to work with others in trying to form some sort of Summer School or Study Days next summer, please contact Vivek at communications.lru3a@gmail.com

London Parks and Gardens Trust - Project proposal.

We are looking for a small group of people who would be interested in a proposal to set up a u3a project with London Parks and Gardens Trust. Before reading further, please look at their website. All the aims, work and achievements of the trust are there. Quite fascinating. See link here:

<https://londongardenstrust.org/conservation/inventory/>

If you think you might enjoy getting involved, please email Jo to have a chat about it. Obviously it is all just an idea at the moment, but with your help, we can have a sociable and flexible plan of action by November.

Possible Ideas to develop or reject:

1. Inventory review and update of green spaces in an individual borough. Additions? Changes?
2. Gather information on 3 specific parks with known benefactors?
3. Research into individual benefactors of land. Sites? Are the wishes of the benefactor still being complied with?
4. Garden designers across London. Comparisons? Changes?

Do get in touch.

Jo Walters, at jo.walters.slp@gmail.com

INFORMATION ABOUT MILL HILL U3A

Details of the activities of Mill Hill u3a are shown on our website which can be accessed by clicking this link [HERE:](#) (see 'EVENTS'), and of the Executive Committee (see 'ABOUT/EXEC. COM').

Our 'enquiries' desk receives many queries about our u3a; particularly, people ask about membership or renewal applications apparently going astray or being delayed.

You can find all relevant contact details on our website here: <https://millhillu3a.co.uk/#contact>

For membership enquiries, you should email our Membership Administrator directly here:

membership@millhillu3a.co.uk

In accordance with the requirements of the u3a movement and other charities, we have a number of 'policy' and 'guidance' documents available to view on our website. These cover such matters as:

- Member Code of Conduct;
- Safeguarding Policy and Procedure;
- Guide to online payment of membership renewal or joining fees;
- Group Leaders' Guidance.

These documents can be viewed by clicking this [link:](#)

These Newsletters are rather 'one-way traffic' and it would be very gratifying to hear back from our readership; so, if you have any comments/suggestions/requests, please get in touch. Please send any contributions to:

enquiries@millhillu3a.co.uk