

WELCOME TO THE DECEMBER 2023 MHu3a NEWSLETTER



We wish all our readers a very peaceful
and comforting time over the festive period.

MHu3a Executive Committee.



Our future is assured

We held our Annual General Meeting in Hartley Hall on 16th November with a wonderful turnout of 215 members - many thanks to all of you who came to ensure that we were a quorate meeting and therefore able to appoint a new Executive Committee for the coming year.

Our new Committee is well-served with keen people who will work to sustain and grow our very popular u3a - membership is steadily climbing and has now reached 1,138!

If you want to see the members of the new Committee you can do so on our website by clicking [here](#):

Our 2023 Festive Event

We are holding our Festive Event in Hartley Hall on

Thursday 14 December at 2 pm (doors open from 1.30).

Please come to listen and dance to ***Triggerfish***, who are returning to supply the music, and enjoy tea/coffee, vegetarian sandwiches, mince pies and festive cakes..

Tickets are £10 per *member* and may be purchased by payment via bank transfer to:

Account Name: Mill Hill U3A

Sort code: 40 03 01

Account number: 71572695

Please your SURNAME and Mem. No. in the reference field.

The reference field data ensures that we can link payment back to you.

OUR VERY OWN MHu3a CALENDAR

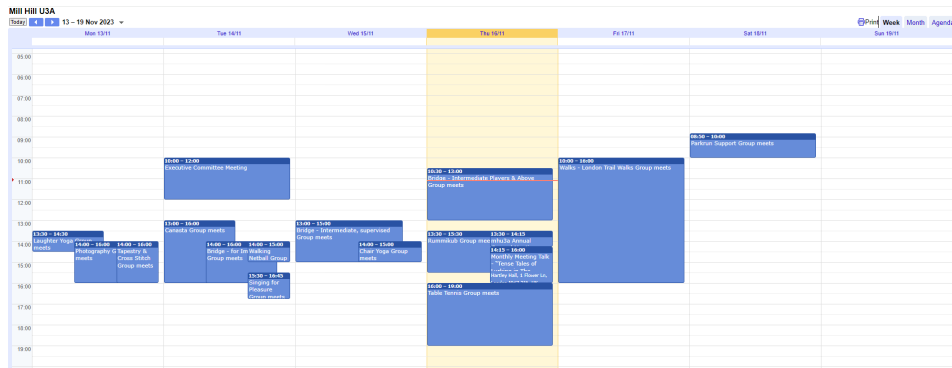
We have created an online calendar that shows you when most of our Groups meet; it also shows other activities such as a Monthly Meeting and the subject of the talk.

You can see the calendar by copying and pasting this address into your web browser:

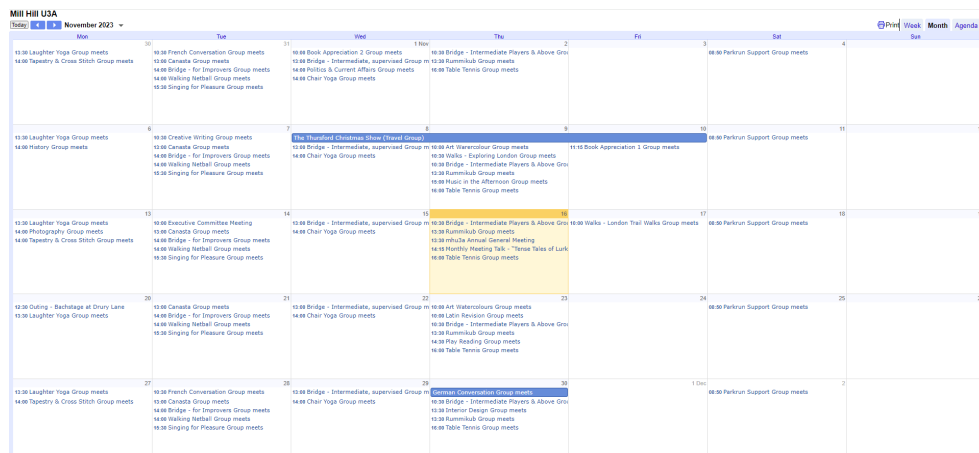
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=mhu3a.mem@gmail.com&ctz=Europe/London>

and then storing it as a favourite for future access.

The calendar gives you two views: a week view, that look like this:



And a monthly view that looks like this:



You can toggle between the views in the top, r.h. corner of the screen. You can scroll through the weeks and months by clicking in the top l.h. corner of the screen.

This is a read-only facility – you will not be able to change anything in it. If you are a Group Leader and want to add or change a calendar event, just email this address:

enquiries@millhillu3a.co.uk

with your request.

We hope you will find this facility useful.

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. £10 per ticket.		
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.	Judith Hayman	“The Family who survived against the odds in Nazi Occupied	Judith gives this talk to many groups of adults and children and comes highly recommended by one of our members. <i>(This replaces the previously announced talk)</i>
16 rd May	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 on <i>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

Want to explore Modern Jewish History?

Sheila Lassman is proposing to start a group, looking at Jewish history from the time of the French Revolution to the present day. It will include a quick introduction to cover the period from the biblical period to 1789, followed by the influence of Napoleon on freeing Jews from the ghettos and how they then adapted to the modern world. It will cover topics such as reform Judaism, antisemitism and the development of Zionism, and maybe look specifically at the Jews of Britain.

Interested? Contact Sheila on:

Lassmansheila@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING OUTINGS

Date	Venue	Link to Flyer	Places available?
Tues. 12 Dec.	Outings & Travel Christmas Lunch	LINK	Yes, booking now
Mon. 26 Feb. 2024	Trinity House	LINK	Booking opens on Mon 4th Dec.
Wed. 20 Mar. TBC	Somerset House	LINK	Booking opens on Mon 8th Jan.
Mon. 15 Apr.	Windsor Castle	LINK	Booking opens on Mon 5th Feb.

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)

MHU3A Outing on Wednesday 20th March, 2024,

A ONE-HOUR PRIVATE TOUR OF SOMERSET HOUSE, WC2.



Built as a Thames-side palace by the Duke of Somerset in 1547, this building has been shaped by many famous architects including Inigo Jones, Wren, William Chambers and James Wyatt. It has been a home to Elizabeth 1st and Charles 2nd, the first base of the Royal Academy of Arts, & sometime home to the fabulous Gilbert Collection. It housed several government departments until, in 1997 it was established as “The Somerset House Trust”, a centre for the everchanging range of arts painting, music, sculpture and fashion which are displayed.

N.B. Some stairs and uneven ground. **Only 32 places available**

Date: Wednesday 20th March. (Two tours at 11.00 and 11.15 am).

Cost: £ 24.00 p/p. **N.B.** there may be some stairs and uneven ground.

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. Unsuccessful emails are acknowledged the same day to let members know they have been placed on the waiting list. Payment must be received within 1 week of receiving the offer, or your place will be offered to another member.

BOOKING OPENS at 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 8th January, 2024.

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

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

- 1) “Somerset House” Wednesday 20th March, 2024.
- 2). Your name/s and membership number/s
- 3). Number of tickets @ £24.00 (max 2)
- 4). Contact phone number/s (for use on the day)

Your MHU3A Outing for 15th April 2024.

WINDSOR CASTLE.



You won't need any introduction to this particular building in Windsor as it's probably the world's most famous Castle! However, many of us have never been there or, if so, a long time ago. Join us on 15th April for an Outings' visit (with return coach from Mill Hill).

Please note that there is a ten-minute walk, with a fairly steep hill, from the coach-park to the entrance and there are stairs inside the castle.

Date: Monday 15th April, leaving Mill Hill at 09.00 hrs.

Cost: £47.00 p/p, including return coach.

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. Unsuccessful emails are acknowledged the same day to let members know they have been placed on the waiting list. Payment must arrive within 1 week of receiving the offer, or your place will be offered to another member.

BOOKING OPENS at 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 5th February, 2024.

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

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

- 1) "Windsor, Mon 15th April, 2024".
- 2). Your name/s and membership number/s
- 3). Number of tickets @ £47.00 (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/>

HOW DO I BOOK?

By emailing:

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>
12 th Dec.	Travel & Outings Christmas Lunch	LINK	Yes, booking now

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

<u>2024</u>	<u>OUTING</u>	<u>TRAVEL TRIPS</u>
FEB	Mon 26 th Trinity House	
MARCH	Wed 20 th , Somerset House	March 17 th WINCHESTER & THE ISLE OF WIGHT. SHORT-BREAK .
APRIL	Mon 15 th , Windsor Castle	
MAY	Leighton House and The Kyoto Gardens	Mon, 6 th - 12 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 .

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:

**London Park and Gardens Trust
u3a volunteers required for two collaboration initiatives
- not just for gardeners**

Project Proposal

The main theme of this project is to look at the contribution of Migration to London's Parks and Gardens. This may be anything from researching 17th century Huguenots onwards. It could involve parks, community gardens, cemeteries etc. LPGT is a very well established charity with an excellent website and we will have lots of advice and support given to us in our research.

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

If you are interested in joining an existing small team of volunteers starting work early next year, please let me know - Jo Walters - jo.walters.slp@gmail.com.

Volunteers required for London Open Gardens June 2024

The London Parks and Gardens Trust is also looking for volunteers to assist with the London Open Gardens weekend 8th/9th June 2024. Click on this [link](#) for details. The event has many varied aspects e.g. gardening, horticulture, landscapes, environment, heritage, walking etc. Deadline for responses: 30th November 2023.

Contact Jordan Gaughan, Office Manager - office@londongardenstrust.org

Shared learning project with
Transport for London Corporate Archives

Are you up for a challenge?

The Transport for London Corporate Archives have secured external funding for the digitisation of the Minute Books of the meetings of the London General Omnibus Company (L.G.O.C.) from 1855 to 1933. During these years, the L.G.O.C. became the largest bus company in London, eventually forming part of the London Passenger Transport Board in 1933. A team of U3A volunteers has been working on the transcription and indexing of these Minute Books. We now need extra volunteers to fulfill our ambition of making all the transcriptions freely available online by the bicentenary of the first London Omnibus in 2029.

So, if you want to challenge yourself with deciphering Victorian handwriting, have an interest in social history or are just passionate about buses, now is your chance to take part in an interesting project.

For further details please contact Jo Walters on jo.walters.slp@gmail.com

Kind regards,

Jenny Wilson - VChairS.londonregionu3a@gmail.com

Derek Harwood - VChairN.londonregionu3a@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