

AUGUST 2026 - OUTINGS & TRAVEL BULLETIN

Hello Everyone!

Having spent the last month in a form of stasis, due to the very hot weather, I have awoken with the fresher temperature, to find that we're passed the longest day and headed into August. Where has the year gone?

The Travel Group is looking forward to their Alsace trip on 10th October, on which we welcome a few first-time travellers. Besides seeing some of France's "most beautiful villages" on the Wine Route, I personally am looking forward to visiting Strasbourg, Colmar and the Rene Lalique Glass Museum. We have quite a distance to cover, by coach and Eurotunnel, but are breaking the journey with an over-night stay in Nancy. On our return we stay in Reims, famed for its Notre Dame Cathedral, a larger version of the one in Paris!

Last year's visit to see the Christmas decorations at Chatsworth House, whilst staying at a beautiful Country House Hotel near Sheffield, is to be repeated. We are again taking over the hotel, but this time making Harewood House, in Yorkshire, the central attraction. We will also be visiting Lincoln, York and Wentworth Woodhouse.

Into the New Year and we are planning some wonderful holidays. Historic Milan, Lake Maggiore, Orta and Como, (including Balbianello, the Borromean Isles and Locarno, Switzerland, on the Centovalli Railway) in May and the Gems of Andalucia, Seville, Cordoba, Malaga, Cadiz and Grenada in the autumn.

Join an Outing to **WADDESDON MANOR**

on Thursday, 27th August, 2026.

Waddesdon Manor is a beautiful country house in the village of Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire. It is one of the National Trust's most visited properties, managed by the Rothschild Foundation and is a French Renaissance-style château with a wonderful art collection, landscaped gardens and Victorian aviary.



A coach will be leaving Hartley Hall, Flower Lane, at 9.30 to arrive by 11.00. There will be an hour for a coffee, or a look around the gardens, before the free-flow group admission to the house at 12.00. The coach will leave Waddesdon at 4.00pm, arriving Mill Hill at approx. 5.15pm. There are three cafes on site, or you can bring a picnic to eat in the lovely gardens admission to which, together with the aviary, are included in your admission.

If you are a National Trust or Art Fund member then **admission is free** on presentation of your current membership card. You will only need to pay £22.00, the cost of the coach.

COST: £45 per person to include return coach, admission to house and gardens and driver's tip. National Trust & Art Fund members **£22.00**, just the coach element.

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.

Apply to: outingsbookings@millhullu3a.co.uk (please use this address ONLY)

Please include the following information in your email:-

- 1). Waddesdon Manor, August 27th**
- 2). Your name/s and membership number/s**
- 3). Number of tickets (max 2) and total cost @ £45 p/p**

OR @ £22 if you are a National Trust or Art Fund member.

MHU3A OUTING on TUES, 15th SEPTEMBER

SALISBURY and its CATHEDRAL



Salisbury's Anglican Cathedral is a medieval masterpiece with Britain's tallest spire (404 feet), oldest working clock and largest cloisters. It houses an original copy of the **1215 Magna Carta** and is one of the finest examples of Early English Gothic design.

A guided tour will last 60 minutes, leaving time to explore Salisbury, make an optional visit to the nearby Mompesson House, free for N.T. members, and find yourself some lunch.

The coach will be leaving Mill Hill at 9.00am, arriving at ~11.00am. The Cathedral is about a third-of-a-mile away from the drop-off point and we will leave from here at 3.30 pm for the return journey to Mill Hill.

Make a note of the booking date, Mon 8th June to avoid disappointment

Cost: £ 38.00 p/p Venue: Salisbury, SP1 2EJ.

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, and members informed 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, 8th June, 2026.

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

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

- 1) "Salisbury. 15th September"
- 2). Your name/s and membership number/s
- 3). Number of tickets @ £38.00 p/p (max 2).

OCTOBER'S OUTING TO CUTLERS' HALL

on Thursday, 8th October, 2026.



Venue: The Worshipful Company of Cutlers, 4 Warwick Lane, London, EC4M 7BR

Date: Thurs, 8th Oct at 11.00am

The Worshipful Company of Cutlers is one of the 111 livery companies in the City of London. Their Hall stands near the site of the first 'House of Cutlers' mentioned in 1285 and their first Charter was granted in 1416. The original building was in Cloak Lane, but this had to be rebuilt after the Great Fire of London in 1670 and the present Hall was built in Warwick Lane, opening in 1888. Wonderful examples of carved oak and stained glass are among the fine workmanship on display in the Hall, The Court Room, the Dining Room & the Livery Hall, which are the main rooms of the Company. Like all major livery companies, Cutlers donate large sums to charity.

Our guided tour will last approx. 90 minutes.

COST: £20 p/p

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.

N.B. Please make payment within one week of receiving the "Request for Payment" or your place will be offered to another member and you may be barred from future Outings. It causes us so much extra work to chase payments

BOOKING WILL OPEN at 9.00 a.m. on MONDAY, 6TH JULY, 2026

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

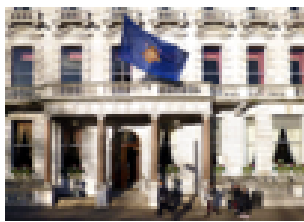
Please understand that our email lines get very busy with bookings and that emails can block each other so your application may not get through immediately. Unfortunately, we can do nothing about this and do understand your frustration, but please don't take it out on the booking team or you will be barred from future Outings.

Apply to: **outingsbookings@millhillu3a.co.uk** (please copy this address very carefully) **stating:-**

- 1) "Cutlers' Hall"
- 2). Your name/s & membership number/s
- 3). Number of tickets @ £ 20 p/p. **(max 2)**

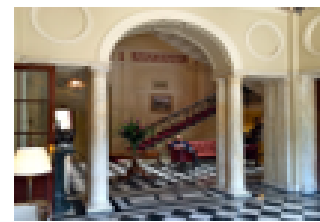
YOUR OUTING on MONDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER

THE CAVALRY AND GUARDS CLUB



AK: Des Blenkinsopp

PICCADILLY



AK: Henry Lawford68527178

We will be visiting the elegant gentleman's club which regularly hosted King | Edward VIII, when he was Prince of Wales, at 127 Piccadilly, London.

On arrival we will be offered tea and coffee during a 20-minute talk about The Club before being given an hour-long guided tour of most of the major rooms of the Club. **Cost** £20.00 p/p **Max no:** 25, but, if oversubscribed, there may be another visit arranged at a future date.

N.B. We realise it is hard to book due to the high number of emails blocking each other's access. Please don't harangue the Outings' volunteers 🙄, it's not their fault that so many members wish to come on our Outings 🙄

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 and members informed 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 from 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 10th AUGUST, 2026

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

Apply **ONLY** to: outingsbookings@millhillu3a.co.uk stating:-

- 1) "Cavalry Club. 2nd November, 2026"
- 2). Your name/s and membership number/s
- 3). Number of tickets @ **£20 p/p.** (max 2).

MILL HILL



U3A's

OUTINGS and TRAVEL GROUPS'



FESTIVE LUNCH



THURSDAY, 10th DECEMBER, 2026. 12.30 – 4.00pm.

We would like to invite members of all Mill Hill U3A Interest Groups to join us at the Outings and Travel Festive Lunch, to be held at The Blue Check Restaurant in Bushey.

The cost will be £30.00, inc tea or coffee, but without drinks, for a 3-course lunch.

As orders will be taken at the time (it is not a set, pre-ordered lunch), it will be a while between ordering and eating. This will give us the opportunity to have a drink, discuss future plans and listen to your input about the various groups.

As well as catering for most dietary requirements, there will be a traditional Christmas lunch available too.

BOOKING OPENS ON TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

Please apply to outingsbookings@millhillu3a.co.uk stating

- 1] Festive Lunch 10th Dec 2026
- 2] Number of tickets at £30 p/p (max 2)
- 3] Your name /s and Membership Number/s



PROVISIONAL 2026 GUIDE TO MHU3A OUTINGS

Outings Website <http://millhillu3a.co.uk/outings-group/>.

<u>N.B. Subject to change</u>	<u>OUTING</u>	<u>BOOKING DATE</u>
Thurs. 27 th AUGUST	WADDESDON MANOR	A few places available
Tues 15 th SEPTEMBER	SALISBURY and its CATHEDRAL	A few places available
Thurs 8 th OCTOBER	CUTLERS' HALL	Reserve places only
Mon. 2 nd NOVEMBER	THE CAVALRY & GUARDS CLUB	Booking Monday 10 th August
Thurs 10 th DECEMBER	12.30 – 4.00 p.m. FESTIVE LUNCH £30.00 (inc. tea & coffee)	Booking Tuesday 1 st September (See Flyer above for details)

PROVISIONAL 2026 GUIDE* TO MHU3A TRAVEL

N.B.* subject to change

Travel Website <https://millhillu3a.co.uk/group/travel/>

<u>2026</u>	<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>
10 th OCTOBER	THE ALSACE by coach and Le Shuttle, 5 nights - Colmar, Riquewehr and Strasbourg	Colmar is often called "Little Venice" for its canals, while Riquewehr is a charming medieval village with half-timbered houses. Strasbourg is the capital of Alsace, known for its impressive cathedral and historic centre. BOOKING NOW AT: travelmhu3a@gmail.com
LATE NOVEMBER	A FESTIVE WINTER BREAK!	30th Nov – 2nd Dec CHRISTMAS FESTIVE BREAK (see details below)
DECEMBER	12.30 – 3.30, Thurs 10 th FESTIVE LUNCH £30.00 (inc. tea & coffee)	Booking from 1 st September

MILL HILL U3A



Presents

ALSACE



WHAT'S INCLUDED

6 days / 5 nights duration

Saturday 10th — Thursday 15th October 2026

Return Executive Coach Travel

Return Eurotunnel crossings

1 night B&B 4* Novotel Nancy

3 nights B&B 3* Hotel Arnold Itterswiller

1 night B&B 4* Golden Tulip Reims Bezzanes

5 dinners at hotels or local venues

Excursion package as detailed overleaf



PRICES & SUPPLEMENTS

Price 30+ passengers **£1349pp** - Two share

Single supplement **£179pp** (total) max. 16

Deposit **£250pp** (non-refundable/non-transferable).

Balance due in full by the **03.08.26**

Optional Travel Insurance **£49pp** – up to age 79

£74pp (age 80-89) **£122pp** (age 90-94)

Age at time of booking Insurance

Insurance handling fee applies **£5pp** (email)

Or **£10pp** if policy required by post.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Nancy & Petit Train
- Lalique Museum
- Colmar & Petit Train
- Strasbourg River Cruise & Petite France
- Guided Alsace Wine Route
includes Eguisheim, Riquewihr & Ribeauvillé
- Reims + Cathedral



HOW TO BOOK

Please complete the attached booking form and return with your non-refundable deposit + Insurance premium if required to: **Simply Groups, 1 Hawkeworth Street, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 9DU**

TEL 01943 605999 info@simplygroups.co.uk

www.simplygroups.co.uk

Any queries contact Liz Driscoll,

travelmhu3a@gmail.com — 07941 096101

SIMPLY GROUPS
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Proposed itinerary

Day 1 – Departing Mill Hill at 6.45/ 7am, we travel to the coast for a Eurotunnel crossing to Calais. Heading south-east, comfort breaks will be made enroute to **Nancy**, where you will overnight with a set hotel dinner included.

Day 2 – Breakfast included. This morning begins in **Nancy**, one of the prettiest cities in the Lorraine region & once the city of the Dukes of Lorraine which still has a regal & wealthy feel, as well as stunning architecture & a splendid square. Included is a 45-minute **petit train tour** with **audio guide**, during which you will discover the historic old town. A break will be made enroute to Wingen-sur-Moder, where a visit to the stunning **Lalique Museum** is included, which houses over 650 exceptional works from René Lalique and his successors. An **introductory presentation** is included followed by a **free flow visit** to the various exhibitions. The museum is set out by theme and in chronological order and houses a broad selection of Lalique creations, including Art Nouveau jewellery, Art Deco glass and contemporary crystal. Continuing to Alsace, dinner is included.

Day 3 – Breakfast included. Accompanied by a **local guide**, we explore some of the **Alsace Wine Route**, visiting several of the picturesque villages this area is known for. Visits will include **Eguisheim**, ranked as '**One of the Most Beautiful Villages in France**'. This modest size medieval village has unique architecture preserved from the ravages of history and an authentic charm. Built around its castle, discover fountains, courtyards and a 13th Century church. Also included is a visit to the pretty village of **Riquewihr** in the heart of the Alsace vineyards. It is also classified as one of the '**Most Beautiful Villages in France**'. For centuries, it has managed to combine the quality of its architecture with the quality of its world-famous wines, from where it gets its nickname '**The Gem of the Alsace Vineyards**'. This town is an 'open-air museum' which has preserved its authentic character behind its city walls, which are now besieged only by the vines. Today concludes with a tour of **Ribeauvillé** where the Grand-Rue and its picturesque neighbouring streets are lined with 15th-18th century buildings. Hotel dinner included

Day 4 – Breakfast included. *Approx. 900m walk to/from the drop-off point to the Old Town & boat.*

Today is dedicated to the **City of Strasbourg**, where on arrival we begin with an included **70-minute river cruise** for a **commentated discovery tour** along the waterways of the city, a perfect introduction to Strasbourg. Following the cruise, the remainder of the day is at your leisure to explore at your own pace. You may choose to visit the **European Parliament**, experiencing the Hemicycle & the Parliamentarium Simone Veil and exhibitions. A must see during your free time is a visit to the stunning **Cathedral** which has many treasures, including stained-glass windows dating from the 12th - 14th centuries, the St. Pancrace's Altar (1522), 17th Century tapestries from the Virgin's Wall & the **Astronomical Clock** – *local charges may apply*. There is much to see in Strasbourg, including the picturesque area known as **La Petite France** in the historic old quarter. We remain in Strasbourg for tonight's early **3-course group dinner** at a **local restaurant** before returning to the hotel.

Day 5 – Breakfast included + hotel check-out. This morning is a leisurely one in the picturesque town of **Colmar**, beginning with an included 45 minute '**petit train**' tour of the historic centre (*audio commentary included*). This is a town full of charm and atmosphere where narrow streets have been preserved since the Middle Ages. Churches, cloisters, half-timbered houses, balconies, facades with ornate wood sculptures, paintings, gables, and edifices from the Renaissance period, all add to this very special city. You will have **free time** to explore & buy lunch before departing for the Reims area, where an overnight hotel + set dinner is included.

Day 6 – Departing after breakfast, there will be a little free time in **Reims** where a highlight attraction is the UNESCO designated **Notre-Dame Cathedral**. This is larger than its more famous namesake in Paris and is where the Kings of France were crowned for over 1,000 years. A **guided tour** may be possible, followed by time to buy refreshments before continuing onto Calais. Here you will board a late afternoon **Eurotunnel** to the UK and onwards to Mill Hill.

Simply Groups reserve the right to make minor changes to this itinerary due to circumstances beyond our control.

Hotel Arnold * - Twin rooms consist of one large bed with 2 x duvets. Rooms with shower are on request only.

A 4* Festive Break

Departs Monday 30th November 2026

3 Days • 2 Nights

from
£395.00
per person

Organised by

HARRY SHAW
Group Travel

on behalf of Mill Hill U3A





Your itinerary

Day 1

Depart by coach (approx. 09.00hrs.) and travel north, making an appropriate comfort stop en route to Lincoln where group entrance and guided tour of Lincoln Cathedral are included. After what is sure to be an interesting visit, the coach will depart for our hotel – the 4* Whitley Hall Hotel near Sheffield, where accommodation is reserved for two nights on a dinner, bed & breakfast basis.

Day 2

After breakfast the coach will depart for York where there will be free time to visit the many attractions this historic walled city has to offer. During the early afternoon the coach will depart for Harewood House where group entrance is included. "Yorkshire's Most Vibrant Country House" will be holding Magic at the Mansion - bringing the mansion to life with wonder, sparkle and festive enchantment...it's a Christmas experience not to be missed. We will depart during the late afternoon for the journey back to the hotel.

Day 3

After breakfast we check out of the hotel and make our way to Wentworth Woodhouse – one of the grandest stately homes in the country which will once again be hosting their much-anticipated Christmas event (actual details to be confirmed at the time of print), group entrance is included. After what is sure to be another interesting visit the coach will depart during the afternoon for the journey back to your local area, arriving during the late afternoon.



Price includes:-

- Return coach travel.
- 2 nights' accommodation on a dinner, bed & breakfast basis at the 4* Whitley Hall Hotel
- Group entrance and guided tour of Lincoln Cathedral
- Group entrance and self-guided tour of Harewood House
- Group entrance and self-guided tour of Wentworth House
- Excursions as detailed
- Full ABTA financial protection.

4* Whitley Hall Hotel

Nestled in the rolling countryside of South Yorkshire, Whitley Hall Hotel is a 16th century, ivy-clad, mansion surrounded by garden and woodlands. All en suite rooms are equipped with free toiletries, hairdryer, smart TV, tea/coffee tray and ironing facilities. Hotel features include restaurant, lounge bar, 24hr front desk, lift. Wi-fi access is available in all public areas of the hotel.





MHU3A

Booking a MHU3A Travel trip is confirmation that you have read, understood, and accepted the following:-

By committing to a trip you are declaring that you are a current u3a member, are in reasonable health and fit to travel, that you can mount and alight from the coach unaided, that you can carry your own luggage; also that you are **aware of the itinerary and can keep up with the group**. Mill Hill u3a does not accept any responsibility for your fitness to undertake the trip, itinerary or journey and you are responsible for your own health and safety throughout the tour.

The Travel Group Team volunteers are just that, ordinary members who have volunteered to help, and, like yourselves, are paying the full cost of the trip! They are not paid tour guides, so please be aware that it is their holiday too. Obviously, in an emergency they will do their best to assist you.

INSURANCE: when travelling with The MHU3A Travel Group, it is a condition for booking foreign holidays, and highly recommended for UK trips, that you take out suitable travel insurance cover. We recommend you do this at the time of booking so that your non-refundable deposit (less any applicable excess) is recoverable in the event of a cancellation covered by the policy. Please provide us with details of the insurance company, the policy number and the 24-hour emergency telephone number when requested. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance cover you purchase is adequate for your individual needs.

Travel insurance is not included in the cost of any Mill Hill U3A Travel trips.

Coach drivers are not insured to assist passengers alighting from the coach or to carry passengers' luggage, other than loading it in and out of the hold of the coach. It is therefore a passenger's responsibility to carry their own cases and to check that the driver loads them from the pavement into the coach.

If a hotel offers portage, this will be stated clearly in the brochure.

By booking a MHu3a trip you confirm that you have accepted the above.