



Surrey Network

Universities of the Third Age
Affiliated to the Third Age Trust

SOME 19th CENTURY NOVELISTS & THEIR READERS

A Study Day on Friday 17th September 2010

At The Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon (map overleaf)

Tutor - Dr Julia Courtney

We will explore the changing relationships between novelists and their readers, both critics and the general public, during the 19th century. Transformations in the means of production and dissemination of printed material, together with increasing literacy and widespread discussion of the role and status of fiction, affected the experiences not only of readers but also authors, some being very self-conscious practitioners.

Programme

- 9.30 Registration
- 10.00 Books and their Readers: an introduction to 19th century book production, sales patterns and the growth of subscription and public libraries; an outline of critical concerns about the role and status of fiction.
- 11.00 Coffee / tea
- 11.30 Dickens: his illustrators, his publishers and his readers; some contemporary comments on his novels, including views from George Eliot and G.H Lewes, as we note their marketing of *Middlemarch*.
- 1.00 Lunch - Bring your own - tea/coffee available
- 2.00 The making of the Laureate: Tennyson's relationship with his publishers; how far the public elements of the Laureateship affected his work; Did poetry give place to the novel as social comment?
- 2.45 Tea / coffee
- 3.15 Mrs Grundy; Thomas Hardy and the magazine reading public.
- 4.00 Departure

Recommended Reading

The English Common Reader - Robert Altick; Univ. of Chicago Press 1957

The Haunted Study - Peter Keating; Secker and Warburg 1989

Victorian Fiction: Writers, Publishers, Readers - John Sutherland; Macmillan 1995

Tutor

Julia Courtney has had a long career in Adult Education, principally as an Associate Lecturer with the Open University, where she is currently tutoring in the MA in Literature programme. She has many links with the U3A, including setting up and managing a series of Workshops for U3A Group Leaders. Her first degree was in History and she has a PhD in literature; her thesis focused on the Victorian novelist Charlotte M Yonge. She has published work on Yonge and on Stevenson and Flaubert. She is fascinated by all things Victorian from taxidermy to Tennyson and is currently working on the dialect poets William Barnes and T.E Brown.

To assure your place send the slip below, as soon as possible, with a cheque for £10 (non-U3A guest £12) payable to "Surrey U3A Network" to Sheila Hill - U3A, 21 Yarm Court Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8NY, 01372 372165, surreyU3Astudyday@btinternet.com. Enclose a SAE or your e-mail address for confirmation. Fees are not normally refundable. **Please note our new e-mail address.**

"19th Century Novelists" Study Day 17th September 2010

Please print Confirm by E-mail or enclosed SAE

Title First Name Surname Name of U3A

Address

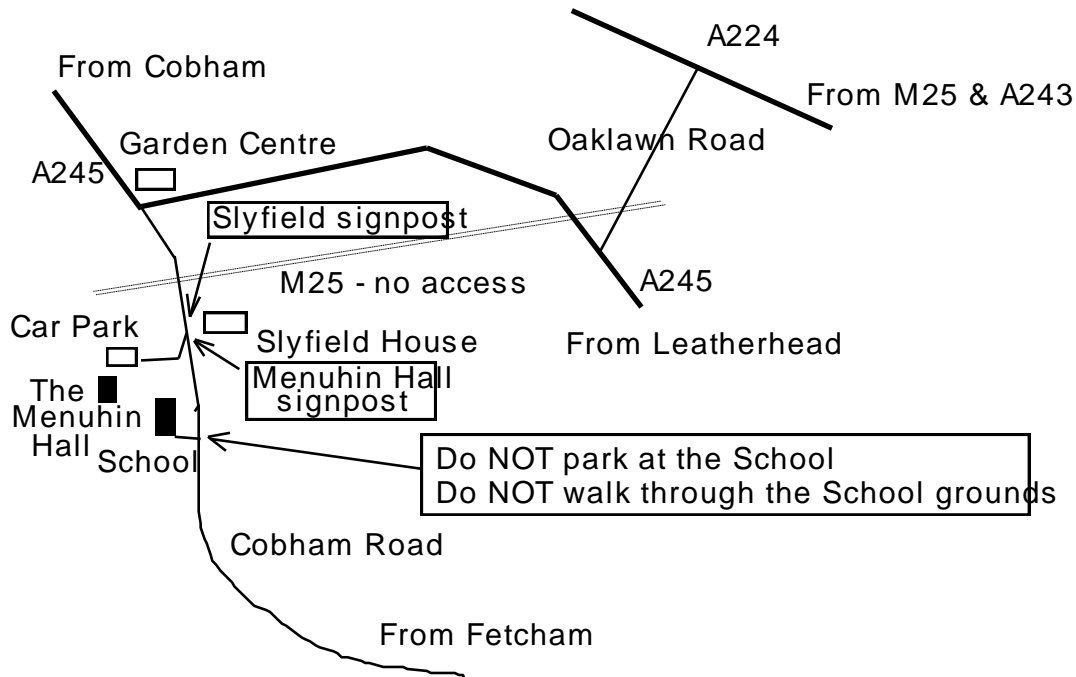
Post Code Telephone E-mail

The Menuhin Hall

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Stoke d'Abernon
KT11 3QQ
TQ 132 579

Telephone 07763 805046 (emergency, on day only)
or Menuhin Hall Office 08700 842020

There is a garden centre, Shoot's Garden Centre (01932 862530), about 800 metres to the north of the Menuhin Hall where light lunches are available. Reservations not required.



The Menuhin School was founded in 1963 in London and moved to its present site in 1964. It has about seventy pupils learning to play stringed instruments and is financed, in part, by the DfES. Lord Menuhin was born in New York on 22nd April 1916 and died on 12th March 1999 in Berlin. His parents had come from Russia. His first public concert was in March 1924 and his first in Europe, in Paris, in 1927. His performance of Elgar's Violin Concerto was recorded at the Abbey Road Studios in 1932. The Hall, designed by Mark Foley, was conceived as a memorial to Yehudi and was handed over to the school on 5th August 2005. The official opening was on 7th January 2006. Yehudi is buried near the stone pillar in front of the Hall. Nearby is an oak which he planted on his 80th birthday. The Hall was first used for U3A Study Days on 14th October 2005 when the Steinway grand piano was used as no other was available.