

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Assembly Meeting 31st May 2017

Committee Present:

President: Eric Atkins
Vice President: Guy Marriott
Secretary: Roy Brown
Treasurer: Mick Cox
Groups Coordinator: Karen White
Membership Secretary: Sheila Giacomelli
Communications officer: Ian Rogerson

Apologies

None

Location:

Parador, Jávea Arenal

The meeting commenced at 11.00am

Welcome

After some teething problems with the sound system Eric finally welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly new members, and remarked that he had been criticised for lack of coordination that morning because his glasses did not match the rest of his outfit (such are the trials of being president).

Eric went on to say that it has been a fortnight now since the Manchester terrorist atrocity. We have all had time to reflect, and have probably attended functions where a respectful silence was called for. He was not calling for a silence today but is sure that the assembly will join him in expressing our sorrow and support for the victims of this outrage.

In that regard he would like to also express our gratitude to Mayor José Chulvi who came out incredibly promptly with an expression of sympathy and support for the Manchester victims. Eric is sure that we all appreciate the great support being regularly given to the expat community by Mayor Chulvi.

More sad news then followed. A long time active (active in all the groups loved by Eric) member of the U3A, Ted Meux, had passed away. There will be a celebration of his life in the Jalón crematorium at midday on Friday June 2nd.

Eric asked if anyone had read the minutes of the previous meeting, and, once again, there was a universal positive response. There being no objections he then asked members Robert and Valerie Johnson to propose and second the approval of the minutes which were duly signed off.

President's Report

Asturias Trip

Eric reported that he had recently returned from the U3A trip to Asturias, which was fantastic, and thanks were due to Charo for organising such a wonderfully diverse experience, as thanks are always due to the members of the travel team who work so hard.

Orihuela Trip

Bookings for this trip are currently 12 short of the ideal number.

Cuenca trip

This also includes Ciudad Encantada, Zaragoza and Belchite. This trip still has a few places, but not for single travellers because of accommodation limits.

Spanish Culture & Cuisine trip to Archena

This is fully booked

Concert by Dire Straits tribute band in September

Tickets are still available

May Ball

Eric reported that this was fantastic. He had already presented Shirley with a bunch of flowers and a big kiss (she wanted the flowers) but congratulations were also due to the massive input from the helpers for this event, viz., Husband Richard, Diane & Ross Ord, Barbara Gorrod, Mike Oxley-Brown, Val Dromgoole, & Karen White. Eric noted that it was nearly always the same group of helpers whose names were read out, and expressed the wish that more of the remaining members of the association would become involved.

Hog Roast at Quo Vadis, July 6th

This is now sold out.

Halloween Party, October 31st

Reservations will be taken at the next meeting.

Membership

23 new members plus 11 renewals today so total membership now stands at well over 1300 – back at last year's numbers and still rising

Next meeting, June 28th

John Deacon will be presenting a talk on Spanish opera singers, with a wonderful sound system to replay excerpts from some of their performances.

Facebook Page

Membership of the closed group has now grown to well over 250 members, and most posts now receive more than 100 visits.

Upcoming concert in the caves at Benidoleig

Roy announced that the Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir was holding a concert in the Cueva de las Calaveras in Benidoleig on the 30th June. Those in the assembly who were interested were urged to get a ticket as soon as possible as they were selling fast (PMN – the event is now sold out). Details could be found on the choir website and in the local English language press.

Treasurer's Report

Eric extended his thanks to Sally Rush who had so successfully held the fort whilst Mick was away, then proceeded to outline in (possibly dubious) detail what Mick had been up to.

Mick thanked Eric effusively for opening this window on his private life, and then went on to report that Pat Robinson had just donated a cheque for €110 from the DVD swap table – the largest donation ever from this enterprise. Pat expressed her gratitude to all the volunteers who had helped her since last September.

Without going into details, Mick gave the current bank & cash balance as €19,500, which after allowing for budgeted spend and monies still held for travel and events gave a projected end-of-year balance of €6,721

Mick signed off with the mandatory treasurer's joke, the subject being an astute Irish attitude towards donating money to the church.

Eric added that the May ball tombola had also raised €1203 for our nominated charity, meaning that we have already raised more than last year with events still to come.

Eric then introduced our:-

Guest Speaker, Ray Edmunds

Ray embarked on a review of his personal history as an amateur snooker champion, with various anecdotal snippets of his experiences with some of the well-known characters of the snooker circuit, both from before and after the professional game became popular with the BBC. He finished with the famous commentary line “for those of you watching in black and white, the pink is the ball behind the blue”.

Thanks

Eric thanked Ray for his talk, and presented him with a gift of wine. Because the speaker had overrun the assembly dispersed rapidly with nothing more being said.

The meeting closed at 12:18 pm

Proposed by (print name) Signed

Seconded by (print name) Signed

President..... Secretary