

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea

Minutes of General Assembly Meeting 30th May 2018

Committee Present:

President:	Val Dromgoole
Secretary:	Roy Brown
Treasurer:	Mick Cox
Groups Coordinator:	David McClure-Whybrow
Communications Officer	Ian Rogerson
Deputy Membership Secretary	Sheila Giacomelli

Apologies

Vice President	Guy Marriott
Membership Secretary	Stan Staines

Location:

Parador, Jávea Arenal

The meeting convened at 11.00am

Welcome

Val welcomed everyone to the meeting. She asked whether there were any difficulties or questions about the minutes of the April meeting – there were none. She then asked if everyone had read the minutes to which there was a buzz of general hilarity.

Two volunteers were asked to propose (Helen McClure) and second (Alison Tain) the minutes, which were duly signed off.

President's Report

Jacqui Rogerson has been adopted as Deputy Secretary, and will have a key role in bringing up to date the association's data protection documentation.

Val reiterated that there was still a vacancy for deputy communications officer. This was met by a deathly hush from the assembly floor.

Val noted that there were less than 130 people signed up for the summer ball – tickets are still available for anyone interested.

The care and share volunteers appear to be short of a leader. This situation requires a resolution

The Parador is closing for refurbishment, but not this year – this means that a new venue will need to be found for the U3A meetings (and for the various group events that take place in the Parador regularly). Val asked for suggestions for an alternative venue.

One item which has been causing some angst amongst travel group organisers concerns members who signed up for trips but gave no contact details when they signed up, and who have no contact details in the membership database. The committee have voted that in future such people will be unable to book on travel trips as it is critical that anyone travelling, especially long distance with coach, train or hotel accommodation, can be contacted at short notice. Not everyone is a member of the U3A Facebook closed group, and many do not check notices on the travelgroup website page.

There will be calendars on sale in September with paintings of regional scenes by the water colour group. The cost will be €7.00 each. Half of money raised will be going to cancer research UK in the name of Pat Pruden.

Val asked anyone who offered sponsorship to the peregrinos on the Camino d'Alba to please pay up. The money raised will be shared between Make a Smile and Todos Juntos Jávea.

Finally there is a table of gash light bulbs brought in by Angela at the back of the hall – help yourself.

Treasurer's Report

Mick reported that the current bank account holding was €88,797.84. We are holding for travel and events €63,703.64, leaving a balance of €25,094.20.

Mick appealed (again) to everyone making bank transfers that they put the trip code in the “concept” section of the transfer. Otherwise he has to guess, and sometimes guesses wrong.

Mick finished with a pair of mandatory jokes involving elderly men and sexual proclivity – probably as well not to put them into print.

Membership Secretary's Report

Sheila, deputy membership secretary, gave the report– this morning there had been 10 renewals and 19 new members, bringing the total of paid-up members to 1353, with a few hundred still to renew.

Group Coordinator's Report

David reported he had a couple of things to report, involving cards. The Canasta beginners group was being run by Karen McGowan, but she taught the group members so well that they have now all drifted away to other more established groups, so Karen's group has closed. A new Canasta group called Australian Rules Canasta has been started by Lynn Montague in the Jazz Café, Jávea Port on Thursday afternoons. David believes it is similar to conventional canasta but a bit rougher and no holds barred.

Communications Report

Ian urged the members to keep the membership secretary advised of any changes in contact e-mail addresses, otherwise they lose out on the communications being sent periodically. Anyone who is not a Facebook friend should contact Ian and he will send them an invitation to join the U3A Facebook group.

Finally, should there be anyone out there who fancies being a budding journalist and is able to deputise for Ian, please let him know – but don't all rush at once.

AOB

Joni pointed out that there was a box on the travel desk to accept any sponsorship or donation money for the Camino d'Alba peregrinos. This was relayed by Val to the assembly in a condensed form as “Joni wants your money”, subsequently corrected by Joni to “charities want your money”.

Guest Speaker, Gary Johnson

Gary presented a most absorbing, interesting and amusing talk on a Spanish Chicken farmer (failed) called Juan Garcia who, almost unbelievably, played a huge part in reducing allied losses in the 2nd world war by providing disinformation to the Nazis through a fictitious network of informants (for which the Nazis paid handsomely). He was the only person to have received the highest level of award from both major antagonists in the war concurrently – the Iron Cross from Hitler and shortly after an MBE from Churchill.

(PMN – This story was so unbelievable that several people went home and Googled it – all true)

Thanks

Val thanked Gary for a most excellent talk and presented him with something alcoholic.

Val added that next month's speaker would be David Rohl, a world renowned archaeologist, talking about the ancient city of Troy

The meeting closed at 11:47 am.

Proposed by (print name) Signed

Seconded by (print name) Signed

President..... Secretary