

# UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE: JAVEA

(www.u3ajavea.org)

## NEWSLETTER April 2009

### Committee:

**President:** Shirley King

**Vice-President:** John Price

**Membership Secretary:** Wilma Stevenson

**Treasurer:** Marie Smith

**Secretary:** Jeni Oldfield

**Groups Coordinator:** Elizabeth Collins

**Deputy Groups Coordinator:** Jean Miller

**Deputy Treasurer:** Mick Cox

**Deputy Membership Secretary:** Karen White

**Deputy Secretary:** Sue Bentley

**Webmaster:** Sam Wells

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Today's speaker is **Lorraine Davies**, on Physiognomy (the art of face reading).

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### **Hello from the New Committee**

I would like to open by saying thank you to the outgoing committee and particularly for those who work in "the back room". There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes by individuals which ensures the successful running of the U3A. We all know the faces of the U3A - Rosi as President, Angela as Membership Secretary and Mike Frost, previously Vice President, and Group Leader for the very successful Travel Group, but there are many others:

- Pat Ainsley who wrote the minutes for the Committee and General meetings issuing them promptly and professionally every month.

- Sam our web master who silently sits away in the background beavering away on the pc making improvements and updating the website. We are very pleased to have Sam with us on the new committee. He also has many new ideas for improving the website further. Watch out for Sam our man.

- Lin Jones who has spent four years of her life ensuring the finances are kept in order and, with the influx of new Associate Members, wholeheartedly agrees with Marie, our new Treasurer, that the accounts now need to be computerised.

- Joyce Pope who managed to issue the Newsletter without fail every month, which has become longer and longer as the organisation has grown.

- Jackie Heaton who managed to get many successful groups up and running smoothly.

They are just a few people who have worked tirelessly to make the U3A so well organised, but that does not mean we do not owe all of the outgoing committee a big thank you for initiating the start of the U3A, and developing the group to become, probably the most successful and largest U3A in the area.

The new committee is committed to working in the best interests of our members bringing forward new ideas and more importantly asking members what they want, and would like to see, in the future. Where financially sound and beneficial, we will pursue and work with members on any such ideas and hopefully bring them to fruition.

As the new committee, we promise to be open and honest with you at all times and ensure that all decisions taken will be fully considered and debated. Our members and their best interests are our priority today and in the future.

Before closing I would also like to say thank you to the partners of both the outgoing and incoming committees as often without their support we would be unable to volunteer to  
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undertake this work. I would like to particularly thank John Evans, Terry Jones, and Katrina Frost who have become over the years unofficial secretaries and gophers and, from the new committee, I would like to mention Sean Smith, Clive White, Tom Stevenson who have been working very hard behind the scenes assisting with the smooth transition of computer files from the old to the new committee and, last but not least, my husband Richard who has been incredibly supportive and understanding during the last few months.

Sadly, I must advise that Don Chantry, husband of Angela, passed away suddenly at the beginning of April. We send our sincere condolences and sympathy to Angela and family.

**Shirley King**

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### **Don Chantry**

For many of us as members of the U3A, Don Chantry was a quiet unassuming gentle man who gave unstinting support to his wife Angela as she changed hats faster than most of us could follow.

Don rarely spoke about his life previous to Spain, but occasionally one got a glimpse of his past. The gifted semi-professional goal keeper who played for Chelsea and a long standing member of the Old Bromleians football club. A Human Resources manager who was greatly valued as a labour relations negotiator. The devoted husband, father, and friend, Don will be hugely missed by all who had the good fortune to know him.

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### **2008 ACCOUNTS**

Since receiving the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet, just prior to the AGM, I have reviewed them very thoroughly and as a result have amended them to rectify some entries incorrectly posted.

The major alteration related to monies for subscriptions paid in 2008 in advance for 2009. Of these subscriptions paid in advance €2440 was incorrectly taken as income for 2008 when it should have been carried forward as 2009 income.

By correcting this, along with some other adjustments, the net result shows that a loss was made in 2008 totalling €1417.

I have now restated both the Income Statement and Balance Sheet to reflect these changes. Should any member want a copy of these accounts I will be happy to provide one by email or hard copy.

These figures have been independently reviewed and verified.

During my term of office I will produce all the accounts myself and will have them audited annually by an independent accountant.

**Marie Smith (Treasurer)**

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

We wish to advise that the U3A hold your name, email address and telephone numbers on a computer database for the purposes of administering the functions of the Javea U3A. This has been the practice for several years and we take it as read that existing members are in agreement with this. The information is not made available to anyone other than the Committee and Group Leaders of the U3A. **These details will not be divulged to any 3rd party.**

**A REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS:** Husbands and wives both need to be members if you wish to undertake activities/trips together. Please note that only Spanish telephone/mobile numbers are recorded. Only members who have full Membership can attend the monthly General Meeting and, regrettably, lack of space does not permit the attendance of friends or guests. Names for Associate Membership can be given to any Committee Member. Changes to e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, etc should be notified direct to the Membership Secretary at: [javeau3amembership@gmail.com](mailto:javeau3amembership@gmail.com) **Wilma Stevenson**

### **SHORT STORY COMPETITION**

All eight of the excellent entries to the competition have been collected in a booklet and will be on sale again at the April meeting at a cost of €5. The stories are a great read and all profit from the sale of the booklets will be donated to charity.

### **GROUPS INFORMATION - Elizabeth Collins, Groups Co-ordinator**

During April/May some of our short course groups will be coming to an end. Many thanks to Tom Stevenson for Computers for Beginners, Alan Ewins for iPod Use, Heidi Hancock for Spanish for Beginners and Alan Oliver for Science of the Earth lectures. The good news is that some of these Group Leaders may well be persuaded to give another similar course later in the year. Tom Stevenson is already planning a "Using your Computer" short course and Alan Oliver is contemplating other lecture subjects.

I shall be having talks with people willing to start some totally new groups, including Spanish Conversation and more Lectures, both scientific and historical, and English Grammar for Confused Learners of Spanish. I am also talking with members who may offer the U3A Tennis and Bridge Tuition (enabling more people to join the existing Bridge group).

Unfortunately Bill Bewley has had to suspend the **Camera Group** for now, but hopes to restart once his hip replacement has taken place and healed. We hope you get back on your feet soon, Bill.

**Tennis** - Pete Jenner, a U3A member, belongs to an established independent tennis group within the Club de Tennis, at L'Ancora, Javea, which would like some new players. Pete has offered to be a U3A group leader, so that U3A can make use of the 4 courts available for two hour periods on Monday, and Friday from 10.00 – 12.00 and Wednesday 14.00 – 16.00 hrs. Players would need some previous experience of tennis, although the group do play at varying standards. Complete beginners can pay for professional coaching at L'Ancora before joining. Games are organised into 25 minute sets with 5 minutes to finish game and change over. This ensures at least 4 games with different players each. Mixed men's and ladies' doubles. Cost approximately 8 euros a session, unless you decide to take membership of the Club. English, Dutch, Irish, Belgians and Germans currently play in the group and will be happy to welcome you. Please contact Groups Coordinator if you wish join in or for more information. [elizabethgroupscordinator@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethgroupscordinator@gmail.com) Tel: 966462071

**Featured Groups at Monthly Meetings** – Starting with the month of April, we shall be featuring one of our Groups at our normal monthly meeting and April is the month for POETRY for PLEASURE, under John Othick's direction. Please make sure you visit the tables which will be set up at the Parador to see what the group enjoys about Poetry. They will be enthusiastically awaiting you before and after the formal meeting. Signs will be put up to indicate where the tables will be located. Jean Miller is making a list of other Groups wanting to share their experience and enthusiasm with you.

I have had a request for a **History of Philosophy** group. If anyone is an ex Philosophy teacher or has a friend who is, please contact me to discuss setting up a short course.

As always, I am constantly looking for new group ideas and new Group Leaders, so please contact me if you would like to discuss sharing your knowledge with others.

Please check the **website** regularly, as I will put details of any new groups starting and looking for members on the *What's New* page between our monthly meeting and Newsletter.

I shall contact those who expressed an interest in the Consum Supermarket demonstrations with details of times and meeting place in the near future.

**Contact details for Group Leaders and Committee Members do change** – Please check the monthly List that is sent with the Newsletter and update your information.

Contact: [Groupscoordinator@gmail.co](mailto:Groupscoordinator@gmail.co)

## SPANISH INFORMATION

Elizabeth Collins Groups Co-ordinator

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May there will be a meeting at the Casa de Cultura in Javea old town, in English, starting at 17.00hrs. The Caja Murcia will be giving information on *Wills and Inheritance*. I will post any further details on the website under the heading:

**Spanish Information.** The Meeting is free and open to all. Other meetings about Health in Spain and Buying and Selling are planned for later in the year.

The **Fiestas of Jesus Nazareno** start in Javea on 24<sup>th</sup> April and finish on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

I shall post full details of the programme, plan of where the floral crosses are located and the explanation of what the fiestas celebrate on the website. You may particularly enjoy the visits to the crosses on 1<sup>st</sup> May, the Portixol dance group on 26<sup>th</sup> April and the Flower offering on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

We hope that those of you in the **HABLEMOS** initiative will be joining all the groups, together with Councillor Doris Courcelles and I for the walk accompanied around the town – details should have reached you by email and your group representative.

For U3A members who have applied to HABLEMOS but not yet had a reply, please be patient as we are trying to enrol some more Spanish speakers in order to form new groups.

## Summer House Swap

A Spanish lady would like to visit England this summer, possibly the Brighton area. She has thought that a house swap might be a possibility. She lives at Parque Cala Blanca. If you are interested in discussing this, or have family who might like to do this, please contact Elizabeth Collins.

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## ONGOING GROUPS

**BACKGAMMON GROUP:** The Backgammon Group is growing steadily and now has sixteen members. We regularly run six tables on a Monday afternoon. All standards of players have joined us and with regular play are all now realising a good standard. New players are still very welcome as you can get up to speed very quickly.

Our thanks to several members who have donated boards to the Group. As we grow of course our need for boards continues apace – if you should have one lurking in a cupboard we would be very grateful for any further donations.

We meet every Monday afternoon at Marples Cafe at the rear of the Arenal on Avda Fontana – just turn up, nothing to pay, but you are expected to buy one drink during the afternoon for our free use of their facilities. The session runs from 3pm to 5:30pm – hope to see you there!

More? Contact **Organiser Bob Denton** on [backgammon@u3ajavea.org](mailto:backgammon@u3ajavea.org)

**BIRD WATCHING:** The next field trip will be on Thursday, April 30th to Pego marshes. Any new U3A members wishing to join this field trip should contact the group leader, **Nigel Bentley**, preferably by email, supplying a telephone number in addition to their email address.

**BOOK CLUB:** As we have reached our optimum capacity for the Book Club, we have set up a waiting list for anyone interested in joining us in the near future.

If you would like any more information, please contact **Pru Hughes** at [book.group@u3ajavea.org](mailto:book.group@u3ajavea.org).

**Books for the next two meetings are as follows:**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May - *The Return* by Victoria Hislop

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June - *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama

All meetings are from 2.30 - 4.30pm.

**CAMERA GROUP:** Please note that this group is Temporarily Suspended. Once Bill Bewley is "back on his feet" he will be in touch to restart the group.

**COMPUTER SELF HELP GROUP A:** Contact the Group Leader for further information. **Organiser: Tom Stevenson** [javeaU3Acomputers@gmail.com](mailto:javeaU3Acomputers@gmail.com)

**COMPUTER GROUP B:** Please note that there will be a meeting every four weeks now. The next meeting is on May 5th at 11.00am Location as normal is the Artisan bar in the Arenal area. **Organiser Trevor Lott**.

**CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMME:**

Please see the May C.A. Newsletter on the website for details of various local events: [www.u3ajavea.org](http://www.u3ajavea.org)

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April: Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons"**

Chamber Music Concert at the Palau de Les Arts Reina Sofia, Valencia. The coach will leave El Rifalet at 17.15 hrs (5.15 p.m.). **Room for one more, please contact Angela Chantry.**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May: "Musical walk through Alcalali"**

**This event is now full.** Participants please meet in front of the Church in Alcalali at 18.15 hrs (see map on website), and remember to wear comfortable shoes!

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May: Lunchtime Concert at L'Albarda Garden**

Music will be provided by the Quinteto de Metales Al Vent (Brass Instrument Quintet) in the lovely setting of this Valencian garden, which is located within the La Sella Urbanisation, near Pedreguer. The concert will commence at 11 a.m., and finish at approx. 13.15 p.m. There will be a chance to walk around the grounds and learn about the way the Fundem Organisation is helping to improve the environment in the Valencian region. Tickets priced at €10 (to include tapas and refreshment) will be available at the general meeting from Angela Chantry/Paul Pruden.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: The Good Old Days**

A nostalgic journey through British Music Hall – come and join the fun at the Careline Theatre, Alcalali (Ladies, why not wear a bonnet & shawl or dress to impress!), with music, song, and comedy, chaired by the *indefatigable* Barry Britten (of *The Wireless Years*). Show commences at 8.00 p.m., and tickets will be at the reduced price of 12 euros for our U3A group (normally 15 euros) – collect on the night from Angela between 7.30-7.50 p.m. - book your place with Angela Chantry.

**Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup> 4 – 6 p.m.: *The musical life of Puccini***

A special event organised by Pat Robinson, **Music 4 U Group** - Lutz Kowalewsky of Palma Concerts will illustrate *The musical life of Puccini*, **and in the evening:**

**A Puccini Gala Concert** at the Hotel Diamante Beach, Calpe, at the special rate of 15 euros for U3A members (normally 20 euros). Names for this concert should be emailed or given at the meeting to Angela Chantry. Pat has invited members attending the presentation and Concert to bring a picnic to enjoy in their lovely garden, from 6 p.m., before going on to the Hotel Diamante Beach.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June: *The Bourbon Street Stompers*** will play outdoors at the **Restaurante Micheta**, next to the Ifach Golf Club just off the Moraira-Calpe road, from 1 pm to 4 pm. Price: 18 euros, which includes entry (5€), barbecue with wine, and gratuity (13€). **NB: room for one more – please see Angela**

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY:** The March meeting of the Digital Photography group had to be abandoned as the planned wild flower photographic walk was rained off. This will now take place on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

For the programme of activities for the coming year see the web site.

**Organiser: Dodie Hodgkinson**

**DINE AND DANCE GROUP:** A friendly group who enjoy a good meal and dancing to popular music. By the time this newsletter comes out, the group will have been to Venta de Posa for their latest evening out. May event not yet organised, but contact group leader for details. **Organiser: Pat Wykes Johnson**

**DINING OUT:** This month 36 members enjoyed an excellent meal at restaurant La Bomboneria at Javea Port. In May the group plan to visit restaurant L'Escut on Ctra. Portichol where the two original owners have just returned to take over the restaurant again.

**Organiser: Peter Speer**

**FAMILY HISTORY:** The April meeting was fascinating when members talked about the “skeletons in the cupboard” that they had uncovered during their family history research. And what interesting stories we heard about; transportation to Australia for cutting down his lordship’s pine tree, hanged as a highwayman, a real Lady Chatterley’s lover, delusions of grandeur, getting married “over the broom handle” and several cases of parents being different from those expected! But that’s life isn’t it!

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May at **2.15pm** at the usual venue of the Social Centre in Javea . Discovering Parish Records will be the main agenda item, although we do have one more “skeleton in the cupboard” to hear about.

**Organiser: James Hodgkinson**

**FASHION AND STYLE:** The next meeting will be held in Artisano at 2.30 pm on Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, when the topic will be 'New life for Vintage clothes'. Group members hope to be able to bring items/photos etc of 'new clothes' which will provide the discussion basis for this meeting's topic. New members are always welcome. For further information please contact: **Organiser Vivienne\_Sullivan@hotmail.com** Please note there will be **no meeting in May**.

**FOODIES GROUP:** We welcomed two new members to the April meeting, where the topic was Gadgets, love them or hate them. From roasting chicken with a beer can inside to a simple wooden lemon squeezer, we shared our favourites and some to avoid. As always tips and hints and lots of shared information was added during the lively meeting. Including Bramley apples spotted at Iceland. For more information ask the group leader for the minutes

of the meeting. The next meeting will take place at 10.30 am in “Marples” on Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> of May. It will be a talk by Ron Steele on the health benefits of Manuka honey.

**Organiser: Barbara Craven**

**GARDEN CLUB:** Contact Group Leader for details of Garden Visits to be held in April/May. **Organiser: Paul Pruden**

**GENTLE AEROBICS:** If you are interested in getting fitter for the summer join the Gentle Aerobic group, which is a Low impact aerobics/stretch and tone. The group meets every Wednesday from 10.30am until 11.30am at the Grand Cafe Toscamar. You will need to bring an exercise mat and a bottle of water. (Rubber matting can be bought from any ferreteria by the metre or already cut to size from the Chinese supermarkets). **Organiser: Bobby Ogden**

**HISTORY GROUP:** The next history group meeting will be on Mon the 11<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 in the Javea Players Studio. The talk will be given by Alan Oliver on ‘The Decline of the Spanish Monarchy 1814 to 1930’. This will prove to be a popular talk, so if you are interested attending please contact group leader Sally Wells as soon as possible as space is limited.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) PARTNERS GROUP:** A number of people have put forward their names offering support to others for software applications. Thank you to all those who have given their names as contacts. We are now able to offer support with Microsoft Office applications, genealogy, setting up of email accounts, web site creation, design and construction of databases and Internet searches. If you would like support in these areas of software or if you would like to offer help in any other areas please contact **Dodie Hodgkinson** on [IT.Partners@u3ajavea.org](mailto:IT.Partners@u3ajavea.org) See the web site for a proforma for submitting information.

NB Computer repairs and hardware issues do not come within the scope of this group.

**LET’S TALK JAVEA:** We meet monthly to discuss our own ideas for Javea and chew on those that emerge from the 'official' Javea Agenda 21 meetings and work groups.

Probably due to the arrival of a day of warm weather since goodness knows when, only a few of us gathered at Artisano Bar, for our new venue/timing at 4pm Wednesday on 22nd April. Our 'normal' slot is the third Wednesday of the month ( and this was the fourth, but then the April /Easter calendar disturbed our 'normal' schedule).

So please note that our next meeting will be on Wednesday 20th May.

Tim Ladd [u3aletstalkjavea@u3ajavea.org](mailto:u3aletstalkjavea@u3ajavea.org) and 96 579 3847

**MULTI MEDIA ART GROUP:** Group Leader Sherry Houghton will be in UK until November, therefore this group is temporarily suspended. Would members of the Group please contact the **Groups Co-ordinator**.

**MUSIC4U - POPULAR CLASSICAL MUSIC:** All U3A MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS and any FRIENDS, who may be visiting at the time, are most welcome to join our next 2 special sessions.

**Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup> 4 – 6 pm** – A special event when Lutz Kowalenwsky (promoter of Palma Concerts) will illustrate the musical life of Puccini. Please email or telephone to let me know you wish to come.

If those joining us for this will be welcome to also attend the Puccini Gala Concert, which Lutz has arranged at the Hotel Diamante Beach, Calpe. It is at a special U3A reduced rate of E15 (instead of E20). You will need to lodge your name with Angela Chantry to take advantage of this evening concert offer (ticket payment at the door).

Members who wish to attend both the afternoon and evening events are welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy with us in the garden between the two sessions, after which we can all proceed to Calpe for the evening.

**Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> 6 – 8 pm** – An opportunity to explore guitar music live with the Jalon based guitarist John Anthony. Wonderful music in a Spanish garden on a summer evening. We will have some wine and food to celebrate the end of our successful season.

**Organiser: Pat Robinson** - Tel: 96-579-4509 – email: [patken.robinson@btinternet.com](mailto:patken.robinson@btinternet.com)

**POETRY:** The April meeting of the Poetry Group took place on Tuesday the 21st at 11am in the Parador lounge. As St. George's Day and Shakespeare's birthday were on the horizon we looked at related poems. December this year will be the 120th anniversary of the death of Robert Browning. Our theme was "Spring" and contributions ranged from European writers both classical and modern, to contemporary American and Canadian works, both male and female; a mix of romantic, bucolic, serious and light. The topic for Tuesday 19th of May will be "Food and Drink". There will be a 'Poetry Table' at this month's meeting of the U3A which may surprise you as to how poetry touches on many aspects of our lives.

*So be your taste Romantic, Lyrical or Gothic,*

*Look at our table and chat with **John Othick!***

“There have been lots of tribes in the history of the world who've had no education, no schools, no television, no all sorts of things, but every tribe in the world has always had poetry. Sometimes it's poetry that's song and dance, sometimes it's poetry that's recited in a trance - it's all sorts of poetry. But you can't have a tribe without poetry. And if you have a country without poetry it's an impoverished country. It's like a country without music - unimaginable.” *Adrian Mitchell*

**QUIZ NIGHT:** Our next quiz is on Wednesday 3rd June, 7.30 for 8.00pm start. Venue Bar Mediterraneo, Teulada. Price of 15€ includes menu, wine & prizes. Please choose from lamb, pork or emperador when booking. A good evening's fun seems to be assured so don't leave it until the last minute to book! Reserve your place on [stanjenioldfield@gmail.com](mailto:stanjenioldfield@gmail.com) or tel: 96 574 0777

**SNOOKER: Snooker Group 1** - This group meets at Jaspa's in Cabo de la Nao on Fridays, but is now full. **Snooker Group 2** - Because the first snooker group is full, a new group has been formed. Again play is at Jaspa's, at 11.00am each Wednesday. There is no need to book - simply turn up and you will be welcome, PROVIDED that you have played before. I am afraid that at present we cannot accommodate complete beginners. **Organiser: Steve Collins**

**SOLO ON SUNDAYS:** Our next venue for our Sunday Lunch will be at La Plaza on the 10th May at 1.00pm. Old friends and new will be very welcome and shall look forward to seeing you all! Email me or telephone 96 646 3389. **Marion Monsell.**

**TRAVELLERS' TALES GROUP:** Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, when Tom Stevenson will give a presentation on his and Wilma's trip to *Dubai, Sydney, cruise to Auckland via South Island, and New Zealand*”, and on the 19<sup>th</sup> May, Dorothy and Jack Marsh will tell us all about their various trips to *Jamaica*. The venue for both will be The Javea Players' Studio, behind Book World España. Meet at 11.30 a.m. for 12.00 p.m. start.

### **WALKING GROUPS**

**GENTLE WALKS :** Wednesdays, starting at 10 am. These walks are for those who like to walk at a slower pace or wish to keep mobile prior to and after medical treatment or have mobility problems. The walk will be 30 to 45 minutes over flat ground. We will be starting the walks from Marples cafe in the Arenal. The May walks will be on the **6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>**, (*No*

walk will take place on the last Wednesday of the month). If you need to know more about walks or how to get to Marples Cafe please contact Jean Miller at jeandepgroupcoord@yahoo.co.uk phone - 966 074 021 or Karen White at karen.l.boddy@gmail.com

**HEALTH WALKS:** Please see website for details of programme. **Organiser: Karen White**

**INTERMEDIATE WALK:** The next Intermediate Walk will be back on the third Thursday of the month (namely 21st May). Details of this and all subsequent walks will be published on the Javea U3A website, under Activities/Walking (Intermediate). There is a link to the schedule in the middle of the paragraph. **Organiser: Karen White**

**MOUNTAIN WALKING GROUP:** All walks start at the Tourist Office car park opposite Mas y Mas in Benitachell and meet at 9.30am. Bring ample water, refreshments, appropriate clothing and comfortable walking shoes/boots. Telephone **Al Knight**, the Group Leader if you have any queries.

7<sup>th</sup> May at Castells, 4 hours, 12 kms, 300m ascent

4<sup>th</sup> June at Tarbena, 3 hours, 8 kms, 300m ascent

#### **WINE APPRECIATION:**

**Lunchtime Wine Appreciation Group:** Because of our trip to Pinoso on Friday 22nd May, which is now full, the usual monthly meeting will not take place. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th June at La Cocina.

**Evening Wine Appreciation Group:** Next meeting is on Wednesday 6th May at 6.00 pm at Marples when we shall be looking at the wines of Valdepeñas.

There is only one rule, and this applies to both Wine Appreciation Groups, and it is that if you book a place for a meeting, and do not turn up for it, then you will still be required to pay the meeting fee of €15 per person. **Organiser: Steve Collins**

\*\*\* **FOR ALL OTHER GROUPS**, please contact the relevant **group leader**, or visit the website at [www.u3ajavea.org](http://www.u3ajavea.org) \*\*\*

#### **TRAVEL 2009.**

##### **Tuesday 5th May: Cuenca**

An overnight trip to see the Hanging Houses of Cuenca and visit the Ciudad Encantada (Enchanted City). Some walking on rough ground at the Ciudad Encantada. A lunchtime stop at Alarcon on the way home. Price includes coach, b&b, 4\* hotel, €95 plus €30 single supplement. Balance of €45 payable at the April meeting. **Organiser: Diane Ord.**

##### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May : River Júcar Trip**

Coach departs Rafalet 08.30 am – price 35€ to include boat, lunch and coach. Both days are fully booked with waiting lists. There are still a number of people who have not paid and spaces still available at the end of the general meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April will be offered to the waiting list.

There is a slight change of plan! It transpires that the Balneario could not provide lunch until 3.00 pm, so we will now lunch in a hotel in the next village of Jalance, which will be a buffet style menu del dia including wine and water. After lunch we will travel to the next village of Jarafuel to visit a local factory – it's a surprise! I expect to arrive back at Rafalet at 7.00 – 7.15 pm.

**Reminder** – there can be significant temperature differences between Javea and Cofrentes + or – 5°. At the time of writing there is one single seat available for 8<sup>th</sup> May – please contact the organiser. **Organiser Mike Frost**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June : Day trip to island of Tabarca**

This is an island off the coast of Alicante including a 20 minute boat trip. We were forced to cancel this trip last year due to the fuel strike. This is a small island part of which is a nature reserve. Price 20€ to include coach and boat. Names at today's meeting with payment in May. This is a full day excursion. Times etc in May Newsletter. **Organiser Mike Frost**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Day trip to Guardamar del Segura**

We will depart from El Rafalet at 9 a.m. and travel direct to Guardamar, meeting our English-speaking guide at 11 a.m. for an introductory talk at the Tourist Office/Museum, followed by "**The Path of History**" – a trip on Guardamar's tourist train which involves an initial dvd presentation, then we board the train (booked solely for our group) and visit the Castle (remains of Guardamar del Segura fortress), Els Vivers (the forest nursery and inspiration behind the Dunas de Guardamar del Segura), the Dunes, and the Rabita Califal (remains of an Islamic Monastery dating back to the 9<sup>th</sup> c.), before returning to the Tourist Office at approx. 2 p.m. Suitable footwear required as it is necessary to walk to the actual ruins themselves. Free time for lunch (or take a picnic), and for visiting the Park Reina Sofia (waterfalls, nature trails, ponds complete with ducks & swans), and the fishermen's cottages on the seafront. Depart at 5 p.m. for return to Javea. Price: 16 euros to be paid at the April meeting to **Organiser: Angela Chantry**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September: A day trip to Xativa**, an extraordinary town inland from Valencia. Guided tour of the Cathedral & Museum, followed by free time & lunch, then a "train" up to the Castle for another tour. Cost €20 per person, to include coach, entrances, tours and the "train" but not including lunch. Depart Rafalet at 09.00, returning to Javea around 18.00. Thanks to all those who expressed an interest, please make sure you will be able to come! **Organiser: John Price**. Please give cash (exact money, please) to John at the April or May meetings.

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September : Prague**

4 days 3 nights in a 4\* city centre hotel, bed and breakfast. Price including flights, hotel and transfers in Prague 450€ plus single supplement. This trip is fully booked.

**Reminder** – balance of payment is due at the June meeting. Cheques payable to Gandia Tours of Denia plus 30€ per person in cash to pay for coach to and from Valencia airport.

**Organiser: Mike Frost**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September: Andalucian Classic Tour**

A 4 days, 3 nights excursion to Sevilla, Cordoba and Granada in 3 and 4 star hotels on a half board basis. We will have a guided tour of the City of Sevilla, plus free time and then on to Cordoba for a guided tour of the Mezquita (mosque/ cathedral) and lastly to Granada, with a guided tour of the Alhambra and gardens, returning to Javea in the afternoon. There will obviously be a fair bit of walking involved. Cost €310 per person (unfortunately there is a single supplement of €90) to include coach, hotels & half board, entrances and tours. Timings to be advised later and, again, thanks to all those who expressed an interest. **Organiser: John Price**. A deposit of €50 per person (exact cash, cheque or bank transfer-include your name & name of trip) is required at the April or May meetings, with the balance at the June meeting.

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**ATTENTION: Associate Members**

There seems to be some confusion regarding travel and the monthly meetings. We collect money and names for trips from 10.00 am until 11.00 am before the monthly meetings, which are held on the last Wednesday in every month, except for July, August and December. The travel room is just inside the Parador, on the right hand side, behind the hotel shop. If you cannot attend the Parador you can contact any travel organiser via the website. Associates represent 30% of the membership, yet our analysis shows that only approximately 10% of people on the trips are associates. You are most welcome on all the trips, and so are your ideas for any future trips. Come and talk to us.

### **DISCLAIMER**

Please note that, at times, it is necessary for the U3A to make deposits with travel agents for future trips, and whilst we do not anticipate any such problems, in the event of a travel agent or hotelier becoming bankrupt, Javea U3A would not be in a position to refund any losses that might occur. We strongly recommend that you ensure that your own personal travel insurance provides cover for any such losses.

**PAYMENT** - You will be advised in the Newsletter of when and how much to pay for each trip. Amounts of €50 or over can only be paid by cheque made payable to:

**ASSOC SOCIAL DE LA TERCERA EDAD DE JAVEA** or by bank transfer, which must include your name and the trip destination. This should be paid into the following account:

**ASSOC SOCIAL DE LA TERCERA EDAD DE JAVEA**

Transfer code: - 2100 4451 98 0200091125 La Caixa Bank

**Mike Frost: Travel Co-ordinator**

**PLEASE NOTE** - Travel organisers will be at the Parador on the days of the meeting from 10.00 am to collect any monies for the trips in an effort to reduce queuing after the meeting. If you are unable to use a trip which you have already paid for you should inform the organizer, and where possible, you will be given contact details of the next person on the waiting list for you to make contact and collect your refund from them. We have a clearly defined policy whereby guests are only permitted after all else has been exhausted and then the guest will pay 50% premium on the trip price. We do not allow non members substitutions as it is unfair to our members. **Mike Frost**

In the interests of reducing the size of the Newsletter the Registration of Interest Form and Emergency Contact Form will not be printed but will be available on the travel desks at the meeting.

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### **GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS:**

#### **DISCOUNTS**

Discounts are available to U3A members on production of membership cards. The discounts include Car Hire, Car servicing and repairs, Insurance and Medical, plus several good shops and businesses in and around Javea. Please see the discounts page on our web site for more information. [www.u3ajavea.org/Discounts.htm](http://www.u3ajavea.org/Discounts.htm)

#### **Discounts - Buyer Beware**

Discounts are offered by Suppliers to Javea U3A members. This is not a recommendation by the Committee and in all circumstances the phrase "Buyer Beware" should apply. For full details on this policy and how to obtain discounts please see the Discount section on Javea U3A website or October 2008 Newsletter. A printed copy of the policy can be requested from the Vice President. A list of suppliers offering discounts is available on the website.

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***FOR SALE, RECYCLE OR WANTED:*** At the Parador meeting we will have a board for you to advertise items you wish to SELL, RECYCLE (give away) or WANTED. To advertise your item please contact Jean at urecyclesale@yahoo.co.uk Please make sure you put all the details about the item, and your contact number or email address. We will presume you have sold, recycled or found the item before the next meeting so if you wish the same advert to go on the board again make sure you contact Jean and ask for the advert to be resubmitted.

**BOOK SWAP & AUDIO BOOK SWAP** at the Parador meeting - Please REMEMBER to bring your Books and Audio Books for the Book Swap table, Brenda will be pleased to see you in the meeting hall.

**DVD SWAP** at the Parador meeting - This only works if you remember to bring your DVD's along, so don't forget Pat will be pleased to see you at the DVD Swap table in the meeting hall.

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**FINALLY, will members please note the following:**

- 1. Telephone calls:** So as to avoid extra costs to the U3A for phone calls, we have chosen to adopt a policy whereby it is the responsibility of the individual members to contact group leaders and committee members. You are requested to call again instead of leaving a message asking for someone to call you back.
- 2. Newsletter:** Every effort is made to have the latest Newsletter on the website and emailed two days before the general meeting. This way you can obtain advance notice of any excursions and would be able to bring sufficient funds for deposits etc.
- 3. Membership:** For your information each month we send an up-to-date list to group leaders for them to confirm membership details at their meetings. **N.B.** Husbands and wives both need to be members!
- 4. Refunds:** We have a policy of no refunds for the travel bookings. We keep our prices as low as possible and sometimes giving a refund could result in a loss. We do try to resell the place if possible, and would then of course refund the money.
- 5. Insurance:** Members are reminded that as has been announced on previous occasions, they are responsible for their own insurance. U3A Javea is not liable in any respect for any loss or injury that may be suffered by Members whilst participating in the Association's activities.
- 6. Attendance:** If you cannot attend a Group meeting that you have previously indicated you would attend, can you please let the Group Leader know.