

From our President

Dear Members,

Well, here we go with my first newsletter article writing as President. Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for putting their trust in me to act as President, and I am looking forward to contributing to the running of the Association over the next 12 months or so.

Since the AGM, the new Committee have held their first meeting, and we are already working towards achieving the objectives I gave at the Annual General Meeting. Along with others, Peter Allin is now running a study to discuss the question of future subscription levels, and when finalised and agreed, his recommendations will be put to a general referendum of the membership, aiming to have a finalised decision prior to the summer break commencing at the end of June.

Carol Pilgram has now put some proposals together to establish a better system for welcoming new members into the Association, and these new arrangements to start the process will be put in place at our next meeting at the Parador in April. These will be added to and improved over the months ahead I am sure, the object being to make all new members feel welcome and part of our Association from the very outset. Efforts will also be made to introduce new members to the group activities we have available, and to encourage early participation in the events and activities we undertake.

Arrangements for the May Ball are now pretty well finalised, and some 315 members and guests are currently booked to attend. The evening promises to be excellent entertainment, and will undoubtedly be a memorable occasion for those attending. Members from Denia and Moraira U3As have also asked to join us, and I am sure that we will make them feel welcome. A tombola-type raffle will be held on the evening, and we have some 70 excellent prizes donated. Please make sure that you purchase your tickets soon after arriving at the hotel on the night.

Due to recent health issues, our Treasurer, Geoff Milnes, has had to make the decision to stand-down from his committee appointment. We are all extremely sad that this decision has been forced upon him, but obviously Geoff's health has to take priority over U3A matters under these circumstances. We are now therefore asking for someone to come forward to fill this appointment in the near future. Geoff will continue in post for a short period assisted by Mick Cox the deputy treasurer, until a suitable replacement can be found. This is an important appointment, and I would greatly appreciate it if anyone feels that they have the necessary abilities, to put themselves forward at the earliest opportunity. Geoff will help his replacement learn the ropes and settle in, so please do give consideration to helping out in this role if you possibly can.

Our activity groups continue to provide us with excellent events and activities, thanks mainly to the efforts of our group leaders. Our Groups Co-ordinator, JBS, is planning a working lunch meeting in early May for them to meet and discuss current group issues, exchange some ideas and views, and air any problems that may be evident. The committee have already agreed a budget to assist with group funding for equipment that groups may need to conduct their activities over the year ahead, and JBS will control and co-ordinate this funding in accordance with the guidelines we have established.

Finally, I look forward to seeing as many as can make it to our monthly meeting at the Parador on 27th April, where our guest speaker will be Chris Duffin. Chris was unable to give her address to us in February, when husband Harry stood in for her at the last moment, and gave us a superb insight into life as a scriptwriter for various popular TV soaps and other series. Chris will be giving us her originally planned presentation for February, talking to us about her life and experiences as a prison governor.
Paul Wessendorff

Committee Vacancy For Treasurer

Due to recent health issues, Geoff Milnes is having to stand down as Treasurer of the Javea U3A. This is an important appointment, and I would greatly appreciate it if anyone feels that they have the necessary abilities, to put themselves forward for the appointment as Treasurer at the earliest opportunity. Geoff will help his replacement learn the ropes and settle in, so please do give consideration to helping out in this role if you possibly can.

Question 1 Have you changed your E-Mail address or Telephone number?

Question 2 Have you notified the Membership Secretary to have your details changed on database?

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Change of Speaker – Monthly Meeting - Wednesday 27th April 2011

Alan Blake is unable to give his talk on "Budget Airlines" in April and this has been postponed until later in the year. Instead, our speaker will be Christine Duffin. Due to illness, Chris was unable to give her talk in February, but has kindly agreed to give her presentation entitled "From Styal to Strangeways", at the April meeting. Chris will take a brief trip through her time in the Prison Service, with experience of both male and female prisons, finishing her career as a Prison Governor at HM Prison Strangeways.



NEW TRAVEL ORGANISERS WANTED FOR TRAVEL TEAM

After Many years of both running and co-ordinating our travel activities, Angela Chantry (our travel co-ordinator), and Pat Johnson (travel organizer) have decided to stand down from their current roles within the Travel Team as from June this year. This will be a sad loss to us all, as they have both given so much hard work and dedication to the travel activities in which they have been involved and from which we have all benefited over a considerable period of time. I thank them for their considerable help and commitment, which has been paramount in the successful running of our travel activities, and which have been so appreciated by our membership for many years. However, we now need two members to come forward to take their place as travel organizers in our travel team in the next month or so. Anyone interested in undertaking this role is asked to contact either myself or Angela in the first instance.



Paul Wessendorff

Membership Information

Our current Membership now stands at 1022.

Apart from deleting those members who did not renew their memberships in January/February, it has been necessary to delete quite a few email addresses which were not being delivered and 'bounced' back to us! If you have changed your email address, please notify me in order that the database can be kept up to date. If you have suddenly stopped receiving the monthly Newsletter, perhaps this may be the reason.

If you have not yet collected your new 2011 Membership Card, these will be available for collection at the New Members desk each month – or come see me after the meeting has finished.

As usual, please remember to Check-In before entering the main hall.

Wilma Stevenson
Javeau3amembership@gmail.com

GROUP NEWS

We had to cancel the Car Treasure Hunt this month due to low numbers but we are hoping to run it again in May, on the 19th - details as per April - if anyone would like to come along please let me know

We have a new group " The Curry Group" details are in the newsletter

I have been asked if we would like to form a Skittles group and play against the other U3A's in the area, any one interested please contact me.

The Group Leaders are meeting at the beginning of May so if any one has something they would like to add to the agenda please let the group leader, or myself know

New U3A members are most welcome to join a group, if you would like to know more please contact me
John Bellinger-Smith, Groups Co-ordinator

FEATURED GROUP

Digital Photography



Group Leader: Tom Miller
Email Address: digitomingata@yahoo.co.uk
Meeting venue: L'Ancora Tennis Club Javea
Date and time: The last Monday in each month, from 2 to 4 pm

The digital photography group is one of the longest established groups in the Javea U3A and our monthly venue has recently moved to the meeting room of the L'Ancora tennis club in Javea. L'Ancora is an ideal location for our group meetings having the provision of ease of parking, a convenient café and internet access for our visual presentations. On an average, we have between 12 and 18 members attending each monthly meeting.

The objectives of the digital photography group are to enjoy and learn about photography in a social gathering and to explore what can be achieved right from the basic principles of how the camera works, to what it can do and to learn how to get more out of the digital photography experience by the use of photographic enhancement computer programmes.

We don't have an "entry level" for membership. The group ranges from beginners, learning to use their first digital camera, to experienced users with skills in digital camera and associated computer based photographic programmes. However, the group is not all about "camera technology" We are also very much orientated towards the artistic approach to photography and a friendly competition is held each month based on a chosen photographic project. The group recently enjoyed a talk on famous photographers from the past, and then were tasked with emulating their styles.

Basically, the group is all about enjoying photography in a social environment and learning, from each other, and the occasional invited speaker, as to how to get the most enjoyment from the experience. In addition to our monthly meetings, we arrange photographic field trips to the great outdoors. This year we are planning to take a trip to the Arts and Sciences centre in Valencia, to learn about photographing buildings and we also plan to undertake some wildlife adventures to photograph flora and fauna.

Thanks to the acquisition of our new, and larger, meeting room at L'Ancora, we have space for some more members. If you would like to join the group, or, just come along to one of our meetings, to see what we do, please contact Tom Miller at digitomingata@yahoo.co.uk or telephone to 966 260 967.



PROPOSED NEW GROUP "THE CURRY CLUB"

Jean and Tom Miller are proposing to start a new group to be called "The Curry Club". The objective is to create a social group for the appreciation and enjoyment of curry by exploring and sampling dishes and learning how to prepare them by exchange of information between the group members and, hopefully, some visiting speakers.

The suggestion is to have monthly meetings, each hosted at a member's home, with a different host each month, at which the preparation of a pre-planned curry meal would be shared and enjoyed.

In all, a social, fun, and learning group for those with a love of curry, and the accompaniments that go with it.

The group would start as soon as we have enough members. Anyone who is interested to be involved, please e mail Jean and Tom at tomandjeaningata@yahoo.co.uk or telephone them on 966 260 967.

GROUP NEWS

Car Treasure Hunt Group

Due to low numbers the April Car Treasure Hunt has had to be postponed

John Bellinger-Smith (Group Leader)

E-mail car.treasure.hunt@u3ajavea.org

Computer Support Group

The "Computer Support Group" provides a forum for discussing problem solving and the use of Windows based PC's. The group normally meets monthly at a location in Javea, which does change depending on the subject matter to be discussed. The May meeting is in the form of a seminar/presentation on the subject of "Video editing and creation of DVD's" using both video and slides. Basically how to take those video movies and slides and make them into a TV viewable show, with music and/or voice over. As this requires a suitable environment the meeting will be held in the Group Leader's house. Non-members of the group are welcome subject to space availability, which is limited. For details of time and location please telephone 966473289.

Malcolm Neill (Group Leader)

mneill@prospera-international.com

Dining Out

In April 63 members of the group visited Restaurant Mesena where we experienced excellent food, wine and service. Congratulations to Valentino and his staff. Due to us having to return to the UK twice in May and the involvement and cost of the May Ball for everybody we have decided that our next Dining Out Event will be held on Thursday 9th June at restaurant La Rustica on Cami Cabanes (garden centre road). Further details will be sent to all members shortly.

Peter Speer (Group Leader)

dining.out@u3ajavea.org

The Foodies Group

The May meeting of the Foodies Group is not in its usual format, as we are going to Valencia to visit the market, among other interesting things. The coach is full, but for any on the waiting list, please check with me in May, in case there have been any cancellations. We look forward to the day out. Meeting at 9a.m. at Avenida Ausias March (near the Sports Hall, Javea

Port) Thursday, 19th May. Details of the June meeting in the next Newsletter.

Gillian Breen, Group Leader

foodies@u3ajavea.org

Friends of Avinença

The Javea U3A Friends of Avinença will be running two Field Trips in the next two months. The first, on Wednesday May 11th will be a guided archaeological visit to La Bastida de Moixent near Valencia. We will then go on to Xàtiva for a guided visit to find out some of the town's history. The Field Trip on Thursday 23rd June will be to find out about the cultivation of Tiger Nuts and how they are used to make Horchata, the local drink. Afterwards we will go on to Devesa to see the way that the Valencian authorities are protecting the sand dunes from erosion and then on to see a 'Green Filter' project. Full details, joining and booking arrangements can be found on our website, www.avinenca.es All Javea U3A members are invited to take part.

Paul Pruden (Group Leader)

xabia.forall@yahoo.es



History Group

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 9 in the Casa de Cultura at 1.15 when Fred Crowson will give us the second part of his excellent presentation on the American Civil War. Following a recap for the benefit of those unable to attend Part 1, Fred will take us from the Battle of Gettysburg to the Confederate surrender and the war's aftermath.

To be added to the group's emailing list or to learn more about the group, contact Peter Atkinson.

Peter Atkinson (Group Leader)

history@u3ajavea.org

Not Just Folk Music Group

The next meeting of the group will be held on Monday 2nd May 2011 gathering at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start, and the session will conclude at around 10.30 pm.

Again we will be meeting at the Javea Bowls Club, The Inn on the Green, which is situated on the Cami de Cansalades between Javea and Benitachell on the road to Cansalades Park.

Please let me know if you are able and would like to come to this session of the Group as soon as possible, either on 96-649-3959 or by EMail to folk.music@u3ajavea.org Anyone interested in joining the group should contact me in the first instance, preferably by E Mail at the above address.

For more information on the Group and its schedule of meetings for 2011, visit the Not Just Folk Music Group page on the Javea U3A web site.

Paul Wessendorf (Group Leader)

Practical Computer Knowledge

This is a self-help group (not a course) covering all aspects of personal computer hardware and software. We usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month and most sessions take the form of a round-the-table discussion where members can bring up any issues with their computer, provide information on new hardware/software and just generally share information. On occasion there is also a short presentation by a group member on some aspect of computing. Please contact the Group Leader for more information if you feel this would be of interest to you.

Tom Stevenson -Group Leader

javeaU3Acomputers@gmail.com

Quiz Night

Quiz Night: 28th April is at present fully booked but you can go onto the waiting list if you wish by contacting:

quiz.night@u3ajavea.org

Jeni and Stan Oldfield Group Leaders

Solo on Sunday

Hello everyone and hope you are all enjoying the weather!

Club Nautico was the venue on April 10th {my birthday!} where we were looked after by Pedro and Angel and two extremely pretty girl waitresses. We welcomed Doel {unexpectedly!} and hope that he joins us againmaking a nice number of 27.

By the sound of all the laughter and chatter I think it could be said that it was successful afternoon.....and the wine flowed!

Everyone was so pleased to see Ted join us with his young carer, as he had been under the weather somewhat. The Spot prize of pink bubbly and chocs was won by Keith {something went wrong there! }

Due to popular request we shall be returning to La Cocina, in the Port on May 15th at 1.30. So, even if you have not joined us for a while or never before, please come along and we will make you feel welcome. Just call Marion on 96 646 3389 or email.

I shall send the menus out later for you to choose from asap.

solo.on.sunday@u3ajavea.org

Marion Monsell, Group Leader

Travellers Tales

Our next Travellers' Tales meeting will be on Tuesday, 26th April, when Diane Ord will be giving a presentation on "**Sri Lanka**". This meeting will take place at the El Corrigedor Restaurant on the road from Benitachell to Moraira - turn left after Mercadona and follow signs.

Time: 11.30 a.m. for 12.00 p.m. start, with lunch following at around 1.15 p.m. Email

angelachantry@gmail.com for menu.

For our meeting on Tuesday May 24th, we will return to the newly refurbished Javea Players' Studio (in the road behind Book World Espana, which is opposite Mercadon, Javea old town). This will be a presentation on "**India**" by Sally Wells. New members always welcome!

Angela Chantry, Group Leader



Tuesday Lectures

The aim of Tuesday Lectures is to present lectures on any interesting subject from the arts to the sciences. On the 5th of April the subject of interest was entitled "Going Through the Motions" and it dealt with our intake of food from the moment it touched our lips and all the way through the system until its ultimate... The speaker Katherine Marsden is very much a 'one off' and if she were to decide to take up stand-up comedy she would stand the chance of making the top. The down side to her talk was that there were but a couple of dozen of us there to share her unusual topic.

The May 'Tuesday Lecture' will be quite unusual as it will be given on **WEDNESDAY the 4th of May**. Angela Chantry will be sharing with us her love of the very influential Czech artist Alfonse Mucha. The artist's name may not be known to many of you but most of us have seen his work at one time or another. As always the lectures are fully illustrated. There is no booking involved so just turn up and take a seat.

Tuesday Lectures start at 10.30 am. and are given at the Casa de Cultura in the centre of Javea Old Town. For further information or to be placed on our 'reminders list' please email tuesday.lectures@u3ajavea.org

Cheda Panajotovic (Group Leader)

Wine Appreciation

There will not be a meeting of the Wine Appreciation Group in May. Next meeting will be Wednesday 1st June.

Steve Collins (Group Leader)

******* Please visit your website at www.u3ajavea.org for news about other groups and group leader contact details.**



INFORMATION

Agencies Offering Discounts to Javea U3A Members

The Butcher's Block, situated near Yorkshire Linen on Avenida Del Pla, Javea – Tel: 965792676 – is offering the following discounts to U3A members:

Orders up to €50.00	5%
Orders over €50.00	10%

An additional 5% is given on all pre-orders.

Javea Cultural Programme

The Tourist Department in Javea is producing each month a programme of cultural events in the town. It gives details of exhibitions, fiesta dates and times, cinema etc. To see the latest Cultural Programme go to –

<http://www.u3ajavea.org/Javea%20Whats%20New%20and%20Whats%20On.htm>).

CARE AND SHARE TEAM	<p>The team offers support and practical assistance to others within the Javeas U3A who, like the team members, have suffered loss. If you would like further information please contact:</p> <p>careshareineke@u3ajavea.org caresharepat@u3ajavea.org</p> <p>Ineke Butcher - Team Leader</p>
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BOOK SWAP & AUDIO BOOK SWAP Brenda will be pleased to see you at the Parador meeting. Remember to bring along your books or audio books. There is a small charge of 50c if you have no book to swap, this money will go towards the U3A chosen charity.

DVD SWAP at the Parador meeting. Pat reminds you this only works if you remember to bring your DVD's along, so don't forget. The more DVD's you bring the better variety of films she will have on the table.

A collection box for used **Postage Stamps** will be by the DVD and Book swap table. These stamps will be given to the Royal British Legion for their support fund, so please remember to bring Books, DVDs and now stamps as well to future meetings.

For Sale, Recycle or Wanted Board: 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 (email subject-U3A Javea notice board). 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. 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. Your items **will not** appear on the notice board if received after 6pm on Monday 25 April.

CHARITIES



CARITAS

Caritas is the main charity that Javea U3A will be supporting this year. In 2010 they were most grateful for the kind donations and fund-raising events that were held on their behalf, resulting in much needed funding being made available to support them in their efforts to provide help and assistance to those in great need in the Javea area. Our efforts really did make a difference and Caritas are very grateful for all the donations members are making. We hope to be undertaking more fund raising events later this year and we will be asking for ideas and support from members to be able to do this.

Meanwhile there will be a box for Members to donate food items to Caritas at each monthly meeting at the Parador Hotel – the next one being on the 27th April. Tins, dried goods and jars are all suitable but please ensure they are in-date and in an acceptable condition.

You can also leave food items and other items, such as clothes, furniture etc. for this charity at the Fisherman's Church in the Port, Caritas Nuestra Sra. De Loreto, calle Pio X11 9, Aduanas del Mar, telephone 965792220, mobile 619689311. They are open on a Monday from 1800-1930 hours. They suggest you bring tins of tuna, biscuits, cola cao and quesitos. You can also donate food and clothes in the Old Town – Caritas de la Parroque de San Bartolome de Javea. They are open from 1600-1700 hours on a Monday. The address is Carrer Llotgeta – in the little road next to Casa del Cultura.

Please support this very worthwhile charity for people in need. There are now so many people out of work and the assistance offered by the Spanish Government is limited. Every donation will be gratefully received.

MABS BALL Friday 3rd June at Canor Salon, Teulada

Tickets for the MABS Ball will shortly be on sale. The format this year is different. There will be no stand up bingo or silent auction, just a raffle. It has been said that people just want to dance - so just a few words from the British Consul, then down to the serious business of eating, drinking and dancing the night away. Ticket price will be €37.50 which includes a choice of menu, wine, water or soft drinks throughout the evening.

Please pass the word around and start making up your tables.

Contact for the event is Lin Jones, on 96-647-0187, E-Mail lintel3@gmail.com.

'HELP' ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

The Art Centre Association in Javea will be having an Antiques Roadshow on Sunday May 8th. Their yearly 'Arty Farty Garden Party' will be open to members of the public and will benefit the charity, 'HELP' of Denia and Marina Alta.

The HELP Antiques Roadshow will be an all day event. This is not a fair where you can buy antiques, it is a valuation day just like on the telly. They already have nine experts, yes nine, who will be on hand to value and advise on antiques and collectibles at a charge of €3 per item for charity.

There will be food, drink and a cake stall; also a fabulous raffle with antiques as prizes.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO 'HELP' OF DENIA AND MARINA ALTA. Items that are too large to bring to the Art Centre Garden should be photographed and sent in advance to artcentrejavea@yahoo.com.

For now, this is a date for your diary but more details will be available nearer the time. Please send an email or telephone Art Centre Chairwoman Lorely Griffiths on 966 47 20 49 for instructions and further information.

The **Original Charity Shop and Library, Javea** is celebrating their 40th Anniversary by holding a Summer Fashion Show followed by a Dinner Dance at Grand Café, Tocamar on Saturday 7th May at 6 pm. Tickets for the Fashion Show are €3 and for the Show+Dinner+Dance €15 and can be bought from the Shop, Library or on line. For full details visit www.u3ajavea.org and click on the charities button on the home page.