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From Our President:

We are now well into the year 2014 and what amazing weather we are having this month! February is normally the coldest month of winter and so far it has been very mild and pleasant indeed. What is lacking is rain, which we desperately need. This is in complete contrast to what is happening in the UK and I really feel for those people who have been badly affected by all that flooding. There just seems to be no relief for them, with more storms forecast as I write. How lucky are we living here in Jávea, although we do experience some extreme weather from time to time, like those horrible gota frías, the last of which was in October 2007.

Last month we held our January Open Day meeting at the Parador Hotel and from the feedback I have received (and from what I saw), it seems to have been very successful. Huge thanks go to all the Group Leaders and in particular our Groups Co-ordinator, David Grove, for all their hard work and for making the Open Day the success it was.

On that day, we had 125 new members join our Association, which is tremendous! However, quite a lot of existing members have still to renew their membership. Please note that until you have renewed your membership and have received the new red 2014 membership card, you will not be able to benefit from discounts very kindly offered to our Association by a large variety of companies. These companies have been advised that discounts should only be made available to members with a valid, current membership card. Our Discounts List can be seen on our website at <http://www.u3ajavea.org>. Clive White, our Webmaster, does a lot of hard work maintaining and updating our website and it contains a wealth of information and many interesting facts and photos. Please therefore do look at it. Huge thanks go to Clive for doing such a fantastic job.

Next month, we have our Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will be held at the Parador Hotel on Wednesday, 26 March 2014 at 11am. The Nominations List for candidates standing for election at the AGM in March closed at 5.30 pm on Friday 7 February 2014 and the following candidates are standing for election to the Executive Committee:

Stephen Burke – President
Francis McNeil – Vice President
Valerie Dromgoole - Secretary
Mick Cox – Treasurer
Howard Parker – Membership Secretary
David Grove – Groups Co-ordinator
David Woodhall – Communications Officer

In addition you will be asked to vote on the following important motions:

1. Approval of the Audited Accounts for 2013.
2. Introduction of a one-off €10 joining fee, as well as the annual subscription, for new members and for existing members who have not renewed their membership by the end of February each year. This is to be effective from 1 April 2014.
3. Change to Article 3 of the Statutes to reflect the Association's new address as well as various definition changes and spelling corrections throughout the Statutes.
4. Change to Article 16 of the Statutes, duration of the mandate for members of the Executive Committee. This change will allow Executive Committee members to continue to serve after the current 3 year limit. However, all of the Executive Committee who wish to continue to serve must stand for re-election at each AGM. Any member of the Association can also be nominated to stand for election at the AGM, for any position on the Executive Committee.
5. A motion submitted by member Steve Collins, to permit charitable donations from Central Funds to non-profit making associations in Jávea. This also requires a change to Article 4, Objectives in the Statutes. The motion is - "The Executive Committee is empowered, at its discretion, and strictly on an ad hoc basis, to make a donation from Central Funds to any recognised outside non-profit making association in Jávea, where the Executive Committee is satisfied

that the need for funds is an urgent and exceptional one, provided always that the amount of any such donation shall not exceed €1,500". **When voting, members are reminded that currently 'Central Funds' represent members' subscriptions, which are used solely for the Association's own internal activities and not for charitable donations.**

Regarding Motion 5 above submitted by Steve Collins, it is the duty of the Executive Committee to advise members that **the Executive Committee does not support this motion.**

It is down to you, the members as to whether or not you wish to vote "yes" or "no" to the candidates and motions mentioned above. In view of the foregoing, it is very important that you exercise your right to vote this year.

By the time you receive this newsletter, you will have received the voting procedures detailing the process (easy) of how you can vote electronically by e-mail and you will be able to begin voting by e-mail from 1 March 2014 until 6 pm 25 March 2014. You will also be able to vote in person at the February Parador meeting on Wednesday 26 February 2014, as well as at the AGM on Wednesday 26 March 2014, by using the Ballot Paper, which will be handed to you at the voting registration desk by Sam Wells, the Association's Vote Organiser.

Just as a reminder, the draft detailing the proposed changes to the Statutes can be seen on our website, as well as on the Notice Board that will be located at the entrance to the Antesala (where the DVD/book swap tables are normally located) at this month's Parador meeting and at the AGM on Wednesday 26 March, also at the Parador Hotel. In addition, resumés of the candidates standing for election will also be displayed at the same location.

Tickets for the May Ball, which will be held at Salones Carrasco in Jávea on Friday 16 May at a cost of €40 per person, will be available for collection at this month's Parador meeting. Please note that tickets can be ordered now via <mailto:tickets@u3ajavea.org> As I said in last month's newsletter, unfortunately, The Spanish Culture & Cuisine Group's four day trip to Tortosa, Monserrat and Vinaròs clashes with May Ball, the Association's premier event and in future, the Committee will do its best to avoid such clashes occurring. Last year's May Ball was a great success and I am sure that this year's May Ball will again be an evening not to be missed. We have again managed to book Strikland as the live band for this event! Please do keep an eye open for announcements in the newsletters and on the website over the coming months to get the details of any more events as and when they are confirmed.

At the Parador meeting later this month, we start with a very interesting talk by Brenda Bates about her experiences with the Joy Adamson Foundation (Born Free) in Kenya. Brenda spent a considerable part of her life living in Kenya, where she was fortunate to meet and work with many interesting people at a time where that type of lifestyle in Kenya no longer exists. You will discover what an intriguing person Joy Adamson was!! I know that her talk will be most interesting and informative and one not to be missed. Please check the website for the other speakers we have lined up for the rest of the year

Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing as many as can make it to the February Parador meeting next week.

Peter Allin

president@u3ajavea.org

MAY BALL 2014

Tickets will again be on sale at the Parador meeting on 26th February at a cost of €40 per person and those who have ordered tickets by email can pay for and collect them. The 2014 May Ball will again be held at Salones Carrasco in Javea and will take place on Friday May 16th the dress code will be Black Tie or Lounge Suits. **Please see Menu at the end of the Newsletter.**

Stephen Burke (Events Organiser)
events@u3ajavea.org



CÁRITAS

There will be food collection days at the **MARCH, JUNE & NOVEMBER** Parador meetings. Please do ensure that any items of food that you bring for Cáritas have not expired, i.e. not past their "use by" date. Be generous!

If you have any furniture to dispose of, **Cáritas** would be pleased to pick it up and find a good home for it. To arrange pick up contact Krystyna Stefanczyk on 966462482, or email social.rummikubs@u3ajavea.org, and she will get in touch with Caritas. Caritas will also take your unwanted towels, bed linen, clothes, crockery, cutlery, any household goods, food etc. You can deliver the items on a Tuesday morning (except holidays) from 9.00am to 11.00am at Avenida de Alicante 14 (next to the Red Cross) Old Town. Many thanks for your co-operation.

COLLECTION OF PLASTIC TOPS FOR "NOA"

Noa is a 7 year old severely disabled girl. She had meningitis when she was 4 years old, but the medical profession misdiagnosed her, hence her condition. There have been severe cuts in Social Services in Spain, especially to the disabled. People like Noa have special needs, which her parents can no longer afford. To make her life a little more comfortable we are collecting hard plastic tops e.g. milk tops, juice, wine cartoons, coffee jar tops, cosmetic, hairsprays, cleaning products, gas bottle tops etc.

We need a lot of tops to make a little difference to Noa's life. You can hand them to me, at the meeting. So please, save all your tops, it just takes a little thought. Many thanks.
Krystyna Stefanczyk.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The total membership currently stands in excess of **1,400** members.

Reminder: Renewals were due in January, the subscription for 2014 is 5€ per member (husband, wife, partner, etc. are each treated as individual members). **Renewals must be paid by the end of February otherwise details will be deleted from all databases and membership lapsed.**

Remember: You can pay your subscription by Bank Transfer, please see the details below and on the [How to Join](#) webpage.

Bank Transfer Details (New Membership Cards will be available for collection at the January Parador Meeting.)

Association Name: Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Jávea
Bank: Barclays
Address: Avenida del Pla 160, 03730 Jávea, Spain

	Country	Entidad	Office	DC	Account No
CCC		0065	0049	8000	01058101
IBAN	ES04	0065	0049	8000	01058101
BIC	BARCESMM				

Currently, CCC details required if transfer is from within Spain.
 From 1st February, CCC will be replaced by BIC.
 Check with your bank if this will incur a charge.

IMPORTANT NOTE if using Bank Transfer

In the Reference field you must state your Membership Number along with your full name. We have a few members with the same name – different Membership Number!!

If you have changed your contact details, e.g. telephone number or email address, please let the Membership Secretary know.

Howard Parker (Membership Secretary)
membership.secretary@u3ajavea.org



DISCOUNTS LIST

Members are reminded that on the web site there are 18 pages of businesses who will give a discount on goods and services for Jávea U3A members. Just hand in your current membership card and you will receive the discount.

If you know of any company/business that would like to take part in the scheme please email: vice.president@u3ajavea.org.

Follow this link to the discounts page:
www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/PDFs/Discounts.pdf.

Please visit our website at www.u3ajavea.org for the latest group news and group leader contact details.

Currently we have 50+ active Groups and all are doing well. Only a few are full but some of the smaller ones such as **Backgammon, Bridge, Digital Photography, Poetry and Spanish**, do need new members. Anyone interested in these groups should contact the group leader in the first instance.

CULTURAL ARTS. Please refer to the website <http://www.u3ajavea.org/Activity-Groups/Cultural-Arts/cultural-arts.htm> for more detailed information or contact David Grove on 96 647 0534, or email to the address below.

Proposed New Groups

If anybody would be interested in Padel Tennis or Android Support, please contact the Groups Coordinator.

Please support our group leaders and join the groups as they are doing an excellent job.

David Grove
Groups Coordinator
groups.coordinator@u3ajavea.org.

MORE GROUP NEWS

ART BEGINNERS

Classes are held at Toscamar on Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. and go on until 13.30. Further information from: Maureen Stanley (Group Leader), art.beginners@u3ajavea.org.

BADMINTON

The group caters for all levels (incl. beginners) whilst having FUN. All enquiries to: Philip Gauron. (Group Leader) badminton@u3ajavea.org.

BOOK CLUB

Meets at 3pm on the 3rd Monday of the month and the morning group at 10.30am on the 1st Tuesday, both at the Parador. If you are interested in joining either group, please contact: Kay Thomas (morning group), bookgroup@u3ajavea.org.
Or, Pru Hughes (afternoon group), bookgroup.two@u3ajavea.org.

BRIDGE GROUP

The group meets on Monday afternoons at 2.30pm in the Parador. Please check the group link on the website or contact the Group Leader if you are interested.

Note that this group does not cater for absolute beginners, but, as long as you know the essentials, you are welcome to join us for an afternoon of informal bridge, which some people prefer to the more specialist bridge clubs.

Sybille Ross (Group Leader),
bridge@u3ajavea.org.

CANASTA GROUP

The group meets at 'El Cortado' on Monday at 14:45 for prompt start at 15:00. If you would like to join us and make some new friends, learn, improve or just enjoy the game of Canasta or cards in general or even show us a few tactics, with or without a partner, be assured of a warm welcome, just come along or contact:

Val Norrie (Group Leader)
canasta@u3ajavea.org

COMPUTER SUPPORT GROUP

The group meets at GJ's on the Arenal. First Wednesday of the month at 10.30am. However, please check the venue with group leader as meetings are sometimes held at alternative venues if specific technology is required.

Malcolm Neill (Group Leader),
computer.support.group@u3ajavea.org

CRAFTS (CARDMAKING)

We have a couple of vacancies and if you are interested in joining please contact the Group Leader.

Shirley King (Group Leader)
crafts@u3ajavea.org.

CURRY CLUB

In January/February there were three hosted curry evenings exploring the diverse cuisine of the Punjab. Dishes included the popular Rogan Josh, Meat curry, Tikka and vegetable dishes accompanied by home-made breads and pickles. Some delicious desserts were served including date and apricot sweetmeats, halwa and a Punjabi cake made with soured cream. As always people put a lot of hard work and imagination into preparing their dishes.

Our next meetings will be in March/April when the theme will be the cuisine of Malaysia.

Why not join the Curry Club and have fun having a go at preparing food with a difference.

For more information, contact:

Dodie and James Hodgkinson (Group Leaders),
curry.club@javeau3a.org.

DINING OUT GROUP

For details please contact the Group Leader:

Peter Speer (Group Leader),
dining.out@u3ajavea.org

DISCUSSION GROUP

Last month's discussion was both stimulating and fascinating. The subject was: 'Dare we look at the possibility of there being more than one God or none at all.' The Group is led by Gill Birch (91) and don't let that mislead you!

The subject for this month is: 'With regard to immigrants from different ethnic cultures, should human rights be enforced in the U.K. for example: forced marriages, the burka, and female circumcision'.

Monthly discussions every first Friday in the month are at the Social Centre next to the Centro Salud in the Pueblo, 1st floor, at the end of the corridor. No need to 'phone everyone welcome, just turn up.

Next meeting 7th March 4 - 6 pm. For details please contact the Group Leader.

Gill Birch (Group Leader),
depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org

FRIENDS OF AVINENÇA

For more information, contact the Group Leader.

Paul Pruden (Group Leader),
friends.of.avinenca@u3ajavea.org.

HISTORY GROUP

Many thanks go to David Thoms for his fascinating disentanglement of myth and reality in the American Wild West at our February meeting.

At the next meeting, Dee Craig will present: Catherine de Medici: My Story. From a powerful Florentine family, Catherine (1519-89) became Queen of France as the wife of Henri II, and was the influential mother of three further French kings.

"History has condemned me for being a murderer, a poisoner and for having thousands butchered in the streets of Paris. I've been portrayed as a monster, but I just wanted to ensure the continuation of the great Valois dynasty. I tried to make peace between opposing parties and I was a good mother to my many children. No one has ever listened to my side of the story. It is time to tell you what really happened."

The full programme up to June 2014 is now on the group's webpage.

Peter Atkinson (Group Leader),
history@u3ajavea.org.

IPAD SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting will be on Monday 24th February at 15:00 at the Inn on the Green. Any Javea U3A member wishing to join the group, please email Lorraine at the address below.

Lorraine Allin (Group Leader),
ipad.support@u3ajavea.org.

LADIES THAT LUNCH

In view of the size of the group and the obvious capacity restrictions at various venues, there are instances when we have to disappoint some ladies who wish to go. The system is that when the email announcing a forthcoming lunch goes out, we work on a "first come, first served" principle. However, those who are disappointed will be given preference for the next lunch.

Sally Wells and Katrina Frost (Group Leaders),
ladies.that.lunch@u3ajavea.org.

LIVE MODEL ART

The Group has room for more members. We meet once a month at the Javea Art Centre for 2/3 hours working in any medium. This is a self-help group without a tutor and very informal. For more information or if you are willing to be a model (fully clothed!). All enquiries to:

Mike Frost (Group Leader)
live.model.art@u3ajavea.org

NOT JUST FOLK MUSIC GROUP

The Group normally meets on the last Monday of the month at the Inn on the Green, 19.00 for 19.30 start All enquiries to:

Ian Mackenzie. (Group Leader)
folk.music@u3ajavea.org

PETANQUE

We play at the much improved courts at Café L'Echalote, Costa Nova, Thursday at 14:45 for 15:00 start. The charge for hire of the courts is €3 each, which includes a drink, beer, wine, water, coffee or soft drink.

At the end of January, 36 members of the petanque group enjoyed a late 'Xmas ' lunch at Peri Pera. The long awaited prize giving took place at the end of the meal. This knock out competition run by Steve Board has been playing for the past 18 months or more due to the numbers entered for it and the nature of everyone coming and going. This years will be played over a shorter period!

The winners who received their trophies from Pam Coombe and Steve Board were Julie Robson for the ladies, Richard Peters for the men´s and Ron Hughes and Julie Robson for the mixed doubles.

Well done to all the winners and thank you to everyone who played and to Steve for organising it, not an easy job! All enquiries to:

Pam Coombe (Group Leader).
petanque@u3ajavea.org

PRACTICAL COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

All enquiries to:

Tom Stevenson (Group Leader),
pck@u3ajavea.org.

PRACTICAL IPAD GROUP

The next meeting will be on Monday 10th March 15:00 at the Inn on the Green. **Group members please let me have any questions in advance by Monday 3rd March.**

Lorraine Allin (Group Leader),
ipad.support@u3ajavea.org.

QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz Nights are held approximately every two months. They are held in the Tapas Bar/Restaurant El Salaito in Calle Roques, in the old quarter of Jávea just behind the Casa de Cultura. 19:00 for 19:30 start. Tables of six will constitute quiz teams. You will draw your table number on arrival - couples sit together. For more details contact the group leaders.

Jeni and Stan Oldfield (Group Leaders),
quiz.night@u3ajavea.org.

RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS

It was very pleasing once again to see a good number (12 including 2 new members). We followed our usual format of exchanging some of our experiences, not only of last month's work on our train sets (large and small) but also recollections of our past railway memories. It is amazing how quick the time goes once we all get chatting and enjoying ourselves!

Then after the obligatory refreshment stop, we settled down to the "Joy of Sets" video. Not only did it give a comprehensive guide to the history of model and miniature railways manufactured by all the famous companies etc. It showed a wealth of steam locomotives from all regions of British Railways and with vintage film clips showed the "Big Four" railway companies and their famous trains. Something for everyone who came to see it.

Next month, David (G.) will bring a DVD of some railways he has collected on video, e.g. British Mainline Steam, Heritage Steam, some New Zealand Steam and including in his own words "Something Special..."

If you would like to see more of Pete Waterman's layout featured in last month's video, copy and paste the following link into your browser http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=njO6nCkN28E

Peter Sparks (Group Leader)
railways@u3ajavea.org.

RUMMIKUBS GROUP TWO

All enquiries to:

Val Dromgoole (Group Leader),

rummikubs.two@u3ajavea.org

SOLO ON SUNDAY

For more information contact either of the group leaders.

Marion Monsell and Pat Ainsley (Group Leaders),

solo.on.sunday@u3ajavea.org.

SPANISH CULTURE AND CUISINE

Full details of all events can be found on the Spanish Culture & Cuisine webpage or contact either of the group leaders:

Angela Chantry/Tony Dearie (Group Leaders)

spanish.culture.cuisine@u3ajavea.org.

SPANISH GROUPS

All enquiries to:

Heidi Hancock (Group Leader),

spanish.beginners@u3ajavea.org.

TABLE TENNIS

The group meets every Wednesday between 11:00 and 13:00. All enquiries to:

Ingeborg Taylor (Group Leader)

table.tennis@u3ajavea.org.

TRAVELLERS TALES GROUP

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th February when Angela Chantry will be giving a presentation entitled "Cruising around Britain with a stopover in Edinburgh". Venue: the Javea Players' Studio (located near Mercadona, Javea old town – email for directions). Please arrive at 11.00 a.m. for an 11.30 a.m. start. Members are asked to contribute 1€ pp to cover the cost of room hire, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. New members always welcome!

Angela Chantry and Tony Dearie (Group Leaders)

travellers.tales@u3ajavea.org.

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

On Thursday 20th March (note change of date), we will be welcoming Paco, the representative from Bodegas Mustiguillo, situated in El Terrerazo on the outskirts of Utiel. Since 1999, the bodega has led the rebirth of the Bobal grape and uses other grape varieties such as Merseguera.

The wines produced are Mestizaje Blanco, Mestizaje, Finca Calvestra, Finca Terrerazo, and Quincha Corral. The Mestizaje Blanco has been voted the best Blanco in the Mediterranean area. These are all quality wines costing around ten euros per bottle. All enquiries to:

Geoff Woodward (Group Leader)

wine@u3ajavea.org.

CARE AND SHARE TEAM

The team, led by Ineke Butcher, offers support and practical assistance to others within the Jávea U3A who, like the team members, have suffered loss. If you would like further information please contact:

careshareineke@u3ajavea.org

caresharepat@u3ajavea.org



OTHER INFORMATION

British Consulate in Alicante

The British Consulate in Alicante has moved offices. For more details, including a map, see our [website](#).

For Sale, Recycle or Wanted Board

These "boards" are now only available online.

BOOK SWAP, AUDIO BOOK SWAP & DVD SWAP

BOOK SWAP & AUDIO BOOK SWAP. Please remember to bring along your books or audio books, there is a small charge of 50c if you have no book to swap, and 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.

Menu for Javea U3A May Ball 2014

First Course

Ensalada de Bogavente con vinagreta de frutos secos
(Lobster salad with dried fruit vinaigrette)

or

Milhojas de foie micuit con jamon curado de pato
(Micuit de foie millefeuille with salad and slices of smoked duck breast)

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Sorbete de frambuesa

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Main Course

Medallones de solomillo Iberico con salsa pimienta, patata graten y pure calabza.
(Medallions of pork loin with pepper sauce, gratin potatoes and pumpkin puree)

or

Lenguad relleno con gulas crujientes y brocoli
(Rolled fillet of sole stuffed with crispy mock elvers, served with steamed broccoli)

or

Magret de pato con salsa de frutos rojos
(Duck magret with red fruit sauce)

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Dessert

Brocheta de frutas tropicales con helado galleta

Kebab of tropical fruits with biscuit ice cream

or

Profiteroles de nata y crema con chocolate y helado

Profiteroles with chocolate cream sauce and vanilla ice cream

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Coffee

Beer, wine and water is included in the cost of the meal and will be served until coffee; ie after dessert.