

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

And a Happy New Year to one and all! I trust that you all had an enjoyable Christmas and Festive Season either here, in UK, or elsewhere, and are now ready to get involved in the events we are planning and organising in 2012?

We had some very successful events at the end of last year, with our Christmas lunch held after our November meeting organised once again by Mike Frost at La Masena Restaurant which was excellent value and enjoyed by all attending. The annual Christmas Dinner and Dance held at La Brioche restaurant organised by our events 'Team' led by Peter Speer, was also a great success. I must offer a great vote of thanks to all those who were involved in organising and running these events, without whose efforts our social calendar would have been very minimal.

And of course there was the Christmas Extravaganza held at the Parador meeting in November. We are extremely grateful to the always popular Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir who once again gave us such an excellent concert, and I am sure that we will be asking them to come and entertain us again at some stage. I was somewhat relieved and pleased to say that the U3A Association Song written primarily by Sally Wells, was well received, and some of our activity groups have already included it in part at their subsequent group meetings! My thanks to Paul Roberts, Andy Keen, and Brendan Murphy who gave us such an excellent lead in singing it at the meeting.



And finally, I feel that the "12 Days of Christmas" will never be the same again! Following the excellent performance of the U3A 'team' who performed the parody in such a memorable way, this carol took on another dimension!

My grateful thanks to all those who performed on the day, which enabled us to finish the year on such a 'high'.

Now looking ahead, the Committee are starting to plan the outline of activities for 2012, and we will shortly be announcing plans for the events we are organising. One firm date for your diaries is 18th May for our annual summer ball again to be held at The El Canor Restaurant. Following the extremely successful event held last May at the El Canor, I am sure that this will again be an evening not to be missed!

Other events proposed for which planning is now in hand is a tea dance to be held towards the end of February/early March, and possibly a line dancing or barn dance evening in the Autumn. Keep an eye open for announcements in the newsletters and on the web site over the coming months to get the details of these events as and when they are confirmed.

Peter Allin, our Vice President, has already arranged an interesting programme of speakers for our monthly meetings. We start with "Ten things you may not now about breast cancer" by Lindsay Johnson in February, details on the excavation of the Mary Rose by Dawn Perrier Baker in April, and The Olympic Story of "From Ancient Greece to London" by our very own Peter Atkinson in May, to name but just a few! Again, keep a close watch on the website for updated details on these and other speakers to ensure that you do not miss out on anything that may be of interest to you.

We are now starting our search for a replacement Membership Secretary to take over at the AGM in March. After 3 years giving excellent support to us all in this post, Wilma Stevenson will be standing down in March, and a suitable replacement is now urgently needed. If anyone feels that they would like to take on this role, then please get in touch with me when we can discuss what is involved.

Finally, I am looking forward to the events programmed and planned for our activities in 2012, and to meeting and seeing members at these and other U3A activities during the year ahead.

Paul Wessendorff

FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

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MATHEW REID – DIED 15 JANUARY 2012

With great sadness, I have to announce that Mathew (known to all as Matt) Reid passed away due to cancer on 15th January. In his early life, Matt served with the Royal Air Force, was an excellent sportsman, and pursued a career as a PE Instructor within the RAF at which he excelled.

Matt and his wife Jill have lived in Spain for the last 25 years, and over the considerable period of time they have been here, have been very active in supporting the many Ex-Pat activities that take place on the Costa Blanca. Matt was a staunch member and supporter of the Javea Players Amateur Dramatic Society, was also a keen musician who performed regularly with the English Choir, and was a member of the local Caledonian Society.

Matt and his wife Jill joined the U3A in 2009. They were extremely popular members of the groups with which they were involved. Always someone with a quick joke or response to every situation, Matt always brought a ray of sunshine into the lives of everyone he met. I know that we would all wish to send our deepest condolences and sympathy to Jill, to his children Cameron and Sue, and to the rest of his family, as they come to terms with their tragic loss.

Paul Wessendorff

Membership Secretary wanted – March 2012

Our present Membership Secretary, Wilma Stevenson, has unfortunately to leave the Committee at the Annual General Meeting in March as she has served her 3 year sentence!!! This means we will need a new Membership Secretary from that date.

If any member would kindly like to volunteer for that role please let me know and I am sure that if you have any questions about the role Wilma will be only too pleased to answer them.

Paul Wessendorff

SAFETY ON THE STAIRCASE AT THE PARADOR

The Committee would like to urge members to be very careful using the staircase at the Parador and ask that if you see anyone needing assistance on the staircase that you help support them to descend or ascend. We would also like to remind you that there is a lift from the main foyer which stops at the Antesala and in the main hall and would urge those members who are less able to use the stairs to use the lift.

A committee member will be talking to the relevant people at the Parador about improving the lighting and other features on the staircase.

CHARITIES

Representatives from our 2012 Charity – Cancer Care Javea – will be attending the February Meeting at the Parador and talking to members for a few minutes about their organisation, its history, aims and objectives etc.

If any member has a suggestion for a fund raising event to be held during 2012 for Cancer Care, or would like to organise one themselves, perhaps in their own home, would they please write the suggestion on the forms next to the suggestion box in the foyer and pop it in or email the President on president@u3ajavea.org.

Cheques for the final donation totalling €3,248 raised by Javea U3A members were presented to our 2011 Charity, Caritas at the Fisherman's Church. The Committee would like to thank all our members for attending the various charitable functions and giving so generously to raise this magnificent amount. The Caritas representatives were very grateful for the donations.

Membership and Renewal Information

Our Membership currently stands at 1151.

This month there will be no General Meeting but, as last year, the session will take the form of an "Open Meeting". All members can attend any time between 10.00am to 12.00 noon to look around the various tables and speak to a few of our Group Leaders.

Renewal Information and Collection of New Membership Card

If you have not already renewed your subscriptions for 2012, you should attend the Parador on Wednesday 25 January to make payment and also to collect your new Membership Card.



Your old Membership Card should be destroyed as it will not be acceptable in shops who give discount to U3A Members.

There will be **six** tables set up as follows:

Table 1	Table 2	Table 3	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6
Enrolment of NEW Members only	Renewal for Members whose surname begins with A - C	Renewal for Members whose surname begins with D - G	Renewal for Members whose surname begins with H - L	Renewal for Members whose surname begins with M - R	Renewal for Members whose surname begins with S - Z

It would be of help if you could have the **exact cash** ready (€12.00) in order to reduce waiting time. Please make your way to the appropriate table where two of our volunteers will record your payment and present you with the above new style card.

If you are unable to attend in January, it is important that a friend attend to pay on your behalf. No reminders will be sent to those who do not pay and in due course your name will be deleted from our database.

This year you also have the option to pay by Bank Transfer and collect your new 2012 card at any Parador Meeting. Our bank details for this transfer are as follows: -

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	80	0001058101
	IBAN	ES04	0065	0049	80
					0001058101

NOTE: It is important that your Membership Number be shown!

Vacancy for Membership Secretary

The good news is that I will be standing down at the AGM in March having completed 3 years as Membership Secretary. The bad news is that we are now looking for someone to come forward for this position. If you have a couple of hours a week to spare, that is all that is required! I find the job very rewarding and have enjoyed my time as Membership Secretary. If you are interested, and would like more information, please contact myself or any Committee Member.

Wilma Stevenson

membership.secretary@u3ajavea.org

GROUP NEWS

Happy New Year to all of our members

I hope you will take the opportunity to come along to the open meeting at the Parador this month to meet the group leaders and hopefully find a new group to join.

There are two new groups to announce this month – Badminton and Table Tennis – details on the web site

Look forward to meeting you at the Parador

John Bellinger-Smith Groups Co-Ordinator - groups.coordinator@u3ajavea.org

FEATURED GROUP

TUESDAY TALKS

Due to national and local Spanish Bank Holidays when our venue has been closed to us, 'Tuesday Talks' have suffered greatly by not being active in November and December. There were also fears that the attendance level for the January talk may suffer as it was scheduled so near to the New Year festivities. We should not have worried as the talk by Angela Chantry on the Lost Kingdom of Atlantis was well attended in spite of it being the 3rd of January. The realisation of just how many possible sites of Atlantis had been 'discovered' throughout the world is quite fascinating. I can only say thank you to Angela for the amount of work and research that she always puts into her talks. No wonder that she has such a great following.

The next talk is also one 'not to be missed'. On Tuesday 7th February, the inimitable Maureen Stanley will be examining the Art of Pieter Bruegel 'The Elder' and Some Poetic Inspirations. Maureen has talked on the arts of the Egyptians (etc) on previous occasions and I can safely say that her unique style of presentation and humour are not to be missed.

'Tuesday Talks' are FREE to U3A members and are given in the comfort of a modern, purpose built lecture theatre on the first Tuesday of the month and start at 10.30am. The talks last for about one hour or so and there is no booking involved.

'The Casa De Cultura' is easy to find. Go down the steps by the Tourist Office in Javea old town centre and turn left. 'The Casa' is the building in front of you. Full information on all our scheduled talks can be found on our Javea U3A website as well as a list of those given in the past. We can remind you of each talk a few days prior if you send your name and email address to me. All names and emails are kept strictly private and are never passed on to a third party.

Cheda, Group Leader
chedomira@gmail.com

MORE GROUP NEWS

Beginner's Art



The Beginner's Art group meet each Tuesday from 1-4 pm in the Casa Cultura room at Jesus Pobre. A contribution of 5€ is required. There are vacancies for 2 or 3 more members. For more information and further details email the Group Leader. Maureen Stanley (Group Leader) maureenstanley@ya.com

Car Treasure Hunt

The 2012 Leap Year Car Treasure Hunt is taking place on Tuesday the 28th of February starting at 11.00 from the Mercadona car park in the old town.

Entrance fee is 2.5€ per person to cover prizes etc.

We will be finishing at a restaurant which can cater for all of us without booking and so lunch will be of your choice of food and drink and you pay for whatever you choose allowing us to cater for all.

Insurance - Please make sure you are covered

Please let me know if you can make it. More information will follow before the event and I look forward to seeing you all at the start
John Bellinger-Smith (Group Leader)
car.treasure.hunt@u3ajavea.org

Dine and Dance Group

The next meeting will be held at Venta de Posa on Saturday 28th January, 8.00 for 8.30. Price will be around 20-25 euros per head depending on meal choice, pay on the night. For those who have not been before, Venta de Posa is on the road to Denia, just past the Marriot hotel/golf course. It is a typical Spanish venue, with dancing to live music - modern but with a latin twist, and very popular with the Spanish for parties. Contact group leader.
Pat Johnson (Group Leader)
patandericjohnson@gmail.com

Dining Out Group

Our first event of the new year took place on Thursday 19th January when visited Restaurant Chez Angel and took over the complete restaurant with 61 members attending.

In February we have arranged to visit Restaurant Plaza 6 on Thursday 23rd and all members will be receiving menu details shortly.

There will not be a dining out event in March due to the organisers' holidays
Peter Speer (Group Leader)
petepaulspeer@gmail.com

Website: www.u3ajavea.org

History

Many thanks to Cheda Panajotovic for his fascinating and entertaining talk on Mary Tudor, "The 'Nice' Bloody Mary", at our January meeting.

The next meeting will be on **Monday, February 13** at **1.15** in the **Casa de Cultura** in the pueblo where Peter Atkinson will give a talk entitled "**From Ancient Greece to London E15: The Olympic Story**". Peter's presentation will look at the development of the games at Olympia and their place in Greek society, from their 776BC origins to their abolition by the early Christian church around 400AD. It will then explore the evolution of the modern games from the revival in Athens in 1896 to London 2012. In addition to some remarkable athletic performances and examples of international harmony, it is a story of rampant nationalism, political manipulation, boycotts, terrorism, conflict between amateurism and professionalism, commercialisation, corruption and cheating.

By definition, all Jávea U3A members are members of the History Group. To learn more about the group or to have your name added to our e-mailing list please contact the group leader.

Peter Atkinson (Group Leader)
history@u3ajavea.org

Mahjong Group

The next meeting will be on 24th January when we will be playing Mahjong and afterwards celebrating the Chinese New Year of the Dragon at the Jardin Chinese restaurant in Javea.
Kay Thomas (Group Leader)
kaythomas@gmail.com

Not Just Folk Music Group

And a Happy New Year to one and all you folkies!! The next meeting of the group will be held on Monday 30th January 2012, 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 E Mail 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 2012, visit the Not Just Folk Music Group page on the Javea U3A web site.

Paul Wessendorff (Group Leader)

Quiz Night

Our next Quiz is still at El Salaito in the old quarter of Javea, on Thursday 16th February, 7.30 for 8pm. Menu: various tapas for all to start followed by: pollo curry con arroz OR bacalao con alioli de miel hecho en el horno (cod with honey alioli crusted in the oven), then flan de almendras OR tarta de chocolate. Half bottle wine or similar, bread & alioli, all for 16€. See us at the Parador on January 25th or book on-line, this to include your choice of menu & drink.

Jeni and Stan Oldfield (Group Leaders)

stanjenoldfield@gmail.com

Solos on Sunday

Hello everyone and a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all!

Whilst Graham is off on his holidays all over the world, I shall be stepping in for the next two months.

The next Solos Lunch will be at La Cocina on the 22nd of January at 1.30, price 21€ including half a bottle of wine. The food and surroundings are extremely nice and I hope that even if you are not on the Solos list yet, come along and you will be made most welcome!

Kindest regards

Marion Monsell (Group Leader)

marionapril@hotmail.com

Travellers Tales

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st February, when Tony & Cherry Cabban will be giving a presentation about their trip to the **"South Pacific Islands"**. Venue: the Javea Players' Studio (located in the road behind Book World Espana, Javea old town). Please arrive at

11.30 a.m. for a 12 p.m. start. Same venue and time for the March meeting which will be on Tuesday 20th March, when John Reynolds will give a presentation on **"The Rocky Mountaineer and Northern California"**. New members always welcome!

Angela Chantry, Group Leader

angelachantry@gmail.com

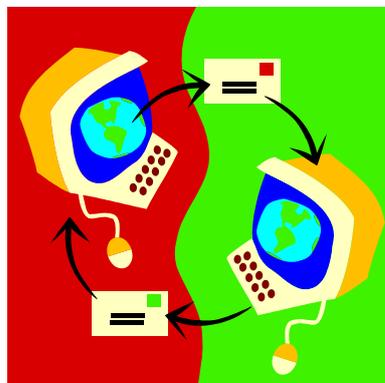
Wine Appreciation

The membership of this group has now risen to 110 and our venue at the restaurant La Cocina has a seating capacity of only 60. Fortunately, not all members are in Javea at the same time and so far we haven't had to disappoint anyone. Therefore I am sorry to say that membership of the group is now full until further notice.

Geoffrey Woodward (Group Leader)

geoffofgata@gmail.com

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





INFORMATION

New or amended discounts for Javea U3A Members can now be found on the web site following this link: [Latest Discount Information](#)

CARE AND SHARE TEAM

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

careshareineke@u3ajavea.org
caresharepat@u3ajavea.org
Ineke Butcher - Team Leader

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



Cancer Care Javea, in conjunction with the Cancer Care Charity Shop will be our charity for 2012.

All monies raised are donated to hospitals (equipment), research, patient care, and individuals, together with other cancer-related organisations.

As part of a research project called ECMOR, the charity have already purchased the latest machine that researches and individualises cancer diagnosis and treatment for each patient. This machine is to be placed in the oncology section at Denia Hospital.

The charity have further pledged to raise a further €20,000 – €30,000 a year for maintenance of this machine, and as our nominated charity, we hope to assist in raising some of this money for the benefit of every one needing such treatment.

We will be discussing how we can best help in this venture over the next few months and we are sure members will give as generously and support functions held on their behalf as they have in previous years.

Members of the organisation will be attending the February Parador meeting to talk to us about their work.

Further details about the charity are on the web site and you can access this page by using the following link:

www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/Charities/charities.html