

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Once again I am surprised as to how quickly the past month has slipped away, and again I am being hounded by our communications team for my article for the March newsletter. Sadly, this will be my last article as President, as the AGM is nigh upon us, and next week a new president will be voted into office.

Arrangements for the AGM itself are now well in place. You will have already received information on the main issues on which you will be asked to vote either by E Mail, or at the Parador itself just prior to the AGM meeting, and I hope that the majority of members will have cast their votes by now. It is important that the committee get the feed-back of views from the membership, in order that they can run the Association to the maximum benefit of all concerned.

The year ahead is already largely mapped out, and full of events and activities that will be well worth supporting. We are planning events to raise money for our nominated charity this year, Cancer Care Jávea, and I am sure that you will be giving the same level of support for them as was so willingly provided for our charity, Caritas, last year. Also, our social events programme is starting to take shape, and promises to be full of enjoyable activities.

As my time as President comes to a close, looking back over the past twelve months, I feel that we have had a successful year of activities within the Association. I get the general feeling that by and large, the membership are generally happy with what we are doing, and how we have done it.

I must emphasise that this is primarily due to the hard work and dedication of the team we have had on the Committee over the period. The commitment and constant support I have been so lucky to have had from all committee members, have made my task that much easier to perform. The executive members of

the committee have put in an immense amount of work over the period to keep things running smoothly, and this has been constantly backed-up by the same dedication and commitment from the non-executive members of the committee. Without the support and assistance we have had from our non-exec members, we would have found it very difficult to run what is now a large, busy, and flourishing association. My grateful thanks and appreciation goes to all involved.

But it doesn't stop with the committee. Our functions revolve around our group activities, and again the large effort put in by our group leaders has been paramount in our continued enjoyment of so many interesting and diverse activities. Again, thank you all so much for the continued support you have provided over a long period of time.

Finally, the support we have all had from the membership has been equally amazing. Whenever help is needed, there are immediately those around you who are only too pleased to help and contribute in so many different ways. This help and assistance, so willingly given, makes our Association what it is today. A fabulous association of people actively involved in so many worthwhile activities, who offer the companionship and friendship to those around them that is so evident to see today. It has been a privilege to have been involved in helping to run such an association, and as I hand over to my successor, I wish one and all good fortune and success for the future.

I look forward to seeing as many as can make it at our AGM meeting at the Parador next week, and Jenny and I also look forward to keeping contact with everyone as we continue to attend the various events and group activities over the years ahead.

Paul Wessendorff

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LA ASOCIACIÓN SOCIAL DE LA TERCERA EDAD DE JÁVEA

(KNOWN AS JÁVEA U3A)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on

Wednesday 28th March 2012

commencing at 11.00 am at the Parador Hotel, Javea.

All members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Association

As last year, arrangements are being made for all members to be able to vote on the issues raised on the agenda at the AGM either in person or by E Mail. Details have already been circulated to members. The final opportunity you will have to vote on all the issues on the AGM agenda will be immediately prior to the meeting commencing at 11.00 am on 28th March.

Paul Wessendorff
President

VOTING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS



May I remind members that voting is still taking place for the election of the new Executive Committee and I would like to see an increase in the number of members using their vote. You can do this on line by email and reminders of this procedure have been sent out to those who have not yet voted. Alternatively you can collect a voting form at the AGM meeting in the Parador on the 28th March, complete it and put it in the voting box.

Paul Wessendorff

REGISTERING AT PARADOR MEETINGS

May I remind members that they should register their attendance at the monthly Parador meetings at the desk in the foyer specially set up for that purpose. We need to have an attendance list to comply with health and safety regulations. When you have registered could you kindly please proceed into the Main Hall so that a bottleneck at the top of the stairs does not occur and the access is kept free of obstruction.

Paul Wessendorff

PARKING AT THE PARADOR

It appears from correspondence I have had with the Ayuntamiento that the parking position near the Parador, where an area has been fenced off, will not change. Therefore I would appeal to members who are able bodied to leave the parking spaces closest to the Parador free so that those less able do not have a long walk.
Paul Wessendorff

VACANCY FOR DEPUTY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Karen White, our current Deputy Membership Secretary, after several years in post, has decided to retire from her role in the next couple of months. This means we will be needing a new Deputy Membership Secretary in the very near future. If any member would kindly like to volunteer for that role please let either Wilma Stevenson or myself know and I am sure that if you have any questions about the role we will be only too pleased to answer them.

Paul Wessendorff

CANCER CARE JAVEA

Thank you to those members who donated items for the Cancer Care Javea Charity Shop at the February meeting. The charity are delighted with the response and state that they have noted a big increase in members taking items to the shop.

As you know, our next collection will be the April Parador meeting so please carry on donating clothes, household goods and any other suitable items which are saleable. However, we would ask that **large and heavy items are taken straight to the shop** as they will be difficult to transport from the Parador on the actual day.

Tea Dance



There are a few tickets left for the **Tea Dance** on **Friday 30th March 2012** which will be held at **Social Centre** in Jávea from 17:30 until 20:30.

Eric Taylor will be providing the music. The tickets cost €12 and can be collected at the March General Meeting at the Parador or reserved by email at  u3a.tickets@gmail.com and paid for at the Parador meeting in March.

The dance will take place in the main (bar) area of the Social Centre, just beside the **Plaza de la Constitucion**, behind the Central Salud.

The seating will be free - grab a table! There will be a full English tea with sandwiches, cakes and scones, plus tea and coffee included in the price of the ticket. The bar will be open for the purchase of other refreshments / drinks.

Eric would like to have any special requests for music before the day, if possible please send your requests to  u3a.tickets@gmail.com.

PUBLICITY

Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who contacted Tom Miller following the February meeting with suggestions for contacts in the local press. This has proved to be most helpful and we have managed to place some good features in both The Post and The Euro Weekly News. We are also now going to have a regular monthly article in the Grapevine. The idea of publicity is to promote Javea U3A in the local community.

Having made some progress, we need to keep the momentum going, so, please send details of group activities, past or proposed, to Tom Miller at ju3apublicity@yahoo.co.uk

ELECTRICITY SCAM

The local police have informed the President of a group of workers operating in the area as bogus electricity company workers.

To see the information in full detail follow this link to the web site:

<http://www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/PDFs/Bogus-Electricity-Scam.pdf>.



Annual Ball *Friday 18th May 2012* ***El Canor Function Rooms***

There are still a few tickets left for the May Ball and they will be on sale at the Parador Meeting on the 28th March. If you have reserved tickets they MUST be collected and paid for also at the March Parador Meeting.

To reserve one of the remaining tickets email u3a.tickets@gmail.com.

COACH

If you have reserved a place on the coach to go to the Ball you MUST also pay the 7€ fee also at the Parador meeting on 28th March.

GROUP NEWS

A new group has just been formed for Pilates and will be starting sessions soon. I hope that all of our new and recently joined members will have a look at all the groups that we have and contact the relevant group leaders for more information and to join a group.

With the AGM coming up I would like to thank all the group leaders for their hard work and support over the past year.

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

FEATURED GROUP

RUMMIKUBS

Javea U3A has two Rummikubs groups, because everybody loves to play Rummikubs.

Rummikubs One, led by Krystyna Stefanczyk, is held on a Wednesday in Quo Vadis from 3:30pm until 5:30pm but that group, unfortunately, is full.

Rummikubs Two, led by Val Dromgoole, is held on a Thursday in Café Cortado* from 3pm until 5pm and is open to more members.



It is a simple game for 2 to 4 players, if you ever played the card game, Rummy, you will love Rummikubs. There are two sets tiles numbered 1 to 13 in four different colours and you simply make sets of at least 3 tiles, either in a run or as a set of the same number but different colours. And then there are the two funny faces or jokers, which can be used in various ways to confound your opponents. We will explain the rules as we go through the games, but there is a printed copy to ensure no deviations!

Because there is a variance in rules in the different packs of Rummikubs, Krystyna came up with a set of 'U3A' Rules, which both groups follow.

Although we score and like to win, there are no prizes, animosity or falling out!! We like to have a bit of a gossip between games and a cup of coffee, glass of wine or a beer to help us along.

Both groups are happy, noisy and fun, we like newcomers to the game so we can air our knowledge (and refresh our own memories for the rules!).

So if you have a spare couple of hours on a Thursday, come along. No need for appointments, no need to come every week, just pop in.

*Café Cortado is in Carrer Joan Fuster, Xabia Port, behind the Sports Centre and around the corner from 'Interiors' shop.



PROPOSED NEW GROUPS

PILATES

13 members so far have expressed an interest in the proposed Pilates Group. The group Leader is awaiting confirmation regarding the use of premises for the classes and will email those members who have contacted her as soon as something definite is fixed. If you are interested in joining the group please email crilpilgram8@gmail.com – the classes will be held on a Thursday at a time to be confirmed.

John Bellinger-Smith (Groups Co-ordinator)

MORE GROUP NEWS

Book Club

We have TWO flourishing groups which meet once a month to discuss their chosen book in a lively, informal atmosphere.

The MORNING Book group meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 10.30 am at the Parador in Javea. Their choice of books for April & May are Boxer, Beetle by Ned Beaman & Alone in Berlin by Hans Fallada.

The AFTERNOON group now also meets at the Parador, but on the third Monday of each month at 3pm. Their chosen books are Big Over Easy by Jasper Fforde & The Outcast by Sadie Jones.

If you are interested in joining either of the Book Club groups or would like any more information, please contact **Pru Hughes or Kay Thomas** at pru.bookclub@gmail.com

Curry Club

The Curry Club held their February meeting at the Rani Palace restaurant in Javea where 29 of the club members enjoyed a spicy evening in good company. Some pictures of the evening can be seen in the Curry Club section of the activities groups on the Javea U3A web site. Our next meeting will be a curry supper at a members house in early May.

We now have around 60 members and applications are still coming in. Rather than close the membership we have decided to add everyone to the list because some of the newer members are offering to host curry evenings. We also plan to have more outings to local Indian restaurants, where the attendance will not need to be limited. In the meantime, if you would like to know more about the club, contact Tom and Jean Miller by email at the vindaloos@yahoo.co.uk

Tom and Jean Miller (Group Leaders)

Discussion Group

There will be no meeting in April as the first Friday in the month is Good Friday.

The next meeting will take place on Friday 4th May 2012 in the Javea Social Centre from 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm when the topic will be **"Looking at Comparative Religions"**.

New members are very welcome.

Gill Birch (Group Leader)

Foodies Group



The Foodies Group met on Thursday March 15th and enjoyed a very exotic experience of oyster tasting, presented by the very talented chef, Edwin Cheeseman. The oysters, supplied by Les Fougues in Teulada, were so delicious.....

The next meeting will be on Thursday April 19th 11.30am at Quo Vadis and our guest will be Carole Mears who is an expert at producing jams, pickles and spices and will have many of her products available for us to buy. Look forward to seeing you there.

Gillian Breen (Group Leader)

gbreen@gmx.com

Website: www.u3ajavea.org

Garden Group

There are two Garden Group activities planned to take place over the next few weeks:-

The first is a visit to Cap Antonio in Javea, accompanied by Joan & Tom Birch, to see the spring wild flowers that grow in this coastal region and which are particularly beautiful at this time of year. This visit will take place on the last Thursday of March, the 29th. This event will replace our usual monthly meeting on that day. Start time will be 15:00 at the car park by the lighthouse at Cap Antonio.

The second activity is a visit to Olga & John Atkinson's garden on Easter Sunday, 8th April from 11:00 - 13:00. Those of us who have visited their garden at this time of year have seen how Olga & John have adapted the garden to take the maximum advantage of the site, which is on the south facing slope of Montgo. Olga has also agreed to spend a little time showing us her successful methods of taking cuttings and raising them to make fine plants.

If you would like to join us on one or both of these events please email u3agardengroupjavea@hotmail.com so that we will be able to judge the level of interest.

Paul Pruden (Group Leader)

History

Many thanks to Fabio Bezoari for his excellent presentation on the history of Namibia at the March meeting (and to Sally Wells for chairing the meeting in the group leader's absence).

The next meeting of the group will be at 1.15 on Monday, April 2 in the Casa de Cultura in the pueblo. (Note that this is the first Monday in the month rather than our usual second Monday.) Geoff Woodward will present a biography of the Spanish king, the most important figure in the country's recent history. Geoff's talk is entitled "**Juan Carlos: the Reason That Spain Has a Democracy Today**".

By definition, all Jávea U3A members are members of the History Group so come along on the 2nd; there's no need to book. 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



Not Just Folk Music Group

The next meeting of the group will be held on Monday 26th March 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

Quiz Night

Menu for next Quiz Night on April 17th at El Salaito:

2 tapas followed by baby spinach salad with blue cheese & pear. This for everyone.
Main course: Osobuco stewed with pasta OR slamon fishcake with caramelised red onion
Postre: chocolate tart OR orange pudding
Half bottle of wine pp, bread & alioli

Will all who have booked their place please email their food and wine choices - stanjenioldfield@gmail.com. Jeni and Stan Oldfield (Group Leaders)

Travellers Tales

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 24th April, when Cherry & Tony Cabban will be giving a presentation on their trip to **"Chile, Central America & Northern Mexico"**. 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 time and venue for the following meeting on Tuesday 29th May when Vivienne & Tony Sullivan will be telling us about their experiences of **"House swapping holidays"**. New members always welcome!



Angela Chantry (Group Leader)
angelachantry@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: <http://www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/PDFs/Discounts.pdf>.

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.

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.

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.

Pat would like to appeal to those members who have DVDs that they no longer want, to donate them to the DVD table for swapping at the monthly Parador meetings. She would like to offer a larger selection and would welcome any donations. Please bring them along to the next Parador meeting on the 28th March or any other meeting following.



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 27 February.

You can also bring your advert and picture to the meeting and Jean will make sure it's pinned on the board. Please no advert larger than A5.

CHARITIES

From Cáritas - A Thank You

Cáritas have sent the Jávea U3A a "thank you" for all the support and donations provided over the last year. See the [letter](#) on the Charities page on the web site for more details.

MABS are holding a Spring Ball on 27th April. For full details of this event use this link to the charities page on the U3A web site -

<http://www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/Charities/charities.html>.