

From Our President:

Christmas is now not far away and will soon be upon us. No doubt many of you will now be doing all your Christmas shopping, or some may have even already completed theirs – aren't they the lucky ones!. The rains have now arrived with a vengeance and at the time of writing, it looks like we are in for a period of unsettled weather, albeit it is still fairly mild for this time of year.

Earlier this month, the Barn Dance was held at Los Arcos Restaurant on the N332 near Pedreguer and what a fantastic event it was. Huge thanks go to Peter and Pauline Speer, Shirley King, Val Dromgoole and all the other helpers and assistants who worked very hard to make this event the success it was. The live band Los Rancheros (who came all the way from UK) performed excellently and guided us through all the various dances, much to our enjoyment. A total of 123 members and guests (including the 4 band members) attended and the princely sum of €826.82 was raised for our nominated charity for this year, The Cancer Care Charity. Photos of the event can be seen on our website at <http://www.u3ajavea.org>.

As you already know, the Barn Dance was the last U3A Jávea event organised by Peter Speer, our Events Organiser, as he and his dedicated events sub-committee have all retired. We now **urgently** need a member to very kindly come forward and take up the reigns as Events Organiser. This is a key committee position for the Association, as without an Events Organiser, there will be effectively no future events such as the May Ball, Hog Roast and Barn Dance and monies raised for our nominated charity will reduce significantly. Planning and organising the May Ball has to begin now and I therefore appeal once again to members, to consider carefully the situation in which we now find ourselves and to please volunteer for this very important position. It is not as onerous as one might think, as there are always volunteers (more are always welcome) willing to help. The continued success of the Association is very much dependent on members volunteering to assist in the running of it, whether it be a committee member, a group leader or a volunteer just helping out with various events. I can be contacted by e-mail at: president@u3ajavea.org

Our Parador meeting at the end of November will once again be a rather more informal affair, with some musical and theatrical performances from various committee members and others, for your entertainment. We have also arranged for the Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir to give a short concert from their extensive repertoire,

University of the Third Age Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Javea

together with an opportunity for us to join with them in singing some seasonal Christmas carols. There will be a raffle and there are some delightful prizes to be won, after which there will be mince pies and a tot of sherry. Indeed, it will be an extravaganza not to be missed! I hope that we will see as many as can make it to the Parador on Wednesday, 28 November.

As Christmas is not far away and the November Parador meeting will be the last meeting of the year, your Committee have decided to make the meeting a donation day of food items for our nominated charity for 2013, Cáritas. Please do ensure that any items of food that you bring for Cáritas have not expired i.e. not past their "use by" date.

At the last Parador meeting in October, I talked about a scam that is going on regarding the delivery of newly ordered large (35kg) blue/orange gas bottles. For the benefit of those members that could not make it to the last meeting, please be very careful when taking delivery of new gas bottles as a few unscrupulous gas delivery drivers include an empty gas bottle in the set of "full" bottles that you have ordered, and then charge you for the full set including the empty one. Always personally supervise the delivery of new gas bottles and ensure that the plastic cap on each bottle is intact before the bottle is connected to the gas pipe and that the gas bottle(s) is full and not empty.

Another type of scam currently taking place in and around Jávea involves people in the area collecting door to door for the Red Cross. The Red Cross in Alicante have been contacted and they have confirmed that they NEVER collect door to door, or visit without an invitation. If someone calls at your door claiming to be collecting for the Red Cross, send them away and telephone the police.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank all committee members, group leaders and volunteers for their help and support over the past year and for all the hard work they have so willingly given to organise and run our events and activities. It is through all their hard work and efforts that we achieve such enjoyable group activities, which in turn makes the U3A Jávea the friendly and successful association it is today. Please remember that there will not be a December newsletter, so please keep looking at the website for the latest news and developments – the website is constantly being updated by our excellent web team. May I wish you all, a very Merry Christmas, with all good wishes for the New Year and beyond.
Peter Allin

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CHRISTMAS COLLECTION OF FOOD FOR CARITAS

Please remember to make a donation of food for Caritas at the November Parador Meeting. There will be a box near the signing in desk. Tins, dried goods and Christmas food is best but please make sure they are in their sell by date.



CANCER CARE JAVEA



At the November Parador Meeting we will be presenting a cheque for €4,400 to Cancer Care Javea (our nominated charity for 2012). This has been raised by functions held during the year. Many thanks to all our members for raising such a splendid amount.
Peter Allin

DISCOUNTS LIST

Members are reminded that on the web site there are 16 pages of details of businesses who will give a discount on goods and services for Javea 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

MEMBERSHIP

Set out below is information for renewing, pre-paying for 2012

At November Parador meeting -

Pro-rata payment for 2012 will be €2 plus €5 euros for 2013. A total of €7 euros.

New members in Dec pay €1 pro-rata payment for 2012, plus €5 for 2013. A total of €6 euros.

The pro-rata payment for the months Sept to Dec 2013 to be 50 cents.

To assist in the annual renewal of Membership fees, there are now TWO options for you to select the method of payment which best suits you.

BY CASH

Payable at the **January** Parador Meeting
or payable beforehand if not in Jávea during January/February.
New Membership Card will be issued upon receipt of payment

BY BANK TRANSFER

Details as follows:
(New Membership Card will be available for collection at Parador Meeting)

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

	<u>Country</u>	<u>Entidad</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>DC</u>	<u>Account No</u>
CCC		0065	0049	80	0001058101
IBAN	ES04	0065	0049	8000	01058101
BIC (Swift)	BARCESMM				

CCC details required if transfer is from within Spain

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

Howard Parker
Membership Secretary
membership.secretary@u3ajavea.org

GROUP NEWS

The Vocal Harmony Group has received a number of enquiries from members to join but they are still looking for more members to swell their ranks. Please let me know if you are interested.

The January Parador meeting is our annual 'Open Day' when I hope most of our group leaders will attend to give members the opportunity to meet them and to find out more details of their respective groups.

I would like to thank all the group leaders for their work this year and to wish them and all our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John Bellinger-Smith
groups.coordinator@u3ajavea.org

FEATURED GROUPS

CYCLING

EAT your heart out Bradley Wiggins – Javea U3A now has a Cycling Group to rival your efforts in winning the Tour de France!

Philip Gauron, who already runs a Badminton Group on Thursday mornings and Table Tennis on Tuesday afternoons, has launched the new group, meeting at Palau Municipal D'sports Xabia in Aveuide De Los Fueros No 8. The group meets weekly and enjoyed its inaugural run on November 4 when 11 members met at the Marriott Hotel in Denia for a two-hour ride.

Unlike the gruelling efforts of Britain's Tour de France winner and Olympic star Bradley Wiggins, the U3A's Cycling Group is a bit more relaxed, for social and serious riders. There are currently around 26 members, but Philip would welcome more – so if you are a Javea U3A member just contact him by emailing cycling@u3ajavea.org



THE NEW CURRY GROUP

To enhance enjoyment, knowledge and culinary skills of "curry" dishes.

The New Curry Club will focus on the cooking and sharing of meals in members' homes. To enable everyone to participate fully there will be three or four meals arranged bimonthly usually for a maximum of 8 people. Everyone will act as hosts at least once in the year and contribute to all the meals that they attend. Each meal will have a theme to enable us to focus on and learn more about a specific region's cuisine starting in January with Kashmir.

We have now had an inaugural meal with the members who have agreed to host the meals in January. This focused on the cuisine of Hyderabad which combines the best of Muslim foods with the pungent, tart, creamy flavourings of the Hindu South. We enjoyed a wide range of dishes providing the opportunity to explore new combinations and flavours.

We will be shortly notifying members of the group the dates and hosts of the January meals. Initially we are going to limit the number of members, so if you are interested let us know and we can let you have more details.

(Dodie and James Hodgkinson Group Leaders)

curry.club@u3ajavea.org



PROPOSED TEA DANCE GROUP

There is some interest in starting a Tea-Dance Group. Val Dromgoole is willing to lead it, with some willing volunteer helpers, and is currently looking into venues. We are thinking of running 4 Tea Dances a year, namely the last Fridays in January, April, July and October. It will be a self-financing group, with everybody bringing a plate of sandwiches or cake or biscuits. The tea/coffee will (hopefully) be supplied by the venue. We will try to get a DJ - Eric Taylor, would be good, but if this proves too expensive, we will find another way of providing music.

Shirley King has acquired some tea pots, so we are on our way. The venue will either be in the old town, near the Plaza de Constitution or The Dance Cafe, Toscamar.

Please let John Bellinger-Smith know if you are interested.

MORE GROUP NEWS

Dine and Dance

The Christmas Dinner Dance will take place on 5th December at Dance Cafe, 7.30 for 8.00, where there will be an extensive range of tapas, dessert, unlimited wine, cava, water and coffee. On Saturday 12th January the group will meet at Venta de Posa, just past the Marriott on the way to Denia. This is a very traditional Spanish venue, popular for hen parties etc., where the live band plays modern music with a latin twist. Cost will be approximately 25 euros per head to include wine and coffee. For more details and menu choices contact group leader.

Pat Johnson (Group Leader)

dine.dance@u3ajavea.org

Discussion Group

The next meeting will be held on Friday 8th February. The subject for discussion is "So whom do we think benefits from belonging to the EU and does Great Britain benefit from belonging to the EU." Our guest speaker is the ex MEP George Stephenson.

Gill Birch (Group Leader)

depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org

Foodies Group

The December meeting of the Foodies will take place on Thursday 13th December. This is not the normal 3rd Thursday, but is by popular request. Venue to yet be arranged, but members will be notified as soon as it is confirmed. Mince pies will be served!

Gillian Breen (Group Leader)

foodies@u3ajavea.org

Friends of Avinenca Group

On Friday 25th January, the Javea U3a Friends of Avinenca will be making a Field Trip to Carcaixent to learn about oranges and take part in a tasting of the various types grown locally. In the afternoon we will have a guided tour of Carcaixent and end up at the Farming Experimental Station of the Valencian Institute for Agriculture to learn about recent changes in local farming methods. More details can be found on our <http://www.avinenca.es/> website.

Paul Pruden (Group Leader)

friends.of.avinenca@u3ajavea.org

Garden Group



As there will not be a monthly meeting in December, our last meeting for this year, on Thursday 29th November, will have as a working title "Tasks for the Winter Months and What the Local Authorities are telling us about the Palm Beetle and how to deal with it."

The venue will be the Arts Centre as usual, starting at 15:00 promptly.

Paul Pruden (Group Leader)

gardening@u3ajavea.org

History Group

At our November meeting, David Thoms gave us an interesting, entertaining and nostalgia-laden "Social History of the British Seaside Holiday". Our next meeting will be at the **Casa de Cultura** at **12.30** on **Monday, 10 December** when **Larry Sherrington** will give a talk on British India: "A Brief History of The British Empire in India and the Part the East India Company Played in It":

"From pirates to privateers, traders to slavers, by robbing the Spanish, copying the Dutch, beating the French and plundering India, the British Empire was established. The British East India Company became an anomaly without comparison in history. They were serial plunderers of India and imperial imitators. They transformed a trading and diplomatic presence into an overseas government. For better or worse, the world as we know it today is in large measure the product of Britain's age of empire."

Website: www.u3ajavea.org

By definition, everyone in the Jávea U3A is a member of the History Group so come along on the 10th; there's no need to book. The full programme, through to June, is on the History Group webpage. To learn more 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

Well my first evening as the group leader of the NJFM club was on the 29th October. I was nervous and excited at the thought of running this evening. I had a great act to follow in Paul Wessendorf and I did not want to let him down.

Well what great fun it was. The evening ran in the normal way with individuals performing songs and ditties. The second half of the evening was great fun with a lot of audience participation with them joining in with the singing. The feedback was positive with everyone enjoying the entertainment.

This month sees our last meeting of the year. (We do not have one in December.) This will take place as usual at the Inn On The Green Bowls club Commencing at 7.0PM. The theme will of course be a Christmas one. We are hoping to have a full house with lots of songs that we can all sing along to, getting us in the right spirit for the festive season.

I wish all U3A members a happy Christmas and hope that the new year brings joy and peace for us all.

I also look forward to a new year with the NJFM club and hope to bring good music and entertainment to our members.

Our first meeting in 2013 will be January 28th. See you all there!!

Kind regards and best wishes

Ian Mackenzie (Group leader)

folk.music@u3ajavea.org

Petanque Group

On 30th Oct. 14 players from the Javea petanque group went to the newly formed Denia petanque group for a match. The seven couples played 3 games each up to 13 points and the overall score was Denia 198, Javea 190, a very close match, congratulations to Denia. 3 couples had maximum points of 39, Peter Ayling & Pam Coombe, Duncan Robson & Trevor Rush from Javea and Ian & Janet Milne from Denia. A 3 way match was played in the dimming light and the overall winning couple was Peter and Pam from Javea. Everyone adjourned to a nearby bar for well deserved drinks. Well done to everyone who played, it was a most enjoyable afternoon, and the threatened rain managed to hold off.

Pam Coombe (Group Leader)

petanque@u3ajavea.org



Javea and Denia Petanque Teams



Javea Petanque Players

Quiz Night

Our next quiz is earlier in the month than usual because of Christmas. It's on Thursday 6th December, 7.30 for 8pm start, at our normal venue El Salaito in the old town behind the Casa de Cultura. Menu is: bread & alioli & variety of superior tapas followed by either goulash de ternera OR caldereta de pescado & tarta de chocolate OR helado. All this plus half bottle of wine for 16€ Please send your menu choices WITH WINE CHOICE as soon as possible. You can pay next week at the Parador meeting or on the night.

Jeni and Stan Oldfield (Group Leaders)

quiz.night@u3ajavea.org

Rummikubs Two Group

Don't forget that there is a second Rummikubs group on a Thursday afternoon at the Cafe Cortado in Xabia Port area.

We are a smaller group than Krystyna's but have just as much fun/discussion/gossip. Come along any time and join us.

Cafe Cortado is a small friendly cafe just behind the Sports Centre and around the corner to Interiors Shop.

Val Dromgoole (Group Leader)

rummikubs.two@u3ajavea.org

Travellers Tales Group

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 18th December, when Fabio Bezoari will be giving a presentation on "**Le mie 5 Terre**" (**My 5 Lands**)", describing 5 picturesque fishing villages located on the Italian Ligurian coast, west of La Spezia.". Venue: the Javea Players' Studio (located in the road behind Book World Espana, Javea old town). Please arrive at **10.45 a.m. for an 11.30 a.m. start**. Members are asked to contribute 1€ pp to cover the cost of room hire. This meeting will be our Christmas get-together, so in spirit with the season, there will be sherry, wine, mince pies and Christmas cake, in addition to tea/coffee and biscuits! New members always welcome!

Angela Chantry (Group Leader)

travellers.tales@u3ajavea.org



Wine Appreciation Group

The Wine Appreciation group are having a Christmas Lunch at La Cocina on Thursday 6th December – 1.00 pm for 1.30 pm. For more details follow this link to the Wine Appreciation Group web site page.

<http://www.u3ajavea.org/Activity-Groups/Wine-Appreciation/wine-appreciation.html>

Geoffrey Woodward (Group Leader)

wine@u3ajavea.org

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



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

There will not be any DVD/CD/Book Swap tables at the November Parador Meeting because of "Christmas Activities". They will be back in January.

Because of "Christmas Activities" at the Parador meeting on Wednesday there will **NOT** be a notice board for your For Sale, Recycle or Wanted items.

If wish to place an advert on the board at the January meeting please make sure you submit your notice to me by 28 January 2013 at urecyclesale@yahoo.co.uk (email subject-U3A Javea notice board).
Jean Miller