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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 rain has, at long last, arrived and at the time of writing, it looks like we are in for a period of cold, unsettled weather with some very strong winds.

Earlier this month, the Barn Dance was held at Los Arcos Restaurant on the N332 near Pedreguer and what a fantastic, well organised event it was. Huge thanks go to Stephen and Jo Burke and all the other helpers and assistants who worked very hard to make this event the success it was. The live band Los Rancheros performed excellently and Rita, the Caller, guided us seamlessly through all the various dances, much to our enjoyment. I was interested to discover that two of the three musicians are Spanish, well versed at playing English and Scottish traditional music - amazing!! A total of 99 members and guests attended and the princely sum of €919.16 was raised for our nominated charity for this year, Cáritas. Photos of the event can be seen on our website at <http://www.u3ajavea.org/> and many thanks go to Tom Miller, the U3A Jávea Official Photographer.

Now I have some excellent news for you. Following the announcement in the last newsletter (October) of Jeanne Southworth's appointment as Deputy Communications Officer, I am very pleased to announce that Jackie Jefferies has very kindly agreed to step up to the position of Deputy Secretary, her appointment recently being formalised by the Executive Committee. I am really delighted and I would like to wish Jackie every success in her new position. At long last we have a full Committee!!

Even better news though, is that a new President and Vice President have now been found to replace Ron Hughes and myself at the time of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of March 2014. Stephen Burke, who already has experience of U3A Jávea committee matters, has very kindly agreed to step up to the position of President and he has confirmed that he will also continue to act as our Events Coordinator. Francis McNeil has very kindly agreed to step up to the position of Vice President. Francis has done a lot of voluntary work for MABS and I know that he will be a great asset to both the Committee and the Association. Both of these gentlemen will, from now on, be closely involved in committee matters to ensure a seamless transition after the AGM at the end of March next year.

All that remains to be filled is the non-committee position of Cultural Arts Coordinator, recently vacated by Angela Chantry. This position is not at all onerous or difficult to perform, so please help out by volunteering and putting something back into the Association yourself.

Our next general assembly meeting will be on Wednesday, 27 November at the Parador Hotel, Jávea and this will be our annual Christmas Extravaganza. A variety of entertainment is being lined up, including the Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir and some amusing entertainment from a number of fellow members, followed by mince pies and a tot of sherry.

Importantly, there will be a raffle, with all net proceeds being donated to the Bomberos Voluntarios who are based at Balcon Al Mar. You may or may not know, that the fire hoses and some equipment of this voluntary fire fighting force, which serves ALL of Jávea, were irreparably damaged during the recent large fire at Granadella and they are now seeking donations to help finance the cost of replacing these items, as well as purchasing a more powerful pump. I hope that as many of you as possible can come along to the Christmas Extravaganza and enjoy the entertainment, as well as giving much needed support to the Bomberos. Please be generous in your purchase of raffle tickets - there are excellent prizes to be won and you will be helping out in a big way by supporting the Bomberos Voluntarios.

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 passed their "use by" date.

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 effort 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 Webmaster, Clive White. May I wish you all, a very Merry Christmas, with all good wishes for the New Year and beyond.

Peter Allin

president@u3ajavea.org

[MAY BALL 2014](#)

After the very positive feedback from those who attended the May Ball earlier this year we have decided not to tinker with success and keep to the same venue and band, so, we are pleased to announce that the May Ball 2014 will again be held at Salones Carrasco in Javea and take place on Friday, May 16th. In keeping with current "trends" the dress code will be Black Tie or Lounge Suits.

The great news is that we have managed to keep the price at 40€ which represents wonderful value as it includes musical entertainment, a reception with canapés and Cava (wine, beer etc is also available); a four course meal with coffee during which wine, beer, soft drinks and water are available on demand and free of additional charge until the dessert course is served (at which point further drinks have to be paid for). Back by popular demand will be top local band Strikland who entertained us so impressively at this years event.

Transport costs were an important factor in selecting Carrasco for our May Ball. That there is no need for those attending to incur the costs of a return trip from Javea to somewhere like Teulada, which we estimate to be on average around 10€ per head, reduces the real overall cost. After all we are the Javea U3A.

Tickets can be ordered now via tickets@u3ajavea.org, and will be on sale at the January General meeting. Until 31st January 2014 tickets are available only to members of Javea U3A and their guests; thereafter any remaining tickets will be made available to members of other organisations.

This year we have a choice of three main courses (I have shown the menu on a separate page at the end of the newsletter) and as with last year there will be a vegetarian option. The vegetarian meal will be based on seasonal availability therefore details can not be published until nearer the event.

Stephen Burke (Events Organiser)
events@u3ajavea.org

[BACK TO THE FUTURE](#)

Firstly, thank you to all the members who supported the three functions I have organised this year since taking over the role of Events Organiser in February. In total the May Ball, the Summer Garden Party and most recently the Barn Dance have raised over 2300€ for our nominated charity Caritas.

Secondly, I'm looking forward to a wonderful 2014 and raising even more money for next years chosen charity Emaus.

Stephen Burke (Events Organiser)
events@u3ajavea.org



CÁRITAS

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. Many thanks for your cooperation.

FOOD COLLECTIONS

Please remember that the Parador Hotel meeting in **NOVEMBER** will be a donation day of food items for our nominated charity for this year, **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. Be generous!

HANDCRAFTED CARDS

The Crafts (Card Making Group) will once again be selling handcrafted cards in aid of **Cáritas** at the November Meeting we shall be located in the main lobby just outside the hall. New Designs and very reasonable prices, all profit to **Cáritas**.

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

There will be **NO** membership “tables” available at the November meeting owing to lack of space because of the Christmas Extravaganza

The total membership now stands at **1,303** members.

Reminder: Renewals are due in January when the subscription will be 5€ per member (husband, wife, partner, etc. are each treated as individual members).

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

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.html> for more detailed information or contact David Grove on 96 647 0534, or email to the address below.

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

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

NEW GROUPS

SPANISH CULTURE AND CUISINE

It is proposed to start a new group in January, namely, Spanish Culture & Cuisine. If you are interested in joining the new group or would like more information please contact:

Angela Chantry/Tony Dearie (Group Leaders)
spanish.culture.cuisine@u3ajavea.org.

MORE GROUP NEWS

ART BEGINNERS

The class is now proceeding successfully and we are glad to say that we can welcome a few more members - either beginners or those who have had some previous experience. 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

We meet 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

There are vacancies for Bridge 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. Please note that this group does not cater for absolute beginners, but, as long as you know the essentials, you are very 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 now has 23 members and is still growing, also thanks go to the Denia U3A members who have joined us and are happy to play our set of rules!! We now have a permanent reservation at our local Javea Port venue 'El Cortado' which is a friendly well run bar by Dave and Elaine. 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 you will be made more than 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)

The Group have now settled in to its new location in Javea (Vals Area just past Tiffanys on the Jesus Pobre Road). We have a couple of vacancies and if you are interested in joining please contact the Group Leader. Alternatively come and see us at the table selling handmade cards in aid of Caritas at the November meeting or at our demonstration table at the January open meeting.

Shirley King (Group Leader)

crafts@u3ajavea.org.

CURRY CLUB

This month we have had three hosted meals where members have enjoyed preparing the cuisine of Rajasthan. Probably more of a challenge than previous cuisines as Rajhastani food includes many vegetarian dishes. Traditionally onion or garlic were not included as they were thought to excite the blood. An aversion to sharing food from communal dishes led to the tradition of the Thali, in common with many other areas of India. This is a meal made of different dishes served in small bowls, placed on a round tray.

Our next meetings will be in the New Year when the theme will be the cuisine of The Punjab. 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.

DISCUSSION GROUP

There will be **NO** meeting of the Discussion Group in December. Members will have already received information from the Group Leader about special arrangements. January's meeting is being held on the Friday 10th January instead of the first Friday of the month, which would be too close to the festive season.

Gill Birch (Group Leader),

depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org

FRIENDS OF AVINENÇA

On Monday 9th December we will be visiting the FONT ROJA Natural Park near Alcoi where we will be finding out how the park authorities are using various methods to re-generate the areas devastated by forest fires. In particular how they encourage the natural regenerative processes by increasing the bee population. We will see the various types of hives used and learn about the potentially catastrophic effects that may befall the bees, and thereby, our lives. Also we will be visiting the excellent interpretation centre with time out for a gentle stroll through the autumn forest areas in which can be found flocks of long tailed tits as well as many other bird species. If you would like to take part in this trip and are already a member, or if you would like to join, (membership is free), please go to www.avinenca.es for further details.

Full details of all trips can be found on our website at www.u3ajavea.org/activity-groups.html (click **Friends of Avinença** in the Activity Groups table) or by contacting the Group Leader.

Paul Pruden (Group Leader),

friends.of.avinenca@u3ajavea.org.

HISTORY GROUP

At our November meeting, Mary Connatty gave an excellent talk on the Spanish Armada, including the background to the enterprise and the personalities and motivations of the key participants.

At our next meeting, in the Casa de Cultura at 11.30 on Tuesday, 10th December, Peter Atkinson will give a talk on southern Spain: "A History of Andalucía with Some Geography and Lots of Pictures".

Cheda Panajotovic was to have presented a history of Yugoslavia but, for personal reasons, he is unable to do so, his talk will be rescheduled.

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

The Group continues to meet at the Casa de Cultura in the Pueblo; however, please note that meetings will now be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 11.30.

By definition, everyone in the Javea U3A is a member of the History Group. To learn more or to have your name added to our e-mailing list please contact:

Peter Atkinson (Group Leader),

history@u3ajavea.org.

IPAD SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting of the I Pad Group will be at the Inn on the Green, 25th November at 3 pm. Simon Beattie from the Javea Computer Club will be coming along to give us a talk, not to be missed. He will be telling us about apps for the I Pad, and will answer any questions one may have. Any Javea U3A member wishing to join the group, please email Anne at the address below.

Anne Muir (Group Leader),
ipad.support@u3ajavea.org.

LADIES THAT LUNCH

If you are interested in joining our group, please contact the Group Leaders. Numbers attending a lunch are limited to 40, on a "first come" basis.

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

NOT JUST FOLK MUSIC GROUP

Well it has come to that time of year again. Christmas is almost upon us. Our next meeting on Monday 25th November is our Christmas function, (we do not meet in December). There has been lots of interest so a full house is expected. The Christmas theme will be followed and members are expected to have their hats and Christmas spirit with them to get the evening off to a good start. The "Artistes" are well prepared so all that is needed is for members to bring their singing voices with them.

All enquiries to:

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

PETANQUE

All enquiries to:

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

PRACTICAL COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

All enquiries to:

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

QUIZ NIGHT

The final Quiz Night of the year will be held on Thursday, 12th December at El Salaito in the old town. A three course menu of tapas followed by either toscalla de lomo con crema de championes OR merluza a la vasca finishing with Helado OR Pudim almendras, cost 16€ to include ½ bottle of wine, bread and alioli and of course prizes.

Please send your menu and wine choices to the address shown below or contact the group leaders.

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

RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS

The second monthly group meeting took place at Café Cortado on the 4th November. Although there were a minimal number of group members present an enjoyable time was had by all (apart from the chilly, windy, over-cast afternoon). There were the normal discussions about railways and other interests including an update, from myself, on the Alcoy-Gandia Exhibition at Concentaina. (see photos in gallery).

The next meeting, 3pm, Monday, December 2nd we will be at the Javea Players Studio (next to Javea Pumps on Carrer Cronista Figueras Pach behind the shops opposite Mercadona). The studio also has the facilities for showing DVDs on a large screen, toilets, aircon/heating and tea/coffee making facilities. Parking is in the street or 2 minutes walk from Mercadona. There are also two Cafés near by. We would of course have to pay for the hire but limited funds are available from the U3A for just this purpose.

We could meet here Winter and Summer, excepting when we go on visits to member's railways or museums etc. As we have already said that we would like to see DVD's of interest provided by our members, the facility would be readily available every month.

Finally we are still looking for a secure place to erect, keep and run a model railway, also any enquiries regarding group membership, please contact:

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

RUMMIKUBS GROUP TWO

All enquiries to:

Val Dromgoole (Group Leader),
rummikubs.two@u3ajavea.org

SOLO ON SUNDAY

Well, 43 of us enjoyed a superb meal at El Rancho on Sunday 17th November. The ambience and food was to a very high standard with very attentive staff, we shall definitely go back again! As there are so many things going on in December for people to attend we might wait until January for the next Lunch. We shall keep you all posted. So if we do not see you before Christmas, have a happy, healthy and fun time and see you all in the New Year. Marion Monsell and Pat Ainsley (Group Leaders), solo.on.sunday@u3ajavea.org.

SPANISH GROUPS

All enquiries to: Heidi Hancock (Group Leader), spanish.beginners@u3ajavea.org.

TABLE TENNIS

As from the 7th November the Group is now being run by Inge Taylor. All enquiries to: Ingeborg Taylor (Group Leader) table.tennis@u3ajavea.org.

TRAVELLERS TALES GROUP

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 26th November and the topic will be "Travels in Cuba" - I will be talking about the North West of Cuba and also giving a short account of Tony & Cherry Cabban's travels through the south of the country; John & Wendy Ranger will give a presentation on North East/Central Cuba. The meeting will therefore last 15 minutes longer than normal. Venue: the Javea Players' Studio (located in the road behind what used to be Book World Espana, Javea old town). 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 and as this is our last meeting before Christmas, there will also be sherry and mince pies! New members always welcome! Angela Chantry and Tony Dearie (Group Leaders) travellers.tales@u3ajavea.org.

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

Forty-two members attended the November meeting at the restaurant La Cocina where Geoff presented three upmarket wines from the Bodega Fos in the Roja region. The wines tasted were a Maceracion Carbonica at €5.95, a Crianza at €7.25, and a Reserva at €12.80. Geoff explained the unusual process of the Maceracion Carbonica, where the fermentation takes place within the uncrushed whole grape. This method is famously used for the making of Beujolais Nouveau and is also used in the Alavasa district of Rioja where the Bodega Fos is situated. A bottle of this wine was also enjoyed at each table during lunch. We are now looking forward to our Christmas lunch on the 4th of December. 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

There will be **NO** "tables" available at the November meeting owing to lack of space because of the Christmas Extravaganza

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.