

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

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### From Our President:

Although it is officially Autumn you wouldn't think so. What lovely weather we are experiencing and unusually for this time of year, we have had very little rain. However, for those of us who live in Jávea, we did experience one incredible hail storm at the beginning of this month, with hail stones the size of golf balls (see picture below)!! What an amazing sight. Paul Kirkpatrick from Benissa took a photo of the storm (below) as it passed over Jávea – it looks like an atomic bomb exploding!!



Peter Allin



Paul Kirkpatrick

Time just seems to be flying by at an alarming rate and there are only another eight weeks to go before the arrival of Christmas – time to start the Christmas shopping?!

Following the announcement in last month's newsletter of Sheila Giacomelli's appointment as Deputy Membership Secretary, I am delighted to announce that Jeanne Southworth has very kindly agreed to step up to the position of Deputy Communications Officer, her appointment recently being formalised by the Executive Committee. Jeanne has considerable experience of putting together a newsletter and I would like to wish her every success in her new position.

We are now left with only one vacancy on the Committee to fill, this being the position of Deputy Secretary (vacant for some time now), as well as the non-committee position of Cultural Arts Coordinator, recently vacated by Angela Chantry. These two positions are not onerous or difficult to perform in any way, so please help out by volunteering and putting something back into the Association yourself. This Association (in fact U3A's all around the world) thrives on the volunteers that come forward and without these volunteers we would simply have no U3A in Jávea.

As I mentioned in the last month's newsletter, I will have to step down as President at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of March next year, as I will have completed my three years on the Executive Committee in accordance with the legal statutes of the Association. In normal course, the Vice President, Ron Hughes, would step up to the position of President, but unfortunately his circumstances prevent him from stepping up to that position, with the result that the positions **of President and Vice President will be vacant**. Volunteers for these two positions are still sought. The sooner volunteers come forward, the better it will be to ensure a smooth transfer of duties and responsibilities in time for the AGM. It should be noted that for the Association to function legally, the following four Executive Committee positions have to be always filled: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. **If the President's and Vice President's roles are not filled by the time of the AGM in March next year, then the future of the Association will be extremely bleak, to the point there will be no Association, as it will not be able to function legally.** I urge you therefore, to please give this potentially critical situation serious thought. The job descriptions for these two positions can be seen on the Home page of our website, or alternatively, they can be obtained by sending me an e-mail to [president@u3ajavea.org](mailto:president@u3ajavea.org)

The Group Leader of the Foodies Group, Gillian Breen, has decided to step down after three years of dedicated, hard work leading this group. On behalf of the Association, I would like to give huge thanks to Gillian for all that she has done. We now need a person to come forward and volunteer to be the Group Leader of this group as soon as possible, otherwise this popular, long standing group will cease to exist.

Our next social event is the Barn Dance which will take place on Friday, 8 November 2013. The venue is the same as for last year, at Los Arcos near Pedregeur and once again Los Rancheros will be performing live to provide us with their excellent music, as well as a caller to guide us through all the various dances. This is one of the premier U3A Jávea events and it is always huge fun, with a three course meal (from of a choice of three items in each course) including beer or half a bottle of wine or water and coffee included in the very reasonable price of €25 per person. Menu choices (see our website) and tickets can be reserved at [tickets@u3ajavea.org](mailto:tickets@u3ajavea.org) and as usual tickets will be available for payment and collection at this month's Parador meeting.

On the subject of events, Stephen Burke, our Events Organiser, is still looking for volunteers to join his raffle prize sub-committee, so please consider volunteering for this essential role.

The Committee has received a number of suggestions for our nominated charity for 2014 and these were discussed, along with other ideas, at our Executive Committee meeting last week. I am pleased to announce that we have agreed that our nominated charity for 2014 will be EAMÚS. This registered charitable association now has seven branches across the Costa Blanca area dealing with, and coordinating, problems concerning families, their children and their elderly relatives. At present EMAÚS are running 9 children's shelters, occupational workshops for the teenage children, a counselling service for families with problematic children, and a shelter for battered wives. The EMAÚS children's shelters house children who have no other home to go to, either because of an impossible family environment, or in some cases, because they have no family at all. The children's shelters have nearly 90 children living in them at the moment with an age group ranging from 2 to 18. Whilst EMAÚS, as a charity association, is funded with grants from the Generalitat of Valencia this, unfortunately, is never enough. Each year they need to find over 30% more on top of this sum in the form of donations. It is the Executive Committee's belief, that we should support them as best we can.

The Executive Committee have also decided to donate the net proceeds of the November Christmas Extravaganza raffle to the Bomberos Voluntarios (all members are volunteers), who are based at Balcon Al Mar, Jávea. You may or may not know that during the recent big serious fire at Grenadella (fire crews from Dénia, Benidorm, València, plus 4 helicopters and an aircraft were involved), most of the hoses belonging to the Bomberos Voluntarios were damaged beyond repair. The cost of replacing these hoses and a new pump far exceeds the grant they receive from the Jávea Ayuntamiento and they have now had to resort to receiving donations. As you can appreciate, these guys do sterling work for us everywhere in Jávea and they really need our support at this difficult time.

It is with deep sadness that I have to announce the peaceful passing away of two members, Maria Buxton and Brian Walthew. Both were long-standing members of the Jávea U3A. They will be missed and our thoughts and sincere good wishes are extended to the families of both of them. Please read the obituaries later in this newsletter for more information about Maria and Brian.

In order to assist our Treasurer, Mick Cox, in reconciling bank transfer payments, may I remind members to please **always include in the remarks section of the transfer payment form, their membership number and the reason for the payment** that is being made. This information is absolutely essential.

Please don't forget to bring to the Parador general meeting later this month your **hard plastic tops for little Noa**, which you can place in a box with a picture of Noa, located in the Antesala (where the DVD and book swap tables are located) of the hotel.

Looking ahead, please remember there will be no speaker at the November Parador meeting as this, being our last meeting of the year, will be our Christmas Extravaganza. Your committee is presently working on a programme of entertainment that you will definitely not want to miss!!

Finally, I look forward to seeing as many of you as can make it to our general assembly meeting at the Parador Hotel on 30 October, where our guest speaker this month is Chris Duffin. Chris will once again be regaling us with more anecdotes of her interesting and very amusing experiences as the first woman governor into HMP Strangeways and the notorious Dartmoor Prison. She has written a book entitled "Jail Tales" in which she recounts some of the many stories and incidents from her 20 year career both as a lowly "screw" and as a prison governor. Like the previous excellent talks we have had this year, Chris's talk will be definitely one not to be missed.

Peter Allin

## Forthcoming Events

### **Barn DANCE** **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 19.00**

There are still some tickets available for the Barn Dance on November 8th at Los Arcos. Always a very enjoyable evening, dancing to the music and expert calling of Los Rancheros.

Tickets which are 25€ include a three course meal with half a bottle of wine and coffee and are available by emailing [tickets@u3ajavea.org](mailto:tickets@u3ajavea.org) or at the October Parador meeting. Further details are available in the special events section on the U3A website.

Tickets are available to members and non-members.

#### **BARN DANCE MENUS**

Can anyone who has purchased a ticket please let me have their menu choices either by email or at the Parador meeting on 30 October. You can find the menu choices at <http://www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/Special-Events/special-events.html#barn-dance>

Stephen Burke (Events Organiser)  
[events@u3ajavea.org](mailto:events@u3ajavea.org)

### **THE MAY BALL** **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 19.00**

After the very positive feedback from those who attended the May Ball earlier this year we have chosen not to tinker with success and keep to the same venue and band so we are pleased to announce that the 2014 May Ball will again be held at Salones Carrasco in Javea and will take place on Friday May 16th. In keeping with current "trending" 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 canapes and Cava (wine, beer etc is also available); a four course meal, with three choices of main course, and coffee. During the meal **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 year's 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](mailto:tickets@u3ajavea.org), and will be on sale and available for collection 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. The menu will be finalised by mid November with details being published as soon as possible.

Stephen Burke (Events Organiser)  
[events@u3ajavea.org](mailto:events@u3ajavea.org)

## Charities and Appeals

### 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](mailto: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!

### COLLECTION OF PLASTIC TOPS FOR "NOA"

Please don't forget to bring to the Parador general meeting later this month your **hard plastic tops for little Noa**, which you can place in a box with a picture of Noa, located in the Antesala (where the DVD and book swap tables are located) of the hotel.

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.

Many thanks.

Krystyna Stefanczyk.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you have already paid your membership, and are not in possession of your new 2013 Membership Card, these can be collected from the **New Members** desk. These un-collected cards will be available for collection at each Parador meeting.

If you have not yet renewed for 2013, your name will have been removed from the Membership List. You can, however, rejoin (retaining your original membership number) at the New Members desk at any Parador meeting. You can also 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 me know.

The total membership now stands at 1,137 members.

Howard Parker  
Membership Secretary  
[membership.secretary@u3ajavea.org](mailto:membership.secretary@u3ajavea.org)



## 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](mailto:vice.president@u3ajavea.org).

Follow this link to the discounts page:  
[www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/PDFs/Discounts.pdf](http://www.u3ajavea.org/Group-Independent/PDFs/Discounts.pdf)

## OBITUARY

Brian Walthew

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of Brian Walthew, who passed away peacefully last May. Brian and his wife, Irene, were long-standing members of the Javea U3A. They lived in Devon, but took every opportunity to join in U3A activities when they were here in Javea. Brian and Irene were active members of Karen's Walking Group, latterly enjoying the more "gentle walks". They were avid travellers, enjoying trips as far afield as Bangkok, Australia, New Zealand, Dubai, Cyprus and the Baltic capitals, during the past few years – Brian loved to attend meetings of the Travellers Tales' Group, and gave two very interesting presentations on their experiences of Cuba and the Caribbean islands. He will be missed and our thoughts and sincere good wishes are extended to Irene and the family.

Angela Chantry

## **OBITUARY**

Maria Buxton

It is with great sadness that I have to announce the death of Maria Buxton. Maria died at the end of September from Pancreatic cancer in her home town of Milan, Italy.

Maria was a very active member of the U3A, attending most of the Events as she loved to dance. I think that the best example of what a fun person Maria was can be best summed up by an amusing incident that happened with the Walking Group. Italy had just beaten England in a Euro Cup game and on the following Monday morning whilst we were waiting for all the walkers to arrive, we suddenly heard a very loud noise, it was Maria waving a football rattle, blowing a whistle and yelling Italy, Italy at the top of her voice. She will be greatly missed by all her friends who felt privileged to know her.

Karen White

Details and contact information for all groups are shown below, so please let the group leaders know if you are interested.

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

Jenny Wessendorff (Deputy Groups Coordinator)

[depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org](mailto:depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org).

**Please visit our website at [www.u3ajavea.org](http://www.u3ajavea.org) for news about other groups and group leader contact details.**

## **BACKGAMMON**

The backgammon group is struggling for new members. If anyone is interested in joining, but the meeting date and time is inconvenient please could they let me know and advise of a day and time they could attend.

Susan Vickers (Group Leader)

[backgammon@u3ajavea.org](mailto:backgammon@u3ajavea.org).

## **BADMINTON**

Philip Gauron (Group Leader)

[badminton@u3ajavea.org](mailto: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](mailto:bookgroup@u3ajavea.org).

Or, Pru Hughes (afternoon group)

[bookgroup.two@u3ajavea.org](mailto:bookgroup.two@u3ajavea.org).

## **CANASTA**

The Canasta group is growing, we now have 3 tables and are likely need a fourth! the start time is 2.45pm for a prompt start at 3pm, (venue to be confirmed).

Our players are both experienced and improvers but we welcome all levels and are happy to show you "the ropes". This is a friendly group and we play to our own U3A rules so that we are all on the "same page". If you enjoy cards you will love Canasta, its addictive, unpredictable and great fun.

V. Norrie (Group Leader)

[canasta@u3ajavea.org](mailto:canasta@u3ajavea.org).

## **CRAFTS & CARD MAKING**

Meeting 2pm on alternate Tuesdays and Wednesdays, i.e. once per week. Contact Group Leader for information on joining the group.

Shirley King (Group Leader)

[shirley@kingsrus2.com](mailto:shirley@kingsrus2.com)

## **DINE & DANCE**

Following our very successful trip to Viva Espana, where 69 of us enjoyed the horse show, followed by dining, dancing and the flamenco show, our next event will be the Christmas dinner dance. Because the venue has been so popular, we will return for the third year to Dance Café, Toscamar, price €32.50 per person. Payment between 10.00 and 11.00 before the October meeting where menu choices will also be available.

Pat Johnson (Group Leader)

[patandericjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:patandericjohnson@gmail.com)

## **DISCUSSION GROUP**

Gill Birch (Group Leader).

[depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org](mailto:depgroupcoord@u3ajavea.org)

## **FOODIES GROUP**

**New Group Leader required!**

### **HISTORY GROUP**

Our next meeting will be at the **Casa de Cultura** at **11.30** on **Tuesday, 12 November** when **Mary Connatty** will give a talk on The Spanish Armada, a subject on which she is a published author. Here is a synopsis:

*"It may be claimed that the defeat of the Spanish Armada by Queen Elizabeth's navy in 1588 was the greatest naval victory in English history, when little England was given a massive boost to her morale while Spain suffered a mortal blow triggering her decline as a great power. Based on complicated motives, the build-up to Spain's 'Great Enterprise' to conquer England is a fascinating example of how two friendly powers find themselves at each other's throats. Elizabeth I proved to be a formidable opponent, lucky to have in her navy such stellar figures as Drake, Hawkins and Frobisher. Let us see what happened and make our own judgements."*

By definition, everyone in the Jávea U3A is a member of the History Group so come along on the 12th; there's no need to book. The full 2013-2014 programme is on the group's webpage. To learn more or to have your name added to our e-mailing list please contact the group leader. our e-mailing list please contact the group leader.

Peter Atkinson (Group Leader)

[history@u3ajavea.org](mailto:history@u3ajavea.org).

### **IPAD SUPPORT GROUP**

Any member wishing to join the group, please email Anne at the address below.

Anne Muir (Group Leader)

[ipad.support@u3ajavea.org](mailto:ipad.support@u3ajavea.org).

### **NOT JUST FOLK MUSIC GROUP**

Any member wishing to join the group, please email Ian at the address below.

Ian Mackenzie.

[folk.music@u3ajavea.org](mailto:folk.music@u3ajavea.org)

### **PILATES GROUPS**

For more information please visit the website at the address below.

[www.u3ajavea.org](http://www.u3ajavea.org)

### **PRACTICAL COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE**

Tom plans to repeat his session on Windows 8 (updated to reflect the release of Windows 8.1) during November, open to all members of U3A Jávea. This will mostly describe how to use Windows 8 for those moving from earlier versions of Windows, but may also be of interest to those who have just updated to Windows 8.1. Date and venue to be advised. Contact Tom at the following email address for more information.

Tom Stevenson (Group Leader)

[pck@u3ajavea.org](mailto:pck@u3ajavea.org)

### **QUIZ NIGHT**

Jeni and Stan will hold the next quiz in December, probably in the second week of the month. When finalised, details will be posted on the Quiz Night webpage.

Jeni and Stan Oldfield (Group Leaders).

[quiz.night@u3ajavea.org](mailto:quiz.night@u3ajavea.org)

### **SOLO ON SUNDAYS**

The Solo on Sundays Group recently enjoyed a delightful lunch at La Cocina. Thirty of us were treated to tantalising cuisine all beautifully prepared. It was perfect.

Our next event will be on November 17th. Restaurant not yet decided upon, but we shall advise as soon as possible. So make a date of this in your diaries!

Marion Monsell (Group Leader)

[marionapril44@gmail.com](mailto:marionapril44@gmail.com)

### **TABLE TENNIS**

Philip Gauron will be handing over the reins of the group to Inga Taylor at the end of October, many thanks to Philip for all his past efforts.

Please visit website for revised contact details.

[www.u3ajavea.org](http://www.u3ajavea.org)

## TEN PIN BOWLING

The Ten Pin Bowling Group is now up and running. The alley the group play on is situated on the Teulada/Moraira road underneath the newly opened Carrefour Supermarket. The date set to play is the second Tuesday of each month with a start time of 6pm.

We managed to put together a very small team of just 5 players for our first game. We hope to improve on that for future games. Each alley has a maximum number of 6 players and depending upon the number of people playing we could have teams of say 5/6 people competing against each other just to add interest to the game.

The next game to be played is Tuesday 12th November and anyone wishing to add their name to the list is very welcome. It is not necessary to play every month just add your name to the list if interested and you will be sent an e-mail each month to see if you are available.

There is also the option of going for a meal afterwards but that is left for individuals to decide.

For more information contact the Group Leader or visit the website.

Maggie Dennis (Group Leader)  
[magden1340@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:magden1340@yahoo.co.uk)

## TRAVELLERS TALES GROUP

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October when Peter Atkinson will be giving a presentation entitled *"Across France on a Bicycle"*. 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.

New members always welcome!

Angela Chantry & Tony Dearie (Group Leaders)  
[travellers.tales@u3ajavea.org](mailto:travellers.tales@u3ajavea.org)

## WINE APPRECIATION

Forty members and guests attended our wine tasting on October 16th at the restaurant La Cocina in Javea. Geoff welcomed the four guests and three new Wag members.

The presentation of the wines was made by Michael Pinfield (abetted by Geoff in Tom's absence). Michael gave us an insight into the wine growing area of Somontano and the background of the bodega. We tasted the following four wines:

De Beroz Esencia de Blancos €6.00

De Beroz Esencia Rosado €5.45

De Beroz Roble tinto €5.45

De Beroz Crianza tinto €6.95

The wines were purchased from our friends at La Casa del Vino in Javea. The prices quoted do not include the U3A discount for our members.

There has been sufficient interest in the November meeting for us to go ahead. I have therefore confirmed the date with La Cocina, 14<sup>th</sup> November. The bad news is that Geoff will be presenting the wines to you. However, he has chosen upmarket reds!

I will send you all an email around the 3rd of November with the menu choices etc as usual.

The Christmas Lunch will be at La Cocina on December 4th. Booking details will be sent to members early November.

Geoff Woodward.  
[wine@u3ajavea.org](mailto:wine@u3ajavea.org)

## 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](mailto:careshareineke@u3ajavea.org)

[caresharepat@u3ajavea.org](mailto:caresharepat@u3ajavea.org)



## INFORMATION

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### WEBSITE NOTICE BOARD

The *Notice Board*, previously displayed at the General Meetings at the Parador is now ONLY available on the Website.

If you want to add an item to the Notice Board or respond to an existing item then you need to send an email to [notice.board@u3ajavea.org](mailto:notice.board@u3ajavea.org).

Full details on how to use the Notice Board are at available at [Notice Board](#).

**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 verity of films she will have on the table.

A collection box for used Postage Stamps will be by the notice boards. These stamps will be given to the Royal British Legion for their support fund.