

University of the Third Age Moraira-Teulada

Minutes of the General Meeting held on 1st March 2010 at the Salon de Banquettes at 10.30am

In the absence of the President Ann Colclough, who has broken her shoulder, Pamela Kershaw, Vice President, welcomed everybody and wished Ann well from all of the Members. Pamela commented that there seemed to be about 300 people in the room, and only 198 members had signed in; she asked if the Members could please make sure they sign in after the meeting and at future meetings.

There were some newsletters still available for non computer owners and in the newsletter is confirmation of the FunDay on the 21st May 2010.

Pamela once again thanked the HELP volunteers and said that our U3A is setting up a rota of visitors for the Teulada Old Peoples Home.

Member Eric Olverson is cycling across Africa to raise funds for an orphanage and Pamela asked for any contributions to be made if any one felt they wanted to contribute.

The Vice President then read the synopsis from the Minutes of the 1st February 2010 which had been posted on the website. They were proposed by Rona Hurst and seconded by Sybil Ross, and ratified by the Members with a show of hands.

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

It was reported that we had had 69 renewals of membership and 25 new members join today.

Reports

Treasurer. Audrey Coleman reported expenditure of €203 and income of €1340 euros during the last month. Therefore the balance at 28th February 2010 in the current account is €9336.41 plus cash in hand of €50. In addition to this there is the €3,000 in a deposit account for the contingency fund. Audrey mentioned that anyone wanting to see a break down of the income and expenditure should see her at the end of the meeting.

Group Coordinator Shirley Baehr welcomed all members and said that anyone should contact her if they wanted to join or set up a new group and as usual all information regarding existing groups is available on our excellent website.

People wishing to join groups should confirm with the Group Leader first that they have places available. She also reminded Members that they must let Group Leaders know if they are unable to attend a session and also answer emails, as it can be soul destroying if there is little or no response from Group Members.

This month we have 4 new Groups, these are Understanding Psychotherapy to be run by Mike Lawson, the U3A Bowls Group being set up by Don Roberts, Creative Photography also being set up by Don Roberts, and the Knit and Natter Group being organised by Sue Bradley. Shirley gave complete details of all these Groups and their activities and meeting times, and more detail is on the Website. All these Group Leaders were available at the end of the meeting for anyone who wanted to sign up or ask questions.

Ann Johnson who runs the choir, is desperately seeking new Members as she is finding it hard to put on any presentations.

Travel Report. Anne Cattle wanted to clear up a point before she gave her report. This was that any trip costing under €25 for each individual, should be paid for in cash, and this means if a couple is taking an €18 trip and the total is €36 you must still pay cash.

The trip to Elche on the 26th January 2010 was sold out and 55 people had bought tickets. Unfortunately on that day the weather was very bad, and only 16 people turned up. Anne said this was very sad, for two reasons, firstly the U3A cannot refund any money because the coach and guides still had to be paid, and secondly the weather in

Elche was fine. Anne pointed out it is worth considering that the organisers of a trip would never leave people in the pouring rain, and as the weather previous to that day had already been bad it had been decided that the coach would be used to take a mystery tour in the countryside, probably with compulsory community singing.

The Benissa Treasure Hunt was sold out and was a success.

The trip to Xátiva on 15th April 2010 still has spaces available, the cost is €18 per person including coach and guided tour of the old town and tourist train up to the Castle. The cost does not include lunch.

The trip to Salamanca on 27th September 2010 is full. However, there are still places available to Salamanca on 18th to 21st October 2010. The cost of this is €225 per person.

Javea U3A Garden Club has a trip to Majorca from 26th April 2010 to 1st May 2010, and there are two spaces left at a cost of €395 per person, this will include entrance to many specialist gardens.

Anne continued that now the weather is at last improving she hoped that next month she will be able to give details of more day trips.

Cultural Events. Angela Chantry gave full details of several events. On the 19th April 2010 the Javea players are presenting "Holiday Snap" which will be at the theatre in Gata. Normal price would be 10 euros, but 8 euros to the U3A Members.

On 27th April 2010 there is a classical concert at the Palau De Musica in Valencia with music from Schubert, Sarasate, and Falla. A coach will leave at 2.30 pm people will be dropped off near the Bull Ring for free time for shopping and eating before the concert starts at 8.15 pm. The cost of this is €30 and the return journey will start at around 10.30 pm.

On the 18th June 2010 the Three Tenors will sing Il Divo at the Bull Ring Gardens in Alcalalí. Normal price is €20 but if tickets are bought in advance they will be €15.

On the 31st March 2010 there is a concert at the Casa De Cultura in Calpe for the Haiti Disaster and a dance company is performing contemporary dance, ballet etc and the cost is €10.

At the end of September 2010 our U3A will hold a Summer Ball at the Banqueting rooms at El Canor. There will be a three course meal to include all drinks, coffee and liqueurs, and dancing to a band. Smart dress code will be requested and it is hoped that we may open it to friends and family. Further details will be announced at the next Meeting and on the Website.

Friday FunDay Don Roberts said that this years Summer Event will be held on 21st May 2010 starting at 3.00pm, and that we are calling it Friday FunDay. It will be run on a similar format to an English Summer Fete with quizzes, games competitions, etc with marvellous prizes. Some of the events will be free, but some will have a small charge and all money raised on the day will be given to Charity. Don asked if anyone had an idea of an unusual game or competition to let one of the Committee know.

A cold finger buffet will start at about 6.00 pm including postres, and the charge for the event will be €5. As with last year we are asking that Members bring their own drinks.

Tickets will be on sale at the April General Meeting with any surplus being sold at the May General Meeting. As parking is limited there will be 200 tickets for sale and these cannot be reserved before the 5th April 2010. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis, which worked well last year.

All Members need to bring are hats, shade and drink.

Don said we would need extra help on the day to set up the area, man the stalls, serve the buffet and make the site tidy after the event.

Any Other Business

Pamela Kershaw wanted to thank the Group Leaders especially for their continuing help and enthusiasm, and they were given a round of applause.

A Member queried that as we have so much money in the bank, why can't we donate some of it to charity. It was pointed out to the Members that we are not allowed to do this as we are not a Registered Charity. Richard Perry pointed out that we are also our own Insurers, by which he meant that as we cannot get insurance on our sound equipment we must keep cash in the bank in case of unforeseen losses or damage. The Committee can assure the Members it is looking at different ways that excess money can be used, but needs to be responsible in the way it is spent. Pamela Kershaw said that this will be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

Pamela announced that next month speakers will be gardeners Dick and Clodagh Hanscombe who will be presenting a Gardeners Question Time and we would like to receive any questions from the Members before the 5th April General Meeting.

The Drama Group then gave a presentation and was introduced by Group Leader Rosemary Sheppard. Rosemary said that the readings were representative of this time of year: love, the Spring, hopes and memories. The Group finished with a rendering of the song "Let Me Call You Sweetheart", which most Members joined in with. The Group were enthusiastically applauded by the Members for their wonderful performance, and Pamela thanked them, and said we look forward to their next performance.

The meeting closed at 12.45 pm

Proposed as true and accurate record of the Meeting held on the 1 March 2010

Proposed By.....Seconded By.....Date.....

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