

U3A Moraira-Teulada

www.u3amoraira-teulada.org

NEWSLETTER no.6

December 2008

Message from the President

I would not normally do a post-meeting report; however I feel that the General Meeting on 8 December was something quite special, and deserving of more attention.

Members were greeted with the news that there was to be a free raffle, with one ticket per Member. There were also free coffee, doughnuts and mince pies; the 200 mince pies were made by a Member, as was the Christmas cake which was one of the raffle prizes.

The business part of the meeting was dealt with as quickly as possible, as we were all looking forward to what was coming next.

The first delight was a demonstration of Modern Jive by Richard and Kate Perry and some of their Group. Richard led the group gently through the moves, naming each one as he did so. I was wandering round the room, and to my pleasure saw some ladies at the bottom end near the food tables going carefully through the moves with Richard! When the music started, feet began to tap, and heads nod in time to the music. The demonstration of all of the moves being put together to music was super, and the time the Group has been together has clearly been very well spent. You will be pleased to hear that Richard and Kate, together with their Group, will be making a return appearance in the near future. The Group were still dancing long after most of the other Members had left the Salon, a sure sign of a very happy group of people!

The next treat was a performance from our own U3A Choir, their very first public performance. When you consider that the group of 10 ladies and one man had only had two rehearsals before they sang for us, the results were remarkable. The performance would not have been possible without a Musical Director, and how lucky we are that Ann Johnson answered the plea for a Director which was posted on the Website, thank you Ann.

The choir started their concert with "Joy to the World", and any nerves they may have felt were invisible, their voices were in harmony and their faces reflected the pleasure they were getting from singing for us. It was a lovely touch to include a Carol in Spanish, and this certainly made Rosa, the owner of the Salon, beam with pleasure. She held out as long as she could, but then joined in the singing with gusto! The choir must have been pleased with the applause, and indeed the standing ovation that they were given. They finished the meeting for us with another lovely rendition of Silent Night, which sent us off humming into the Spanish sunshine.

I have been promised by Ann that the Choir will return. As someone who enjoys singing very much, but who could empty a room in seconds, I hope they come back soon. For those who are more talented than I, especially the gentlemen, I know that Ann would welcome more members. Please visit the website www.u3amoraita-teulada.org for more information.

The meeting ended with the raffle, and five Members went home even happier people!

I do hope we will be able to offer entertainment from more of our Groups in the future. With some subjects it's clearly not possible, but perhaps some Group Leaders would welcome the chance to show what they and their Groups have achieved.

On a final, seasonal note, the entire Committee wishes you all a very Happy Christmas, and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year. Thank you all for your support since May. We look forward to bringing you even more Groups to join, and places to go in the future. Travel safely if you are going away, and let's hope you enjoy some sunshine if you're staying here. ¡Feliz Navidad y próspero año nuevo!

Ann Colclough

Next general U3A meeting

This will be on 12 January 2009, at the Salon de Banquettes, Avda. Mediterraneo, Teulada, at 10.30 am. Doors open 09.45.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

From the beginning of March the monthly General Meeting will be on the first Monday of the month, not the second. The meeting in January will be on 12th, the meeting in February will be on 9th, but in March the meeting will be on 2nd.

Travel/Outings

The trip to *Valencia* to Bonaire, a big shopping centre, was eventually led by Sue Smith, after both the original organiser then the volunteer substitute had to withdraw for personal reasons. Thanks to Sue who got everyone there and back with no problems.

Three separate groups visited the L'Albarda Gardens at *Pedregeur* in November for a conducted tour led by Paul Pruden, followed by lunch at a local restaurant.

Due to insufficient interest from either group on its own, we have joined together with the Javea U3A for the trip to IKEA and Condomina (Primark). This will now be on Monday 12 January, departure 9.15 am, and returning by 5.30pm. The cost at 12 € will now be slightly cheaper so refunds will be given to anyone who has already paid 15€, or who cannot go on the new day, or for whom the time would be too short to really hit the shops! Anyone I have not managed to speak to who has their name down on the list, will you please contact me to let me know one way or the other if you are going – if you are unable to send an email via the link on the website, please send me a text to the Travel Group Mobile number, which is 646861273.

In this current economic climate, especially because of the poor exchange rate, anyone living down here who receives income in sterling is being hit hard. As a consequence, all local U3A travel plans are being affected, and trips are being cancelled. I have been in discussion with other local U3A travel groups about collaboration, e.g. offering spare capacity to other groups. This is how the Javea and Moraira-Teulada January IKEA trips are being rescued, by combining the two half empty coaches. There may be the possibility of some Moraira-Teulada members joining a Calpe trip from 20-23 April to Cazorla, Jaen, Ubeda and Baeza– I will keep you informed via the website and in the Newsletter.

The proposed trip to Granada in April has had to be postponed by the organisers for their own personal reasons. We have other trips at the planning stage, but the people involved are away for Christmas, so visit the website for updated information.

On a more positive note, we have a very cheap and cheerful WALKING treasure hunt on Thursday 12 March in Teulada starting at 11am and finishing at a local restaurant for lunch, total cost including wine 14€. Payment can be made at the next General Meeting on 12 January.

Jan Adams

Theatre

On 2 December, 16 members went to see *Wind in the Willows* by the Javea Players at the theatre in Gata. It was really very good and we had a most enjoyable evening. The main characters were excellent and were supported by a large and happy crowd of supporting actors and actresses. It took us all back to the time when we were read the book as children, such a timeless classic.....happy memories!

Sue Bradley

Activity Groups

For information on all the available groups the website should always be your main source of contact. You can send an email to group leaders direct from their group page, or if you are not on the internet, we can give you a phone number or ask the group leader to call you. Once again may I remind you to respond to the emails from group leaders and where the group leader has no email to keep in touch by phone.

As normal times may be changed during the Christmas/New Year holidays, I advise you to confirm with the individual group leaders when the next meetings are to be held.

If your group meets at the Lemon Tree please be sure to check with your group leader about January meetings there, as the restaurant will be closed for holidays at some time during that month, and at the time of going to press the owner was unsure of the exact dates.

We still need some recruits to the *Creative Writing* Group. At this point we need someone to co-ordinate the meetings. The initial *Wine* group has been discontinued because of lack of interest but a new group is being formed with a different focus (see further below). I hope to be able to give you news on a new *Spanish Learning* group and another *Art* group next year. Once again if you have any ideas for other groups please contact me. I have been approached about an *Astronomy* group, so would anyone like to get this going?

Finally, on the *musical* theme another member is keen to get all the budding musicians together, i.e. those members with musical instruments. If you have any further thoughts on setting up this group please let me know or go to the website.

Further information on specific groups is given below.

Shirley Baehr

Modern Jive

We intend to continue Modern Jive classes for the U3A group at Salon de Banquettes, Teulada in the new year but the day will change from Thursdays to Wednesdays to minimize clashes with other groups. Our group will re-start on 14th January. The time remains the same at 11am. Anyone interested who has not received an email from me should email perrydic@terra.es or phone. (See also the President's message!)

Richard Perry

Chess

The next meeting will be on the 11th January in Espai La Senieta, Moraira, NOT The Lemon Tree.

Ed Morely

Choir

Our Choir is now meeting regularly and is always looking for new members. If you want to have some fun and get the best out of your voice by singing some favourite songs as well as learning new ones in a friendly, lively atmosphere now is your chance to get involved and let your choir be heard. Appreciative audiences have already been found, as noted above!

History

We are anxious to hear from anyone who can present, on a voluntary basis, an interesting talk on any aspect of General History. We have filled in the programme for the first part of next year so you will have plenty of time to prepare material. It is not necessary for you to be a U3A member. We have a power point projector available for our use although it is not mandatory to make use of it. If you can help I would be delighted to hear from you.

Brian Nicholls

Art appreciation

Paul Godwin is now back from his travels and is going to organize the first art appreciation group in the middle of January. He is happy to co-ordinate this group but would like to have other members contributing to presentations. Please contact him if you feel you could give one of their monthly talks.

Genealogy

The Genealogy Group is holding a Christmas Lunch, menu del dia €11.95, at the Lemon Tree on Tuesday Dec 23 at 12.30 after our usual meeting, partners welcome. To book please contact me on [DELETED] so I can give the Lemon Tree the numbers by December 16.

Sue Bradley

Wine Appreciation

I am considering the launch of a *Value for Money Wine Group*. The objectives will be to research local supermarkets, seeking very drinkable wines at a cost of no more than €3.00 per bottle.

Emphasis would be upon finding good, low-cost wines, from the many bodegas supplying our local supermarkets. A very pleasant Cab Sav Navarra at €1.33 from Lidl set me thinking that during these times of appalling sterling-euro exchange rates, it really is not necessary to spend a lot of money to obtain good drinkable wines.

The plan would be to purchase six to eight low cost wines, immediately prior to the meeting and taste these, knowing in advance the wine, the price, the source, and simply determine personal levels of satisfaction. Biscuits and water will be available to clear the palate. Target cost per person, depending upon numbers, would be €3. Anyone interested to contact me through the U3A website in January.

Ted Adams

Cribbage

There seems to be an interest locally for a cribbage group. We have someone who would be a group leader and about five people have already shown interest and would like to play on Wednesdays around 7pm to 10.30pm. A minimum of 12 players is needed. I will put something on the website and put out a sign up sheet out at the next month's meeting but do let me know if any of you are interested.

Shirley Baehr

Painting - Water Colour Techniques

Good news for those wanting to take water-colour lessons. Lynn will be contacting the next lot of names on her waiting list to start on a second day possibly Thursday Feb 5th. The existing group will continue their wonderful progress into next year from Wednesday Feb 4th.

CIRCULATION OF NEWSLETTERS This and future newsletters of the Moraira-Teulada U3A are being posted on the website www.uzamoraira-teulada.org, usually by the middle of each month. After this one, the newsletters will not be emailed directly to Members.

Members who do not have access to the internet will still be able to collect a hard printed copy at the General Meeting.

Contributors please note that all copy must be with the Editor by the end of the first week of each month.

Groups as at December '08 (* waiting list)

Art Appreciation/Art History	Mah Jong
At home dining	Modern Jive for Beginners
Bowling 10 Pin	Painting - Pastel techniques: an introduction*
Bridge for Beginners	Painting - Water colour techniques: an introduction*
Bridge Improvers for all non beginners	Paranormal experiences and investigations
Card Making/Scrapbooking	Petanque*
Chess group	Photo-digital workshop*
Choir	Reading Group
Classical Music Appreciation	Sailing Group
Computing email & internet for beginners*	Singles Dining Out Saturdays
Cookery/Entertaining at Home*	Spanish for Beginners*
Cribbage	Spanish Conversation Intermediate
Dining Out Group	Sunday Solo Group
Drama Group	Travellers Tales
Fishing both freshwater and sea	Walking
Gardening	Wine on a budget
Genealogy*	Writing
Hi Fi & Home Cinema advice	Yoga (All levels) *
History	
History of Spain lectures	

Moraira-Teulada U3A Committee members

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