

U3A Moraira- Teulada

www.u3amoraira-teulada.org

NEWSLETTER no. 8, February 2009

Message from the President

Dear Members,

Hello again everyone, welcome to the February Newsletter!

I do hope that those people at the meeting on 9 February enjoyed it. I'm sure you all thought, as I did, that the speaker, Michael Bulleid, was both informative and entertaining. We hope very much that he'll be back in the not too distant future with Part 2!

You will see some more price discounts on local goods and services if you visit the Discounts link on the website. Most of these have been negotiated by members, for the benefit of other members. Please think about the places you go to, and consider if they might give the U3A a discount. It would make you very popular with other members if you were able to arrange for us to buy things more cheaply, or get services at a lower rate!

The Suggestion Box only had two suggestions in it after Monday's meeting. Here they are, exactly as they were written, with the answers or comments.

Comment: Please restrict the time of the talk or entertainment in the second half of the meeting – it is much too long. Perhaps twenty minutes max.

Answer: This was anonymous, and came as a surprise. We ask speakers or entertainers for 20-30 minutes of their time. At the last two meetings this has been slightly exceeded, however this was because the members were so enthusiastic in their reception of both the Costa Barber Singers and Michael Bulleid. Our guests had to travel to be with us, and in the case of the Costa Barber Singers, arrangements were necessary to get a group of singers in the same place, at the same time, in the same costume! In my view it would be grossly discourteous if we then placed a 20 minute time limit on them. It is of course down to you as members to tell me what you think - do you agree with the comments left in the box, or are you happy that the Committee continues to arrange either the speaker or the alternative entertainment? Please let me know.

Comments: These comments on three different subjects were not anonymous, the writers know who they are, so to you both, thank you!

Christmas Markets – we have been on quite a few Market trips from UK, and know some good markets. Happy to let you know our experiences

Answer: Thank you, but as only two people signed the list to register interest in this trip, it seems very unlikely to go ahead.

Comment: Spanish cookerygreat idea.

Answer: Thank you, we hope it will be off the ground soon.

Comment: Summer lunch.....how about a B.B.Q at the Park La Font in Moraira?

Answer: the same location, it's not exactly summer, but does the 22 May suit you? I do hope so!

Please keep the suggestions coming - it's by far the best way for us to gauge if we're getting things right. You will find slips of paper in the box, so all you need is a pen.

1May will be the first anniversary of the first meeting of our U3A and, as several of you made a suggestion concerning a social event at some time in the future, the Committee decided that a birthday party would be a very good idea. I know that lots of you have become friends through the Groups you attend, but this party will hopefully be a chance for all of us to get to know each other a little better. We put some forms on the tables at Monday's meeting, asking for those of you who were interested in attending to let us know, and select either 22 or 29 May. Of the 200 plus people who were at the meeting, 103 of you voted yes to a party, 82 of those votes were for the 22 May, so that's the date we have chosen.

2Of course we're still in the very early stages of planning the party at the moment, but we hope it will be at Font Santa Picnic area just outside Moraira. We will be offering entertainment, some of which will be provided by members, and some by friends of members. We hope to keep the cost to members to a minimum, as we know that times are getting more difficult financially for all of us! We will need to restrict the numbers to around 200, and more details of the event will be announced by Don Roberts at the next meeting.

3We also asked if any of you would be prepared to help Don and his two volunteers with the arrangements, and 25 of you said they would like to help on the 22nd. As you know, no names were asked for on the forms you filled out on Monday, but perhaps you could now let Don Roberts, Pamela Kershaw, or me know who you are by clicking on our photographs on the website and sending us an email – we can then talk about the planning and logistics of the event, and thank you in advance!

Thank you all those members who came up and introduced themselves last Monday - it's very nice to put faces to names. I'm trying to visit as many Groups as I can, but there are so many, in so many locations, it's not easy!

Until the General Meeting next month, which will be on 2 March, I hope the sun shines on you and your visitors (for those who have them this early!), that the winds have gone and any damage you have is repaired to your satisfaction, and that rate of exchange improves for all of us!

Ann Colclough



Next general U3A meeting

This will be on 2 March 2009, at the Salon de Banquettes, Avda. Mediterraneo, Teulada, at 10.30 am. Doors open 09.45.

Cultural Arts Programme

“Verdi Gala” concert

*Hotel Diamante Beach, Calpe,
22 February*

This month is the third anniversary of Palma Concerts' activity here on the Costa Blanca, and also marks a special birthday celebration for its promoter, Lutz Kowalewsky. All lovers of classical music are therefore invited to attend a festive *“Verdi Gala”*, at the Hotel Diamante Beach, Calpe, *Sunday 22 February, 20.00 hrs*, at the special price of 15 euros p.p. (normally 20 euros). Performances will be given by Consuelo Hueso (The Royal Opera House, Madrid), the leading tenor, José Antonio Navarro, and baritone Giancarlo Brunet from Cuba, with Ana Fabra accompanying on piano. We will hear Lutz' all-time favourites, including *“Rigoletto”*, *“Il trovatore”*, *“La Forza del destino”* and *“La traviata”*. The *“Brindisi”* of the latter will enable us all to have a glass of cava together! Email angelachantry@gmail.com to reserve a place (I will acknowledge with directions), or come on the night - everyone can pay at the door (remember your U3A card!).

Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons"

Chamber Music Concert, 30 April, at the *Palau de Les Arts Reina Sofia, Valencia*, in the Aula Magistral concert hall (see website for details). Concert commences at 20.00 hrs. Price for ticket and coach is 20 euros, and the coach will leave El Rafalet car park on the Benitachell/Javea Road at 5.15 p.m.

NB: This trip is NOW FULL but please email angelachantry@gmail.com if you would like to go on a reserve list in case of any cancellations.

“The Wireless Years”, Saturday 21 March

Starring Barry Britten and Chris Allen, two of the most talented professional performers from Britain's variety theatre, this show received a standing ovation last September, and is back by popular demand. With a brand new version for 2009, this production promises to deliver a nostalgic look back at the heyday of the wireless, its bygone stars, its comedy and its songs. At the Careline Theatre, Alcalali, doors open at 7.15 p.m. and the show commences at 8 p.m. Our group booking will attract a 3 euros discount per ticket (full price 12 euros) – names and payment of 9 euros pp to Angela Chantry at the meeting on Monday, 2nd March.

Angela Chantry

Activity Groups

If you can get onto the web, remember that the best way of contacting group leaders is through his/her web page. Alternatively you can take a phone number to make contact for further details. Contact me if you don't have phone numbers.

Our web site looks fantastic and is a font of information! Don't forget to look at links from individual groups where you can find reviews on restaurants, tips on pruning, cultural events and much much more. It really is a must for everyone living locally to check the changing website regularly if you can.

We now have a wish list for you on the website showing groups you have said you would like to attend and I await your emails if you want to join or if you are able to get one of

these groups started. I am here to help as much as I can. So far, your wish list for groups includes social bridge, creative writing, line dancing, salsa dancing, a quiz group, Spanish cookery, Tai Chi, archaeology and astrology. Please, please contact me if you feel you could get one of these group up and running.

Shirley Baehr

Powerpoint Tutorials for Group Leaders

I have managed to arrange two or more sessions, depending on requirements, at the Javea Computer Club. The only available day and time are on a Tuesday morning at 10 am. Reg, who does the presentations for the club, will take around eight people for a hands on session. I have been for a trial run through and Reg is an excellent tutor. In an hour I learned some very useful methods of producing interesting presentations. The cost will simply be the Club guest fee of two euros per session and the club has a bar for guest use. Group leaders who are interested should e-mail me at brianjohnnicholls@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Brian Nicholls

Losers

Now with nine members, we meet every Tuesday to chat about how to lose weight, do some gentle exercise and to get weighed. The star slimmer so far is our only male loser. He has lost 12lbs and is putting the rest of us to shame!

I hope to report a greater weight loss soon!

Janet Westgarth

Alternative Wine Tasting Group

Tasting report from, 29 January:

All wines purchased on 28 Jan. 2009

WINE:	Cava Brut Reserva
BODEGA:	Marques de Monistrol
TIENDA:	Bodega Blasco, Jose Vincente Ivars, Poligono Industrial, Teulada
PRICE :	€2.88 net per bottle. Minimum case 12 bottles €38.40 with 10% discount = €34.56 to U3A members with card. Discount applies to all wine cases.

Comment: Well received by the Group, rounded, pleasant Cava

WINE:	Vino Blanco Verdejo 100%
BODEGA:	Visigodo Rueda
TIENDA:	Lidl, Benissa
PRICE:	€2.99 per bottle

Comment: Typical Rueda wine, everyone liked it

WINE: **Vino Rosado Tempranillo**

BODEGA: Vina Albali
TIENDA: Mas y Mas, Benitachell

PRICE: €2.39per bottle

*Comment: A major disappointed from the Bodega and the Grape.
Thin and very little Rosado taste*

WINE: **Vino Tinto Don Ramon Oak Aged Garnacha 75%
Tempranillo 25%**

BODEGA: Camp de Borja
TIENDA: Mas y Mas, Benitachell

PRICE: €1.99per bottle

*Comment: Very well received, well rounded soft red wine. Agreed by
most as best wine of the tasting.*

WINE: **Vino Tinto Shiraz**

BODEGA: Consigna
TIENDA: Mas y Mas, Benitachell

PRICE: €2.39 per bottle

Comment: Pleasant but not exceptional

WINE: **Vino Tinto Rioja Crianza 2006 Tempranillo
Garnacha y Graciano**

BODEGA: Monte Cielo
TIENDA: Lidl, Benissa

PRICE: €2.69 per bottle reduced to 2euros on offer!

*Comment: Excellent red from Rioja at a very attractive price. Overall
best value of the tasting.*

Next Tasting – Thursday 26 February at 5pm. Cost will be only \1 per person thanks to a generous benefactor! Please confirm your attendance by email no later than Monday 23 February.

Ted Adams

Padel tennis

I am looking for people interested in playing Padel Tennis. I have four padels and access to two courts in Teulada at 9 euros per court for one and a half hours. Padel tennis is a fantastic game - much more fun than conventional tennis but closer to raquet ball in speed. I know the rules so could lead the group and arrange to swap around if there were more than four on a day. To use both courts we would need people to buy some more padels.

Richard Perry

Painting: Pastels Techniques - An Introduction

This group has been suspended for the leader's personal reasons. It will restart in September.

Spanish Conversation

Venue: We have now drifted from Aula III to the Pensionistas' Room (the last room on the left, upstairs in Espai Senieta). This is basically because we were too noisy for the Tai Chi group (non U3A) next door! We also find that the larger room, with small tables, is better for conversation. The caretaker seems quite happy with this arrangement as it is otherwise empty on Saturday mornings.

I will be away on holiday from now until mid-March but Margaret Staines is going to be group leader during these weeks. Her email address is sandmstaines@gmail.com.

Hasta luego!

Sheila Shipsides

Entertaining at Home

The cookery group, Entertaining at home, had a successful re-launch and will be meeting monthly.

Anne Rodgers

Walking

The next walk is on Thursday 5 March, Meet at the main car park in Moraira at 9.30 am. We shall condense cars and drive to Javea, Cala Blanca. Walk to Cala Barraca via Cap Prim passing three bays and the possibility of an optional "sardine lunch" at Calla Barraca. 7kms medium walk at a slow pace, 300mts ascent. Four hours walking excluding lunch. Further details on website.

Bob Fisher

Cribbage

Another successful and enjoyable evening on 4 February. The session was used as a practice night and thanks are due to those who counselled, those who learned and those who simply played. We signed up five new cribbers and now have 23 people in our group.

Wednesday 18th Feb. marks the real start to our cribbage section. It is the first week "for real" and we will have our first winner. Please remember the start time change from 6.30 for 7pm to 7pm for 7.30pm to 10.30pm. All newcomers very welcome....we look forward to our first competitive evening.

Colin Turner

Aromatherapy

The maximum number of people possible for our workshops is six. The next ones are on 3 March, 17th March, and 7 April. If these prove OK I am very happy to continue into May and June. I could now bring the time forward to 3pm.

Time: 3-5pm

Venue: calle Eucaliptus 40, Moraira.

Cost: 3€ , including tea.

Presenter: Valerie Mills

Workshop programme

- a brief history of aromatherapy
- what is aromatherapy?
- how does it work
- how essential oils are obtained
- toxicity of essential oils
 - ways in which essential oils can be used
- selecting the correct oils for use
- contra indications to their use.

Practical session

- smelling different essential oils
- feeling the difference between the carrier oils
- creating your own skin care lotion and cream to take away.

Demonstration

- a hand massage demonstration will be given.

To book a place on a workshop please contact me by telephone.

Val Mills

General History

During this first season we have had presentations by Angela Chantry: 'The Borjas of Gandia'; David Thoms: 'The Spanish Civil War', and by myself: 'The Indian Mutiny of 1857'. We now have access to a Power Point projector and screen and, as a consequence and because we need more room to operate, we are holding future presentations in one of the upstairs rooms at Espai La Senieta in central Moraira. The scheduled day is always on a Thursday at 4pm and is the Thursday nearest to the 20th of each month.

The dates, subjects and speakers for the rest of this season are:

19 February: 'Oliver Cromwell hero or villain?', Fred Crowson

19 March: 'The Peninsular War' 1804-1814, Alan Oliver.

23 April: 'Moors and Christians', Peter Atkinson

21 May: "Charles Herbert Lightoller (First Officer of the Titanic.)", Clive Hedge.

25 June: 'Florence Nightingale, Louisa Twining and Mary Seacole', Angela Chantry

I have yet to ascertain the viability of scheduling talks in July and August but if the demand is there I am quite happy to do my best to present something interesting.

I am always hoping to make contact with potential future speakers and a couple of people have come forward with interesting proposals. As long as your proposed subject falls under the general heading of 'History' then do please contact me.

It is not necessary to use the new equipment - the old fashioned slide show is quite acceptable and we also have a slide projector and screen. Some people scan their material via a computer on to a CD disc to play back through a DVD player and a television set.

Group leaders can organise and contribute but the success of any group depends, very substantially, on the feedback, participation and communication of its members. It is therefore very helpful if members do indicate whether they are able to attend the scheduled sessions or not.

Next season

At this time planning consists of just random thoughts, one of which is whether it might be better to have two groups i.e. General History and Military History.

This would depend, of course on how many people were interested in which category and I would very much like to have your views on this.

Brain Nichols

CIRCULATION OF NEWSLETTERS You can read and/or print off copies of the U3A Teulada/Moraira newsletters in either Adobe Reader PDF format or in Microsoft Word format. The newsletters are now available in two versions. The small file version is intended for members who have dial-up modems and long download times. This version contains basically just the text content of the newsletters. The other version is for members with a broadband internet connection. It contains photographs, illustrations etc. that make the Newsletter more attractive to read.

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

Moraira-Teulada U3A Committee members

President: Ann Colclough Tel. 965747343

Vice President: Pamela Kershaw 966497098

Secretary: Sue Popkin

Deputy Sec.: Margaret Roberts

Treasurer: Graham Simons

Dep. Treasurer: Colin McNae

Travel Treasurer: Sue Smith

Membership Secretary: Caz Williams

Ass. Membership Sec: Isabel Tugwell

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Brian Nicholls 965747600

Public Relations Officer:

Barbara Turner

Newsletter Editor: Colin Ogbourne

Non-Office-Holding members:

Helen Coughtrey

Don Roberts

GROUPS AND GROUP LEADERS

Art Appreciation/Art History *Leader required*

At home dining *Leader required*

Bowling, 10 Pin *Michael Wilson*

Bridge for Beginners *Anita Dixon*

Bridge Improvers for all non beginners *John Hiskey*

Card Making/Scrapbooking *Martin and Carole Bentley*

Chess *Ed Morley*

Choir *Ann Johnson*

Classical Music Appreciation *Paul Godwin*

Computing email and internet for beginners *Evelyn Adams*

Cookery/Entertaining at Home *Anne Rodger*

Cribbage *Colin Turner*

Dining Out *Peter and Sue Wells*

Drama *Pam Ridlington*

English Grammar for Confused Spanish Students *Richard Perry*

Fishing, both freshwater and sea *Michael Wilson*

Gardening *John and Chris Parsons*

Genealogy *Sue Bradley*

Hi Fi & Home Cinema advice *Ted Adams*

History *Brian Nichols and Angela Chantry*

History of Spain lectures *Julia Servando*

Losers *Janet Westgarth*

Mah Jong *Diana Jarvis*

Modern Jive for Beginners *Richard Perry*

Painting - Pastel techniques an introduction *Linda Gent*

Painting - Water colour techniques an introduction *Lynn Haigh*

Paranormal experiences and investigations *Steve Devey*

Petanque *Andy Keen*

Photo-digital workshop *Terry Bradley*

Reading *Gaby Mauger/Pam Milburn*

Sailing *Richard Jones*

Singles Dining Out Saturdays *Norman Peterken*

Spanish for Beginners *Sue McNae*

Spanish Conversation Intermediate *Sheila Shipsides*

Sunday Solo Group *Audrey Germann*

Travel *Jan Adams Bareham (Co-ordinator)*

Travellers Tales *Gerald & Chris Dobson*

Walking *Bob Fisher*

Wine appreciation on a budget *Ted Adams*

Writing *Leader required*

Yoga (All levels) *Sue McNae*