

Teulada-Moraira U3A

www.u3amoraira-teulada.org

NEWSLETTER no. 9, March 2009

Message from the President

Hello again everyone. I do hope those of you who came to the last General meeting enjoyed it as much as I did, although it ended in a most unusual manner! The jiving instruction with Kate and Richard Perry was still going on, so rather than break things up, the Committee put the room back in order, and slid away, leaving a number of people still enjoying themselves! Roy Cresswell, our honorary "Hank Marvin" did us proud, and what a nice guy he is. His first number showed how nervous he was, but goodness he soon recovered and played most of us back into the 60's without any problems at all. Thanks to Richard Perry for telling me about Roy, he's "on our books" now as an entertainer.

It is with great sadness that I must tell you of the death of one of our members. Bill and Minnie Bradbury have been members since June 2008, and regular attenders at the Bridge group. One of Bill's other hobbies was golf, and on Tuesday 10th March he collapsed and died of a heart attack while playing at Javea Golf Club. I have spoken to Minnie, and she is bearing up well, our thoughts are with her at this very sad time. Minnie requested that no flowers be sent, instead she has requested that donations be made to the Children's Home which is supported by the Javea Golf Club. Thanks to Anita Dixon for letting us know of Bill's passing, and for representing the U3A at the funeral.

There were four suggestions in the box, so here they are, as always with the reply. Please keep them coming, we really do listen, and please be assured that if we can act on them, then we will.

Suggestion: Please can we try again for cake decorating

Reply: Cake decorating was originally going to be my own Group, but sadly there wasn't enough support to get it off the ground. This was before I was elected as the President, and unfortunately I don't have enough time to do the Group now. Is there anyone else out there please who would consider leading it, I'd give you all the help I can!

Suggestion: Could it be possible to arrange a coach trip to the Nuclear Power Plant from the Moraira U3A? Javea have just told me that they filled 2 coaches on their last trip there, so it would generate quite a bit of interest I imagine.

Reply: Passed to the Travel group

Suggestion: Coach trip to Primark

Reply: Passed to the Travel group, although I do recall that there were problems getting a full coach to the Condomina in Murcia when the last trip was arranged.

Suggestion: How about hiring an open air swimming pool for a party, ie Benissa or Teulada?

Reply: An interesting suggestion, and one which will be kept on file at the moment, thanks. Perhaps the person who made this suggestion could contact me with more details on how they see this event working?

Planning for the birthday party continues relentlessly lead by Don Roberts. We're determined that you will have as good a time as we can make possible! Don't forget that tickets will be on sale AFTER the April meeting, and judging from the telephone calls being received asking if they can be reserved on the 'phone (no they can't, sorry), demand will be high. For safety and comfort reasons the number of tickets being sold has been kept to 200, and we will also have a number of guests from the Ayuntamiento.

For anyone who hasn't been to Font Santa, it's worth dropping in for a look if you're passing. It's literally the same turning as the Go Kart track on the Moraira-Teulada road, and I believe it's also signposted on the Moraira-Benitachell road.

If you go you can see that there are benches and tables provided, but the trees are still very young, and it can be warm in May, so PLEASE take hats, umbrellas, parasols etc with you for shade. As you can imagine huge amount of planning is going into making the event a success, and Don and his team are doing a great job.

The next General Meeting is on Monday 6 April, doors will open as usual at 9.45, if you have friends who do not have a computer, PLEASE pass this on to them. Information concerning our meetings is also sent to the *Costa Blanca News*, *The Post*, and *Round Town News* every week, although due to demand for space it doesn't always get published. As two of the papers are "freebies", it's worth picking them up to see if we've made it! The speaker at this meeting will be Paul Freeman - he used to have the afternoon slot from 3-5pm on OCI. He did quizzes, played stories, and gave out information. He's also the chap who did the MC bit for the Costa Barber Singers when they sang for us. He's a very interesting man, and I for one am looking forward to hearing him.

It's lovely to see the lighter mornings and longer days, and how the gardens have all suddenly sprung into life, although I do still have a lovely Poinsettia flowering in my Naya! According to my calendar the clocks go on an hour in the early hours of Sunday 29th March (Spring forward, Fall back!) so the days will be even longer then. The warmer days are with us, and the summer will soon be with us again.

I look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting on 6 April.

Ann Colclough



Next general U3A meeting

This will be on 6 April 2009, at the Salon de Banquettes, Avda. Mediterraneo, Teulada, at 10.30 am. Doors open 09.45.

Travel/Outings

Algar (Callosa d'en Sarria)

Provisional date Tuesday 28 April. A day trip to see the cactus gardens and waterfalls in late April. Coach from Moraira. Fare to include entrance to cactus gardens. Cost €14 depending on numbers booking. Provisional date subject to sufficient numbers - Tuesday April 28th. There is a cafe in the gardens and also there are facilities for eating a packed lunch. Departure 09:30, return about 17:30 allowing time to have lunch and visit the waterfalls. Payment required in full at next meeting on 6 April.

Iris Gardens at Pinos

Provisional date Thursday 7 May. Own transport or car share. Time 17:00 – 19:00. Possible meal afterwards, but not in Pinos to avoid descending mountain in dark! Cost, by donation, for entrance to Garden €6 includes refreshments. Payment on the day of visit, but names please at the next meeting to give us an idea of numbers.

Moraira Walking Treasure Hunt, 25 June

The last one around Teulada on 12 March was a great success. This time it will be a late afternoon/early evening event starting at 16:30 and will include an evening meal. Cost €15 per person. As usual, prizes for winners. We will be limiting the number of participants to 32 (8 teams of 4 people, but we will arrange groups if necessary. Names and payment at the monthly meetings please.

Walking in La Vall de Laguar, Wednesday 15 – Friday 17th April:

The Javea U3A have three twin/double rooms available on their forthcoming walking trip, which are being offered to members of Moraira-Teulada U3A. La Vall de Laguar has a remarkable landscape, with the mountain peak "Cavall Verd" on one side, and on the other, the imposing sight of "Barranco del Infierno" (Hell's Gorge). Al Knight (Javea U3A Walking Group Leader) will be showing us some interesting trails during our three days walking in this lovely area. Appropriate walking boots/shoes are essential, but the walks are meant to be enjoyable, and not a mountain climb or route-march! The price includes two nights half-board at the 3* Hotel Alahaur, just above the village of Benimaurell, in ensuite twin/double room (own transport needed to the hotel). Full day guided walks on Wednesday and Thursday, with a morning walk on the Friday. Price p.p. is €80 (cash please, not cheque) payable at the April meeting to Paul Pruden, who is collecting monies on behalf of Organiser Angela Chantry. If you would like further information, please email angelachantry@gmail.com.

Cultural Arts Programme

“The Wireless Years” Saturday 21 March, at the Careline Theatre, Alcalali, (please see map on the Cultural Arts website page for directions); doors open at 7.15 p.m. and the show commences at 8 p.m. Please collect your ticket/s on the night from Ann Colclough, at the theatre bar/reception area between 7.15 and 7.50 p.m. **N.B. This event is now fully booked.**

The Javea Players' next production, to be staged at the Union Musical in Gata de Gorgos, is ***“Table Manners”*** by Alan Ayckbourn, from his enormously successful Norman Conquests trilogy. Directed by Norman Dunnington. Tickets are priced at €10 but you can join the U3A trip on Tuesday 21 April and pay €8. Make payment at the meeting on 6 April to Brigid Redman, who is collecting on behalf of the C.A. Co-ordinator, Angela Chantry. Collect your ticket/s on the night at the theatre foyer. Curtain up at 8 p.m.

Vivaldi’s “The Four Seasons” Thursday 30 April, Chamber Music Concert 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, 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.

Angela Chantry

Activity Groups

The wish list on the website showing group activities that members have said they would like to attend is growing all the time. To get some of these groups started please indicate if you could lead or would be interested in attending any of them. So far your wish list includes social bridge, creative writing, line dancing, Spanish cookery, Tai Chi, archaeology, patchwork, salsa dancing, Spanish natural history, oil painting and astrology. Please let me know and I will be in touch.

One new group this month is a Quiz Group and don't forget Richard Perry has started a Padel Tennis group. For more information see below.

The general history group has some very interesting talks coming up and is open to all members of our U3a - you don't have to be a member of the history group. It is important to support these sessions as the speakers go to a lot of trouble in preparation and give high quality presentations. We are worried that if the support is not forthcoming it will not be possible to ask them to return next year. The next talk is on the Thursday 19 March at Espai La Senieta, at 4pm. The subject is the Peninsular War 1808-1814 and the presenter is Alan Oliver. The room holds 35 or so people. Please give support by going along to hear these very interesting talks. Future talks for this season include: Moors and Christians; The first Officer of the ill-fated SS Titanic and Florence Nightingale, Louisa Twining and Mary Seacole. The full details are on the website and in the newsletter. Please contact the Group Leader Brian Nicholls to confirm that you would like to go to any talk.

Travellers Tales is on hold for the moment unless we can find a temporary co-ordinator as the group leader can not continue at present. Please let me know if you could take this on. Unfortunately Pastels is also on hold for the moment and again if anyone could lead a painting class please let me know. I would really like to start thinking about new groups for September so contact me and I will give you all my support. Thank you.

Shirley Baehr (Groups Co-ordinator)

Alternative Wine Tasting Group

The next meeting of the Wine Group will be held at 4 La Joya on Thursday 26 March at 5-7pm. Following my remarks that Menu del Dia wines should be accompanied by food, I will be serving a paella to accompany three wines : red, Rosado and blanco – Menu del Dia wines.

This will be followed by a further selection of three other wines. Entry €3.00 per head. Please confirm attendance by Tuesday 24 March latest.

Ted Adams

Bridge

There will not be any bridge lessons for Beginners and Improvers on 1 April, as both teachers will be on a Course.

Padel tennis

The Padel Tennis Group has now started with its first games being played on Friday 6 March. The members who attended had not played the game before but all thoroughly enjoyed it and wanted to play again the following week. Contact me for more details.
Richard Perry

Quiz

Les and Helen Coughtrey are interested in leading a Quiz Group. Initially it is proposed to meet at Los Leones, Sol Park, in Moraira at 11.00am on Mondays, excluding those Mondays on which the U3A General Meeting is held. We look forward to hearing from all those interested in participating in a Fun Quiz. Please telephone [deleted by Webmaster for publication on website] or e-mail Coughtrey2@gmail.com.

Walking

The next two walks are scheduled for:

Thursday 2 April, 2009. Lliber circuit.

11 kms 3 hours 200m ascent. A medium walk on all good tracks. Optional meal after the walk in village restaurant.

Thursday 7 May 2009 Senija Cross and Cova Garganta.

6kms 250m ascent, 3 hours. Medium walk with some rough tracks. An optional meal afterwards.

This will be the last walk until after the summer.

Bob Fisher

Sailing

All meetings to be held on the 1st Tuesday in the month starting 4.30pm.

Thank you to all the members who attended the last meeting (3rd March). Feedback was asked for about the recent sailing days on the TrickyD out of the Marina De Denia. We had four trips out with 12 members attending plus three members of the CBYA as bodyguards!! On two of the trips we had weather topping out at around a force 7 and with only a handkerchief of sails up we were reaching speeds of 7 to 8 knots - happy days! On another trip we had around 10 knots of wind, blue sky and a calm sea for sailing down to Javea and stopping for a short lunch on a buoy in full sunshine.

Everyone attending the meeting who took part was in favour of continuing to support these sailing days, with those who have not yet been out keen to get going. More sailing days will be arranged during March.

The subject of the 5 clubs regattas in which I am involved was mentioned and I asked if there are any members who would like to be considered for the rest of the Spring series and the next Autumn series. I cannot think of a better way of joining in with Spanish sailing and the Club Nautico's in this area. This is open to everyone at my discretion.

If anyone would like further details of dates, cost etc. please email me.

Small craft sailing days.

I feel this is a specialist area needing some thought and detailed organising. We are lucky

at the moment to have John Westgarth in the group. He is a professional dinghy instructor but sadly he will be leaving us soon for an instructor's position in the UK for the summer season. With this in mind I would like one of our group to help me get this section off the ground and into the water. Enthusiasm and time is all that is needed during the summer. This role could be covered by more than one person if this helps. Anyone able to help with this role would they please email me.

John is with us until late this month and is offering to take people out on a Hobby cat. He is suggesting a sailing team called Gravitycartel Surfshop in Altea. The cats are hired on an hourly basis which seems good value as they can take three crew plus John. Anyone interested in taking John up on his offer and want more information please email me.

Competent crew fun.

As I suggested when we first started this group we need to train in the art of being a competent crew member. Not only to help the boat owners but for everyone's safety. With this in mind, and with everyone's involvement, we will make a part of next month's meeting around ropes and their uses. I passed out sheets to all present of the minimum types of knots we need to master. I hope during the next month all members will find some rope and practise. We will make it a fun exercise with a little prize for the best ropertier!! Don't forget to bring your rope to the next meeting. This is all about you and any input from yourselves will be most welcome.

Thank you all again and look forward to seeing you on sailing days or at the next meeting.
Happy Days.

Richard Jones

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

Group Coordinators:
Shirley Baehr 966495633
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*

Losers *Janet Westgarth*

At home dining *Leader required*

Mah Jong *Diana Jarvis*

Bowling, 10 Pin *Michael Wilson*

Modern Jive for Beginners *Richard Perry*

Bridge for Beginners *Anita Dixon*

Padel tennis *Richard Perry*

Bridge Improvers for all non beginners *John Hiskey*

Painting - Pastel techniques an introduction *Linda Gent*

Card Making/Scrapbooking *Martin and Carole Bentley*

Painting - Water colour techniques an introduction *Lynn Haigh*

Chess *Ed Morley*

Paranormal experiences and investigations *Steve Devey*

Choir *Ann Johnson*

Petanque *Andy Keen*

Classical Music Appreciation *Paul Godwin*

Computing email and internet for beginners *Evelyn Adams*

Photo-digital workshop *Terry Bradley*

Cookery/Entertaining at Home *Anne Rodger*

Quiz *Helen Coughtrey*

Cribbage *Colin Turner*

Reading *Gaby Mauger/Pam Milburn*

Dining Out *Peter and Sue Wells*

Sailing *Richard Jones*

Drama *Pam Ridlington*

Singles Dining Out Saturdays *Norman Peterken*

English Grammar for Confused Spanish Students *Richard Perry*

Spanish for Beginners *Sue McNae*

Spanish Conversation Intermediate *Sheila Shipsides*

Fishing, both freshwater and sea *Michael Wilson*

Sunday Solo Group *Audrey Germann*

Gardening *John and Chris Parsons*

Travel *Jan Adams Bareham (Co-ordinator)*

Genealogy *Sue Bradley*

Travellers Tales *Gerald & Chris Dobson*

Hi Fi & Home Cinema advice *Ted Adams*

Walking *Bob Fisher*

History *Brian Nichols and Angela Chantry*

Wine appreciation on a budget *Ted Adams*

History of Spain lectures *Julia Servando*

Writing *Leader required*

Yoga (All levels) *Sue McNae*