

U3A Moraira-Teulada
www.u3amoraira-teulada.org

NEWSLETTER no. 10,
April 2009

Message from the President

Dear Members,

By the time you read this newsletter the Easter holidays will be over. The weather was very disappointing, and the heavy rain brought problems with our telephone that we could have done without! It's looking brighter now though, and let's hope that this is the start of the more settled sunshine we've become used to! I do hope those of you who had friends and family over for Easter managed to find something to do, as clearly lying in the sunshine wasn't an option, not here on Montemar anyway.

I hope those of you at the last meeting enjoyed listening to Paul Freeman as much as I did. I had no idea we were going to have to work for our entertainment, but what a good idea to make his chat "interactive"! I promise that I do NOT remember the fact that ENSA (the Forces Entertainment organisation) was reputed to stand for "Every Night Something Awful" from experience. I'm far too young for that, someone must have told me! It was nice to see Paul looking so smart as well as relaxed - fingers crossed that what he said about some of the OCI team getting back together again comes true.

Many of us (in fact 48 of us) went to see *The Wireless Years* at the Careline Theatre in Alcalali this month. I've been to the theatre lots of times, but I can honestly say I have never been to a show like that one! We finally left the theatre at about 11.45 PM, and my face was aching from all the laughing I did during the show. It was a 2 man show, and Barry Britten and Chris Allen very clearly enjoyed being with us, as much as we enjoyed being with them. The atmosphere was wonderful, something I hope very much will be repeated at the next Jerry Lane production, which is *The Good Old Days*, also at the Careline. Once again Barry and Chris will be taking part, as will Jenny Renn, and Jerry Lane himself. It promises to be another super night of entertainment, and I for one am ready with my cobbled together "Victorian" costume. Don't forget we have a great U3A discount too- we get €15 tickets for only €12 - see Angela at the next meeting to put your names down!

There have been several suggestions concerning a break in the meeting, in fact those of you who read the Newsletter regularly will have seen it mentioned almost every time I go through the Suggestion Box. It appears that mainly the problem is that because of their popularity, the Travel Group cannot close the desk for names for trips before the meeting starts. This is unfair to the people who are doing the job. After a discussion with Jan Adams the Travel group Co-ordinator, at the next meeting on 4 May, and all following meetings, the Travel Desk WILL CLOSE AT 10.15. This will allow the Travel Group to stretch their legs and take their seats in the Salon with the rest of the Members. The desk will open again after the meeting. There will be notices to this effect as you come up the stairs to the Salon, on the Notice board, and an announcement will also be made over the microphone when "closing time" is approaching. Please co-operate by either getting to the meeting in time to make any bookings for trips before 10.15, or wait until after the meeting is over. Thank you.

Perhaps while we're on the subject of meetings, I could ask those of you who are unavoidably late coming into the meeting to do so quietly please? Thanks.

Planning for the Birthday Party still continues under the leadership of Margaret and Don Roberts. There is at least one meeting a week, countless telephone calls are made, and emails sent concerning the various details. Many of us on the Committee have experience of catering for large numbers of people, but even so we're trying very hard indeed to make sure that nothing is forgotten.

Our speaker for the next meeting will be Peter Atkinson, and he will be telling us about the Pilgrim Routes to Santiago de Compostela. Peter comes to us on the recommendation of several members from Javea U3A, and I'm sure we'll enjoy his talk.

I hope to see lots of you at the next meeting on 4 May, don't forget it will be your last chance to buy tickets for the now famous birthday party!

Best wishes
Ann Colclough

Next general U3A meeting

This will be on 4 May 2009, at the Salon de Banquettes, Avda. Mediterraneo, Teulada, at 10.30 am. Doors open 09.45.

Travel/Outings

Algar (Callosa d'en Sarria)

Tuesday 23 April. A day trip to see the cactus gardens and waterfalls. Cost €14, depending on numbers booking - this includes the coach from Moraira and entrance to the cactus gardens. 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.

Teulada Museums and Church

On 26 May, the museums and church will be open specially for a talk and guided tour, followed by lunch. Sixteen people only. Price 14€.

Leader Paul Pruden

Valencia : Oceanografico and IMAX cinema

We have discounted tickets (18.60€) for entry to both Oceanografico and the IMAX cinema, plus coach travel, all for 28€. Oceanografico is the huge futuristic aquarium which 'invites us to travel through the main seas and oceans of planet earth'. A standard IMAX screen is 22 metres (72 ft) wide and 16.1 metres (53 ft) high and some are even bigger. Because of the size of each frame, the quality of the massive picture on the screen is extremely high and gives a real sensory experience! We will leave Moraira at 9am, return about 6.30pm.

Leader: Jan Adams

Madrid

A 3-day trip scheduled for 2-5 November. Travel via the plains of La Mancha to see the

windmills of Don Quixote, then visit a bodega for wine tasting and tapas lunch. Arrive Madrid approximately 6pm. Next day take an orientation tour by coach with guide, then enjoy free time in the afternoon. Next day is an open day to explore Madrid, timed for Wednesday so the museums are free entrance, visit the famous Prado Museum, the Royal Palace, maybe a little early Christmas shopping in el Corte Ingles. Next morning go to Toledo with free time there to explore, returning to Moraira after lunch. This is provisionally priced at 270€ because Madrid is expensive, but may be cheaper with enough people. The hotel is central and 3* including half board, but no lunches are included.

Leader: Jan Adams

Granada

A 4-days 3-nights visit to Granada, staying in 4*half-board accommodation, begins on 5 October. The overall price of €195 also covers entrance to the Alhambra and a visit to a ski lodge in the Sierra Nevada National Park. The outward trip will include a visit to Guadix and the option of visiting the cave dwellings. The return trip includes visiting the Costa Tropical and free time in Nerja. During the stay in Granada there will be an option to go to a typical gypsy Flamenco Show in the original caves in Sacromonte.

THERE ARE ONLY SIX PLACES LEFT, SO BOOK NOW!

Moraira Walking Treasure Hunt

The last treasure hunt around Teulada on 12 March was a great success. This one, on 25 June, it will be a late afternoon/early evening event starting at 16:30 and 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.

Christmas market in Germany

This proposed visit has been dropped due to lack of interest.

Cultural Arts Programme

Music

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.

Lunchtime Concert at L'Albarda Garden

Sunday 10 May. Music will be provided by the Quinteto de Metales Al Vent (Brass Instrument Quintet) in the lovely setting of this Valencian garden, which is located within the La Sella Urbanisation, near Pedreguer. The concert will commence at 11 a.m., and finish at approx. 1.15 p.m. There will be a chance to walk around the grounds and learn about the way the Fundem Organisation is helping to improve the environment in the Valencian region. Tickets priced at 10 (to include tapas and refreshment) will be available at the general meeting from Angela Chantry/Paul Pruden. Please ask for directions.

A Puccini Gala Concert

Sunday 24 May. At the Hotel Diamante Beach, Calpe, at the special rate of €15 for U3A

members (normally €20). Names for this concert should be emailed in advance or given at the meeting to Angela Chantry. Pay on the night at the door. Concert commences at 8 p.m.

The Bourbon Street Stompers will play outdoors at the *Restaurante Micheta*, next to the Ifach Golf Club just off the Moraira-Calpe road, from 1 pm to 4 pm Saturday 13 June. Price: €18, which includes entry (€5), barbecue with wine, and gratuity €13. Fully booked: names for reserve list to Angela Chantry.

Angela Chantry

Activity Groups

I plan to hold a meeting at La Senieta at 4pm on 8 June to discuss the next season and hope you can all come along. Please let me know.

Would you like to form a new group for September? We are always looking for something new and will give you lots of help. We would like to be able to present these to the membership at the September meeting so please contact me as soon as possible.

Shirley Baehr (Groups Co-ordinator)

History

After the fiasco with Espia La Senieta, I decided that we really needed a hassle-free location to hold our talks. Some of our groups already use an upstairs room at the Los Leones Restaurant in the small Solpark complex and I have booked future sessions to take place there. Most of you probably know that it is on your right just as you get to the roundabout on the outskirts of Moraira from either Teulada or from Benitachell. If you need further directions please contact me.

We have just three more talks this side of the summer break. I have also booked the room for September, October and November. All talks will be at 4pm prompt on the nearest Thursday to the 20th of any month. The slight downside to this new location is that there is a small charge of about €1 per person. This is compensated for by the excellent bar and comfortable facilities that are available.

The remaining talks for this session are: Thursday 23 April, *'The Moorish Occupation of Spain'* Peter Atkinson; Thursday 21 May, *'Charles Herbert Lightoller'* (first officer of the ill-fated S.S Titanic); and to end the season, Thursday 25 June, *'The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole'* (of Crimea War fame) , Angela Chantry.

The venue can seat 25+ people. You do not have to be a member of the History Group to come along but it is IMPORTANT that you let me know if you are coming so that I can arrange the seating accordingly.

Brian Nicholls

Bridge

Due to may members going back to UK and both teachers being away a lot in the next few months, bridge lessons for both beginners and improvers ceased on 22 March and hopefully will recommence at the end of September.

John Hiskey

Quiz

We are pleased to confirm that the Quiz will be held every Thursday at 4.00 p.m. at Los Leones, Sol Park and will last approximately 2½ hours. If you are interested in joining us or require further information, please contact us at coughtrey2@gmail.com.

Please note that the bar is handy for drinks and snacks before the Quiz and during the interval, the Restaurant is open in the evenings, and that this is a non-smoking venue.

Les and Helen Coughtrey

Walking

The next and final walk of the season is scheduled for: *Thursday 7 May 2009 Senija Cross and Cova Garganta*. Six kms 250m ascent, 3 hours. Medium walk with some rough tracks. An optional meal afterwards.

Spanish Conversation

For meetings of this group, we have 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. Hasta luego!

Sheila Shipsides

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*

Photo-digital workshop *Terry Bradley*

Computing email and internet for beginners
Evelyn Adams

Quiz *Helen Coughtrey*

Cookery/Entertaining at Home *Anne Rodger*

Reading *Gaby Mauger/Pam Milburn*

Cribbage *Colin Turner*

Sailing *Richard Jones*

Dining Out *Peter and Sue Wells*

Singles Dining Out Saturdays *Norman Peterken*

Drama *Pam Ridlington*

Spanish for Beginners *Sue McNae*

English Grammar for Confused Spanish Students *Richard Perry*

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*