

# Newsletter MARINA BAIXA Issue: 139

Albir • Alfaz del Pi • Altea • Benidorm • Callosa • Finestrat • La Nucía • Polop • Villajoyosa THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

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Page: 4. Information, Funnies, Roy Gough.

We must keep on protecting each other.







STAY ALERT CONTROL THE VIRUS SAVE LIVES

#### Members.

## On arrival at today's AGM once you

have sanitised your hands signed in and completed any bookings in the foyer area please move into the main auditorium and take a seat.

Please use only the seats allocated to minimise any transmission risk to yourselves and others.

To comply with rules



Today - 1pm for 1.30pm **Lunch – Oasis Restaurant La Nucia** 

Cost: € individual per person.

Please indicate on arrival at the meeting If you will be joining us for lunch.

# Travel.

Planned trips.

No decision has been made on any of these trips successfully going ahead at this time. We are in the same situation as per last month.

I biza: Tuesday 25th - Monday 31st May

Cost: 340 €, single room 460€.

Price includes:

Coach from Albir to Denia

Ferry to Ibiza

Coach to Hotel

Return transport from hotel to Albir.

Full board in Hotel

Free drinks (wine, beer, soft drinks, water) during lunch and dinner.

Bodegas D. Flotentino Perez in Casas De Juan Nunes and Miguelito Ruiz de la Roda.

Date: We cannot arrange a date until restrictions are eased. Cost: about 30€ This bodega is southwest of Alcala and northeast of Albecete. Lunch in their spacious restaurant will be included in the visit. Next a visit to a Miguelito Ruiz shop offering their famous creamy pastries and other delicacies.

We will be offering last year's Extremadura holiday in March 2022. Surely life will be back to normal by then. At least the number of cases are now decreasing in Marina Baixa, so we can hope that trips will be possible in a few months. Please contact us, not our secretary, if you are interested.

Margaret 602 29 36 42 Malcolm 604 53 72 75

Email: u3amhamer45@gmail.com

Stay safe everyone until we can confirm future

events can go ahead.

#### Photography Competition.

Thank you everyone for your entries into the competition. The closing date has now passed. Judging has taken place. Many thanks to Peter Rissing a keen amateur photographer. Results will be announced today at the AGM. Winners from each category will receive a bottle of sparkling wine, runners up will also get a prize.



Wine and Dine. Nepalese restaurant on Friday 9th April at 1pm. Once again 4 people per table so if you wish to sit with friends, book with friends.

#### Menu:

The 4-piece starter, Main course choice of Chicken Tikka, Lamb curry, Chicken Mango or Chicken Madras, your choice mild, medium, or hot spiced.

Rice or Nan bread.

Glass of wine, beer, or soft drink, includes gratuity for

### *15.00 €* PP

Again, please put your money in an envelope with the name of restaurant.

Retiring Committee. At today's AGM we have five of the committee who are standing down from their current roles.

Joan Flint Secretary (10 yrs.)

Maureen Barrett Treasurer (8 yrs.)

Annie Wilson Events Co Ordinator (3 yrs.)

Colin Butterfield Press Officer (6 yrs.)

Anthony Coles Vice President (1 Year.)

We would like to thank them personally and sincerely for all the hard work they have put in to help the Marina Baixa U3A run so smoothly during their time of service.

A Huge Thank you to all.



Over the last year the U3A has made a substantial saving in production costs of the monthy newsletter. This is due to the reduction in monthly meetings due to Covid and the website link distribution.

Our main cost is Printing. With this in mind going forward next month we will be adding "WhatsApp" WhatsApp as a means of receiving the monthly newsletter.



For members who do not use a computer this may be a better way of receiving the monthly issue. Direct to your mobile phone

We will continue to provide a printed version of the newsletter but only by request. If you would still like to receive a copy each month at meetings in printed form please register your name and membership number with Terry.

If you would like to receive the new what's app version, please email u3aterry@gmail with your what's app contact phone number using the reference newsletter, you will then be added to a closed group titled U3A MB Newsletter.

It will continue to be available as usual via the website.

www.u3amarinabaixa.com

#### New group suggestions

Do you have any suggestions for new groups in the future? This could be just 2 or 3 of you meeting up over a drink to discuss like-minded interests or a new group which you may be willing to oversee.

Remember we have the free use of rooms at the Casa de Cultura and Albir Social Centre if you need accommodation.

# President's Report



Hello all.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as feel able to come to the AGM this month when at last we are having our AGM albeit delayed for a couple of months. It really does seem a very long time since last we all met up.

At last, the weather has settled down especially as the restaurants are also allowed to open their terraces. There really is nothing like having a coffee outside in the sun with friends, although at the moment we are restricted to four per table, but this is expected to be increased shortly as will the capacity for inside the restaurants and cafes.

As we all know the vaccine roll out is not going as well as the UK, but hopefully once the vaccine doses are received by the local health centres etc the ball will start rolling quickly. In the meantime, we are being very sensible by wearing our masks at all times. When I am out and about there are hardly any people not wearing a mask or not wearing it properly and so keeping the infection rates low.

As Easter approaches there is little doubt that the restrictions will not change much but hopefully by the end of April things will relax a little and slowly, slowly we may get back to a more normal life, whatever that may be.

Stay safe everyone, till April. hasta luego.

# Next month's guest

Speaker.

Wendy Kirkland With a talk titled

"What A Dive"

# Spanish Classes.

Spanish classes resumed last week after a lengthy break. Class sizes are much smaller now in order to maintain the safety and wellbeing of our members and only those who live together, sit together. Being able to get together again has been a tonic and despite not always finding learning a different language easy, there is a social element to the classes too. Everyone has made great progress since classes started last September and hopefully, we can continue to meet every week right through to the summer months. The facilities provided for us at the Casa de Cultura, Alfaz del Pi, are excellent and allow us to be socially distanced in very pleasant surroundings.

Classes have been provided for the past 12 years for U3A members beginning in September and continuing until June the following year. Under normal circumstances classes are limited to 12 but due to current restrictions numbers have been reduced during the 2020/21 session. It is hoped that we may be able to return to full class sizes in September but that remains to be seen. Two classes are offered - one for pure beginners and one for those wishing to improve their basic Spanish skills - and they are nearly always oversubscribed. Registration for classes beginning in September will take place in June. *Joan Flint* 

#### Competitions.

In this challenging year with very few social events and trips taking place content for the newsletter has been difficult to source. Introducing the competitions in the first lockdown received a very welcome response with many members taking part. We have had Soduko, wordsearch, name the logos.

The most recent of which is Lights Camera Action. There is still plenty of time to get your entry in for this as the closing date is next Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March. They are 20 popular film titles which I am sure many of you will have seen at one time or another. Have a go you could be the winner.

The prize is six bottles of wine.

The winner will be drawn at our next meeting.

#### Some sad news.

Many long-time members of our association will remember Brian Stapley.

He was Treasurer in 2010 and was a keen member of the Petanca group. He returned to the UK in 2019 with his wife Pam who was suffering from Cancer. Our thoughts are with Pam at this difficult time.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the articles in the newsletters over last year please keep sending in items of interest it is very much appreciated. *Terry Read. (Editor)* 

### European Digital Green Certificate.

Key elements of the regulation proposed by the Commission to travel safely abroad. Post vaccine.

Accessible and secure certificates for all EU citizens and people with residencia status.

The Digital Green Certificate will cover three types of certificates –vaccination certificates, test certificates (NAAT/RT-PCR test or a rapid antigen test), and certificates for persons who have recovered from COVID-19.

The certificates will be issued in a digital form or on paper. Both will have a QR code that contains necessary key information as well as a digital signature to make sure the certificate is authentic.

The Commission will build a gateway and support Member States to develop software that authorities can use to verify all certificate signatures across the EU. No personal data of the certificate holders passes through the gateway or is retained by the verifying Member State. The certificates will be available free of charge and in the official language or languages of the issuing Member State and English.



#### WHAT IS THE DIGITAL GREEN CERTIFICATE?



We hope to have more information on this soon.

#### 3C's Chaps Chatter & Coffee



Weekly - Thursdays Saints & Sinners, Albir 10.30 am

Contact: Geoff Mitchell 96 686 4962

#### Bridge - Intermediate



Cancelled until further notice.

A New group Leader is required for this group.

#### Café Philo



Monthly -10.00 am to 11.30 am Suspended until further notice.

The Forum, Alfaz del Pi Contact: Kate Ferry 96 584 5039

#### Classical Music



Monthly - (Oct to Apr) 2nd Wednesday Cancelled until further notice 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Geoff Mitchell's home, Albir Contact: Geoff Mitchell 96 686 4962

#### Crafts



Weekly - Thursdays Restarted recently. No class on the 1<sup>st</sup> April

Albir Social Centre 12.30 pm - 3.00 pm Contact: Hazel Layt 659 018 400

#### **Guitar Lessons**



Weekly - Wednesdays Next Door to Isa Rastro, N-332, Albir 4.00 pm Suspended until further notice

Contact: Peter Ritson 96 687 5282

#### Member Assistance



On Demand Support group for Members in special need.

Contact: Sue Bell 680 214 320

Backup: Maureen Barrett

688 680 645

#### Petanca



Weekly - Thursdays Scandinavia Park Alfaz del Pi 3.00 pm

Contact: Colin Wilson 684 424 588

#### Solo Amigos



At Various times Next Meeting TBA

See full details below. Contact: Liz Blanchard 96 687 7364

#### Spanish Culture



Bi-monthly (Oct to Apr) 2nd Wednesday Suspended until further notice

7<sup>th</sup> April 2.30 pm The Forum, Alfaz del Pi Contact: Elaine Mitchell 96 686 4962

#### Spanish Language



Weekly - Wednesdays Casa de Cultura, Alfaz Beginners: 1.00-2.15 pm Improvers: 2.30-3.45 pm

Contact: Joan Flint 96 680 8591

#### Sunday Strollers



Monthly -

Suspended until further notice.

See full details below. Contact: Colin Wilson 684 424 588

#### Ten-pin Bowling



Monthly -1st Tuesday Suspended until further notice.

7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start La Marina Centre, Finestrat Contact: Martin Greener 684 423 586

#### Watercolour



Monthly -1st Monday No class on the 5<sup>th</sup> April

11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Casa de Cultura, Alfaz Contact: Elaine Mitchell 96 686 4962

#### Writers' Help Group



Monthly – Suspended until further notice.

#### Latest Group News

Café Philo Group. This group has been suspended for the time being until the pandemic subsides.

Watercolour Group. Please note there will be no class on the 5th April (Easter Monday)

Crafts Group. Please note there will no class on the 1st April (Maundy Thursday)

Petanca Group. This group is hoping to restart at 2.30pm on April 1st (We are awaiting confirmation from the Town hall)

Sunday Strollers. Has been cancelled on the 28th March.



# February 2021



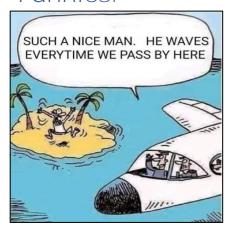
# Name the film competition. Just fill in the blank spaces to find

twenty popular film titles.

Just get five correct to be in with a chance of winning.

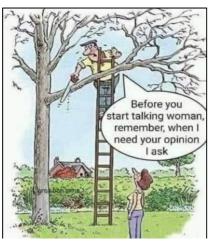
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Usual rules apply. Only one entry per member. For every five correct answers you will get one entry into the prize draw a maximum of four chances each with twenty correct answers.							
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### Funnies.









Thanks for all your contributions.



ROY WILLIAM GOUGH

U3A Group Leader

In the early hours on the 10th of March Roy Gough, a prominent member and group leader of our association, passed away in the hospital of Villajoyosa.

Roy was Born in 1937 in Leominster in Herefordshire where he lived until the age of 16.

He moved on starting his career as a cadet in the Metropolitan Police in 1953, served in many departments and retired as a senior superintendent in 1986.

Subsequently Roy worked for eight years as the Head of Security for a multinational company, until he settled down on the Costa Blanca.

Here he became an author publishing several books, guided other would-be writers to do the same and became a foreman in many social events. Roy was, next to the U3A, active in many aspects of our society until a food poisoning incident that turned into peritonitis, that pulled him suddenly away out of our midst. He will be missed by many. RIP.



Constable Gough



Superintendant

1937 - 2021



Our Next Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021



Marina Baixa

# Committee Members

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Vice-President / Charity Co-ordinator

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Colin Butterfield

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# Keeping Up to Date

Don't forget you can keep up to date with the latest information association news and activities every month by downloading this newsletter and checking out the U3A website.