

# NEWSLETTER



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## Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. on Thursday 11th November saw the handover of Presidency from Mary Anderton to Peter Hardcastle, and the retirement of some committee members and the inauguration of new. Mary thanked everyone, members, group, and committee for making the last year so enjoyable. She congratulated Peter



*Beverly Holder and Peter Hardcastle*

and Beverly Holder, his Vice President, and their team who can look forward to next year in the knowledge that they have the total support of Calpe U3A.



*Mary Anderton*

After the meeting everyone enjoyed a super buffet prepared this year by the ladies, and of course, a couple of glasses of wine.

## U3A Calpe Committee elected 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Position	Name	Phone
<i>President</i>	<i>Peter Hardcastle</i>	<i>96 583 4053</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Beverly Holder</i>	<i>96 583 9322</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Miles Jaekel</i>	<i>96 583 5357</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Joy Lally</i>	<i>96 649 8681</i>
<i>Groups coordinator</i>	<i>Sandy Bianco</i>	<i>96 574 4850</i>
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	<i>Val Osborne</i>	<i>96 587 4970</i>
	<i>Edith Watson</i>	<i>96 583 7542</i>
<i>Webmaster</i>	<i>Bob Bamber</i>	<i>96 587 4733</i>
<i>Social Events</i>	<i>Tina Wallis</i>	<i>96 583 3197</i>
	<i>Janet Bond</i>	<i>96 574 8665</i>
<i>Travel</i>	<i>John Pickford</i>	<i>96 583 4904</i>
<i>Treasurer Travel</i>	<i>Jenny O'Neill</i>	<i>96 583 7944</i>
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>Enid Barton and Beverly Holder</i>	<i>96 583 7554</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Bob McLean</i>	<i>96 649 9036</i>
<i>Ex officio</i>	<i>Janet Mitchell</i>	<i>96 583 5555</i>
<i>Ex officio</i>	<i>Shirley Simms</i>	<i>96 583 3688</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Jennifer Smith</i>	<i>96 587 4354</i>

### Who is our new President?

*By Beverly Holder.*

Peter Hardcastle was born in Doncaster, Yorkshire. He is recently retired and remains active with many hobbies. These hobbies include; walking, motor sports, car rallies, bowls, petanc, choir and cooking.

Before retiring Peter held various 'training' positions. At the time of his retirement he was a Sales Manager.

Welcome to new the members who joined in November.

Raymond Bond, John and Teresa Pickford, Joachim Mueller, Tony and Angela Newall, Geraldine O'Reilly, Chris and Tracey Partridge, Doris Schichl, Keith Wildman and Yvonne Woodham.



## John Pickford your New U3A Travel co-ordinator.

Hi everybody; let me introduce myself, yes that's me shown in the picture. I have been lucky enough to have travelled worldwide extensively and have experienced travelling many times to places like Borneo, Malaysia, Brazil, Ecuador and so on. I have a fairly good knowledge of how to find my way around and have always been able to negotiate some of the more remote places, examples of which are living in



an Amazon village for a week or braving the raging rivers of Kalimantan and believe me the rivers there are enormous. One trip I remember well was daring to go out with a chum of mine into the suburbs of Leningrad late at night in the middle of February in the late seventies snow & ice minus 15 deg's (It was that cold I looked like Doctor Zivargo) and guess what? finding we were lost! worse still nobody could speak English, by now although suitably attired for the cold my fingers and toes had gone numb so we decided just to knock on the first door we came to for help, luckily it was answered and we tried

our best to make them understand our plight even trying mime to no avail , eventually we made progress by showing them my hotel key which had the name of the hotel on it and that we wished to return there, let me end the story there for now only to say we did make our hotel but in very inebriated state having been plied with copious amounts of neat vodka.

Now on to travel matters, I am looking forward to my new role and will be aiming to offer you a choice of trips for 2011 that will be varied & interesting, these will include day trips, fiestas, culture, gardens & historical places within Spain, cruises at special discounted prices, possible visits to Verona, Venice, Holland, Tunisia & Malaysia, but to help me will you kindly let me have some of your own ideas and fancies so I can try to include some of these as well, do you have a favourite you would like to go on again, etc, etc.

Look forward to meeting some of you at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting where I and my helpers will be offering tickets for the panto! Ali Baba & the Forty Thieves being staged in Alcalali in January 2011 plus plans for a proposed trip to Holland in April in addition I hope to be able to make other offers of interest in February & March.



## Dates for your diary

December 16<sup>th</sup>. and 17<sup>th</sup>. at the Casa de Cultura. Two Christmas Concerts performed by the U3A Choir.

December 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 24<sup>th</sup>. in Campo de Mirra “El Fols”

January 5<sup>th</sup>. in Calpe, Moraira and many other towns in the area, The coming of the Kings.

January 13<sup>th</sup>. U3A General Meeting at the Casa de Cultura Calpe 10:30 a.m.

Tickets for the two U3A Choir Christmas Concerts will be on sale - performance dates December 16th and 17th at the Casa de Cultura Calpe at 7.30p.m. as well as at the U3A meeting, tickets can also be purchased from Margaret's Bookshop, Avenida Gabriel Miro, Calpe, price 5 euros, proceeds to MABS and the Jubilee Trust. The Concert will include solo performances and audience participation as well as choral pieces - both well known and lesser known songs.

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### Yes it is Christmas time again,

*By Peter Hardcastle*

It was Noddy Holder from Slade who screamed “IT’S CHRISTMAS” in their famous Christmas hit song; Christmas is a time to rejoice and that hit single certainly did. I can remember it being given to me as a Christmas present, putting it carefully on the hi-fi, turning up the volume far too high and rocking and singing to it at the top of my somewhat husky smokers voice. Enough of reminiscing, let me on behalf of the U3A wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year. Oh, and do not forget the New Year resolutions, mine 26 years ago was to stop smoking!

Merry Christmas and let us have a Happy New Year with the U3A in 2011.



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### Christmas Eve Mull

*By Enid Barton*

Pour a bottle of red and white wine into a large saucepan  
Add 1¼ cups sweet red vermouth  
3 tsp. Angustura bitters  
6 strips orange peel  
8 cloves  
1 cinnamon stick  
8 crushed cardamom pods



Heat gently until very hot, do not boil. Remove the pan from the heat. Cover and let cool. Before serving strain into a clean saucepan, add ½ cup sugar, and 3 tsp. raisins. Heat gently until sugar has dissolved and wine is hot enough to drink. Pour into heatproof glasses or mugs.

CHEERS!



## Yuletide Anagrams *[Solutions are at the bottom of this page]*

*From Enid Barton*

- 1.SEEKGININCLAWSUN [2 words]    2.ENJOYURHEFTOGAMI [4 words]  
3.ENGLISHTRIC    4.LAWISAS    5.SHAMTRICSNUDGDIP [2 words]
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## Petanc

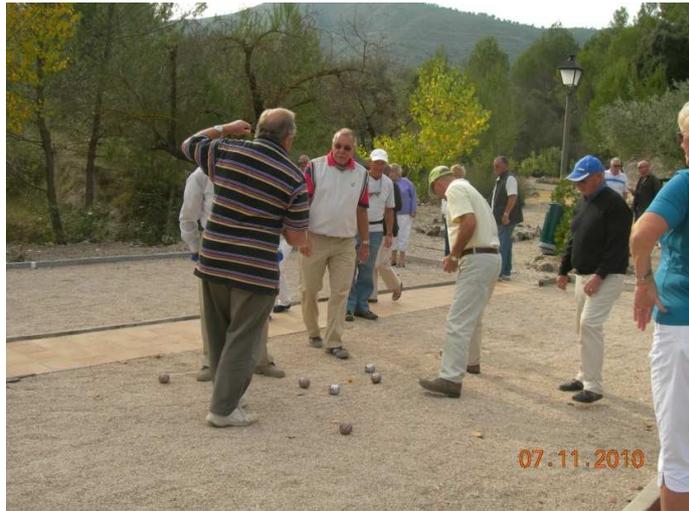
*By Keith Cherry*

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November, our long awaited return match with Vall de Pop U3A took place at Castell de Castells.

It would be fair to say we were thrashed, with a score of 7 to 2 to Vall de Pop.

My excuse is that we were all tired after the long drive there and not sleeping the night before with the excitement and anticipation of the game ahead and what else? I can't think of any more rubbish excuses.

We rounded off the day with a very pleasant meal in a local restaurant where we put the world to rights. All in all a very pleasant way to spend a sunny Sunday.



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## Tips submitted by Members

Winter approaches; if your central heating runs on gas don't use just 1 bottle at a time because when it's very cold it's heavy and stays at the bottom. Put on 3 at a time to push it through.

*From Peter Barton*

Pensionistas may be able to get a reduction on their bin collection.

At the Suma office present: photocopies of your pension, DNI, passport or id card, tax forms from Hacienda (Spain) and the latest proof of payments for the basuras from your bank. Also take form 18 BO signed by everyone living at that address, (second page to be filled in by the staff), and an original copy of the Padron showing all the people living at that address. Take all the originals with you. The file will be photocopied by the Suma but they keep the Padron to send to Alicante for approval. They will let you know in 2-3 weeks when you can reclaim your padron certificate.

*From Danielle Collaudin*



Answers to Yule Tide anagrams;

**King Wenceslaus, Journey of the Magi, Christmas Pudding, Wassail, Christingle**

## Genealogy group

*By Albert Hancy*

You probably know where your father and mother were born, where they were Christened, where they got married, and where any brothers and sister you have were born and Christened.

But do you know the same about your grandparents, any children they had [other than your parents] are your Grand Uncles and Aunts, what kind of work did your Grandfather do, did they live together before they got married or have a child or even children before, it wasn't that unusual, quite often the wife was older than the husband, sometimes as much as five years older, did the wife work before she got married, children sometimes started work as early as twelve, I have a relative who at ten years old had to get up to take the cow to the common at 6 in the morning his sister milked the cow first, in the back yard where it was kept, came back, took the milk in a churn with two measures, half pint and a pint, round the streets to sell, his mother would take two on her shoulders, he would then go back home, clean out the stall, sweeping it into the street!! Have a breakfast of sorts and then go to school. In the evening he would go down to the common, find the cow, there were more than one, walk it home and bed it down for the night.

Did your grandfather serve in the great war, do you know what service he was in, where he fought, was he a sailor or in the Flying corps, maybe a soldier, a private or an officer, if he was killed, do you know where he is buried, maybe in a war cemetery abroad, I have a Grand Uncle who was killed in 1918 and is buried in Sarigol Military cemetery in Greece.

Maybe your Grandmother could have been involved in the war effort, in a factory perhaps. Or going further back, would you like to know about your Great Grandparents, how they lived, where they lived, did they get married in a church or a chapel, what was the husband's occupation.

You can go even further back. It's not impossible to get to the 1600's.

The Genealogy members are a friendly group and welcome anyone interested in finding out more, it doesn't matter if you know nothing at all about it, if you are a beginner or have been doing it for some time, we will help or welcome input. It is a fascinating and addictive hobby that opens doors to your past; you may be surprised at what you might find out.

Meetings are held at the Group leader, Val Osborne's house on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in the month, for more information contact Val on 96 587 4970

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### **REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE NEXT LOCAL ELECTIONS BY SIGNING ON TO THE PADRÓN AND THE CENSO ELECTORAL.YOUR VOTE CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE!**

In the 2007 local elections, as many as 80% of the eligible EU nationals living in Alicante Province did not vote because they were NOT on the municipal Padron and thus not on the ELECTORAL ROLL, the Censo Electoral. You need to be on BOTH to vote.

Who should register?

EU nationals who spend all or much of their time in Spain should register on both the Padrón and the Censo Electoral.

Many wrongly assume that the Padrón is a means of vigilance by the state. In reality it is simply a way for the Town Hall to count those that live in their area, with no investigation as to a person's official status or financial affairs. The information you provide is confidential and covered by data protection laws.

But the population data created by annual statistical returns from Town Halls to the National Government in Madrid is used as the base for the distribution of central government tax revenues (eg IVA, income tax etc) to Autonomous Regions and from those regions back to Town Halls. In crude terms, the more people registered on a municipality's padrón, the more money the Town Hall gets from Madrid.

What are the benefits to YOU?

- You comply with legal requirements.
- Better public services; Central Government pays the local council around €170 per person on the Padrón each year
- Access to benefits and social care; people on the Padrón aged 65 and over can get free municipal bus passes and other benefits.
- A reduction in taxes; registration on the Padrón could mean reductions in Property Tax, certain community charges and inheritance tax.
- Voting rights for an easier life; you need your Padrón certificate to carry out various administrative tasks, such as registering for healthcare, registering your car with Spanish number plates or enrolling children in school.

Remember: NO VOTE, NO VOICE.

### **ARE YOU ALREADY ON THE PADRÓN?**

If “yes”, you are still **NOT** automatically registered as a voter. To vote, you must also be listed on the Censo Electoral (the Electoral Roll). Your right to vote in Local (or Euro) elections is enshrined in Spanish and European law and your vote will influence the type and style of your local government.

Now is the time to check with your town hall that your pardon details are up-to-date and complete, and that you have been correctly listed on the Censo.

### **I'M NOT ON THE PADRÓN – HOW DO I REGISTER?**

You can register on both the Padrón and Censo Electoral at the same time. You will need to take, to the Office of Statistics Oficina de Empadronamineto in your Town Hall the following documents:

Passport OR *Residencia* plus your last Rates (I.B.I.) receipt OR Water / Electric bill in your name OR your Escritura OR rental contract.

It always makes sense to take the original documents, plus a photocopy of each when you deal with officialdom.

Need help?

Town Hall officials will help. Instructions in English, German and French are on the back of the Padrón form.

**TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE on SUNDAY MAY 22, 2011 in the LOCAL ELECTION  
SIGN ON NOW to both the PADRÓN and the CENSO ELECTORAL**

**DO NOT LEAVE IT until January 2011. YOU MAY BE TOO LATE!**