

U3A Calpe NEWSLETTER

Suite 416, Total Postal • Calle Corbeta 10 • 03710 Calpe

www.u3acalpe.com

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Group Leaders Meeting

On Friday 25th January at 5pm, we invite all group leaders to come to the Chicken Shack (opposite La Merced church) for a get together with wine and tapas.

Please RSVP to Sandy Bianco on 96 574 4850 or sandyebianco@gmail.com

Hello and welcome to our January Newsletter and a very warm welcome back after our Christmas break.

We hope that you all enjoyed yourselves over the festive season, whether you were here in sunny Spain or were feeling the chill in the UK or other parts of the world.

This month we are delighted to announce that we will be having a speaker at our general meeting. Her name is Isabella Signes Soler and she is an optician coming to talk to us about a charity in Africa who help people with cataracts.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our members a very Happy New Year and what a busy year it promises to be!

The U3A Calpe has some great events and trips planned for 2013 so ensure you book early to avoid disappointment.

Also, don't forget to keep your articles and reports coming in for further newsletters so the rest of our members can keep up to date with your news. Remember, this is your newsletter, for the members, by the members.

Coming events

The next General Meeting will be **Thursday, 7th February 2013** in the *Casa de Cultura* at 10:00 for 10:30 AM.

We are pleased to let you know that we will have a speaker at our February meeting. His name is Nick Green and he will be giving a short talk about his classical music group.

As usual, you can pick up newsletters, travel information and groups lists at our general meetings and it is always a great opportunity to meet with fellow members.

Website News

By: Pat Spencer

At our last meeting information was given in the Newsletter of a new page being added to the website with information on health and related topics.

You will be pleased to know that a lot of this information has now been put onto the U3A web site.

Topics include:

- The Spanish Healthcare Administration
- Patient Assistance & Information Service (SAIP)
- Your SIP Card

Other sections will be put on over time. As you will appreciate there is a considerable amount of work involved, in both writing and uploading this information.

I do hope that you find it helpful and interesting. I would welcome any comments and anything you would like to see included on the page.

Travel and Culture

For further details of these trips please contact John Pickford, Travel Co-ordinator: **96 583 4904** and johnpickfordtravel@gmail.com

Rod Anderton, Culture Coordinator, is on **96 583 2081** and rodanderton@yahoo.co.uk

To Russia with Love – St Petersburg and Moscow

28th August – 7th September 2013
Cost: TBC

A half board, 9 night trip in 4* accommodation to visit the best of these 2 Russian cities.

Scheduled flights and all transfers and transportation will be included in the price.

Eastern Mediterranean Cruise

27th October – 10th November 2013

This trip is now fully booked with 82 members going on this exciting adventure!

Don't forget details for all of our trips can be found on our website:

www.u3acalpe.com/trips/comingtrips

Have a Giggle

Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine

A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking

Dijon vu - the same mustard as before

Shotgun wedding – a case of wife or death

Groups News

Ballroom Dancing

The ballroom dancing now has a beginners group that started on 10th January. It will be Marcia's Dance Studio at 6:30pm every Thursday.

Please call Paula Martin on 96 583 7678 for further details.

Bridge

The bridge group will resume on Monday 21st January as group leader Joy Lally has returned from her travels.

If anyone wants a game at the Galetamar Hotel on a Monday evening from 7:30 PM, please contact Joy on 96 649 8681 or 646 729 794.

Choir

The U3A choir is currently suspended until March due to the Andertons moving into their new home.

Further details as to when the rehearsals will resume will be put on the website.

Flower Arranging

Please note that the starting date for 2013 is now Monday 4th February, 12:45-2:45 at the Bolero on *La Fossa* (*Levante*) Beach.

Please contact Tina Wallis for further details on 96 583 3197.

J.U.G.S (Just Us Girls)

The next meeting will now not be until 7th March due to a clash with the February general meeting.

Further details will be available at the February general meeting or by contacting Sue Longley on 96 583 3829.

Swimming

Following high interest from our members, we now have 3 lanes allocated at the municipal pool on Wednesday mornings 10-11AM. It has taken a great deal of time and effort from group leader Nicola Martinez to get this up and running so please give it your full support.

This is not only a great way to stay fit through the winter months but is also a lovely social opportunity for our members to have fun.

Please contact Nicola Martinez on 96 583 2453 for further details.

Tenpin Bowling

This group has now had 3 very successful meetings and it all takes place in Moraira on the 3rd Thursday

of the month, 7:00 for 7:30PM. Next meet is tonight, 17th January.

Book with Giovanna Wallis on 96 583 3197 or editor@u3acalpe.com

January Quiz Time

True or False?

1. If you feed a pigeon rice it will explode
2. Mary Stuart became Queen of Scotland when she was 6 days old.
3. "Goodbye" came from "good wishes, be happy"
4. Karaoke means "empty orchestra" in Japanese
5. Police dogs are trained to react to commands in English

All answers at the end of the Newsletter.

Reports

Group Report: New Discussion Group

By: *Peter Purvey*

The last meeting of the year of the new Discussion Group was held on 29th November 2012 at the home of Peter Purvey.

Eleven members turned up for a discussion on poverty in all its forms both locally and worldwide and provided a very lively discussion.

There are so many different causes of poverty such as corrupt government, poor education and conflict, but most opinions were that at the moment unemployment was the chief problem in Europe. Unfortunately we were not able to suggest a remedy.

Our next meeting will be on January 31st 2013. The subject up for discussion will be 'Mutual Attraction and Fear'. Are these the principal reasons for the survival of our species? This could be quite entertaining!

I would welcome any further comments and anything you would like to see included.

Event Report: Christmas Party

By: *Tina Wallis*

On Saturday 8th December, 88 members and guests got together at The Bolero for an evening of festive merriment.

Everyone came along dressed in their finery plus dancing shoes to enjoy a 4 course meal with wine.

As soon as the music started, everybody got to their feet and danced the night away.

We had a break in the middle to sing Christmas carols, then it was back to the dance floor to win spot prizes.

The free raffle was a huge success with lots of people getting early Christmas presents to put under their trees.

Event Report: Christmas Choir Concert – What a Christmas Treat

By: *Mary Anderton*

On December 14th the U3A Calpe Choir, led by Mary Anderton, and accompanied on piano by Gordon Lightfoot, performed to a full house at the Casa de Cultura, Calpe.

Everyone was welcomed in Spanish, German, French and English by four choir members and were then treated to a rich and varied programme of songs and carols, professionally performed and very well received by all.

There was plenty of opportunity for audience participation in some of our well known carols which were sung most enthusiastically.

The proceeds, 600 euros, presented by Mary, were received by a representative of the Ayuntamiento on behalf of the Food Bank.

The choir are not currently meeting until March, further details will be on the website.

Thoughts for the Month

How rare and wonderful is that flash of a moment when we realise that we have discovered a friend

There is no way to happiness;
happiness is the way.

Some people walk in the rain, others just get wet!

Answers to Quiz

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. True
5. False