

# U3A Calpe NEWSLETTER

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[www.u3acalpe.org](http://www.u3acalpe.org)

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## Summer Lunch

After the general meeting on 18th June, we are going to Pizzeria Exotic to have lunch for 1pm.

This event will cost €13 to include 4 course meal with bread, wine and water.

Please contact Tina Wallis to book your place on 96 583 3197 or [tinamaria19@gmail.com](mailto:tinamaria19@gmail.com)

Further information is provided later on in the newsletter.

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Welcome to our May newsletter.

We are delighted to announce that our speaker this month will be David Farmer.

Alderman David Farmer was first elected to the Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council in 1992. Twelve years later David was proposed as Deputy Mayor and the following year David and Diana became Mayor and Mayoress of the Borough.

David is also a Freeman of the City of London, Associate Freeman of Shrewsbury, and was President of the National Association British Market Authorities for the whole of Great Britain, visiting markets all around Britain, attending conferences in Southern Ireland and Madrid.

He was on five council committees and could attend up to 5 meetings a week plus other Council duties.

After 20 years David retired from the Council, to spend more

time with the family, but remains chairman of Shrewsbury Indoor Bowls Club and President of the County under 17/18 Youth Football League, which he has served for 30 years as Secretary, Chairman and now President, and has just received an award from the Football Association for services to the sport.

David's trade was in picture graphs on newspapers, and Diana had a Cosmetic business for 28 years

## Coming events

Our next general meeting will be on **Thursday 21st May 2015** at the Ifach Hotel, Salon Mare Nostrum at 10:00 for 10:30 AM.

Please see below for all of our remaining meeting dates for this year:

- 18th June
- July and August **No meetings**
- 17th September
- 8th October
- 19th November (AGM)

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## Peters Curiosity Corner

### A new antibiotic?

From: Peter Purvey

A bucket of soil taken from a researcher's back garden was found to contain over 10,000 types of bacteria. On analysis, one was found to have powerful antibacterial qualities killing *staphylococci aureus* (a common cause of skin infections, respiratory disease and food poisoning) stone dead.

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## Travel

### Northern Spain/Southern France

A 7 day/6 night trip departing on 31st May 2015.

Cost: €385 pp, single supplement is €144 for the whole week.

A fantastic tour of this lovely area.

Bookings can still be made, the full cost of the trip is payable upon booking. If you are going on this trip, please remember to be at the Hotel Esmeralda at 8am on 31st May. The travel team would like to thank everyone for your payments for this trip last month; it makes such a difference when payments are made on time.

### Manises, Albufera and Cullera

Day trip – 24th June

Cost: €35 for Members €40 non members

This is a subsidised trip.

We will visit the Manises Ceramic Museum followed by a boat trip. Then lunch with wine in Albufera then on to Cullera for some free time to wander or sit watching the world go by.

This trip is now sold out.

### Elche – Day Trip

24th September

Cost: €10

Do as you please, lots to see from the wonderful Palms, Cacti Gardens, Arab Baths, Castle, Basilica etc. Return coach transfers included.

### Med Cruise

8 day Cruise – departing on 15th October 2015 from Valencia with coach transfers included.

Price on Application - still places available.

This is a great value cruise with mostly balcony cabins. Contact our travel team and we will get you a price. Unfortunately the prices have gone up although not very much.

**Please note:** in future all trips booked at the general meetings will be subject to a holding deposit of €5.

We are looking into some more trips for our members at the moment so keep checking our web page.

Any questions? Come over to our travel desk at the meetings or drop us a note and please remember our suggestion box.

For any further information or suggestions for any future trips, please contact [ellen.mitchell1@btinternet.com](mailto:ellen.mitchell1@btinternet.com) or [penelopebrighton@hotmail.com](mailto:penelopebrighton@hotmail.com)

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## Groups News

### Groups Information

If you are attending a group for the first time please contact the group leader beforehand to check venue and times. Sometimes these can change at short notice due to circumstances beyond our control.

### Chess Group

Diana Farmer is interested in starting a Chess group later in the year. Please see her at the general meeting on 21st May, or give her a ring on 96 583 4278. All abilities welcome.

## New Discussion Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday 28th May at 3 for 3.15pm, at Peter Purvey's house.

The subject this month is INTEGRATION.

First of all, how the various countries involved in the return of citizens from ISIS should be treated. They have been assisting a terrorist organization which is a serious criminal offence.

Have some been brainwashed into forming terrorist cells all over Europe and thus very dangerous people? Should they all undergo lengthy psychological treatment before re-integrating them into society?

We shall also invite opinions on how the various nationalities in Calpe might integrate better with the Spanish.

What does 'integrate' mean to you? Any U3A member is welcome to join us; we would like to see a few new faces and new ideas for future meetings.

Please phone Peter for further details on 96 583 4139.

## Papercrafts Workshop

Liz Lodge will be holding a "Waterfall Card" Workshop on Thursday 4 June 2015, at her home, from 10 am until 1 pm.

Liz will supply all the materials, but you will need to bring your craft box. Liz has a sample of the card on her table, together with a sign-up sheet. The fee of 5€ is payable in advance – either at the U3A general meeting on 21st May or, if you can't be at the meeting, please put the 5€ in an envelope marked "For the attention of Liz Lodge, Postbox No 117" and leave it at Total Postal, in Calle Corbeta, Calpe.

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## New Words...

*From: John Pickford*

The Washington Post's Style Invitational asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition.

The winners were:

1. Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
2. Foreploy (v): Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting aid.
3. Cashtration (n.): The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for a very long, sometimes indefinite period of time.
4. Giraffiti (n): Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

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## Social Events News

### Summer Lunch

As mentioned on the front page of this newsletter, this event is taking place after the June general meeting on 18th June at 12:30 for 1pm start.

This year again we have secured a fantastic deal with the Pizzeria Exotic on La Fossa beach.

It will be a 4 course lunch with bread, wine and water and will cost €13.

Main course options are:

- Lasagna
- Pizza of your choice
- ½ Roast Chicken
- Hake

Please sign up with your monies at the events desk at this month's general meeting.

## Still to come...

- October Annual Quiz Night on Friday 30th October
- Christmas Formal Dinner Dance

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## Airline Giggles!

*From: Albert Hancy*

“Thank you for flying Delta Business Express. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride.”

On a Continental flight with a rather senior flight attendant crew, the pilot said, “Ladies and gentlemen, we’ve reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants.”

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## Member News

### Processions – Part 2

*From: Chris Hare*

Last month we published part 1 of a rant about cyclists here in Spain. Here is the concluding part.

An interesting variant of the tactics used by processional cyclists to dominate the road is a competition to see which of them can cycle the slowest. Yet, unlike normal competitiveness, rather than speed up and shoot round blind corners without a care in the world, processional cyclists will often slow right down so that the slowest is just as quick as the fastest. It is believed to be a form of primeval need for solidarity.

They are blind to everything apart from the heaving bottom directly in front of them, and although they can communicate with each other, they are deaf to any sounds other than those made by the processional cyclist on either side of them. The

noises that appear to be beyond their range of hearing include screams of abuse from other road users and honks from other road user's cars.

Another sad fact about processional cyclists is that they are unable to read. Many local councils have, in recent years, spent millions of euros creating 'cycle lanes' for the exclusive use of processional cyclists. These lanes are clearly signposted, often topped with a different colour tarmac to highlight the difference between the road and the lane, and decorated with beautifully painted stencils of bicycles. It is a regrettable fact that processional cyclists, being the ignorant pigs that they are have not yet realised that the lanes were created especially for their own safety. The writer has yet to see a single processional cyclist make use of this amenity.

It is, of course, highly illegal to kill them. But should one get detached from the main swarm, and a motorist accidentally nudges him over the edge of a cliff, it is advisable to carry a spade in the boot of your car. This will prove very useful in digging the grave, particularly at this time of year when the ground can be very difficult to work because of winter rains.

A good alternative to this, especially for gardeners, is to take the deceased home with you for burial in the garden as they do make excellent compost and provide plenty of nutrients for fledgling roses should it be decided to place one above the stiff as a sort of memorial. However, a word of warning - be sure to remove all clothing from the corpse before planting as lycra is notoriously slow to decompose.

Happy motoring.