

**MINUTES OF THE U3A GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON MAY 17TH 2012
AT THE CASA DE CULTURA, CALPE**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Pickford, Vice President chaired the meeting and explained that as Beverly Holder has resigned her presidency owing to family commitments in the UK he would be acting President for the remainder of this term.

John then introduced our speaker Mike Rendell who treated us to a most fascinating talk on Life in the 18th Century. Mike is a retired lawyer, now an author living in Denia, who has written the 'Journal of a Georgian Gentleman' detailing the life of Richard Hall (1729-1801) his 4 x great grandfather. The illustrated talk detailed the extent of hoarding of every item of paperwork he had ever possessed such as diaries, shopping lists, work done to his property, paper cutouts and anything you could possibly imagine which at the time were seemingly irrelevant and now represent tea-chests full of history waiting to be catalogued. The talk was much appreciated by the audience, the vote of thanks given by Rod Anderton and Mike was presented with a bottle of wine.

We then moved to the main part of the meeting.

Correspondence Received: Email from Enid and Peter Barton who have just returned to Calpe after a long spell in the UK recovering from a car accident. They wished to thank everyone for their good wishes and how much they appreciated the thoughts of the members. John welcomed them back to the U3A.

John has also received several cards and thanks for arranging the Far East tour: he thanked the senders and was glad everyone enjoyed the trip.

Minutes of the last General Meeting (12 April)

The Secretary had photocopied the minutes as an experiment to see if the Membership liked this way of communicating what had happened rather than reading out a précis as had been usual practice previously. She explained that we will also be putting the minutes on the website for the benefit of those members who could not be present. There was unanimous support for this action and we will continue it in the future. The minutes were proposed by Rod Anderton and seconded by Miren Viar. The minutes were signed off by Sandy Bianco as both the President and Vice President were absent on the day of the meeting.

Matters arising from the last General Meeting

Grievance Procedure: The new Grievance Procedure was distributed with the Newsletters and was also read out for the benefit of some members. This proposal had been put to a previous meeting and agreed but was never voted upon so we did this again. It was proposed by Betty Gower, seconded by Liz Lodge and voted unanimously in favour by the Membership. The proposal will now be put on the Website, in our Policy Book and will become U3A Policy henceforth.

New Business

- Our recent exhibition was deemed a great success: there was a private visit by the Mayor who made a special effort to come back as he had been unable to attend at the time he arranged to open our exhibition. A special thanks to Joy Lally and Tina Wallis who were the organizers of the event and the band of loyal helpers who's hard work made it so worthwhile. Also of course many thanks go to those very talented members who displayed their beautiful work. It

is interesting to note that as a direct result of the exhibition we have had several new members sign up including some Italian and Spanish.

- We have been asked by the company now running the swimming pool to advertise to our members. They are offering discounts to us if a group wishes to use the pool. We are looking for a member volunteer to run a Swimming Group and to run this on a regular basis. If anyone would like to do this please contact Sandy Bianco, our Groups co-ordinator.
- Calpe's Mayor Cesar Sanchez Perez says he has the pleasure of inviting members to the first meeting with English speaking neighbours of Calpe which he has organized for 29th May at 17.30 in the Hotel Diamante Beach. Notice of this will be put on the website.
- The food bank to help the poor and needy in Calpe is going well. Any donations of food (packets and tins) may now be dropped off at either the Sports Hall or the Gasolinera Restaurant in La Fustera. Please note that Moftag are holding a produce stall this coming Saturday at 11.00 am to make a donation to the food bank and the new Calpe youth club.

Reports

Travel : Jenny O'Neill presented this on behalf of the travel team.

The Far East tour was a great success

The Cartagena trip was also much enjoyed

Unfortunately due to lack of support the Valor chocolate trip and the Ibiza trip have had to be cancelled.

The Valencia 1-day trip is well supported with 110 people signed up

6-days in Galicia in September is probably going ahead and there is a new trip to the Honey Festival in October.

Details of all trips are on the website.

Jenny mentioned that a member has made a payment into the bank but not given a name so an appeal was made for this person to come forward.

Culture: Rod Anderton had 3 items to report.

- The G&S Society is presenting the Mikado on 25/6 June
- The choir will be leading a Jubilee Concert in the Salo Blau in which there will be audience participation in 50's music. Mary would like the audience to wear a red, white and blue themed outfit and promises a 'fun night'. Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the food bank.
- On 26th June the excellent Curtis School will again be performing in Moraira.

Social: Tina Wallis has again been busy on our behalf on the social scene:

- There will be a Jubilee garden party at the home of Joy and Peter Lally. 2 euros to cover out of pocket expenses such as prizes. Bring a plate of food to add to the buffet, your own drink, and a chair to sit on.
- 12th October (Friday) a quiz night at the Bolero. Chicken and chips supper with wine, bread and alioli. 10 euros to cover the supper and prizes. Tables of 6 with a team name.
- 8th December (Saturday) a Christmas party: menu to follow and sign up later.

Publicity:

Joy Lally expressed her thanks for all the help she received with the exhibition. Thanks to Peter for all the lifting and shifting and putting up of boards. Thanks also to those who took photos. 207 people actually signed the visitors' book but many escaped without doing so meaning that we probably had a total of more than 400 who attended.

Groups: Presented by Sandy Bianco

- The next mens' dining will be on 24th May at the La Mama Nostra near the Voramar. Roger Milsom is the contact
- Liz Lodge will be holding another papercraft workshop Friday 1st June. Blossom cards is the theme and cost 5 euros inclusive of materials. Bring your craft box and usual arrangements apply for lifts
- Bowls on Mondays and Thursdays will run from 4-6pm. Bill Hopkins is now leading the Monday Group. Also a new group on Wednesdays 2-4
- JUGS (Just Us Girls) Sue Longley has kindly offered to lead this ladies luncheon club. Sue will organize a lunch at a local restaurant and give menu choices. Money is usually taken in advance. At present Sue is just trying to gauge interest so she had a sign-up sheet on stage and asked anyone interested to contact her
- Solo Group (Paula Martin) is meeting at the Tango bar on Tuesday and she has also organized a dinner on Saturday 7th June
- With the visitor season coming anyone having grandchildren to stay may need to borrow baby equipment. Sandy's pool of equipment is now a little thin so if anyone has anything suitable (car seats, cots etc) and are happy to loan it to others (with a deposit if you wish) please contact Sandy
- And finally, Sandy put out a plea from the Committee for new ideas and suggestions. If you have any thoughts on how we can improve our U3A, if you wish to run a new group etc please contact her or any committee member or put a note in the suggestion box.

AOB This is nothing to do with the U3A but for the interest of Members. Someone asked if anyone had used the Beniconnect shuttle. Several people had done so and it is apparently very good.

Next Meeting: Thursday 14th June

Following the success of the last meeting at the Bolero we decided to hold the next one there again. Christian will offer us coffee at 1 euro only and the Committee invites you to a glass of wine and tapas afterwards. Usual time 10.00 for 10.30 but allowance will be made for the arrival time of the bus from town.

The meeting closed at 11.45.

Janet Bond
Secretary
17 May 2012

Proposed: Barbara Turner

Seconded: Rod Anderton

Signed: John Pickford

Date: 14 June 2012