

Annual General Meeting 15th November 2019

Presidents Report

It is with much pleasure as President of Calpe U3A that I present to you my report and overview of our activities for 2019. I must also thank all members for their continued support without you we would not have a U3A.

What a good year it has been.

Membership is up, we have had a steady flow of new members replacing those who have left, often to return to UK yet still giving us an overall increase. Group leaders put in a great deal time and effort, running so many good groups, there are now an increased number on offer all of which prove very popular, one group even has in excess of one hundred members and all are greatly appreciated.. Publicity has been excellent with good articles in free papers and the Costa Blanca News, often in three papers in one week. We have had regular trips from travel, lots of day trips proving to be very popular. A new scheme has started, an ably headed, growing Care and Share team, to provide health and general information on the table at meetings and support to members during illness or periods of incapacity, and send cards on special occasions. Behind the scenes less obvious but extremely important we have a very good secretary and two extremely efficient treasurers, one for the general account and one for travel. Despite all our expenses throughout the year our balance has remained about the same, very reassuring.

Aside from the committee are many invaluable helpers. A small number of people give great support to Travel. Then there are those who help at general meetings, greeting people, manning the signing in desk, helping on the membership desk, whatever is required in order that our meetings run smoothly.

I was not present for the AGM last year, I was in the UK for many months as my Mother was terminally ill, it was a terrible time trying to do what I could for her and support my Father. Then there was the aftermath of it all to deal with. In the circumstances I felt that I could not continue as President but was persuaded to stay on. Peter Purvey Vice President, yet again held the fort and presided over meetings. This excellent committee and all the helpers made his job so much easier. Not only was all efficiently run but some committee and helpers also manned a stall at last years Christmas market in the old town, a lot of work. Together with the choir they raised a considerable amount for charity.

The subscription remains at 10euros and will run from the day you join to exactly one year later. From 1st Jan 2020 there is a 5euro joining fee waived for new members but this will apply to renewal subscriptions overdue by 6months or more if members insist on starting a new renewal date. All Group leaders should have membership renewal forms and are asked to ensure that group members have up to date membership.

Looking ahead we have a some changes afoot on the committee. I am delighted that we have nominations from Wendy Down as Vice President, to replace Peter Purvey after many years in the role he will remain with us as Vocal 3. Glyn Bailey has been nominated as Vocal 2 to replace Michelle McNickle who is standing down from the committee she but will still help with Care and Share. Jan Luxton is nominated to take over Membership from Dairong Hu who will become Assistant Membership. Guy de Meester has been co-opted on and nominated as Webmaster. An that assistant Secretary and a Social Secretary remain vacant posts. I regret that this will be my last year as President.

I am extremely grateful to the committee, group leaders and the helpers for the work they do, and to the members for their support and I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Verity Waddell
PRESIDENT
U3A Calpe