

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE U3A CALPE HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH
FEBRUARY 2020, AT THE IFACH HOTEL, CALPE

1. The meeting opened at 11.00am, and was chaired by Verity Waddell, President.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and were proposed by Arthur Croasdell and seconded by John Walker.

3. Committee Reports:

a) TREASURER: There are 3405,26 euros in the bank, and 167,65 euros in Petty cash, making a total of 3572,91 euros. This represents an increase of 486,29 since the previous meeting in January. This is largely due to increased numbers of new members and existing member renewals collected since January and at January's meeting. In addition, there have been fewer significant expenses recently.

Our financial status for the last two or three years has remained stable at around 3000 euros, which seems appropriate. NB the above total does NOT include the membership float (100 euros) or travel account funds.

Future, and known expenditure within the next month: cost of digital signature, actual cost not yet known. There have also been bills for Total Postal mailbox rental of 112 euros, and room hire for the General Meeting, 120 euros. Expenditure arising in the near future will be the annual insurance premium, 460 euros (estimated), and the Website Hosting fee, which last year was 1044,13 euros.

b) GROUPS: Flower Arranging group is in need of a new coordinator. If you can help, please contact Pam Phakey. Arthur Croasdell has now taken over Men's Dining Group, and the group will be meeting on the last Thursday in February.

c) MEMBERSHIP: There are currently 541 paid up members. At today's meeting 40 members renewed their membership and 23 new members, a record number, joined U3A Calpe.

d) TRAVEL: Pick-up points for the Bodega trip will be the Bus & Coach station and Hotel Esmeralda. There are still some places available for this trip, details on the website. The Ibiza trip is filling up rapidly and there are just two rooms available now. NB this trip is for over 55s. Transport to and from the port and transport to and from the hotel on the island is provided in the cost.

There is a day trip planned for the 7th April to the Caves of Sant Josep, south of Valencia. This trip will cost 30 euros and includes a boat trip, tour and lunch.

e) PUBLICITY: There have been 10 insertions of articles and photos in a variety of free newspapers. In addition generous radio coverage of events.

f) CARE & SHARE: members were reminded of the new arrangements for prescriptions as outlined in the minutes of the previous month. More volunteers are needed to help U3A members who need assistance - activities may include doing

shopping, giving lifts, hospital visiting, dog walking or sitting, cooking a meal etc. Volunteers should contact Sandra Llewelyn to let her know what help they can provide. A small fee of 50 cents per km will be charged to reimburse volunteers offering to provide transport.

4. Correspondence: None

5. AOB: None

The speaker today was John Hopwood, who gave a very interesting and detailed illustrated talk on the life and work of Grayson Perry, the English contemporary artist, writer and broadcaster. Grayson Perry is renowned worldwide, for his ceramic vases, tapestries, and of course, his cross-dressing via his female alter-ego, "Claire". He has become a very respected and influential figure in the art world, awarded a CBE in 2013 for services to contemporary art, a BBC Reith lecturer, and winner of the Turner prize in 2003, the first potter to receive this honour. His current pre-eminence is all the more impressive given the traumas of his childhood and the difficulties of his early career, when he lived hand to mouth as a squatter.

OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE ON 19TH MARCH 2020

The meeting closed at 12.10pm

Wendy Down (Vice-President, deputising for the Secretary, Marion Fisher.)