

**MINUTES OF THE U3A GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2014
AT THE SOL IFACH HOTEL, CALPE**

The February meeting was chaired by Tina Wallis, Vice President as the President, although present, was suffering from jet-lag after his holiday. Tina welcomed 95 and 8 new members to the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS:

Our first speaker was Carole Saunders who gave a couple of useful announcements: details of which will be put on the website in due course.

- Organ Donation: there is a National Register and a contact number is 902 300 224. Consent of relatives is needed
- AECC Cancer Prevention Scheme: A well-woman screening in Alicante and a well-man screening at IMED. Details from Carole at calcalpe@gmail.com or Missouri Tyrrell on 96 583 8359 or 609 620 863 for those wishing to participate.

Our 2nd speaker was Judith Goodall, the President of HELP of Denia and Marina Alta. Judith gave a most informative talk on the workings of her organization, manned entirely by volunteers, which started 35 years ago in Javea, then Denia and now incorporates other towns along the coast. Judith gave details of the help that is available to everyone in the area. Some, but by no means all of these include manning the help desk at Denia hospital with interpreters, teams visit English in-patients on Tuesdays and Fridays, there is an office in La Xara with a store of equipment to be loaned and a charity shop in Moraira with limited equipment for loan. The organization is dependent on volunteers and fund raising and any offers of help would be welcome. They are also looking into providing a respite care service and a diabetic support group in the Teulada area. The current local co-ordinator in Calpe is stepping down owing to ill health but someone is taking it over to allow local help for us to continue.

APOLOGIES FROM THE COMMITTEE: Diane Putnam, Groups Co-ordinator

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: None

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY GENERAL MEETING:

Janet Bond, Secretary, read a brief précis of the minutes which were available if anyone wished to look at them. The minutes were proposed by Liz Lodge, seconded by Barbara Turner and signed by Tina Wallis.

MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

- Scrapbook: We are delighted to have someone to take on the maintenance of the Scrapbook. This is Patricia Adams and we thank her very much indeed for volunteering. The current scrapbook was available to be viewed and members were asked to email Patricia their photographs to keep it going. Patricia's email is padams966@gmail.com
- Helping Hands: The Helping Hands list was passed around again for volunteers to add their name to help out occasionally. The meeting was reminded that we are a very small committee and their help is vital to the running of our U3A
- Newsletter: The list of 'failed emails' for receipt of the newsletter is slightly diminished but more needs to be done to ensure that all addresses are up to date and correct. Giovanna Wallis, the editor, needs articles 2 weeks before the general meeting.

REPORTS: Shortened versions of the reports had been circulated with the Newsletter to give those members who do not or cannot come to meetings a chance to learn about the various activities taking place. Tina called upon the various Group Leaders to present their reports.

Social Tina reported that there is space for one more member to take part in the inter U3A quiz to be held on 14th March at the Tennis Club against U3A Vall de Pop. 12 euros to include 3 course meal and prizes.

Groups Diane is on holiday but the Secretary read out her report and other items handed in on the day.

- **JUGS:** 6th March at La Mama Nostra 1.00 for 1.30
- **Chess:** Diana Farmer would like to run a chess group when she is in Spain. She returns in April meantime Lee and Jen O'Neill will be contacts
- **Swimming:** A list of deals secured by Nicola Martinez. Several on offer now pool has reopened to include monthly subs 20 euros including sauna and Jacuzzi, swim + aquagym and gym 35 euros, aquagym and gym only 28 euros, access card 3 euros per person. Nicky Martinez' contact number is 96 583 2837
- **Bridge:** Joy Lally is on an extended holiday and Elsa Townsend is looking after the group in her absence. Phone 647 299 319 or email else.townsend@gmail.com
- **Mens' dining:** 28th February
- **Papercraft workshop:** Liz Lodge: 27th February

Travel: Report by Jenny O'Neill.

- Cuenca and Toledo 10th April 3 nights 4 days on half board basis. €230 euros pp
- Calasparra 16th May. Day trip €10
- Caribbean Cruise Depart Calpe on 6th Dec for 8 night's fly-cruise from Madrid to Caribbean.
- Moscow and St Petersburg Cancelled due to lack of support
- Alaska and Vancouver Cancelled due to lack of support

All information is on the website.

Culture and Publicity: Rod Anderton has just returned from 6 weeks away. He again appealed for photos to accompany his reports to the press.

- 28 Feb in Salo Blau : Guitar quartet
- 26 Feb in Altea : Marriage of Figaro
- Choir has re-started with new members always welcome
- 7 March West Side Story in Teulada

Membership: Val reported 8 new members today who were invited to a coffee afterwards.

Treasurer: Edith reported a healthy balance.

AOB:

- In response to a member's earlier request for Spanish conversation classes Pat Spencer reminded everyone of the exchange scheme in place for 1 to 1 or small groups
- Details of the organ donation will be on Pat's health and Wellbeing page

NEXT MEETING:

- This will be held at the Ifach Hotel on Thursday 20th March 10.00 for 10.30. The presenter will be our Tina Wallis with a talk and demo on spring bulbs.

Janet Bond, Secretary
January 2014

Proposed: Yvonne Woodham Seconded: Graham Hall

Signed: John Pickford Date: 20 March 2014