

**MINUTES OF THE U3A GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 16th JUNE AT THE SOL IFACH HOTEL, CALPE**

The President, John Pickford welcomed everyone to the meeting including five new members who were invited to join Maureen and David Elford and some other members of the committee for coffee afterwards.

We had been informed that Val Wetherald, one of our longest standing members had been in Denia hospital but was now home and we wish her well as she recovers.

We had two speakers today. The first was Jose Casino who worked in London at JP Morgan for ten years. His talk was about the economic outlook and investment strategies from 2016 and was illustrated by slides and graphs. During the talk the President did a quick straw poll of those present to gauge how many were in favour of leaving the EU and how many were 'remainers'. Perhaps unsurprisingly, given that we are living in Spain, most said they were in favour of remaining. Jose was thanked for his enthusiastic talk and presented with a presentation case of wine and glasses.

APOLOGIES FROM THE COMMITTEE: Diane Putnam, Keith Cherry, Penny Brighton

CORRESPONDENCE: We have been exchanging emails with U3A El Campello concerning the fact that they have not registered their own paperwork with the Valencian authorities and have been using ours. Their bank has asked them for details of their individual registration documentation which they cannot produce. We have been disturbed about this situation as the authorities have tightened up and we have written a letter to the President of U3A El Campello saying they must have their own paperwork and are not and never have been authorised to use ours. We do not wish to get involved if they have problems in the future as it is of their own making and for them to rectify.

MINUTES OF LAST GENERAL MEETING APRIL 2016:

The minutes of this meeting had been circulated as usual and copies were available for those without email. Proposed by Marion Fisher, seconded by Dennis Albus and signed by the President John Pickford.

SECOND SPEAKER: Our next item was a talk by former President Pat Spencer entitled 'The Somme Remembered'. Pat's talk was beautifully illustrated with slides taken on a visit with her son when she was researching her family's military history and she had also brought along interesting memorabilia for us to see. Pat was presented with a pot plant by Jenny O'Neill.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Attention was drawn to the fact that several members of the Committee are planning to stand down at the AGM in November and we will need replacements. Members were asked to consider over the summer period if they would be willing to stand. Information on what is involved can be

obtained from any committee member who would be pleased to enlighten them. Remember: the U3A cannot operate without a committee and all posts are to be contested.

- The Body Donation forms are now on the website for members to download. Members who have used the new system found it very easy and sympathetic. Remember if you have previously registered you MUST do it again under the new system and there are certain conditions which must be met.

GROUP REPORTS:

Press and Publicity: David and Maureen Elford have continued their publicity initiatives. They had also left application forms on seats and asked that members take them away and try to bring in at least one new member after the summer break.

Social: Anne Melling has reported that since the meeting the summer lunch immediately afterwards had gone very well with 71 members very much enjoying themselves with an excellent meal and venue. Thanks had been given to Anne for her organisation of the event.

Treasurer: Gordon reports that we have a healthy bank balance of around €5000 which is the amount we like to keep in hand for emergencies which may occur.

Groups: Diane and Keith are on holiday at present but have stated that everything is progressing as normal.

- Peter Purvey's Philosophy Group meets in two weeks time at 3 pm. Peter would like more members and no doubt this time discussion will be on the forthcoming referendum
- Walking football will be introduced in the autumn
- An alternative wine group, again to start in the autumn

Travel

- 7th June: Valor factory and caves at Canalobre was well supported and enjoyed by everyone. An excellent lunch was included at Las Covas in El Campello so thanks once again to the travel team for their arrangements and thanks also for the chocolates given out at the meeting today.
- Honey Festival 2 nights €185 per person 2 nights full board, free spa and golf. Lee may organise a walk. We now have support for trip to go ahead.
- 5th November: trip to a brewery, lunch in Xativa, visit to castle. Depart 0900
- Possible seven day Christmas Eve/New Year on the Costa del Sol. Approx €550 per person - 40 names needed for it to be a viable trip
- Possible cruise next year and trip to Vietnam and Cambodia.

All details on the website, the proposed cruise and far East trip to be added.

Membership: Helena reported that we have 627 members, 543 paid up and five new today.

AOB: No items had been raised as per the new procedure.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

22nd September when the speaker will be our member David Shute and former BBC senior producer talking about 'Behind the Scenes at BBC Pebble Mill.

JANET BOND
Secretary

18th June 2016

PROPOSED: Marion Fisher

SECONDED: Dennis Albus

SIGNED: John Pickford

DATE: 22/09/2016