

**MINUTES OF THE U3A GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 19th MAY AT THE SOL IFACH HOTEL, CALPE**

Diane Putnam, Vice President chaired today's meeting as John Pickford had to be in the UK with his son who was undergoing a surgical procedure. Sad news from a couple of days ago was that Teressa's mother had passed away so our thoughts were with the whole family at this particularly distressing time.

Another item of sad news was that Ray Marshall passed away on Monday 2nd May from cancer. Ray lived in Dublin and leaves a wife, Christine, and children and grandsons. Ray visited Calpe often, enjoyed U3A trips and would enjoy meals out with friends when he was here.

We did not have a speaker as such today but we were entertained by two of our members. Firstly Mary Anderton spoke on the topic of 'words' and how they impact on us in various ways and she also told a Scottish poem which might just as well have been in a foreign language so difficult was it to understand!

Secondly Peter Purvey told us a couple of stories relating to his travels in his working life as a coin valuer. On one such trip a meal in a hotel in San Diego ended with an earthquake! Both speakers were most entertaining and fluent and these couple of sentences do not do justice to them! We hope they will repeat the exercise in the future especially as Peter left us hanging with a half-told story.

APOLOGIES FROM THE COMMITTEE: John Pickford, Teressa Pickford, David and Maureen Elford

CORRESPONDENCE: None

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 Nicola Martinez and seconded by Marion Fisher and signed by the Vice President Diane Putnam.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:

New Sports Facilities:

Good news just received from the Town Hall is that the new bowling facilities have been given the go-ahead in an area near to Lidl and also the new petanc court.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GROUP REPORTS:

Press and Publicity: David and Maureen Elford were in the UK this week but we have begun circulating the publicity brochures they have designed. These have been left in various places around the town such as the Town Hall, the Gran Sol Hotel, the Charity Shop and animal charity shop, Pensionistas etc. This is an ongoing project with more work to be done.

Social: Anne Melling had to leave the meeting early but members were reminded of the 'Hello to summer' lunch at the Maruja restaurant on the Levante Beach. Cost €15. Details of the menu are on the website and contact details for Anne for anyone wishing to book.

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 had updated and circulated the Groups List.

- Board and card games: last one this coming Friday and then restart in the autumn
- JUGS: meal 2nd June
- Mens' Dining also 2nd June
- Discussion, a week today

Culture: Rod's items for the Cultural Interest Group were read out and included Javea Players, a piano concert, ballet, and Curtis concert this evening in Teulada.

Sports:

- All sports items are on the website: nothing new to report except the new facilities already mentioned.

Travel

- Cordoba/Granada: a wonderful trip enjoyed by all those who participated
- 7th June: Caves at Busot then to Valor chocolate factory: €30 per person
- Honey Festival 2 nights 175pp - more support required or trip will be cancelled
- 5th November: trip to a brewery, lunch in Xativa, visit to castle. Depart 0900

All details on the website.

Membership: Helena reported that we have 625 members, 527 paid up and eight new today including some non UK nationals which is very nice.

Finally, David Stockton, our photographer said a few words about the dance classes at Marcia's dance studios where U3A members get a discount.

AOB: Pat Spencer stated that she is holding a projector and screen which she found in her trastero during preparations to move house. These items belong to the U3A and now Pat no longer has storage facilities. She wishes to pass them on within the U3A or they will be disposed of.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

19th June. Speaker TBA.

After the meeting members were invited to a drink and tapas.

JANET BOND
Secretary

23 May 2016

PROPOSED: David Farmer

SECONDED: Sandra Llewellyn

SIGNED: John Pickford

DATE: 16th June 2016