

# U3A Calpe NEWSLETTER

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## Informal Summer Dinner and Dance

This promises to be a lovely evening of dinner, drinks and dancing! It will be held at Restaurante Dracula (in the Port) on Tuesday 27th May 2014 at 7:30 for 8pm and will cost €16 to include cava reception, 3 course meal with coffee and wine. Further information is provided later on in the newsletter.

Hello and welcome to our April newsletter.

We hope that you have “Sprung Forward” into this beautiful season and didn’t mind too much about loosing that extra hours sleep! The evenings are lighter and will hopefully start to be warmer!

We are delighted to announce that our speaker this month will be Geoff Woodward. His knowledge and presentation at his last talk was excellent and he is now returning to talk on another of his favourite subjects; “Juan Carlos: The reason that Spain has a democracy today”.

Also at this month’s general meeting, we will be holding an Easter themed free raffle, so don't forget to pick up your ticket when you sign in to be a lucky winner!

Please continue to send all your news and articles for further newsletters to  
Giovanna Wallis on  
[editor@u3acalpe.com](mailto:editor@u3acalpe.com)

## Coming events

Our next general meeting will be on **Thursday 17th April 2014** at the Ifach Hotel, Salon Mare Nostrum at 10:00 for 10:30 AM.

Please note that all of our meetings in 2014 will be held at this same venue and time. Here are all of the meeting dates for 2014 to put in your diary:

- 15th May
- 19th June
- July – NO MEETING (A change from previous information)
- August – NO MEETING
- 18th September
- 16th October
- 20th November - AGM

Our speaker next month is Father Marcus with a talk entitled “Beach Dreams”.

## Website News

### Health and Wellbeing

*From: Pat Spencer*

There is now a new section to the Health and Wellbeing Pages on the U3A website entitled Health Awareness.

This section will include health awareness articles on colon cancer, type 2 diabetes, lung and breast cancer and other articles will be added over time.

The first article is on Colon Cancer awareness, contributed by The Asociación Española Contra El Cancer (AECC), with additional information from NHS UK. Other articles will be added over time.

If there is a particular condition you would like more information on please give me a ring.

### Travel

#### Calasparra

Visit to the Sanctuary of the Virgin of de la Esperanza on 16th May.  
Cost: €10  
Only 7 places left, so book now to avoid disappointment!

#### Ibiza

All inclusive 4 day trip, staying in a 3 star hotel (including a guide for the entire trip) departing 22nd of May.  
Cost: €399 per person  
This trip is limited to 22 bookings so book early to avoid disappointment.

#### Cartagena Romans Fiesta

A 3 day, 2 night trip to experience the *Romanos y Carthagineses* Fiesta in Cartagena.  
Price is still TBC but the travel team would like you to express your interest so they can judge numbers.

### Novelda and Bodega Heretat de Cesilia

Come and join us on 2nd October on a very interesting day out that includes a guided tour of Novelda and then on to a visit to a winery to sample their wares and enjoy lunch.  
Cost: €35 Euros

### Caribbean Cruise

Departing Calpe on 6th December for 8 night fly-cruise from Madrid to Caribbean.

Cost varies depending on choice of cabin. Only 1 outside and 5 Balcony cabins left, so hurry. We already have 23 members booked on this trip and the deadline for the closing of this trip is 31st March.

More information on these and our other trips available on our website: <http://www.u3acalpe.com/trips/coming-trips>

For any further information or suggestions for any future trips, please contact John Pickford, Travel Co-ordinator: **96 583 4904** or [johnpickfordtravel@gmail.com](mailto:johnpickfordtravel@gmail.com)

### Culture and Publicity

*By: Rod Anderton*

#### Culture

Regular emails are sent out to inform members of the 'Cultural Interest' group of forthcoming attractions and events. Presently we number 29, if any new members wish to add their names to the group to receive regular updates please contact me by email at [tranderton@yahoo.com](mailto:tranderton@yahoo.com) .

#### Publicity

It always helps to receive photographs of one or more of the activities from the numerous groups to accompany the articles sent to the newspapers. If you do have some

photographs to include in articles to the press please see me at the General Meeting. Similarly I am happy to receive reports and updates from all group activities.

## **Events Report**

*From: Tina Wallis*

### **Informal Summer Dinner and Dance**

As mentioned on the front page of this newsletter, we are holding an informal dinner and dance at Restaurante Dracula (in the port) on Tuesday 27th May 2014.

This event will cost €16 per person and includes a cava reception, 3 course meal with bread, *Alioli*, water, wine and coffee included. There will be live music by Daniel and this event promises to be a great start to those balmy summer evenings we are all craving.

We are starting to take monies and menu choices at this month's general meeting. Depending on the initial response, we may have to limit this event to members only so book this month to avoid disappointment.

### **Summer Lunch**

This event will take place after the June general meeting on 19th June.

We have secured a deal with the Pizzeria Exotic on La Fossa beach. It will be a 3 course lunch (you need to choose your main course) with wine and will cost €11. Please sign up at the events desk at this month's meeting.

### **Still to come...**

- Group Leaders Do in September
- October Annual Quiz Night
- Christmas Formal Dinner Dance

## **Groups News**

### **Guitar Lessons**

Due to members being unable to commit to regular attendance, the regular Tuesday meeting has been cancelled. If you would like individual lessons or as a pair please contact Mark Sanderson.

### **J.U.Gs**

The last ladies lunch was not as well attended as in previous months.

Let Sue know of any changes you would like to the format, or is there some little known venue that you have recently enjoyed.

The next lunch will be in June. Date to be announced.

### **Spanish Conversation**

Manuela is now starting a Spanish conversation group. It will be on Tuesdays at 11am at her home, start date is still TBA.

If you are interested in this, or any of the other Spanish lessons run by our U3A, please call the Spanish groups co-ordinator, Jan Newark on 96 583 6815.

### **Walking Group**

The last walk before the summer break will be on 23rd April. It will restart on October 1st.

If you are enjoying the walks why not volunteer to lead one? Please note Lee's new phone number on the groups list.

## **Reports**

### **Group Report: Classical Music Appreciation Group**

*From: Nick Green*

At this month's meeting we created a new record for the group and not one

of which I was proud. The turnout was the lowest (8) since the group started in 2008.

I am keenly aware that most U3A members are very busy people and as well as outside commitments have a wonderful choice of activities from which to choose within the organisation. I am also guided by that well known business maxim "People do things for their own reasons and not for yours", and I respect the fact that retired people don't have to do anything they don't want to (One of the few advantages of old age!)

Our average turnout a couple of years ago was between 20 and 25. Our record number was 30. Now days we are lucky to get over 10 and rarely exceed 15. I really don't want this group to wither away to nothing. I spend several hours preparing these sessions and the only reward I seek is sharing beautiful music with as many people as possible.

That is why today I am asking for your help. The American CEO of the last company for which I worked in the UK once told us that the definition of "stupidity" was "expecting things to change for the better and doing nothing". Maybe this group needs change. I would therefore ask you to consider the following factors and e-mail me with any comments you may have.

1. Are we choosing the right day of the week? I will do the sessions on any morning except Sunday. What days would be better for you if any?
2. Are you happy with the format? Can you suggest alternatives?
3. Are you happy with the presenter? I won't take negative comments personally!
4. Are you happy with the venue? My regular hard core of supporters and I think the current venue is working very well but I need to know if it is a

problem for you. Please feel free to suggest other venues.

I do hope you can spend a couple of minutes considering the above and contact me via the information on the groups list with your thoughts.

### **Event Report: Inter U3A Quiz**

*From: Tina Wallis*

On Friday 14th March the return match between Vall de Pop and Calpe took place at the Calpe Tennis Club.

There were 6 teams from each U3A and we all sat down to enjoy an excellent 3 course meal with drinks. The food was delicious and served very swiftly with a smile so we could get on with the important part of the evening!

Over 100 questions were answered, marked and recorded to see who would be the worthy winners of our super prizes and the champions of the return match. Vall de Pop had won the first leg, and yes, you guessed it... they won again!

But all was not lost as we all enjoyed the evening and they said that they would like this event to continue back on their turf next year. I think we better all start swotting up now!

There will be another opportunity for you to all test your knowledge at our own annual Quiz Night in October.

Well done to all of the Calpe teams: The Chasers, Ambleside, Lancashire Hotpots, Saga Louts, The VanDunns and Snow Birds.