

U3A Calpe NEWSLETTER

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Christmas Dinner Dance

Joy will still be taking last minute bookings at this month's general meeting for this not to be missed event.

It will be held at The Diamante Beach Hotel on Thursday 5th December at 7pm and will cost €25 for members and €32 for non members.

Please contact Joy Lally to book your place on 96 649 8681 or lallyandjoy@hotmail.com

Hello and welcome to our November newsletter.

As the winter months draw ever closer with their cooler evenings and changeable weather, we hope that you all manage to stay dry and warm.

As is it November, this is to be our AGM newsletter. We hope that you feel that we have given you all the important and amusing content we could over the past year.

However, please don't forget that without your news and articles to put in it, this newsletter would be pretty sparse. So please keep sending in your fun facts, stories and news items as we approach 2014.

Don't forget that we have **changed our bank details.**

We have moved our bank accounts away from Barclays as they closed their Calpe branch in August and wanted to move us to Benidorm!

Our U3A bank accounts are now transferred to:

**BBK Kutxabank,
Calle Corbeta 13
03710 Calpe.**

Coming events

Our next general meeting will be our AGM on **Thursday 21st November 2013** at the Casa de Cultura, Calpe at 10:00 for 10:30 AM.

Please note that there will be no meeting next month. The next time we will meet will be on Thursday 16th January 2014 at Ifach Hotel, Salon Mare Nostrum at 10:00 for 10:30 AM.

We will be having 2 speakers at our general meeting in January, but more about that in our December newsletter.

Presidents Report

From: John Pickford

As your elected president I am pleased to report on a very happy and successful year within U3A Calpe and I have felt privileged to be your president during this time.

Health wise, as most of you might know has not been the best of times for me, but my committee has, as usual taken on some tasks and always given me the best of support so many thanks go to all of them.

The U3A Calpe website has been continually updated during the year. It works well and I'm told it's the best U3A website on the Costa Blanca. We will continue to make improvements and will be adding an automated membership facility that will incorporate PayPal, and allow members the option of paying for travel trips and renewing their membership online.

Our Banking facilities with Barclays in Calpe were dealt a blow when they closed the branch at the end of August, however we are very pleased with our new banking facility at KutxaBank (BBK) in Calle Corbeta, and their staff all speak excellent English and are very user friendly.

The U3A database is continually being improved, however quite a lot of members email addresses are still not correct. If you're on email and not receiving the Newsletter this is because the email you registered with us is not correct. Please therefore let us have the correct email address so that we can change our records. This can be done at any of our meetings. We will of course still provide those members without a computer a printed copy at the general meetings.

You will have heard from the committee and group co-ordinators over the past 12 months on the various activities that have been undertaken and enjoyed by the members. Without their input and support their simply would be no U3A, and on behalf of myself & the committee wish to thank particularly Sandy Bianco & Joy Lally, who as most of you will know already are leaving the committee, we wish them well and all the very best for the future.

Thanks must also go to all the Helping Hands who take on jobs on an ad hoc basis especially at the time of our general meetings, when their support to the committee is invaluable.

So repeating some of my opening words, your committee has given me so much support and their organisation skills have been first class!

Christmas is not far away, I like to wish all our members a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year wherever they will be!

Website News

Health and Wellbeing Pages

From: Pat Spencer

As some of our members may have noticed, there have been some changes in the way drugs are now dispensed. We no longer have prescriptions as such.

This means there has been a change in information and this has now been displayed on our website on the Health and Wellbeing pages.

Travel and Culture

La Zenia Boulevard Shopping Trip

A travel group sponsored trip on Friday 22nd November.

Cost for members only €5

Non-members will be charged €8

Alicante City Shopping Trip

A travel group sponsored trip on Wednesday 11th December.

Cost for members only €4

Non-members will be charged €7

These shopping trips will book up quickly, Alicante is now fully booked.

For any further information please contact John Pickford, Travel Co-ordinator: **96 583 4904** or johnpickfordtravel@gmail.com

Rod Anderton, Culture: **96 583 2081** or rodanderton@yahoo.co.uk

Groups News

Flower Arranging

This group, run by Tina Wallis, recommenced on Monday 23rd September at 10:30am. Towards the summer break this group moved to its new home of Bar Topacio III on La Fossa beach.

There will be 6 classes between September and Christmas. Please contact Tina on 96 583 3197 or tinamaria19@gmail.com for more information and to sign up for this group.

Canasta

The U3A Calpe canasta group meets weekly on a Thursday at the home of Sandra Llewellyn.

Canasta is not a difficult game and can be played as solo, pairs or sixes.

All beginners are welcome, also seasoned players but the emphasis is on light hearted fun and getting together socially.

If you would like to come along and give it a go, please contact Sandra on 96 574 7221 for information and directions to her home.

Spanish Classes

Due to cancellations, we can now offer further placements for beginners on a Friday morning at 9:30am. If this would be of interest to you, please contact Jan Newark on 96 583 6815.

Tenpin Bowling

We meet at the lanes in Moraira for a 7pm prompt start. We play 2 games and prizes are up for grabs! The cost is €8 per person.

We now hold the meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month and our next meet will be Thursday 12th December, then Thursday 9th January.

If you wish to attend the December and January meetings, you will need to pay up front at the November AGM or make arrangements with the group leader at least a week in advance of the event to pay up front.

Book with Tina or Giovanna Wallis on 96 583 3197 or editor@u3acalpe.com

Have a Giggle

Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play. Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.

In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes.

The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.

You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

Local Area Network in Australia- the LAN down under.

Reports

Event Report: Quiz Night

From: Joy Lally

On Friday 18th October, 70 U3A members met up at the Bolero restaurant for our Annual quiz night. After enjoying a chicken supper, accompanied by wine, our 11 teams settled down to wrestle with the 10 sets of questions, compiled by Quizmaster (and our President) John Pickford.

Giovanna Wallis was our compere, reading the questions out clearly, and injecting a touch of humour here and there. At the halfway point, teams exchanged their question-sheets and they were scored. After a short break, we proceeded with the second half of the quiz, which included a tricky set of 'logo' symbols, not easy for those of us who always skip through the T.V. ads!

During the interval, John Pickford ran a jackpot competition at 1 euro each. The question, concerning what article had appeared for the first time ever in a London shop window in 1633, gave rise to some very interesting answers, not all of them repeatable here!

None of the answers even came close to the correct one – "Bananas", so the money raised was donated instead to the Mayor of Calpe's food bank appeal, to the general approval of our members.

Then, after waiting with bated breath, the winning team was announced. By only a single point, the winning team was "The Northerners". The team was made up by Carol and Malcolm Saunders, Audrey Wildman and 3 of our Committee members, Edith Watson, Tina Wallis and Janet Bond. The winner's prizes consisted of various bottles of spirits and chocolates.

It was agreed that a good night had been had by all, so our thanks go to the staff of the Bolero, for providing a tasty and plentiful meal and a pleasant venue. Also to John Pickford, our President, who despite his current health problems, produced the Quiz questions and answer-sheets. To Giovanna Wallis, our excellent compere and to Ken and Val Merry, who had the unenviable task of collating and adding up all the scores! We also have to thank our photographer, Albert Hancy, for producing all the excellent photos.