

# U3A Denia

Asociación de la  
Tercera Edad de Denia  
www.u3adenia.org



## October 2016 Newsletter

### The Committee:

**President:**           **Gordon Clifford**

Vice President:   Christine Whitelock

Treasurer:         Roger Fell

Ex Officio:         Len Roper

Secretary:         Mike Blower

Ex Officio:         Margaret Kelly

Ex Officio:         Pam Rowlinson

Ex Officio:         Audrey Roper

### A Message from the President:

Following what has been a very difficult nine months for the Committee, many of the issues we have been faced with are now resolved allowing us to return to the everyday business of running the Association, which is, I am very pleased to say, flourishing with some 750 members and 34 Groups. One of the more interesting things I have noticed recently is that there are more members joining The U3A Denia whose first language is not English and I very much welcome this. The presence of these members, I believe, enhances the Association greatly making it more vibrant and cosmopolitan.

The Groups are, and will continue to be, the heart of the Association and I thank the Group Leaders for all the hard work they put in to ensure their success. One of the newest groups, the Curry Club, was fully subscribed literally within hours of being advertised, well done Sabine Evans. Mike Blowers' Photography Group is enjoying something of a Renaissance and has attracted some very talented and knowledgeable photographers who are more than willing to share their knowledge with new members. If you are a "Happy Snapper" this group will let you know how to get the best use from your camera.

The generosity of our members never ceases to amaze me. Recently a couple donated two his and hers bicycles to the children's home which were gratefully received. Money was also given for the purchase of two helmets for the safety of the riders. One of the boys who is a resident at the home has now signed up for a cookery course at a college on the outskirts of Dénia and is now able to get there by means of one of the bicycles and he is absolutely delighted.

The Travel Team has prepared a programme of what promises to be, some exciting and adventurous trips for next year. These events are posted on the Travel web site. It should be noted that behind every trip is a very small group of hard working and dedicated people who do all the time consuming and sometimes tasks involved in the administration of the event, taking and recording bookings, arranging

accommodation and transport, answering the mirriad questions that always arise. paying invoices, and many more. These people are essential to the success of any trip and without them the Travel Team wold be unable to function

Finally, please remember that the Committee exists to listen to, and carry out the wishes of, you the members. Yes, as with any Association, we have our detractors, this is not unexpected, however, to the overwhelming number of you who appreciate and support what we do, I offer my sincere thanks

Gordon Clifford  
President

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## **News from the Groups:**

### **Petanque:**

As the weather returns to a more normal temperature our members are returning from their holidays and turning up on a Tuesday morning to enjoy some more fun and competition in Bassettes park playing Pétanque.

The standard throughout these past weeks has been extremely high and would indicate that our regular playing members are improving although some of our visitors and family members have given us a run for our money. ( Could it be that 'beginners luck' played a part! )

Our recent winners are on display below proudly clutching their spoils.



Congratulations to them all!

On Tuesday the 4th October we helped Gordon celebrate his birthday by bursting into a rendition of 'Happy Birthday' and tucking into some lovely birthday cake. Many Congratulations Gordon!

Ann, Group leader [petanque@u3adenia.com](mailto:petanque@u3adenia.com)

## Photography Group:



Castle Walls

The photography group are hopeful of getting a room with a projector in the Les Portalles building in Carrer Pare Pere, we are just awaiting official confirmation.

It is a big room with seating for fifty, so we had better look for some more members! We will be meeting at the earlier time of 16.30 till 18.30 on the 1st & 3rd Monday of the month.

We had the monthly competition themed Seascapes which was won by Brian Woolaston.



While trawling through the internet looking for information I discovered a write up about Seascapes Photography and circulated it at the meeting. So we are re-running Seascapes again as the competition theme for November.

As several members are flitting back and forth to the UK and elsewhere, members may submit entries to the monthly competitions by email, one entry per member and please reduce the entries to 1200 pixels wide by 900 pixels high so that it reproduces correctly.

Contact Mike on [photo@u3adenia.com](mailto:photo@u3adenia.com) to get on the mailing list for up to date info about the group

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## Play Reading Group:

The Play Reading Group had their last meeting on Tuesday 4th October. Several members of the Group are only here for part of the year and after 30 years in Dénia I am returning to the UK in November on a permanent basis. On Tuesday all our members attended the meeting and it was decided with regret to suspend activities. One of the problems is sourcing new material which is time consuming and expensive.

I will not be renewing my membership in 2017 but will have to look for a group in the UK. I have found my years as a member of Dénia U3A very fulfilling.

**Best Wishes,  
Eileen Dart**

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**Quiz Group:**



The U3A Dénia quiz night takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month at the Poligono Restaurant in Dénia. The price for the quiz, meal and including prizes is 13 Euros per person.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for quiz nights please contact Pam [quiz@u3adenia.com](mailto:quiz@u3adenia.com)

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**Racketball:**

Yes, we would still like to meet would-be players!  
Yes, we still play every Tuesday mornings at Tennis Club de Dénia!  
Yes, we have equipment you can have a go with!  
Yes, we could check out new morning dates for you if your diary is complex!  
Yes, there is an extremely generous (*sic*) subsidy for all U3A Dénia members!

Just contact me by email and we will sort it out.

End of commercial.

And now for something completely different.

(And it is not "The Larch")  
(or a Norwegian Blue)  
(or the velocity of an unladen swallow)  
Sorry!

It was mentioned briefly during one of those post-activity refreshment sessions well known to U3A Dénia members. Which Group it was is irrelevant, but some adroit member simply said: "What you did earlier looked just like how some other members of the U3A XXXXX group do"

And it all became clear. And U3A Dénia Group Fusion was born.

With over 20 Groups to have a go at, particularly with those usual diary clashes, it has been suggested that we combine two or more complementary activities.

Imagine.....

Chess with Music – played by Queen, or The Move, or Chubby Checker.

Art with Petanque – excellent grouping, and the flash of balls glistening in the sunlight

Photography and Fishing – your grouping is out of place, he is a dab-hand of reeling in, look at that beautiful mackerel sky.

The combinations are infinite (well, not infinite but about 22! for you mathematicians).

So, where is all of this drivel going? It heads towards Racketball and the newly-formed Salsa sessions.

At this point I request that any reader still with me, and interested, should click on to the link here – [www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfDVnX4j3-w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfDVnX4j3-w) (According to my laptop you need to hold down "ctrl" and click with the mousey thing).

I ask you to examine minutely two of the Salsa moves: the "Basic Step 1" and the "Right Turn on 1".

Those in the know who play Racketball and Squash will see the similarities. The first is the basic move when you stand on the "T", the best position defend in the middle of the court where you can move quickly in any direction.

"Basic Step 1" is the usual manoeuvre for going forward towards the front wall to hit a short ball, and then return to the "T". You should practice this at every opportunity, ideally to the accompaniment of a mid-beat Salsa rhythm. It could be at home, (for example, when drying the dishes), or in a Supermarket check-out queue. In the latter you might also attract attention from a fine specimen of the opposite sex as the move is also known as "el apasionado de Cuba"!

The "Right turn on 1" is normally only used for semi-professional players where a more complicated game is in play. It begins with the "Basic Step 1" moving forward, but then becomes the Right Turn when the opponent, instead of playing a short ball, then flicks it up and towards the back corner. At this point the receiver will say something like "Ooops!", turn to the right on the beat of 3, and attempt to play the ball from a far more difficult situation. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO PRACTICE THIS ONE** in either your kitchen or Supermarket. More space is required. You could try the garden, but ask your neighbours first.

Of course, only the very experienced should attempt the "Left Turn on 1", but it is a particularly nifty manoeuvre in Pubs when turning away from the Bar with a full drinks tray.

Talepiece:

All good tales need a humourous ending. There is not much of one above, but please have a look at the link here to make you smile:

[https://www.theguardian.com/world/gallery/2016/oct/07/the-comedy-wildlife-photography-awards?CMP=fb\\_gu](https://www.theguardian.com/world/gallery/2016/oct/07/the-comedy-wildlife-photography-awards?CMP=fb_gu)

Again, something completely different!

Bouncy, bouncy

Neil Parkin

Group Leader – Racketball [racketball@u3adenia.com](mailto:racketball@u3adenia.com)

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### **For Sale:**

Set of large capacity Drawers (120 euros ono)



160 o'all width x 72 h x 43 Drawer Depth



Wrought Iron Glass Top Coffee Table (35 Euros)

Contact Brian: Our Tel.No. is 680929829



Armchair with attached foot rest 60 euros  
Euros each or two for 50Euros

2 bedside cabinets 30

Telephone Maureen 966433487 Dénia

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**For Sale:**

Atico apartment for sale in La Xara. Spacious lounge, three bedrooms, parking space in basement garage. Enormous private terrace with superb views of El Montgo. La Xara is a self-contained village with almost all amenities required for living and is close to the Marina Alta Hospital, the Valencia-Alicante motorway, and Denia with its shops and beaches; on bus route from Denia to Javea. Priced to sell quickly at € 159000. Tel.965788707.

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**KENWOOD MICRO HIFI**



Stereo unit for sale in excellent condition. CD player, tape player and radio. Comes with operating manual and remote. Excellent working order. My only reason for selling is that I have now put all my CDs onto my computer €30. Tel: 665 433047 or [normablanche@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:normablanche@hotmail.co.uk)

**ECOBIKE URBAN**

This folding battery operated electric bike is ideal for use in and around town. It folds up to go in the boot of the car or in a caravan, etc. This has only every been used on a couple of occasions and is in excellent condition. It comes with front and rear lights, a bell and security lock together with a helmet.

€800 ono.  
665 433047 or [normablanche@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:normablanche@hotmail.co.uk)



Ransome racquetball racquet and cover. As new. €15.  
Tel: 96 5786934 or email: [thelipps@gmail.com](mailto:thelipps@gmail.com)



Site lights with two individually switched halogen lights folds into box for storage.  
€15.  
Tel: 96 5786934 or email: [thelipps@gmail.com](mailto:thelipps@gmail.com)





1500 watt electric heater with thermostat and wheels (not shown in picture) with original box for storage. €15.

Tel: 96 5786934 or email: [thelipps@gmail.com](mailto:thelipps@gmail.com)

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**U3A Dénia's 'Good Cause'**

A big thank you to all U3A Dénia members for treating the children to their usual summer 'Family Day Out'. This year they chose to go to Aqualandia – so we managed to pay for the entrance tickets and a coach to transport the children from the money kindly donated at the monthly meetings.



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**MARK STACEY VALUATION DAY – 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016**  
**Café Amazing, Marquis de Campo**



If you have any treasured item/s which you would like a valuation on either for insurance purposes or because you wish to sell – or even just for curiosity - then please contact me to reserve a place during the afternoon section of the day [pamrowlinson@gmail.com](mailto:pamrowlinson@gmail.com)

The price of your valuation is €5 for up to two items. If you have more than 2 items you will need to reserve another place. All monies raised will be going to the U3A Dénia's good cause to purchase Christmas gifts for the 25+ children's who are resident at the care home in Dénia.

You will then be sent a confirmation email which will contain your reference number.

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## For Information:

**jaycee**  
productions

**A selection of sketches  
a laugh a minute!**

**Supporting the  
Children's Drama Fund**

Jeff and Jane Corbett  
in  
**Two's Company**  
with Debbie Wallis

**Thursday 27th October 2016 at 8.30 pm**  
**Teatro Auditorio del Centro Social Dénia**  
Tickets 5 euros inc. charity donation  
Box Office : Secretaria de la Escuela de Idiomas  
C/Joan Fuster 44

AJUNTAMENT DE DÉNIA  
Relacions internacionals

eoi **dénia**  
Escola  
Oficial  
d'Idiomes

A proportion of the income from ticket sales supports the children's drama charity and a number of young people from the children's home supported by Dénia U3A were treated to the play and an after-show dinner last time. I'm sure a number of local disadvantaged young people will again be invited. Tickets can be obtained from the Escuela Oficial de Idiomas or purchased on the night at the theatre.

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## Collaboration with Pou de la Muntanya School

The deputy had at the school has asking if any of our members would be interested in taking part in activities involving the children hearing real English accents rather than just one spoken by Spanish-speaking teachers.

The content of this activity could be by reading a story in English or talking with the children in informal conversation on a suitable subject (the differences in the way Christmas is celebrated for example), playing a table etc.

The activities would take place on Tuesdays from 3.30pm to 4.00pm. There would be no more than 25 pupils on each occasion.

If you would like any further information or would like to volunteer to take part please contact: Isabel Varela [pequechinia@yahoo.es](mailto:pequechinia@yahoo.es)

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I might not be someone's first choice,  
...but I am a great choice.  
I may not be rich, ...but I am valuable.  
I don't pretend to be someone I'm not,  
...because I'm good at being me.  
I might not be proud of some of the things  
I've done in the past,  
...but I am proud of who I am today.  
I may not be perfect...  
...but I don't need to be.  
Take me as I am, or watch me as I walk away!!!