

U3A Denia

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



April 2017 Newsletter

The Committee:

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Ex Officio:

Ex Officio:

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A Message from the President:

We have within our midst living proof that age is no barrier to success. One of our members, Robert Simpson, who is also a stalwart of the very successful Chess Group, has gained third place in an international chess competition which took place over three days in Javea. As you are probably aware, chess is a fiendishly difficult and tactical game to master and during some research I have discovered that depending on how the game is started, some 140 million different moves are possible. May I offer my sincere congratulations to Robert on his worthy achievement.

And it gets better, Robert is joined by fellow chess aficionado Graeme Campbell both of who have become our very own "World Champions." All the details relating how this truly remarkable achievement has come to pass are available in the groups section of this newsletter.

It is indeed pleasing to be able to announce that yet another new group is now up and running. The Open Forum Discussion Group led by Paul Whitfield has attracted a large number of members and the inaugural meeting has been held. Those of you who remember with fondness the old Discussion Group run by Sue Mercer will also recall some very articulate people engaging in some very robust debate on a wide variety of topical, and sometimes controversial, subjects. I suspect the new group will be run along similar lines and I wish the group every success in the future.

In November a fund raising event will take place in aid of our good cause. This will take the form of a quiz the like of which you will probably not come across before. Just to give you a taster, there will be no correct answers to the questions! A very appropriate title for the event would be "Chaos Rules OK"

Gordon Clifford
President

News from the Groups:

Alternative Thinkin:



The Alternative Thinking group have been meeting at 11.30 during April but will be back in May to meeting at 11am at Cafe soles every Wednesday

Chess Group:

When U3A Dénia was founded 10 years ago the Chess Group was one of the first groups to be established. There is no official chess club anywhere in Dénia so, in conjunction with the ayuntamiento, our chess group supports other local people who wish to play chess and receives help with room facilities and equipment storage in return.

Through the ever expanding relationship with other chess players, four members of our U3A Dénia Group - Graeme Campbell, Robert Simpson, Bob Arnot and Martin Winmill - are now also members of Javea Chess Club, the nearest official club in Valencia Region. They are all now qualified according to FIDE regulations, the worldwide organisation of chess players similar in context to FIFA for football, and have ratings of their ability recognised throughout every country.

As such Robert Simpson recently participated in an international chess tournament held at the Parador Hotel in Javea, requiring seven games of chess to be played over a forty eight hour period, each game lasting up to three hours. A very demanding process for anyone! I am delighted to confirm that Robert won third prize in the competition, out of over 100 entrants, for the player who improved the most over the whole tournament, beating many younger players less than half his age. I was delighted to present Robert with his cup at our April monthly meeting.



As was pointed out at our meeting, an analysis of the FIDE database containing the half a million approved chess players in the world shows that in the category of players over the age of fifty, Robert is the highest rated player with the surname of Simpson and Graeme is the highest rated player with the surname Campbell. In short, from the humble beginnings of the U3A Dénia Chess Group we now have two World Champions in our midst!

Anyone who wishes to take up their chess playing again post school (as did all the other players now in the chess group) should email Graeme – chess@u3adenia.com. The group meets on Mondays and Thursdays at the Social Centre in Dénia, 09:30 to 12:30hrs.

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Curry Club:

Our Curry get together have been great fun. I would like to take this opportunity in thanking Mia for being such a wonderful host. Mia thought we try out some other cuisine and Indonesian cuisine was suggested and everybody was happy. We are by no means turning our backs on Curry food but " Variety being the spice of live " we all thought we would try our hand on Indonesian food.



Indonesian cuisine is one of the most vibrant and colourful cuisine in the world, full of intense flavors and diverse, often has Middle Eastern and Indian influences.

Here are some chosen dishes:

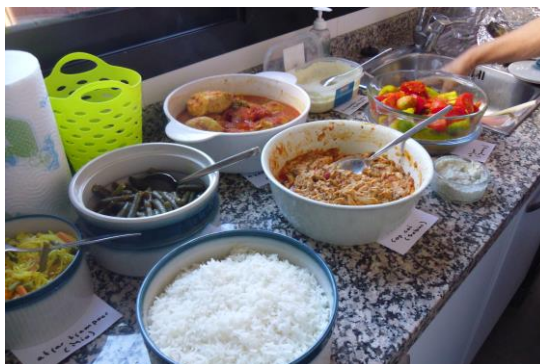
Starters;

Martabak,Cucumber raita,...



Mains:

Ayam masak merah , babi pangang,....



Side:

Cap cai and much more.

Due to peoples other commitments we do have some vacancies now in the Curry club. Please contact myself or Mia on mia.van.buul@gmail.com.



Kind regards
Sabine Evans
(Group Leader)

Petanque Group:

No the picture below does not portray the cookery class although some of you may be forgiven for thinking it is as our happy group of players are once again tucking into beautiful Paella prepared for us by the Bassete Cafe where we play petanque. Thankfully we all enjoy each other's company as socialising after our games plays a large part at our meetings on Tuesday mornings and if you should be crowned 'weekly champion' well this is the icing on the cake!



The ground which has suffered from the recent rains has made our games more challenging to say the least. The only common denominator is that everyone has to overcome the problem and some manage to master it slightly better than their opponents.

This collage shows our most recent champions and congratulations go to these eight players. Well done to them and look out as there are quite a few players nipping at your heels!



Ann Price
Group leader.

petanque@u3adenia.com

Quiz Group:



The U3A Dénia quiz night takes place on the 4th 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 Richard quiz@u3adenia.com

Racketball Group:

We meet every Tuesday at the Squash Court at the Tennis Club de Dénia, subject to confirmation of attendance the weekend prior by email to the Group. Times differ, dependent upon the numbers playing, but we usually play from 0900 to 1100.

Occasionally, new players could arrange a different day/time to play.

Interested Members can come along to have a look at the game, or play, but should contact the Group Leader to confirm times. All Members are happy and able to help others to learn the game.

It is a more gentle version of Squash, played with larger rackets and balls, and is played on a Squash court with similar, simple rules. Rackets and balls are available to have a go, and those continuing to play will be expected to buy their own racket after a few games.

Players need usual kit, and shoes that will not mark the court. The session costs 4 euros, collected on the day. Changing Rooms and Showers are available subject to a 5 euro charge to the Club to receive a Pass Card. A Passport photo is required for this.

Racketball is an excellent way to maintain fitness and activity levels appropriate to our usual age group.

If you would like to join this group or would like further information please contact Brian Sear

racketball@u3adenia.com

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Sunday Walking Group

This continues every other Sunday with a variety of walks from the moderate to the strenuous, until the weather gets too hot and we take our summer recess.

Last Sunday's walk was one of the easier ones when 12 of us, including a guest Norwegian lady, completed a circular walk, taking in the Val de Estret.

Bob Stansfield (one of the founding members of the CB Mountain Walkers - all those years ago) calls this a secret valley and writes "This little valley has been ill-used by man in recent times: first came the modest road tunnel and bridge (now abandoned) to carry the main road north to Benissa, then ornamental granite was quarried on the western slope of Olta. Next a Calpe family, the Crespos, established the first electric transformer station to take electricity from the Hydro station at Chines and the ruins can still be seen below the motorway. Then, being out of the way, it became useful for a number of essential but rather anti-social activities, such as a municipal tip, a dog's home, a shooting range and even a proposed sewerage treatment works (now in existence in 2017). Finally came the rail and road tunnels and the motorway, which cut a swath right through its fruitful orchards and terraces."

Despite being close to the motorway, you are not aware of it in this beautiful valley.

This was the second attempt at this route, the first, in early February having to be abandoned due to heavy rain. We then sheltered from the downpour in the tunnel under the motorway, but eventually gave up and retraced our way back to the cars, getting soaked in the process. This time, like last time, we started in full sun but by

the time we had reached Lleus Ermita, the sky turned black, again just like last time, but thankfully the threatened storm did not materialise and we had fine weather to make our return along the shoulder of Olta.



For Sale/Wanted:



2 TP links with cable 10 Euros 1 Wi Fi TP link 10 Euros



Braun Kettle hardly used 5 Euros



Four Plug extension lead 5 Euros

Phone Maureen 966433487
I live in Dénia near the old hospital



ELECTRIC BIKE 50 euros may need new batteries. Paul Priest Denia
phone 660 231 585

Nov. 2005 Ford Focus 2.0 TDCi, 139,000 Km, 3 doors, Metallic black, sunroof,
cruise control, alloys, 4 new tyres, FSH, VGC,
€5.300 inc. transfer. 966427467 (Denia) 629690722 Chris Whitehead

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For Information:

Europe Day

The event will be held in the Municipal market on Tuesday 9th May from 11am to around 1.30pm. It will start with a short speech there by the Mayor. There will be some music and dancing entertainment inside and weather permitting outside.

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Guest Speakers

Monthly meetings are on the third Thursday of each month with a break for July and August

May we have a Notary to speak to us and explain some of the legal things we have to deal with.

June Ruby Philpott the geologist will tell us about the geology of detecting and discovery of oil in various parts of the world and the history of how and why it's there.

September we have a retired FIFA professional referee to tell us some interesting stories of his career.

October The Dénia Rock Choir will be here to entertain us.

November David Rohl the well known archaeologist and historian will give a talk on the real story of the Exodus from Egypt.

Hope you can come along to some or all of these events.

Christine Whitelock
Vice president

If you have any questions which you would like to propose to any of our guest speakers please can you let Christine know and she will inform the relevant speaker so that they come to the meeting fully prepared. vice-president@u3adenia.com



From Seconds to Fabulous

CHARITY FASHION SHOW

Clothes & accessories from the La Xara & Moraira **HELP of Denia & Marina Alta** Charity Shops

5th May 2017
Doors open 12:30pm.
Show commences 1pm

HELP Activity Centre
Avenida Oeste 29
La Xara

Tickets 5€
Entrance ticket includes welcome drink and canapé
Booking Essential to reserve call 661 224 134
Tickets can also be purchased from the Help Shop in La Xara

HELP of Denia & Marina Alta
www.helpofdenia.com
Reg. Nº 3706



Pontarddulais Male Choir

with guests



COSTA BLANCA MALE VOICE CHOIR

and Dolce Divas

Teulada-Moraira Auditori

6th May 2017 - 9pm

Tickets €12, available online at instantticket.es, from Teulada Ayuntamiento front desks, Ayuntamiento Office at Espai La Senieta Theatre, Moraira and Teulada Auditorio Box Office

Supporting Teulada-Moraira Protección Civil, the Alzheimer Centre and Make A Smile

