

U3A Denia

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



February 2018 Newsletter

The Committee:

President: Ken Yendell

Vice President: Christine Whitelock

Treasurer: Roger Fell

Secretary: Mike Blower

Ex Officio: Phillip Johnson

Ex Officio: Margaret Kelly

A Message from the President:

Thank you Gordon for not handing over a poison chalice! I know that the members will join me in thanking you for your hard work and dedication to the cause. Also many thanks to those retiring committee members, Pam Rowlinson, Len Roper and Audrey Roper. All three did sterling work on your behalf and their wisdom will be missed. Pam, thankfully, will continue in her role as Travel Group Leader.

Apart from myself we have one other new committee person. Philip Johnson will be assisting Roger so that the accountancy role will have a seamless transition when he ends his tenure at the end of this year. Welcome aboard Phil.

As I have become more involved with the doings at our U3A I have realised that there is a great deal happening about which I was not aware. For example, I did not realise the significance of the pink and blue plastic buckets at the monthly members meetings. If some of you are as ignorant as me you will be interested in the following. Donations placed in the pink bucket are deposited directly into the Children's Home bank account. The blue bucket is for the Soup Kitchen Project on Patricio Ferrandez. In addition to money donations, clean clothing and toiletries will be gratefully accepted. Please bring along any loose silver coins and €5 notes and clothes that are now too loose, to the next and subsequent Members Meetings.

I have some very bad news to impart. Those of you at the AGM would have heard me mention that I intended to replace the speakers at the monthly meetings with highlights of the recent Ashes series. Sadly, my hard drive crashed and these wonderful displays of manly Pommy Bashing on the cricket field have been lost. So, over to Christine to quickly line up the speakers.

Our U3A membership is a diverse group. The 30 or so activity groups are great and I know that those attending these groups really enjoy the fellowship and appreciate the efforts put in by the group leaders. However, can we increase the activity with members outside of their own selected activity group?

Any suggestions to make the Members Meeting more inclusive and fun?

Christine Whitelock mentioned reintroducing the group leaders to sell their wares. I am hoping we can start this at the next Members Meeting. Any volunteers?

There's a great opportunity to 'Great & Meet'/'Mix & Mingle' at each Monthly Meeting. We can make this fun. Wine? Nibbles? My movies of Australia? Your movies of grandchildren? A quiz on the contents of the monthly Newsletter to check how many members read it?

Basically I need help and initiatives from you, the members, to improve and enliven Denia U3A. So come on down and shout me coffee for a chat.

I intend to be busy mingling with some Activity Groups, obviously not the intellectual groups or Pilates, (and the Allotment group would only be as a taster), but I will try to get the vibes that you all feel about your individual groups.

I look forward to meeting those members whom I have not met and discussing the future of our group.

Remember, I and your committee are only an email away, so any ideas you send us will be put on the agenda for discussion.

Ken

president@u3adenia.com

News from the Groups:

Art Group:



The Art Group has moved again! Perhaps we are a jinx to the bars which we patronise as yet another (Bar Aldea) has closed down leaving us to search again for new premises. Luckily we have found a new home at Bar Estrella, with plenty of space and light and right in the middle of Dénia. Please come along and join us in our artistic endeavours!

Thanks

Angela

Please see the webpages for contact details

Backgammon Group

The 3rd BUMA trophy was won by Neil Parkin presented by Dave Thomas on behalf of Graeme Campbell who was last months winner. (Graeme is presently in the UK).



Despite the inclement weather conditions the die-hards turned out to fight for the prestigious monthly award. Following a nail biting semi final with Peter McArdle, somehow, Neil managed to scrape out a victory, well done Neil.

The group is progressing very well with a group of 17 in total, with a couple of new enquiries.

Dave Thomas, Group Leader
Please see the webpages for contact details

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Curry Club



It was our turn to host the curry club in January. I would like to thank our members for producing some delicious food. On the menu we had " sweet potato pease and onion samosas, Mint and Ginger Yoghurt dip, Creamy Veg and Chicken Korma, Tai red curry beef with Aubergine and lime and Carrots. For dessert we had Indian Carrot Cake.



It was a cold day so the occasion was helped with a roaring fire .

P.s new members welcome

Kind regards

Sabine (Group leader)

Please see the webpages for contact details

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Cycling Group:



After the very needed downpours the bikers made a ride today. The sun did not disappoint giving us a welcome warm up at The Deveses sand dunes camp site.

Not too far arriving back by 2pm.

Meeting cafe de cyclista bar Dénia.

Barbara Doms

PS. I take out my front wheel, and put the bike in the boot of the car Leaving by bike from the cafe.

We meet up at least once a week, Fridays/ Saturdays, but this could be flexible to people's needs.

Bárbara Doms

Please see the webpages for contact details

Fishing Group:

The fishing group had 26 members and wives enjoy a lovely lunch at the Gran Sol Hotel. Two cups were presented. Dennis Linden for best fish of 2017 season, and Gerrald Hainsworth for help in the club to other members. We all enjoyed the occasion, and it was nice for the wives and partners to have a meet up. We continue to grow as a group and several new members enjoyed our annual lunch for the first time.



Please see the webpages for contact details

Petanque Group



Over the last couple of weeks we have seen our members returning from prolonged Christmas breaks and from colds and viruses.

Weather conditions are improving albeit inclement weather has meant that we have had to cancel some games recently.

We were very grateful to Veronica for trusting and allowing us to use the facilities of Bassetes Cafe while they were away on holidays and the Cafe itself was closed. This week we welcomed the reopening of Bassetes Cafe with their refreshments and snacks.

Members old and new continue to compete against each other for the honour of winning the weekly prizes and below you can see the previous weekly winners. Congratulations to them all and commiserations to the runners up.

Ann
Group Leader
Please see the webpages for contact details

Quiz Group:



The U3A Dénia quiz night takes place on the 4th Friday of the month at the Poligono Restaurant in Dénia except in December. 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
Please see the webpages for contact details

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Singles Cookery Group:

On 13 January the singles cook club met at Mia's place for our first meal. We were four, as one of our members was in the UK. After a chat and a drink we had a three course meal. It was decided to name our little club Carpe Diem. So far we have five members, so there's place for one more single person who'd like to meet once every few weeks. The host(ess) decides what he/she is going to cook for her guests, and of course we take turns. Our next meeting is at Brian's on 27 February. If you'd like to join us please see the webpages for contact details

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Sunday Walking Group

In the past we have had to change venues at the last minute due to meeting heavily-armed, wild boar hunters, but we have never had to cancel a walk, due to the weather, until today, Sunday 18th February. With low cloud down to 300 m, the walk to the 700 m summit of El Cau was regrettably cancelled.

Previous walks took place in our usual sunny weather with excellent, far-reaching vistas on crisp days. On the 7th January a "bit easier than usual" walk brought out 24 people to do the circular route of the corals, from Xeresa. This passes a number of ruined corals with living accommodation, where large mixed flocks of sheep and goats would have been kept. The walk was without incident except for a high gate across our path being locked.



Arms, legs and knees were further exercised in climbing the fence but were soon compensated with a rest and a beer in Xeresa.



The following walk on the 21st January was rather more strenuous and 9 turned up to do the ascent of Monte Ponoig. This mountain, situated just behind Puig Campaña, is 1140m high and gives glorious 360 degree views.



The 4th February had 13 of us doing a circular walk from Tarbena. Although it was a brilliant day we still encountered large snow patches.

The next walk on the 4th March will be the cancelled walk, a figure of eight over El Cau, starting from the road from Jalon to Benissa.

Saludos, Crawford

Please see the webpages for contact details

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Travel Group

Please click on the link on the U3A Dénia home page to view the latest Travel News

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Ukelele Group:

Ukulele Group at Burns' Night

A great time was had by all on Thursday 25th January at a Burns' Night Celebration. With a big turnout at El Comercio, we were able to raise 225 Euro for Help of Denia. Jim Carnichan looked a splendid sight as he piped in the haggis, and Susan Black was very entertaining as she 'addressed the haggis', with the aid of an alarmingly large knife!

Guests were treated to a traditional meal of cock-a-leekie soup, then haggis, neeps and tatties followed by shortbread. Alistair Peacock gave us 'The Immortal Memory' which was very informative for the many 'Sassenachs' present, as well as humorous. Allan Findlay gave us a 'Toast to the Lassies', to which his wife Anita responded with the 'Reply from the Lassies', both very entertaining and provoking much laughter from the audience.

A singalong of Scottish songs followed, performed by a combined group of 'The Ukaholics' of Denia U3A and 'The Jukes' of El Verger, which went down very well with the audience. Cazzie Millington sang 'My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose' accompanied by Mike Burke, and Mairead Hurmann performed 'Are You Right There Michael'. We were then invited to try our hand at Scottish dancing, to much hilarity as things didn't quite go according to plan! To round off the evening we sang Auld Lang Syne, and the remaining guests danced to a disco of Scottish music. A great evening's entertainment!





Story by Mary Bolger, photos by Sally Merrett



Handing over the cheque to Help of Dénia

I am always glad of new members in my ukulele group, even if they've never picked up an instrument before! It's worth a try, and they may just love it! I have a couple of spare ukes to 'try before you buy', as long as they let me know they are coming to make sure I take them with me.

Please see the webpages for contact details

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For Sale/Wanted:



Item 1. G-Tech cordless extendable hedge trimmer with charging cable.

Cost 50 euros.



Item 2. Dyson DC08 vacuum cleaner with carpet and tile cleaning heads and other accessories.

Cost 50 euros

Phone 651901304

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Two brand new (still have tags and wrapper)
Wire undershelf shelves €5



Pair of lightweight cream curtain

Tab tops. 260 x 145. €10

Tel: 665 433047



Light fitting €30



Gas Hob. Ideal for rental property/outside kitchen. €50

telephone Lesley on 696082916 or email: highstreet238-lesley@yahoo.co.uk

For Information:

Please can we ask members to donate wool (any description) so an 89 year old lady can crochet blankets for the poor in Dénia – the blankets will be donated to "Extiende tu Maño" one of U3A Dénia's good causes. The wool can be collected or you can bring it along to one of the monthly members meetings.

Brenda M Muckley - tel 617 197 045

Speakers at Monthly Members Meetings for 2018:

March Izzy Hardy. Former police constable will speak about safeguarding online security.

April. Heidi Tryland. Speaking of osteopathic treatment.

May. Pedro Dominguez Crego from Cruz Roja. Available help and resources from the Red Cross.

June Paul Whitfield. Ex fire officer. About his experiences in the fire service.