

# May 2019

## Newsletter

Summer is here which means a mass exodus for those who do not like the heat and an equal arrival of those who do. Then there are the stalwarts who stay all year, heat and cold and moan about both. But how lucky are we when tourists pay thousands to enjoy the benefits we take for granted. Try having morning coffee in the marina overlooking the

Montgó on the left, the castle on the right and the bay and boats in between. It is a magnificent view. What a lovely May we had with coffee mornings, a trip to Murcia and Caravac then Prague, Vienna and Budapest, ballroom dancing classes, summer picnic and all the group events. There is never enough time.



### Diary Reminders

Coffee Morning - Saturday 8 and 22, 11.30 at Cafe Soles. A perfect occasion to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Monthly Meeting. - Thursday 20 at the Casa Cultura. The speaker will be Candida Wright (Candy) the President of HELP in Dénia and La Xara.

### Beach Party

San Juan. - Sunday 23, 7.00pm at Blay Beach, Las Marinas. This is a fun gathering on the beach with other locals and your friends. Bring your own picnic and chair and join in the activities of the San Juan bonfire fiesta. This is a pagan festival of fire held on the day of summer solstice and celebrated all over Spain. We meet on the beach just below the bar (where else!). Some members even dip their toes in the sea.



Introduction

Diary Reminders

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### Backgammon

The prestigious BUMA trophy, presented to the winner of the monthly tournament, is now facing fierce competition as players have improved their game so much since the club started fourteen months ago. The May winner was Peter McArdle who battled out the final game against Norma Robertson. Norma had one piece left to take off against Peters three, making Norma a sure winner. Then Peter threw a double six! Game over with Peter as the winner. Backgammon is not a good game to place a bet on



*Peter McArdle receiving his prize from Maggie Whitmore*

### Easy Cycling Group

During the winter we meet once a week but now we have sunny days we are cycling twice, taking it easy as we enjoy the river at Els Poblets, stopping for a strudel at the famous Strudel bar. We were amazed to discover an abandoned aircraft, presumably from World War 2. Other venues include Jesus Pobre, Deveses and Javea - there we cheat and boat over, cycle back! We are often accompanied by Freddie the dog who thinks he is one of the team. All our rides are tailored to suit members needs and abilities and as well as a lovely day out we get lots of exercise. New members are very welcome. Electric bikes are also welcomed.



*Abandoned aircraft at Els Poblets*

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### Patanca Group

So much for spring arriving in Dénia. On 23rd April rain stopped play. Disappointing but does not happen often and undaunted twenty eight players arrived eager to play on the 30th.

The competition can be tense, but friendly with the winning couple receiving a bottle of wine each. We are delighted that the chiriguito is up and running again and confident that the number of players will increase with the good weather.

Here are the latest winners and I can confirm that the prizes were for petanca skill and not the ladies very chic hats or Daniel resplendent in his Dénia petanca polo shirt and cap.



*Peter & Daniel  
Norman & Barbara  
Lesley and Vinod  
Brian & Savika*



### Art Group

The art group has been suspended until September as the Dénia Club de Tennis is very busy during the summer. We do not want to look for a different venue as the club provides us with space, light, refreshments and parking.

We intend to begin again in September with a course of professional tuition, which will cost members €5 a week and new members are very welcome.

Christine Whitelock is happy to keep the group going throughout the summer, maybe al fresco to paint some of our amazing scenery. So anyone who wishes to continue please contact Christine. Meanwhile, enjoy the summer folks.

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U3A Dénia  
Asociación de la Tercera  
Edad de España

### Dining Club

The Dining Club held its May dinner at DeniArros where members gathered to enjoy very good food and wine. As always it was a fun evening with lots of lively conversation. New guests were welcomed and enjoyed

themselves so much they came to the picnic. There will not be another dinner until September as group leader Gail is going travelling.



### Travel

The Thirty-nine of our members enjoyed a very successful seven day trip to visit Vienna, Budapest and Prague in May - the first trip we've ever organised abroad. Here they are in Budapest with the River Danube in the background.



### Singles Get-Together

The Singles Get-Together is a group of single people who meet regularly. We can sharpen up our cooking skills by hosting a dinner party or barbecue (no haute cuisine required!). We also meet at a restaurant for lunch or dinner or just catch up over coffee or a glass of wine; there really is no limit and we are open to new ideas. If you would like to join us please email [singles@u3adenia.com](mailto:singles@u3adenia.com) and Mia.

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## Board Games

Jerry has more than 250 board games which he not only wants to share with you all but also teach you the rules and strategies.

The plan is to play at Cafe Soles on Wednesdays starting at 3.30pm.

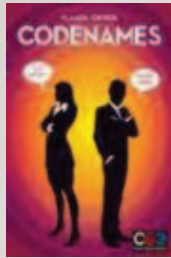
Should be fun and the choice of games is impressive. The first week Jerry will set up half a dozen games as a trial. Youtube links can be made available for those who wish to study the games beforehand.



Confirm your intention to attend and then Jerry will confirm the opening night.

Works with bigger groups

Team Game




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### CODENAMES

COMPLEXITY: LIGHT  
PLAYING TIME: 30-45 MINUTES  
NUMBER OF PLAYERS: 2-8 (BEST WITH 4,6,8)

- Two rival spymasters know the secret identities of 25 agents. Their teammates know the agents only by their CODENAMES.
- In Codenames, two teams compete to see who can make contact with all of their agents first. Spymasters give one-word clues that can point to multiple words on the board.
- Their teammates try to guess words of the right colour while avoiding those that belong to the opposing team.
- If the teammates interpret the clues correctly, they rescue their own agents.
- If they guess wrong, they may rescue enemy agents (helping the other team), or may even reveal the assassin (causing them to immediately lose the game).



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### May memories

The talk by the British Vice Consul on 16th May was agreed by all who attended to have been very informative and beneficial. Sara answered all the questions and even gave her email address to members who were having problems sorting out their residencia.

The first section of the ballroom dancing classes has now ended and the next section will begin in September. The members who attended loved the lessons and are now confidently gliding around the floor in the foxtrot, tango, cha cha cha and waltz.

Attendance at the fortnightly coffee mornings at Cafe Soles continue to increase and are very successful. Many members have made new friends.

What a wonderful afternoon U3A members enjoyed at the May picnic, held in the lovely garden of Phil and Pam on the Montgo. Guests brought and shared their own food and booze and we had a sumptuous feast with plenty to drink. Gone are the days when a picnic meant a ham sandwich, an apple and a bottle of pop. We were entertained to live music from Neil Diamond tribute singer J.J. Jones and members were soon up and dancing. When he left our very own Linda Mills got up, totally impromptu, and gave us a rendition of the golden oldies to more dancing. Linda has a beautiful voice. You could not believe we were all over sixty (and then some!). It was another memorable event. Looking forward to the next one in September and thank you to the committee for giving us a lovely afternoon.



*our two singers  
JJ Jones &  
Linda Mills*



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### Editors' Notes

One of our members from Els Poblets recently experienced a horrifying burglary. Every night at about 10.00pm she took her dog to the field behind her house. This night she returned home to find two very tall men in black balaclavas in her kitchen. She stood, petrified in the doorway screaming, not aware she was blocking their escape. The men knocked her over, she still has violent bruising on her arms, grabbed her handbag and ran out. A car and driver were waiting for them. The police told her that burglars never want to hurt anyone as this would result in a prison sentence for assault whereas there is only a fine for burglary! Evidently they are only after small items like cash and jewellery.

She had left her back door unlocked as she did every night, knowing she would only be out for a few minutes. They had obviously been watching and knew her routine. They went on to burgle another house that night. Please be careful to keep all outside doors and windows locked.

U3A is about meeting new friends and enjoying the events and groups. When a member attends a trip with the travel group or any event and is alone, please introduce yourself and make them welcome ask them to join you.

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Sara, the deputy Consul from Alicante gave a very informative address at the May members meeting, reminding us that the Consulate is there to help British expats with an enormous variety of issues such as lost passports, driving licences, getting out of jail, and general help. The website is worth a look, [www.gov.uk/world/spain.es](http://www.gov.uk/world/spain.es) and then go to Living-in-Spain.

Sara also eased some angst about the continuation of the bi-lateral agreement between Spain and the UK regarding medical attention, hospitalisation and prescriptions. This agreement is due for revision during the transition period.

### Information

Moving to and Living in Spain including Brexit guidance, residency, healthcare and driving [www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-spain](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-spain)

EU exit including negotiations and announcements about policy changes as a result of Brexit [www.gov.uk/government/brexit](http://www.gov.uk/government/brexit)

Preparing for Brexit including passports, driving licences, banking and flying with the EU [www.euexit.campaign.gov.uk](http://www.euexit.campaign.gov.uk)

Spanish Govt providing residents & business about implications and contingency measures on Brexit [in English]  
<http://www.lamonloa.gob.es/brexit/Paginas/index.aspx>

Advice or renewing European Health

Insurance (EHIC) [www.sede.segsocial.gob.es](http://www.sede.segsocial.gob.es)

Received from the British Consul of Alicante:

As the date we are due to leave the EU has now been extended, please do encourage anyone who isn't registered as a resident to do so as soon as the appointments become available.

A reminder of the steps:

Go to  
<https://sede.administracionespublicas.gob.es/icplusplus/index.htm>

Select the province where you live from the drop down menu

Select the option ("Policia – Certificado UE" for Alicante and Murcia provinces," Policia – Certificados/Comunitarios" 0Follow through the steps to confirm your appointment

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### Letters to the Editor

Is there something you wish to tell the committee or the members? A photograph to share? A funny anecdote that still makes you chuckle? A great holiday destination in Spain? A secret parking space in town? A baker better than the Patisserie in Calle de la Mar?