

THE VOICE

November 2019

Issue 45

President's Message

Welcome to our November edition of the Voice, which I hope you find both informative and interesting.

I trust you have all have had a great month with your Group and U3A activities. If you still haven't joined a Group please go to the Group pages and check them out, if you require additional information please contact the appropriate Group Leader.

To the members who have volunteered to give a present for the Children's Christmas Party can I please ask you to bring them to the November Monthly meeting. Please wrap the boxes in Christmas Paper and attach the coloured label to the top and indicate the approximate age the present is for. By bringing them to the meeting you will help to ensure there is a present for each child. If you have a problem in attending the meeting on November 28th, I have arranged with Anna at the CPC that you can drop your present off on November 28th, December 2nd or 3rd. Thank you in advance for your present and your co-operation.

Christmas Celebrations, I draw your attention to the forthcoming Christmas Celebration Party to be held on December 7th at the excellent Moli Canyon in Potries. This will be a great evening starting with a welcome drink, followed by a excellent Menu including Wine on the table. After this you can dance the night away to Live Music, plus there will be a superb Raffle. With a brilliant atmosphere and venue all we need is you to come and make it even better. Please see the full information lower in this edition and register for a great time. If you have attended our Christmas Parties in the past few years you will know what a great night they are, come and join us to kick start your Christmas Festivities.

I wish you a enjoyable month with everything you do and every activity you attend within our U3A, enjoy the experience.

Thank you for taking time to read this.

President

I INVITE YOU TO OUR NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

**This will be on Thursday
28th of November, starting at 11.00am**

**This will be back at our normal venue the
Polivalent**

**The Presenters for this our November meeting is
: Helen King**

The title of her talk is Charity starts at home

Helen will be telling us about the Mens Hospice in Gandia

Can I ask that if you have any Blankets, Towels, Men's Cloths, Men's Toiletries, Dried or Tinned food that you have surplus, please bring them to this meeting. Any suitable item will be greatly welcomed by Helen on behalf of the Hospice. Thank you.

The doors will open at 10.15am with the Meeting starting at 11.00am.

There will be our usual Coffee, Tea and Books with all donations going to our charities

Your attendance is requested as our Monthly Meetings as this is one of the main parts of your U3A membership experience.

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US THE BEGINNING OF THE FESTIVE CHRISTMAS SEASON

on DECEMBER 7th AT 18:30h



THIS WILL BE IN THE
BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED
PRIVATE ROOM AT MOLI CANYAR
IN POTRIES.

YOU WILL ENJOY AN EVENING
FULL OF CHEER, CHATTER, LAUGHTER, PLUS
AN ABUNDANCE OF FOOD AND WINE,
THERE WILL ALSO BE LIVE MUSIC, DANCING PLUS A
RAFFLE WITH A MARVELLOUS GRAND PRICE OF:

**2 TICKETS FOR THE SHOW "AQUA"
AT THE BENIDORM PALACE!**

**DON'T WAIT : THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
NOVEMBER 30th**

BRING YOURSELVES AND YOUR GUESTS

FOR FULL DETAILS INCLUDING THE MENU PLUS REGISTRATION

[CLICK HERE](#)

November Astronomy Report by Mike Glazier

By the time you have read this the transit of Mercury across the face of the Sun will have taken place, I had however written a piece for the Oliva Tattler so in all probability you will have seen and known all about it. The next Mercurian transit will be in 2032. The next transit of Venus across the face of the Sun will be in 2117, so as far as transits are concerned we have a rather long wait.

Much closer and indeed this month we will have a meteor shower known as the Leonids which appear to originate low down to the South. The constellation which the meteors appear to originate from is Leo the Lion, the animal killed in mythology by Hercules as one of his labours. In previous years the shower has been spectacular but these days it appears to be quite rich only in faint meteors.

At the end of the month, the Moon which will only be around 2-3 days old will be joined by the giant planet Jupiter, the bright planet Venus and the less spectacular Saturn. All will be very low down to the south west so you would need a clear horizon to see all four bodies.

The month is quite sparse astronomically speaking but nevertheless a trip around the night sky with binoculars or even just with one's own eyes can be rewarding. First however for those not familiar with the constellations it is always a good idea to learn a small number before tackling the entire sky sphere. A good starting point would be Orion the hunter which is highly prominent to the south east; its most evident feature is the belt made up of three stars lying diagonally with a 'fuzzy' patch below, seen as a nebulous feature in binoculars. Orion himself stands large occupying a wide area of sky. A view of the main stars of Orion through binoculars will reveal each star being a different colour, hence a different temperature. Some of Orion's stars are 'double' and it is interesting to see these. If you follow the 'belt' of Orion down to the left and slightly below, you will come to a very bright star called Sirius, otherwise the dog star Alpha Canis Majoris, actually the lead star in one of Orion's hunting dogs. Sirius is the brightest star in the northern hemisphere, 25 times more luminous than our own sun with an extremely high temperature. It is also a binary, a double although it remains unseen to amateur astronomers due to the brilliance and glare of Sirius itself. Another interesting point to mention is that Sirius was a star of utmost importance to the early Egyptians. So, as you will see to start off learning just one constellation at a time is sufficient

Next month we will have the Winter Solstice and the Geminid meteor shower

Christmas is fast approaching so why not join our Choir for Carols in Gandia and Denia

I have two dates for your diary in December. Our U3A Choir have been invited to sing at the Carol Services in Gandia and Denia.

The first will be at The Church in Gandia near the Borja Palace ([see map](#) the entrance is next to bar Del Duc just over the Serpis bridge) this is on December 4th starting at 6.30pm. Everyone will be welcome; in past years this has been a well-attended service and a great evening.

The second will be at a Church in Denia, ([see map](#)) this will be held on December 11th starting at 6.30pm. If you have never been to this Church it is a quaint building set in its own courtyard area, it is easy to find and is on the Javea side of Denia.

Lynda the Group Leader of our Choir is asking for your support at either of these Carol Services plus if you would like to join the choir they meet a Viva Espania on a Friday afternoon starting at 3.00pm. Whether you can sing or would welcome the opportunity to join the Choir they would love to see you on a Friday afternoon where there will be a warm welcome awaiting you. If you require more information about the Choir please drop Lynda a note at lyndajgoy@gmail.com

Groups Update and Information

Yoga : Has lots of interested members and we now have a new Leader. So Yoga is back, please go to the Group page to view the three options available.

A member has asked about a sewing/dressmaking group. I have had a few more enquiries, so if you are interested in joining or even leading and helping other members to make their own clothes or other items, please do get in touch.

Paddle-boarding: I am looking to get a taster session together for Stand Up Paddle-boarding (SUP). If you are interested please email and I will add you to the list. I have no idea of dates yet, and cost will depend on how many sign up.

IT Support : If you have any problems with using your phones, Laptop or PC then go and ask Kelvin on a Tuesday morning at the CPC. he can help you conquer your IT fears and sort out that niggling issues that drives you crazy.

Astronomy : for beginners is starting 14th November. please check the webpage for information.

Tuesday afternoon is the time for a great natter with friends at the Knit and Natter group. Or if you prefer go and meet Mary and Pauline on a Tuesday morning at 11am for coffee and chat on the kiosk on the paseo (check the group page for details).

Craft Beer Workshop: If anyone is interested in a two day workshop experience for making and brewing beer to your own recipe, then please let me know. The first workshop was extremely enjoyable and very good value for money. I need at least 4 people to sign up to make it worth while for the brewer, Maarten..

New Group : Keyboard for beginners: do you have a keyboard tucked away somewhere and would like to learn how to play it? Sign up now. Markus from the Sing and Play group is offering sessions for beginners. Please head to the group page and register your interest.

Thank you, all the members who volunteered to help at the El Bastidor. The children are really enjoying the new activities and Rosa and Mari Carmen are extremely grateful for their time. If you think you can help at all, then please do let me know.

Report by Angela Town, Groups Coordinator



JOIN US FOR A VISIT TO

Dulcesol & LA MEMORIA DEMOCRATICA

DULCESOL: we will be taken through the factory to discover how and what they make & bake.

Put on your walking shoes, there are no elevators in this building nor a train to get around.

Please provide the travel coordinator with your name and NIE/PASSPORT number upon registration as is required by the company.

LA MEMORIA DEMOCRATICA

This hiding place for the people in Gandia during the last 2 years of the Spanish Civil War has been discovered and opened for the public 2 years ago.

There is one space with information about the construction and others underneath the Prado and the former Mercado Municipal where people were protected against aerial bombings.

A big surprise during the unearthing was the finding of a mural from the XIV century.

Price 8 euros per person

Includes: coach, visits to Dulcesol and

La Memoria Democratica

Leisure time in Gandia from 12:00 till 15:00

DEPARTURE FROM THE POLIVALENT IN OLIVA AT 09:30 HOURS

RETURN AT THE POLIVALENT IN OLIVA AT 17:30 HOURS

[Click Here](#) to register on the waiting list

Update from the Travel Team:

The annual Todos los Santos celebration in Cocentaina is the oldest regional market in Spain.

Vendors from all over Spain showcased their products with a wide range of food, gourmet products, crafts, farm equipment, live stock, cars, music, performances etc. In short there was something of interest for everybody!

The weather was superb, crowds were large making it a challenge to get around; the driver was excellent and proud of his luxury motor coach.

It was a very festive day.



NOVEMBER 27: a sold out trip to DULCESOL and a visit to the MEMORIA DEMOCRATICA to visit the places in Gandia where the citizens hid themselves against the aerial bombings during the Spanish Civil War.

DECEMBER 7th: Our yearly Christmas Celebration with a 3+ course dinner, Cava Welcome drink and all you can drink (that is wine, beer and water) with dinner, music by Bay Radio Host John Curtis, Raffle tickets with a Fantastic Grand Prize 2 tickets to the Benidorm Palace show "AQUA". Come and join us for this festive start of the Christmas Season!!!!

The trips for the next year will be mentioned in the December VOICE.

The Travel Team thanks you for making our trips a success.

Anja and Françoise

Assistant Press Officer

We are looking for an assistant to join and help Angela our Press Officer to promote our U3A through the press. The applicant needs to be IT literate and confident with emails, plus being able to speak Spanish would be a help, but this is not essential. It is estimated that approximately 4 - 5 hours spread throughout a month would be required. Please contact Angela on Angela_town@hotmail.co.uk

El Bastador

An Appeal for Old Cards and craft items.

Last month I put out an appeal for volunteers to support the learning of the children at El Bastidor. There was a great response and a few of those volunteers now hold regular arts and craft sessions, which the children thoroughly enjoy. However, they could do with some materials to work with please. So if you have any old cards (Christmas or Birthday), colour paper/card, glitter, ribbons, stickers; left over wrapping paper and envelopes.....in fact anything you may have and would be happy to give to a good home. please do pass it on.

Either get in touch with me, Kelvin or Rosa or bring it to the monthly meeting on 28th Nov. The children will be very grateful. Thank you in advance.

The El Bastidor school is still desperate for volunteers who have some IT skills and can speak a little Spanish to help the children with their schoolwork. If you can help, and spare an hour or so a week, please do get in touch with Rosa.

The email addresses you will require if you can help in any way:

Angela_town@hotmail.co.uk

rosaesterjones@googlemail.com

kelvin.jarman@sky.com

Do you like travelling and do you also like events such as Dances, Parties and Fine Dining if so, **would you love** to be part of our Travel Team and help organise these for our members and our U3A:



JOHN BULL is still looking for your help

OUR U3A TRAVEL TEAM NEEDS YOU.

If you can answer yes to the above, you could be the person we are looking for. You will be part of the travel team helping to plan and organise trips and events for the coming months, please come and help. There is no requirement to join our management committee.

If you wish to find out more please contact Anja our travel co-ordinator by [clicking here](#)

An item sent in by one of our members



When we were up in the mountains in and around Granada we stopped for a coffee in a little village and I noticed the U3A sign to the top left the door, so went over and chatted to the men. They showed me inside which was a room where there were cards and dominoes on the table. They let me take a photo. The man in the cap was John aged 95.

My thanks to Jean Rogerson

Buy, Sell or Wanted

I am sure someone has an item to sell or is wanted. This is a great place to advertise for Free. Over the past 12 months a number of successful sales and acquisitions have taken place and members have gained extra pocket money by using this Forum.

If you have items to sell, upload them to our Buy/Sell and Swap forum to gain exposure in the Voice.

BUY, SELL or WANTED

1. Boys Bike 5-8 yrs
2. Boys Bike 9-12 yrs

[Click here](#) to go to the Forum for more information.

Take advantage of this and put money back into your pocket

Thank you for reading this November issue, our next edition will be with you on the 15th of December.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed an item to this edition.

I will welcome any contribution from members for our next edition, please send these to me at : mickgoy1@gmail.com