

THE VOICE

OLIVA U3A

JULY 2015

ISSUE 2

BREAKING NEWS

Your committee are very pleased to announce that after listening to you its members, the membership limit for Oliva U3A has been raised. From July 1st 2015 we can now accept applications and renewals up to the new total 2000 members, (the old membership limit was only 500).

We would ask you to tell all your friends of this **important change**, especially those you know who have expressed an interest in joining us, including people who have found it difficult to join due to the old membership limit of 500.

Following the success of our first edition of The Voice, I would take this opportunity to thank everyone for your excellent feedback and comments I have received, these are very much appreciated. We are committed to keeping you up-to date with all our U3A 's past and present Activities, News and Events. I would ask you all to keep sending in your ideas and suggestions in order to help improve this your newsletter and also to help with our commitment to improve Oliva U3A for the benefit of you its members.

I would take this opportunity to introduce our Travel and Events Co-ordinators Anja and Alan, who along with their team are planning some superb trips for you to enjoy.

Today they are pleased to announce the following Day Trips with more to come. Full booking details will be released soon in a separate email to all members.



WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16th 1 Day Trip to Alicante and The Mercedes Exhibition

The first visit of the year is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16th September. We will leave Oliva at 08.30 am. and travel by coach to Alicante.

The itinerary for the day will be:

1. The coach will take us directly to Alicante Castle where we will meet an English speaking guide (cost included) who has an excellent in-depth knowledge of the castle's history and most recently its role in the Civil War.
2. Following this the coach will take us to the port for lunch ,where there are plenty of Restaurants for you to choose from or just enjoy a picnic. There will be time for sailing enthusiasts to visit the Volvo Round-the-World Race museum or for non- sailors to do a little shopping or general wondering around the City Centre.
3. Following lunch there will be a guided tour (cost included) of the MARQ museum and the Mercedes Exhibition this is about the Frigate Mercedes which sank in 1804.
4. Following this superb day we will leave Alicante for our return journey home, arriving back in Oliva at around 18.30.



Full booking details will be sent to you by email towards the end of July.
There will be a large amount of walking on this trip, please take this into consideration

THURSDAY OCTOBER 15th 1 Day Trip to Valor Chocolate Factory and Guadalest



Valor Factory

This trip will depart from Oliva Polivalent at around 8.30 am. en route to Villajoyosa. We will arrive in time to be escorted around the VALOR factory and see how the chocolate is made. Following this tour we will visit their cafeteria to enjoy a wonderful mug of Valor chocolate.

At the end of this mouth watering tour our coach will take us to the picturesque Guadalest. Here you will have free time for lunch at one of the many Restaurants or take your own picnic for a relaxing lunch. You can walk to the castle with its wonderful views over looking the large lake and visit its various museums. Following this wonderful day we will return to Oliva arriving at the Polivalent around 6.30pm.



Guadalest

It is felt that we must point out that this trip will involve a considerable amount of walking, please take this into account before booking your place.

OCTOBER 27th to 30th. **Ademuz Autumn Gold Walking & Sight seeing Trip.**

From 27th to 30th October we will be staying at the popular Casa Domingo in Ademuz.

There will be two Amblers walks and one which will be slightly more strenuous in the hills.

For the non-walkers there will be a minibus laid on for Sightseeing trips to the nearby towns of Teruel & Abarracin.



For more information & prices please check the Events section on the U3A Oliva website.

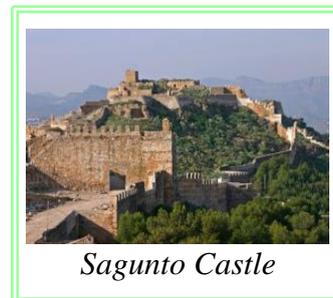
MID NOVEMBER **1 Day Trip to Sagunto & St Josep's Caves in Vall D'uixo**

(date to be announced)

Sagunto

The site of Sagunto has been inhabited for at least 3000 years, and the earliest Iberian settlers started the fortification process in the 5th century BC. The Romans greatly extended the site and added the castle and amphitheater. Coins were minted here for the flourishing trade with the Greeks & Phoenicians

Caves of Sant Josep in Vall d'Uixo



Sagunto Castle



Caves of Sant Josep

After lunch, we will head approximately 12 miles north to the Caves of Sant Josep in Vall d'Uixo. The caves are explored by boat along an underground river. The tour lasts approximately 40 minutes, with a boat trip of nearly one and a half miles and a walk through a dry gallery. The temperature is a constant 20 degrees throughout the year.

DECEMBER (date to be announced) **1 Day Valencia Monument Trip**

We will be visiting the Old City and Monuments with an official English speaking guide included, starting at the Monumental Serrano Towers, Muro de Santa Ana, Plaza de la Virgin with the Cathedral, City Centre. Arrival at the Central Market and free time. After this we move onto the Palacio del Marques de Dos aguas, with its impressive facade.



In the afternoon you have free time to explore one or more of the local museums, a number will be open until late pm. Alternately you can visit the larger shops or hop on a City Tour Bus to explore the other parts of the lovely City of Valencia.

We must point out that there will be a considerable amount of walking during the guided tour, so please take this into account before booking this trip.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24th

IS OUR NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

This meeting will be held at the CPC in Oliva our usual venue, the doors will be open at 10.30am for the meeting to start at 11am. We will announce who will be the speaker closer to the date. If you have any ideas and suggestion for this the first meeting of our New Year please send them via email to me, thanks.

OLIVA 't **YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS PLANNED FOR OLIVA on a MONTHLY BASIS**

If you wish to know what is planned in and around Oliva over the next month/s please click on the following link: - <http://oliva.es/arees/economia/turisme/events-turistics/> when loaded go down the Arees list and click on the Oliva 't link. When this loads, scroll towards the bottom of the page and click on the link:- Agenda turismo (month) (ingles). This will give you the latest agenda in English complete with pictures.

Please remember this information changes each month so keep the above handy to enable you to be up to date with Events in Oliva every month.

RECENT ACTIVITIES and EVENTS REPORT.

JUNE 15th

Wine Appreciation Group Night at El Eden

Following our huge success in April, the Wine Appreciation Group were delighted to invite their members to come to El Edén to enjoy the wines of Simón de Monfort presented by Vicent Monfort Ferrer, who totally captivated our senses with an excellent selection of wines. Our members arrived full of expectation that this was going to be a very special evening and they were not disappointed.

Vicent Monfort Ferrer welcomed us with a taste of his delightful cava, both pink and white, followed by a divine selection of wines from his collection.

During the evening we all enjoyed an excellent Barbacoa by Vicente of Restaurant El Eden, followed by a pulsating evening around the pool with swing and jazz music from the Encore Duo.



The next Wine Appreciation Group meeting will be in September/October.

JUNE 23rd

San Juan Fiesta



Enjoying the fire

This years U3A's beach party was again arranged and organised by Jack Roberts (Mr Rock and Roll). Those members who attended enjoyed the great atmosphere generated on the beach. A big thank you goes out to Jack Roberts, Iain Mungall and Keith Worthington who both assisted Jack on the evening



Jack and Iain

JUNE 25th

Monthly Meeting plus end of Year SHOWCASE

All members were welcomed by our President John Melville, who gave a special welcome to Eddie Chant who after a serious illness was able to join us all at the meeting.

This was followed by a presentation of a cheque to our nominated charity MABS. a cheque to the value of 400 euros was accepted on behalf of MABS by Eleanor (Ellie) Pipkin who thanked the U3A and its members.



Eleanor of MABS

This was followed by the Petanque Trophy presentations by John Melville President and Michael Taylor Group Leader.

The winner of the singles competition and recipient of the The Alice McDade Memorial Trophy was Frank Graf, while the winners of the doubles competition and received the Alan Mayhew Memorial Trophy were Vernon Price and Bill Sedgwick. A report on the Petanque Group with photographs can be found in the Group section below.

The membership enjoyed our End of Year Showcase with four presentations.

The first of these was from the Line Dancing Group who gave a lively and enjoyable performance. The group meets at the CPC on Monday morning at 10am to 11 am for beginners and 11am to 1pm for the intermediate group, Group Leader is Betty Dean.



Line Dancing



Sing and Play

This was followed by the Sing and Play Group. The group members played and sang four different songs, all being well presented for the enjoyment of our members. This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at Cafe Molino in Oliva with Group Leader Markus Stocklin

The third presentation was given by Maurice Hamlin who gave a very entertaining Poetry reading. Maurice is the Group Leader of the Creative Writing Group which meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at the CPC.



Maurice Hamlin



U3A Choir

The fourth and final presentation was by the U3A Choir, who sang four songs in, African, Spanish and English to the delight of the members. The Choir meets every Friday at 16.30 to 18.30. in the CPC with Group Leader Lynda Goy.

The Showcase was brought to an end by the President John Melville who finished by giving a round of thanks to:- the committee who stood up to the plate in December following a number of high profile resignations Especially mentioned were Alan Robinson who acted as Vice president in the absence of John Melville, Iain Mungall who pulled together the website, Rosa Jones who carried on as Group Co-ordinator under great pressure, Pauline Hammond who returned as treasurer, Joe and Tina Bellinie who came out of retirement to offer their services. Thanks were also given to Anne-Marie for looking after our needs at the refreshments table, Peter and Sandy for their help with the books and a thank you to all the Group Leaders for their commitment over the past 12 months. A special thanks to Jack (Mr Rock and Roll) for all his work in organising the U3A presence at the San Juan Beach Party.

The final thank you was to Ana of the CPC for looking after the interests of the U3A during the past 12 months, John presented her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a card. This brought down the final curtain on this years Showcase.

I spoke to a number of members as they left the hall and everyone said they had enjoyed the morning. I would personally take this opportunity to thank all who took part in this years showcase with their superb performances. A special Big Thank You goes to all you members who attended.

Group News and Reports

Petanque (Group Leader, Michael Taylor)

On the 9th June the Singles Championship was played at the CPC in Oliva and winner of the The Alice McDade Memorial Trophy was Frank Graf,



Frank Graf



Vernon Price Bill Sedgwick

On the 16th of June the Doubles Championship was played at the Public course in Miramar and the winners of the Alan Mayhew Memorial Trophy were Vernon Price and Bill Sedgwick.

Afterwards the Group enjoyed an End of Term Lunch at El Eden, this was attended by our Group co-ordinator Rosa.

A message from Michael Taylor Group Leader.

We are pleased to announce that this year we will continue through the summer on the pitches in Miramar. We will play on Tuesdays at 11am so members who wish to play are asked to arrive 10 to 15 minutes early to give enough time to sort out the teams.

The Choir meet at the CPC on Fridays at 16.30 to 18.30. Our Musical Director is Joann Baldwin she teaches and trains us so we are confident to sing at concerts in various locations throughout the year. For the second year we have again been invited to lead the singing at the Borja Church in Gandia at their Christmas Carol Service on December 10th.

At the present time we have 25 members who are very enthusiastic and wish to show their expertise when ever possible however we are always looking to increase our membership in all vocal levels, we especially require Sopranos, Tenors and Bass. So if you enjoy music and singing come and join us on a Friday afternoons (we starts again at the beginning of September). If you are interested please email me on choir@u3a-oliva.org or telephone me on 644502906

[New Committee Appointment.](#)

Your committee are pleased to announce that Jonathan Knights, has been appointed to the position of Press Officer for Oliva U3A.

All U3A press releases or updates from Group Leaders and/or Members will now be the responsibility of Jonathan, so please send all drafts including photograph if applicable to:- photos@u3a-oliva.org. Only authorised press releases by Jonathan, regarding Oliva U3A activities will be permitted, as we wish to present a united front for our organisation.

[SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS REMINDER](#)

Please remember that you can renew your subscription **now** on our U3A website. New prospective members can also register, please note your subscription will be valid until **31st of August 2016**. The price of your renewal and New Membership for this coming year is only **7 euros**. Our new U3A year commences at the beginning of September, so please update your profile when renewing your membership by indicating the Groups you are interested in and will hopefully join. I would ask all new members when completing your application form please tick the groups you are interested in joining.

Your committee are still asking for your suggestions and ideas which you feel would help with future planning and running of our U3A and have a true benefit for all our members.

I can assure you that this is not a lip service exercise, we really do need your feedback.

Thank you to everyone who left their suggestions in the **SUGGESTION BOX** at the Showcase, these have been passed to the Co-ordinator responsible for your suggestion. This box will be available for your use at all future Monthly Meetings.

I hope you have enjoyed this edition of THE VOICE and found it interesting. Please send all your ideas and suggestions to me at:- vice-president@u3a-oliva.org

PLEASE NOTE there will be no edition of The VOICE in August, issue 3 will be with you in September.

It only leaves me and the full committee to wish you all a great Summer break, enjoy your Family and the great weather. If you are travelling back home have a safe journey and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Mick

Vice President