

# THE OLIVA U3A VOICE

SEPTEMBER 2015

ISSUE 3

## Welcome to our New Look Newsletter



### *A warm welcome from our President*

To all our members, Old and New.

What an exciting prospect awaits you.

It's the start of the 9<sup>th</sup> full year of existence for the Oliva U3A. We continue to go from strength to strength. At close of play after the Showcase in June we had just under 500 members. Due to changes to our web site we can now surpass the previous limit of 500 at this moment we have 520 members.

We now have some 37 groups offering everything from Ambling to Zumba and Philosophy to Wine Appreciation. If you have an idea for a new group or activity, please speak to our Groups Co-ordinator (Rosa Jones) or email her on [groups@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:groups@u3a-oliva.org), or any Committee Member.

On the Travel front, this is now organised by a dedicated group (led by Alan Robinson and Anja Homburg) this team convened in June and has already started to produce some different and interesting venues for you to enjoy. They are constantly on the look out for new places to visit so please continue to send them your suggestions. Keep checking the web site for these upcoming events. Send your suggestions to [travel-co-ordinator@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:travel-co-ordinator@u3a-oliva.org).

'The Voice' is the organ to keep you fully informed of what has happened, is happening now and what we hope to do in the future. Print off your copy and keep it close by to show your friends or as a memory aid (we are all getting older).

As you are aware the membership renewal date is the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. For those who have not yet renewed your membership, why not take advantage of the new easy method on our website, which allows you to pay your subscription via PayPal. The traditional payment method using the Bank is still available to you.

I and your new Committee look forward to the coming year, with anticipation. We want to consolidate the work done since December and work together to bring you as good an organisation as possible. An organisation that listens and welcomes the thoughts & differences of opinion that our diverse community brings.

Enough from me. Enjoy the benefits that YOUR U3A has to offer for the coming year. If you are out and about, either on one of the excellent trips that are being organised, or just with your activity group or on the walking break, please enjoy and do it safely.

Thank you. *John Melville*, U3A President

**The following are TRIPS and EVENTS for your diary.**

### **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>**

#### **THIS WILL BE OUR FIRST GENERAL MEETING of the NEW U3A YEAR**

This meeting will be held at the CPC in Oliva our usual venue. We will be on hand to welcome all our old and new members. The doors will be open at 10.30am for the meeting to start at 11am. The speaker will be Mr Sanford Berlove who will be sharing with us his experience and life in California. This will be very interesting as Sanford has lived in this region of America for a number of years before moving to Spain towards the beginning of the year.

### **Monthly Quiz**

### **Monday 5th October**

Our next Quiz will be on the 5th October at the Bar Palut in Oliva. For more information please go to our website and click on Travel & Events when loaded click on Quiz.

***Our Next organised Trip will be on Tuesday October 20th  
you can book this NOW through our website***

***This will be going to, the Valor Chocolate Factory and Guadalest  
Come and enjoy the aromas and flavours of Valor Chocolate***

This trip will depart from Oliva Polivalent at around 8.45 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 the tour of the factory 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 and relax. You can walk to the Castle with its wonderful views over looking the large lake and visit its various Museums and Shops. Following this wonderful day we will return to Oliva arriving at the Polivalent around 6.00pm.

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

***Between October 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Amblers and Walking Groups will be enjoying the:  
Ademuz Autumn Gold Walking & Sight seeing Trip.***

From 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October you 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 available for Sightseeing trips to the nearby towns of Teruel & Abarracin.

***If interested please email the Amblers or Walkers Co-ordinator to register your interest.***

***Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of October will be the Monthly General Meeting.***

The presentation this month will be from a representative from Gandia Tours of Moraira, who will enlighten us on how they can help you with your holiday and trip planning. Remember as an Oliva U3A member you are eligible for a discount of up to 10% off their brochure price. For more information visit our website and click on the members tab followed by the members benefits tab. ***This offer is through Gandia Tours of Moraira only.***

***Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>***

***We have a DayTrip to Sagunto & St Josep's Caves in Vall D'uixó***

*An email will be sent to all members at the beginning of October advising of the Booking start date.*

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

After lunch, we will head approximately 12 miles north to the Caves of Sant Josep in Vall d'Uixo. These 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.

***Thursday November 26th Members General Meeting.***

Our Speaker for November will be Mr David Stevens, one of our fellow members. His presentation will be about his own experience on the Pilgrims Walk This is a morning not to be missed especially if you are a walker who loves to explore those unusual areas.

***Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup> 2015. Following members requests.***

***We have organised our annual trip to the Benidorm Christmas Market with an organised Lunch included.***

Following your requests via the Voice we have organised a day trip for Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup> to the renowned Benidorm Christmas Market, this will be followed by a prearranged lunch at the La Piscina Restaurante in Parcent.

The coach will leave the Polivalent at 8.30 am and travel south to Benidorm. On arrival in Benidorm you will have approximately 3 hours to explore the market, visit one of the many bar/cafes or just walk to the beach front which is a short distance away.

***Enjoy a great morning around this large market and find that Christmas Bargain.***

After spending your hard earned money at the market the coach will be waiting to take us from Benidorm around 1.00 pm to our Lunch venue in Parcent.

***We hope you enjoy the mouth watering food on offer at La Piscina Restaurant***

On our arrival at La Piscina Restaurante located in Parcent you will be able to relax and enjoy the excellent food and atmosphere There is no need to book your main course before the day as you will be asked to choose from

10 different meats or fish dishes while at the table. The menu also includes wine with lunch, coffee after your meal.

***Following this enjoyable day, at around 5.00pm the coach will leave the restaurant en route to Oliva arriving back at approximately 5.45pm.***

**There will be NO monthly meeting in December due to Christmas.**

***The following are trips your Travel Team are planning for you during 2016. More information on these and other events will be in the October issue of the Voice***

1. A Night at the famous Benidorm Palace Theatre including dinner.
2. Day Trip to Oceanographic and Science Museum in Valencia. This will be a superb day out.
3. Day trip to Valencia with a guided tour (in English) of the Monuments in the Old City.

## **EVENT REPORTS**

***On the 19<sup>th</sup> of July our U3A held their End of Year Bash at the Viva Espania Restaurant.***

The ninety plus attendees experienced a well organized and enjoyable event put together by Tina and Joe Bellenie.

We were all treated to an excellent lunch and superb service which everyone really enjoyed. This was followed by a superb Flamenco show performed by a group of four dancers. All the dancing and costume changes were excellent and well worth watching. The afternoon was very enjoyable and entertaining for all our members and guests.

**Our thanks go to Tina and Joe for this superb event and we wish them both a well deserved retirement.  
Great News for all our Members**

We are working to establish an up to date Members Benefit list, this can be found on our website under the members tab, check this for more information.

The following are just two of our new entries who are offering you discounts off their normal prices.

**To the Core of Things.** The interest shown following Joaquin's presentation at the May monthly meeting was so encouraging that the Travel and Events Team have negotiated special discounts for our members. Here are the discounts that have been arranged with Joaquin for you.

Discounts for U3A members on trips staying overnight:

10% discount for groups of upto and including 4 people

20% discount for groups of 5 or more people

These discounts will be available until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of 2015. For 2016 we hope to have additional discounts and places to visit. Please note these discounts do not apply to packs that are already discounted on their website.

Day trips: please click on the following link: [website](#), when loaded to access this information you must enter the password: U3AMEMBER (all in capital letters).

**Gandia Tours of Moraira.**

Gandia Tours are offering you our members a discount of up to 10% off their brochure prices, including cruises, the amount will depend on your chosen holiday or trip. To take advantage of this superb offer please email me on [vp.u3a.oliva@gmail.com](mailto:vp.u3a.oliva@gmail.com) so I can authorise your membership discount with Gandia Tours. When emailing to

request authorisation please indicate the trip you wish to book and the names of the people who will be in your party. Please remember, only registered Oliva U3A members are eligible for discounts. All holidays must be booked directly through their office/shop in Moriaira, personally.

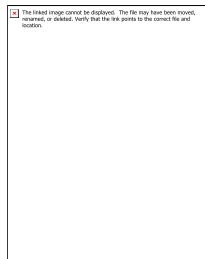
You can view their current brochure on [www.gandiatours.com](http://www.gandiatours.com) or just request their current brochure over the internet, this will enable you to view it at your leisure.

**Please note these discounts are only available through Gandia Tours of Moriaira.**

## Group Information

### Canasta

**Group Leader John Taylor**



The Canasta Group meets at the centre social St .Frances on the Ctra de Denia in Oliva on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month, we play from 14.00 hours. At the present time we have 18 enthusiastic members, however we are always looking for new members to join our Group. So if you can play Canasta or just wish to learn please come and join us. I can be contacted at [canasta@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:canasta@u3a-oliva.org). or just call him on 962850328 or 618225390.

I look forward to welcoming you. **John Taylor**, Group Leader

### Texas Line Dancers

**Group Leader, Betty Dean.**

We meet every Monday at the CPC throughout the U3A year. From 10.00am to 11.00am is for our Beginners with the Intermediates dancing from 11.00 am to 13.00pm. If you'd like some gentle exercise to foot-tapping music in a friendly environment, this could be for you!

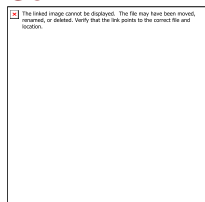
John Sandham our instructor is a well respected professional line dancing teacher and choreographer with more than 25 years experience. Our Line Dancing group is a very sociable one, with plenty of chatter in class and frequent short breaks to allow us to 'catch up' in between dances. Following the Intermediate class, many members get together and enjoy lunch. Why not contact me at [line-dancing@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:line-dancing@u3a-oliva.org). for more information.

**Our Group meetings restart again on October 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Please come and join us, you will receive a very warm welcome. **Betty Dean**

### Golf

**Group Leader, Phil Radford**



Our third Season is about to start and we are excited by the addition of playing ALTEA GOLF for the first time. Most of us are high handicap golfers so you needn't feel intimidated by playing alongside, providing you can hit a ball off the tee and fairway in the direction you are aiming.

All members want to play golf as cheaply as possible and this is our aim, so if you are a little rusty and haven't played golf recently, get yourself and your clubs down to a driving range and let rip, then come and join us.

This year we've put together a series of matches at some of the best courses on the Costa Blanca.

If you do not have a set of clubs, we have some to loan out for a small fee.

The details of the programme up to Christmas, can be found on our group page on the U3A website so you can choose a day and Course to suit you.

I can be contacted by email on: [golf@u3a.oliva.org](mailto:golf@u3a.oliva.org). or on 966406732

**Our first game will be on Monday 21st September at 12.00 pm at Poniente, the fee will be 33 Euros, incl. Buggy. Come and join us and have a great time.**

**Your committee are still asking for your suggestions and ideas which you feel would help with future**

***planning and running of our U3A plus have a true benefit for all members. Please send these to me at:-  
[vice-president@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:vice-president@u3a-oliva.org)***

I would like to remind you that if you prefer, you can leave your suggestions in the Suggestion Box at our Monthly General Meetings, the box will be in a prominent position in the Main Hall of the CPC. on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> of September.

***As I have stated before this is not a lip service exercise,  
I am genuinely asking for your ideas.***

### **VACANT POSITIONS**

#### **MEMBERS BENEFITS**

We are looking for a Oliva U3A member who can help increase the range of our Members Benefit section. If you can identify and talk to companies of all types ie Retailers and Service companies then I would be interested in talking to you. There is no requirement for you to join the committee or hold an official post in any way. The only requirement is for someone to assist me in organising more benefits for all our members. Please email me on:  
[vice-president@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:vice-president@u3a-oliva.org)

#### **JAZZ GROUP LEADER.**

We are looking for a Group Leader for our Jazz Group. If your interest in Jazz and you would like to pass on your knowledge to U3A members by running a group, we would like to hear from you. For more information please contact Rosa our Group Leader Co-ordinator at: [group@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:group@u3a-oliva.org).

#### **Forth coming Event in Oliva.**

On October 21st the Oliva Drama group wiii be holding An Extravaganza of Variety Show at the Teatro Olimpia in Oliva. Doors open at 7.30pm curtain up at 8.00pm. Contact 602535261 for more information.

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Thank you for the time you have taken in reading this issue of the U3A VOICE and hope you have again found it interesting and informative.

Issue 4 with more interesting items will be with you on the 15th of October.

Thank you

**Mick**

Vice President