

THE OLIVA U3A VOICE

OCTOBER 2015

ISSUE

4

Since our last issue of the Voice in September, our first trip of the new year went to Alicante Castle and the Mercedes museum. This was a great success as it was enjoyed by all attendees. Thanks to the trip coordinators for their hard work and get us off to a flying start.. The report on this trip is included in the Events report below. The Group Leaders meeting was held on the 1st of October, this is an annual event to help plan the strategy for the coming year. On the 5th October the first Quiz of the year was held at Bar Palut under the guidance of quiz master Elaine Hyderman.

The General Meeting on September the 24th proved very interesting with a very captivating presentation by Sandford on California. All our members enjoyed this and felt it to be a very informative presentation.

Paypal

You can pay for your trips by using Paypal or your own Debit/Credit card, when you click on the **Pay on line** tab it directs you to another page, here you will see two lines, the top one is when you have a Paypal account and the second is to enable you to pay with your own Debit/Credit card through their secure site. Just follow their instructions which are very simple. This will save you travelling to Oliva and wasting your valuable time in the Sol Bank, I hope this helps clarify the online payment options.

Announcements from our Group Leaders' Co-ordinator Rosa Jones:

New Leaders Required

Wine Appreciation Group. Due to health issues the Leader Eve Storm-Peterson cannot return to Spain for some time, and therefore, cannot continue to lead the Group. This has been a very popular group, so if members would like to go on having wine tasting meetings and interesting talks on wines and wine regions, we need a volunteer Group Leader to run the group, and a Deputy Group Leader to support him/her and take over when leader is not available. The Group has a number of helpers, happy to assist for special meetings. This will be run as a **Group** which will have its own **registered members**, and not as Events open to the whole U3A membership. There is already a member of the Group who has volunteered to give a talk on South Australian wines, and particularly from Adelaide, sometime next year. She will also be looking for good wines from that region for you to taste. I am sure there are members of the group, who are well- informed on the subject of wines and who would like to share their knowledge with its members. The success of this Group is in your hands! Please, contact Group Leaders Co-ordinator if you are interested in re-invigorating this group with your energy and enthusiasm, so that meetings can be resumed as soon as possible. I would also appreciate if those interested in being members of the Group, re-register their interest so that their names and email addresses go on the updated list.



Jazz Appreciation Group. This is a reminder that we are still waiting for a **Jazz lover** to volunteer to revive the Group that David Wright led successfully for nine years. If you would like this group to come to life again, we need volunteers for Group Leader and Deputy Group Leader. David used to host meetings at his home, but we have a sound system and laptop that could be used at the CPC, and David is willing to transfer his Jazz Playlist to someone who has a laptop and is a member, or would be willing to join Spotify (his music source).

If you are interested in one of the above and are willing to be Group Leader please send me an email

: groups@u3a-oliva.org.

Our October trip to the Valor Chocolate factory and Guadalest is now fully booked

We hope everyone enjoys the aromas and flavours of Valor Chocolate

and their visit to Guadalest.

Between October 27th to 30th Amblers and Walking Groups will be enjoying the: Rincon de Ademuz Autumn Gold Trip.

We only have 3 spaces left so if you are interested please email me without delay on: amblers@u3a-oliva.org

Lower Prices For Ademuz. Autumn Gold Walking & Sightseeing trip.

Following negotiations with the Casa Domingo Hotel Ademuz, we are pleased to be able to announce lower room prices.

The Double price per night is now: 73.25€ Price includes bed & breakfast for two & evening dinner for two. Total for 3 nights: 219.75€ less 50€ deposit.

Single room, per night, much lower price: 40.99€ Price includes bed & breakfast for one & evening dinner for one. Total for 3 nights: 122.97€ less 25€ deposit.

All room prices include IVA.

All rooms are en suite and of a good standard. The breakfast is a buffet and the dinner is a menu with four choices of starter, main course and a selection of deserts. Wine, water, coffee or tea included. Lunch is not included although the

Hotel will supply a packed lunch if required.

The event includes 2 Ambles & 1 Hill walk, & for the non-walkers, bus trips to Teruel & Albarracin.

For full details & registration [click here](#).

This Ademuz event is going to be the best ever, **we have 3 double or single rooms still available** plus we can use another hotel for the overspill.

So if you haven't already booked REGISTER NOW before it becomes fully booked. Please pay the deposit on registration to confirm your place.

If you intend going on the sight seeing tours please complete the bus trip form.

Thursday 22nd of October will be the Monthly General Meeting.

The talk this month will be by Stefan from Gandia Tours of Moraira, he will give us a general view on how they can help you with holiday and trip planning. ***This is not to be missed if you are thinking of a holiday next year or even a Cruise.*** Remember as an Oliva U3A member you are eligible for a discount of up to 10% off their brochure prices. 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 16th

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

This trip is now fully booked, However Alan is compiling a reserve list, to be included on this please email Alan at: travel-co-ordinator@u3a-oliva.org



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 which he has just completed. Please be there in time to take your seat for what will be a fascinating talk especially if you are a walker who loves to explore those unusual areas.

Wednesday December 9th 2015.

Our annual Christmas trip will to the Benidorm Christmas Market with an organised Lunch included. Registration for members only will be live from the 28rd October

Following your requests via the Voice we have organised a day trip for Wednesday December 9th 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.

"Important Information"

When paying for a Trip by Bank transfer or at the Sol Bank in Oliva Please quote your name and the title of this trip along with your payment.

Bank Transfers or payments at the bank should be made payable to:

Asoc Univers Tercera Edad de Oliva Travel

a/c number **(ES91) 0081 0273 7300 0133 4037**

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

The following are trips in the planning stage, further information will be given when available. if you have any places you feel would give our members a brilliant day out please let our Travel Co-ordinators know.

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 September 16th we travelled to Alicante Castle and Mercedes Exhibition

A wonderfully sunny day provided the backdrop for an enjoyable day for more than 30 members of Oliva U3A on Wednesday 16th September when they stormed Alicante Castle. They were there to take advantage of a great day trip organised by U3A members David and Pam Hume. Our visit fell naturally into 3 parts. It started when a vivacious and dynamic guide showed us around the castle, (with an implicit threat to use the garrotte on those who were not paying attention to her).

This photograph is of the high-level, open-air toilet with a wonderful view of the Mediterranean, close by were paving stones inscribed with the names of Civil War prisoners from both sides. In the background you can see Alicante City Council's attempt to create a breakwater and extend the beach area, but it will never compete with Oliva's beach.



A couple of hours in the port area gave everyone the opportunity to sample the local menu del día at a surprisingly reasonable 10€, just 3 streets back from the port. Some of the party visited the Ayuntamiento and saw the Dali sculpture (made of gold, but really ugly!) At the foot of the stairs there was a plaque showing the zero bench mark (sea level) used on all Spanish marine charts.

At risk of overdosing on history, our final visit was to an exhibition of the Frigate Mercedes. The frigate was carrying South American riches, mainly silver, for the Spanish King in order to pay the French King for fighting the British. The Mercedes

convoy of 4 met 4 British ships who quickly sank the Mercedes and commandeered the other 3 ships. (GB really did rule the waves at that time). The salvage company were guilty of 'salvage perjury' and were hit with a million dollar fine and all the goodies were awarded to the Spanish government. This exhibition was in Alicante museum for a limited time but it is possible that it may be in Cocentaina in the future.

Group Leaders annual meeting

On Thursday October the 1st our Group Leaders under the direction of Rosa Group Leaders Co-ordinator attended their annual meeting. This year they were joined by committee members. All the Group Leaders who attended found this meeting very useful and beneficial to the future running of their groups.

Following this successful morning attendees enjoyed an excellent Lunch at Bar Palut.



We have more Great News for all our Members

We are still working hard to establish an up to date Members Benefit section, this can be found on our website under the members heading all information of Members benefits are available here. *I am still asking for your help in expanding this section, Can you help and assistant me in identifying Businesses who are prepared to offer benefits/discounts to our members. If you feel you would like to try please contact me at : vice-president@u3a-oliva.org*

The following are just two more of our new entries who will give you a discount off their normal prices.

The Car Mechanic Oliva

The Car Mechanic Oliva is offering, exclusively to the U3A Oliva members, a 10% discount off the final bill for work done. To enjoy this benefit you must show your U3A Oliva membership badge. For more details of services supplied view the

[Car Mechanic Website.](#)

Boarding Kennels and Cattery

Your pets ideal holiday

A family run Kennels and Cattery based in Oliva surrounded by 12,000 sq meters of our secure private land, established for 4 years and we pride ourselves on making our guests happy and content during their stay.

All our kennels are tiled and insulated, making them cool in Summer and warm in the Winter, with their own bedroom and play areas, and receiving 4 walks a day.

For our feline friends we now have family sized wood cabins with their own living area and outside secure garden allowing them the freedom to come and go as they want.

We would like to offer U3A Oliva members a 10% discount on a minimum stay of 5 nights (excluding the Xmas and New Year period)

If you would like to come and have a look around and discuss your requirements please contact Susan and Clinton

Tel : 962 851 003 Mobile : 664 776 030

Web www.thedoggrove.com Email: info@thedoggrove.com

The following is feedback I have received from one of our members following booking his holiday.

Have booked our Christmas break with Gandia Tours in Moraira.

Stefan was very helpful and spoke excellent English. We did the booking over the phone in about ten minutes and got 10% discount . Confirmation of Holiday and receipt of deposit was received by email within the hour.

Excellent service would recommend them.

Signed, Very Happy Member

Group Information

Chess Group

Group leader

Graham Flowerdew

Our coach Andreu, is a very good player, he teaches us new gambits, and helps develop our game. It all sounds very competitive, please don't be put off, even if you are a complete beginner we would still love to see you and get you started. If like me you haven't played for years we will soon have you up to speed. It's a great game for keeping the old brain cells active and we do have great fun playing outside Honey Dukes and enjoy a cup of coffee. If you can't make it on a regular basis but would like the occasional game please feel free to join us, we have 2 or 3 players who join us when they can. If you have visitors who play, they would also be very welcome, it is lovely to have different players to play against.



If you would like to play but can't make Thursday morning, let me know what would be a good time for you and I will see if we can pair you up with somebody.

We meet at Honey Dukes every Thursday at 9.00 am. For more information about this Group please visit our websites Group section or email me on: chess@u3a-oliva.org or telephone on 609970621

Exploring Poetry Group. Group Leader, Tina Bellinie



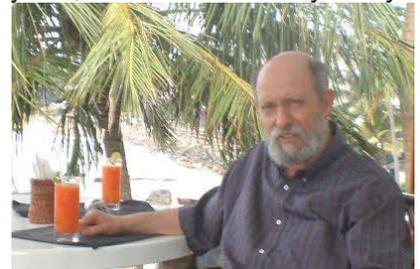
It has been already advertised Tina Bellenie is the new Leader of this Group, and everyone who regularly access our Website would have noticed the update of the Poetry Web-page for some time. To old members and everyone else interested in joining this group, remember meetings will be resumed on Friday 16th of October the 3rd Friday of the month at 11:00. Please, read the Web-page to find the address of the venue for the meetings and contact Tina at poetry@u3a-oliva.org, to let her know you

will be attending.

History and Appreciation of Art. Group Leader, Robert Sedgley.

“ Many People say that they do not know much about art but they know what they like; whereas what they really mean is that they do not know much about art but they like what they know.” E H Gombrich.

Why not join the History and Appreciation of Art Group where you will get the opportunity to see and think about art from Cave painting to Tracy Amin and everything in between, to contribute your thoughts and reactions if you wish or just sit back and expand your mind and experience of art.



This Group had a very good start on Monday 5th October. The meeting was very well attended and very much enjoyed by all members. Bob Sedgley will be delighted to share his knowledge of art with you – there is still room for more members. Bob can be contacted by email at: art-appreciation@u3a-oliva.org

Rock and Roll. Group Leader, Jack Roberts
Deputy Group Leader, Michael Taylor



Jack and Michael would like to remind you their meetings at the CPC have already resumed, and there is a change this year, besides dancing to rock and roll music, there is the introduction of dancing to 1940's Swing music. Should you be interested in participating in this venture, please, come along to the CPC on Tuesdays, from 16:00 17:30, where you will be warmly received. You will have a lot of fun and keep fit as well! Read the Group's Web-page for more information contact the Group Leader at: rockandroll@u3a-oliva.org.

HELP

If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can improve our U3A, please leave them in the Suggestion Box which will be in a prominent position at or next General Meeting on Thursday 22nd of October

Forth coming Events in Oliva

On October 21st the Oliva Drama group will 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.

Oliva Tourist Office

The place to find all Tourist projects for Oliva in October and throughout the year is to log on to the Oliva't website at: <http://oliva.es/arees/economia/turisme/events-turistics/> Enjoy the items on their agenda for October, plus check each month for their latest offerings.

Remember the Tourist Office can be contacted on 962855528 or at : www.tourist-oliva.com or just visit their office which can be found next to the Central Indoor Market in Oliva.

Members email addresses,

It is important to have a fully working email address in order for you to receive up to date information about your U3A including trip and events. If you know of any member with a dummy email address please ask them to set up a new correct email address and advise our webmaster Iain so he can amend the members profile. If you do not know how to do this or just need help contact Iain . Likewise if you also know of a member who has **pressed the unsubscribed** button on a U3A email this will unsubscribe them from everything, so it is important in order to receive future emails to advise the member concerned for them to contact our webmaster so he can reinstate this in their profile.

It only remains for me to thank you for your time in reading this issue of the U3A VOICE and hope you have again found it interesting and informative.

Issue 5 with more interesting items will be with you on the 15th of November.

Thank you

Mick