

THE OLIVA U3A VOICE

December 2015

Issue 6

Christmas Greetings to All Our Oliva U3A Members

The last 12 months have been traumatic and hectic. At this time, last year, we as an Association experienced a dramatic change in our world, with the Committee having several resignations. The intervening period has seen us, pick our selves up and go forward in a most positive and rewarding way. It has, for me, been an education in how people can pull together to put ourselves back on the right track.

At this time of the year our thoughts go out to all those, in all corners of the world, that may not be as fortunate as ourselves. We hope that those, in regions of trouble, will see an improvement in there fortunes in the coming year.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Christmas Party for the children of El Bastidor. As you are aware El Bastidor is also our Official charity this year. I hope that the children, who are from diverse backgrounds, enjoy the day. I am sure the U3A members assisting in the party will get as much pleasure as the children.

As the end of 2015 approaches, our membership is solid and your Committee is strong and open. We will want to go forward, with the intention that the ethos of the U3A remains undiminished. This will see us share our knowledge and experiences, and develop our own individual capabilities by learning from other members.

I wish you, one and all,

A Merry Christmas, With a Happy and Rewarding New Year.

Una Feliz Navidad, Con un Gratificante y Feliz Año Nuevo.

John. President Oliva U3A.

TRIPS AND EVENTS

Please note there will be no December General Meeting

General Meeting January 28th 2016

Our next General Meeting will be on January 28th at the CPC, doors will be open at 10.30am and the meeting will start at 11am. The speaker at this meeting will be Anja Homberg, who will be talking about the Life and Work of Salvador Dhalí. There will be our usual book stall along with refreshments.

If you have any suggestions and or ideas on how things could be changed or improved please leave these in the suggestion box which will be in prominent location in the hall.

Day Trip to Oceanographic and Science Museum.

ON FEBRUARY 16TH 2016

Come and join us for a day of discovery at the "City of the Arts and Sciences" in Valencia.

We will visit the Oceanographic and Science Museum.

At the Oceanographic we will be seeing the amazing aquatic world of wonders and can become a part of it. Did you know that the Oceanographic houses are the largest rescue center for Turtles and Dolphins in Europe?



And did you know.....on all these questions you might find an answer during this trip.

With a visit to the Science Museum we can be like children again feeling the excitement of learning new things by touching and playing on the exhibits yourself.



All this for the incredible price of 30 Euros.

Put this date on your calendar: February 16 2016

More information will be sent to you through an Email towards the end of December 2015, before the registration opens.

The registration will be open on 30th of December, so you can book your place.

We will be departing from Oliva at 9.00am, and plan to be back in Oliva at around 6.00pm,

Charity Event on January 30th.

Our Line Dancing Group have been invited to dance at the Emas Childrens Charity event on Saturday January 30th 2016. The venue for this will be the Hotel Gran Sol in Calpe. For more information please contact Barbara on 630113649.

Oliva U3A proposed Travel and Events itinerary for January to May 2016

Wherever possible we have timetabled our day visits on the third Thursday of the month! In other situations our visits have been determined by availability, specific circumstances and dates offered by the different speakers/individuals.

Late January /Early February

Possible Presentation from our distinguished local Egyptologist Dr. David Rohl (Host AR)

February 16th

Visit to Valencia's Science Museum and The Oceanographic Centre (Host AH)

March 17th

Visit to Valencia to marvel @ the 'Fallas' incorporating Celebrations of St. Patrick's Day. (Host TBA)

March 13th or 20th

Treasure Hunt (Host JS)

March/April

3-4 Day Visit to Barcelona & Cataluña including Gaudies Sagrada, Guell Park, Olympic Stadium, a historic tour of central Barcelona, Monastery of Montserrat and a visit to a Cava Vineyard plus much, much more. (Host AR)

April

Visit to the historically fascinating city of Segorbe with additional visits to a local Olive Oil Mill and (Host TBA)

April

A fantastic evening dinner and top 'West-End' style floor show @ Benidorm Palace (Host TBA)

May

A fascinating visit to the town of 'Novelda' famed for its mining and creative use of marble and its involvement in this historical period of Modernist Architecture (Host AH)

Late May

3-4 day extravaganza exploring Seville's importance in Spains historical past and its current importance as a centre of global tourism. (Host BC)

The above information was supplied by our Travel Co-ordinators Alan and Anja

Travel Terms and Conditions

Further to our commitment that you our members are kept up to date with all amendments to our current processes and procedures and to ensure the committee are seen to be transparent. Our Travel, Terms and Conditions have recently been published on the website for reference. You will be asked to read and confirm that you accept these terms and conditions each time you register for a trip or event. The reason for making the Terms and Conditions public now is to ensure everything is explicit and there are no grey areas in the future with regard to the booking of any of our Travel and Event activities.

These Terms and Conditions can be found and read on our website by clicking on the Travel & Events heading and then click on Travel & Events Terms and Conditions tab.

Trip and Event Reports

Sagunto and the Caves de Sant Josep.

A wonderful day exploring Sagunto and the Caves of San Joseph

With a nearly full complement of 51 enthusiastic members we headed towards the ancient city of Sagunto light-hearted and brimming with expectation. I believe none of us were in any way disappointed by the beauty and the fascinating history of the city shared by our knowledgeable local guide Amid. We were equally mesmerised by our subterranean trip through the 'coves de San Josep' which revealed itself like a fairy tale offering to all of us something that appealed to our imagination. Add to all of this the new friendships and acquaintances we all made, either on the bus, at the dining table or just strolling along as our guide was helping us understand the intricacies of Sagunto's comprehensive history.

As a result I'm sure that many of us will enjoy a repeat visit in the near future



SAGUNTO



CAVES

November/December General Meeting

This meeting was rearranged and took place on December 3rd. Members were welcomed with Mince Pies and Wine plus our usual Tea and Coffee, this was looked after by Jean and John Rogerson. For this meeting the seating was rearranged in the hall, by placing tables for members to sit around, making the

meeting feel far more informal and friendly. This layout was welcomed by the members present and will remain for the coming meetings. It was very pleasing to see approximately 100 members attend this meeting. There was also our book stall capably looked after by Peter and Sandy Butt.

The speaker for this occasion was David Stephens. David has recently returned to Oliva following his successful walk of the Pilgrims Way. This was a fascinating presentation giving everyone an insight into his walk including the highs and sometimes the lows. Along with his talk he enlightened us further with photographs of his journey. This was enjoyed by those members who attended and was followed by a short question and answer period. David answered all the questions very effectively.



Our thanks go to David for his superb presentation and to all who helped to make the meeting a great success

For all you members who could not attend this meeting we would like to welcome you at our forthcoming General Meetings starting on January 28th 2016.



This picture shows the Pilgrim Walk route

Benidorm Market Trip took place on December the 9th

On December the 9th our annual Christmas trip to the Benidorm Market and Lunch took place.

After leaving Oliva with a full coach we traveled to Benidorm and the Pueblo Market. On arrival the sun was shining with a temperature of 20 degrees plus. We had 3 hours of free time to either explore what the market had to offer or as a number of our members did, walk to the Benidorm sea front and spent a very nice morning in the sun.

At 1pm we left Benidorm and traveled to Parcent and the La Piscina Restaurante where lunch had been booked. We all enjoyed a superb lunch we had choice of 15 different main course. Everyone enjoyed their meal and had a great afternoon.



Some of our members enjoying the afternoon following Lunch

U3A Choir

On December the 10th our U3A



Choir were was invited to sing at the annual Christmas Carol Service held at the Borja Palace Church in Gandia, for the second year running. During the service the choir sang 4 Carols specially chosen by them for the service. Comments received at the end of the service was that this was the best they had heard the Choir sing. Following the end of this Carol service everyone enjoyed mince pies and drinks. This evening certainly kick started the Christmas celebrations.

GROUPS

Sing and Play

Group Leader: Marcus Stocklin

We meet at the CPC every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 pm



Music is good for you and your health. So come and join us. We sing, play and listen to different music styles, solo or together in a group. Bring your instrument with you and have fun with us. Or just come and listen or sing with us your favorite music. New members are welcome, please contact me via the website singandplay@u3a-oliva.org or just come and join us.U3A Oliva.

Bridge

Group Leader: Julia Radford

Bridge Group would like you to join us! We play on Wednesdays between 10.00 - 13.00 at Viva Espana Restaurant, on the N332, just outside of Oliva, past the AP7 motorway junction . We're a friendly bunch, wanting to improve our knowledge of the game but not at all stuffy! We have a great teacher who is very forgiving! If you understand Whist, playing Bridge is not all that different. Come and give it a go!



Request

I have received a request from one of our members on behalf of the Vedama dog Charity asking if you our members can help them if possible. Vedama are asking for old Blankets and Towels to help keep their dogs warm this winter. If you can help, I ask you to bring your donations to our next General Meeting on Thursday January 28th. If you can also help with dog food this would also be appreciated.

Vedama are also asking members who may have some spare time, if they would kindly volunteer to walk some of their dogs as they are a little short of enthusiastic helpers at present.

Please remember that if you would like any information about our U3A, its Groups, activities, or wish to contribute to our Voice issues in 2016 then please contact me at:- vice-president@u3a-oliva.org.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this December issue of the U3A Voice our next issue will be with you in mid January 2016.

A message from your committee,

We wish all our Members a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous 2016.

