

THE VOICE

April 2018

Issue 30

Message from your President

This is the time of the U3A year when our thoughts turn to the forth coming AGM. This will be held at the Polivalent on Thursday the 24th of May.

Your official notification and invitation for this will be sent later in the month, along with this there will be a link to the nomination form, so you can nominate prospective new officers and committee members if you wish.

Our Secretary and Treasurer Mike and Robbie are retiring after their 3 year term and I wish to thank them for their work over the past 3 years. In addition to replacing Mike and Robbie we require additional committee members to ensure the management team continue to run your U3A effectively and efficiently for you our members.

I ask any member who is interested in serving on the committee for the coming year to contact me on [634453459](tel:634453459) or email me at mickgoy1@gmail.com. I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have regarding the committee or officers positions.

All our Officers and Committee members are U3A members, who freely give their time to make sure we all can enjoy the benefits available. Unfortunately I can not personally ask every member to bring your talents and expertise to our committee, so I would ask you to treat the above as a personal request. Thank you.

I look forward to welcoming you all to our next General Meeting on the 26th of April when Izzy Hardy will tell us about Internet security, we should all be concerned about this growing problem.

Membership Badges. If you **have not** collected your membership badge to date or you have only received a hand written one at present, **ALL** these printed badges will be available at our April General Meeting.

Please be advised **you must wear your membership badge** at the **May Annual General Meeting.**

This is a members only meeting so it is imperative we can recognise all genuine members, this is made easy by you wearing your badge.

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO OUR APRIL GENERAL MEETING

The doors will open at 10.30am with the Meeting starting at 11.00am

The presenter for this meeting will be :-

IZZY HARDY who is an expert on Internet Security for a large Internet company on the Costa Blanca

Izzy will be telling us how to protect ourselves against internet security issues, when it comes to your computer, tablet and mobile phone.

Are you concerned that your internet connection may not be secure or have already experienced problems,

IF SO,

THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT PRESENTATION AND ONE YOU CAN NOT AFFORD TO MISS

There will be our usual Coffee Tea and Book Table available

All Donations given for the refreshments and books will go to our designated charity for this year which is AECC the Cancer Research Charity

A DAY TRIP TO THE ISLAND OF TABARCA



Tabarca is the only inhabited island in the Region of Valencia and is located opposite the city of Alicante, 11 nautical miles offshore and near the Santa Pola headland. In fact, it's more than just an island: it's a small archipelago that comprises the islets of La Cantera, La Galera and La Nao as well as the Isla de Tabarca itself. It is approximately 1,800 metres long and measures some 400 metres across at its widest point.

This will be a one day trip leaving the Polivalent **at 08.30h**. We will be taken by coach to Santa Pola where we we join a water taxi for the journey to Tabarca.

The date of this trip will be on the 17th of May 2018.

THIS TRIP IS NOW FULL BUT PLEASE REGISTER ON THE WAITING LIST SHOULD WE RECEIVE A CANCELLATION

[click here](#) To go to the registration page

This is the first a new feature which we will be running over the coming months.

Written by our U3A Astronomer Mike Glazier

If you look towards the West around the time of sunset, you will see the planet Venus 'glaring' down like a searchlight. Venus is about the same size as our planet, but the similarity ends there. The surface temperature is 475° C and the atmospheric pressure 90 times that of Earth's. Sulphuric acid falls as rain from thick sulphur clouds which have been produced by extreme volcanic activity. Space missions which have landed only lasted a few minutes with camera lenses promptly melting!

On April 18th a young Moon, only a couple of days old and seen as a thin crescent will join Venus in the darkening evening sky. This is known as the old moon in the new Moon's arms.

The giant gas planet Jupiter will join a full Moon to the S.E on April 30th. A small telescope will show the 4 Galilean moons of Jupiter first seen by Galileo in 1609.

Murcia City and Ikea

This trip will be on June 7th 2018

we will leave the Polivalent at 8.30am prompt.



In the morning our planned trip will take you to the City of Murcia where you will have ample time to explore the beautiful buildings and architecture, before you enjoy a Lunch of your choice from one of the many restaurants.

After lunch we will take you to the large Ikea store in Murcia where you will have time to explore and buy those items you have always wanted, but never managed to get to one of their stores. Remember there will be ample storage space on the coach for your goodies.



With this trip we are offering you the opportunity to explore the City of Murcia in the morning and also give you time to stroll through the Ikea store during the afternoon, to pick up those items you have been looking for.

This trip will involve a large amount of walking, please consider this before booking.

The price of this trip will be only 13.00 euros

Please [click here](#) for full details and to register

Meet the Committee

This meeting was held at the Tasca Olivense restaurant in Oliva on the 29th of March. This proved to be a very successful evening with some 30+ members joining the committee.

During the evening the committee gained valuable information and ideas from the members who attended. This was a relaxed and informal get together over a drink and nibbles and I wish to thank all who joined the committee for their input.

It is hoped to repeat this again next year following requests from the members who attended as it was felt to be a very useful tool in helping to shape our U3A.

At our next 'Meet the Committee' get together your committee hope to see more members attending as this is your opportunity to let us know how well our organization is performing and help to shape its future.

History and Appreciation of Art, by Robert Sedgley

History and Appreciation of Art If you have ever wished that you knew a bit more about art, about why a painting or sculpture is considered an important cultural icon, or wish to expand your present knowledge and look a little deeper into the background, the techniques and the lives of the artists; if you have ever wondered why artworks and the cultural artefacts of history are not just held in high regard, but considered of fundamental importance to the understanding of society and what it means to be human; if you find Nigel Spivey's subtitle – how humans made art and art made us human – to his Television Series (2005) How Art Made the World puzzling, and a challenge to your ideas, in fact if you would welcome a little challenge to your preconceptions, then the monthly History and Appreciation of Art meetings are for you. If the meetings don't appeal, or the time doesn't suit you, but you would still like to know more then look at the History and Appreciation of Art web page where, over time, I am putting all the notes, fully illustrated, from previous meetings. This is also a great source for quizzers to gen up on their knowledge of art and artists.



For the full article please [click here](#)

This is a Self Portrait by Goya circa 1790 - 1795

A message from our Group Co-ordinator

Another busy year for the thirty seven Groups forming the Oliva U3A. New Groups have or are appearing including photography, wine tasting and walking football. Any member can check the web page for information, or contact me directly for help.

Group Leaders should contact me if their Group numbers need a boost and I can blast the whole membership with information and opportunities available.

Any member who wishes to start a Group should get in touch with me for advice on formation and help in gauging interest from the whole U3A membership.

I look forward to seeing all members at the Showcase on the 28th June, starting at 11.00am.

John Flannigan Group co-ordinator : groups-co-ordinator@u3a-oliva.org

An invitation from the Group Leader of our U3A Choir.

Our U3A choir are presently looking for new members to join them. We have a professional Director who will help you to become part of an enthusiastic team.

You have hopefully seen and heard our choir in the past, with more members we can achieve even higher levels of performance and personal satisfaction.

The Choir meet every Wednesday afternoon from 16.15h to 18.15h at the CPC in Oliva when we practice a variety of songs in harmony and acapella (without accompaniment).

As I am sure you already know singing is excellent for eliminating stress and helping your brain, heart and lungs.

Please check out our Group page on the website or email me at [Choir](#), I will answer any questions you may have regarding our choir, and look forward to seeing you at our next practice on Wednesday 18th of April.

Thank you Lynda Goy, Group Leader

Spanish Conversation Group

The Spanish Conversation Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 10.30am at the Falda de Loco cafe, opposite the Polivalent on the new Paseo.

We aim to have fun and friendship, whilst improving our Spanish conversation skills. It is entirely informal, but with emphasis on improving confidence in speaking skills, particularly for members who perhaps are not as advanced in this aspect of the language.



If you are interested in joining the Group, contact John at [Spanish Conversation](#)

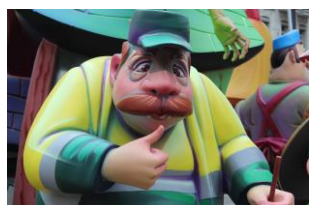
The following 3 photographs show some of the Group members showing off their singing and musical skills at a musical evening that is organised from time to time.



Day Trip to the Fallas in Valencia.

On the 19th of March, 45 members of our U3A enjoyed a superb day at the Valencia Fallas. This was a full day trip, the coach left the Polivalent at 11.00h and returned back to Oliva at around 22.20h. Although we experienced a little rain this did not dampen the enjoyment of our members. The feedback I received from members following this trip was very positive with some great ideas for the future.

Below are a few photographs from this years Valencia Fallas, my thanks go to Lynne Pilcher for sending these to me.





Cookery Group

The Cookery group menu of today: German onion tart, German meatballs with a caper cream sauce, accompanied by a Beetroot & green bean salad. A wonderful time with Riaz & Ulrike.



The following is an item I received earlier this month, which could affect potentially a large majority on members.



A TOUGHENING up on compulsory vehicle inspections, known as ITV tests, is coming into force this May and will mean more stringent measures to improve safety on Spain's roads.

A new Bill of Law, or Royal Decree coming into force on May 20 means ITV stations will be equipped with tools that detect emissions fraud, or software installed to mask CO2 and NOx output.

After the 'Dieselgate' scandal, which saw hundreds of thousands of cars and vans recalled after Volkswagen was found to have doctored emissions readings, and in light of figures that show air pollution – of which motor vehicles are the main culprit – is directly responsible for over six million deaths a year round the world, Spain is determined to tighten up on any attempts to repeat the scam.

[Click here](#) for the full article.

Walking Group.

I am pleased to announce that we have new joint Group leaders for the Walking group. I wish Barry Purvis and Una O'Connor every success with their new venture and for the future of their Group.

Press Report on the Line Dancers Spring Dance

The Line Dancing Group from Oliva U3A held their 3rd Annual Spring dance at EL-CID Benidoleig. This great evening was organised by Betty and Paddy the Group Leaders. Line Dancers & their partners from 4 different groups around the Costa Blanca who enjoyed the event. The music for the evening was by John of Route 66 and included line dancing plus other dances from a mix of 60s music which packed the floor, Rock & Roll this found a respectable number of Jivers & Boppers, John also included a selection of Smoochy music.

The Oliva U3A Line Dancing Group meets every Monday from 10am at the CPC in Oliva, where lessons are held for both new and experienced Line Dancers, if you are a member of our U3A please come and join us.



Thank you for reading this the April issue, our next edition will be with you on the 15th of May

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

Do you have something to share with our members from Personal Experiences here in Spain or recommended Holiday destinations, to General information we all should be aware of. If so please send these items plus any questions or queries to me at: president@u3a-oliva.org before the 8th of each month.