

# THE VOICE

November 2018

Issue 35

## President's Message

A warm welcome to this our November newsletter. Firstly, I apologise to any member who sent me a report or information for this edition and it has not been included, this is due to my computer failing while compiling this issue. I unfortunately lost a few items due to this problem.

I take this opportunity to thank all our members for their kind offer of one or more presents for the forthcoming Children's Christmas Party being held on the 12th of December. I can assure everyone your present will put a big smile on one of the under privileged children. I ask you to bring your presents to our November General meeting.

On December 5th our U3A Choir will be leading the carol singing at the 9-carol service in the Borja Palace Church in Gandia. The choir will also sing 4 of their own carols. The service will start at 18.30h and you will receive a warm welcome, why not start your Christmas here.

I send you an invitation to our U3A Christmas Party to be held at the Molly Canyar Restaurante in Potries. If you have not booked todate please do so and enjoy a great Christmas Party. There are still a number of places left so please go to our website and register.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Voice and look forward to welcoming you to our next General Meeting to be held on Thursday 22nd of November at the Polivalent in Oliva.

Mick Goy

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## OUR NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

This will be held at the Polivalent ([directions](#)) on Thursday 22nd of November

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

**IF YOU DID NOT COLLECT YOUR MEMBERSHIP BADGE**

**AT OUR LAST MEETING IT WILL BE AVAILABLE HERE.**

**The presenter at this meeting will be Rosa Mansell.**

**Rosa will be telling her story of her work in Tanzania with the people there and the School she helped to set up.**

**Please come and find out more of this remarkable lady.**

There will be our usual Coffee and Tea and Book Table available

All Donations given for the refreshments and book will go to our designated charity for this year .

I and the committee look forward to welcoming you to this meeting.

# **MERRY CHRISTMAS DINNER AND DANCE**

**December 7th 2018**

**Moli Canyon  
18:30**



Starting from 18:30 hrs we will welcome you with a glass of cava in the gorgeous patio where you can mingle with friends.

At 19:00 hrs the doors into the festive dining room will be opened where at the entrance you will find your preferred seating.

A creative dinner will be served at 19:30 hrs with an abundance of wine, beer, water, soda's, coffee and tea.

Entertainment will be taken care of by our **DJ John Curtis** well known from Bay Radio as well as raffles with presents galore.

[Click here](#) for full registration information

# Our Monthly Astronomy Update.

**By our Astronomer Mike Glazier**

At around 10 p.m. at this time of the year, the large majestic constellation Orion can be seen rising from the East. It is a magnificent group which represents the mythological hunter. Orion it is said was the son of Neptune and Euryale, and as he grew up he became more boastful, openly proclaiming that he was not in fear of anything.

Juno however a goddess, daughter of Saturn and the wife of Jupiter became extremely jealous of Orion's boasting and sent a huge Scorpion to kill him, the animal, emerged from beneath the sand, stung Orion on the heel and he was killed.

Orion is an extremely interesting group since it contains not only some bright hot stars but also a large nebula which can be seen with binoculars lying below Orion's belt. The nebula is a birthplace, a nursery of new stars and lies at a distance of around 1,344 light years.

An imaginary line drawn left along the three stars forming Orion's belt takes you to Sirius or Alpha Canis Majoris, the dog star which lies at a respectable distance of just over 8.4 light years. On a clear cold night the dog star can be seen 'flashing' when low down to the horizon, although this effect is purely atmospheric. The dog star has a dense companion called Sirius B.

On the night of November 17th and into the early hours of 18th the Leonid meteor shower will produce the most meteors. The shower 'storms' every 33 years and I was fortunate enough in 1999 to have been involved in a 'meteor watch' at Jesus Pobre when I along with two other observers recorded 700 visible meteors during a space of one hour. It was incredible!! The shower represents debris left from the passing of comet Tempel Tuttel

So, you may well spot a number of the Leonids, during the earlier dark hours and as the constellation climbs higher in the sky quite a lot more.

It will be a bad month for planetary observers as most of the brighter ones are either too low down or too close to the Sun.

I will update on the possibility of a comet being visible with optical aid next month, but as comets are usually very unpredictable subjects generally, I will hold everything until then.

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## U3A Oliva Alternative Christmas

	<p style="text-align: center;">Alternative Xmas Salem Amble Christmas Day 2018</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Leader</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Joe Bellenie <a href="mailto:joebelleniegm@gmail.com">joebelleniegm@gmail.com</a> Mobile 636 443 277</p>
<p>Start Time</p>	<p>We meet 11:00 at the Bar L'Era Salem, start amble at 12.00. The Bar may be closed on Christmas Day. Christmas Picnic at Font Ecla.</p>		
<p>Route &amp; Description</p>	<p>Easy amble, good underfoot, bit uphill at start Lovely countryside &amp; views.</p>		
			
<p>How to get there</p>	<p>Take CV60 from Gandia. Leave CV60 signposted to Rafol de Salem CV 615 (don't go to Rafol). Turn right on to the CV614 to Salem. As you enter Salem, Bar L'Era is on your right hand side. There is parking all round the Bar.</p>		
<p>Things you will need</p>	<p>Festive picnic to share, Cava optional. Walking shoes, sticks not required. Water bottles.</p>		

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### Report on The Ademuz Trip

A group of about 30 of us from U3A Oliva went on our annual trip to the Rincon de Ademuz between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October. As usual we received a very warm welcome from our hosts at Hostal Casa Domingo. We were a mixture of walkers and sightseers, and about half of us went on the walks scheduled for the three days.

We did have some problems on the first days walk, which was scheduled to walk up to the Three Kingdoms trig point. We got up to the ridge successfully, but then went wrong! However, we recognised a path we had taken last year and had a lovely walk.

The second walk along the river Ebron also had its problems! The ford on the approach to the walk was very high, so we had to leave the cars there and walk an extra 1.5km to the usual start of the walk. After another 2km or so, we got to a point where the stepping stones were under water, and we were unable to go any further. We went back to the picnic area and decided to investigate

a signpost pointing to a 'Mirador' above the river valley. After a stiff half hour climb, we were rewarded with spectacular views down to the river – a climb that was well worth the effort.

On the third morning we took cars to Vallanca, and completed the walk back to Ademuz along the river. This year there were plenty of walnuts to gather

The non-walkers enjoyed trips to towns like Teruel and Albarracin, or explored the picturesque little town of Ademuz. The hostel as usual kept us very well fed, with English breakfasts, substantial dinners and packed lunches of request, and we were all presented with bags of apples on our departure.

Thanks are due once again to Joe Bellenie for arranging the accommodation, to Pauline for liaising with the hotel during our stay, to Mike and Bob for leading the walks, and to George for his quiz (and the prizes!) on the second evening.



Report by Kathy Price

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## Group Information

***Fancy trying line dancing?*** It's one of those things that looks hard, but is actually great fun and helps keep you trim. These sessions take place at the CPC, Oliva on Monday mornings 10-



12.30pm (divided between beginners and intermediate sessions) and cost €5 a session. Twice a year they produce an event to help raise money for a local children's home and some of the dancers are now teaching line dancing to some of the children.

Line dancing is very sociable activity and apparently also thirsty work; not only does this group meet to tap out the tunes, but also to quench their thirst they very often head to a local bar afterwards for lunch and a drink.

If you would like any more information, or to chat with someone please contact Betty Dean on [Betty Malcolm@hotmail.com](mailto:Betty Malcolm@hotmail.com) or head to the Line Dancing group page <https://u3aoliva.wildapricot.org/page-1860335>

Why not give it a go? I promise the hats are optional

## **Bowls Group**

If you prefer a more sedate activity then how about giving lawn bowls a go?

Trever Perks assures me it is not as hard as it looks. If rolling a wood on a green tickles your fancy, or even if you're not sure, then go and find out. You can go for two sessions before committing yourself to join the group. The sessions are held fortnightly at El Cid Bowls Club in Benidoleig, on Monday afternoon from 1.30-4.30pm and the club provides the woods so no expense there, but you will need to wear flat soled shoes so you don't ruck up the green. Coaching is also available if needed, for free. For more information please email Trevor on [perks692@byinternet.com](mailto:perks692@byinternet.com) or head to their group page at <https://u3aoliva.wildapricot.org/page-1860650>

Well, that's Monday's sorted out for you all. Let's see what I can find for Tuesdays. As normal all information about the Oliva U3A can be found at <https://u3aoliva.wildapricot.org>

### **Question**

Q: When is a Quiz more like a night out?

A: When it's the U3A Quiz night (with a meal).

If you like meeting new people, eating great food in a local restaurant and having fun along the way, then you should check out the Oliva quiz night, usually held the first Monday of each month at El Pelut. At only €14 per person and with the chance to win a prize. November 2018 Quiz is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> so get your thinking caps on.

The quiz is open to anyone so long as at least one team member is a paid up member of the U3A. This means your friends or visitors are more than welcome to join us for a fun night including an excellent meal and good company, not to mention great prizes for the winning teams. Teams are usually made up of five/six people, but if you are on your own, or a couple, please sign up and Terry will add you to or create a team for you. There is no excuse!

Please check out the 'U3A Monthly Quiz' under the group section or to register for the quiz and also to see the menu, please click here: <https://form.jotformeu.com/82994451820362>

Or email Terry, your quiz master for more details : [quiz@u3a-oliva.org](mailto:quiz@u3a-oliva.org)

This is a great way to get to meet other U3A members.

Report by Angela Town our Press officer

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# Travel

Overview of travel/events 2018/19:

**December 7th:** Christmas Dinner & Dance at the Moli Canyar, starting at 18:30 for a cava reception; 25 euros pp includes dinner, wine/beer/sodas/coffee & tea and entertainment

**January 5th:** a visit to Alcoy and to watch The Three Kings Parade, the best and oldest in Spain

**February 14th:** Valentine celebration at the Benidorm Palace with dinner and show

**March 16th:** a visit to Jalon Valley including the Rastro and lunch

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## Report on the Villena Trip

Arriving in Villena the group first visited a small Archeological Museum to admire the ancient and modern history of Villena and area with at the end the stunning view of the second largest treasure of pure golden bowls and jewelry in Europe. After that free time for everybody either to visit the Costume Museum, the Santiago Church, the Castle or have lunch. in the early afternoon the bus took us to the winery (see picture) where we enjoyed an interesting tour followed by the wine and olive oil tasting.



The bus was loaded not only with the members but also with many bottles of wine and olive oil. A good day.

Report by Anja Homburg and Photograph by Francoise Moncomble

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Vall del Pop Singers

# TAPESTRY Of Music

Animo, Alcalalí  
Tuesday 20th November  
Starts at 7.30 p.m.  
(doors open 7.00)

Enjoy a glass of Cava before  
the concert and wine & cake  
at the interval

Tickets €6  
Tel: 634 30 14 99

Helping to raise funds for  
**Jalon Valley Help**  
in time of need

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

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

My special thanks go to Geoff Walden for his assistance in helping me compile this edition following the failure of  
my computer.