

Asociación de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the February monthly Meeting
Held on 24th February 2010
At the Parador Hotel Javea

PRESENT: President:	Shirley King
Vice President:	Paul Wessendorff
Secretary:	Jeni Oldfield
Treasurer:	Geoff Milnes
Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
Web Master:	Sam Wells

The minutes of the November meeting were proposed by Jean Miller and seconded by Tom Stevenson.

Shirley introduced Geoff Milnes as our new Treasurer and he gave us a resumé of his career as a bank manager.

Shirley then also introduced Nick Winter as the new Groups Coordinator. He said that Elizabeth would be a hard act to follow but that he would have help from the new team, Jenny, Jean and Krystina..

A new Communications Officer is still needed, offers to Shirley please.

Shirley apologised for the fact that the Newsletter had omitted to say who our speaker was for to-day.

She then gave a big thanks to Karen, Marie and Angela for organising the Valentine Ball.

Shirley also thanked our new Publicity Officer, Tom Miller who had taken photos at the Ball which would appear in the next edition of the Costa Blanca News.

Thanks also went to Ken Robinson in his absence for auditing our accounts. He will receive some wine as a token of our thanks.

Sally Wells was given a tin of chocolates as a thank you for arranging the popular Christmas Follies. Sam took the chocolates for her as Sally was away.

The new-look Newsletter will be launched in April and thanks go to Wilma Stevenson and Sue Bentley for their hard work in bringing this to fruition.

Paul Pruden gave a short resumé of his new group, Friends of Avinença, which is not a closed group but open to all members and not a travel group either. There will be day trips with English speaking guides at places not usually open to the public where members can learn about the history and culture of the area.

Shirley continued with an up-date of our fund raising for Xabia Bella. She hopes the Director will be able to come to our next meeting to collect a cheque of money raised from the individual events taking place in people's homes. So far, 960€ have been raised from four events. A group from the Committee had been to the Centre to deliver Christmas presents; many of the young people there have no family to give them presents or to take them out so we were also able to provide funds for visits.

Anne Bickerstaff, one of our newer members, has made a beautiful patchwork cushion which Shirley showed. This will be raffled at a forthcoming coffee morning at Diane Orde's.

Shirley said this year was the first time members would be voting at our AGM. As it is not possible, due to room size, for all members to attend ballot papers were available to-

day for members to cast their vote or they could vote via e-mail. If anyone knows of a member without email who cannot attend the meeting they should contact a member of the Committee who will make arrangements for them to vote. Sam Wells and Wilma Stevenson will be the only ones doing the count so privacy will be maintained. Shirley reminded members that the committee has the power to co-opt a member if necessary.

Re: the Statutes, Paul has rewritten these after discussion with Shirley, there being no fundamental changes, the biggest being the restructure of the Committee. This was due to the large increase in members which put a much bigger workload on the Committee. 35 new members had joined to-day. There was no succession plan for the Committee. With the increase in membership came an increase in the number of groups which made the role of Group Coordinator much more difficult. With such a large committee it made decision making more lengthy. With 16 committee members in the new structure the load will be spread and with only 7 of these positions being executive, meetings should be more effective and the deputies will be part of the succession plan. It is very important that members vote on this issue as we need 50% minimum in order that the changes can take place.

Shirley asked if there were any questions about this and one member asked if the statutes could be put on the web but Shirley said she was not prepared to risk having lots of changes to make with different ideas coming in. John Chun asked how many had actually read the statutes. Paul said that at the Open meeting in January when he had them all displayed by his table only two people had stopped to read them. Shirley said she was prepared to sit down and discuss them with anyone. Once approved at the AGM they will be printed on the web in both English and Spanish.

Lots of people have enjoyed the individual charity events and would like to do more. Also, there could be the possibility of fun events, not for charity.

Finally, Shirley announced some new discounts on offer to U3A members, namely: 5 Star Pool Cleaning Service, Joyce Nail Salon, Tracey Baker Holistic Therapy, and Gilly McNally Sports Therapist. Details of these can be found on the webpage.

Paul spoke briefly about our charity, Xabia Bella saying that details about the different events taking place could be seen on the web. Several individual events had already taken place successfully with more to come over the next few weeks. He said that sponsors were needed for Keith Cottingham who was due to walk for the charity and that there would be a bucket for donations in the foyer after the meeting.

Geoff reported that funds were healthy with 13269€ being available and that we were well within budget.

Wilma said that over 80% of members had renewed in January with 200 still left to pay. She thanked all those who had volunteered to help at January's meeting. By the AGM there will be no Associate members, the current 56 will have been made up to full members. There are about 100 members without emails and some will not disclose their email addresses or telephone numbers and Wilma asked if anyone knew anyone in this category please to tell them that all are now full members and entitled to attend meetings. With the 35 new members of to-day membership now stands at 1105. If those who have not renewed their membership do not do so they will be deleted from the list at the end of the month.

Members' Insurance	1700€
Stationery etc.	600€
Miscellaneous	1800€

For 2011 Geoff has budgeted 13000€, up 500€ from last year as he has calculated for 500€ to be available for groups, to be allocated at the discretion of John Bellinger-Smith the Groups' Coordinator.

Wilma announced that at last month's Open Meeting we had 87 new members and a further 21 to-day with 41 more renewals. 220 have not renewed for this year so will be deleted from the list to-day which will reduce the number of members to just under 1000 from to-day's 1200.

Carol has instigated a "Group of the Month" in each News Letter. John will coordinate each article with the relevant information. They both invited members to send in suggestions for inclusion in the Newsletter. Carol reported how hard Sam Wells was working on the development of the web-site. Also Tom Miller, as Publicity Officer, continues to work hard with the local press and if anyone wants publicity for their activities then they should contact either Carol or Tom. A new item in the News Letter is a monthly programme of what's happening in Javea. There is a link on the web-site to this official Javea enterprise. Members have already suggested how useful it is.

John thanked the Group Leaders who worked so hard to make our U3A such a success. This met with a spontaneous round of applause for the Group Leaders. 5 groups have had to close, 2 of which were sailing as their access to the water had been closed. Others were using your i-pod, post-card collecting and patchworking. John thanked the outgoing leaders. Other groups have had a change of leader, these being:

Foodies: Barbara Craven-Bradford is replaced by Gillian Breen

Backgammon: Bob Denton by Sue Vickers

History: Sally Wells by Peter Atkinson

Petanque: Lin & Terry Jones by Pam Coombe

Solos: Angela Chantry by Pat Ainsley

Tuesday Lectures: Alan Oliver by Cheda Panajotovic

The latest group starting up is a second Art for Beginners, Sandy being the new leader.. Details will be on the web-site soon, which will also include a suggestion for the formation of a Line Dancing group for Beginners. Play Reading has some hopeful members but a leader is still needed. The car treasure hunt was a great success with 60 members partaking. John himself is now the leader for that activity. Patchworking will restart on March 3rd at 3pm. A new Scrabble group for ordinary level players is also in the pipe-line.

Accommodation for some groups is an ongoing investigation.

Paul announced that ticket sales for the forthcoming May Ball are now at 267. He will now offer them to other local U3As. We would like to sell over 300, maximum 350. Paul then gave some information on behalf of MABS. There is a Race for Life sponsored event on 3rd April from Sol Park in Moraira, entry fee 10€ On 16th April there will be a Book Sale outside Iceland starting at 10.00am. Paul thanked Ken Robinson for auditing the accounts for 2010. Pat received some wine on his behalf.

Sam reported that lots of things were going on with the website. The discounts will soon appear in table form which will make it easier for all.

Shirley announced that during the coming week-end the almond blossom would be at its best, especially in the Jalon valley.

She then introduced this month's speaker, Stephen Ashley of the Costa Blanca Samaritans. The meeting concluded with questions from the floor after which Shirley presented him with a cheque for 100€.

Signed..... 

Seconded 

ASOCIACIÓN DE LA TERCERA EDAD DE JAVEA
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
And of the GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Parador Hotel, Javea March 24th 2010-~~04~~06

PRESENT:	President:	Shirley King
	Vice President:	Paul Wessendorff
	Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
	Treasurer:	Geoff Milnes
	Secretary:	Jeni Oldfield
	Deputy Secretary:	Sue Bentley
	Groups Coordinator:	Nick Winter
	Sam Wells	Web Master

Shirley started the Meeting by asking for last month's minutes to be agreed on. These were proposed by Gerald Dobson and seconded by Peter Speers.

Shirley informed the members of the next production of the Javea Players, this being "Holiday Snap". Also, the Moraira/Teulada U3A are holding a Ball in September and the Pego and Val de Pop are holding one on May 28th both of which are open to Javea U3A.

As the Director of Xabia Bella, who was due to come and collect a cheque, was delayed Shirley decided to continue with the AGM. She delivered the President's Report which is to be found in full in the Newsletter and recorded in the Minutes Book.

The Director of Xabia Bella, Raül Pastor Serra, arrived and after Shirley had introduced him he gave a short talk about the work that goes on at the Centre and how grateful everyone was for the gifts and help they have received from the U3A. Shirley presented him with a certificate showing we had raised for them over 3000€. Raül will consult with Shirley and Paul about how it is used.

Paul then delivered the Vice President's Report in which he mentioned raising 1820€ for the Alzheimers Centre from the raffle at February's Ball and 5720€ altogether this year to charitable and worthy causes in the Javea area.

He discussed the revision of the Statutes, stressing how important it had been to do. The main changes had been the way we convene and call for a General Meeting of the Assembly, the composition of the Representative body, that is the Committee and job descriptions for the key executive members of the Committee.

He thanked everyone for their efforts.

Geoff gave a "Layman's Guide to Java U3A's Accounts", using a Power Point presentation which made it all more interesting and understandable. This can also be found on the web site.

Wilma gave a run down of the membership for the past year during which we had done away with Associate members and now everyone is a Full Member. There are currently 966 members although less than 20% attend meetings. Wilma has been able to make use of the statistical recording, for instance, knowing how many members join groups or lead them.

As Nick Winter has only recently taken over as Groups' Coordinator **Elizabeth Collins** gave a brief summary of the activities of the past year.

Shirley then presented Sue Bentley with a bouquet of flowers and Sam with some wine as a thank you for their hard work as they step down from the Executive Committee. Karen, Jean and Mick were not present so they will receive theirs next month.

Voting then took place for changes to the Committee Structure, changes to the Statutes and acceptance of the 2009 Accounts. These were passed with 89.6%, 91.9% and 94.5% respectively. The vast majority of these votes had taken place previously via emails or at the February Meeting as was the election of officers to the Committee for 2010/2011. The results will appear in the Newsletter and recorded in the Minutes Book.

Shirley outlined the Committee Objectives for 2010/2011, which were principally accommodation, the new structure and job descriptions and the Committee vacancy for a Communications Officer. She then introduced Peter Speers who had volunteered as the Events Organiser, who will be helped by various members of the Committee as the need arises.

Paul outlined the objectives for charities in 2010/2011 and gave a list of speakers for the monthly meetings,

Sue and Wilma used a Power Point presentation to show the members the new format of the Newsletter. This was very well received.

Nick thanked Elizabeth for her hard work as the previous Groups' Coordinator and for her good and helpful handover. He informed everyone of two new groups being looked at, these being Tai Chi and Ballroom Dancing. He asked anyone interested in helping to contact him to see if they may be feasible. He said that the Moraira/Teulada U3A had invited any Javea members interested in joining their choir to contact them, but we operate a policy of no joint groups.

Nick said there would be a Meeting for all Group leaders in April or May and in June the monthly meeting would take the form of an Open Meeting with groups demonstrating their work.

Peter Sanders spoke briefly about a new group he wished to start, namely SLR for beginners and asked anyone interested to see him afterwards.

Shirley asked for any questions from the floor but there were none.

Everyone was then asked to feel under their chair and the lucky ones found an envelope entitling them to an Easter egg. This made a fun end to the meeting and AGM.

Proposed.....*J. O'Keefe*.....

Seconded.....*Diane O'D*.....

Signed.....*SMK*.....

Seconded.....*VC O'Keefe*.....

Presidents Annual Report

Since being elected last year as President my life has been taken over by the U3A, I have met hundreds of lovely, likeable and friendly people who have shown a great deal of support for me and the Committee. Conversely we have had to deal with a few members who have not been quite so supportive and forget that this is a voluntary organisation, that we all give our time for free and are not paid employees. I would ask that everyone on the Committee be treated with politeness and courtesy even if you disagree with the Committees views. Thank you to the many members that have taken the time to comment and appreciate the work that is being done by Committee it has been a pleasure to have got to know you over the last year.

Speakers

Over the year we have had a number of speakers at our meeting some excellent and some less so, but generally the standard of Speakers is exceptionally high, particularly as our guest speakers are not always practised in speaking in front of large audiences. Speakers that stand out for me must Brenda Bates with her talk on Africa, Michael Bullierd who always makes the law fun but very informative, and The Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir. Later Paul will outline our programme of Speakers for the coming year.

Membership

The numbers of members continues to grow with an average of 30 new members signing up each month. A few have not renewed this year but given the economic climate and members returning to the UK this is not surprising, but we are still over a 1000+ members.

The Committee with some trepidation made the decision to do away with the Associate Member Status and make all members full members; I am pleased to say as of today we no longer have any Associate members. Should space at the Parador become a problem we will then discuss what action needs to be taken, Wilma will shortly be giving you more information regarding membership.

Groups

It was extremely sad to lose Elizabeth as Groups Co-ordinator but with her move back to Pego and Steve taking on a more active role in the Costa Blanca Wine Society it became impossible for her to continue. Our thanks go to Elizabeth for the tremendous work she has done over the last couple of years, but I am pleased to say that a volunteer not to be daunted by the task of following in Elizabeth's footsteps, did come forward and hopefully today Nick will be elected to the Committee.

During the last year the number of groups has grown enormously and continues to do so with another 4/5 in the background about to be launched. In a few minutes Elizabeth will give us a review of the Groups Activity for the year and later on Nick will give us some ideas for this year.

Due to a few problems and misunderstandings at the beginning of last year it became necessary to update the Travel/Events/Activities Policy. This was undertaken by a couple of members of the Committee and the Travel Group. It was circulated to all Group Leaders and Members in September. In the next month this will be published
On the Website.

Accounts

Under the expert hands of Marie our accounts were kept in good order and were audited by Ken Robinson with no problems. These were published and sent out to members at the end of February.

Marie decided to step down as the Treasurer and we would like to extend our thanks to her for the work that she has done on the Accounts.

We have asked Geoff to give a short talk on the accounts and what the figures mean as many members have approached the Committee saying they do not always understand the figures and terminology.

Newsletter

Sue has worked extremely hard this year preparing the newsletter – did you know it takes approximately six hours to prepare the newsletter which gets longer and longer, so Sue and Wilma have been working on a new format which they shall present to you later on that will be much shorter and contain only new information. We shall be encouraging Group Leaders to use their pages on the Website for day to day information.

Website

Over the year Sam has worked many a day and night revamping the Website and what a fantastic job he has done, if you have not looked at it then please do, it tells you all you would like to know about our Society and activities. You are only ever a few clicks away from any information you may need. If you are one of the Health Walkers, and the weather looks a bit dodgy, a simple click on the mouse will let you know if a walk has been changed or cancelled. Well done to Clive and Karen for assisting Sam with the development of the Group Pages especially the Walking one, have a look for yourselves, the new website is brilliant. Our thanks go to Sam Wells, Clive White and John Wild for enabling these changes to happen. If you have not been on the website recently we would urge you to take a look.

Travel and Social Activities

Due to the downturn in the economy several trips had to be cancelled, as a result the Travel Group reviewed its activities, and I am pleased to say once again many trips are full with a waiting list. My first U3A overnight trip was to Extremadura under the watchful eye of Mike Frost, Richard and I both thoroughly enjoyed this trip and several others that we have subsequently been on.

After some years and many successful trips Mike decided to step down as Travel Group Leader and Angela stepped up to the mark once again and has taken over as Travel Group Leader. Our thanks go to Angela and all of the Travel Organisers for the hard work they do in organising the trips.

Our dining out Group lead by Peter and Pauline Speers goes from strength to strength or should I say restaurant to restaurant. Likewise the newly named 'Not just folk music' has moved from Paul's house to a local hostelry as attendance has grown.

Our thanks go to the Travel Group for organising the Christmas Events, the Members Lunch, the Dinner and Dance and the Christmas Day dinner.

Once again we would like to thank Marie, Karen and Angela who organised the Valentine Ball.

And of course for your entertainment by special arrangement at the November meeting a special appearance by the The Christmas Follies with the choreography by Sally Wells followed by sherry and mince pies, what on earth can we top that with this year – watch this space.

Charity

Once again the Committee decided to adopt a Charity and we apologise for the delay in announcing the Charities we proposed to support. It did take the Committee a little while to settle in last year and get around deciding who to support.

We decided to support The Alzheimer's Centre in Javea old town with the proceeds from the raffle at the ball. A cheque for over 1800€ was presented to the Centre a week after the Ball was held. Thank you to everyone that supported this cause.

Xabia Bella

The biggest surprise for the Committee was the enthusiasm with which members have organised and participated in fun social events to raise funds for Xabia Bella 11 events have raised 3400€ and I would like to say thank you to everyone that organised or took part in these activities.

I would like to end by saying thank you to each and every member of the Committee and to those new Committee members who have volunteered to join us and those who are stepping down today. Your friendship and support for me has been very much appreciated.

I will now hand over to our Vice President Paul Wessendorff for his report.

VOTES CAST

Total entitled to Vote 950

Votes Received 308 32.4%

SECTION A

Committee

President Shirley King
 Vice President Paul Wessendorf
 Secretary Jennifer Oldfield
 Treasurer Geoffrey Milnes
 Groups Coord. Nicholas Winter
 Membership Sec. Wilma Stevenson

Yes	No	Abstain	% Yes	% No
298	5	5	96.8%	1.6%
303	1	4	98.4%	0.3%
303	0	5	98.4%	0.0%
303	0	5	98.4%	0.0%
300	0	8	97.4%	0.0%
298	0	10	96.8%	0.0%

Section B

Approvals

Statutes Revision
 Committee Restructure
 Accounts 2009

Yes	No	Abstain	% Yes	% No
283	11	14	91.9%	3.1%
276	15	17	89.6%	4.9%
291	2	15	94.5%	0.6%

NAME S.J.S. Wells
(Webmaster)

NAME Wilma Stevenson
(Membership Secretary)

Signed 



DATE 24/3/2010

24/3/2010

Asociación de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the April monthly meeting
Held on 28th April 2010
At the Parador Hotel Javea

PRESENT: **President:** Shirley King
Treasurer: Geoff Milnes
Membership Secretary: Wilma Stevenson
Secretary: Jeni Oldfield
Groups Coordinator: Nick Winter

APOLOGIES: **Vice President:** Paul Wessendorff

Shirley opened the meeting by asking if everyone had read the Minutes of the previous Meeting. They were proposed by **Joanne O'Keefe** and seconded by **Diane Orde**.

Bobbie Ogden spoke briefly about her Gentle Aerobics class which needs more people if it is not to close. They are having problems with their venue. They need at least 6 people to keep it going and as there are already some keen members it would be a pity to lose them. They are prepared to change the day if necessary.

Shirley continued by informing everyone that the Statutes had now been translated into Spanish by Sally Skelton, who will be presented with a gift by way of thanks. When these Statutes have been approved by the Alicante Ministry they will be put on the web-site in both English and Spanish.

Mick Cox was presented with a bag of bottles of wine as a thank you for his services on the Committee as Deputy Treasurer, a post he will continue to fill on the non-executive Committee.

As our charity for 2010-11 the Committee has decided to support Caritas, which gives out food parcels to needy families every Tuesday. The monthly "Book Swap" run by Brenda Bates at the Parador Meetings has already donated 40€.

Peter Speer, our new Events Organiser spoke about forthcoming fund-raising events. Pat Robinson has already started some of her "Girlie Nights In", Shirley & Richard King will be holding a Soirée on June 2nd at a cost of 15€, Tom & Jean Miller are hosting a "Truckers' Breakfast and Len & Jean Bicheno are holding a war-time party. Anyone interested should see the relevant people to-day or contact Peter for details.

There is also a series of non-profit making events, starting on 25th June with an evening of music and Line Dancing, in September a Hog Roast or similar with perhaps a steel band and a Ball in May 2011.

Many people have passed on their appreciation to Sam Wells for the new-look Newsletter, but it is especially to Wilma and Sue that our thanks must go as they have designed and produced the new layout for the Newsletter.

There is still a vacancy for the Communications Officer. Shirley hoped that there must be at least the one person in all our members who could spend just a few hours a week doing this very useful job.

Brenda Bates asked if members could bring only paperback novels for the book swop tables, not hardbacks or training manuals as she had to carry home unsold books and they are heavy.

Paul said that our scheduled speaker, Chris Duffin, was poorly but her husband, John had kindly agreed to stand in for her and he proceeded to give a very interesting and entertaining talk on the trials and tribulations of being a writer, which included his experiences as a script writer for several well-known television series. His talk was very well-received.

The meeting ended at 12.10pm.

Proposed ... B.D. Gibbs ... Seconded ... A. Chanby

Signed ... B.M.K. ... Seconded ... J.C. Oldfield

Asociación de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the May monthly meeting
Held on 28th May 2010
At the Parador Hotel Javea

PRESENT: President:	Shirley King
Vice President:	Paul Wessendorf
Treasurer:	Geoff Milnes
Secretary:	Jeni Oldfield
Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator:	Nick Winter

Shirley opened the meeting by asking everyone if they agreed with last month's minutes. They were proposed by **Betty Milnes** and seconded by **Aslam Rafique**. Shirley then spent a few moments saying how embarrassing it had been last month when the speaker was announced and lots of people had got up and walked out. She asked that if anyone in future really needs to go could they please sit by an exit and go quietly. She also said that if anyone knew of interesting speakers then please to tell Paul.

We have purchased a lap-top for the sole use of the Membership secretary and a notice board to replace the bulky easel and stand used by Jean.

Flowers were presented to Jean as a thank you for her work on the full committee and a garden voucher to Karen who has hay fever too close to flowers.

Future events were announced: Line dancing, paella evening and musical soirée

Jean has a big bag of stamps which will be delivered to the British Legion soon.

There have apparently been a few problems with discounts on-line. If there are any persistent problems with a particular business then they will be deleted from our list but Shirley reminded everyone that it is always "Buyer beware".

Paul reported on a meeting that had taken place with other local U3As. They had discussed several general and common matters and there is a future meeting planned for Travel and Group Leaders.

Geoff said that there was nothing to report as there had been no movement of funds except for Wilma's computer.

Wilma also said things were quiet. 999 members with an extra 14 joining to-day to bring the total to 1013, coming from 18 different locales.

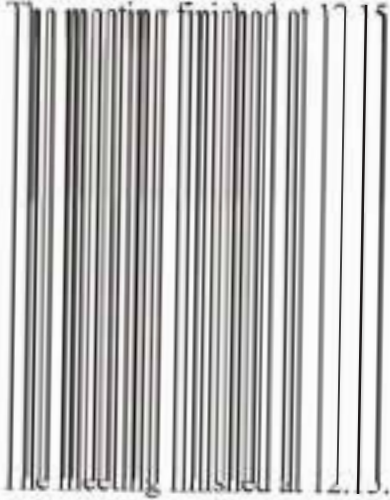
Nick said that next month's Open Meeting would be an opportunity for members to find out what is on offer. There are lots of members who are not in anything. Please will people see Nick if there is nothing that appeals and he will see what can be done. He announce that on 12th June Professor Ian Morrison will be talking about extra terrestrial beings at 19.00 at the Casa de Cultura in Denia. This has been arranged by DeniaU3A.

Shirley announced there will be a book sale outside Iceland next Saturday in aid of MABS

Shirley then announced the speaker Kathryn Marsden, a therapeutic nutritionist. She gave a highly informative and entertaining talk which was very well received.

Afterwards, Sally Skelton and Pepa Chorro, Director of Caritas, talked about the work Caritas does, not only here locally but nationwide and three other workers also came to thank the U3A for supporting the work they do.

Shirley ended by thanking the committee for their hard work.



The next meeting will be an Open Meeting on June 30th.

Signed.....SMK.....

Seconded.....J Oldfield.....

Asociación de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the September monthly meeting
Held on 30th September 2010
At the Parador Hotel Javea

PRESENT: President:	Shirley King
Vice President:	Paul Wessendorff
Secretary:	Jeni Oldfield
Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
Treasurer:	Geoff Milnes
Groups Coordinator:	Nick Winter

Shirley welcomed the new members who had joined to-day. She then introduced the new Communications Officer **Carol Pilgram** who gave a brief resumé of her qualifications and said why she had volunteered for the job.

Shirley announced that she is standing down as President, also Sue Bentley as Deputy Secretary, Nick Winter, due to family problems who would like to leave as soon as a replacement can be found for Groups Coordinator, and Jeni Oldfield as Secretary. If anyone feels they can fill any of these roles then will they please contact Shirley.

Geoff told us the funds are around 2400€ and that we are operating inside budget. There are no plans to implement a reduction in subscriptions as group accommodation and equipment may need funds.

Wilma informed us that membership in June stood at 1022 and with 28 new members to-day that number is now 1050. In the next two months members who are unable to attend in January to pay will be able do so at those two meetings.

Nick said that Jill Birch has set up a Discussion Group, with subjects such as “Should religious laws take precedence over state laws” as a taster. Javea Bowls Club has offered their facilities to Javea U3A members; Moraira U3A already do so and it was wondered if Javea would like to form a similar group. The fee would be 8€ per player, a reduction on the normal fee and no need to become a member. Anyone interested should contact Nick.

Shirley reminded everyone that she is still looking for suitable accommodation for groups to meet.

She exhorted all to come to November’s meeting which promised even better entertainment than last year – if that is possible.

Tom Miller, our Publicity Officer, will publicise any group activity if he is given relevant information.

There is information on the notice board about a talk in the Art Centre at Vilajoyosa. They are trying to raise funds for a disabled boy to take part in the Tall Ships Race.

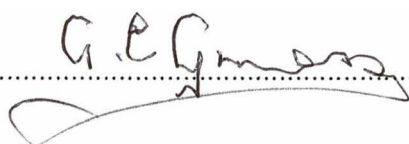
Paul Pruden gave a short talk about the Friends of Avinenca. There is an important meeting at La Senieta in Moraira on November 2nd at 10.00 about the wetlands behind Apolla beach in Moraira.

Cheda gave a talk on his experiences as a Blue Badge Guide in London which was very entertaining.

The meeting ended at 12.00.

The next meeting is on October 27th.

Signed 

Seconded 

Asociación de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the October monthly meeting
Held on 27th October
At the Parador Hotel Javea

PRESENT: President:	Shirley King
Vice President:	Paul Wessendorff
Treasurer:	Geoff Milnes
Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
Groups Coordinator:	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer	Carol Pilgram
Deputy Secretary	Sue Bentley

APOLOGIES: Secretary: Jeni Oldfield

Shirley opened the meeting by welcoming members and asking for proposers and seconders for the *minutes of the May and September monthly meetings*. Cheda Panatajovski proposed and Joanne O'Keefe seconded the May minutes. Jean Miller proposed and Betty Guinness seconded the September minutes.

Shirley then welcomed John Bellinger-Smith as the *new Groups Coordinator*, adding that the committee had voted unanimously in approving his appointment, and that formal election to post will take place at the March AGM. Members were asked to give John a warm welcome. Shirley noted that the last 2 committee positions of Communications Officer and Groups Coordinator had both been filled by relatively new members to the U3A.

John introduced himself and gave a brief resume of his past careers in the RAF and in the computer industry.

Shirley continued with an *update on the progress of the approval of the Statutes*. The Gestor is confident that there will be no problem in getting approval, however, the Alicante authority has such a backlog, that it is likely to be at least a year before formal approval of the Statutes is granted. In the meantime, a *special certificate has been issued* to allow us to change bank accounts, and subsequently introduce direct debit arrangements for membership fees. Sam will put the *uncertified version* of the Statutes on the U3A website tonight, in both English and Spanish, for members to read.

Re: the March 2011 AGM, Shirley said that the *method of voting was to be reviewed*. On a show of hands from members, nobody was against the system of electronic voting used last year, however, Shirley noted there was a need for new people to step forward for *committee positions for next year*:

A *new President* was needed as Shirley would be stepping down, and Paul was reluctant to take over due to other commitments.

A *new Secretary* was needed as Jeni Oldfield would be stepping down.

A *new Deputy Secretary* was needed as Sue Bentley would be stepping down.

Shirley noted that today was the first time that a full committee was in place.

Re: *accommodation*, Shirley reported on the considerable problems experienced by Group Leaders, especially at the Social Centre where groups were frequently moved out of booked rooms. Rental is costly and premises are few and far between. Group Leaders will be consulted on their needs on Monday at the Group Leaders' meeting, and there will be a report back at next month's Parador meeting. Shirley made a request from members for any information regarding possible premises. It was noted that L'Ancora Tennis Club had opened up some rooms and one was already being used by a Computer group.

Re: *Charities supported*, Shirley assured members that Xabia Bella have not closed down, and were not intending to close down. Money has not been handed over to them. Instead, money is kept in an account for when it is needed for Residents' trips out etc.

Brenda Bates noted that €40, raised from the Book Swap table at the monthly meetings, had been given over for our Charities.

Shirley noted that events earlier in the year in support of our current charity, CARITAS, had raised over €1000. The Recession had meant that many groups were struggling to feed themselves, and Shirley *appealed for new fund raising events*, referring members to Peter Speer, Events Organiser.

Shirley *publicised the sale of tickets for the raffle that will be held at the November meeting*. First prize has been donated by the Patchwork group, and Second prize will be a book written by a previous speaker, Kathryn Marsden.

Next month, there will be a box to receive *donations of food* outside the meeting hall.

CARITAS will collect and distribute the food.

Shirley noted that *next month's meeting* will be longer than usual as there is a lot lined up, including some fun things. Angela Chantry will be outlining next year's Travel programme, Shirley will be giving a review of the year, and plans for next year, and Paul will be in charge of entertainment.

Shirley announced the *next May Ball* which is to be held on May 6th. Tickets will be on sale at the January meeting.

Shirley also publicised an event in Gata on 13th November, which is being held in support of Emaus, the children's charity.

Paul gave an *update following the meeting of area U3A associations* last month. Two main items had been covered:

- a) *Travel* – it had been decided to open up trips to members of other U3A organisations, if trips looked like they might not be viable following insufficient take-up from the particular organisation's own members. This had necessitated setting up Guidelines for Travel representatives re allocation of places, collection of money etc. These have been circulated and approval has been gained from many of the organisations.
- b) *Third Party insurance* – A blanket policy is being considered to cover all U3A organisations. This has also been circulated and many favourable responses received eg from Torreviecha. The benefits of a joint policy are reduced costs and the knowledge that everyone is covered, smoothing the way for joint trips and activities.

Paul mentioned an initiative suggested by Sally Skelton in the Ayuntamiento involving *members singing carols in the Pueblo*, along with those of other nationalities (Spanish, German, French, Dutch etc). Paul is attending a meeting next week to arrange times and dates, and asked for members, interested in participating, to come forward.

Geoff noted that *current total funds* stood at €19,447 – being made up of funds of €18,997 plus a petty cash amount of €450. Once subscriptions, travel costs, charity donations, and budget expenditure for the rest of the year have been allowed for, the amount reduces to €6257. This amount, however, does not allow for 25% depreciation of equipment and any unexpected costs or liabilities eg renting accommodation for Group leaders.

Re: *Xabia Bella*, Geoff noted that *funds had been donated to cover specific areas:-*

- 1) A special electronic mattress used by residents to keep limbs mobile (approx €400)
- 2) Special outings – to Valencia: a Safari trip

An amount of €1800 remained which will be used into next year. Geoff assured members that manager Raoul was still actively in charge and trying to maintain the quality of life for residents.

Wilma noted that 22 new members had joined this morning, and 38 members had prepaid subscriptions for next year. This gave a *total membership of 1078 persons*.

Carol gave thanks to everyone for helping her settle in to her new position, specifically mentioning Shirley, Paul, Sam, and Tom and Jean Miller. She added that the *November Newsletter* would be totally her responsibility and that she had set up a specific email address for this. The cut off date for contributions to the Newsletter would be 18th November, and copies of any items should also be sent to Sam. Carol said she was wanting to encourage items from Group Leaders not usually heard from, and wanted the website to be as up to date and current as

possible. She directed Group Leaders to get in touch with Tom Miller if they had any items to go into the local press, and invited approaches from members to get in touch with her.

John reported that he had *liaised with Sally Skelton* over the accommodation problems, and was *planning to get in touch with all Group leaders* and attend groups over the next few weeks. John publicised the Tuesday lecture on 2nd November which was on the subject of Van Gogh. He reported that the *Pet Sitting* circle was now in place, and was meeting next week regarding the rules and regulations to be applied.

New groups - John announced the start of a new group – the *Beginners Health Walks*. Shirley added that she would be running them for 6 weeks, after which participants could join the Monday Health walks if they were fit enough. It was hoped to start a *Car Treasure Hunt group* by December – these would be planned monthly; they would start at 10.30 am and end with lunch. A new group focusing on people wanting to *write a book* was to be started by a professional writer. It was pointed out that this was not a creative writing group but a support group.

There was a *potential Group Leader* for a Badminton group, and interested members were asked to let John know. There was also a potential leader for an Acrylic painting group.

Other new groups planned included – Tai Chi, Ten pin Bowling, Line dancing and a Play reading group. Group leaders were needed for these groups.

Re: *companies delivering from the UK* – John reported that Jean Miller had been collating information into lists of organisations who delivered to Spain/ collected from Spain/ ran depots in Spain.

Shirley made the following *final comments* – a reminder to members to look at the notice boards; a report that the crockery bought on behalf of the organisation was already being used – the Solos group had borrowed it last week; and Lin Jones will be selling calendars in aid of MABS.

In answer to a question concerning the raffle, Shirley confirmed that the raffle will take place at the November meeting and will include any tickets sold this month.

Finally, she requested that any members not staying for the speaker should leave.

Shirley introduced the speaker, *Robert Vandevelde* who gave a very interesting talk on acupuncture and Chinese medicine.

Following questions to the speaker, the meeting concluded at 12.40 pm.

The next monthly meeting will take place on Wednesday, 24th November at 11.00 am.

Proposed C. A. Pilgram

Seconded. 

Asociación Social de la Tercera Edad de Javea

Minutes of the monthly meeting
Held on November 24th 2010
At the Parador Hotel Javea

PRESENT: President:	Shirley King
Vice-President:	Paul Wessendorff
Membership Secretary:	Wilma Stevenson
Secretary:	Jeni Oldfield
Groups Coordinator:	John Bellinger-Smith
Communications Officer:	Carol Pilgram

Shirley opened the meeting by asking any new members to identify themselves and members nearby to welcome them to our U3A. She continued by asking if everyone had read and agreed with the minutes. Carol Pilgram proposed them and they were seconded by Roy Heaton.

The notices started with a change of date for the inaugural date of the Car Treasure Hunt which will now take place on the 16th February 2011.

Tickets will be available for the May Ball, to be held at El Canor on May 6th 2011, at the January Open Meeting.

On 12th December there will be a Carol Concert by the church in the Old Town, with a mixture of German, Dutch, Swiss and English, led by Paul Wessendorff. Members were encouraged to support this.

Shirley introduced Sally, Peppa and Doris from the Ayuntamiento, also representatives from Caritas and the Javea Players.

Shirley then presented a report on the accommodation situation. She gave a brief outline of the types of premises used by us, problems encountered and costs involved. Anyone who wants to know more can speak to Shirley at the January Open Meeting where she will be happy to give as much detail as possible but for which there was not time at this meeting.

Angela Chantry gave a presentation of the proposed visits for 2011 starting with a trip in January to IKEA and Primark. This will be followed by a local trip to Gata to visit the wickerwork shops and Guitar Museum.

In March a visit to see the Carnival in Caravaja de la Cruz and a trip to watch a football match in Valencia.

There is a walking trip in the Sierra Espuma Regional Park and in April a visit to Cartagena. In May 19 members of Javea U3A are joining a Moraira organised visit to Rome and Tuscany.

At the end of May there is a visit to Lorca followed in June by one to Catille La Mancha. In September there are four days in Madrid then in October it is hoped to take a group to Dubrovnik. Angela wanted to see what the response would be for a visit to the Floread in 2012 as it only happens every ten years.

There followed a Christmas panto based loosely on the story of Cinderella, presented by the male members of the committee. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this and showed their appreciation in their applause.

Shirley thanked everyone on the committee for help given during the year, especially Paul who has agreed to become President. This leaves the post of Vice-President to be filled and Shirley asked if anyone present was prepared to think about volunteering.

After a short break the raffle was drawn. Prizes were won by:
Barbara Budden, Wendy Loxley, Sherry Spinks, Barbie Miller, Jonie Hills, Ron Watson, Morag Mulligan took one for her friend Patricia, Rosa Mansell, John Simmonds and Sue Neal.

Shirley presented two cheques each of 500€ to the two sections of **Caritas**, in the port and in the old town. The meeting was thanked by their treasurer Cornelius who gave a moving account of three people recently helped by Caritas when nothing else was available to them.


Paul led his group "The Not Just Folk Music" in a selection of songs with guitar, banjo and mouth organ accompaniments. Everyone joined in with singing and clapping and during the last song "Have a Drink on Me" everyone did just that as sherry and mince pies were served.

The meeting ended among much merriment at 12.40pm.

Proposed ..  ..

Seconded ..  ..

Signed ...  ..

Seconded ..  ..