



Torrevieja U3A Newsletter

December Edition

Know this:- Jingle bells was the first Christmas Carol to be played in space. The astronauts on board the Gemini 6 spacecraft played it on a harmonica that had been stowed away on board in 1965.

Welcome to this the final newsletter of the year. I am not going to say the usual, how fast the year has gone etc, etc. They seem to come and go faster each year. I hope that on the whole there have been memorable moments for you to remember and that we have many more together.

Firstly I would like to reiterate something I mentioned a short while ago as, sadly, it recently affected two of our members whilst at the Torrevieja hospital. Hugger muggers struck whilst they were at their most vulnerable, in the hospital car park and in a wheelchair. One hug is all it took to remove a neck chain. "Nasty people" is being very polite. It's a reminder for us all. Keep them at arms length, be very aware and I'm sorry if it happens to you.

Meanwhile, it was good to see those able to make it to the monthly meeting in November and, whilst the cafe bar let us down with its facilities, I like to think those attending enjoyed a great presentation from Andrew about his Rhine cycle ride. This month,

earlier than usual and after an unexpected closure by the Town Hall, we rescheduled and enjoyed another great Christmas morning event with our own Costa Blanca Morris Dancers, a table quiz and the Costa Blanca Singers. This was followed by our annual Christmas buffet. What a fabulous way to end the year. Thank you all.

This month I am pleased to say that we, as an association, spent €100 on Christmas gifts for the children of the San Jose Obrero Orphanage. This, along with lots of donations from you, will make a big difference this Christmas. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped.

Looking ahead to the new year, things are changing. Due to the drop in numbers attending the CMO monthly meetings, the cost and numbers attending lunch afterwards, the preparation work and the outgoing costs involved each month, the committee has decided to look at changing the way of our CMO meetings are run. Details will follow in a separate flyer soon. Meanwhile, in January we will be holding our annual Groups Fair, which will be taking place on Monday 26th in the CMO building. This is an opportunity for everyone to meet our group leaders and check out what is available for your membership.

Talking of membership, our 2026 membership is now open for the coming year and remains at the remarkable price of just €7.50 for renewals.

On a social note, there is plenty to come, and booking is advisable as we have already had interest in our chocolate event in Torrevieja and our special Valentines Day out to Altea

for members, family and friends and a visit to a craft beer brewery. A fun bingo event plus our annual summer fun day.

AGM

The AGM for 2026 will be taking place at the end of April in the CMO building. Application forms for joining the committee will be on the website in due course. There are, and will be, places available on the committee and if you want to find out more before applying then contact me or any Committee member. At some point in time new committee members will be required to continue the good work.

Contact me.....u3apresidentpshaw@gmail.com

General News

The UK pub brand "JD Wetherspools" is opening a 1000 sq ft watering hole in the departures hall in Alicante airport. Due to open in January 2026.

From 2nd January 2026 all electric scooters must be entered into the national register, have a visible verification code and have third party insurance to be used on the road. - Let's see how that works !!

Finally from me....Remember, we were all newbies to the association once. If you see others looking lost and maybe in need of assistance or help, talk to them, try and help and make them feel part of the association. Who knows, they may become friends you just haven't met yet.

Thank you for 2025, enjoy Christmas and all the best for the New

*Year. Take care and see you in 2026. Peter and all your committee
..... Michelle, Diane, Christine, Les, Roger, Jean and Beverley.*

December riddle:- what has many needles but doesn't sew?



Answer - A Christmas tree

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we are doing on our website.



Torrevieja U3A

The Secretary
Torrevieja u3a
Calle Maria Parodi 8 - 10
4a Planta, Pta 1
03181 Torrevieja
Alicante

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