

Minutes of the U3A Vall del Pop General Assembly held on Thursday April 4th 2024 Venue: Polivalent, Murla.

1. Introduction

Chris welcomed 70 members to the first GA of the new committee and thanked them for attending.

He explained that to get us all moving Sally Millane, who runs a Dru Yoga class for U3A, was kindly going to involve us in a gentle 5 minute seated exercise routine. It was super to see everyone joining in and certainly got some stiff joints moving! If anyone is interested in trying Sally's yoga class details are on the website. We hope Sally will join us at future meetings and keep us moving!

2. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 7th March 2024

These were agreed by Bob Welham and seconded by Marion White

3. Matters Arising.

Chris reminded members that Bob Welham had previously been honoured with the title of Honorary President. In recognition he then presented Bob with an Oscar for lifetime achievement which was gratefully received by Bob (not!).

4. Correspondence.

Paula advised that letters of thanks had been received from all 6 charities who received donations from 2023 Goodwill funds, all of whom were extremely grateful.

She had also received a letter of thanks from Sonia Higginson for the restaurant voucher she received on stepping down from the committee.

5. Committee reports

Treasurer's report.

Roger submitted his report to the members in writing. Please find a copy attached.

Membership Secretary.

At the close of renewals on 31st March 2024 we had 418 members and 10 new members joined today who were welcomed by name. Barbara expressed her thanks

to the membership team who had assisted her and sincere thanks must go to Barbara herself for a sterling job.

Groups Coordinator.

Teresa gave members an insight into the variety of groups on offer: card games, dining, active etc and encouraged people to consider joining them. They are a great way of meeting new people and making friends. She also encouraged anyone with ideas for new clubs they would like to run to contact her. Christine Brazier gave an update on the cinema club which is proving very popular.

TCET.

Sonia advised there will be a trip to Benidorm Palace to see Bon Jovi. The last trip to see ELO was a sell out so don't miss out on tickets when they go on sale at next month's GA.

She is still investigating a hotel in Benidorm for Christmas but if this isn't possible she may look at going to Peniscola again which is always popular.

The Trip to Valencia on 18th April is now full. There are still places available to the Biopark and Ikea in June.

Goodwill.

Paula advised that the car boot sale on 14th April has attracted a lot of interest with almost 50 stall holders. There will be music, a bbq, bar, cakes and savouries, teas and coffees and a preloved stall.

The summer bbq party on 11th May is sold out with a waiting list and anyone who has not paid for their tickets is requested to do so by the end of April at which point unpaid tickets will be offered to those on the waiting list.

There are still tickets available for the afternoon tea/live music/clothes sale on 29th May which promises to be a super event.

The Goodwill team is honoured to offer a fabulous evening with The Entertainers on 28th June at Los Arcos in aid of Cancer Care Javea and in celebration of our dear friend Sandra Welham. This should be a fantastic evening and we expect it to sell out fast, so book asap. Friends and family are welcome.

Finally Paula explained that U3A Vall del Pop had received a generous donation of 1000 euros from Caixa bank, Jalon, towards the end of last year to be spent to benefit the local community and the committee had been considering what to use it for. It has been decided to purchase an end of life/hospital bed in Sandra's memory

which Jalon Valley Help will keep in their equipment store and issue as required. We are grateful for their support and assistance. A plaque will be made stating the bed is "Donated by Caixa bank and U3A VDP in memory of Sandra Welham". There is a shortfall of some 500 euros which the Goodwill team have offered to provide out of charity funds raised as Sandra started the Goodwill team. Paula acknowledged that members had made this possible due to their generosity in supporting our events and offered our sincere thanks.

Sharing and Caring.

Brigid explained the role of Caring and Sharing and encouraged anyone who needed help, support or a friendly ear to contact her. Chris explained that we would like to raise the profile of Caring and Sharing and find more volunteers so we can offer more services.

AOB.

None

6. Date of next Meeting

Thursday 2nd May at which our speaker will be Rhett Groom, a local cycling enthusiast, who has ridden the Tour de France for the last 2 years and raised, with his team, over 2 million pounds for Cure Leukemia. He is a testament to sheer motivation, dedication and commitment and this will be a fascinating talk.

Goodwill will be holding a plant sale and welcome any donated plants and cuttings. The plants usually sell out quickly so don't miss out!

You may recall twice a year we have a collection of toiletries, cleaning products, household goods for Caritas and the first one for this year will be at the May GA. If you are able to donate any of these items they will be gratefully received. These are distributed by Caritas to households in need in the local villages. Please, no food items.

Graham will not be at this meeting so no books I'm afraid.

Pauline Mc Gough then entertained members with a trio of entertaining ditties: My Thighs, Menopause Rhapsody and Ballad of Freda and Barry which had us all laughing and sympathising! A great fun interlude.

Phil Bennett from MiSolar then gave an interesting and informative talk on how solar power works, benefits and things to consider. Several members were keen to ask questions and it certainly gave food for thought.

Chris thanked members for attending and the team for their help in setting up the meeting and the meeting closed.

Goodwill raised 182 euros from the cake sale and preloved sale today. Thank you for supporting us.