

NEWSLETTER

u3a
Vall del Pop



November 2025



November 2025

President's Message

We have had a busy couple of weeks, starting with our fabulous Halloween event at Pepe's in Alcalali. You will find a write-up and photos later in this newsletter which show the incredible effort so many of our members made with their costumes. This was followed by another full hall for our November General Assembly, with plenty of lively chatter and activity ahead of the meeting.

Once we had completed the formal part of the day and in recognition of the upcoming Remembrance Day we heard an interesting presentation by Terry Waldron, head of the Javea Branch of the Royal British Legion.

He told us about the history of the RBL and the impressive extent of its current activities, with a particular focus on the important work they do supporting veterans here in Spain.

He and his two colleagues also sold poppies and collected money at the entrance. At the end they confirmed that they would be more than happy to come next back year to help us celebrate this important day.



Terry was followed by John Wardle, who had kindly put himself forward for the 'Meet a Member' slot. He regaled us with stories of the different cars he had raced as a younger man, winning championships, setting lap records and rubbing shoulders with some very well-known names. All of this was accompanied by photos of his different cars, all in deliberately bright colours, and his equally striking hairdos. As he spoke it became abundantly clear that Carole's enthusiastic support had been critical to the whole enterprise.

For me John's talk was the perfect demonstration of why we first introduced these 'Meet a Member' sessions. We know that many of us have done interesting things in the past that it would be impossible to guess at. For example, John's current elderly Skoda car gives little indication of his exciting back story!

So please don't be shy! Why not try it for yourself? The sessions can be as short as you wish and we can also use the previous 'Q&A' format, if you would be more comfortable with that.

With best wishes,
Chris

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We have a very hard working committee who give up their time to keep your u3a running smoothly. They are voted in by yourselves, our members, at our AGM annually and anyone who is interested in getting involved is welcome to put themselves forward.

We will have a vacancy soon for Assistant Secretary so if you have good verbal and written communication skills this may interest you. The main responsibility is to stand in for the Secretary at meetings and take minutes if she is not available. Also to help with any general communications.

Barbara, our Membership secretary, also needs an assistant to help with the annual membership renewals. If you have good organisational skills this could be for you.

These are great ways to get to know the workings of our committee and get more involved over time. You won't work alone, we operate as a team.

Please talk to us if you are interested. We would love to hear from you.

2026 GA Meetings

General Assemblies in Murla, all Thursdays:

**January 8th, February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, May 7th, June 4th,
September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th, December 3rd**

We are arranging a great mix of visiting speakers and we welcome volunteers for our "Meet a member" slot.

We look forward to a packed room and lots of fun. Hope to see you there.

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HALLOWEEN 2025

WOW!!!! 66 members joined us at Pepe's in Alcalali on Friday 31st October for a ghoulish Halloween event and it was truly spectacular!

Sally Ellis and her team of helpers had decorated the restaurant with a fabulous array of decorations, most handmade by Sally. The venue looked suitably spooky with a lifesize ghost, lots of bats and spiders, cobwebs galore and festive table centrepieces. Well done and thank you Sally! She spent ages making everything. A brilliant effort.

Pepe's served us well with a range of meals and the chicken pie, which was a firm favourite, was excellent. Bread and alioli and ice creams and lots of drinks saw everyone in good spirits! A huge thankyou to Pepe and the team for looking after us so well.



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Our DJ for the evening, Derek, very kindly donated his services, thank you Derek, and many members took to the dance floor for 2 hours of energetic dancing.

But the highlight of the evening has to be the amazing costumes. Most members had dressed up and the outfits were truly spectacular with a huge variety from a scary clown to witches, Dracula, zombies, to name a few. It was quite scary to not even be able to recognise some people when they arrived. So much effort had been made and a huge thank you to everyone for coming and making it such fun. You really entered into the spirit!



We had planned to award a prize to the best male and female outfits but that proved impossible, there were simply too many great ones to choose from. So 12 members were chosen and received bottles of wine or chocolates. But in truth everyone was a winner.

I hope everyone managed to get the hair dye, gel, spiders, face paints and wigs off safely!!

Peter Ellis kindly prepared an enjoyable table quiz which had everyone joining in and racking their brains over chocolate bars! Well done to the winning team who won a bag full of chocolate.

A raffle was held with prizes of wine and chocolates and the final prize was kindly donated by Pepe's of a bottle of wine and a meal voucher which was won by Sandra Ealy.

The evening was held in aid of members' funds and 300 euros was raised which will be used to benefit members.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the evening. We look forward to another hair raising event next year!

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Ladies Lunch - October

It was a delight to visit Restaurant Nou Portet, Murla this month.

More of a delight was the beautiful weather allowing us to take our lunch on their terrace.

Sixteen ladies all enjoyed good food, drinks and each others company.

Our next lunch is on Tuesday, 18th November 2025, this will be at Il Mondo in Jalon, newly opened in the premises of Karmalet Hotel



If, any new members would like to join us please go to the website u3avalldelpop.com and look for Ladies At Lunch I can then get you on my mailing list.



Our Christmas gathering is provisionally booked for Tuesday, 16th December 2025 at The Shack in Jalon.

I look forward to seeing you all soon

Sally Ellis

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U3A Monday Ramblers

I am not sure if it was only on a Monday, but there seems to have been a lot of cloudy or wet weather during October. There are so many sunny days here in Spain, that it is a shame to waste a nice walk on a grey day. But on the other hand we don't want to cancel a walk and then wake up on Monday morning and find the sun shining. If the weather forecast is for wet and windy I arrange the walk, but confirm on Sunday whether it will go ahead. If it is likely to rain we will often do a walk where it is possible to return if the rain does arrive. We had to do this twice during October, so there were a lot of walks starting from Jalon.

Jalon to Alcalali

Our first walk was from Jalon to Alcalali. There had been a forecast of 28% chance of heavy rain, so there were a lot of waterproofs at the start of the walk, but most were removed after the first hour



Jalon to Alcalali

For our second walk the forecast was 65% chance of rain. Normally we would cancel with such a high risk, but having been lucky the previous week we decided to risk it. We did the same walk as last time, for the same reason. We did have a short shower on the way back, resulting in this photo of the group wearing waterproofs and using umbrellas, the first time this has happened in four or five years.

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U3A Monday Ramblers



Lliber Zoo

Much better forecast for our third walk, so we did our first regular walk of the month. This was a circular walk from Lliber and it was really pleasant to have our usual sun and blue sky which we have come to expect. Particularly nice sitting in the square for a drink after the walk.



Parcent to Murla

The weather was even better for our last walk of the month, from Parcent to Murla. Just look at that clear blue sky. Temperatures were an ideal 20c, with a cool breeze.

The poor weather for the first two walks made us appreciate all the more the warm sun for the second two. And we were pleased that despite disappointing weather for the month as a whole, we did not have to cancel any walks

**If you would like more details about the group
please send an email to paulleniston@hotmail.com**

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u3a Vall Del Pop coffee mornings 2025/26

We look forward to seeing you at the following events.

No need to book, just turn up.

Please note, occasionally dates and venues may have to be amended so please keep an eye on the new website or Facebook for updates.



**Members General
Coffee Mornings
11.00am**

19th November
Restobar Quixote, Orba

18th December
Blanca Bikes Parcent

**Friendship & Support
Coffee Mornings
Weds 10.30am**

**My Mercat, Jalon
26th November**

10th December

**2026
January 14th & 28th**



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Cinema Club

All welcome, sit back and enjoy a fabulous movie.

Variety is the spice of life and we aim to show a good mix of movie genres.

We always welcome any suggestions of what you would like us to show at future dates.

Please let us know of any special requests or a new release
and we will try to obtain it for showing..

2nd and 4th Mondays in the month,
doors open 6.45pm for a 7.30 start.
Jalon Salon (next to Town Hall) - 2
Euro donation

Non-members can enjoy a 1st taster
visit, you can bring a friend or guest
along for one visit



For further information contact

Christine Brazier
justnanny@live.co.uk



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GROUP ACTIVITIES

Join in and meet new friends!

Activity groups meet regularly to pursue common interests. You can learn new skills or brush up on old ones, and it's a great way of making new friends!

Please find below and on the following pages current activities and groups with contact details to find out more information about when they meet and cost etc.

The Group Co-ordinator is available to assist and advise in starting new groups or to help existing groups to recruit members etc Teresa - Group Co-ordinator - activitygroups@u3avalldelpop.com

If you would like to promote your group in a future Newsletter Please contact Linda at news@u3avalldelpop.com

| | Activity | Contact |
|--|--|--|
|  | Allotment - We have a large 6m x18m allotment in Jalon. There is a shed and water on site. | SUE HARVEY & BRIGID REDMOND brigred4119@gmail.com |
|  | Ballroom, Latin & Sequence Dancing - Whatever your level of fitness, ballroom dancing is a great way to exercise and meet new friends. | <u>DUNCAN THOMPSON</u> dtheys14d18m@gmail.com Telephone: 634 33 46 89 |
|  | Bridge - The aim of this group is to provide an opportunity for people to play bridge in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Riu Rau in Jalon. | WENDY SIM wendy.sim1@hotmail.com Telephone: 711090516 |
|  | Canasta - We meet every Tuesday afternoon at Casa Claudia in Jalon. New members would be very welcome to join us. | MARY WOOD marywoodspain@gmail.com Telephone: 675 674 301 |
|  | Card Making - We are a group who enjoy crafting and, in particular, creating beautiful greetings cards. | CAROLE MARTEN & DEE ADKINS Dadkins1953@yahoo.co.uk Cvicaly2@gmail.com |

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| | Activity | Contact |
|--|---|---|
| | Cinema - We aim to show a wide range of films in English. If you want to be included in the Cinema Group mailing list please contact Group Leader. | CHRISTINE BRAZIER justnanny@live.co.uk |
| | Digital Photography - Our aims are to develop our digital photography skills in a social and safe group setting; and importantly, have fun doing so. | DAVID BROCK Davidandeileen50@yahoo.co.uk Telephone: 606 995 919 |
| | Dining Experience - Is now venturing outside the valley. Members can recommend an old favourite that they enjoy or a new venue to try. | Paula Barrett secretary@u3avalldelpop.com |
| | Dru Yoga - A gentle but powerful workout. It calms and reduces stress, improves focus, physical strength, balance and energy. | SALLY MILLANE Sallysunshine436@gmail.com |
| | Game Addicts - We are a group that likes to keep those grey cells active, and pride ourselves on being a friendly, light hearted crowd. | GORDON RODMAN boneinjalon@gmail.com Telephone: 693 725 199 |
| | Ladies At Lunch - We want to 'spread the wealth' so we plan these lunches at a variety of restaurants across our region. | SALLY ELLIS U3aladieslunch@gmail.com |
| | Let's Sing Together...For Fun - Love to sing anywhere, any place, when a tune pops into your head. We sing songs that we enjoy, are fun and lifts our spirits. | PAUL CORAZZO paulcorazzou3a@gmail.com Telephone 603717784 |
| | Mahjong - Vinyaters Xalo Thursday at 2.30pm A game rumoured to be around 2,500 years old, that is similar to Rummy, played with tiles. | BERYL COMAR berylcomar@gmail.com |
| | Men Who Munch - What happens at "Men Who Munch" stays at "Men Who Munch" Come on Guys, join in with our get togethers at various local bars or restaurants. | GORDON SIM Thomassim007@gmail.com |

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Events & Trips

All are/will be on Facebook and our website (when confirmed) and in our newsletter. All can be booked and paid for at General Assemblies and monthly coffee mornings or reserved via e mail.

Don't miss out! They can sell out fast.



16th November Just My Imagination - The Temptations tribute - Waiting List

20th November Xmas shopping trip to La Zenia

13th December Alicante Christmas Market - Waiting list

UPCOMING
EVENTS

7th December Christmas party/dinner and dance

Lots to look forward to in 2026

Thank you to Travel and Entertainment and Goodwill for planning and organising for us.



October 2025

**u3a
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Raising Money for Local Charities

Christmas Fayre & Car Boot Sale

30th November 2025
Jalon (RastroSite) 10-2pm

A well supported annual event
Stalls 10 euros, Vans & Trailers 15 euros
Payable in advance by bank transfer
To reserve your spot contact
goodwill@u3avalldelpop.com

Donations of tombola, raffle prizes, cakes and savouries greatly received!

Meet Santa in his Grotto
Seasonal Holiday
Craft Creations
BBQ, Bar, Mulled Wine,
Refreshments, Raffle,
Tombola & Live Music

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October 2025

Working in Collaboration with other organisations

Hello everyone and welcome to the next OK Party which is in support of Cancer Care Javea. Cancer care is a local charity dedicated to supporting patients and their families by funding essential treatments and providing vital resources to support those affected. The services are free and are provided by the nurses and liaison officer, both in the hospital and in the patients' homes.

Invite you to
an afternoon
picnic party

Saturday November 22nd - 2pm
at the *OK corral - Benissa campo*
with music from

the **OK band**
[the OK band](https://www.facebook.com/theOKband)

€10 door donation p.p.
B.Y.O picnic - Drinks from the bar
All door and bar proceeds donated to the charity

For bookings email Sandie
sandie7armer@gmail.com
Please request a map when booking

Please bring your own picnic - drinks including wine, beer, water and soft drinks, will be available to purchase at the bar.

Payment is at the door and all of the donations and bar proceeds will go to the charity.

Please contact sandie7armer@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

The doors open at 1pm and the band will play at 2pm.

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Working in Collaboration with other organisations



Wednesday, 3 December 2025: The Adoration of the Magi, by Dr Geri Parlby



They've adorned our Seasons
Greetings and taken pride of place in
our cribs and school nativity scenes.

Centuries of artists have been
provided with a chance to add a dash
of exotic colour into their scenes of
the birth of Christ.

The Arts Society Marina Alta (TASMA) welcomes you at two locations on Wed., 3 Dec. 2025:

Morning lecture: Espai La Senieta, Avda. de Madrid 15, 03724 Moraira

Doors open at 10.15 for 11.00 h lecture.

Evening lecture: Casa de la Cultura, Plaça de Baix 6, 03730 Jávea

Doors open at 18.45 for 19.30 h lecture.

FREE ADMISSION FOR TASMA MEMBERS.

GUESTS WELCOME BY PREPAID DONATION VIA WWW.ARTSOCMA.ORG

Why not join us - check out membership benefits on our website.

Sign up for a Free Subscription to TASMA's What's On E-Journal of national and local cultural and

social scenes, plus Newsletter, by emailing: marinaalta@theartssociety.org

ENJOY THE STORY and STAY for the COMPLIMENTARY DRINK and SOCIAL!

Sponsors: Blevins Franks; The Agency RE Costa Blanca North; Currencies Direct; Harvey Lawyers.



www.u3avalldelpop.com

