



# ARPO NEWS

Association of Retired Police Officers  
Costa Blanca South

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[www.arpo.org.uk](http://www.arpo.org.uk)

## Meeting Report

The last meeting of ARPO was held at Sacko's Bar on 12th December, 2007 when 46 members attended. There were no new members. The £25 draw was won by Jim Wood.

The Chairman welcomed back Knut and Ziggy Robbersatt Knut after Knut's recent illness.

The Treasurer reported that he had collected euro 122 in subs. The Raffle on Cartagena trip had raised 223 net 140 after prize money 5 from Pats flowers. 13.50 had come in from the book stall. Money in bank stands at 1373.86 cash in hand 59.21. We also had 50 euro from the ARPO Pig which is being banked until members decide which charity should receive the monies collected.

Andy Bassett informed members of the need to get a medical examination and certificate if you hold a Spanish driving licence. Over 45 years of age test is due every 5 years over 70 years it is every 2 years. It was thought that it was due when you renewed your D/L this is not the case you can be asked to produce your medical certificate at any time.

There was a discussion between members about various incidents that involved driving licenses. The Spanish authorities will issue a new Spanish licence when you surrender a current British one but will not issue licences to people over the age of 70.

Brian Godfrey advised member that the Sunday Zoco market was due to close

sometime in January to make way for the new commercial centre.

George Fulker enquired about the pension increase. The UK retail price index stands at 3.5 % so that should be our index linked figure.

Addendum - we had missed out in the meeting to say thank you to Jim Wood for all the hard work in arranging the Coach trip which was without doubt the best day out we have ever had.

## Social function Report

82 members and guests attended the Christmas Party on 14th December at



Portico Mar. All enjoyed superb food and singing from Jack Clayton 'well done Lol for this brilliant find'. Dancing went on until midnight and all in all this has to be the best Party event yet. Many thanks to Mike, Lol, Jim and everyone who helped make this an outstanding success.

The photo above shows members enjoying themselves.

## Seasons Greetings

We hope that everyone enjoyed the Christmas festivities and now wish all members and readers a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

## E-mail addresses

Would anyone who changes their e-mail address or who has a new one please notify Jim Wood of this so that he can update details for the Nominal Roll. The monthly newsletter is sent to those members with e-mail so any address changes will ensure that you continue to receive a copy.

## Don't Get Done

New legislation introduced in Spain recently sets the legal alcohol limit for drivers at 0.25 mgs of alcohol per litre of breath. Penalties for exceeding the limit include a prison sentence, fine and disqualification. The harsh measures have been brought into effect in an attempt to reduce the 4,000 people killed on the roads in 2006 which included 40% directly attributed to drink drivers.

The new maximum limit is in contrast to the UK limit of 0.8 milligrams. In the first case where a driver was charged under the new legislation the offender was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment, fined 2,160 euros and banned from driving for 16 months. The level of the test supplied was 0.62 mgs which is lower than the legal limit in Britain!

## Credit Card Scam

The following details describe how the latest Credit Card Scam is being operated.

The scam works like this: Person calling says, "This is (name), and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at VISA. My badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card which was issued by (name of bank) did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for £497.99 from a Marketing company based in London?" When you say "No", the caller continues with, "Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. This is a company we have been watching and the charges range from £297 to £497, just under the £500 purchase pattern that flags most cards. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (gives you your address), is that correct?"

You say "yes". The caller continues - "I will be starting a fraud investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 0800 number listed on the back of your card (0800-VISA) and ask for Security.

You will need to refer to this Control Number. The caller then gives you a 6 digit number. "Do you need me to read it again?"

Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works the caller then says, "I need to verify you are in possession of your card." He'll ask you to "turn your card over and look for some numbers." There are 7 numbers; the first 4 are part of your card number, the next 3 are the security numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make Internet purchases to prove you have the card. The caller will ask you to read the 3 numbers to him. After you tell the caller the 3 numbers, he'll say, "That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other questions?" After you say, "No," the caller then thanks you and states, "Don't hesitate to call back if you do", and hangs up.

You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the Card number. But after we were called on Wednesday, we called back within 20 minutes to ask a question. Are we glad we did! The REAL VISA Security Department told us it was a scam and in the last 15 minutes a new purchase of £497.99 was charged to our card.

Long story - short - we made a real fraud report and closed the VISA account. VISA is reissuing us a new number. What the scammers want is the 3-digit PIN number on the back of the card. Don't give it to them. Instead, tell them you'll call VISA or MasterCard directly for verification of their conversation. The real VISA told us that they will never ask for anything on the card as they already know the information since they issued the card! If you give the scammers your 3 Digit PIN Number, you think you're receiving a credit. However, by the time you get your statement you'll see charges for purchases you didn't make, and by then it's almost too late and/or more difficult to actually file a fraud report.

### Valentine's Day Lunch Restaurante Portico Mar 14th February, 2008 - 12.30pm for 1.0pm

Entertainment by Jack Clayton

Plus something romantic for the lady in your life

14 euros per head - menu below. Please let Mike have reservations and choice of menu.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

#### *Restaurante "Portico Mar"* *Menu del dia*

##### *Starters*

1. Tomato-basalicum soup made on red wine
2. Mix salad with dill sauce
3. Mushrooms a la creme
4. Prawn cocktail
5. Pan fried mussels in a garlic butter with toasted bread
6. Tuna salad
7. Greek salad

##### *Main course*

1. Chicken breast with a mushroom or pepper or bleu cheese sauce
2. Chicken breast with hot "asia" sauce
3. Hungarian Gulash with rice or mash potatoes
4. Mussels in a creamy garlic tomato sauce
5. ½ Rack of spare ribs made in BBQ sauce
6. Schnitzel with a mushroom or pepper sauce
7. Oven grilled "Panga" fish with red paprika, carrots and onions
8. Mussels in saffron sauce served with rice
9. Filet steak, 240gr (+ 3 €) with a choice of sauce:
  - Pepper sauce
  - Red wine sauce
  - Brandy sauce
  - Bleu cheese sauce
  - Mushroom sauce

##### *For vegetarians:*

10. Lazaña vegetable
11. Pan fried mushroom in creamy sauce served with mush potatoes or rice

##### *Dessert*

1. Crepes with ice cream
  2. Ice cream
  3. Apple strudel with ice cream and cream
  4. Hot cherries on vanilla ice cream
  5. Cake of the day
- Inc. Glass of drink /Wine, soft drink, beer/  
Lunch: 13,95€ / In the evening 16,95€*

\*\*\*This newsletter is printed to provide information and every effort is made to ensure accuracy. All planned and future events contain contact details of the organiser(s) and they should be contacted direct for up to date information\*\*\*