



# ARPO NEWS

Association of Retired Police Officers  
*Costa Blanca South*

Issue No. 28

March, 2008

www.arpo.org.uk

## Meeting Report

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Retired Police Officers Association Held at Sacko's Bar Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

Minutes of the 2007 AGM were read out. Proposed by George Patterson seconded by Vaughan Simons as correct. No matters arising.

### Treasurers report.

Lawrence Bilbey reported that our total income for the year was euro 28779.40  
Our expenditure was euro 2735.93.  
Profit from 2007 raffles was euro 1054.53  
Cash in the bank was euro 1868.66  
Cash in hand was euro 156.06.  
A full break down is attached  
There were no matters arising.

### Election of officers.

Nominations had opened and closed within the January meeting so the committee for 2008 will be  
Chairman Jim Wood  
V/Chairman Fred Wharton  
Secretary Mike Peters  
Ass Sect Susan Haycox.  
Treasurer Lawrence Bilbey  
Ass/treasurer George Patterson.  
Web Master Gerry Lawson

### Registration of Association

This had now been completed and there had been no problems. It had been done by L&A solicitors Pza De Amistad 6 C P 03194 La Marina Tel 965419071.

They had provided an English translation and the original Spanish document would be kept at there office in the Secretaries personal file.

The total cost was euro 626. A full break down is attached. Suggested by Richard Jackson that it be posted on the web site. Jim Wood then recounted why we had gone down this road. It had originated from Derek Hinchcliffe when he was chairman. Some groups had been visited by the police be-

cause they were not registered and were breaking the law in their activities. We should be within the law So began the plans to become fully registered with the Valencian Authorities.

This had been put to the members during the stewardship of Chairman Roy Coombes and voted and agreed by members as the correct course of action to take.

Honoria Nil.

### Donations to Charity.

Over the year we had the ARPO pig which had raised euro 50. We had voted to split what ever it raised between the McMillan cancer nurses and Debra.(Butter fly children)

It was decided that rather than give them euro 25 each we would run it for another year and hope to increase the amount.

Jim Wood then outlined a request from John Bryant regarding the Police Pensioners housing. He spoke eloquently but we had already voted on the two local charities for another year

### Any other business.

July and August. A discussion took place as to whether we should have meetings during these months or just have ad hoc lunches. It was agreed by all to bring it forward in June when people have more ideas of their plans.

### Guests. Should they pay more at social events?

The Secretary said he was very much against this. At the Christmas party alone 42 out of 82 were guests. They certainly pay their way supporting us with the raffles, and he could only recall two guests whose behaviour had fallen below acceptable levels, which resulted in the Committee having write a letter of apology to the venue. It was also comment to that members should

be given preference over guests in all functions. The Secretary was against this and said if we arrange an event and a member includes a guest he would not remove them from the list to accommodate the member.

Proposed by Derek Dunham that it be put to the members for a vote.

Vote. In total agreement guests will not pay more and members would not be given preference if they signed up late for an event.

### Social events.

Since the retirement of the last Social secretary a number of very successful lunches had been arranged by members. That seems to have dried up and more and more the committee are taking it on. We are running out of ideas please if you know of a good restaurant near you have a go we will help with fliers etc

### Chairman thanks.

Jim Wood went onto thank the following for their hard work during the year raising funds for the association.

Linda Peters for her hand made cards, Pat Bilbey for her floral decorations. Angie Dewey, Brian and Phyllis Smith for all their hard work with the book club.

Lawrence Bilbey and George Patterson for doing the financial side of things.

Last Mike Peters for his work as the Secretary.

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The last meeting of ARPO was held at Sacko's bar on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008. 37 members present. There were no new members.

Members were asked if they were happy to continue using Portico Mar for the Christmas party and other events Unanimous vote....Yes

Raffle from Lemon Tree in January had raised euro 88

Outlined an Email from Graham Knight who is looking to set up a Fire , Police , Ambulance Association a bit long and involved so we will post it on the web page for people to read. It would seem a good idea at first glance.

25 euro draw won by Kevin Henry no. 10.

### **Certificado (used to be Residencia)**

George Patterson indicates some problems in obtaining the above as experienced by some of his friends. They had gone with papers duly completed and had entered the queue at 6.30am. There was obviously a large queue as they were given tickets 63 and 64 at 7am when the doors opened. The forms had been completed correctly but the Modelo 790 for the fee had been increased by 10 cents to 6.80 euro. After being dealt with the friends made their way to one of the appointed banks in Elche and to pay the extra 20 cents only to be told payments could be made Monday-Thursday and as they went on a Friday alternative arrangements had to be made. George advises all to check with their local National Police Office before embarking on the venture.

### **Accessing the ARPO Web Site**

Some members have had problems in locating the address of our web site using Internet Search Engines. If you do not know the URL or address of any site then sites such as [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk) or [www.yahoo.co.uk](http://www.yahoo.co.uk) will help in your search. Most of these sites have sister ones in other countries so if you want to locate something in Spain use that site albeit the English one should have what you want.

In the case of ARPO merely entering these words will make it difficult to locate our site as there are numerous entries for other organisations and we are well down that list. However if you add words including "retired police Spain" to arpo then the result should take you immediately to the site address. I tried these selections with several Search Engines and we came out top each time. The art of using search sites is to include several words separated by a space.

The easy way of course is merely to enter the actual address in Internet Explorer or whatever program you use. It is printed at the top of this newsletter.

### **Message from the new Assistant Secretary**

As your newly appointed "Assistant Secretary" I thought you might be interested in the reason why I didn't attend last months AGM ...

The following is an extract I sent recently to one of my ex work colleagues:

*'We are flying back to the UK next Tuesday, 12 Feb as Nick's daughter/son-in-law have invited us to a very 'posh' Valentine's Gala Ball at The Wolves (Wolverhampton FC) in the West Midlands on Thurs 14 Feb ... I've bought a ball gown here in Spain and assembled all the accessories, including a fascinator ... so I'll be a WAG for one night only !!!! I'll email you some pics after the event ... We are making a flying visit to my family in Portsmouth on Friday afternoon and Saturday, before we fly out of Southampton early on Sunday morning!'*



Well ... I'm still in a state of absolute happiness ... what a well kept secret it was! I still thought I was going to a Valentine's Ball at The Wolves ... right up until I was ushered into the room, at Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire, where all my family were waiting !!! I wasn't going to a Gala Ball after all, but my own 'surprise' wedding!!!! Apparently it had been 5 months in the planning and Nick's daughter, Carolyne, was in charge of all

the arrangements which were all fabulous and meticulously planned - I arrived at Coombe Abbey at approx 1.15pm on Valentine's Day and got married at 5pm that day!!

It was absolutely mind blowing and fantastic all at the same time!!! I still have my head in the clouds after my SURPRISE Valentine's Day wedding (to Nick) at Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire, with all our close family present!

We've had a whirlwind visit and have just finished unpacking the cases ... the memories I have are wonderful and we're beginning to assemble some photos on Facebook ... (I don't know if you've heard about that?) and my brother and my son have already posted some pics there.

Of course, Nick did advise me that we would be spending our 'Honeymoon' in Torrevieja - ha! ha! I suppose a sort of 'wedding present' on our return to San Luis was that the buyer of our house at 37a in Purbrook, who has been in situ since July last year, tells me that Exchange of Contracts and Completion is going to take place simultaneously on Friday, 22 February - so at least we will be able to 'move on' and get going with the things we want done here!

We are beginning to settle down and get used to the ways of Spain but there is still a lot of 'administrative stuff' to do yet! The weather, until last week when we left for the UK, has been wonderful with blue sky and hot sunshine during the day

but chilly at night - but nowhere near the minus 5 degrees it was when we flew out of Southampton last Sunday morning!

Mrs Susan Bradford & Nick  
[susan\\_haycox@hotmail.com](mailto:susan_haycox@hotmail.com)

### **Eric Sayles**

Eric has a new e-mail address at [sayleaway@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sayleaway@tiscali.co.uk) and would love to hear from old friends and colleagues.

\*\*\*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\*\*\*