



ARPO NEWS

Association of Retired Police Officers
Costa Blanca South

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Meeting Report

Minutes of the Meeting of The Retired Police Officers Association Held at Sacko's Bar Wednesday 9th April, 2008 when 48 members were present.

3 new members introduced themselves and were welcomed to the group. We wish them a long and happy association.

Acting Treasurer George Patterson reported Cash in the bank stands at euro 1474.13. Cash in hand stands at euro 243.83. We have today received euro 19.50 From Angie Dewey's book stall. Well done to all concerned with that this is a regular donator to our funds. The raffle at down Town Quesada had raised euro 200.

Social functions.

Chairman spoke about the lunches and reiterated that all the money raised goes into the bank to subsidise all our coach trips and other main events. Our lunches are mainly not menu Del Dia and said these can be somewhat basic not all included a drink or coffee we always try and include these and also a staff tip. The meal at Down Town Quesada had been excellent. Chairmen thanked Mike and Linda for arranging that.

Arrangements were in hand to hold the June social function at Portico mar which would be an evening meal with live entertainment. See over for full details.

A discussion took place on a proposed bus trip for the September event and one to Benidorm won the vote of those present. Again full details will be made later. This would include a meal at Monroe's Carvery with the cost of the bus being subsidised.

Other suggestions were discussed for future events and it was again requested that members should look for suitable venues so that the lunches were not organised always by committee members. Please let us know if you have such a venue in mind. All help and assistance would be given in making arrangements.

Any Other Business.

A discussion was held on Spanish Taxation matters as a result an expert on this would give a talk at the next meeting on 14th May. If you have any questions please have these prepared.

We then had a general discussion about paying taxes in Spain. A Residencia does not mean to be a tax resident.

George Patterson outlined the problem of people not being fully qualified many are nothing more than an Articled clerk and are not up to date with the new regulations. So ensure you speak to a fully qualified accountant or solicitors. You need to have made at least 3 years tax payments as proof you have lived here, this is a must if you want to sell your house

Various people outlined the experiences getting the new Residencia certificate and how much it differs from area to area

The 25 euro draw was won by number 16 Nick Bradford.

Recent changes in Spanish Law on motor vehicle ownership

The following questions and answers will help bring you up to date with some important aspects of Spanish Laws.

Q. I have recently bought a Spanish registered car and I would like to put it into my name. How do I do this and how much will it cost me?

A. On all used vehicles in Spain there is a 4% tax to be paid. The amount of this tax depends on the make, model and the year of first registration of the vehicle This is calculated by the Hacienda (Tax Office) in Spain. If you have never been the registered owner or keeper of a vehicle in Spain, then due to recent

changes in the Law, you now need the *Certificado de Registro from the Policia National.*

Q. I am a resident in Spain and I would like to know if I need to exchange my British Drivers licence for a Spanish one?

A. If you are a Resident in Spain (i.e. if you spend more than 184 days in any given year in the Country) you **MUST** change your British drivers licence for a Spanish one.

Q. Do I need a medical and where do I get one?

A. The medical for Trafico is an extremely simple procedure. The process consists of a blood pressure test, hearing check and a short examination on a driving simulator. Most private medical centres carry out this Medical and the fee is approx. 35-40 Euros. This should be carried out every 10 years from 18/45 years of age every 5 years from 45/70 years of age and then every 2 years from 70 years of age Onwards.

Q. I read somewhere that there are new rules regarding British Expats visiting the UK. Can you tell me what these new laws are and when they come into force?

A. The Department of Health has warned that from 1st April 2008 British nationals living permanently in Spain should carry La Tarjeta Sanitaria Eurpoa to entitle them to free treatment while in the UK or any other European Union members state. The Spanish EHIC can be applied for locally at a Social Security Office, INSS. The cards have to be renewed annually. More information is available from www.dh.gov.uktravellers or by calling 0044 191 218 1999.

Q. How long can I keep my British registered vehicle in Spain before I have to transfer it?

A. The law states that the vehicle can be kept in Spain for 6 months and then it **MUST** be reregistered onto Spanish plates.

Many Insurance Companies issue an form for completion in the case of a motor accident. Some of these are issued in Spanish or French making it difficult for British to complete. A sample form in English is posted on the Arpo web site and can be downloaded and printed for personal use.

You Might Be a Copper if...

You have the bladder capacity of 5 people. You have ever restrained someone and it was not a sexual experience. You believe that 75% of people are a waste of space. Your idea of a good time is an armed robbery at shift change.

You have ever wanted to hold a seminar called "Suicide, getting it right the first time". You believe "Too stupid to Live" should be a valid court outcome. When you mention vegetables, you're not referring to a food group. You think caffeine should be available in IV form.

Your prisoner states "I have no idea how I got here" - and neither have you. You end normal conversations with loved ones with Roger or Acknowledged. You walk down the street looking at people as potential criminal intelligence submissions. You believe the carpet bombing of certain areas of your beat is a viable alternative to policing.



Another excellent lunch at El Refugio Restaurant April, 2008

You call for a name check on anyone who is remotely friendly to you. Discussing dismemberment over dinner seems perfectly normal to you. You find humour in other peoples stupidity.

You have your weekends off planned for a year. You believe the government should require a permit to reproduce. You believe that unspeakable evils will befall you if anyone says " God its Quiet today".

Whenever you phone someone, you ask them 'Are you free to speak?' Your diet consists of food that has gone through more processing than a computer can track. You're the only sober person in the kebab house. You believe chocolate is a food group. Having alcohol at 7am seems perfectly normal.

You believe that some crimes can be sorted out with a damn good kicking. Your favourite hallucinogen is exhaustion. You are the only person you know who ever uses the word 'liaise'. Your partner tells you off for walking with your hands held together behind your back. At least once every working day you use the phrase, "The job's f*cked!"

You regularly say, "With all due respect, Sir" but mean nothing of the sort. You have a nose finely tuned to the smells of cannabis, decomposition and stale body odour. You think Thursday is the best night to go into town for a drink with your mates. You nodded and laughed at all of the above, and realised what a sick bunch.

We all are.
Keep smiling.....

ARPO Social Functions

Wednesday 21st May, 2008

ARPO Lunch at Restautante Club Nautico de Guadamar 12.30 for 1.0pm

This is a typical Spanish restaurant overlooking the Marina in Guardamar. The menu has been translated into English and we hope it is as accurate as possible! The price is 15 euros per head and includes soup, entremeses, a choice of main course, dessert, coffee and 1 drink either water, wine or beer.

Starters

Soup of the house or Fish Soup or Mixed fried fish or Plate of different tapas for 4 people

Main Course

Roast chicken
Hake Basque style
Pork chop with mushroom sauce
Grilled sword fish and herb sauce
Sliced beef with potatoes
Halibut baked with prawn and garlic sauce

Platters of mixed desserts placed on the table for guests to help themselves
Coffee

Meals need to be pre-ordered. If anyone requires a vegetarian meal please let us know. Please contact Fred & Dreena Wharton 96 671 5353 or email fred-dreena@telefonica.net

Friday 20th June, 2008

Grand Summer Forchett at Restaurante Portico Mar, Guardamar 7.30 pm for 8.0 pm

Live Music by Jack Clayton

Menu

- A selection of International Salads including Russian, Moscow and Greek
- Smoked Sausage, Serrano Ham
- Suckling Pig served with salad and potatoes and rice
- Selection of International Cakes

25 euros per head to include all wine, beer, soft drinks and coffee.

Please contact Mike Peters to reserve seats and ensure that all money is paid at or before the June Arpo Meeting.

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