



# 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

Minutes of ARPO meeting held at Sackos Bar Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008 51 members present.

Before the meeting opened a minutes silence was held in memory of Roy Coombes who had served as Chairman and vice chairman, and Roy Lloyd who had serviced as social secretary. Both had recently died Harry Powell proposed that a letter of condolence should be sent to the respective widows.

Two new members introduced themselves.

George Patterson reported that cash in the deposit account stood at Euros 1674. Cash in hand stood at Euros 119.93. We had received Euros 3.64 interest. We had today received another Euros 18.50 from Angie Dewey and the book club plus 1 Euro from Linda Peters.

Harry Powell then made a proposal about the monthly 25 Euro draw. Condensed he said that the draw in his view was unfair as not all members were present each month and had no chance of winning. He declared an interest as this applied to him. He spoke about how some years back the monthly lunches were subsidised but that was no longer the case. The lottery serves no purpose and his proposal was to dis continue it.

George Patterson then replied he was one of the original members who proposed this 25 euro draw, should it be discontinued he would resign this bought a round of applause.

Secretary. The 25 euro draw and all the money used to subsidise our trips comes from the membership but 90% comes the raffles and then that is used for the benefits of members , these trips are open to everybody.

I am clear in my mind that an issue like this can only be debated at an AGM. The chairman isn't here and my proposal is we defer this to the AGM.

Vice chairman then put it to a vote and the majority of members voted in favour. Harry was not happy and could not see why we cannot debate it now but the proposal was carried.

Ron Burks added that it is the regular members who attend every meeting and every lunch and bring guests that contribute most to the funds.

The 25 Euro draw was won by Dreena Wharton number 33.

We then had a talk by European tax advisors

## Function Report

Some 60 odd members attended the May ARPO lunch at Club Nautico, Guardamar. Reports again indicate that this was a very

well attended function and all enjoyed excellent food and company.

Linda was delighted with her raffle prize as shown in the photo at the foot of the page.

## E.H.I.C.

The subject of the European Health Insurance Card recently came to light when Mike Peters enquired at the British Consulate regarding the issue of the cards. The system provides some medical cover in other E.U. Countries during travel away from your country of residence.

The situation is that if your reside **permanently in Spain** and are aged 65 or over then you are entitled to be issued with a card. However if you are under the age of 65 (60 for women) then you are not entitled and therefore require private medical insurance for any travel outside Spain (including UK).

The following extract from the Consul appears to provide partial cover to all ages.

*As you live in the Valencia Autonomous Community you are covered here through the Spanish state-run scheme under Circular 1/2002 which entitles UK residents in the region to health cover. Circular 1/2002 only applies to Valencia, which includes Orihuela, so you will also need to consider private health cover if you travelled outside the region.*

If you are not permanently resident in Spain and have a home address in UK then you are entitled to an EHIC on reaching the age of 60 providing your NI Contributions are full paid. Cards last 5 years and can be obtained with minimum fuss by logging onto the web site [www.dh.gov.uk/travellers](http://www.dh.gov.uk/travellers) Cards are normally received within 7 days of application and the only information you require is your NHS number.



Please see the web site for full documents and correspondence on this subject. The Documents Page on the site has also recently been updated with other information for foreigners living in Spain explaining some of the formalities and legal matters arising from residency.

### **Knut and Sigg**

We have received an e-mail from Knut stating that he will be returning to Germany in June where Sigg is scheduled to undergo a knee operation. We wish Sigg all the best for this and trust it will go ahead without too much pain and discomfort. We all look forward to seeing them both in Spain again in the near future.

### **Cancelled TV Channels**

Many of you will have noticed varying degrees of alterations to the TV Channels received in Spain in recent days. The degree of cancellation appears to be between total loss and the removal of certain channels mainly films and sport.

The reason for this appears to be due to the loss of programmes transmitted by Sky TV which are then re-transmitted by several companies in Spain using micro-dishes. Nobody has the legal right to re-transmit Sky programmes despite any arrangements with the Spanish government on licensing issues although some do claim they have legal licensing arrangements.

The use of ordinary Sky dishes with a proper decoder and viewing card paid for with a British address remains unaltered. The legal position on these is that it merely contravenes Sky regulations only. The company would take necessary action to cancel such a card if they were aware of it being used outside UK and Ireland.

### **Call for Police assistance**

**HOW TO CALL THE POLICE WHEN YOU'RE OLD AND DON'T MOVE FAST ANYMORE.**

George Phillips of Meridian, Mississippi was going up to bed when his wife told him that he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go turn off the light but saw that there were people in the shed stealing things. He phoned the police, who asked 'Is someone in your house?' and he said 'no'.

Then they said that all patrols were busy, and that he should simply lock his door and an officer would be along when available. George said, 'Okay,' hung up, counted to 30, and phoned the police again. 'Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now because I just shot them.' Then he hung up. Within five minutes six police cars, a SWAT Team, a helicopter, two fire trucks, a paramedic and an ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence and caught the burglars red-handed.

One of the policemen said to George: 'I thought you said that

you'd shot them!' George said, 'I thought you said there was nobody available!' (True Story)

I LOVE IT - Don't mess with old people.

### **Social Events Calendar**

The June Summer Forchett at Portico Mar Restaurant, Guardamar is fully subscribed with 85 members and guests already having reserved places.

Wednesday 23rd July First at 6pm. Crazy golf at Quesada cost euros 3.50 (this maybe less depending on numbers) followed at around 7.30pm by ....

A Fish and chip supper consisting of a menu Del Dia for 6 euros of Cod and chips, garden or mushy peas plus bread and butter. The fish is extremely large and this represents excellent value for money.

Members please pay individually at both venues.

Jim and Linda Neville are doing a raffle and of course we have the CUP for some lucky winner and the usual bottle of plonk for the bottom score.

### **Sunday 31st August, 2008**

Fund Raising Event at Blue Lagoon Petanca Group behind El Limonar School, Villamartin. An event to raise funds on behalf of Help for Heroes to be used for the provision of a hydro pool and gym at the Rehabilitation Centre at Headley Court - provides rehab for our returning injured servicemen. Their website can be viewed by going to the link below, so far they have raised in excess of £5 million.

<http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk>

This is an extremely worthwhile Charity which provides rehabilitation for our returning servicemen as Government fail to provide the needed funding.

Please contact Ron Burks if you can help in any way e-mail [r.burks@sky.com](mailto:r.burks@sky.com) or telephone

It is hoped that ARPO will hold a stall at the fund raising event. We would welcome any fund raising ideas, donation of raffle prizes etc.

The September Coach Trip to Benidorm is also fully subscribed so sorry to anyone who didn't manage to put their names down in time. It is evident by several recent functions that numbers attending is greatly increased so it cannot be emphasised enough that members do need to book their seats in good time for all future events please.

### **Car Servicing**

Ex-police officer Jeff Wiszniewski e-mail [jeffwiz999@aol.com](mailto:jeffwiz999@aol.com) is able to offer car servicing and repairs at competitive rates. He specialises in doing so when people are out of the country and offers a drop off/collect service. Contact Jeff by e-mail for full details.

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