



# ARPO NEWS

Association of Retired Police Officers  
Costa Blanca South

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www.arpo.org.uk

Welcome to the first newsletter following the summer break. We trust that you have all managed to stay cool during the long hot weather experienced over the last 2 months.

## Meeting Report

Minutes of the ARPO meeting held at Sacko's Bar Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2008 54 members present. 2 new members introduced themselves.

### Treasurers report.

Lol Bilbey reported that cash in bank stands at Euros 685. Cash in hand stands at Euros 2.37. George Patterson then outlined to everyone that rather than have a large amount just on deposit he had seen the bank manager and had agreed a short term bond which meant putting Euros 600 in for 6 months this would pay us 4%.

It seems a long time ago we were paying bank charges now we actually make interest. A vote of thanks was proposed to George for all his hard work.

The 25 euro draw was won by Brian Smith.

Jim Wood mentioned a reply he had received from June Coombes thanking us for the flowers and card. Her house is currently for sale.

## Social Functions

The May lunch was held at Club Nortico in Guadamar this was a great success and the chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Fred and Dreena Wharton for all their work.

## SIP Health Care

It appears that cover on the above has changed once again. The following text has been received.

*All those who have SIP cards which were valid on 6th June this year but which will expire before 1st January 2009 will have their cover reinstated, and that cover will extend to 31st*

*December 2008. After 31st December you will be able to apply for normal healthcare cover provided you pay into the system at a reduced rate, as per my last e-mail. Further details of how to do this and how much it will cost will be made known later. The cost should be 'an affordable amount'.*

Guest speaker was Stefan Pokroppa from the Orihuela Costa Ayuntamiento, (Town Hall). For Those of you who attended the meeting I am sure will agree he was a mind of useful information regarding such thing as medical cover, NIE numbers, Padrans and any thing to do with residing in Spain or owning property in Spain even if you are not a resident.



Stefan through the town hall publishes an information sheet which he has kindly agreed to send to any member of our group who would like one. If you would like to be put on the distribution list all you need to do is email him at the following and request to be placed on his distribution list. [stefan@orihuela-costa.es](mailto:stefan@orihuela-costa.es)

## What's on Telly

Not a lot has been the answer for several weeks now! It is understood the people running the mesh systems found throughout the area have received a visit from the Guarda. As a result no transmissions

have been made.

The prospects for a renewal of service do not look good at present and the company has published the following statement on their web site.

*TELMICRO STATEMENT (August 20<sup>th</sup>)  
Telmicro Levante have all the relevant licenses and legal permits in order to broadcast and operate.*

*The closing of the broadcast has nothing to do with Telmicro Levante being prohibited to broadcast, however all the relevant technical material is being looked at. Telmicro Levante promises all its clients to restart broadcast and business as soon as possible.*

*Telmicro Levante is aware of the fact that these proceedings take time, and asks its customers for their patience to allow for the investigation to finalise.*

*We would also like to reassure that obviously no customers will be charged and no bills will be sent during this time and until further notice.*

*Since all the Court proceedings have been declared secret, it is not allowed to obtain any detailed information, and it is against the law for anyone to communicate any information regarding the ongoing investigation.*

*Telmicro Levante expresses our support to the Courts and Justice system of Spain, and our firm belief in that the matters will eventually be solved so that our customers can again enjoy a very best quality TV service.*

*These unfortunate events concern all the English speaking customers and rebroadcasters in the area, and Telmicro Levante will do its utmost to continue to inform of the situation with maximum transparency.*

We know that there are other companies within this sector offering their services and we strongly recommend that you seek to see whether these companies have all the legal requirements in place in order to broadcast (ie. Boletín Oficial del Estado, that is Official Bulletin from the state).

Telmicro Levante would also take this opportunity to thank the local English media for their help and support on this matter.

For any further information: [info@telmicro.es](mailto:info@telmicro.es) or telephone: 902 512 930 weekdays from 10am to 5pm

**INFORMATION FOR OUR CUSTOMERS**  
(added August 28<sup>th</sup>)  
It is very important that you:

- a) Do NOT try to retune the box or scan for stations while the service is off. We are configuring the service so that the channels should automatically appear on your box without a new scan.
  - b) Take good care of the box, viewing card and the remote control, and you should NOT under any circumstances give them to anyone or any other company. This equipment remains property of Telmicro and is guaranteed by the company.
- a) Please keep your TV service contract and any proof of payment in a safe place for future reference.

### **Crazy Golf evening**

27 members and guest visited Quesada on Wednesday 23rd July where they enjoyed an excellent evening playing a round of crazy golf, followed by a fish and chip supper. (photo below thanks to Brian Smith)

Some of the play would worry Tiger Woods but his prize money was safe. The winner of the Cillit Bang Cup (that's what I used to clean it) was Nick Bradford with an excellent score of 44. Top score in the ladies was Dreena Wharton with 54.

The fish and chip supper were excellent no one could manage a sweet. The raffle

was run by Jim and Linda Neville and thanks to them for doing that.

A lovely summer evening was enjoyed by everyone.



Whilst on the subject I just had to include the following sent to me by Jim Wood.

### **Golf Balls ... This Is A Good One**

A man entered the bus with both of his front pockets full of golf balls and sat down next to a beautiful (you guessed it) blonde. The puzzled blonde kept looking at him and his bulging pockets.

Finally, after many such glances from her, he said, 'It's golf balls'. Nevertheless, the blonde continued to look at him for a very long time, deeply thinking about what he had said..

After several minutes, not being able to contain her curiosity any longer, she asked;

**'Does it hurt as much as tennis elbow?'**

### **Useful Information**

4 Things you probably never knew your mobile could do. There are a few things that can be done in times of grave emergencies. Your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival. Check out the things that you can do with it:  
**FIRST Emergency** The Emergency Number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile; network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing net-

work to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly this number 112 can be dialled even if the keypad is locked. Try it out.  
**SECOND Have you locked your keys in the car?** Does your car have remote keyless entry? This may come in handy some-day. Good reason to own a cell phone: **If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their mobile phone from your cell phone.** Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other 'remote'

for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk). Editor's Note: It works fine! We tried it out and it unlocked our car over a mobile phone!'

**THIRD Hidden Battery Power** Imagine your mobile battery is very low. To activate, press the keys \*3370# Your mobile will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your mobile next time.

**FOURTH How to disable a STOLEN mobile phone?** To check your Mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone \* # 0 6 # A 15 digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. When your phone get stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody does this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones.