



ARPO NEWS

Association of Retired Police Officers
Costa Blanca South

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Seasons Greetings

On behalf of the Committee we wish all members a happy New Year and trust that 2009 will be memorable year for all. In the current climate of recession many will feel the pinch especially with the diabolical level of Sterling against the Euro. Any member with money saving tips are asked to pass these on so that we can all learn about them.

Meeting Report

Minutes of the Arpo meeting held at Sacko's bar wednesday 10th December when 42 members present. There were no new members.

Treasurers Report

Lol Bielby reported that deposit account stood at euros 1307 19. Cash in hand stood at 302.88 euros. Giving a total of 1609.77 euros. Including 50 euros in the Arpo pig. Giving a total of 1559.77 euros.

500 euros cash which will be drawn out to pay for the Christmas Party leaving a total of 1059 euros.

Income subs 100 euros. New member's 20. Angies book and video club 20. Linda's cards 4 euros. Profit from raffle at manelos was 189 euros after prizes paid total 139 euros. Out goings. 25 euro draw and 2.40 for newsletter printing.

Social functions

Thanks to Bob and Marion Morgan, ably assisted by Fred and Dreena Wharton. For the meal last month an excellent lunch.

Christmas party will be on Friday 19th at portico mar all people had now paid their 25 euros.

Brian smith then out lined the January lunch at an Indian Restaurnate in Los Montesinos 3 english dishes plus loads of Indian food at a cost 11 euros per person.

Valentines day to be held at Portico Mar, more next month.

Are we happy with Portico Mar? Can anyone suggest a different venue of similar standing and quality? If so please liase with Mike Peters.

Could people organising meals please come through the secretary so they can be collated.

Any other busines

A member (who shall remain anonymous) outlined a forthcoming football match between Torrevieja FC and Accrington Stanley who are over for a winter break ticket 5 euros.

Derek Dunham then outlined a chance to see the full England team play against Spain at Valencia .Ticket and coach 80 euros no over night stop. See Derek for full details.

Jim Neville then outlined the group of Costeleros who meet in Torrevieja they

Coombes who's husband Roy was our chairman and had passed away. She has now sold the house and is planning to move to Southern Spain to be near her brother..

AGM during the January meeting we are taking nomination for the committee. Nomination will start at the opening of the meeting and close at the end of the meeting.

Fred Wharton is nominated as the incoming Chairman and Keith Giles the Vice chairman. Anyone with any other nomination please put them forward next month. The remainder of the committee is willing to stand for another year.

George Patterson has reluctantly withdrawn as Assistant Treasurer due to family ill health problems. We all wish George's family a speedy recovery in 2009 and we would like to thank him for all the hard work and dedication to the group over the years. Hopefully we will see George at future meetings.

25 euro draw was won by number 13 Sue Bradford

Gordon's Give-Away

As most will know the PM has very generously reduced V.A.T. in UK to 15% a reduction which hardly makes a mark unless you are buying something very, very expensive. The 2.5% cut is until the end of 2009 and in fact translates to around 2.2% in actual terms. Obviously this will not affect members who live permanently in Spain.

The second string to the Give-Away may well benefit those in Spain. Those in receipt of the £10 Christmas Bonus will also qualify for a one-off payment of £60 to be paid in January 2009.



Members enjoying the Christmas Dinner 2008 at Portico Mar

are now recruiting and about to start training for the Easter Parades. Anyone interested contact Jim...

Jim Wood gave an update on June

As George Patterson explains however, this will be subject to tax and hence works out at just £48 so spend it wisely bearing in mind the actual benefit. He also adds...

A lot of people that I talk to have the impression that the state pension is tax free, it is only if you do not tack any other income on to it. That is why you should have the state pension paid into Spain under the ruling of dual taxation and the offices at Nottingham then pay the police pension into a bank in the U.K. and that then is taxed there. As retired Crown servants you may not import the tax affairs abroad. You can have the pension paid where you like of course Australia Canada or where ever, but the tax is always collected in the U.K. There is some delays in the pipeline re the Winter Fuel payments. That ruling is simple if you were eligible in the U.K. then you can import it to here, if however you did not qualify in the U.K. then it is not importable to anywhere come to that.

Beware that Super Gordon is thinking of ending the Winter Fuel Allowance for ex-pats!

Christmas Members Draw

Here is a list of the 6 winners of the draw verified by the upto date paid up members list as at 10th December, 2008. Each lucky winner receives 50 euros.

- 9 BARBARA BURKS unclaimed.
- 14 KNUT ROBBERSTAD, claimed.
- 30 MAUREEN FORSYTHE claimed.
- 60 ELAINE DAVIES unclaimed.
- 85 VAUGHN SIMONS unclaimed.
- 141 MAX WOOSNAM, claimed.

Difference Between Police

Question:

How do you tell the difference between a British Police Officer, Australian Police Officer, and an American Police Officer?

Pose the following question:

You're walking down a deserted street with your wife and two small children. Suddenly, a dangerous looking man with a huge knife comes around the corner, locks eyes with you, screams obscenities, raises the knife, and charges. You are carrying a Glock 40, and you are an expert shot. You have mere seconds before he reaches you and your family.

What do you do?

BRITISH POLICE OFFICER

Answer: (Immediate thought processes)

Is the knife a ceremonial kirpan?

Does he prefer to communicate in English or Bengali?

Will this negatively impact my chances of promotion?

Is this just his way of telling me that he pays my wages, and wants my job?

Would this be an appropriate time to hug him and sing Koombaya?

Will the media do a profile of him and how he was loved by everyone including his dog?

Is the alleged "client" a member of an Environmental Group?

Is he just a squeegee kid / pan handler trying to make a living on the mean streets?

Is he a member of a gang that is just "misunderstood" by society?

Is he a recent illegal immigrant to this country, and just doesn't know how to approach the police?

Is he recently released on parole and hasn't been properly integrated back into the community?

Is he a victim of fetal alcohol syndrome and just doesn't understand what he is doing?

Is he a member of a visible minority group?

Warn and Charter him as he approaches.

AUSTRALIAN OFFICER

Answer: BANG!

AMERICAN OFFICER

Answer: BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Forthcoming Social Events

Wednesday 28th January , 2009

PUNJABI PALACE Indian Restaurant in Los Montesinos 1.00pm for 1.30pm.

Menu:

PAPADOMS

Choice of Starters.....

Onion Bhaji, Aloo Tikki or Chicken Pakora.

Main course from

either chicken or lamb Curry, Korma, Palak, Jalfrezi, Vindaloo, Madras, Bhuna, Dopiazza, Dansak, Jafron, Badam Pasanda, Balti, Rogan Josh, Punjabi, Patya, Phal, or Sabji or Chicken Chilli hot, Chicken Shashlik, or Lamb Khumbwala

with either.....Plain or Pilau rice.

Dishes also available will include....Fried Chicken and chips

Omelette and chips, Fish and chips

Desert.....

Plain.....Vanilla.....or.... Mango - Ice Cream OR Coffee

Also included.....bottle of house wine between two persons, or a small beer or soft drink.

Cost per person (including staff tip).....11 euro

Please contact Brian Smith to reserve a table for yourself and guests. The latest tally shows a grand total of 87 eagre and hungry participants.

Valentine's Day Dinner

Mike Peters went to Portico Mar to find that Richard has a new menu. He has now incorporated the Al a Carte and the menu del Dia. Each item is individually priced . Ie you pay extra for Steak, Lamb, Pork.

Mike will need to speak to him nearer the time as we are paying 25 euros a head for the old standard menu, anyone that chooses something with extra cost will have to pay that charge on the night. The one thing we can't do is pre order so there will be a wait whilst things are cooked.

He has suggested that if anyone wanted to change their minds on STARTERS on Friday that is OK as he want to try things out but stresses it is only starters. Can you tell people in your groups. There will do a notice to go round on the night.

Richard has also installed a new 20.000 euro computer system. The waiter has a hand held pad and whatever he inputs will come up in the kitchen. Its still good food and they are still doing the