



AMERICAN CLUB OF ESTEPONA

September
2017

Hooray for Autumn!

Summer seemed to go on for ages, especially as not a lot was happening in the club, so I'm rather afraid that this issue of the magazine is going to be rather scant as far as club news items are concerned.

However, we do have a few interesting bits of club business to report, namely the visit by several club members to the Cudeca Hospice in Benalmadena, and our own 4th July Celebration, which this year was coupled with our generous Charity Donation of €3,000 to Cudeca.

See inside this magazine for further details and photographs of these events.

Apart from those, it's been a very quiet two months since the last magazine came out in June.

Oh Yes, before I forget, we had a flood. Not one of biblical proportions, but a nuisance just the same. Water came through the ceiling from 2 floors above which damaged the ceiling and played

havoc with our electrics. Fortunately it was all covered by the bloque insurance and any repair costs will be covered by them. It will mean having the workmen in for a few days, but after the trouble we went through in early spring with the major works that were carried out I'm sure we'll be able to cope!

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Activities, Events

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 5th - 1.30 pm

General Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 9th - 2 pm

Come on folks, please come and support your club

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sewing Classes:

This is an informal group who meet every **Friday** at 1:30 to do quilting, sewing, etc. Come along and join the fun for what ever type of sewing you do.

Bridge:

I'm sorry but bridge has been suspended until further notice as not enough people were interested. If you would like to learn the basics see me.

Ronnie's Art Workshop

Tuesdays, 2:30 pm. Anyone is invited to come along and participate in the workshop and learn from this very talented teacher.

Maria's Meals

BBQ Ribs plus 2 other choices Thu, Fri, Sat

Fridays Special, Fish & Chips

Past events are on pages 3, 7 and 11. Hopefully next month we'll have much more to report.

The Month of September

September comes from the latin Septem meaning seven, as it was originally the seventh month before the Julian Calendar was introduced.

Whatever day of the week September ends on, no other month will end on that day. (I bet someone will look it up!)

September, in Old England, was called *Haervest-monath* (Harvest Month). This was the time to gather up the rest of the harvest and prepare for the winter months.

There are flowers enough in the summertime,

*More flowers than I can remember—
But none with the purple, gold, and red
That dyes the flowers of September!*

(Mary Howitt 1799-1888)

This Summer's Events



4th July & Our Charity Donation

The Club celebrated American Independence Day on the 4th July with the club decorated throughout with American flags and bunting. A sumptuous and varied buffet was provided by those attending in response to our traditional 'bring a plate' appeal. Thank you all.

During our celebration we presented a cheque for €3,000 to Susan Hannan, Vice President of the Cudeca Foundation. As everyone should know the American Club is a non profit organisation and all monies raised after running costs etc. we donate to various charities.

(Above) Members pose with Susan and the cheque.
(below) Mike Moss presenting the cheque



Bar notes July & August 2017

This July and August have been very quiet, with August being the slowest month on record with very poor attendances and no special events laid on.

Luckily we had our regulars to rely on, and even luckier, the majority of them were pool players; so our takings haven't suffered too much!

Let's hope that September brings cooler weather and people start returning to the club.

No problems really on staffing. Little Sandra has been to the States, and Helen has had to return to the U.K. because of her brother's illness but I've managed to stand in for them both. However, if there is a volunteer out there I'd be so pleased if you'd come forward!

I've been asked, through this magazine, if there is any member who would like to play 'Canasta' or 'Hand and Foot' (???)

If so, please ring Linda on 951 316 935

Welcome Back Party

It's been a very quiet two months since the magazine was last published and your Committee wants to start the Autumn season off with a bang.

We are therefore proposing to hold a 'Welcome Back' party on Sunday 24th September, kicking off at 2pm.

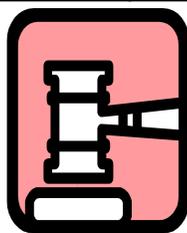
Details at the moment are rather sketchy, but we are aiming to have an entertainer providing live music, and a form of buffet.

When the booking has been confirmed we will publicise the event and see if we can get a good crowd.

Watch the blackboard for further details.

(only read if you're over 18 yrs old)

Bill worked in a pickle factory. He had been employed there for a number of years when he came home one day to confess to his wife that he had a terrible compulsion. He had an urge to stick his penis into the pickle slicer. His wife suggested that he should see a sex therapist to talk about it, but Bill indicated that he'd be too embarrassed. He vowed to overcome the compulsion on his own. One day a few weeks later, Bill came home absolutely ashen. His wife could see at once that something was seriously wrong. "What's wrong, Bill?" she asked. "Do you remember that I told you how I had this tremendous urge to put my penis into the pickle slicer?" "Oh, Bill, you didn't." "Yes, I did." "My God, Bill, what happened?" "I got fired." "No, Bill. I mean, what happened with the pickle slicer?" "Oh...she got fired too."



President's Notes

Here we are again: same old, same old. We really need some fresh blood for the magazine, there must be someone who'd like to contribute?

After a full month of doing nothing, come September, come the more comfortable weather, and things are starting to liven up somewhat. We've a Welcome Back party on Sunday the 24th. A supper quiz on the 13th and a car rally Sunday the 1st October.

The mention of the supper quiz reminds me that we had one in mid June, given by Ann Hardwick. I can remember that it was very entertaining, but cannot remember who the winners were. Sorry. I did have them written down but can't find where. I know I should have done the 'write up' immediately, but thought, "No, there's plenty of time" It's one of my many faults, prevarication. I have in the past been called 'last minute Moss' I must do something about it, sometime or other.

Wheelchair

Should anyone need the use of a wheelchair then please get in touch with Club Secretary Barbara Salisbury who has one available for use by Club members or thier guests.

Mike 'the Hat's' Japan saga cont'd.

DAY 19

I had seen the [Tokyo Tower](#) many times, walking to the station, from the nearby parks or any street facing the right direction, because of its height it's difficult to miss. I learned from the literature that it's the highest tower in the world, higher than the Eiffel tower. I had gone for a visit earlier in my stay, but it was some kind of national holiday and the queues were unbelievable so I thought I would try again today. I got there just as it was opening and entered with just a few dozen people, they had a special offer for old farts like me of 950 Yen all in, that was for both observatories and the attractions in foot town (a large five storey building between the feet of the tower). I decided to go up to the [observatories](#) first before the crowds arrived and the [views](#) were fantastic, particularly from the upper one, (250 metres). They claim you can see Mount Fiji, but it was a bit misty, so no such luck, but I could see for a good many miles, the whole of Tokyo was laid out below and I could see ships out at sea. A warning to anyone who suffers from vertigo, the first observatory has areas of glass floors, and I can see problems for those afraid of heights.

[Foot town](#) was interesting, the usual souvenir shops and restaurants, but unusual things too, like a trick art gallery, waxworks, aquarium, Guinness book of records museum, a jewellery shop selling rough stone and polished crystal, a hologram gallery and a music shop where the owner was obviously a keen collector, with tee shirts, tapes, CD's, and Video's of famous artists concerts from around the world. He even had tickets, posters and programmes from old shows including a lot of Beatles stuff. I had intended to go back and buy a few bits, but I never got around to it unfortunately.

A duck walks into a post office and asks the man behind the counter: 'Do you have any corn?' The man answers politely: 'No, we don't have any corn here.' The next day, the duck enters again and asks: 'Do you have any corn?' Annoyed, the man answers: 'No! We don't have any corn.' This goes on for a couple of days until finally, when the duck asks 'Do you have any corn?', the man gets so upset he yells: 'NO! For the last time we don't have any corn, and if you ask again I'll nail your beak to the counter!' The next day, the duck returns and asks: 'Do you have any nails?' The man answers: 'No.' Then the duck asks: 'OK. Do you have any corn?'

Patient: "Doctor, doctor. I've come out in spots like cherries on a cake". Doctor: "Ah, you must have analogy".

James Bond walks into a bar and takes a seat next to a very attractive woman. He gives her a quick glance, and then casually looks at his watch. The woman notices this and asks, "Is your date running late?" "No," he replies, "Q has just given me this state-of-the-art watch. I was just testing it." The intrigued woman says, "State-of-the-art watch? What is so special about it?" "It uses alpha waves to talk to me telepathically," Bond explains. "So what's it telling you now?" says the woman. "Well, it says you're not wearing any panties," Bond replies. The woman giggles and says, "Well it must be broken because I am wearing panties!" Bond smirks, taps his watch and says, "Bloody thing, it's an hour fast."

Emergency telephone numbers

National Police 091

Local Police 092

Guardia Civil 062

Ambulance 061

Fire Brigade 080

Multilingual Crime Report 902 102 112 (If you want to report assault, robbery or accident to the pólíce)

British Consular Emergency Service for any emergency queries at any time of any day. Leave a message and someone will normally get back to you within one hour of your call.

91 524 97 00

General enquiries to the British Embassy 91 700 82 00, 91 319 0200

Endesa 800760266/952808202

Ayuntamiento Estepona 952801100

Estepona Foreigners Office 952802002

Gas Emergencies 901 121 212

Hospital Costa del Sol 951766669

Helicopteros Sanitarios 952811818

Aquagest Sur 952250270

Estepona Bus Station 952800249

Estepona Radio Taxi 952802900

Malaga Airport 952048804

Gibraltar Airport 00350 20075984

QUE PASA?



September Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Pat Storey 3rd

Vera Whiting 27th

¿Qué Pasa?

On Thursday 29th June eight members of the club visited the Cudeca Foundation Hospice at Benalmadena. (see photos page 11) We were met by Susan Hannan Cudeca's Vice President who greeted us and took us inside.

In Cudeca's 'quiet room' a non denominational facility with a sunlit stained glass motif window Sue explained the workings and organization behind the Foundation: from running the charity's many shops, the control of the appeal tins, sales of merchandise, the vast number of volunteers required and the provision of palliative care to both in-patients and those in their own homes to name but a few. We all found the talk most informative and illuminating.

We were then given a tour of the building, gardens and various office departments: recruitment, advertising, fundraising etc and were shown the plaque (amongst many others) thanking the American Club of Estepona for their donations. All in all it was a very rewarding and worthwhile trip and one Cudeca thought we should repeat next year.

Membership

We welcome the following new members to the club : Christine Wood, Pat Watts, Mick Ellis & Pat Gormerall

E-Mail to the editor

I received a rather tragic e-mail from our secretary Barbara Salisbury today in which she related events that happened last month.

Barbara had flown to UK to attend her long term friend Betty's funeral. Whilst there, she invited Betty's husband, Norman, his daughter Amanda and son-in-law Adrian to Spain as she thought it would be good for them. They arrived on Friday afternoon 18th August, and after a rest, they all enjoyed a convivial meal at Le Petit Paris.

Next morning Norman complained of breathing problems and Barbara called for an ambulance. By the time the ambulance and doctor arrived Norman had sadly died.

I know we complain a lot about Spanish 'burocracia' and slow paper-work, but by Tuesday 22nd Norman had been cremated, his ashes presented to his daughter and all the relevant paper work completed to allow the family to return to UK.

Barbara has nothing but praise for the medical services, the Funeral Directors and even Easy-Jet who refunded Norman's return fare.

After reading Barbara's story I have great admiration for her presence of mind and calmness in an upsetting and difficult situation.



ALT. KOOKING KORNER

With Ronnie

Alternative Kooking Korner by Ronnie

If laughter feeds the soul – consider this cooking!!

One day in Contract Law class, the professor asked one of his better students,

"Now if you were to give someone an orange, how would you go about it?"

The student replied, "Here's an orange."

The professor was livid. "No! No! Think like a lawyer!"

The student then recited, "Okay, I'd tell him, 'I hereby give and convey to you all and singular, my estate and interests, rights, claim, title and advantages of and in, said orange, together with all its rind, juice, pulp, and seeds, and all rights and advantages with full power to bite, cut, freeze and otherwise eat, the same, or give the same away with and without the pulp, juice, rind and seeds, anything herein before or hereinafter or in any deed, or deeds, instruments of whatever nature or kind whatsoever to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding...'"

As the lawyer awoke from surgery, he asked, "Why are all the blinds drawn?" The nurse answered, "There's a fire across the street, and we didn't want you to think you had died."

A woman and her little girl were visiting the grave of the little girl's grandmother. On their way through the cemetery back to the car, the little girl asked, "Mummy, do they ever bury two people in the same grave?"

"Of course not, dear," replied the mother, "Why would you think that?"

"The tombstone back there said... 'Here lies a lawyer and an honest man."

Santa Claus, the tooth fairy, an honest lawyer and an old drunk are walking down the street together when they simultaneously spot a hundred dollar bill. Who gets it?

The old drunk, of course, the other three are fantasy creatures.

Editors Note—I'm beginning to suspect that Ronnie doesn't like lawyers!

Library Reviews

Brian Winder

Welcome back to the rest of the year. It's been a good, albeit busy, summer and I'm left with a lot of books to review. All of this month's offerings are new to the club having been donated and acquired from various locations and all are very enjoyable!

WHITEOUT by Ken Follett

Jealousies, distrust and rivalries uncover dark secrets, the a dozen vials of a lethal virus go missing...

Complicated further by deteriorating weather conditions as a blizzard threatens to ground everyone the unfolding story keeps you spellbound.

NO SAFE PLACE by Richard North Patterson

The most charismatic presidential candidate for a very long is on the campaign trail and is beset by an undying past, violence and scandal.

"Just another day at the office in American politics!"

THE SNOWMAN by Jo Nesbo

This an exceptional crime novel along the lines of Stig Laarson's Girl with the Dragon Tattoo but, in my opinion much better and an easier read. When a young boy wakes in the morning and finds his mother missing, the house empty and a snowman in the garden with his mothers scarf draped around its neck it starts and is hard to stop.

PLAY DEAD by Harlan Corben

I was a chapter into this book when I realized I'd read it before!

It didn't stop me from continuing because it's a great story and well written. If you've read it before – do so again.

HELLS CORNER by David Baldacci

Anyone who has read any of The Camel Club novels will want to read this – so form an orderly queue! The President has dragged Oliver Stone out of retirement to face a massive threat Here we go again but without doubt the most exciting of Baldacci's stories.

DEATH MESSAGE by Mark Bellingham

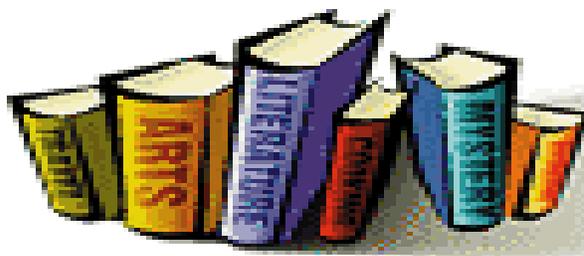
The Death Message is what police refer to telling relatives of the death of a loved one. When DI Thorne starts to receive messages of his own and photos of murder victims are sent to him the hunt for a serial killer is on!

SCARED TO LIVE by Stephen Booth

An assassination in the night! The victim is a harmless middle-aged woman who seems a non-entity to the police who investigate. Obviously there's a lot more to this than meets the eye!!

DANGEROUS LADY by Martina Cole

An East End saga written in Cole's inimitable gritty style. The sister has some style whilst the brother is a sadistic sociopath. Good book and worthy of reading.





AMERICAN CLUB of ESTEPONA

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On-line magazine www.acestepona.org

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and pay for only 5.

Contact the club or a member
of the committee.

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ASSISTANT Vacant

SOCIAL Vacant 636 607 559

A man goes to the doctor and says: 'Doctor, there's a piece of lettuce sticking out of my bottom.' The doctor asks him to drop his trousers and examines him.

The man asks: 'Is it serious, doctor?' and the doctor replies: 'I'm sorry to tell you, but this is just the tip of the iceberg.'

I stopped at a friend's house the other day and found him stalking around with a fly-swatter. When I asked if he was getting any flies, he answered: 'Yeah, three males and two females.' Curious, I asked how he could tell the difference. He said: 'Three were on a beer can and two were on the phone.'



Photos of the ACE Group's visit to the Cudeca Foundation Hospice Benalmadena. (*top*) Outside the Hospice, with Susan Hannan, Cudeca Vice President; and (*below*) during an introductory talk by Sue on the workings of the hospice before we toured the facilities



September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Aug	28	29	30	31	1 Sept.	2
3	4	5 Ex. Comm. meeting 1.30 pm	6	7	8 Sewing Group 1:30pm	9 General Meeting 2pm
10	11	12 Art class 2:30 pm	13 Supper Quiz 7.30pm	14	15 Sewing Group 1.30pm	16
17	18	19 Art class 2:30 pm	20	21	22 Sewing Group 1:30pm	23
24 Welcome Back Party 2pm	25	26 Art class 1.30pm	27	28	29 Sewing Group 1.30pm	30