



AMERICAN CLUB OF ESTEPONA

October
2017

Great Party !

Welcome back party at ACE 2017.

A lovely crowd came to the party and everyone looked like they were having a good time.

We had a new singer at the club her name is Stella and she gave a stellar performance she sang all the songs we enjoy and were able to sing along with and have a jolly good dance also.

Thank you Michael for getting the shopping and organizing despite having a rotten cold and the disappointing news that his son Philip was too poorly to fly and be here as he had been especially looking forward to Philip being here for the party..we hope he makes a good recovery.

Barbara Salisbury and Anne Hardwick came in on Saturday to help set the club up and were also there early on Sunday with very willing and capable hands. A great big thank you girls!

Thank you Maria for the lovely tortillas, Brian for the chicken wings and Ronnie for those lush brownies

Carol and Sandra Richardson for the boiled eggs and all the salads. And, Me (Sandra Russell) for the other bits.

Sorry not to have Jan Wallace's lovely meaty sausage rolls but unfortunately Andy her Hubby is in Hospital having a very important and serious operation. On behalf of us all we wish you well Andy.xx

The real heroes of the day were Carol Timmins and Sandra Richardson. They prepared and ran the bar all day and worked tirelessly and cheerfully in the kitchen afterwards clearing up. They were also there the day before prepping the bar and setting up.

Thank you girls!

Sandra R.

Cont'd with pics page 3

October contents

Page 2 Regular Activities & Events

Page 3 Past Events,

Page 4 Bar and President's Notes.

Page 5 Pat's Liverpool trip

Page 6 Emergency Nos. Mikes Japan trip

Page 7 Birthdays ¿Que Pasa? & filler

Page 8 Ronnies Recipe

Page 9 Library Reviews

Page10 Information & filler

Page11 Poem by W H Auden

Page12 October Diary



Activities, Events

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 10th - 1.30 pm

General Meeting

Saturday, Saturday October 14th 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.

Fish'n'Chips

Fridays from 1.30pm (very popular, may need to reserve with Maria)

Supper Quiz Wed 13th September

A rather poor turn-out for our latest supper quiz, not surprising really with so many people away.

However, we did manage to scrape together 3 very competitive teams and I think everyone enjoyed themselves for a not too difficult set of questions.

Overall winners were Ronnie & Brian's team, with runners up Paul, Sandra & Carol; closely followed by Ann Hardwick's team.

A delicious supper of Melon & Ham, Cottage pie and Fruit and ice cream was provided by Maria, who, although rather nervous working on her own, did extremely well.

Thank you Maria.

The next Supper Quiz will be on Wednesday 18th October given by Ann Hardwick.

Come along and enjoy yourselves, it's fun & never serious!

Past & Future Events

Welcome Back cont'd

We were all very proud giving Cudeca 3.000euros earlier this year and would like to continue to be as generous but it is very tiring for the same people doing all the jobs all the time.

We did all pay to be at the party and it would have been nice if others would volunteer more..Please don't be shy and don't be self-fish! Remember, many hands make light work!

Your Club needs you!



Sumptuous buffet laid out on the pool table ready for the start



The fabulous Singer Stella (on right) with partner and Manager Kay



Enjoying the party, Mike, Paul, Mary, Shirley, Helen and Judy. Carol at work!



Bar notes May 2017

Last months bar takings were probably the lowest on record, with staff on many days having to close early because of lack of customers. Let's hope that things improve and that the club can become alive again.

President's Notes

Let's not dwell on September's dour figures and concentrate on the future.

At least we got off to a swinging start with our 'Welcome Back' party, it was a very well attended and most enjoyable afternoon and so nice to see the club full again.

Let's hope we can keep the momentum going.

The amazing Stella was so impressive, that we took the opportunity there and then to engage her for our Christmas Draw Party scheduled for Sunday December 17th. See next month's newsletter for details.

Norman is 89 years old. He's played golf every day since his retirement over 20 years ago. One day he arrives home upset. "That's it," he tells his wife. "I'm giving up golf. My eyesight is so bad that once I hit the ball I can't see where the dang thing goes."

His wife sympathises and makes him a hot cup of tea. As they sit down she says, "Why don't you take my brother with you and give it one last try."

"That's a terrible idea" says Norman, "your brother's 102 years old. How could he help?"

"He may be 102 years old", says the wife, "but his eyesight is perfect."

Norman figured he'd give it a try So the next day he heads off to the golf course with his brother-in-law. He tees up, takes a mighty swing and squints down the fairway.

He turns to the brother-in-law and says, "Did you see the ball?"

"Of course I did!" replied the brother-in-law. "I have perfect eyesight".

"Where did it go?" says Norman.

"Where did what go? Do I know you?"

Our Liverpool Adventure with Pat Storey

A momentous event took place in July 2017.....Trish went to a friend's birthday party and then joined me for a few days rest in sunny Ealing! This was not to be as Trish said "let's go to Liverpool !" And I thought why not? The last time I had been there was in 1959 when I arrived back from Canada on the Empress of France, a 6 day Transatlantic crossing.

Trish chose the hotel on [Booking.com](#). The Adelphi Hotel, central location, bed and breakfast for 2 nights £102. Bargain!

I decided I was fit enough to drive (2 months after my third hip operation) and off we set, arriving around 1pm. The doorman directed us to their car park behind the hotel and I left Trish with the luggage while I parked. Returned to find Trish talking to a man(!) who told her he had previously received a fine from the car park for £100!! Parking was £12 per night for hotel guests and I had to pay at Reception.

We checked in and I was told that as I was a Blue Badge holder, I could park for free in the public car park opposite but I had to immediately go back to the car, buy a ticket for one hour £1.50 and move the car, which I did.

The Adelphi is a great hotel, very much faded splendour, high ornate ceilings, glittering chandeliers, huge sofas and a small panelled room which is a replica of the one on the Titanic.

The place was full as it was graduation week for Liverpool University, proud parents in Sunday-best, professors and graduates in flowing gowns and mortar boards.

And what a terrific location...next door to the famous Lime Street station, a stroll to the Liverpool waterfront (and a huge Primark), and at least ten Irish/American pubs and bars within sight! The yellow and the red hop-on-off buses stopped outside.

We booked the yellow bus for the following day as it was £2cheaper and included the ferry crossing and entrance to a Submarine Museum. That left us free for the evening to investigate some of the local bars, all blasting out music and most of the clientele elderly men who had left their wives at home!

Next morning, we walked down to the Waterfront and found the larger than life size sculpture of The Fab Four, with its secret.....John Lennon is holding some acorns in his hand, why acorns? Because in the 1960's, he sent acorns as a sign of peace to all the world leaders. We boarded the ferry across the Mersey, with Gerry and the Pacemakers ringing in our ears and popped into the Submarine Museum.....nearly missed the salvaged submarine as it was on the floor above. On return got on our yellow bus and did the City tour, beautiful buildings, many now being restored, Strawberry Fields, Penny Lane and the famous Cavern Club, what a great place, life-size statue of Cilla outside, free entrance and nonstop Beatles music. Can't believe it was free, you didn't even have to buy a drink if you didn't want to! (But we did!!) Went for a quick Chinese early supper and then hit the local bars again where I ended up abandoning my walking stick and dancing with one of the younger locals!! He had his wife WITH him!!

Next morning, we went to the Old Courthouse and Galol....again, free entrance....and saw the old prison cells and punishment tools and a gallery of old black and white photographs....one showed a huge treadmill in the late 1800s, which prisoners were punished with and which the wardens could make more strenuous by adjusting wooden screws.....hence the present-day nickname !!

And the final postscript.....the day after Trish left to return to Estepona, I received a parking ticket for £100!! I had to fight it but luckily the girl at reception remembered us.....she remembered Trish waiting while "her mother" went to buy a ticket and move the car.....THE END

The final Day of Mike 'the Hats' trip to Japan

DAY 29

Got up early to do my packing as this was the day of my flight home. The Hotel informed me the day before that there was a coach service to the airport, as it was only 800yen and it guaranteed to get you there well in time for your flight, I had booked a seat on it. The trains were cheaper, but the guarantee was more important to me. It left the hotel 10.30am, but as Narita airport was on the other side of Tokyo and my flight was just after midday, I began to get worried when it stopped at a number of other hotels on the way, but we made it with about 30 minutes to spare. At Check in, I had one large suitcase that was just under the weight limit, a small suitcase and my backpack which I had intended to take on as hand luggage, but the girl at the desk said I could put the small suitcase in the hold. That was foolish on my part to agree as I'd put everything of value in it. The flight home was uneventful, I made sure there was no screw-up on the connection at Paris this time, but when I got to Malaga, they claimed to have 'lost' my luggage. When I finally get them back three days later, they're still locked, so I didn't check them: Big mistake, these guys are obviously experts at opening suitcase locks and closing them again without any keys, that when I do discover my losses, the delivery van has long gone. The claim I put into the airline was a waste of time and effort, as I never heard from them again. So the moral of that tale is 'always keep your valuables close.'

My grateful thanks to Mike for his contribution, it's been very interesting and helped me complete the magazine many times.

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 police)

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?



Oct. Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Pat Caldwell 5th

Steve Hale 11th

Ann Price 11th

Helen Tinkler 12th

Denny Alderton 18th

Sheila Seaton 22nd

Brian Downey 26th

¿Qué Pasa?

Most members will be aware that Brian Richards, familiar to all as 'Liverpool' Brian had a nasty fall at home and was taken to the Costa de Sol hospital. After some time he was stabilised and transferred to a residential care home in Benalmadena. His address is now 'Oasis Residential Home, Calle las Jacarandas 16, Benalmadena. His family have asked that if you intend to visit Brian please first ring. Tel. 952961821 alternatively an English speaker can be reached on 635 38 48 87

A man walks in a bar and the bartender asks, "What'll you have?"

The man answers, "A scotch on the rocks, please."

The bartender hands him the drink, and says, "That'll be five dollars."

"What are you talking about? I don't owe you anything for this," the man replies.

A lawyer, sitting nearby and overhearing the conversation, then says to the bartender, "You know, he has a point there. In the original offer, which constitutes a binding contract upon acceptance, there was no stipulation of remuneration."

The bartender, now pissed off, says to the guy, "Okay, you beat me for this one. But don't ever come back here again!"

A few days later, the same man walks into the bar.

The bartender says, "What do you think you're doing in here? I can't believe you've got the audacity to come back!"

The man says, "What are you talking about? I've never been in this place in my life!"

The bartender replies, "I'm very sorry, but this is uncanny. I feel like you were here a few days ago. You must have a double."

To which the man replies, "Thank you. Make it a scotch."



THE KOOKING KORNER

With Ronnie

RONNIES KOOKING KORNER

I've had a number of requests for the recipe to make the Brownies I made for the Welcome Back Party on Sunday, Thanks to all my 'eaters' for their compliments.

Ingredients

120 grams salted butter

120 grams dark chocolate.
180 grams Sugar

2 XL eggs.
2 teaspoons vanilla essence.

80 grams plain flour.
Pinch of salt.

Grated peel from 1 good sized orange.

1 teaspoon instant ground coffee (granules preferred). Or a wee dram of coffee liqueur (Brian's version has a really big dram!)

Method

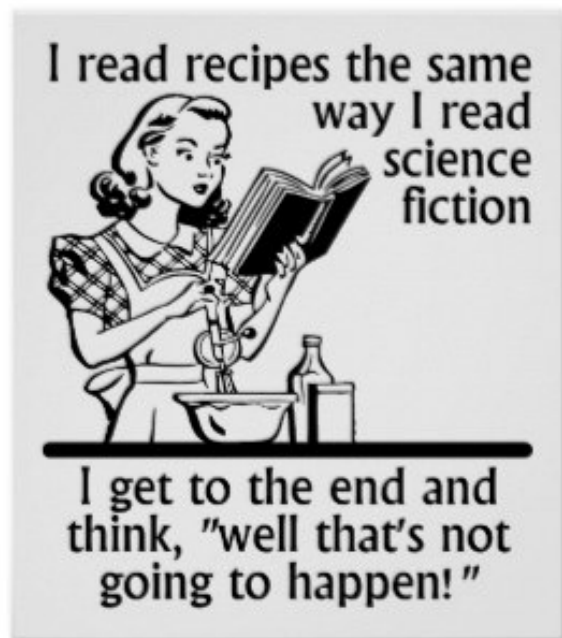
Melt chocolate, butter and peel together
Add the coffee or liqueur and vanilla.

Whilst that is melting – beat the sugar and eggs together until it's thick and creamy

Add the slightly cooked down chocolate mixture stirring in slowly.

When mixed add sieved flour and salt. Bake at 180c for 20 – 25 minutes until top appears cracked around the edges.

Enjoy – especially with ice cream!



Library Reviews

Brian Winder

Summer's gone and the weather is cooling but the best thing about it is that we've got somewhere to park!

Thanks to Binks there are some new to the club books this month but, as usual we do need more so, if you are a user of the library. Please do provide replacements – preferably new! Thanks to our readers.

THE FIX by David Baldacci

Baldacci's done to again with this novel. Hugely enjoyable story which is very hard to solve until very close to the end. A successful family man with strong links to the Defense Industry follows a woman towards the FBI Building both looking as though they've business there. Close behind is Amos Decker, who is part of an FBI Special Task Force, suddenly seeing the man in front walk closer to the woman, pull a gun and kills her. As Decker confronts him, he lifts the gun to his own head and shoots himself. Quite a start to a very complicated storyline which is totally 'unputdownable' (Hate that word but it is!!)

MELTOWN by Ben Elton

Ben Elton is a better writer than a comedian. His commentaries on modern life still reflect his own strange sense of the humorous but he does provide some very interesting stories. In this, a very successful man with 'everything' eventually discovers a very important life lesson. When the financial crisis crashes into him he discovers that anyone can handle success but it's how you handle failure that really counts!

INVISIBLE by James Patterson & David Ellis

Emmy Dockery, a Research Analyst for the FBI had a sister who died in a house fire which was put down as accidental but she strongly believes that it was murder.

She discovers that there have been dozens of 'accidental' fires in the US over the past year that are all too similar to be coincidental! She's ignored by her boss and treated as though she was mentally incompetent. She certainly will not let it drop.

This is her story...



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A man takes his Rottweiler to the vet.

"My dog is cross-eyed, is there anything you can do for him?" the man asks.

"Well I'm not sure," said the vet, "let's have a look at him."

So the vet picks the dog up and examines his eyes, then he checks his teeth. Finally, he says, "I'm going to have to put him down."

"What? Because he's cross-eyed?"

"No, - because he's really heavy."

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ASSISTANT Vacant

SOCIAL Vacant

My thanks to all those who have contributed items for this magazine. namely Sandra Russell, ...ie & Brian Winder, Mike 'the Hat' and Pat Storey.

Should anyone else like to help I'd be most grateful.



I
Stop all the clocks!

I happened to tune in to a tv programme about W.H.Auden. I had never heard of him until I, like millions of others, watched that lovely film Four Weddings and a Funeral.

But his poetry (and comments read by Alan Bennett of 'talking heads' fame) I found very moving and the documentary spanned from our world wars to the present day.

I found the poem funny and poignant and I would love you all to read it.

O Tell Me The Truth About Love -

Poem by WH Auden (1907—1973)

Some say love's a little boy,
 And some say it's a bird,
 Some say it makes the world go round,
 Some say that's absurd,
 And when I asked the man next door,
 Who looked as if he knew,
 His wife got very cross indeed,
 And said it wouldn't do.

Does it look like a pair of pyjamas,
 Or the ham in a temperance hotel?
 Does its odour remind one of llamas,
 Or has it a comforting smell?
 Is it prickly to touch as a hedge is,
 Or soft as eiderdown fluff?
 Is it sharp or quite smooth at the edges?
 O tell me the truth about love.

Our history books refer to it
 In cryptic little notes,
 It's quite a common topic on
 The Transatlantic boats;
 I've found the subject mentioned in
 Accounts of suicides,
 And even seen it scribbled on
 The backs of railway guides.

Does it howl like a hungry Alsatian,
 Or boom like a military band?
 Could one give a first-rate imitation
 On a saw or a Steinway Grand?
 Is its singing at parties a riot?
 Does it only like Classical stuff?
 Will it stop when one wants to be quiet?
 O tell me the truth about love.

I looked inside the summer-house;
 It wasn't even there;
 I tried the Thames at Maidenhead,
 And Brighton's bracing air.
 I don't know what the blackbird sang,
 Or what the tulip said;
 But it wasn't in the chicken-run,
 Or underneath the bed.

Can it pull extraordinary faces?
 Is it usually sick on a swing?
 Does it spend all its time at the races,
 or fiddling with pieces of string?
 Has it views of its own about money?
 Does it think Patriotism enough?
 Are its stories vulgar but funny?
 O tell me the truth about love.

When it comes, will it come without warning
 Just as I'm picking my nose?
 Will it knock on my door in the morning,
 Or tread in the bus on my toes?
 Will it come like a change in the weather?
 Will its greeting be courteous or rough?
 Will it alter my life altogether?
 O tell me the truth about love

Sandra Russell

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1st Oct Club Party 2pm	2	3 Art class 1.30pm	4	5	6 Sewing Group 1:30pm	7
8	9	10 Ex. Comm. meeting 1.30 pm	11	12	13 Sewing Group 1:30pm	14 General Meeting 2pm
15	16	17 Art class 1:30 pm	18 Supper Quiz 7.30pm	19	20 Sewing Group 1.30pm	21
22	23	24 Art class 1:30 pm	25	26	27 Sewing Group 1:30pm	28
29 Car Rally 11.30	30	31 Art class 1.30pm	1st Nov	2	3 Sewing Group 1.30pm	4

Further information of these events on page 2