



# AMERICAN CLUB OF ESTEPONA

November  
2017

## Colourful Christmas Coming

I've always liked a bit of alliteration, but the headline refers to next months' magazine. It's long been a complaint, and justly so, that the quality of the photos in the newsletter leave a lot to be desired. Although I always stress that they're perfect when viewed on-line at [acestepona.org](http://acestepona.org) not everyone has internet Access.

It's been quite a tradition, started when Rita was the editor, for the Christmas issue to carry Christmas & New Year Greetings, and they've always been in the form of line art, e.g. Mistletoe, Santas, bells, holly etc. This year I intend to splash out with 1/4 page photographic greetings in full color accompanied by your message.

Obviously this takes time to organise, and the magazine isn't published overnight, so I need your photos and message as soon as possible. These can be in the form of a hard copy or a digital image. I've already got one from Trish: as you've never seen her before, sporting with an exotic flamingo. Entries cost €2 per 1/4 page.

### **New Committee Nominations**

At the December meeting members are expected to make suggestions for all Committee posts. INCLUDING President.

I feel the American club is crying out for a new broom, someone with the drive, energy and fresh ideas to lead the club.

Please give it some thought

### **November contents**

Page 2 Regular Activities & Car Rally

Page 3 Thanksgiving menú & Quiz results

Page 4 Bar Notes & Bingo announcement

Page 5 President's notes & Pat's travels

Page 6 Pat's travels (2) & Emergency Nos.

Page 7 Birthdays ¿Que Pasa? Caritas

Page 8 Kooking Korner

Page 9 Library Reviews

Page10 Information & Ads

Page11 Rally Photos

Page12 November Diary



# Activities, Events

## Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, Nov 7th - 1.30 pm

## General Meeting

Saturday, Nov 11th - 2 pm

Come on folks, please come and support your club

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

### Sewing Classes:

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

### 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.

### Bingo with Roy

Every Thursday from 16th Nov 3.30 (see page 4)

### Maria's Meals

BBQ Ribs plus 2 other choices Thu, Fri, Sat (see menu above fridge)

Friday's Special, Fish & Chips

## Car Rally October 29th

Yet another rally; yet another perfect sunny day. Someone up there surely likes us!

Only 16 rallyists this time, sharing four cars, but if things were a little cramped it didn't matter as it wasn't a long way and the questions required quite a bit of getting out and looking around.

As is becoming quite usual lately, things are inclined to go a little askew. Road closures, diversions, Changes to advertising hoardings, dismantled churinguitos to name but a few. This time it was a shop. When I did the recce and worked out the questions there was a shop called El Fabrica de Mi Ambuela. Come Sunday, the day of the rally, no more! Gone; changed hands and re-named.!

Never mind, it's only for fun anyway and a chance to get out of town and socialise over a meal. And what a meal this time! The only complaint I heard was that the portions were too large! Obviously it was the brilliant El Cazador II, our third visit.

Competition was close, but the winners, by a close margin, were Trish, Alyson, Jenny and Shelia who all travelled in Patrick's MPV

Well done everybody. See photos page 11

Next Rally with Brian & Ronnie just after Xmas

# *Past & Future Events*

Sunday November 26th 1.30pm

## **Thanksgiving / Harvest Festival Lunch**

### **Menu**

Seafood Salad with Bread & Butter

*and*

Homemade Harvest Soup

*followed by:-*

Thanksgiving Turkey & Stuffing

Bacon wrapped Sausages

Roasted & Creamed Potatoes

Roast Carrots in Maple Syrup & Peas

Gravy & Cranberry Sauce

*and then:-*

Pumpkin Pie, Cream & Carrot Cake

Club Members €18 Guests €20

Sign up soon, places limited.

## **Supper Quiz Wed 18th October**

A very entertaining and informative quiz was given by Ann Hardwick, with wide ranging subjects that kept everyone thinking hard. You know the sort of questions I mean, the sort that has you thinking "I know this one, it's on the tip of my tongue.....But?"

What made this quiz more special was the fact that Ann really has the hang of the clubs microphone which made it much easier for her to control the unruly contestants!

Supper was provided by our club secretary Barbara Salisbury who prepared it all on her own and was later helped by Sandra Richardson who also worked very hard serving and clearing afterwards. Both Barbara & 'Little' Sandra are really great assets to the club.

Overall Quiz winners were Mike & Barbara. Next Quiz 15th November. Hope to see you there!



## Bar notes October

The bar did very well last month, showing a profit of just over 200%. Without doubt mainly because of our 'Welcome Back' party on the 1st (see last months magazine) and Ann Price's Birthday party on the 8th.

If anyone else would like a party, for any reason, as members you are free to book the club, without charge, as long as you arrange any bar staff and kitchen staff yourselves.

On that note staffing the bar has been no problem either this month as it was fully covered every day. My thanks to all the volunteers.

Now an apology:- In last months Kooking Korner, inadvertently reference was made to a half ton of curry powder. This, of course was a typing error, it should have read a half tin of curry powder. If any of you followed the recipe as printed, my sincere apologies, and I hope you get better soon.

## Please Note—Diary Change.

As notified on page 2, from November 1st the A.C.E. Sewing Group will now meet on Wednesdays at 1.30pm.

If you enjoy sewing, knitting etc. Come along and join us. You're sure to find it quilt interesting.

## Bingo with Roy

Starting 3.30pm Thursday 16th November and then every Thursday at that time the club will be holding Bingo sessions.

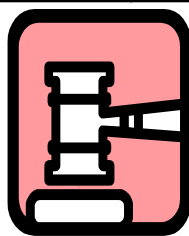
All monies collected will be paid out in prizes, so the more people attending the bigger the prizes.

Organised by Roy James the sessions promise to be fun and an extra club social event. So it's going to be 'Eyes Down, & Look in'

Two guys are out hunting in the woods when one of them collapses. He doesn't appear to be breathing, his eyes are glazed over. The other man pulls out his phone with trembling fingers and calls 911. He gasps, "My friend is dead! What can I do?"

The operator says "Please stay calm. I will help you. First of all, let's make sure he's dead."

There's a silence, then a gun shot. The guy gets back on the phone and says "OK, now what?"



## President's Notes

November already, the year seems to be rushing by (although we gained an extra hour the other day!) And of course November means Thanksgiving and Harvest Festival (see menú page 3)

It's on a Sunday, as usual, and one of the highlights of our social year. However, because of its popularity, places have to be limited, so to be sure of your place please sign up early.

After November comes December, and our round of Christmas Celebrations. Starting with a Carol Concert given by The Cantolibre Community Choir, on Friday the 8th. If you remember last year's concert and how good it was I'm sure you'll want to come again. December is also the time we hold our Hamper Draw and Christmas Party. This year it's on Sunday 17th at 2pm, with the fabulous Stella who went down so well at the Welcome Back party. Donations for the hampers will be very welcome. Remember, all money raised goes towards our Charity donations.

Finally, a reminder. Sandra is doing a Christmas Lunch, on Christmas Day, obviously, and places are extremely limited. If you want to go please see Sandra

We've been to Japan for the last year or so, so for a change here's Pat's trip to Cadiz

### GETTING OUT OF A TIGHT SPOT!

3days away with Pat Storey

The sun was shining, I had 2 houseguests and we decided to take a trip to Cadiz and Arcos de la Frontera! The car, like its owners (Pat and Vera) doesn't do long distances any more so I decided to rent a car for 3 days. John Russell recommended Espacar and booked it for us, €125 for 3 days including CDW and taxes. We collected it on Monday morning at 11-30 from their offices up beyond Carrefour. Off we set and were in Tarifa within an hour.

Tarifa is an interesting place, the home of the windsurfers but also historic as it was the first port in history to charge merchants for the use of its docks and is the derivation of our English word "tariff". A quick drive around, a visit to the Castle of Tarifa, tapas for lunch and we were off to Bolonia, some 21kms away where there are extensive ruins of a Roman port. (Free entry to EU passport holders). Regrettably closed on Mondays but we decided to make the short detour anyway. Well worth the effort, lovely beach with sand dunes, two nice restaurants and a great view of the ruins from outside the locked gates!

Then off on the road again to Cadiz where we had booked a 2 bed apartment with [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) (€125) in the historic, pedestrianised area. It wasn't too much trouble to find the public parking in the Plaza San Antonio, €14.95 per 24 hours and 2/3 minutes walk from the Casa Palacio, our home for the next 2 nights. After telephoning the number on the entrance door, we were met by a nice young lady who showed us our flat which was large, well equipped. All the 2 bed flats are located at the rear of the building and with hindsight we should have booked a one bed with sofa bed in a large lounge, which

Continued page 6

Pat's trip contd.

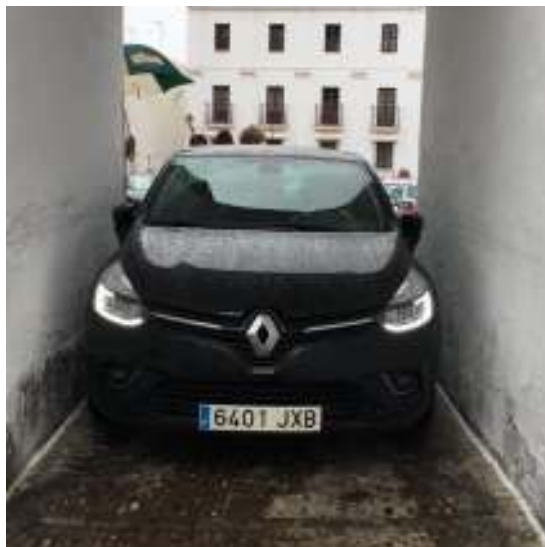
hindsight we should have booked a one bed with sofa bed in a large lounge, which was sunny, with a balcony overlooking the road

It was a great location, lots of coffee/breakfast bars and restaurants, a few minutes walk from the cathedral, the sea front and the hop on/hop off bus (€15 for 24hours)

After supper and a good night's sleep, it was out to breakfast and then to the bus. We decided to stay on the bus for the entire route (1 hour) and then we could decide where to explore further. It is a really lovely City, historic, Roman ruins and a beautiful Promenade.

We had decided to leave for Arcos the next morning, where we intended to stay at a fabulous Parador I had visited several years earlier but we didn't book in advance as the weather forecast was ominous! Next morning, it was, indeed, raining in Cadiz and there had been storms overnight in the surrounding areas. We thought we would go anyway..... The Autovia near Jerez was closed due to flooding, as were other roads and we finally arrived in Arcos (via the rural route), in the rain, about 2 pm. The historic centre and Parador was on a sheer mountaintop and we had to get there through an entrance arch barely wider than our car!! The Parador offered us their last remaining room for €225 but the mist was coming in, the view was fast disappearing and we decided to have some lunch there and then hoof it back to Estepona and the sunshine. Arrived back around 8pm and as Dorothy says in The Wizard of Oz

"There's no place like home!"



### 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?



## November Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Anto Strahinja 1st (just put this in for 'old times' sake )

Rita Mayo 24th

## Caritas Appeal

Brian Brannan (610926335) is running the Caritas Charity stall at Estepona's Christmas Fair being held at the Palacio de Congressos, Estepona on the 25th November 2017. and has appealed to the American Club for support.

He is hoping to collect 1,000 DVD's for resale to help fund this very worthwhile cause. The DVD's should be genuine, not copies, and in fairly good condition.

If you have some, that you are willing to donate please bring them to the club for collation, and then I'll phone Mr Brannon to come and collect them. At our monthly meeting on the 11th I'll also be asking members if we could 'thin' out our own collection and donate these as well.

## ¿Qué Pasa?

What a quiet club this last month, as far as I'm aware nothing has happened so it's ¿Qué Pasa? Nada.

I was sitting in a bar one day and two really large women came in, talking in an interesting accent.

So I said, "Cool accent, are you two ladies from Ireland?"

One of them snarled at me, "It's Wales, dumbbo!"

So I corrected myself, "Oh, right, sorry, so are you two whales from Ireland?"

That's about as far as I remember.

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I heard a report about a bad outbreak of the tummy bug, apparently 9 out of 10 people there suffered from diarrhea. I can't stop thinking about that tenth person who apparently enjoyed it.

Mother: "How was school today, Patrick?"

Patrick: "It was really great mum! Today we made explosives!"

Mother: "Ooh, they do very fancy stuff with you these days. And what will you do at school tomorrow?"

Patrick: "What school?"

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I managed to lose my rifle when I was in the army. I had to pay €855 to cover the loss.

I'm starting to understand why a Navy captain always goes down with his ship.



# KOOKING KORNER

## With Ronnie

### Winter Cooking with Ronnie

This month, in preparation for the oncoming winter season I've put in a simple chicken and chorizo bean stew. Delicious with crusty bread.

#### INGREDIENTS

3 tbsp olive oil

40g/1½oz butter

2 whole chicken legs, cut into drumsticks and thighs

2 shallots

1 lemon, cut in half

1 garlic bulb, cut in half

200g/7oz chorizo, cut into small chunks

2 tomatoes, peeled, seeds removed, finely chopped

660g/1lb 8oz tinned white haricot beans, drained

2 sprigs rosemary, finely chopped

4 sprigs thyme, finely chopped

250ml/9fl oz chicken stock

2 tbsp roughly chopped flatleaf parsley sea salt and freshly ground black pepper .

#### METHOD

Preheat the oven to 220C/425F/Gas 7.

Heat an ovenproof frying pan until hot, add half of the olive oil and half of the butter. When the butter is foaming, add the chicken and fry until just golden-brown.

Cut one shallot in half lengthways and add to the pan along with the lemon and half the rosemary and thyme. Add the garlic, reserving two garlic cloves. Roast in the oven for 15 minutes, or until golden-brown and the chicken is cooked through.

Meanwhile, finely chop the remaining shallot and reserved garlic cloves. Heat a large frying or sauté pan until medium-hot. Add the remainder of the olive oil and the chorizo and cook for five minutes, or until the oil has changed colour and the chorizo is crisp around the edges. Add the tomatoes and the garlic and shallot. Gently fry for a minute, then add the beans and the rosemary and thyme and cook for a further two minutes. Add the stock and bring to a simmer. Cook for 4-5 minutes, or until the shallot has softened and the volume of liquid has slightly reduced. Stir in the last of the butter and the parsley. Season to taste with plenty of black pepper. Ladle the beans into the middle of two soup plates, top with some chicken, then place a piece of lemon, shallot and garlic alongside



# Library Reviews

Brian Winder

Onwards towards Christmas...

Three blockbuster books reviewed this month and all thoroughly enjoyed! Now, you all must have read a lot whilst lazing in the sun over the last few months and probably still are as it's really generally unseasonal weather now - so please bring your finished with books into the club.

## **THE FIX by David Baldacci**

A happy family man who loves his wife and is father of four daughters and who is proud of his life kills a woman in full view of witnesses.

He shoots her outside of FBI Headquarters in Washington DC, One of the witnesses is Amos Decker who has a memory medically described as having 'total recall' He becomes part of the task force investigating this and they subsequently find all sorts of secrets that stretch back a lifetime and reveal a current plot of impending destruction that will send the world reeling! Great book from one of the 'must read' authors!

## **DEEPLY ODD by Dean Koontz**

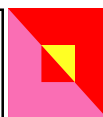
How do you make sure a crime that hasn't happened yet, never does? That's the critical question facing Odd Thomas, the young man with a unique ability to commune with restless spirits and help them find justice and peace. But this time, it's the living who desperately need Odd on their side. Three helpless innocents will be brutally executed unless Odd can intervene in time.

Who the potential victims are and where they can be found remain a mystery. The only thing Odd knows for sure is who the killer will be: the homicidal stranger who tried to shoot him dead in a small-town parking lot. With the ghost of Alfred Hitchcock riding shotgun and a network of unlikely allies providing help along the way, Odd embarks on an interstate game of cat and mouse with his sinister quarry. He will soon learn that his adversary possesses abilities that may surpass his own and operates in service to infinitely more formidable foes, with murder a mere prelude to much deeper designs.

## **SECOND HONEYMOON by James Patterson**

A walk down the aisle, a resort hotel, a drink on the beach...for these unlucky couples, the honeymoon's over. A newlywed couple steps into the sauna in their deluxe honeymoon suite--and never steps out again.

When another couple is killed while boarding their honeymoon flight to Rome, it becomes clear that someone is targeting honeymooners, and it's anyone's guess which happy couple is next on the list. FBI Agent John O'Hara is deep into solving the case, while Special Agent Sarah Brubaker is hunting another ingenious serial killer, whose victims all have one chilling thing in common. As wedding hysteria rises to a frightening new level, John and Sarah work ever more closely together in a frantic attempt to decipher the logic behind two rampages. Typically good read



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ACE Newsletter Advertising

Full page 29.00

Half page 18.00

Quarter page 11.00

Take 6 months in advance  
and pay for only 5.

Contact the club or a member  
of the committee.

**A.C.E. OFFICERS 2016**

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952 796 368

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TREASURER CAROL TIMMINS 669 837 751

**A.C.E. COMMITTEE 2016**

MEMBERSHIP BARBARA SALISBURY 952 796 368

HOSPITALITY MICHAEL MOSS 952 807 101

ASSISTANT Vacant

SOCIAL Vacant

When I see lovers' names  
carved in a tree, I don't think  
it's sweet. I just think it's sur-  
prising how many people  
bring a knife on a date.

Anton, do you think I'm a  
bad mother?  
My name is Paul.

My dog used to chase peo-  
ple on a bike a lot. It got so  
bad, finally I had to take his  
bike away



(above)

Rally winners, Alyson, Trish, Patrick, Jenny & Shelia enjoying their meal at El Cazador II.

(below) The Rest of the motley crew.

# November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Oct	30	31	1 Nov Public Holiday	2	3	4
5	6	7 Ex. Comm. meeting 1.30 pm	8	9	10 Sewing Group 1:30pm	11 General Meeting 2pm
12	13	14 Art class 2:30 pm	15 Supper Quiz 7.30pm	16 Bingo 3.30pm	17 Sewing Group 1.30pm	18
19	20	21 Art class 2:30 pm	22	23 Bingo 3.30pm	24 Sewing Group 1:30pm	25
26	27	28 Art class 1.30pm	29	30 Bingo 3.30pm	1 Dec Sewing Group 1.30pm	2