

Spanish - U3A - West Wolds



Welcome

I hope you enjoyed last month's food theme and tried some of the recipes with that glut of early autumn produce. There's a few more food photographs in this month's edition of the Spanish Group Newsletter. Do take a look as I try to included some items of general interest for our wider U3A membership.

In our group sessions we used the words from last month's crossword to extend our conversations a little when asking for things in a shop, reading signs or by ordering meals in a restaurant or just by reading a Spanish menu. Have a look at this month's puzzle (second page). It's surprising that in English we often use the occasional Spanish word. How many do you know?

Now we turn to the month of November. This edition is all about reading and a little Spanish culture. Below you'll find information about books to improve your language skills in Spanish and other languages. For the non Spanish speakers there are novels to get your teeth into. Enjoy! My contact details are as follows: smobrien1@gmail.com or by phone: 07734456213 (01507 313934)

Start Spanish Success

Our new group for beginners has met several times in October and already the group is using a range of everyday language to greet others and have a short conversation in Spanish. We use the kind of language that is often used when meeting someone new or asking for things in cafes and shops. It's very much the sort of conversation we all want to try when we're on holiday.

Anyone for Paella?

Sue, one of our members, demonstrating her culinary prowess at a family gathering. You'll see these types of paella being prepared at many a family gathering and in markets offering street-food throughout Spain.



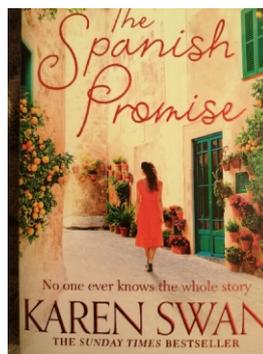
Spanish Tarta de Galletas



There are different versions of this recipe but it's fair to say that it's a chocoholic's dream. It's really a no-bake cake using a biscuit base. Traditionally it's eaten during Holy Week in Spain. Jane, one of our members, treated us all to cake with our coffee when we met at her home recently.

Time to Curl Up With a Good Read

Another novel from the Sunday Times Bestseller list, this book by Karen Swan was published in 2019. I picked up my copy at the airport on the way to Málaga where I found my copy in the "buy one, get one half price" section. As I was on my way to Spain I felt it would get me in the mood for my holiday. The story follows a two plot structure and is set in the Spanish civil war and the modern day. It's well written and not too heavy. A great read for both holidays and cosy weekends indoors.



DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

¡Hablemos Español!

Tuesday 2.30pm – 4.30pm

1 st Nov	Caistor
8 th	Binbrook
15 th	Tealby
22 nd	Normanby Le Wold
29 th	Market Rasen
6 th Dec	Binbrook
13 th	Hemswell Cliff
20 th	Caistor
27 th	Zoom Session

Start Spanish

Friday 2pm - 3pm

4 th Nov	Faldingworth
11 th	Faldingworth
18 th	Faldingworth
25 th	Faldingworth

Anyone for Coffee?

Coffee, or tea for that matter, doesn't have to be all about cake. Launched this summer, the 50 Coffee Breaks Language Books are designed to include activities set over five, ten or fifteen minutes duration. They're designed to give you language learning opportunities that take a short time and can fit into anybody's busy schedule. I stumbled across this series when I was looking for a gift for a friend who is learning French. As I ordered the French copy, I decided to buy the Spanish version for myself. You can find out more about the Coffee Break system online. There's a podcast but the books do provide a different format that doesn't require technology so put the smartphone, tablet or pc away. The activities are set around the advanced beginner/low intermediate level (A/B1 of the Common European Framework of Languages or CEFR). The books aren't designed to be a structured language programme so they'll fit into anyone's language learning plans. There are six European languages available. As well as those mentioned above there are also Italian and German editions.



Word Match

You'll be surprised how many Spanish words we use in everyday English. Here are some of the most well known, but can you match the correct word to it's English meaning.

Mosquito	Type of umbrella used against the sun.
Tornado	A square in the town.
Macho	A party.
Siesta	Unable to contact someone.
Parasol	An item of waterproof clothing
Poncho	A small biting insect.
Plaza	Smooth, cool.
Incommunicado	A nap.
Fiesta	Strong, overtly masculine.
Sauve	A meteorological term for a powerful wind.

More About Coffee Break Languages

Coffee Break Languages came into being in 2006 with the launch of Coffee Break Spanish, the first podcast for beginners in Spanish. The idea of "learning a language on your coffee break" quickly took off and soon learners around the world were using the friendly and accessible method to build their language skills, effectively transforming their down time into "do time".

Since then, the Coffee Break method has grown to cover seven languages. The podcasts and courses have been recognised through numerous awards, including European Professional Podcast of the Year and the European Award for Languages, and have featured in The New York Times, the Guardian and on the BBC.

The Coffee Break team of language experts, teachers and native speakers is led by Mark Pendleton. A former high school languages teacher, Mark speaks over ten languages and continues to share his passion for language learning, and the opportunities it provides, with learners through podcasts, videos, courses and books.

Meeting Other U3A Groups and a Thank You

We've recently tried to have a social gathering with another local U3A group in Louth. This would have given us the opportunity to use our language skills in a social situation with like minded people. Sadly this group has had to close due to falling numbers. Many groups struggle to attract new members or to appoint a new Convenor when one decides to finish their stint. It's important to use the groups we offer, not just our language groups. By offering to help in a small way such as by supporting the group leader, hosting an activity, making teas and coffees we all help our groups to remain vibrant and supportive of the membership. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my group for their continued support and friendship. Without all of you, we wouldn't be who we are!