

Spanish - U3A West - Wolds



Welcome

Welcome to the Spanish newsletter for May. It's a busy time of the year for all U3A groups and our Spanish groups are no exception. In this month's edition we're looking forward to the coronation of King Charles. Many of us weren't around at the time of the last coronation so it's interesting to see how different groups of people are responding to events.

In Spain we hear about the interest shown to this event through newspapers and the Internet. As a country with its own royal family Spain will play its part and you can find out about one of the special gifts the newly-crowned king will receive. Later in the month our Spanish intermediates will be helping out at the Lincolnshire Wolds Outdoor Festival on May 20th.

If you are free on the day why not come along? There are further details on: www.westwoldsu3a.org or www.southormsbyestate.co.uk/openweekendtickets or www.woldsoutdoorfestival.com/events. Whatever your plans enjoy the month ahead.

Our Latest Member?

At our latest meeting outside we were joined by a frog. He made no noise but if he had done we would have understood him. Spanish frogs make the sound 'croac', unlike the 'ribbit, ribbit' of their American cousins. His compunction to join in our Spanish group led me to research a little about frogs in the Iberian peninsula.

In Spain children are introduced to frogs at an early age, soothed by a quaint little rhyme when they tumble over and graze themselves and it goes like this:-

'Sana sana colita de Rana. Si no sana hoy sanará mañana'

The literal translation is 'Heal, heal little tail of the frog. If you don't heal today you will heal tomorrow.'

A distraction technique from tears as knees are rubbed better, nobody

seems to know where this ditty originates but it seems to have survived the test of time.

There are 11 different types of frog in Spain, the main one being the European frog which is also common in the UK. Six of them are species specific to the Iberian peninsula, two of which are tree frogs. The rest are also found in southern France and in other parts of Europe.

Sadly as with many other amphibians in Europe Spanish frogs and toads are in decline. Reasons for this include the loss of wetlands and viruses which affect frogs. These conditions are made worse by the effects of global warming, increased UV light pollution as well as loss of habitat. The danger is that if the decline continues many of these frogs will disappear.

Let us hope that another Spanish saying is correct **'Cuando las ranas cren pelo'**

The literal meaning being 'when frogs grow hair' In other words that that this will never happen.

Sue Roebuck

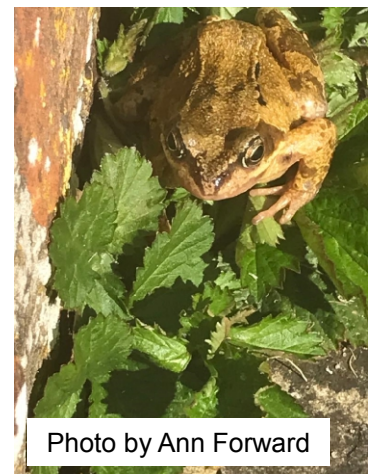


Photo by Ann Forward



Spanish at the Lincolnshire Wolds Outdoor Festival, South Ormsby

This year the Lincolnshire Wolds Outdoor Festival Activity Day will take place on 20th May. Several of our groups at West Wolds U3A have already agreed to take part and join in.

Our Intermediate Spanish group has prepared a few activities that members of the public can try out to show visitors on the day what we do and what our organisation offers to potential new members.

Joining us on the day will be the Turkish Delights Desert Dancers, Keep Fit, French and Gardening.

If your group isn't there why not come along and say hello. There will be plenty of things to see and do.

Parking is free. Entry to the Festival is via a free on-line ticket which you can get at: www.southormsbyestate.co.uk/openweekendtickets.

Spanish Marmalade fit for a King

Beloved of Paddington Bear as much as British monarchs, a very special pot of marmalade will provide a coronation present for King Charles III thanks to a UK-Spanish tradition.

A crate of bitter oranges from the gardens of the Real Alcázar of Seville, Europe's oldest functioning royal residence, will be made into marmalade and sent to Buckingham Palace as a gift to the new King and Queen.

The citrus fruit is transformed into marmalade in the kitchens inside the Madrid residence of the British Ambassador to Spain, Hugh Elliot, before it is sent to London.

The tradition started in the early 20th century as a gesture of friendship between the Spanish and British royal families.



Ever Heard of Llanito?

Gibraltar is a British Overseas Territory which means it is under UK jurisdiction but is not technically a part of it.

At just 6.8 km² and with a population of about 30,000 it has the fifth highest density of any country or territory in the world.

English is the official language but many people speak Spanish and the local language which is called Llanito and has a mix of Mediterranean words in it.

Four Useful Words/Phrases in Llanito

A como están?: how much are they?

Apparró: the Upper Rock of Gibraltar

Cagona/Panaera: a Gibraltar one-pound note

Chico: half pint of beer

The Month Ahead

Beginners

8th - Faldingworth 1.30pm
22nd - Faldingworth 1.30pm

Intermediate

2nd - Binbrook 2:00pm
9th - Wickenby 2:00pm
16th - Normanby le Wold 2:00pm
23rd - Ice cream & Coffee 2:00pm
30th - Belleau Lodge, Caistor 2:00pm