




COSTA BRAVA INTERNATIONAL CLUB NEWS

MARCH 2023 - #23

It's March already and a busy month for CICB. Hopefully, you have looked at the website calendar by now and know we have the monthly GPL, a first ever Bingo Night, a cultural excursion and a ladies spring luncheon to look forward to as well as the pitch'nputt, cooking and book groups continue their meetings.

As I mentioned last month, every new year brings change and there have been a lot of changes to CICB in the last year. Our CICB website is where you can learn about the various groups and events, check dates and access information for upcoming events, register for events, read current and past newsletters that now include links to various local village activities including what films are currently playing at the Platja D'Aro movie theater.

For many long time members, the change has been more challenging as we have moved to a new way of communicating to our 90 members.

Don't wait for an email , be proactive, find out what activities the club has to offer that interest you and what events you might like to attend in surrounding communities. It's all just a click away.

-Linda Stuttard



The Pitch'nputt group enjoyed a sunny but a little chilly February afternoon of

golf and the famous or infamous menu del día at the Franciac pitch'nputt. At 23€ for 18 holes and lunch, it's quite the bargain.

Next issue, we will try to catch the golfers golfing instead of imbibing in drinks and food!

Remember, if you would like to join the group email, gsorbets@gmail.com



Cultural Excursion

Twenty four Art enthusiasts made the trek to the Perramon Fundacio on February 22nd in the tiny village of Ventalló located in the heart of the Catalan farming community, about an hours drive north from the Santa Cristina golf club. The Fundacio's art collection is spread across three buildings consisting of largely abstract works (mostly in oil, mixed media) and sculptures. Although the art was not perhaps to everyone's taste, the day was a success rounded off by a typical Catalan menu del dia in a local restaurant.



The book club and cooking group continue to meet regularly. In February, 6 members of the book group discussed the novel, *A Handful of Dust* by Evelyn Waugh. Published in 1934, it is a biting satire reflecting on the meaningless of life in upper class British society. The book scheduled for discussion March 27th is *Elizabeth Finch* by Julian Barnes. Interested in joining? Email: lindathompsonnobs@hotmail.co.uk

Twelve members of the cooking group met at Camie Maze's home in March and celebrated beans. The ladies feasted on an unusual Ethiopian lentil stew prepared by Camie and pink lentil soup prepared by Dominique Moreau. To round out the palette, cava and wine was served. Interested in joining the group? Email: annekedevroom@gmail.com or eventscicb@gmail.com



KISS ME, I'M IRISH

Every March 17, the United States becomes an emerald country for a day. Americans wear green (if you don't have anything green to wear, thousands buy shamrock buttons, or a favorite pin that boldly states, "kiss me, I'm Irish". Everyone claims Irish heritage on St. Paddy's day. Green beer, green milkshakes, green bagels appear on menus. The city of Chicago even dyes its river green.

Revelers across America celebrate all things Irish by drinking pints of Guinness (dyeed green, of course) cheering on bagpipers, step dancers and marching bands that parade through city streets. The Irish meal of the day is corned beef and cabbage; an American tradition harking back to the 1800's when the impoverished Irish immigrants (of which over 2 million immigrated to America during the potato famine in Ireland of the 1840's) could only afford the cheapest of meat. Corned beef, sold from the boats from China docked in New York Harbor sold for a penny a pound. The meat had to be boiled at least three times to



remove the brine it had soaked in for months. To the surprise of many, this and annual traditions weren't imported from Ireland, they are all American made!

There are many stories about the first St. Patrick's Day parade but a favorite is the Irish born soldiers serving in the British army in 1762 marched through lower Manhattan to a St. Patrick's Day breakfast at a local tavern.



Over time, the annual St. Patrick's day festivities and parades have become an unofficial holiday celebrated in all of America. New York City holds the biggest parade, approximately 150,000 people march in the parade with over 1 million people lining the streets of the city to watch.

In contrast to the merry-making in the United States, March 17 has been more of a holy day than holiday in Ireland. Since 1631, St. Patrick's Day has been a religious feast day to commemorate the anniversary of the 5th-century death of the missionary credited with spreading Christianity to Ireland.

Ireland began celebrating St. Paddy's American style once television arrived and pubs were able to open on holy days. The Irish now celebrate over a 5 day period with community events and parades with colorful floats and marching bands and dancers as in America. The largest parade is in Dublin, where over 500,000 enjoy the spectacle.

It's the one day of the year, Americans of Irish descent and the Irish celebrate their shared heritage and for that one day Americans of all nationalities become just a little bit Irish 🍀.

- Linda Burke





**What's on
in March**

PITCH 'N PUTT
March 2nd - Platja D'Aro
March 30 - location to be decided



**Check our
website for
updated events
through June:
cicb.eu**

March 6th - GPL - Costa Brava Golf Club



March 16th - FIRST ANNUAL BINGO NIGHT at Toc de Sol - registration form is on the website

March 21st - Cultural Excursion to Girona Cathedral and Basilica de St. Felix - invitation out soon

March 27th - BOOK GROUP - 3:00 🕒 at Tipipark in Santa Cristina
Novel: Elizabeth Finch by Julian Barnes

March 28th - Ladies Spring Luncheon at Costa Brava Hotel, Platja D'Aro- invitation out soon

Take a look at this month's events in our local communities:

PLEASE NOTE, THE VOSE FILMS LINK IS TO THE THEATER IN PLATJA. YOU CAN SEE WHAT FILM IS PLAYING IN ENGLISH (or English subtitles) - just click on the link

Llagostera <https://www.llagostera.cat/agenda.php> (auto-translate)

Santa Cristina <https://santacristina.cat/agenda/10893-historic-agendes.html>
(scroll PDF- Catalan auto translate in Adobe)

Sant Feliu <https://www.guixols.cat/agenda> (auto translate)

VOSE Films https://www.ocineplatjadaro.es/index.php?option=com_cines&task=vose&Itemid=248

Experiencing problems with these links? Email John Hothersall: j.hothersall@gmail.com

2023 annual membership dues of 70€ couple - 35€ individual
If you have not paid, please pay at the next event you attend.



Newsletter CICB
newscicb@gmail.com

Is there something YOU would like to contribute? JUST DO IT! EMAIL US!