



AMIGOS DE TENERIFE



FRIENDS OF TENERIFE

No. G 38367892



APARTADO DE CORREOS 135 LOS REALEJOS

NEWSLETTER MAY, 2010

THE FRIENDS OF TENERIFE

YOUR COMMITTEE

President:

Helen Jamieson 922 388486

Vice-President:

Jean Pennington 922 384809

Treasurer:

Nicky Smith 922 563349

Secretary:

Ruby Tuesday 922 341299

Ex-officio members

Carmen Borges
Janice Chambers
Regina Naucke Freieu
Tony Stanley

OUR WEBSITE

www.friendsoftenerife.com

Diana, the FOT Webmaster, has created an online Business Directory. The cost is 40euros, a one-time, tax deductible donation to the charity, giving your business lifetime inclusion in the Directory.

How to do it?

Just go onto the website and follow the directions - NOW!!!

How the Friends of Tenerife make a difference

The Friends of Tenerife is a charity raising money to help people in need on the island of Tenerife. Because you, our members, always give generously and attend our varied social events, joining in the raffles and sales, we are able to support many local organisations and we sincerely thank you for helping to do this. However, just recently there has been less friendship and more gossip and unrest. Resignations from the committee were the order of the day and unfortunately there has been – and still is – a nasty taste in the mouth that is not dissipating. Many of our members have taken this as a matter of course: after all, changes in peoples’ lifestyles often create wider ripples but in the main this particular wave is becoming a tsunami. The Committee wish to thank all those stalwart members who have renewed their subscriptions and continue to support us, we are grateful for their friendship and value their presence at our events. Could we just remind those to whom this does not apply that there are two sides to every story. The other, most important fact, is that the people who will suffer are those we are trying very hard to help. **Think on these things.**

Forthcoming events

The Committee has approved the following venues for future lunches. As with all our functions, to book seats or ask for details either e-mail Ruby (sec@friendsoftenerife.com) or ring Jean Pennington on 922 384809.
Saturday, May 29th – Buffet Lunch at the Orchid Garden, 1pm for 1.30pm.
Tuesday, June 22nd – Brunch at the ever-popular Monasterio, 12.30pm for 1pm.
Tuesday, July 27th - Lunch at Los Petit Angeles, near the Hotel Turquesa, 1pm for 1.30pm.
Tuesday, August 24th – Back to the Orchid Garden for a finger buffet lunch with Johnny O’Connor.

Where your money went in the past year

Page 3 - Report on the Annual General Meeting

Don’t forget line-dancing, 7pm -9pm Wednesdays, Hotel Palmeras Playa.

**Registered as “Friends of Tenerife “ and also “Amigos de Tenerife” Charity No. 638367892****Donations to our chosen charities**

All the money we raise during the year is allocated to various charities: we only take out expenses to cover such administration costs as postage, printing, stationery and stamps, raffle prizes – a big earner – so we know that almost 100% of the money passing through our hands really “reaches the parts”. During the last financial year 2009/2010, the Friends of Tenerife donated in all **7,661 euros** to these charities: **Apanate, Hospital Immaculada, Madre Mathilde, Martha Dos and Santa Rita.**

Founded in 1993 by a group of friends in El Sauzal, one of the main causes to receive donations from the Friends of Tenerife over the years has been the Association San Lazaro, which runs a centre called *Proyecto Martha 1* in Santa Cruz. Founded by a group of parents to help and treat children suffering from cerebral palsy, since then the centre has evolved and become a showpiece. We mention this because one of our members, Brian Sanderson, (*above right with his wife Wendy and Helen Jamieson*) has always been very active at Martha Dos and still maintains and cleans the pool on a regular basis. So you see, it does not begin and end with giving cheques, this charity business is an ongoing thing. Similarly, Apanate, an association that helps autistic children (many of those involved are parents of such youngsters) in La Orotava recently moved to larger premises, where the children have more scope to be helped both physically and mentally. (*The photo above shows Helen presenting a cheque to a representative of Apanate*). At this very moment the Committee are following up a lead to a home for mentally retarded young boys and old men who may be next on our list for monetary help. Also the ladies of the Hospital Immaculada will be treated again, on the very anniversary of the inauguration of the hospital (52 years ago) by the receipt of special cakes and drinks etc. to make their lives a little brighter.

**Our monthly functions last year**

The year’s celebrations began with Burns Night at the Hotel Parque San Antonio in January at which a cheque was given to Santa Rita. In February there was a barbecue at the Orchid Garden and on March 17th St. Patrick’s Day was celebrated with Irish dancing at the Hotel Mazaru. A new venue was visited on April 7th, La Exstanzia in La Paz and Helen’s Dress Sale was held on May 9th - as usual a great success. May 14th lunch was well attended at the Restaurant Orchidea in La Paz and Canarian Day was held at La Exstanzia. In June a Brunch attracted many members to the Monasterio, whilst in July a lunch was arranged at Alvaros, which was greatly enjoyed. In August it was a sunny day at a Las Flores lunch, where Linda Fullegar accepted a cheque for Santa Rita. Alvaros for lunch again in October and another Dress Sale at the Hotel Palmeras Playa on November 14. Again to the Orchid Garden in November and on December 15th a Christmas Barbecue was held at the Orchid Garden.

**Ladies who lunch!!!*****And obviously enjoy it!!!***

A lovely photograph of some of our members at the Restaurante Orchidea recently, where a superb lunch set the stage for a memorable and extremely happy occasion.

The new members on your Committee

Due to several unexpected resignations from the Committee the Officers had no choice, just before this year’s A.G.M. than to initially co-opt two members. **Tony Stanley** was a popular choice and he is helping to keep the Website on track, together with our Webmaster Diana, to whom we owe a big thank you for putting us ‘on the map’. We have also persuaded **Carmen Borges** to come on board for a specific reason: she is liaising with the Mayor of Puerto and has taken on the project of opening a Charity Shop in the town. This will hopefully earn us more money than the Car Boot sales and appeal to more people. **Regina Naucke Freieu** is another new member who will try to attract more members from her area – she lives in Buen Paso – and she is also computer-friendly, another advantage. Similarly, so is **Janice Chambers**, a stalwart of the popular line-dancing evenings who we hope will bring to the Committee the feelings of the members we do not see all the time. We are confident that this will round off a comprehensive set of people to decide on the future of the F.O.T. and also to find more deserving causes for the distribution of the monies.



THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MARCH 18TH, 2010

The Presiden's opening remarks

The President of the Friends of Tenerife, Helen Jamieson welcomed everyone to the Hotel Palmeras Playa and declared the Meeting open. Reg Chipperfield pointed out that there was not a majority of fifty one members present and stated that we should proceed to Phase 2. The members of the association who were in attendance had been provided with Agendas, the accredited Accounts for the past year and Minutes of the last A.G.M., this latter in order to forestall a long and protracted recital by the Secretary.

Helen then said that the last year had not been a particularly good one financially, as members were tending to go out less in the evenings – indeed, our most prolific fundraiser, the Burns Night, had to be cancelled this year due to lack of support. The reason must lie, she said, with the bad rate of exchange between the pound and the euro, which has resulted in the Committee organising a greater number of lunches at lower prices, which have proved to be more popular. She then touched upon the recent resignations of Susan Dickinson and Thelma and Martine Bravo, which had left the Committee much depleted. Two more members had been co-opted, Tony Stanley and Carmen Borges, both of whom are very well respected members of the F.O.T. and welcome additions to the Committee.

The Treasurer's Report, presented by Nikki Smith.

The Friends of Tenerife annual accounts from March 1, 2009 to February 28th, 2010 have been audited by Mary Donaldson of Banco Santander, Puerto de la Cruz, for which task we thank her unreservedly. I feel that the accounts are self-explanatory, set out on various sheets so that everyone can see where the money has gone and how it has been used. These accounts this year, especially on the income side, reflect the a sign of the times but I would like to thank Susan Dickinson (and lately Jean Pennington) for all their efforts in making each social event as big in attendance as was possible – not an easy task. A Committee decision this year awarded the Social Secretary 30 euros per month to help towards telephone calls: it must be remembered that the people who you elected to work on the Committee are doing so voluntarily. Membership to the charity is increasing all the time and it is the subscriptions that help so much towards the total monies that we are able to donate to those less fortunate than ourselves. Donations are down this year but nevertheless what we have donated has as usual gone to very needy causes and for this I, as the Treasurer, thank you.

This year we have contributed to Apanate, Martha Dos, Santa Rita, the Hospital Immaculada, cakes for the old ladies at Christmas and Centro Educativo Madre Mathilde Teller, plus toys at Christmas for the children. We have made a fairly good income from lunches, car boot sales, the quiz and of course Helen's Dress Sales, which alone raised over 800euros. Thanks are due to Helen and her team for all the work behind the scenes on these occasions. Line Dancing goes from strength to strength and although whilst not bringing in a considerable amount of money has proved to be considerably enjoyable to those who regularly attend. One must bear in mind that last year – and the previous year to a certain extent – we received funds from a F.O.T. group in the south which has now branched off on its own as a charitable association. Lastly I would like to thank Helen and all the other Committee members, past and present, for their voluntary work over the year, to Ruby our Secretary who has to decipher my abysmal writing in order to enter everything on computer listings and also to you all for your support in assisting us to help those less fortunate than ourselves.