

VOL. 10 - Núm. 4 - SUMMER / ESTIU 2001

CLUB INTERNACIONAL D'ANDORRA

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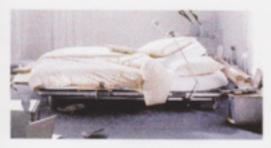
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(Cover photo: by Nina O'Brien - An "old" doorway in Canillo (see page 5)



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INTERCOMM

International Club of Andorra

Quarterly Magazine SUMMER 2001

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COFFEE MORNING IS HELD EVERY WEDNESDAY, 10.30 – 12.00 AT THE HOTEL PARIS-LONDRES COME ALONG FOR A PLEASANT MORNING

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EDITORIAL FROM THE BOARD

Some 42 members were present at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, held as usual at the Hotel Paris-Londres, Escaldes. This year it was held rather earlier than usual, enabling some people who are habitually away from Andorra in May and June to be present this time. The policy of providing wine and tapas, initiated last year, seems to have been generally welcomed, and to have encouraged animated conversations to continue well after the close of the formal proceedings. As someone remarked, the atmosphere at the A.G.M. was very like that at our Coffee Mornings.

We say farewell to Gerry Churcher as Honorary President, together with appreciation for the efforts of himself and his wife, Pam in helping things to run smoothly, and we are sure that they will continue to participate in Club activities.

Unusually, there were no elections or re-elections to the Board this time, Holger Hackenberg as co-opted Treasurer having decided not to seek election. We are nonetheless grateful for his efforts. A new Treasurer has been found, namely George Stobart, who has allowed himself to be co-opted, subject of course, to formal election at the Annual General Meeting to be held next year. Some Board members will then reach the end of their four-year terms, and may or may not decide to seek re-election.

By then we shall be (more or less) accustomed to Euros, and appropriate procedures for the changeover are in process of evolution. As a very close approximation, 6 Euros equals 1,000 pesetas. The notion of an increase in subscriptions at the same time seemed to be reasonably acceptable to members present. Although the Club accounts show a healthy positive balance, we need to recall 1999 when circumstances required certain voluntary and involuntary increases in expenditure, leading to a drop of 40% in our bank balance, since then more than made up. We hope to be able to find some useful ways of spending the increasing income of the Club, without at this stage indicating any such specific possibilities.

THE OMBUDSMAN

In October the Club contacted all members by post, as requested by Sr. Ricard Fiter, the Ombudsman, inviting those who were worried about the effects of the Passive Residents Law, to "take those worries to him"!

The Board have recently received further communications from Sr. Fiter in which he expressed his thanks to the Club, outlined the steps he had taken so far, assured the foreign community of his continued concern for their welfare and once again invited people to visit him individually.

Sr. Ricard Fiter Vilajoana Raonador Del Ciutada C/Prat De La Creu 8. 2n (Despatx 208) Andorra la Vella (This is near the Novotel) Telephone: 825 585 – Office hours 8 – 3

Contributions to Intercomm

We of the Magazine Sub-committee are always on the lookout for almost anything that can be of interest to members. Even if you have only a half-formed idea, get in touch with one of the Editors by telephone or at the Coffee Morning. Now and then we receive a mild complaint that Intercomm is too much this or that or the other. Well, the answer is obvious. Write something that isn't this or that or the other and we will (almost) promise to publish it.

There has been no slackening in the need for new contributions. Wherever possible, one or more photographs, postcards or drawings make for greater interest.

Contributions for the next issue to be left, please in the Club letterbox at the Servissim office in La Massana by 2nd August, 2001, or handed to one of us at a Coffee Morning.

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

THE INTERNATIONAL SINGERS

by Clare Allcard

Well, we almost made it. The guys' blue ties weren't ready – and blue waistcoats are still a faint gleam in my eye – but the women at least had their new blue robes and swirling scarves in time for our first spring concerts, at Santa Maria del Fener and La Massana. We do hope that the majority of you liked them – and the singing. (I've long since given up expecting everyone to like anything!) We could only afford the uniforms due to the generosity of all those who took out advertising in our Christmas programme and/or came to the El Castell concert, so a big thank you. You may also have seen us being professionally photographed outside La Massana church. That was Alain Montané behind the lens.

Which leads to a note for your diaries: 8.30 p.m. on 28th June, when, in conjunction with the Englishspeaking Church, we are offering an evening of music and
refreshment in the Escaldes Comú in aid of the locallybased educational charity, 'Infants del Món' (Children of
the World) of which Alain is president. They will be
mounting an exhibition in the foyer explaining their work
which has, since 1994, enabled them to build 14 infant
schools in the most deprived rural areas of Vietnam as
well as helping 40 street children in Chile to go to school.
All the money raised by our concert (tickets 1,500 pts),
will this time go to help children in the Philippines acquire
a primary education. We do hope you will come and
support this excellent cause.

On the 22nd June we will be joining Andorra's many choirs and musicians in the traditional International Day of Music concert. It will be held in the Ordino Auditorium at 9.30 p.m.

As reported to the Club's AGM; at present the choir has 28 members, nine of them men. We come from America, Andorra, Argentina, Brazil, Britain, Catalonia, Holland and Germany. We operate like a large, anarchic family; visit each other in hospital, put 30 signatures on every birthday card and, once a month, have a 'cava party' so we get to know each other better. Rehearsals are conducted in a creative mixture of English and Catalan. We are always looking for new members who enjoy singing and can do so in tune (even if the last choir they sang in was at school), so why not join our happy band and share in the fun? Contact Clare Allcard 836 269/344 181 or Ma Teresa Raurell 836 123 for more information and the red carpet treatment!

THE ART GROUP

by Nina O'Brien

Full details can be obtained from Nina O'Brien tel.

837772 or Val Rylatt tel. 835606. We meet Fridays and will continue through the summer in the studio in Andorra la Vella but members may use the studio at any other time and day. There is no definite curriculum and some excellent work has been produced by those already well advanced and from those starting from scratch. Skilled drawing is not a prerequisite.

"Field" visits are also arranged to view and discuss local exhibitions and to show that even great artists (Dali exhibition in Andorra la Vella recently) do not always "follow the rules".

Members pay 1,000 pesetas a month towards the rent of the studio. Tuition and guidance are free.

Turn to page 16 to see some examples of the Art Group's work.

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THE COMPUTER GROUP

by Stanley Jones

The club has met every fortnight throughout the year.

Attendance has been good, there seems to be no shortage of computer or internet related questions or problems with which we can usually help.

The Meetings are held every other Thursday at the Rutlan Hotel in La Massana at eleven o'clock in the morning. They usually last about one and a half hours.

We made up a computer presentation of the work of the club for show at the CIA Groups Exhibition in September and again in the Arts, Crafts and Leisure Activities Exhibition at Ordino in October. At the latter meeting we were able, courtesy of STA who provided a free phone line, to establish a link to the internet and to demonstrate its capabilities, as well as to find the answers to some of the questions posed by visitors to the exhibition.

In addition to the regular meetings we have an email circle in permanent operation for sending questions and receiving answers, selling or buying equipment or software, etc. Details of the e-mail circle are available at any meeting. We look forward to seeing more members who have set out on the computer adventure at our meetings.

For further information or any enquiries, please contact Stanley Jones (Group Leader) on tel. 836972 or e-mail: jones.stanley@andorra.ad

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SCOTTISH DANCING

by Brenda Ross

The Scottish Dancing Group is not active at present. It has been difficult to find sufficient people to meet on a regular basis so, for the time being, there is no dancing!

However, we were delighted to welcome John Gill and his new wife when they visited Andorra before Easter, and twelve of us turned up for a great afternoon's dancing at Anyos Club. John always contacts us before each of his regular visits and we try to gather at least eight members for a one-off get-together with him.

If there are some new enthusiastic Scottish Dancers out there, or would-be learners, the old faithfuls are very happy to start up again in the Autumn. Please contact Brenda Ross tel. 836886 for more information.

DON'T FORGET THE CHARITY WALK

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HELPLINE

The Helpline Co-ordinator, Samia Omar, had to resign due to health reasons in December and as a consequence the functions of Helpline were split between a number of ladies. Samia Omar has done a huge amount of work for the committee and she was thanked most sincerely for all her efforts over the years; and a thank you also to our Treasurer, Isobel Bowen. A First-Aid Information sheet had been written and distributed to members. Many members had visited people in hospital throughout the year and we thank these unnamed volunteers for their time and care.

New members of the CIA in Andorra are now given a copy of the Helpline Handbook which gives information on doctors, dentists, Meritxell hospital, etc. Many queries which were previously handled by the Helpline mobile phone (no longer in service) are now being answered by consulting this Handbook. Newcomers have expressed their appreciation at receiving such a useful guide.

Further information can be obtained from members at the CIA coffee morning at the Paris Londres Hotel on Wednesday mornings or via Betty Pilkington, Oonagh MacLachlan, Sonia Hunter and Veronika Baines. Items that are available for hire, for example, cots and high chairs for visiting grandchildren, or crutches and zimmer frames, could be collected through Margaret Mathieson or Gaye Keep. A list of all items that could be hired would be circulated via the magazine.

Helpline has participated at the Santa Lucia Fair in December, the Car Boot sale in June and the Christmas Fair in La Massana in November.

The Talking Books Library continues to flourish with more tapes being donated, borrowed or inherited. These are free to Helpline for people in hospital or those who have impaired vision. The library consists of more than 200 tapes consisting of thrillers, romances, classics, travel, comedy and non-fiction. The tapes can also be hired by any club member for car or plane journeys. Our thanks to Brenda Ross for running the service and for delivering the cassettes to hospital when required.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Nina O'Brien

In most highly populated countries ancient buildings have gone through many attempts at "modernisation" to suit the prevailing mode of each period. Andorra, however, protected by its remote terrain, has retained many architectural gems often in virtual original condition. The Church of Sant Miguel de Prats, Canillo, is a fine example of the rural Romanic architectural period, built from simple, local materials and little unchanged today.

The first direct written reference to the church mentions a visit from the archbishop in the year 1312 A.D. The church itself obviously pre-dates this and may have originated in the twelve century. It is a reminder of the days before fast and easy road transport, electricity and radio or TV. Then the activities of small, rural communities were centred on the church. The promise of eventual heaven or the very real fear of the fires of hell and damnation served to ensure the control and importance of the church and its teaching.

The cover photo shows the stone doorway and wooden door of the church. The stone doorway is probably little changed from the original but the wooden door could have been replaced at a later date.

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SITGES & CODORNIU

A report on a very successful trip on 15th March 2001 by Mini Kroos Dubbeldam (See colour photographs by Mike & Sarah Burgess on centre pages 14 & 15)

There is a song: "Oh, what a beautiful morning, oh, what a beautiful day". This song comes in to my mind when I am thinking of the CIA trip to Sitges on the 15th March.

Very early in the morning (7 a.m.) the Nadal bus collected members from Arinsal, Ordino, La Massana, Andorra La Vella and Sant Julià. It was still dark, but the wather forcast was excellent. In the bus we were welcomed by Ann, who introduced the bus driver, Francisco, and briefed us with the day's itinerary. Sarah in the meantime provided a plan of Sitges, in case we got lost.

Our first stop was near Pons at the Restaurant "Can Vall" for "café con leche" and for those who missed their breakfast: delicious croissants. One of the main reasons for stopping here was Ann's recommendation "enough clean Loo's".

The morning started misty, but the sun came glimmering out and we began to see the lovely colours white, rose and "green-green", which are typical for this time of the year.

Francisco, our bus driver, had his own plans of navigating. He had decided not to drive the usual way to Sitges, but to follow the new road through the countryside. That something went wrong was not his fault. The new road was still under construction. After all it took him more time, but therefore he gave us the opportunity to see more of the country side.

Sitges has everything you may expect from a town where you can enjoy the bursting atmosphere of a cosmopolitan centre: the old centre with picturesque narrow streets and attractive shops; three museums (if you are looking for culture), beaches that stretch along four kilometres of coastline, well sheltered by mountains; a great variety of restaurants, specializing in seafood etc.

In Sitges we had approximately one and a half hours for museum visiting, shopping or sitting outside a café, having a drink and watching the world go-by. Some of us (led by Sarah) had the pleasure of seeing the Museum Cau Ferrat with its beautiful collection of pottery, glass, furniture, carvings and curiosities, collected by the artist Santiago Rusiñol. He bought two fishermen's houses in the oldest part of Sitges in 1891, carried out some alterations and made his home and studio till he died in 1931.

At the appointed time Ann was waiting in front of the famous fish restaurant "Santa Maria" on the sea front. We (34 persons) had an excellent so-called "Pica-Pica" lunch. More than 12 different types of fish "pan con tomate y jamon de pais" and "patatas bravas" were served, accompanied with water, red and white wine and rounded off with ice-cream or "crema Catalana" and coffee or tea. This all happened within an hour. It was amazing to see how efficiently they worked.

Our next "adventure" was our visit to "El Cava Codorniu".

We left Sitges at 15.00 hrs for the short drive to Sant Sadurni d'Anoia, home of "El Cava". A very pleasant English guide showed us a video, showing us "in a nutshell" all abut its history (a family business since 1551), the set-up of the factory and the process of making "El Cava" since 1872. They are producing 40 million bottles a year and it is all done by approximately 200 workers (from growing the grapes till the end product).

During our walk through the wine museum, factory and bottling plant our guide explained how the high quality of "El Cava" is obtained.

After pressing the grapes "el mosto" is stored into enormous stainless steel barrels for 6 months. Then another filtering takes place, sugar and yeast are added and bottled after two to five years (depending on the type of grapes). All these bottles (40 million yearly) are stored into enormous cellars with the same constant temperature (approx. 18 degrees Celcius) and humidity. The remaining



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residue is lost by submerging the neck of the bottle into an ice-bath of minus 27 degrees Celcius for a few mintures; thus they get rid of it, without wasting anything.

We ended our tour with a ride around the ageing cellars and, last but not least, a tasting of the product.

We arrived home on schedule (21.00 hrs).

Many thanks to Ann and Sarah for organising a memorable day, full of sunshine, enjoyment and culture,; and to Francisco who drove very safely.

Mini Kroos Dubbeldam



The Restaurant "Santa Maria"

PARLES CATALÀ?

by Caroline Colvin-Smith

If not and if you'd like to I can enthusiastically recommend the Catalan courses organised by the Education Ministry for foreigners. The classes are held in several parishes and are given by highly-qualified teachers.

Most of the courses start at the beginning of September and finish at the end of May. Approximately 20 people of different ages, nationalities and abilities enrol for each class which by the first mid-term has been reduced by "fall-out" to a comfortable group of 6 – 10 students. This ensures attention to individual needs in a very relaxed atmosphere and, of course, particularly rapid progress.

There are courses for all levels: some with special emphasis on either written or spoken Catalan; others offer conversation only or, once a certain standard has been reached, classes on Andorran history and culture.

Teaching is by direct immersion with plenty of visual aids. Furthermore, in the La Massana language laboratory there is a full-time teacher on duty who is happy to help students doing homework or those who prefer to teach themselves.

Each term special outings are arranged to local museums or other places of interest, such as the Meritxell sanctuary or the parliament buildings. Entry is free and a special guide is provided for the class. Most lessons are in the afternoons or evenings for about 1' hours each, twice a week. The Formació d'Adults department at the Ministry will give you more information (Tel 866585/Fax 864341) and it is necessary to register with them before taking one of the courses offered. Their syllabus is usually available by the end of August, ready for the first classes approximately a week later. The classes are free of charge but it may be necessary to buy one or two textbooks for the year's course.

I am now coming to the end of my third year which I have thoroughly enjoyed. Now, at last, I can communicate properly with Andorrans and Catalans and this year's course has been one of laughter and the making of new friends rather than one of sweat, strain and struggle. I well remember my very first lesson several years ago when the teacher had all of us able to give our names, addresses and 'phone numbers in passable Catalan by the end of the first hour.

I feel that we are very lucky that the Government is doing so much to help us learn their language. Life can be much easier and more interesting if we can understand what is being said to us, particularly in shops, hospitals, government offices, etc. and in Andorra a little Catalan opens so many doors and seems to go a very, very long way.



L'Epicerie Nezignan l'Eveque Herault France

An 18th century village house built of stone with exposed beams. The village is surrounded by vineyards and boasts 1000 years of history. Located 4,5 kms south of the medieval town of Pezenas, home of Molière. Approx. 4 hrs drive from Andorra; within 20 minutes drive to sandy Mediterranean beaches and the 18 hole golf course of St. Thomas near Beziers.

Available throughout the year from 2500FRF to 3000FRF per week including linen and towels.

Contact Sarah Burgess for details: Tel/Fax: (00 376) 832235 Email: BeeAccom@aol.com

GUIDED TOUR OF BANCA PRIVADA D'ANDORRA

by Sarah Burgess

On February 22nd CIA Activities organised for 2 groups of interested CIA Members to visit Banca Privada d'Andorra (BPA), Escaldes-Engordany. Our guide was Anneke van de Wal who works at BPA in Public Relations and is also a Member of the CIA.

In light of the inevitable changes from our present European currencies of the French Franc and the Spanish Peseta to the EURO we thought it appropriate to take this opportunity to see the inside 'workings' of a local bank and to discuss how these changes may effect us in the future.

The Escaldes-Engordany branch of BPA is the head office to their other branches in Andorra so it was interesting to learn that the 'Computer Room' was very much the 'heart' of the bank. The staff in this room ensure the bank's three credit cards BPA are issued to their clients' being either Master, Gold and/or Visa for which, we understand, there are no annual charges; bank statements are also produced and issued. Staff are responsible for continuously updating security and innovation of new computer programmes and internal systems.

Another arm to BPA is the 'Fifth Floor' where they have what they call their 'front office' (some of us would argue and call this the back office!). However, here they have a number of staff checking all markets, every day all day to buy and sell shares and bonds on behalf of their clients. As you would expect BPA offers savings accounts as well as life insurance cover, the latter being a recent addition to the bank's services.

BPA is very much a private client-orientated bank offering a 'personal touch'. Parking spaces are provided within the building enabling clients to enter the bank with discretion.

To follow you will find a brief summary about the EURO kindly provided by Anneke.

Restaurant La Guingueta - Jacques Muller -Maitre Cuisinier de France

Carretera de la Rabassa - Can Nago Tatidon 842 945 - Fay: 843 945 SANT JULIÀ DE LÒRIA (Principat d'Andorra)

BANCA PRIVADA D'ANDORRA

by Anneke van de Wal



The principal currencies of Andorra are the Peseta and the French franc. These currencies as well as all the other currencies from the 12 participating countries will disappear at 01/01/2002.

Andorra's law, approved by the Consell General on the 11th of October this year, should guarantee the integration of the new currency as well as the legal part of the introduction of the Euro.

This law will guarantee:

- Continuation of existing contracts. (Rental, commercial, credits, etc.
- The transparency in converting Pesetas and French francs into Euro by fixed converting rates.

1 Euro = 166,386 Pesetas 1 Euro = 6.55957 Francs

 Until the date 01/01/2002 the use of the Euro is not forbidden to any person or society and all the re-denominations of contracts, bank accounts, etc. and conversion of money, are free of cost.

The law, which was implemented on The 9th of November 2000, will allow Andorran companies, (Societats Andorranes), to constitute their social capital denominated in Euro. The existing companies now can re-denominate their social capital in Euro. All other citizens can also do so from this date on their private contracts in Euro.

At 01/01/2002 all the imports in existing contracts will be automatically changed into Euro by the legally fixed rates, mentioned above.

For more information you can call us or ask: Servei de Tramits, el Registre de Societats Mercantils I el Ministeri de Finances, Tel: 150 and 875700.

For our clients and members of the International Club we have an informationbulletin in English, with all the answers to frequently asked questions about the Euro.



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OUR AMAZON ADVENTURE (Part 2)

by Bill and Val Erry

he first day in the New Millennium marked the time for our first stop on the River Amazon. We dropped anchor some distance from the shore in deep water and boarded what is called a regional boat, a double decker affair which takes about 50 people. We proceeded up a tributary called the Curuá-Una river, crossing the Victoria-Regia Lake where the giant water lilies are located (approx. 4 ft. in diameter and buoyant enough to support a baby). We stopped for a while and were invited to fish for the voracious piranha. Val and I declined this offer but watched as many others caught these fierce looking creatures with razor sharp teeth. They may have been fierce but they certainly were not very clever and easily took the bait offered to them by our many unskilled anglers, who were stringently warned not to touch the fish with their hands after catching them or they would end up with a few fingers missing.

We passed the huts of the ribeirinhos (river people) clustered on the river banks and a Water Buffalo Farm, finally reaching a village called Pacoval where we landed walking up a long sloping wooden pier to the village inhabited by caboclos (riverine people of mixed ancestry – European, Indian and African). Pacoval was originally settled by runaway black slaves from Guyana. We saw a local folk dance and saw how the native manioc flour is produced. We were also shown how latex is bled from the rubber trees. Then back to our 'other world' on the Stella Solaris.

Our next stop was on Sunday, 2nd January at Boca Da Valeria, which means "mouth of Valeria", the entrance to the tributary of that name. This turned out to be a really undeveloped area. This ship anchored at the mouth of the river and some of our lifeboats were launched to take ashore those brave enough to do so. We had barely landed when the rain forest lived up to its name and the heavens burst, natives and visitors alike rushed for shelter under some big trees which served as rather ineffectual umbrellas. Thoroughly dampened, but not in spirit, because the warm sun soon dried us out, we found this tiny caboclo village and its inhabitants really fascinating. The people seemed to live mainly by fishing and we saw some truly large catfish.



Mossen Tremosa No 2 Andorra la Vella Tel: 822044 Fax: 827055 e.mail: relaxtravel@viatgesrelax.com



Stella Solaris at anchor on the Amazon off Boca Da Valeria

Everybody seemed to have a little canoe. The people have dark brown skins, nobody understood English but they were quite friendly.

The next day, Monday 3rd January at 08.00 hrs we docked at Manaus, a large city which was as far as the Stella Solaris would take us up the Amazon. Our ship would stay in Manaus for 3 days during which time we would explore upper reaches of the river, small streams, the jungle and a bustling and busy port swarming with people, boats of all sizes, taxis, buses, stalls and shops.

Manaus has been carved out of the Amazonian wilderness at the confluence of the Rio Negro and the Amazon. Its enormous wealth came from the export of rubber in the late 1800's. Today the centre of a rapidly developing region, the city still boasts its old mansions and monuments, now set amongst skyscrapers.

We chose a full day Amazon River Tour by regional boat and canoe. We sailed past the Municipal Market, extensive docklands, hundreds of ships and boats of every size and witnessed the phenomenon of the "Meeting of the Waters", where the sharply contrasting waters of the black Rio Negro and the brown Solimoes rivers flow side by side for some 50 miles without mixing. We continued to Lake Januarià, the great natural reserve of wildlife and plants such as the famous Victoria Regia (giant water lilies).

After passing the Lake we transferred to small 8 seater motorised canoes to ride up a shallow igarape (a small creek) deep into the dense Amazon jungle. We were at the beginning of the wet season which meant frequent heavy showers followed by hot sunshine. To our surprise not many mosquitoes but lots of large butterflies and moths and other large flying insects, which happily did not seem to bite us. After travelling some considerable distance in the canoe we edged in to a couple of slippery wooden planks which served as a landing jetty and our guide, after warning us not to slip into the water because of the crocodiles and piranhas, nor wander off from our group because of fierce wild animals, proceeded to lead us into the densest part of the jungle along a narrow path which had been laboriously hacked out with machetes for us.

Our guide explained to us that the water level was still quite low but that in the wet season it would rise to 60 ft above where we were walking. Fishes and crocodiles etc. would be swimming amongst the trees we now stood. Other life forms would retreat into the forest canopy 100 ft above our heads. He showed us the places where the water would rise to. The river would expand beyond its present banks by 30 miles on either side. Our trek through the jungle took about three hours in a big semi-circle splashing through mud, puddles and climbing over many fallen trees. Creepers grew on vines which grew on trees which grew on other trees. Everything seemed to live off the backs of everything else and over and above it all was a multitude of different species of fungi.

Eventually we reboarded our canoe and explored other reaches of the streams and saw floating houses and moored platforms where the natives lived and even kept their domestic animals on these floating rafts. At last we got back to the relative luxury of our regional boat and started back for Manaus after an half hour pause at a floating market.

Our second day in Manaus Val and I decided to take it a bit easier after our exertions in the jungle - we went shopping - and what a place Manaus is for shopping, especially jewellery. Brazil is rich in gemstones. We visited the two most famous shops, H. Stern and Amsterdam Sauer and, of course, spent more money than we had intended to, but it was a lovely day and we ended up with wonderful souvenirs

On our last day in Manaus we took the city tour. Our first stop was the Indian Museum, originally set up by the Salesian order with its interesting collection of handicrafts, utensils and artefacts of the various Indian tribes of the Amazon region. We continued our drive passing the Rio Negro Palace, Sao Sebastiao Plaza and many other buildings of high quality, artistic and architectural merit. Next stop was the famous Teatro Amazonas Opera House. Dating from 1896 it is a symbol of the region's past "Golden Era" of the rubber boom and ranks as one of the world's most elegant theatres. Before returning to the Stella Solaris we stopped at the Military Zoo to get acquainted with Amazon wildlife: magnificent birds and beasts, especially the beautiful big cats.

That evening at 20.00 hrs, 5th January, 2000 we sadly waved goodbye to Manaus and started our return voyage.to be concluded.....



Teatro Amazonas



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PAELLA LUNCH AT THE LLAC I CEL RESTAURANT

Pam Churcher reports on the Club's enjoyable paella lunch

The Llac i Cel restaurant is well-known to almost all of us situated as it is at the head of Engolasters Lake, but it does occur to me do we all know it by name? Certainly we know Raquel and her husband not to mention their two sons Timoteo and Henrique, who always welcome us so warmly and feed us so well. More beautiful surroundings would be hard to find anywhere in Andorra.

Friday 20th April followed a very snowy day making it impossible to eat outside on the terraces but Raquel had arranged an enormous "L" shaped table just inside the windows which enabled all 23 of us to enjoy the wonderful mountain scenery as well as a first class meal.

Now most important of all, I must tell you about the lunch. For starters a lovely green salad containing all kinds of goodies and then of course the 'pièce de résistance' the Paella, or should I say five enormous paellas! It really was a mouth-watering display and almost too good to disturb. Every possible kind of shell fish and lots besides. You name it and it was there. Meanwhile red and white wine flowed freely. Finally, although already more than well fed, there was a liberal choice of sweets including strawberries and cream followed by coffee.

Our thanks to Raquel and her family for an excellent lunch in their friendly restaurant and as always to Ann for arranging everything so well.

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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM SITGES AND CODORNIU

(See article on page 6 - photographs by Mike & Sarah Burgess)



Denis & Ann in Sitges



Graham, Jan, John, Gilly



Gaye, Maureen, Tom, Sue, Ernst





Our lunch venue Restaurant Santa Maria



Tom & Isobel in the Cava Museum



Sarah & Tony, Mini and other members on the Cava Train



John Coles and others sampling the product!!



The Group in the Gardens at Codorniu

TEXTBOOKS AGAINST POVERTY

(Turn to page 17 for the article which accompanies these photographs)



Kirsten & Thomas Schneider with some of the children



Happy to have a home

SOME EXAMPLES OF WORK FROM THE ART GROUP

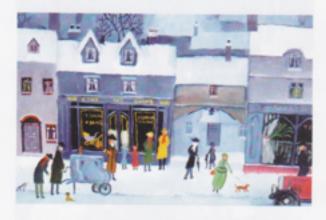
Photographs provided by Nina O'Brien - One of the leader's of the Art Group



Joan Spiller at the Art Group Exhibition 2000



The Sunset - by Ann Bumpsteed



Christmas Eve (inspired by an English artist) by Raguna Ponnudurai)



"Can Spring be Far Behind?" by Jo Hines



Jo Hines happily advertises the Art Group at the San Andreu in September 2000

TEXTBOOKS AGAINST POVERTY

by Lizzie Stender (Please see colour photographs for this article on page 15)

Family-Friends Brazil e.V. provide options for a better life to homeless children in Rio de Janeiro. The charity organization, which runs an orphanage in Rio, prepares its presence at the Charity Walk in Pal on July 15th. Kirsten Schneider, Chairwoman of this association and part-time flight attendant of Deutsche Lufthansa, resident in Erts, describes the new initiative to give street kids a long-term perspective to leave their miserable origins behind.

Nine year-old Julio sits under the tree in the corner of the garden, sulking. Vera, the matron, has just reminded him of his household duties. He is supposed to clear the tables of the younger children after breakfast.

Julio is not used to caring for others. He has led the "free" life of a street kid in Rio de Janeiro for as long as he can think back. Always hungry, permanently threatened by other, more brutal street kids or the police. he often took refuge to sniffing varnish vapours to numb the pain and the fear for a couple of hours. One day he was picked up by a social worker, who sent him to one of the State Orphanages. Julio did not like it there. Nobody explained to him why he should get up in the morning, wash and dress and then go to school. Life was difficult there, more difficult than in the streets of Rio. Julio ran away. He was picked up again, ran away again, and so on. Five months ago he landed in the orphanage of Family-Friends Brazil in Nova Iguacu, one of the poorer suburbs of Rio. For the first time in his life he has now lived in one place for such a long time, and he has even found a friend in little Reuben, one year his junior.

"Julio has fitted in with the daily routines surprisingly fast", reports Vera, the matron. She is responsible for the physical and mental welfare of currently 28 children between one and sixteen years of age. Most of the children's' parents are alive and known, however unemployment, drug abuse and violence have destroyed the family structures Love and safety for the children have the first priority for the young coloured woman, who took the challenge of managing the orphanage when she could not find a position as a lawyer after taking her degree at university. "Coming from these disastrous family backgrounds, the kids often have to learn basic social rules from scratch", Vera explains the reason for the daily meeting of all inhabitants of Casa do Beija Flor (Hummingbird House), where small duties are allocated to the older children. They learn to care for the younger, to stick to a daily routine and to attend school regularly.

"Education is the key for a long-term improvement of their living conditions", states Kirsten

Schneider, Chairwoman of Family-Friends Brazil e.V. "Of course, food, clothing and medical care are preconditions for the survival of 'our' boys and girls. Fortunately enough, we have so far been able to cover these needs thanks to our generous donors. However, if a girl leaves the orphanage at the age of sixteen without a school certificate in her pocket, it is only a question of time until she has to live on prostitution. Sooner or later she will get pregnant and leave the baby on the doorsteps of the orphanage. Then it starts all over again...". In order to break the vicious cycle all children at Casa do Beija Flor are sent to the state school for primary education in the mornings. In the afternoon, however, the children are left on their own to cope with their homework. Textbooks have become very expensive in Brazil after the currency reform, thus there are no books for them to refer to. This is the reason for Family-Friends Brazil e.V. to start the initiative "Textbooks against Poverty". The aim is to raise sufficient funds to provide each of the schoolchildren with the required books and learning material and, ideally, to pay for a trained schoolteacher - an 'educadora' - to provide additional lessons and assistance with the homework in the afternoon.

Most of the members of Family-Friends Brazil e.V. are working for Deutsche Lufthansa - flight attendants, pilots, ground staff. "We are proud to say that our administrative costs are almost zero", Kirsten mentions. Donations in kind, such as clothes and toys, are travelling as 'Crew Baggage' with Lufthansa flights to Rio de Janeiro, where they are handed over directly to Father Pierre T. Roy. The Roman Catholic priest, coming from Haiti originally, runs the Centre of Human Rights of the Diocese of Nova Iguacu. Reporting to Dom Werner Siebenbrock, the Bishop (of German origin), Father Pierre is also acting as the Chief Financial Officer of the orphanage. This ensures reliable bookkeeping according to Western standards, as Kirsten points out. "Our donors are entitled to receive proof that their money is used for the ultimate purpose and does not trickle away", she confirms. "Besides that we think that a personal feedback is a reasonable reward for any donor. Therefore we will 'sell' Brazilian textbooks for Julio and his friends at our stall at the Charity Walk in Pal on July 15th. Every donor will be kept au courant regarding the progress of "Textbooks against Poverty". The team of walkers for Family-Friends Brazil e.V. is just being formed. Active participants as well as sponsors - donating x Ptas. for each round completed by the walkers - are highly welcome! See you in Pal on July 15th!



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RESTAURANT REPORT

Shirley Connell gives us an interesting report on her visit to L'Hisenda in Ordino

RESTAURANT: ADDRESS: L'Hisenda – at the start of the Col road in Ordino. Edifici Safir I Roba, Cra. Del Coll d'Ordino, Ordino.

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839 267

Encarregada/Maitre d':

Mme Chritiane SEY

Chef:

M. Louis VERRYCKEN

HOURS:

Open: 1 – 3 p.m. 8 – 11 p.m. Closed: All day Tuesday

Size of Restaurant:

Small/medium - about 60.

Menu:

Catalan/Spanish/French/English and fluent in each language.

Culinary Emphasis:

Fresh! Fresh! Wonderful food cooked to your personal preference. You may have to wait a little but all the food served here is delicious. A veritable treat to have

Belgium cuisine available so readily in Andorra.

Menu does not run to hundreds of pages, but the dishes available cater for all preferences. (Within reason, Chef Louis is happy to adjust his cooking to suit individual requirements). If you have any personal favourite international gastronomic dishes – just 48 hours

notice is required to obtain the relevant ingredients.

Specialities:

Belgian cuisine predominates:

Fresh Mussels & Frites; Fresh Fish Soups; Grilled leg of lamb; pork Tenderloin; Salmon; Home-smoked salmon & trout; Civet of rabbit;

Calderade etc.

Menu Del Dia:

3 courses, wine included 1800 Ptas - lunch only.

Wine:

Not a very extensive cellar - in the process of a revamp.

DINING COMMENTS

Name:

Denis & Shirley CONNELL Date visited: 26th April 2001

Cost:

Food: 6,500 Ptas for two (a la carte) Wine: 2,700 Ptas.

Comments:

A nice dry Sherry as an aperitif.

Superb fish soup was exceptional, accompanied by a garlic Roux sauce on bread "floated" in the soup. Steamed salmon steak was light and moist. – fresh dill sauce was excellent. The fillet mignon was perfectly cooked accompanied by a melange of fresh vegetables "oriental style". Desserts from the menu were not a big feature. Coffee very drinkable

and de-caffinated was available.

A good night out – sadly not many people there. Unfortunately the restaurant gives the impression to passers-by that it is VERY expensive – as the tables are nicely laid with white and blue linen and good quality cutlery. However prices are moderate, the fresh food superb. Presentation was good and portion sizes more than adequate. Fresh food freshly prepared is the important factor – always delicious food and no digestion problems, a sure sign form my stomach that the cuisine is of the highest standard.

ANDORRA 75 YEARS AGO

by Peter Parkinson

A few years ago I invested 50 pence in the purchase of a French language "Blue Guide to the Pyrenees", published in 1925. In fact it covers that part of France from the Spanish frontier as far north as a line Narbonne – Toulouse – Bordeaux, together with five pages of text and a two-page map of Andorra.

A glance at the map will show how difficult communication within Andorra was in those days. The road from France over the Port d'Envalira went as far as Soldeu, and that from Seo d'Urgell reached Andorra la Vella; there was another road from near Meritxell to Escaldes. The gaps in the central valley road were filled by mule tracks, which was also the means of access to the villages of the northern valley, La Massana, Ordino, El Serrat and the others.

The population of the country is recorded as 5210 inhabitants, of whom 500 lived in Andorra la Vella, Canillo being stated as the second most populous village, but San Julià de Loria is recorded as having 500 inhabitants, and Ordino with 300. There were hotels or inns (one each) in Soldeu, Canillo, Ordino, two each in Andorra la Vella and San Julià de Loria, no less than four in Escaldes, at most of which guides and mules for excursions could be hired.

From Soldeu to Escaldes took 4" hours by mule, while from Andorra la Vella to Ordino took 2 hours. One could get from Aston near Les Cabannes on the N20 in France to Ordino via El Serrat in 12 hours, or from Auzat (17 km. south-west of Tarascon) over the Port de Rat to Ordino in 12 hours – but this had to be done on foot, the track was not suitable for mules.

Freya Stark, who later went on to explore Persia and Arabia as described in her books "The Valleys of the Assassins" and "The Southern Gates of Arabia", made a brief visit to Andorra in September 1923. This is described in a series of letters to her mother, printed in the first volume of her autobiography, "Traveller's Prelude".

She and a companion visited Carcassonne and Foix and went on to Les Cabannes, between Tarascon and Axles-Thermes. From there they hired a guide who took them up the valleys of the rivers Aston and Quioi, entering Andorra over the Port de Bagnels: 2527 m. above sealevel and 4 km. north-east of El Serrat. In those days there were chamois, bear and wild boar in much greater numbers than now. She describes the tiny turf-covered cabins used by shepherds. They had been promised an auberge at Serrat, but found themselves sleeping on hay in the grange. The couple who kept it had no candles, but lit up their supper with shreds of pine wood. Electricity – what was that?

From there it was an easy walk down a mule path close to the Valira del Nord until they reached Andorra la Vella, staying at the Fonda de Jean Torra and visiting the Casa de la Vall. Finally, on to Seo d'Urgell by motor bus, on a real road.





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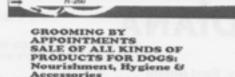
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FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

Forthcoming activities in Andorra during the months of June, July, August and early September, kindly provided by the Culture Department of the Andorran Government, the Comús and the Pro-Turism Offices.

Many thanks to them all.

(by Maria Teresa Raurell)

ANDORRA LA VELLA

JUNE

1st and 3rd Saturday – "Ballarusca" – One can learn traditional dances from all over the world, at Placeta Monjó in the evening. Information "Llibreria la puça". Tel. 827 726.

Second Saturday of every month – In Centre de la Cultura Catalana, c. Llacuna, no. 14. Tel. 825 673, there is a meeting for collectors of various items. Very interesting. Everybody is welcome.

13th – "Festa Major" in Sant Antoni del Puial quarter. Mass and Sardanes at 12.30h.

23nd – St. Joan's Eve electration. The "Fallaires" will light their "falles" from the Flame that has been collected tha day before, in the summit of the Canigó mountain by some representatives of the seven Andorran parishes. "Fallaires" exhibition in front of the Comú. At 24h00 bonfires will be lit in different places. Dancing will follow in Plaça del Poble. 24th – "Festa del Poble" – Parish Holiday. Sardanes in Plaça del Poble at 19h00.

29th - "Festa Major" in La Margineda.

JULY

I" and 3rd Saturday – "Ballarusca" at 19h00 in Placeta Monjó, Tel. 827 726.

First Weekend – "Festa Major" in "Cap del Carrer" (beside Farmàcia de les Tres Creus). Balls and Sardanes.

Every Tuesday - Sardanes. Ask for the venue in Sindicat d'Iniciativa.

Second Saturday – Meeting of collectors in Centre de la Cultura Catalana, c. Llacuna, 14. Everybody will be welcome.

19th – Summer concert, by Orquestra Nacional de Cambra d'Andorra, in the evening, in the gardens of Casa de La Vall. Organised by Tourism and Culture Ministry and Fundació Crèdit Andorrà.

AUGUST

I" and 3" Saturday - "Ballarusca". (or may be Fridays). First Weekend - "Festa Major" of Andorra la Vella. Many shows for children and adults, sports activities, balls, medieval market, sardanes, parades of Giants, traditional dances by Esbart Dansaire d'Andorra la Vella, workshops for children and many other things.

Second Saturday – In centre de la Cultura Catalana, c. Llacuna, 14, meeting of collectors.

Sundays and Tuesdays – Sardanes. Ask for the venue. 18th, 19th and 20th – "Festa Major" of Santa Coloma. Festivals for children, balls and sardanes.

SEPTEMBER

First Week – Summer University in Centre de Congressos I Exposicions de Comú. Subject: "Plurality of the languages". Several lectures and other activities about the subject.

Ist and 3rd Saturday – (or may be Friday) "Ballarusca".
Second Saturday – In Centre de la Cultura Catalana, c.
Llacuna, 14, meeting of collectors.

Last week of this month – The "Theatre Season" begins in Teatre Comunal, organised together with Sant Julià de Lòria.

? - Cineclub in Teatre Comunal, at 22h00.

CANILLO

JUNE

23rd – St. Joan's Eve – Fires and dancing in Palau de Gel. Information: Unió Pro-Turisme. Tel. 851 002.

29th - "Festa Major" of Sant Pere del Tarter

In Palau de Gel during the whole year:

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday - At 22h15, Hockey dinner (a hockey match and dinner in the restaurant).

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1-1 a Casa Nova Teixido (next door to Hotel La Massana) L'Avinguda Sant Antoni La Massana Tel 837332 Every Monday and Wednesday – At 21h00, Water polo dinner (a water polo match and dinner in the restaurant). Every Friday – At 21h00, Karting Gel dinner (hired karts on ice, and afterwards, dinner in the restaurant). Further information Tel. 800 840 and Fax. 800 841.

JULY

14th 15th and 16th - "Festa Major" de Canillo.

24th - 25th - "Festa Major" de Ransol, Aldosa and Els Plans. Probably the last Sunday of this month - In the morning at Planells de Mereig, International Sheepdog Trials. Information Tel. 851 036.

AUGUST

16th – St. Rock's Day celebration. Popular activities for everybody.

24th – St. Bartholomew's Day. Celebration in Soldeu. This month – There will probably be the XI Meeting Canillo-Ordino, in Coll d'Ordino. Organised by Unió Pro-Turisme de Canillo and Iniciatives Turístiques d'Ordino. ? – Photographic Competition "Marathon".

SEPTEMBER

7th – Torchlight procession at Meritxell gardens and Mass in the Sanctuary by the Archpriest of Andorra Mn. Joan Pujol.

8th – National Andorran Feast – The Virgin of Meritxell. High Mass in the Sanctuary, sung by Cor Nacional de Petits Cantors d'Andorra, and probably a short Concert by the same, after the Mass. Conductor: Catherine Metayer.

23rd – At about 6h00 in the Sanctuary of Meritxell, celebration of Gold and Silver Wedding Anniversaries. High Mass, then a short concert by THE INTERNATIONAL SINGERS D'ANDORRA. Afterwards coca (flat cake) and drinks for everyone.

ENCAMP

JUNE

? – Exhibition End of the Year of the Art Schools, in the Complex Esportiu at 20h00.

2nd – Celebration of "Mare de Déu de l'Ecologia", in Cami de Pardines. Further information Tel. 731 000, Pro-Turisme Office of Encamp.

4th - Pentecost Monday "Aplec" in Sant Romà de Vila.

? – "Universal Sardanes' Day" celebration. Date not yet known. Sardanes in the morning and in the afternoon.

23rd – St. Joan's Eve celebration, with fires and balls, in Encamp and in Pas de La Casa.

23rd – Festival End of the Year of the sports schools, in the Complex Esportiu,

26th – Photographic exhibition by Antoni Lara, in the Comú's Hall. Opening at 20h00.

29th – End of the Year of Manual Labour School. Opening of the exhibition in Complex Esportiu at 20h00.

29th - St. Peter's Day, "Festa Major" in Pas de la Casa.

JULY

Every Thursday – Sardanes at 22h00 in Plaça dels Arinsols or in Parc Gran. From this month up to mid September. 3rd – Opening of the prints exhibition, by Antoni Miralles, in the Comú's Hall, at 20h00.

July and August - Stages for children and young people in the Alberg La Baronia, organised by Area del Jovent of Encamp.

July and August – "Cortals Aventura" – Sporting and Cultural activities for children and young people. Same organiser as before.

10th – St. Christopher's Day, in Santa Eulâlia Church. After the Mass, Blessing of the adorned cars.

13th – St. Henry's Day. The Traffic Police of Encamp celebrates its Patron Saint.

17th – "Mostra d'Artistes d'Andorra" – Art exhibition in the Complex Esportiu. Opening at 20h00.

? - Tennis Tournament.

AUGUST

16th – Opening of the paintings and sculptures by Rosa Agusti and Anna Boix, in Comú's Hall at 20h00.

13th, 14th, 15th and 16th - "Festa Major" d'Encamp -Sardanes every day, and many different entertainments for people of all ages, in Complex Exportiu, Casal de Poble and around the streets.

ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

JUNE

Every Saturday – The usual market in Santa Anna Square. 16th – Escaldes Club Patchwork – meeting at 17h00 in the

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17th – Parish Holiday – Traditional dances by Esbart Santa Anna, Sardanes and balls.

23nd – St. Joan's Eve – The recently elected "Pubilla" and "Pubilleta" will collect the Flama sent from the Mount Canigó, in Casa de La Vall, at 17h30. At 22h45 the "Pubilla" will read the Statement. At 23h00 the big fire will be it and then distribution of the traditional Coca de St. Joan. All this will finish with a ball till day-break. Everything organised by Unió Pro-Turisme d'Escaldes-Engordany.

28th – In the evening, Charity concert by THE INTERNATIONAL SINGERS D'ANDORRA, proceeds to INFANTS DEL MÓN. In Teatre del Comú d'Escaldes-Engordany. Tickets 1.000 ptes.

JULY

Every Saturday – The usual market in Santa Anna Square.
? – XVII Festival of Jazz. Information and tickets in Area de Cultura. Tel. 890 875.

20th to 26th – "Festa Major" in Escaldes-Engordany – many different activities for children, sports championships, concerts in Plaça Co-Princepts, sardines, balls and on the last evening, fireworks. Organised by Unió Pro-Turisme d'Escaldes-Engordany.

AUGUST

Every Saturday - The usual market in Santa Anna Square. Different Art Exhibitions in the Comú exhibitions hall.

SEPTEMBER

Every Saturday – The usual market in Santa Anna Square. 10th – Inscription for 2001-2002 in all the schools of Area de Cultura

17th – Beginning of the different schools for children and adults.

LA MASSANA

JUNE

17th – In Arinsal car-park, THE CAR BOOT SALE, organised by CLUB INTERNACIONAL D'ANDORRA, with the kind collaboration of La Massana Comú and the Quart of Arinsal, from 9 a.m. till early in the afternoon.

? – Paintings exhibition of the XII Fast Paintings Competition of La Massana.

23rd - 24th - "Festa Major" de Sispony.

23rd – St. Joan's Eve – At 22h00, the "Fallaires" will come down with their lit fagots (highly interesting old Andorran tradition). Dancing in the car-park "Farré Negre", and traditional lighting of the fires.

30th to 1th - July "Festa Major" of Pal.

JULY

During all the month—"Esports d'Estiu". Several sporting activities and games for children.

Every week – From Monday to Friday, guided walking trips.
Ist – At 10h00, VII Mountain Bike Cross-Country Competition.

6^a – At 22h00, "Folklore Night" by Esbart "Els Esquirols" of La Massana. 7th - 8th - Traditional "Roser" of La Massana.

10th - "Festa Major" of Anyós.

14th - 15th - "Festa Major" of Erts.

15th – CHARITY WALK in Pal Ski Station, from 10h00 to 12h00. Afterwards a free brunch for everybody, kindly provided by many restaurants, bars, and other Andorran commercial establishments, organised by the C.I.A. We hope to see all of you there to support the walkers, and share good food and drinks.

18th – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, dancing in Prat del Colat, by the group "In Eternum".

20^a – "Nits d'Estiu" – Musical performances in La Closeta's Hall.

25th – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, dancing in Prat del Colat.

27th - "Nits d'Estiu", in La Closeta's Hall.

AUGUST

During all the month - Several sports activities and games for children.

Every week – From Monday to Friday, guided walking trips.
I" – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, in Prat del Colat, Havaneras and songs, by Cavall Bernat.

3rd - "Nits d'Estiu" in La Closeta's Hall.

8th – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, Folklore Festival.

10th - "Nits d'Estiu" in La Closeta's Hall.

11th - 12th - "Festa Major" of L'Aldosa.

15th - 16th - "Festa Major" of La Massana.

17th - "Nits d'Estiu" in La Closeta's Hall.

18th - 19th - "Festa Major" of Arinsal.

22nd – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, dancing in Prat del Colat, by Duet Diamant.

29th – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, dancing in Prat del Colat, by Jordi Botey.

SEPTEMBER

5th - At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, dancing in Prat del Colate, by "In Eternum".

9th – At 18h00, Sardanes in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, Sardanes in Prat del Colat.

12th – At 17h00, Festival for children in Prat del Colat. At 22h00, dancing in Prat del Colat, by Jordi Botey.

ORDINO

JUNE

21"—In the evening, in the Auditori Nacional, celebration of the MUSIC DAY with several Andorran choirs. THE INTERNATIONAL SINGERS among them, and some instrumental groups.

23nd – Saint Joan's Eve – Fires, coca (flat cake), wine, and popular balls in the evening.

286 – Saint Peter's Eve – "Coca de recapte" (a very popular flat cake) and wine. "Contrapàs" and "L'Esquerrana" (two traditional dances) by the children of Ordino. Popular balls and fireworks. 29^a – The Parish Feast –Mass in Sant Pere's Church in El Serrat. In the afternoon Festival for children and at 20h00, "Costellada" (feast of chops) and popular Balls in the evening.

30th – Beginning of the "Roser d'Ordino" – Several activities for everybody, specially for children.

This month – Will begin the cultural and sports activities for children in Centre Esportiu and also the guided excursions on foot, by BTT, horseback riding, and other activities in Ordino Valley or in Sorteny Natural Park. Several different possibilities. Tel. 737 080 or Fax. 839 225 where Iniciatives Turistques d'Ordino will be very pleased to give all the information you want. Most of these activities will be free and will last all next summer and possibly there could be other interesting offers.

JULY

1st to 23^{sd} – "Objectiu Ordino" – Several photographic exhibitions in different bars, restaurants and shops of Ordino.

I" and 2nd - "Roser d'Ordino"

7th - Street theatre - About 10h00.

7th - 8th - Botanical exhibition in Sala Polivalent.

IIth – "Cinema a la Fresca" – Outdoor Cinema – About 10h00.

14th - Street theatre.

21" - Street theatre.

25th - Cinema a la fresca.

28th - Street theatre.

AUGUST

5th - "Travessa d'estiu" - Excursion in Ordino area.

8th - Cinema a la fresca.

11th - 12th - "Festa Major" of Llorts.

11th – 12th – Trobada de Buners (bagpipe players' meeting). Concerts, parades and exhibitions.

15th - 16th - "Festa Major" of Sornàs.

18th - Street Theatre.

This month – There will probably be the XI Meeting Ordino-Canillo, in Coll d'Ordino. Organised by Iniciatives Turistiques d'Ordino and Unió Pro-Turisme of Canillo.

22nd - Cinema a la fresca.

25th - Street Theatre.

SEPTEMBER

Ist – 2nd – "Festa Major" of La Cortinada and Arans.
4th to 19th – Exhibition of Painting Competition.

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23rd – Beginning of the important "Mostra Gastronòmica d'Andorra".

This month - Festival Narciso Yepes in the Auditori Nacional.

SANT JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

JUNE

2nd & 17th – At 17h00, ball in the hall of Centre Cultural. 5th & 6th – International Singing Competition Montserat Caballé – Andorra. Preliminary round.

7th – Semi-final of the preceding. In Auditori Claror of the Centre Cultural. Tickets in the tickets office. Tel. 844 047 and 844 044.

9° – At 21h00 in Auditori Claror, Concert by the finalists, with the Orquestra Cervera-Lloret, from València, conductor José Collado. Tickets in Oficina d'Informació I Turisme, plaça Germandat of Sant Julià, Departament Cultura I Joventut del Comú d'Andorra la Vella. Tel 860 860 and Sindicat d'Iniciativa. Tel. 820 214.

9th – At 22h00, Final of the Competition. Tickets from the same places.

11th up to 14th – Master Classes by Montserrat Caballé, from 16h00 to 20h00 in Auditori Claror. Tickets in the tickets office.

23rd—St. Joan's Eve celebration. At 19h30 collection of the "Flama del Canigó" in Casa de La Vall. At 22h30 Parade in the streets with the Fallaires. In the car-park of the La Rabassa road, a statement will be read and after that a fire will be lit. At 23h00 ball in Plaça de la Germandat.

25th – In the morning, Festival End of the Year, organised by the schools and the Centre Cultural, in Plaça de la Germandat.

27th – 28th – At 22h00 in Auditori Claror, the Musical COMPANY, by "Cia És Grata", Stage Director Joan Antoni Rechi, Musical Direction Miriam Manubens. (25% discount with Tarja Magna and Carnet Jove for the tickets bought in advance.)

30th – Summer camp in La Rabassa for children from 8 to 14 years old. Tel. 844 345. Organisers Grup d'Esplai Lauredià (GEL). Till 8th July.

JULY

Till 22nd - Exhibition by Mihari Bara in Centre Cultural Hall.

25th – At 20h00 in Centre Cultural Hall, opening of the photographs exhibition about the "Festa Major". Organised by Club Fotografic Lauredia. This exhibition will last till 9th September.

27th up to 31th - "Festa Major" - Balls, Sardanes, shows for children, parades with the Giants around the streets, traditional dances, a theatre show, havaneras and as a brilliant end, fireworks and the last ball.

SEPTEMBER

12th – At 20h00, opening of the carvings exhibition, by Eusebio Alvarez, in Centre Cultural Hall.

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"There is one thing to be said for a diet: It does improve your appetite"

"Giving up smoking
is like the first
week in a nudist
camp --- you
don't know what
to do with your hands!!!"

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It will be self-evident that both text, whether editorial matter or contributed articles, and advertising must be in conformity with the Statutes and Rules of the Club. The Statutes refer to "gatherings of a linguistic, cultural or leisure nature", and to exclusions from its objectives of "any class, political or social lrevindications". The "aim of promoting — friendship between the different nationalities" implies the necessity of avoiding controversy in certain

areas, in particular religion and politics. Under Andorran law, Board Members are responsible for the content of the Magazine, so they must exercise a measure of discretion in what can be accepted both for contributed articles and for advertising. We are confident that all members will realise that the Editorial Board must reserve the right to edit, in the widest sense. This may in practical terms be minimal, provided contributors will bear this statement of policy in mind.

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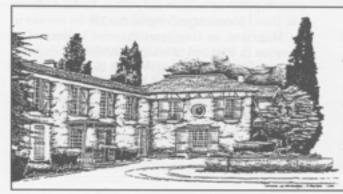
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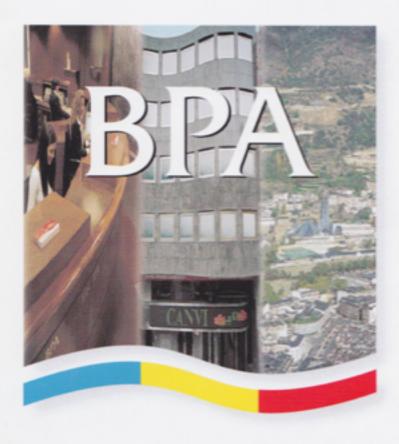
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