

Partners' Newsletter

Bringing you the news from our Official Partners across Spain

DON'T LOSE OUT ON YOUR UK PENSION OR BENEFIT PAYMENTS

From the 31 January 2014, all payments made by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to accounts in a Euro zone country such as Spain will need an International Bank Account Number (IBAN) and Bank Identification Code (BIC). After that date banks in the Euro zone will not accept any DWP direct payments without these details.

If the DWP does not already hold these details for your account then

you will soon receive a letter asking for them. You should complete the attached form and return it to them as soon as possible. Failure to do so may mean your payments will be stopped. You can get the IBAN and BIC details from your bank account statement or directly from your bank.

If you have not received a letter from the DWP then that will mean they already have your details so you don't need to do anything further. Those who receive

their pension or benefit into a UK bank account

are not affected by this change.

For more information about the change to European bank account numbers visit The European Commission website at http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/payments/sepa/index_en.htm



SPANISH GOVERNMENT WIDENS HEALTHCARE COVER

As pledged in last year's Healthcare Reform measures, this September the Spanish government announced guidelines for the new *Convenio Especial* (or Special Scheme).

The *Convenio Especial* is a public health insurance scheme through which those who don't have access to state-provided healthcare can pay a monthly fee to get cover. This does not apply to state pensioners, workers, those who have exhausted unemployment benefits, those who registered as residents in Spain before 24.04.12, or their dependents as they should already have their own health cover.

The scheme will be nation-wide, but managed by each autonomous region which will have the

option of including different services over and above the basic package announced by the Government. Policy holders, including

not subsidised so it is likely you would pay the full cost. Further information will soon be available from your local health centre.



children, will pay on an individual basis and be able to receive access to public healthcare anywhere in Spain, regardless of pre-existing conditions.

The announced basic monthly fee will be 60€ for the under 65s and 157€ for those aged 65 or over. However, prescription costs are

UPCOMING

HEALTHCARE EVENTS IN 2013

22nd October —Santa Pola

5th November —San Miguel de Salinas

19th November—Teulada-Moraira

11th December—Pilar de la Horadada

12th December—Algorfa

For more details about times and venues, visit www.healthcareinspain.eu



British Embassy
Madrid

Our Partners



Department
of Health

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



AGE ACASA
The National Casework Service
of Age Concern España



Department
for Work &
Pensions

For more information on Living in Spain, see www.gov.uk/living-in-spain

HARD WORK RECOGNISED

Age Concern short listed as Charity of the Year for its work in Spain

Age Concern España's work in helping English-speaking older people through local support and its national Casework Service has been recognised at the prestigious European Diversity Awards event held



in London on Thursday 26 September 2013. The European Diversity Awards honour individuals, companies and community groups throughout Europe who have excelled in the field of diversity.

Age Concern was one of eight charities from around Europe which had been short-listed for their excellence in embracing and celebrating difference and diversity. Judy Arnold-Boakes, President of ACASA, the national service providing arm of Age Concern España said "Through our Casework service, we help older people who fall on hard times to get back on track. We don't judge anyone – our trained Casework Volunteers help older people from all walks of life who are having to manage very difficult circumstances, often caused by unforeseen changes such as ill-health, financial problems and isolation".

Age Concern was one of two Spanish charities short-listed for the awards, the other being *Apoyo Positivo*, a Madrid based

organisation which helps people with information and support about Aids. The winner was the UK's Amy Winehouse Foundation, which helps to prevent the effects of alcohol and drug misuse amongst young people. Eileen Dry, President of Age Concern España said "We are honoured that our national and local work has been recognised, we are a small organisation which does a very big job. The European Diversity Awards helps to publicise our work worldwide, and the contribution of all our volunteers who work so hard on behalf of older English-speaking people living in Spain". For Casework enquiries e-mail: casework@ageconcern-españa.org or call 902 00 38 38.



in Spain following a family breakdown wrote: *I cannot thank you enough for all your hard work and help that you have offered to me at this difficult time. You have been so kind and helpful and I really don't know what I would have done...*



The right way to wear a poppy: It is a matter of personal choice whether an individual chooses to wear a poppy and also how they choose to wear it. There is no right or wrong lapel, leaf position, time of day, or start date to wear your poppy.. **The best way to wear a poppy, is to wear it with pride.**

When to wear a poppy: The correct time to wear a poppy is whenever you feel that you want to stand shoulder to shoulder with all who serve. Traditionally, our Poppy Appeal runs for the two weeks leading up to Armistice Day or Remembrance Sunday, whichever is later. Poppies are offered during the campaign but you can wear a poppy all year round to show your support for the Armed Forces' community past and present – whether this be a pin, brooch, wrist band or the paper poppy.

For Poppy Appeal Enquiries in Spain please contact the Poppy Appeal Coordinators: **District North:** Mr. Robin Hargreaves - poppy.rbl.dns@gmail.com; **District South:** Mr. David Harpin - theoldharpin@yahoo.co.uk and for further information and details of Remembrance services in Spain visit: www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/spain-north or www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/spain-south

For Welfare Enquiries – please contact, Donna Wilson: dmswilson@britishlegion.org.uk; Tel: 902 109 356(option 6)

POPPY APPEAL

This year's Poppy Appeal campaign runs from October 26 to Nov 11. **2013**

Every Poppy helps the Royal British Legion to support the British Armed Forces past and present and their families both in the UK and overseas. There is no minimum donation and your contribution truly counts whatever the amount!

A beneficiary and her two young children recently supported by the Legion



GET INVOLVED!

This quarter our 'Get Involved' section features the Javea Players, an amateur drama group based in Javea, Alicante province.



The Javea Players were founded in 1976 and since then have produced more than 120 stage plays. They regularly bring enjoyment to their 2,000 + annual audience as well as providing a fun hobby for all their 100+ members. Their productions range from thrillers, farce and comedy through to classics. Currently they are staging "Yes, Prime Minister" by Antony

Jay and Jonathan Lynn who have reunited to write a new satirical take on "Whitehall 2012". They perform in their own small theatre in Javea and in a rented theatre in Gata de Gorgos. They also work with Javea Council to produce dinner theatre using one of the most attractive enclosed squares in Javea Old Town.

Amongst their multitude of activities they donate to charity, sing Christmas Carols in Javea Old Town, take part in



the fiestas and the International Festival and hold regular social events which can include Petanque & lunch, play readings or a quiz. Radio plays are another activity and they are always up for a new challenge!

New members are always welcome – whether they be potential actors, directors, stage managers, lighting & sound technicians, costume sewers, carpenters, publicity people, admin folks (secretarial & treasury) or social event organizers. The list is endless!

Membership costs €10 and you can find out details of how to join from their website www.javeaplayers.com or by calling their Membership Secretary on 96 647 2876.