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What's On

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2022 - 20th Anniversary of the Nerja History Group

In 2002, former nun Dr Dorothy Price, decided to give a Talk "From the Phoenicians to the Euro" and thought that perhaps 8 or so people would be interested - instead, 46 people showed up and the Nerja History Gropu (NHG) was born. In those days, trips were undertaken by car sharing. Naturally, Dr Dorothy couldn't manage on her own and so asked for volunteers. Step forward Sandra (she who founded the Digame newsletter) and her husband David Duncan, who both undertook the administration and finance and step forward

Sue Harvey, who shared the recce's with Dr Dorothy, hosted the meetings and organised the trips.

I moved here in 2007 and was introduced to Sue Harvey through a mutual friend. In 2008, Sandra and David had decided to retire from the NHG and so Sue Harvey asked me if I would like to assist her in running the Group. I immediately said that I would, as by then, I had decided to make Nerja my home and had already attended meetings and been on trips. However, my euphoria was short lived, when Sue rang me to say that after



Trip to Torreparadones

great deliberation, she had accepted a job in the UK.

What to do? Either the Group would close or I would try to carry on with the help of dear Jill Christian-Smith and Maureen and Colin Clarke. Anyway, soldier on we did and today, the NHG has gone from strength to strength.

I have been finalising the details for the forthcoming season. Sadly Jill Christian-Smith has since died and Maureen and Colin moved back to the UK but I have been very lucky with helpers - Maria Brothers helped for four seasons and then, Sue Harvey came back as a part-time resident in Nerja and so our working relationship finally got started and friendship resumed and continues. When Sue is not available, my friend Inma will join me and act as translator. Sadly, Dr Dorothy died in 2019 but she enjoyed seeing the progress of the Group.

There have been times when I have thought that perhaps it was time to hang up my sombrero but we seem to have inspired a new wave of History Groupers. We have a mix of nationalities, some of whom have supported me since I took over and who attend every meeting and go on every day trip. We have also been organising an annual multi-day trip to places further afield, usually taking place in January.

During this time, there have been changes: our venue from this season, will be in the Auditorium of the Cultural Centre. And with the progress of technology, most of our Guest Speakers now give digital presentations.

I am pleased to say, that over the years, we have encouraged more Spanish people to be our Guest Speakers and this forthcoming season is no exception, we have three Spanish Nationals giving Talks to us in the English language, further validation that we must be doing something right! Since 2008, we have

had over 6,000 people attending our meetings and our season is only October - April!

For any of you interested in Spanish History, you are most welcome to join us at our monthly meetings and day trip the following week. We are not historians, we are just enthusiasts of the history of this wonderful country. Our first meeting this season, will be on Friday October 21 at 11.00am, doors open from 10.30.

For more information, please see our website: nerjahistorygroup.com or contact Christina Sinclair on 687 602 057 or email: nerjahistorygroup@yahoo.com

CHRISTINA SINCLAIR



