



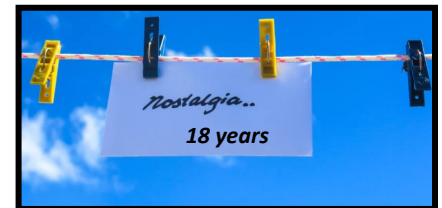
afpop EA Local Newsletter : May 2025

Hello members & friends

It feels like a long time since I've been in contact with you... where are the months going?

In June I head back to the UK for two weeks as one of my Grandsons will be 18... I'm not sure where those years went, but they went too quickly!!!

On May 23rd I will have been your Events Organiser in the East Algarve for 18 years... see page 4 & 5 for some nostalgia!



Our planned lunch at the **Catering College in Faro** on Monday 28th April had to be reschedule due to a major power cut across Portugal & Spain. All guests arrived at the college to find out lunch wasn't possible, but the students gave us welcome drinks in the bar area, we had a chat and then we all went home. The college offered a new date and all the members who booked originally have a revised date for their diaries.

RESCHEDULED DATE: Monday 26th May: Lunch at Catering College : FULLY BOOKED ... see page 2

June 21st Longest Day: Lunch at Siam Restaurant— Santa Barbara de Nexe. We have a great lunch lined up for you... a good way to celebrate the longest day in the East Algarve in a relaxed setting, with a glass of sparkling wine waiting for you when you arrive.. *see page 2*



Annual Wine Tasting Dinner ... I have been looking at venues for October as we can't go to Octant Vila Monte this year. They are adding more rooms to their hotel and will be closed for nearly two years. As soon as I have found somewhere else I will let you know. It might be a different type of event because trying to match Vila Monte will be a problem!

Christmas Friday 5th December Christmas Dinner Dance Marina Hotel Olhão: We are always vey well looked after at this venue and it's central to our East Algarve Area. I have tried to book two bands that we have had previously (Outsiders & 2EX), but they will both be out of the country and not back until New Year. I have another band that's been recommended (5EX) but they are a bit pricey. They all seem to get more expensive each year, which doesn't help the ticket price ☹.

I thank you all for your support over the years, without YOU our events would not be a success. If anyone is interested in organising an event (or two) please make contact. We need some new young blood as I will not be going on forever. ☺

Cuide-se ... Linda x

RESCHEDULED DATE: Lunch at the Catering College in Faro • May 26th

This lunch is ONLY available to Members €26.00

12.30 Welcome drink

1.00: 3 course lunch with wine & water, followed by coffee

This is the rescheduled date—the menu remains the same and those who booked for the original date have automatically been booked for the 26th May.

What's in store?

12.30 Welcome drink:

Starter: Marinated salmon, light salad & wasabi chantilly

Main Course: Roast duck breast, citrus reduction, rosti potatoes and a selection of vegetables from the garden

Desserts: Carob pie, orange sorbet and cinnamon biscuit

Drinks included: Welcome drink, wine, water & coffee.



Lunch at SIAM Restaurant • Near Santa Barbara de Nexe

SATURDAY 21ST JUNE : LONGEST DAY LUNCH

Welcome drink, 3 course lunch, wine & water, followed by coffee/tea €35.00 members and €38.00 non-members

The Siam Restaurant offers authentic Thai cuisine in the setting of the Mercedes Country House.

I have had this restaurant recommended by members and also by friends and have been wanting to go here for ages.

We will be sitting outside for our lunch in the garden area.

I now have the menu—and I hope you will agree it sounds good 😊

What's in store?

12.30 Welcome drink: Sparking wine or a non-alcoholic drink of a Berry Mint Cooler

Starter: Fried Spring rolls and chicken steamed Gyozas

Main: 3 x TASTING COURSES

You will each receive three small tasting dishes ... all served individually and as separate courses, not for sharing!

- *Chicken Panag Curry with rice plus*
- *Shrimp Pad Thai plus*
- *Beef with Oyster Sauce with rice*

Each of the above dishes will be mild, separate chillies will be available on request

Desserts: Please let me know your choice when you book

- *Mango sticky rice with ice cream OR*
- *Banana with coconut milk OR*
- *Ice cream*

Drinks included: Welcome drink, wine (half bottle per person), water & coffee / tea.

When you book please let me know if you would like to sit with friends

IMPORTANT: Tell me if you have any special dietary requirements / allergies — finding out on the day will be too late.

I must give advance notification to the restaurant. Thank you 😊



18 years is a long time...

2007 at my first event!

On the 23rd May 2007 I held my first event at Maragota. I searched my PC and found my original Newsletter and details about my first event.

At the time my circulation list was around 330 members... a lot has happened in the last 18 years.

Many members who attended my first event are still supporting me and are good friends.

In 2010 I also started emailing the Loulé / Faro Area as at the time they had limited events so I was asked if I could also email that area and it was agreed by the office. This continued for 14 years until very recently. Loulé / Faro now have their own Events Organisers, Phil & Victoria, which is good news ... they are organising some fabulous events. ☺

In 2019, I also started emailing the Albufeira Area; but this was only for about 18 months while they were without an Events Organiser. Fortunately this wasn't for long as they now have Karen, who is organising great events ☺.

At one stage my circulation list rose to 1500 members... thank goodness I am now to a more manageable size of just over 500 members in the East Algarve plus nearly another 200 from other areas.

Over the years we've had Wine Tastings at Malhadinha, Herdada do Grous & Quinta dos Vales. Joint Trips to the Alentejo, Obidos, Granada, Aveiro, Coimbra and a Douro Cruise. We've sailed up the Guadiana on a Boat Trip (more than once!) and also had a Zip Wire Experience. Film & Dinner Nights, Olive Oil Tastings, Quizzes, Full Moon Party Nights, Summer Balls, Sunset Cruises, Moroccan Nights with Belly Dancers, Valentines Lunches, visits to Country Clubs... not forgetting Fashion Shows. Plus lunches in some lovely restaurants, Limoni, Tribulum, Barbacoa, Aquarelle, Bamboo, Check-In to name but a few. In addition so many Christmas Dinner Dances, some at the Pousada in Tavira & Estoi, Vila Monte and the Real Marina Hotel. We've also had monthly Walking Groups and Coffee & Chat Mornings.

While looking through files on my PC I found some lovely photos of many of our events which made me smile and so many good memories came flooding back.

I think I can safely say the last 18 years have been eventful. That's not forgetting when I first arrived in Portugal I only had one Granddaughter who was 7, she is now 24, plus I now have two Grandsons who are 18 and 16.

During this time Graeme and I also launched our East Algarve Animal Sterilisation Programme, StreetLife. (www.streetlife.pt) - an official registered Association. With the help of many **afpop** members and supporters we now have sterilised in the region of 1400 dogs, supporting families on low incomes to sterilise their dogs helping to prevent unwanted puppies... also helping a number of Animal Shelters to sterilise the strays they rescue. What a team we all make! It's definitely **the fun place to be...** ☺

AFPOP—EA Local



May 2007

Let me introduce myself . . .

Hello AFPOP friends & members!

Let me introduce myself - my name is Linda Cree and I live in Moncarapacho with my husband Graeme and two dogs - Sam & Tess. We have only lived in Portugal since November last year, and I can honestly say since our arrival life has not been dull!

of visitors, I have been back to the UK three times - and we still have lots of work to do on the house and garden! Despite all of this, I have put my hand up to volunteer to organise events for the Eastern Algarve members of AFPOP - maybe I have had too much Vinho Tinto! I know I have a very hard act to follow -

Thomas Decker did an excellent job previously and I only hope I can fill his shoes. Before I even think about organising any future events for you, I need to know more about you and what you would like. I am hoping you will help me achieve that . . . Take care Linda! Tel: 91207 1000

An invitation—how can you refuse?



I would like to invite all local members to an informal gathering at Colina Verde / Maragota.

I hope you will accept the invitation to be there; I really would like to meet as many of you as possible. Unfortunately my pockets are not deep enough to buy you all a drink ☺ - but I really will be delighted to see you.

23rd May — BBQ lunch & more . . .

The Aparthotel Colina Verde / Maragota, in Moncarapacho are going to be our hosts for the day. We have a number of things organised to make the day full of fun—as well as being informative. We have access to a number of facilities in the hotel from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will be the opportunity for you to visit the gym, use the sauna, jacuzzi, play golf, have a manicure, speak to a Osteopath or Bowen Therapist. For those that want help with finance, Lloyd & White (amongst others) are sending representatives. In addition, Michael Reeves, the CEO from AFPOP, will be circulating and taking questions.

A BBQ lunch will be served at 12:30 on the restaurant terrace overlooking the golf course. Each ticket is €16 for members & €20 for non-members. This includes a lovely buffet and a welcome drink, courtesy of Maragota.

See separate sheet for more details. The idea is to chill, socialise, do as much or as little as you want & have a good time! Call an email me to book a ticket. I look forward to seeing you . . .

Need your help

The only way I can achieve good results at our events is with your help. It would be unrealistic to believe I can please everyone, but I can at least try my best to find a compromise that makes you happy enough to come back again for more! In the past you may not have attended functions for various reasons, but I am keeping my fingers crossed that I may be able to persuade you to give at least one event a go. There are 329 members in our area! Let's get as many of us together as possible—bring your friends too. Go on—give it a go!

AFPOP Eastern Algarve is only responsible for organising events within your area—all other issues must be addressed to the main AFPOP office. Tel: 282 458 509, email: info@afpop.com or visit: www.afpop.com

BBQ lunch & fun day . . .

23rd May at Colina Verde / Maragota in Moncarapacho Call Linda: 91207 1000 to book your place



€16 members
€20 non-members
(excl. drinks) *

This is the first AFPOP event I have organised for the EA (Eastern Algarve) members and I am feeling confident that you will not want to miss it. I want you to all enjoy yourselves and come back for more. . . I am excited that Colina Verde / Maragota have agreed to be our hosts for this event; we have a number of activities lined up, plus some AFPOP suppliers ready to chat to you - I hope you will take advantage of it all!

Drinks & BBQ Lunch

12.00 Welcome drink in the main bar. A complimentary welcome drink from Maragota. A chance to mingle with / meet other guests and the opportunity to speak to some of the suppliers who are there to answer any of your questions; plus a Main Course: Chicken legs, pork sausages & sardines. Green salad with tomato & carrot. Apple & potato salad. Noodles & pineapple salad. Chips. Dessert: Pears in red wine with cinnamon. Orange cake. To book call Linda: 91207 1000 or email: eastalgarve@afpop.com. Payment must be in advance.

Also available:- restaurant with a large terrace enjoying a sea view, for our all fresco BBQ lunch. bar located in the main reception area, also having a large terrace with a view of the ocean. snooker / billiards / pool and table tennis. infinity swimming pool. tennis courts. There are also special event rates for:- the fully equipped Health Centre with Gymnasium, Sauna, Jacuzzi and Turkish Bath. massages, manicures & pedicures. 9 hole golf course, supported by a putting green and a chipping area.

On going rates have been negotiated for AFPOP members

Mini Expo—local suppliers

A mixture of Finance & Insurers (whose names you may recognise), plus a few more local suppliers who have just "come onboard". Gareth Bullock BTAA Bowen Therapist effective therapy for acute & chronic conditions. Find out what he can do for you. Lloyd & White: Information on various types of overseas insurance eurofinances (waiting for them to confirm if they can attend). At the point of going to press we also talking to a solicitor, osteopath / chiropractor and local home visiting manicurist / masseuse to be available for information. Michael Reeve AFPOP CEO will also be circulating . . .

Special Introductory rates If you are anything like me, you keep threatening to try things out but never get around to it, so now is your chance - these special introductory rates are only available on the day!

Manicure - €10 instead of €20. Pedicure - €15 instead of €25. Body Massage 1 hr - €30 instead of €40. Body Massage 30 mins - €20 instead of €25. Indian head massage - €35 instead of €40. Gymnasium - €5 instead of €10. Sauna / jacuzzi / Turkish bath - €5 instead of €10. Golf 9 holes - €15 instead of €35. Golf 18 holes - €25 instead of €35. To make a booking call Linda-91207 1000

The Maragota will give all AFPOP members the following preferred rates:

- Corporate rates for rooms / apartments
- 10% off restaurant & bar
- 20% off Golf
- 20% off Health & Spa facilities
- 20% off Beauty treatments

You just pay as you go, no annual fees! Full details will be available on request

* Stop Press!! For an extra €5 lunch can include drinks - beer, wine, sangria, water, soft drinks & coffee. Tell me when you book if you would prefer this option & I will decide based on numbers and the majority vote!

AFPOP Eastern Algarve is only responsible for organising events within your area—all other issues must be addressed to the main AFPOP office. Tel: 282 458 509, email: info@afpop.com or visit: www.afpop.com

18 years is a long time... more nostalgia!

10 & 15 years celebrations.
I remember them well!!

EA Local Newsletter : May 2022

2007 at my first event!

2022 after 15 years!



Connected: the local community working together

EA Local Newsletter: May 2017

Hello members & friends



10 years ago today (May 23rd) I was preparing for my first **afpop** event at Colina Verde. (see page 3)

I was worried if it would all go well, if people would like me... you name it and I worried about it.

41 members and guests attended—the event went very well... and I have never looked back! Currently I can have anything from 50-140 members at our events and still have waiting lists.

In the earlier days my circulation list was around 190 members, over the years this has increased to around 800+. This includes Loulé and other **afpop** areas who have asked to be included, not forgetting non-members.

I want to thank every single one of you who have supported me in the earlier days... and still continue to be there for me 10 years later. I thank all the new members, and there are more and more of you (keep coming)—many I have still to meet.

I thank the main **afpop** office for being there for me, for answering my many emails asking them for help with various things.

Without all of you... and me (or course) ☺ —our **afpop** EA events would not be a success.

We make a good team and long may our partnership continue.

I look forward to seeing over 80+ of you later on today at our celebration lunch—and I'm sorry to those of you who wanted to come to the lunch but it was full, but I hope to see you later in the year

As always, the Eastern Algarve continues to be "the fun place to be".

Cuide-se
Linda



Monday 23rd May - 15 year celebration
Barbacoa Restaurant Almancil / Loule
12.30 onwards

€33.00 members • €35.00 non members

Welcome drink & 3 course lunch, including wine, water & coffee



15 years ago on the 23 May 2007 I organised my first **afpop** EA Event - it only seems like yesterday; but the mirror tells me otherwise ☺.

We have had some fun times together over the years, I have many special memories and we have all made a lot of good friends.

I hope many of you will share my celebration and confirm with me that "the East Algarve is the fun place to be..."

I have chosen Barbacoa because it is a venue very well liked by members, they have a large outside terraced area which can accommodate many guests... and the staff can still provide excellent service and food (with a smile).

THIS LUNCH YOU BOOK & PAY THE RESTAURANT DIRECT - SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 4

Need your help
THIS WAS SENT IN 2007

The only way I can achieve good results at our events is with your help. It would be unrealistic to believe I can please everyone, but I can at least try my best to find a compromise that makes you happy enough to come back again for more! In the past you may not have attended functions for various reasons, but I am keeping my fingers crossed that I may be able to persuade you to give at least one event a go.

There are 329 members in our area! Let's get as many of us together as possible—bring your friends too. Go on—give it a go!

I found my first Newsletter I emailed out to all the EA members in 2007. I discovered one section, where I ask for your help.

Nothing has changed... I cannot have successful events without your support and I thank all of you for being there for me over the years.

Some of you attended my first event and you are still supporting me today!

When I first started there were 329 EA memberships on my list... there are currently 470 memberships just on my social list.

I admit many times I have thought about stopping, I've had a whinge and a moan when I've been busy juggling too many things — but it's always been my own fault for trying to do too much! ☺

As I've got older I thought I would slow down, but I don't seem to have achieved that yet.

I am slowly trying to organise things to make life easier, which is why you are booking and paying direct with Restaurant Barbacoa.

It saves me a lot of work and I can spend more time having fun!... Plus a few days after this event I fly back to the UK for my granddaughter's 21st birthday. I can't be that old!!!!

Many of you will know Graeme (my hubby) who has over the years been there for me... my best boy by my side.

In the early days he was our own **afpop** East Algarve DJ — providing music at our Christmas Dinner Dances and Summer Balls. He knew how to get members up dancing. Fun times, full of laughter.

Long may the fun times continue... we have had a few years where restrictions have been in place, but they have helped us to stay safe.

Events are starting to get organised again and in time we will start to get a bit more adventurous, but at the moment we are taking things easy.

I do hope you will be there on the 23rd May to say hello ... BOOK DIRECT WITH THE RESTAURANT

linda.cree@outlook.com

...the East Algarve is the fun place to be

Page 1



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Member-2-Member for the community

This section is associated with the EA local community. If any members want to advertise an event they are involved in or a community service they think other members would be interested in please let me know and I will include it.

Sorry: I do NOT design things for you to add here, I will NOT organise your event for you ☺... and if anything isn't thought appropriate it will not be added. ☺

StreetLife thanks all of our *afpop* supporters...

8 years ago StreetLife was launched in our East Algarve / Sotavento area... it's our own Local Animal Sterilisation Programme. Several *afpop* members are part of the Management Committee. We are a registered charity : 515 892 750

We help families on low incomes to get their dogs sterilised—avoiding unwanted puppies that often get dumped in rubbish bins. We also support 6 Partner Shelters, helping them to sterilise the strays they rescue before they can hopefully be rehomed. We work with 11 Partner Vets across our East Algarve / Sotavento Area.

Our last “Be Wise -Sterilise Campaign” in November resulted in nearly 190 dogs being sterilised at a cost of €26,000 +. Since StreetLife was launched we have sterilised 1400 dogs... a great achievement which the East Algarve should be proud of.

THANK YOU!! Three or four times a year we hold fundraising events and many *afpop* members attend and support StreetLife. From time to time we like to update everyone on what you are helping us to achieve.

Together we are making a difference ☺!

Regards.... Graeme... StreetLife President

If you have any nearly new / hardly worn clothes you would like to donate please let us know



Associação StreetLife: 515 892 750



SUNDAY 20th JULY
12.00 - 4.00pm
CASA ROSA,
MONCARAPACHO



StreetFashion & Paella



FIZZ, FASHION, FUN & PAELLA
Our StreetFashion event is a must!

€TBA inc half bottle fizz,
Paella & salads, desserts, ticket draw & poolside music

Save the date...
book your places now!



Good quality, hardly or never worn, fashion items available for a donation.
Mooh by the pool with a glass of fizz in your hand.
Enjoy the fabulous views down to the sea.
Sit on sofas under the covered terrace area or at poolside tables & have fun fundraising.

Book your places with:
linda@streetlife.pt

Our 2023 Fizz, Fashion, Fancies & Fun event was a great success & by popular demand we have organised another fun event just for YOU!
All proceeds from any StreetLife event go to our StreetLife Animal Sterilisation Programme

Dine & Party to Rod & Tina ... It takes two !!!

Monday 1st September at Restaurante Antonio, Moncarapacho
7.30 onwards • €36.00 donation (including wine, water & coffee)



Two different eating areas
choose your preference when you book
Moovers & Groovers (50 places)
are inside the restaurant, background music with the meal then louder music & dancing!
Wine & Diners (30 places)
are on the outside decking area with background music all evening BUT you can go inside to dance & also sit on the sofas in the bar area.
The best of both worlds ☺

Themed Rod & Tina evening
plus “Hit’s of the 80’s”
for StreetLife

Book your places with:
linda@streetlife.pt or
linda.cree@outlook.com

MENU
Couvert: Bread, olives, cheese & pate
Main: Fillet of pork in mushroom sauce with sautéed potatoes/onions & vegetables or Sole & banana with potatoes & vegetables or Aubergine stuffed with ratatouille
Dessert: Chocolate cake or red fruits cheesecake or crème caramel
Drinks included: House wine (red/white), water with the meal, followed by coffee
DRINKS: BEFORE & AFTER THE MEAL NOT INCLUDED!



StreetLife celebrates our 8th anniversary
at Restaurante Antonio
Come & join in the fun

OUTSIDE & INSIDE TABLES AVAILABLE

Prizes donated by local sponsors & supporters

A fundraising event for StreetLife - together we are making a difference!



Associação StreetLife: 515 892 750

Anyone who has attended a StreetLife event previously will automatically be kept informed of our events.

If anyone would like to be added to the StreetLife circulation list and receive Newsletter & Updates please let us know.