



Dear Members and Friends,

I (frustratingly) still have not had confirmation about grape picking and stomping and as **Monte da Casteleja** is in the middle of a busy period right now, I don't like to push for an answer. If we can take part again, it is usually the last weekend in August or the first in September, depending on the weather and the readiness of the grapes but I can take names and if he is willing to have us again, I will contact you.

The Open Afternoon at **Floresta Bowls**, Aldeia Azul is 1pm - 4pm on **September 16th**. No charge to try out the bowls and the rink – flat shoes must be worn – and a baguette & drink beforehand is €5 but you must pre-order it. Anne at office@sabineassociates.co.uk is the person to contact to get your name down or for any questions.

There is still room on the **Guadiana Boat Trip** on **22nd September** for friends & family to join us and a very few places on the coach, which will do pick-ups from Almadena until Vila Real where we join the boat to cruise along the river enjoying the scenery of Spain on one side and Portugal on the other. We stop for lunch, which consists of Mountain Soup, Chicken, Salad, Potatoes, Pud, Wine all locally sourced and you can have unlimited amounts, in Foz de Odeleite. Before lunch, you can use the swimming pool if you want, afterwards you will be entertained with music from the staff. Then we will sail relaxed and happy back to Vila Real at 5pm. The cost is €48.50 Members, €52.50 guests, €11 pp for the coach if there is room.

The very interesting **Cork factory and Traje Museum** day-trip is full but there are plans to repeat this in the early part of next year. Places are limited and a list is already being drawn up so if you would like to be included you can get your name down or receive more details from Anne at office@sabineassociates.co.uk.

There are plans being organised for a **wine tasting** – further details in due course – and bookings for the **Christmas Dinner Dance** on **December 6th** at the **Tivoli, Lagos** with 5EX are going well – get your name down as soon as possible to ensure your place. Tables of 8 and friends are welcome to come along too. Menu and prices will follow in due course.

M2M: The Western Algarve Gardening Group (WAGGs) urgently need a co-ordinator to organise gardening related events throughout the year as the current leader steps down. Please contact **Julian** on **961 027 499** to discuss what is needed to keep the group active.

That is it for the moment – I will await your bookings and hope you are enjoying the weather and the visitors – even if parking is a problem during these holiday months!

Kind regards,

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