



## ChiFRA AGE CONCERN NEWSLETTER

December 2025



Welcome to ChiFRA's Christmas newsletter. We hope you might find some items here that interest you as members. The group would welcome any feedback or suggestions regarding things people would like to see included in this newsletter that you can't pick up from the website or Facebook page.

### Christmas Entertainment

Here is a selection of events from the Ayuntamiento website, as well as some other theatre performances in Cadiz and Jerez

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#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December

20:00	Performance by Christmas carol choirs and bell ringers	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza de las Bodegas (outside the Market)
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#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

18:30	Santa Claus Cavalcade	<b>Chiclana</b>	start: Parque Huerta Rosario end: Ayuntamiento.
20:30	Choral Concert by the <i>Polyfonica Sancti Petri</i> Choir	<b>Chiclana</b>	Church of San Bautista, Plaza Mayor
21:30	<b>Zambomba</b>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Escenario Real, Plaza Mayor

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#### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December

20:00	Christmas Concert, Orchestra & Choir of Cadiz University	<b>Cadiz</b>	Gran Teatro Falla
19:00	<b>Fritada de Tortas de Noche Buena</b> Christmas Eve cakes	<b>Chiclana</b>	Pena Flamenca Chiclanera , Calle Luna
20:00	Christmas Concert	<b>Chiclana</b>	Teatro Moderno, Calle Nueva

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#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December

13:00	Christmas Music – Duo Duhadas	<b>Chiclana</b>	Calle Arroyuelo
18:00	Grand Christmas Gala	<b>Cadiz</b>	Gran Teatro Falla
19:30	Performance by Christmas carol choirs and bell ringers	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Jesús Nazareno

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#### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

18:30	Christmas Music – Duo M & M Acoustic	<b>Chiclana</b>	Calle Corredera con Vega (La Flamenca)
18:30	Performance of <i>"The Magic of Christmas"</i>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Escenario Real, Plaza Mayor

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#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

12:00	Christmas Music – <i>Trio Flamencura</i> (Flamenco Fusion)	<b>Chiclana</b>	Calle Corredera con Vega (La Flamenca)
20:30	<b>Zambomba</b>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Escenario Real, Plaza Mayor

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**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

18:00	<b>Chocolatada Popular.</b> Tasting chocolate and rosquillas.	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Mayor
18:30	Christmas Music. <b>Jazz Bahia</b>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Mayor
20:00	Christmas Music – Sax by candlelight.	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Andalucia (By Rotonda El Pajaro)

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December**

12:00	Christmas Music – <b>Solista Rock &amp; All</b>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza de las Bodegas (outside the Market)
18:30	Star of the Orient Cavalcade	<b>Chiclana</b>	start: Amphitheatre Alameda del Rio end: Ayuntamiento

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December**

17:30 & 20:30	<b>Gran Circo Acrobático de China</b> Fantasy story told in 4 acts.	<b>Jerez</b>	Teatro Villamarta
12:30	Inauguration of the <b>“Palacio de Oriente”</b>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Calle Garcia Gutierrez

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December**

17:30 & 20:30	<b>Gran Circo Acrobático de China</b> Fantasy story told in 4 acts.	<b>Jerez</b>	Teatro Villamarta
20:30	<b>Videomapping Navideno</b> (projected videos on buildings)	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Mayor

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December**

20:30	<b>Snowfall at Christmas</b>	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Mayor
00:00	Grapes and Snowfall for Adults	<b>Chiclana</b>	Plaza Mayor

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**

12:00	Arrival of the Three Kings in the town	<b>Chiclana</b>	Atrio del Ayuntamiento
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**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

10:00	<b>Desayuno Magico</b> with the Three Kings	<b>Chiclana</b>	Bodegas Miguel Guerra, C. Mendero
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**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

18:30	Snowfall and arrival of the Cavalcade	<b>Chiclana</b>	Puerta del Ayuntamiento
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**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

17:00	Departure of the Cavalcade and the adoration	<b>Chiclana</b>	start: Calle Tajo end: Plaza Mayor, Church of San Bautista
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**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

20:00	<b>Pasión Almodovar:</b> Pasión Vega sings songs from Almodóvar films accompanied by jazz pianists	<b>Jerez</b>	Teatro Villamarta
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**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

19:00	<b>Ramón Grau</b> , concert pianist.	<b>Jerez</b>	Teatro Villamarta
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**Chiclana Christmas Lights:, a show of Sound and Light in Calle La Plaza**

Every night from 10<sup>th</sup> December - 5<sup>th</sup> January (except 25 Dec) at 18:30, 19:30 & 20:30 (1 hour later on Sun 27<sup>th</sup>)

For information on performances in the Gran Teatro Falla in Cadiz, see  
[www.guiadecadiz.com/es/teatros-detalle/que-hacer/teatros/gran-teatro-falla](http://www.guiadecadiz.com/es/teatros-detalle/que-hacer/teatros/gran-teatro-falla)  
 and to buy tickets:

[www.bacantix.com/entradas/default.aspx?id=aytocadiz](http://www.bacantix.com/entradas/default.aspx?id=aytocadiz)

For information on Teatro Villamarta, Jerez, see  
[www.teatrovillamarta.es/programacion/espectaculos/temporada-2025/26](http://www.teatrovillamarta.es/programacion/espectaculos/temporada-2025/26)  
 and to buy tickets:

[www.tickentradas.com/lugar/teatro-villamarta-jerez](http://www.tickentradas.com/lugar/teatro-villamarta-jerez)

**There are also the following upcoming concerts at the Palacio de Congresos in Cadiz:**

Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	20:30	“Michael Dancing Machine” Tribute to Michael Jackson
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	20:30	“Queen is Back”
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	20:00	“Brother in Band: The very best of Dire Straits”

## GARDENING TIPS: DIARY OF A SURVIVOR

Have to say, Autumn isn't my favourite season, with everything spiralling down into a festering pit of rot and decay. OK, so now we have the wood-burner on at night, which is cosy, and if it is rainy we light the fire early and basically slob around, as it isn't feasible to get out into the garden and work. Rain brings its own dangers, as it gives renewed adhesion to 'dogs' eggs', which is distressing. I re-member my mother always quoted the poet Keats's *Ode to Autumn*: "*Season of mist and mellow fruitfulness*". However, had the poet spent time washing adhesive filth out of the treads on his Crocs, I am sure it would have been a very different poem.

Still, we do need the rain, and lots more of it if we are to stave off the worst aspects of a drying climate. Perhaps we could persuade someone to choreograph a couple of rain dances. They do say, if you dance long enough, it is guaranteed to rain. Eventually.

Autumn brings on the jobs that prepare for winter and the next year. All the cold and rain vulnerable plants have been hastily shipped into the safety of the greenhouse where I can control the climate a bit, and there they will stay till winter is over and the risks from cold and sodden roots has passed. Then the survivors will emerge blinking into the Spring sunshine for another summer of desperate watering, and the cycle will begin anew. Amongst them will be the small avocado trees I tried my hand at grafting. I'm old enough to wonder whether I am wasting my time there, and I have bought a couple of summer fruiting trees, one of which is carrying its first crop. It's named Reed, and gives large, quality fruit at a time of year when the only avocados available are those that you can buy from the supermarket. Should have thought to get trees like that some years ago, as nothing bucks up a summer salad quite like a slice of avocado.

Out in the garden there are certain jobs that have to be done. Leaves need to be raked off the path otherwise they hide the dreaded

sticky 'dogs' eggs' and either piled round the roots of sensitive plants as mulch, or carted off to feed the ever growing compost heap. Our two bay system is looking as tho I will need to process it ere long as the heaped up top hasn't collapsed at all over the last couple of months, indicating that the rot underneath is no longer creating enough space for the summit to collapse into. So we are now feeding the second bay with all the garden waste, cardboard etc etc. This state of affairs will last a year or two while the full bay rots and matures. Then the retaining fence will come down, and the dry, un-rotted top and front will be pulled off and thrown onto the other bay to expose the black gold beneath. We should end up harvesting between twelve and twenty cubic feet. Last time I hand sieved it all which did my back no favours, so this year I will have to construct a trommel, a rotating sieve that should at least take the back breaking labour out of the equation. So I am buying bicycle wheel rims, weld mesh and some 3cm angle iron so that a trommel may emerge, phoenix like from a pile of parts, helped by my trusty welder.

One of our annual autumn traditions is, we take a piece of paper and a biro, and have a walk round the garden making notes. We basically draw up a list of all the jobs that need doing over the year to come. The mandarins need pruning, this avocado needs cutting back, the bamboo has to be thinned out and all the dead canes processed into eight-inch lengths to make firelighters. I need to take cuttings from this plant, we should get rid of that one as it just isn't doing well, the list goes on and on, and then we tape it up on the kitchen wall or the fridge door, and as each job is done, so we cross it off. Currently we have the last three years' worth of lists up as some jobs just haven't got done. Cutting the bamboo back is a classic example as it is a swine of a job, and frankly by the time you have started getting into it, you are more than ready to chuck it in and move to another job that shows more results for the effort..

However, this year I was given some plastic crates, and after I had got out the rebar and heated glue gun to repair them, some of that resolve had translated itself into an anti bamboo mood, and we laid into it big time. We still can't cross it off the lists as there is still a lot to cut back, but we now have enough kindling/firelighter wood to last us for four years, if a day.

So another job will be going over the old lists and transferring the unfinished jobs onto the new one.

Dammit, I forgot. This year I really need to paint all the roofs with caucho. That'll be expensive, but there is a leak in the garage roof and the others are all past their 'paint by' date. I like having a flat roof, and it's easy just to slop the caucho about on the solid concrete part, but the problem comes with the *Uralita* roofs as I have to use crawl boards, and at seventy-two, it's quite a job. Plus they seem to have hugely increased the weight of those caucho pots. Twenty years ago I could carry them up the staircase to the roof with no

problem, one handed. Now, it's a hell of a job. Still it has to be done. Plus, as I use white caucho, it helps keep the house cool. It might last for five years, and by then I might have to pay someone else to do it. First time I did it the locals laughed at me for doing it in white, as they used red caucho, I was just ahead of my time - or a least that's my excuse.

Among all this there is the tree to put up and decorate. Every year there are fewer decorations as the dogs are convinced that the decorations are chew toys put there for them, so we tend not to decorate the bottom of the tree, Still they are old now, slower and fewer in number, so maybe this year we won't have to worry. At least Mr Hanky is safe on the top of the tree.

So, here's wishing you an excellent midwinter solstice/Christmas, may the mince pies be excellent, and may your 'to do' list never overwhelm you.

Bil Wight

## **HERE ARE A FEW WORDS OF ADVICE THAT MEMBERS MAY WISH TO CONSIDER**

### **1. HAVING A SPANISH WILL**

It is extremely important to have a will in Spain, even if you already have one in the UK or the country of which you are a national. Your Spanish will should cover all of your assets in Spain, which is most likely to be mainly your property and your bank account. You may not need to establish an executor, as beneficiaries of the will can simply claim their inheritance by addressing themselves to a notary, if they have been advised to do so in advance.

Temple Cambria in Conil will be happy to provide advice in English: their contact details are on our website.

### **2. POWER OF ATTORNEY**

If you live with a partner, it is well worth considering having a mutual power of attorney drawn up by a solicitor, so that in the unforeseen event of you or partner becoming incapacitated, the other person can manage their affairs on their behalf. This can be particularly important if you have a joint bank account, as if one of you passes, the bank may freeze half the funds in the account.

### **3. INHERITANCE TAX**

If your partner leaves you property in their will, you should be aware that the value of this inheritance could be subject to 40% tax. This payable within 6 months, and, in some cases, may necessitate sale of the property. For an inheritance of less than 175K, a spouse can claim exemption from this tax, but to avoid potential problems, it may be worth having your marriage certificate officially translated into Spanish and apostilled. Again Temple Cambria will be happy to advise.

## **VOLUNTEERING for AGE CONCERN**

If you have been considering joining ChiFRA Age Concern as a volunteer, you may be wondering what this involves. Although calls to the help-line are varied, volunteers are not obliged to help in every instance and are free to choose which type of assistance they feel comfortable volunteering for.

We are currently working towards having a training programme to address the different levels at which volunteers might be prepared to offer their services.

Here are some examples:

- Transporting people to medical/hospital appointments.
- Spending an hour or so visiting people in hospital who have no-one else, or taking people to visit relatives in hospital.
- Taking people shopping, or shopping with a list on someone's behalf.
- Helping to obtain and attend appointments for general day to day matters

New volunteers are always needed and every offer of help will be welcomed. If you are interested, please contact us Lesley or Susan on

**+34 634 31 52 89**

## **WANT TO DONATE?**

You may already be aware of the level of overheads involved in running ChiFRA & Age Concern. We have to pay for storage, maintenance, repair and replacement of mobility equipment. We also pay for a contact phone, website hosting and email, and bank charges.

All of our committee and volunteers do so free of charge and to date we have never charged a membership fee. Now we urgently need to raise money in order to buy and repair equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers etc.

To this end we have set up a GoFundMe page and would appreciate any donation no matter how big or small you could make.

Here is the link:

**<https://gofund.me/5495b562>**

## **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS (HAVE THEM ON YOUR PHONE!)**

For police, fire, ambulance, phone **112**

For serious medical emergency, phone **061**

For other useful phone numbers and when to use them,

see [www.lodgerin.com/public/posts/emergency-phone-numbers-in-spain](http://www.lodgerin.com/public/posts/emergency-phone-numbers-in-spain)

A reminder where you can find ChiFRA:

Website: <https://chifra-ageconcern.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071300016978>

Telephone: +34 634 31 52 89

**And finally ... A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our members!**

ChiFRA Age Concern December 2025