



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

Thursday 18th December

20:00	Performance by Christmas carol choirs and bell ringers	Chiclana	Plaza de las Bodegas (outside the Market)
-------	--	----------	---

Friday 19th December

18:30	Santa Claus Cavalcade	Chiclana	start: Parque Huerta Rosario end: Ayuntamiento.
-------	-----------------------	----------	--

20:30	Choral Concert by the <i>Polyfonica Sancti Petri</i> Choir	Chiclana	Church of San Bautista, Plaza Mayor
-------	--	----------	-------------------------------------

21:30	Zambomba	Chiclana	Escenario Real, Plaza Mayor
-------	-----------------	----------	-----------------------------

Saturday 20th December

20:00	Christmas Concert, Orchestra & Choir of Cadiz University	Cadiz	Gran Teatro Falla
-------	--	-------	-------------------

19:00	Fritada de Tortas de Noche Buena Christmas Eve cakes	Chiclana	Pena Flamenca Chiclanera , Calle Luna
-------	---	----------	---------------------------------------

20:00	Christmas Concert	Chiclana	Teatro Moderno, Calle Nueva
-------	-------------------	----------	-----------------------------

Sunday 21st December

13:00	Christmas Music – Duo Duhadas	Chiclana	Calle Arroyuelo
-------	-------------------------------	----------	-----------------

18:00	Grand Christmas Gala	Cadiz	Gran Teatro Falla
-------	----------------------	-------	-------------------

19:30	Performance by Christmas carol choirs and bell ringers	Chiclana	Plaza Jesús Nazareno
-------	--	----------	----------------------

Monday 22nd December

18:30	Christmas Music – Duo M & M Acoustic	Chiclana	Calle Corredera con Vega (La Flamenca)
-------	--------------------------------------	----------	--

18:30	Performance of " <i>The Magic of Christmas</i> "	Chiclana	Escenario Real, Plaza Mayor
-------	--	----------	-----------------------------

Tuesday 23rd December

12:00	Christmas Music – <i>Trio Flamencura</i> (Flamenco Fusion)	Chiclana	Calle Corredera con Vega (La Flamenca)
-------	--	----------	--

20:30	Zambomba	Chiclana	Escenario Real, Plaza Mayor
-------	-----------------	----------	-----------------------------

Friday 26th December

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

Saturday 27th December

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

Sunday 28th December

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

Monday 29th December

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

Tuesday 30th December

20:30	Snowfall at Christmas	Chiclana	Plaza Mayor
00:00	Grapes and Snowfall for Adults	Chiclana	Plaza Mayor

Friday 2nd January

12:00	Arrival of the Three Kings in the town	Chiclana	Atrio del Ayuntamiento
-------	--	-----------------	------------------------

Saturday 3rd January

10:00	Desayuno Mágico with the Three Kings	Chiclana	Bodegas Miguel Guerra, C. Madero
-------	---	-----------------	----------------------------------

Sunday 4th January

18:30	Snowfall and arrival of the Cavalcade	Chiclana	Puerta del Ayuntamiento
-------	---------------------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------

Monday 5th January

17:00	Departure of the Cavalcade and the adoration	Chiclana	start: Calle Tajo end: Plaza Mayor, Church of San Bautista
-------	--	-----------------	---

Saturday 17th January

20:00	Pasión Almodóvar: Pasión Vega sings songs from Almodóvar films accompanied by jazz pianists	Jerez	Teatro Villamarta
-------	--	--------------	-------------------

Sunday 18th January

19:00	Ramón Grau , concert pianist.	Jerez	Teatro Villamarta
-------	--------------------------------------	--------------	-------------------

Chiclana Christmas Lights: a show of Sound and Light in Calle La Plaza

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

For information on performances in the Gran Teatro Falla in Cadiz, see
www.guiadecadiz.com/es/teatros-detalle/que-hacer/teatros/gran-teatro-falla

and to buy tickets:

www.bacantix.com/entradas/default.aspx?id=aytocadiz

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

www.tickentradas.com/lugar/teatro-villamarta-jerez

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

Friday 9 th January	20:30	"Michael Dancing Machine" Tribute to Michael Jackson
--------------------------------	-------	--

Friday 23 rd January	20:30	"Queen is Back"
---------------------------------	-------	-----------------

Saturday 21 st 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 remember 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

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!