



## Member's Newsletter

### Easter in Spain

Easter – Holy Week is a very exciting time here in Spain. I remember the first time I saw an Easter procession, many years ago in Madrid, I found it a bit frightening. The tall hoods, a bit like the Ku Klux Klan used to wear, the sound of the drums, the military trumpets and the percussion bands with the beat of a slow march was all very strange to me. In those days some people in the procession would be dragging heavy crosses and others would be using whips to flagellate themselves. I have not seen that in recent years, although the heavy floats that are carried by sometimes hundreds of men are still very dramatic and impressive.

If you are here on holiday during Holy Week you should do your best to see at least one of the processions in Malaga. However if you do not want to go into Malaga, every town has their own processions although on a smaller scale for you to enjoy.

The procession of the Virgin of the Sorrows, which takes place early Good Friday morning, illuminated only by the long candles of the Nazarenes, is very beautiful. The Easter week celebrations in Malaga are famous for their huge processional pasos (religious statues), some of which require more than two hundred "costaleros" to carry their weight. This celebration is also known for the freeing of a prisoner. The tradition dates back to the reign of Charles III, when prisoners in Malaga, as a protest against the suspension of Easter week processions due to an epidemic, mutinied and broke open the prison doors in order to take their statue of Jesús Nazareno out onto the streets on their shoulders. Once the image was returned to the temple, they all went back to their cells. News of this reached the king, who bestowed upon the image, called 'Jesus the Wealthy' since then, the privilege of releasing one prisoner each year.

This procession is on Easter Wednesday and the traditional act of amnesty is one of the fiesta's most unusual moments. It takes place at 8.30pm, close to Plaza de la Aduana Square: the edict of liberation is read to the prisoner in a solemn ceremony. Kneeling before the statue, he/she receives the blessing of "Jesús el Rico" – the statue has an articulated arm. Later, the prisoner accompanies the procession on its way through the city. Easter week is one of the most spectacular and emotional fiestas here. Religious devotion, art, colour and music combine in acts to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ: the processions. Members of the different Easter brotherhoods, dressed in their characteristic robes, parade through the streets carrying religious statues (pasos) to the sound of drums and music – scenes of sober beauty. For more information on the Easter processions in the area, please see these web sites or ask in reception when you are here:-



<http://www.semana-santa-malaga.com/english/holy-week-malaga.html>

### RCI Gold Crown & Hospitality Awards—2011

Pictured left: Samantha Kuczynski (RCI Account Manager) presenting the RCI Gold Crown and Hospitality awards for 2011 to Phil Taylor (Resort Manager) and Stephen Woodford (Sales Manager).

Vol. 2, Issue 2, April 2011

### Newsletter Spotlight

#### **BABIES AND MORE BABIES**

These last few months four of our staff have had the joy of a new baby in their lives. Merche our housekeeper is thrilled with her lovely new grandson Jairo. Salvador, one of our security guards, has a beautiful daughter named Ana Selena, and our other Salvador who works in the laundry, has a gorgeous little daughter they have called Sofia. Montse, who is in charge of the laundry has also produced a delightful baby girl Teiba. So there is lots of new life around Pueblo Evita at the moment.

#### Pueblo Evita on Facebook

We now have a fan page for Pueblo Evita on Facebook.



We will be adding more info and photos. If you have anything you would like to add to this page,

#### **THAT SUMMER FEELING**

The feeling of summer is here although Easter is still some weeks away. The weather has been lovely despite having some rain now and again. The lower pool is open and although we see some people sunbathing, we have not seen many venture into the pool as yet. Next week the AguaSpheres will be with us for three weeks over the Easter time and will then come back again when the summer season starts in full. The children love the fun of trying to keep their balance within the spheres and usually tumble all over the place. The maintenance team are preparing the pool on the upper terrace to have it ready for opening by the end of the month. We are frantically trying to get work done on some of the Elite apartments before the summer comes in and it is all go, which is the way we like it.

Questions or comments?

E-mail or call us on: [phil@pueblo-evita.com](mailto:phil@pueblo-evita.com) or +34 952 44 59 25.