



Canterbury English Club Newsletter

Established 1996



Sitting on Manolo's Tractor!



Harvesting grapes by hand

Canterbury English Adventure Club October Grape Harvest Festival

Canterbury Director Richard Presents: **THE GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL**

October 7th, 9 am

For Teachers, Students, Friends & Family

Schedule of Events: 1) Arrival at Manolo's Vineyards. Grape picking orientation at 10:30 am. 2) Picking grapes in teams 3) Visit to a Bodega (winery) and learn how wine is made in Spain 4) Wine Tasting 5) Lunch on Willy's ranch 6) Siesta 7) Music Festival and dancing.

Club President John Bouse Presents: **BO FINN IRISH PUB NIGHT**

October 20th, 9:45 pm

For Teachers, Students, Friends & Family

Where: Bo Finn Irish Pub, Calle Velazquez 97, metro Nuñez de Balboa. The Canterbury Club will celebrate its first "Pub Night" of this new year of English teaching and classes, with a tradition that began in 1996. Pub Night (and all club events) is a great time to meet other Canterbury professors, friends and students, and it is at that early Autumn time of year where many new friendships begin. Special offer on drinks for professors, students and

friends Canterbury stickers (*pegatinas*), compliments (*gentileza*) of Canterbury & Bo Finn.

Club President JB & Richard Present: **THANKSGIVING POTLUCK PARTY**

November 23rd, 9:45 PM.

For Teachers, Students, Friends & Family

Where: El Leon de Oro (downstairs in the wine cellars, C/ Leon, 10 (metro: Antón Martín). This is how a traditional American & British Potluck party works:

Each person brings a dish. It can be anything you want. However, if you are English, Shepherd's Pie (*tarta de pastor*) would be appropriate. American: Turkey (*pavo*). Scottish: Haggis (*como morcilla*). Irish: Stew (*estofado*). Spanish: Tortilla. Australian: Kangaroo!! But somebody... anybody, please don't forget dessert! This is a great chance to get together, make friends, eat, drink and enjoy international company.

And remember, come with a healthy appetite! Two drinks for the price of one (tap beer only) for professors, students and friends with Canterbury Club stickers, compliments of Canterbury and the Leon de Oro.

Clases de Inglés
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Editor: Richard Clarke

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September - December Events

The Grape Harvest Festival

Bo Finn Pub Night

Thanksgiving Potluck Party

Triskel Christmas Party

Conversation Topic:

Mushroom Hunting

Learning Spanish in US & GB

Professor and Student of the Month

Club President John Presents: **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

December 14th, 9:45 pm

For Teachers, Students, & Friends

Where: The Triskel Irish Tavern, Calle San Vicente Ferrer 3, metro Tribunal. Triskel Tavern opened in September 1994 and quickly became a favourite haunt for a mixed Spanish and international clientele. Situated in the popular Malasaña neighbourhood, famous for 'La Movida' of the 1980s, and still the best area for night owls in Madrid. More commonly known by the locals as 'The Triskel' it's the place to meet old friends and to make new ones. Decorated in a rustic, celtic style, with light wood, soft lighting and great music it is a both cosy and happening.



The Happy Canterbury English Teacher Team!



To stay up to date on events & view photos, "like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter! (search term: Canterbury English)

Conversation Topic:

Fall Mushroom Hunting

Here I'll show you how you can road trip like a Madrileño and hunt for mushrooms in the fall. The city of Madrid was built on a hot plain, but the northern part of Madrid province is all hills, mountains, and forests dotted with small, picturesque towns.

In the fall, lots of Madrileños head to the northern hills for some old-fashioned mushroom hunting, a treasured Spanish past-time. Two of the most popular edible varieties of mushrooms to hunt in Madrid province are the *Lactarius deliciosus* (saffron milk cap / *níscalo*) and the *Boletus edulis* (penny bun / *hongo comestible*). At the same time, there are many varieties that should not be eaten! Some Madrileños do gather mushrooms to be chopped up later and added to a dish of Spanish scrambled eggs (*revuelto de setas*) and you can opt to bring the mushrooms you gathered to be examined by the Madrid Mycological Society, but even so, I would not recommend you eat any mushrooms you gathered in the wild.

Mushrooms were well-known by the Ancient Greeks, Romans and Celts who used them as food and for medicinal purposes. Controlled cultivation began in the 17th century in France, as previously they had just been gathered from the woods.

The recommended items for a mushroom hunting excursion include: a wooden basket, a knife, a mushroom book, and a bottle of water. Every mushroom-hunting Madrileño has his or her own preferred stomping ground, but one good one is the forest near San Martín de Valdeiglesias. So, why not head for the forest on the Canterbury Club's Cabin Hike and hunt for mushrooms!

Second Conversation Topic:

Learning Spanish in the US & GB

There is no debate over the fact that the ability to speak more than one language is advantageous in numerous ways.

In Spain, there is clearly a large effort made to learn English, which is often considered the language to learn. Here, children begin to learn English as soon as they enter school, and classes are offered for people of all ages and professions throughout the country. But, the situation proves to be quite different in the United States and Britain.



Canterbury English Party Club members enjoying a night out meeting colleagues and making new friends at the event "Gypsies and Bullfighters," with a beer or glass of wine in hand!

That is to say, British and Americans don't view the ability to speak multiple languages as necessary as many Spaniards do. To be sure, there are many Brits and Americans who can speak Spanish and other languages and know and emphasize the importance of being bi or multi lingual. What is most interesting is that children in the United States and Great Britain are not exposed to languages as early as children in other countries.

For example, in the United States, language classes usually begin in middle school, around age 11. This is if a school's language program hasn't been cut due to budget constraints, which happens quite frequently. The classes themselves also differ. Whereas children in Spain practice speaking constantly, American and British children focus on learning what they need to in order to get a good grade. If American and British schools incorporate more conversation learning tools into their curriculum to encourage young learners to converse in Spanish and not just to pass tests, more people will actually be able to speak Spanish in Britain and America. This will make it easier for someone to go on to University and study abroad in a Spanish speaking country.

Professor of the Month:

Richard Infantes

When only one, my family moved to the U.S.A. from Venezuela. Since then, I spoke 2 languages during my childhood. Later, I began to realize how beautiful it

was to know more than one language. I remember being in high school and helping my friends with their Spanish homework. It felt rewarding helping someone else understand a language which you knew they were struggling with to learn. Once I graduated from high school, I travelled to Spain and study to become an engineer. Luckily I made good friends in Madrid, and one of them told me about Canterbury's TEFL course to become a certified English teacher which I didn't hesitate on signing up for. Since that moment I've been very pleased, not only I've been teaching on a professional level but knowing that I'm helping others makes it all worth it at the end of the day.

Student of the Month:

David & Ana Belén Hidalgo Carrión

David & Ana are high school students. I taught them when they were studying for the first certificate exam which they passed with excellent grades. I believe that learning requires deep understanding that can only come when students internalize and actively apply knowledge in creative ways, Ana and David have that learning capacity. They were able to wrestle all the way and become two outstanding students overcoming all obstacles to finally succeed.

Canterbury English Party Club Gran Fiesta: Gypsies & Bullfighters!

