



Newsletter January 2017



Welcome to the January edition of your LBRA newsletter.

It is incredible to think that 2016 is over and we are almost already halfway through January. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Years Eve and wish you a happy, healthy, safe and prosperous 2017. We would also like to thank everyone who sent us cards and goodwill greetings; it makes us feel so good to know that our work is appreciated. We would like to welcome our new members and thank them for choosing to join our association. As normal we have lots of ideas and projects planned for the year and look forward to sharing them with you as we progress through the year. The Annual General Meeting will take place in March this year and further details will follow when available. As always we hope you enjoy this copy of the newsletter and would welcome your comments and suggestions.

Members Meeting



Our next members meeting and coffee morning is planned for the end of February and we hope you will be able to join us, date to be confirmed soon.

Property Update

You will be aware that we are still awaiting the new decree in respect of "private rentals". This we were promised would be made public before the end of 2016, but as yet there has been no official announcement; the Canarian Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports has however stated that it will address this year the amendment of seven decrees with the aim of simplifying the regulatory framework and reducing bureaucratic procedures.

The rules that are being modified or created are: vacation rental, active tourism, tourist guides, tourist intermediation, restauracion activities, quality standards and accommodation activity and development of the General Tourist Registry. Some of these decrees are in more advanced procedures for approval, as is the case of active tourism, and others are in the consensus phase with the sector, such as the one in charge of regulating the tourist activity of catering and vacation rental. There is a fuller report that you can read here <http://www.lancelotdigital.com/lanzarote/turismo-logra-diversificar-clientes-por-motivos-de-viaje-y-mercado-tras-una-inversion-de-15-millones-en-promocion>

In a similar topic an interview with the new Minister of Tourism of Spain has been published



<http://eldia.es/canarias/2016-12-14/23-Turismo-abierto-armonizar-alquiler-vacacional.htm>



This month's member interview is with Ken Hatton who with his wife Jackie opened La Tienda V in June last year. Their business is in Tias and it was previously known as Geppetos.



LBRA. Hi Ken, thanks for taking the time to meet us, and as we normally ask at the beginning of our interviews how long you have been in Lanzarote, and why Lanzarote?

Ken. We moved to Lanzarote in 2014. We first visited here in 2000 and were immediately hooked and from then on it became a favourite holiday destination that we would visit at least once or twice every year. Around 2004 I began to harbour thoughts about retiring here; I am a bit of a softy and always felt sad when leaving and on arriving my thoughts were always "I am home." I mentioned retirement to Jackie who agreed it was a good idea (but he laughs I think she never thought we would ever do it). At the time I was a depot manager for DHL and had just been given a new contract, which was an existing 12 month contract, overseeing a warehouse that had problems. My manager advised that it was unlikely to be renewed and for me that was not an issue as "early retirement and Lanzarote were beckoning". As things happen it never quite worked out like that, with my team we worked hard and the problem warehouse soon became a thing of the past, and the contract continued to be renewed until 2014 when due to company changes at board level and policies my contract finished. So with redundancy accepted, our early retirement became a reality. Fortunately for us my sister and brother-in-law Linda and Richard of Total Developments were already living here with an established business and were able to look at suitable properties for us.

We wanted to live somewhere where there was a Spanish community and settled on Nazeret, where we found a lovely rental property. It was in very good condition but needed some work to make it our home. Fortunately the landlord was happy for me to work on changing some things to make it home and this kept me occupied for some time.

Our initial thought was to live in the rental property and buy a villa that we could rent out. However, with the problems in the private rental market we decided to wait and see what happened. Having completed all the "house" work I started to consider my next options and decided to open a business. I quite liked the idea of being a grocer and looked at taking over

Macys which at that time was for sale, unfortunately that sale fell through and Jackie and myself started looking at other suitable business premises.

We saw an advert for a business property in Tias and called in to visit, the lady in the shop only spoke Spanish and so asked the person in the shop next door to help translate, that person was Stephen from Geppetos who explained that it was indeed Geppetos that was for sale and so the adventure began.

LBRA. So you opened La Tienda V which was previously Geppetos and where Stephen who is with you today worked and remained working with you.

Ken. Yes that is right, I met with Chris who owned the business and he was selling all the stock and equipment, we came to an agreement and after many months of paperwork and delays (none of these due to Chris who was a great help) it was finalised. Stephen offered to stay on to train me on the equipment but I had already decided that he would be an invaluable member of the team, and asked him to stay working with me. What a good decision that was, he has an incredible way of working is extremely knowledgeable and full of ideas and enthusiasm and has become not only my right hand man but I am extremely proud to say he is now considered a family member. Stephen moved to the island with his family when he was 7 years old, went to school here and speaks fluent Spanish, which has proved invaluable, particularly of late as sadly my wife Jackie has been diagnosed with lung cancer and he has been helping with hospital appointments and translations. Stephen and I have a great rapport and having been a manager of companies for over 40 years I do not feel that I manage this business in the same way I consider Stephen and myself to be equal partners. Every week we do the lottery Stephen picks the numbers, I buy the ticket and we have agreed to share any wins. We did win the first week but nothing since, they laugh.



LBRA. What changes have you made to the business since you took over?

Ken. Quite a few, by coincidence Chris happened to mention that Colorworks were selling their vinyl printing equipment and having previously been a printer I thought this was a heaven sent opportunity. Jackie also wanted to be involved in the business and set up the vaping side of the business and I believe we now have one of the largest selections of vapes on the island. The shop also offers shoe and watch repairs (I am an avid collector of watches) as well as key cutting and many smaller items for sale, such as batteries, sun shades, Lanzarote stickers and greeting cards.



LBRA. How easy/difficult have you found setting up a business in Lanzarote?

Ken. It was a steep learning curve and the amount of paperwork and red tape was incredible but I have to say it has been extremely worthwhile and the business has kept me sane. I am still too young to think about retiring and have always been an early riser even after late nights I am up and about bright and early so for me it's perfect.

LBRA. Did you do much research or learn the language before moving here and any advice for anyone planning the move?

Ken. Learning the language; no not really, just Duolingo and things like that but nothing serious and that is something I bitterly regret and would advise anyone considering the move to learn the language. My New Year resolution is to improve and Stephen is helping me, each day I think of a word and Stephen tells me the Spanish translation so for now it's poco by poco.

I would also say that if you are thinking of moving here, the sooner you do it the better don't leave it too late, and never underestimate the wrench of leaving behind family. Some things are not easy and the amount of red tape can make things difficult but the island, the scenery, and people make it worthwhile and Stephen and Ken both say you must learn to drive the Spanish way!

LBRA. As a member of the LBRA would you recommend others to join?

Ken. Definitely my sister Linda has been a member for a number of years and had recommended that I join and it was always my intention to. I had attended a few meetings as a guest with Linda and was very impressed by the amount of information shared and by the warm welcome I received not only by the association staff but by other members. When Jackie was diagnosed with her illness I became aware that I would need further support and quickly made the decision to join.

I have so far been very impressed, Rita came to meet me to discuss membership and was very clear and honest about what I could expect from my membership and Silvia has been invaluable when accompanying us and translating at hospital appointments etc. My wish is that in the fullness of time I can become a more active member as I class the association as an extended part of my new Lanzarote family.



LBRA. Favourite must do / see on the island?

Ken. Apart from work which is sad because I am a workaholic and enjoy my days spent working with Stephen. I love the island and Jackie and I enjoy exploring and visiting restaurants and trying different food.

LBRA. How do you like to relax, any hobbies?

Ken. As above whatever time we have we like to drive around and stop for a coffee or meal in a restaurant. We also now have a dog, which I had said we would not.

We have always had dogs and mainly large ones and I said to Jackie that it would not be fair as they do not do well in the heat. Jackie was really keen to have one, but the house tenancy said no pets. As it was we were out looking for a property to buy to let when we bumped into the agent who had helped us rent the house. Jackie said "could you ask the landlord if we could have a small dog", 2 hours later we get the call to say yes. I think it helps as I had done so much work in the house and have an extremely good relationship with the landlord. Two days later we saw a notice for a Chihuahua and we are now the proud parents of Chiquita.

LBRA. Anything about you that would surprise people, i.e. have met someone really famous, extreme sports etc?

This question causes some merriment and we get lots of answers.

Ken saw but did not meet David Bowie, he did however meet Geoff Capes the British former shot putter, strongman and professional Highland Games competitor, Ken was at the time quite young and blurted out Geoff can I have your autograph, to which Geoff replied "young man when you learn to say please I might respond to you", needless to say no autograph.

As a child Jackie used to sit on the knees of 50s/60s singer Billy Fury, her mother used to be a dress maker and made all the outfits for his auditions and shows.

Stephen played football with Robbie Williams as his Nan used to go out with Robbie's father whose pub was at the top of Stephens's road. He has also met James Nesbit and repaired the shoes of Joe Elliot lead singer of rock band Def Leppard

LBRA. 5 words to describe living in Lanzarote?

Ken. 5 in a sentence would be "best experience of my life" Individually - Island, Climate, People, Sunshine, Lifestyle.

LBRA. Future plans?

Ken. Keep on with the business and introduce more services. Work till I drop and keep breathing.

On a final note Ken would just like to add that since Jackie has been ill he has been very impressed with the support and services provided by the health service here. The hospital staff have been excellent and very caring.

LBRA. Thank you Ken, Jackie and Stephen and we wish you every success with your business and our best wishes for Jackie's recovery.



New traffic campaign in Tegui

The police have announced a new traffic project see the link for the full details.

<http://www.teguise.es/la-policia-local-de-teguise-cuenta-con-un-cinemometro-cedido-por-la-jefatura-provincial-de-trafico-para-la-realizacion-de-una-nueva-campana-de-vigilanci>

January Events

CABILDO DE LANZAROTE **CULTURA LANZAROTE** **FMC** **AGENDA CULTURAL** **ENERO 2017**
¡Vibra de emoción! culturalanzarote.com

 <p>11 FEB EXPOSICIÓN</p> <p>GEN 80</p> <p>Hasta el 11 de febrero de 2017 Organiza: Área de Cultura del Cabildo de Lanzarote CIC EL ALMACÉN</p>	 <p>7 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>RED BEARD & WILD WEST CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 7 de enero a las 21 h Organiza: Área de Cultura del Cabildo de Lanzarote TEATRO EL SALINERO</p>	 <p>7/8 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>CUARTETO DE CUERDAS DE LA HABANA 7 de enero a las 20 h IGLESIA DE LA GRACIOSA 8 de enero a las 20 h TEATRO DE TÍAS</p>
 <p>12 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>MAHLER CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 12 de enero a las 21 h TEATRO EL SALINERO</p>	 <p>17 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>PEDRO BARBOZA PATCHWORK ENSEMBLE 17 de enero a las 21 h CONVENTO DE SANTO DOMINGO (TEGUISE)</p>	 <p>19/20 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>ENSEMBLE VILLA DE LA OROTAVA 19 de enero a las 20 h IGLESIA DE LA GRACIOSA 20 de enero a las 21 h CASA CULTURA BENITO PÉREZ ARMAS (YAIZA)</p>
 <p>21/22 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>BANDA MUNICIPAL DE SANTA CRUZ 21 de enero a las 21 h AUDITORIO JAMEOS DEL AGUA 22 de enero a las 12 h MUELLE DE LA GRACIOSA</p>	 <p>22/23 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>DÚO ANTWERP 22 de enero a las 20 h EL ALJIBE DE HARÍA 23 de enero a las 20 h LA GRACIOSA</p>	 <p>27 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>QUANTUM ENSEMBLE 27 de enero a las 21 h TEATRO EL SALINERO</p>
 <p>28 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>ENSEMBLE MOSAIK 28 de enero a las 21 h TEATRO EL SALINERO</p>	 <p>29 ENERO MÚSICA</p> <p>IRINA PEÑA E IGNACIO CLEMENTE 29 de enero a las 20 h CUEVA DE LOS VERDES</p>	 <p>3 FEB MÚSICA</p> <p>ORQUESTA SINFÓNICA DE TENERIFE 3 de febrero a las 21 h AUDITORIO JAMEOS DEL AGUA</p>

Venta de entradas / Ticket Sales
Área de Cultura, Cabildo de Lanzarote
Avenida Fred Olsen s/n. Anzoátegui de 9 h a 14 h
Tel: (+34) 928 810 100 (ext. 2456) cultura@cabildodelanzarote.com

33 FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE MÚSICA DE CANARIAS 2017 ENERO FEBRERO


www.festivaldec Canarias.com

There are a number of events and concerts taking place in January for further details visit <http://culturalanzarote.com/>

Holiday dates and Calendar for 2017

Just click the link for the full display

<http://www.camaralanzarote.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/COMERCIOFechas2017.pdf>

Data Information

A new project has been launched offering visitors free WiFi exchange for information, please note the following is an automated translation.

Canarias gives tourists WiFi in exchange for their data

Data has become an essential requirement for the management of current marketing, also in tourism, in which having the personal data of tourists is a formula that facilitates the promotion of the destination and the loyalty of the visitor

For this reason, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports of the Government of the Canary Islands, through Promotur Turismo de Canarias, has strengthened its project of collecting data on tourists in the Islands with a campaign at the Canary Islands airports that provides to provide a free service Of high speed Wi-Fi to anyone who provides their data over the Internet while waiting for their flight back home. In addition, users participate in the drawing of a new vacation, this time free, on the island they choose

The main objective of this action, according to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sports of the Government of the Canary Islands, Mariate Lorenzo, is "to gather data and motivations of visitors to, in this way, reach them in a personalized way through a strategy Of communication that contemplates the sending of e-mails throughout the year, in this way it encourages both the repetition and the recommendation of the tourist"

All this process is managed by Tourism of the Canary Islands through a technological tool of customer management that responds to the need to adapt tourism promotion to the motivations and interests of each specific tourist, through their knowledge, and of the management of a personalized and direct, more efficient communication.

Holiday Homes Scams

We recently informed you that there was a company that was scamming properties and websites and offering holiday accommodation that was not theirs to sell. Sadly we have been contacted by a number of people who had been affected by this and some even over the Christmas period. However a number of arrests have now been made so we hope that this will be an end to this tragic situation that has seen owners and visitors lose money and holidays.

<http://eldia.es/sucesos/2016-12-27/22-Cae-banda-alquilaba-manera-fraudulenta-viviendas-Baleares-Canarias.htm>

Tourism Update

A record amount of tourists have visited Lanzarote in 2016



2016 saw a huge increase in the amount of visitors to Lanzarote and the trend looks set to continue throughout 2017. There was also an extremely large amount of visitors arriving on cruise ships with an anticipated 17,000 during the week prior to Christmas.

<http://www.diariodelanzarote.com/noticia/la-isla-roza-los-tres-millones-de-turistas-pero-se-enfrenta-una-bater%C3%ADa-de-retos-y-amenazas>

<http://www.lancelotdigital.com/lanzarote/record-sobre-record-en-guacimeta>

Second Phase of Road Improvements announced for Teguiise

Please note the following is an automated translation

Teguiise undertakes the second phase of road safety improvement in Costa Teguiise. The City Council will allocate more than 50 thousand euros to the elimination of architectural barriers in the tourist resort, among other actions. The mayor of Teguiise, Oswaldo Betancort, visited the second phase of the works being carried out on sidewalks and access to the pedestrian crossing of Costa Teguiise with the aim of improving road safety in the tourist resort. After road signposting on the Avenida de Las Palmeras in Costa Teguiise, the road and works area of the City of Teguiise has removed architectural barriers in the main arteries of the tourist resort, as well as access to public and school centres', as in the case of entry to CEIP Costa Teguiise. Oswaldo Betancort confirmed that from the Roads and Works area, coordinated by Eugenio Robayna, "progress is being made so that the residents and visitors of Costa Teguiise gain in safety and comfort," said the mayor on Monday morning. "The new actions are intended to improve the traffic safety and accessibility of people with reduced mobility," he added. For his part, the head of the area recalls that "something more than 50 thousand euros will be invested since the first phase of the Traffic Plan was started, in which the road traffic marks were repainted, LED lights were placed to increase the visibility And considerably reduce the speed of traffic in pedestrian crossings, among other actions that seek to ensure the safety of road users.

<http://www.teguise.es/teguise-emprende-la-segunda-fase-de-mejora-de-la-seguridad-vial-en-costa-teguise/>

Underwater sculpture museum

The first and only underwater sculpture museum in Europe opened in Lanzarote this week.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/travel/travel_news/article-4105626/Europe-s-underwater-museum-opens-Divers-explore-300-life-sized-sculptures-coast-Lanzarote.html

Together

we make a great team!

We actively encourage our members to work together and support each other wherever and whenever possible. May we please remind you that our Business Members are all qualified, reliable, established companies and offer a great range of services, from Photographers, Insurance Brokers, Estate Agents, Wedding Planners, Bars, Printers, Restaurants, Property Management, Language Schools and many other types of businesses. If you would like to network with fellow members then please let us know.

Language Exchange

Do you need to practise your Spanish / English? Join our Intercambio de idiomas / Language exchange sessions now being held weekly. Everyone welcome to join, however some level of English/Spanish is required as these are conversational sessions not teaching classes. They are friendly groups and look forward to welcoming you.

Every Wednesday evening at the Starlight Cinema Café, Rooftop Biosfera Plaza Puerto del Carmen- 5.30 to 7.00pm

And now every Monday evening at Bar El Bereber in Playa Honda starting at 6.00p.m.



We hope you have enjoyed this edition and as always would welcome your comments and suggestions. Have a great year!

Best wishes

Danny, Silvia, Rita and the LBRA Team



Address: Local 63/64, Centro Atlantico,
Puerto del Carmen, Tias, 35510, Lanzarote, Las Palmas, Spain

Email: lanzaroteba@gmail.com

Website: <http://lanzarotebusinessassociation.com/>

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)