

## Tenerife, Computers, Classic Cars,... and Noel

The island of Tenerife greeted us with warm sunshine, on a quiet and peaceful Sunday morning. As usual, we had some work to catch up with before we left the ship - leaving us free for the rest of the day. Our plan was to walk to the town centre, look for a new camera lead, an internet café where we could send you the last report, and finally a resting place where we could enjoy a local meal.



Like many other places we visit on our travels, city centres are being redeveloped at a regular rate, and Santa Cruz is currently receiving a major facelift. However, the planners have carefully retained fine old buildings from many architectural eras and styles, which sit very comfortably alongside the modern - yes, ancient and modern indeed.

The camera shop we visited did sell Olympus cameras, but not the lead needed to transfer pictures to computers. We thanked the shop staff (for nothing really) and as we were leaving we asked where we could find an internet café, which would be open on a Sunday morning. We were directed to a small back street where, lo and behold lay an internet café, but sadly closed. After walking to the end of this street, we were coming to the conclusion that all was lost...until... we retraced our steps, passing the internet café, where a lady was opening up the door, making us her first customers of the day! Had we looked at the small notice outside we would have seen the opening hours shown - 11am on Sundays!

No problem in finding food and drink establishments, either indoors or outdoors, and we chose one where we recognised some friendly faces, including Noel. We must explain that we had heard of a dance host from our next village Gresford, working on Fred Olsen ships, from Jean Williams at the Griffin, where Noel also enjoys a tipple! Yes, we finally had the pleasure of meeting Noel soon after we left Dover, and guess what - he is also another Williams!



Our computer lecture talks got off to a good start, and we happily realised that the hard work we undertook to make a library of PowerPoint presentations was now paying off. Our contract is to give talks to passengers in the main entertainment lounge, but previous experience makes us convinced that "hands-on" workshops are also necessary too. We have an excellent cruise director - Anthony Borradaile - who saw the logic in our thinking, and who gave us a room for workshops each morning. Now we were back in business in true Van Gogh style!

As you all know, we are also classic car nutters, and have prepared a series of presentations on this theme for future use. Well, to cut a long story down to size, Anthony also agreed to us presenting a classic car talk to passengers in the main lounge. This was a lively and well attended gathering, and which lead to much discussion afterwards.

Yes, we trod new ground indeed, with many thanks to our go-ahead cruise director!