

# The Grundtvig Echo

## Lifestyles Kicks Off in Alicante



If you're trying to find a nice shaded place, secluded from the blazing sun on a hot Spanish end of summer's day, then the Sede Ciudad de Alicante on Avenida Doctor Ramón y Cajal 4 is the place to be.

And if you walk up the marble staircase to the second, no, third floor you may find there a quite unusual group of people sitting quietly around a table waiting for something to happen or for somebody to say something. Sit and take a seat, you'll soon realize they're there for a very special reason. They'll tell you they've come to listen to each other talking about how to make other people talk about the way they live. Sounds interesting. However, you might think they're a bit crazy and that some are just waiting to go out for a stroll on the promenade under the palm trees, or that others are dying to get their tongues on a deliciously fresh ice-cream, or simply to plunge in those blue-green appealing Mediterranean waves.

But no, you're wrong. They will spend most of their two days seriously showing each other pictures of where they've come from and of what they do in their country. They will take notes, ask questions, examine, debate and finally decide. How courageous of them.

And what is most surprising is that these people all seem very happy to be there and just share whatever they feel like with the others present.

Now you may wonder how on earth did these Belgians, Italians, Luxembourgish, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Turks ever get together. Yes, you're right! They're Grundtvig partners determined to make the best of their project if not the best project ever made. For they had begun their common adventure with an inspiring theme for all generations: what and how do you eat and drink?

Well, there were plenty of restaurants, snack bars, cafes around presenting an array of splendid exotic dishes, sea foods, paellas, and any tapas you liked. So off they all went exploring the town smelling the kitchen aromas floating in the avenues and streets in a mild soft warm atmosphere. Their project was starting there, on the field, amongst a multitude of mixed generations. Alicante was offering them all she had and that was necessary to stimulate their senses. The Partner Ship is on its way.



September 2011  
Daniel Oddie  
Partnership Coordinator