

Alicante Consulate Quarterly Newsletter

Dear all,

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter.

The British Consulate in Alicante will be making every effort to assist the most vulnerable customers over the busy summer period.

Please do get in touch with us if you know of someone that may need our help.

Contact is now done via our contact form here: www.gov.uk/contact-consulate-alicante

A COUPLE OF UPDATES TO SHARE FROM MADRID

HMA Simon Manley gave a short video update to UK nationals last week. Here is a link to the video: <https://www.facebook.com/BritsInSpain/videos/3290730450940942/>

Please do share on your channels as appropriate.

To try to address individual questions **Madrid is holding a Facebook Live Q&A with HMA and our Regional Consular Policy Advisor Lorna Geddie, tomorrow Tuesday 30 July at 16:00 - please promote this to your groups!** We are using Facebook because it is the simplest way for us to host this kind of session, but we recognise that some people are not on Facebook, so if they have any burning questions then they could ask a friend to submit it on their behalf. The event will be on Facebook.com/Britsinspain

Madrid colleagues are keen to share more information from our partners on our social media channels, so if you have news that you think would be of interest to other UK nationals, please do let me know, so that we can share it on your behalf.

MEET THE TEAM

I'm sure most of you have met us before, but just in case, here is a recent picture of the team.

From left to right, Sarah- Jane Morris, Rosa Perez, Elizabeth Bell, Sara Munsterhjelm, Michaela Robinson, Rhiannon Matthews and Laura de la Fuente.



EMERGENCY TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Any British national who needs to travel urgently but doesn't have a full validity passport (it could be lost, stolen, expired or damaged) has to apply online for an Emergency Travel Document.

If you or anyone else is in that situation, they should apply online at:

www.gov.uk/emergency-travel-document

They will have to upload their photo, travel booking confirmation and any other documents requested and pay online.

As long as the application has been completed correctly, the customer will get an email within two working days advising them to go and collect the document from their nearest British Consulate.

If you have any vulnerable customers who are finding it difficult to apply online, they can contact the British Consulate on 965 21 60 22.

THANK YOU



We really appreciate the support the Overseas Supermarket in the Alicante and Murcia area gave us last month.

Overseas supermarkets allowed us to hold Brexit and Living in Spain "Pop Up" events in many of their stores over the month of June giving their customers the opportunity to ask questions about Brexit, applying for residency and access to healthcare.

One enthusiastic customer in particular seemed very happy to see us in their local store and didn't hold back from asking questions! More Pop Ups to come in September and October.



A reminder of links to our videos on common questions – please do keep sharing them:

- Registering as a resident: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DICzsTFBFA>
- Access to healthcare: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOWGKYJUFM8>
- Pensions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHUrnxjaueM>
- Driving licences: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PzAm_rZHtA
- Emergency Travel Documents www.gov.uk/emergency-travel-document

RESIDENCY CERTIFICATES AND BREXIT

If you are contacted by anyone who is refused their residency application because of Brexit, please ask them to request a “hoja de reclamacion” (complaints form) and complete it whilst at the police station, then ask the police to stamp it and keep a copy as proof.

The local authorities tell us that they are still issuing residency certificates to UK nationals so if anyone does have any problems, it’s important they submit a complaint then and there.

Please keep encouraging people to get their residency now if they haven’t yet done so. There are appointments available, especially if you look early in the morning.

To book an appointment to apply for residency in Spain click on the link below, select the province you live in and click on **Policia - Certificados UE** from the drop down menu and complete your details.

<https://sede.administracionespublicas.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>

FAREWELL EVENT FOR THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR

During the month of May, the British Ambassador visited Alicante and we held a farewell event for local association presidents and British councillors for EU residents. The Ambassador thanked everyone there for their hard work and dedication, and said how much he had enjoyed being Ambassador in Spain.



CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to all British nationals who have successfully been voted in on the council of their local town halls. It is great to see so many British nationals keen to get involved in their local communities in this way.

Here are Darren Parmenter and Samantha Hull who are now part of the San Fulgencio town hall team.



I hope you all have a good summer!

Michaela

Michaela and the British Consulate Team, Alicante