

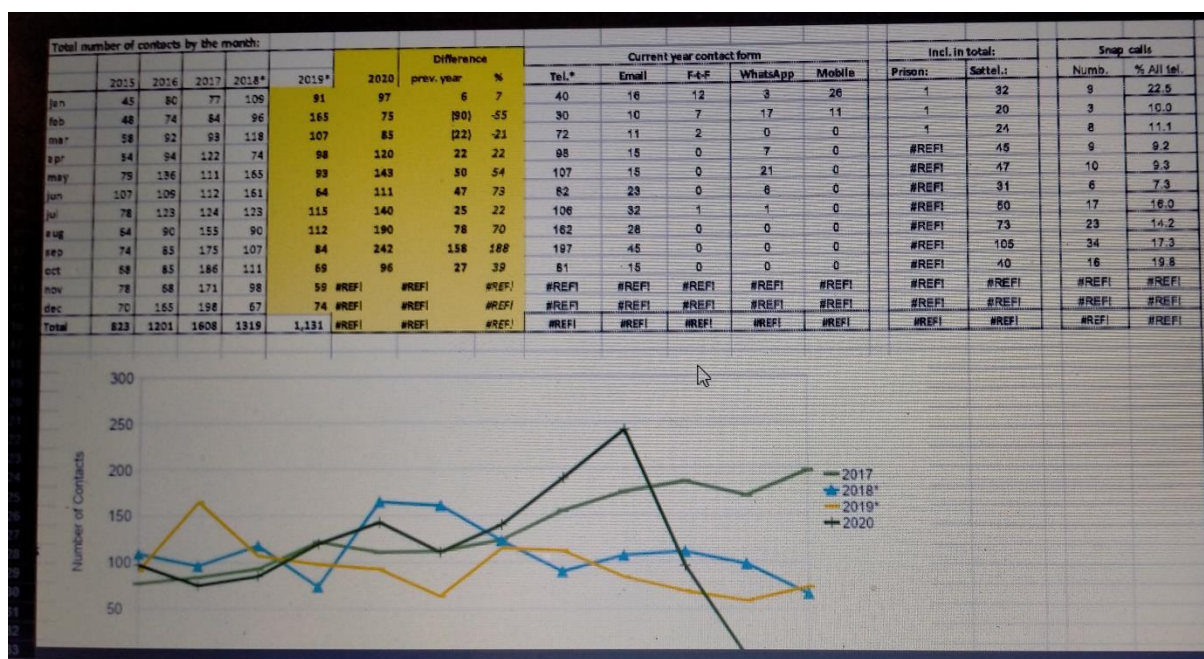
SAMARITANS IN SPAIN NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2020



Hello Everyone,

Well done to all our volunteers for coping so well with the “new normal”. Our call rates to the [Freephone 900525100](tel:900525100) & email contacts via pat@samaritansinspain.com are just increasing by the day now and all our Listeners are to be congratulated on the service we continue to provide. It has been challenging for those at the Centre troubleshooting rotas, mentoring, technical issues with call forwarding via Megacall, care plans, back up and offloading issues, co-ordinating with satellite team members, monitoring of the WhatsApp groups etc. Richard Hunt and Les Holloway have been bearing the brunt of this load and deserve our huge thanks! The guys do need a break however. **If any of our more experienced Listeners are able to offer support as a duty leader or mentor please do contact me directly.** This month we also lose Carol Cox (former Centre Manager) as she is moving to a different area of the Costas. We wish you well Carol! Meetings to re-distribute some of the heavy workload will be held this week and volunteers will be kept informed of the latest contact points via email / WhatsApp.

The latest call statistics graph showing the 2020 high peak.



We have a few **shifts available at the Drop In** now for those who feel comfortable coming back to work at Punta Prima.

Recruitment and Training:

On 19th November our Listener training team will join a webinar hosted by UK Samaritans & Befrienders Worldwide to brief us on the new (and more digital) training package. We have a number of applicants in Sotogrande, Madrid and Punta Prima in the pipeline awaiting training dates asap. For the Alicante region I shall be pursuing a recruitment campaign along with Garry Gibbons our partner at ASSIST. Meanwhile we welcome newbie David Upjohn at our HQ.

Covid rules permitting we will shortly be organising our **Christmas events**. Arrangements (including online options) for the **2021 Annual All Volunteers meeting**, (usually held end Feb / early March) are being considered by the Board.

Charity Shop

The opening hours have been extended now to **10am to 3pm Mon – Sat**. Congratulations to our Shop volunteers for always making the Shop a welcoming and attractive place. In previous years our volunteers have been pretty scary :



This year it will be **Halloween Tombola on Sat 31st October**. Please come along if you are within easy reach of the area & meet others in the team for a tea or coffee! We need **donations of suitable prizes** for this and also for a raffle at the fundraiser in Kacey's Bar 4pm to 8pm on 7th November in Playa Flamenca. If you can offer prizes please pass them to Shop Supervisors Lesley, Sheila or Denny. **THANK YOU!**

Charity Music Event

Saturday 7 Nov, 4-8pm

In aid of Samaritans in Spain



Alex Tipping



Melissa Jade



Rees Ruchat



Kacey's Bar



Chloe Jones



Robert Knight



Diane Diaz

PLUS...

50c from every cake with coffee sold
donated to Samaritans in Spain

**Samaritans in Spain
Tombola**

**Raffle Tickets -
just €2 a strip!**

**Home baked savouries
and other delights!**

Kacey's Bar:



**To find out more about Samaritans in
Spain visit www.samaritansinspain.com**

Samaritans in Spain is operated by Costa Blanca Samaritans as a 100% Not-For-Profit organisation under CV-01-042952-A and with NIF G54341466.



900 525 100

NEWS FLASH: THIS EVENT IS NOW FULLY BOOKED!!

Please do still come along and try your luck at the tombola, buy a raffle ticket and/or buy something from one of the stalls - home baked savouries and personalised mugs/masks for sale.

A massive thank you to everyone for their support ❤️

DONATION FROM MEMORIAL GOLF DAY IN TENERIFE



Samaritans in Spain has received a substantial donation thanks to the generosity of John Shearn's friends and family who wanted to raise awareness of suicide and mental health issues. Sadly John passed away last September having been unable to overcome his own internal struggles. On 27 August, on what would have been John's 29th birthday, his mum, Helen Adleigh together with Bizzles Bar and Amarilla Golf Course organised a charity day in his honour. As well as the golf, the day included a raffle and buffet and they managed to raise a staggering €3,097, of which €2,097 was donated to Samaritans in Spain. The remaining money was passed to Volver a Vivir; a local charity on the Island of Tenerife where John lived. In thanking those involved, Helen had a very poignant message to share: **"Always be kind because you never know what an outward smile might be hiding"**

**What a great message in the article above to be shared!
Please look after yourselves and each other - and look out
for further updates on what is happening at "Sams" in your
email inbox and/or the Listener WhatsApp chat groups.**

Lynda Brettle

President

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