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## Member to Member

### Helpful Hints, Inspiration and Other Musings

#### Great New Hangout!

Tired of paying full price for books in English? Like to kick back and relax at a friendly coffeehouse and indulge in a chocolate chunk muffin or maybe grab a beer and some pizza? You need to check out Madrid's first second-hand English bookstore, J & J Books and Coffee (c/ Espíritu Santo, 47 - nearest Metro is Noviciado). It's open 10 am to 11 pm - Mon to Thurs, and 10 am until 1 am on Friday and Saturday. I'm not sure about Sundays since one flyer I picked up at the store said they are closed, but the other said they are open 7 days a week. Give them a call at 91-521-8576 for further information. Their website ([www.jandjbooksandcoffee.com](http://www.jandjbooksandcoffee.com)) still isn't up and running yet.

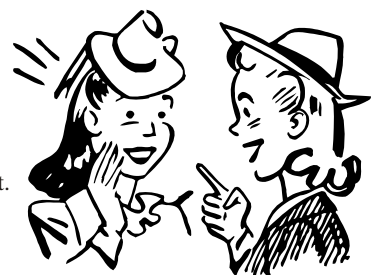
Pop by and check out their list of monthly special events: sale days, open-mike nights, children's story time and book clubs. They

accept your used books Mon through Fri from 10 am until 2 pm. Their flyer says that will accept books in any language, but they do not accept all books. They must consider the book's condition, public interest and level of their stock in that genre/author. Traded books earn a three-to-one ratio. If you simply want the cash, they will give you about one-fifth of the selling price. (The average price of the books I bought from them was about four and a half euros.)

I brought in a shopping bag full of paperbacks and exchanged them for some really great fiction and even a guide to London for my upcoming trip. Afterwards, I relaxed at the bar, chatting with the friendly salesgirl (J & J, Javi and Jamie were away on a trip). It really was a "Cheers" type environment. By the end of my tea, I knew everyone's name, and we all chatted about life in Spain. If you wish to stick around a bit, Trivial Pursuit and other board

games are available at your request.

Andrea Isiminger



#### Dog Kennel

Are you looking for a nice place to bring your dog or cat for a weekend, a day or during your holiday? I can highly recommend Residencia "Las Brañas" in Villanueva de la Cañada. Tel: 91-815-6013. Villanueva de la Cañada is close to Majadahonda and easy to reach. The owner of Las Brañas and his family treat your pet very well. Our dog Bas is always very happy to go there! What more can you ask for?

- Annet Maatman

## Golf

We play golf in Las Rejas in Majadahonda (or in Nuevo Club de Golf in Las Matas) every Monday morning from around 11 am. If you are interested in joining us, please contact one of us.

Annet Maatman (91-858-9226), Ute Hermann (91-383-3353), Marjatta Aalto (91-345-8115)

## Barcelona Lost

Photography exhibit at Telefónica. Until May 23. No entrance fee. Joan Colom's photographed the not-so-nice parts of Barcelona in the late 1950s and early 60s. His unusual shooting style captured truly candid shots in The red light district, in a neighborhood market and in an old slum area very near the spiffy new international conference center. Great for all fans of old photos and especially for

Barcelona fans: all these areas have changed almost beyond recognition. Telefónica is on Gran Vía, corner of Fuencarral (entrance on Fuencarral), Metro Gran Vía.

- Anne Pinder

Spring is here! Do you have your new espadrilles?

Called "alpargatas" in Spanish, these rope-soled canvas shoes are great for the summer. They come in all colors and styles: the simplest style is so inexpensive (as low as 4 euros) you may end up with a whole rainbow of colors to match all your summer clothes. The only disadvantage of these shoes is that you should not get the soles wet (the rope may disintegrate). If you get them very wet, stuff with newspaper, turn soles up to dry and hope for the best. With a little care, the uppers can be washed by hand, using a nailbrush or similar.

Two traditional places to get "alpargatas" are:  
-Antigua Casa Crespo, calle Divino Pastor 29,

Metro Bilbao or San Bernardo

-Hernanz, calle Toledo 18, Metro Sol (just south of the Plaza Mayor).

Both these stores are wonderful old places. Be sure to check out the baskets in the Hernanz shop windows on Toledo and around the corner on Latoneros. If Hernanz doesn't have what you want, check out Lobo at calle Toledo 30.

- Anne Pinder

## **You Need a Ticket to Ride!**

Hold on to your Metro ticket until your ride is over! Recently I tossed my validated 10-trip ticket in a litter basket near the boarding platform before I boarded the train for my tenth ride. It just wasn't my day. The Metro police boarded the same car - one stop later - and checked everyone's ticket for validation. Of course, mine was in the trash already! I was escorted off the train at the next station and fined 23 euros on the spot!

- Mary Kenny