



# Canterbury Club Newsletter



The satisfying results of grape harvesting



Harvesting grapes by hand

## Canterbury Club September Grape Harvest Festival

Club President JB Presents:  
**CANTERBURY GRAN FIESTA:  
GYPSIES & BULLFIGHTERS**  
Friday, September 16th, 9:45pm  
For Teachers, Students, Friends & Family

Where: Burladero, Calle Echegaray 19.  
Near Plaza Santa Ana, Metro Sevilla or  
Antón Martín.

Description: The Canterbury Club will kick off the new school year with a magnificent fiesta in one of the bullfighters and gypsies favorite bars of Madrid. Inside the Burladero (or bullfighters hideout), you'll be welcomed by the enormous head of a black bull above the bar with two long, sharp horns that was immortalized in Las Ventas bullring not so many years ago. Baudi, our bartender, will be toreado behind the bar, underneath the black snout of his favorite animal. He will be serving up mixed drinks like a storm with the skillful work of the cape and sword, topped off by ice and a lemon twist. This is the last Friday of summer, so it's time to show off your tans and get to know everybody on a warm and sultry night in the perfect place to meet new classmates, new friends and ... who knows...!

Canterbury Director Richard Presents:  
**THE GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
Saturday, September 24th, 8:15 am  
For Teachers, Students, Friends & Family

Times: 8:15 am to 9:00 pm (bus leaves party 7:30 pm) Meeting Point: Canterbury Alonso Martinez, Calle Covarrubias 22, 2 Der. Bus Cost: 15 € Lunch 20 €. Reservations and Payment: To reserve your place on the bus (we have space for 55 people) and pay the 35 Euros trip cost:

1) CCS teachers and study abroad students: From 10-5 pm, Mon-Fri: Go to Canterbury Alonso Martinez at Calle Covarrubias 22, 2nd Floor, Derecho. Metro Alonso Martinez. Take metro exit Santa Engracia. Cross Calle Santa Engracia and walk up the left hand side. Take the first left, Calle Manuel Gonzalez Longoria, then make the first right on C/ Covarrubias.

2) CE teachers: From 10-5 pm, Mon-Fri: Go to Canterbury Serrano at Calle Claudio Coello 50, 1 Int. Izq, Metro Serrano, exit Calle Claudio Coello. Schedule of Events: 1) Arrival at Manolo's Vineyards. Grape picking orientation at 10 am. 2) Picking grapes in teams 3) Tour Don Alvaro de Luna Cooperativo de Vinos and learn how wine is made in Spain. 4) Wine Tasting 5) Lunch on Willy's ranch. 6) Music Festival and dancing 7) 7:30 Farewell.

Clases de Inglés  
c/ Covarrubias 22, 2 Der  
91.125.0109  
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### Conversation Topic:

## A Grape Harvester's Story

What's in a knife (cuchillo)? As a philosopher once said (una vez dijo), "in the hands of a delinquent it's a dangerous weapon (arma) and in the hands of a surgeon (cirujano) it can save a life." In this case, the catastrophe was that the knife was not in the hand of the English teacher when it should have been (debería haber estado). You may ask (podrías preguntar) why the knife should be (debería estar) in the hand of an English teacher, when the English teacher should be at work teaching English with a pen and not a knife on a Saturday morning in October? The answer is that first of all we're talking about Canterbury and second of all we're in Spain. As the Spanish like to say, Spain is different, and as any teacher in Madrid will tell you, Canterbury is different!



The September Grape Harvest Festival



To stay up to date on events & view photos, "like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter! (search term: Canterbury English)



On the first or second Saturday of the new fall season at 10 am in the morning, you will find most Canterbury teachers in a vineyard (viñedo) near the Spanish pueblo called San Martin de Valdeiglesias with a knife in hand, chopping (cortando) at the stems (tallos) of grapes with tremendous enthusiasm, much to the surprise and delight (placer) of the tired immigrant grape harvesters (vendimiadores) who have been (han estado) at work all week.

However (sin embargo), to everybody's dismay (consternación), this year there were over sixty English teachers and students at 10 am in the fields, standing without knives. And it was not just (no solamente) one missing (que faltaba) knife that had ground to a halt (paró en seco) the whole harvest, but sixty shiny (reluciente) steak (para bistec) knives that were missing. You may well (podrías bien) ask, where were they? Well (bien), they were wrapped (envuelto) in a brown paper bag, sitting in the passenger seat of Willy's car, as he drove up and down between fields (campos) on the dirt (tierra) roads near San Martin, hopelessly lost (perdido sin remedio). It didn't help his driving when he thought about the sixty Canterbury teachers who were waiting in Manolo's vineyard for their knife, so they could start the grape harvest.

Willy had passed the same white chapel three times before he finally made the right turn. And there it was! He saw that familiar field, which sloped (sube) up towards the sky, dotted (salpicado) with vine bushes (vid). Manolo, ex-president of the Wine Coop, was standing in his usual position up high on the yellow tractor, in between the tall black rubber (goma) containers, many of them already full of dark red, almost black grapes (uvas). He made a two fingered sign of salutation with his hand and his face creased (se pliego) into a smile. "Otro año más," he said and Willy nodded in relief (alivio) at finally finding familiar Manolo and realizing (dandose cuenta) that his broken alarm clock (despertador roto), hadn't caused a bigger disaster and that the teachers had made the best of it (lo habían tomado a bien) by breaking the stems with hands and fingers. Later, Manolo commented to Willy in private from his place (lugar) on top of the grapes, while squeezing (apretando) his leather (cuero) bota of wine, tilting (inclinando) his head back and opening his mouth to catch the stream, (chorro)] that he had even encountered rows (filas) of



**Canterbury Club members enjoying a night out meeting colleagues and making new friends at the event "Gypsies and Bullfighters," with a beer or glass of wine in hand!**

perfect teeth marks in some of the stems.

The teachers gathered around (rodearon a) Willy for a late grape harvest orientation and he managed (consigió) to put on his best Spanish bravado, and said, "now that you all know how the hunter-gatherers (cazadores-recolectores) of prehistoric Spain harvested their grapes, using teeth and fingers, it's going to be much easier for the rest of the morning." Willy held up (levantó) his sharp (afilado) silversteak knife and kneeled (se arrodilló) next to a vine and the large grapes, which were brushing the ground (cepillando el suelo) and bursting with juice (reventándose con jugo). Willy put the knife to a stem of grapes and showed the different techniques of the harvester that ranged (que va desde...hasta) from a gentle sawing motion (suave movimiento de serrar) to a quick cut. He then distributed the knives to the young British, Irish, American and Canadian teachers who were listening attentively to the modus operandi of an expert Spanish grape harvester.

Afterwards, when the warm sun was high in the sky, Willy stood next to Manolo on the tractor, sampling a few swigs (tragos) of last years grape. They looked out at the field and saw that half the vines (vides) were surrounded (rodeados) by teams of harvesters, who were enjoying the cobalt blue sky and sunny day, far from the pressures of the city. Manolo winked (guiñó) at Willy and said, "next year don't forget to set (poner) your alarm!"

- Written by RC

#### Professor of the Month: Tom Hopkins

I'm from Bury St. Edmunds, a small town in Suffolk, in the east of England. I studied French and sociology at the University of Warwick. I've been teaching for nearly five years now, before coming to Spain I was working in Taiwan. I originally came to Madrid for a month to do the course, but I loved the city so much I ended up staying. I travelled a lot in South East Asia while living in Taiwan and hope to visit South America at some point in the next couple of years. At the moment though I'm very happy to be in Madrid and consider myself lucky to have such eager and friendly students in all my classes.

#### Student of the Month: Noelia Mata & Julia Garcia (Irias Gonzalez Abogados)

Tom Hopkins says of his choice of students of the month, "Noelia and Julia are always cheerful and ready to learn. They both always put a lot of effort into their work and their English has improved noticeably in the last few months as a result. Every class is enjoyable because of their pleasant attitudes and willingness to make an effort."

### Canterbury Club Gran Fiesta: Gypsies & Bullfighters

