



PIONEER CHAIR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LA LAGUNA

Telemedicine, robotics and tele-surgery

These are the buzzwords of modern medicine and thanks to an agreement with the University of La Laguna (ULL) and the Canaria Ágora and Cepsa foundations, they have joined forces to create a new Chair.

Antonio Alarcó, lecturer and chief surgeon for pancreas transplants at the University Hospital HUC, was unanimously appointed Director of this Chair. The agreement provides for the education, research and training of current and future surgeons in the Canary Islands. This Chair is the second to exist in this field in Spain.

The HUC has an operating theatre directly linked to the University of La Laguna. The students do not sterilise themselves and enter the operating theatre in order to observe an operation and thus increase the risk for the patient, but they can follow the events at the operating table directly from the lecture room. In the field of robotics, students can use simulation devices to practice operations at different levels of difficulty and with different clinical procedures without risking a patient's health. They can do this as often as they want, until they feel secure and



Photo: Cab Tfe

↑ A pioneer agreement for training of surgeons at the ULL under the direction of Antonio Alarcó (2nd right)

can master the individual steps precisely. "What we started twelve years ago, we are now expanding even further. I am very proud to be able to head this Chair. The Canary Islands are amongst the pioneers in

the fields of telemedicine and robotics in Spain. Nevertheless, we must never forget that man cannot be replaced by a robot or another machine. They are built and operated by humans," stressed Alarcó. ■

MULTIPLE OFFENCES

Illegal diving activities

In December, the Guardia Civil (GEAS) special unit for diving operations at the Santa Cruz port, reported several violations committed by a professional diving company.

During a routine inspection, the police divers noticed cleaning work underway on a 190-metre-long freighter that did not comply with the regulations. Initially, cleaning work was carried out on the hull of the boat in an area more than 100 metres deep. An escort boat was moored to the freighter, but not occupied. Secondly, there were no personnel on board to supervise the handling of the boat's pumps and suction devices. The professional diver was working alone and that is also forbidden. The dive site was not marked as is prescribed to avoid involuntary accidents and danger to the divers. For such work at least two divers are required to be on duty and one on board the escort vessel, who monitors safety and provides first aid in an emergency. In addition, a technician should have been on board. Since none of these regulations were being fulfilled, the life of the professional diver was endangered. In addition, the company could not produce any valid documents to justify this type of work. Due to the acute safety deficiencies and the danger posed to the diver's life, the officers stopped the operation on the spot. The company was reported to the police. The following rules apply to professional divers: Never dive alone, never carelessly underestimate the danger and above all observe the necessary safety measures. ■



Photo: Guardia Civil

↑ This area hadn't been checked for a while

GREAT GOLFERS

Bay Bounders make cancer bus donation

up to hospitals in the north of the island.

The staff and owners at Palm Sports bar were on hand to ensure the Bounders had a good time with an excellent meal and entertainment. Paul Kettle of Bay Bounders organised the whole event, which achieved such a terrific contribution to the new cancer bus in part because the Palm Sports bar contributed as well, in thanks to The Bay Bounders for holding the event there.

Apart from a great three course meal, attendees were entertained with games and quizzes followed by entertainment and Karaoke, when a number of fine voices from the golf group showed their singing professionalism.

For more details of the Cancer Bus Charity please contact Carol at: carolchappell2004@yahoo.com. For information on the Bay Bounders Golf society, contact Jenny on: jennyandtom@hotmail.co.uk. ■



↑ Ron Dixe and Jenny Constable from The Bay Bounders golf society present €760 to Carol Salisbury Chappell (centre) for the Cancer Bus Charity

The Cancer Bus Charity was given a huge boost towards securing its second bus recently, when The Bay Bounders golf society from Los Palos Golf managed to raise €760 at their annual dinner held at the

end of last year at the Palm Sports bar in Costa Adeje.

Carol Salisbury Chappell accepted the money on behalf of the Charity from Jenny Constable and Ron Dixe, who have been involved with Bay Bounders for over 20 years. Carol said how pleased the Charity was that they could now get a start on a second transport alternative for taking cancer sufferers

EL CAMISÓN DENTAL CLINIC

MICROSCOPIC ODONTOLOGY CENTRE



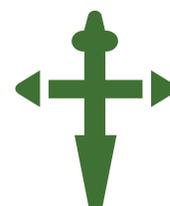
"Your smile is our smile"

Tel. +34 922 753 348 / 649 213 564

Residencial El Camisón, Playa de Las Américas (Arona). Next to Café Época
Make your appointment Monday to Friday: 10am to 2pm and 3pm to 6pm
clinicaelcamison@gmail.com • www.clinicadentalelcamison.com



DO MORE THAN
HOPE FOR THE BEST
902 886 226 www.todocancer.org



aecc
Join us and combat cancer