

RADIO NEWSLETTER FOR THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2006

This week the ESG would like to talk about two events coming up we think you will be most interested in:

The first is an ESG fund raising event, with a raffle and cake stall and another opportunity to sign our petition for proper health studies to be done in Gibraltar and Spain – this will be at the Piazza, this Saturday from 10.30am onwards.

The second event is to do with a cross border protest taking place tomorrow, Friday at 6.00pm at la Plaza Cruz Herrera in La Linea:

Do you or anyone in your family suffer from Cancer?

The ESG is extremely concerned that the heavily polluting petrochemical industries on the Bay, as well as other sources of pollution, may be contributing to the number of cancer victims and to victims of other health disorders which occur in Gibraltar and in the neighbouring Spanish towns.

Many will have heard by now of the peer reviewed study carried out by Professor Benach that showed that three provinces in Spain (Cadiz, Huelva and Sevilla) have the highest mortality rate in all of Spain with Cadiz faring the worst. In these statistics, the Bay is also highlighted as harbouring the highest rates of cancers and other serious illnesses.

Because the environment knows no borders and because it is believed locally that Gibraltar, too, has an alarmingly high number of cancer patients, and yes, victims, the ESG believes **that the protest being held tomorrow, in La Linea**, by the Plataforma for an Epidemiological Study of which the ESG is a member, should be strongly supported by everyone concerned from Gibraltar and Spain.

The Plataforma recently launched a petition addressed to La Comision Mixta which includes the Gibraltar Government as well as the Junta de Andalucia and authoritative bodies in the Bay. La Comision Mixta had already agreed some time back to jointly fund an independent and rigorous set of health studies to establish once and for all the true impact from these heavily polluting industries. The Govt of Gibraltar has endorsed the need for such studies.

Petrochemical industries elsewhere in the world are known to cause health problems and even lower life expectancy as well as degrade the environment and so we firmly believe we have to stick to our guns on this and insist that the studies are done without further delay.

At the protest itself a few very short speeches will be given and our local musicians will provide some musical support. There will also be opportunity to sign our petition if you haven't already done so;

The main aim of the protest is to have a strong public display of continued concerns in all our communities that industrial pollution is harming and possibly even killing people. **Can we count on your support?** One hour is all you will need to show that OUR health issues deserve action and action **NOW!**

Join the ESG at 5.30pm at the border – it could be the most important thing you do for yourself and your family!!