

Spanish Conversation - June 2022

6 of us finally met in my sunny garden to discuss a favourite mode of transport. A bicycle was top of one person's list, firstly as a child on a bike costing £3 (no helmet) to today's state of the art mountain bike, cycling from Lands' End to John O'Groats or Fort William to Montrose. Benefits include exercise, fresh air, fantastic views and quiet.

A train came first with another, who always travels facing backwards to enjoy the views longer. No stress, no navigation, just sitting enjoying the scenery and a drink while travelling to your destination - except when there are strikes!

The favourite varied according to her age with another, from hitch-hiking when young, then coaches then trains. Cycling in London before the traffic became horrendous, getting an electric bike for country lanes. Memorable journeys - a helicopter ride in Rio de Janeiro and sightseeing boat down the Amazon.

Another member prefers "shank's pony", has always loved walking, as a child roaming the countryside fishing for tiddlers in streams and has roamed all his life, including long distance walks like the spectacular 62-mile Northumberland coastal path from Druridge Bay to Bamburgh. The main difference now is that he doesn't walk in the rain.

Memorable journeys for another included a helicopter trip (retirement gift from the school) along the Tees over High Force, Cow Green and then Lammerside and Pendragon castles, and Arkengarthdale. Amazing was a cable car journey "Fuente De" in northern Spain, 1,823 metres high, looking down onto several flying eagles

One member remembers a spectacular helicopter ride over Victoria Falls plus enjoys long distance train journeys, watching the character of countries change as you travel through them.

July topic is our favourite drink, alcoholic or otherwise! and will hopefully be outdoors, weather permitting.

Stay safe

Lusia McAnna