

## **Spanish Conversation – May 2020**

Our group shared a written “conversation” about the May topic of “A favourite play or musical event” These covered a wide range of events, from one person’s fabulous trip as a special birthday trip to Castle Howard Proms with the London Gala Orchestra with Leslie Garrett and Geraint Dodd, really wonderful music enhanced by a backdrop of the lake and followed by a spectacular fireworks display.

Another discussed a memorable jazz and blues concert in Newcastle with musician Jools Holland who has been active since 1974 but still plays more than 30 concerts a year (this year probably not) with backing from 20 musicians and singers from many countries, playing a wide range of instruments. The plan was then to take some of the family to another of his concerts this year, but as so many events it has sadly been postponed until next year.

The National Theatre’s unforgettable Live Screening of Frankenstein was another person’s favourite, which despite the story being written more than 200 years ago in 1817, still addresses a wide range of interesting and relevant issues including; What does it mean to be a human being? The miracle of life, the importance of nature, the relationship between father and son, between creator and the being created, what happens when pride turns to arrogance, human behaviour towards others considered to be “different” to us and the quality of forgiveness.

Another favourite was our Castle Players 31<sup>st</sup> summer play Alice in Wonderland which was magical and extraordinary on so many levels. The hard work and commitment by all the actors and back stage crew is always awe inspiring, but that year having to make costumes for and teach a cast of more than 40 people, many of who had never acted before plus a large number of them were children, was just awe inspiring. But it was a fantastic, exciting night, full of laughter and an enduring and incredible memory of the spirit of our community.

The topic for June will be the more philosophical theme “Will life change after the lockdown? What changes would you like to see/not see?”

### **Spanish PDD Group (Palabra del Día)**

This new group is doing really well and has learned at least 71 words so far, with words triggering some lovely email conversations about topics raised such as Spanish customs, old fashioned tapas bars, Spanish cheese etc. etc.

Stay safe and well. Cuídanse por favour

Hasta la vista.

Lusia