

## "Good Samaritans of the XXI century learning and practicing a trade that has not changed in the last 3,000 years."

---

Young Norwegian and Dutch have "given" their time and effort to participate in the olive harvest at the Good Samaritan Centre. In the case of the Norwegians it was their first experience, the Dutch are real "harvesters" experts in the field, 8 years of participation guarantee recognition.



They are all evangelical Christians in solidarity and volunteering their time and money come to help in a practical way. They come in a phased manner of three groups of 10 to 11 people since mid-November until the first week of December.

The Good Samaritan Association has a property of 12 hectares including 800 olive trees which produce each year between 8-12 tons of olives. Harvested directly from the tree early, affects the quality of the product and therefore gives us a better price. These olives are taken to Pozoblanco's Olivarera Cooperative to transform them into olive oil, the "liquid gold of Spain" known and accepted worldwide for its beneficial properties for the human body, from cardiovascular aspects to the anti-aging effects high in antioxidants.



This collective effort helps to give the association an annual income for the work being done throughout the year. Therefore, it is not just picking olives, but an entire project of solidarity and support to our institution for the benefit of residents of the rehabilitation centre.



Both European volunteers and residents on their treatment program work together and learn together a trade that goes back to the Phoenician era.

The days between work, cultural exchange lifestyle, food tasting. Of course there is still no stranger who does not like serrano ham!

They also make us taste the products brought from their countries of origin. All culinary exchange, although we are separated by 6,000 km in some cases.



It's not all work, the groups to visit the cooperative Olivarera Pozoblanco and get to know first hand the pressing of the olives.

This year has included some site visits to some City Hall's (Añora and Alcaracejos) to meet the political leaders and have a more global view of this area and its potential for development, trade and tourism potential. They were greeted



and surprised by the friendliness, simplicity and openness of the respective councilors.. In this way a social and solidarity becomes an opportunity for exchange and knowledge at various levels: the cultural, language, tourism, and options trading.

Sometimes I am asked: how is this possible? Where do these people? The answer is that we all have the same common denominator. When we talk about building Europe, some believe that we are talking about new concepts. However, this has already been built since the time Christianity came in the first century these lands. Christian values and faith in Jesus Christ is the DNA that binds us and connects us to people from such diverse countries and cultures. This same faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ unites us all a goal, values and joint mission that drives us to do these projects. These groups not only act in a timely manner as is the case, but are constantly in prayer helping in practical ways and their funds for the Good Samaritan project a reality.



In the case of the Norwegians, they have created an organization nationally called "Future for All" and this motto and we aim to further develop international meetings, solidarity with all those entities, organizations and institutions who want it. As modern Samaritans concerned about the problems facing society today, we mean

that there is "future for all" and that our hope is placed on faith in Jesus Christ. He said more than 2,000 years ago to his countrymen: "*Come unto me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.*" "In Christ we can rest and hope that with your help and faith in his word there is "Future for All".



Añora, December 6, 2011  
Francis Arjona.