

Rain didn't stop play



DESPITE the 'seasonal' rain problems earlier this week, ABTA Midlands region meeting and BBQ went ahead in Stratford.

Agents from across the region enjoyed a presentation from Paul Molyneux of Jetset, and Patrick Doherty from Bank Of Scotland Merchant Services.

Pictured above with Paul Molyneux (left) is event organiser Charles Eftichou.

ABTA have chosen Bank of Scotland to offer merchant services to agents as they are able to offer reduced rates for card processing to members, as well as an easy transfer process.



ABOVE: The group from Moseley Travel pictured after enjoying the excellent food on offer. Left to Right are Annabel Yazdi, Lianne Davenport, Jonathan Eftichou and Marcus Musgrove.

Park free for a year



Superbreak recently ran a competition for travel agents to win a year's worth of airport parking at any UK airport for all the staff within the agency.

By simply making an airport parking booking, agents were entered into a prize draw to win.

The lucky winning shop was Kelso Travel in Kelso, Scotland.

Pictured presenting their prize is (L-R) Wendy Cameron, sales executive at Superbreak with Tracey Laing, senior travel consultant and Karon Oliver, branch manager from Kelso Travel.

Villages of the Tramuntana

MALLORCA MISCELLANY
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and restaurants in the village where you can eat really well.

Two of the best are Ca'n Antuna, a well-known family-owned restaurant specialising in traditional Mallorquin cuisine.

A feast for the eyes as well as the stomach, as it boasts breathtaking views across the valley.



JUST over half an hour's drive north from Palma, the delightful mountain villages of The Tramuntana mountains are some of the loveliest on the island and still largely untouched by tourism.

The sleepy village of Fornalutx has been voted one of the most beautiful in Spain and deservedly so.

Here, the slow pace of life has not changed much in the last century.

Old stone houses and terraced groves of olives, oranges and lemons cling to the sides of the valley around Fornalutx, one of Mallorca's prettiest villages.

The narrow road to the village winds down the hillside past the tinkling bells of sheep and goats and rewards you with dramatic mountain views.

Narrow, cobbled streets climb steeply up from the road towards the quaint old church, a few small shops and a bakery and the beautiful restored villa that now houses Hotel Ca'n Verdera, a relaxing and stylish oasis with shady terraced gardens, restaurant and a pool that surely offers one of the best views on the island. www.canverdera.com.

Chill out to the pace of village life and enjoy a coffee in the sunshine as you watch the world go by.

There are several small cafes

Es Turo also has a beautifully green terrace and is popular with walkers for its deliciously rustic dishes complimented with a jug of local wine.

The *pa amb oli* is a meal in itself!

If all this indulgence leaves you longing for something a little more energetic, then explore the surrounding countryside - either walking or by bike if you're up for a challenge on these hillsides.

There are several good walks in the area, with varying degrees of difficulty, among centuries' old routes.

Simply stroll around the picturesque country lanes or work up an appetite with a couple of hours walk to the equally picturesque village of Biniaiaix.

Stop at the tiny village square for a glass of freshly squeezed orange juice at Bar Bodega and return to Fornalutx via a circular route through the small hamlet of Binibassi.

This walk is one of many recommended by expert guide Valeri Crespi Green in Walk & Eat Mallorca www.sunflowerbooks.co.uk.

Mallorcan Miscellany is sponsored by the Reis de Mallorca hotel group, a select group of 32 hotels on the island.

Visit www.reisdemallorca.com for more information.