



Formentera's Office of Culture and Festivities teamed up with the CiF sports department this morning in unveiling local plans for the region's self-celebratory holiday. Also on hand was Josep Claverol, the chief of inter-agency relations and exterior operations in the Balearics.

As for the activities in store on the Dia de les Illes Balears, or simply "la Diada", on Thursday, March 1, local culture secretary Susana Labrador talked about a charity fun run, the Cursa per a la Dona, which is scheduled for that morning at 11.00am. The Council's official Diada commemoration will be staged in Sant Francesc's plaça de la Constitució at 1.00pm, followed by an affordably-priced community paella in sa Senieta car park to raise money for the Asociación Española contra el Cáncer (AECC). Later in the evening, the Casa del Poble in la Mola will host performances by Calipoe Trio and Bep Marquès.

Workshops and basketball tournament

Festive activities start earlier in the week on Wednesday, February 28, with a mural-painting workshop at Biblioteca Marià Villangómez (5.30pm-7.30pm) to focus on food in the Balearics. Sports have their place on the bill as well, and from Wednesday to Saturday the Antoni Blanc fitness centre will be the site of the sixth Trasmapi-sponsored Balearic Islands basketball tournament, an event with the participation of teams hailing from across the region.

Storytelling, traditional dance and theatre

The activities programme continues the following week. On Thursday, March 8, the Sant Ferran library will play host to an afternoon of storytelling, Cuentos para valientes, from 5.00pm. Then on Saturday, March 10 at noon in plaça de la Constitució, two Formentera troupes will be joined by three teams, or *colles*, from the region in giving a display of traditional dance. Then, at 8.30pm, the island's cinema (Sala de Cultura) welcomes Es Molí for their production of Es Mijorals de Don Mariano, which will mark the official end of this year's Dia de les Illes Balears celebrations.