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Blown away

Explosion rips open bank cash machine



BMN BANK: In La Herradura was targeted by thieves.

By John Smith

Thieves using explosives to blow open a cash machine have struck again.

The blast wrecked the front of the BMN bank in La Herradura.

Nobody living above the branch was hurt but damage to the façade of the building in the Paseo Andrés Segovia is extensive.

The gang struck around 3am but it has not been revealed if they got away

with any money.

Malaga Province was plagued for several months last year by a spate of attacks on bank ATMs using explosives.

The offenders in some cases used acetylene gas to produce the blasts.

It was thought most of the attacks had come to an end with the arrest of two Britons in November.

They had been blasting open cash machines, striking at weekends or Bank

holidays when the machines would have been most full.

The proceeds of their attacks, around 15 of them, were being used to fund the purchase of drugs, it is claimed.

Police were forced to issue safety guidelines to their officers about how to approach blast scenes in the aftermath of the explosions because of the unsafe and indiscriminate nature of the attacks.

The explosion in La Herradura in the early hours of Tuesday is being investigated by the Local Police and the Guardia Civil of Almuñecar.

Ganga garage

POLICE in Velez-Malaga have uncovered and seized 1,399 marijuana plants and arrested four men for endangering public health as well as stealing electricity. The illicit crop was cultivated in a garage which could only be accessed by a secret hole in a kitchen floor and which was illegally connected to the electric grid.

» See page 2

Eagle eyesore

AN electricity pylon that has caused the deaths of several eagles in the municipality of Velez-Malaga has been renovated in order to prevent further accidents following pressure from environmental groups.

A spokesman expressed his delight at the development, but also voiced his irritation that action was only taken following "three and a half years of dilly-dallying."

» See page 4

Riff competition

TWENTY-ONE guitarists, aged under 35, of 14 different nationalities are signed up for the 32nd Andrés Segovia International Classical Guitar Competition at La Herradura Civic

Center, which pays tribute to guitar teacher Andrés Segovia on the 30th anniversary of his death. The event is aimed at performers under 35 years old.

» See page 6

Scrumpters stomped

SIX men have been arrested suspected of belonging to a criminal group and stealing more than 26,500 kilos of fruit and veg from farms in Malaga, Granada and Almeria provinces. The prime suspect is a businessman who exploited his profession as a wholesaler to box up and sell the purloined produce, typically mixed with legal wares of lower quality.

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LOCAL NEWS

Few bricks shy

A FEMALE driver had to be cut free by firefighters after she drove her car through a brick wall surrounding a tile factory on Calle Camino de Algarrobo in

Velez-Malaga. She suffered only minor injuries but had to be extracted via the boot of the vehicle since the front end had been completely destroyed.

Population panic

FRIGILIANA may be among the most picturesque villages in southern Spain, but its population is falling, say the town council, who are worried that the number of inhabitants may drop below 3,000 for the first time this year. A third of the current population of 3,039 are foreigners, with 50 per cent of them British.

Rolling stone

AN enormous boulder wiped out two parked cars and damaged three others when it became dislodged and plummeted from a roadside cliff face in Otivar. One family re-

counted how they had a lucky escape, having left their vehicle to enjoy lunch at a local bar only a few minutes before it was entirely flattened.

Police put paid to pot plantation

By Sally Underwood

POLICE in Velez-Malaga have uncovered and seized 1,399 marihuana crops and arrested four men for endangering public health as well as stealing electricity.

The drugs were found growing in four areas of a house, the largest of which contained 1,143 plants, and were cultivated in a garage which could only be accessed by a secret hole in a kitchen floor and which was illegally connected to the electric grid.

Police began their investigations in a remote house in La Viñuela, where they found a strong smell of marihuana and the constant noise of machinery. They noted that the house had electricity despite not having a contract and was occupied by one man. Police found that another man, the plants' owner, visited almost daily. The police found that a second man had been responsible for looking after the plants, and that he was there against his will.

The owner of the plants was among a total of four men arrested, all of whom were Spanish. The main culprit had also been charged with illegal detention, threats and assault on a police officer.



DRUGS CROP: Accessed by a secret hole in the kitchen floor.



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FEATURED NEWS



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GREATER PROMOTION: Is required of the need to learn the English language.

'Speak English or be ready to learn'

By Simon Firth

MIGRANTS to the UK must learn English or take language classes when they arrive.

Speaking English is key to "full participation in our society and economy" and a "prerequisite for meaningful engagement with British people."

Those are the findings of an all-party group of MPs and peers, chaired by the Labour MP Chuka Umunna.

This is a thorny issue. The speed with which accusations of racism are banded about when it comes to even discussing this often make it too difficult to raise. It has effectively halted national debate in the UK.

But the findings of this group follow a wider review into the integration of minorities in the UK.

Dame Louise Casey was asked to look at the issue by the then PM David Cameron and his home secretary, now PM, Theresa May.

She found that "mistrust, anxiety and prejudice" arise in a society where "communities live separately, with fewer interactions between people from different backgrounds."

Governments had been guilty of a "failure of collective, consistent and persistent will to do something about it or give it the priority it deserves at both a national and local level."

Attempts to boost the integration of ethnic communities in the UK, she described as "saris, samosas and steel drums for the already well-intentioned."

Immigrants, she says, could be encouraged to em-

“*There are lots of other competing issues in the UK, not least the divisions in society caused by Brexit, but doing nothing shouldn't be an option.*”

brace British values by taking an "integration oath;" there must be greater promotion of the need to learn the English language and young people of different ethnic backgrounds should be encouraged to mix more.

Women too, she says, are being "held back by regressive cultural practices".

Casey turned her gaze on many communities in the UK but highlighted the feelings of Muslims who resent being blamed for terror attacks and extremism which then leads to feelings of hostility, mistrust and suspicion.

Some ethnic minority communities had religious and cultural practices that were "deeply regressive" and faced little or no challenge in the UK, she said.

If Casey's report is kicked into the long grass be-

cause it's seen as disturbing the waters it will be a badly missed opportunity. There are lots of other competing issues in the UK, not least the divisions in society caused by Brexit, but doing nothing shouldn't be an option.

Britain is not a tinderbox, we all know that. But neither is it at ease with itself at the moment.

There are tensions over immigration and plenty of groups willing to capitalise on them.

Poles have been attacked in Cambridgeshire and north Yorkshire; Spaniards have been attacked in London. The list is a long one. But in these particularly brutal cases the victims spoke English. That isn't enough for certain groups – it never was and never will be.

But easing the wider tensions over immigration which have come to the surface again because of, or in spite of Brexit, by being able to speak English or being willing to learn, has to be a front line policy.

When the UK formally leaves the EU, in March 2019 if it takes two years, the government intends to cut the numbers of new immigrants.

But making access to the English language easier for them and the many communities who are already there has to be a priority.

It won't just be a case of putting on more classes at night school. Maybe an integration oath is a step too far but not being able to speak English leads to exclusion. And exclusion leads to mistrust and fear. It's as simple as that.

Your papers, your views

Our readers have been expressing their views about whether immigrants should learn English to have an understanding of British values. Here are a few comments from the web story and Facebook some of which have had to be cut due to size. We are always happy to hear from everyone.

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Not a word

ANYONE moving to another country should try to learn that country's language. Some people in the UK have been here over 40 years and still don't speak a word of English.

June Whitehouse

No knee jerk

NOTE it's from the all party committee on social integration and therefore cannot be dismissed in a knee jerk reaction as 'right wing xenophobia' by the usual chorus of leftists.

Chris Collier

French Farage

SAME in France, loads of Brits can't speak French! Even Farage, after more than 20 years as an MEP in France and Belgium, he still can't speak any French!!

David Etheridge

Same rules

SPAIN don't supply interpreters at taxpayers' expense like the UK. If you need to discuss important stuff, you bring an interpreter. All the UK has to do is adopt the same rule.

Ken Blakeman

Very simple

IN Spain official forms are in Spanish. If you need translation you find someone yourself. Education, health, signposts and everything else is in Spanish. Why? Because this is Spain. Very simple. The rules were clear when we all came to live here. The UK has allowed this to go on for at least a generation too long, and the results are clear for all to see.

PetMac

Need practice

LEARNING the language is not enough, you need to be able to practise which means interacting and making friends with locals. This is much easier if someone works but in the UK many of the women don't.

Annie

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Electrified eagles spark action



VICTIM: The majestic short-toed snake eagle. |

By Matt Ford

AN electricity pylon that has caused the deaths of several eagles in the municipality of Velez-Malaga has been renovated in order to prevent further accidents following pressure from environmental groups.

Specifically, the GENA-Ecologists in Action group filed an official complaint to SEPRONA, the nature protection arm of the Guardia Civil, in October 2016 after an adult short-toed snake eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*) was

electrocuted.

At the time, GENA spokesman Jose Luis Gamez explained that "repeated bird deaths due to medium and high voltage installations" had been brought to the attention of the Andalucian ombudsman.

The pylon, located in the Atalayas Bajas neighbourhood has now been fitted with specialised elements that prevent perched birds from being zapped.

Gamez has expressed his delight at the development, but also voiced his

irritation that action was only taken following "three and a half years of dilly-dallying during which Sevilla-Endesa (the company which owns the pylon) expressed a total lack of environmental responsibility.

"Also, whoever installed the new elements has also left a mess at the base of the pylon, including flammable insulator crystals."

GENA insist that there are numerous other pylons and items of infrastructure in Axarquia that fail to adhere to European bird protection standards.

Out of the frying pan...

WEATHER statistics are finally in for 2016 and unsurprisingly show last autumn to be among the wettest in Costa del Sol history. In just three weeks it rained more than the

rest of the year combined, causing severe flooding across the area. Yet while many residents still count the cost of the floods, officials are already panicking over how to handle

drought in 2017. Though helpful, the December deluge was not enough to restore reservoirs to safe levels.

The largest reservoir in the province is barely a third full.

Much more rain is needed before spring or emergency water rationing will be activated in March ahead of what promises to be a long, dry summer.



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Refurbished Iberostar set to reopen

TORROX Costa's Iberostar hotel is due to reopen in time for the holiday season after its second refurbishment in five years.

The hotel, which has been running since 2003 and cost an initial €36 million, has been given an upgrade of 'several million euros' and is scheduled to reopen on April 7.

A spokesperson for the chain stated: "Reservations can now be made for that date and the holiday periods of Easter or the peak summer season."

The site was initially owned and run by Hotel Ferrara SA, but bought by Iberostar in 2003 in a deal which saw its 180 employees retained.

It offers more than 11,000 square meters of gardens, contains 319 rooms, 94 tourist apartments and a swimming pool. It is hoped that these most recent improvements see the hotel gain a fourth star.

Balearic hotel chain Iberostar own three other hotels on the Costa del Sol and opened its latest in Malaga last Easter.

OUR VIEW

Coming up Trumps

ON January 19, the world will see the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States amongst pomp, ceremony and controversy.

There is no question Donald Trump's win caught many by surprise and has divided the country more than any American election in recent memory but time will tell whether he turns out to be a complete disaster or an astute businessman who can actually make a difference.

Despite having a problem in thinking through what he says, there is no doubt he is a shrewd individual who has made a fortune and also seems to have had no problem in closing companies down, with six of them going bankrupt.

Hillary Clinton, herself

accused of being far from a bastion of honest business, did have one very clever observation on 'The Donald' when she said he had written a number of books on business but they all finished at Chapter 11 (the US equivalent of liquidation).

He seems to be a bully with quite thin skin, jumping into tweets over silly criticisms with equally silly responses which hopefully he learns to stop as he beds in.

The good news is he's friends with Russia but the bad news is he's winding up China, one of the few countries that appears to have any influence over North Korea.

What we have to hope is his good traits will outweigh his bad ones and he doesn't create a new wall between America and Europe.

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Classical Guitar Festival

By Sally Underwood

TWENTY-ONE guitarists, aged under 35, of 14 different nationalities are signed up for the 32nd Andrés Segovia International Classical Guitar Competition at La Herradura Civic Centre, which pays tribute to guitar teacher Andrés Segovia on the 30th anniversary of his death

This week the town is preparing to welcome the competitors, the jury, which for the second consecutive year is presided over by Diego Martinez, and classical guitar fans who come to enjoy the event.

Deputy Mayor Juan Jose Ruiz Joya said this will be the first time the posthumous tribute has coincided with such a big anniversary and the date of the contest has been returned to January "as it was from the beginning until a few years ago."

The event is organised by the Mayor's Office of La Herradura and other organisations and is aimed at concert performers under 35 years old. Its purpose is 'the promotion and study of the guitar, while honouring the memory of Andrés Segovia Torres.' It will consist of three qualifying events, starting on January 17 with a raffle held at 1pm at the La Herradura Civic Centre to determine the order of performers.



NASATAKA SUGANUMA: Japanese guitar player.



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Tourism boom for Almuñecar

RAFAEL CABALLERO JIMENEZ, Almuñecar's chief of tourism, has published statistics revealing the number of visitors using the area's tourist offices increased by 2.5 per cent to 79,700 in 2016.

This figure was broken down by nationality with the French accounting for 39.7 per cent, Scandinavians 10 per cent and Belgians 7.4 per cent. British tourist office goes increased to 21.5 per cent. Mr Caballero Jimenez stated the increase was "part-

ly due to the online promotion campaigns launched during the last campaign," and "this year we will strengthen in the Scandinavian and German markets."

Conversely, the Spanish are now visiting tourist offices less, dropping from 60 to 56 per cent of users, whereas foreign visits have increased from 40 to 44 per cent. Mr Caballero Jimenez revealed this growth comes mainly in the off-season, "which is good news for employment in low season."

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Another one bites the dust



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

THE man who warned the government a trade deal with the EU might take 10 years to sort out has gone. This was one who jumped, he wasn't pushed.

Sir Ivan Rogers was the UK's ambassador to the EU and has left eight months before he was due to.

His 'goodbye note' is being seen by commentators as evidence that Downing Street has not been listening to his advice. In it he told colleagues they must "challenge muddled thinking and... never be afraid to speak truth to power."

He also said "serious multilateral negotiating experience is in short supply in Whitehall" when it is not missing from those in the European Council or European Commission.

Those who opposed the UK leaving the EU have been quick to pounce on the departure of Rogers, seeing it as evidence, according to Lib Dem leader Tim Farron, that the PM was "marching ahead without a plan or even a clue."



EU AMBASSADOR: Sir Ivan Rogers has left eight months before he was due to.

The right wing press predictably attacked him, one paper describing him as the 'arrogant merchant of gloom.' A 'senior political source' supposedly said Rogers had "presided over the negotiations before the referendum which were an utter failure."

Leave EU chairman Arron Banks said he was "far too much of a pessimist and yet another of the establishment's pro-EU old guard. He has at least done the honourable thing."

His replacement is a former UK ambassador to Russia, Sir Tim Barrow.

The appointment was described as part of a concerted fightback against the claims of so-called muddled thinking.

But it did not please former UKIP leader Nigel Farage who tweeted: 'Good to see that the government have replaced a knighted career diplomat with... a knighted career diplomat.'

EU is being undermined

OUTGOING EU president, the German Martin Schulz, who may be moving into Germany's domestic political arena, has admitted the future stability of the EU is being undermined.

In an attack on national political leaders he said they had failed to explain to their electorates why powers had been transferred to Brussels. He accused them of failing to speak up for the European ideal.

But he also admitted some of the politicians currently working for the EU had become disconnected from the ordinary man in the street.

By only taking notice of life in Brussels it could "make you believe that Brussels life is the reality of people in Europe." The rush to embrace the countries of Eastern Europe, he admitted, had underestimated the difficulties of integration.

But he said if Europe had not enlarged the number of member states it would have faced "deep uncertainty" and "possibly a fear of war" given Russia's current stance towards the West.

His interview was given to the Europa group of newspapers.

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3,000 dogs dumped

By Eleanor Hawkins

ALTOGETHER 3,000 dogs were abandoned in Malaga last year, the city council has reported.

Although the number is half of that registered back in 2011, it remains too high to allow the municipal animal pound to fulfil the pledge to not put down any animals, explained Environmental Sustainability councillor Raul Jimenez.

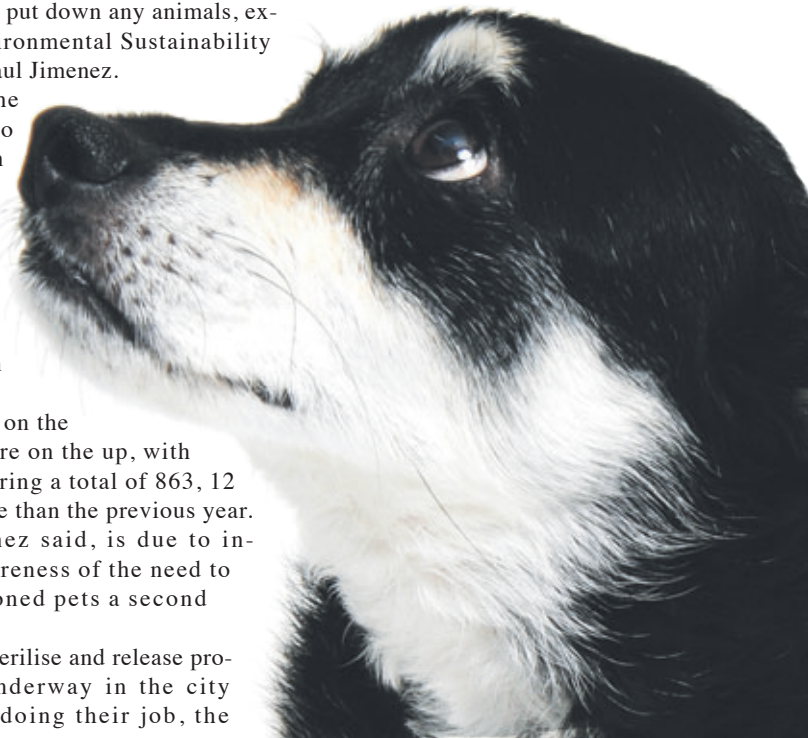
In 2016, the pound had to put down 547 dogs, half the number for 2011 and 14 per cent lower than in 2015.

Adoptions on the other hand are on the up, with 2016 registering a total of 863, 12 per cent more than the previous year. This, Jimenez said, is due to increased awareness of the need to give abandoned pets a second chance.

Capture, sterilise and release programmes underway in the city seem to be doing their job, the

councillor said, as municipal services collected 775 stray cats from the streets during 2016, 24 per cent less than in 2011.

This allowed the number of cats which had to be put down at the pound to also drop to 555, 16 per cent lower than 2015 and 38 per cent lower than 2011, Jimenez stressed.



DOG ADOPTIONS: Are on the up, due to awareness of the need to give a dog a chance.




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Six alleged fruit thieves nabbed

SIX men have been arrested suspected of belonging to a criminal group and stealing more than 26,500 kilograms of fruit and veg from farms in Malaga, Granada and Almeria provinces.

The arrestees, three Spaniards and three Romanians, are believed to have been involved in at least 24 thefts of avocados, mangos, peppers, aubergines, courgettes and custard apples.

The National Police began investigations in November 2016 after catching seven people stealing 2,401 kilos of avocados from a farm in Velez-Malaga. Suspecting that the thieves may form part of a criminal group as it was unlikely they would be able to sell



CRIMINAL GROUP: Believed to have been involved in at least 24 thefts.

such a large amount of loot on their own, officers started looking into similar crimes.

This led to the discovery of a

similar investigation being carried out by the Guardia Civil's RO-CA rural crime branch in Motril and the two forces agreed to join forces.

Investigations eventually led to Almeria, where a criminal group was found to organise thefts of large amounts of fruit, mainly mangos and avocados, from farms along the Andalusian coast.

The main suspect is a busi-

nessman who made the most of his profession as a wholesaler to box up and sell the stolen fruit and veg, usually mixed with legal produce of lower quality.

Coincidentally, officers discovered a pending arrest order for theft issued by an Alicante court for one of the arrestees, the son of the main suspect.

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Lux Mundi see in the New Year

ON Friday December 30, Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar held their annual New Year party at the centre where many international friends came to join in the festivities. It started with coffee and drinks at 11.00am followed at 12 noon with the traditional 12 grapes and Cava.

Gloria and Henry started the proceedings by banging the gong and at each stroke a grape was eaten and a wish made. Many of the friends were bedecked in fancy hats and streamers. It was a wonderful opportunity for those friends who may be alone on New Year's Eve to celebrate.

Recently 56 international friends of Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar, joined an evening coach excursion to Malaga to see the Christmas lights and visit the beautiful nativities set in different religious and public buildings, such as the town hall and Cathedral, and join in the celebrations. There was also time for dinner and refreshments, which some enjoyed on the balcony of the 15th floor of the Malaga Palacio Hotel admiring the flood lights of the harbour, Cathedral, La Alcazaba and big wheel. They then visited the 'La Mosca' area, situated on the outskirts of Malaga, to see the famous, unique Belen built into the mountain side, approximately 20 metres in length. Here they were treated to a glass of Cava before the homeward journey, a perfect end to a most enjoyable evening!

In 2017 the photography group will offer a fun and informal opportunity to improve your photography with Rob Bell Photography. This season will look at various styles of photography and computer software. Sessions will take place on Tuesday afternoons from 4.00pm on January 24, February 7 and 21 and March 7 and 21, costing €4 with proceeds going to fundraising.

The next fundraising trip will be on January 26 costing €18 and will take in Trevezal, Pampaneira, Bubion, Capileira and Alpujarras. The coach departs Vinuela (football pitch) at 7.55am, Torre del Mar at 8.15am, Caleta at 8.25am and Algarrobo at 8.30am and will leave Alpujarras at 4.45pm for the return journey arriving back around 6.30pm.

On Monday January 30 at 6pm there will be a talk about the history of Italian Opera plus extracts of some of the most significant master works by the Reverend James Tayler. Following this there will be a dinner and again this is a fundraising event costing €12 per person.

The Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, Torre del Mar is open Monday to Friday 10am-1.00pm and 3.00pm-6.00pm. Tel 952 543 334, email luxmundi@lux-mundi.org or visit www.luxmundi.org.

Nerja Philosophical Group meeting

THE group's February meeting will be on Monday 20 and, as usual, will be at 11.30am in the Social Centre of Capistrano Village, Nerja. Marilyn Barry will lead

on Socrates, alluding to the fact that, like Donald Trump, he was equally revered and detested, and generally seen as often 'politically incorrect.'



LA MOSCA: Celebrating the visit with some cava.



NEW YEAR: Friends enjoying their grapes and cava.



GLORIA AND HENRY: Seeing in the New Year.



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OFFICIAL GIFT: Oscar Medina, Paola Moreno and two of the lucky recipients.

Stab vests issued for Torrox Police

By Sally Underwood

POLICE in Torrox are being given bullet and stab proof vests in the first half of this year in a move to keep both police and residents safer.

Mayor of Torrox, Oscar Medina and head of security at the town hall, Paola Moreno, have said that this demonstrates “the progress of the municipality on secu-

rity,” and added “the goal is to reach 20 during the first half of 2017, so that all our officers in the street can be protected and extend this protection to those in Torrox.”

The vests themselves, the first batch of which was ordered in December last year, are “of the latest generation, so they are also anti-knife and anti-punch, thus adher-

ing to the most demanding regulations at European level,” and “can be used both inside and outside.”

The mayor added that “with this measure, we intend to provide each officer with a security element that can save their lives, because we understand that it is a priority that, at the same time, will have an impact on the security of the municipality.”

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■ NORWAY'S farmed salmon and trout sales totalled 65.3 billion kroner last year (€7.5 billion), over 30 per cent more than in 2015. The increase is largely from an increased demand from China.



Best project

■ SCHOOLS from Norway and Russia came together to discuss climate change as part of the BEST (Barents Energy Sustainability Technology) Future project. They investigated sustainability and renewable energy and looked at the environmental challenges.

Climber dies

■ A BRITISH mountaineer died in Norway after a fall from a mountain in Telemark county. The man, in his 20's was with another climber when he fell 30 metres.

High price

■ PETROL and diesel prices have reached their highest level ever in Norway after a fuel tax increase which came into force in the New Year.

FRANCE

Road power

THE world's first solar panel road has opened in Normandy. The route is covered with 2,800 square metres of electricity-generating panels and should be able to power the street lighting.

gan donors unless they register to opt out. The new rules of 'presumed consent' came into force at the start of the year.

has been pardoned by the President and released from jail.

Organ donation

■ FRENCH citizens are now all or-

Murder's pardon

■ A FRENCH woman jailed in 2014 for murdering her abusive husband who raped and beat her,

Above average

■ A SURVEY carried out by a dating site claims that the typical Parisian has had an average of 19 sexual partners, more than the national average of 11.

SWEDEN

Nordic lights

■ SWEDEN is hosting the eighth edition of the Nordic Lights Film Festival which takes place this weekend running until January 16. It features a range of films from across the Nordic nations.

Golf event

■ THE Annual Swedish Golf Tournament has taken place in Southern Florida, USA, with a new Volvo XC90 up for grabs with a hole in one on hole three. The event raised money for the Swedish Church in Florida.

Armed security

■ SWEDEN'S three power plants are increasing security following recent terror attacks around the world. Security officers at the nuclear power stations will be equipped with firearms from February.

More gamers

■ SWEDEN needs more games developers in order to maintain its top position in the field as concerns arise over a shortage of skilled labour. Sweden is behind household names like Candy Crush and Minecraft.

HOLLAND

Banana drugs

■ AROUND 250 kilos of cocaine was found hidden in a consignment of bananas at Rotterdam port. Five people have been arrested in connection with the drugs haul.

No pension

■ HOTEL booking site Booking.com will not be forced to join the Reiswerk pension scheme after a judge ruled it is not a travel agency and does not have to join the industry pension provider.

Increased checks

■ THE government is in talks with Belgium, Germany and France to increase security and step up checks on passengers on international buses, trains and boats, in light of recent terror attacks.

Food help

■ MORE people will be able to ask for a food parcel after the Dutch food bank organisation raised the income level. It means single people receiving less than €200 a month can apply, which is an increase from last year's €180.

GERMANY

No better

■ A STUDY by Germany's Public Health Insurers Association has found that just around one third of new medicines introduced to the market since 2012 are actually better than the old ones.

Not a joke

■ A MAN found himself the victim of a serious prank when he opened the front door of his home and found a brick wall had been built over night trapping him inside. Police said they are treating it as a crime.

Whistle-blowing

■ A NEW anonymous online portal has been set up so that banking whistle-blowers can report wrongdoing in the industry such as money laundering and corruption.

Bird flu is back

■ THERE were more than 30 separate incidents of bird flu recorded in Germany last year leading to thousands of chickens, ducks and geese being culled and experts warn the outbreak shows no signs of letting up in 2017.

BELGIUM

Internet clampdown

■ BELGIUM is clamping down on hate messages on the internet following a number of racist messages regarding the death of a Belgian man of Turkish descent at the Istanbul nightclub terrorist attack.

Balcony punishment

■ THE parents who left their six-year-old son out on the balcony for 15 hours in near-freezing temperatures as a punishment, have been arrested accused of torture. The youngster is now said to be out of critical care.

Nearly full

■ THE Brussels Hotel Association reports that up to 90 per cent of hotel beds were occupied and booked on New Year's Eve with the number of overnight stays during Christmas also up compared to 2015.

Bomb hoax

■ THE Brussels North train station was the scene of two bomb scares within two days. Each time the station was evacuated, but both were hoax calls.

DENMARK

Cancer survival

■ DENMARK has the worst cancer survival rates amongst the Nordic nations. Around one in three Danes will suffer some form of cancer and figures show around 60 per cent will survive more than five years after their diagnosis.

Car sales

■ LAST year saw a record number of cars sold in Denmark. According to the Danish Car Importers Association, 222,924 vehicles were sold, 7.3 per cent more than in 2015.

Celebration injuries

■ FIGURES show that 267 people in Denmark ended their New Year's Eve celebrations with a trip to hospital with 37 of these being treated for serious injuries.

Flu season

■ DENMARK is in the middle of a flu epidemic with the number of cases over Christmas doubling in a week. A total of 263 patients have been hospitalised this flu season with 136 in the last two weeks.

Car sales hit record high

Next warning for 2017

By Matthew Elliott

MORE new cars were sold in the UK last year than ever before. Figures in for 2016 show that a staggering 2.69 million new cars were registered, making Britain one of the strongest motoring markets in the world.

The volume represents an increase of 2 per cent on 2015, but analysts believe Britain has hit 'peak car' and that 2017 will witness a drop of between 5 and 7 per cent.

The car bubble comes courtesy of high consumer confidence, low-in-

2.69 million

The record breaking number of new cars registered in the UK in 2016.

terest financing and a diverse range of models according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

It is also thought to reflect years of

pent-up frustration among consumers desperate for a new car, but thwarted by the recession years from 2007-2011.

But not everyone is convinced that the numbers are accurate. Some analysts note that the 2.69 million figure includes cars sold to dealerships, making the number of individual buyers significantly lower.

In fact the number of private and business registrations actually declined by around 1 per cent.

There are also concerns for the future, particularly over what Brexit

will mean for the industry. Almost nine out of 10 new cars purchased in the UK are imported, despite British production enjoying its own mini-boom.

Car prices are beginning to rise and the devaluation of the pound following the referendum has already notched them up by almost 3 per cent.

The evergreen Ford Fiesta was the most popular new car in Britain with 120,525 registrations, while the number of eco-friendly vehicles rose by 22 per cent.

SHARES in British High Street stalwart Next have plummeted by more than 14 per cent as the clothes retailer endured a hugely disappointing Christmas season. Chief executive Simon Wolfson has warned that the firm faces a tough 2017 and claimed that the wider clothing industry was in for a hard run as consumer preferences change.

Next performed poorly in both Boxing Day and January sales and also saw a major drop in gift vouchers. Wolfson, a prominent Brexit campaigner, claims that consumers are today favouring more 'experiential' spending, focused on leisure activities.

But many shareholders are unconvinced and believe that Next is simply not connecting with the public. The results have, however, sent a chill down the High Street, which is hugely concerned about the potential impact of Brexit and a possibly devalued pound forcing them to raise prices.

Quote of the Week

Being out of what is a pretty unsuccessful European Union - particularly in the economic sense - gives us opportunities as well as obviously great political difficulties." Lord King former Governor of the Bank of England on Brexit.



Britain's man in Brussels



SIR TIM BARROW: To be the top EU diplomat.

THERESA MAY resisted calls to install a hard-nosed Brexiteer as the country's top EU diplomat, instead choosing the practical-minded Sir Tim Barrow, a former ambassador to Moscow, for the role.

Barrow replaces Sir Ivan Rogers, who resigned on January 3 after being savaged by pro-leave campaigners for suggesting a formal Brexit settlement may take up to a decade to finalise.

The government has been keen to trumpet the quick appointment of Barrow as evidence that they are well prepared for the looming Brexit negotiations, expected to begin in March.

But EU officials reportedly sense anxiety in the hastiness of the decision. A discord between the civil service and executive has been suggested, while Rogers himself claimed that Britain lacked a competent negotiating team and a coherent strategy.

Described as a 'quintessential diplomat' and a 'seasoned negotiator' Sir Barrow's private position on Brexit is unknown, but he is considered capable of getting stuck into the role, rather than bringing an air of 'doom and gloom' as his predecessor was accused of.

Naturally not everyone was happy with the appointment.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Fat cats

BRITISH FTSE 100 bosses earn more than €1,000 per hour on average. From a Monday morning to Wednesday lunchtime they will take home more than the average worker will net for a full year, earning roughly 129 times more than their employees.

Solar solution

CHINA is set to invest more than €300 billion into renewable energy. The world's biggest energy consumer is turning away from coal towards nuclear, wind, solar and hydro power. China generates more solar energy than any other country but is still consumed by smog.

Sexist pricing

TESCO has slashed the price of women's razors on the high street after campaigners argued women pay over the odds for toiletries. A study found that women were charged on average 37 per cent more than men for similar goods.

Apple has hit a Chinese firewall

APPLE has folded to Chinese pressure and withdrawn the *New York Times* from its App Store. Both the English and Chinese downloads of the American newspaper were taken out in December due to a 'violation of local regulations.'

The broadsheet believes it is being given the run around by Chinese authorities, who have banned

access to the NYT website since 2012. Competitors, including the *Washington Post*, are still available on the China App Store, but the country has a long history of online censorship.

The Great Firewall of China blocks access to a wide variety of western sites, including Facebook and occasionally Google.

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Anglo American	1,155.00	20.00	1.76	16,055.68
Associated British Foods	2,660.00	5.00	0.19	21,256.45
Admiral Group	1,975.50	145.50	7.95	5,197.96
Ashtead Group	1,596.00	4.00	0.25	7,992.60
Antofagasta	696.00	2.00	0.29	6,896.07
Aviva	490.00	0.60	0.12	19,901.38
AstraZeneca	4,547.50	-3.00	-0.07	57,559.84
BAE Systems	594.50	-10.50	-1.74	18,658.95
Babcock International Group	1,040.00	100.50	10.70	4,830.98
Barclays	229.00	-6.25	-2.66	39,448.02
British American Tobacco	4,585.00	11.00	0.24	85,388.16
Barratt Developments	492.00	-1.90	-0.38	5,009.53
British Land Co	635.75	-0.75	-0.12	6,461.34
BHP Billiton	1,320.00	3.00	0.23	27,805.43
Bunzl	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,987.34
BP	513.00	-1.50	-0.29	100,761.60
Burberry Group	1,457.50	-15.50	-1.05	6,378.70
BT Group	382.00	-2.55	-0.66	38,281.50
Coca-Cola HBC	900.00	-1,789.00	-100.00	6,422.82
Carnival	4,167.50	-21.50	-0.51	9,028.20
Centrica	228.00	-5.50	-2.36	12,804.74
Compass Group	1,465.00	7.00	0.48	24,021.01
Capita Group (The)	520.00	4.50	0.87	3,469.13
Croda International	1,500.00	-3,248.00	-100.00	4,300.99
CRH	1,300.00	-2,767.00	-100.00	22,965.83
Convatec Group Ord 10pWi	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,744.03
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DCC	3,000.00	-6,210.00	-100.00	5,596.78
Diageo	2,130.00	-13.50	-0.63	53,731.05
Direct Line Insurance Group	161.70	-364.70	-100.00	5,032.50
Experian	1,580.00	11.00	0.70	14,822.14
easyJet	1,056.50	-2.50	-0.24	4,190.55
Fresnillo	1,355.00	6.00	0.44	10,301.77
GKN	331.50	0.10	0.03	5,698.91
Glencore	287.50	-0.95	-0.33	41,867.10
GlaxoSmithKline	1,585.00	1.50	0.09	77,751.59
Hikma Pharmaceuticals	2,000.00	84.00	4.38	4,647.92
Hargreaves Lansdown	600.00	-1,289.00	-100.00	6,094.99
Hammers	568.00	-3.00	-0.53	4,517.21
HSBC Holdings	661.50	-7.50	-1.12	131,411.92
International Consolidatd Air	469.50	2.90	0.62	9,923.79
InterContinental Hotels Grp	3,700.00	34.00	0.93	7,339.75
3i Group	305.00	-723.50	-100.00	7,028.29
Imperial Brands	3,530.00	-8.50	-0.24	33,943.16
Informa	290.00	-686.00	-100.00	5,660.92
Intu Properties	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,780.56
Intertek Group	2,000.00	-3,480.00	-100.00	5,546.86
ITV	203.50	-2.00	-0.97	8,235.99
Johnson Matthey	3,145.00	-15.00	-0.47	6,082.76
Kingfisher	345.00	0.40	0.12	7,700.69

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Land Securities Group	1,041.50	-15.50	-1.47	8,247.31
Legal & General Group	247.25	-2.35	-0.94	14,731.37
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	65.50	-0.40	-0.61	46,143.12
London Stock Exchange Grp	2,710.00	-214.00	-7.32	10,190.41
Micro Focus International	1,025.00	-2,113.00	-100.00	4,855.32
Mediclinic International	350.00	-786.50	-100.00	5,743.13
Merlin Entertainments	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,674.75
Marks & Spencer Group	331.15	-2.55	-0.76	5,374.60
Mondi	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,074.76
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	233.75	-2.55	-1.08	5,443.90
National Grid	942.00	-2.40	-0.25	35,331.18
Next	4,100.00	1.00	0.02	6,013.14
Old Mutual Group	202.50	-5.60	-2.69	10,209.90
Provident Financial	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,208.48
Paddy Power Betfair	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,464.60
Prudential	1,612.50	0.00	0.00	41,310.50
Persimmon	1,875.00	-59.00	-3.05	5,984.87
Pearson	808.00	-5.50	-0.68	6,679.78
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,700.00	13.00	0.19	46,982.12
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	230.00	-2.40	-1.03	27,323.33
Royal Dutch Shell	2,271.50	4.00	0.18	100,248.24
Royal Dutch Shell	2,355.00	-4.50	-0.19	88,281.12
RELX	1,440.00	1.00	0.07	15,532.82
Rio Tinto	3,100.00	5.00	0.16	42,763.38
Royal Mail	459.00	0.20	0.04	4,564.00
Rolls-Royce Group	642.50	-8.00	-1.23	11,759.11
Randgold Resources	6,865.00	350.00	5.37	6,286.08
RSA Insurance Group	560.00	-16.50	-2.86	5,851.11
Sainsbury (J)	251.00	-1.00	-0.40	5,478.03
Schroders	1,250.00	-3,019.00	-100.00	6,828.14
Sage Group (The)	655.50	-2.00	-0.30	7,058.62
Shire	4,885.00	28.50	0.59	44,296.86
Smurfit Kappa Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,663.11
Sky	988.50	-2.50	-0.25	17,018.27
Standard Life	361.50	-2.50	-0.69	7,187.31
Smiths Group	575.00	-1,444.00	-100.00	5,634.67
Smith & Nephew	1,212.50	0.50	0.04	10,684.81
SSE	1,525.00	-15.00	-0.97	15,636.08
Standard Chartered	690.00	-5.70	-0.82	22,669.50
St James's Place	400.00	-1,060.00	-100.00	5,538.57
Severn Trent	2,205.50	-9.50	-0.43	5,316.71
Tesco	198.25	-1.25	-0.63	16,271.34
TUI AG	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,874.22
Taylor Wimpey	177.75	9.25	5.49	5,530.85
Unilever	3,285.00	-9.00	-0.27	42,341.33
United Utilities Group	897.50	0.50	0.06	6,137.00
Vodafone Group	209.50	-1.85	-0.88	55,749.80
Wolseley	2,400.00	-4,985.00	-100.00	12,548.33
Worldpay Group	150.00	-281.10	-100.00	5,562.00
WPP Group	1,815.00	-25.00	-1.36	23,409.07
Whitbread	3,899.00	-42.00	-1.07	7,147.06

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CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 9

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	178,230	+0.29%	0.520	107M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	75,4700	+0.20%	0.1500	69M
APPLE	117,910	+1.11%	1.300	629M
BOEING CO	159,100	+0.25%	0.390	98M
CATERPILLAR	93,040	+0.04%	0.040	54M
CHEVRON	116,84	-0.40%	-0.47	220M
CISCO SYSTEMS	30,230	+0.20%	0.060	152M
COCA-COLA	41,74	-0.02%	-0.01	180M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	73,3800	-0.58%	-0.4300	63M
EXXON MOBIL	88,50	-0.06%	-0.05	367M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	31,6100	+0.29%	0.0900	280M
GOLDMAN SACHS	244,90	+1.48%	3.58	97M
HOME DEPOT	133,5300	-0.28%	-0.3700	163M
IBM	169,53	+0.49%	0.83	161M
INTEL CORP	36,4800	+0.36%	0.1300	173M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	86,1200	+0.01%	0.0100	308M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	116,3000	-0.48%	-0.5600	316M
MC DONALD'S CORP	120,7600	+0.89%	1.0600	100M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	60,27	+0.27%	0.16	166M
MICROSOFT	62,840	+0.87%	0.540	489M
NIKE	53,91	+1.60%	0.85	72M
Pfizer	33,4800	-0.39%	-0.1300	203M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	85,030	-0.04%	-0.030	227M
TRAVELERS CIES	118,27	-0.05%	-0.06	33M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	112,55	+1.08%	1.20	92M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	162,41	+0.14%	0.23	154M
VERIZON COMMS	53,26	-2.53%	-1.38	216M
VISA	82,21	+1.38%	1.12	152M
WAL-MART STORES	68,2600	-1.37%	-0.9500	209M
WALT DISNEY CO	108,9800	+1.49%	1.6000	173M

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 9

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Pernix Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.	\$ 2.9332	0.6532 ▲ 28.65%
Zafgen, Inc.	\$ 4.18	0.83 ▲ 24.78%
Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 40.05	5.90 ▲ 17.28%
Quotient Limited	\$ 6.27	0.88 ▲ 16.33%
Cempra, Inc.	\$ 3.75	0.50 ▲ 15.38%
Fulgent Genetics, Inc.	\$ 13.04	1.54 ▲ 13.39%
Calithera Biosciences, Inc.	\$ 4.45	0.50 ▲ 12.66%
KalVista Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 7.4495	0.7295 ▲ 10.86%
Arotech Corporation	\$ 4.65	0.45 ▲ 10.71%
Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Inc	\$ 2.36	0.22 ▲ 10.28%
Gridsum Holding Inc.	\$ 11.06	0.91 ▲ 8.97%
Most Declined		
Avinger, Inc.	\$ 3.30	0.60 ▼ 15.38%
Stein Mart, Inc.	\$ 4.51	0.75 ▼ 14.26%
Apollo Endosurgery, Inc.	\$ 17.31	2.0906 ▼ 10.78%
Orexigen Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 3.38	0.40 ▼ 10.58%
ICU Medical, Inc.	\$ 131.875	15.475 ▼ 10.50%
Eagle Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 75.17	7.03 ▼ 8.55%
Depomed, Inc.	\$ 19.17	1.75 ▼ 8.37%
NII Holdings, Inc.	\$ 2.75	0.25 ▼ 8.33%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 9.56	0.83 ▼ 7.99%
Endologix, Inc.	\$ 5.705	0.485 ▼ 7.84%
MaxPoint Interactive, Inc.	\$ 5.64	0.46 ▼ 7.54%

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Price Movement

Accumulating Funds

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EUR Currency B
Multi Asset Conservative B GBP
Multi Asset Conservative B EUR
Multi Asset Balanced B GBP
Multi Asset Balanced B EUR
Multi Asset Growth B GBP
Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

£0.9861 £0.0000
€0.9661 -€0.0002
£1.1310 £0.0002
€1.0676 -€0.0003
£1.2520 £0.0020
€1.1723 €0.0014
£1.3626 £0.0031
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Spain finishes the year strongly

By Matthew Elliott

A LONG overdue turnaround in employment numbers and increased household spending means Spain's economic growth in 2016 may have exceeded expectations.

More workers were hired by Spanish firms last year than at any other time since the recession. The economy is estimated to have grown by more than the 3.2 per cent predicted last January, establishing itself as one of the fastest growing in Europe.

Even if the 3.2 per cent growth target is not bettered, Spain will still clock up growth that is easily double the eurozone average. This is despite (some might say due to) the country lacking a central government for more than 10 months.

Foreigners also made a substantial contribution, with tourists and guests spending more than €73 billion in Spain in the 11 months from January to November 2016. That is already some €5.6 billion more than the total amount spent in 2015.

As always, British travellers contributed the largest share at around 21 per cent of the total (€15.3 billion).

But it is the sharp rise in employment figures that will be the most welcome development for Madrid. The number of registered employees leapt by 540,655 across the year, while the number of unemployed fell by 390,534, the largest drop in recorded history.

The recession hit Spain hard on many fronts but the loss of almost four million jobs during its



EMPLOYMENT FIGURES: Will be a most welcome development for Madrid.

toughest spell has been its enduring legacy for millions of Spanish families. Entering 2017 almost two million of those jobs have been recovered. Clearly there is a long way to go, but Spain is certainly on the right track.

The next employment battle will be over the terms and conditions of worker contracts. Countless thousands of the new jobs created are based on short-term temporary contracts with very little in the way of rights or benefits.

Seasonal employment is also a pivotal issue. But the tourist industry is expected to make a huge drive this year to attract guests during autumn and winter, attempting to kill two birds with one stone.

Credit card debt warning for the UK

By Matthew Elliott

DEBT experts have warned that UK households are caught in the grip of a credit boom reminiscent of the levels seen just before the financial crash in 2008.

Unsecured consumer credit increased

by 10.8 per cent in 2016 according to Bank of England figures that run until November.

The British public now owes a staggering £192.2 (€225) billion after credit boomed at the fastest rate in over a decade. The previous consumer credit

debt peak in Britain was £208 (€243) billion just before the banks crashed in late 2008.

Credit cards, second mortgages and car loans are all considered unsecured credit, with plastic payments now accounting for some £66.7 (€78) billion of the total.

Eager to attract new customers in an era of reduced public confidence in the markets, credit

card companies have been offering 0 per cent interest rate deals as competition ratchets up a notch.

Millions of people are now using credit cards to pay for shopping, and other regular expenses, rather than saving them for seasonal or luxury purchases.

With both borrowing and lending higher than at any point since the crisis, debt charities are calling on the government to take action to prevent people being suddenly exposed to wider economic changes.

Unemployment is rising and 2017 is expected to offer the first true glimpse of what a post-Brexit economy may look like, as the fall in sterling seen since the referendum has a practical impact.

One debt charity, StepChange, claims to have received more than 300,000 calls for help in just six months. They point out that a job loss, or hefty bill, can knock a family off a cliff as one missed payment results in extreme penalty charges and the beginning of a vicious cycle.

The charity is now asking the government to establish a 'breathing space' scheme which would offer legal protection from harsh penalties in return for agreeing to a manageable payment schedule.



CREDIT CARDS: Are considered unsecured credit.

British economy finishes strongly

By Matthew Elliott

THE Bank of England's chief economist has admitted a huge disconnect between the dire predictions of financial experts and the facts on the ground as the British economy finished 2016 strongly.

Andy Haldane said that it was a 'fair cop' to criticise economists. He even compared their off kilter predictions to Michael Fish's notorious 1987 weather forecast when he dismissed hurricane warnings just before one of the greatest storms to ever batter the UK.

Haldane offered the modest excuse that contemporary economic models were not able to cope with 'irrational behaviour' among consumers. But the Bank of England now faces redoubled criticism from many Brexiters who sensed

bias in the BoE's predictions of a dramatic slowdown.



Predictions for 2017 are now expected to be revised upwards as the momentum continues well into the New Year.

Britain's services sector polished off a hat-trick of solid performances from the manufacturing and construction industries.

The sector, which includes transport, hotels and banks, grew at the fastest pace seen in 17 months in December as the wider economy grew 0.5 per cent in the year's final quarter.

The news was in stark contrast to pessimistic predictions from many forecasters who warned that growth would grind to a standstill as the financial ramifications of the Brexit vote began to hit home.

Predictions for 2017 are now expected to be revised upwards as the momentum continues well into the New Year. British exporters are also optimistic over the prospects of a Donald Trump presidency as the tycoon is expected to cut taxes and crank up the American economy.

The Bank of England had cut interest rates to an all-time low of 0.25 per cent in August in a move to bolster confidence and keep people spending. At the time the BoE stressed that a further cut may soon be needed but, given the 2016 data, now the smart money would be on a fractional rise.



ANDY HALDANE: Chief Economist of the Bank of England.

Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



MANY UK expatriates living in Spain own properties in the UK and have pensions and investments in the UK. They rely on their UK assets to maintain their lifestyles (and those of their families) in Spain. If they can no longer manage their affairs in the UK due to a loss of mental capacity, it can cause many difficulties.

You can choose a person or people, who you trust, to act for you when you are no longer able.

The best way to avoid the legal and practical difficulties that can occur with the loss of mental capacity is to plan for it in advance by drawing up a document called a 'Lasting Power of Attorney' ('LPA').



POWER OF ATTORNEY: A legal document that enables someone to act on your behalf.

What is an LPA?

An LPA is a legal document that enables you to appoint one or more attor-

neys to act for you when you are no longer able to act for yourself.

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

There are two types of LPA: 'Health and Welfare' or 'Property and Financial Affairs'

An LPA must be made while you have full mental capacity. It is therefore important to make one while you are in good health.

Why should you get an LPA?

You can choose a person or people, who you trust, to act for you when you are no longer able.

If you lose your mental capacity and do not have an LPA, then your family (or the authorities) will have no choice but to make an application to the Court of Protection to appoint a 'deputy' to look after your affairs, which can be time consuming and costly.

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

Unfortunately there is no international type of LPA which is guaranteed to work in both the UK and Spain.

The advice we give to our clients at Stone King, is that if you have assets in both Spain and the UK, your only safe option is to appoint attorneys in both jurisdictions.



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The danger of even more racism

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



I'M sure we were all thoroughly sickened by the attack on a defenceless patient by the four black care workers in America this week. These animals unleashed an assault on this young, mentally impaired white man, that truly defies the imagination.

To add insult to his horrific ordeal, this evil quartet actually videoed their actions and published it on social media. Let's hope this scum get all they deserve and, if found guilty, find themselves gazing through bars for some considerable time.

What interested me was the overall reaction of the white communities. Basically this consisted of expressions of disgust and disbelief, followed by the calm trust that the law will take its course and justice ultimately be served. The difference here of course is that, had the positions



Foto Copyright: Thawornmuak

SICKENING ATTACK: The carers deserve long jail terms.

been reversed, and the attack perpetrated by four white workers on a defenceless black person,

there would have been screams of racism, marches and possible rioting throughout the country.

Why is that? Why are some black people so quick to blame white people for their misfor-

“ These actions create the very real danger of turning even more people into racists.

tunes and so-called social injustices? I have never considered myself a racist but to my mind, these hysterical and often violent reactions, are, in fact, racism in its most serious form: precisely what the demonstrations are supposed to be protesting against.

Makes no sense to me, in fact to my mind, these actions create the very real danger of turning even more people into racists.

I think it is high time black communities began looking inward for solutions to their problems, instead of constantly blaming outside white influences for their shortcomings.

Please peruse this piece carefully before releasing the expected slings and arrows. Thanks.

Keep the Faith

Love Leapy

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2016: The good, the bad and the bonkers

Nora Johnson
Breaking Views

Nora is the author of popular psychological suspense and crime thrillers and a freelance journalist. To comment on any of the issues raised in her column, go to www.euroweeklynews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson

I WROTE last time about 2016, the year of the political earthquake, and pollsters, pundits, bookies - you name it - getting everything wrong! Well, this time, let's look not at events of 2016, but at some of the people who made the headlines.

We saw David Cameron stepping down and Theresa May stepping up and Jeremy Corbyn clinging on and Nigel Farage becoming the most influential Brit with the president-elect of the United States. Then there was Boris Johnson becoming our top diplomat and Great Balls on Fire / Ed the Sex Demon / Golden Balls (or, in other words, Ed Balls to you and me) becoming for some a 'national treasure' on 'Strictly Come Dancing'...

But why this support for sec-

ond-rate politicians who happen to have had years of dubious free publicity (for which they were

“

Is it just me, or are ex-politicians disporting themselves on such shows turning themselves into figures of ridicule?

quite rightly dumped by the electorate) stealing the limelight from others?

For some, the former Conservative MP Ann Widdecombe (whose own, err, natural grace carried her to week 10 as a Strictly contestant in 2010) advising Balls not to “do a John Sergeant” and quit the show before the better contestants were voted off smacked of the Second-Rate Politicians' Union.

“He must go with what the public decide,” she declared at the time. “If he gets into the final he should do his best to win... The public are enjoying the entertain-



ANN WIDDECOMBE: A former Strictly contestant.

ment. If that's what they want it's what they should get.” Populism rules OK!

Is it just me, or are ex-politicians disporting themselves on such shows turning themselves into figures of ridicule? Heck, if you had told me two years ago that the man who stopped Gordon Brown hitting people would be pirouetting on national television, I'd have said, “Oh yeah, and the next American president will be Donald Trump!”

Finally, as for the transatlantic bromance between Donald Trump and Nigel Farage, an anagram of their two names would seem to be: ‘Parade of dull, grating men.’ Hmm. “Make America grate again!” as the man (might have) said.

Nora Johnson's psychological / suspense crime thrillers 'No Way Back,' 'Landscape of Lies,' 'Retribution,' 'Soul Stealer,' 'The De Clerambault Code' (www.nora-johnson.com) available from Amazon in paperback/eBook (€0.99;£0.99) and iBookstore. All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.

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BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
7:00am Breakfast	9:00am Nature's Weirdest Events	9:00pm The Mary Rose: A Timewatch Guide	7:15am 3rd Rock from the Sun	9:45am Milkshake Monkey
10:15am Rip Off Britain	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	10:00pm Sword, Musket and Machine Gun: Britain's Armed History	7:40am 3rd Rock from the Sun	9:50am Toot the Tiny Tugboat
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	11:00pm 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	8:05am King of Queens	10:00am Toby's Travelling Circus
12:00pm Wanted Down Under	1:00pm The Daily Politics Coast	12:00am Roger Bannister: Everest on the Track	8:30am King of Queens	10:15am The Wright Stuff
12:45pm Caught Red Handed	2:00pm The Link	1:00am The Trains That Time Forgot: Britain's Lost Railway Journeys	8:55am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:15pm The Hotel Inspector
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	2:10pm Chefs: Put Your Menu Where Your Mouth is	1:00am The Trains That Time Forgot: Britain's Lost Railway Journeys	9:25am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
2:00pm BBC News at One	2:55pm A Place to Call Home	1:00am The Trains That Time Forgot: Britain's Lost Railway Journeys	10:00am Frasier	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
2:30pm BBC London News	3:40pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth is	1:00am The Trains That Time Forgot: Britain's Lost Railway Journeys	10:30am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Father Brown	5:30pm The Great Interior Design Challenge	1:00am The Trains That Time Forgot: Britain's Lost Railway Journeys	11:00am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	2:45pm Neighbours NCIS
3:30pm Impossible	7:00pm Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change	1:00am The Trains That Time Forgot: Britain's Lost Railway Journeys	12:00pm Find it, Fix it, Flog it	3:15pm NCIS
4:15pm Escape to the Country	8:00pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends	2:00am James May: The Reassembler	1:00pm Channel 4 News Summary	4:20pm A Mother's Fear
4:45pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	9:00pm The Premier League Show	2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	6:00pm 5 News at 5
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	11:00pm Newsnight	2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	6:30pm Neighbours
6:15pm Pointless	11:30pm The Last Kingdom	2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	7:00pm Home and Away
7:00pm BBC News at Six	12:15am The Last Kingdom	2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
7:30pm BBC London News	1:15am The Last Kingdom	2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	8:00pm Penguin A and E with Lorraine Kelly
8:00pm The One Show		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	9:00pm Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 3
8:30pm EastEnders		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
9:00pm Spy in the Wild		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	11:00pm Lip Sync Battle UK
10:00pm Paradise in Paradise		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	11:30pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm BBC News at Ten		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
11:30pm BBC London News		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	
11:45pm Question Time		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	
12:45am This Week		2:30am Gunpowder 5/11: The Greatest Terror Plot	1:05pm Darts	

FRIDAY - 13 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	8:30am Caught Red Handed	8:00pm World News Today	7:15am 3rd Rock from the Sun	10:00am Toby's Travelling Circus
12:00pm Wanted Down Under	9:00am Great British Menu	8:30pm Top of the Pops	8:05am King of Queens	10:15am The Wright Stuff
12:45pm Caught Red Handed	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	9:00pm The Good Old Days	8:30am King of Queens	10:15am The Wright Stuff
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	10:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	10:00pm Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand	8:55am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:15pm The Hotel Inspector
2:00pm BBC News at One	1:00pm The Daily Politics Coast	11:00pm David Bowie: Five Years	9:25am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
2:30pm BBC London News	2:00pm Chefs: Put Your Menu Where Your Mouth is	12:00pm Top of the Pops	10:00am Frasier	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
2:45pm Father Brown	2:55pm A Place to Call Home	2:05pm Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand	10:30am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	2:15pm Home and Away
3:30pm Impossible	3:40pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth is	2:05pm Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand	11:00am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	2:45pm Neighbours NCIS
4:15pm Escape to the Country	5:30pm The Great Interior Design Challenge	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	12:00pm Find it, Fix it, Flog it	3:15pm NCIS
4:45pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	7:00pm Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:00pm Channel 4 News Summary	4:15pm The Wrong Woman
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	5:00pm 5 News at 5
6:15pm Pointless	9:00pm The Premier League Show	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	6:00pm Neighbours
7:00pm BBC News at Six	11:00pm Newsnight	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	6:30pm Neighbours
7:30pm BBC London News	11:30pm The Last Kingdom	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	7:00pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	12:15am The Last Kingdom	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
8:30pm EastEnders	1:15am The Last Kingdom	3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	8:00pm Penguin A and E with Lorraine Kelly
9:00pm Spy in the Wild		3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	9:00pm Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 3
10:00pm Paradise in Paradise		3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm BBC News at Ten		3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	11:00pm Lip Sync Battle UK
11:30pm BBC London News		3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	11:30pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:45pm Question Time		3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
12:45am This Week		3:05pm David Bowie: Five Years	1:05pm Darts	

The schedules for the television programme pages are provided by an external company: we regret that any changes or errors are not the responsibility of Euro Weekly News.

*Happy New Year
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SATURDAY - 14 JANUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am	Breakfast	9:15am	The Magic Box	8:00pm	The Golden Age of Coach Travel	7:15am	King of Queens	7:00am	Milkshake!
11:00am	Saturday Kitchen Live	11:00am	Secret Britain	9:00pm	Treasures of the Indus	7:40am	King of Queens	10:45am	Big Bash Cricket Live
12:30pm	The Best Dishes Ever	12:00pm	Homes Under the Hammer	10:00pm	Lost Kingdoms of Central America	8:05am	Everybody Loves Raymond	2:30pm	The Hotel Inspector
1:00pm	Football Focus	1:00pm	Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure	11:00pm	The Young Montalbano Prequel series giving an insight into the private life and early crime-fighting career of detective Salvo Montalbano.	8:30am	Everybody Loves Raymond	3:25pm	Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud
2:00pm	BBC News	2:00pm	Ice Station Zebra			9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond	4:25pm	Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 2
2:10pm	Weather	4:20pm	Flog It!	11:00pm		9:30am	Frasier	5:25pm	Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 3
2:15pm	Bargain Hunt	5:00pm	Mastermind Under			10:00am	Frasier	6:25pm	Kittens Make You Laugh Out Loud
3:15pm	Wanted Down Under	5:30pm	University Challenge			10:30am	The Big Bang Theory	7:20pm	NCIS: Los Angeles
4:15pm	Escape to the Country	6:00pm	Only Connect			11:00am	The Big Bang Theory	8:05pm	NCIS: Los Angeles
5:00pm	Final Score		A show in which connections must be made between seemingly unconnected things.			11:25am	The Big Bang Theory	9:00pm	NCIS
6:20pm	BBC News	6:30pm	The World's Most Extraordinary Homes			11:55am	The Simpsons	9:55pm	5 News
6:30pm	Regional News					12:25pm	The Simpsons	10:00pm	Football on 5
6:35pm	Weather	7:30pm	Thailand: Earth's Tropical Paradise			12:55pm	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	11:00pm	Football on 5
6:40pm	Celebrity Mastermind	8:30pm	Britain's Ancient Capital: Secrets of Orkney			1:55pm	Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast	11:30pm	Celebrity Big Brother
7:10pm	Pointless	9:30pm	Dad's Army			3:00pm	Darts	12:30am	Lip Sync Battle UK
8:00pm	Let it Shine	10:00pm	Imagine			7:30pm	Channel 4 News	1:00am	Super Casino
9:25pm	Casualty	11:40pm	On the Waterfront			8:00pm	Penelope Keith's Hidden Villages	4:10am	Celebrity Big Brother
10:15pm	Taboo	12:55am	This is BBC Two Highlights of programmes on BBC Two.			9:00pm	Great Canal Journeys	5:00am	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies
11:10pm	BBC News					10:00pm	Oblivion	5:05am	Divine Designs
11:30pm	Match of the Day					12:30am	Immortals		
1:05am	The Ring					2:30am	Hollyoaks Omnibus		
2:50am	Weather for the Week Ahead					4:35am	Info Not Available		
2:55am	BBC News The latest national and international news stories, followed by Weather.					5:05am	Hoarder SOS		

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

7:00am	CITV	7:00am	The Hot Desk	7:00am	Judge Judy	7:00am	Guns smoke	7:00am	Football Gold
10:25am	ITV News	7:10am	Emmerdale	7:20am	Murder, She Wrote	7:55am	The Professionals	7:30am	Football Gold
10:30am	Rebound	9:55am	Coronation Street Omnibus	8:10am	Murder, She Wrote	8:55am	The Professionals	7:45am	Football Gold
11:30am	Guess This House	12:20pm	The Big Quiz	9:15am	Murder, She Wrote	9:55am	The Saint	8:00am	Football's Greatest
12:30pm	House Rinder	1:25pm	Ninja Warrior UK	10:20am	Columbo	11:00am	ITV Racing: The Opening Show	8:30am	Football's Greatest
1:30pm	ITV News and Weather	2:30pm	50 Greatest Harry Potter Moments	12:25pm	Hidden Treasure	12:00pm	Pawn Stars	9:00am	Game Changers
1:40pm	River Monsters	4:05pm	Horrid Henry: The Movie	12:30pm	A Touch of Frost	12:30pm	Apache	9:30am	Premier League Preview 2016/17
2:10pm	Bargain Shop Wars	5:05pm	FYI Daily	1:30pm	A Touch of Frost	1:35pm	Apache	10:00am	The Fantasy Football Club
2:40pm	The Mummy Returns	5:10pm	Horrid Henry: The Movie	4:50pm	Midsomer Murders	2:25pm	Nijinsky's Triple Crown	11:00am	Soccer A.M.
5:05pm	Dance Dance Dance	5:55pm	Hotel Transylvania	7:00pm	Doc Martin	2:30pm	ITV Racing Live	12:30pm	Football
6:35pm	Local News and Weather	6:55pm	FYI Daily	9:00pm	Drama series about a GP in Cornwall. Martin and Louisa's baby is giving them sleepless nights.	5:00pm	Red River	4:00pm	Gillette Soccer Saturday
6:45pm	ITV News and Weather	7:00pm	Hotel Transylvania			6:05pm	FYI Daily	6:15pm	Football
7:00pm	Brits Launch	7:45pm	The Amazing Spider-Man 2			6:10pm	Red River	9:00pm	EFL Goals
8:00pm	Ninja Warrior UK	8:45pm	FYI Daily			7:40pm	Pawn Stars	9:30pm	Nissan Game of the Day
9:00pm	The Voice UK	8:50pm	The Amazing Spider-Man 2			8:05pm	Mr. Bean	11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice
10:30pm	Through the Keyhole	10:30pm	Wanted			8:40pm	Mr. Bean	12:30am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
11:30pm	ITV News and Weather	11:30pm	FYI Daily			9:10pm	River Monsters	1:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
11:45pm	Terminator 2: Judgment Day	11:35pm	Wanted			10:15pm	The Client	1:30am	Premier League Highlights
2:15am	Jackpot247	12:40am	Family Guy			11:15pm	FYI Daily	2:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
4:00am	Who's Doing the Dishes?	1:10am	Family Guy			11:20pm	The Client	2:30am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
4:55am	Nightscreen	1:40am	Family Guy			12:40am	Don't Say a Word	3:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
		2:05am	American Dad!			1:40am	FYI Daily		
		2:35am	American Dad!			1:45am	Don't Say a Word		
		3:00am	Dads			2:55am	Hell on Wheels		
						3:50am	ITV4		
						4:00am	Nightscreen		
							Teleshopping		

SUNDAY - 15 JANUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am	Breakfast	7:15am	A to Z of TV Gardening	8:00pm	David Starkey's Music and Monarchy	7:20am	King of Queens	10:55am	The Fairly Odd Parents
8:30am	Match of the Day	8:00am	Big Dreams Small Spaces	8:10am	Dr David Starkey's exploration of how the monarchy shaped Britain's music reaches the 17th century, when religious conflict threatened not only the lives of musicians and monarchs, but the future of the monarchy and the glorious tradition of British music itself.	8:10am	Everybody Loves Raymond	11:30am	Football on 5
10:00am	The Andrew Marr Show	9:00am	Island Parish	8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond	8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond	1:00pm	Fail Army
11:00am	Questions	9:30am	The Edible Garden	9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond	9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond	1:25pm	Message in a Bottle
12:00pm	Sunday Politics	10:00am	Countryfile	9:30am	Frasier	9:30am	Frasier	3:50pm	5 News
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt	11:00am	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites	10:00am	Frasier	10:00am	Frasier	5:45pm	You've Got Mail
2:00pm	BBC News	12:30pm	Talking Snooker	10:30am	Sunday Brunch	10:30am	Sunday Brunch	8:00pm	Now That's Funny!
2:10pm	Weather for the Week Ahead	1:15pm	MOTD2 Extra	1:30pm	The Simpsons	1:30pm	The Simpsons	9:00pm	Brides Make You Laugh Out Loud
2:15pm	Homes Under the Hammer	2:00pm	Masters Snooker	2:50pm	St. Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold	2:50pm	St. Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold	9:55pm	5 News
3:15pm	Wanted Down Under Revisited	6:15pm	Yellowstone	3:50am	How to Lose Weight Well	4:55pm	Channel 4 News	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
3:45pm	Escape to the Country	7:15pm	City in the Sky	9:00pm	John Gardner is an award-winning garden designer. But he's no ordinary gardener.	5:15pm	Channel 4 News	11:05pm	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies
4:30pm	Spy in the Wild	9:00pm	Dragons' Den	10:00pm	Rich Hall's Presidential Grudge Match	9:00pm	Walking the Americas	12:05am	The Roast of Donald Trump
5:30pm	Songs of Praise	10:00pm	Thailand: Earth's Tropical Paradise	11:00pm	Bowie at the BBC	10:00pm	Bad Neighbours	1:35am	Impractical Jokers UK
6:05pm	Call the Midwife	11:00pm	Match of the Day 2	11:55pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	10:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	2:00am	Super Casino
7:05pm	BBC News	11:50pm	QI XL	12:55am	Hanna	11:55pm	Hanna	4:10am	Under the Tuscan Sun
7:20pm	Regional News		Panel-based quiz where it is more important to be interesting than right.	2:55am	Weight Well	12:55am	Hanna	5:50am	Divine Designs
7:25pm	Weather								
7:30pm	Countryfile								
8:30pm	Antiques Roadshow								
	Holocaust Memorial Special								
	Still Open All Hours								
	Sherlock								
	BBC News								
	Regional News								
	Weather								

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

7:00am	CITV	7:00am	You've Been Framed!	7:00am	Where the Heart is	7:00am	Sports Fillers	7:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
10:25am	ITV News	7:25am	Emmerdale	7:50am	Where the Heart is	7:10am	The Wine Show	7:30am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
10:30am	Countrywise	10:10am	Coronation Street Omnibus	8:45am	Heartbeat	8:05am	The Saint	8:00am	Premier League Highlights
11:00am	Peston on Sunday	12:30pm	The Voice UK	9:45am	Heartbeat	9:00am	The Professionals	8:30am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
12:00pm	Wild Australia with Ray Mears	2:00pm	Zawesome Link	10:50am	Murder, She Wrote	10:00am	Counting Cars	9:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
12:30pm	Chopping Block	2:05pm	Guidance	11:50am	Murder, She Wrote	10:55am	Shed and Buried	9:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
1:30pm	ITV News and Weather	2:30pm	Zawesome Link	12:20pm	Pawn Stars	11:55am	Pawn Stars	9:30am	Info Not Available
1:35pm	Judge Rinder	2:40pm	Side Effects	12:55pm	The Mirror Crack'd	12:20pm	Pawn Stars	10:00am	The Sunday Supplement
2:35pm	Tipping Point	3:10pm	Zawesome Link	1:55pm	FYI Daily	12:50pm	Pawn Stars	10:00am	Goals on Sunday
3:35pm	Ninja Warrior UK	3:20pm	Third Wheel	2:00pm	The Mirror Crack'd	1:50pm	Pawn Stars	1:30pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
4:35pm	The Voice UK	3:40pm	L.A. Story	3:05pm	Frost	2:15pm	Pawn Stars	4:30pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
6:05pm	Local News and Weather	4:00pm	Space Jam	5:20pm	Columbo: How to Dial a Murder	2:45pm	Pawn Stars	8:00pm	EFL Goals
6:15pm	ITV News and Weather	5:00pm	FYI Daily	7:00pm	Midsomer Murders	3:35pm	633 Squadron	8:30pm	Football
6:30pm	The Chase	5:05pm	Space Jam	9:00pm	This Time Next Year	4:35pm	FYI Daily	11:00pm	Football
7:30pm	Dance Dance Dance	5:45pm	Despicable Me 2	10:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium	5:40pm	The Dam Busters	11:30pm	Football
9:00pm	Endeavour	6:45pm	FYI Daily	11:00pm	Birds of a Feather	6:40pm	FYI Daily	12:00am	Goals on Sunday
11:00pm	ITV News and Weather	7:45pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	11:00pm	Family Guy	6:45pm	The Dam Busters	1:00am	Football
11:15pm	Peston on Sunday	8:45pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	11:30pm	Family Guy	9:15pm	Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	1:30am	Football
12:15am	Brits Launch	8:50pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	11:30pm	Family Guy	10:15pm	FYI Daily	2:00am	Boxing Gold
1:15am	Jackpot247	11:00pm	Family Guy	12:00am	Family Guy	10:20pm	Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	2:30am	Darts Gold
4:00am	Chopping Block	11:30pm	Family Guy	12:35am	FYI Daily	11:00pm	Maximum Conviction	3:00am	The Premier League Years
4:55am	Nightscreen	12:40am	The English Patient	12:40am	The English Patient	11:00pm	Maximum Conviction	5:00am	Sporting Heroes
		2:00am	The Cleveland Show	2:40am	A Touch of Frost	12:00am	FYI Daily		

|| The schedules for the television programme pages are provided by an external company: we regret that any changes or errors are not the responsibility of Euro Weekly News.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Smoking in cars

AS part of the series, we answer some common driving questions and keep you updated on the latest driving and road news kindly provided by members of the Guardia Civil based in Torrevieja, Costa Blanca, who set up the N332 website and Facebook page to help break down barriers.



DRIVERS SMOKING: In Spain it is not illegal. |

THE Guardia Civil Traffic team in Torrevieja has reported an increased amount of enquiries from drivers asking if it is illegal to smoke in cars in Spain.

Currently, no, it is not illegal.

The confusion seems to occur for two reasons. The first is related to the law preventing anything interfering with the act of driving, with some saying if a driver was smoking, this could lead to a distraction.

The second factor relates to a law re-

lating to smoking in a car with children inside with some countries, including the UK, making this illegal. This law came into force in October 2015 in England and Wales and last month in Scotland meaning no one can smoke in a vehicle carrying children.

However in Spain, currently such a law does not exist, so whilst legally you are free to smoke whilst driving, it is never recommended for the health risk and as it can pose a distraction.

For more news and articles visit www.n332.es or search N332 on Facebook.

What exactly is a proxy vote?

Q. I am not able to attend the coming Annual General Meeting of my Community of Property Owners, but I am told that I can assign my vote to another person, who will cast my vote at the meeting. Do I need to specify how I want him to vote on the different proposals, or must I just trust him? How does it work?

SD (Costa del Sol)

A. Spain's Law of Horizontal Property says that a Community member can attend the AGM and vote either in person or by representation. Most Communities have a printed form on which you enter your details and those of the person to whom you assign your vote

David Searl
You and the Law
in Spain

but any written authorisation will serve. You sign the form and give it to your Administrator or President. Your proxy holder then becomes

you in the meeting. Your proxy holder does not have to be a member of your Community. You can instruct him to vote in a certain way, but the proxy holder is not bound by this. The idea is that new information may come to light at the meeting and the vote needs to be changed.

Send your questions for David Searl through lawyers Ubeda-Retana & Associates in Fuengirola at Ask@lawtaxspain.com, or call 952 667 090.

TV is just full of reality crap

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



VERY pleased that Three Kings has come and gone so we can now stop walking around wishing everybody, even bloody strangers, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We can also dispense with the post-holiday questioning: "How was your Christmas?" "Get anything nice?" "Did you do anything nice New Year's Eve?" My reply as usual, "Nah just had a quiet one." Meaning - we went to the local Indian restaurant, were the only two in there, out by 8 and then watched telly.

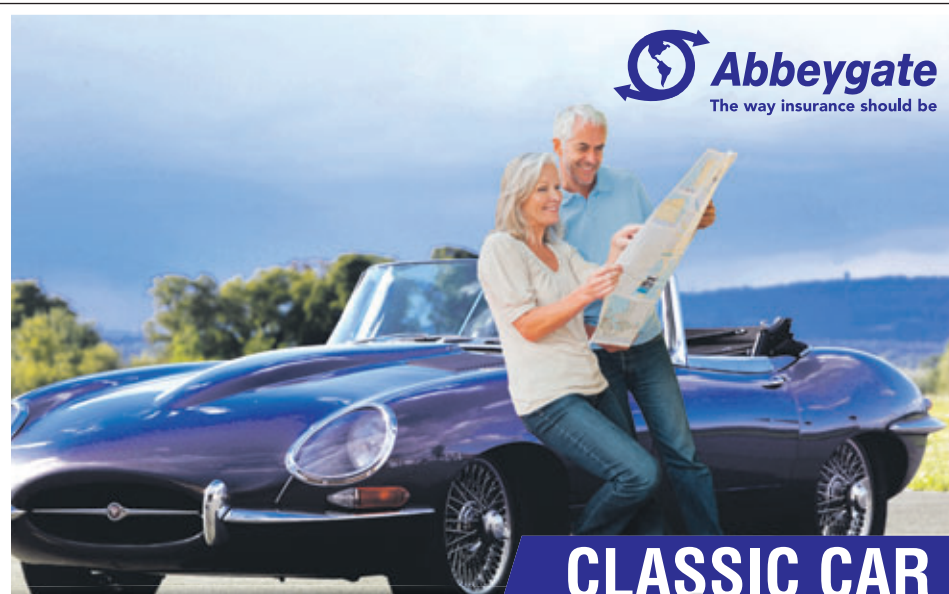
And that's because I think most of the places are a rip-off as I don't drink and don't dance because the old legs don't allow it. Then at midnight it started - the fireworks. My poor dog shot up on the couch and sat there in my arms shaking for the next hour. I'm also trying to remember the last time I ate something that wasn't on a cling-filmed plate in the fridge.

Watching TV on Three King's night or the UK's Twelfth Night, so technically the tree and decorations should have just come down; I was amazed to see an advert for Cadbury's Crème Eggs! By my reckoning that's about 14 weeks to go. Bit too soon don't you think? Mrs S is still munching her way through her selec-

tion box. Mind you, I went into Iceland the other day and they had birthday cakes in there and my birthday isn't till July! Talking about telly, all the junk stuff is back on like Celebrity Big Brother where a bunch of Z-list nobodies pee each other off for a month while we watch them disintegrate in front of our very eyes.

Then we have The Voice, now on ITV. I love watching people singing their hearts out to the back of chairs. At least this season the chairs don't turn round if nobody wants them and the judges don't have to explain. The singer can just walk off the stage in tears... now that's entertainment! There is also a new show with Gary Barlow called 'Let it Shine' which I watched. Mrs S loves all this stuff and I have to tell you it's embarrassing. It's not a TV show, it's pathetic. If Mr B wants to put a show on in the West End of London just do some casting. There is only so much reality stuff that can be peddled out in the name of entertainment. I must have 150 channels on my TV and at prime time on a Saturday night that's the best they can come up with. I flick through all the channels and yeah there are a few old movies and some sport, but the rest is reality crap. Cooking, buying houses, dancing mums, pregnant teenagers and if I want to look at an embarrassing body I'll look in the mirror!

Back on Talk Radio Europe on the 13th at 11.30am. Phone in and have a grump or email me on mikesenker@gmail.com.



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MONDAY - 16 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
3:30pm !Mpossible	6:00pm Coast	8:00pm World News	2:30pm Four in a Bed	2:15pm Home and Away
4:15pm Escape to the Country	6:15pm Flog It!	Today	1:00pm Channel 4 News Summary	2:45pm Neighbours
4:45pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm Grand Tours of Scotland	1:05pm Four in a Bed	3:20pm NCIS
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys	9:00pm Swarm: Nature's Invasions	3:10pm Countdown	4:20pm Mother Betrayed
6:15pm Pointless	8:00pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends	10:00pm Zero Day: Nuclear Cyber Sabotage - Storyville	4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	6:00pm 5 News
7:00pm BBC News	9:00pm University Challenge	11:30pm How it Works	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	6:30pm Neighbours
7:30pm Regional News	9:30pm An Island Parish	12:30am When God Spoke English: The Making of the King James Bible	6:00pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	11:00pm Insert Name Here	1:30am David Starkey's Music and Monarchy	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm World's Biggest Beast
8:30pm Inside Out	11:30pm Newsnight		7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm Police Interceptors
9:00pm EastEnders	12:10am Weather		8:00pm Channel 4 News Summary	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
9:30pm Panorama	12:15am Snooker		9:00pm Dispatches	11:00pm The Week We Went Wild
10:00pm Silent Witness	1:05am Snooker		9:30pm Food Unwrapped	12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
11:00pm BBC News	3:05am Countryfile		10:00pm The Undateables	1:05am Tattoo Disasters
11:30pm Regional News	4:00am West Side Stories - The Making of a Classic		11:00pm First Dates Hotel	
11:40pm Weather			12:05am Tattoo Fixers	
11:45pm Class			1:05am Spies	
12:30am Class	5:00am This is BBC Two			

TUESDAY - 17 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
4:45pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	8:30pm Grand Tours of Scotland	12:30pm Four in a Bed	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	Paul Murton presents the series that relives the golden days of Scottish tourism.	3:10pm Countdown	2:15pm Home and Away
6:15pm Pointless	1:00pm The Daily Politics	The Golden Age of Canals	4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	2:45pm Neighbours
7:00pm BBC News	2:00pm Masters Snooker Coast	9:00pm Britain Beneath Your Feet	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	3:15pm NCIS
7:30pm Regional News	6:15pm Flog It!	11:00pm Horizon	6:00pm Come Dine with Me	4:15pm Who Killed My Husband?
8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	12:00am Circus Elephant Rampage - Storyville	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:00pm 5 News
8:30pm EastEnders	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys	12:55am A Very British Renaissance	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours
9:00pm Match of the Day Live	8:00pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends	1:55am How the Devil Got His Horns: A Diabolical Tale	8:00pm Channel 4 News Summary	7:00pm Home and Away
11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Great Interior Design Challenge		9:00pm How to Lose Weight Well	7:30pm 5 News
11:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Our Dancing Town		10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	7:00pm Home and Away
11:40pm Weather	11:00pm Revolving Newsnight		11:00pm This is Us Ep7: The Best Washing Machine in the Whole World	7:30pm 5 News
11:45pm Stacey on the Frontline: Girls, Guns and Isis	11:30pm Newsnight		11:55pm The Undateables	8:00pm How to Lose Weight Well
12:30am Italy's Invisible Cities	12:10am Weather			9:00pm A New Life in Oz
	12:15am NFL			10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother

WEDNESDAY - 18 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
2:00pm BBC News at One	7:00am Rip Off Britain	8:00pm World News Today	7:00am Countdown	7:00am Milkshake!
2:30pm BBC London News	7:45am Wanted Down Under	8:30pm Grand Tours of Scotland	7:45am King of Queens	10:15am The Wright Stuff
2:45pm Father Brown	8:30am Cash in the Attic	Paul Murton presents the series that relives the golden days of Scottish tourism	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:15pm Cowboy Builders
3:30pm !Mpossible	9:00am Sign Zone Caught Red Handed	9:00pm Natural World	10:00am Frasier	1:10pm 5 News
4:15pm Escape to the Country	9:30am Great British Menu	James May: The Reassembler	11:30am Ramsay's Kitchen	The latest news coverage.
4:45pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	10:30pm Play it Loud: The Story of the Marshall Amp	12:30pm Four in a Bed	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	11:30pm Challenging Behaviour	1:00pm Channel 4 News Summary	2:15pm Home and Away
6:15pm Pointless	12:30pm The Daily Politics	12:30am The Secret Rules of Modern Living: Algorithms	1:05pm Four in a Bed	2:45pm Neighbours
7:00pm BBC News at Six	2:00pm Masters Snooker Coast	1:30am Time Shift	2:10pm Four in a Bed	3:20pm NCIS
7:30pm BBC London News	6:00pm Flog It!	2:30am Natural World	3:10pm Countdown	4:20pm Lost Letter
8:00pm The One Show	6:15pm Eggheads	3:30am Autism: Challenging Behaviour	4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	Mysteries: Love and Tragedy
9:00pm Holby City	7:00pm Great British Railway Journeys	4:30am This is BBC Four	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	5 News
10:00pm Silent Witness	7:30pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends		6:00pm Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	8:00pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends		7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away
11:30pm BBC London News	9:00pm Great Interior Design Challenge		7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News
11:45pm A Question of Sport	10:00pm Hospital		8:00pm Channel 4 News Location, Location, Location	8:00pm Bloody Tales of the Tower
12:15am Film 2017	11:00pm Common Sense		9:00pm Location, Location, Location	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
12:45am What Doesn't Kill You	11:30pm Newsnight		10:00pm No Offence	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
2:25am Weather for the Week Ahead	12:10am Weather		11:00pm Britain's Benefit Tenants	11:00pm In Therapy
	12:15am Snooker		12:05am The Undateables	12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
	1:05am Snooker		1:05am Live From Abbey Road Classics	1:05am Sex Pod

The schedules for the television programme pages are provided by an external company: we regret that any changes or errors are not the responsibility of Euro Weekly News.

LETTERS

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

Letters for Your Say should be emailed to yoursay@euoweeklynews.com or make your comments straight on our website: www.euoweeklynews.com

Read up on the safety of drones

WHETHER you love or hate drones, I urge you to look at our government's consultation questions regarding drone safety for 'leisure' users (small drones) on www.gov.uk.

It is very easy to complete and you do not need qualifications of any kind. It is open to every member of the public and you do not have to be a drone user. You have until March 15 to respond and you must enter your name and email address. It took me, a complete novice, 15 minutes.

Currently users of small drones are unregistered in the UK and there is no way to find who is responsible when they are being used in the wrong way and in the wrong areas. This is our chance to participate with proposed changes to the few existing drone laws.

Search on www.gov.uk - Benefits of drones to the UK economy.

The bottom of the screen has the 'Respond Online' choice, but I would advise you to view Page 50 of the first document 'Unlocking the UK's high tech economy...' as it lists a summary of the relevant questions.

After reading these you have a choice as to whether you participate or not. Pages one to 49 contain lots of drone information which I, as a non-drone user, found very interesting.

Ann Paterson, Didcot

English lessons

ISN'T it common sense to say you should either speak English before you arrive in the UK or be willing to learn when you get there? It's not racist to say that if you don't speak the language and you're not willing to learn then you get a ghetto effect.

At least if you have a grasp of the language then a country's culture and values become more obvious. Having said that, we have to admit there are large parts of some cities in the UK where English is spoken and understood, but you feel another set of values prevail altogether.

Jane by email

Leapy Logic

AFTER a fabulously ignorant, ill-informed and misleading assault on the character of British MPs, Mr Lee launches into a hymn of praise for the ongoing Trump plan to hand over the

» Photographs for possible publication should be sent by email with a full caption to: photonews@euoweeklynews.com



WORRYING REPORTS: No wonder we are a nation of overweight people.

Sugar ill of today

“ SUGAR has never been that important to me, but I know I'm taking it in whether I want to or not in most foods today. At least I try not to consume too much of the white stuff. But I worry about reports that children are getting breakfast cereals with high amounts of sugar.

I've seen packets of six cakes for £1. What goodness is going to be in those?? No wonder we are a nation of overweight people. The sight of young children stuffing themselves with crisps and pop is sad but it's the parents who must do more to stop it.

K L, Fuengirola

running of the United States to a cabinet of wealthy business tycoons.

According to Leapy Logic, a knack for lining your pockets whilst paying zero tax - just the sort of behaviour he deplores in our MPs - is the very qualification needed by America's administration in waiting. In previous administrations the bar for political err... compromise was set by Vice President Cheney's awarding the untendered contract for reconstruction in Iraq to Halliburton, a company of which he was former CEO.

But this week's column titled 'The world is well rid of this man' exceeded even the gravity defying logic of the previous rant. In his vitriolic attack on Barack Obama, Mr Lee seems to think a president of the US should not respond to an attack on his country aimed at the very process of democracy. The validity of the intelligence is beyond dispute by all but the President Elect, whose motives for denial are too obvious to state.

Accusing Obama of childish and spiteful behaviour is a bit rich coming from your contributor. Obama will go down as one of the better American presidents. His reluctance to throw away more of his soldiers' lives in the Middle East, unlike his predecessor, is plainly what gets up Mr Lee's nose. Obama was elected on a ticket to bring the troops home, and that, largely, is what he's done.

He famously does not commit his country to involvement in 'stupid stuff.' He has taken his country from the brink of catastrophe eight years ago to solid economic recovery; halved unemployment; saved the American motor industry; brought affordable health care to 20 million Americans and brought justice to Bin Laden. He legitimised same sex marriage which should smooth the pathway to a blissful union between your contributor and The Donald ('Let's make America grope again!').

Mr Lee plainly wants his babies,

but he'll have to get past Vladimir first. Keep your geiger counter in your pocket, Leapy!

Anthony Jones, Torrevieja

Self-drive

WHO on earth would think driverless cars are anything but a tragedy waiting to happen? Having just watched a documentary I can happily say you are not getting me in one of those. Driverless trains might be something you could get used to, but a mixture of manual and driverless cars on the road? Frightening prospect.

David C by email

Fat Cats

WHEN I worked for a medium-sized company we knew the boss was earning a much bigger salary than the rest of us. You expect that, but it's a bit

worrying when your boss by lunchtime has made what you make in a year. Fat Cats was a phrase we saw a lot in the papers a few years ago. But when David Cameron and George Osborne talked about austerity you never really thought the bosses were joining in. It seems the gap is getting wider and I can certainly say it doesn't do anything for staff morale.

Jean, Benidorm

Bitter taste

IT'S MORE than 'about time' to get rid of our antiquated, obsolete, and most importantly, unfair system of electing our US President. For the fifth time in US history, last November 8, American voters 'elected' the candidate who did not 'win' a majority of the 'popular vote,' Donald Trump.

The 'Official Loser,' Hillary Clinton, received, according to the final recount, 2,800,000 MORE votes nationwide than the 'Winner,' Donald Trump. To add insult to injury for frustrated Clinton voters, knowing that 'The Donald,' practically a 'self-declared' misogynist, anti-African-American, and anti-Hispanic, has now been officially elected our next President, leaves us frustrated voters with more than just 'a bitter taste in our mouths!'

Ask Al Gore, another recent victim of our unjust and nonsensical 'Electoral College System,' when in the 2000 Presidential Elections, the Democratic candidate 'Loser' received 543,895 MORE votes than 'The Winner,' Republican George W Bush.

Now 'The Dreaded Donald' will take office I daresay many Americans 'await' his arrival with much fear and trepidation: what price will we pay for not having 'deep-sixed' our obsolete and unjust 'Electoral College System' about 150 years ago, when historians say it did make some sense then as a means of avoiding more power for 'Slave States.'

Richard M McBride, Benidorm

WHEN YOU WRITE

All letters, whether by email or post, should carry the writer's postal address, NIE and contact number though only the name and town will be published.

Letters may also be edited.

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Word Ladder

CITE

Move from the start word (CITE) to the end word (NEWS) in the same number of steps as there are rungs on the Word Ladder. You must only change one letter at a time.

NEWS

SMEN
SWEN
NETS
NUTS
CUTS
CUTE
CITE
Solution

MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'NO DOUBT ABOUT IT - BREXIT HAS PUT YEARS ON YOU, DEAR!'

Weather

for next 7 days

Alicante

TODAY: SUNNY		MAX 18C, MIN 10C	
Fri - 18 8 C	Mon - 14 6 S	Fri - 10 -1 C	Mon - 9 -4 C
Sat - 15 6 C	Tues - 14 6 C	Sat - 10 -3 C	Tues - 8 -3 C
Sun - 15 5 S	Wed - 13 6 Sh	Sun - 9 -3 C	Wed - 9 -3 S

Madrid

TODAY: CLOUDY		MAX 13C, MIN 9C	
Fri - 10 -1 C	Mon - 9 -4 C	Fri - 10 -3 C	Mon - 8 -3 C
Sat - 10 -3 C	Tues - 8 -3 C	Sat - 9 -3 C	Wed - 9 -3 S

Almeria

TODAY: SUNNY		MAX 18C, MIN 8C	
Fri - 19 9 S	Mon - 15 6 S	Fri - 19 8 S	Mon - 15 6 S
Sat - 15 6 C	Tues - 15 6 S	Sat - 17 6 C	Tues - 15 5 S
Sun - 16 5 S	Wed - 15 7 C	Sun - 16 5 S	Wed - 15 6 Sh

Malaga

TODAY: CLOUDY		MAX 17C, MIN 8C	
Fri - 19 8 S	Mon - 15 6 S	Fri - 17 6 C	Tues - 15 5 S
Sat - 17 6 C	Tues - 15 5 S	Sat - 16 5 S	Wed - 15 6 Sh

Barcelona

TODAY: CLOUDY		MAX 15C, MIN 7C	
Fri - 13 2 C	Mon - 11 1 S	Fri - 14 4 C	Mon - 12 3 C
Sat - 12 2 C	Tues - 11 0 S	Sat - 12 4 Sh	Tues - 12 3 C
Sun - 12 1 C	Wed - 11 0 S	Sun - 13 3 C	Wed - 12 3 C

Mallorca

TODAY: CLEAR		MAX 16C, MIN 9C	
Fri - 14 4 C	Mon - 12 3 C	Fri - 14 4 C	Mon - 12 3 C
Sat - 12 4 Sh	Tues - 12 3 C	Sat - 13 3 C	Wed - 12 3 C

Benidorm

TODAY: SUNNY		MAX 18C, MIN 10C	
Fri - 18 8 C	Mon - 14 7 C	Fri - 18 6 S	Mon - 14 4 S
Sat - 15 17 C	Tues - 14 6 C	Sat - 15 4 C	Tues - 14 3 C
Sun - 15 5 S	Wed - 14 5 Sh	Sun - 14 4 S	Wed - 14 4 C

Murcia

TODAY: SUNNY		MAX 18C, MIN 8C	
Fri - 18 6 S	Mon - 14 4 S	Fri - 15 4 C	Tues - 14 3 C
Sat - 15 4 C	Tues - 14 3 C	Sat - 14 4 S	Wed - 14 4 C

S Sun, CI Clear, F Fog, C Cloudy, Sh Showers, Sn Snow, Th Thunder
Euro Weekly News accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the weather forecasts which are supplied by a third party.

YOUR STARS

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 19)
It is difficult to avoid repeating mistakes made in the past. Your approach to certain situations has not changed and therein lies the problem. Someone who blames you for a mistake shows ignorance but that does not make it less upsetting.

PISCES

(February 20 - March 20)
Who is trying to push you into a corner? Maybe it is being done so subtly that you have not even noticed. Who wants a decision from you? Appear to take pressure lightly and not give in to an irritation. There is some jealousy this week but refuse to be drawn into petty matters..

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)
A rather slow start to the week leads you to feel bored but be assured that the weekend will be far from dull. A recent conversation or correspondence with an old friend leads to

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

The need to plan ahead is frustrating when you know exactly what ought to be going on. Patience is something that you need to cultivate, or you risk upsetting someone close. Spending time with a colleague makes you realise how good things could be, but a lot of effort is involved. Pushing ahead does not guarantee results.

unexpected contact.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)
Everything on the home front is emphasised and there will be a flurry of activity. Get others involved in any changes. Work in the garden or painting is much more enjoyable and half the work if you enlist the help of someone you get on well with.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)
When discussing a holiday with others, be aware that agreement is not always easily met. Although you are not inclined to compromise, it is necessary to go with the majority decision. Patience is thin on the ground at the moment, but try not to over-react.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 23)
After the 24th it is much easier to see the path ahead. This is particularly true of a financial situation, so there's no sense in

fussing until you understand what needs to be done. Someone who has in the past been unco-operative is more flexible. You wonder at this and try to see an ulterior motive, but it is most likely that they have seen the error of their past actions. Is it possible for you to take them on trust?

LEO

(July 24 - August 23)
Your attention is needed on more than one front, and some decisions are at odds with your personal thoughts and attitudes. Being reminded that 'business is business' does nothing to relieve your conscience. You may have to upset someone by telling the truth, which may affect your longer-term finances but do you really have any choice?

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 23)
Are you willing to take a risk on someone who has let you down before? Looking into their recent past is likely to tip the balance. What you find shows clearly if

there has been a change of heart on their part or if they are trying to pull the wool over your eyes.

LIBRA

(September 24 - October 23)
A disagreement with a friend upsets you but is short-lived. To avoid such a situation in the future, look at how you should have dealt with it. There is always something to know that guides us to a better position. It will make you smile that someone has taken you for a fool because you have the last laugh.

SCORPIO

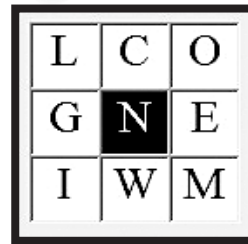
(October 24 - November 22)
A great feeling of joy comes over you more than once in the week ahead. Your inner child has been set free, and this is likely to be because of recent restrictions, which are now lifted. Do not feel guilty about this because it is a choice that will serve you well in the future. Right now, things may seem like a bit of an effort for small reward.

SAGITTARIUS

(November 23 - December 21)
Travel arrangements may have to be changed at the last minute. Do not fret, however, because success is more likely at the end of the month. During a dream, or when reading a book, an idea comes to you. Can this really make a difference to your future? You may need to act quickly to start a new project but progress will require patience.

Nonagram

How many English words of four letters or more can you make from the nine letters in our Nonagram puzzle? Each



letter may be used only once (unless the letter appears twice). Each word MUST CONTAIN THE CENTRE LETTER (in this case N) and there must be AT LEAST ONE NINE LETTER WORD. Plurals, vulgarities or proper nouns are not allowed.

TARGET:

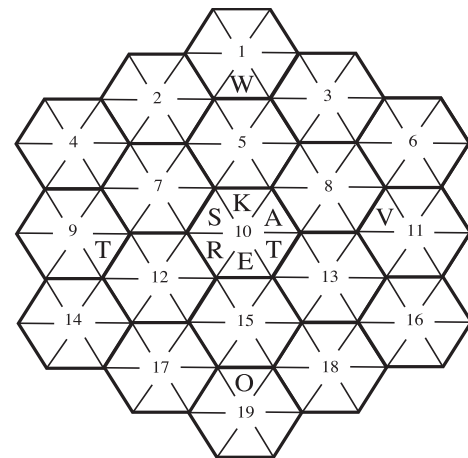
- Average: 12 • Good: 16
- Very good: 24 • Excellent: 31

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

abet baht bait bane bang bare barn bate bath bean bear beat bent berg beta beth bier bing bite brae brag bran brat brig brit garb gibe grab herb bairn barge bathe began begat begin being berth bang bight binge birth biter brain brant brent brine bring giber habit rehab tribe banger banter baring barite bather bating bertha breath bright bright green henbit bathing bearing beating benight berating berthing brighten rebating BREATHING

Hexagram

The purpose of the Hexagram puzzle is to place the 19 six-letter words into the 19 cells. The letters at the edges of interlocking cells MUST BE THE SAME. The letters in the words must be written CLOCKWISE. The word in cell 10 (SKATER) and one letter in four other cells are given as clues.



- ARREAR
- ARRIVE
- CHEESE
- CHISEL
- COHERE
- DEPOSE
- ESCROW
- GAITY
- LARVAE
- PASTOR
- PRESTO
- RASTER
- ROOKIE
- SKATER (10)
- STEREO
- TAPPET
- TWISTY
- VICTIM
- WORKER

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- 1 Server 2 Loiter 3 Sherry 4 Strife 5 Hurley 6 Gorgon 7 Formic
- 8 Throne 9 Decree 10 Mutton 11 Tingle 12 Sprint 13 Invite
- 14 Depict 15 Toilet 16 Twenty 17 Resist 18 Shelf 19 Screen

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday January 7

8 16 33
36 45 51

BONUS BALL
38

IRISH LOTTO

Saturday January 7

33 36 39
42 45 47

BONUS BALL
38

EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday January 3

19 23 27
34 49

LUCKY STARS
1 11

Friday January 6

10 14 18
21 49

LUCKY STARS
9 11

LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday January 7

12 28 32
33 36 49

REINTEGRO
23 5

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday January 8

12 38 41
43 53

REINTEGRO
9

Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

8	1	4	3	9	2	6	5	7
9	6	5	4	1	7	2	3	8
7	3	2	8	6	5	4	9	1
1	4	3	9	2	8	7	6	5
6	7	9	5	4	1	3	8	2
2	5	8	6	7	3	9	1	4
4	8	7	1	3	6	5	2	9
3	2	1	7	5	9	8	4	6
5	9	6	2	8	4	1	7	3

			6					
	8			4	2			
4			7	9	6	3		
			5	9	3			
3								9
7				6			5	
	7						8	2
	1							5
		5	2			9		



Crossword

page

Enjoy filling in the following puzzles and check the answers in next week's edition

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

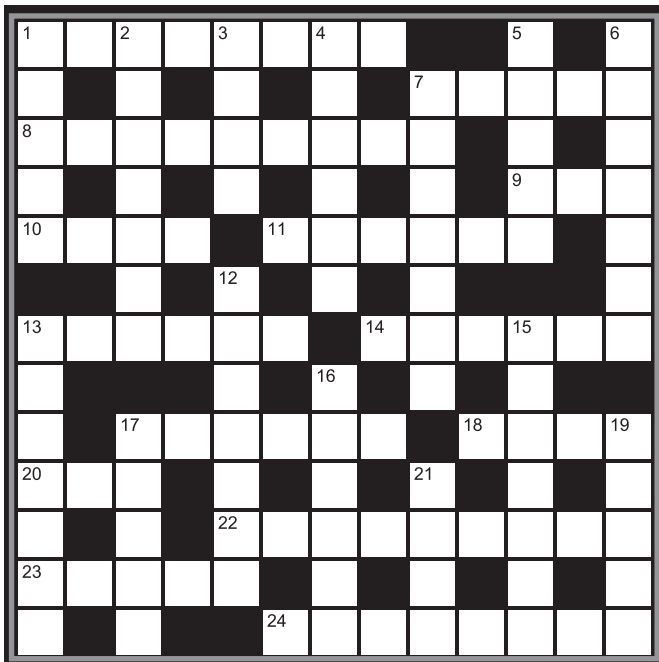
Cryptic

Across

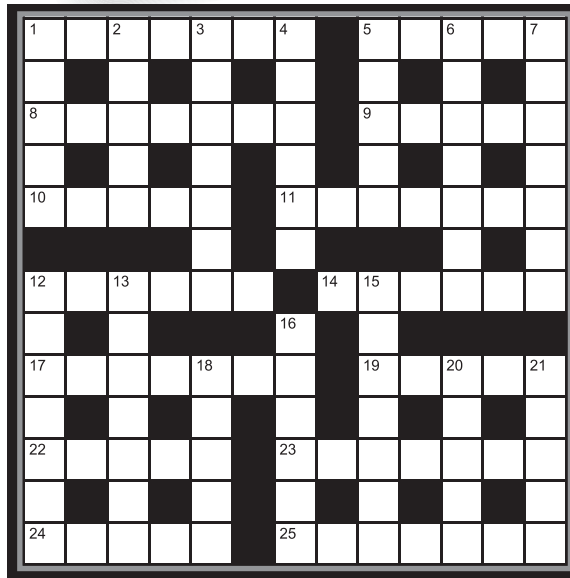
- 1 Revealing story of Swiss resistance (8)
- 7 Shut down kiosk (5)
- 8 Sound vibration could be on a screen (9)
- 9 Loud noise from Aladdin's cave (3)
- 10 Cleansing routine for city in Somerset (4)
- 11 A long bench? It's for the birds (6)
- 13 Inclined to use five hundred poles (6)
- 14 New treat made for gossip (6)
- 17 Island off Atlanta I wanted to be in (6)
- 18 Understands temporary quarters (4)
- 20 Pair of characters from The Network (3)
- 22 I get armed lunatic and left the country (9)
- 23 Direction shown by nurse housing rebel leader (5)
- 24 Imperfect start to Football Association's little league I began last Easter (8)

Down

- 1 Pound found in a bathrobe (5)
- 2 Lion has eaten terrible shot in African country (7)
- 3 Distinctive flavour of old Chinese dynasty (4)
- 4 Maybe Nigel has right to stay behind (6)
- 5 Praises lads about turn (5)
- 6 Record turns up under rifle (7)
- 7 Marines organised an advanced course (7)
- 12 Just tired me out (7)
- 13 Figure it's about time for Bill (7)
- 15 But win tenant new type of washing machine (4,3)
- 16 Capital kind of strong paper (6)
- 17 One who drags behind a tall structure (5)
- 19 Plant at the southern border (5)
- 21 Unwritten letters from Balmoral Castle (4)



Quick



Across

- 1 Manner of dressing (7)
- 5 Metal fastening device (5)
- 8 Argue about (7)
- 9 Make fit or suitable (5)
- 10 Lift up (5)
- 11 Definite (7)
- 12 Portable platform for storing or stacking goods (6)
- 14 Canal boats (6)
- 17 Child's room for a baby (7)
- 19 Exert a pushing force upon (5)
- 22 Come into existence (5)
- 23 White ant (7)
- 24 Flavoursome (5)
- 25 Frightening creature (7)

Down

- 1 Large evergreen, coniferous tree (5)
- 2 Japanese fish dish (5)
- 3 Hawaiian stringed instrument (7)
- 4 Free or grant immunity from (6)
- 5 Have in common (5)
- 6 Moving about aimlessly (7)
- 7 Testifier (7)
- 12 Long, tapering flag (7)
- 13 Heavily built motor vehicles (7)
- 15 Acetylsalicylic acid (7)
- 16 Method (6)
- 18 Each (5)
- 20 Expel a tenant (5)
- 21 Slanderous defamation (5)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Codicil, 5 Grace, 8 Amble, 9 Dilemma, 10 Mutineers, 12 Set, 13 Stayed, 14 Maniac, 17 Amp, 18 Prevalent, 20 Lanyard, 21 Drove, 23 Posse, 24 Denoted.

Down:

- 1 Claim, 2 Dab, 3 Cleanse, 4 Ladies, 5 Gales, 6 Armistice, 7 Elastic, 11 Trappings, 13 Scallop, 15 Abandon, 16 Tended, 18 Place, 19 Tread, 22 Out.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Sharp, 4 Prefer, 9 Release, 10 Scarf, 11 News, 12 Collide, 13 Cat, 14 Hobo, 16 Trek, 18 Lie, 20 Glimpse, 21 Isle, 24 Alone, 25 Surface, 26 Atones, 27 Bogus.

Down:

- 1 Serene, 2 Allow, 3 Peak, 5 Resolute, 6 Fragile, 7 Reflex, 8 React, 13 Complete, 15 Orinoco, 17 Iguana, 18 Least, 19 Rebels, 22 Slang, 23 Grub.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

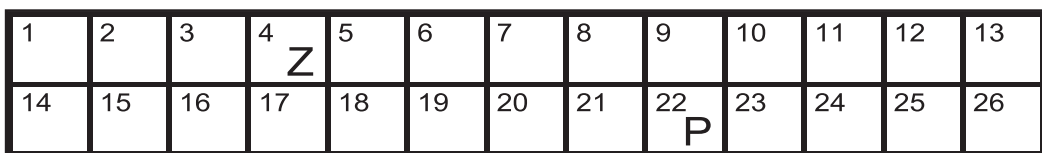
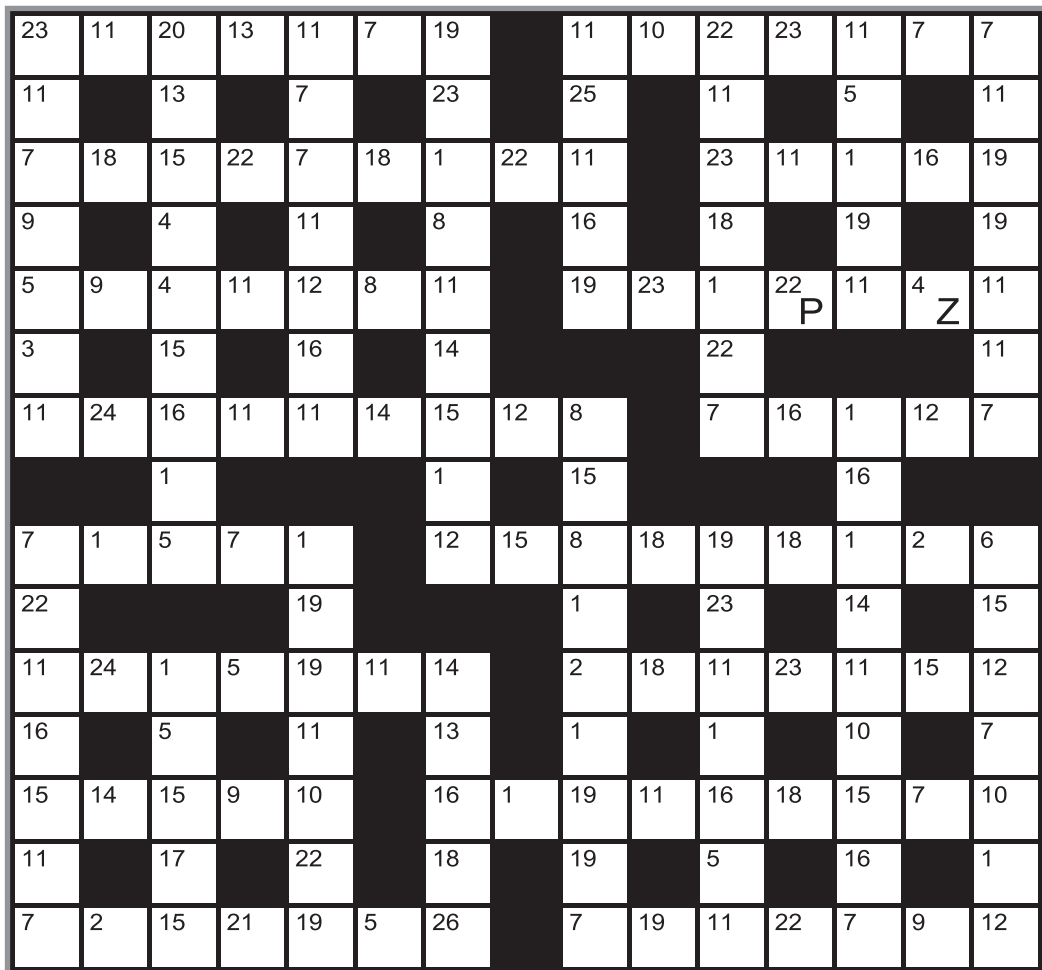
- 1 Cufflinks, 6 See, 7 Arroyos, 9 Orchestra, 13 Alegria, 15 Tia, 16 Dangerous.

Down:

- 1 Casa, 2 Freir, 3 Leather, 4 Soy, 5 Peso, 8 Rescate, 10 Ritmo, 11 Vaso, 12 Fans, 14 End.

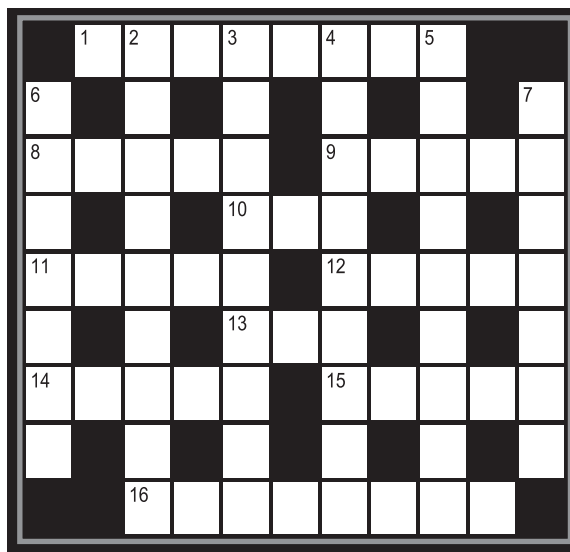
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 4 represents Z and 22 represents P, so fill in Z every time the figure 4 appears and P every time the figure 22 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



English - Spanish

The clues are mixed, some clues are in Spanish and some are in English.



Across

- 1 Hosepipe (8)
- 8 Sobrina (5)
- 9 Paquetes (de cigarrillos) (5)
- 10 Todo (en su totalidad) (3)
- 11 Tin cans (5)
- 12 Gum (anatomical) (5)
- 13 Departure (3)
- 14 Desde entonces (5)
- 15 Drug (estupefaciente, medicamento) (5)
- 16 Sábado (8)

Down

- 2 Olives (9)
- 3 El más grasiento (9)
- 4 Employer (9)
- 5 Globe artichoke (9)
- 6 Inglés (7)
- 7 Swords (7)

CODE BREAKER



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TO READ MORE

Iron deficiency could be the reason behind your fatigue

MORE than a quarter of women of working age in the UK suffer from iron deficiencies. Almost half of young girls aged between 11 and 18 also fall short of the necessary intake of the nutrient, leading to feelings of tiredness and exhaustion.

Iron is an important component of haemoglobin, which is the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen throughout the body. Without enough iron there is not enough healthy oxygen-carrying red blood cells leading to feelings of fatigue. Women in their childbearing years are most likely to suffer from an iron deficiency because of the loss of blood during menstruation and pregnant women should increase their intake as the baby takes its mother's iron.

Another reason why women are more likely to have deficiencies in iron is due to their healthier eating habits. Traditionally women eat less red meat than men which is rich in iron and swapping red meat for chicken, fish and vegetarian options



IRON DEFICIENCY: Help boost your intake by eating more red meat.

lowers iron intake.

So how can you tell if you may be suffering from iron deficiencies?

Fatigue

Feeling tired, weak and sluggish is the most common sign as your body is having trouble carrying oxygen around your body, affecting energy levels.

Frequent infections

Iron plays a key role in a healthy immune system, so lower levels can leave you susceptible to more infections.

Pale skin

Haemoglobin gives skin its nice healthy, rosy colour, so low levels can cause the skin to become lighter, so

look for changes in your skin tone.

Swollen tongue

Lack of oxygen can cause muscles to enlarge and become painful, but this is only visibly noticeable in the tongue. Look also for cracks on the side of the mouth.

Hair loss

Iron deficiency, especially when it develops into anaemia, can cause hair loss as the hair follicles go into a resting stage and more hair than normal falls out.

Help boost your iron intake by eating more red meat and the proteins in meat are also believed to enhance iron uptake from vegetables, so combine your steak with spinach and you'll be boosting the iron considerably. Try drinking orange juice with your meat as a study showed that 100ml of orange juice, which has around 40-50mg of ascorbic acid, increased iron absorption from a meal by 181 per cent.

You can also speak to your pharmacist about taking iron supplements.

Specialist help too far away

MORE than 10 million children in America live too far from specialist paediatric anaesthesiologists if they need emergency surgery.

These anaesthesiologists specialise in sedating and monitoring children during surgery and small children needing more serious medical care should be treated by these paediatric specialists according to new guidelines from the American College of Surgeons.

However, millions live in rural areas of the country and are more than 50 miles away from such doctors leaving families faced with the choice of travelling long distances or using the services of more local general anaesthesiologists.

According to records, there were just over 4,000 paediatric anaesthesiologists in the US in 2015.

Monthly moods could be in genes

SCIENTISTS believe they have found a gene that makes women angry and moody during their menstrual cycle.

Around 85 per cent of women experience PMS, but, for up to 5 per cent of them, these symptoms can be more severe and related to

a condition called premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) which scientists say is due to a gene.

A study was carried out by the National Institutes of Health in the US and researchers said it shows that women with PMDD have dif-

ferences in their molecular apparatus with PMDD being a disorder related to the cellular response to oestrogen and progesterone.

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Do you snore while asleep?



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

SNORING is a condition by which some people make a rattling or snorting sound when they sleep. The noise derives from the soft palate and tissue in the mouth, nose or throat vibrating, and some people may snore loudly every night.

• **Why do some people snore? What are the most common causes?**

There are many factors that can cause people to snore. Some are directly related to a person's respiratory system but the way we sleep and unhealthy habits can also influence a person's snoring. Obesity, smoking, drinking, jaw deformities, nasal blockages, inadequate sleeping positions and suffering from sleep apnoea are some of the main reasons we snore.

• **Can it be a health warning signal?**

The most serious problem that snoring can point to is sleep apnoea, which can have adverse effects on a person's health as it can increase, among other things, the chance of cardiovascular problems.

• **How can you stop snoring? Are there medical treatments or is it simply a question of changing your lifestyle?**

Some of the ways to try and stop snoring is to main-

tain a healthy weight, don't drink excessively, quit smoking, avoid using sleeping pills, sleep on your side and always try to sleep around the same time. If these don't work and a person is diagnosed with sleep apnoea they can opt to use a breathing apparatus to help manage the symptoms. In extreme cases a person may require surgery to rectify the problem.

• **What if lifestyle changes don't work?**

If basic measures don't work then it is important to go and see a sleep specialist for professional advice.

• **Does everyone who snores have sleep apnoea?**

People who suffer from sleep apnoea tend to snore, but also have difficulties breathing, chest pains, daytime fatigue... etc. If you are experiencing any of these systems you must see a sleep specialist and take a test that measures how often you stop breathing in your sleep and the overall quality of your sleep.

If you have any questions for Dr Perez Belmonte, please send them to:
jefemedico@helicrossanitarios.com

Watch out for bronchitis in infants

BRONCHITIS is the most frequent cause of hospitalisation in youngsters under the age of one in Spain.

It is more prolific when the temperatures drop and affects mostly infants being a viral infection of the lower respiratory tract system. This becomes inflamed and narrowed so air passage is difficult and whilst it can occur in older children and adults, in babies under the age of three months, it can be particularly serious in the young respiratory and cardiac system.

So how can you spot the signs? Bronchitis starts initially as a cold with coughing, a fever and signs of respiratory distress. In babies they may struggle to feed and show laboured breathing. Hospitalisation is often necessary with the infant put on oxygen and further bouts of bronchitis are not uncommon in youngsters.

BRONCHITIS:
Watch for the signs.



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SWEET TREATS: Given out by the Three Kings during the traditional processions.

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Three Kings fun and festivities

By Sally Underwood

TOWNS across Axarquía last Thursday celebrated the highlight of Spain's festive calendar, the march of the Three Kings.

The procession, which takes place on January 5 each

year, on the eve of Epiphany, is celebrated throughout Spanish towns, as well as in Latin American countries, Italy and Poland.

By tradition, children go to bed early after cleaning their shoes for the Three Kings to fill with sweets, and wait to

open their presents the next morning, which they request by letter.

In Competa, the town hall organised an event for children in Plaza Almirante, where the Three Kings handed out presents. There were also bouncy castle, slides and face painters for families to enjoy.

In Torrox, the march was held later in the afternoon, involving a circuit which took in most of the coastline.

Almuñecar's celebration was particularly large, starting with a fireworks display and lasting for four hours, starting at Calle Puerto de la Cruz y Baracoa, with the Three Kings distributing both sweets and presents to eagerly awaiting children.

Velez Malaga's festivities started early, involving two processions, one at 11am from the Axarquía aerodrome and a second at 6pm. Between the two processions, the Kings made visits to the elderly, as well as to locations in Torre del Mar and Benajarfe.

The oldest Three Kings parade is in Alcoy, Alicante, which has been holding one since 1885, and the largest in Spain is in Madrid, with around 100,000 people attending each year.

In recent years, some Spanish have begun to celebrate the English Christmas Day of December 25 but it has certainly not overtaken the traditional Spanish holiday in popularity.

A 2015 survey revealed that 67 per cent of Spanish children still prefer the Three Kings to Santa Claus.

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Food, wine and friends

with Garry Waite

FIRSTLY may I wish all our readers a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

I am very pleased to be asked by Steven and Michel to contribute on a regular basis to this illustrious periodical. I shall be drawing on the experiences and knowledge of friends and colleagues in an attempt to bring you informative and entertaining articles about food, wine, people and anything to do with the world of Gastronomy.

I will also be drawing on my knowledge and experiences as a prolific project manager and consultant to offer advice to anyone who needs it regarding the opening and operating of any type of catering operation. Some questions I will be able to answer in this column, other problems may be better faced on a one-to-one basis, but feel free to contact me either way.

Last year saw the passing of many great actors, singers and icons of the entertainment world. But the culinary world also lost some famous faces. Not all of them will be known to all of our readers but the people here contributed no less to their craft, and provided pleasure to thousands, than some of their more famous theatrical counterparts.

Chef Benoit Violier was the proprietor of Restaurant Hotel de Ville in Crissier near the Swiss city of Lausanne. The restaurant was voted the Finest in the World by La Liste, a French initiative, launched in 2015 in which an international jury ranks the world's top 1,000 restaurants (he was the first recipient, Spain's El Celler de Can Roca was voted 6th).

The holder of the greatest accolade of three Michelin stars this 44-year-old was found shot to death in an apparent suicide on January 31, 2016. It was alleged, although vehemently denied by his colleagues and directors of the hotel, that he had lost more than €1 million in a type of ponzi scheme involving high priced fine wines.

Great success does not always bring great happiness.

Legendary chef and author Michel Richard died on the morning of Saturday August 12. He was 68 and died from complications from a previous stroke.

Since the 1980s, Richard built a catalogue of restaurants that blended American and French cuisine. He garnered national acclaim with his flagship fine-dining American eatery, Citronelle, in Washington DC's Georgetown neighbourhood and later Central Michel Richard.

Born in Brittany, France, Richard was an adept pastry chef who began his bakery apprenticeship at age 14. Three years later Richard moved to

Paris where he worked at Maison Lenotre under famed French pastry chef Gaston Lenôte. In April 1974, Lenotre sent 20-year-old Richard to help open Chateau France in New York. Though the restaurant and pastry shop was short-lived, the experience marked a turning point and encouraged Richard to stay in America. France's loss and the USA's gain!

On a slightly different note, the creator of the Big Mac, one of the most popular fast foods in the world, died on November 30, 2016 aged 98. Jim Delligatti was a McDonald's franchisee who came up with the idea in 1967 because he said customers wanted a bigger sandwich.

His invention was almost rejected by McDonald's, which was happy that its traditional meals – a hamburger, fries and a milkshake – were selling well. The firm relented, but while it says it has since sold billions of the sandwiches, it admits Delligatti never received a penny in royalties.

The McDonald's franchisee, whose full name was Michael James Delligatti, invented the burger while running his restaurant in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was later said to have eaten at least one Big Mac every week for decades. (Living until 98... maybe the Big Mac has healthy connotations that we have not been told about!).

When the burger turned 40, McDonald's estimated it was selling 550 million Big Macs a year. The company admitted that they had never paid Delligatti royalties for it. In an interview once he joked that he got a dollar a piece for every one sold!! But soon retracted, jokingly saying that he would have been happy with one 10th of a cent!! But he got nothing.

Closer to home, one of the best known culinary figures of the past 20 odd years on the Costa del Sol, San Pedro legend Albert Benisty, passed away at the age of 63 in September 2016

The former Michelin-star chef suffered from a heart attack, only hours after completing a shift at his well known Albert y Simon restaurant in San Pedro, near Marbella.

Born in Morocco in 1953 Albert Benisty's destiny was to become a great chef and at the age of 15 he started that long walk to success by training in Sweden.

He returned to Marbella in the 1980s to work at his parents well-known restaurant Casa David. Then tak-

ing control with his brother Simon they eventually opened Le Souflée where they gained a Michelin star in 1987 (only the second restaurant in Andalucía to achieve the accolade at that time)

He was the Coast's Dani Garcia of the time and maintained a loyal following which continues today, in his sad absence, in the hands of his brother and his children Deborah and David who continue his great work as chefs in their father's kitchen.

In the problem corner section I hope to be able to help newcomers to our area, or indeed to Spain and perhaps more importantly, to our industry. If you would like to ask for my help, send me an email. But here is one question I frequently get asked:

'I am opening a new restaurant and I am concerned about getting the right staff. I have been in Spain only a few months and this is my first business here. Any advice?'

You don't say whether you have been in the hospitality industry in your home country, but for the sake of reply I will assume that you have not.

Opening any business in a foreign country is always a difficult process but a restaurant is fraught with more problems than most.

If you are not a chef then the selection of someone to run the kitchen is the most important decision you will make. Most successful small operations are when the proprietor is the chef or at least can move into the kitchen in the event of a fall

out or problem with the chef!

It depends on what style of restaurant you wish to open. Once you have decided the style then you can ask people in the industry if they know of any chef's that would suit your criteria.

Firstly talk to the candidate about your concept and ask him/her to design a small menu that he/she would put on if they were opening their own restaurant. This will give you an idea of their capabilities. No matter who has recommended them, after interviewing them and, if you are happy with them, check references.

In all the years I have been in Spain only one person has ever asked me for references for staff that have worked for me. I have seen staff that I have fired working for other people and causing the same problems. Nobody would take on someone in their home country without checking references so don't do it here!!

Look for stability in the applicant. How long has he been here? Why did he leave his last job? How long was he working there? Has he got a wife/girlfriend/resident partner? If the applicant is Spanish he should be able to communicate in your language if you don't speak Spanish. Likewise if the applicant is not Spanish they should have a knowledge of Spanish even if it is only sufficient to deal with suppliers.

Above all monitor the kitchen, take stock monthly, check invoices against actual purchases and above all ensure the kitchen is kept clean.

Any staff working in the hospitality industry needs to hold a food handlers certificate. This is carried out by your local authority and is a simple Q&A that most people pass without problems.

GARRY WAITE: Will offer advice to anyone who needs it.



Guiding you step by step without the jargon

THE idea of starting a new life in Spain has been a dream for many. However, we all have heard of that dream turning into a nightmare. The key to preventing this disastrous scenario is to be aware of all the risks and pitfalls so that they can be avoided but where can this information be found.

Anthony I Foster has lived in Spain for 35 years. He was a partner in an estate agents where he met many who were in search of the idyllic Iberian lifestyle and he was able to successfully steer them in the right direction.

To help this process be a smooth transition Anthony decided to write *The Complete Guide To Buying A Property In Spain* which was first published in 1994. As laws and taxes change Anthony updates his work and the guide is now in its 12th edition.

The layout of the book ensures a no-nonsense critique on the step by step journey to property purchases and sales without difficult jargon and ambiguity. It is an easy and informative read allowing those unfamiliar with Spanish protocols and laws to ensure that every step of the process is clearly understood.

The guide also gives invaluable information regarding mortgages, Spanish driving licences, Power of Attorney, business premises, wills and inheritance tax.

In all, Anthony has carefully and clearly written a most useful handbook which takes the unsure newcomer to the level of savvy homeowner allowing the Spanish dream to begin.

The Complete Guide To Buying A Property In Spain (12th Edition) is available in paperback or as an e-book from www.amazon.co.uk.

Alternatively from Anthony's office in C/Granada, 23 Pasaje Granada Local 3, Nerja 29780.

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SWEDISH MARKET: At risk of collapsing.

Skating on thin ice

By Matthew Elliott

TWO major financial institutions have sounded a warning bell over fears that several key property markets could overheat and collapse. Both Barclays and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) have painted a stark picture of the potential threat.

A recent OECD report has identified Sweden and Canada as the unlikely candidates facing the greatest risk of a housing crash in 2017.

Extremely high and artificially inflated prices of both residential and commercial properties is the culprit.

House prices in Canada have practically doubled since the year 2000, while Sweden was aptly described as 'skating on thin ice.' Economists worry that the rapid rise is courting an abrupt correction that could affect millions of households.

Barclays has drawn up a similar chart of the European countries it perceives as running the greatest risk of sudden fall. It bases its findings on the European Systemic Risk Board's (ESRB) findings.

The figures indicate that Sweden and Luxembourg have the most fragile bubbles, closely followed by the UK, Austria, Belgium and Finland.

A stable housing situation

THE price of new housing across Spain has jumped up for the second consecutive year, rising by 3.3 per cent in 2016. That leaves an average price per square metre in newly built properties of €2,120.

When the price of new builds rose in 2015 it marked the first increase since the financial crisis hit home in 2007. Last year's figures therefore represent incredibly positive news for the sector.

Even better is the fact that prices have risen across the board, in all regional capitals from Malaga to Madrid. That's a marked departure from previous years which have seen increases in cosmopolitan cities

offset by regression in provincial towns and the interior.

The two-tier system still persists, however, with Madrid and Barcelona registering far higher growth than other cities. In the Catalan capital new builds now average a price of €3,528 per square metre, compared to the cheaper Badajoz where they command just €1,140.

Regardless of the regional discrepancies what really counts is the continued stabilisation of the sector. Price rises for new builds help bolster the already strong construction sector and are occurring alongside enhanced access to credit, better mortgage rates, and more property transactions.

Spain is a global property hotspot

FOREIGN buyers are set to play an even more important role in boosting the Spanish property market this year. Non-EU residents are expected to form an integral part of the ever growing foreign demand for a place in the sun.

Last year foreign buyers accounted for about a fifth of all transactions. A fast-growing economy, value for money, and booming international demand could see that increase further in 2017.

Middle-eastern and Asian buyers in particular are in-

creasingly casting an eye towards Spain, especially given the alarming situation in London, where buying property no longer offers guarantees healthy returns.

Low-cost flights from Barcelona to New York and California promised by IAG and Norwegian could be a game changer. Spain is already a popular tourist destination for Americans and better travel links may see many look upon the country as a potential home away from home.

Property Search Spain

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The power of 15

PRODUCTIVITY experts swear by dividing big tasks into small steps to simplify them and this mindset is also ideal for those who are too busy to spend hours cleaning and tidying at home but wish they could get on top of everything.

In just 15 minutes per day, it is possible to get the clean, organised house you have always wanted with very little effort, time management coaches insist. All you need is a timer.

Dedicating just a quarter of an hour per day to a task will help you realise how long it really takes to get things done. You may well be putting off a certain, seemingly huge task, thinking you will never find the time to get it done all at once. Yet if you set

your mind to dedicating just 15 minutes to it, you could well find that within a couple of days it is done and dusted.

You may have been wishing for weeks that you could find an hour and a half to clear out and clean the guest bedroom. Start today and give it 15 minutes, concentrating on one small area.

Do the same tomorrow, and the next day, and in under a week you will have done the lot!

It may take a while to see noticeable results on a larger scale but with so little effort required there really is no reason not to give it a go. After all, everyone can find 15 minutes per day no matter how busy their routine may be.



JOB DONE: By spending just 15 minutes per day on a task.

The ancient art of bonsai

By Graeme Tyrrell

BONSAI is an ancient art and craft of creating a landscape in miniature in a shallow pot or container. The tradition of bonsai includes careful placement of stones, mosses, lichens, soil mixture and other materials using highly refined methods of care to reduce a tree's growth to appear as a full sized tree in proportion to the rest of the features in the bonsai container. The word bonsai means planted tray (shallow container).

It is a great way to enjoy gardening using artistic garden design skills. Through attention to detail

“If you have an artistic flare for gardening, bonsai is a wonderful challenge of patience.”

using so many different materials, such as beach shells, hollowed logs, naturally occurring stones, and a huge variety of pottery designed especially for bonsai plants, a miniature garden is developed.

The tradition of miniature landscapes goes back thousands of years. Their care was a part of eastern meditation practice in temples and they were considered valuable gifts by royalty in Asia. The Japanese developed the concept of miniaturising trees with various methods as a Buddhist practice including

Zen gardening. A bonsai had special importance as people were able to take their garden with them or present them as a gift or family heirloom.

Creating a bonsai can be as easy or complicated as you like. Basically you need a shallow container, free draining quality soil mixture and a suitable long-lived tree with small leaves to allow proportion to the container.

The selection of the tree should take into consideration the climate it will grow. A tree that grows easily in the natural environment where you are will generally do best, unless you plan to have the bonsai in a controlled environment. If the tree is an outdoor plant it will not do well indoors for very long. Tropical trees such as ficus that are used as indoor plants are a better choice if you plan to have your bonsai indoors.

Maintaining a bonsai requires detailed care to remove excess leaves, branches and roots to maintain proportion. Wiring and clamping can also be used to shape the tree into the desired form to suit the landscape concept.

Watering application is different

to most houseplants due to the smaller soil volume requiring more frequent application. Simple watering devices can be used to ensure constant watering supply.

They also need supplementary nutrient application to maintain health but not too much to stimulate excess

growth. Very light or diluted applications are required frequently. A minimal amount of slow release fertiliser and weak liquid fertiliser in the water supply is a good solution.

So if you have an artistic flare for gardening, bonsai is a wonderful challenge of patience and discipline with long-lasting benefit. Established plants are readily available and, while needing a little more care to maintain, they provide a fascinating focal point to feature on your balcony, patio or terrace.



MINI GARDEN: Create a bonsai.

Photo Credit: Mick Harper Shutterstock.

Quick and easy kitchen cleaning

KITCHEN cupboard doors tend to accumulate greasy residue and, worse still, fingerprints which can make them look terrible. Plus, using cleaning products which need rinsing off afterwards can leave water marks and make the results of our efforts less than perfect.

To avoid this and remove grease quickly and easily, look for a specific cleaner which does not need to be rinsed off. This leads to better results and also saves time as all we have to do is spray it on then rub with a soft, dry cloth to remove dirt.

To save even more time and effort and make sure your kitchen is always impeccable, clean doors and outsides of cabinets after cooking before the grease and dirt has time to stick.

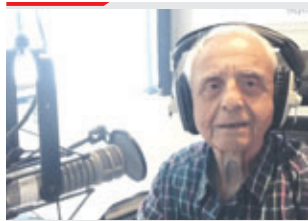
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Dogs and cats: petting-induced aggression



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MANY cats will purr like a well-oiled motor when stroked, and many dogs will put their head forward for petting. However some will suddenly turn on the person. My own dog Sheba appears most friendly but I have to tell people to leave her alone, after a few pats she will turn aggressive.

Sense and Sensitivity: This curious behaviour that some cats and dogs display is called petting-induced aggression. Behaviourists are familiar with this feline and canine quirk.

The cat acts affectionately, rubbing against the person and purring, but responds with painful swipes and bites should the person attempt to touch them. Some cats will endure a

number of pats before reacting, while others, will stand for only one or two before striking out. Behaviourists often refer to these animals as 'two-or-three-stroke' cat or dog.

While we don't understand exactly why some dogs and cats are so intolerant of touch, one hypothesis is that they experience the same phenomenon that we do when we are touched repeatedly in one spot on our bodies. Imagine that someone is massaging your back and they absent-mindedly continue to rub one specific area over and over again. It feels good at first, but after a while, the touch becomes irritating.

We humans might simply ask the person to stop but our pets are more demonstrative in their communication. One more pat, and gotcha! Unfortunately, simply stroking the pet on a different part of their body each time isn't sufficient. It's as if the cat or dog has become sensitised all over.

Watch for certain signs how to avoid the consequences of a dog or cat's irritability. Most cats, when annoyed, will flatten

their ears and swish their tail back and forth. Often, the skin along their sides and back will ripple. While it may be too late by the time these signs are present, it is best to freeze momentarily and then calmly and cautiously lift one's hand away from the cat.

Sometimes the cessation of movement will prompt a dog or cat to move away, or they may at least refrain from attacking.

The Light Touch: Teaching pets to enjoy being touched entails daily counter-conditioning sessions. The objective is to link being touched with something pets consider supremely delightful. Most cats and dogs love cheese, so it is best to stroke the pet once, then feed a tiny amount of cheese. When the cheese has gone, stroke again, then feed. Repeat the stroke/cheese association no more than 10 times in one sitting, fewer if the pet showed even a hint of irritability.

After one week, one can occasionally stroke the pet twice before feeding the cheese. After another week, gradually building tolerance, until the cat or dog becomes a two-stroke pet.

By the third week, they should allow the occasional three



WATCH FOR SIGNS: To avoid the consequences of a dog or cat's irritability.

strokes before receiving cheese. And by the end of the fourth week, most pets can become a three-stroke pet.

With patience and perseverance, pets can become a six-stroke pet. Pets can learn to enjoy the tactile contact.

Barry loves Flea

WHEN homeowner Susan returns to the UK for holidays she worries about what to do with her dogs. Barry and Flea in particular are small dogs, a little anxious because of their rescue history but above all they are great companions and are always seen together.

Barry, a young Chihuahua, loves to challenge Flea, to tease her and nip at her heels. Flea is more relaxed, and perhaps because she is more mature tolerates Barry's friendly needling, but in actual fact she rather likes his attentions. They enjoy each other's company so much that they appear inseparable. They have only to hear tyre tracks on the road outside their gate and off they swoop to chase the sound of the car across the length of the property.

They see the hens emerging from their coup each morning in the garden and off they trot to check on the flock. It's a great team, and they evidently love their life at home. So when their owner Susan plans a holiday she always prefers to have house-sitters at home, following her routine with the dogs and hens. It means that after her holiday she returns worry free, with a knowledge that Barry and Flea will be safe and contented at home in her absence.

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Fireworks can kill

NOR, a 10-month-old English setter living at Ocho Vidas animal refuge in La Rioja, died on New Year's Eve due to fireworks, the charity president has claimed.

Ana Gonzalez, head of Ocho Vidas, explained that she had shut three dogs in their usual kennel on the evening of December 31 with fresh water and food before leaving for the night, and had been horrified to

find Nor dead the next morning.

"The others were nervous but okay and, talking to local residents, I found out there were fireworks and rockets going off until 4am," Gonzalez said. The charity president stressed that vets and animal charities warn every year of the dangers fireworks pose to dogs, who can suffer the canine equivalent of panic attacks due to the noise.

Gonzalez pointed out that in some places, like Collecchio in Italy, councils have introduced silent fireworks to put across the message that displays can be enjoyed without posing health risks to pets.

Ocho Vidas has called for town councils to urge police forces to up surveillance on areas where rockets tend to be let off during festivities and for an Animal Protection law to meet the real needs of pets.

ALMOST 1,000 dogs took to the streets of Madrid for San Perrestre, the canine version of the popular San Silvestre end of year marathon.

With a war-cry of "the dogs are taking over the streets again" pet-owners took off from Plaza Cibeles for a race through the streets of the city-centre, passing emblematic points including the Plaza del Sol.

Charity dogathon proves popular

The race, in its sixth year, was organised as usual by El Refugio animal charity and aimed to raise awareness of the importance of adopting pets instead of buying them. Humans paid €6 to take part while dogs paid a token €1

each, all of which went to the charity.

Children on bikes or in pushchairs accompanied their pets and there was even one owner disguised as Darth Vader for the dog-friendly event.

David Aparicio, who placed third with his dog Oliva, later said: "I thought it was more of a rally but when we reached Calle Huertas people started running and we didn't want to get left behind!"

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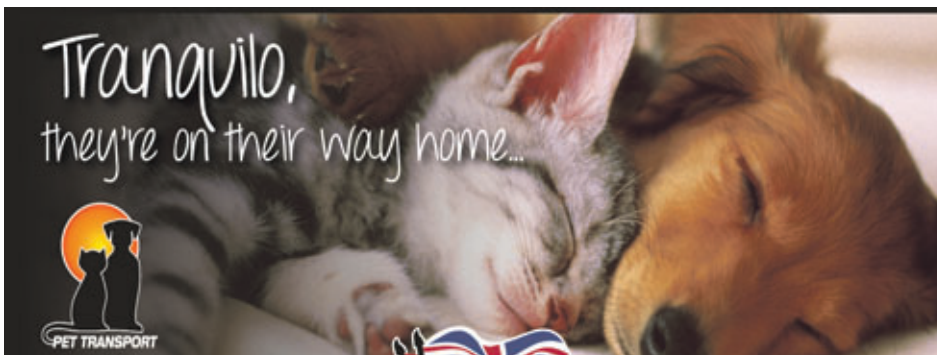


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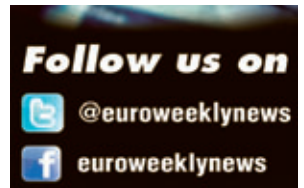


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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

SEAT Ateca will muscle in

ATECA is SEAT's new compact SUV which aims to muscle in on a sector already packed with formidable rivals such as the Nissan Qashqai, Hyundai Tucson, Kia Sportage and Peugeot 3008.

However, there will be no worried faces in the SEAT boardroom, for while the Ateca is SEAT's first SUV, it is an instant winner - good-looking, spacious, great to drive, keenly priced and with the build-quality and badge kudos that comes with being part of the VW-Audi Group.

Ateca is priced from £17,990 (€21,099) and kit levels are generous, even the starter model comes with alloy wheels, air-conditioning, four electric windows, electric parking brake, hill-hold control, tyre pressure monitor and five-inch monochrome screen infotainment system with Bluetooth and audio streaming.

There are 1.0 and 1.4 litre petrol engines and 1.6 and 2.0 litre and diesels and two or four wheel drive. The 1.0 litre turbo-petrol engine in my test

model was a revelation, offering 113 hp, crisp acceleration and plenty of mid-range pulling power. Most passengers thought the car had at least a 1.6 litre engine! The 0-60 mph time is 11 seconds, top speed 114 mph and the combined fuel economy 54.3 mpg - impressive for a petrol SUV model. Ride quality is very good, with supportive seats, composed cornering and pleasant overall comfort.

My test car was in mid-range SE Ecomotive trim, priced at £19,590 (€22,975), with options including larger alloys, larger colour touchscreen, and auto lights and wipers which took the price to £22,875 (€26,828).

The Ateca looks sharp and sleek, with the subtle sporty styling associated with the SEAT brand. The cabin is well-designed and uses durable quality trim materials. The only mild disappointment is that the interior looks so dull. It's just grey on grey everywhere! The upside is that at least the Ateca cabin

scores well for practicality. The switchgear and instruments are well-located, easy to find and easy to use. Rear seat occupants are well taken care of - even those over six feet tall won't struggle for head or leg room. It has a big boot too - 510 litres beats most rivals - and it is a useful boxy shape.

All in all, this newcomer ticks most - if not all - of the important boxes for would-be buyers in this booming SUV sector, among them what SEAT describes as 'modern parents.' Keenly priced, well-equipped and very well built, the Ateca is set to become a very familiar sight on our roads.

Stats panel (optional):

*Model: SEAT Ateca SE Ecomotive
Engine: 1.0 litre turbo-petrol
Transmission: 6 speed manual
Performance: 0-60 mph 11 seconds, top speed 114 mph
Economy: 54.3 mpg combined
Emissions: 119 g/km*



SEAT ATECA: Sharp, sleek and well-designed.

New revolutions take centre stage

THE Consumer Electronics Show (CES) took place in Las Vegas from January 5-8, with the usual new revolutions in the automotive industry on display.

BMW showcased its latest 'virtual touchscreen' technology, which offers a 'free-floating display' operated by finger gestures.

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles revealed the 'Portal' vehicle. It focuses on flexibility and comfort and is heavily biased towards 'millennials.'

Ford showed off an autonomous hybrid version of their Mondeo saloon while Honda revealed an artificial intelligence 'emotion engine' which powers a 'co-operative mobility ecosystem.'

Hyundai brought their Ioniq autonomous car, already in its fourth generation, which drove itself along Las Vegas boulevard.

Renault-Nissan and Mitsubishi big cheese Carlos Ghosn gave a keynote speech in which he discussed Nissan's future vision.

Toyota and Volkswagen brought their latest concept cars with the latter promoting their all-electric 'ID' vehicle.

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It's Manchester v Merseyside at football after Murray loses in Qatar

Tony Matthews



International Sports

A former player and now the world's most prolific author of football books with almost 150 published since 1975, Tony is also the sports correspondent for Spectrum Radio and lives on La Pilica in the Sierra Cabrera Mountains overlooking Turre.

Costa de Almeria

Football summary

ONCE again, football has taken centre stage as Chelsea's 13-match winning run came to a stuttering end at Tottenham; Brighton replaced Newcastle at the top of the Championship; Celtic beat Rangers in the Auld Firm derby; managers in new jobs include Marco Silva (Hull), Paul Clement (Swansea) and Alan Smith (Notts County); the first big transfers of 2017 saw Aston Villa's Rudy Gestede join Middlesbrough for £6.5m and Wilfred Ndidi move from Genk to Leicester for

£6m; FC Chapecoense (Brazil) are recruiting 20 new players (remember all but three of the team were killed in the pre-Christmas Colombian air crash) and six PL clubs crashed out of the FA Cup last weekend with Millwall causing the biggest upset by beating Bournemouth 3-0. Derby won at WBA, Wolves (who handed Morgan Gibbs-White, aged 16, his debut) ko'd Stoke and fourth tier Plymouth drew with Liverpool who fielded their youngest team ever, while Brentford, Huddersfield (4-0 v Port Vale), Manchester City (5-0 at West Ham), holders Manchester United (4-0 v Reading) and 10-man Chelsea (4-1 v Peterborough) gained the biggest victories as Arsenal scraped through 2-1 at Preston.

Plucky non-League sides Sutton (v AFC Wimbledon) and Lincoln (at Ipswich) both earned replays, but Barrow, Stourbridge and Eastleigh

all lost.

The FA Cup 4th round draw has produced some intriguing ties including Spurs v Wycombe Wanderers, Derby v Leicester, holders Manchester United v Wigan, Crystal Palace or Bolton v Manchester City, Plymouth or Liverpool v Wolves and Chelsea v Brentford. Games to be played January 27 to 30.

Other sport

Michael van Gerwen won the World Darts tournament at Ally Pally... Sir Andy Murray's 28-match winning run has come to an end - beaten by his arch-enemy Novak Djokovic in the Qatar Open... Scot Laura Muir has broken Liz McColgan's 25-year-old British 5,000m indoor record by 14 seconds... Dylan Hartley will captain England's rugby team in the Six Nations... Tiger Woods competes in his first golf tournament of 2017 at Torrey Pines in two

weeks time... and Virat Kohli has replaced M S Dhoni as India's cricket captain for the forthcoming ODI and T20 series against England (from January 15).

Soccer Diary

On Tuesday, Manchester United - 4-0 FAC winners over Reading last Saturday when Wayne Rooney equalled Bobby Charlton's club record of 249 goals - met Hull City and last night Liverpool visited Southampton in League Cup semi-final first leg ties.

The Premiership matches this weekend include two Manchester-Merseyside clashes - Everton (7th) v Manchester City (4th) and Manchester United (6th) v Liverpool (2nd). Reigning champions Leicester (15th) play table-toppers Chelsea, Swansea (19th) meet Arsenal (5th), Tottenham (3rd) take on WBA (8th) in the early kick-off, and Crystal Palace (17th) visit West Ham (13th).

The top Championship games are Brentford-Newcastle, Leeds-Derby, Preston-Brighton and a Midlands battle involving Wolves and Aston Villa.

Pick of the FL1 fixtures are Bolton v Swindon and Walsall v Sheffield United while in FL2, we have Barnet v leaders Doncaster, Carlisle v Morecambe and Plymouth v Stevenage.

Tonight, La Liga leaders Real Madrid, fresh from a 5-0 win over Granada and now unbeaten in 39 matches - a Spanish record they share with Barcelona - play the return leg of their Copa Del Rey last 16 tie against Sevilla, having won the first 3-0. The last time Real lost was 2-0 away to Wolfsburg in the Champions League in April 2016. Tonight sees the start of a hectic schedule for Zinedine Zidane's Real team who could play 21 matches in 11 weeks. Atletico Madrid met Barcelona, also in the Copa del Rey, last night.

Tomorrow, we have the opening games of the 14th Copa Centroamericano in Panama and the first matches in the Africa Cup of Nations in Gabon.

Championships taking place right now:

Group games in World Junior and U18 Ice Hockey here

in Spain.

The 40th UK BDO World Darts at the Lakeside Club.

Women's World Ice Hockey in Belfast.

Men's World Handball in France.

Men's Indoor Junior Super Six Field Hockey in Nottingham.

World Indoor Bowls in Switzerland.

Short Track Speed Skating in Italy.

NB: On Monday, January 16, the Australia Tennis Open starts in Melbourne.

Stop Whinging!

PL managers including Mourinho, Guardiola, Klopp and Wenger, continually moan about the number of games their teams have to play in such a short period of time.

Well how about this... back in April 1912, without a huge squad, West Bromwich Albion completed 12 matches in 26 days including an FA Cup semi-final, the FA Cup final and FA Cup final replay. And in the 1960s, I played on a Good Friday, Saturday and on Bank Holiday Monday and the Tuesday. And I enjoyed it!

MY SPORTING ALMANAC

Could we see this happen in 2017?
asks Tony Matthews

Manchester United boss José Mourinho smiling after a win!

A Test Match victory for England's cricketers - please!

A decent round of golf for the aging Tiger Woods.

A suspension-free year for England's rugby star Dylan Hartley.

Ten more consecutive knock-outs for GB boxer Anthony Joshua.

Two (even three) tennis Grand Slam wins for British women.

A third Epsom Derby victory for jockey Ryan Moore.

Lewis Hamilton to win his fourth F1 driver's championship.

MotoGP star Cal Crutchlow to have a superb season on his bike.

GB swimmer Adam Peaty to break more world records.

Players from Asia to win every major snooker competition.

Alastair and/or Jonny Brownlee to win all triathlon races.

Baltimore Ravens (at 65-1) to lift the American Super Bowl.

PL team to get knocked out of the FA Cup by a non-League club.

Indian athlete to clear 8ft 6in to set new world high jump record.

Yorkshire to win every match in cricket's County Championship.

GB cycling duo of Laura and Jason Kenny to win 10 races overall.

Michael van Gerwen to have 50 nine-dart finishes in major event.

Castleford to claim 10 successive wins in Rugby's Super League.

Andy Murray to celebrate his knighthood with three Grand Slams.

And could this nine-timer happen, with odds of 50,000-1? Chelsea to win the PL title; Brighton to clinch the Championship; Bayern Munich, Celtic, Juventus and Real Madrid to complete domestic League/Cup doubles; Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo to end 2016-17 with 50 club goals each and Lewis Hamilton to regain F1 driver's crown.

DID YOU KNOW?

Kenny Dalglish was the first player to score 100 League goals north and south of the border, netting 112 for Celtic and 118 for Liverpool and he was the first Scot to win 100 caps.

ANDY MURRAY:
Was beaten by
Novak Djokovic.





“It was my best year so far. The trophy for Portugal was amazing. I was so happy and of course I cannot forget the Champions League and the Club World Cup.”

TO READ MORE

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Friday December 23

Turkey Trot

Individual Stableford

Overall Winner

Alan Worthington 39pts

Ladies

1st Gill Green 35pts

2nd Erica Oxford 33pts

3rd José Perea 30pts

4th Karen Nuttall 30pts

5th Pat Lowe 29pts

Men

1st Terry Oxford 38pts

2nd Glyn Roberts 33pts

3rd Barney Downey 33pts

4th Mike Denny 32pts

5th John Vertanness 32pts

Nearest the Pin

Hole 2 Gill Green

Hole 8 Glyn Roberts.

A glorious day for golf, warm, sunny, no wind, perfect. Just about everyone joined in the spirit of Christmas with fancy outfits, Christmas hats etc.

Bill's mulled wine, together with sausage rolls either spurred players on to return a great back 9 as in the case of Terry Oxford, or some fell by the wayside, like Mike Denny; Mike had a terrific front 9 (25 pts) then the wheels fell off!

After the game we had a splendid meal at Dis Tintos in La Herradura, where the prize presentation took place. Baskets of Christmas fayre and all manner of prizes were given out to the worthy winners.

Friday December 30

Los Moriscos

Individual Stableford

Ladies

1st Pat Lowe Hcp27 31pts

2nd Liz Taylor-Ingram

Hcp18 30pts

3rd Rita McCracken

Hcp25 27pts

Men

1st Brian Downey

Hcp16 37pts

2nd Sean Daley Hcp12 36pts

3rd Stewart Green

Hcp5 35pts

4th John Conlan

Hcp22 34pts

5th Alan Worthington

Hcp12 30pts

6th Hakan Davidsson

Hcp12 30pts

7th Terry Everett

Hcp20 30pts

Two's

Hakan Davidsson 2

Thirty-eight players turned out for the last game of 2016. A bit breezy and rather chilly later in the afternoon, but that didn't stop the stalwarts coming

in with good scores, dressed in shorts!

Great to see members returning after the Christmas break, and good to welcome new members to Los Moriscos, Didn't Hakan do well! First time at Los Mos and not only a prize winner but he scooped the 2's pot. Well done Hakan.

It will soon be down to the serious business of playing to be the GINS Champion! Our qualifying round is Friday 13th (we are not superstitious) with the final at Las Gabias later in the month.

We would like to thank Derek (Lowe) for being the 'official' photographer over the year. Also a thank you to Brian and Linda (Wiggins) for supplying the Eclectic results every week: to Tony Downey for sponsoring his High 8 competition: to vice captain John (Conlan) for supplying a fantastic new sound system and finally, to my media naranja (better half!) Bill for helping me every

Friday, signing players in, checking cards etc. Last but not least a big thank you to all of you, the members who support us every week at Los Moriscos, you are the best!

Monday January 3

Añoleta

Individual Stableford

Men

1st Dietmar Stec 34pts

2nd Peter Garner 34pts

3rd Sean Daley 34pts

Ladies

1st Ingrid Stec 34pts

2nd Sylvia Legg 30pts

No two's today

The sun shone brightly for the first GINS game of 2017, however it seemed a few were still suffering the after effects of New Year's Eve by the drives on the opening hole. Thirty four points was the favourite today, five in all and most games completed their rounds in less than 4¼ hours.

We were delighted to welcome back our Viking friends,

Gier and Ellen Froland 'velkommen tilbake.'

We also had the pleasure of having Zak, Marcia Clarks' son, as a guest, can he hit a ball-10th hole Par 5, drive to the palm tree and a seven iron to just short of the green!!

Many thanks to Dietmar and Ingrid for covering the desk.

Tuesday January 3

Baviera

Team Game

1st Team - PJ Bentley-Ennis, John Blanco, Glyn Roberts and Jim Paton - 129pts

2nd Team - Pepe Gil, Rafa Martin, John Conlan and Graham Stevens - 114pts

3rd Team - Gill Sibson, Mike Elsey, Tony Downey and Ian Fraser - 102pts

4th Team - Marion Fraser, Jill Parker, Docker Doyle and Derek Sibson - 102pts

5th Team

Bridget Partington, Pauline Pearce, Derek Geelon and Rob Nicholson - 102pts

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