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ISSUE No. 1646 | 19 - 25 January 2017

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Barbaric!

Animals shot in evil attack

By Simon Firth and Matt Ford

Five dogs were shot and killed and a horse nearly blinded in a 'barbaric' attack which is being blamed on hunters in a natural park near Granada.

The plight of Illona Mitchell's animals has led rescue centres and animal charities from around the world to offer their help.

Enough money has now been raised after pictures of the attacked animals were shared on the internet, to raise money for a reward to find the attackers.

Ms Mitchell, who moved to Caniles from Chester in 2004, owns more than 170 hectares of land in the Sierra de Baza natural park.

After she removed her land from the hunting zone in the park, she says she was subjected to verbal abuse in the street and threats and intimidation from hunters angered by her decision.

After reporting these offences Ms Mitchell says Guardia Civil officers searched her land and at one stage even mounted patrols at night.

But the attackers then struck on the night of the Three Kings' celebrations

knowing that officers would be busy and that the following day would be a fiesta.

When Ms Mitchell drove up to her land on January 7 she found dead and dying animals in their kennels and her rescue horse, Rocco, so badly beaten it may lose an eye.

Three of the dogs lay dead, two died later at a vet's and the horse has been left so traumatised the vet is struggling to get close enough to administer its medication.

Ms Mitchell believes at least two people took part in the attack, one holding the animals while the other fired the shots at almost point blank range.

One dog was shot between the eyes, another was shot through the side of the face and one through the roof of the mouth.

In an attempt to raise the alarm she was forced to bang on the door at the home of a police officer who then alerted members of Seprona to the crime.

"When they arrived they couldn't believe what they were looking at. It was a vile and barbaric attack," she says.

Ms Mitchell's friends have rallied, putting her plight on the internet and even starting a Crowdfunding page to help



HORSE ATTACKED:
Left almost blinded.

raise funds for her vet's bills and put up a reward to find those behind the attacks.

You can find that page at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Illona-Mitchell>.

Zany zoo

TRANSFER of the remaining animals from the Peña Escrita Zoo has now taken place, over a year since its closure. The zoo, which was never legal, was closed following a raft of infringements, including absence of permits, poor condition of its animals, negligent management, undocumented animals, animal deaths and uncontrolled breeding.

» See page 2

Food and farming

AXARQUÍA'S tourism chiefs are focusing on the province's gastronomic and agricultural offerings as the twin prongs of their campaign at this year's International Tourism Fair in Madrid.

Also high on the region's agenda at the fair, now in its 37th year, is the attractiveness of the region's tourist-friendly natural landscapes and scenery.

» See page 4

Hot to tot

VELEZ-MALAGA'S mayor, Antonio Moreno Ferrer, along with other members of the council, have met with Francisco Pastor and Elisabeth Diaz, the parents of the first baby born this year in Andalucia,

who they have named Carlota. The mayor and other council members presented the newborn, who is resident in Caleta de Velez, with a basket and various other gifts.

» See page 9

On the buses

MONDAY January 16 has been a historic day for Motril. The city's new bus station has opened its doors. The building which is modern and strategically located, next to the new access point to the city from the motorway, becomes an important nerve centre for transport from the capital of the region for all the those on the Costa Tropical, given its proximity to Granada, Malaga and Almería.

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LOCAL NEWS

Menagerie moves on

Blaze of glory

A 51-YEAR-OLD man from Almuñécar has been arrested by the Local Police in Motril for allegedly setting fire to no less than 28 large rubbish bins in the area, with one attack taking out

11 in a single night. Officers clocked him acting suspiciously before legging it as they drew close, and he was subsequently found to be in possession of 'flammable materials.'

Paw patrol

VELEZ-MALAGA Council are on a mission in 2017, and one of their principal aims is to undertake a radical renovation project that would see much of the town centre pedestrianised. Municipal technicians are currently studying the logistics of the scheme, with solutions to problems including access for residents' cars and public transport top of the agenda.

Deserved winner

PABLO RUEZ, a young leukaemia sufferer from Marbella who has fought hard to highlight awareness for bone marrow donation has become one of the winners of this year's San Sebas-

tian Awards, which are celebrated every January in Algarrobo, to mark the day of its Patron Saint. Other winners include Paralympic wheelchair basketball medallist Jesus Romero.

By Sally Underwood

TRANSFER of the remaining animals from the Peña Escrita Zoo has now taken place, over a year since its closure.

Two lionesses, eight coatis, 18 porcupines, one monkey and 18 lemurs were transferred to Belgium and Holland this week.

The zoo, which was never legal, was closed following a raft of infringements, including absence of permits, poor condition of its animals, negligent management, undocumented animals, animal deaths and uncontrolled breeding.

In September 2015, the town council of Almuñécar contacted The Foundation for the Protection of Animals, FAADA, to relocate the first animals from the facility after it was shut down.

FAADA technicians travelled to Peña Escrita, both to help coordinate the transfers, as well as to check the status of the remaining animals in the park. All animals were then anaesthetised by the park's veterinarians, and after a day and a half of travel they arrived safely to their respective shelters, where they will spend time in quarantine, watched over by specialists.

Animals transferred over the last year include Canadian wolves, Iberian wolves, hyenas and predatory birds that were placed in zoos in Sevilla, Cordoba and the Foundation Xabier Maiztegui respectively. This week's transfer marks the completion of the process.



ANIMALS TRANSFERRED: Including two lionesses and a monkey.



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FEATURED NEWS

The big pensions 'freeze'



STATE PENSION: Today, this is nearly twice what it was in 1998.

UK pensioners living in the EU must not accept 'frozen pensions,' says Nigel Nelson, chairman of the non-profit International Consortium of British Pensioners (ICBP) - www.pensionjustice.org.

Today there are nearly half a million UK pensioners living in the EU, as the table shows.

If you add in the other countries making up the European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland and Lichtenstein) and Switzerland, this total increases to nearly 490,000. This article is about three types of UK State Pension erosion:

- Erosion caused by the UK leaving the EU (Brexit)
- Decline in the value of the Euro (€)
- Impact of inflation in the EU.

Erosion caused by the UK leaving the EU

The UK government uprates the UK State Pension annually based on the 'triple lock' policy (raising it by whichever is the higher: inflation, average earnings or 2.5 per cent), but it is only in countries where they are 'legally obliged' to do this and this has been the case for over 70 years.

Today, this means that pensioners living in the UK, the EU and a number of disparate countries around the world receive the annual increase. So, if you live in the US, you will receive the annual increase.

However, if you live just across the border in Canada, then you don't re-

NUMBER OF UK PENSIONERS LIVING IN THE EU

Country	Country Total	Country	Country Total
Ireland	135,040	Poland	2,700
Spain	108,010	Finland	1,550
France	65,470	Bulgaria	1,100
Germany	42,680	Hungary	870
Italy	37,410	The Czech Republic	640
Cyprus	18,840	Luxembourg	590
Netherlands	12,900	Republic of Croatia	590
Portugal	10,460	Republic of Lithuania	450
Malta	6,390	The Slovak Republic	330
Greece	5,910	Republic of Slovenia	300
Sweden	5,590	Republic of Latvia	240
Belgium	5,430	Romania	160
Austria	5,400	Republic of Estonia	90
Denmark	3,370		
TOTAL:			472,510

UK PENSIONERS: Almost half a million live in the EU.

ceive an increase. Live in the Philippines and you receive the annual increase; live in Commonwealth countries like Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa and you don't.

In fact, there are over half a million UK pensioners living in over 120 countries who do not receive the annual increase - this is known as the

UK 'frozen' pension policy.

When the UK leaves the EU, the 'do nothing' option (ie there will be no specific provision made within the exit negotiations) means that the UK will no longer be 'legally obliged' to pay the annual UK State Pension increase to pensioners living in the EU.

Over a period of 20 years *The Telegraph* has estimated that this could

leave pensioners £50,000 poorer.

For a frozen pensioner who retired between April 1998 and March 1999 on a 'full' UK State Pension (i.e with the maximum number of contribution years), they are £25,000 poorer compared to their peers living in the UK.

Today, the UK state pension is nearly twice what it was in 1998 so the figure reported in *The Telegraph* would seem to be accurate.

The ICBP has been working for years to try to persuade the UK government to end this discriminatory practice of pension 'freezing.' We are very concerned that the UK government will see the annual increase to the State Pension for pensioners living in the EU as an opportunity to save money as part of the Brexit negotiations.

The cost to annually increase UK state pensions in the EU will be £46.6 million. If you are concerned that your UK State Pension will become 'frozen,' then go to www.pensionjustice.org/petitions and sign their petition and make your voice heard!

Decline in the exchange rate - GBP to EUR

All UK State Pensions are payable in GBP and the pensioners are liable for the variations in exchange rates.

Most pensioners are spenders and not savers, so they cannot afford to wait for a better exchange rate - they take the exchange rate available on

the day that the UK state pension payment is made.

In fact, the pension can be paid in the currency of the country where the pensioner is living.

Impact of inflation in the EU

For those UK pensioners who will be on a fixed, 'frozen' pension, not only will they be receiving fewer Euros, but they will have less spending power each year because of inflation. Whilst inflation today is lower than it was in the 1990s, it is still running at nearly 2 per cent.

Whilst two of the factors above are beyond our control - exchange rates and inflation - 'frozen' pensions are something that we can try to influence.

You can help... it is incumbent upon every UK state pensioner to make sure that their voice is heard by:

- Writing to the MP who represents the town or city that you last lived in the UK

- Writing to your MEP

- Signing any petitions that are raised - ours is at www.pensionjustice.org/petitions

- Donate to lobby groups like ours to help fight the battle in the UK Parliament - www.pensionjustice.org/donate

- Joining social media groups like 'Protect European Pensions' (Facebook) - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ProtectEuropeanPensions/>

With your help we can make a difference!!

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TOURISM FAIR: Members of the public are welcome.



Tourism spotlight on Axarquia

By Simon Firth

AXARQUIA'S tourism chiefs are focusing on the province's gastronomic and agricultural offerings as the twin prongs of their campaign at this year's International Tourism Fair (Fitur) in Madrid.

Also high on the region's agenda at the fair, now in its 37th year, is the attractiveness of the region's tourist-friendly natural landscapes and scenery.

Opened by the King and Queen of Spain on Wednesday, this year's fair sees a special emphasis on sustainable tourism.

One of Axarquia's strategies is the bid to tempt tourists into the interior of the province, to less well-known areas that have much to offer but may be off the beaten track for the usual tourists and visitors.

Tourism spokesman Juan Peñas said they would be taking part in more than a dozen national and international fairs during 2017.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the annual event, now in its 37th year, but not until Saturday and Sunday.

Representatives from almost every Spanish region, city and many towns, are in Madrid for the fair which is organised by

the UN's World Tourism Organisation.

For the Spanish capital alone, Fitur represents potential revenue of more than €200 million, according to the organisers.

They also point out the presence of more than 9,000 exhibiting companies as evidence of the strength of the sector.

To emphasise the importance of Fitur, more than 20 ministers for tourism from all over Africa are there debating the opportunities the sector can bring to the continent.

Tourism in the Middle East will also come under the spotlight in the hope of fostering growth opportunities in this sector.

THE State Meteorological Agency, AEMET, was forced to issue a yellow weather warning between 2pm and midnight on Wednesday, January 18, as snow hit the Axarquia Region.

Snow joke

The freezing wave of polar air that swept much of Spain during the early part of the week finally reached

Andalucia, although the snow was forecast to give way to rain by Thursday morning.

The snow was mostly restricted to mountainous areas although a little fell in Nerja, Velez-Málaga, Algarrobo and other coastal municipalities.

The most intense snowfall occurred in Ronda and the Sierra de las Nieves.

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The Euesdens

Operations:

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An urn for the worst

By Sally Underwood

THE National Police have detained a man who broke into the area in which urns are stored in a church in Torre del Mar. The man allegedly attacked the urns which were storing ashes, and a day later interrupted a mass by screaming and shouting.

The officers charged the tracksuit-clad offender, who is 37 years old, with a religious hate crime.

In the first incident, the man, a supposed parishioner, wandered into an area reserved for urns, punching and damaging the doors of the niches containing ashes.

The next day, while the parish priest officiated a mass in the early hours of the morning, the same chap burst into the church again. On this occasion he interrupted the liturgy and would not stop disturbing churchgoers with his yelling.

OUR VIEW

Help always needed

IT was very encouraging to see various councils around Spain took it upon themselves to try to make sure no children in their area went without any presents over the holiday period.

In Fuengirola alone, the council spent just over €11,000 to give 385 children a toy and also assisted in buying food for a large number of families. Madrid issued a directive that if any child had not received a gift by January 6 then the council should be informed.

Add to this the generous individuals and groups who operated food banks and donated gifts to underprivileged children and there's no doubt their combined work was greatly appreciated.

Hopefully this generosity will not finish now the festive season has passed as it

continues to be important for individuals to do their bit to help those worse off.

Everyone has different preferences. If you can support your local animal charity by giving time or financial support that's great.

Despite tremendous steps forward in medical discoveries, there is still need for cancer care and a whole range of diverse children's illnesses. Add to this the need for family respite and age care as well as long established charities like the Red Cross, Lions and Royal British Legion and the choice is incredibly wide.

At *Euro Weekly News* we try to publicise charity fundraising. Anyone looking to raise awareness is welcome to contact us and where possible we will promote their activities.

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Trio of tortilla awards

By Sally Underwood

THE Bambu Bar of La Herradura has won three awards in the Route of the Tortilla, a prize which is promoted by the council of La Herradura, gaining 'Best Tortilla,' 'Best Attention and Service' and 'Most Original.'

The award was given by the deputy mayor, Juan José Ruiz Joya, to the bar's representative, Dario de Haro, to the cook, Álvaro Jiménez, and to the waiter, Juan Pablo López.

In celebration of this award, the Bambu chiringuito management offered a free tapa to all those who bought a drink.

In total, 16 establishments entered this, the first year of the Route of the Tortilla awards, that recognise innovative variants of tortilla. The purpose of



TOP PRIZE: For Bambu in the Route of the Tortilla awards.

the awards is to "boost the local hospitality sector by worshipping one of the

most emblematic dishes of popular Spanish cuisine."

Improvements to Almuñécar street

ALMUÑÉCAR has this week started works on the pedestrianised street, Calle Cerveteri, which runs from the Avenida de Andalucía to Avenida de Juan Carlos I.

The city's mayor, José Manuel Fernández, said that the works, which went out to

tender with a budget of around €60,000, consist of "the provision of a new sanitation network with a pipe 315 mm in diameter."

Once sanitation works have been completed the street "will be paved with terrazzo tiles of different colours, simi-

lar to Calles Marquita, Livry Gargan or Manila.

In the section between Calle Cariñena and Juan Carlos I Avenue, the existing layout of steps and ramps will be maintained, guaranteeing accessibility measures for all citizens."

Mr Manuel Fernández said that the works on Calle Cerveteri, which is named after the Italian city that Almuñécar has been twinned with since 1985, will be carried out in a maximum of three months and in two stages.

Discussion on tourism plans

THE tourist destinations of Almuñécar and La Herradura are proposing to join the Integral System of Spanish Tourism Quality

This will be one of the issues discussed at the International Tourism Fair 2017, along with candidates to the World Championship of Underwater Photography and the new resort, Peña Parda Bay.

Almuñécar, the tourist capital of the Costa Tropical, intends to join the Integral System of Spanish Tourism Quality with the aim of evaluating tourist companies and services.

This will be one of the council's major policies announced by the Municipal Tourist Board of Almuñécar at the Fitur fair in Madrid.

The Integral System of Spanish Tourism Quality is

a project to improve the quality of tourist destinations and is promoted by the Secretary of State for Tourism. It works with companies and tourist service providers from around 32 different offices, with the ultimate goal of improving the experience and satisfaction of tourists.

Another highlight in the tourism fair will be the presentation of La Herradura's candidacy for the World Underwater Photography Championship to be held in 2019.

Also on the agenda will be a discussion about the hotel establishment Peña Parda Bay in La Herradura, which is part of the Caleta Bay Hotels chain, which already manages another establishment of the same name in front of La Herradura beach.

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Four main decisions regarding Brexit



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

Theresa May the British Prime Minister made her much leaked speech on her plans for Brexit at a press conference on January 17 with much of the content appearing to be in accord with the recent recommendations of the Commons Brexit committee.

There was nothing particularly unexpected in the speech which lasted some 40 minutes but there was confirmation of a number of definite decisions made by the government which will affect the tone and result of proposed negotiations.

The four main points of her speech, and therefore her position as Article 50 is implemented, are as follows:

- Britain will not remain members of the single market;
- Parliament will be allowed to vote on a final Brexit deal;
- Britain will leave the customs union but will be looking for a special deal;
- She will argue that there could be an extended



Photo Credit: Jay Allen Crown Copyright

MRS MAY: May have already 'bagged a deal' with Bill English, New Zealand PM.

transitional period that may need negotiation.

One piece of immediate positive news is that the pound strengthened against the euro during the speech.

In a clear warning to the leaders of the 27 states with whom she will have to negotiate, she stated that if they tried to make this a punitive deal then she would rather leave EU without a trade deal than accept a bad deal which could mean the UK

could consider adopting a revised economic model. The inference therefore was such a model may result in significant corporate tax reductions to encourage international business back to the UK.

In her speech, she made it clear that the British public made the referendum decision with their "eyes open" and it is her job to implement their wish for a "brighter future" by creating a Global Britain with the UK remaining a "good friend and

neighbour" to the EU but "reaching out" beyond its borders to other continents.

The British government doesn't want to see the EU split or unravel but recognises that the UK has been an awkward partner for the Union. Mrs May said "We seek a new and equal partnership between an independent, self-governing, Global Britain and our friends and allies in the EU."

She wants to give "as much certainty as possible" which is why the government will adopt EU law in the great repeal bill. Parliament will then decide what laws it wants to change.

The overall theme of her speech was there will be no half measures and Britain although hoping to retain a good relationship with the EU whilst continuing to exchange information on matters of security, needs to be separated.

One area that is important covers the border between Northern Ireland and Eire and she hopes and expects to be able to come to an agreement which will allow continued freedom of movement across that border.

The devolved assemblies will not be ignored and they will continue to have control over many aspects of their own destinies with some returned powers resting with Westminster and others being transferred to the assemblies.

Stating she is not there just to supply media headlines, the feeling generally is she has released as much information as she intends and will now 'keep her powder dry' until the formal negotiations begin.

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NEWS EXTRA

Traffic hell

AN articulated lorry provoked traffic drama on the A-7 near Ciudad Jardín, when the driver lost control and skidded to a halt, blocking two lanes of the motorway and causing a huge tailback.

Park plans

THE opposition Popular Party in Rincon de la Victoria are pressuring the council to reinstate a shelved project whereby the La Comarca park would be renovated and relaunched with a J R R Tolkien, author of 'Lord of the Rings,' theme.

Great scene

FRANCISCO NAVAS, Jose Torres and the brothers Miguel and Manuel Muñoz, discoverers of Nerja Cave, returned to the scene of their greatest triumph to celebrate the 58th anniversary of the subterranean success story.



BABY CARLOTA: The mayor and council members presented the newborn with a basket and other gifts.

Born under a star

By Sally Underwood

VELEZ-MALAGA'S mayor, Antonio Moreno Ferrer, along with other members of the council, have met with Francisco Pastor and Elisabeth Díaz, the parents of the first baby born this year in Andalucía, who they have named Carlota.

The mayor and other council

members presented the newborn, who is resident in Caleta de Velez, with a basket and various other gifts.

The mayor expressed his best wishes to the couple, wishing "Carlota to grow up well and healthy."

Moreno Ferrer also informed the couple that once works on the Centre for Early Childhood Education

are completed in Caleta de Vélez, which began at the end of last month, a tree will be planted in the area that will bear her name.

Carlota Pastor Díaz was born in the Hospital Comarcal de la Axarquía de Velez-Malaga, on January 1 of this year at midnight, weighing just over three kilos and measuring 49 centimetres.

Breaking the bank

RESIDENTS of Arenas and Sayalonga are up in arms over a bank's decision to close its branches in the two villages.

The shutters will roll down on Cajamar for the final time on Friday, January 20, leaving the municipalities without a local bank.

On Tuesday, a group of the cheesed off citizens descended on Velez-Malaga in protest at the move, while their respective mayors have written to Cajamar officials to try and negotiate a deal whereby they would open on a few days each week, but as yet they have received no response.

Antonio Jesus Perez, mayor of Sayalonga, said that the village cash machine will continue to function, but expressed his concern that some elderly residents have no idea how to use it, let alone online banking.

"I am 77 years old and still drive, but in a few years not having a bank in the village will be a major inconvenience because I'll have to take a bus to Velez to make payments," sighed Manuel Garcia from Arenas.

Arenas lies 11 kilometres from Velez, while Sayalonga residents will have to make a 10 kilometre trek to Algarrobo to find their nearest bank following the closures.

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Denizens of the deep

ALMUÑÉCAR Aquarium has this week announced it has added 50 new species to its collection, with which, says councillor for Environment, Luis Aragon, "we intend to expand and improve

the fauna and flora of our coasts."

The new additions were presented to the aquarium by the councillor and by biologist Jesus Ruiz, who explained that "Anemones,

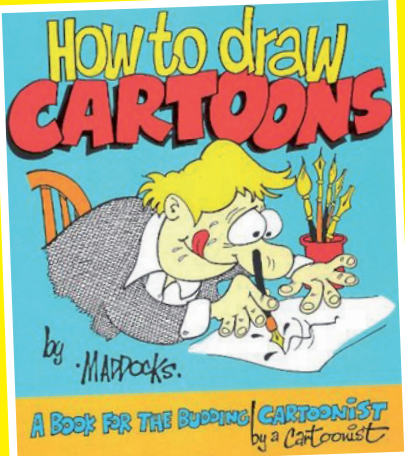
hedgehogs, symphodus, starfish, spirographs and a typical octopus specimen of our coastline have been added to the existing flora and fauna."

Conditions at the aquarium are flourishing and existing species such as types of catsharks are thriving, laying eggs which are hatching to add to the aquarium's collection.

“ We intend to expand and improve the fauna and flora of our coasts.”

The Aquarium of Almuñécar, located in the centre of the town, besides being an important tourist attraction, catalogues Mediterranean flora and fauna, as it was its intention since opening and is an important resource for promoting the environmental heritage of Spain's coasts.

PETER MADDOCKS



Link for Peter's books:
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<http://publishedbyme.blogspot.co.uk/>
<http://petermaddocksart.com>



Photo by Town Hall of Motril

MODERN STATION: Has free WiFi in all public areas.

Motril bus station opens for business

By Sally Underwood

MONDAY January 16 was a historic day for Motril as the city's new bus station opened its doors.

The building which is modern and strategically located, next to the new access point to the city from the motorway, becomes an important nerve centre for transport from the capital of

the region for all the those on the Costa Tropical, given its proximity to Granada, Málaga and Almería.

The mayor of Motril, Flor Almón, explained that the new bus station was a historic claim for the city. "For a long time, Motril has demanded a decent station, in keeping with what a locality like ours deserves" and that "the new bus station in

Motril has had an investment of approximately €1.7 million, which has allowed for huge improvement."

The new bus station has 12 bays, free WiFi in all public areas, a bicycle parking area, information office, ticket sales booth, as well as ticket vending machines and assistance for travellers with disabilities and the installation of a DESA defibrillator.



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Drugs bust in Velez-Malaga

By Sally Underwood

NATIONAL POLICE officers have found and dismantled a marihuana laboratory in Velez-Malaga, which was located in a house.

They have arrested four people, three men and one

woman, all of Spanish nationality, for their alleged part in drug trafficking and stealing electricity from the grid. Among those arrested was a 26-year-old man who was making use of the laboratory, which contained 172 plants.

The investigation began in

October on the basis of a tip received by police about a group of drug traffickers. Upon further investigation, the police found a strong smell of marijuana and the

sound of machinery. Police then identified and located those responsible, amongst whom are the residents of the house in which the crop was found.

Police also found that, although the house had no electricity contract, it had a power supply both to the laboratory and to the residence. As a result of their investigations

and in addition to the marihuana plants found, police seized eight grams of cocaine, a gun, a taser, 41.2 grams of hashish, fertilizer and other tools for growing cannabis.



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SOS Animales benefit concert

EVERY year SOS Animales Motril and SOS Animales Calahonda help with the adoption of 150-200 animals from the municipal pound and the streets of Motril and Calahonda.

In order to raise vital funds a benefit concert will be held on January 20 at 9.00pm at the Calderon Theatre in Motril. People who care about the animals and love jazz and pop can enjoy music on the night from the band One for my Baby.

The band is a project of the singer Dirk Van Halewyck from Belgium and pianist Jacinto Rodríguez from Motril. The rest of the band consists of José Uribe on the drums,



Miguel Angel Pimentel on double bass, Jimi Garcia on trumpet, Carlos Ligerero on the alto sax and Jesus Mata on the tenor sax.

Tickets costing €8, can be bought from the booth or pre-sale for €7.50 from the music shop Pentagrama situated at C/ Aguas del Hospital bajo 4 (in the center of Motril). The One for my Baby CD is also available to purchase and proceeds will also benefit the animals.

For information contact Saskia van Diesen on 616 771 374.

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Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar events

ON Monday January 30 Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar will host a dinner and talk event for fundraising. You are invited to join friends for a fantastic evening listening to the

Reverend James Tayler give an interesting and informative talk about the history of Italian opera.

There will be extracts from some of the most significant

master works, such as La Traviata, Rigoletto, La Bohème and more. The evening will start at 6.00pm and dinner will follow the talk. The cost is €12 and tickets are available from the centre.

Lux Mundi are also joining forces with the Royal British Legion and other local groups to celebrate St Valentine's Day with a dinner and dance on Tuesday February 14 at 7.00pm. This will be held at the Salon del Mar in Calle Los Fenicios, Torre del Mar opposite the Mainake Hotel. The cost is €32 which includes a meal, drink and

live music by Hector Bannon (of the Safari Lounge).

Tickets are available from the centre and the Royal British Legion and should be booked in advance. Proceeds from the event will be distributed amongst the different groups and each one will decide what to do with them.

For further information and bookings please contact the centre in Torre del Mar on 952 543 334 or email luxmundi@lux-mundi.org. Please note bookings cannot be made through the website and cards cannot be accepted.

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ROBIN HOOD: Together with his band of merry men.

Pantomime success for El Valle drama group

RECENTLY, El Valle drama group, an English speaking expat group of 'luvvies' based around Viñuela and Torre del Mar, performed their annual panto at El Trapiche Restaurant.

The panto performance was Robin Hood and his Merry Men. Unfortunately, due to a lack of men, it became Robin Hood and his merry collective of equality based, non-specific gender comrades. The production, adapted and directed by Steve Heugh, was also different in that Maid Marion was,

shall we say, somewhat more mature! The hilarious song and dance routine performed by the Merry Collective, Friar Tuck and the Dame, had everyone rolling in the aisles and will long be remembered, not only by the audience, but by the cast as well!!!

Performing to over 200 people, €500 was raised from the raffle over the three performance nights. This was donated to the Anne Axarquía charity based in Velez-Málaga. This wonderful day centre offers educational and vocational help to young

people with moderate to severe learning difficulties. The group were overwhelmed by the welcome and gratitude of the staff and young people when they presented the money.

The group would like to extend a huge thank you to all who helped in any way to make it such a successful show and raise such a fantastic amount of money.

Anyone interested in joining El Valle drama group, on stage, backstage or in any capacity, please contact John on 692 551 385.

Phoenix Club shopping trip

FANCY a trip to the shops? The Phoenix Club has another shopping trip to Gibraltar planned for Friday February 3 and there is still space available.

The bus will pick up at the A1 Garden Centre, Torre del Mar bus station and finally at Algarrobo Lidl at 8.30am. The bus parks at the Morrisons' car park and leaves Gibraltar at 4.30pm.

Due to visa restrictions on entering Gibraltar, please advise when booking if you are a non-EU citizen.

Also it is important to remember to bring your EHIC card, just in case, and passports are essential. There is a coffee and comfort stop at San Pedro on the way to Gibraltar.

If shopping is not your thing then there is still plenty to see and do in Gibraltar apart from the shopping!

The cost is €12 per person, including a €1 gratuity

for the driver, and children under 12 can join half price. Still the best value on the coast! Early booking is recommended if you like a particular seat as they are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Payment in advance would be greatly appreciated.

To book or for more information on any of the Phoenix Club's trips or events call Gail on 951 067 723, email phoenixsocialclub@yahoo.co.uk or visit www.phoenixsocialclub.co.uk.

The Phoenix Club is a registered association raising funds for three local charities and Help4Heroes in the UK. It meets every Tuesday at the bar restaurant La Vega in Torre del Mar between 12 and 2pm and you can book or pay from 12.15pm onwards.

Do feel free to pop in and meet the group.

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DENMARK**Best burger**

COPENHAGEN'S Gasoline Grill has been named as one of the best burger joints around the world according to US media group Bloomberg, which selected 27 venues globally with most in either New York, London or LA.

**Safe skies**

THE annual report from Airline Ratings has named SAS as being among the safest airlines in the skies and ranked it in the top 20 after assessing 425 airlines.

Sustainable student

THE new campus of the Copenhagen International School, has reopened incorporating new architecture and sustainability in a bid to create and promote sustainable living.

Airbnb limit

COPENHAGEN'S mayor has made suggestions that the capital follows the lead of other major European cities and limits how long a property can be rented out for through site Airbnb.

FRANCE**Kardashian arrest**

SIXTEEN people were arrested in the Paris region in connection with the robbery of American reality star Kim Kardashian who had around €9m worth of jewellery stolen from her apartment.

Golden Globes for French actress Isabelle Huppert and veteran director Paul Verhoeven.

women in his car and had planned to help them reach Marseille.

Illegal help

A FRENCHMAN accused of giving a lift to three illegal immigrants, has been acquitted by a Nice court. The 45-year-old teacher was stopped with three

Production plea

PRESIDENTIAL candidate Marine Le Pen has vowed to bring car production back to France with a return Renault and Peugeot Citroen, similar to what Donald Trump aims to do in America.

SWEDEN**Housing crisis**

STOCKHOLM'S Housing Agency has reported that there are now over half a million people waiting to rent an apartment through them. This marks an increase of almost 40,000 in 2016.

Crime stats

INITIAL crimes figures for last year report that fraud and crimes against the individual increased last year, but cases of drugs crimes fell.

London bound

THE Abba-themed venue, Mamma Mia The Party, which opened in Stockholm last year, could be headed to London in spring 2018. The event sees guests in a fictional tavern eating Greek food as they watch a Mamma Mia style stage show.

Top name

THE name 'Leia' has entered the top 100 most popular dog names in Sweden for the first time, believed to be inspired by the release of the new Star Wars movies. Molly is currently the most popular name amongst registered dogs.

HOLLAND**Top names**

THE names Daan and Anna were the most popular baby names in the Netherlands last year with 681 Daans born and 665 baby girls were named Anna. The top spots were previously held by Liam and Emma.

Pre-crisis levels

ACCORDING to the Dutch real estate agency association NVM, house prices are now almost back to their pre-crisis level. The average price for a home is currently €248,000, 20 per cent higher than when prices plunged in 2013.

Panda approval

A DUTCH zoo has spent €7 million on a new compound to house a pair of giant pandas from China. The facility has now been approved by Chinese zoo inspectors who said it was "incredibly beautiful."

Strained services

SEVERAL hospitals have stopped admitting new patients because of the flu epidemic. An increase in the number of elderly residents suffering is straining medical services in some parts of the country.

GERMANY**Snowman damage**

A SNOWMAN on a train track in northern German resulted in €5,000 worth of damage to the train as the driver quickly hit the brakes unable to distinguish between whether it was a snowman or an actual person.

Record fines

GERMAN car maker Volkswagen is pleading guilty to criminal charges in the USA relating to the diesel emissions scandal. The company will pay \$4.3 billion (€4 billion) in fines.

GDP increase

GERMANY has recorded a gross domestic product (GDP) increase of 1.9 per cent in 2016, the highest increase in five years.

Sweet concern

SECURITY was on high alert after an unidentified powder was posted to German courthouses. The powder sparked concerns but was found to be sugar.

BELGIUM**Corruption complaints**

BELGIUM has been criticised for not putting in place any of the 15 recommendations made to help prevent corruption of deputies, judges and prosecutors.

Beauty ban

THE Flemish parliament wants beauty pageants for children to be stopped claiming that such events for those under 16 are unacceptable and should be formally banned.

Social support

KING PHILIPPE received around 50,000 letters last year. Of these, some 769 people received financial support of €200 after the letters were passed to the palace's 'social' and then the Public Welfare Service.

Tourism boost

TOURISM in Brussels has reportedly picked up in recent weeks following a downturn after the attacks last March. Brussels will increase its efforts to promote the city through a campaign across Europe.

NORWAY**More radical**

MASS murderer Anders Behring Breivik, who killed 77 people in 2011 for their 'multicultural' views, claims his five-year prison isolation has made him even more radical as he gives evidence against the state for treating him 'inhumanely.'

Threatening case

A MAN, aged 66, has been charged with threatening a female district court judge. His legal representative did not deny he sent the email, but said that he was not making a threat against her.

Abuse case

A NORWEGIAN paedophilia ring has been disbanded. Police have filed charges against 51 individuals involved in what is thought to be one of the largest child sexual abuse cases ever in Norway.

Local beer

SUPERMARKET Rema has said it will focus more on stocking beer from local microbreweries. The move has upset Tromsø brewery Mack, which said its sales will fall so much as a result and they will have to make redundancies.

RBS faces another hurdle

By John Smith

THERE seems to be a certain irony in the fact the RBS (The Royal Bank of Scotland) which is 73 per cent owned by the British government is likely to be fined an extremely large amount of money by the US government.

The whole problem revolves around its involvement in what is known as the sub-prime market in the USA where it acted recklessly alongside plenty of other national and international banks.

\$10 billion (€9.5 billion)
as a fine from the US government would probably be seen as a reasonable amount for RBS to have to pay. More could be problematical.

Barclays has decided not to settle with the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and is going to court to argue that as they were only a small play-

er in this market they should not pay huge fines and that the DOJ has favoured US banks, fining them far less than foreign banks.

It seemed that Deutsche Bank could have gone under when it was threatened with a \$14 billion (€13.3 billion) fine and then settled at \$7.2 billion (€6.85 billion) with the company still intact.

By the time that a decision is made with RBS, there will be a change of president as well as director of the DOJ, so it will be something of a tight rope walk as the British government lobbies on behalf of the bank whilst the Americans look to make as much money as possible.

Bank bail-out cost

ACCORDING to a report issued by the Spanish Court of Auditors on January 10, the actual provision made for the cost of 'bailing out' the banks in the period of 2009 to 2015 is recorded as €122.122 billion.

This figure does not take into account potential income which could be raised from the probable sale of shares in banks held by the government, which includes Bankia and BMN and the actual amount actually expended is the slightly less eye watering €60.718 billion at the end of 2015.

Time will tell whether either figure will reduce depending on market fluctuations.

Quote of the Week

Signs are appearing... that the weaker pound is benefiting the economy, especially in terms of rising goods exports."

Chris Williamson, chief business economist at IHS Markit



Five year Brexit



XAVIER ROLET: Head of the London Stock Exchange.

By John Smith

AS the UK moves closer to the final triggering of Article 50, so different committees in Parliament continue to interview senior businessmen asking their opinion on the future and how the economy is likely to cope with Brexit.

In the latest round of enquiries, the Treasury Select Committee interviewed a number of influential financial figures, one of whom was Xavier Rolet the head of the London

Stock Exchange.

In his statement, he warned that a two-year negotiation was likely to be far too short and that Britain faced a massive desertion of financial jobs from the City of London to other EU member states unless sensible and clear agreements could be made.

To this end therefore, he recommended that Mrs May should look for a five-year rather than two-year exit plan, especially as so many stock sales were made in euros.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

More in work

UNEMPLOYMENT continues to reduce in Spain and the 2016 figure was down by 9.5 per cent compared to 2015 according to the ministry of labour with 3.7 million still out of work, but many of the newly employed are on short term contracts.

Malta teasers

AS the EU's smallest member Malta takes over the presidency, a group of MEPs has accused it of being a tax haven, helping multinational companies avoid payment of more than €14 billion in tax which should have been paid to member states.

Increased turnover

RESULTS from Sainsbury's during Christmas week have surprised analysts by showing an increase in turnover rather than the expected drop, which in turn has led to a healthy growth in the share price thanks in part to the takeover of the Argos Group.

Tourism is still important

GIVING a hint as to the results of the most popular holiday destinations in the world (due to be announced on January 17), the United Nations World Tourism Organisation has revealed that Spain's figure was 10 per cent up on 2015.

With just under 75 million visitors, tourism brought an estimated €60 billion to the country, some of which will have been thanks to the reduction in visitors to Turkey caused by security fears.

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Admiral Group PLC	1765.00	-10.00	1774.00	7.82
Anglo American PLC	1367.75	38.00	1329.50	423.32
Antofagasta PLC	741.00	16.00	725.00	151.44
Ashtead Group PLC	1623.00	23.00	1600.00	72.96
Associated British Foods PLC	2579.50	-1.00	2580.00	11.43
AstraZeneca PLC	4650.25	41.00	4609.00	75.78
Aviva PLC	483.10	-6.10	489.10	249.65
Babcock International Group...	951.50	-3.00	954.00	34.27
BAE Systems PLC	611.00	-0.50	611.50	258.94
Barclays PLC	232.22	-3.05	235.25	1,976.23
Barratt Developments PLC	509.25	-6.50	516.00	415.80
BHP Billiton PLC	1488.75	34.50	1454.50	403.74
BP PLC	516.95	-1.20	518.00	940.82
British American Tobacco PLC	4747.25	17.50	4729.50	84.37
British Land Co PLC	614.00	-4.50	618.00	104.38
BT Group PLC	390.07	-1.60	391.75	362.59
Bunzl PLC	2138.00	1.00	2136.00	14.82
Burberry Group PLC	1629.50	18.00	1611.00	137.70
Capita PLC	510.00	-5.50	515.50	85.22
Carnival PLC	4251.00	8.00	4242.00	16.29
Centrica PLC	232.05	1.80	230.20	256.38
Coca-Cola HBC AG	1801.00	1.00	1802.00	9.85
Compass Group PLC	1469.00	9.00	1460.00	87.25
ConvaTec Group PLC	240.65	0.90	239.70	10.24
CRH PLC	2887.50	12.00	2878.00	21.65
Croda International PLC	3340.00	0.00	3338.00	5.74
DCC PLC	6122.50	5.00	6120.00	2.75
Diageo PLC	2207.50	10.00	2197.50	162.23
Direct Line Insurance Group...	347.50	-0.90	348.60	134.43
Dixons Carphone PLC	348.85	-2.30	350.90	106.22
easylet PLC	1022.50	-13.00	1036.00	190.22
Experian PLC	1609.00	8.00	1601.00	58.69
Fresnillo PLC	1453.50	40.00	1413.00	100.51
GKN PLC	343.35	2.10	341.30	174.46
GlaxoSmithKline PLC	1593.00	7.00	1585.50	491.91
Glencore PLC	323.57	6.71	316.70	3,272.24
Hammerson PLC	559.75	-4.50	564.00	27.41
Hargreaves Lansdown PLC	1279.00	1.00	1277.00	19.69
Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC	1900.00	4.00	1896.00	4.50
HSBC Holdings PLC	679.05	1.10	678.00	617.40
Imperial Brands PLC	3617.75	27.00	3590.00	70.37
Informa PLC	694.25	0.50	693.50	42.61
InterContinental Hotels Gro...	3767.50	10.00	3759.00	16.30
International Consolidated ...	481.05	-7.80	488.70	383.44
Intertek Group PLC	3551.00	4.00	3547.00	6.87
Intu Properties PLC	276.90	-1.80	278.80	21.33
ITV PLC	207.40	-1.40	208.60	599.24
Johnson Matthey PLC	3255.00	7.00	3248.00	19.18
Kingfisher PLC	351.40	-1.50	353.00	139.99

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Land Securities Group PLC	1007.00	-13.00	1020.00	37.43
Legal & General Group PLC	246.75	-1.90	248.70	393.18
Lloyds Banking Group PLC	65.33	-0.69	66.04	10,165.96
London Stock Exchange Group...	2936.50	3.00	2933.00	4.94
Marks & Spencer Group PLC	340.35	1.29	339.10	372.04
Mediclinic International PLC	800.25	8.50	792.00	17.92
Merlin Entertainments PLC	480.50	1.40	479.00	32.20
Micro Focus International PLC	2156.00	-1.00	2157.00	7.59
Mondi PLC	1772.50	5.00	1768.00	25.46
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets PLC	240.75	-1.20	241.90	338.14
National Grid PLC	960.30	3.60	956.90	260.81
Next PLC	4032.00	-9.00	4042.00	27.36
Old Mutual PLC	213.70	1.10	212.50	240.78
Paddy Power Betfair PLC	8597.50	-50.00	8645.00	.87
Pearson PLC	813.75	-3.00	817.00	65.46
Persimmon PLC	1973.00	-24.00	1997.00	33.16
Provident Financial PLC	2833.00	-12.00	2844.00	5.50
Prudential PLC	1600.25	-11.50	1612.50	68.91
Randgold Resources Ltd	6865.00	150.00	6710.00	34.71
Reckitt Benckiser Group PLC	6878.50	34.00	6845.00	35.38
RELX PLC	1472.00	7.00	1464.00	87.84
Rio Tinto PLC	3494.50	76.50	3417.50	181.26
Rolls-Royce Holdings PLC	663.75	2.50	661.50	108.43
Royal Bank of Scotland Grou...	217.15	-3.90	221.10	749.78
Royal Dutch Shell PLC	2382.75	5.50	2377.50	160.60
Royal Mail PLC	443.85	-3.60	447.40	138.13
RSA Insurance Group PLC	579.50	-1.00	580.50	27.51
Sage Group (The) PLC	676.50	2.00	674.50	24.39
Sainsbury (J) PLC	262.45	-1.90	264.60	276.41
Schroders PLC	3042.50	-2.00	3047.00	2.23
Severn Trent PLC	2215.00	0.00	2215.00	24.48
Shire PLC	4685.00	22.00	4661.50	70.40
Sky PLC	993.25	1.00	992.00	83.57
Smith & Nephew PLC	1243.50	8.00	1236.00	125.17
Smiths Group PLC	1533.00	6.00	1526.00	15.57
Smurfit Kappa Group PLC	2150.00	22.00	2129.00	10.33
SSE PLC	1558.50	4.00	1553.00	87.12
Standard Chartered PLC	719.75	1.20	718.50	144.01
Standard Life PLC	353.20	-3.50	357.10	92.58
St James's Place PLC	1076.50	-9.70	1085.00	58.05
Taylor Wimpey PLC	171.30	-1.20	172.60	597.70
Tesco PLC	204.25	-2.14	206.00	640.52
TUI AG	1134.00	-5.00	1141.00	36.23
Unilever PLC	3410.00	25.50	3383.00	75.70
United Utilities Group PLC	896.00	6.00	890.00	49.02
Vodafone Group PLC	212.62	-2.05	214.70	2,247.45
Whitbread PLC	4078.00	-14.00	4093.00	17.54
Wolseley PLC	4986.00	-11.00	4996.00	29.39
Worldpay Group PLC	291.65	-1.10	292.60	80.23
WPP PLC	1896.50	9.00	1888.00	117.16

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CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 16

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	177,390	-0,03%	-0,050	106M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	76,6200	-0,34%	-0,2600	70M
APPLE	119,040	-0,18%	-0,210	625M
BOEING CO	158,830	+0,34%	0,540	98M
CATERPILLAR	94,480	+0,52%	0,490	55M
CHEVRON	116,38	+0,19%	0,22	219M
CISCO SYSTEMS	30,070	+0,10%	0,030	151M
COCA-COLA	40,88	-0,17%	-0,07	176M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	73,6000	-0,69%	-0,5100	64M
EXXON MOBIL	86,35	+0,01%	0,01	357M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	31,3600	-0,10%	-0,0300	277M
GOLDMAN SACHS	244,30	+0,19%	0,46	96M
HOME DEPOT	135,0400	-0,02%	-0,0300	164M
IBM	167,34	-0,36%	-0,61	159M
INTEL CORP	36,7900	+0,22%	0,0800	173M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	86,7000	+0,53%	0,4600	309M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	114,6000	-0,02%	-0,0200	311M
MC DONALD'S CORP	121,5000	-0,49%	-0,6000	100M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	62,34	+0,21%	0,13	171M
MICROSOFT	62,700	+0,14%	0,090	486M
NIKE	52,92	+0,99%	0,52	69M
PFIZER	32,5200	-0,25%	-0,0800	196M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	84,010	+0,20%	0,170	224M
TRAVELERS CIES	117,05	+0,26%	0,30	33M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	110,22	-0,54%	-0,60	90M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	161,80	-0,34%	-0,56	153M
VERIZON COMMS	52,55	-0,25%	-0,13	214M
VISA	81,17	-0,25%	-0,20	150M
WAL-MART STORES	67,1300	-1,24%	-0,8400	206M
WALT DISNEY CO	108,0600	+0,49%	0,5300	171M

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 16

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
DexCom, Inc.	\$ 85.13	17.52 ▲ 25.91%
Telenav, Inc.	\$ 8.05	1.05 ▲ 15%
Celyad SA	\$ 21.6588	2.6588 ▲ 13.99%
Achaogen, Inc.	\$ 17.96	2.15 ▲ 13.60%
Atlanticus Holdings Corporation	\$ 3.068	0.342 ▲ 12.55%
Sangamo Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 4.40	0.45 ▲ 11.39%
Century Aluminum Company	\$ 11.52	1.16 ▲ 11.20%
Immune Design Corp.	\$ 6.25	0.60 ▲ 10.62%
Fate Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 3.05	0.29 ▲ 10.51%
Diana Containerships Inc.	\$ 2.96	0.28 ▲ 10.45%
TRACON Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 5.60	0.50 ▲ 9.80%
Most Declined		
Inventure Foods, Inc.	\$ 6.36	0.92 ▼ 12.64%
Zogenix, Inc.	\$ 10.35	1.15 ▼ 10%
1st Constitution Bancorp (NJ)	\$ 17.45	1.60 ▼ 8.40%
Fenix Parts, Inc.	\$ 2.70	0.20 ▼ 6.90%
Olympic Steel, Inc.	\$ 24.53	1.69 ▼ 6.45%
HomeStreet, Inc.	\$ 29.10	1.85 ▼ 5.98%
Inseego Corp.	\$ 2.87	0.18 ▼ 5.90%
Applied Optoelectronics, Inc.	\$ 28.22	1.64 ▼ 5.49%
Novan, Inc.	\$ 22.69	1.31 ▼ 5.46%
ReWalk Robotics Ltd	\$ 2.60	0.15 ▼ 5.45%
Roka Bioscience, Inc.	\$ 4.72	0.26 ▼ 5.22%

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Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

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€0.9468 €0.0004

Price Movement

Accumulating Funds

GBP Currency B €0.9859.....-€0.0002
EUR Currency B €0.9659.....-€0.0002
Multi Asset Conservative B GBP £1.1395..... £0.0085
Multi Asset Conservative B EUR €1.0749..... €0.0073
Multi Asset Balanced B GBP £1.2661..... £0.0141
Multi Asset Balanced B EUR €1.1846..... €0.0123
Multi Asset Growth B GBP £1.3846..... £0.0220
Multi Asset Growth B EUR €1.3023..... €0.0195

DEALING PRICE

Price Movement

Remaining Elite Fund prices available on request

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Machines could take over the future

By John Smith

EVER since the Jewish religion introduced the concept of the Golem in the Middle Ages, a mud statue brought to life but without a soul, mankind has believed that human replicas could eventually be animated and created with intelligence.

“It is anticipated that call centres manned by humans will disappear within next 10 years.

The word Robot was first introduced to the world in 1920 in a play and since then, the concept of a mechanical being has been expanded to include Android (human robot) and Cyborg (man-machine hybrid).

Popular culture abounds with references to these man-created machines and robotics have been used in industry for many years now, but the European Parliament is worried that as they become more human in form and thought, their existence



Photo Credit: Wilyam Bradberry Shutterstock

NEW LAWS: To be created, just in case robots take over.

should be covered by law.

MEPs have therefore been presented with a report which recognises that there is a new revolution in robotics and artificial intelligence and therefore laws should be passed before it is too late to regularise their production and ‘lives.’

In essence the reports suggests that the parliament needs to decide whether there is such a thing as an ‘electronic person’ and if so what rights if any they should be given. In addition, MEPs are recommended to instruct manufacturers to come up with an easy way to termi-

nate the robots ‘life’ if necessary.

In his 1950 novel ‘I Robot,’ science fiction writer Isaac Asimov created the three laws of robotics which were built into the brains of all robots and these are:

‘A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a

human being to come to harm.’

‘A robot must obey the orders given to it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law.’

‘A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Laws.’

It is possible that these ‘laws’ will be part of any new EU legislation especially as artificial intelligence becomes more than a jerky white plastic robot playing chess and humanoid androids start to take over work from human beings.

It is already anticipated that call centres manned by humans will disappear within the next 10 years or so and as we enter the ‘Brave New World,’ the EU wants to ensure that it does not become a dystopian nightmare as seen in ‘The Terminator’ and ‘The Matrix.’

It is however unlikely that legislators will be brave enough to stop the inevitable job losses that will occur when big business is able to use artificially intelligent creations which don’t have unions, lunch breaks, wage demands, holidays or maternity leave.

Enjoy free coffee and pay for your time

By John Smith

TWO major developments have caused some problems for High Street operators and a Russian entrepreneur may just have found the answer.

When the coffee revolution saw the expansion of companies such as Starbucks, Costa Coffee and even McCafe across Europe, it created a whole new generation of baristas and customers but this coincided with the growth of home working for many.

Rather than hang around in the house, individuals with their lap tops started to congregate in these coffee shops to take advantage of the trendy interiors, good coffee, warm surroundings and free WiFi.

The problem that arises is that these individuals take up space and unless they are keeping the corporate coffee cup loaded, are not generating the sort of profits that these international (and even independents) need to keep in business.

A few years ago, a Russian poet turned businessman Ivan Mitin expanded a poetry group which met in bars and cafés in Moscow so that it had a regular meeting place called the Treehouse.

At that time, he relied on donations to ensure that he was able to secure the room on a regular basis but having decided that this was a somewhat precarious situation he came up with the idea of charging people to attend.

As this went so well he expanded the concept and created Ziferblat which means Clockface in



MEETING PLACE: Visitors use the Manchester room.

both German and Russian with the concept that people would pay by the minute to use a room as a café and meeting place but all food and drink would be free.

So successful was this concept that he soon found himself opening a number of these rooms around Russia and in 2014 opened his first Ziferblat in London.

Very simply visitors receive a clock when they

arrive and pay 3p (4c) per minute whilst using the room. There are no waiters but guests can make themselves tea and coffee, have biscuits and cakes and use the free WiFi whilst chatting with friends or sitting at their laptops working.

Unlike a coffee shop, the laid back atmosphere encourages people to talk to each other and there is background music as well as occasional performances by local musicians with artists often wel-

come to hang their work on the walls.

Whilst this wouldn’t suit everyone, the concept is such that it has expanded within the UK to Liverpool and Manchester and other sites where rents are not too high will be developed.

As the business continues to develop so, it will no doubt head for popular cities with trendy student populations such as Amsterdam and Barcelona.

Photo Credit: Ziferblat UK

Bitcoin, the world's strongest currency

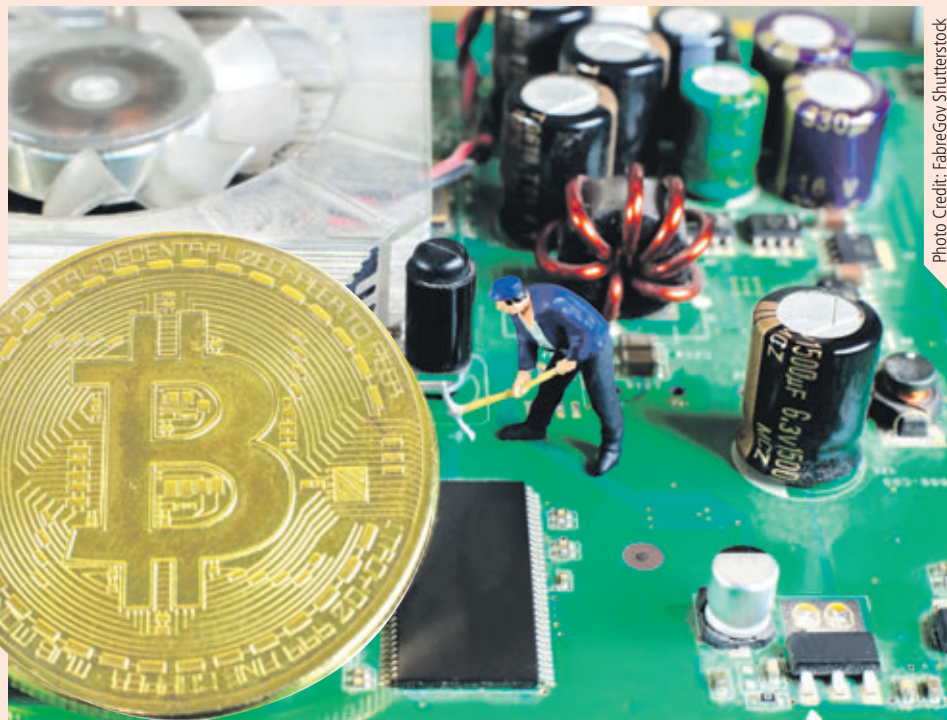


Photo Credit: FabreGov Shutterstock

WEB HELD: Mining for Bitcoins.

By John Smith

FOR those who have heard the name but don't understand the meaning, a Bitcoin is an imaginary currency supposedly created by a Japanese genius several years ago which can be used instead of traditional currency.

There are an estimated 15 million Bitcoins in existence at the moment, but the amount grows each day as more coins are 'mined'!

The act of 'mining' involves a computer solving a difficult mathematical problem and every time the problem is solved a number of new Bitcoins are created with a proportion going to the problem solver.

There are a number of Bitcoin factories with numerous computers linked together to solve the problem as quickly as possible, thus generating more of the web held coins for the problem solver.

All of the Bitcoins are web held in Bitcoin wallets and they are traded for hard cash so that demand and availability

dictates the value of an individual Bitcoin, but the price is surprisingly high and the record cost of a single Bitcoin was set early in January 2017 at \$1,129 (€1,144).

The reason that this form of artificial currency is so expensive is that it is completely uncontrolled by any government and it is therefore an ideal way of hiding income and moving worth around the world.

It is alleged that many major international drug deals are paid for in Bitcoins and those wanting to transfer undeclared profits out of their country of residence also turn to Bitcoins.

Without question, there has been a steady increase in the value of this 'imaginary currency' especially as different countries impose export restrictions on funds as well as cracking down on tax avoidance.

Years ago, airline tickets were a good way of getting money out of a country, so someone in the UK could purchase a ticket giving them first class flights from Lagos to London, return Concorde

flights to New York and then return tickets to Lagos for half the price of the normal Concorde fare.

The concept was simple as the Nigerian purchaser of the original ticket paid in Naira and he in turn was then paid in Sterling into a foreign bank account and the Lagos-London-Lagos legs were just thrown away.

Recently, there has been a great demand from China for Bitcoins where wealthy individuals have been using them to get round exchange control, but as the Chinese authorities have announced they will be investigating this whole matter, the Bitcoin market saw a drop in a few days of \$369 (€346) per coin due to nervousness in that market.

When one considers that at the beginning of 2011, a single Bitcoin was worth just €1, anyone who invested in them then has seen an incredible growth in value and the currency is likely to continue to have worth, as long as there are those who don't enjoy financial transparency.

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I NEVER chose to be a nonconformist. Sitting here at 77 years of age (already not conforming to three score and 10!) it is now painfully obvious that choosing to remain within our society as an 'antisocial,' was, at the very least, going to be difficult and certainly not make you the winner of many popularity contests.

Of course, at the outset you don't know who, or even what you are. As a new manifestation you simply go with the flow. There is no set beginning to non-conformity, it is something that just happens. There does however become a point when the choice has to be made. You either drop out or stay in.

Well I chose to stay in. Although, through my spiritual leanings, I was offered a host of escapes, i.e. hippie communes, becoming a Tibetan monk, taking

the junkie route, membership of numerous cults, including the highly dangerous Scientology and all of its pathetic offshoots specifically designed to control the weak.

I knew that to have any chance of influencing events in a society I didn't agree with, I had to stay a

“ Egotistical multi-millionaires of the Angelina Jolie and Bono ilk wander between mud huts trying to make us all feel bad.”

part of it. Politics would have been an obvious choice I suppose, but unfortunately, in my day, to enter into the political arena you had to either be a total conformist, a complete hypocrite, or an 'old boy' (no change there then!)

So I chose Showbiz. Ha! The most hypocritical occupation of them all. Typical examples of this

are the egotistical multi-millionaires of the Angelina Jolie and Bono ilk, wandering between mud huts, trying to make us all feel bad and responsible for the ills of the world, before scurrying back to their existence of cosseted grandeur and luxury.

For heaven's sake give us all a break and stick to your lives of fantasy, where you all belong.

One thing non-conformity does achieve however is a relentless thickening of the skin, so keep those letters coming. The more derogatory they are, the more chance you have of being published!

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FACT

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- PINK
- PINT
- PANT
- PACT
- FACE
- FACT

- LINK
- LINK
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- FACE
- FACT
- Solution

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for next 7 days

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TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 10C, MIN 7C		TODAY: CLEAR MAX 9C, MIN -1C	
Fri - 11 7 Sh	Mon - 14 7 C	Fri - 9 -1 C	Mon - 10 1 C
Sat - 12 6 Sh	Tues - 15 8 C	Sat - 9 -2 C	Tues - 10 2 C
Sun - 13 5 Cl	Wed - 16 10 C	Sun - 9 -3 C	Wed - 12 4 Sh
Almeria		Malaga	
TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 10C, MIN 6C		TODAY: CLOUDY MAX 13C, MIN 4C	
Fri - 12 5 Sh	Mon - 15 7 Sh	Fri - 13 4 C	Mon - 15 7 C
Sat - 14 6 Cl	Tues - 17 8 Cl	Sat - 14 5 Cl	Tues - 17 8 Cl
Sun - 14 5 C	Wed - 18 10 Sh	Sun - 14 5 Sh	Wed - 17 9 Sh
Barcelona		Mallorca	
TODAY: CLEAR MAX 10C, MIN 6C		TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 12C, MIN 6C	
Fri - 12 6 Sh	Mon - 13 3 C	Fri - 12 6 Sh	Mon - 14 6 C
Sat - 12 3 Cl	Tues - 13 4 Sh	Sat - 13 5 C	Tues - 15 6 Cl
Sun - 12 3 Sh	Wed - 15 5 S	Sun - 13 5 Sh	Wed - 16 7 Cl
Benidorm		Murcia	
TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 10C, MIN 8C		TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 9C, MIN 5C	
Fri - 12 6 Sh	Mon - 14 9 C	Fri - 11 4 Sh	Mon - 14 4 C
Sat - 12 8 Sh	Tues - 15 8 C	Sat - 12 4 Sh	Tues - 16 6 Cl
Sun - 14 6 C	Wed - 16 9 C	Sun - 13 3 C	Wed - 17 7 Sh

S Sun, Cl 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

PISCES ♋ (February 20 - March 20)
An exciting invitation may set tongues wagging and make a loved one jealous. You, meanwhile, are quite bemused by the whole thing. What comes out of this week is that you are of considerable value to others. The mere thought of you not being around sends ripples through your social circle.

ARIES ♈ (March 21 - April 20)
Being asked to take on a new and demanding task this week may see you wishing that you had been less visible. However, don't think of the hard work involved but rather the brilliant outcome. You will be popular.

TAURUS ♉ (April 21 - May 21)
An interest in technology is not something new to you. What is great, though, is that the penny has suddenly dropped. This week sees you understanding more and wanting to know more. This is good for both your work and social life.

AQUARIUS ♒ (January 21 - February 19)

This being a family oriented week, much of it may be spent getting together with relatives and going over old times. Perhaps you are compiling a photo album for older members of the family or vice versa.

GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)
An urge to get moving must mean that spring is round the corner. Certainly, you are questioning where you want to be in the months ahead. A house move or work placement may be on your mind. At what seems to be an unsettled time, decisions need to be made and worked towards.

CANCER ♋ (June 22 - July 23)
Be aware that not everyone is willing to work as hard as you. When approached by someone wanting you to trust them, be sure of their motives. Do what you feel is right but remain firmly in control, especially financially. It may not be the time to make a particular move, although others think that it is. There's no problem with discussing things and talking them through. Keep up your healthy habits because you need lots of energy, especially at the weekend.

LEO ♌ (July 24 - August 23)
Social demands are made, but try to

shuffle them to the weekend. Be diplomatic or someone close could become irritated. Keep an eye on the small print because something fundamental may have changed in a long-standing arrangement. Suddenly, at the weekend, you are thrust into the limelight.

VIRGO ♍ (August 24 - September 23)
Be aware that leopards do not change their spots, they merely hide them. Those who demand your trust need a cool checking out and don't be afraid to say 'no' as and when necessary. Finances are well aspected this week with a new idea proving both worthwhile in terms of your time and profitable.

LIBRA ♎ (September 24 - October 23)
Career and home are in disharmony but a bit of compromise soon sorts things out. You don't like playing the 'bad guy,' but honesty is also important to you. Speaking your mind can be liberating although, initially, you may

see it as a nuisance and embarrassing. A meeting at the weekend is both confusing and disarming.

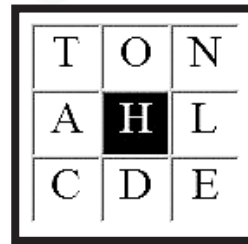
SCORPIO ♏ (October 24 - November 22)
Someone with a larger-than-life imagination makes you smile but that was not their intention. Try to be diplomatic and steer them in a different direction. Some feelings of loneliness will not be assuaged by working more. Perhaps it is time to consider taking on a pet or giving a current pet more attention.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ (November 23 - December 21)
Sometimes, you find it hard to do things just for the pure enjoyment of it. Realise that not everything has to have a purpose or a profit. Look round this week and seek out something that will please your senses and bring a smile to your lips. Make this a week when you live for the moment and give full rein to your imagination.

CAPRICORN ♑ (December 22 - January 20)
Contact with a less than ideal situation makes you realise just how lucky you are. It has been clear that the weeks are changeable and your situation at the moment far from settled. Pity those whose day-to-day life is completely predictable. As someone who values an element of challenge, it is enjoyable to know that unexpected times are ahead.

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 H) and there must be AT LEAST ONE NINE LETTER WORD. Plurals, vulgarities or proper nouns are not allowed.

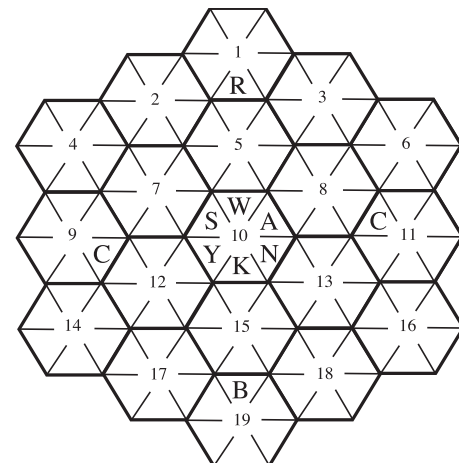
- TARGET:
• Average: 16 • Good: 22
• Very good: 32 • Excellent: 42

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

coin cone enol glen gone gown icon lien limn line ling lino lion loin lone long mien mine mown nice noil omen once wine wing wino cling clone clown coign genic gnome incog lemon limen lingo melon mince mince owing wince women coigne coming cowing cowmen gnomic income legion lowing mewing mingle mowing oilmen wigeon cowlng genomic meowing mewling WELCOMING

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 (SWANKY) and one letter in four other cells are given as clues.



- BLANCH
- BROKEN
- CEREAL
- COYOTE
- ENTIRE
- ESTEEM
- GARAGE
- HEARTY
- HEREBY
- HEROIC
- LINEAR
- OCTANT
- POETIC
- POSSUM
- RABIES
- REASON
- SWANKY (10)
- TRACER
- WARREN

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

1 Escrow 2 Cohere 3 Rookie 4 Chisel 5 Worker 6 Gaiety 7 Cheese 8 Arrive 9 Victim 10 Skater 11 Larvae 12 Raster 13 Stereo 14 Twisty 15 Presto 16 Arrear 17 Tappet 18 Pastor 19 Depose.

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY	IRISH LOTTO	EURO MILLIONS		LA PRIMITIVA	EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
Saturday January 14	Saturday January 14	Tuesday January 10	Friday January 13	Saturday January 14	Sunday January 15
14 19 21 36 53 54	2 4 11 22 25 34	2 11 29 35 44	3 7 16 26 50	2 3 6 10 25 43	3 21 31 39 46
BONUS BALL 33	BONUS BALL 7	LUCKY STARS 4 9	LUCKY STARS 4 7	REINTEGRO 42 7	REINTEGRO 2

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

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

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



Crossword

page

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

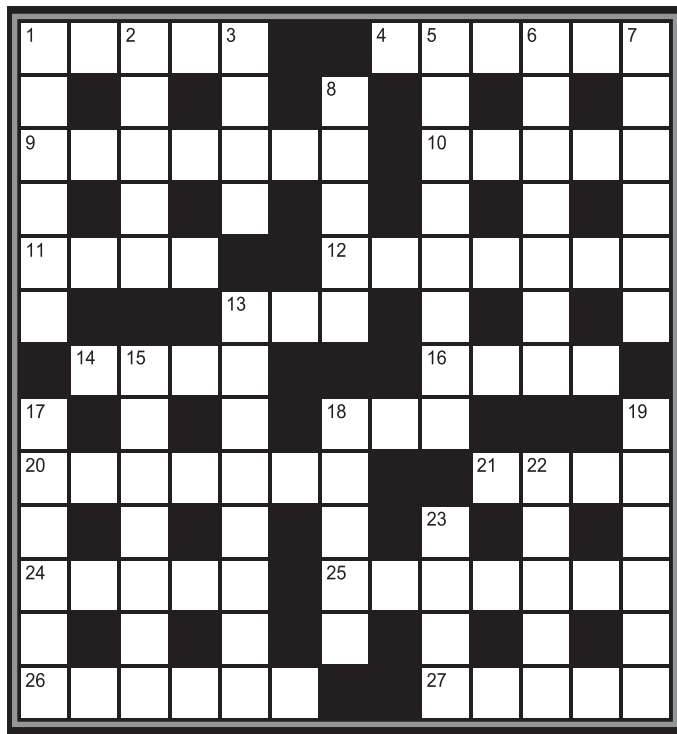
Cryptic

Across

- 1 After time the ceremony becomes commonplace (5)
- 4 Damages found around oriental women's quarters (6)
- 9 Lose hope when praised by mistake (7)
- 10 Hard to falsify ID (5)
- 11 Neckwear connections (4)
- 12 Eve rang about score (7)
- 13 Address that's somewhat undesirable (3)
- 14 Be against tuba coming back (4)
- 16 Bob's the head and Don's upset (4)
- 18 Mark is hiding in the torpedo tube (3)
- 20 Lack of sailor ruined scene (7)
- 21 I would have the French not working (4)
- 24 Part of a similar variety of grub (5)
- 25 Gland is real and damaged (7)
- 26 Cleaned up the fire residue within a day (6)
- 27 A political group get together (5)

Down

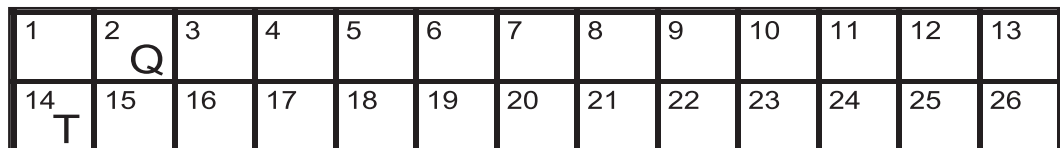
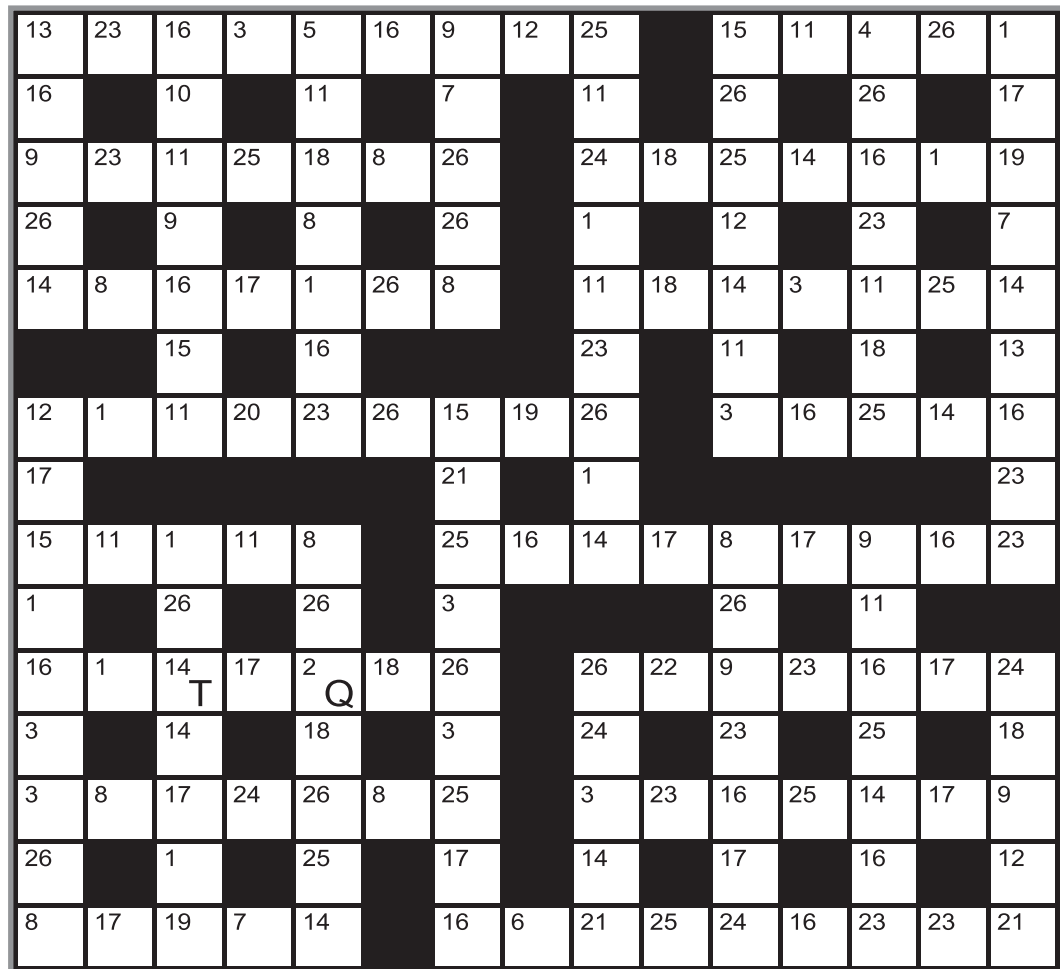
- 1 Up to now, Dorothy has come back and dined (2,4)
- 2 An edition for the children (5)
- 3 Biblical character in Roget's Thesaurus (4)
- 5 Proud of tarragon rum (8)
- 6 Part of UK named Glenda incorrectly (7)
- 7 Drenched lair is covered by grass (6)
- 8 Rider out to get less wet (5)
- 13 Goat seen running around, but that was a long time ago (5,3)
- 15 They write about street eateries (7)
- 17 Indulge in some Mountain Dew, all owned by me (6)
- 18 Hold up the Spanish about 24 hours (5)



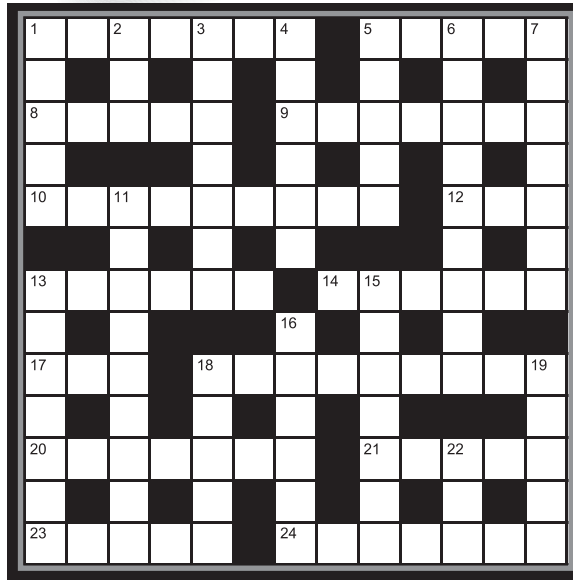
- 19 Show again what happened about the act (6)
- 22 Princess ran up to get foreign currency (5)
- 23 Stumble when making a journey (4)

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 2 represents Q and 14 represents T, so fill in Q every time the figure 2 appears and T every time the figure 14 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.

Code Breaker



Quick



Across

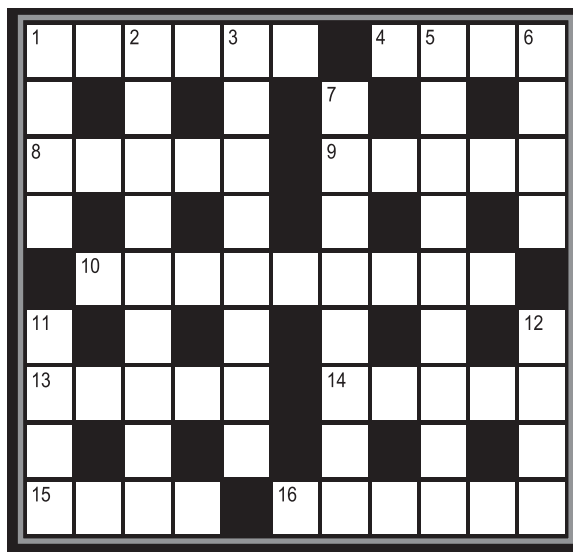
- 1 Marked by distress (7)
- 5 Treaties (5)
- 8 Take without the owner's consent (5)
- 9 Duplicate (7)
- 10 Day immediately before today (9)
- 12 Short sleep (3)
- 13 Pleasantly odd (6)
- 14 Come into view (6)
- 17 Large Australian flightless bird (3)
- 18 Inclined to drowsiness (9)
- 20 Request information about (7)
- 21 Not elaborate or elaborated (5)
- 23 Small, lightly-sweetened cake (6)
- 24 Liable to sudden unpredictable change (7)

Down

- 1 Overcrowded or cluttered with detail (5)
- 2 Chopping tool (3)
- 3 Large sailing vessel (7)
- 4 Speech of violent denunciation (6)
- 5 Young dog (5)
- 6 Customers collectively (9)
- 7 Flee (7)
- 11 Existing state of affairs (6,3)
- 13 Asks for information (7)
- 15 Succeed in material terms (7)
- 16 Block passage through (6)
- 18 Grab hold of (5)
- 19 Loose fitting garment (5)
- 22 Fitting (3)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Escalera de mano (6)
- 4 Trampa (para cazar) (4)
- 8 Manzana (fruta) (5)
- 9 Fright (sudden fear) (5)
- 10 Sillones (9)
- 13 Corteza (de pan) (5)
- 14 Tails (of birds, horses, fishes, planes) (5)
- 15 Obedecer (4)
- 16 Alcades (6)

Down

- 1 Mentiroso (4)
- 2 Partida (9)
- 3 Army (8)
- 5 Rake (9)
- 6 Pobre (persona, familia, barrio) (4)
- 7 Frost (8)
- 11 Eight (4)
- 12 Bears (animals) (4)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Telltale, 7 Stall, 8 Resonance, 9 Din, 10 Bath, 11 Pewits, 13 Sloped, 14 Natter, 17 Taiwan, 18 Digs, 20 Two, 22 Emigrated, 23 Trend, 24 Fallible.

Down:

- 1 Throb, 2 Lesotho, 3 Tang, 4 Linger, 5 Lauds, 6 Plunder, 7 Seminar, 12 Merited, 13 Statute, 15 Twin tub, 16 Manila, 17 Tower, 19 Sedge, 21 Oral.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Costume, 5 Screw, 8 Dispute, 9 Adapt, 10 Raise, 11 Precise, 12 Pallet, 14 Barges, 17 Nursery, 19 Press, 22 Arise, 23 Terminate, 24 Tasty, 25 Monster.

Down:

- 1 Cedar, 2 Sushi, 3 Ukulele, 4 Exempt, 5 Share, 6 Roaming, 7 Witness, 12 Pennant, 13 Lorries, 15 Aspirin, 16 System, 18 Every, 20 Evict, 21 Smear.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Manguera, 8 Niece, 9 Packs, 10 All, 11 Latas, 12 Encia, 13 Ida, 14 Since, 15 Droga, 16 Saturday.

Down:

- 2 Aceitunas, 3 Greasiest, 4 Empleado, 5 Alcachofa, 6 English, 7 Espadas.

CODE BREAKER



GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



THURSDAY - 19 JANUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

10:15am Rip Off Britain	8:30am Cash in the Attic	8:00pm World News Today	7:00am Countdown	9:15am Wisper
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	9:00am Caught Red Handed	8:30pm Today	7:45am King of Queens	9:25am Peppa Pig
12:00pm Wanted Down Under	9:30am Great British Menu	8:00pm <i>The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.</i>	8:10am King of Queens	9:50am Toot the Tiny
12:45pm Caught Red Handed	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	8:30pm Top of the Pops	8:35am King of Queens	10:00am Toby's Travelling Circus
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	9:00pm The Crusades: A Timewatch Guide	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:15am The Wright Stuff
2:00pm BBC News at One	1:00pm The Daily Politics	10:00pm Sword, Musket and Machine	10:30am Frasier	12:15pm Cowboy Builders and Bodge Jobs
2:30pm BBC London News	2:00pm Masters Snooker	11:00pm Churchill's First World War	11:00am Frasier	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
2:45pm Father Brown	6:00pm Coast	12:30am Rich Hall's Presidential Grudge Match	11:30am Ramsay's Kitchen	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
3:30pm Impossible	6:15pm Flog It!	1:00pm The Great Interior Design Challenge	12:30pm Four in a Bed	2:15pm Home and Away
4:15pm Escape to the Country	7:00pm Eggheads	1:30pm The Premier League Show	1:00pm Channel 4 News	2:45pm Neighbours
4:45pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys	8:30pm The Great Interior Design Challenge	1:05pm Four in a Bed	3:15pm NCIS
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Masters Snooker	9:00pm The Great Interior Design Challenge	1:35pm Four in a Bed	4:15pm Twisted Sisters
6:15pm Pointless	8:30pm The Premier League Show	10:00pm Horizon	2:10pm Four in a Bed	6:00pm 5 News at 5
7:00pm BBC News at Six	9:00pm The Great Interior Design Challenge	11:00pm Jack Dee's Inauguration Helpdesk	4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	6:30pm Neighbours
7:30pm BBC London News	10:00pm Horizon	11:30pm Newsnight	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	7:00pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	11:00pm Jack Dee's Inauguration Helpdesk	12:15am Masters Snooker Highlights	6:00pm Come Dine with Me	8:00pm Nightmare Tenants
8:30pm EastEnders	11:30pm Newsnight	2:00am Masters Snooker Extra	7:00pm The Simpsons	9:00pm Bargain Loving Brits in the Sun
9:00pm Spy in the Wild	12:15am Masters Snooker Highlights	3:00am Panorama	7:30pm Hollyoaks	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
10:00pm Death in Paradise	1:05am Masters Snooker Extra	3:35am Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster	8:00pm Channel 4 News	11:00pm Get Your Tatts
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	3:05am Panorama		9:00pm The Restoration Man	12:05am Out: Kavos Ink
11:30pm BBC London News	3:35am Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster		10:00pm Spies	1:00am Britain's Benefit Tenants
11:45pm Question Time			11:00pm 60 Days in Jail	
12:45am This Week			11:55pm 24 Hours in A and E	

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Good Morning Britain	9:00am Emmerdale	7:00am In Loving Memory	8:50am Quincy, M.E.	12:00pm Transfer Centre
9:30am Lorraine	9:30am Coronation Street	7:25am Heartbeat	9:50am The Professionals	12:30pm Barclays Premier League World
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show	10:00am You've Been Framed!	8:30am Where the Heart is	10:55am Ironside	1:00pm Premier League Legends
11:30am This Morning	10:35am Psych	9:30am The Royal	12:00pm Gunsmoke	2:00pm Barclays Premier League World
1:30pm Loose Women	11:25am Scorpion	10:35am Judge Judy	1:00pm Storage Wars New York	3:00pm Premier League Legends
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News	12:25pm Who's Doing the Dishes?	11:00am Judge Judy	1:30pm Storage Wars New York	4:00pm The Premier League Years
2:55pm ITV News London	1:25pm Emmerdale	11:30am Judge Judy	2:00pm Pawn Stars	6:00pm Premier League Legends
3:00pm Judge Rinder	1:55pm Coronation Street	11:55am A Touch of Frost	2:30pm Pawn Stars	7:00pm Barclays Premier League World
4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal	2:30pm You've Been Framed!	1:55pm Heartbeat	2:55pm Quincy, M.E.	8:00pm Premier League Legends
5:00pm Tipping Point	3:00pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	3:00pm The Royal	3:55pm Ironside	8:30pm River Monsters
6:00pm The Chase	3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	4:05pm Where the Heart is	5:00pm The Professionals	9:00pm The World is Not Enough
7:00pm ITV News London	4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:10pm In Loving Memory	6:00pm The Saint	11:05pm FYI Daily
7:30pm ITV Evening News	5:00pm Judge Rinder	5:50pm Rising Damp	7:05pm Storage Wars Texas	11:10pm The World is Not Enough
8:00pm Emmerdale	6:00pm You've Been Framed!	6:20pm George and Mildred	7:35pm Storage Wars Texas	12:40am Maximum Conviction
8:30pm President Trump	7:00pm You've Been Framed!	6:55pm Heartbeat	8:00pm Pawn Stars	1:40am Conviction
9:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm You've Been Framed!	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:30pm Pawn Stars	1:45am Maximum Conviction
9:30pm The Cruise	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	9:00pm Heartbeat	9:00pm River Monsters	2:45am Life of Ryan: Caretaker Manager
10:00pm Unforgotten	9:30pm Two and a Half Men	10:00pm Love and Marriage	10:00pm The World is Not Enough	
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm Get Him to the Greek	11:00pm Lewis	11:05pm FYI Daily	
11:30pm ITV News London	11:00pm FYI Daily	1:00am Wycliffe	11:10pm The World is Not Enough	
11:45pm The Late Debate	11:05pm Get Him to the Greek	2:05am The Knock	12:40am Maximum Conviction	
12:15am Piers Morgan's Life Stories	12:10am Family Guy	2:55am The Knock	1:40am Conviction	
1:10am Jackpot247	12:40am Family Guy	3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen	1:45am Maximum Conviction	

FRIDAY - 20 JANUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

12:45pm Caught Red Handed	7:00am Rip Off Britain	8:00pm World News Today	7:00am Countdown	10:15am The Wright Stuff
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	7:45am Wanted Down Under	8:30pm Top of the Pops	7:45am King of Queens	12:15pm Cowboy Builders and Bodge Jobs
2:00pm BBC News at One	8:30am Cash in the Attic	9:00pm The Good Old Days	8:10am King of Queens	1:10pm Lunchtime
2:30pm BBC London News	9:00am Caught Red Handed	<i>Leonard Sachs presents the old-time music hall programme, first broadcast on 10th March 1977.</i>	8:35am King of Queens	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
2:45pm Impossible	9:30am An Island Parish	10:00pm Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	2:15pm Home and Away
3:30pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	11:00pm Hello Quo	10:00am Frasier	2:45pm Neighbours
4:15pm Antiques Road Trip	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	12:20am Status Quo: Live and Acoustic	10:30am Frasier	3:20pm NCIS
5:00pm President Trump: The Inauguration	1:00pm The Daily Politics	2:00am Top of the Pops	11:30am Ramsay's Kitchen	4:20pm Abducted: The Jocelyn Shaker Story
7:00pm BBC News at Six	2:00pm Masters Snooker	3:00am Musical with Neil Brand	12:30pm Frasier	6:00pm 5 News at 5
7:30pm BBC London News	6:00pm Coast	4:20am This is BBC Four	1:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours
8:00pm The One Show	6:15pm Pointless	<i>BBC Four is the BBC channel for people who want more. More depth, more range, more to stimulate the mind.</i>	1:05pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away
8:30pm A Question of Sport	7:00pm Eggheads		3:10pm Countdown	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
9:00pm EastEnders	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys		4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	8:00pm Penguin A and E with Lorraine Kelly
9:30pm Room 101	8:00pm Masters Snooker		5:00pm A Place in the Sun	9:00pm Puppies Make You Laugh Out Loud 2
10:00pm EastEnders	9:00pm Mastermind		6:00pm Come Dine with Me	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
10:30pm Not Going Out	10:00pm World's Most Extraordinary Homes		7:00pm The Simpsons	11:00pm Lip Sync Battle UK
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm QI		7:30pm Hollyoaks	11:30pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:25pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight		8:00pm Channel 4 News	12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
11:35pm The Graham Norton Show	12:05am Masters Snooker Highlights		9:00pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast	
12:25am Uncle	12:55am Masters Snooker Extra		10:00pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	
	2:55am Thailand: Earth's Tropical Paradise		12:05am First Dates Hotel	
	3:55am Britain's Ancient Capital: Secrets of Orkney		1:05am Basic Instinct	
	4:55am This is BBC Two			

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

9:30am Lorraine	7:20am Who's Doing the Dishes?	7:00am In Loving Memory	7:00am Gunsmoke	11:00am Premier League Daily
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show	8:15am The Ellen DeGeneres Show	7:25am Heartbeat	7:55am The Saint	12:00pm Transfer Centre
11:30am This Morning	9:00am Emmerdale	8:25am Where the Heart is	8:50am Quincy, M.E.	12:30pm Premier League 100 Club
1:30pm Loose Women	9:30am Coronation Street	9:30am The Royal	9:50am The Professionals	1:00pm Barclays Premier League World
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News	10:00am You've Been Framed!	10:35am Judge Judy	10:55am Ironside	1:30pm Premier League Match Pack
2:55pm ITV News London	10:35am Psych	11:55am A Touch of Frost	12:00pm Gunsmoke	2:00pm Premier League 100 Club
3:00pm Judge Rinder	11:25am Scorpion	2:05pm Heartbeat	10:55am Storage Wars Texas	2:30pm One2eleven 2016/17
4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal	12:25pm Who's Doing the Dishes?	3:05pm The Royal	1:05pm Storage Wars Texas	3:00pm Premier League Legends
5:00pm President Trump: The Inauguration	1:25pm Emmerdale	4:10pm Where the Heart is	1:35pm Storage Wars Texas	4:00pm Barclays Premier League World
7:00pm ITV News London	1:55pm Emmerdale	5:20pm In Loving Memory	2:00pm Pawn Stars	4:30pm Premier League Match Pack
7:30pm ITV Evening News	2:30pm You've Been Framed!	5:50pm Rising Damp	2:30pm Pawn Stars	5:00pm Football Gold
8:00pm Emmerdale	3:00pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	6:20pm George and Mildred	3:00pm Quincy, M.E.	6:00pm Barclays Premier League Preview
8:30pm Coronation Street	3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	7:10pm Storage Wars Texas	4:00pm Ironside	6:30pm Premier League Legends
9:00pm Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury	4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	7:40pm Storage Wars Texas	4:00pm Heartbeat	7:00pm The Fantasy Football Club
9:30pm Coronation Street	6:00pm Judge Rinder	8:05pm Pawn Stars	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:00pm Football
10:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:00pm You've Been Framed!	8:35pm Pawn Stars	9:00pm Doc Martin	11:15pm Premier League Preview
11:00pm ITV News London	8:00pm You've Been Framed!	9:00pm Counting Cars	10:00pm A Touch of Frost	11:45pm The Fantasy Football Club
11:40pm Fishing Impossible	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	9:30pm Counting Cars	12:05am Blue Murder	12:45am Football Gold
12:10am The Wine Show	9:30pm Two and a Half Men	10:00pm Die Another Day	1:40am The Knock	
	10:00pm The 40 Year Old Virgin	11:00pm Die Another Day	2:35am Wycliffe	
		12:40am The Client	3:30am A Touch of Frost	
		1:50am FYI Daily	5:15am Rory Bremner's Great British Views	
		3:05am The Saint	<i>Rory Bremner is in Liverpool where he tries his hand at bell ringing in its famous cathedral.</i>	
		4:00am Teleshopping Shopping from home.		

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.

Selfie-absorbed zombies

Guest Columnist

Today: Trudy Stewart



IF Room 101 existed, one of the things I'd have to put in there is the 'selfie stick.' In a world where we are increasingly withdrawing from each other, we have added another obstacle by using a stick that, by its very design, creates a barrier between us and the world we're engaging with; ironically, to share our experiences and connect with others.

I must confess, I have never used one myself. There are several reasons for this but the main one is I'm a bit nervous about whatever it is that the stick transmits from your hand to the rest of your body.

From what I can see, for the duration of its use, you become temporarily deaf, partially blind and completely disconnected from the rest of the world

outside the border of your screen.

I live in a beautiful, white, mountain village which, naturally, attracts tourists in their droves. Having spent most of the summer cursing under my breath as yet another amateur 'documentary-maker' trod on my toes while

watching themselves walking up the street on their screen, I have spent the winter months perfecting a hybrid of dancing and assault course manoeuvres to navigate a course through the endless hordes of selfie stick zombies, shambling

along with their arms raised, oblivious to everything and everyone around them.

Of course there are occasions we want to capture forever on film and we have all taken snaps of the perfect sunset or our child's first day at school.

But, there are an increasing number of people who seem overwhelmed by what their boring, old eyes have to offer and prefer instead to view everything through the detached lens of their camera phone.

Back when we all just had cameras, a photo album was a common answer when asked 'What three things would you rescue from your burning house?'

Now, photo albums are digital, backed up and for the most part free to share with anyone you want. A double-edged sword that allows you to save your precious digital memories forever but also means that there is almost no limit to what can be uploaded and shared.

Did you watch any videos of your friends' children performing as shepherd number three in their school nativity play on social media over Christmas? If you see a friend has posted 130 photos to their 'Day out at Blenheim Palace' album, do you look through every photo? I know I don't. So why do we feel this need to document and share everything and who are we doing it for?

My friend, American comedian Keith Lowell Jensen, summed it up beautifully for me when he said, "What Orwell failed to see was that we'd go out and buy the cameras ourselves. And that our biggest fear would be that nobody is watching."

Let's assume they're not. Make 2017 the year we smash our sticks, give our full attention to each other and remember that some moments are just for us.



SELFIE STICKS: Create a barrier between us and the world we're engaging with.



Nostalgia sure ain't what it used to be!

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

THE tsunami of revivals and re-launches that hit TV late last year is hardly surprising given the country's Brexit blues and people craving comfort viewing – pure TV nostalgia. We had revivals of *Are You Being Served?*, *Porridge*, and one-off remakes of original episodes from three of the greatest sitcoms: *Steptoe And Son*, *Hancock's Half Hour* and *Till Death Us Do Part*. Some believe political correctness has killed off dark, alternative TV comedy shows like *Psychoville* and *The Office* by overanalysing it - we mustn't mock this or that. They claim most comedy IS based on laughing at others' misfortunes which is healthy, acting as a vent for life's stresses and frustrations. For many, the original versions of *Dad's Army*, *Open All*



TV REVIVALS: Viewing to comfort people with post-Brexit blues.

Hours and *Porridge* are 'real' people acting in character (not just a load of actors spouting so-called funny lines) - an era of performers working in front of audiences and feeding from them. Not the dull unblinking eye of a TV camera and

teleprompt for a script that is often nothing more than a string of obscenities in modern sitcoms.

It often seems nowadays as if TV is too lazy to bother with anything but four-letter words and lavatory humour, divorced of originality and

interest, relying on hackneyed programmes and repeats. Classic comedy used to hold up a mirror to society; now it just raises its middle finger.

However, the problem with any 'return' to a format (revivals, nos-

talgia TV) is that, like Andrew Lloyd Webber musicals, if the public becomes saturated with a product, they'll buy it. Give any new TV comedy show a long enough run (like *Morecambe and Wise* churned out every Christmas) and it becomes an institution (with Lloyd Webber, it's the coach parties).

No, what we really need in 2017 are better writers, better scripts and better sketches. TV worth watching again, then? That'd be a laugh.

Finally, a footnote about the UK's recent cold spell: sub-zero temperatures and arctic blasts from northern and central Europe are no longer good enough for us. Post-Brexit, our winters now come from Canada!

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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SATURDAY - 21 JANUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am Breakfast	7:30am Mary of Scotland	8:00pm Patagonia with Huw Edwards	7:20am King of Queens	7:15am Bob the Builder
11:00am Saturday Kitchen Live	9:30am I Know Where I'm Going	9:00pm Treasures of the Indus	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	7:25am Wanda and the Alien
12:30pm The Best Dishes Ever	11:00am Secret Britain	10:00pm Lost Kingdoms of Central America	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	7:35am Zack and Quack
1:00pm Football Focus	12:00pm Homes Under the Hammer	11:00pm The Young Montalbano	9:30am Frasier	7:45am Seaside Antics
2:00pm BBC News	1:00pm Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure	11:00pm Prequel series set in the early 1990s giving an insight into the private life and early crime-fighting career of the idiosyncratic Sicilian detective Inspector Montalbano.	10:00am Frasier	7:55am Fireman Sam
2:10pm Weather	2:00pm Talking Pictures	12:40am Top of the Pops	10:30am The Big Bang Theory	8:10am Pip Ahoy!
2:15pm Masters Snooker	2:30pm Bundle of Joy	1:15am Top of the Pops	10:55am The Big Bang Theory	8:30am Little Princess
5:30pm Final Score	4:05pm Tennis	1:55am Come Dine with Me	11:20am The Big Bang Theory	8:45am Paw Patrol
6:10pm BBC News	5:30pm Masters Snooker	2:25pm Come Dine with Me	11:50am The Simpsons	9:00am Big Bash Cricket Live
6:20pm Regional News	6:30pm Only Connect	3:30pm Come Dine with Me	12:20pm The Simpsons	12:35pm Escape to Victory
6:25pm Weather	7:00pm Pointless	4:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun Location, Location	12:50pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast	2:50pm Police Interceptors
6:30pm Who Dares Wins	8:00pm Snooker	5:15pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun Location, Location	1:55pm Come Dine with Me	3:20pm The Yorkshire Vet
7:10pm Let it Shine	8:00pm Snooker Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.	6:15pm Grand Designs	2:25pm Come Dine with Me	4:20pm The Yorkshire Vet
9:25pm Casualty	11:30pm Looper	7:10pm Channel 4 News	3:30pm Come Dine with Me	5:15pm The Yorkshire Vet
10:15pm Taboo	1:20am Snooker Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.	7:40pm Snow White and the Huntsman	4:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun Location, Location	6:15pm The Yorkshire Vet
11:10pm BBC News	3:20am This is BBC Two	10:00pm The Other Woman	5:15pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun Location, Location	7:15pm NCIS: Los Angeles
11:25pm Weather		12:10am The Watch	6:15pm NCIS: Los Angeles	8:05pm NCIS: Los Angeles
11:30pm Match of the Day			9:00pm 5 News	9:00pm NCIS: Los Angeles
12:55am The NFL Show			9:55pm Weekend	10:00pm Football on 5
1:25am Paycheck			10:00pm Football on 5	11:00pm Football on 5
3:15am Weather for the Week Ahead			11:30pm Celebrity Big Brother	12:35am Lip Sync Battle UK
3:20am BBC News				

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

10:25am ITV News	7:00am Emmerdale	7:00am Judge Judy	9:55am The Saint	7:00am Football Gold
10:30am Rebound	9:45am Coronation Street Omnibus	7:20am Murder, She Wrote	11:00am ITV Racing: The Opening Show	7:30am Football Gold
11:25am Guess This House	12:15pm Ninja Warrior	8:10am Murder, She Wrote	12:00pm Pawn Stars	8:00am Football's Greatest
12:25pm Judge Rinder	1:20pm Horrid Henry: The Movie	9:10am Murder, She Wrote	12:30pm Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	8:30am Football's Greatest
1:30pm ITV News and Weather	2:20pm FYI Daily	10:15am Columbo	1:30pm Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	9:00am Game Changers
1:35pm River Monsters	2:25pm Horrid Henry: The Movie	11:50am A Touch of Frost	1:35pm Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	9:30am Barclays Premier League Preview
2:05pm Big Stars Little Star	3:10pm Space Jam	1:50pm Lewis Wycliffe	2:20pm Barcelona's European Glory	10:00am The Fantasy Football Club
3:05pm Tipping Point	4:10pm FYI Daily	3:50pm Agatha Christie's Marple	2:30pm ITV Racing Live	11:00am Soccer A.M.
4:05pm The Chase	4:15pm Space Jam	5:00pm Midsomer Murders	5:00pm The Dam Busters	12:30pm Barclays Premier League Preview
5:05pm Dance Dance Dance	4:55pm Hotel Transylvania	9:00pm Doc Martin	6:05pm The Dam Busters	1:00pm Football
6:35pm Local News and Weather	5:55pm FYI Daily	9:00pm Comedy drama series about a top London surgeon who developed a phobia of blood.	7:35pm Pawn Stars	4:00pm Gillette Soccer Saturday
6:45pm ITV News and Weather	6:00pm Hotel Transylvania	10:00pm Midsomer Murders	8:00pm The Boxing Mavericks	6:15pm Football
7:00pm You've Been Framed!	6:45pm The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	12:00am Midsomer Murders	9:00pm The Big Fight Live	9:00pm EFL Goals
8:00pm Ninja Warrior UK	7:45pm FYI Daily	1:00am FYI Daily	12:00am Jaws	9:30pm Nissan Game of the Day
9:00pm The Voice UK	7:50pm The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	1:05am Jaws	1:00am Steven Spielberg's scary chiller about a coastal community plagued by a killer shark.	11:30pm Nissan Match Choice
10:30pm Through the Keyhole	10:00pm Hellboy II: The Golden Army	1:05am Steven Spielberg's scary chiller about a coastal community plagued by a killer shark.	2:35am Hell on Wheels	12:30am Info Not Available
11:30pm ITV News and Weather	11:00pm FYI Daily	3:30am Teleshopping	3:35am World Cup Top Goal Scorers	1:00am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
11:45pm I Am Legend	11:05pm Hellboy II: The Golden Army			1:30am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
1:30am Jackpot247	12:20am Family Guy			2:00am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
4:00am Who's Doing the Dishes?	1:20am Family Guy			2:30am Pl: Match TBA Highlights

SUNDAY - 22 JANUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am Breakfast	8:15am A to Z of TV Gardening	10:00pm Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster	7:15am King of Queens	9:25am Noddy in Toyland
8:35am Match of the Day	9:00am An Island Parish	10:30am The Titanic sank in April 1912, and her sister ship, the Britannic, ultimately suffered the fate, sinking in 1916 due to an explosion caused by an underwater mine.	7:45am King of Queens	9:40am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
10:00am The Andrew Marr Show	9:30am The Edible Garden	11:00pm Hidden Killers of the Post War Home	8:10am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:55am Shimmer and Shine
11:00am The Big Questions	10:00am Countryfile	12:00am Horizon	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:25am Peppa Pig
12:00pm Sunday Politics	11:00am Saturday Kitchen	1:00am Play it Loud: The Story of the Marshall Amp	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:45am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	12:30pm Talking Snooker	2:00am Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand	9:30am Frasier	10:55am The Fairly Odd Parents
2:00pm BBC News	1:15pm MOTD2 Extra	3:00am Lost Kingdoms of Central America	10:00am Frasier	11:13am The Fairly Odd Parents
2:10pm Week Ahead	4:15pm Escape to the Country	4:00am Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster	10:30am Frasier	11:30am Football on 5
2:15pm Homes Under the Hammer	5:15pm Lifestylife		1:30pm The Simpsons	12:20pm Football on 5
3:15pm Flog It!	5:25pm Songs of Praise		2:30pm Tooth Fairy	12:55pm Fail Army
4:15pm Escape to the Country	6:00pm Spy in the Wild		4:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun Location, Location	1:20pm Brides Make You Laugh Out Loud
5:15pm Lifestylife	7:00pm BBC News		6:20pm Channel 4 News	2:20pm Kangaroo Jack
5:25pm Songs of Praise	7:20pm Regional News		6:50pm The Day After Tomorrow	4:00pm George of the Jungle
6:00pm Spy in the Wild	7:25pm Weather		9:00pm Walking the Americas	5:45pm Herbie: Fully Loaded
7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Countryfile		10:00pm Homeland	7:30pm Dads Make You Laugh Out Loud
7:20pm Regional News	8:30pm Still Open All Hours		11:05pm Trainspotting The 90s: Ten Years	8:30pm The Adele Story
7:25pm Weather	9:00pm Call the Midwife		12:55am That Changed the World	9:55pm Weekend
7:30pm Countryfile	10:00pm Apple Tree Yard		2:20am How to Lose Weight Well	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
8:30pm Hours	11:00pm BBC News		3:15am Millionaires' Mansions	11:00pm Celebrity Botched Up Bodies
9:00pm Call the Midwife	11:20pm Regional News			12:05am Just Go with it
10:00pm Apple Tree Yard	11:25pm Weather			
11:00pm BBC News	11:30pm Match of the Day 2			
11:20pm Regional News	12:40am A Question of Sport			

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

7:00am CITV	7:00am You've Been Framed!	7:00am George and Mildred	7:00am Tommy Cooper	7:00am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
10:25am ITV News	7:20am Emmerdale	7:25am The Mirror	7:25am The Wine Show	7:30am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
10:30am Countrywise	10:05am Coronation Street Omnibus	8:25am FYI Daily	8:20am The Professionals	8:00am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
11:00am Peston on Sunday	12:30pm The Voice UK	8:30am The Mirror	9:15am The Professionals	8:30am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
12:00pm Gino's Italian	2:00pm Zawsome	9:35am Heartbeat	10:20am Counting Cars	8:30am Pl: Match TBA Highlights
Escape: Hidden Italy	2:05pm Zawsome	10:35am Heartbeat	10:45am Counting Cars	9:00am The Sunday Supplement
12:30pm Chopping Block	2:40pm Zawsome	11:40am Murder, She Wrote	11:10am Shed and Buried	10:30am Goals on Sunday
1:30pm ITV News and Weather	3:20pm Zawsome	12:40pm Murder, She Wrote	12:15pm Pawn Stars	10:30am Live Nissan Super Sunday
1:35pm Judge Rinder	3:40pm Looney Tunes: Back in Action	1:40pm Wycliffe	4:05pm Lawman	12:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
2:35pm Tipping Point	4:00pm Looney Tunes: Back in Action	1:40pm Sherlock Holmes: The Hound of the Baskervilles	5:05pm FYI Daily	3:00pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
3:35pm Ninja Warrior UK	5:05pm FYI Daily	5:00pm Agatha Christie's Marple	5:10pm Lawman	8:00pm Live NFL
4:35pm The Voice UK	5:10pm Looney Tunes: Back in Action	7:00pm Midsomer Murders	6:10pm The Man From the Alamo	8:30pm Live NFL
6:05pm Weather	5:45pm Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang	9:00pm This Time Next Year	7:10pm FYI Daily	5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
6:15pm ITV News and Weather	6:45pm FYI Daily	10:00pm Tonight at the London Palladium	7:15pm The Man From the Alamo	8:00pm Transfer Centre
6:30pm The Chase: Celebrity Special	6:50pm Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang	11:00pm Birds of a Feather	8:30pm Mr. Bean	8:30pm Live NFL
7:30pm Dance Dance Dance	7:55pm The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug	11:35pm Wimbledon	9:00pm Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach	3:30pm Pl Match Highlights
9:00pm Endeavour	8:55pm The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug	12:00am Wimbledon	10:10pm FYI Daily	4:00am Pl Match Highlights
11:00pm ITV News and Weather	9:00pm The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug	1:40am A Touch of Frost	10:15pm Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach	4:30am Pl Match Highlights
11:15pm Peston on Sunday	11:00pm Family Guy	2:15am FYI Daily	11:00pm The Bank Job	Chelsea host Hull City at Stamford Bridge in the Premier League.
12:15am The Cube	11:30pm Family Guy		12:00am FYI Daily	Goals on Sunday
1:15am Jackpot247	12:00am Family Guy		1:15am Road	
4:00am Who's Doing the Dishes?	12:30am Family Guy		2:15am FYI Daily	



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MONDAY - 23 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
3:15pm Father Brown	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	8:00pm World News Today	11:30am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
4:00pm Escape to the Country	1:00pm The Daily Politics	8:30pm Reel History of Britain	12:30pm Four in a Bed	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
4:45pm Royal Recipes	2:00pm Bowls	9:00pm The Engine That Powers the World	1:00pm Channel 4 News	2:15pm Home and Away
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	5:30pm Tennis	9:00pm <i>Timeshift.</i>	1:05pm Four in a Bed	2:45pm Neighbours
6:15pm Pointless	6:30pm Flog It!	10:00pm Scotland and the Klan	3:10pm Countdown	3:15pm NCIS
7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	10:00pm When God Spoke English	4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	4:15pm Too Close to Kill
7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys	11:00pm Genius of the Ancient World	5:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:00pm 5 News at 5
8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm An Island Parish	11:00pm How it Works	6:00pm Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours
8:30pm Inside Out	8:30pm University Challenge	1:00am When God Spoke English	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away
9:00pm EastEnders	9:00pm Winterwatch	2:00am David Starkey's Music and Monarchy	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
9:30pm Panorama	10:00pm Horizon	3:00am Powers the World <i>Timeshift.</i>	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm World's Biggest Beasts
10:00pm Silent Witness	11:00pm Insert Name Here		9:00pm Dispatches	9:00pm Police Interceptors
11:00pm BBC News	11:30pm Newsnight		9:30pm Food Unwrapped	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:30pm Regional News	12:10am Weather		10:00pm The Undateables	11:00pm My Mum's Hotter Than Me!
11:40pm Weather	12:15am Hospital		11:00pm First Dates Hotel	
11:45pm Class	1:15am Bowls		12:05am Tattoo Fixers	
12:30am Class				

TUESDAY - 24 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	8:30pm Reel History of Britain	1:00pm Channel 4 News	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
2:00pm BBC News	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	9:00pm Atlantis: The Evidence	1:05pm Four in a Bed	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
2:30pm Regional News	1:00pm The Daily Politics	10:00pm Britain Beneath Your Feet	2:10pm Four in a Bed	2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Doctors	2:00pm Bowls	11:00pm Britain's Nuclear Secrets: Inside Sellafield	2:40pm Four in a Bed	2:45pm Neighbours
3:15pm Father Brown	5:30pm Tennis	12:00am Can Eating Insects Save the World?	3:10pm Countdown	3:15pm NCIS: Los Angeles
4:00pm Escape to the Country	6:30pm Flog It!	1:00am Picasso: Love, Sex and Art	4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	3:15pm Stolen Child
4:45pm Royal Recipes	7:00pm Eggheads	2:00am Tales of Winter: The Art of Snow and Ice	4:15pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	4:15pm 5 News at 5
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys	3:30am Britain Beneath Your Feet	5:00pm Come Dine with Me	6:00pm Neighbours
6:15pm Pointless	8:00pm Where Your Mouth Is		6:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Home and Away
7:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Winterwatch		7:00pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm 5 News Tonight
7:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Our Dancing Town		8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	11:00pm Revolting Newsnight		9:00pm How to Lose Weight Well	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
8:30pm EastEnders	11:30pm Newsnight		10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	7:30pm Info Not Available
9:00pm Holby City	12:10am Weather		11:00pm Case 39	7:30pm Info Not Available
10:00pm Silent Witness	12:15am NFL			9:00pm Info Not Available
11:00pm BBC News				10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:30pm Regional News				11:00pm Celebrity 100% Hotter!
11:40pm Weather				12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

WEDNESDAY - 25 JANUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
7:00am Breakfast	7:00am Wanted Down Under	8:00pm World News Today	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	8:50am Paw Patrol
10:15am Rip Off Britain	7:45am Royal Recipes	8:30pm Reel History of Britain	9:30am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:00am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	8:30am Cash in the Attic	9:00pm Horizon	10:00am Frasier	9:15am Wisper
12:00pm Wanted Down Under	9:00am Caught Red Handed	10:00pm Alan Bennett's Diaries	10:30am Frasier	9:25am Scorpion
12:45pm Caught Red Handed	9:30am Caught Red Handed	11:00pm The Eichmann Show	11:00am Frasier	9:50am Toot the Tiny Tugboat
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	<i>Drama about the televising of the trial of one of the key figures of the Nazi regime Adolf Eichmann.</i>	11:30am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	10:00am Toby's Travelling Circus
2:00pm BBC News	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live		12:30pm Four in a Bed	10:15am The Wright Stuff
2:30pm Regional News	12:30pm The Daily Politics		1:00pm Channel 4 News	12:15pm Cowboy Builders
2:45pm Doctors	2:00pm Lifeline		1:05pm Four in a Bed	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
3:15pm Father Brown	2:10pm Bowls		1:35pm Four in a Bed	1:15pm Celebrity Big Brother
4:00pm Escape to the Country	5:45pm Tennis	12:30am Rich Hall's California Stars	2:10pm Four in a Bed	2:15pm Home and Away
4:45pm Royal Recipes	6:30pm Flog It!	<i>The story of the Indian sub-continent told through the treasures that have shaped the modern Indian world.</i>	2:40pm Four in a Bed	2:45pm Neighbours
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	7:00pm Eggheads		3:10pm Countdown	3:15pm NCIS: Los Angeles
6:15pm Pointless	7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys		4:00pm A New Life in the Sun	4:15pm My Husband is Missing
7:00pm BBC News	8:00pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is		5:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:00pm 5 News at 5
7:30pm Regional News	9:00pm Winterwatch		6:00pm Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours
8:00pm The One Show	10:00pm Hospital		7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away
9:00pm Who Do You Think You Are?	11:00pm Common Sense		7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
10:00pm BBC News	11:30pm Newsnight		8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm The Concorde Air Disaster
11:00pm BBC News	12:10am Weather		9:00pm Location, Location, Location	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
11:30pm Regional News	12:15am Dragons' Den		10:00pm No Offence	10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:40pm Weather	1:15am Bowls		11:00pm Women Who Kill	

|| 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

Motorhomes - can they park or camp?

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.



OPENING SKYLIGHTS: Is not an activity that falls into the category of camping.

DEBATES often arise about where motorhomes and camper vans can park. Whilst many town halls have introduced their own legislation, the law is quite clear and in Spain it states that motorhomes and campers are not allowed to 'camp' on the street.

However, what defines 'camping' and what is a vehicle which is simply 'parked'?

The law states that if certain actions are performed, the vehicle is considered to be camping and should do so in an authorised place. These include emitting noise, such as using a generator; extending sun blinds and shades; vehicle stabilisers deployed; emptying or dis-

posing of fluids; using exterior furniture and side or 'swing' windows opened.

There are activities that can be performed whilst stopped which do not fall into the category of camping: occupants being inside the vehicle eating or sleeping; opening the skylight or rooftop window; using wheel chocks on an incline and turning the wheels so they are secured against the kerb.

If the vehicle is correctly and legally parked, these activities can be carried out and will not be classed as camping. Motorhomes have a legal right to park anywhere other vehicles are allowed to as long as not 'camping.'

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

Can they renew residence?

Q. IN 2006 we went to Alicante and applied for the old style ID card 'residencia.' Of course they were only valid for five years and in 2011 we were unsure about staying in Spain so we let it lapse. Now we have decided to stay so we need to renew. Can we just exchange the old card for the new paper type or do we need to go through the whole process again? If so, what documents do we need?

CA (Costa Blanca)

A. NO, you cannot exchange your expired permit for a new residence document. You must make a new application.

As EU citizens, you will get the paper document of Certificate of Residence of EU Citizen in Spain. As of

David Searl
You and the Law in Spain

2012, the requirements have been stiffened. You will need to show proof of income, either by having a job or being

self-employed, and show that you are registered for Social Security payments. You will need proof of medical insurance as well.

If you are a pensioner with the right to transfer your medical care to Spain, this should be sufficient.

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

It's not my dog that's howling

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



I GOT an email recently from Bryan and it's about a subject I've had a problem with myself. It concerns the owners of dogs that leave them at home all day on their own. Now, if they left them indoors it wouldn't be a problem, but in our case and Bryan's too, we live in an apartment and these dog owners leave them on the terrace and the poor pooches don't like it, so they decide to let everyone know they don't. The way they do this is by crying and wailing or barking.

Now, this is not the dog's fault. It is the selfish owner and to compound the problem the owner, when told about the problem, declares no, their dog is as good as gold and wouldn't disturb anybody. 'Err, yes it does.' 'No it doesn't.' So what do you do about it?

Well in our case we taped the dog crying and then played it back to its owner so she didn't have an argument or so we thought. She then said what did we want her to do? She had to go out to work all day and didn't get home until late in the evening. Whilst we appreciate she had to work, the community couldn't put up with the distressing noise and it most certainly was not fair on the dog.

Eventually the lady moved so the problem went, but it can be terrible and in Bryan's case he doesn't seem to be getting any help from the police which is pretty strange because all you should have to do is get a few of you and go and denounce the offender. So I wish him good luck.

I quite often get asked how I manage to write these grumpy columns every week. Well I tell you it's actually easy to do. You know why? It's because I have reached an age where I am allowed to be peed off by the things that used to not bother me because I had more important things to do, like earn a living and feed the kids. Now all I have is time and the trouble with doing nothing is you don't know when you have finished.

So my day consists of me deciding what bit of nothing I should do next. It can take me an hour to get dressed because I can't stand for more than a few seconds so I have stop and sit all the time. But once I'm up and out and getting on with my non-busy days there are always situations which raise the grump levels! I've been getting some great emails regarding things that make other people grumpy. A lot of them are in the form of poems which is actually very clever, so please keep them coming. If you see me out and about stop and say hello. It's nice when that happens to be honest and it stops me being grumpy. Email me mikesenker@gmail.com.



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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

Online voting is real democracy

IMAGINE my disappointment on reading your report on online voting. It was just another way of keeping the same representative system, of choosing which tribe to argue with each other and strut around Westminster. In a digital world we have the opportunity to really democratise politics.

We can be voting for policies, politicians should become the executive that carries out our demands.

This direct democracy would give me the chance to vote for no renewal of Trident, a very expensive policy. It might well be that most voted to keep it, but I could live with that. It would be the choice of the people.

I would want to vote for full people-owned NHS. Again perhaps most people would want public-private partnerships. That again would be their choice. At least I had had my say.

There is actually little difference between the Tory options that you rush off to vote for and even less when they are in power. I don't care which tribe of clowns carries out our directions. Transition would be difficult. Many people are still not online. Perhaps they would still have to visit a polling station to fill in their policy choices. It would not have to happen in one day only. I think more people would take part. They would be much closer to making a difference.

Julian Turner, Malaga

Transport appeal

WE sent a letter to be published in February 2014 regarding the trenet service to Denia. We suggested that a spur could be considered to provide a stop beside the Marina Alta Hospital near La Xara.

Unfortunately there appeared to be no interest. Once again, this week, we had an appointment at the hospital and saw how beneficial a stop could be there. Parking spaces are limited and side roads are choked with vehicles. Anyone without a car has to rely on friends/family, or pay for a taxi.

Using the bus from Denia station to and from the hospital is not an ideal alternative.

We note that there appears to be money available to re-route the tracks on the outskirts of Benidorm



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

RESCUE CENTRES: Are struggling to get dogs adopted into forever homes.

Dog lovers need info

I HAVE just read in your newspaper regarding 3,000 dumped dogs and rescue centres struggling to get sufficient dogs adopted into forever homes. My husband and I spend the winters in Spain. We have always had dogs who travelled with us. After losing our last Yorkie we began looking in Spain for a little dog as we felt lost without one. We now have a female Yorkie from a centre near Malaga who has been with us three years. The resident vet there helped with all the formal documents and she happily travels with us between the UK and Spain.

However we feel that not enough publicity is given to make more people aware of the problem, also definitely

not enough is done to advertise events such as one recently where dogs for adoption were on display and stalls were available to purchase items or give a donation. It took us two hours to find where it was located.

We only found out about it from a notice in Spanish on a tree trunk in Benalmadena. We mentioned this to a Spanish gentleman running a stall and he said that was probably why they hadn't had a good turnout. We noticed we were the only English people there. I have asked around amongst dog loving expats who confirm they had not known of events until after they happened.

Barbara Nicholas

to make a stop beside the bus station. We consider this a very sensible move since buses and taxis provide a better service there than the main Benidorm station. (We regularly use the trenet from Teulada.)

It would be really encouraging if someone in authority would consider our proposal at the present time while the track is being upgraded on this stretch.

The stop beside the Marina Baixa hospital, south of Benidorm, is extremely convenient and well used. A stop to serve the Marina Alta would surely be as well used, and encourage people to 'leave the car at home and use public transport.'

Lorna Ross

Much missed

GRAHAM TAYLOR was probably not as popular as he should have been with the average England fan. But his heart was in the right place.

There was no doubt about that. I well remember listening to him as a pundit on a Saturday on Radio 5. I also remember him talking about FIFA and its cash-in-a-paper-bag culture, cash that he refused.

My condolences to his family. He will be much missed as a character in the game and applauding his

memory at every ground in the UK is a fitting tribute.

David P, email.

Snow flakes

I HAVE friends from northern Europe who laugh at me when they hear that back in the UK we are struggling with a bit of snow. I have to admit they are right and that's the annoying thing. If you have it all the time you can put resources into preparing for it. But we don't seem to do that in the UK.

Also I find it embarrassing to see all the coverage in the media. My friends laugh at too - it's as if the world was

going to end. If it is bad then it's bad, but keep a bit of perspective.

Dave, Benalmadena

False impression

LEAPY, is your plaintive cry about 'slings and arrows' at the end of your latest item (*issue 1645, January 12 - 18*) merely a response to the two letters entitled 'Leapy Logic' and 'Bitter Taste'?

The two letters mentioned above serve to contrast your narrow, unbalanced views on President Obama with your obvious hero-worship of President-elect Trump - a deeply flawed man by most standards of common sense. Now you make sweeping comments on the causes of racism, based on one dreadful assault on a man with educational needs. You falsely call the four perpetrators 'care workers.'

This is very mysterious when they were actually drug and alcohol fuelled thugs holding him hostage! There was never any suggestion they might be his care workers. Where do you get your news from? The Trump Foundation? Your emphasis on their skin-colour has nothing to do with it. Their live-streaming of the abuse to millions of people on social media was the REAL reason for the size of the public response!

You would have done better to focus your wrath on the darker aspects of social media when mixed with drugs, alcohol and violence than to use it as an excuse for ill thought through comments on racism - of much lesser importance in this case. Sometimes skin-colour is a factor, Leapy, sometimes not. Picking out this particular angle over all the others creates at best a false impression about racism and at worst provokes unjustified hatred of black people in general. By doing so, you fuel racism yourself. What a surprise!

Brian Eagleson, Mojacar

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.

Readers who have missed earlier correspondence can see all letters posted on: www.euoweeklynews.com

Sugar is causing a dental crisis amongst youngsters in the UK

SUGAR. The deadly sin that some experts say can be just as addictive as smoking or drugs. Whether you are indulging in sweets and cakes, or are falling victim to hidden sugars found in cereals and sauces, many of us are having too much of it and children are particularly at risk.

Figures in the UK say more and more children are having to be admitted to hospital to have rotten teeth taken out with sugar being blamed.

A report said nearly 41,000 youngsters had teeth taken out in hospital in 2015/16, some 11 per cent more than four years ago. These operations were carried out at a cost of around £35.6 million.

The chairman of the British Dental Association, said the millions spent on child tooth extractions in hospitals was emblematic of the government's disinterest in oral health and more must be done to prevent



ROTTEN TEETH: Some experts say sugar can be just as addictive as smoking or drugs.

tooth decay. It is hoped the government's sugar tax will go some way to cutting the sugar consumption that leads to tooth decay.

Public Health England recently warned children consume half their daily recommended sugar intake even before they go to school with many having almost three teaspoons of sugar at breakfast time with cereals often being the cause of high amounts of sugar.

The government recommends youngsters aged four to six have no more than 19g, or five teaspoons of sugar a day and seven to 10-year-olds should consume no more than 24g, around six teaspoons.

Sugary soft drinks should also be limited as children aged 11-18 get 40 per cent of their added sugars from drinks. UK youngsters are amongst the biggest consumers of soft drinks in Europe with 40 per cent of 11-15 year-olds drinking them daily.

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Brits aren't top of the charts for their drinking

BRITS have a reputation for liking a drink or two, but Britain is not the booziest nation and in fact, ranked

number 17 in the world according to a study.

Vouchercloud.com used data from the World Health Organisation relating to 2010 to 2015 to plot the world map charting alcohol consumption and listed Moldova, Belarus and Lithuania as being the highest drinking nations in the world. Moldovans drink an average of 17.4 litres of pure alcohol per year per person, followed by 17.1 litres in Belarus and 16.2 in Lithuania.

The UK ranked 17th consuming an average of 11.6 litres per person per year which is the equivalent of around 119 bottles of wine or 408 pints of lager. Spain was listed at number 33 with 10.6 litres.

Australians were named as the 10th most excessive drinkers whilst the United States doesn't even make the top 20, coming in at number 49.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION:
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Advertorial

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Rutger Diergaarde, the owner of the Nerja based physiotherapy clinic "Fisioterapia Holandesa" invested in just this grand opportunity, to treat people pain free and get improved results, with the innovative new system called Physium.

Physium applies a mechanical force on the body through negative pressure. The suction cups are manually held and pressure or tension may be applied by the therapist to create a specific effect.

This treatment form is based on the ancient Chinese cupping method, but where Chinese cupping often leaves marks and bruises, Physium does not. Physium also allows the therapist to change several parameters, like the pressure used, and the speed with which the pressure is applied



and released.

The Physium treatment improves blood circulation, mitochondria energy, lymph draining and connective tissue mobility. This makes the treatment very effective on especially chronic problems, where compen-

sations in postures play an important negative role. It is extremely effective in releasing pain, tension and related problems due to (keloid) scars and internal adhesions of the connective tissue.

The range of possibilities for treatment

has broadened since using Physium, says Rutger. "There are strong indications that even patients with problems in the stomach area may be helped. One patient has even mentioned that the agonising pain caused by a stomach ulcer has disappeared," he says. This could open up new treatment possibilities for lots of people who would normally not ask the help of a physiotherapist.

Not just patients but also athletes are greatly helped by Physium treatments, either by prepping the body before a race or training or after for recuperation. The muscles and joints are kept in better physical condition, more relaxed and more capable to withstand the overall trainings, which of course leads to better results.

Interested readers may contact Rutger or his colleague Elena for more information, at Fisioterapia Holandesa, in Calle Antonio Ferrandis "Chanquete" 16, Nerja, or call 952 526 881.



Ask The Doctor

Brought to you by



Constant back pain

What are the most common causes of back pain?



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

BACK pain can be caused by many different things, but some of the most common causes are inflammation of muscles and tendons or damage to vertebra caused by an injury, prolonged bad posture or lifting excess weight for example. It can also sometimes be caused by inflammation of internal organs such as the kidneys, intestines, liver, etc.

• Many people say their doctor tells them to buy a new mattress when they have back pain. Why?

Mattresses are very important for joint and muscle health, including the lower back area, and to get a good night's sleep. A mattress which is too hard or too soft can be harmful as they can force the spine into a position which puts stress on muscles and vertebra.

• If it turns out not to be the mattress, what can we do to avoid back pain?

There are lots of things that can be done to improve back pain. While the pain is at its worst we should rest, avoid forced postures or lifting heavy items, take anti-inflammatories and muscle relaxers if necessary and see a physiotherapist.

• Can back pain be a sign of a serious problem that requires surgery?

Sometimes back pain, es-

pecially if it lasts a long time, can be a symptom of serious spinal problems occasionally requiring surgery to solve the problem.

• What's the best way to ease the pain? Do I need to take medication?

The best way to ease the pain is to rest, avoid putting strain on the back and applying heat to the affected area. If this doesn't improve matters there are anti-inflammatory creams, pain killers and muscle relaxers which will all help.

• Is there any type of exercise to prevent back pain and spinal problems?

Moderate daily exercise such as walking or swimming combined with specific exercises to strengthen back muscles, avoiding being overweight and avoiding adopting unnatural positions or lifting heavy weights are the best ways to prevent back problems.

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

Stay married to help prevent broken bones

COULD being married help prevent broken bones? Researchers in Spain believe it could. They carried out a study and reported that elderly men were 50 per cent less likely to fracture a hip if they are married, while elderly married women cut their risk by 30 per cent. They believe the reason behind this could be that elderly people who live with their partners are more likely to care for each other and are less likely to be malnourished or depressed,

making them less frail.

Previous studies have also shown that those with dementia were more likely to suffer a fall.

“Those who live with their partners are more likely to care for each other.”

The original study was carried out by the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the University of Zaragoza in Spain and analysed the medical and psychiatric histories of around 4,800 adults over the age of 55 in Zaragoza.

ELDERLY PEOPLE: Are less likely to be malnourished or depressed.



Conjoined twins die too soon

CONJOINED twins who made the headlines recently have tragically passed away before any treatment could be conducted.

It is believed that they shared all of their major internal organs, but had their own heads and brains.

The hospital in Mexico where they were born confirmed they had passed away, but said the mother was in good health.

Siamese, or conjoined twins, occur in around one in 100,000 pregnancies. Around 40 to 60 per cent of conjoined twins are stillborn, and around 35 per cent survive for just a day.

“Around 40 to 60 per cent of conjoined twins are stillborn.”



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MANU SANCHEZ: The Sevilla-born actor and comedian.

A JAZZ concert is taking place in Nerja this Saturday, January 21 at the Hotel Plaza Cavana, from 8pm.

The concert features 'Manouche jazz,' the French name for gypsy jazz, which became popular in France in the 1930s and is often attributed to guitarist Jean 'Django' Reinhardt.

The concert will feature a trio: Luz Prado on the violin, Fali Martinez on the guitar and Juan Baca on the double bass.

Tickets are priced at €10 for a stool and €12 for an armchair. Reservations can be made by calling 690 073 871 or via the website www.ventana-abierta.es.

The play, 'The Last Saint,' by Sevilla-born actor and comedian Manu Sanchez, will be performed on February 10 and 11. This

will take place in Teatro del Carmen de Vélez Málaga.

Tickets went on sale on Wednesday, January 18, priced €15. They can be bought from the Palacio de Beniel de Velez Malaga by contacting 952 507 401. Alternatively they can also be bought from the Tourist Office in Torre del Mar by contacting 952 541 104.

The Last Saint debuted in October 2015 and depicts a dystopia in which god has forsaken mankind for its corruption and selfishness and the world can only be saved by the last saint.

The actor's play 'The Lone King: My Kingdom for a Pot,' met with great success nationally, touring Spain and reaching a figure of around 70,000 theatre-goers.

Manu Sanchez is working with the same production team, Sixteen Steps, for his latest project, and he has stated they intend "to question, through sarcasm and irreverent comedy, the problems that most concern today's society." Sanchez added that "humour allows us to analyse reality in a safe forum, to speak truths unobtrusively, but at the same time, without disturbing the viewer."

Looking towards the summer, Torre del Mar's popular Weekend Beach Festival is back for another year.

The festival will run from July 5 to 8 and will feature some exciting acts from The Prodigy to Spanish groups such as Nada Surf.

The music event attracts young people from all over Axarquia who camp out on the beach and enjoy the music on offer.

Last year, Torre del Mar Town Hall announced that the festival had attracted between €2.5 to €3 million in revenue for the area and enticed around 33,000 visitors to the event each day.

Tickets for the festival cost from €40 and can be bought online by visiting the website www.weekendbeach.es.

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MasterChef talents

with Garry Waite

As a semi-frequent watcher of food programmes such as MasterChef I do still get impressed with some of the contestants.

Even after having spent a life time watching and promoting good food, I step back in awe at some of the talent that now exists, especially considering I came from that traditional school of classic food, but have spent my life living and encouraging, modern creative food. The last programme I watched was last year's Professional Master Chef. I was firstly impressed by the young female contestants. (not being sexist!!) They were young, talented and competitive, a great tribute to the kitchens in which they have been trained and those that trained them.

► **THE WINNER** of MasterChef 2016 was Gary Maclean a 45-year-old Chef/Lecturer in Glasgow. Now, I worked in Glasgow in the early 70's and I can assure you there were no Chefs like Gary around, even in four star hotels in which I was working!

As we all know, there is that age old expression 'those that can't do - teach!!' But let me tell you this did not apply to this guy. His creativity, work ethic and conduct were beyond reproach. He kept his cool and dignity throughout what was a very pressurised competition. Congratulations to him and all the others that took part. As Marcus Waring (holder of two Michelin Stars) said, "Gary soaked up every little bit of this competition. He's lived the Master Chef dream. He's a major talent, he's grown incredibly well, and he's a gentleman of the kitchen."

Wait until he returns to his college - the teacher is not just a teacher anymore, he will be a true inspiration!

► **BUT**, and hence the purpose of this introduction, I am watching junior MasterChef America. Now we all know how confident (and precocious) the Americans can be, especially the kids!! However it has been eye opening to see kids from the age of nine preparing and presenting dishes of such a high standard. From many walks and areas of life some of these kids are amazing.

Once such young aspiring cook (the series call them 'home cooks?') when asked how often he cooked, informed head judge Gordon Ramsay that he cooked breakfast, lunch and dinner for his family every day!! The saddest thing is when they are eliminated (it is after all a competition!) everyone becomes very emotional, even (this one) the viewer!!



Gary Maclean: Won MasterChef 2016.

Oscar Jefferson: Reached semi-final.

► **THEN** we have another four foot culinary star in Oscar Jefferson. At eight years of age he reached the semi final of the Spanish version of the super MasterChef franchise. But he broke down in tears when his attempt to recreate his Grandfather Michael Jefferson's traditional British comfort food of Fish and Chips fell short of the mark. Oscar (the name Jefferson was used in the programme to avoid confusion with the Spanish name of Oscar) was comforted by one of the female judges. He got the cooking of the fish wrong, spilt his tartare sauce and ran out of time. The Spanish public fell in love with him and he has done more to cement the special Spanish/ British relationship than most.

The inconsolable Oscar was re-assured by his grandfather (who came over from the UK to surprise him) not to worry as it is only cooking, not life and death!! Something our Michelin star chefs should learn!! Although I know how they feel!!! But as always there is a bonus. The young aspiring ended up on ITV's Good Morning

with Phil Schofield and Holly Willoughby with old colleague Phil Vickery - showing how to cook Fish and Chips!! By the way Phil, use beer rather than fizzy water - makes it special!!

► **WATCHING** these programmes takes me back to my beginnings. Over the years I have often been asked where my interest in food began. I used to reply that when I was 14 and was looking for a holiday job, my Mother suggested that I try and find a job in a hotel, as I apparently loved helping my parents with dinner parties and stuff!

I did just that, and as a kid started working at the iconic (at the time) Grand Spa Hotel in Clifton, Bristol. But over the years, I realised that for some unknown - and never to be determined - reason I actually used to get up early (6.00am) at my boarding school in Exeter, Devon and go down into the kitchen to help the Headmaster's wife prepare 70 breakfasts for an array of spotty seven to 13 year olds!

Haute Cuisine and fine dining it certainly wasn't! But memories still abound (my grandmother made me a white 'chef's jacket') and I remember cutting toast listening to BBC's morning radio 4!! (highly exiting for a 10-year-old!) Maybe the American kids aren't the only precocious ones!!

► **A GOOD FRIEND** of mine, who writes an exceptionally interesting and informative wine and gastronomy column for another local newspaper, and I, have had a long running discussion about the oft over used expression 'Michelin Star Chef.' He, correctly in some ways, claims that there is no such thing as a Michelin Starred Chef!! He has reason in his argument, but! - Although the much coveted star (or stars) is awarded to the establishment, it is because of the endeavours of the Chef and his team.

Any establishment that is a recipient acknowledges that without the Chef they could not have achieved the acco-

I AM reminded of the quote from the great British Chef and holder of three Michelin Stars, Marco Pierre White. When he was being interviewed by a young foodie journalist, while he was chopping onions, the young scribe asked 'does chopping onions make you cry?' he replied.....

“My dear girl, the only time a Michelin Star Chef cries is when he loses his star - or gains another.”

lude: The fact of the matter is the award is given to the establishment (and it's Chef) because if the Chef leaves, then the Star is suspended and the new Chef has to earn the kudos anew! When said departing Chef leaves for pastures new he takes with him ONLY his reputation as a Michelin starred chef and he, like his previous establishment, has to prove in his new operation, that he is worthy of his ranking!

► **I HAVE KNOWN** and worked with a few 'Michelin Starred Chefs,' one of them tragically passed away at the age of 59 in 2015. Chris Oakes was one of the nicest guys you could hope to meet.

A great Chef, and a real gent in the kitchen too. He gained a star at the Castle Hotel in Taunton, UK and then left to open his own business OAKES of STROUD (Gloucester, UK). In the first year he gained his first Michelin star for that establishment. The following year he gained his second. That became the straw that broke the camel's back.

As anyone who lives/lived in that area knows it was not, at the time, the centre of gastronomic excellence and it proved too much to sustain for the young talented chef who ended up selling his restaurant and getting divorced at the same time! A bi-product of the pressures of our profession. I had not seen Chris since leaving the UK in 1986 and was so pleased that I managed to catch up with him during his first visit to Marbella and have lunch together at Funky Tapas in the year of his passing. He had spent the last few years as Executive Chef at Trinity College Cambridge. He along with many other colleagues is sadly missed.

On that note, I will bid you farewell until next week and should aspiring restaurateurs need some help, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A toast to Good Food, Good Wine and Good friends.

Garry Waite is a well-known foodie and restaurateur as well as a Hospitality Management Consultant. If you are contemplating setting up an operation in Spain, or indeed having problems with an existing project contact him on garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com.

Fabulous news on all fronts

By Matthew Elliott

LAST year was a spectacular one for Spain's booming hotel industry as the residential property market shed the last relics of recession. Total investment in Spanish hotels reached an astronomical €2.15 billion in 2016, the second highest year of the decade after 2015.

International investors interested in new and ever more luxurious hotel complexes across Spain are behind the financing surge. Four and five-star hotels are specifically desirable for foreign companies which are expected to in-

crease their Spanish investment portfolios in 2017.

On the residential property front the number of so-called 'unsellable homes' is rapidly dwindling. These are homes

“ The total number of homes sold in 2016 rose by over a quarter.”

that were built during the boom years pre-2007 and have been incredibly difficult to sell off since, due to the recession but also often their location and style.

Yet from a peak of 650,000 unsaleable homes in 2009, there are now just over 300,000. In 2016 the number fell by 20 per cent and that feat is expected to be repeated this year.

Huge swathes of the country, particularly around the Costas, now no longer have any unsellable homes, while they once seemed destined to be permanently inked on the landscape.

The good news comes as the total number of homes sold in 2016 rose by over a quarter to around 445,000. The volume is expected to top the magic half million mark this year.

FOREIGN COMPANIES: Are expected to increase their Spanish investment portfolios in 2017.



THRIVING CITIES: Barcelona and Madrid are benefiting from the golden visa scheme.

Catalonia gold rush

IT took a while to gather pace but in 2016 the Spanish government's golden visa scheme finally took off, celebrated with a flourish of Chinese second-home buyers.

The number of Chinese citizens investing in Spanish property rose by 75 per cent last year, contributing €469 million to the state in 666 real estate transactions by November.

In the first 10 months of 2016, the government raked in over €1.7 billion from non-EU foreign nationals eager to invest at least €500,000 in Spanish properties in exchange for a permanent visa.

The Chinese, who largely favour Barcelona and Madrid, topped the contribution list ahead of the Russians who

ploughed in €480 million, chiefly along the Costas.

Barcelona's property market in particular is flourishing under the golden visa scheme. Foreign buyers now account for over 15 per cent of the market, with the Chinese outspending British and French investors to claim top spot.

Wealthy Chinese are drawn to Spain for a variety of factors. Climate, major cities, standard of living and visa-free travel across Europe are hugely important.

A key reason, however, is the value for money that Spain represents. Similar visa schemes are offered in other European countries but none offer quite the same combination of pricing, stability and investment prospects that Spain can.

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Success for retirees

TWO pensioners who bought a holiday home in Galicia have won a spectacular legal battle against its demolition. The retired Spanish couple in their 70's took their case all the way to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

The court ruled that the planned demolition was illegal as it had violated the owners' right to a fair trial under Article 6 of the Convention. Judges ordered the Spanish government to pay each of them €1,000 in compensation and return the €33,466 they'd forked out in taxes and fees.

The couple had bought the apartment in Sanxenxo on the beautiful Galician coast in 2001 and visited frequently from Madrid. In 2002 a neighbour filed a complaint that the construction was in fact illegal due to planning permission issues.

Demolition procedures were

slowly put in motion but, astonishingly, the couple were never informed, with only the developer being made aware of the

“ The court ruled that the planned demolition was illegal.”

issue. The retirees enjoyed their seaside retreat for another seven years, blissfully unaware of the looming demolition.

Given just weeks notice, they launched an appeal, and fortunately found sympathy among the Strasbourg judges, albeit almost eight years later.

A new record set

PREDICTIONS that 2017 will mark the beginning of the end for skyrocketing UK house prices didn't stop a new all-time high being set in December. Average house prices rose by almost £4,000 (£4,600) in the last month of the year, the highest monthly increase since the Brexit vote.

The average British home finished the year valued at £222,484 (£256,848), marking an annual rise of 6.5 per cent, down on 2015 but still a markedly strong performance. The biggest increases were seen in greater London with Luton and Dagenham clocking average prices almost 20 per cent higher than

in December 2015.

Experts still expect the momentum to slow down this year, with prices anticipated to increase a more modest 1 to 4 per cent as economy slows and spending power diminishes.

One looming difficulty is the continuing divergence of property prices and wage increases. Prices are going up at roughly five times the rate of average earnings, an untenable situation that will soon contribute to reduced buyer demand.

Tenants face the same problem with average rents even outside of uber expensive London now reaching £750 (£865) per month.

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Garden water features are a Spanish tradition

By Graeme Tyrrell

WATER features in a garden landscape have been a treasured element since ancient times.

The oldest known landscape design discovered in an Egyptian tomb dated circa 1400 BC, included ponds as water features.

Water features add an ambience of tranquillity, fluidity and contrast to hard landscaping as well as a variety of practical uses.

Initially the ponds were for water storage, allowing easy access to water for use in the house, irrigation for the garden, a water source for animals, fish ponds and a refreshing way to cool off.

Ponds, fountains and water channels have been an integrated part of Spanish landscape gardens for centuries.

The influence of the Persian, Roman, Moors, British and European Renaissance and Baroque gardens are all apparent in Spain.

Most traditional water features in Spain tend to be formal in design rather than a replica nature design, such as in Japanese gardens.

The influence of the early church decorating fonts or springs as holy basins and sacred grottos has added to the formality of water design features in Spain.

Today a garden design is not complete without a water feature of some kind. Other than for water use in the house, water features can serve similar purposes to ancient days.

Swimming pools are included in gardens all over Spain and serve not only as a place to swim but also as a water feature in the garden when well-placed and

designed.

Natural filtration swimming pools with aquatic plants are gaining popularity in some gardens.

Water can be added from the natural rainfall when channelled into the pool and overflow directed into the garden or water storage for the garden.

Adding a pond to the garden allows inclusion of a water garden with a range of aquatic plants to add variety to the soil based plants.

A pond provides water to attract frogs, dragonflies, terrapins, birds and can be the garden's cooling element in summer. Creating waterfalls and placing fountains also gives the relaxing sound of water movement.

Home organising hacks

THERE are plenty of tricks and hacks which can help turn a chaotic, disorganised home into an oasis of calm and tidiness. If one of your New Year's resolutions was to get organised this year, these tips can help you get off to a good start.

- Twice the space: Wardrobes apparently crammed to overflowing can be quickly improved by using ring-pulls from drinks cans to dou-

ble capacity. Simply hang the pull from the handle of one coat hanger and loop the handle of another through the bottom ring.

- If you don't use it, lose it: Books you've read and won't read again, old phones, clothes you never wear... stop hoarding and get rid of the lot! There are plenty of charities which would be grateful for your discards.

- That knife drawer: there are two questions you need to ask yourself, to decide whether to keep or bin all the knives and gadgets lurking at the back. Has it been more than a month since you

used it? Do you have something else that works better? If you answer yes to both, it's time to get rid of it.

- Orderly laundry: Rolling towels up instead of folding them will make it easier to remove one from the cupboard without creasing or dragging out the rest. Sheet sets can be easily kept together by folding and storing each inside one of its pillow cases.

These are just a few little areas which can be quickly and easily organised. If you embrace the attitude and sort out one little bit at a time, within a few weeks you too can have the organised, tidy home you want.



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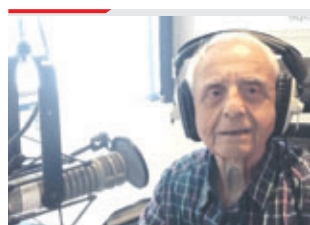
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Personal protection dogs as pets



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MANY people are under the impression that a correctly trained personal protection dog is no different to a security dog, guard dog or stereotypical scarpard dog, this could not be further from the truth.

A well-trained personal protection dog should be of a bold and confident nature, sociable and accepting of people that pose no threat to its owner, owner's family or property.

This dog should have the ability to accompany its owner to the office, out in the car, shopping, or even on a boat. In all of these situations the dog should remain stable, alert and obedient, as a personal protection dog's first role should be that of a well-

“It is vital to ensure dogs trained and supplied to families are right for them.”

mannered obedient pet.

The dog should have been well socialised prior to training and should have been trained in a variety of venues and different situations, slowly learning what will be expected of it in its future role, as a pet, companion and protector.

Once a dog has been matched to its new owner, specific training in different environments can be tailored for that particular dog to fulfill a client's exact requirements.

In America, the term K9 bodyguard is sometimes used to describe a personal protection dog and I have also seen them described as 24/7 security with fur, however I always refer to them as my dog, my pet, my friend, my protector, as they are pets first and foremost.

Over the years I have trained and supplied many protection dogs to people from all walks of life. Some people not originally understanding the benefits of owning such a dog and others

who through bad experience of crime, sometimes violent, felt a need for increased personal security.

Many of the dogs that I was (I am now retired) able to supply and train were sold to families with children thus dispelling another myth that trained dogs and children cannot be mixed.

It is essential to advise clients as to what type of dog would be suitable for their requirements and to try and match a trained dog with the right family or individual. It is vital to ensure that dogs trained and supplied to families are the right dog for them, their family and their lifestyle.

Once the match is made, training the future owner and their family how to correctly handle their new dog so they are able to communicate the correct commands and are shown how to work the dog in different ways and in varying situations, is essential.

This training is as important as the initial training received by the dog and should never be skipped as it is a valuable time for the early bonding to occur and if mistakes are made by the new handler, they are made whilst under supervision and can be quickly rectified.

Owner of rescued cats prefers pet-sitting in their own home

A NUMBER of the members of HouseSit-Match, whether they are home pet owners or house-sitters, tell us how they are moved by the plight of stray cats and dogs left to scavenge in the streets of southern Spain.

More times than I would care to count, I have been asked to find sympathetic and experienced house and pet-sitters who would be willing to care for such pets, rescued from the alleys and byways and now living in the homes of these caring pet owners. The animals are given a safe and comfortable shelter, they are fed and cared for. Once they are fit and have recovered from their ailments the animals are rehomed.

Teresa is one such pet owner. Apart from her own five cats (most of which she rescued and rehabilitated) she continues to collect abandoned cats and with the help of the local vets and her own family she nurses them back to health and then finds caring homes for them.

Naturally she prefers to keep the animals at home when she travels away from home. The cats are beginning to find stability and strength, staying at home where they are comfortable helps them to build trust in humans. We find house and pet-sitters for Teresa and other pet owners like her. Perhaps we can help you?



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What's in a name

CHOOSING a name for a new pet is an important decision, especially in the case of dogs as you are likely to have to yell it in public quite often for many years to come!

As with human names, fashions change and trends seem to influence choices. An American pet-sitter and dog walker website, Rover.com, has come up

with a list of the most popular dog names in 2016 and surprisingly six of them coincide with the year's top

baby names!

For male dogs, the firm favourite was Max, followed in order by Charlie, Buddy, Cooper and Jack while for females the top choices were Bella, Lucy, Daisy, Lola and Luna.

The study also revealed that pop culture influences 53 per cent of all dog owners and three quarters of millennials when it comes to choosing a name. References to X-Files, Pokemon Go, Harry Potter and Game of Thrones all increased in popularity over the year.

Food and drink also continue to inspire, yet snacks and alcohol (Taffy, Twix, Brandy and Whisky) seemed far more popular than healthy choices of the past such as Peaches for some reason.



PET NAMES: Are an important decision.

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**Clarkson
Quote of the Week**

“On the Porsche Cayenne: ‘Honestly I’ve seen more attractive gangrenous wounds than this. It has the sex appeal of a camel with gingivitis.’” *Some might say...*



Motoring shorts

Detroit’s motor show

AMERICA’S Motor City kicked off the 2017 motoring year with its hotly anticipated motor show. Hundreds of thousands of people attended to see the fastest, weirdest, most innovative cars set to hit the market this year.

Generating the most buzz was Volkswagen’s camper-van concept aptly named the I.D. Buzz. The electric, autonomous van replicates the iconic 60’s microbus but is clearly just a concept at this stage.

What will be on sale this year is the new Volkswagen Tiguan Allspace and a spectacular new Lexus LS with a hydrogen fuel-cell option that was perhaps the show’s most dramatic entrance.

Mercedes brought their new AMG GT C with a top speed of 197mph, while Porsche doubled down on its 911 with a GTS version boasting a seven-speed manual option.

British car awards 2017

By *Matthew Elliott*

THE UK Car of the Year awards are almost in, with winners just announced in every category and the overall winner to be declared in February. Decided by 27 top British motoring journalists, the awards give a valuable industry insight into what’s hot and what’s not.

Best luxury car was the Rolls

Royce Dawn, a decadently opulent convertible version of the Wraith Coupe. Best coupe award went to the Porsche 718 Cayman, which may soon overtake even the esteemed 911.

Porsche hit a double with its 718 Boxster named best sports car, now boasting a flat-four turbo engine. But Mercedes managed the double too. It’s

two-door S-Class Cabriolet won best cabriolet, while the E-Class was awarded best executive car courtesy of its sleek design and unparalleled interior technology.

27

top British motoring journalists decided the award winners.

Other standouts were the Jaguar F-Pace which won best large crossover and the Volvo V90, awarded best estate car as the Swedish manufacturer sets its sights on the luxury market.

Considered the favourite to steal the overall best car of the year award is the impressive new Ford Focus RS. The 2017 model was launched to rave reviews and won best performance car outright.

BEST COUPE: The Porsche 718 Cayman.



Sunshine of your love

A FERRARI F40 formerly owned by rock and blues legend Eric Clapton has gone up for sale with London luxury car specialists GVE. The 1991 model with under 7,000 miles on the clock was bought by Clapton in 2000, sold three years later, and is now priced at £925,000 (€1,01 million).

1,311

units only were produced of the 40th anniversary F40 Ferrari.

The F40 is considered an all time Ferrari classic, an acclaimed 40th anniversary celebration and the last car personally presented by Enzo Ferrari himself.

Clapton’s car was one of just 1,311 produced and boasts a 2936cc engine with a top speed of just over 200mph.

The former Cream singer was an obsessive Ferrari

collector. He owned a 275 GTS, a custom-built SP12 EC, and a 250 GT Lusso.

The love affair began in the late 60’s when George Harrison arrived at Clapton’s home in style, brandishing a dark blue 356 GTC. Clapton didn’t even have a driving licence but instantly ordered one for the ‘princely sum of four grand’ according to his autobiography.

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Impressive wins for Arsenal, Spurs and Everton and Johanna Konta

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 Turis.

Costa de Almería

Looking ahead:

WE'RE now deep into the sixth month of the 2016-17 season and checking the various league tables, I feel that there will be tight finishes in at least eight of them - the Premiership (despite Chelsea's current advantage), the Championship, Leagues 1 and 2, the National League and in the top flights in France, Germany and Italy. Celtic are well clear in the SPL, Hibs, Livingston and

Forfar all look strong in the other three Scottish Divisions and Real Madrid seem to be in control of La Liga.

The African Cup of Nations is now underway and ties this week include Cameroon v Guinea Bissau, Congo DR v Morocco, hosts Gabon v Burkina Faso, Ghana v Uganda, Mali v Egypt and Senegal v Zimbabwe.

Several FA Cup third round replays took place on Tuesday and last night, among them non-Leaguers Sutton United at AFC Wimbledon and Lincoln City v Ipswich, plus Burnley v Sunderland, Crystal Palace v Bolton, Newcastle v Birmingham, Plymouth v Liverpool and Southampton v Norwich.

The top Premier-ship games

on Saturday feature Liverpool versus Swansea (who last Saturday afternoon crashed 4-0 at home to Arsenal)... Manchester City (who were battered 4-0 by Everton five days ago) versus Spurs (fresh from a 4-0 home win over WBA courtesy of Harry Kane's hat-trick)... and Stoke against Manchester United who's eight-match winning run came to an end last Sunday against the Reds from Anfield). Twenty-four hours later, it's Arsenal against Burnley... Chelsea versus Hull City... and Southampton against inconsistent Leicester City, who crashed 3-0 at home to Antonio Conte's team last Saturday.

Second-placed Brighton play Sheffield Wednesday in the Championship tomorrow night and on Saturday/Sunday it's two of the league's founder members Aston Villa v PNE... a Yorkshire showdown between Barnsley and Leeds... Derby County

v Reading... Huddersfield v Ipswich... leaders Newcastle United v Rotherham... out-of-form Norwich City v Wolves... and QPR versus Fulham in a London derby.

North of the border, non-leaguers Bonnyrigg Rose and Formantine United will be aiming to cause upsets in the Scottish Cup fourth round against Hibs and Partick Thistle respectively, likewise Albion Rovers against Celtic.

We have the second legs of the League Cup semi-finals next week with Liverpool (a goal down) playing Southampton on Wednesday January 26 and Manchester United (2-0 up) visiting Hull 24 hours later. Wembley stages the final on February 26.

Kevin Nolan has taken charge at Notts County, the club's 50th managerial change in 50 years; Justin Edinburgh is Northampton's new boss, John Sheridan is back as Oldham's manager and Chris

Humphries has moved in at Chesterfield.

Round up:

The Australian Open tennis championships are underway in Melbourne where GB have high hopes with Sir Andy Murray and Johanna Konta who last week warmed up by lifting the Sydney International trophy with victory over Agnieszka Radwanska. Dan Evans (singles) and Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares (doubles) lost in their respective finals.

Rugby Union's European Cup continues this weekend with Montpellier v Northampton tomorrow; Leicester v Glasgow, Munster v Racing 92, Saracens v Toulonnaise and Ulster v Bordeaux on Saturday and Zebre v Wasps, Sunday.

Former football manager of Lincoln, Watford, Aston Villa, Wolves and England, Graham Taylor (aged 72) and jockey Brian Fletcher (69), three-time Grand National winner, twice

on Red Rum, both sadly died last week. RIP.

GB Olympic gymnast Nile Wilson has injured himself in a freak fall off the parallel bars.

Sam Sunderland has become the first Brit to win the Dakar Car Rally.

Justin Thomas (USA) posted the lowest 36-hole score in PGA history when carding a 123 in Hawaii. He then equalled the world record for 54 holes (188).

The first one day cricket international between India and England ended in a three wicket win for the hosts (356-7 against 350-6) before 52,000 spectators in Pune's MCA stadium. The second game took place in Cuttack this morning and the third is in Kolkata on Sunday. Two T20 games follow on January 26/29.

Holder Ronnie O'Sullivan (after a scare in the opening round) is favourite to win a record seventh UK Masters snooker title which is underway at London's Ally Pally.

ARSENAL ON FIRE:
As they thrashed
Swansea 4-0.



CRISTIANO RONALDO is the 'REAL DEAL'

By Tony Matthews

EARLIER this month, the former Manchester United and current Real Madrid and Portuguese international forward Cristiano Ronaldo, became the first recipient of the FIFA World Player of the Year award... adding this accolade to the Ballon d'Or prize he won at the end of last year. In fact, the irresistible goal-machine has now won the prestigious Ballon d'Or a record four times, having previously collected the coveted trophy in 2008, 2013 and 2014 - the most by any European player.

Now regarded as being one of the greatest marksmen in football history, as at January 17, 2017 Ronaldo had netted a staggering 595 goals in 873 games for club, country (U15, U17, U20, U21 and senior levels) and FIFA, including 382 in just 369 appearances for Spanish giants Real Madrid.

Ronaldo, who has already been named as the best Portuguese player of all time by his country's Football Federation, is the only player to win four European Golden Shoe (boot) awards.

He is without doubt one of the most marketable athletes in world sport. In 2016 *Forbes* named Ronaldo as the world's best paid athlete and in June 2016, ESPN ranked him as the world's most famous athlete.

Born Cristiano Ronaldo dos Santos Aveiro on February 5, 1985 in Santo Antonio, Funchal, Madeira, he was an amateur with CF Andorinho and Nacional, eventually starting his professional career with Sporting Club Portugal before transferring to Manchester United at age 18 in 2003.

In his first season in England, he helped the Reds win the FA Cup (2004) before starring for United as they clinched three successive Premier League titles (2007-09), won the UEFA Champions League (2008) and also the FIFA Club World Cup.

At the age 23, he had already received Ballon d'Or and FIFA World Player of the Year nominations before becoming the world's most expensive footballer when he moved from Old Trafford to Real Madrid in the summer of 2009 for €94 million (£81.52 million).

With Real here in Spain, he has since won La Liga, two Copas

del Rey, two Champions League titles and two Club World Cups... and suspects there will more trophies coming to the Bernabeu in the not too distant future!

Ronaldo, who holds the record for most goals scored in a single UEFA Champions League season, 17 in the 2013-14 season, also became the fastest player to score 200 goals in La Liga when he reached that magic milestone in 2014, which he achieved in only his 178th appearance in the competition.

The only player in the history of football (worldwide) to net 50 or more goals in a season on six consecutive occasions, in 2015, Ronaldo became the all-time top marksman in the Champions League. He also became Real Madrid's all-time leading goalscorer, but perhaps not surprisingly he is currently the second highest scorer in La Liga history behind Argentina's Lionel Messi, his perceived career rival.

On the international front, Ronaldo made his senior debut for Portugal in August 2003, at the age of 18 and right now he is his country's most capped player of all time with 136 under his belt and also the top scorer with 68 goals to his credit. He has participated in seven major tournaments - four UEFA European Championships (2004, 2008, 2012 and 2016) and three FIFA World Cups (2006, 2010 and 2014) - and, of course, captained Portugal to victory in last season's European Championship, having taken over the skipper's armband in July 2008.

He led his country into the semi-finals at Euro 2012, finishing as joint-top scorer, and in November 2014, he became the all-time top scorer in the UEFA European Championship (including qualifying rounds) with an overall total of 23 goals.

At Euro 2016, he became the most capped player of all-time in the tournament. The first player to score at four consecutive European Championship finals he also equalled Frenchman Michel Platini's all-time record for most goals scored in the competition.



DID YOU KNOW?

THIS is what an unnamed Chinese football club has offered Chelsea's Diego Costa:

- £30m a year salary
- £2.5m a month
- £576,900 a week
- £82,191 a day
- £3,424 an hour
- £57 a minute
- 95p a second

Players on higher wages: Carlos Tevez (Shanghai Shenhua) and Cristiano Ronaldo (Real Madrid) both earn £31.98m a year and Lionel Messi (Barcelona) is paid £34.95m per annum.





"With this policy change we are helpless," said Chinese billionaire club owner Shu Yuhui, responding to the new only three foreigners ruling.

Axarquía's best guide to local sport

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Golf International Nerja Society

THE club's Championship is now underway, with the first two rounds already complete and the final to come on January 25. Club member Barry Alford also bagged an Eagle on the very difficult par 4 1st hole at Baviera, so well done to him!

Friday January 6 - individual Stableford

It was a very busy day at Los Moriscos, the course was busy, not only with GINS members but many Spanish taking advantage of the 'puente,' Friday being a public holiday. The cafeteria was heaving and the noise deafening, so it was not surprising that the early starters left. Most groups took five

hours or more to complete their round, understandably. Apart from that there were some excellent scores. Mac Farman is back playing well after his knee operation and Pat Lowe is on a roll; didn't she do well, not only picking up first lady but also outright winner of the two's.

Men

1st Mac Farman H c p 1 7 36pts
2nd Tony Downey Hcp11 33pts
3rd Graham Francis Hcp27 33pts
4th Brian Wiggins Hcp19 32pts
5th John Vertanness Hcp19 31pts

6th Brian Downey Hcp15 31pts

Ladies

1st Pat Lowe Hcp27 34pts
2nd Gill Green Hcp20 33pts
3rd Daryl Paver Hcp31 32pts
Two's
Pat Lowe 3

Monday January 9 - GINS Championship qualifier individual Stableford

Normality descended on Añoreta after the holiday disruptions. The club welcomed vice captain John C and new member David Fox. David was impressed by John's 2, saying it went in "like a rat down a drainpipe."

Lolina also got a 2 on the difficult 9th so, with last week's rollover, they shared €40.

This week's winners could be said to be steady rather than spectacular but, with Franck's 36 points including three 'blobs' he was a worthy winner. Bien jouez, Franck! Gill Green, playing off a very respectable

20, kept up her recent good form and will take some beating in the Ladies Final.

Overall winner ladies

Gill Green 35pts

Overall winner men

Franck Stein 36pts

Ladies

1st Francoise Stein 34pts
2nd Lola Monteros Fuentes 34pts
3rd Jill Parker 30pts

Men

1st Pete Thompson 35pts
2nd Dietmar Stec 34pts
3rd Peter Garner 33pts
4th Stewart Green 32pts

Two's

Lolina Canete 9,
John Conlan 9

Tuesday January 10 - GINS Championship qualifier individual Stableford

The predicted change of weather came to Baviera golf course sooner than expected for the 42 players that took part in the GINS Club Championship Qualifying Round. The cool

temperature and gusty north-westerly wind troubled everyone, and the scoring reflected how difficult the course was playing.

Everyone had to battle hard to keep their game together, with only a handful managing to break the 30 point barrier.

Barry Alford must have thought he was in with a sniff of winning when his eagle 2 at the 1st hole got him out of the blocks very quickly. However, someone must have loosened the wheels of his golf trolley from thereon in, as he finished way down the pecking order with a mid-20's total.

Judy Howard and Ray Craig were the only other players who managed to make a birdie 2 (both at the short 8th hole) during their rounds.

In the Ladies Division, the leading qualifier was Jill Parker with 28 points, which proved good enough to win by two points ahead of Jackie Viles and PJ Bentley-Ennis.

In the Men's Division, the leading qualifier was Ian Fraser, whose 32 points just edged out Alan Jones, Mike Frayne and Ray Craig by one point.

Ian Fraser, Alan Jones and Jill Parker will join the other winners from the respective GINS qualifying competitions this week at Añoreta and Los Moriscos to compete in the Final to be held at Las Gabias Golf Club, Granada, on January 25. Good luck all of them on the day!

Overall winner ladies

Jill Parker 28pts

Ladies

2nd Jackie Viles 26pts
3rd PJ Bentley-Ennis 26pts

Overall winner men

Ian Fraser 32pts

Men

1st Alan Jones 31pts
2nd Mike Frayne 31pts
3rd Ray Craig 31pts

Two's

Barry Alford Eagle on 1,
Judy Howard 8 and Ray Craig 8.

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