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Robbery boss arrested in raid

Gang carried out 50 attacks and thefts

By Simon Firth

The head of a criminal gang suspected of carrying out a string of violent robberies has been arrested.

Five men alleged to be members of the group had already been captured but the man thought to have masterminded their attacks had eluded detectives.

He was eventually picked up in an operation which police believe could clear up at least 50 offences, ranging from violent robbery to the theft of cars.

Petrol stations, bars and

other commercial premises had been targeted by the gang who range in age from 34 down to just 16.

The robberies and attacks started in September last year in the Elda and Petrer areas.

Police said the first two members of the gang were picked on December 21 after stealing a car.

After a surveillance operation, this led to the arrest of the third member.

Searches at the homes of all three men led them to focus on two brothers in the town of Villena.

After another monitoring

operation, both men were arrested on December 27.

The final piece of the jigsaw was carried out when police arrested the man in charge of the gang.

So far more than 40 different crimes have already been cleared up, according to police.

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Wondering
how to save
on your overseas
money transfers?
The secret is revealed on page 41

LOCAL NEWS

Fraudster foiled

A MAN has been arrested for defrauding €50,000 from a Belgian woman intending to buy land in Pinoso. The suspect hacked into her lawyer's email system, allowing him to follow

their conversations and dupe her into paying the money into his personal bank account. Slight differences in the domain name were not spotted by the victim.

Fire starter

A YOUNG Spanish man was arrested on suspicion of burglary and arson at a Yecla home after he stole goods and then lit a fire to cover his tracks. Neighbours had to be evacuated as the flames quickly spread, and it later emerged that the arsonist had drenched the property in flammable liquids before setting it ablaze.

Shoring up

EL PINET beach in Elche will have a new access point for people with mobility problems. Lifeguard and emergency services will also be extended by an hour in the high season under

the proposed improvements. Safety is also a chief concern. If the changes are approved, El Pinet will have seven lifeguard posts opening from 10am until 9pm during the summer months.

Beaches budget

THE Valencian environmental ministry has set aside €1.2 million of its 2017 budget for reparation of damages to the region's beaches caused by December's violent storms. In Alicante, an intensive clean-up operation will be undertaken, with lost sand replaced and broken infrastructure such as the retaining wall that supports the footpath on La Mata beach in Torrevieja fixed.

A game of drones



DRONES: Will take high definition photos.

By Matt Ford

DRONES hovering across the southern Costa Blanca will target undeclared home extensions as the government battles deviant property owners. The scheme launched in 2013 has now been expanded to cover more areas than ever before.

Almost every municipality, town and village in the region will be affected. The drones, small unpowered planes using advanced technology to take high

definition photos, will cover millions of homes in the coming months.

It is part of a nationwide effort to tackle property owners believed to be thwarting the taxman by not declaring major home extensions or renovations that add significant value to their land.

Swimming pools, balconies, terraces,

g ar - dens, store rooms and sheds are all considered fair game by the authorities. The drones will take photographic evidence of the undeclared extensions and charge homeowners a 'regularisation' fee of €60. Heavier fines may follow if other violations are found.

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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!!

INDEX

» News 1 - 36

» Featured News 3

» Our View 6

» Finance 39 - 44

» Stocks 40

» Leapy Lee 45

» Daily TV 46, 48, 50, 52,

54, 56, 58

» Letters 60

» Time Out 62 - 63

» Health & Beauty 65 - 67

» Social Scene 68 - 71

» Property 72 - 74

» Homes & Gardens 75

» Pets 76

» Services 78 - 82

» Classifieds 83 - 85

» Motoring 86

» Sport 87 - 88

International Tourism Fair focuses on Madrid

By Simon Firth

REPRESENTATIVES from almost every Spanish region, city and many towns, are in Madrid for this year's International Tourism Fair (Fitur).

On until January 22 at the Feria de Madrid, this year sees a special emphasis on sustainable tourism.

Alicante is represented in Pavillion 7 and has organised a performance by the rapper Arkano - otherwise known as computer engineering student Guillermo Rodríguez - to help showcase their stand.

This is the market place to be seen in and where all those working in tourism can meet up with like-minded professionals in the trade.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the annual event, now in its 37th year, but they are restricted to Saturday and Sunday.

A fair of this size not only brings together all those working in the industry, but also acts as a showcase for new services, new technologies and the latest trends.



ANNUAL EVENT: This year will see a special emphasis on sustainable tourism.

For Madrid alone, the fair represents potential revenue of more than €200 million, according to the organisers, UNWTO.

They also point 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 and sustaining growth in this sector.

Homeless shelter from the storm

HOMELESS people in Torrevieja are being given shelter at the Cecilio Gallego Sports Pavillion. The council announced the plans in anticipation of the current cold and wet spell.

It is the first time the

Costa Blanca town has organised such a charitable effort. Authorities will work hand in hand with emergency services and local charities, including the Red Cross and food banks to provide tolerable conditions

for rough sleepers.

The sports centre can hold around 100 people and the homeless will be allowed to sleep or rest there from 8pm until 8am.

It will close the doors at midnight, opening again at

6am. Food and emergency health services will also be available.

Temperatures fell quite dramatically as a cold snap arriving from Siberia hit Spain, bringing rains, frost and high winds.

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Advertising Feature

Copper Heeler brings relief from arthritis

MANY people have suffered with arthritis over the years, finding no long-term solutions, turning to strong medication to try and ease the pain, and thus putting up with a lesser quality of life.

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Copper also prevents inflammation around the joints, so there is a feeling of well-being all round. Malcolm has been marketing the Copper Heelers in Spain for more than five years now, and he has satisfied customers spreading the word about their change of life since using them. One lady from Las Siesta wrote to Malcolm only last week to say: "I have suffered for 10 years with the agony of arthritis, but since I have bought the Copper Heelers and worn them, my arthritis has improved in only five days!" This miracle insole has brought joy to many who have been restricted with movement in the past.

For more information on the Copper Heelers, please visit the website at www.copperheeler.es or call Malcolm on 966 763 770.



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Too many fires, not enough crews

FIREFIGHTERS were pushed to their limits in Torrevieja as six officers had numerous call outs within two hours.

Fortunately, none of the cases involved serious casualties. Among the call outs was one to deal with a routine rescue of a pet in La Zenia. This coincided with a call to deal with a fire at a chicken stall in Calle San Policarpo. There was then a call

warning of a fire in Calle Pedro Lorca and another in an oil recycling container in Calle La Torreta Florida.

Firefighters have been warning for years that there may be a moment of collapse of the fire rescue service especially in summer, despite the support they have from the crews of Orihuela and Almoradi.

Torrevieja's fire station has

to cover the entire coast from Guardamar del Segura through to Pilar de la Horadada, including the busy Orihuela Costa with more than 160,000 residents officially registered.

Most shifts are covered by six firefighters, and in many cases, when call outs are made, the station is left unattended. The recommended number is to have eight firefighters per shift.

Two animal abusers arrested

TWO residents of Aguilas have been arrested for the mistreatment of animals.

The individuals, aged 60 and 34, are accused of firing at a domestic cat causing it to lose the use of its back legs. The investigation was launched after reports that a cat had been shot at with an air rifle. The owner of the cat said it had escaped from home and was shot at causing damage to the spinal

chord resulting in paralysis. The owner quickly took it a vet with emergency surgery and treatment being carried out, but it remains unable to move correctly and is now nervous around other people.

Thanks to increased local laws against animal abuse and mistreatment, the authorities tracked down the culprits. They face sentences of between three and 18 months in prison.

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Girl takes her own life after suffering bullying

THE funeral of a young teenager who committed suicide in Murcia has taken place.

It is alleged the 13-year-old was being bullied and her family, who reported the harassment, have criticised the school for not taking more action.

A police investigation has been launched and the Police Minors Group has taken statements from the youngster's parents and will continue speaking to teachers at the sec-

ondary school where she attended.

The bullying began a year ago with the parents reporting the situation to school. It is understood some of the bullies were expelled from school, but a spokesperson for the girl's family said they had requested a report on the situation and to change schools. Their daughter was also receiving psychological treatment and she was able to move schools last May.

The Minister for Education,

“The girl was also receiving psychological treatment.

Maria Isabel Sanchez-Mora, sent her deepest condolences to the family and said: “The protocol was activated, investigated and decisions were made in collaboration with the family, which requested the change of school.” The Minister said

the young girl was also being monitored in her new school.

According to National Police, this is the second investigation launched into bullying and harassment in the last month in Murcia Region.

A teenager threatened to kill himself as he was being bullied daily by classmates after admitting he was homosexual. In this case police detained two teenagers and the juvenile prosecutor's office has taken over the investigation.

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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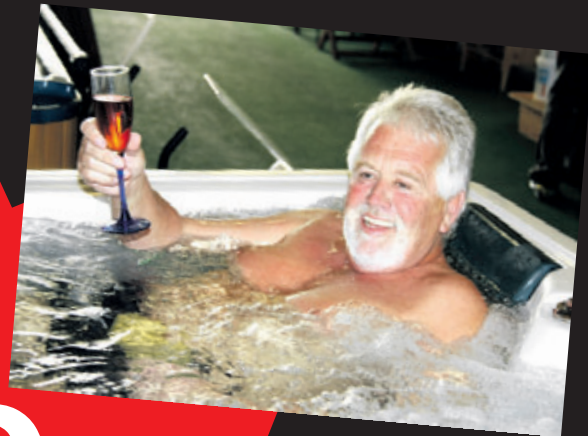
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Four main decisions regarding Brexit



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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Negotiator ends hostage situation

A HOSTAGE negotiator was called to an extremely tense domestic scene in Molina de Segura. An ex-convict assaulted his wife then barricaded himself in a room with their three young children, weapons and a gas canister.

The 32-year-old with a history of violence threatened to

blow the house up with the children, twins aged seven and a three-year-old, still inside.

A specially trained negotiator was rushed to the scene and was surprised to find smooth-talking colleagues had already coaxed the man into releasing the children. But he had reinforced the doors, blocking them

with iron bars, had access to knives and gas, and promised to kill any police officer who dared to step inside.

Two hours of tense discussion followed. Once he had the man relaxed, the quick thinking negotiator managed to grab hold of him. Police then entered to subdue the suspect.

Bullets shed no light on widow's murder case

THE bullets used in the murder of Maria del Carmen Martinez, widow of Vicente Sala, president of CAM bank, were modified to be used in a different weapon. That is the initial findings of tests as the murder investigation continues.

Police found two cartridges at the scene of the Alicante shooting and hoped forensics would help clarify their origin and move the investigation forward. However, tests show the bullets were modi-

fied to be used in the weapon, one different from what they were originally made for.

Initial investigations show the 72 year-old was killed at point blank range in Alicante by a professional hitman with the shooter knowing exactly how to act without anyone detecting his presence.

Police are focusing their investigation on the intimate environment of the family or the international business of the family empire.



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Serbian killer arrested



CRIMINAL CAUGHT: In joint collaboration.

By John Smith

AN international manhunt has found a well-known criminal accused of the manslaughter of one man and the wounding of another in Alicante.

The 30-year-old Serbian identified as LD was wanted by the Spanish authorities for the manslaughter nine years ago of an Indian citizen and the wounding of his brother

who was trying to defend him.

This young individual was known to have been involved in a number of robberies with violence in Spain and held four false identity documents before fleeing the country.

Officers from the Guardia Civil, with the assistance of Interpol, traced this person across Europe and a Spanish court asked for assistance

from the authorities in Albania, Germany, Macedonia, Sweden and Switzerland in trying to apprehend him.

He was eventually found to be in the Macedonian capital Skopje, carrying yet more false identification and was arrested.

Guardia Civil officers in Alicante worked with their Central Control Unit and Interpol in this particular case.

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Barbaric attack against animals

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, threats and intimidation from hunters angered by her decision.

After reporting these offences Ms Mitchell says Guardia Civil officers mounted patrols on her land, at one stage even scouting round her land 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 animal while the other fired the shots at almost point blank range.



HORSE ATTACKED: Left almost blinded.

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 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>.

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GRANADA - SEVILLA	5	350 €
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Concerns over the transfer of dogs

ANIMAL groups have come together to denounce the practices of an animal association which they claim is sending animals to Germany in unfit conditions.

According to their claim, the group is using 'bad practices' sending dogs in a cramped old van with little ventilation. The Protective Society of Animals and Plants of Alicante, headed by Raul Merida, said they have photos of the last transfer of dogs to Germany by the Bacarot association. They show the animals being transported in a van that was not equipped to carry the animals as rules are in place as to how a van should be, having spacious cages on either sides with an aisle in the middle.

There was poor ventilation in the van and no camera in place so the driver and passengers can see the animals in the back, which is another requirement.



CARRYING DOGS: Cages should be spacious on either side with an aisle in the middle.

Merida said several Seprona agents and two vets were present at the time of their departure and regretted they were somehow permitted to make the journey. Upon their arrival in Germany they were met by German police and official veterinarians. Merida said: "We could not believe that they were allowed to leave under these conditions, it was a shame." Many animals, particularly dogs, are sent to Germany with agreements in place between shelters and charities to receive them, however, Merida said there are concerns about what eventually happens to them as "nobody gives us guarantees of what happens to the dogs when they arrive in Germany."

The associations say that it is "crucial" to stop this type of animal movement and to demand that certain conditions are met to guarantee the health and survival of all those who are sent abroad.

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As we move into 2017, this is the perfect time to review your financial planning to see if you need to make any changes. To protect your financial security through retirement, and achieve your wishes for your family and heirs, you need a strategic tax and wealth management plan covering your savings and investments, tax planning, pensions and estate planning.

You need to consider any recent global and local developments that may affect your finances in the coming year, as well as have a long-term strategy. Any changes in your personal circumstances also warrant a review.

Once you have assessed your situation and financial planning, you will be able to discuss any necessary adjustments with your financial adviser.

Savings and investments

2016 was certainly an interesting year, with Brexit, the US elections and Italian referendum. Diversification is more important than ever, and you need a long-term strategic asset allocation plan specifically designed around your circumstances, needs and risk

Is Your Tax And Wealth Management In Shape For 2017?



By Robert Croizat,
Senior Partner,
Blevins Franks

profile.

Diversification gives your portfolio the chance to produce positive returns over time without being vulnerable to any single area under-performing.

There are various levels you should have in your portfolio: different asset classes; across geographical areas, sectors, company size etc; owning equities and bonds issued by a range of companies;

utilising a multi-manager approach where you diversify across managers and styles, and currencies.

The starting point is to obtain a clear and objective assessment of your appetite for risk, to make sure your portfolio is suitable for you.

Tax planning

Make sure your investments and wealth are placed in the most suitable arrangement to limit your tax liabilities. Take advice from someone who is well-versed in the nuances of Spanish taxation, otherwise you could see your investment returns slashed by taxes that could have been avoided or mitigated. It is important that your tax planning is up-to-date and designed to take advantage of tax planning opportunities in Spain.

Another incentive to review your tax affairs is the global automatic exchange of information regime under the Common Reporting

Standard which is now in force. The Spanish tax authority will receive information on every resident of Spain, without having to ask for it. Cross-border tax planning can be complex, so you need to ensure you are declaring income and paying tax in the right country.

Estate planning

The first step is to establish your goals. Who would you like to benefit from your estate? Are you happy for them to have control over the money? When should they receive the funds? How much tax will they pay?

You then need to obtain specialist advice to ensure that your estate plan is set up to achieve your wishes for your heirs.

Under the 2015 EU succession regulation Brussels IV, you can choose whether Spanish or UK succession law will apply to your estate. The default position is for

Spanish succession law to apply to foreign nationals living here, unless they have a will stating otherwise.

Brussels IV does not allow you to opt out of Spanish succession tax, which can be costly in certain circumstances. This is due if the asset being inherited is located in Spain or the recipient is resident in Spain. Tax is paid by each recipient, with varying rates. UK inheritance tax may also still apply for UK nationals.

Whether it is investments, tax or pension planning, seek advice to ensure you do what works best for your personal situation. Use an adviser who can guide you on all these aspects and provide holistic solutions so you can have peace of mind that your financial affairs are in order.

To keep in touch with the latest developments in the offshore world, check out the latest news on our website www.blevinsfranks.com.

“Do I need to review my financial planning for 2017?”

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2016 was a year of change. It marked the start of the new global automatic exchange of information regime and we then had Brexit and the US elections. Investment diversification is more important than ever, and your tax and estate planning must be up-to-date to protect yourself and your heirs. Contact us to review your wealth management for 2017 and beyond.

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Saving the spectacular

By Matthew Elliott

LOCAL green activists are hoping to see the Salinas wetlands officially protected as an environmental hotspot.

Friends of the Wetlands of southern Alicante have requested the beautiful area be included in Valencia's official green coastal zone.

The move would include

one of the southern Costa Blanca's most iconic natural reserves in a broader plan to protect the threatened Mediterranean coastline.

Regional officials hope to preserve almost 2,340 hectares of virgin coastline, protecting it from construction and climatic damage.

The lighthouse of Santa Pola is already secured in the proposed green zone, but local experts are disappointed that the Salinas has-

n't been automatically included.

“Almost 2,340 hectares of virgin coastline is hoped to be protected.”

Part of the problem is that the Salinas, stretching from Elche to Santa Pola, are so diverse as to already be considered part of the

urban landscape in some definitions. That exposes them to construction and the ravages of urbanisation.

The wetlands harbour an incredible array of wildlife and are particularly important for birds. Protecting them is immensely important to sustaining the southern Costa Blanca as one of Spain's most naturally spectacular regions according to the activists.

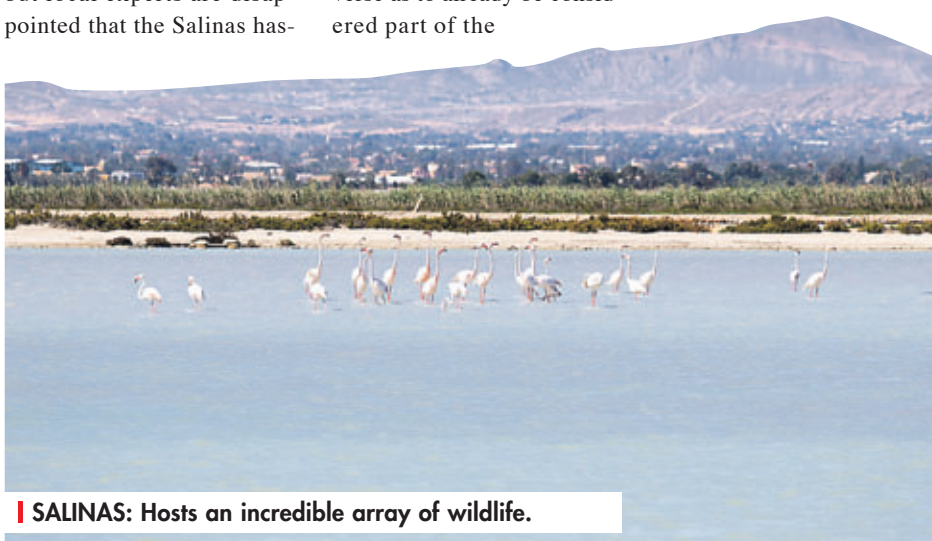
Railway ruckus

COSTA BLANCA mayors warned the regional government that proposed new train services must be built with local input. Alicante and Elche are concerned that the needs of their residents won't come first if Valencia manages the project single-handedly.

The stand-off concerns a possible new train route from the airport to each city and a commuter train between the two. Mayors Gabriel Echavarri of Alicante and Carlos Gonzalez of Elche stressed that they would not accept local planning being imposed from above.

Elche went further and also demanded any future train network treat the city as separate and not a mere appendage of Alicante.

The issue of rail links in the area has been troubling council sessions and locals for almost half a century.



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Recover the costs of setting up a mortgage

We focus on the costs of creating a mortgage. Can we get this back?

The different judgements issued over the last two years about the different abusive banking clauses are likely to lead to a slowdown in mortgage lending.

First, the floor clause (STS of May 9, 2013) was considered abusive, then the expenses of setting up of mortgages were also considered excessive (STS 705/2015, of December 23, LAW 204975/2015). And finally the High Court of Justice of the European Union has recently declared the total u-turn **meaning that banks will now have to pay back all of the overpaid money even from before 2013** (STJUE of December 21, 2016).

Floors and ceilings aside, let's focus on the costs of setting up a mortgage. **Can we recover this?**

This seems to be the case, as the Supreme Court has ruled in judgement 705/2015 of 23 December, when it considered abusive, the clause in which a bank imposed on the borrower the payment of all expenses, taxes and commissions derived from the mortgage loan.

In addition, it has been customary practice for the banks to include in the said clause, **an authorisation from the borrower to the bank to charge to its account the amounts**

necessary until the total registration of the mortgage in the Property Registry and in the case of non-payment of expenses arising from the judicial or extrajudicial claim of the debt, including lawyers and court runner fees, and even if their

intervention was not mandatory. These amounts were even guaranteed by the mortgage or real guarantee, which is none other than housing.

In order **to obtain a refund**, it will be necessary for the borrower or

debtor to make a claim to the Bank's Customer Service and, if applicable, to go to Court.

Therefore, the first step that **must be taken is to complain to the Customer Service Department of the Bank** or Entity that granted the mortgage loan, or where applicable, to which it was subrogated. After two months from this claim, if the Customer Service does not answer or does so in a negative way, then the next step is to file a lawsuit.

What must be requested in the lawsuit brought before the Court, is the nullity of the abusive clause, and the repayment of expenses paid as a result of the said agreement.

The expenses are as follows:

- The invoices of the Notary and the Property Registry.
- The payment of the amounts paid as Tax of Documented Legal Acts.
- The accounting and taxes of the property, if they had been imposed by the credit institution.

Finally, REMEMBER that the effects of the declaration of nullity of a clause because it is considered abusive **do not have a given time limit or statute of limitations**, meaning that clients who have already finished paying their mortgage can lodge their claims too.



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Sterilised cats found dead



FALLEN FELINES: May have been incubating diseases.

AROUND a dozen cats have been found dead on Tabarca Island.

The cats were from a colony that were part of a sterilisation campaign on the island during the winter organised by Alicante Town Hall.

Despite concern from neighbours at the appearance of the dead animals, a vet has assured that this figure does fall within normal guidelines and although they appeared healthy, they could have been incubating diseases.

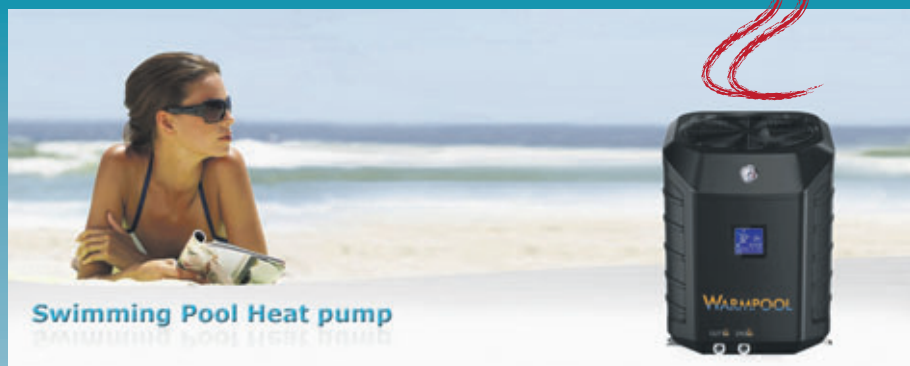
Neighbours on the island were also told that when the sterilisation campaign started, there

could be some casualties, particularly in the younger or smaller cats.

There are reported to be over 160 cats on the islands forming various colonies. The last sterilisation campaign involved three vets as the cats were captured and sterilised before being returned.

This process was also captured on a drone and a documentary of the images is expected to be released this year. This was carried out as part of European Feline Day and a similar initiative was carried out on the Portuguese island of Faro.

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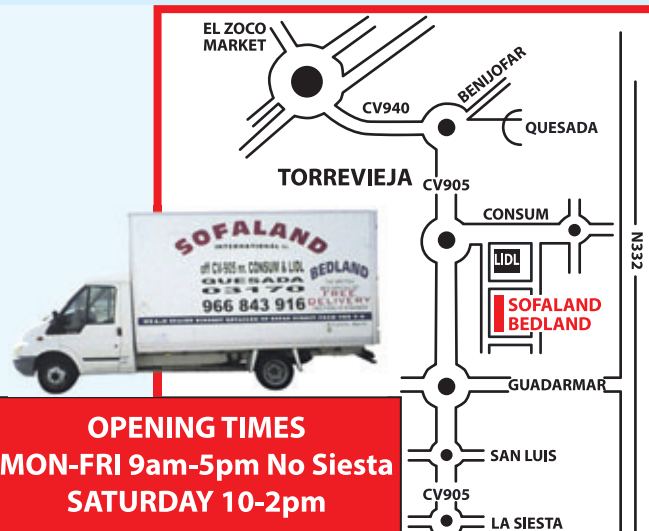
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Salesman charged with alleged fraud

By John Smith

A 33-YEAR-OLD man from Lorca has been arrested by the National Police in connection with an alleged fraud in which he is said to have falsified a number of contracts between 12 local companies and an electric company.

Working on commission, he used some genuine information from these companies and then made up the rest when producing false contracts which were submitted to his employers who then paid him a significant commission.

The matter came to light when one company was sent a demand for a significant amount of money for failing to meet the terms of the contract and as they had no knowledge that such a contract existed, they contacted both the supplier



LORCA: Man is reported to have falsified contracts.

and the National Police.

An investigation then took place which led the officers to this salesman who it transpired had undertaken this falsification of contracts for a number of local companies which he was familiar with and had a certain amount of information about.

Whilst all of the companies involved suffered some form of financial penalty due to the existence of these contracts over which they had no knowledge, the man has now been charged with the alleged crimes of fraud and falsification of a document or documents.

Stones and sabotage

VANDALS attacked the offices of Spain's two major political parties in the southern Costa Blanca town of Jumilla. Stones smashed through windows at both the Popular Party and PSOE headquarters just days apart and police are now investigating.

Fortunately there were only material damages and no one was hurt.

Representatives of the rival parties put on a rare united front to denounce the 'violent and radical' actions. Whether there was any serious political motivation remains unclear.

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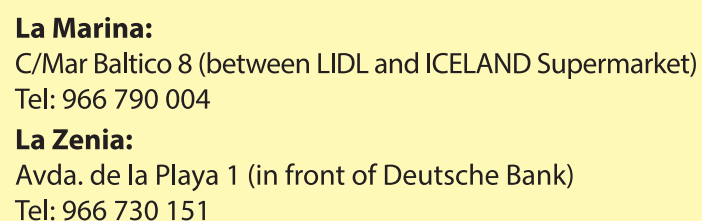
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The map also labels the Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, and Indian Ocean.



Police pinch the pickpockets

SHOPPERS in Orihuela Costa, Torrevieja and Dolores can rest a little more easily as a gang of thieves has been arrested.

The criminal group who targeted shoppers stealing their wallets and purses, has been disbanded by the Guardia Civil with two women and a man arrested.

The gang used rental vehicles making it more difficult to track and follow their whereabouts, continually changing their car. They sought their victims, who were mainly elderly foreigners, as they used ATM machines.

As one of the gang members engaged them in conversation, another would steal their wallet as the third person was on the look out for the police. They would carefully watch them at the cash machine to obtain their pin number so they could then



CRIMINAL GANG: Targeted shoppers.

use the bank cards themselves.

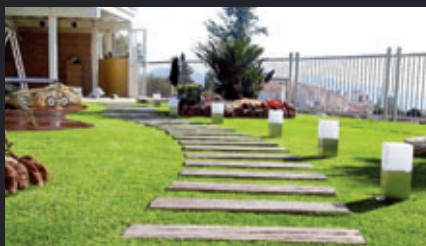
Some of the victims have positively identified the detainees as being those who had offered to help them and had been speaking to them before

their cards were stolen.

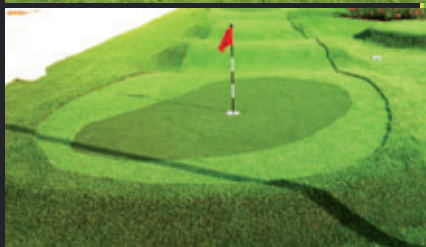
In total, they are believed to have gained over €6,000 from stolen cards at the ATMs and fraudulently purchased over €1,500 worth of goods.

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VILLENA PRISON: A lack of staff.

Photo by Google Maps

Inmate attacks prison guards

THREE prison guards were attacked by an inmate at the Villena prison in Alicante.

The inmate started complaining when the cells were being locked and as he threatened and insulted the officers they had no choice but to move him to an isolation unit to calm the problem and try and reassure

him. The Professional Association of Prison Officials (APFP) said the inmate "threatened to seriously attack or kill anyone who came near him" and in trying to calm the situation "he rushed at one of the workers, punching him in the head."

As the two other guards

stepped in they were also punched and kicked. One of the guards was taken to hospital to be treated for his wounds with the other two suffering minor bruising.

The APFP said this is another example of the "episodes of violence" that are being experienced by prison workers. They said this was greatly as a result "of the recurrent problem of the lack of staff and the permissiveness of the prison system itself."

“Another example of violence experienced by prison workers.”

The association is calling for an urgent modification within the prison system to ensure greater security measures for personnel dealing directly with prisoners.

The APFP concluded: "We have reached a point where it seems that the inmates have a right to everything, even to attack us whenever they want."

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NEWS EXTRA

Palm fire

A FIRE broke out in an Elche warehouse, destroying scores of palm trees and requiring urgent attention from firefighters, medics and police, who took four hours to put out the blaze.

Bewildered owl

BENIEL police officers rescued a wounded eagle owl. The young female was found dazed and confused on the street with injured wings, but is now in good care.

Baked potato

A **SMOKY** oven caused the evacuation of an apartment complex in Elche. Dozens of neighbours huddled on the streets in their pajamas after a resident left the appliance on all day.

Tax Black Hole

By Matthew Elliott

A HUGE black hole of missing taxes has been exposed in Mazarrón. More than €35 million was not collected between 1991 and 2015, meaning thousands of citizens are in debt to the local government.

A scathing report from the council's financial controller claimed that the management of tax collection was essentially non-existent for 25 years. The findings have been sent to the prosecutor's

office and a small army of taxmen will now begin collections.

The real estate tax has the largest outstanding debt. More than €14 million of the renegade revenue is accounted for by people not paying the IBI. More than €7 million is due to neglected payments of the surplus tax, which property owners usually pay on their profits from a sale.

Over €3 million is missing from vehicle taxes, €2 million on home construction and extensions, and €1 million for rubbish collection.

The situation is messy on the ground with many people owing various amounts for multiple taxes. One example is of a Mazarrón resident who owes €13,811 across 117 unpaid home, car and other miscellaneous taxes.

Council workers who owe the authorities money are first in line for the chop. Their salaries will be seized at the point of payment until all debts are paid off. Meanwhile regular debtors across the region can expect a knock on the door soon.



MAZARRÓN: Thousands of citizens are in debt.

Kidnapping all down to drugs

TWO people have been arrested for their involvement in kidnapping a 38-year-old man.

They held the man at gunpoint for more than seven hours and continually hit him as his captors threatened him and his family. Eventually, due to an oversight of the men, the victim managed to escape.

Police say the issue was related to drug-trafficking. It is understood the man owed a significant amount of money for a consignment of cocaine.

Within days, police identified the kidnappers and arrested them at their homes. The two men, nationals of the Dominican Republic and Colombia, had in their properties around 100g of cocaine.

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ELCHE: Is one of the top Spanish cities with the highest amount of noise pollution.

Hearing all the wrong noises

ELCHE is among the 20 Spanish cities with the highest amount of noise pollution.

The city was ranked the 17th noisiest according to the Ministry of the Environment in a report on municipalities with more noise pollution. It comes at a time when insurers DKV issued their latest health and noise report that warns that some nine million people in Spain suffer from noise levels above the 65 decibels (dB) recommended by The World Health Organisation (WHO) during the

day. They say that ambient noise levels above this can be harmful to health with the guidelines stating 40dB at night.

In Elche, around 20.6 per cent of the population live with noise levels above these recommendations. In Alicante, which came in at number 35 in the Ministry's ranking, it is estimated that 7.5 per cent live amongst higher levels of noise.

Traffic is often a main cause of noise pollution, but in Elche, the main form of complaints come

in the form of air conditioning machines and the sounds of machinery and music from retail outlets and businesses.

According to the study, citizens perceive noise as one of the main environmental problems. According to data from the European Environment Agency, more than 103 million people are exposed to traffic noise levels above 55dB throughout the day and almost 24 million are exposed to noise levels above 65dB.

5 sentenced for diver's death

A JUDGE in Cartagena has been considering the responsibility for the death of a professional diver, Juan Bartolomé who was shot in the chest with a harpoon.

It was agreed that due to the length of time since the 2010 accident that it would be difficult to apportion blame fairly, although it was acknowledged that a co-worker identified as JFMM passed the loaded harpoon gun to Sr Bartolomé from a boat at a fish farm in San Pedro del Pinatar.

His lawyer argued that whilst some carelessness did occur which resulted in the discharge of the weapon and the subsequent death of the diver who was due to investigate an underwater cage, it was impossible to establish the exact cause of the accident.

In the circumstances, the man agreed to plead guilty to a charge of reckless homicide and was sentenced to six months imprisonment and a fine of €1,800.

Three others, a manager of the company concerned, the head diver and a biologist were sentenced to 10 months and fines of €1,800 each whilst the pilot of the boat was sentenced to three months or €540.

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Overbooked and out of date

JUST days after Torrevieja's municipal animal shelter announced it had extended its opening hours for the public, police were on site carrying out an inspection.

Councillor for Animals Carmen Morate, said she was not present at the time when Guardia Civil officers from the Seprona animal welfare branch arrived, but said the inspection lasted several hours. It seemed to focus on the registration system of entry and exit of the animals.

Officers found that the entry of animals did not correspond to that of exits, with around 20 animals listed as being at the shelter but were not there. Councillor Morate said this can be explained as when a family decides to



ANIMAL SHELTER: Police carried out an inspection.

adopt a dog, there can be a period of adaptation and during that time the paperwork is not necessarily completed in case the animal is returned to the kennels, which does occasionally happen.

Another problem noted by Seprona was that the vehicle used to transport the animals was an old van and did not meet current requirements as it does not have a screen separating the driver from the back or the correct adaptations to transfer a dead animal.

When Morate became

councillor for Animals just over 18 months ago she began changing the workings of the municipal mandate relating to animals.

She pledged that no animal at the shelter would be put down. She pushed the system of adoption and fostering and created a network of volunteers and animal associations to help walk the animals and promote their adoption.

She said she was unaware of the reason for the investigation or if anyone had made a complaint.

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TEL: 650 631 719 TONY SMITH

NEWS EXTRA**Dryer fire**

A WOMAN is recovering from smoke inhalation following a fire in a block of flats in Alicante City. It is believed a dryer on the gallery of her apartment was the cause of the fire.

Jobs increase

THE number of non-EU nationals unemployed in Alicante Province fell last year compared to in 2015 with just over 25,000 registered without work at the end of the year. This figure is now similar to pre-economic crisis levels.

Rugby attack

A DUTCH rugby player has been arrested for throwing a bottle at a woman in a club in Alicante. The 20 year-old man was with team mates when he struck out at the woman for reasons unknown.

Much ado about Torrevieja

By John Smith

DESPITE being opened in 2006, the Municipal Theatre in Torrevieja had never had a completion certificate signed by the architect and this resulted in its enforced closure in 2014 following a damning report by the regional police.

It was argued at the time that it was not properly licensed nor was there liability insurance in place for the period that it was open when a single performance could attract up to 600 people.

The Partido Popular (PP) which was responsible for the theatre during much of this time argues that whilst there was no individual policy, it was part of a general policy which covered all municipal buildings and that claims had been paid by the insurance company when presented.

The current council is anxious to reopen the theatre which has been closed for nearly two years, but there is work that needs to be undertaken to bring it up to standard



MUNICIPAL THEATRE: Has been closed since 2014 following a damning report.

and the council is reluctant to undertake this work until such time that it can be satisfied that the architect in question will

sign off the entire building.

In the meantime, there is much disagreement between the current council and those

of the previous ruling council with each suggesting that the other is to blame for the problems surrounding the theatre.

Green lungs to breathe life into city

THE largest urban forest in Alicante Province is planned for Alicante City. The area will be five times larger than the Palmeral park and will help reduce the local carbon footprint.

Mayor of Alicante, Gabriel Echavarri, announced the first of three 'green lungs' planned for the city, will be created in the coming months. This park will be of 24 hectares in a degraded area in the El Porquet area.

Filtered water from the Rincon de Leon sewage plant will be used as indigenous species such as oaks, olive and almond trees will be planted, based on the advice of the Department of Ecology of the University of Alicante (UA).

Other such 'green lungs' are envisaged for the Sierra de Fontcalet and the hills of Orgegia.



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Fugitive arrested in France

A WANTED Colombian, identified only as 45-year-old NVH, has been arrested in the south of Paris thanks to an international warrant and the involvement of French police.

This individual was wanted by several Spanish courts as he was a member of a criminal drug trafficking organisation operating in Alicante and Murcia, but he fled from Spain in 2009 when it became clear that he was about to be arrested by the Guardia Civil.

The international warrant for his arrest was issued by the court in Orihuela and when it was discovered that he was living in France, officers of the Guardia Civil received permission to travel to Paris to work with the French Central Unit of Investigation to see if the individual could be identified and located.

Irons in

ONE local resident of Orihuela is so passionate about the area and his local neighbourhood of San Anton, that he has dedicated years to researching and learning more about it.

Emeterio Navarro has long been the strongest defender of one of the buildings that remain in it, the Horno de Santa Matilde, which he has dedicated years of research work to. The kiln, or furnace, was created at

19TH century was when the kiln was created.

the end of the 19th century by a mining company but had barely a decade of use.

The numerous mines in the area used to suffer flooding, which was one of the reasons the furnace was shut down, as well as the fact there was no charcoal nearby to make it work.

The oven is often seen by walkers on the trail of the Mount de San Miguel, which gives some details about its



SAN ANTON: The kiln or furnace

operation, but Navarro has now self-funded a book on the oven to be able to give its full



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the fire



place was created by a mining company.

story and keep it alive.

He is making his documents available to the town hall and

hopes to have it recognised as a BIC, monument of cultural interest.

Father and kids arrested

A FATHER and his two children have been arrested in Alicante for trying to steal solar panels from the roof of a clinic in the city.

National Police were alerted to the robbery in progress and as they arrived at the scene found solar panels hanging from the roof by rope.

The thieves had made a gap in one of the walls of the clinic to gain access inside and had fled as they spotted the arrival of the police.

Witnesses gave descriptions and a mobilised patrol car located one of the three suspects. At the time of arrest they were covered in dust and had tools on them, presumably being used to remove the solar panels.

All three already had police records for similar crimes.

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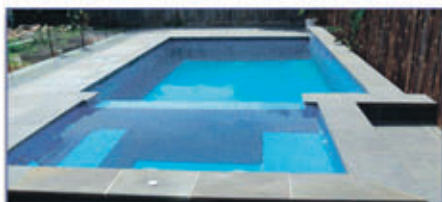
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Names taken down and then replaced

HAVING taken down street names associated with the Franco regime, Alicante City Hall must now put them back.

An Alicante judge censured the council for going ahead and substituting the reminders of the past even though the Partido Popular - in opposition at city hall - had lodged a formal complaint with the courts. City hall's removal of all street names linked to Franco did not comply with the Historic Memory Law, the local PP claimed.

The judge pointed out that legal practice bars the Administration from carrying out actions that are the subject of a court appeal. The council had acted with 'precipitated and motiveless haste' the judge ruled as she halted further name changes and ordered that the old plaques should be replaced as a precautionary measure.

Calls for



GOTA FRIA: Has resulted in an excessive accumu

RUBBISH needs to be removed from the mouth of the River Segura. Environmental officers say it is an urgent necessity and are calling on the Segura Hydrographic Confederation (CHS) to act.

General Director of Environmental Quality and Climate Change, Joan Piquer, visited the mouth of the river and other areas most affected by the gota fria last month, that has resulted in an excessive accumulation of waste and bottles.

The screens that are in place to collect containers



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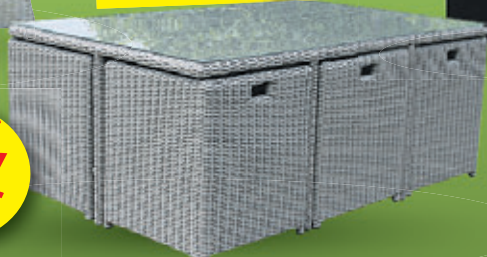


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r river clean



ation of waste and bottles.

and waste from all over the area to prevent them heading out to sea were opened due to the heavy rains letting the waste flow out. Others are blocked and need cleaning. This would have improved the natural water flow to help prevent flooding.

Piquer was joined on his visit by Orihuela councillor Jose Luis Saez, who said they have had to pay for mainte-

nance but it should be down to the CHS. It was also noted that they were even fined €10,000 by the CHS for the accumulation of waste and discharges.

The Association of Friends of the Wetlands of Southern Alicante (AHSA), also claims the problem has been continuing for months.

Piquer promised to ask for a solution from the CHS.



RESTAURANT RUCKUS: Finally settled after nine years.

Costly celebrations

IT was a baptism and a golden wedding celebration not to be forgotten as it ended in fines of €10,000 after a fight broke out.

The brawl took place in a restaurant in Santa Pola in 2008 and now, some nine years later, has finally been settled in court with six people on trial after a fight broke out between guests of two separate celebrations both being held at the same time in the restaurant.

One baptism guest was arguing

with a guest at the other event and four others joined in. One lost three teeth after being punched and a woman suffered minor injuries.

The prosecution called for a two year sentence for the man who delivered the punch and three months each for three women facing charges. However, as they had no previous criminal records all were given suspended sentences but ordered to pay €10,000 in fines. The other two accused were acquitted.

NEWS EXTRA

Close call

A WOMAN was run over on a street in Elda. She was using the pedestrian crossing with her six-year-old daughter when she was hit by a Peugeot 308. The 45-year-old was treated for minor injuries but the youngster was unhurt.

Home birth

A PARAMEDIC team helped a 37-year-old give birth to a baby girl at her home in Orihuela. The SAMU ambulance team then transferred both mother and baby to the Vega Baja Hospital for checks.

Shed fire

A FIRE broke out in a shed of a factory in Elche. Smoke was visible across much of the city but fire crews were able to prevent it spreading to the main warehouse.

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The Almoradi Monday Club

ON the first and third Monday every month the Almoradi Monday Club meets at 4.00pm. The meeting place is in the Centro Social Rooms, Calle Antimo Illescas Plaza, on Calle Comunidad Valenciana, in Almoradi.

The idea of this modern and progressive club is so that English speaking people who live in Almoradi, or the surrounding area, can meet one another on a regular but informal basis to talk together and enjoy life in this Spanish community. It is open to people of every nationality living in or just visiting Spain.

Club activities will include social events, club lunches and evening meals in and around the local area, with guest speakers at meetings and entertainment whenever possible. The club will also try to associate itself with other local clubs that hold other events including coach trips and anything that may be of interest to members.

Anyone interested who would like to widen their circle of friends should go along to one of the meetings.

For more information contact *dave daniel@gmail.com*.

Deposit-gets the

By Linda Hall

THE regional government will create working committees to discuss ways of implementing a deposit-return system (DRS).

This entails charging a returnable deposit on bottles and cans but the hospitality trade and supermarket chains are unenthusiastic about the scheme.

The working committees with Cierval, the Valencia Region's business federation, will allow in-depth exploration of ways of making the project work, the Generalitat's Agriculture and Environment department maintains.

At present five million of seven million non-returnable containers used each day in the Valencian Community litter streets, countryside and beaches or reach landfill sites mixed with organic rubbish.

The Generalitat has set a 70 per cent recycling target which it hopes to achieve with the deposit system. Retailers would receive two cents for every returned container they handle, as well as the firms that collect them

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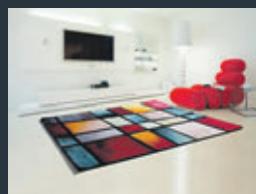
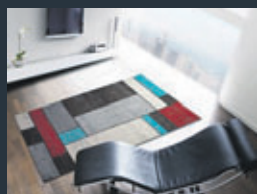
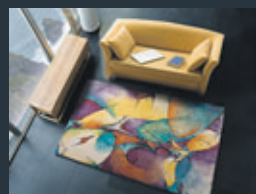
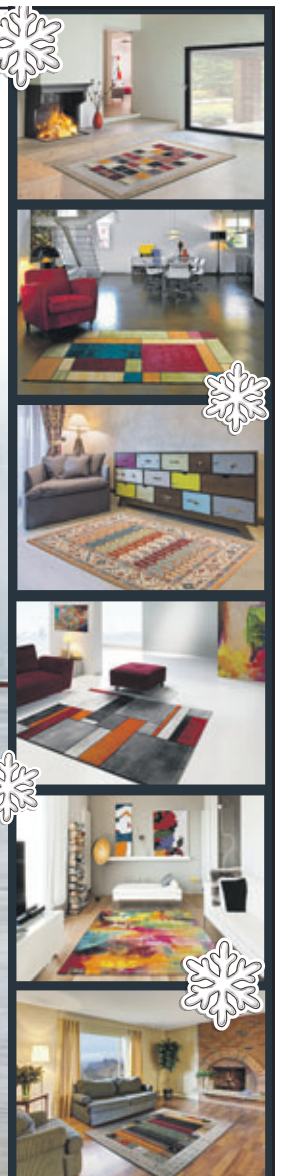
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-return system thumbs down



THROWN AWAY: Five million cans and bottles daily are not recycled.

for recycling.

The scheme will be financed by unclaimed deposits, selling the recycled material and the obligatory financial contribution already made by drinks'

manufacturers.

Berlin, Oslo and New York already recover 100 per cent of bottles and cans through the DRS scheme and it could work here, the Generalitat insisted.



NEW NEURON: Discovered by the Institute of Neurosciences.

Elche researchers

SCIENTISTS in Elche say they have discovered a new neuron that is related to spatial awareness.

The group from the Institute of Neurosciences, a mixed centre of the Miguel Hernandez University (UMH) in Elche and the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), has had their work about understanding how our brains work out information about our environment, published in the journal *Neuroscience*.

The researchers said our brain has a kind of internal GPS system that determines position with cells informing us about physical boundaries, border cells and specific positions of space.

The research involved recording a rat's neuronal activity as they explored an open field in search of food. In this way they were able to establish the relation between the activity of the neurons and the occupied position.

NEWS EXTRA

Tourist rise

THE Valencia Region was the fifth most popular region for foreign tourists last year, up to November, receiving some 7.4 million foreign visitors. This is 16.8 per cent more than the previous year.

New logo

THE Costa Blanca has a new logo. The new branding was unveiled at the Provincial Tourist Board headquarters ahead of its presentation at the Fitur International Tourism Fair in Madrid.

Busy year

ALICANTE-ELCHE airport surpassed all forecasts for last year and saw almost 12.4 million passengers travel through the terminals; 16.7 per cent more than in 2015. International traffic increased by 18.6 per cent.



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Quiz evening raises Huntington's D

A MAGNIFICENT €251 has been raised by Cafe - Bar Almoradi at a fun quiz devised by Martin and Christine Watkins. The fundraiser was in aid of the not so well-known charity Huntington's Disease Association who provide help for for sufferers with the disease. It was a very close fought contest which was narrowly won by Mazza's Masterminds, who were surprised and delighted by their victory.

Bar owner, Maria Silverthorne and her partner Chas, who provided tapas for the quizzers during the interval, in addition to donating vouchers for a meal for two at one of their Bistro Nights and Sunday Lunch for two, were once again delighted with this sold out event.

"We are more than happy to help raise awareness of Huntington's Disease, as we know David and Peter well but can only imagine half of what they and their families have to go through living with this awful disease. Chas and I are very much looking forward to hosting it again."

Huntington's Disease is a hereditary termi-



FUNDRAISING FUN: Quizzers were treated to tapas

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raises €251 for Disease charity



is at the interval.

nal illness affecting both men and women, which destroys the pathways between the brain and the rest of the body, resulting in uncontrollable movements, loss of speech, incontinence and loss of memory function, to name but a few symptoms. It also causes changes in personality and depression. Huntington's Disease destroys everything that makes us recognisable as human beings and there is currently no cure.

Any child of an affected parent has a 50 per cent risk of inheriting the affected gene. Anyone inheriting the affected gene will develop the disease.

It has already claimed the life of David's father Vic and is now affecting him and his younger brother Gary. Peter's brother has already died from the illness and his son has recently been tested positive at the age of 30.

If you would like to get involved with organising a fundraising event for Huntington's Disease in your area, or know someone who is affected by Huntington's Disease, then please contact Marion Smith on 651 043 681.

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Weather woes and rescues

FINCA SAN MIGUEL DE SALINAS had to celebrate its Christmas party on December 17, with Sol and Patrik's 'hair action' at Bar Establo because of the bad weather. Thank you

to Gaby for the support.

Despite the rain a lot of people turned up and it was a great success. Sol would also like to thank Cheers Bar Restaurant for asking every customer to

sponsor her and Restaurant Bar Wolfies also for their sponsorship and support.

Unfortunately the bad weather damaged the wall where four of the horses normally stay so that's the first job to do in the New Year. If any readers can volunteer to help out please get in touch.

A couple of days later two sheep were found in the area of Calgos del Sol after they were left behind by their shepherd. Puddles was first to arrive but unfortunately died on Christmas Day. Dolly came along later and although she looked very fit unfortunately she died too. RIP Puddles and Dolly.

Dina, a German Shepherd, was also rescued and would otherwise have lived the rest of her life on a chain. She has been neutered and is doing very well. The charity may have found a forever home for her in the UK!

On Saturday January 7 a thank you party was held at the Finca with all of the food and

drinks just €1. It was a great afternoon, lots of people turned up and the sun was shining. Angela Richards with her great raffle raised a fantastic €222 for the animals of the finca! Thanks go to Ron and Yvonne who made and donated a very nice sate and also to all the cake makers.

Finca San Miguel de Salinas is supported by Happy Animales Spanien, founded by Mona Nowak. The next open day will be held on Saturday January 28 from 1-5pm. Anyone wishing to come along and support this event can bring carrots, apples, dog biscuits, dog food (big tins from Aldi) or even give a little monetary donation... every little helps.

You can also be a food sponsor from €5 or €10 per month. The animals and volunteers look forward to seeing you there.

For more information visit the Facebook group *fincasanmigueldesalinas*, call Mona on 616 792 365 or email *nicosolm@hotmail.com*.

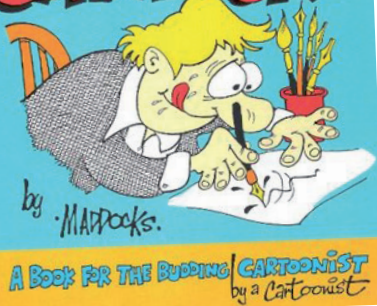
THANK YOU: Lots of people turned up in the sunshine.



TWO SHEEP: Were rescued but subsequently died.

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<http://publishedbyme.blogspot.co.uk/>

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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



Photo Credit: Policy Exchange Wikimedia.

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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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 16

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
3i Group PLC	724.50	-1.00	725.00	54.83
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
easyJet 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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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%
Atlantius 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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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



Photo Credit: Ziferblat UK

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.

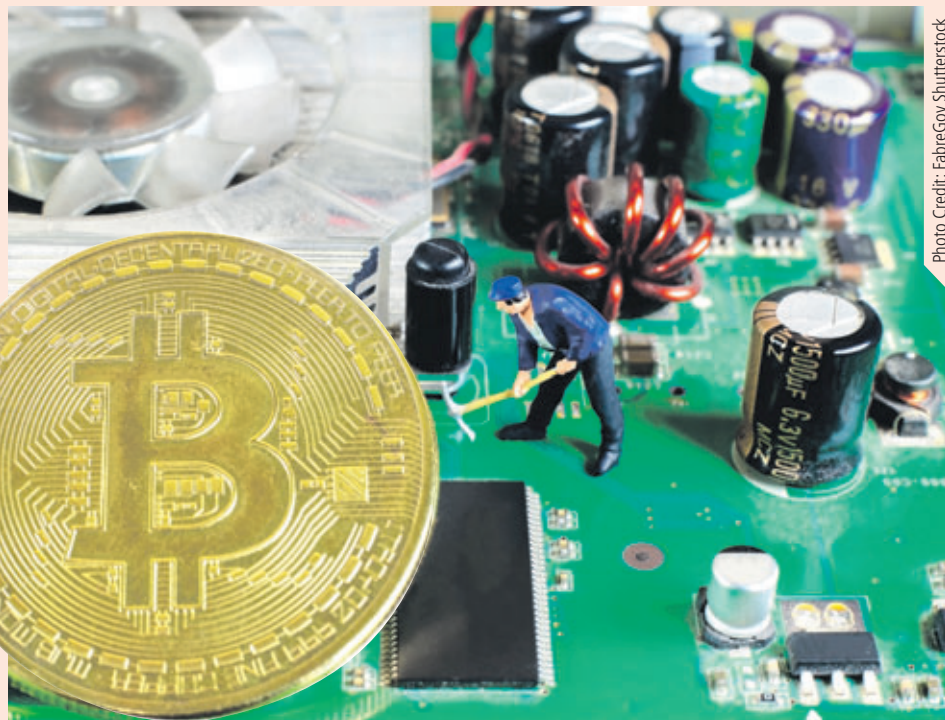
Unlike a coffee shop, the laid back atmosphere encourages people to talk to each other and there is background music as well as occasional performances by local musicians with artists often wel-

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.

Bitcoin, the world's strongest currency



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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Stick to your lives of fantasy

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT**



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!

*Keep the Faith
Love Leapy
leapylee2002@gmail.com*



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CELEBRITIES: Try to
make us feel
responsible.**

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BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
10:15am	Rip Off Britain
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	Caught Red Handed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News at One
2:30pm	BBC London News
2:45pm	Father Brown
3:30pm	!Mpossible
4:15pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News at Six
7:30pm	BBC London News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	EastEnders
9:00pm	Spy in the Wild
10:00pm	Death in Paradise
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten
11:30pm	BBC London News
11:45pm	Question Time
12:45am	This Week
1:30am	Weather for the Week Ahead
1:35am	BBC News

BBC TWO

8:30am	Cash in the Attic
9:00am	Caught Red Handed
9:30am	Great British Menu
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Masters Snooker
6:00pm	Coast
6:15pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys
8:00pm	Masters Snooker
8:30pm	The Premier League Show
9:00pm	The Great Interior Design Challenge
10:00pm	Horizon
11:00pm	Jack Dee's Inauguration Helpdesk
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:15am	Masters Snooker Highlights
1:05am	Masters Snooker Extra
3:05am	Panorama
3:35am	Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster
4:35am	Operation People Power with Dave Myers

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	World News Today <i>The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.</i>
8:30pm	Top of the Pops
9:00pm	The Crusades: A Timewatch Guide
10:00pm	Sword, Musket and Machine Gun: Britain's Armed History
11:00pm	Churchill's First World War
12:30am	Rich Hall's Presidential Grudge Match <i>An examination of the sordid machinations involved in becoming president of the United States.</i>
2:00am	Horizon
3:00am	Top of the Pops
3:35am	Sword, Musket and Machine Gun: Britain's Armed History
4:35am	This is BBC Four

CHANNEL 4

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	King of Queens
8:10am	King of Queens
8:35am	King of Queens
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Frasier
11:00am	Frasier
11:30am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:30pm	Four in a Bed
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Four in a Bed
1:35pm	Four in a Bed
2:10pm	Four in a Bed
2:40pm	Four in a Bed
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	A New Life in the Sun
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun
6:00pm	Come Dine with Me
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	The Restoration Man
10:00pm	Spies
11:00pm	60 Days in Jail
11:55pm	24 Hours in A and E
1:00am	Britain's Benefit Tenants

CHANNEL 5

8:35am	Noddy: Toyland Detective
8:50am	Paw Patrol
9:00am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am	Wissper
9:25am	Peppa Pig
9:50am	Toot the Tiny Tugboat
10:00am	Toby's Travelling Circus
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders and Bodge Jobs
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	Celebrity Big Brother
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS
4:15pm	Twisted Sisters
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
9:00pm	Bargain Loving Brits in the Sun
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink
12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

4

7:00am	Suburgatory
7:20am	Charmed
8:05am	Hollyoaks
8:35am	Coach Trip
9:05am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Baby Daddy
10:30am	Baby Daddy
11:00am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:00pm	Charmed
1:00pm	Charmed
2:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
2:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
4:30pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
5:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
6:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
10:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
11:00pm	Chewing Gum
11:30pm	Gogglebox
12:35am	The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

9:00am	Premier League Legends
10:00am	Barclays Premier League World
10:30am	Premier League 100 Club
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Transfer Centre
12:30pm	Barclays Premier League World
1:00pm	Premier League Legends
2:00pm	Barclays Premier League World
2:30pm	Premier League 100 Club
3:00pm	Premier League Legends
4:00pm	The Premier League Years
6:00pm	Premier League Legends
7:00pm	Barclays Premier League World
7:30pm	Premier League Legends
8:30pm	Football Gold
8:45pm	Info Not Available
8:55pm	Football
11:00pm	Premier League Match Pack
11:30pm	La Liga Show
12:00am	Premier League Match Pack

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
2:55pm	ITV News London
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	ITV News London
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	President Trump
9:00pm	Emmerdale
9:30pm	The Cruise
10:00pm	Unforgotten
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:30pm	ITV News London
11:45pm	The Late Debate
12:15am	Piers Morgan's Life Stories
1:10am	Jackpot247
4:00am	President Trump
4:25am	ITV Nightscreen <i>Text-based information service.</i>

itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:20am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
8:15am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	Coronation Street
10:00am	You've Been Framed!
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Scorpion
12:25pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	Coronation Street
2:30pm	You've Been Framed!
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Get Him to the Greek
11:00pm	FYI Daily
11:05pm	Get Him to the Greek
12:10am	Family Guy
12:40am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:30am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:35am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy
11:30am	Judge Judy
11:55am	A Touch of Frost
1:55pm	Heartbeat
3:00pm	The Royal
4:05pm	Where the Heart is
5:10pm	In Loving Memory
5:50pm	Rising Damp
6:20pm	George and Mildred
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Heartbeat
10:00pm	Love and Marriage
11:00pm	Lewis
1:00am	Wycliffe
2:05am	The Knock <i>Drama series following the dangerous investigations of an HM Customs and Excise unit.</i>
3:00am	ITV3 Nightscreen <i>Text-based information service.</i>
3:30am	Teleshopping <i>Shopping from home.</i>

itv4

7:00am	Gunsmoke
7:55am	The Saint
8:50am	Quincy, M.E.
9:50am	The Professionals
10:55am	Ironsides
12:00pm	Gunsmoke
1:00pm	Storage Wars New York
1:30pm	Storage Wars New York
2:00pm	Pawn Stars
2:30pm	Pawn Stars
2:55pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Ironsides
5:00pm	The Professionals
6:00pm	The Saint
7:05pm	Storage Wars Texas
7:35pm	Storage Wars Texas
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:30pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	River Monsters
10:00pm	The World is Not Enough
11:05pm	FYI Daily
11:10pm	The World is Not Enough
12:40am	Maximum Conviction
1:40am	FYI Daily
1:45am	Maximum Conviction
2:45am	Life of Ryan: Caretaker Manager

sky/MOVIES ACTION & ADVENTURE

10:00am	The Magnificent Seven
12:20pm	San Andreas
2:30pm	Chappie
4:40pm	Charlie's Angels
6:40pm	Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle
9:00pm	San Andreas
11:00pm	Chappie
1:05am	The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor

sky/MOVIES COMEDY

8:45am	Star Wars: Rogue One Special
9:15am	South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut
10:45am	Sisters
12:50pm	Hitch
2:55pm	Star Wars: Rogue One Special
3:25pm	My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2
5:10pm	Nine Months
7:00pm	The Devil Wears Prada
9:00pm	Sisters
11:00pm	My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2
12:45am	Magic Mike XXL

sky/MOVIES PREMIERE

7:00am	Wild Horses
8:50am	5 to 7
10:30am	Precious Cargo
12:05pm	All Roads Lead to Rome
1:40pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War <i>Chris Hemsworth's Huntsman battles to keep the fabled magic mirror out of the wrong hands.</i>
3:40pm	Cabin Fever
5:25pm	Wild Horses
7:15pm	Precious Cargo
9:00pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
11:00pm	Cabin Fever
12:45am	Rise of the Footsoldier II
2:40am	The Wonders <i>A family of bee-keepers struggle to make ends meet in the isolated Italian countryside.</i>
4:40am	All Roads Lead to Rome

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:10am	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:20am	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:30am	Cricket
5:30pm	Sporting Records
6:00pm	Sporting Records
6:30pm	Sporting Greats
7:00pm	Cricket Classics
8:00pm	ATP Tour Uncovered
8:30pm	Sporting Records
9:00pm	Cricket
10:00pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
10:10pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
10:20pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
10:30pm	Sporting Triumphs
10:45pm	Sporting Triumphs
11:00pm	Cricket
12:00am	Ashes Best Days
2:00am	Cricket <i>India face England in the second ODI at Barabati Stadium in Cuttack, India.</i>
3:00am	Cricket World Cup Classics <i>A look back at some classic matches from the ICC Cricket World Cup.</i>
4:00am	Cricket
5:00am	Sporting Rivalries
5:30am	Sporting Rivalries

Under the radar

Cassandra Nash

A weekly look

- and not entirely impartial reaction -
to the Spanish political scene

FORMER defence minister and soon to be ex-Ambassador in London Federico Trillo was ultimately responsible for the 2003 Yak 42 air disaster.

Few ever doubted that and the State Council has joined the chorus 14 years later.

An aircraft with 62 Spanish soldiers returning from Afghanistan came down over Turkey, killing everyone aboard.

Trillo's successor at the Ministry of Defence said that Jose Maria Aznar's government chartered "rubbish planes" to offset the cost of backing Bush and Blair during the Iraq invasion.

Interestingly, the Ministry of Defence paid €149,000 to charter that plane. The owners Um-Air received €38,000 so where did €111,000 go?

The old UK government auditors' pre-adding machine dictum comes to mind: check the books twice if a manager or de-

partment head is overtly religious. Trillo is a fully paid-up member of Opus Dei and religion doesn't get more overt than that.

Power play

ACCORDING to Spain's Constitution, parliament packs up in July, August and January.

In recent years - allegedly to give a good example - January has been a working month for MPs. Not in 2017, though. Possibly they are exhausted by the December 2015-October 2016 hiatus when MPs literally didn't know whether they were coming or going.

Doubtless the PP, Podemos and Ciudadanos - PSOE are waiting until June - are more concerned about February's national conferences. Now's the time to distribute power inside the parties, an issue that clearly interests them more than the voters who pay their wages.

Progress made

STREETS named after men triple those of women in Madrid, Barcelona and Valencia. Those considered worthy of A-Z honour are



Federico Trillo.

either virgins, saints, monarchs or aristocrats, which just about sums up previous Spanish attitudes towards women.

Females outside these categories existed

only as childbearers, housewives and servants but at least something has changed as they're now expected to hold down a job as well.

Too little, too late

THE government is planning a national centre to house a database of Spain's 'disappeared.' Staggeringly this will not include the thousands of people who vanished in the years of Francoist repression during and after the Civil War. The centre will instead concentrate its efforts on those who have disappeared since then. Not so much a matter of shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted as choosing the wrong stable.

Advertising feature

Setting sail into 2017 and beyond

JANUARY is traditionally the time when our thoughts start wandering to the summer and booking our holidays. Whilst we thankfully do not suffer the cold conditions of our northern European neighbours, we all still need a break from our daily routine and holidays offer that perfect escape and with Falken Tours, that escape can be to anywhere you want...

Based in La Marina and La Zenia, Falken Tours have helped thousands of people find their escape, be that a weekend break in Spain, a European city adventure, or even a cruise around the world.

As cruise specialists, they receive numerous enquiries and have sourced some of the best cruises from the best companies. Whether you're a first-timer unsure of what to expect, regulars looking to take it to the next level, or a family wanting something the children will enjoy as much as the adults, there is a cruise for everyone and Falken Tours will help you find it.

They work closely with MSC, drawn by their range of cruises and high class ships and facilities on board, making them a popular choice. The company is also preparing to launch the new Meraviglia ship which Falken Tours is offering with a Barcelona departure on October 6. Cruise expert Christopher Fischer, said this



FALKEN TOURS: Cruise specialists will help you find your perfect holiday.

promises to deliver a cruising experience like never before.

The Meraviglia, or 'wonder' in English, is a true wonder. It is a new generation of ship with facilities and a modern, sleek style never seen before. There is first class entertainment including a unique show from Cirque du Soleil and shopping like you would find on a city high street. Prices for this eight-day Mediter-

anean cruise start at €599 plus port tax, on a full board basis with an all inclusive drinks package available at €26 per person per night.

Eight-day Mediterranean cruises are also available from Valencia on board the MSC Splendida, visiting Marseille, Genoa, Civitavecchia (Roma), Palermo, Cagliari and Palma de Mallorca before heading back to Valencia. With prices costing from just €250 per person,

plus port tax, this is one of the most affordable ways to visit some of the delights of the Mediterranean in style.

Christmas may have just been and gone but why not get away this year for the festive period? MSC have an eight-day Mediterranean cruise departing on December 22 with prices from €589; a 12-day cruise from €829 and a 13-day New Year cruise from €1,189 (all excluding port taxes).

For those looking to go further afield and want to plan ahead, Falken Tours are already taking reservations for 2018 as they announce the 19-day transatlantic cruise on the MSC Divina from Miami to Valencia. Leaving in March 2018, this is a wonderful opportunity to spend some days on board the luxurious Divina and enjoy all it has to offer as you head to your destinations of New York, Bermuda, Portugal and Malaga before heading home to Valencia. Flights to Miami are not included. Prices start from €799 plus port tax.

Speak to the team now to find the right cruise for you. Enquire now and you could soon be setting sail into 2017 and 2018.

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GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



BBC one

12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	Caught Red Handed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News at One
2:30pm	BBC London News
2:45pm	!Mpossible
3:30pm	The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food
4:15pm	Antiques Road Trip
5:00pm	President Trump: The Inauguration
7:00pm	BBC News at Six
7:30pm	BBC London News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	A Question of Sport
9:00pm	EastEnders
9:30pm	Room 101
10:00pm	EastEnders
10:30pm	Not Going Out
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten <i>The latest national and international news, with reports from BBC correspondents worldwide.</i>
11:25pm	BBC London News
11:35pm	The Graham Norton Show
12:25am	Uncle
12:55am	Reasonable Doubt

BBC TWO

7:00am	Rip Off Britain
7:45am	Wanted Down Under
8:30am	Cash in the Attic
9:00am	Caught Red Handed
9:30am	An Island Parish
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Masters Snooker
6:00pm	Coast
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys
8:00pm	Masters Snooker
9:00pm	Mastermind
9:30pm	Only Connect
10:00pm	World's Most Extraordinary Homes
11:00pm	QI
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:05am	Masters Snooker Highlights
12:55am	Masters Snooker Extra
2:55am	Thailand: Earth's Tropical Paradise
3:55am	Britain's Ancient Capital: Secrets of Orkney
4:55am	This is BBC Two

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	World News Today <i>The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.</i>
8:30pm	Top of the Pops
9:00pm	The Good Old Days <i>Leonard Sachs presents the old-time music hall programme, first broadcast on 10th March 1977.</i>
10:00pm	Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand
11:00pm	Hello Quo
12:20am	Status Quo: Live and Acoustic
1:20am	Top of the Pops
2:00am	Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand
3:00am	Hello Quo
4:20am	This is BBC Four <i>BBC Four is the BBC channel for people who want more. More depth, more range, more to stimulate the mind.</i>

CHANNEL 4

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	King of Queens
8:10am	King of Queens
8:35am	King of Queens
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Frasier
11:00am	Frasier
11:30am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:30pm	Four in a Bed
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Four in a Bed
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	A New Life in the Sun
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun
6:00pm	Come Dine with Me
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
10:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
11:00pm	Lee Mack
12:05am	First Dates Hotel
1:05am	Basic Instinct

CHANNEL 5

9:00am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am	Wissper
9:25am	Peppa Pig
9:50am	Toot the Tiny Tugboat
10:00am	Toby's Travelling Circus
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders and Bodge Jobs
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	Celebrity Big Brother
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:20pm	NCIS
4:20pm	Abducted: The Jocelyn Shaker Story
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	Penguin A and E with Lorraine Kelly
9:00pm	Puppies Make You Laugh Out Loud 2
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	Lip Sync Battle UK
11:30pm	Celebrity Big Brother
12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

4

7:00am	Suburgatory
7:20am	Charmed
8:05am	Hollyoaks
8:35am	Coach Trip
9:05am	Rules of Engagement
9:35am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Baby Daddy
10:30am	Baby Daddy
11:00am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
11:30am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:00pm	Charmed
1:00pm	Charmed
2:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
4:30pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
6:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	Friends with Benefits
12:10am	The Big Bang Theory
12:40am	The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

10:00am	Premier League 100 Club
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Transfer Centre
12:30pm	Premier League 100 Club
1:00pm	Barclays Premier League World
1:30pm	Premier League Match Pack
2:00pm	Premier League 100 Club
2:30pm	One2eleven 2016/17
3:00pm	Premier League Legends
4:00pm	Barclays Premier League World
4:30pm	Premier League Match Pack
5:00pm	Football Gold
6:00pm	Barclays Premier League Preview
6:30pm	Premier League Legends
7:00pm	The Fantasy Football Club
8:00pm	Football
11:15pm	Barclays Premier League Preview
11:45pm	The Fantasy Football Club
12:45am	Football Gold

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
2:55pm	ITV News London
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	President Trump: The Inauguration
7:00pm	ITV News London
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Coronation Street
9:00pm	Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury
9:30pm	Coronation Street
10:00pm	Tina and Bobby
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:30pm	ITV News London
11:40pm	Fishing Impossible
12:10am	The Wine Show
1:15am	Jackpot247
4:00am	Freeze Out

itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:20am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
8:15am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	Emmerdale
10:00am	You've Been Framed!
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Scorpion
12:25pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	Emmerdale
2:30pm	You've Been Framed!
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
7:30pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	The 40 Year Old Virgin
12:20am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:25am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:35am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy
11:30am	Judge Judy
11:55am	A Touch of Frost
2:05pm	Heartbeat
3:05pm	The Royal
4:10pm	Where the Heart is
5:20pm	In Loving Memory
5:50pm	Rising Damp
6:20pm	George and Mildred
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Doc Martin
10:00pm	A Touch of Frost
12:05am	Blue Murder
1:40am	The Knock
2:35am	Wycliffe
3:30am	A Touch of Frost
5:15am	Rory Bremner's Great British Views <i>Rory Bremner is in Liverpool where he tries his hand at bell ringing in its famous cathedral.</i>

itv4

7:00am	Gunsmoke
7:55am	The Saint
8:50am	Quincy, M.E.
9:50am	The Professionals
10:55am	Ironside
12:00pm	Gunsmoke
1:05pm	Storage Wars Texas
1:35pm	Storage Wars Texas
2:00pm	Pawn Stars
2:30pm	Pawn Stars
3:00pm	Quincy, M.E.
4:00pm	Ironside
5:05pm	The Professionals
6:05pm	The Saint
7:10pm	Storage Wars Texas
7:40pm	Storage Wars Texas
8:05pm	Pawn Stars
8:35pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	Counting Cars
9:30pm	Counting Cars
10:00pm	Die Another Day
11:00pm	FYI Daily
11:05pm	Die Another Day
12:40am	The Client
1:50am	FYI Daily
1:55am	The Client
3:05am	The Saint
4:00am	Teleshopping <i>Shopping from home.</i>

sky MOVIES ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:00am	Lawrence of Arabia
10:45am	In the Heart of the Sea
1:00pm	Terminator Genisys
3:20pm	Bad Boys
5:25pm	True Lies
7:50pm	In the Heart of the Sea
10:00pm	Terminator Genisys
12:10am	Bad Boys
2:20am	Enemy of the State
4:45am	Rocky

sky MOVIES COMEDY

8:00am	Welcome to Me
9:35am	Bruce Almighty
11:20am	Alien Autopsy
1:00pm	Daddy's Home
2:45pm	Ted 2
4:55pm	Pixels
6:50pm	Valentine's Day
9:00pm	Daddy's Home
10:45pm	Ted 2
1:00am	Get Hard
2:50am	Rush Hour 2
4:25am	Juno

sky MOVIES PREMIERE

8:45am	Star Wars: Rogue One Special
9:15am	5 to 7
11:00am	Cabin Fever
12:45pm	Wild Horses
2:45pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
4:45pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War <i>Chris Hemsworth's Huntsman battles to keep the fabled magic mirror out of the wrong hands.</i>
6:45pm	Sky Movies 2017 Preview
7:15pm	Precious Cargo
9:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
11:00pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
12:55am	Cabin Fever
2:40am	Rise of the Footsoldier II
4:35am	The Wonders <i>A family of bee-keepers struggle to make ends meet in the isolated Italian countryside.</i>

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	Time of Our Lives
9:00am	Sporting Rivalries
9:30am	Sporting Rivalries
10:00am	Cricket
11:00am	Great Sporting Moments
11:15am	Great Sporting Moments
11:30am	Great Sporting Moments
11:45am	Great Sporting Moments
12:00pm	Sporting Heroes
1:00pm	Cricket
2:00pm	Time of Our Lives
3:00pm	Cricket
4:00pm	Cricket's Greatest
4:30pm	Sporting Greats
4:55pm	Cricket
8:30pm	Rugby Union
11:00pm	Cricket
2:35am	Cricket Gold Shorts
2:45am	Sporting Rivalries
3:15am	Cricket Classics
4:15am	Cricket World Cup Classics
5:15am	Sporting Rivalries
5:45am	Sporting Rivalries

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<div>BBCone</div>		<div>BBC TWO</div>		<div>BBCFOUR</div>		<div>CHANNEL 4</div>		<div>CHANNEL 5</div>		<div>4</div>		<div>sky SPORTS 1</div>	
7:00am	Breakfast	7:30am	Mary of Scotland	8:00pm	Patagonia with Huw Edwards	7:20am	King of Queens	7:00am	Milkshake Monkey	7:00am	Rude(Ish) Tube	7:00am	Football Gold
11:00am	Saturday Kitchen Live	9:30am	I Know Where I'm Going	9:00pm	Treasures of the Indus	7:45am	King of Queens	7:05am	Milkshake! Bop Box	7:20am	Young and Hungry	7:30am	Football Gold
12:30pm	The Best Dishes Ever	11:00am	Secret Britain	10:00pm	Lost Kingdoms of Central America	8:10am	King of Queens	7:10am	Peppa Pig	7:45am	Young and Hungry	8:00am	Football's Greatest
1:00pm	Football Focus	12:00pm	Homes Under the Hammer	11:00pm	The Young Montalbano	8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond	7:15am	Bob the Builder	8:05am	Black-Ish	8:30am	Football's Greatest
2:00pm	BBC News	1:00pm	Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure	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.	9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond	7:25am	Wanda and the Alien	8:35am	Black-Ish	9:00am	Game Changers	
2:10pm	Weather	2:00pm	Talking Pictures	12:40am	Top of the Pops	9:30am	Frasier	7:35am	Zack and Quack	9:05am	Melissa and Joey	9:30am	Barclays Premier League Preview
2:15pm	Masters Snooker	2:30pm	Bundle of Joy	1:15am	Top of the Pops	10:00am	Frasier	7:45am	Seaside Antics	9:35am	Melissa and Joey	10:00am	The Fantasy Football Club
5:30pm	Final Score	4:05pm	Tennis	1:55pm	Imagine...	10:30am	The Big Bang Theory	7:55am	Fireman Sam	10:30am	Baby Daddy	11:00am	Soccer A.M.
6:10pm	BBC News	5:30pm	Masters Snooker	3:20am	Rod Stewart Live at Hyde Park	10:55am	The Big Bang Theory	8:10am	Pip Ahoy!	11:00am	Rude(Ish) Tube Shorts	12:30pm	Barclays Premier League Preview
6:20pm	Regional News	6:30pm	Only Connect	4:20am	Sounds of the 70s	11:20am	The Big Bang Theory	8:30am	Little Princess	11:10am	Astro Boy	1:00pm	Football
6:25pm	Weather	7:00pm	Thailand: Earth's Tropical Paradise			11:50am	The Simpsons	8:45am	Paw Patrol	1:30pm	Black-Ish	4:00pm	Gillette Soccer Saturday
6:30pm	Who Dares Wins		Documentary exploring the tropical paradise of Thailand.			12:20pm	The Simpsons	9:00am	Big Bash Cricket Live	2:00pm	The Goldbergs	6:15pm	Football
7:10pm	Pointless					12:50pm	Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast	12:35pm	Escape to Victory	2:30pm	The Goldbergs	9:00pm	EFL Goals
8:00pm	Let it Shine							2:50pm	Police Interceptors	3:00pm	The Goldbergs	9:30pm	Nissan Game of the Day
9:25pm	Casualty							3:20pm	The Yorkshire Vet	3:30pm	The Goldbergs	11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice
10:15pm	Taboo							4:20pm	The Yorkshire Vet	4:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	12:30am	Info Not Available
11:10pm	BBC News							5:15pm	The Yorkshire Vet	4:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	1:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
11:25pm	Weather							6:15pm	The Yorkshire Vet	5:00pm	The Addams Family	1:30am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
11:30pm	Match of the Day							7:15pm	NCIS: Los Angeles	7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory	2:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
12:55am	The NFL Show							8:05pm	NCIS: Los Angeles	7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory	2:30am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
1:25am	Paycheck							9:00pm	NCIS	8:00pm	The Big Bang Theory	3:00am	Pl: Match TBA Highlights
3:15am	Weather for the Week Ahead							9:55pm	5 News Weekend	8:30pm	The Big Bang Theory		
3:20am	BBC News							10:00pm	Football on 5	9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory		
	The latest national and international news stories, followed by Weather.							11:00pm	Football on 5	9:30pm	The Big Bang Theory		
								11:30pm	Celebrity Big Brother	10:00pm	Terminator Salvation		
								12:35am	Lip Sync Battle UK	12:10am	Gogglebox		
								1:05am	Super Casino	1:15am	Gogglebox		
								4:10am	Celebrity Big Brother	2:10am	Rude Tube		
								5:00am	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies				
								5:50am	Divine Designs				
<div>itv</div>		<div>itv2</div>		<div>itv3</div>		<div>itv4</div>		<div>sky MOVIES ACTION & ADVENTURE</div>		<div>sky MOVIES PREMIERE</div>		<div>sky SPORTS 2</div>	
7:00am	CITV	7:00am	Emmerdale Omnibus	7:00am	Judge Judy	9:55am	The Saint	11:00am	G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra	8:50am	5 to 7	7:00am	Cricket Classics
10:25am	ITV News	9:45am	Coronation Street Omnibus	7:20am	Murder, She Wrote	11:00am	ITV Racing: The Opening Show	1:05pm	Jurassic Park	10:35am	Precious Cargo	8:00am	Sporting Rivalries
10:30am	Rebound	12:15pm	Ninja Warrior	8:10am	Murder, She Wrote	12:00pm	Pawn Stars	3:15pm	xXx2: The Next Level	12:10pm	Kids in Love	8:30am	Sporting Rivalries
11:25am	Guess This House	1:20pm	Horrid Henry: The Movie	9:10am	Murder, She Wrote	12:30pm	Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	5:00pm	The Day the Earth Stood Still	1:40pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass	9:00am	Sky Sports Years
12:25pm	Judge Rinder	2:20pm	FYI Daily	10:15am	Columbo	1:30pm	FYI Daily	6:50pm	G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra	3:40pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War	10:00am	Sporting Greats
1:30pm	ITV News and Weather	2:25pm	Horrid Henry: The Movie	11:50am	A Touch of Frost	1:35pm	Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol	9:00pm	Jurassic Park		The Huntsman battles to keep the fabled magic mirror out of the wrong hands.	10:30am	Sporting Greats
1:35pm	River Monsters	3:10pm	Space Jam	1:50pm	Lewis	2:20pm	Barcelona's European Glory	11:10pm	xXx2: The Next Level	5:40pm	Cabin Fever	11:00am	Great Sporting Moments
2:05pm	Big Stars Little Star	4:10pm	FYI Daily	3:50pm	Wycliffe	2:30pm	ITV Racing Live	12:55am	Mission: Impossible III	7:25pm	Kids in Love	11:15am	Great Sporting Moments
3:05pm	Tipping Point	4:15pm	Space Jam	5:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple	5:00pm	The Dam Busters			9:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass	12:00pm	Sporting Heroes
4:05pm	The Chase	4:55pm	Hotel Transylvania	7:00pm	Midsomer Murders	6:00pm	FYI Daily					1:00pm	Live Scottish Cup Football
5:05pm	Dance Dance Dance	5:55pm	FYI Daily	9:00pm	Doc Martin	6:05pm	The Dam Busters					3:30pm	Great Sporting Moments
6:35pm	Local News and Weather	6:00pm	Hotel Transylvania		Comedy drama series about a top London surgeon who developed a phobia of blood.	7:35pm	Pawn Stars					3:45pm	Great Sporting Moments
6:45pm	ITV News and Weather	6:45pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey			8:00pm	The Boxing Mavericks					4:00pm	Rugby Union
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!	7:45pm	FYI Daily									4:00pm	Rugby Union
8:00pm	Ninja Warrior UK	7:50pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey									6:15pm	Rugby Union
9:00pm	The Voice UK	10:00pm	Hellboy II: The Golden Army									9:00pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
10:30pm	Through the Keyhole	11:00pm	FYI Daily									9:10pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
11:30pm	ITV News and Weather	11:05pm	Hellboy II: The Golden Army									9:20pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
11:45pm	I Am Legend	12:20am	Family Guy									9:30pm	Sporting Triumphs
1:30am	Jackpot247	12:50am	Family Guy									9:45pm	Sporting Triumphs
	Join the presenters live and play roulette on your telly.	1:20am	Family Guy									10:00pm	Sporting Mavericks
4:00am	Who's Doing the Dishes?	1:50am	American Dad!									10:30pm	More Than a Game
4:50am	Nightscreen	2:20am	American Dad!									11:00pm	More Than a Game
												11:30pm	More Than a Game
												12:00am	Ashes Best Days
												2:00am	Cricket Classics

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BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
8:35am	Match of the Day
10:00am	The Andrew Marr Show
11:00am	The Big Questions
12:00pm	Sunday Politics
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:10pm	Weather for the Week Ahead
2:15pm	Homes Under the Hammer
3:15pm	Flog It!
4:15pm	Escape to the Country
5:15pm	Lifeline
5:25pm	Songs of Praise
6:00pm	Spy in the Wild
7:00pm	BBC News
7:20pm	Regional News
7:25pm	Weather
7:30pm	Countryfile
8:30pm	Still Open All Hours
9:00pm	Call the Midwife
10:00pm	Apple Tree Yard
11:00pm	BBC News
11:20pm	Regional News
11:25pm	Weather
11:30pm	Match of the Day 2
12:40am	A Question of Sport

BBC TWO

8:15am	A to Z of TV Gardening
9:00am	An Island Parish
9:30am	The Edible Garden
10:00am	Countryfile
	<i>News and stories concerning the heart of the British countryside.</i>
11:00am	Saturday Kitchen
	Best Bites
12:30pm	Talking Snooker
1:15pm	MOTD2 Extra
	<i>MOTD2 Extra presents the latest football action.</i>
2:00pm	Masters Snooker
	<i>Coverage of the Masters snooker tournament.</i>
6:15pm	Tennis
7:15pm	Ski Sunday
8:00pm	Masters Snooker
12:00am	QI XL
12:45am	Good
2:15am	Question Time
3:15am	Holby City
4:15am	This is BBC Two
	<i>Highlights of programmes on BBC Two.</i>

BBC FOUR

9:00pm	Sword, Musket and Machine Gun: Britain's Armed History?
10:00pm	Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster
	<i>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.</i>
11:00pm	Hidden Killers of the Post War Home
12:00am	Horizon
1:00am	Play it Loud: The Story of the Marshall Amp
2:00am	Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand
3:00am	Lost Kingdoms of Central America
4:00am	Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster

CHANNEL 4

7:15am	King of Queens
7:45am	King of Queens
8:10am	Everybody Loves Raymond
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Frasier
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Sunday Brunch
1:30pm	The Simpsons
2:30pm	Tooth Fairy
4:30pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
5:15pm	Location, Location, Location
6:20pm	Channel 4 News
6:50pm	The Day After Tomorrow
9:00pm	Walking the Americas
10:00pm	Homeland
11:05pm	Trainspotting
12:55am	The 90s: Ten Years That Changed the World
2:20am	How to Lose Weight Well
3:15am	Millionaires' Mansions

CHANNEL 5

8:30am	Little Princess
8:40am	Paw Patrol
8:55am	Blaze and the Monster Machines
9:25am	Noddy in Toyland
9:40am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:55am	Shimmer and Shine
10:25am	Peppa Pig
10:45am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
10:55am	The Fairly Odd Parents
11:13am	The Fairly Odd Parents
11:30am	Football on 5
12:20pm	Football on 5
12:55pm	Fail Army
1:20pm	Brides Make You Laugh Out Loud
2:20pm	Kangaroo Jack
4:00pm	George of the Jungle
5:45pm	Herbie: Fully Loaded
7:30pm	Dads Make You Laugh Out Loud
8:30pm	The Adele Story
9:55pm	5 News Weekend
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies
12:05am	Just Go with it

4

7:00am	How I Met Your Mother
7:20am	How I Met Your Mother
7:45am	Melissa and Joey
8:05am	Melissa and Joey
8:35am	Baby Daddy
9:00am	Baby Daddy
9:30am	Young and Hungry
10:00am	Young and Hungry
10:30am	Hollyoaks Omnibus
1:00pm	Coach Trip
1:30pm	Coach Trip
2:00pm	Coach Trip
2:35pm	Coach Trip
3:05pm	Coach Trip
3:35pm	The Goldbergs
4:00pm	The Goldbergs
4:35pm	The Goldbergs
5:00pm	The Goldbergs
5:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
6:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
6:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
12:05am	Tattoo Fixers
1:10am	Virtually Famous

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am	Pl: Match TBA
	Highlights
7:30am	Pl: Match TBA
	Highlights
8:00am	Pl: Match TBA
	Highlights
8:30am	Pl: Match TBA
	Highlights
9:00am	The Sunday Supplement
10:30am	Goals on Sunday
12:30pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
3:00pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
5:15pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
8:00pm	Transfer Centre
8:30pm	Live NFL
12:00am	Live NFL
3:30am	Pl Match Highlights
4:00am	Pl Match Highlights
4:30am	Pl Match Highlights
	<i>Chelsea host Hull City at Stamford Bridge in the Premier League.</i>
5:00am	Goals on Sunday

itv

7:00am	CITV
10:25am	ITV News
10:30am	Countrywise
11:00am	Peston on Sunday
12:00pm	Gino's Italian
	<i>Escape: Hidden Italy</i>
12:30pm	Chopping Block
1:30pm	ITV News and Weather
1:35pm	Judge Rinder
2:35pm	Tipping Point
3:35pm	Ninja Warrior UK
4:35pm	The Voice UK
6:05pm	Local News and Weather
6:15pm	ITV News and Weather
6:30pm	The Chase: Celebrity Special
7:30pm	Dance Dance Dance
9:00pm	Endeavour
11:00pm	ITV News and Weather
11:15pm	Peston on Sunday
12:15am	The Cube
1:15am	Jackpot247
	<i>Join the presenters live and play roulette on your telly.</i>
4:00am	Chopping Block

itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:20am	Emmerdale Omnibus
10:05am	Coronation Street
	Omnibus
12:30pm	The Voice UK
2:00pm	Zawesome
2:05pm	Zawesome
2:40pm	Zawesome
3:20pm	Zawesome
3:40pm	Zawesome
4:00pm	Looney Tunes: Back in Action
5:05pm	FYI Daily
5:10pm	Looney Tunes: Back in Action
5:45pm	Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
6:45pm	FYI Daily
6:50pm	Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
7:55pm	The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
8:55pm	FYI Daily
9:00pm	The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
11:00pm	Family Guy
11:30pm	Family Guy
12:00am	Family Guy
12:30am	Family Guy
12:55am	American Dad!

itv3

7:00am	George and Mildred
7:25am	The Mirror Crack'd
8:25am	FYI Daily
8:30am	The Mirror Crack'd
9:35am	Heartbeat
10:35am	Heartbeat
11:40am	Murder, She Wrote
12:40pm	Murder, She Wrote
1:40pm	Wycliffe
2:50pm	Sherlock Holmes: The Hound of the Baskervilles
5:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple
7:00pm	Midsomer Murders
9:00pm	This Time Next Year
10:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium
11:00pm	Birds of a Feather
11:35pm	Wimbledon
12:35am	FYI Daily
12:40am	Wimbledon
1:40am	A Touch of Frost
3:20am	Wycliffe
4:15am	May the Best House Win
5:10am	May the Best House Win

itv4

7:00am	Tommy Cooper
7:25am	The Wine Show
8:20am	The Professionals
9:15am	The Professionals
10:20am	Counting Cars
10:45am	Counting Cars
11:10am	Shed and Buried
12:15pm	Pawn Stars
4:05pm	Lawman
5:05pm	FYI Daily
5:10pm	Lawman
6:10pm	The Man From the Alamo
7:10pm	FYI Daily
7:15pm	The Man From the Alamo
7:50pm	Mr. Bean
8:30pm	Mr. Bean
9:00pm	Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach
10:10pm	FYI Daily
10:15pm	Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach
11:00pm	The Bank Job
12:00am	FYI Daily
12:05am	The Bank Job
1:15am	Road
2:15am	FYI Daily

sky MOVIES ACTION & ADVENTURE

8:45am	Remember the Titans
10:45am	San Andreas
12:45pm	Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation
3:05pm	Mad Max: Fury Road
5:15pm	The Scorpion King
7:00pm	San Andreas
9:00pm	Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation
11:15pm	Mad Max: Fury Road
1:20am	13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi

sky MOVIES COMEDY

7:50am	Raising Helen
9:50am	Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story
11:35am	The House Bunny
1:20pm	Dad's Army
3:10pm	Spy
5:25pm	The Wedding Ringer
7:15pm	Bridget Jones's Diary
9:00pm	Dad's Army
10:45pm	Spy
1:00am	Brüno
2:30am	Search Party
4:10am	Stir Crazy

sky MOVIES PREMIERE

7:00am	The Huntsman: Winter's War
9:00am	Cabin Fever
10:45am	Star Wars: Rogue One Special
11:15am	Alice Through the Looking Glass
1:15pm	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
3:15pm	Kids in Love
5:00pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
	<i>The Huntsman battles to keep the fabled magic mirror out of the wrong hands.</i>
7:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
9:00pm	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
11:00pm	Kids in Love
12:35am	Rise of the Footsoldier II
2:30am	The Wonders
	<i>A family of bee-keepers struggle to make ends meet in the isolated Italian countryside.</i>

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:10am	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:20am	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:30am	Cricket
5:30pm	Sporting Records
6:00pm	Sporting Records
6:30pm	Sporting Greats
7:00pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
7:10pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
7:20pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
7:30pm	Sporting Greats
8:00pm	Sporting Greats
8:30pm	Cricket
9:30pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
9:40pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
9:50pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
10:00pm	More Than a Game
10:30pm	More Than a Game
11:00pm	Pl Match Highlights
11:30pm	Pl Match Highlights
12:00am	Pl Match Highlights
12:30am	Goals on Sunday
1:30am	Pl Match Highlights
2:00am	Pl Match Highlights
2:30am	Pl Match Highlights
3:00am	Cricket
4:00am	Sporting Triumphs
4:15am	Sporting Triumphs
4:30am	Sporting Triumphs

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 Hours* and *Porridge* are 'real' people acting in character (not just a load of



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

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 orig-

inality 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, nostalgia 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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BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
10:15am	Rip Off Britain
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	Caught Red Handed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:30pm	Regional News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	Father Brown
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	Royal Recipes
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News
7:30pm	Regional News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	Inside Out
9:00pm	EastEnders
9:30pm	Panorama
10:00pm	Silent Witness
11:00pm	BBC News
11:30pm	Regional News
11:40pm	Weather
11:45pm	Class
12:30am	Class
1:15am	The Graham Norton Show
2:00am	Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC TWO

7:00am	Rip Off Britain
7:45am	Wanted Down Under
8:30am	Cash in the Attic
9:00am	Big Dreams Small Spaces
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Bowls
5:30pm	Tennis
6:30pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm	An Island Parish
8:30pm	University Challenge
9:00pm	Winterwatch
10:00pm	Horizon
11:00pm	Insert Name Here
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather
12:15am	Hospital
1:15am	Bowls
2:15am	Countryfile
3:10am	Jazzie B's 1980's
4:10am	This is BBC Two

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	World News Today
8:30pm	Reel History of Britain
9:00pm	The Engine That Powers the World Timeshift.
10:00pm	Scotland and the Klan
11:00pm	Genius of the Ancient World
12:00am	How it Works From the Stone Age to the Silicon Age, materials have helped drive forward our civilisation.
1:00am	When God Spoke English: The Making of the King James Bible
2:00am	David Starkey's Music and Monarchy
3:00am	The Engine That Powers the World Timeshift.
4:00am	Scotland and the Klan

CHANNEL 4

7:15am	3rd Rock from the Sun
7:40am	King of Queens
8:10am	King of Queens
8:35am	King of Queens
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Frasier
11:00am	Frasier
11:30am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:30pm	Four in a Bed
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Four in a Bed
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	A New Life in the Sun
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
6:00pm	Come Dine with Me
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	Dispatches
9:30pm	Food Unwrapped
10:00pm	The Undateables
11:00pm	First Dates Hotel
12:05am	Tattoo Fixers
1:10am	Spies
2:05am	60 Days in Jail

CHANNEL 5

9:00am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am	Wissper
9:25am	Peppa Pig
9:50am	Toot the Tiny Tugboat
10:00am	Toby's Travelling Circus
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	Celebrity Big Brother
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS
4:15pm	Too Close to Kill
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	World's Biggest Beasts
9:00pm	Police Interceptors
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	My Mum's Hotter Than Me!
12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

4

7:00am	Suburgatory
7:20am	Charmed
8:05am	Hollyoaks
8:35am	Coach Trip
9:05am	Rules of Engagement
9:35am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Baby Daddy
11:00am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:00pm	Charmed
1:00pm	Charmed
2:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
2:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
4:30pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
5:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
6:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	School of Rock
11:15pm	Gogglebox
12:10am	The Big Bang Theory
12:35am	The Big Bang Theory
1:05am	First Dates

sky SPORTS 1

8:00am	WWE Raw
9:00am	Goals on Sunday
10:00am	PI Match Highlights
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Transfer Centre
12:30pm	Premier League 100 Club
1:00pm	PI Match Highlights
2:00pm	Premier League 100 Club
3:00pm	PI Match Highlights
4:00pm	Premier League 100 Club
5:00pm	PI Match Highlights
7:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
7:30pm	Scottish Football Round Up Show
7:45pm	Football Gold
8:00pm	Transfer Centre
8:30pm	Spanish Football Gold
8:40pm	Football
10:40pm	Spanish Football Gold
11:00pm	Scottish Football Round Up Show
11:15pm	Football Gold
11:30pm	Premier League Legends
12:00am	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	Jeremy Kyles Emergency Room
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Coronation Street
9:00pm	The Martin Lewis Money Show
9:30pm	Coronation Street
10:00pm	The Halcyon
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:40pm	Through the Keyhole
12:40am	The Chase
1:35am	Jackpot247
4:00am	The Jeremy Kyle Show

itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:20am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
8:15am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	Coronation Street
10:00am	Coronation Street
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Scorpion
12:25pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	Coronation Street
2:30pm	Coronation Street
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Family Guy
10:30pm	The Great Indoors
11:00pm	American Dad!
11:30pm	American Dad!
12:00am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:30am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:35am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy
11:30am	Judge Judy
12:00pm	A Touch of Frost
2:00pm	Heartbeat
3:00pm	The Royal
4:05pm	Where the Heart is
5:15pm	In Loving Memory
5:50pm	Rising Damp
6:20pm	George and Mildred
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Doc Martin
10:00pm	Long Lost Family
11:00pm	The Bletchley Circle
12:00am	Women Behind Bars
1:05am	Wycliffe
2:10am	The Knock
3:05am	ITV3 Nightscreen Text-based information service.
3:30am	Teleshopping Innovative, value-for-money products brought directly to you at home

itv4

7:00am	Gunsmoke
7:55am	The Saint
8:50am	Quincy, M.E.
9:50am	The Professionals
10:50am	Ironside
11:55am	Gunsmoke
1:00pm	Storage Wars Texas
1:30pm	Storage Wars Texas
1:55pm	Pawn Stars
2:25pm	Pawn Stars
2:55pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Ironside
5:00pm	The Professionals
6:00pm	The Saint
7:05pm	Storage Wars Texas
7:35pm	Storage Wars Texas
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:30pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	The Chase: Celebrity Special
10:00pm	Another 48 Hrs
11:00pm	FYI Daily
11:05pm	Another 48 Hrs
12:05am	Bundesliga
1:05am	Halloween H2O: 20 Years Later
2:10am	FYI Daily
2:15am	Halloween H2O: 20 Years Later
2:50am	River Monsters

sky MOVIES ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:05am	Swordfish
9:00am	The Patriot
11:55am	Independence Day
2:30pm	Everest
4:40pm	Gone in 60 Seconds
6:45pm	King Arthur
9:00pm	Independence Day
11:30pm	Everest
1:45am	Close Range
3:25am	Cellular
5:15am	Rocky IV

sky MOVIES COMEDY

8:10am	Mountain Men
9:45am	Spud
11:35am	Sister Act
1:20pm	How to be Single
3:15pm	Norbit
5:05pm	In and Out
6:45pm	In Her Shoes
9:00pm	How to be Single
11:00pm	The Hangover
12:45am	City Slickers
2:45am	The Night Before
4:35am	The Cable Guy

sky MOVIES PREMIERE

7:00am	Cabin Fever
8:45am	Avengers: Age of Ultron Special
9:15am	5 to 7
11:00am	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
1:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
3:00pm	The Other Side of the Door
4:45pm	Star Wars: Rogue One Special
5:15pm	Kids in Love
7:00pm	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
9:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
11:00pm	The Other Side of the Door
12:40am	Kids in Love
2:15am	Rise of the Footsoldier II This brutal follow-up to the cult British crime thriller explores the aftermath of the infamous Rettendon Range Rover murders

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	Cricket
9:00am	Sky Sports Years
10:00am	Cricket
11:00am	Scottish Football Round Up Show
11:30am	Sporting Greats
12:00pm	NFL Highlights
1:00pm	NFL Highlights
2:00pm	Cricket
3:00pm	Scottish Football Round Up Show
3:30pm	Sporting Greats
4:00pm	Cricket
5:00pm	Cricket World Cup Classics
6:00pm	NFL Highlights
7:00pm	NFL Highlights
8:00pm	Cricket
9:00pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
9:10pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
9:20pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
9:30pm	Sporting Triumphs
9:45pm	Sporting Triumphs
10:00pm	PI Match Highlights
10:30pm	PI Match Highlights
11:00pm	Cricket
12:00am	Ashes Best Days
2:00am	NFL Highlights
3:00am	NFL Highlights

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BBCone

7:00am	Breakfast
10:15am	Rip Off Britain
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	Caught Red Handed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:30pm	Regional News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	Father Brown
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	Royal Recipes
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News
7:30pm	Regional News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	EastEnders
9:00pm	Holby City
10:00pm	Silent Witness
11:00pm	BBC News
11:30pm	Regional News
11:40pm	Weather
11:45pm	Brainwashing Stacey: Anti-Abortion Camp
12:35am	Call Security

BBC TWO

7:00am	Wanted Down Under
7:45am	Royal Recipes
8:30am	Cash in the Attic
9:00am	Great British Menu
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Bowls
5:30pm	Tennis
6:30pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
9:00pm	Winterwatch
10:00pm	Our Dancing Town
11:00pm	Revoluting
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather
12:15am	NFL
1:05am	Bowls
2:05am	The Big Life Fix with Simon Reeve
3:05am	The Sheriffs are Coming
4:00am	This is BBC Two Highlights of programmes on BBC Two.

BBC FOUR

9:00pm	Atlantis: The Evidence
10:00pm	Britain Beneath Your Feet
11:00pm	Britain's Nuclear Secrets: Inside Sellafeld
	<i>Lying on the remote north west coast of England is one of the most secret places in the country - Sellafeld, the most controversial nuclear facility in Britain.</i>
12:00am	Can Eating Insects Save the World?
1:00am	Picasso: Love, Sex and Art
2:00am	Tales of Winter: The Art of Snow and Ice
3:30am	Britain Beneath Your Feet
	<i>Dallas Campbell reveals why we can only understand the familiar world around us by discovering the hidden wonders beneath our feet.</i>

CHANNEL 4

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	King of Queens
8:10am	King of Queens
8:35am	King of Queens
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Frasier
11:00am	Frasier
11:30am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:30pm	Four in a Bed
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Four in a Bed
1:35pm	Four in a Bed
2:10pm	Four in a Bed
2:40pm	Four in a Bed
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	A New Life in the Sun
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
6:00pm	Come Dine with Me
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	How to Lose Weight Well
10:00pm	24 Hours in A and E

CHANNEL 5

8:20am	Thomas and Friends
8:35am	Noddy: Toyland Detective
8:50am	Paw Patrol
9:00am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am	Wissper
9:25am	Peppa Pig
9:50am	Toot the Tiny Tugboat
10:00am	Toby's Travelling Circus
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	Celebrity Big Brother
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS: Los Angeles
4:15pm	Stolen Child
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	Police Interceptors
9:00pm	Info Not Available
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	Celebrity 100% Hotter!
12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

4

7:20am	Charmed
8:05am	Hollyoaks
8:35am	Coach Trip
9:05am	Rules of Engagement
9:35am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Baby Daddy
10:30am	Baby Daddy
11:00am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
11:30am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:00pm	Charmed
1:00pm	Charmed
2:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
4:30pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
6:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	The Goldbergs
9:30pm	The Goldbergs
10:00pm	Tattoo Fixers
11:00pm	Virtually Famous
11:50pm	The Big Bang Theory
12:25am	The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Transfer Centre
12:30pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
1:00pm	Premier League Legends
1:30pm	Premier League Legends
2:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
2:30pm	Premier League Legends
3:00pm	The Premier League Years
5:00pm	Premier League 100 Club
6:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
6:30pm	Premier League Legends
7:00pm	Premier League Review
8:00pm	Transfer Centre
8:30pm	Info Not Available
8:40pm	Live Coppa Italia
10:40pm	Info Not Available
11:00pm	La Liga World
11:30pm	Premier League 100 Club
12:00am	Premier League Review

itv

9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	Jeremy Kyles Emergency Room
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
	<i>Popular long-running soap opera, set in a Yorkshire village.</i>
9:00pm	Martin Clunes: Islands of Australia
10:00pm	Sugar Free Farm
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:40pm	Wilderness Walks with Ray Mears
12:10am	The Investigator
1:05am	Jackpot247

itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:20am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
8:15am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	Coronation Street
10:00am	Coronation Street
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Scorpion
12:25pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	Coronation Street
2:30pm	Coronation Street
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Hell's Kitchen
11:00pm	Celebrity Juice
11:50pm	Family Guy
12:20am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:25am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:35am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy
11:30am	Judge Judy
11:55am	A Touch of Frost
2:00pm	Heartbeat
	<i>Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.</i>
3:05pm	The Royal
4:10pm	Where the Heart is
5:15pm	In Loving Memory
5:50pm	Rising Damp
6:20pm	George and Mildred
	<i>Comedy series following George and Mildred Roper.</i>
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
	<i>Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.</i>
9:00pm	Midsomer Murders
11:00pm	Lucan
12:30am	Wycliffe
1:35am	The Knock

itv4

7:00am	Gunsmoke
7:55am	The Saint
8:50am	Quincy, M.E.
9:50am	The Professionals
	<i>Action-packed drama series about two criminal-intelligence agents.</i>
10:50am	Ironside
11:55am	Gunsmoke
1:00pm	Storage Wars Texas
1:30pm	Storage Wars Texas
2:00pm	Pawn Stars
2:30pm	Pawn Stars
2:55pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Ironside
5:00pm	The Professionals
6:00pm	The Saint
	<i>Simon Templar is a debonair master thief with a talent for disguise.</i>
7:00pm	Storage Wars Texas
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:55pm	Mr. Bean
10:00pm	Benidorm
11:00pm	The Fugitive
12:00am	FYI Daily
12:05am	The Fugitive

sky MOVIES ACTION & ADVENTURE

12:30pm	In the Heart of the Sea
2:35pm	Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials
4:50pm	The Mummy
7:00pm	The Goonies
9:00pm	In the Heart of the Sea
11:10pm	Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials
1:25am	The Mummy
3:30am	Colt .45

sky MOVIES COMEDY

8:00am	The War of the Roses
10:00am	Spud 2: The Madness Continues
11:40am	Three Amigos!
1:30pm	The Intern
3:35pm	The Man
5:05pm	Jersey Girl
6:55pm	Hitch
9:00pm	The Intern
11:05pm	Meet the Parents
1:05am	Pixels
3:00am	Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo

sky MOVIES PREMIERE

7:00am	Kids in Love
8:45am	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
10:45am	Avengers: Age of Ultron Special
11:15am	Mercury Plains
1:15pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
3:15pm	The Other Side of the Door
5:00pm	Kids in Love
6:45pm	The Top Ten Show 2017
7:00pm	Mercury Plains
9:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
11:00pm	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
12:55am	The Other Side of the Door
2:35am	Rise of the Footsoldier II
	<i>This brutal follow-up to the cult British crime thriller explores the aftermath of the infamous Rottendon Range Rover murders</i>
4:30am	Cabin Fever

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	Time of Our Lives
9:00am	Sky Sports Years
10:00am	Cricket's Greatest
10:30am	Cricket's Greatest
11:00am	Great Sporting Moments
11:15am	Great Sporting Moments
11:30am	Great Sporting Moments
11:45am	Great Sporting Moments
12:00pm	Sporting Heroes
1:00pm	Cricket Classics
2:00pm	Cricket World Cup Classics
3:00pm	Sky Sports Years
4:00pm	Cricket's Greatest
4:30pm	Cricket's Greatest
5:00pm	Cricket World Cup Classics
6:00pm	Sporting Greats
6:30pm	Sporting Greats
7:00pm	Super Rugby Gold
8:00pm	Cricket World Cup Classics
9:00pm	Fight Night
11:00pm	More Than a Game
12:00am	Ashes Best Days

|| 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.

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BBC **one**

7:00am	Breakfast
10:15am	Rip Off Britain
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	Caught Red Handed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:30pm	Regional News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	Father Brown
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	Royal Recipes
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News
7:30pm	Regional News
8:00pm	The One Show
9:00pm	Who Do You Think You Are?
10:00pm	Italy's Invisible Cities
11:00pm	BBC News
11:30pm	Regional News
11:40pm	Weather
11:45pm	A Question of Sport
12:15am	Film 2017
12:45am	Antiques Roadshow
1:45am	Weather for the Week Ahead
1:50am	BBC News

BBC **TWO**

7:00am	Wanted Down Under
7:45am	Royal Recipes
8:30am	Cash in the Attic
9:00am	Caught Red Handed
9:30am	Caught Red Handed
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
12:30pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Lifeline
2:10pm	Bowls
5:45pm	Tennis
6:30pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
9:00pm	Winterwatch
10:00pm	Hospital
11:00pm	Common Sense
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather
12:15am	Dragons' Den
1:15am	Bowls
2:15am	Our Dancing Town
3:15am	Yellowstone
4:15am	Robert Rauschenberg
5:15am	This is BBC Two Highlights of programmes on BBC Two.

BBC **FOUR**

8:00pm	World News Today
8:30pm	Reel History of Britain
9:00pm	Horizon
10:00pm	Alan Bennett's Diaries
11:00pm	The Eichmann Show <i>Drama about the televising of the trial of one of the key figures of the Nazi regime Adolf Eichmann.</i>
12:30am	Rich Hall's California Stars
2:00am	Treasures of the Indus <i>The story of the Indian sub-continent told through the treasures that have shaped the modern Indian world.</i>
3:00am	Horizon
4:00am	Alan Bennett's Diaries <i>Inspired by his acerbic and often hilarious diaries, this documentary shows Alan Bennett as he has never been seen before.</i>

CHANNEL 4

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	King of Queens
8:10am	King of Queens
8:35am	King of Queens
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Frasier
11:00am	Frasier
11:30am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:30pm	Four in a Bed
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Four in a Bed
1:35pm	Four in a Bed
2:10pm	Four in a Bed
2:40pm	Four in a Bed
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	A New Life in the Sun
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
6:00pm	Come Dine with Me
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	Location, Location, Location
10:00pm	No Offence
11:00pm	Women Who Kill
12:05am	24 Hours in A and E

CHANNEL 5

8:20am	Thomas and Friends
8:35am	Noddy: Toyland Detective
8:50am	Paw Patrol
9:00am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am	Wissper
9:25am	Peppa Pig
9:50am	Toot the Tiny Tugboat
10:00am	Toby's Travelling Circus
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	Celebrity Big Brother
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS: Los Angeles
4:15pm	My Husband is Missing
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	The Concorde Air Disaster
9:00pm	GPS: Behind Closed Doors
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother In Therapy
11:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

4

7:00am	Suburgatory
7:20am	Charmed
8:05am	Hollyoaks
8:35am	Coach Trip
9:05am	Rules of Engagement
9:35am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Baby Daddy
10:30am	Baby Daddy
11:00am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
11:30am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:00pm	Charmed
1:00pm	Charmed
2:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
4:30pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
6:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	Timeless
11:00pm	Supernatural
12:00am	The Big Bang Theory
12:30am	The Big Bang Theory
1:00am	Tattoo Fixers
2:05am	Gogglebox

sky **SPORTS 1**

7:00am	Football Gold
7:15am	Football Gold
7:30am	Football Gold
7:45am	Football Gold
8:00am	WWE Experience
9:00am	Premier League Legends
9:30am	La Liga World
10:00am	Efl Cup Highlights
10:30am	Efl Cup Highlights
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Transfer Centre
12:30pm	La Liga World
1:00pm	Premier League Review
2:00pm	Efl Cup Highlights
2:30pm	Efl Cup Highlights
3:00pm	The Premier League Years
5:00pm	Efl Cup Highlights
5:30pm	Efl Cup Highlights
6:00pm	Premier League Review
7:00pm	Efl Cup Highlights
7:30pm	Efl Cup Highlights
8:00pm	Transfer Centre
8:30pm	Live EFL Cup Semi-Final
11:15pm	Barclays Premier League World
11:45pm	Football Gold
12:00am	Premier League Review
1:00am	Efl Cup Highlights

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	Jeremy Kyles Emergency Room
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Coronation Street
8:30pm	The National Television Awards 2017
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:45pm	Joanna Lumley's Japan
12:45am	It's Not Rocket Science <i>Entertainment series celebrating gadgets, technology and innovation.</i>
1:40am	Jackpot247
4:00am	1000 Heartbeats
4:50am	Nightscreen

itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:20am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
8:15am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
10:00am	You've Been Framed!
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Scorpion
12:25pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
2:30pm	You've Been Framed!
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
7:30pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
8:30pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Through the Keyhole <i>Keith Lemon presents a brand new version of the classic game show.</i>
11:00pm	Plebs
12:00am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:25am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:30am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy <i>The Emmy nominated reality courtroom series, presided over by outspoken family court judge.</i>
11:30am	Judge Judy
11:55am	A Touch of Frost
2:00pm	Heartbeat
3:05pm	The Royal
4:10pm	Where the Heart is
5:15pm	In Loving Memory
5:50pm	Rising Damp
6:20pm	On the Buses
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote <i>Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.</i>
9:00pm	Midsomer Murders
11:00pm	Lucan
12:30am	A Touch of Frost
2:25am	The Knock
3:20am	ITV3 Nightscreen
3:30am	Teleshopping

itv4

7:00am	Guns smoke
7:55am	The Saint
8:50am	Quincy, M.E.
9:50am	The Professionals <i>Action-packed drama series about two criminal-intelligence agents.</i>
10:50am	Ironsides
11:55am	Guns smoke
1:00pm	Storage Wars Texas
1:30pm	Storage Wars Texas
2:00pm	Pawn Stars
2:30pm	Pawn Stars
2:55pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Ironsides
5:00pm	The Professionals
6:00pm	The Saint <i>Simon Templar is a debonair master thief with a talent for disguise.</i>
7:05pm	Storage Wars Texas
7:35pm	Storage Wars Texas
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:30pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	River Monsters
10:00pm	Caught on Camera
11:00pm	Jaws
12:05am	FYI Daily
12:10am	Jaws
1:40am	River Monsters
2:40am	The Wine Show

sky **MOVIES**
ACTION & ADVENTURE

2:30pm	Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens
4:50pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
6:50pm	Sherlock Holmes
9:00pm	Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens
11:20pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
1:20am	Extraction

sky **MOVIES**
COMEDY

8:10am	Life
10:10am	Spud 3: Learning to Fly
11:45am	Me Him Her
1:30pm	Pitch Perfect 2
3:30pm	Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby
5:35pm	Rush Hour 2
7:15pm	Police Academy
9:00pm	Trainwreck
11:10pm	Pitch Perfect 2
1:10am	Police Academy
2:50am	Bridget Jones's Diary
4:35am	Tenacious D in the Pick of Destiny

sky **MOVIES**
PREMIERE

7:00am	5 to 7
8:40am	Kids in Love
10:15am	Cabin Fever
11:55am	Alice Through the Looking Glass
1:55pm	The Other Side of the Door
3:35pm	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
5:30pm	Kids in Love
7:00pm	Alice Through the Looking Glass
9:00pm	The Other Side of the Door
10:45pm	Still the Water
12:50am	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
2:45am	Rise of the Footsoldier II <i>This brutal follow-up to the cult British crime thriller explores the aftermath of the infamous Retendon Range Rover murders. Ricci Harnett writes, directs and stars.</i>
4:40am	Precious Cargo

sky **SPORTS 2**

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	Time of Our Lives
9:00am	Sky Sports Years
10:00am	Cricket's Greatest
10:30am	Cricket's Greatest
11:00am	Great Sporting Moments
11:15am	Great Sporting Moments
11:30am	Great Sporting Moments
11:45am	Great Sporting Moments
12:00pm	Sporting Heroes
1:00pm	Cricket Classics
2:00pm	Time of Our Lives
3:00pm	Sky Sports Years
4:00pm	Cricket's Greatest
4:30pm	Great Sporting Moments
4:45pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
4:55pm	Cricket
8:30pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:40pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:50pm	Cricket Gold Shorts
8:55pm	Live Coppa Italia
11:00pm	Cricket
2:35am	Cricket Gold Shorts <i>Take a look back at Stuart Broad's extraordinary spell during the third Test against South Africa.</i>

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?

C A (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@euroweeklynnews.com or make your comments straight on our website: www.euroweeklynnews.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@euroweeklynnews.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

Much missed

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

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.

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FACT

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LINT
PINK
PINT
PANT
PACT
FACE
FACE
FACT

Solution

MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'MERYL STREEP, OF ALL PEOPLE - WHAT BRINGS YOU THIS FAR UP TOWN?'

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 getting 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.

Weather

for next 7 days

Alicante

TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 10C, MIN 7C

Fri - 11 7 Sh Mon - 14 7 C

Sat - 12 6 Sh Tues - 15 8 C

Sun - 13 5 Cl Wed - 16 10 C

Almeria

TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 10C, MIN 6C

Fri - 12 5 Sh Mon - 15 7 Sh

Sat - 14 6 Cl Tues - 17 8 Cl

Sun - 14 5 C Wed - 18 10 Sh

Barcelona

TODAY: CLEAR MAX 10C, MIN 6C

Fri - 12 6 Sh Mon - 13 3 C

Sat - 12 3 Cl Tues - 13 4 Sh

Sun - 12 3 Sh Wed - 15 5 S

Benidorm

TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 10C, MIN 8C

Fri - 12 6 Sh Mon - 14 9 C

Sat - 12 8 Sh Tues - 15 8 C

Sun - 14 6 C Wed - 16 9 C

Madrid

TODAY: CLEAR MAX 9C, MIN -1C

Fri - 9 -1 C Mon - 10 1 C

Sat - 9 -2 C Tues - 10 2 C

Sun - 9 -3 C Wed - 12 4 Sh

Malaga

TODAY: CLOUDY MAX 13C, MIN 4C

Fri - 13 4 C Mon - 15 7 C

Sat - 14 5 Cl Tues - 17 8 Cl

Sun - 14 5 Sh Wed - 17 9 Sh

Mallorca

TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 12C, MIN 6C

Fri - 12 6 Sh Mon - 14 6 C

Sat - 13 5 C Tues - 15 6 Cl

Sun - 13 5 Sh Wed - 16 7 Cl

Murcia

TODAY: SHOWERS MAX 9C, MIN 5C

Fri - 11 4 Sh Mon - 14 4 C

Sat - 12 4 Sh Tues - 16 6 Cl

Sun - 13 3 C Wed - 17 7 Sh



Euro Weekly News accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the weather forecasts which are supplied by a third party.

Nonagram

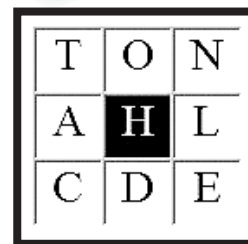
How many English words of four letters or more can you make from the nine letters in our Nonagram puzzle? Each

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

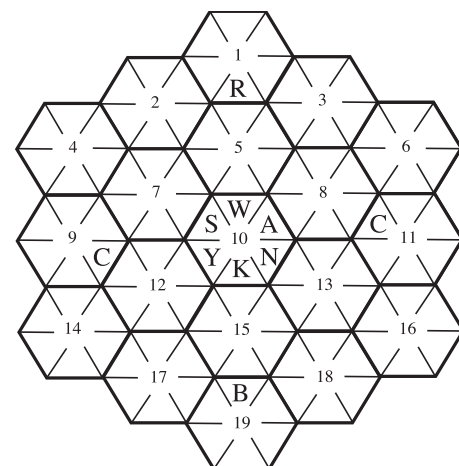


LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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 inge lemon limen lingo melon mince owing vince women coigne coming cowing cowmen gnomie income legion lowing mewing mingle mowing oilmen wiggon cowling 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

Saturday January 14

14 19 21
36 53 54

BONUS BALL

33

IRISH LOTTO

Saturday January 14

2 4 11
22 25 34

BONUS BALL

7

EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday January 10

2 11 29
35 44

LUCKY STARS

4 9

Friday January 13

3 7 16
26 50

LUCKY STARS

4 7

LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday January 14

2 3 6
10 25 43

REINTEGRO

42 7

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday January 15

3 21 31
39 46

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

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:
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“Doctors cancelled a hip replacement operation for the 72-year-old after a pair of copper insoles are believed to have cured her arthritis.”

Worldwide, an estimated nine million people are using heelers to relieve their pain, some with fantastic results such as Jean Davies. Doctors cancelled a hip replacement operation for the 72-year-old after a pair of copper insoles are believed to have cured her arthritis. She became pain-free six weeks after starting to wear the copper heels and doctors said her operation was no longer needed.



COPPER HEELERS: Now on sale at markets across the Costa Blanca.

Helen Basson, aged 39, feared she would end up in a wheelchair after being diagnosed with arthritis in every joint of her body. But,

just three months after inserting the copper insoles she astounded doctors by beginning to walk freely.

These are just two of the many testimonies of users of The Original Copper Heeler® which are available on the Costa Blanca and throughout Spain, with many happy customers reporting a positive result after wearing them.

But why is copper so effective? At least 20 per cent of the population suffers from a deficiency of copper which is an essential nutrient for well-being. Arthritis is associated with a deficiency of copper so by getting more copper in to the body, arthritis pain can be eased.

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They can also be purchased locally on the Costa Blanca from the Benidorm market on a Wednesday, the Alley Palais in Camposol every Friday and the Zoco market near Benijofar on a Sunday.

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 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 al-



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

most 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 con-

sume 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.

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.

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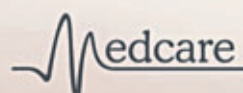
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Sleeping through after 50

PEOPLE aged 50 or over have been advised to avoid caffeine in the afternoons in order to ensure a good night's sleep.

The recommendation appears in a report by the Age UK charity, which says that although it gets harder to sleep through a full night as we age, it is important for the mind that the body gets enough rest.

As well as knocking tea, coffee, and other drinks containing caffeine on the head, older people should also avoid naps of longer than 30 minutes during the day.

Other recommendations appearing in the report include:

- Get out of bed at the same



TAKE CARE: That you get the right amount of sleep as you get older.

time each day.

- Don't drink alcohol as a sleep aid.
- Expose yourself to some natural sunlight each day.

• Don't eat any large meals within the last three hours before you go to bed.

- Don't look at your mobile phone, tablet, laptop, or any

other device featuring an electronic screen after getting into bed.

- Don socks to keep your feet warm in bed.

- Don't allow pets in the bedroom.

- Avoid arguments with your partner or spouse before bed.

- Avoid over-the-counter sleeping tablets or liquids.

A lack of sleep can increase the risk of heart disease, obesity and diabetes, say the authors of the report.

Age UK spokesman James Goodwin said: "Sleeping is something we all tend to take for granted, but we really have to wise up to the fact that getting the right amount of good sleep is crucial as we age, helping to protect us from all kinds of problems that can affect our brains as well as our bodies.

"The message is that in order to stay mentally sharp in later life - something we all care passionately about - take care of your sleep."

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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

Ask the Optician: Ski Eye Care

Lisa James, Store Director, Specsavers Opticas Guardamar

DURING the ski season I receive lots of questions about eye care, so I've put together the most commonly asked questions to allow everyone to enjoy the sun safely on the slopes this season.

■ **Why are my eyes more at risk when I'm skiing?** The atmosphere on the slopes is very clear and the reflection of sunlight on the slopes is very strong. These two factors combine to be potentially damaging to the eyes and could lead to long term effects.

■ **How does this affect my eyes?** Although people know how important it is to keep skin protected from the sun, few realise how damaging UV rays can be to the eyes. The UVB rays can irritate the surface of the eye, causing a painful form of sunburn of the eye (called photokeratitis). You may not even be aware whilst out in the snow, as the effects can take six to 12

hours to develop. Long-term exposure to UVB can cause cataracts and even ocular tumours.

■ **How can I protect my eyes whilst out on the slopes?** All you need is good sunglasses, but make sure you choose the right ones. Always read the label carefully and choose the maximum protection factor available. Remember that eyes will be exposed to high levels of UV even if it's not sunny. Choosing sunglasses without the right protection could damage the eye by causing the pupil to dilate, increasing the amount of UV light filtering into the eyes, so always keep this in mind when selecting your eyewear.

Specsavers Opticas is currently offering free eye tests. There are Specsavers Opticas stores in Calpe, Javea, Benidorm, Guardamar del Segura and Torrevieja on the Costa Blanca. Find your nearest store www.specsavers.es.

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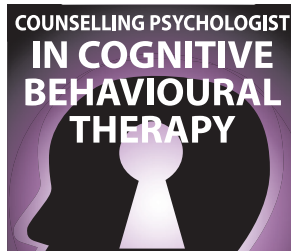
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Films in English

THIS week's film showing at the cinema in Pilar de la Horadada is 'Ice Age 5, Collision Course.'

Manny, Sid, Diego, and the rest of the herd are back for another adventure as they travel to exotic new lands and encounter a host of new characters in this family film showing tonight (Thursday) at 7pm and Saturday January 21 at 5pm.

Next week the film, showing at the same times, is the comedy 'Nine Lives' featuring Kevin Spacey.

Tickets cost €5 and the cinema is located in the Duplex Espacio Cultural in Calle Canalejas, 4.

To keep updated on the latest films search Cinemapilar on Facebook or visit <http://cinemapilar.blogspot.com/es/>

Let's talk about death

THE Costa Blanca's second 'Death Cafe' takes place on January 31 from 3-5pm at Harry's Bar in Quesada.

The Death Cafe has been organised due to demand following the first such event in November last year.

The meetings aim to break down the barriers of death, still a taboo subject for many. It gives people the opportunity to chat over coffee and cake exchanging ideas and experiences and dispelling some myths about Spanish funerals.

The meeting will be hosted by Denise Washbourne, a civil funeral celebrant. She said many people have funeral plans to cover the costs of a funeral but few actually make plans for the funeral itself leaving friends and family in stress and turmoil after they have passed away. By being more open and talking about death and funerals, people can have the service they want and save a lot of heart ache for family and friends.

For more information on the Death Cafe, follow the Facebook page 'Death Cafe Costa Blanca.'



DEATH CAFE: Myths surrounding Spanish funerals are dispelled at the Death Cafe.

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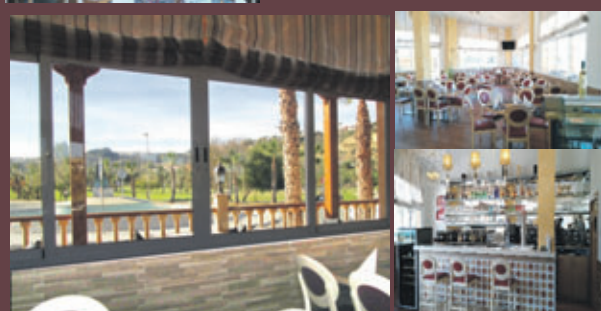
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Saturday night is theatre fever night

FEBRUARY is theatre month in Pilar de la Horadada as the town hosts the third edition of their annual theatrical event.

Every Saturday in February the Casa de la Cultura will open its doors and host a different play every week. The event actually starts on January 28 with the Classic Company of Comedies presenting 'From Russia with Humour.'

This will be followed on February 4 with

'Friends Despite Everything;' on February 11 'Women of Moon and Blood;' 'In Search of Happiness' is on February 18 and the Thiar Theatre Group will close the event on February 25 with 'The House of the Foreigner.'

Tickets cost €5 each or for €23 you can see all the performances. Tickets are on sale until the day of the show from the Casa de la Cultura in Calle Carretillas. For more information or to book call 609 632 644.

La Mata Natural Park's tree party

TO mark the 'Day of the Tree' the Natural Park of La Mata and Torre Vieja is offering a new activity dedicated to nature and tree.

On January 29, young-

sters will be able to find out more about the importance of trees for the life of the planet, learning about the anatomy and physiology of trees and other interesting issues in an infor-

mative way.

The activity will begin at 11am on January 29 and is free but places are limited so register your place as soon as possible by calling 966 920 404.

World Cancer Day

WORLD Cancer Day is being marked on February 4 at the Zenia Boulevard shopping centre in La Zenia.

Live artists including singers and dance groups, will be on stage performing from midday to 5pm helping to raise awareness of cancer and research and screening programmes.

Money raised will go to the AECC cancer charity with Maria Wilson's Pink Ladies and Pink Panther's fundraising teams on hand shaking the charity buckets and offering information on screening available locally for breast, cervical and prostate cancer.

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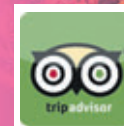
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Murcia hosts 24th Flamenco Summit

FEBRUARY welcomes the 24th Murcia Flamenco Summit with a range of exceptional performers and making this one of the most important festivals to be sponsored by the Murcia Council.

Working in close collaboration with the Institute of Cultur-

al Industries and Arts, the Company of Carmen and the Conservatory of Dance of Murcia, the council believes this event will be one that is remembered for some considerable time.

The first event, which takes place on February 9, sees the award winning Murcian dancer Cynthia Cano and a troop of singers, dancers and guitarists performing some of her exceptional work and she will receive yet another award for her presentation 'Poet in New York' which honours the visit of Garcia Lorca to America in 1929.

The festival isn't just about professionals as there is a thriving and upcoming new generation of local performers so members of the local Conservatory of Dance will perform for an admiring audience.

Most of the events will take place in the Teatro Circo with a stunning premier performance entitled 'Two hearts at a time' presented by sister and brother Soleá and Kiki Morente, children of the late the late teacher Enrique Morente which will see them performing separately and together.

There are awards aplenty with Jerez José Mercé, present-



FLAMENCO FESTIVAL: Will feature a range of performers.

ing his own vocal recital 'Intimate and flamenco' before receiving the Patriarca Flamenco award for his singing.

A tribute to the great José Antonio Ruiz, one of the most prestigious Spanish dancers and choreographers of all times, twice director of the National Ballet and the Andalusian Dance Company will take place on February 18 and he will also receive his own Patriarca Flamenco.

The Carmen and Matilde Rubio Dance Company, which has recently returned from a

successful tour of China, will present the ballet 'Poker Flamenco,' with choreography by José Antonio Ruiz himself, who will return to dance for the occasion.

The whole week will be devoted to all styles of Flamenco with a special fashion show on February 17 featuring the designs of clothing company 5Flores directed by Rosa Ruiz, in which professional models will be joined by dancers for a fun event.

Running during the festival will be an exhibition of Fla-

menco photography at the Teatro Circo as well as an intensive course on Flamenco and Spanish dance offered by Mónica Fernández and Gala Vivancos, which will take place on February 11 and 12.

All in all with performances in the Circo and Romea theatres, the whole event promises to be yet another success for Murcia and will attract aficionados of Flamenco from around Andalusia.

For fuller details visit the websites of Murcia Town Hall and the two theatres.

What's on!

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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 reassured 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.”

lade: 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@euroweeklynnews.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 increase their Spanish investment portfolios in 2017.

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



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

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.

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

Catalonia gold rush

By Matthew Elliott

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 outpacing 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 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.

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HOUSE PRICES: On average rose 6.5 per cent in 2016.

A new record set

By Matthew Elliott

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.

REF: 00346 €139,000



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REF: 00354 €249,500



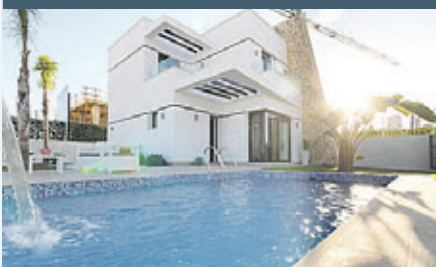
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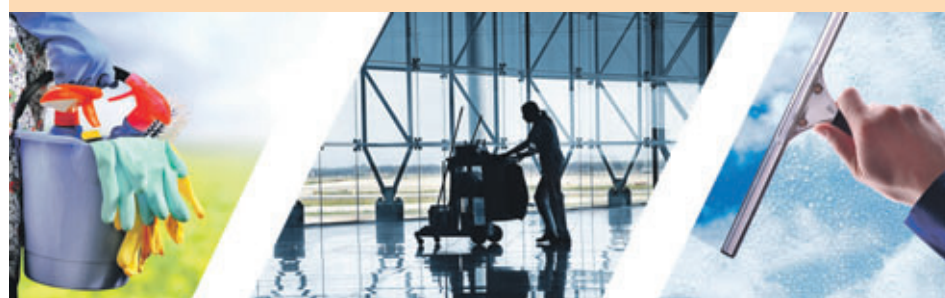
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Garden water features are a Spanish tradition

By Graeme Tyrrell

WATER features in a garden landscape have been a treasured element since ancient times. The oldest known landscape design named the Sennufer Garden, 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



Photo by Diane Webb Shutterstock

WATER FEATURE: Adds an ambience of tranquillity and contrast.

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.

Of course a pond requires good design and maintenance to provide its benefits. Clean water rather than most treated tap water needs to be used to fill it and the water must not become stagnant. A sustainable ecology to retain water quality has to be developed in the design to minimise maintenance disasters. Water should be recycled to prevent wastage and overflow directed to benefit the garden.

Fortunately there is a range of pumps and filters available that can assist in creating a perfect pond or fountain that can become a fascinating focal point in the garden. Decorating a pond with solar lights and lanterns allows a pond to be enjoyed day and night. If you have a confined space, there are plenty of table top fountains and self-contained ornaments with flowing water that can be added to enhance the quality of your garden space indoors or outdoors.

More plants in your life

PLANTS are not just pretty things to have about the house, they have also been found to have health benefits which shouldn't be overlooked. If you have always avoided houseplants, here are a few reasons you should change your tune today:

- They can help you relax. Gazing at the purple petals of an African Violet has been found to stimulate adrenaline liberation, raise energy levels and increase oxygen flow to the brain, helping you relax.

- They are natural humidifiers. Instead of buying humidifiers to combat dry air in winter, dot some ferns about the house. They literally sweat humidity into the air.

- They reduce allergies. Spider plants are perfect for those prone to sneezes and snuffles. Their leaves absorb allergens and dust and in two days can remove up to 90 per cent of toxins from a room.

- They clean the air. A NASA study found that ivy is the king of air-cleaning houseplants and absorbs more formaldehyde from the air than any other plant tested.

- They boost concentration and creativity. A study by the Royal College of Agriculture found that students' attention increased by 70 per cent when they were in a room which contained plants.

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 double 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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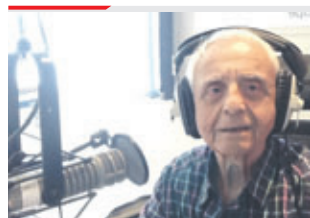
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Personal protection dogs as pets



DOG TRAINING: Is important and should never be skipped.



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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 scrappy 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-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.

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 sup-

ply 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?



COMFY CATS: In their own home.

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House-sitting can be a win-win for both parties, free house and pet-sitting and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation! To find a pet-sitter go to www.HousesitMatch.com or call Lamia on 00 44 (0) 777 214 2742.

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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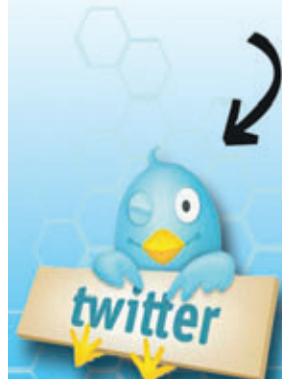
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THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION, Torrevieja Branch, meet at 17.00 on the first Wednesday of each month at the Restaurante El Paraíso, Urb. Jardin del Mar 3 (behind Carrefour), Torrevieja. Contact Paul Edwards, Chairman 618 644 934 or Margaret Forshaw, Secretary 966 921 996. (95455)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Orihuela Costa - covering from Punta Prima to San Javier. The branch meets at Olympia restaurant, Mil Palmeras on 3rd Thursday of each month at 19.00 - 19.30pm. More info can be found on branch website www.orihuelacostarbl.co.uk. (95457)

HELP VEGA BAJA. We are a non-profit making organisation that helps and supports anyone, without prejudice, in times of need or crisis within the Vega Baja area. Our offices are based in San Miguel at Calle Lope de Vega 46 (Tel 966 723 733), Torrevieja at Rambla Juan Mateo Garcia 4 (Tel 965 704 282). Both offices are open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 1.30 pm and the Helpdesk at La Marina is open every Thursday (10 am to 1.30 pm) at the Hope Fellowship Church (opposite the Thursday Market site) at Avda de Justo Antonio Quesada, Urb. La Marina (Tel 615770145). We are online at www.helpvegabaja.com and also on Facebook. You can email the San Miguel Centre at office@helpvegabaja.com **We also have a 24 hour Emergency help-line which is**

available to both members and non-members on 966 723 733 (95456)

THE BAKER FOUNDATION for SPIRITUAL AWARENESS. 16 Nicolas De Bussi Ave, Playa Flamenca. Sunday Service every week 11am to 12 noon, everyone welcome. For further details please phone/fax 966 760 665 (95458)

THE PHILIP SCOTT LODGE No 10671 of the RAOB meets every Friday in the Bar Catorce, Benijofar. Please call the secretary, Colin Bird on 693 287 614 for further information. (95459)

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PILAR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, Calle Canalejas, 3. Pilar de la Horadada. Sunday Service at 11am & Thursday at 5pm for Prayer and Praise and Worship. Home groups meet during the week. All welcome from any church background or none. For further information www.pilarchurch.org Reg No: 2009-SG/A (95463)

TORREVIEJA Christian Fellowship (TCF) is an English speaking lively church located at Avenida de las Valencianas 68, Torrevieja 03183. Residents and holidaymakers are welcome to attend our services with communion and 'kids church' each Sunday at 10.30am. We have a Fellowship Meeting (Bible Study) each Wednesday at 6.00pm. For further information see our website www.tcf-spain.org or tel 966 700 391. (95464)

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION COSTA BLANCA BRANCH. Former & serving aircrews of the UK or Allied Armed Forces are welcome to join this convivial & friendly organisation, now in its 21st year. www.aca-costablanca.org or call the Secretary on: 966 495 042 (95465)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION JAVEA BRANCH meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each

month @ Scallops Rest on the Arenal at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome to attend as a visitor and join the branch if they wish. Anyone needing any help or advice on welfare, or any information regarding the branch can contact either Sheila on 965 791 270 or Roger on 965 790 123 (95472)

TORREVIEJA STROKE SUPPORT GROUP meets each Friday 2.45pm to 5pm in The Annex, (behind Age Concern Centre), Calle Paganini, Urb. La Siesta. Our aim is to support stroke survivors and their carers by a range of facilities from speech therapy, rehabilitation exercise, group discussion etc. For info: Louie 966 718 964 or 965 071 920, e-mail: strokesupportgroup@hotmail.com Donations and further voluntary helpers are needed and guest speakers with relevant knowledge or experience are very welcome. (95473)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Gran Alacant & La Marina Branch meets 1st Monday of every month (except July and August) at Bar Sioux, Avda Escandinavia GA at 7pm for 7.30pm prompt. For further info contact Brian, Branch Secretary on 639 917 971 / email secretary br3606@gmail.com (95474)

CAMPELLO CONTRA CANCER in conjunction with AECC Association Español Contra Cancer has opened a charity shop at C/Virgen de los Desamparados No 13 (next door to Mas y mas) El Campello. The shop is open Mon-Fri 10 - 2pm and is run by unpaid volunteers and all monies raised goes to the AECC. We urgently need donations of clothes, books, large and small furniture etc, and we will arrange collection of large items. We need volunteers to help out in the shop and also clothes rails, shelves etc. for display. Please support your local Cancer charity and if you wish to obtain literature or simply talk to someone. Please stop by at the shop. Contact Mina or Trisha. Tel 650 071 278 or 610 921 413 e-mail aecc_campello@hotmail.com (95475)

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY Calle Pilar de Horadada 5, Torrevieja Evangelical non-denominational Sunday services 11am Children's church 11am House groups in Torrevieja, Los Balcones, San Javier Ladies meeting Thursdays 11am. Pastor, Rafael Restrepo All nationalities welcome 966 799 273 / 660 127 276. (95476)

ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION (Costa Blanca). The aim

of the Association is to bring together not just ex Royal Marines, but ex Service personnel with an affinity to the Royal Marines. We meet on the last Tuesday of the month at Casa Ventura, San Luis Urbanisation, at 6.30pm. For further details Hon Sec 965 724 652

FREEMASONRY Are you aware that Freemasonry is thriving on the Costa Blanca? There are various lodges meeting up throughout the Valencia region. If you already are a Mason or simply wish to know more about Freemasonry in Spain please contact Harry Palmer Membership Committee Tel: 966 712 326 or email: palmers.quesa da@yahoo.co.uk (95477)

ROYAL AIR FORCES Association Branch #1359 Costa Blanca The Branch meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the El Paraíso Restaurant located close to the Carrefour Supermarket in Torrevieja. The meeting starts at 1430 hrs. You do not have to be an ex-member of the RAF to join this friendly Association which supports the welfare of the RAF family and provides a social hub for ex RAF members and their friends. For further information about the Association and its activities please contact the Chairman on 692 508 916 or the Welfare Officer on 615 048 892 or visit our website: www.rafacb.com.

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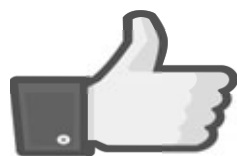
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AMERICA's Motor City kicked off the 2017 motoring year with its hotly anticipated motor show. Hundreds of thousands of people attended to see the fastest, weirdest, most innovative cars set to hit the market this year.

Generating the most buzz was Volkswagen's camper-van concept aptly named the I.D. Buzz. The electric, autonomous

Detroit's motor show

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.

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).

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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International Sports

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

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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 Premiership 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 Formartine 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.

Costa Blanca's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

Eurogolf medal play

DUE to the December Medal being rained off, on Thursday January 12, in glorious sunshine, Eurogolf played their first medal of the year off the plates. The January medal is to be rescheduled.

Although the course was in great condition and the weather conditions were perfect for golf, only one person broke par.

Cat 1: (0-17) 1st Tony Forbes 74 c/b, 2nd Pete Cleaver 74, 3rd John Barraclough 76. Cat 2: (18-23) 1st Clive Peck 75, 2nd Jim Weston 81, 3rd Gary Grierson 82. Cat 3: (23+) 1st Bev Fairhurst 69, 2nd Ken Brett 76 c/b, 3rd Chris Stanley 76.

Overall winner: Bev Fairhurst Best. Front 9: Ed Silvester 35. Best back 9: Sharon Horner 34. NTPs: 5th Gary Grierson, 11th Pino Perito, 12th in two Tony Forbes, 15th Tony Forbes and 17th Sharon Horne. Football draw: Clive Horne, Steve Darlington, George McCallum, Kevin Bonser and Debbie Weedon.

On Tuesday January 10 nearly 70 players took part in the Tuesday Toffs stableford competition. The course was dry and some players had difficulty with the fast paced greens. On the plus side there was a bit of a run on the fairways.

Cat 1: (0-15) 1st Tony Forbes 40, 2nd Ian



PERFECT CONDITIONS: For the first medal play of the year.

Pegg 36, 3rd Malcolm Foskett 34. Cat 2: (16-19) 1st John Kirkwood 35, 2nd Ian Turner 32 c/b, 3rd Stan Low 32. Cat 3: (20-23) 1st Gordon Bourne 40, 2nd Ken Enever 32, 3rd Steve Darlington 31. Cat 4: (24-36) 1st Lauraine Walker 33, 2nd Bev Fairhurst 32, 3rd Marion Quin 31.

Overall Toffs winner: Gordon Bourne. Best front 9: Robin Richards 17. Best back

9: Sue Gillette 18. NTPs: 5th Michael Wright, 11th Ed Silvester, 12th in two Pete Gartside, 15th David Gregson, 17th Gloria Manning. Football draw: Debbie Weedon, Marion Quin, Keith Wright, Monique Reeve and Norman Woods.

If you would like to play with Eurogolf at La Marquesa on Tuesdays and Thursdays visit www.eurogolf-quesada.co.uk.

Mazarron FC draw

MAZARRON FC missed a great opportunity to progress further up the league after a low-par performance against lowly Montecasillas FC at the Estadio Municipal.

Despite being gifted an early goal, Mazarron were never really able to stamp their authority on the game. On 10 minutes a left wing cross by Chino intended for Raul was headed into his own net by a Montecasillas defender to give Mazarron the lead. Montecasillas could have equalised four minutes later when Juan Jose shot wide after a free kick. It was a poor first half with Mazarron allowing the visitors far too much space in midfield and not supporting Raul enough up front. On 44 minutes a free kick by Dani was deflected for a corner before the half time whistle brought welcome relief to the supporters.

Mazarron had a couple of half chances in the early stages of the second half but Domingo headed straight at the keeper after Chino's shot was blocked. The best move of the game came on 57 minutes when Dani played a superb long ball out of defence into the path of Chino on the right. The winger controlled the ball superbly before cutting inside and hitting a left foot shot just wide of the far post.

After 70 minutes Chino's shot from his weaker right foot was straight at the Montecasillas keeper after another good pass from Dani. However, the warning signs were always there with Montecasillas causing a few problems for Pablo in the Mazarron goal and the visitors equalised after 72 minutes. Young defender Alejandro, making his debut, could only half clear a free kick and the ball unfortunately fell to the foot of a visiting player who hammered it into the roof of the net.

The game ended with Mazarron captain for the day Boudia being sent off in injury time for threatening behaviour towards the referee after disputing a decision.

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