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LOCAL NEWS

Muddy waters

MORE than 20,000 Costa Blanca residents now have access to clean drinking water once more after local councils in La Nucia and La Villajoyosa lifted the ban put in place fol-

lowing the recent bad weather. As the *Euro Weekly News* went to press, tap water remained too turbid to drink but was safe for washing in Altea, Finestrat and Alfaz del Pi.

Cave raiders

A RARE 22,000-year-old engraving depicting a horse's head has been found by an archaeological team investigating the Comte cave in Pedreguer. Alongside this

exceptional discovery the scientists discovered animal remains including a hyena's tooth and the shells of marine molluscs, plus a range of ancient stone and flint tools.

Body retrieved

THE remains of a 36-year-old man have been recovered from the Teulada-Moraira water treatment plant by members of the Underwater Activities Group of the Armed Institute (GEAS). The deceased, who had worked at the plant for 13 years, had been missing for a day before the rescuers unearthed his body.

Fighting fund for Leo, 4

By *Simon Firth*

BIG-HEARTED *EWN* online readers have stepped in to help try to save a four-year-old boy battling a killer cancer.

Within hours of the *EWN* posting details of the brave battle Leo Bermejo is fighting, the total on his fundraising website was rising.

His parents, Karen and Jorge, need €175,000 (£150,000) to take him to the United States and a renowned proton therapy centre in Oklahoma.

Leo has one of the most aggressive forms of cancer seen in children and has already had several tumours removed.

Although the operations and subsequent chemotherapy have left him brain damaged, his mother Karen says he is fighting back.

"He keeps defying all the doctors. He is so happy, when you see him he is playing, he laughs, he does everything."

Little Leo's next operation is at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Merseyside on February 8.

That will remove the last of the tumours in his brain, but Leo will be left permanently handicapped if he undergoes conventional radiotherapy.

The family's only option is proton ther-

apy in Oklahoma but the trip for Leo, Karen and Dad Jorge, will cost €175,000.

"With proton therapy he can still progress," said Karen. "He will still have the chance to learn again, to move his right side, speak again and he won't have problems that will affect his organs in the future."

"This really is Leo's last hope for a life and we have to take it."

If you would like to help little Leo, the family, who live in Vera Playa, Almeria, have set up a page at [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com).

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Revenge porn foiled

ELDA police arrested a 23-year-old for attempting to blackmail an ex-girlfriend into continuing their relationship.

Both lived at the same address and maintained a brief relationship last December.

When the young woman broke it off her ex-partner sent her several texts, threatening to reveal explicit photos 'of an extremely sexual nature' taken while they were together. He would send them to her family and put them on the internet, he said.

Instead she went to the National Police in Elda.

Speaking to Judicial Police officers - equivalent to the CID - she told them that during their time together she was also subjected to insults, harassment and humiliation, sometimes in front of her family.

She did not report him to the police as she felt constantly intimidated, she explained. As the situation worsened she moved out and obtained a restraining order against him which was when the revenge porn threats began.

He has now been charged with gender violence and sexual harassment.

The cost of the storms

AS many towns within the region count the costs of the recent storm damage one resort estimates it will cost over €2 million to make the repairs.

Denia Council has put its claim into the Ministry of the Environment and the Valencian Tourism Agency detailing all the damages that the snow, wind and rain caused. Included in the dossier were photographs of the devastation to the dunes and historical buildings.

Over 170,000 cubic metres of sand was swept away and much of the promenade and beach area were covered with 400 tons of reeds brought in by the strong seas.

Councillor for Beaches Oscar Mengual emphasised the need for all of the town's departments to urgently make the repairs to restore Denia as quickly as possible.

More protection

VICTIMS of gender violence in Altea can have their locks on their front doors changed free of charge.

Thanks to an agreement between the town hall and Locksmiths Union (UCES), locks will be replaced once this

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...2

Spanish is the second most widely spoken language worldwide with only Mandarin Chinese used more. Spanish is now spoken by around 500 million people, with that figure pushing English into third.

Language on the up and up



Spanish speakers, behind Colombia with 48 million. Spanish is also the second-most studied language globally, with more than 21 million students in 2015. Of these, 7.8 million were in the US, which led the ranking, followed by Brazil and France.

It is additionally the third most widely-used language on the internet where its use grew 1,312.4 per cent from 2000 to 2015, even though less than 8 per cent of online traffic is published in Spanish.

MEXICO has the world's biggest number of Spanish speakers with 121 million, followed by the United States with 52 million, though statistics suggest the US could become the biggest Spanish-speaking nation by 2050, with almost a third of its citizens speaking the language to native level by then.

Spain currently ranks fourth on the list with 46 million

8 AT-A-GLANCE SURPRISES



- Spanish is the official language of 22 countries.
- It was the language used by diplomats until the 18th century.
- The earliest words written in Spanish appear in a series of 12th-century Visigothic texts which are copies of earlier documents, some dating back to 974-980.
- The first Spanish grammar was written by Antonio de Nebrija in 1492, the same year that Columbus discovered the New World.
- Spanish is also known as Castilian (Spanish: Castellano) due to its origins in the historical region of Castile, of which Burgos was the capital.
- Spanish and English share much of their vocabulary through cognates, since both languages derive many words from Latin and Arabic.
- The longest Spanish word is the rarely used medical term *esternocleidomastoiditis* (25 letters) which refers to a neck muscle complaint.
- The letter ñ does not exist in Latin and is the only Spanish letter of Spanish origin.

Used in 22 countries.



is authorised by the courts, announced Altea mayor Jaime Lllinares.

Altea is the fifth Alicante province municipality to take this step, following Benidorm, Elche, Novelda and Pilar de la Horadada.

The innovation was welcomed by Social Welfare councillor Veronica Lopez who added that advice and information regarding gender violence was available from her department and "directly and anonymously" on 865 700 200.

Stickers in a twist

ASPE residents awoke one morning to find stickers for the neo-fascist Falange party on every available surface.

They were particularly in evidence in the old town and principal shopping area.

A day or two later all of the stickers on litter bins, lampposts, trees, traffic lights and road signs had been covered over with more stickers, this time for the Antifeixistes del Pais Valencia group.

Aspe Town Hall decided to take ac-

tion meaning anyone, regardless of political party, found adorning the town with more stickers, now faces a minimum fine of €600 and a maximum of €3,000.

Historical insights

THE Villajoyosa museum has added new items to its collection following their discovery during recent excavations at the ancient cemetery of Casetes.

The decorated ostrich egg shells were discovered in two large rectangular chamber tombs with benches running in the background, where the earthen walls were hardened by fire. Ostrich eggs have a meaning of resurrection and fertility.

Dogs' mystery journey

LOCAL animal protection associations took in 57 dogs after their owner was stranded in San Vicente.

She had hired the services of a van and driver to take her and the dogs to Jijona but they were left high and dry in San Vicente's Pozo de San Anton neighbourhood.

The Local Police and the town hall's Environment department, who went to their aid after an alert from Dignidad Animal, called the Alicante animal protection shelter who could not take them in for lack of room.

The dogs, which were in good condition, well-fed and with no external parasites were finally taken by the Alicante group Asoka and associations in Villena and Valencia.

As none were micro-chipped the woman claiming to be the dogs' owner had no proof that they were hers, said Asoka president Pilar Esteva.

Police are now trying to determine the dogs' origin and why they were being taken to Jijona.

Postscript to ponder

300m

BIRDS cross the Strait of Gibraltar from Africa each spring en route to breeding grounds in Europe. The 2017 migration pattern is already under way.

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Nuclear clean-up

THE arrival of the Trump presidency has led to fears the US will not fulfil its obligations to clean up the Palomares site where a B-52 with four H-bombs came down in 1966. The land was left contaminated after the detonators on two of the bombs exploded.

Two square kilometres were covered in deadly plutonium. In October 2015 Madrid and Washington agreed the US would pay the €640m bill to remove all the contaminated soil.

But Spain's subsequent internal political turmoil led to a delay and now the US administration has changed. Now there are worries President Trump could turn round and ditch the agreement.

Bills go up

HOUSEHOLDS in Spain are braced for big fuel bills as wholesale prices rise and the cold snap forces many families to resort to extra heating. Consumer associations have warned of an increase as high as 20 per cent. Poor weather has hit solar output and the much publicised drought affected hydro-electric projects.

Hero officer saves man on man

AN off-duty police officer leapt onto the tracks of the Madrid Metro after a passenger collapsed and fell onto the line. The officer was making his way home when he noticed the man was very near the edge of the platform. Suddenly the traveller pitched forward onto the tracks.

The National Police officer jumped down to rescue the man who was unconscious and bleeding profusely. With the help of others the injured man was pulled back onto the platform where the officer put him in the recovery position and monitored him until paramedics arrived.



Postcard from

TENERIFE



FOR most people, going out to a restaurant is a social event and usually means getting dressed up. But how would you feel if you were getting dressed 'down,' or to put it bluntly, getting your kit off completely?

That's the gimmick, if that's the right word, at a new restaurant in Tenerife.

You go to Innato, you're led to a changing room and then you don nothing more than a bathrobe.

But that doesn't stay on for long as you're then taken to your table and encouraged to flash the flesh. A bamboo partition separates you from other diners but there's an added 'gimmick.'

While the crockery can't be said to be the deciding factor in what draws you to any restaurant, should it actually be moving? At Innato you can eat your food off the staff! Vine leaves are strategically placed to protect their modesty.

Owner Tony de Leonardis said he got the idea after hearing about a similar venture in London.

A so-called aphrodisiac menu served on nude male and female models sounds like a must, followed by what is fast becoming a favourite, a dessert of drizzled melted chocolate with strawberries, which Tony calls 'Happy Ending.'

Jihadi wife is detained

POLICE have arrested a 38-year-old Mexican woman suspected of disseminating jihadist ideology. The evidence was found by surveillance of her electronic devices. Her husband, Moroccan national Aziz Zaghane, was captured in 2016 and subsequently jailed. Since 2015 Spanish security agencies have detained 183 suspected jihadist terrorists.

Truck gang

NEARLY 200 robberies have been cleared up after police arrested 38 members of a gang who looted entire consignments of high value goods from HGVs.

In a two-year operation police were able to link thefts all over Spain from trucks whose drivers were resting or parked up in industrial estates. When the target was identified, the vehicle was raided by a four to seven-strong team who then distributed the merchandise. In the homes of gang members police found guns, jewellery and drugs.

Paternity leave

NEW Spanish fathers can now take up to a month off work after the government doubled paternity leave. The new measure could cost up to €230 million a year to operate. The eventual aim is to offer new fathers the same 16 weeks as new mothers receive. The change in rules also extends to fathers adopting, fostering and those who are self-employed.

Birthdays

• **Duncan Bannatyne, Entrepreneur, February 2, 68**

Scottish businessman who is best known as one of the investors on the BBC show Dragons' Den. His business career started when he bought an ice cream van for just £450 and he's had a range of successful businesses. In 2016 the *Sunday Times* Rich List estimated his wealth to be around £200 million.

• **Warwick Davis, Actor/TV Presenter, February 3, 47**

Born with a rare form of dwarfism he has enjoyed a successful film and TV career with roles in Labyrinth, The Chronicles of Namia: Prince Caspian and the Harry Potter series. As an avid Star Wars fan he landed a dream role in Star Wars Episode VI as the Ewok Wicket.

• **Natalie Imbruglia, Singer/Actress, February 4, 42**

Australian singer and actress who shot to fame in the hit soap opera Neighbours. She has also starred in films such as Johnny English and Closed for Winter. She released her first hit single Torn in 1997 and has since sold 10 million albums.

• **Cristiano Ronaldo, Footballer, February 5, 32**

One of the top footballers in the world he plays for the Spanish club Real Madrid. He has been awarded both the FIFA Ballon d'Or and the European Golden Shoe four times. Last year *Forbes* magazine named him as the world's best paid athlete.

• **Garth Brooks, Musician, February 7, 55**

American pop country singer and musician who has sold more than 160 million records making him one of the world's best-selling artists ever. He has seven albums that have achieved diamond status, (awarded for selling 10 million units) in the USA and is the only artist in music history to have achieved this.

• **Trinny Woodall, TV Presenter/Fashion Advisor, February 8, 53**

Better known as one half of 'Trinny and Susannah,' a pair of British fashion advisers who shot to fame hosting What Not to Wear aired on the BBC. She co-wrote 11 fashion advice books and co-launched underwear and clothing ranges. She is now a regular fashion style expert on ITV's This Morning.

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Law is not an empty measure

By Linda Hall

THE Generalitat will have the power to appropriate empty homes.

Valencia's regional parliament approved the draft of the Social Function law enabling the Generalitat to take over apartments and houses that belong to owners who possess 10 or more vacant properties. The Valencia government will be able to rent out these properties as social housing for five years.

The new measure applies to owners who have declined to sign up to the Generalitat's social housing network and will principally affect banks that have repossessed unoccupied properties.

The PSPV socialists, Compromís, Podemos and Ciudadanos voted in favour of the motion, which was opposed only by the Partido Popular. The MPs voted down all the amendments proposed by the PP and Cs but approved a Podemos proposal to include a specific Energy Poverty monitoring committee.

Ciudadanos MP Maria Jose Garcia said that her party considered the new law was 'fundamental' but lamented that it was already 'fatally

wounded' because it was not 'in harmony' with the Constitution.

A similar scheme introduced in Andalucia during the recession was later vetoed by Spain's highest court, the Constitutional Tribunal. Assuming that the Social Function does not suffer the same fate as the Andalucia initiative, banks that do not cooperate face fines of up to €30,000 warned the Generalitat's Housing chief, Maria Jose Salvador.

Nicely bedded-in

SAN JUAN hospital has at last substituted its old hand-cranked beds with electric models.

Two hundred have now been delivered to take the place of the outdated beds, many of which came from the old Provincial Hospital. Some were at least 25 years old and in such bad condition that they were held together with bandages and surgical tape, patients have complained.

They were equally unpopular with nursing staff who had to crank the beds by hand and suffered frequent back injuries.

San Juan's remaining beds were acquired more recently and did not need replacing, the management explained.

The hospital has also bought 340 bedside tables and new bedside armchairs that will be delivered soon.

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Snow soothes burnt woodland

GRANADELLA and Benitachell lost 812 hectares to fire last September and 588 of these were in Granadella.

The snow that briefly covered Granadella in January came as blessing and will help it to recover, said Javea's municipal biologist Ignasi Astor. It had the same beneficial and medicinal effect as water applied to a burn, he explained.

"The ground is better, more compact and where it was broken up before it's now more solid," Astor said.

"Rain in December followed by the snowfall has done wonders for regenerating Granadella. Snow is good because moisture and nutrients soak into the soil little by little," he continued.

Even the rain brought benefits although at first it was feared that the ash-choked rivulets might wash away precious Granadella topsoil.

"We inspected the steepest and most critical areas but there was little erosion. What's more the mixture of ash, earth and seeds piled up on the beach and we were able to remove it all to use as fertiliser," the biologist said.

Mastic, native fan palms and arbutus are beginning to appear and seeds are ready to germinate.



Photo by Altea Town hall

SEAFRONT DAMAGE: Jaime Llinares, regional Coastline chief Rosa de los Rios and councillors.

Mopping up operation

By Linda Hall

THE storms and gales that recently hit Altea were the worst in living memory.

Winds there reached 106 kilometres an hour and high seas seriously affected seafront infrastructure, although this same story was repeated all along the Costa Blanca.

Officials from the national and regional governments as well as the Alicante Province Diputacion have now inspected the damage firsthand to assess the help that will be needed to restore local towns and their beaches in time for Easter.

"We have inspected the damage with representatives from the national and regional Administrations, discussing solutions and the

possibility of official funding," said Altea mayor Jaime Llinares.

An information point has been set up at Altea Town Hall to advise residents who were affected by the power cuts or destruction caused by the storms and wish to make claims.

Any compensation would come from the Generalitat although the town hall will act as an intermediary on behalf of residents, Participation councillor Beatriz Gonzalez explained to the *Euro Weekly News*.

The information point is located in the Citizens' Attention department on the ground floor at the town hall. It will remain open until February 7 although this could be extended if necessary.

OUR VIEW

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City council changes its mind over Rabasa

By Linda Hall

THE protection zone for the Rabasa Lagoons in Alicante City has been reduced by half.

City Hall's Urban Development councillor Migue Angel Pavon originally set this at approximately three million square metres but an intermediate buffer zone has now been eliminated.

The buffer zone existed because it was classed as wetlands, explained Alicante City's municipal architect

Manuel Beltran. "In fact this was not the case," he maintained. There was no justification in applying this status to land not classed for development "and with no special value," according to Beltran.

This modification could smooth the path for the arrival of Ikea as the Swedish multinational has always been interested in the site.

An Ikea store, homes, shopping centre and park formed the original project but legal issues prevented progress.



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POLICE officers in the region are unable to attend firearms training courses as the Benidorm shooting range is closed.

Hundreds of Local and National Police officers who attend the Apollo XI police station every three months for ongoing firearms training

Police training incomplete

and practice have been unable to do so. This is because the range was closed weeks ago after there were fears of an outbreak of legionella in the facility.

The range, which is used

“Range is used daily enabling officers to comply with the National Plan of Arms.

daily, normally enables the officers to comply with the National Plan of Arms. This involves an instructor supervising serving members, ensuring that they have maintained their weapons,

continue to use them appropriately, perform target practices and have up-to-date training records.

The police station in the old town area of Benidorm was built decades ago and is considered to be outdated and requiring many repairs.

NEWS EXTRA

Heavy rainfall

A TOTAL of 350 millimetres of rain fell in Alicante City over five days of storms in December and January. This matches the municipality's average yearly rainfall.

Shelter reopened

BOTH entrances to a Civil War air raid shelter in Finca Pedro Jose in San Juan are now fully excavated. The refuge will eventually become a living museum.

Top docs

TWO Alicante City doctors were amongst Spain's 50 top private practitioners selected in the Top Doctors Awards. One is an ophthalmologist and the other a urologist.

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New status sought for windmills



Photo by emer Wilfmes

LA PLANA: Windmills visible for miles around. |

By Linda Hall

THE group of 11 windmills at La Plana in Javea are regarded as the most important in the Valencian Community.

At its last meeting the council voted to request Asset of Cultural Interest (BIC) status for the 11 Montgo windmills and the Safranera mill. The oldest dates from the 14th century.

They are already protected as Assets of Local Relevance and this will be the town hall's third at-

tempt to gain recognition of their value as cultural symbols and examples of traditional technology.

The first application to the General Directorate of Culture and Heritage was made in October 2003 but this and further attempts in 2004 and 2010 were turned down.

With different political parties in power and different policies, Javea Town Hall hopes for a more favourable reply for its own windmills and those of Pedreguer and other Marina Alta municipalities.

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Photo credit: Javea town hall

NEW APP: Get connected in Javea.

Getting connected

By Linda Hall

XABIA CONNECTA is a smartphone app created to make life easier for Javea residents.

New Technologies councillor Ximo Segarra, accompanied by Javea mayor Jose Chulvi and other councillors, recently presented the app, which is suitable for iPhones and Android to the local public.

Although free to users, it has cost just over €3,000. "This is a competitive price for the level of service it offers," Segarra said.

Users will be able to send a photo, accompanied by a text, illustrating any urban defect they might notice. This will be dealt with by the appropriate town hall department which, as well as remedying the problem, will keep the person posted about the progress being made.

The app also offers the option of an instant alert in an emergency and receiving information about town hall services. It also gives access to municipal telephone numbers and commercial directories.

"Xabia Connecta goes a step further in our desire to be accessible, transparent and permanently at the service of the local population. We want to attend to citizens in real time and strengthen our relationship with them," Jose Chulvi said.

Kika Mata, councillor responsible for Services pointed out that Xabia Connecta would be of great help to her own department.

"It will be our eyes on the street and help us take action whenever necessary. Basically it means we can give good service and answer residents' needs efficiently," Mata said.

Neighbours oppose extension

SAN VICENTE families in Camino de la Sendera are protesting about a nearby horse breeding farm.

They have complained to the town hall in the past about the installation and were alarmed to learn that the property is to be enlarged by 13,000 square metres with stabling for 150 horses.

"We already have to put up with the flies and the smell from 30 horses. When the wind blows in our direction it's un-

bearable," said Nuria Tebar whose home directly adjoins the complex.

"The town hall says that it is well cared for but last summer my own house was like a stable. We can't live like this," she declared.

Nuria's neighbours agreed that it was impossible to open windows and their homes were invaded by insects.

Angeles Pastor said her 17-month-old granddaughter had to go to A & E after she was

bitten. "There are always flies in the country, but these came from the horses," she claimed.

"I've lived here for 25 years but the town hall forgets there are people here and gives priority to the animals," said Martin Portugues, one of the most active opponents to the extension.

"Our hands are tied," said San Vicente's Town Planning councillor Marilo Jorda. "Both the activity and location are legal and have all the necessary permits."

Closure of road disrupts village

NARROW roads through the mountain town of Benifato have become a rat run for the CV-70.

Half a kilometre of the road between Benifato and Benimantell had to be closed after wind and rain damaged the surface and it was blocked by fallen boulders.

Drivers bound for Benidorm or other Marina Baja towns are now detouring through the village, disrupting the lives of its 200 residents.

"Don't let the children play in the street," warned local mayor David Blanes as he alerted residents to the dangers of the 'intense' traffic.

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Completed survey forms must reach Euro Weekly News by noon March 30, 2017 at the latest. Only FULLY completed forms received by the final deadline will be entered into the prize draw. All entrants must possess a current NIE number, hold a valid driving licence and must be aged 18 or over. Only one entry per person is allowed. Failure to meet these requirements will invalidate the entry. No cash alternatives.

No employees of EWN Media Group can enter.

The winner will be announced on April 20, 2017.

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Tick box if you do not wish your personal details to be shared with third parties or to receive promotional information or special offers.

You and the EWN

How often do you read the EWN?

- Every week
- Regularly
- Monthly
- On occasions
- Very rarely

Which sections of the EWN do you read?

- Local News
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- Other columnists
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- Horoscopes
- Time Out
- Letters
- Health & Beauty
- Food/Social Scene
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- Community
- Classified
- Motoring
- Sport

What do you THINK of the EWN?

.....

What do you EXPECT from the EWN?

.....

What would you like to CHANGE about the EWN?

.....

How long do you spend reading the EWN?

- Up to 10 minutes
- Up to 30 minutes
- Up to 45 minutes
- One hour or more

Do you find it difficult or easy to pick up your copy?

.....

Where do you usually pick up your copy?

.....

Do you have a suggested new distribution point?

.....

You and the EWN Online

Where do you primarily get your daily news from?

- Television
- Radio
- Newspaper
- Internet

What device do you browse the internet on?

- Desktop computer
- Laptop
- Tablet
- Mobile phone
- Smart TV

What time do you normally browse the internet?

- Morning
- Afternoon
- Evening
- All day

How often do you visit the www.euroweeklynews.com website?

- More than once a day
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Q & A

Gender

- Female
- Male

How old are you?

- 18 - 21
- 22 - 35
- 36 - 50
- 51 - 70
- 71+

Status

- Single
- Married
- Separated/Divorced
- Widowed

Which other local newspapers do you read?

.....

How often do you eat out?

- Once a week
- More than once week
- Once a month
- Rarely

How long have you been reading the EWN?

.....

Do you have private health insurance?

- No
- Yes (specify).....

Have you ever used a currency exchange/money transfer company?

- No
- Yes (specify).....

Is your telephone

- Landline
- Mobile
- Both
- Name of your provider(s).....

Is your mobile

- Contract
- Pay as you go
- Name of network provider.....

What kind of mobile telephone do you use?

- Android
- iPhone
- Windows
- Other (specify).....

Is your internet

- Fibre Optic
- ADSL
- Other (specify).....

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- Regularly
- Rarely
- Never

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- Instagram
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It does not matter whether you are a regular or casual reader, nor do you have to agree with our firm belief that we are the best. All of your opinions will help us to improve what we offer both readers and advertisers in the future across all six editions of the newspaper widely distributed each week from Valencia to Costa del Sol, as well as Mallorca and inland.

What's more, if you fully complete the survey in today's issue, which will be republished until March 23, 2017, or answer it online and send it back to us no later than March 30, 2017, then you stand the chance of winning this brand new car in our prize draw.

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It's a longer wait

THERE will be a wait of at least another six months before work can start on Benidorm's first shopping centre.

A €4.5 million roundabout on the N332 and a branch road giving access to the site must be built first. The developers Unibail-Rodamco have agreed to pay €3 million towards this although Benidorm Council has not concluded the compulsory purchase of the necessary land.

According to a document sent to the town hall and quoted in the Spanish media, Unibail has asked for a six-month extension to the February deadline for starting the access.

Neither is this the only hitch, as the regional government has not yet provided the Environmental Impact report needed before Benidorm can modify its Partial Development Plan.

Despite the hold-ups, the same media sources revealed that Unibail, leading international specialists in commercial property investments, want to go ahead with the development.

"There is no intention of revoking the agreement," the document allegedly stated, emphasising Unibail's conviction that all loose ends would be tied up during the six-month extension.

Turtle finds its sea legs

By Linda Hall

IFAC, a 25-kilo turtle is back in the sea where it belongs.

It was rescued by fishermen after becoming entangled in their nets and taken to the Centro ARCA at the Oceanographic Aquarium in Valencia City to recover from decompression sickness.

Two months later ARCA specialists decided that the turtle, an adult female, was fully recovered and could return to the sea. This turtle has an important role in the centre's loggerheads project, ARCA said, as it is vital to impress on the public - and particularly the very young - that it is essential to protect the marine environment.

With this in mind, 100 second-year primary pupils from Calpe's Paternina and Olta schools were invited to assist in returning



Ifac, named in honour of the town's famous landmark, to the sea.

HOMEWARD BOUND: Pupils accompany Ifac to the beach.

The turtle was fitted with a monitoring device to follow its movements, health and adaptation to its surroundings.

Loggerhead turtles are resistant animals, the ARCA centre's biologists told the children, they survive easily and do not need to remain in a group.

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A funny Valentine

A POSTER for a 'Boys only' Moors and Christians fundraiser in Calpe received a cool reception from females.

It showed an exceptionally pneumatic woman, her modesty was protected by barely-there underwear, advertising the event which included a drink, dinner, a show and DJ for €20.

The Assemblée Joves de Calp youth association lamented that the Contrabandistas company should resort to this type of event to finance itself. "It insults all the people who fight each day to eradicate machismo," the Assemblée wrote on its Facebook page.

"We don't want fiestas where women are treated like objects or fiestas created by men for men where women are excluded."

Admitting that they had made an error, the Contrabandistas later withdrew the poster. Machismo was the last thing on their minds, they insisted as the event was intended to promote their forthcoming Saint Valentine's Day fiesta.

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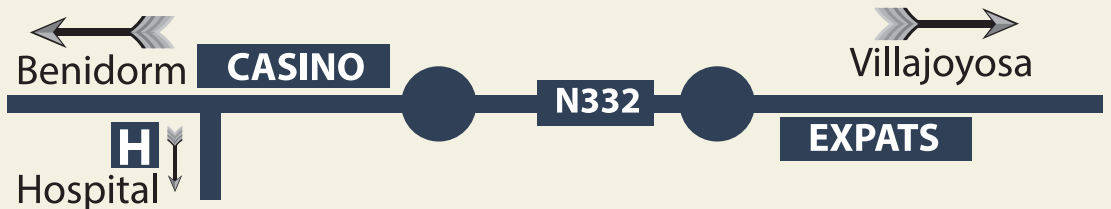
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Increased parking problems for resort



By Caroline Tyszka

THE Benidorm Council has agreed to review the blue zone parking and will consider charging non-residents on a Sunday.

The mobility council will look at the towns Sustainable Parking Plan and discuss what measures can be put into place to end the problems with parking in the tourist resort.

The special council, comprising of political, business, associative and technical representatives has agreed to review several options regarding the blue zones. This includes extending the payment hours for non-residents on a Sunday to protect those living in the area from excessive tourist parking.

Councillor for Mobility, José Ramón González de Zárate said: "Implementing a measure such as this would meet two of the priority objectives of the plan, the first being protecting the residents and the second helping the contractor ORA in charge of the blue zone regain some funding."

ORA has not been able to reach its promised income as recently some blue zone spaces have been reallocated to motorcycle spaces, the installation of new bins, increased loading and unloading spaces and wider footpaths. The council considers the additional income generated from a Sunday fee would help compensate for this.

Gastronomic delights for 2017

BENIDORM Town Hall has announced five gastronomic events for the coming year.

The calendar for tasty treats was unveiled in an event organised by the Association of Bars, Restaurants and Cafes (Abreca) together with the Department of Tourism.

Toni Perez, mayor said: "This calendar of events consolidates and fits appropriately with the town and works well outside of the high season."

First on the Gastronomic Benidorm 2017 calendar is the sixth Jornadas de la Cuchara from February 25 to March 5. On May 16 it will be the turn of the second Gastronomic Fair; and from June 10 to 18 the longest event - the seventh Tapas and Pinchos Competition - will take place.

After the summer period it will be the second Brocheta from September 23 to October 1 and finally from October 21 to 29 it will be the sixth Jornadas de los Arroz de la Tierra (Festival of the rice of the earth).

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Cyclists get secure parking



BENIDORM: An increasing demand for cycle facilities.

BENIDORM Council has installed 50 new bike racks around the resort to enable cyclists to park their bicycles and lock them.

Following a request from the Benidorm cycling clubs and student representatives along with the growing number of people taking to two wheels within the

town, the council have responded by agreeing to make the installations which have been paid for by the concessionaire of urban furniture.

José Ramón González de Zárate, councillor for Mobility said: "Each rack will be able to hold seven to eight bikes with more units

being installed at the school complexes and sports centre."

Other streets to have benefited include: Juan Fuster Zaragoza which has three units, the junction of the Mediterraneo and Europa which has two units and the Elche Park area with two units.

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Advertising feature

Did your bank sell you a toxic investment?

THE number of risky and toxic investment products that Spanish Banks offered, sometimes pressuring people to sign, could fill pages and pages: preferred shares, subordinates shares, Bankia OPS Shares, multi-currency mortgage products, Cam Cuotas Participativas, Subordinate Bons convertible into bank shares, etc.

It is also amazing how many customers affected by these products are not aware of the characteristics of their investments, if they are able to cancel them or not, if legally the bank could force them to change them to another product or shares, etc. In many cases people do not even know their effect.

In some cases the banks have made their clients sign documents where the toxic products have been exchanged or swapped into other products or shares, in order to avoid the bank having legal liability. In many cases this resulted in the client paying for all costs, fees or indeed losing part of the money in-

vested, as a consequence of the banks' mistakes and misinformation.

Everyone, independent of their language and banking experience can be mis-sold this kind of product. It is difficult in many cases to know the difference between a normal ordinary investment and a complex risky product, as it depends on the information provided by the bank to the consumer.

The expatriate community in Spain have also been victims of these banking scandals. The language barrier and the trust of the employees of the bank are some of the most common reasons for signing up for these products.

However, it must be remembered that the current laws in Spain and the European Union, oblige the bank and investment entities to provide, before any investment is contracted by a consumer, complete and clear information about the product, its risks and costs, etc.

It also needs to be determined if the products suit the characteristics of the client, through carrying out the relevant convenience and aptitude test. The relevant knowledge and experience of the consumer-investor in investments of this kind is paramount in determining what sort of products have been contracted previously, etc.

If you are affected by any of these kind of products, we advise you to contact us or any other lawyer with experience in this field, and never sign any document with the bank before getting legal advice.

The information provided in this article is not intended to be legal advice, but merely conveys general information related to legal issues.

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Many British expatriates close their UK bank accounts and open new ones in offshore centres once they leave the country. They may not have a choice if their bank does not allow non-UK residents to hold accounts. Nationwide International in the Isle of Man is a popular choice for expatriates in Spain and elsewhere, but it has announced it is closing its doors in summer 2017.

The bank will start closing customer accounts from early 2017. It will be writing again to clients with important information and dates regarding the closure of their specific accounts.

In the meantime, it suggested that since looking for a new home for their savings can take time, clients should start looking now. The bank has removed any notice requirement on its accounts, and fixed rate bonds can also be closed before the scheduled maturity date, with no penalty.

This only affects Nationwide International in the Isle of Man. Accounts held with the Nationwide Building Society in the UK are not affected.

Looking for a new home for your savings

This is a good opportunity to

Offshore banking options continue to narrow - Nationwide International to close



By Gerald
Turner, Partner,
Blevins Franks

review your savings and consider if a bank is the best place for your money.

The Bank of England interest rate has been at historic lows since March 2009 and was cut to an even lower 0.25% following the Brexit referendum. If you need your savings to provide an income, preferably without withdrawing much capital, or are

looking for capital growth to keep pace with inflation over your retirement years, seek advice on how you may be able to generate better returns from your savings.

How long do you need your money to last?

This is a sobering question and not one most people can answer with certainty. Underestimate this, however, and your money could run out too soon, leaving you unable to live the lifestyle you want. Life expectancy has been increasing and you need to make sure that your savings will provide the income you need right to the end of your and your spouse's retirement years. No-one wants to be forced to reduce their quality of life in their later years.

You therefore need to establish a strategic savings and investment strategy to preserve the value of

your wealth and income.

Remember to factor in the effect of inflation on reducing your spending power each year. Say, for example, you typically spend €5,000 a month. Assuming an inflation rate of 3% a year, in 10 years' time you could need about €6,720 a month to maintain the same spending, and €9,030 in 20 years.

The uncertainty over Brexit has been making some people cautious about investing. However, trying to time when to buy and sell investments has plenty of risks - but the biggest one may be the risk of missing out. Missing just a few good days in a market cycle could significantly reduce your investment returns.

Protecting your savings

Another issue to consider, when

deciding the best home for your savings, is the level of protection you would get should the financial institution fail. For example, the Isle of Man Depositors' Compensation Scheme provides individuals with protection of up to £50,000.

It is important to ensure that your portfolio is built around your risk profile, and with strategic asset allocation and diversification to reduce risk and meet your objectives. You want to ensure that your portfolio is suitable for you. Take specialist, personalised advice and build a good relationship with your financial adviser so they understand your needs and guide you through the Brexit years and into the future.

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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DEMOLISHED: Senator Joan Baldovi shown Callosa storm damage.

Nispero crop demolished

By Linda Hall

CALLOSA D'EN SARRIA is Spain's principal nispero grower, but the outlook for the 2017 season is not encouraging.

According to initial estimates, 90 per cent of nisperos growing in the open were damaged during the January storms. Forty per cent of those cultivated under cover were also lost after polytunnel structures were damaged by hurricane-force winds. The 300 millimetres of rain that fell during the storms caused further damage to the developing fruit.

Other crops fared no better and a quarter of late

citrus fruit was lost as well as 60 per cent of avocados which the gales stripped from the trees. Equally damaging for local agriculture, 70 per cent of the town's complex irrigation network was affected by the bad weather.

It was still early to make specific estimates, said Callosa's mayor Josep Saval. Not only were crops damaged, but public infrastructure and private property were also damaged.

Roofs needed attention at the Polideportivo sports complex, municipal library, Museo Etnological, municipal market and Casa de Cultura which had all suffered rain damage, Saval said.

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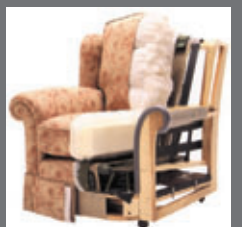
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Brexit negotiator warns against Trump



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

FORMER Belgian Prime Minister and European Union chief Brexit negotiator Guy Verhofstadt has issued a dire warning that Donald Trump ranks alongside Daesh and Vladimir Putin as one of the three worst threats to the unity of the EU.

According to the man who had hoped to be president of the European Parliament following Martin Schulz, President Trump was doing all that he could to destabilise the Union with the promotion of the concept of nationalism rather than united federalism.

He wants to see Brexit over and done with

as quickly as possible so that a new, younger breed of European politicians can unite the remaining 27 states against the concept of self-interested nationalism which over the years has led to the death of millions of Europeans.

In his wish to see the speedy resolution of the UK exit, he made it clear that in his opinion, Britain should be able to negotiate its future relationship with the EU in concert with discussions and negotiations for exit which appears to differ from a view expressed by European president Jean-Claude Juncker at Davos.

Clearly he is worried about the elections due in France, Germany and Holland which have all seen a growth in the strength of right wing parties who, if elected, might be tempted to follow Britain's lead.



Guy Verhofstadt. |

Photo by Claude Truong-Ngoc Wikimedia

Gibraltar and Scotland visit the European Parliament

IN what turned out to be an eventful day, Gibraltar and Scotland - in some ways an unlikely pair, but not in their rejection of Brexit - were invited to address the European Parliament on January 30.

Both parties explained their views and wishes on Brexit to the Committee of Constitutional Affairs which became something of a 'shooting gallery' as Spanish MEPs took pot shots at Chief Minister Fabian Picardo during a question and answer session which followed the presentation.

Both Mr Picardo and MSP Fiona Hyslop explained the historical background to the referendum result and the fact voters in both areas had overwhelmingly rejected the concept of leaving the European Union and how they hoped to see fairness and compassion from the member states, which would take into account the wishes of the people they represented.

True to expectation, the Spanish contingent took the opportunity to complain about Gibraltar's position and to make it clear that in their minds, the only way forward was either Gibraltar out of the EU with the UK or in the EU with Spanish dual sovereignty.

Their vehemence was in contrast to placatory comments made by Spanish Foreign Minister Dastis a few days earlier when he said that Spain would not put Gibraltar at the centre of negotiations over Brexit.

Mr Picardo 'rolled with the punches' and suggested Spain should not only look to the future but those MEPs attacking Gibraltar should take the trouble to visit and see the Rock for themselves under a British flag as they would never see it under a Spanish flag.



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Digging down into the past

ARCHAEOLOGISTS believe the Cova del Comte cave in Pedreguer has many more treasures to reveal.

Five years after their first dig and having disregarded the cave's upper levels which for centuries were used as a corral, experts presented the results of their fourth campaign last October.

Finds during excavations include flint tools, perforated seashells used as adornments, animal bones and a hyena tooth. Star discovery was part of a stone plaque engraved with a horse that was probably made 20,000 years ago. This follows a similar find in the cave in 2015 that was the first of its kind in the Valencian Community.

The Cova del Comte was first occupied 20,000 years ago and what has been found so far are only indications of what remains to be discovered, the archaeologists believe.

"This is the tip of the iceberg that we suspect is down there," said Jose Antonio Lopez Mira, head of the Generalitat's Territorial Heritage Service.



Photo credit: Pedreguer town hall

GETTING READY: In preparation for the dig.

New lighting improves safety

NEW outdoor lighting in Villajoyosa has now been installed which will not only improve safety but save the council an estimated 65 per cent on their energy bills.

The work, carried out by TECOPSA, has seen the placement of 219 LED lights and five control panels in various public streets within the town.

Councillor Pascal Amigo said: "This project has been very important for our town, it has provided lights in areas that had many problems. We have worked hard with the authorities and hope that we can continue to collaborate on other similar projects. We have other areas within Villajoyosa that also need improved lighting."

Funded jointly by the Diputation of Alicante and the town hall the new eco lights will reduce the council's annual electricity bill from €8,600 to around €3,100.

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Keep marching in fight against cancer



LA NUCIA 2016: Organisers are hoping for another big turnout.

THE eighth march for the fight against cancer will take place in La Nucia on Sunday February 5.

The event organisers, The Cancer Association of La Nucia (AECC) and the town hall, are expecting at least 2,000 participants and hope to raise more than €5,000.

On February 4 it will be International Day Against Cancer as set by the World Health Organisation (WHO) with events planned around the region to raise awareness and funds for the many charities helping those affected by cancer.

Money raised in La Nucia will be shared between the AECC and the Anemone Association who help women in the region with breast cancer.

Benabe Cano, mayor, said: "We hope to exceed last year's total of €5,330 for the cancer charities to continue their good work."

The march will start at 10.30am in the parking area of the sports centre and is free. Walkers will make their way along the five kilometre course, although for those wishing to participate but are unable to walk the distance a bus is also

being provided.

The finishing point for the march will be the CEM (Centro Educativo Medioambiental del Captivador) where at 11am children's activities will begin.

Organised by the Valencian Health Authority the workshops aim to raise awareness for the younger population about the fight against cancer.

Although the march is free funds will be raised through a raffle. This will be drawn at midday with tickets costing €3 each. Prizes have been donated by more than 110 companies in the region.

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Eco-friendly cleaning

PUBLICLY-OWNED Teumo Serveis, which carries out municipal cleaning and maintenance in Teulada-Moraira, has acquired two new vehicles.

One is entirely electric, but both vehicles are environmentally-friendly and use the latest technology. The new acquisitions will be used for street-cleaning and rubbish collection throughout Teulada-Moraira.

The town hall plans to continue improving its general services while using equipment that is increasingly eco-friendly and respectful towards the environment, said Raul Llobell, the councillor who heads this department.

Would you and your heirs like to know how much inheritance tax they will need to pay - when the time comes? Well now you can!

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With this information and our recommendations, **our customers can always plan in advance**, in order to avoid any undesirable events. With greater involvement in cross-border cases where the application of European regulations and national laws have different results, we always recommend proper international tax planning especially in inheritance matters.

The inheritance tax service has the following as its main objectives:

1. **To inform YOU the customer and your heirs** of the inheritance tax that would need to be paid, so that you

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2. **Review and recommend proper estate planning**, appropriate to your needs and wishes.

3. **Review existing wills in Spain** and abroad, and study their compatibility and validity, according to today's laws.

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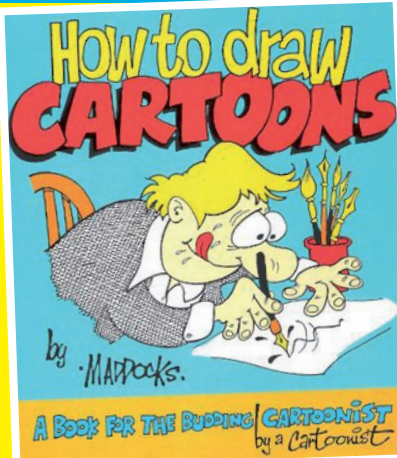
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Specsavers' food drive

THE Spanish Specsavers Opticas' eight stores have launched a food collection campaign aimed at helping those in the region who need assistance. The optical company, which has branches in the Costa Blanca, Costa del Sol and Mallorca are asking customers to make a small non-perishable food donation from now until February 28.

All donations will be given to the Spanish Federation of Food Banks Alicante collection point. Donations, particularly sugar, chocolate, milk and cooking oil should be handed in to a local Specsavers branch which can be found at www.specsavers.es.

PETER MADDOCKS



Link for Peter's books:

http://www.amazon.co.uk/How-Draw-Cartoons-Peter-Maddocks/dp/1480221929/ref=tmm_pap_title_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1454421695&sr=8-1

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

<http://petermaddocksart.com>

Giving to the community

THE Giving4Giving charity has helped a local single mother of two who was raising funds for Guardian Angels.

A few weeks ago a young lady called Mercedes Lucy Wesley contacted Gary at Giving4Giving to ask for advice on how to publicise a walk she was going to do, climbing the Puig Campana Mountain with a small group of friends who also wanted to support the charity.

Impressed with her determination Giving4Giving pledged €500 if they completed the walk, all funds going to the Guardian Angels.

Mercedes, the daughter of local and well-known musician Peter Oliver who sadly passed away, completed the walk in just over four hours.

Wanting to give something back to the charity that had and continues to support her she also planned a cabaret fundraiser at the Corner Pocket bar in Benidorm.

Gary attended the event to present Mercedes with her pledged money but surprised her with an additional €500,



HELPING OUT: Gary surprised Mercedes with his donation.

making a total donation of €1,000 to help Guardian Angels.

The charitable group support single parent families with counselling, mentoring, legal advice and much more.

Gary said: "I was really impressed with Mercedes, someone so young thinking and car-

ing about others by giving her time to raise money for a charity that had helped her. Giving4Giving would like to help both her and the Guardian Angels in the future."

Giving4Giving are always looking for more team members in addition to donations to keep the rails full. Items can be

dropped off at any of the four shops - in La Nucia, Finestrat and Altea - alternatively Gary can arrange to collect larger donations.

Anyone interested in volunteering or donating items can call Gary 603 137 697 or visit their Facebook page - Giving4Giving charity.



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Good use for illegal gains

A HOUSE built by drugs baron Francisco Javier Martinez San Millan, alias Franky, now belongs to Pedreguer Town Hall.

The national government ceded the property for 15 years in an agreement formalised by Pedreguer mayor Sergi Ferrus and Mario Garces, the national government's junior minister for Social Services and Equality.

Franky's €3 million bolthole, a solidly-built mansion on 11,000 square metres of land, is already used by the Amadem and Adima associations as well as the Addictions Prevention Unit.

It was fitting that a house built with drugs money should benefit the commu-

nity and rehabilitate persons with drug problems, Garces said. "These confiscated assets should revert to society," he declared.

The drugs baron disappeared in 1994 after receiving a 17-year prison sentence and resurfaced in Pedreguer, transformed by plastic surgery and with his fingerprints substituted by those from his toes.

While in Pedreguer Martinez San Millan allegedly lived 'like a king' but kept a low profile, telling neighbours he was an airline pilot.

He was finally arrested in August 2006 as he left his home to go for a drive accompanied by his two children, his parents and ex-wife.

NEWS EXTRA

Bad breath

A CAMPELLO resident withdrew money from a cash machine after muggers allegedly plied him with stealth drug, burundanga. This was the fourth 'devil's breath' incident in recent weeks.

Lighter bills

JAVEA Town Hall reduced its electricity bill by €314,728 between 2011 and the end of 2016. Savings were made thanks to improved technology and renegotiating Iberdrola contracts.

Drought rout

THE December and January downpours put paid to three years of drought. The Guadalest reservoir is full and the Amadorio near Villajoyosa has reached 57 per cent capacity.



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CARELINE THEATRE are putting on two extra performances of their smash hit pantomime Pinocchio on Saturday February 11 at 8pm and a matinee on Sunday February 12 at 3pm. This is to make up for the matinee and evening performances cancelled due to power cuts on Saturday January 21.

Ticket holders for the two cancelled performances can apply for new tickets for either of the two extra performances. Ticket holders

Extra panto performances

should contact the box office as soon as possible as tickets are also on general sale and a sell-out of both extra performances is expected.

Careline would like to thank all those who braved the atrocious weather and turned out to all performances in great numbers. Also a spe-

“

Careline would like to thank all those who braved the atrocious weather.

cial thank you to those who happily sat in the darkened theatre for half an hour waiting in vain for the power to come back on while being entertained by impromptu performances from the cast lit by torches.

Tickets are €12 for adults (€11 for pre-paid groups of 10 or more) and €8 for children under 10 years of age. Contact the box office now on 652 294 750 or by email to carelineboxoffice@gmail.com.

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Snow and storms but a packed Inaugural Meeting

THE day before the Inaugural Meeting of Marina Alta Fine Arts Society (MAFAS) in Javea on Spain's Costa Blanca, the Costa became really 'Blanca' when the first snow for 33 years fell. The result was closed roads, electricity cuts and general chaos.

The snow melted that night to be replaced by torrential rain and high winds next morning. Valiantly more than 120 people struggled through the weather to Javea's Parador to attend the

inaugural meeting, not all the 150 members could make it.

Tony Cabban, chairman, opened the meeting and thanked all the many people who had helped to form the new branch, the first of 2017 and the last to use the old NADFAS name.

June Robinson, NADFAS national chairman updated everyone on NADFAS news and led the members through the procedures for the adoption of the branch as a part of NADFAS.

Harry Fletcher gave a 'tour de force' presentation on 'Highlights of Spanish Painting' including Velazquez, Greco, Goya, Sorolla, Dali and Picasso. His analysis of the paintings and anecdotes about the artists enthralled the audience.

MAFAS expect to announce their first trip shortly. They are looking to the future and want to organise events and trips to exhibitions, galleries and historic buildings. To do that, and also ensure they have a strong

organisational foundation for the years ahead, they want to recruit more people to work with or on the committee. Just talk to any committee member if you think you might like to be involved.

The next MAFAS meeting will be held today Thursday February 2 at the Parador de Javea at 10.30am. The illustrated presentation for this meeting will be given by the art historian and BBC antiques consultant Anne Anderson.

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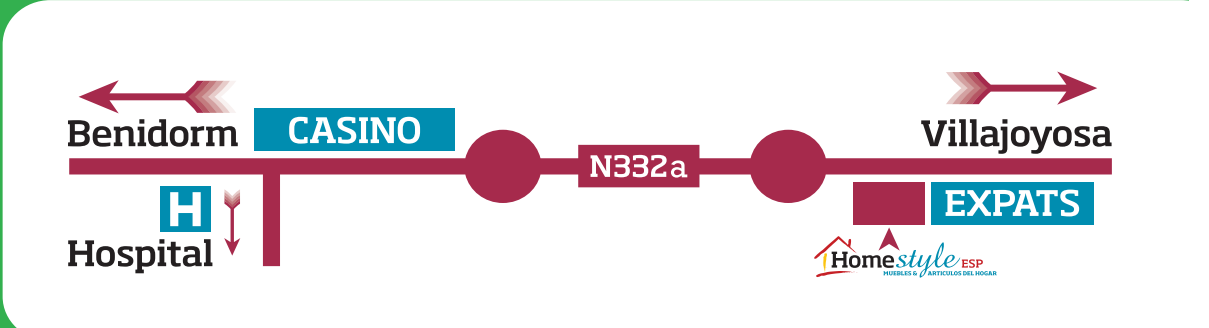
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They're off to see the wizard!

OH yes they are! Oliva Drama and Cultural Association (ODCA) would like to invite you to their 2017 pantomime The Wizard of Oz.

This heartwarming show will be great fun for all the family.

Come and meet the munchkins, help Dorothy kill the wicked witch, and of course hear the mighty wiz himself.

There will be two performances at the Olimpia theatre, Calle Mayor 18, in Oliva (just off the N332), on Thursday February 16 at 5pm, and Friday February 17 at 8pm.

The Thursday evening will be a charity performance with all profits going to MABS.

Tickets are just €6 and can be obtained from any member of ODCA, or from Honeyduke's Bar in Oliva.

Please call 644 889 155 or email olivadramagroup@gmail.com for more information.



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Denia Rock Choir's second anniversary

IT was party time for the Denia Rock Choir at the Hostal Loreto, Denia on January 26 as the lively group gathered to celebrate their second anniversary.

They had a fun-filled evening singing a few of their favourite songs such as Human by The Killers. Cava flowed as they toasted the choir's success, whilst enjoying delicious tapas provided by Victoria Putt Gillin, a local caterer.

New members are always welcome to this friendly choir which is led by the professional musical director Jan Dewland.

The choir meets on

PARTY TIME: The group gathered to celebrate their second anniversary.

Thursday nights in the Salon Social of the Hostal Loreto, Denia, from 6pm to 7.30pm, and costs €3 per session.




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ON STAGE: Over 60 dancers and actors took part.

Panto sell out

THE Broadway Performance Academy Pantomime 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarves' was a resounding success.

The show, written and produced by Matt King and Rebecca Troch, had a cast of over 60 dancers and actors who entertained the audience with many family favourites including 'hi ho' and the whole cast dancing to The Brotherhood of Man's 'save all your kisses for me,' a blast from the past.

Tickets were premium for the Friday January 27 and Saturday January 28 shows as the Casa del Cultura in Alfaz del Pi was packed for both performances.

The lucky attendees took to social media to congratulate friends, family and the group as a whole for yet another brilliantly entertaining show.

Matt posted: "My superb group of actors and Beki's dancers made all the hours of hard work worthwhile and paid us back 1000,000 times over. A huge thank you to all our sponsors and helpers without whom we would never be able to make our shows as professional as they are, not to mention being able to support charities such as MABS and EMAUS.

"On behalf of Broadway Performance Academy thank you all for supporting us."

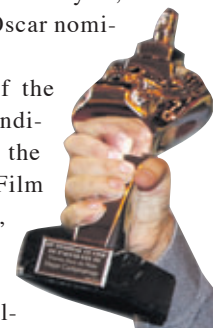
Film festival on to a

By Linda Hall

'TIMECODE,' Alfaz Film Festival's winner last year, is a 2017 Oscar nominee.

One of the five candidates in the Short Film category, 'Timecode' - won Alfaz's top Faro de Plata award for director Juanjo Gimenez as well as Best Script and Public Prize in last year's edition.

"This is the first time that the Festival has awarded first prize to an Oscar nominee," said Javier Pascual, the event's assistant director. The 'Timecode' nomination was thrilling he said and he hoped



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A night in Buenos Aires

THE Arcos de Buenos Aires Tango Show company appears tomorrow Friday February 3, at Alfaz's Casa de Cultura.

The show, 'Una noche en Buenos Aires' has already toured principal theatres in Spain, Germany, Sweden and Denmark. It combines dance with live music provided by the violinists Walter O Tejada Carranza and Laura Sanchez Garcia. They will be accompanying Jupa Arias and Esther Medina, principal dancers with the Argentine National Ballet, who will perform waltzes and dances of all kinds as well as classic tangos.

'Una noche en Buenos Aires' starts at 8pm in the Casa de Cultura and tickets cost €10. Reservations can be made on 660 753 246.



PI / ALBIR NEWS

Festival was a winner

that Juanjo Gimenez would fulfil his dream by winning one of the coveted statuses.

Produced by Nadir Films, 'Timecode' has already won more than 60 prizes, including the Golden Palm in Cannes last year.

For the first time this year's Solidarity Cinema cycle, which raises funds for non-government organisa-

tions will incorporate a new section of films directed by women.

The suggestion from Huellas Borradas de Mujer, a national women's association based in Alfaz, was welcomed by Javier Pascual.

"Too many films directed by women pass unnoticed," he said.



Photo credit: Alfaz town hall.

JUANJO GIMENEZ: His film 'Timecode' is an Oscar nominee.

End to a problem

ALFAZ is planning its own water-filtering plant in the Tossal Roig district.

This will enable it to distribute the town's domestic supply more efficiently, explained Town Planning councillor Toni Such.

It would also put an end to the cloudiness that affects the water from the Guadalest reservoir after periods of heavy rain, Such said. This has happened twice in four weeks, with householders warned not to use tap water for drinking, cooking or personal hygiene.

On the first occasion both Alfaz and Albir were affected al-

though Albir was excluded from the latest restrictions.

Alfaz Council has given the go-ahead for the filtering plant and the plans for the project should be ready within a month. Once approved, construction can be put out to tender.

The €450,000 plant will be built beside the Alfaz 1 deposit in Tossal Roig with a filtering capacity of 80 cubic metres of water a second.

"We have taken into account peak periods in the summer when consumption is at its highest, so that the filtering plant will be able to meet the demand without problems," Such added.

Mediator honoured

NORWEGIAN socialist and mathematician Johan Galtung has received an honorary doctorate from Madrid's Complutense University.

Professor Galtung, who has lived in Alfaz for more than 40 years, is the principal founder of peace and conflict studies.



Photo credit: Alfaz town hall.

JOHAN GALTUNG: International mediator.

With over 60 years of experience, he has mediated in 200 conflicts and is the author of 160 books and 1,600 academic articles.

Alfaz provides the base for his International Centre for Conflict Mediation (Alpha, Delta, Pi) which organises seminars on Conflict Mediation.

"We should like to congratulate Professor Galtung for the Complutense honoris causa and thank him for the projects he is encouraging in Alfaz," said Alfaz mayor Vicente Arques.

Helping out refugees

THE Social Welfare and Volunteering of Alfaz del Pi are working with SOS Refugees to help with aid for camps established in Greece.

The Department of Social Welfare have joined the third humanitarian campaign to send basic necessities to the many refugee camps in Athens and surrounding areas. These are mostly staffed by Spanish volunteers.

The initiative will collect pots, pans, new underwear, hats, men's socks and women's tights at their social welfare distribution centre until February 9.

SOS Refugees is a humanitarian movement that brings together many associations to work as a collective. The objective of the group is to coordinate actions so as to provide rapid and direct assistance to displaced people and refugees fleeing war in countries such as Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan.

They also collaborate with other social groups from North Africa, especially the Sahara.

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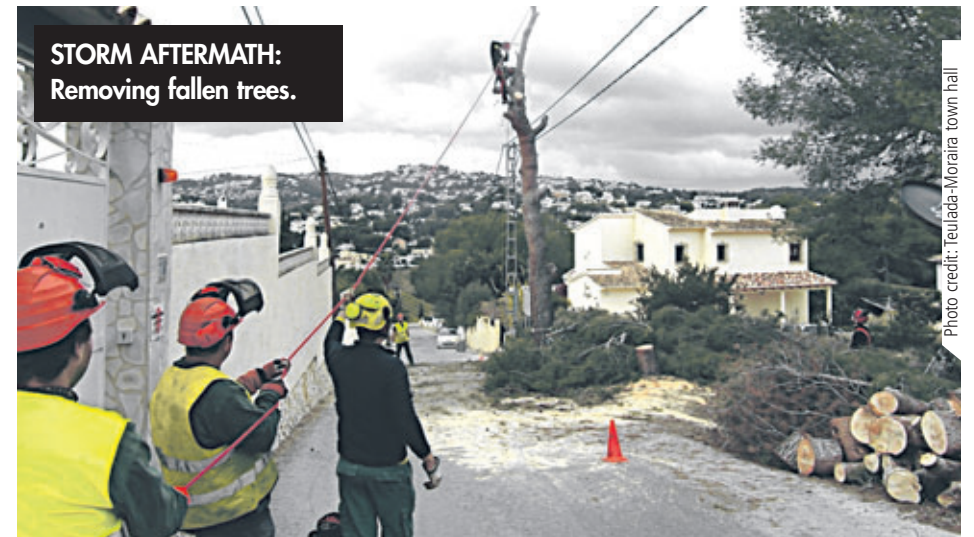
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TEULADA MORAIRA NEWS

Municipal scale tidy up



STORM AFTERMATH:
Removing fallen trees.

Photo credit: Teulada-Moraira town hall

TEULADA-MORAIRA Town Hall workers cleaned and maintained 49,000 square metres of municipally-owned woodland and gardens.

In recent months they have removed vegetation, pruned trees, felled others at risk of falling and disposed of dead-falls.

The foreign residents' association Friends of Avinença also collaborated with the municipal employees on upkeep at the Senillar Marsh and the river path to Font de l'Horta.

The maintenance programme cost €10,500 and the town hall also chased up the owners who failed to clear their own land.

The Environment department sent out 56 notifications in 2016, calling on owners to ensure that their land was clear of vegetation and litter. At that time this was necessary to minimise the risk of wildfire and lessen the negative visual impact of overgrown plots, the town hall pointed out.



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Response from mayor to critics



STRONG OPINIONS: Mayor Chulvi (right) speaks his mind.

By Linda Hall

JOSE CHULVI admitted recently that the day Granadella burned was one of his “saddest and most difficult” as Jávea’s mayor.

But he was unaware last September that worse was to come, he continued.

Chulvi is also an Alicante Diputacion representative and the local Partido Popular, together with like-thinking parties, accused him of vetoing a €250,000 grant to rehabilitate Granadella. They claimed that he put the PSOE’s interests above Jávea’s, Chulvi said.

“Not true. When I took over I renounced all town hall payments due to me.

The recompense I was entitled to (and which many of my critics claim down to the very last cent) amounts to more than €150,000.

“Do you know what it was used for? Forest brigades, nature conservation and work opportunities for people in difficulties.”

The mayor explained that Jávea Town Hall could not have used the Diputacion funds without strings attached. “They treat us like children, obliging us to spend as they think best and without taking our opinions into account.”

There was a great difference between Diputacion cash and the Generalitat’s, Chulvi said. “Ximo Puig’s

government hands over funds and refrains from telling us how, when and where to spend them. They are a real help and not a poisoned sweetmeat.”

His Diputacion vote was not against sending funds for Granadella, the mayor emphasised. “It was against miserly estimates more typical of cronyism and backscratching than the transparency practised in Jávea since 2011.”

The town hall would continue to apply for all possible funding, Jose Chulvi said. “But we won’t be taken for fools. Or lied to. Or allow anybody to make political capital out of Granadella’s ashes.”

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Balancing the budget

By Linda Hall

JAVEA'S 2017 municipal budget went through with the votes of the PSPV socialists, Compromis and Ciudadanos for Javea.

Although this is €1.3

million lower than last year's budget, it would not be necessary to increase the IBI rates, announced Treasury councillor Toni Miragall.

The budget included almost €1 million in infra-

structure investments and €127,000 to cover a possible increase in public administration salaries ordered by the national government.

A further €249,000 was destined for Social Assis-

tance, agreements were maintained with collectives and €250,000 allocated to the Red Cross which will supplement the ambulance service when Generalitat ambulances are not available.

Javea Book Circle

THE next meeting of the Javea Book Circle will take place on Tuesday February 7 in the social centre in Javea old town, at 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start.

Well known author and academic Terry Gifford will talk about Women and Nature in DH Lawrence's novel Women in Love.

The group meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the social centre (beside the health centre) from 6.30pm until 8.45 pm. You can follow their activities on the website www.xabiabookcircle.com.

For more information please contact the secretary, Nina Davies, on 965 791 782 or email ninamdavies@yahoo.co.uk.

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Pedestrian's lucky escape

A WOMAN of 40 was run down by an alleged drink-driver at 6.30pm in Avenida Amanecer.

Laden with bags after shopping at a nearby supermarket she was walking across the pedestrian crossing when the accident occurred.

Witnesses claimed afterwards that the woman driver neither slowed down nor braked as she approached the

crossing, stopping only after she had run over the victim. Others commented that visibility at this point is particularly bad at night.

The injured woman, who momentarily lost consciousness and complained that her leg was hurting, was taken to Denia hospital. According to sources the Local Police immobilised the driver's car after she tested positive for alcohol.

Burns Night celebrations

LOCAL Freemason's Lodge Javea 40 recently celebrated Burns Night in the glorious surroundings of Satari's Restaurant in Moraira.

The evening was organised by the worshipful master of the lodge, WBro Matt James and his charity steward, Bro Malcolm March. Despite the atrocious weather more than 60 Masons, wives and guests arrived to celebrate the famous Scots poet, and Freemason, Robbie Burns.

After welcoming drinks the evening started with a fantastic five-course meal. There was a slight hitch piping in the haggis as, due to the terrible weather, the piper had broken down and



GLORIOUS EVENING: Despite the atrocious weather outside.

was stuck in the middle of nowhere. Luckily recorded music was available which, if not quite the same at least allowed the ceremony to continue.

The address to the haggis was impeccably presented by

WBro Bill Russell who performed with gusto to loud applause from the guests.

A charity raffle and auction for a €45 voucher towards a meal for two, donated by Bro Abi Satari, raised €422 which

will be donated to the La Fe Children's Oncology Research Department.

If you are interested in Freemasonry please contact William Turney at prensa@glpvalencia.com.

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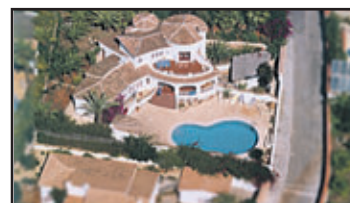
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MALE VOICE CHOIR: Enjoyed a successful year of concerts and activities.

Choir celebrates its 10th anniversary year

THE Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir held its AGM recently where it looked back on a successful year of concerts and activities which further enhanced the reputation of the choir in the area.

The meeting mainly looked forward to the activities being planned for the choir in its 10th anniversary season. Concerts already booked are the visit of the world famous Pontarddulais Male Voice Choir in May and their own special 10th anniversary concert in April. Activities will include special events and dinners to celebrate this important milestone.

The summer charity concert in June will support the local Guardian Angels Charity.

Founder of the choir and president Mike

Evans said "The choir has come from very small beginnings in 2007 to a well-respected and constantly improving choir which has earned it's growing reputation and we all look forward to a memorable season."

Apart from president Mike Evans the other elected officers for 2017 are: vice president, Howard Westcott; secretary, John Ranger; treasurer, Gareth Pugh; marketing and publicity, Vernon Pearce; social secretary, Alun Price and librarian, Ralph Eastwood.

Details of all the activities are on the choir's website www.costablancafemalevoicechoir.wiki dot.com/ or their Facebook page 'Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir.'

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NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER REGIONS

Schools against racism

ALMERIA**SCHOOL CAMPAIGN:** Raising awareness amongst children of the dangers of racism.» *By Eleanor Hawkins*

VERA Council has been running a campaign at local schools aimed to nip racism and xenophobia in the bud.

Over the last few months the project, created by the Social Services Department with collaboration from the Education Department, visited Los Cuatro Caños and Angel de Haro primary schools and Alyanub and Palmal secondary schools.

Sessions were held by Immigration Workshop monitor Alicia Lopez Guerrero which aimed to raise awareness amongst the youngsters of the dangers of racism and encourage them to accept and respect all members of the community.

Social Services councillor Yolanda Torres explained that the project was launched to favour harmonious social relations, respect and tolerance, "especially in areas where there are many immigrants, turning schools into a meeting point and a place from which to spread democratic values to the whole community."

COSTA DEL SOL

Gaming scam

SIX people have been arrested on suspicion of operating a scam in gaming shops. The accused claimed they had won prizes but the machines had failed to pay out and then threatened staff demanding payment.

Future proof

FUENGIROLA will receive a €6 million boost to improve local infrastructure during the first quarter of 2017, the town council has announced. The money will be used to fund a variety of projects.

Mortar shell

A COUNCIL workman who hit something metallic while using a digger in Olias went to inspect it only to find it was a mortar shell. The device turned out to be ordnance left over from the Spanish Civil War.

Town links

TWO new projects linking the towns of Fuengirola and Benalmadena for walkers and cyclists are to go ahead at a cost of nearly €400,000.

Pygmy hippo

BIOPARC Fuengirola is celebrating after the birth of a rare pygmy hippopotamus at the zoo. The new arrival represents yet another success for the European conservation programme in which the park has participated since its opening in 2001.

18 arrested

THE Guardia Civil have had a successful few weeks arresting burglars in Malaga Province, where they have detained 18 people believed to be responsible for more than 100 burglaries of homes and businesses.

Hidden gold

TWO people have been arrested after police discovered a consignment of hashish hidden in a fake compartment under their car as they arrived at Malaga port from Melilla.

COSTA BLANCA SOUTH

Cleaner car

REDOVAN has welcomed a second hybrid police car to its fleet for the Local Police. The vehicle has been purchased at a cost of €29,900 and is part of the town's aims to reduce CO2 emissions.

Job guidance

BENEJUZAR has hired two employment counsellors, thanks to a grant of €20,000. They will offer guidance to the unemployed, working on improving their skills, finding work and career development.

District upgrading

ORIHUELA has been carrying out a number of urban improvements in the districts of San Bartolome and La Campaneta. Work includes replanting woodland areas, installing irrigation networks and LED lighting in street lights.

Honorary degree

ELCHE'S Miguel Hernandez University has awarded Paralympic swimmer Teresa Perales an honorary doctorate. Perales has 26 Paralympic medals and has won five world championship medals.

Balcony collapses

THE terrace of a house collapsed in El Palmar, Murcia. Fortunately, no one was passing by at the time of the collapse and there were no injuries.

MALLORCA

Terrible accident

AN 11-year-old girl is in a critical condition in hospital having suffered a severe brain injury when she was struck by a car in Llubi, central Mallorca.

Set ablaze

FIVE cars were seriously damaged by a fire in Palma's Camp Redo district. Police are investigating whether arsonists are responsible.

Job galore

THE Melia hotel chain is hoping to employ an extra 200 locals for its Mallorca Palace set to open in April, including chefs, receptionists, and managers.

Inhuman conditions

THE owner of a rural hotel near Manacor has been arrested for exploiting workers. An investigation found that dozens of them who had been recruited from a Romanian website lived in terrible conditions while earning a pittance.

Transport rebellion

CALVIA Council has rejected the idea of direct buses linking the area to the airport. Councillors opposed the proposal from the Balearic parliament as a mark of solidarity with taxi drivers who had made it clear that they objected to the proposal.

AXARQUÍA

Digital documents

NERJA has begun digitising religious texts from the 18th and 19th centuries to avoid their deterioration. A specialised company will carry out the work, which involves 12 boxes of texts, totally around 9,600 pages.

Police approved

VELEZ-MALAGA'S Town Council approved a policy on construction and demolition waste, which aims 'to eliminate uncontrolled landfills' and creates a system 'with stakeholders such as administrations, builders and promoters' to prioritise 'prevention, reuse and recycling.'

Youngster activities

RINCON DE LA VICTORIA'S youth team announced it will continue its schedule of free activities for youngsters. Events start with a trip to the cinema for 15 children. The programme runs until March 25 and will include craft workshops and games days.

Housing help

VELEZ-MALAGA'S Council has opened a new housing office at the city's social services centre in Calle Hojalateros. The office will provide help to those who have lost their homes.

Domestic dispute

A DOZEN police officers in Motril have in January taken part in a course on 'Conflict Resolution and Prevention of Gender Violence.'

ALMERIA

Smoked out

AN 80-year-old woman and two men aged 29 and 54 required treatment for smoke intoxication after a fire broke out in the garage of a home in Fernan Perez, Nijar, emergency services reported.

Coke seized

GUARDIA CIVIL officers at Almeria airport confiscated 790 grams of cocaine leaves from luggage belonging to a woman who had flown from Bolivia via Madrid.

Lucky escape

THE driver of a cement lorry was lucky to escape unharmed when his vehicle overturned at the Rambla de Belen A7 exit in Almeria City.

Home improvement

SEVENTY-FOUR families in Puchena, Fines, Lucar, Bacaes and Lubrin will be receiving €479,000 in grants to help them renovate their homes. The regional Public Works and Housing department is providing grants amounting to half the cost of work.

Car burglar

THE National Police has arrested a 25-year-old woman who admitted to breaking into four parked cars in Almeria City after a local resident saw her and called the cops.



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DENMARK

Eagles are back

EAGLE COUNT:
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MORE than 400 white-tailed eagles were spotted in Denmark during the Danish Ornithological Society's 12th annual eagle count, the highest number ever recorded.

No island

THE Royal House has dismissed claims that Crown Prince Frederik plans to buy his wife Mary a private island off the coast of Tasmania. British and Australian



press reported the story but the Royal House said it is not true.

Border control

DENMARK is extending its temporary border control measures by another three months. The controls have been in place since January 2014 and were due to end next month.

Clean country

DENMARK has once again topped the rankings as being the least corrupt country in the world. It shared first place with New Zealand.

**GERMANY**

Teenager sentenced

A TEENAGE girl has been sentenced to six years in jail for stabbing a German police officer. The 16-year-old was intending to kill on behalf of Islamic State.

Arms exports

EXPORTS of German weapons dropped last year. According to figures, the value of Germany's military equipment deals dropped €7.86 billion in 2015 to €6.88 billion last year.

All level

POLLS are putting Martin Schulz from the German Social Democrats party, level with Angela Merkel ahead of the country's forthcoming election.

Drug problem

REPORTS say more drugs offences are occurring in German schools. In 2015, drug-related offences doubled in some states and tripled in others compared to 2011.

**FRANCE**

Fewer babies

THE birth rate in France has hit its lowest level in 40 years according to reports. The country saw 34,000 fewer babies born last year compared to 2014 and the birth rate is now an average of 1.93 children per woman.

Work probe

AN inquiry has opened into claims the wife of presidential candidate Francois

Fillon earned around €500,000 for a fake job as his parliamentary aide. It is not illegal to employ family, but questions arise as to whether she actually did any work.

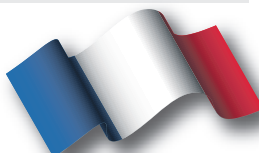
Destroying Europe

SPAIN'S Prime Minister has warned that the anti-immigration policy proposed by France's presidential candi-

date Marine Le Pen would be "a disaster" and would "destroy Europe."

Teacher temper

A TEACHER has been suspended for allegedly taping pupils to their chairs to keep them seated. Some parents have also suggested that the teacher also used tape over the children's mouths.

**SWEDEN**

More tourists

SWEDEN was the most popular out of all the Nordic countries for foreign tourists last year. There were 13.9 million foreign overnight stays in Sweden last year.

Bribe scandal

FOUR people are being questioned over a suspected bribe scandal within the National Property Board which manages around 3,000 buildings in Sweden. The board's director-general has already been replaced.

EMA wanted

STOCKHOLM wants to be the new home for the EU's European Medicines Agency (EMA) after the authority leaves London when the UK puts in place Brexit. Spain, Ireland and Italy are among the countries wanting to house the EMA.

Female fighter

SWEDEN has welcomed its first female fighter pilot in over 26 years. The 22-year-old has just graduated from the aviation school in Linköping along with 22 other students, but all will have more training to do.

**HOLLAND**

Building fine

THE Dutch prosecutor has ruled that no one will be prosecuted over the collapse of part of the FC Twente stadium in 2011 that killed two and injured nine others. The builders however will be fined €50,000 each.

No idea

WITH less than eight weeks to go before the general election, 70 per cent of Dutch voters say they still have no idea who they are going to vote for.

Border babies

AMSTERDAM could extend its borders allowing babies born in neighbouring Amstelland hospital to have Amsterdam listed on their birth certificate, as parents are not happy at being sent there and their child being classed as an 'Amstelveener.'

Roughed up

AN expat black female lawyer has claimed she was 'roughed up' by police after an arrest for a traffic offence. She claims it was 'racially-motivated police brutality' but police deny the claims.

**BELGIUM**

Dog sniffers

BELGIUM'S police dogs brigade sniffed out 11 kilos of drugs and €100,000 in cash last year. The unit, mainly used at Brussels Airport, has been in place for six years now to catch drug traffickers.

No freebies

MPS will now have to pay for their own drinks under new rules. Until now, they could drink as much beer and wine in their cafe at the tax payer's expense. They will still get free coffee.

More security

THE head of the Belgian intelligence service or CIA, has said greater security is needed in so-called 'garage' mosques to help prevent the spread of radical Islamic fundamentalists.

Constant work

A REPORT claims that one-third of self-employed people in Belgium are not satisfied with their work-life balance. The main problem lies with the number of hours they work.

**NORWAY**

Trade talks

THE EU cannot prevent Britain from entering trade talks with Norway as it prepares to leave the EU. Norway is not a member of the EU but is closely linked to it through the European Economic Area (EEA).

Deportation record

NORWEGIAN'S Immigration Service has revealed nearly 8,100 people were deported in 2016. Although this set an all-time record, it was less than the government's target. "It's about fighting crime and securing the population," said immigration minister Sylvi Listhaug who declared herself satisfied with the number of deportations.

Norwegians honoured

ISRAEL has given a posthumous award to four Norwegians who saved the lives of hundreds of Jews during the Second World War after smuggling them across the border to Sweden.

Royal harassment

CROWN Princess Mette-Marit has criticised the Norwegian media for harassing her son. The 20-year-old is from a previous relationship of Mette-Marit's and next week will begin studying in America to avoid the Norwegian press.



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We hope the information provided in this article is of interest.

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RUSSIAN PRESS



Cyber games



THE KREMLIN: Accused Facebook of censorship and threatened retaliation.

■ FACEBOOK'S temporary ban of state-backed propaganda channel Russia Today has drawn a harsh rebuke from the Kremlin. The social media site barred RT from any online activity for around 20 hours. A foreign affairs spokeswoman accused Facebook of censorship and threatened retaliation on western media.

year and is now ranked alongside Iran and Nepal.

Reverse evolution

■ THE great-great-grandson of famed Russian author Leo Tolstoy was accused of anti-semitism. Pyotr Tolstoy is the deputy speaker of the state parliament. In an unprovoked outburst he appeared to accuse Jews of trying to undermine the Orthodox Church. He also repeated a conspiracy theory that Jews masterminded the communist revolution of 1917.

last year as Russia enjoys a boom in military construction. Radar stations, cadet colleges, camps and airfields are included in the building spree, said to be the biggest since the post-war era. More than 2.5 million square miles were developed in 2016 alone, stretching from Kaliningrad to Kamchatka.

Moscow's Hobbit

■ A FORMER Moscow lawyer is attracting attention after deciding to live in the forest as a hermit. Yury switched traffic jams for the wilderness, building a shelter 60 miles from the capital. He spends time reading and cooking. He has a pet rabbit, Petrusha, and still uses Facebook.

Back scratching

■ RUSSIA is now ranked even worse in the corruption sweepstakes. The country is placed 131st out of 176 countries on the Transparency International table, which measures the perception of corruption among people. Russia fell four places last

Ante upped

■ THOUSANDS of new defence facilities were built

Nikolei Potter

■ A YOUNG Russian man is making a living off his uncanny resemblance to Harry Potter actor Daniel Radcliffe. Nikolei Posleda from Krasnoyarsk has a loyal online following of adoring fans. He will star in a TV advert, following the footsteps of a Russian bouncer known as the 'fat Leonardo DiCaprio.'



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Santander profits down in UK

By John Smith

SPANISH banking giant Santander has revealed that whilst overall profits rose in 2016, profits from its UK division which previously accounted for 20 per cent of operating profits saw earnings reduce by 15 per cent.

The reason for this sudden drop is blamed on the Brexit result causing a drop in the value of sterling against the euro and also a slowing down in attracting new customers to its 123 current ac-

€6.2 billion

is the 2016 reported total worldwide profit from Spanish bank Santander and includes a major increase from its operations in Brazil.

count which reduced by half, due in part to a reduction in interest paid on the account.

Added to this was the introduction of a new bank corporation tax

surcharge and the need to set aside an additional €134 million in the last quarter of 2016 to cover additional PPI refunds.

Its worldwide business has seen

an increase of four million customers - meaning it now handles accounts for some 125 million personal and corporation clients - and profits have risen in nine out of the 10 countries in which it operates.

Whilst acknowledging that the future UK market appeared likely to be challenging as there will almost certainly be a temporary slowdown in UK corporate growth, the bank believes that it has now supported the UK economy to a greater extent than it had in 2015.

Royal Bliss

AFTER 10 years of launching no new product in Spain, the Coca Cola Company has revealed that it will be releasing a range of eight different premium drinks and mixers which will be sold exclusively to the catering trade and will not be available through stores or supermarkets.

After reportedly spending €22 million on producing this collection and keeping the brand completely secret until recently, the company has high expectations of success for this specially packaged new range which includes three different tonic waters, orange, lemon and berry flavours as well as soda water and ginger ale.

Quote of the Week

It's a chance for me to work part-time with one of the world's most respected firms and a major employer in Britain." said former chancellor and MP George Osborne on his additional role as a paid advisor to the BlackRock group.



Sky TV looks to the internet



Photo Credit: Steindy flickr

FOOTBALL: Sky had to dig deep to secure rights.

By John Smith

AS customers and therefore profits for the Sky Channel go down and Discovery threatens to remove its 12 channels with effect from February 1, it has been announced that Sky may supply its entire service for the first time via the internet.

Until now, subscribers have needed to receive the signal via a satellite dish but the pay-TV operation has been hit by companies such as BT who offer an

internet connection featuring many of the channels that Sky offers together with on demand films and sports.

The latest round of Premier League football negotiations saw Sky have to dig even deeper into its war chest in order to secure exclusive rights to screen the bulk of the matches live, but as subscribers desert the company, then it has to find new revenue streams elsewhere, with a potential six million new internet viewers.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Spanish corruption

HAVING come second in Europe in a poll testing public opinion on country corruption, Spain has now been voted 41st least corrupt in the world according to Transparency International, but was more corrupt than Chile, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Airport duty

IN a bid to ensure that Spain continues to be competitive in tourism, Mariano Rajoy has announced that his government will reduce airport tax by 2.2 per cent per annum until 2021 which will see an overall 11 per cent reduction.

Sun tax

DESPITE the enormous debts held by the electric companies and the recent hike in electricity charges, the opposition in the Spanish Parliament is calling for the abolition of tax on electricity obtained in the home by construction of solar panels.


British Steel looking up

AFTER British Steel was purchased from Indian conglomerate Tata in April 2016, the new owners asked staff to take a 3 per cent pay cut to keep their jobs, but so successful has it been since then that it intends to increase salaries

back to their original level by June.

The increase in business is thanks to new orders to supply steel to railways in Algeria and Italy as well as the Hinkley C power station.

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Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



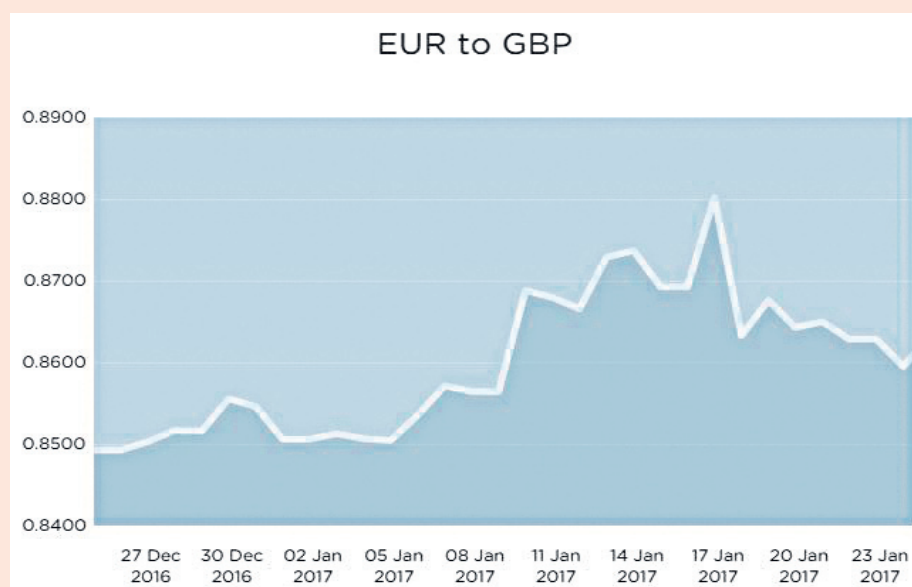
Currencies Direct

Contact me at euoweekly@currenciesdirect.com

IT has been a fiery start to 2017, with the markets having to decipher the outcome of speeches given by some of the world's most powerful political figures, Theresa May and Donald Trump.

As a result, Sterling has been the biggest mover; after hitting worrying lows early in the New Year, it has rebounded on the back of British PM Theresa May warning European leaders that the UK is prepared to crash out of the EU if she cannot negotiate a reasonable exit deal.

Although May mentioned that the UK could be the EU's 'best friend' if the article 50 divorce talks went well, she also said she was prepared to walk away. This sent alarm bells ringing around the Eurozone as they have a big year coming in terms of political elections in France and Germany. It appears that the PM's **plan is built around 12 principles for a clean Brexit and included a call for the UK to leave the single market and to avoid the EU's immigration**



STERLING: Has been the biggest mover after hitting worrying lows earlier.

rules and being subject to the European court of justice.

Although the recent fall in the pound has helped exporters, it made foreign holidays more expensive for British tourists and increased import costs for manufacturers. However, one beneficiary of cheaper Sterling has been the UK's

tourism sector, as a weaker pound makes Britain a cheaper destination for overseas tourists.

Whilst all eyes of late have been on the UK and their Brexit plan, there is expected to be a shift in the market to political risks within the Eurozone as the French, German and Dutch elections take place throughout the year.

France is where it will all be happening in April, with potential surprises in store as their government is expected to shift to the right as conservative candidate François Fillon is tipped to beat far right leader Marine Le Pen.

Furthermore, they have both argued that France is not a multi-cultural nation, and both are seen as pro-Russia. Should either win the battle of France, significant uncertainty, similar to that in the UK after Brexit, could be sprung across the Eurozone resulting in a potentially deflated euro.

Germany's elections are not anticipated to be half as exciting, as Angela Merkel is expected to be handed her fourth term in office.

The political unrest across the Eurozone and rise of the anti-populist parties could be a determining factor into potential Euro weakness. In addition, the European Central Bank are still in the middle of their easing policy which could put further pressure on the currency throughout the middle and back half of the year. Currently the euro is being masked by the state of the pound, however, should Britain's Brexit plans go like Theresa May plans, the euro is likely to be the victim of some serious pressure. Whichever way it goes, it is likely to be a year where investors are increasingly skeptical, given the events of 2016.

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"Sell the euro short" says expert

By John Smith

AS Prime Minister Theresa May was getting ready to meet Donald Trump, the man who is tipped to become America's Ambassador to the European Union said he could see the euro crashing within 18 months in an interview with the BBC.

Speaking about Europe, Professor Ted Malloch after suggesting that if he was a speculator he would "short the euro," confident that he would make a profit as it started to lose its value, he also suggested that there would be a huge advantage for Britain if it made a clean break with Europe.

He believes that a trade deal between the USA and Britain could be very quickly completed as Donald Trump is a man of action and rejected the thought of any attempt that Europe might take to postpone such a deal until Brexit was completed, even questioning whether it was enforceable.

Having been interviewed by the Trump administration in early January, the professor, who is a well-known figure and writer on financial matters, still awaits a formal



MAN OF ACTION: President Trump in meeting with American industrialists.

decision, but if he is appointed to the role, his comments, which included a question as to whether the EU itself will still exist, certainly won't have found favour with President of the Union Jean-

Claude Juncker.

He also confirmed his opinion that the much vaunted and equally much criticised Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership between the USA and the EU was ef-

fectively dead especially as it was possible that forthcoming elections in France, Germany and Holland would actually see additional defections from the EU or at least a major swing in policy.

Malaga company fights malware

A COMPANY opened in Malaga in 1998, Hipasec, is the only Spanish organisation invited to participate in a worldwide meeting of cyber security companies in Tel Aviv which has been organised by Google.

Their main product which has attracted attention is the free download for Android devices named Koodous which checks all programmes on Android phones or tablets which a user has installed and advises if there are any viruses or malware detected.

As an extension of this App, it reports any dangerous discoveries to security programmes and more than 1,700 analysts around the world so that as new attacks are discovered, the international data base of viruses grows and allows for the speedy creation of defences.

Currently with some 50,000 users of Koodous, it has identified more than seven million examples of malware and offers users a free daily update on latest virus news.

Royal Mail David Bowie stamps

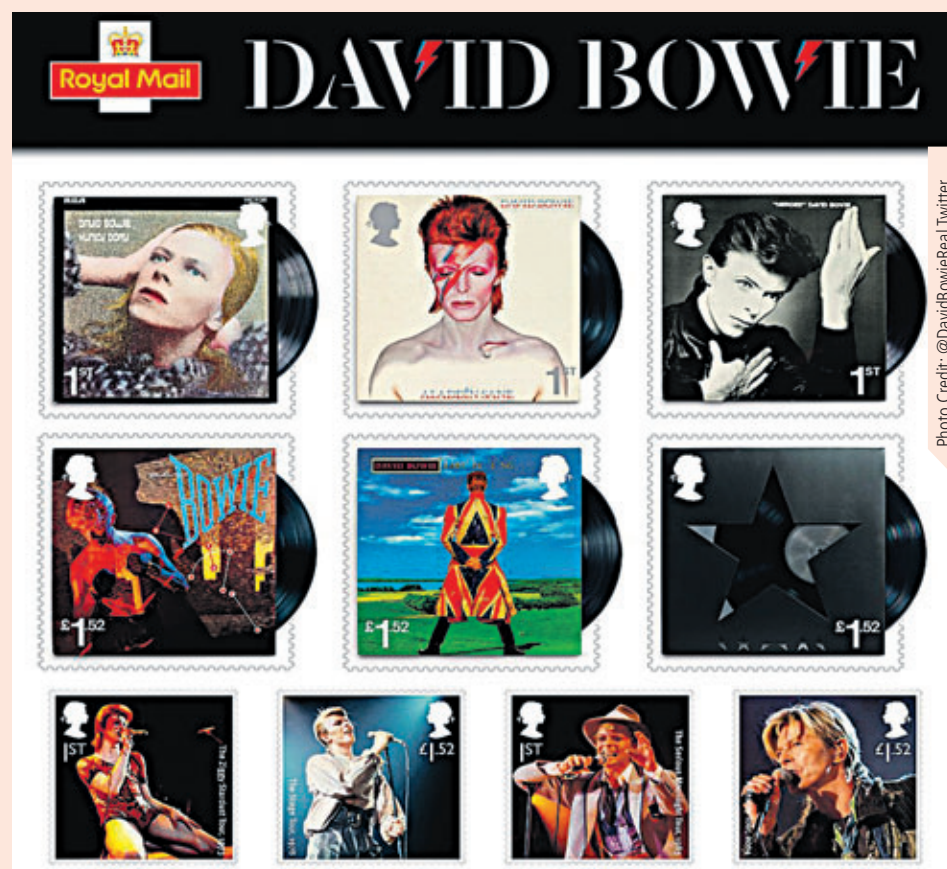


Photo Credit: @DavidBowieReal | Twitter

SOUVENIRS: The David Bowie stamps to be issued on March 14.

By John Smith

THE Royal Mail has announced it will issue a set of 10 stamps and a souvenir sheet on March 14 in recognition and homage to the late David Bowie as part of its ongoing tribute to modern British performers.

At one time the decision to release commemorative stamps was one which had to be considered very seriously as an effigy (often in cameo) of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II or the Royal Cypher appears on every stamp.

For this reason, it was considered inappropriate to be seen to be promoting any commercial concern or to feature any living person who was not part of the British Royal Family, but over the years this rule which was duplicated in many other countries throughout the world has changed dramatically.

At the end of the day, a postage stamp is simply a receipt for pre-payment of a delivery service, although it was also used as a propaganda media with stamps being an ambassador for the issuing country as they travel the world on mail.

In reality, no country really needs more than a dozen

stamps which show the actual value of the receipt although in certain countries with high illiteracy rates, each value should also have a distinctive single colour border or background which could be easily recognised.

This has all changed dramatically with stamps being a major income generator for countries around the world, especially if they are never used for postage and Britain eventually jumped on the bandwagon.

The change was gradual, with living people appearing alongside members of the Royal Family and some dead stars of the screen also appearing but all changed when different British sporting teams started to win major events and suddenly it was acceptable to show living players provided that they were part of a team.

In 1999 as part of the Millennium celebrations, Freddie Mercury who died in 1991 was shown in concert on a British stamp. What no-one in the Royal Mail admits to having done deliberately was to show drummer Roger Taylor in the background which gave precedence for what was to follow.

Suddenly shots from films and movie posters showing living actors were acceptable and huge successes such as The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter franchises became big business not just for the Royal Mail but also the movie companies that sold them the licences allowing the use of the images.

Bowie appeared on the album cover of Ziggy Stardust on a set of music stamps issued in 2010 and since then various members of Pink Floyd have been featured.

An American stamp showing Elvis sold in its millions and after regular objections from the Palace because he returned his MBE, Gibraltar was finally allowed to issue a John Lennon set, although Yoko Ono had to stay in the margin of a souvenir sheet.

The whole world now issues stamps showing musicians, many having lived hard and died young, but profit sometimes comes before other considerations and this would be a relatively fun and inexpensive collection to put together, starting with Bowie and perhaps adding Spain's recent Paco de Lucia stamp.

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Grievances are coming to a head

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



WELL, whatever your views on 'PDT' you must admit that his actions certainly speak louder than his already robust dialogue.

Personally I find this trait enormously refreshing. Over decades of newly elected political leaders literally taking years (if ever) to implement the promises and policies they have been elected on, Trump has already put a number of his most controversial intentions into practice.

The problem is, in an effort to show he means what he says, he is 'el jefe' of a political express train that not only ignores stop lights and stations, but is in danger of not even noticing when the tracks run out! As much as I support Trump's new approach to national leadership, I would like to have seen him taking a rather more cautious route before implementing some of his



PRESIDENT TRUMP: Taking a new approach to national leadership.

more risky aspersions.

This doesn't mean I don't agree with his policies, ie 'The Wall' or barring the residents of certain countries from entering the USA (Saudi Arabia, the biggest terrorist nest of all, glaringly absent from the list!), I

most certainly do. It's the blanket finality of his decisions that worry me.

Things are moving so quickly, that by the time this column goes to press, anything could have happened. Unprecedented rioting all across America.

Trump on the back foot and forced to make concessions to the dissenters. The calling out of the National Guard, civil war, anything. At the time of scribing there is simply no way of knowing. One thing is for sure, many problems and grievances are

“ Let's hope the Trump administration doesn't get so bogged down in legal and constitutional matters that it is unable to function freely.

swiftly coming to a head and at least we no longer have an Islamic sympathiser making the biased decisions we have had to put up with for the previous eight years.

Let's just hope that the Trump administration doesn't get so bogged down in legal and constitutional matters that it is unable to function freely. As a final observation, to those who object to the new President's British visit, I would draw their attention to Mugabe. I didn't see any petitions or dissenting crowds objecting to visits from this despotic murderer!

Keep the Faith.
Love Leapy.

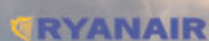
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BBC one

BBC TWO

BBC FOUR

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 5



sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Breakfast
10:15am Rip Off Britain
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm Wanted Down Under Revisited
12:45pm Caught Red Handed
1:15pm Bargain Hunt
2:00pm BBC News at One
2:30pm BBC London News
2:45pm Doctors
3:15pm Father Brown
4:00pm I Escaped to the Country
4:45pm Royal Recipes
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 Spy in the Wild
9:30pm Room 101
10:00pm Not Going Out
10:30pm Tracey Ullman's Show
11:00pm BBC News at Ten
11:25pm BBC London News
11:35pm The Graham Norton Show
12:25am Uncle
12:55am The Guardian

7:00am Flog It! Trade Secrets
The Flog It! team explores some of the more unusual items seen on the show.
7:30am Wanted Down Under
8:15am Royal Recipes
9:00am Antiques Roadshow
10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm The Daily Politics
2:00pm Countryfile
2:25pm Beat the Brain
2:55pm Landward
3:25pm Italy Unpacked
4:25pm Indian Ocean with Simon Reeve
5:25pm A Place to Call Home
6:15pm Flog It!
7:00pm Eggheads
7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm Big Dreams Small Spaces
9:00pm Mastermind
9:30pm Only Connect
10:00pm Birds of Paradise
11:00pm QI
11:30pm Newsnight
12:05am Tennis

8:00pm World News Today
The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.
8:30pm Top of the Pops
Peter Powell and Gary Davies present the weekly chart show, first broadcast on 17 February 1983.
9:00pm The Good Old Days
9:50pm Sounds of the Sixties
The Seekers kick off this episode of the sixties archive pop programme.
10:00pm One-Hit Wonders at the BBC
11:00pm EMI: The Inside Story
12:00pm Singer-Songwriters at the BBC
1:00am Top of the Pops
1:30am Prog at the BBC
2:30am EMI: The Inside Story
3:30am Singer-Songwriters at the BBC
4:30am This is BBC Four

7:00am Countdown
7:45am King of Queens
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 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
10:00pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
11:00pm The Last Leg
12:05am First Dates Hotel
1:10am Virtually Famous

8:50am Paw Patrol
9:00am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am Wissper
9:25am Peppa Pig
9:35am 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 Secrets of Eden
6:00pm 5 News at 5
6:30pm Neighbours
7:00pm Home and Away
7:30pm 5 News Tonight
8:00pm Carry on Caravanning
9:00pm Monkeys Make You Laugh Out Loud
10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother: Live Final
12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

7:00am Suburgatory
7:20am Charmed
8:05am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
8:35am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
9:00am Rules of Engagement
10:00am Baby Daddy
10:30am Baby Daddy
11:00am Coach Trip
11:30am Hollyoaks
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
8:00pm Hollyoaks
8:30pm Coach Trip
9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm X-Men: First Class
12:40am Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance
2:30am The Big Bang Theory
3:00am The Big Bang Theory

9:00am Premier League Match Pack
9:30am Barclays Premier League World
10:00am One2eleven
11:00am Premier League Match Pack
11:30am Barclays Premier League World
12:00pm Football Gold
1:00pm Premier League Match Pack
1:30pm Barclays Premier League World
2:00pm Football's Greatest
3:00pm Premier League Match Pack
3:30pm Barclays Premier League World
4:00pm The Premier League Years
6:00pm Premier League Matchpack
6:30pm Football Gold
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

itv2

itv3

itv4

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

sky SPORTS 2

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 Jeremy Kyle's Emergency Room
4:00pm James Martin's French Adventure
5:00pm Tipping Point
6:00pm The Chase
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 Piers Morgan's Life Stories
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:30pm ITV News London
11:40pm Fishing Impossible
12:10am The Wine Show

7:00am You've Been Framed!
7:25am Who's Doing the Dishes?
8:15am The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00pm Emmerdale
9:30pm Emmerdale
10:00pm You've Been Framed!
10:35pm 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 I Love You've Been Framed
9:00pm Skyfall
11:45pm Family Guy
12:15am Family Guy
12:45am American Dad!

7:00am In Loving Memory
7:25am Heartbeat
8:25am Where the Heart is
9:25am The Royal
10:30am Judge Judy
10:55am Judge Judy
11:25am Judge Judy
11:50am A Touch of Frost
2:00pm Heartbeat
3:05pm The Royal
4:10pm Where the Heart is
5:20pm In Loving Memory
5:50pm Rising Damp
6:20pm On the Buses
6:55pm Heartbeat
8:00pm Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm Doc Martin
10:00pm Agatha Christie's Marple
12:00am Blue Murder
1:35am Changeling
2:35am FYI Daily
2:40am Changeling
4:05am Wycliffe
5:00pm Rory Bremner's Great British Views
5:50am On the Buses

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
8:10pm Pawn Stars
8:40pm Pawn Stars
9:05pm Counting Cars
9:35pm Counting Cars
10:00pm Navy Seals
11:00pm FYI Daily
11:05pm Navy Seals
12:20am Resident Evil
1:20am FYI Daily
1:25am Resident Evil
2:25am The Professionals
3:25am The Car Chasers
3:45am ITV4 Nightscreen
4:00am Teleshopping

7:00am Swordfish
8:55am Walking Tall
10:30am The Scorpion King
12:10pm Extraction
1:50pm Hitman
3:30pm Hitman: Agent 47
5:10pm Babylon A.D.
6:50pm The Mummy
9:00pm Hitman
10:40pm Hitman: Agent 47
12:20am Walking Tall
1:50am Sword of Vengeance

sky CINEMA COMEDY

11:35am Ted 2
1:35pm Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
3:35pm Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me
5:20pm Pitch Perfect 2 Special
5:50pm Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2
7:30pm Police Academy 7: Mission to Moscow
9:00pm Ted 2
11:00pm Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
1:00am Revenge of the Nerds

7:00am The Man Who Knew Infinity
9:05am Exposed
11:05am The Trust
12:50pm Pitch Perfect 2 Special
1:20pm Money Monster
3:15pm Fast and Furious 7 Special
3:45pm Asian Connection
Trouble brews when a pair of expat bank robbers unwittingly rip off a ruthless drug lord.
5:30pm Just Jim
7:00pm The Man Who Knew Infinity
9:00pm The Trust
10:45pm Money Monster
The smirking host of a financial TV show is held hostage when an investment tip doesn't pay off.
12:30am Asian Connection
2:05am The Challenger
3:50am Gentlemen

7:00am Cricket's Greatest
7:30am Cricket's Greatest
8:00am Cricket World Cup Classics
9:00am Darts Legends
9:15am Darts Legends
9:30am Darts Gold
9:45am Darts Gold
10:00am Premier League Darts
1:00pm Darts Legends
1:15pm Darts Legends
1:30pm Cricket's Greatest
2:00pm Cricket's Greatest
2:30pm Cricket World Cup Classics
3:30pm Cricket's Greatest
4:00pm Cricket Gold
5:00pm Cricket World Cup Classics
6:00pm Cricket's Greatest
6:30pm Cricket's Greatest
7:00pm Rugby Gold
7:30pm Rugby Gold
7:40pm Rugby Gold
7:50pm Rugby Gold
8:00pm Live Lions Special
8:30pm Live Pro 12 Rugby
10:45pm Sporting Triumphs
11:00pm Time of Our Lives
12:00am Rugby Gold

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Build: 108 m² Bedrooms: 3
Pool: Communal Bathrooms: 2



Javea Rafalet **275,000 €**
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Build: 107 m² Bedrooms: 3
Plot: 763 m² Bathrooms: 3

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Build: 170 m² Bedrooms: 4
Plot: 700 m² Bathrooms: 2

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Benitachell Los Molinos **335,000 €**
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Plot: 1200 m² Bathrooms: 2

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Villa on 2 levels Ref: HO232707
Build: 220 m² Bedrooms: 3
Plot: 900 m² Bathrooms: 2




Javea Pinosol **359,000 €**
Villa Ref: HO232825
Build: 147 m² Bedrooms: 3
Plot: 720 m² Bathrooms: 3

Mountain Views



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Build: 181 m² Bedrooms: 3
Plot: 700 m² Bathrooms: 2

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Bathrooms: 2




Moraira Pinar de Advocat **475,000 €**
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Build: 261 m² Bedrooms: 4
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Plot: 1400 m² Bathrooms: 3



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 11:00am Saturday Kitchen Live
 12:30pm The Best Dishes Ever
 1:00pm Football Focus
 2:00pm BBC News
 2:10pm Weather
 2:15pm Six Nations Preview
 3:00pm Six Nations Rugby
 5:30pm Final Score
 6:30pm BBC News
 6:40pm Regional News
 6:45pm Weather
 6:50pm Pointless
 7:40pm Let it Shine
 9:25pm Casualty
 10:15pm Taboo
 11:10pm BBC News
The latest national and international news stories, followed by Weather.
 11:25pm Weather
The latest weather information.
 11:30pm Match of the Day
Highlights and reaction to all of the latest football action.
 1:00am The NFL Show

BBC TWO

7:50am Lady Luck
 9:25am School for Scoundrels
 11:00am Britain's Secret Seas
 12:00pm Homes Under the Hammer
 1:00pm A Cook Abroad
 2:00pm The Importance of Being Earnest
 3:30pm Cheetahs
 4:30pm The World's Most Extraordinary Homes
 5:30pm Mastermind
 6:00pm University Challenge
 6:30pm Only Connect
A show in which connections must be made between seemingly unconnected things.
 7:00pm Tennis
 9:30pm Dad's Army
 10:00pm QI XL
Panel-based quiz where it is more important to be interesting than right.
 10:45pm The Falling
 12:25am Julie and Julia
 2:20am In Darkness

BBC FOUR

8:00pm The Golden Age of the British Sports Car
 9:00pm Treasures of the Indus
 10:00pm Attenborough and the Giant Egg
David Attenborough returns to the island of Madagascar on a very personal quest.
 11:00pm The Young Montalbano
Prequel series giving an insight into the private life and early crime-fighting career of detective Salvo Montalbano.
 12:45am Top of the Pops
 1:25am Top of the Pops
 1:50am Robert Plant @ Glastonbury
 3:00am The Rolling Stones at the BBC
 3:45am Jeff Lynne's ELO in Concert

CHANNEL 4

7:20am 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 The Big Bang Theory
 11:00am The Big Bang Theory
 11:25am The Big Bang Theory
 11:50am The Simpsons
 12:20pm The Simpsons
 12:50pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
 1:55pm Come Dine with Me
 4:30pm A Place in the Sun
 5:30pm Location, Location, Location
 6:30pm Grand Designs
 7:30pm Channel 4 News
 8:00pm Penelope Keith's Hidden Villages
 9:00pm Great Canal Journeys
 10:00pm A Million Ways to Die in the West
 12:15am Van Helsing
 2:40am The Last Leg

CHANNEL 5

7:00am Milkshake!
 10:55am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
 11:30am Kelly's Heroes
 2:10pm Police Interceptors
 3:10pm Police Interceptors
 4:10pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
 5:10pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
 6:10pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
 7:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
 8:05pm NCIS: Los Angeles
 9:00pm NCIS
 9:55pm 5 News
 10:00pm Football on 5
 11:00pm Football on 5
 11:30pm Britain's Biggest Armed Robbery
 1:00am Super Casino
 4:10am Celebrity Botched Up Bodies
 5:00am My Mum's Hotter Than Me!
 5:50am House Doctor
Home improvement series that works its magic on neglected homes.

4

7:00am Young and Hungry
 7:20am Young and Hungry
 7:40am Black-ish
 8:05am Black-ish
 8:30am How I Met Your Mother
 9:00am How I Met Your Mother
 9:30am Melissa and Joey
 10:00am Melissa and Joey
 10:30am Baby Daddy
 11:00am Baby Daddy
 11:30am Young and Hungry
 12:00pm Young and Hungry
 12:30pm Hop
 2:30pm The Goldbergs
 3:00pm The Goldbergs
 3:30pm The Goldbergs
 4:00pm The Goldbergs
 4:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 5:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 9:00pm Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.
 10:00pm X-Men
 12:00am Gogglebox
 12:45am Gogglebox
 1:30am The Inbetweeners
 2:00am The Inbetweeners
 2:30am Cheating Gum
 3:00am Virtually Famous
 3:45am The Inbetweeners

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Football Gold
 7:15am Football Gold
 7:30am Football Gold
 7:45am Football Gold
 8:00am Premier League Legends
 8:30am Premier League Legends
 9:00am Football Gold
 9:15am Football Gold
 9:30am Barclays Premier League Preview
 10:00am The Fantasy Football Club
 11:00am Soccer A.M.
 12:30pm Football
 4:00pm Gillette Soccer Saturday
 6:15pm Football
 9:00pm EFL Goals
 9:30pm Nissan Game of the Day
 11:30pm Nissan Match Choice
 12:30am Football
 1:00am Football
 1:30am Football
 2:00am Football
 2:30am Football
 3:00am Football
 3:30am Football
 4:00am Football
 4:30am Football

itv

8:20am The Oddbods Show
 8:30am Scrambled!
 8:35am Mr. Bean
 8:50am Horrid Henry
 9:10am Teen Titans Go!
 9:30am Bear Grylls Survival School
 10:05am Adventure Time
 10:25am ITV News
 10:30am Rebound
 11:30am Guess This House
 12:30pm Judge Rinder
 1:30pm ITV News and Weather
 1:45pm River Monsters
 2:15pm Tipping Point
 3:15pm Dance Dance Dance
 4:45pm Regional News and Weather
 5:00pm ITV News and Weather
 5:10pm Rugby
 8:00pm Ninja Warrior UK
 9:00pm The Voice UK
 10:30pm Through the Keyhole
 11:30pm ITV News and Weather
 11:45pm The Bourne Supremacy
 1:45am Jackpot247

itv2

7:00am The Hot Desk
 7:10am Emmerdale Omnibus
 9:50am Coronation Street Omnibus
 12:20pm Ninja Warrior UK
 1:20pm Take Me Out
 2:25pm You've Been Framed!
 2:55pm Step Up 2: The Streets
 3:55pm FYI Daily
 4:00pm Step Up 2: The Streets
 4:55pm Inspector Gadget
 5:55pm FYI Daily
 6:00pm Inspector Gadget
 6:30pm Snow Dogs
 7:30pm FYI Daily
 7:35pm Snow Dogs
 8:35pm The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
 9:35pm FYI Daily
 9:40pm The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
 12:00am Family Guy
 12:30am Family Guy
 12:55am Family Guy
 1:30am American Dad!
 1:55am Run, Fat Boy, Run

itv3

7:00am Murder, She Wrote
Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.
 7:50am Murder, She Wrote
 8:45am Murder, She Wrote
 9:45am The Baby and the Battleship
 10:50am FYI Daily
 10:55am The Baby and the Battleship
 11:50am Columbo
Peter Falk dons the shabby mac and lights up a cheap cigar for more top drawer US detective drama.
 1:50pm Lewis
 3:50pm Wycliffe
 5:00pm Agatha Christie's Marple
 7:00pm Midsomer Murders
 9:00pm Doc Martin
 10:00pm Midsomer Murders
 12:00am Lewis
 2:00am Blue Murder
 2:55am ITV3 Nightscreen
 3:30am Teleshopping

itv4

7:00am The Professionals
 7:55am The Professionals
 8:55am The Saint
 10:00am Bundesliga
 11:00am ITV Racing: The Opening Show
 12:00pm Counting Cars
 12:30pm Counting Cars
 12:55pm Pawn Stars
 1:25pm Pawn Stars
 1:50pm Pawn Stars
 2:20pm Sports Fillers
 2:30pm ITV Racing: Live from Sandown
 5:00pm Superman
 6:00pm FYI Daily
 6:05pm Superman
 7:55pm Mr. Bean
 8:30pm Mr. Bean
 9:00pm River Monsters
 10:05pm Bullitt
 11:05pm Bullitt
 11:10pm Bullitt
 12:25am The Game of Death
 1:25am FYI Daily
 1:30am The Game of Death
 2:30am Hell on Wheels
 3:25am Tommy Cooper
 3:50am ITV4 Nightscreen
 4:00am Teleshopping

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

1:50pm The Goonies
 3:50pm Troy
 6:35pm Marvel's Avengers Assemble
 9:00pm Avengers: Age of Ultron
 11:25pm Once Upon a Time in Mexico
 1:10am Road House
 3:05am AVP: Alien vs. Predator
 5:00am Rocky II

sky CINEMA COMEDY

7:30am Sister Act
 9:20am The Hangover
 11:05am Magic Mike XXL
 1:05pm The Intern
 3:10pm The Top Ten Show 2017
 3:30pm Vacation
 5:15pm The Hangover
 7:00pm Magic Mike XXL
 9:00pm The Intern
 11:05pm Vacation
 12:50am Unfinished Business
 2:30am Two Night Stand
 4:00am I-Spy

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

12:15pm The Trust
 2:00pm Goat
 3:50pm The Challenger
 5:35pm Asian Connection
 7:15pm The Trust
 9:00pm Goat
 10:50pm Money Monster
The smirking host of a financial TV show is held hostage when an investment tip doesn't pay off.
 12:35am The Man Who Knew Infinity
 2:40am The Challenger
A legendary trainer comes out of retirement to help an underdog boxer fight his way to a better life.
 4:30am Just Jim
Things look up when lonely Welsh lad Craig Roberts forms a friendship with mysterious American neighbour, but is it all too good to be true?

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am Live World Rugby Sevens-Australia
 8:15am Super League Gold
 8:30am Super League Gold
 8:45am Super League Gold
 9:00am Cricket's Greatest
 9:30am Cricket's Greatest
 10:00am Darts Gold
 10:15am Darts Gold
 10:30am Darts Gold
 10:45am Darts Gold
 11:00am Sporting Triumphs
 11:15am Sporting Triumphs
 11:30am Super League Gold
 11:45am Super League Gold
 12:00pm Super League Gold
 12:15pm Super League Gold
 12:25pm Cricket
 8:25pm Cricket Gold
 8:35pm Cricket Gold
 8:45pm Sporting Triumphs
 9:00pm Cricket's Greatest
 9:30pm Cricket's Greatest
 10:00pm Cricket
 11:00pm Cricket
New Zealand host Australia in the third and final ODI in their series at Seddon Park in Hamilton.



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BBC one

7:00am Breakfast
10:15am Food: Truth or Scare
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm Wanted Down Under Revisited
12:45pm Family Finders
1:15pm Bargain Hunt
2:00pm BBC News
2:30pm Regional News
2:45pm Doctors
3:15pm Father Brown
4:00pm I Escaped 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 Apple Tree Yard
11:00pm BBC News
11:30pm Regional News
11:40pm Weather
11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More
12:30am The Graham Norton Show

BBC TWO

7:00am Flog It!
7:30am Wanted Down Under Revisited
8:15am Royal Recipes
9:00am Great Interior Design Challenge
10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm The Daily Politics
2:00pm Women's Six Nations Highlights
2:30pm Coast
2:55pm Landward
3:25pm Northern Italy Unpacked
4:25pm Indian Ocean with Simon Reeve
5:25pm A Place to Call Home
6:15pm Flog It!
7:00pm Eggheads
7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
9:00pm University Challenge
9:30pm An Island Parish
10:00pm SAS: Rogue Warriors
11:00pm Insert Name Here
11:30pm Newsnight
12:10am Weather

BBC FOUR

8:00pm 100 Days
8:30pm Reel History of Britain
Melvyn Bragg, accompanied by a vintage mobile cinema, travels across the country, to show incredible footage preserved by the British Film Institute and other national and regional film archives, to tell the history of modern Britain.
9:00pm Natural World
10:00pm Art of France
11:00pm Yves Saint Laurent
12:40am Rich Hall's Inventing the Indian
2:10am The Maharajas' Car: The Story of Rolls-Royce in India
3:05am Britain's Lost Colosseum
3:55am Art of France

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 The Fake News Show
9:30pm Food Unwrapped
10:00pm Confessions of a Paparazzo
11:00pm First Dates Hotel
12:05am Tattoo Fixers

CHANNEL 5

7:00am Milkshake!
10:15am The Wright Stuff
12:15pm Cowboy Builders
1:10pm 5 News
1:15pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Neighbours
3:15pm NCIS
4:15pm Cradle of Lies
6:00pm 5 News
6:30pm Neighbours
7:00pm Home and Away
7:30pm 5 News
8:00pm The Cars That Made Britain Great
9:00pm Police Interceptors
10:00pm The Accused
11:30pm The Bucket List
1:20am In Therapy
2:15am Super Casino
4:10am A New Life in Oz
Documentary series following British families as they relocate to Australia.
5:00am Criminals Caught on Camera
5:45am HouseBusters

4

7:00am Made in Chelsea
8:00am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
8:30am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
9:00am Rules of Engagement
9:30am Rules of Engagement
10:00am Baby Daddy
10:30am Baby Daddy
11:00am Coach Trip
11:30am Hollyoaks
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
8:00pm Hollyoaks
8:30pm Coach Trip
9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm Bridesmaids
12:30am The Big Bang Theory
1:00am The Big Bang Theory
1:30am Gogglebox
2:15am Tattoo Fixers

sky SPORTS 1

8:00am WWE Raw
9:00am Goals on Sunday
10:00am Pl Match Highlights
11:00am Football's Greatest
12:00pm The Premier League Years
2:00pm Pl Match Highlights
3:00pm Premier League Legends
3:30pm Premier League Legends
4:00pm NFL Super Bowl Highlights
6:00pm Football Gold
7:00pm Premier League Legends
7:30pm Premier League 100 Club
8:00pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
8:30pm Spanish Football Gold
8:40pm Football
10:40pm Spanish Football Gold
11:00pm Scottish Football Round Up
11:15pm Football Gold
11:30pm NFL Super Bowl Highlights
1:30am Scottish Football Round Up

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 Regional News and Weather
3:00pm Judge Rinder
4:00pm James Martin's French Adventure
5:00pm Tipping Point
6:00pm The Chase
7:00pm Regional 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
11:30pm Regional News and Weather
11:40pm Through the Keyhole
12:40am The Chase

itv2

7:00am You've Been Framed!
7:25am 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!
9:00pm Two and a Half Men
9:30pm 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
11:55am A Touch of Frost
2:00pm Heartbeat
3:05pm The Royal
4:05pm Where the Heart is
5:15pm In Loving Memory
5:50pm Rising Damp
6:20pm On the Buses
This bold, bawdy and brash sitcom hit British screens in 1969.
6:55pm Heartbeat
Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.
8:00pm Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm Doc Martin
10:00pm Long Lost Family
11:00pm The Bletchley Circle
12:00am The Mafia with Trevor McDonald

itv4

7:00am Gunsmoke
7:55am The Saint
8:55am Quincy, M.E.
9:55am The Professionals
11:00am Ironside
12:05pm Gunsmoke
1:15pm Storage Wars Texas
1:40pm Pawn Stars
2:05pm Pawn Stars
2:35pm Quincy, M.E.
3:35pm Ironside
4:40pm The Professionals
5:40pm The Saint
6:45pm Storage Wars Texas
7:10pm Storage Wars Texas
7:45pm Snooker
Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.
12:15am Bundesliga
1:15am Rugby
2:15am River Monsters
3:25am Storage Wars Texas
3:45am ITV4 Nightscreen
Text-based information service.
4:00am Teleshopping
Shopping from home.

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:00am Everest
9:10am Jupiter Ascending
11:25am Apollo 13
1:55pm The Huntsman: Winter's War
4:00pm King Arthur
6:15pm Everest
8:20pm Precious Cargo
10:00pm The Huntsman: Winter's War
12:00am Jupiter Ascending
2:10am RoboCop

sky CINEMA COMEDY

7:40am Big Hero 6 Special
8:10am What About Bob?
9:55am In Her Shoes
12:10pm The Benchwarmers
1:45pm Ride Along 2
3:35pm Daddy's Home
5:20pm The Top Ten Show 2017
5:40pm Billy Madison
7:20pm Hot Pursuit
9:00pm Daddy's Home
10:45pm Ride Along 2
12:35am Crocodile Dundee II
2:35am Life

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am Goat
8:50am The Trust
10:40am Jenny's Wedding
12:30pm Just Jim
2:00pm The Cell
3:45pm Asian Connection
Trouble brews when a pair of expat bank robbers unwittingly rip off a ruthless drug lord.
5:25pm Goat
7:15pm Jenny's Wedding
9:00pm The Trust
10:45pm The Cell
12:30am Asian Connection
2:15am The Man Who Knew Infinity
True-life drama about a self-taught maths prodigy who makes the move from Madras to Cambridge University.
4:15am Just Jim

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am Cricket's Greatest
7:30am Cricket's Greatest
8:00am NFL: Greatest Games
9:00am NFL Super Bowl Highlights
11:00am NFL Super Bowl
4:00pm Cricket
5:00pm Boxing Gold
5:15pm Boxing Gold
5:30pm Boxing Gold
6:00pm Cricket
7:00pm NFL Super Bowl Highlights
9:00pm Boxing
11:00pm Cricket
12:00am Rugby Gold
12:10am Rugby Gold
12:20am Rugby Gold
12:30am Cricket Gold
12:40am Cricket Gold
12:50am Cricket Gold
1:00am Cricket
2:00am Cricket's Greatest
2:30am Cricket's Greatest
3:00am Rugby Gold
3:10am Rugby Gold
3:20am Rugby Gold
3:30am Sky Sports Years
4:30am Cricket Gold
4:40am Cricket Gold

Cassandra Nash

A weekly look

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

PODEMOS was in the right place at the right time. It grew from discontent crystallised by the 15-M movement when thousands occupied Madrid's Puerta del Sol.

"They call it democracy but it's not," they chanted as they mistakenly equated democracy with prosperity, a forgivable misconception as the two often go hand in hand.

"No, no, no, they don't represent us" was another cry, this time aimed at the PSOE socialists and the Partido Popular.

Podemos, inflated by Pablo Iglesias' television programmes, emerged as a party from that movement but as it plunges into its party conference, the five principal founders are tussling over power, ideology and mundane organisation. The cracks are visible as the foundations falter and without some serious underpinning Podemos sympathisers could again find themselves with no-one to represent them.

Simple arithmetic

IN 2008 the PSOE socialist party had

Tussle for power



MADRID: Thousands occupied the Puerta del Sol.

236,572 paid-up members. By September 2016 this had shrunk to 186,000.

The rot set in towards the end of Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero's last term in office when - through no fault of his government - the global crisis traumati-

cally changed many life-styles.

By the 2011 general election, the PSOE was losing 18.4 paid-up members a day, rising to 20.4 with Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba as secretary general. Matters improved only slightly with Pedro Sanchez, losing 14.3 members a daily.

The PSOE will hold primaries next May and the membership will play a huge part in deciding who will head the party. Incredible as it may seem, without an influx of new members 186,000 people could decide the future of the 138-year-old party. Something doesn't add somewhere.

Broken promises

ALLEGEDLY Susana Diaz, president of the Andalusia Region and hugely influential in the PSOE, backed Pedro Sanchez in the 2014 primaries on the understanding that he would eventually stand down as secretary general. This would have given her a shot at the 2015 general election.

If this is true, Sanchez reneged as usually happens, as pacts like these normally backfire. Look what happened to Gordon Brown and Tony Blair.

Plain speaking

DONALD TRUMP has eliminated Spanish from the White House website.

This is in keeping with Trump's 'America First' slogan, with its pre-war connotations of isolationism. But Spanish is the US's second language and however much he fights against it, this is one tide he cannot keep back.

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BBC one

10:15am Food: Truth or Scare
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm Wanted Down Under Revisited
12:45pm Family Finders
1:15pm Bargain Hunt
2:00pm BBC News
2:30pm Regional News
2:45pm Doctors
3:15pm Father Brown
4:00pm I Escaped 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 The Moorside
11:00pm BBC News
11:30pm Regional News
11:40pm Weather
11:45pm Tourettes: Teenage Tics
12:40am Who Do You Think You Are?
1:40am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC TWO

7:00am Flog It!
7:30am Wanted Down Under Revisited
8:15am Royal Recipes
9:00am Great British Menu
10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm The Daily Politics
2:00pm Cash in the Attic
2:25pm Beat the Brain
2:55pm Landward
3:25pm Italy Unpacked
4:25pm Tropic of Capricorn with Simon Reeve
5:25pm A Place to Call Home
6:15pm Flog It!
7:00pm Eggheads
7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm Our Dancing Town
9:00pm Further Back in Time for Dinner
10:00pm Sicily: The Wonder of the Mediterranean
11:00pm Mock the Week
11:30pm Newsnight
12:10am Weather
12:15am Special Forces - Ultimate Hell Week

BBC FOUR

8:30pm Secrets of Bones
Evolutionary biologist and master skeleton builder Ben Garrod presents a six-part series looking at how bones have enabled vertebrates to colonise and dominate practically every habitat on Earth.
9:00pm Planet Earth II
10:00pm Flights of Fancy: Pigeons and the British
11:00pm D-Day: The Last Heroes
12:00pm Bombay Railway
1:00am Sappho: Love and Life on Lesbos with Margaret Mountford
2:00am Bought with Love: The Secret History of British Art Collections
3:00am The World's Most Expensive Stolen Paintings

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 How to Get Fit Fast
10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E
11:00pm Britain's Greatest Hoaxer
12:05am This is Us
1:00am Confessions of a Paparazzo

CHANNEL 5

7:00am Milkshake!
10:15am The Wright Stuff
12:15pm Cowboy Builders
1:10pm 5 News
1:15pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Neighbours
3:20pm NCIS: Los Angeles
4:20pm Killer Assistant
6:00pm 5 News
6:30pm Neighbours
7:00pm Home and Away
7:30pm 5 News
8:00pm Loch Lomond: A Year in the Wild
9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet
10:00pm Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh
11:00pm When Magic Goes Wrong
1:50am Super Casino
Feeling lucky? Get the authentic, heart-thumping casino experience every night.
4:10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors



7:00am Made in Chelsea
8:00am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
8:30am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
9:00am Rules of Engagement
9:30am Rules of Engagement
10:00am Baby Daddy
10:30am Baby Daddy
11:00am Coach Trip
11:30am Hollyoaks
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
11:45pm The Big Bang Theory
12:15am The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Football Gold
8:00am WWE SmackDown!
9:00am Premier League Legends
9:30am Premier League Legends
10:30am Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
11:00am Football Gold
1:00pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
1:30pm Football Gold
2:00pm Football's Greatest
3:00pm Football Gold
4:00pm One2eleven
5:00pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
5:30pm Football Gold
6:30pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
7:00pm Premier League Review
8:00pm Scottish Football Round Up
8:15pm Football Gold
8:30pm Gillette Soccer Special 2016/17
11:00pm La Liga World
11:30pm Football Gold
12:00am Premier League Review

itv

11:30am This Morning
1:30pm Loose Women
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News
2:55pm Regional News and Weather
3:00pm Judge Rinder
4:00pm James Martin's French Adventure
5:00pm Tipping Point
6:00pm The Chase
7:00pm Regional News and Weather
7:30pm ITV Evening News
8:00pm Emmerdale
8:30pm Save Money
9:00pm Tales From the Coast with Robson Green
10:00pm The Secret Life of Dogs
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:30pm Regional News and Weather
11:40pm Wilderness Walks with Ray Mears
12:10am The Investigator: A British Crime Story
1:10am Jackpot247

itv2

7:00am You've Been Framed!
7:25am 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
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
Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.
9:00pm Midsomer Murders
11:00pm A Touch of Frost
1:05am Wycliffe
2:10am The Knock
3:05am ITV3 Nightscreen
Text-based information service.
3:30am Teleshopping

itv4

7:00am Gunsmoke
8:00am The Saint
9:05am Quincy, M.E.
10:05am The Professionals
11:10am Ironside
12:10pm Gunsmoke
1:15pm Storage Wars Texas
1:45pm Snooker
6:15pm Storage Wars Texas
7:15pm Storage Wars Texas
7:45pm Snooker
Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.
12:15am Driven to Kill
1:15am FYI Daily
1:20am Driven to Kill
2:15am The Saint
Suave troubleshooter Simon Templar investigates another case.
3:25am Tommy Cooper
Comedy and magic from comedian Tommy Cooper. Guests include horror film superstar Vincent Price.

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

8:00am The Patriot
10:45am The Chronicles of Riddick
12:45pm Jurassic World
2:55pm 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi
5:20pm Tracers
7:00pm Self/Less
9:00pm Jurassic World
11:10pm 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi
1:40am RoboCop 2

sky CINEMA COMEDY

7:00am License to Drive
8:40am Down Dog
10:25am Jersey Girl
12:15pm Idiocracy
1:45pm Gremlins
3:35pm Gremlins 2: The New Batch
5:30pm Analyze This
7:20pm The Bad Education Movie
9:00pm Beverly Hills Cop
12:50am Beverly Hills Cop III
2:40am Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am Jenny's Wedding
8:40am The Trust
10:25am Asian Connection
12:00pm The Cell
1:45pm The Top Ten Show 2017
2:00pm Goat
3:50pm Mojave
5:30pm Jenny's Wedding
7:15pm The Trust
9:00pm The Cell
10:45pm Mojave
A troubled Hollywood star retreats to the desert and has a run-in with a homicidal drifter.
12:25am Goat
2:15am Asian Connection
Trouble brews when a pair of expat bank robbers unwittingly rip off a ruthless drug lord.
4:00am Exposed
Thriller about a detective investigating the death of his partner.

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am Cricket's Greatest
7:30am Cricket's Greatest
8:00am Boxing Gold
8:30am Boxing Gold
9:00am Cricket World Cup Classics
10:00am Cricket World Cup Classics
11:00am Boxing Gold
11:15am Boxing Gold
11:30am Boxing Gold
11:45am Cricket's Greatest
12:15pm Cricket Gold
12:25pm Cricket
8:25pm Cricket Gold
8:35pm Cricket Gold
8:45pm Great Sporting Moments
9:00pm Sporting Greats
9:30pm Great Sporting Moments
9:45pm Great Sporting Moments
10:00pm Rugby Gold
10:10pm Rugby Gold
10:20pm Rugby Gold
10:30pm Cricket
11:30pm Gary Neville: The Pundit
12:00am Rugby Gold

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Points system for bikes

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.



ICYCLISTS: Can take to the road without any training or road awareness.

THE Spanish Royal Automobile Association, RACE, is proposing the extension of the driving licence points system to cover cyclists.

Some other vehicle users would welcome the change, often being critical of the way cyclists use the road, but it is has also been criticised by some, despite the motivation behind the plans being to try to reduce the number of deaths of cyclists on Spanish roads.

Manuel Martin, from the cycling group ConBici, has already hit out at the plans saying that it seems “unfortunate that an entity like RACE makes a proposal that is not valid in any country in the world,” adding that the implementation of this measure “would mean almost nobody would use a bicycle.”

The group believes that cyclists are the victims and that cars are the most dangerous:

“What you have to take action against is not the bikes, but the cars who are the ones that create the danger.”

RACE are also attempting to encourage a plan of coexistence on the road for both cars and bicycles, where both users are taken into account. They want a greater commitment to reduce the incident rate of vulnerable road users. The association points out that the points system has proven usefulness in focusing efforts to reduce incidents and if extended to bicycles, it would have a similar effect and encourage safer cycling and reduce accidents.

At the moment, a cyclist can take to the road without any training or road awareness. They are also not necessarily aware of the laws that they have to abide by which are aimed at protecting all road users.

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

Robbery, pillage and theft?

Q. It seems to me that Spanish insurance companies omit common risks from policies which an average person might reasonably expect to be covered. As an example I cite one policy that insures against ‘robbery, pillage and theft’ in the home. Perhaps they should consult someone who understands English terminol-

ogy, because none of these things happen inside a home. There are burglaries or aggravated burglaries. What happens when you report a burglary to police and then make a claim? Will they say such events are not covered under the policy, only ‘robbery, pillage and theft?’

NS (Costa del Sol)

A. Let’s keep in mind that insurance policies in Spain are written in Spanish, official language of the country. I feel quite sure that your policy insures you against loss caused by burglary. Any problems you

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



have with your insurance company are more likely to be related to the need to

prove that locks, doors or windows were broken in order to justify a claim. When thieves or burglars enter an open house, the owner shares the blame. And, yes, good translations always need careful thought.

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

Business 1st, democracy 2nd

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



I HEARD this week the phrase ‘alternative facts’ and of course it could only have come from one source. Donald J Trump, well his press officer actually.

Now I’m not the sharpest tool in the box but I know there is no such thing. It’s a pile of BS. It means they are lying, that’s it in a nutshell. This Trump geezer is seriously making me grumpy ! Can you imagine saying to little Johnny ‘Did you break that window?’ ‘No Mum,’ ‘Are you sure because your sister said you did!’

Well let me offer you an alternative fact. HE’s lying! Just like Trump is about the crowds. So you didn’t get as big a crowd as Obama, so what? The man is an embarrassment throwing hissy fits on Twitter at three in the morning. He even called the National Park Service director and told him he wanted him to produce photos to prove it. How about the wall? It started off as ‘I am going to build a wall and the Mexicans are going to pay for it.’ Their answer was pretty concise: ‘We aren’t paying for no f*****g wall.’

It is now ‘We are going to build the wall and the Mexicans are going to reimburse us.’

Do what? My understanding of reimburse is like ‘hey, if you’re going to the shops get me a loaf and I’ll give you the money when you come round.’ Not trying to get \$10 billion off someone who has said they ain’t paying for 1,900 miles of wall.

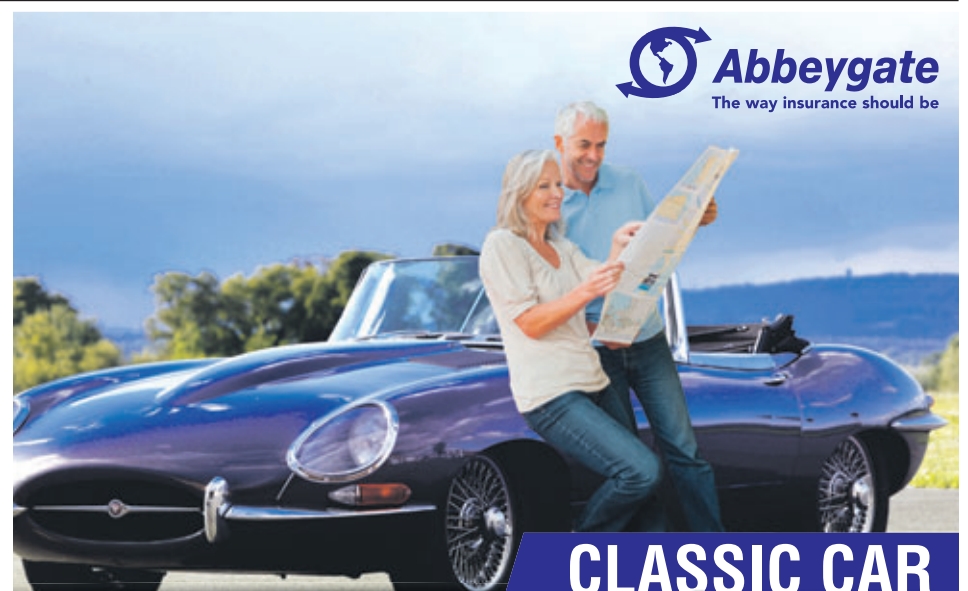
Strangely enough, the Mexican President cancelled his visit this week. Reimbursing is not paying get it?

I don’t like any politicians they all lie but this geezer is one dangerous nutter.

How about the blanket banning of people from seven Muslim majority countries even if you have dual nationality passports which mean Sir Mo Farrah can’t go back! The weird thing is he hasn’t banned the countries that were involved in 9/11, the shoe bomber, Time Square bomber, San Bernardino shooters, Boston Marathon and Chelsea bombers. Maybe it’s because he does business with those countries.

Look I know I’m usually writing light-hearted articles but every day I see what’s going on and being said in the USA and it’s not funny. The people taking to the streets to protest last night they all turned up at JFK.

I’m going to try and not let him make me grumpy but to be honest I’m going to struggle. Please don’t try and convince me he is going to be good for the USA and the World because you won’t do it ... Ok you can try! Email me at mikesenker@gmail.com.



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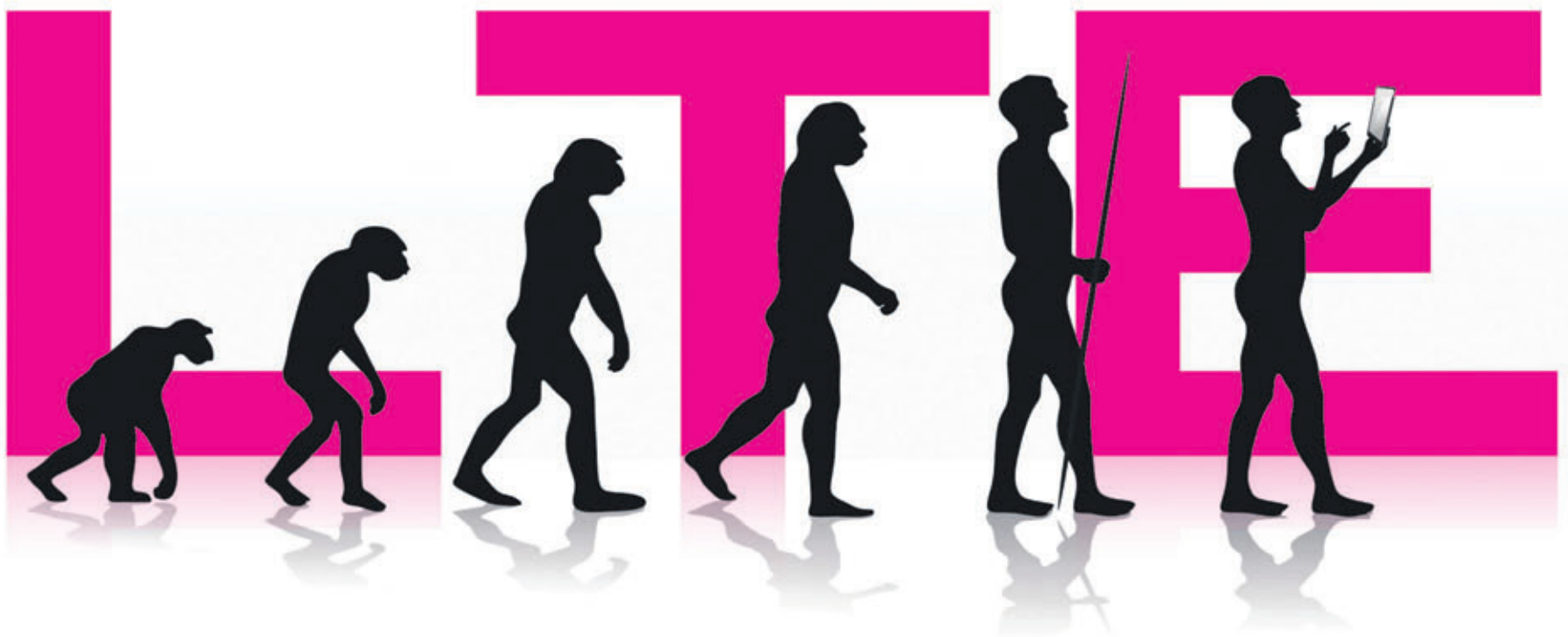
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LETTERS

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

Vulnerable left in the cold

I WAS very disappointed with my electric supplier here in Costa Blanca when I suddenly lost all power at 9.30pm on a very cold evening. There was a 24-hour emergency number on my bill which I called but no one could speak English so I was transferred to a recorded message which simply said 'hold on' in English and then cut me off!

It wasn't until the following morning that I managed to speak to a human who understood me and I explained that at nearly 80, heat and light were important to me. It was no consolation to be told that plenty of others were without electricity as well, especially as prices keep going up.

Nine hours later some electricians turned up, checked my property and identified that the problem was not caused by me or my circuit and disappeared around the corner to a box in the road and within a matter of minutes confirmed that the problem was there and they had fixed it.

Luckily I'm relatively fit, but there are other old and frail pensioners who could have been seriously affected by more than 18 hours without electricity through no fault of their own.

James, San Luis (Torrevieja)

Clinton mania

UNBELIEVABLE that the main stream media throughout the presidential campaign have and continue to ignore how corrupt the Clintons are.

Thank God she did not get in. Whatever his shortcomings are Trump is preferable. One thing, I don't think his presidency will be dull as he certainly is a controversial character and to be honest he is a breath of fresh air.

Vivienne Pimm

Wincing words

HOW many had winced, I wonder, at Theresa May's grammatical clanger? When delivering her discourse to the world press at the White House she was clearly heard to say at the very end: "...a signifi-

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



“ THE water authorities say that there are water shortages each year and they need to find solutions. If they imposed hosepipe bans there wouldn't be so much of a problem. Many people hose down their patios regularly and the road outside their house wasting great quantities, leaving rivers on the road. Intelligent people sweep and mop but it seems that this is too laborious.

Pete, Nerja

| SAVE WATER: By swapping the hose for a brush and mop

cant moment FOR president Trump and I to build our relations..." It's "...for president Trump and ME.." dear lady! Or didn't they teach you at Wheatley Park Comprehensive how you never use a subject pronoun after a preposition. Perhaps, aware of your shortcomings, this is the reason why you are in favour of building new grammar schools, like the one Maggie went to in Grantham.

*RJ Dworakowski,
Torremolinos.*

Why Trump won

WE the people want our lives back. The only way to that basic human need is through the likes of Farrage and Trump.

I recall that oddly, early in 2016 well pre-Brexit, the Americans embraced that theme. Hence the Nigel Donald love affair. Look for more rising out of the melee as the EU flounders for survival. Like it or not they are in a way our saviours and are leading the way out of the assembled political nightmarish trap.

Praising them for their outspoken courage and steely held beliefs favouring us, instead of finger pointing, will accelerate that beneficial process into a new world of simple base values we understand. Not couched in ever deeper legal jargon, mired in a litany of rules laws and certificates penned by hordes of PC pompous overpaid parasites.

Stand up and be counted. We are witnessing the dawn of a new era. Embrace it. Stand high enough and it will now make a difference.

Name withheld

Thank you

WE would like to say thank you to John Smith for his editorial on our restaurant in Benalmadena. John is a great guy with the old-fashioned approach of writing everything down rather than using iPads, etc. This impressed us both. We have had great feedback from customers who looked in both your paper and online. Thank you and we will certainly be looking to continue to work with you this year with our advertising.

Bob and Linda,

Aico Restaurant, Benalmadena.

Weather error

IN edition 1647 we stated that Boxing Day in Cuenca last year was the hottest day in Spain for the month of December. This was incorrect and we apologise for the error.

Crime fears

ARRIVING in Spain to stay in Costa del Sol for the winter months I have been the victim of two attempted and one successful robberies, most costly to me in financial and sentimental terms here in Estepona over a two-month period.

I am an experienced traveller and know the precautions one should take, however the tactics and sheer audacity is breathtaking. There appears to be carefully orchestrated teams working with spotters or those casing places then trackers who may also be finally the robbers.

Initially I thought that I had been very unlucky but when sharing my experiences with expats living here it is becoming a way of life with both men and women being targeted some more than once. Some gangs use distraction tactics like tripping up in front of their target who naturally goes to help them while a team member slips their hand in from behind to reach for a wallet.

I have been to the police on one occasion but it seems nothing can be done. Several retail outlets have cameras but who checks them? Another tactic can occur in a supermarket car park where one member of the team puts a nail into the target's car tyre and while the victim is distracted with a flat tyre another criminal sneaks into the car and picks up any valuables like phones, handbags, etc.

For those living here they are starting to look over their shoulders when out and certainly women are being forced not to carry their usual handbags. This is a not the quality of life that people including tourists expect here.

I am concerned that these robberies will escalate into self defensive methods having to be adopted which in turn could have more damaging effects rather than the upsetting physiological stress of invasion of one's privacy.

Name and address withheld

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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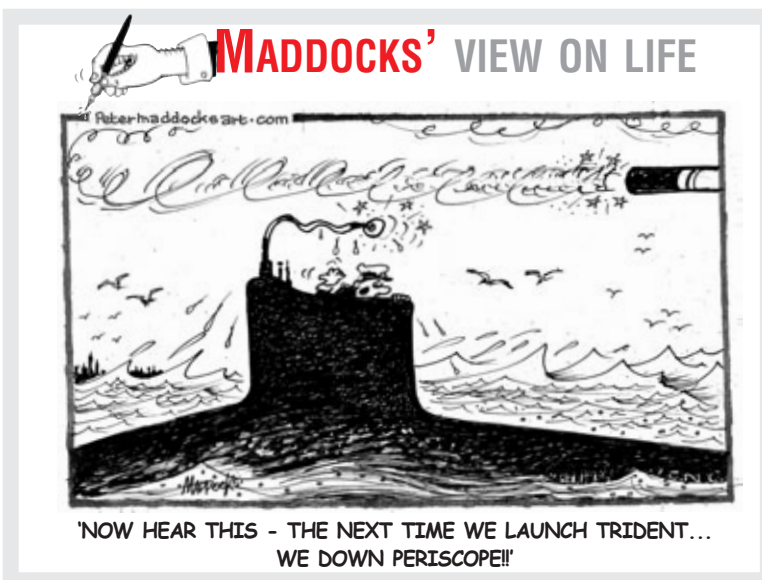
Kakuro

Fill all the empty squares using the numbers 1 to 9, so that the sum of each horizontal block equals the 'clue' on its left, and the sum of each vertical block equals the clue on its top. No number may be used in the same block more than once.

			31	15	28	22
	18					
31	26					
12				13		
11				7		
				13		
22						
21						

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

		24	11	27	21
	25	5	9	8	3
	14	3	2	4	5
14	8	6	9	3	6
7	5	2	7	9	7
17	9	1	5	2	
13	3	7	2	1	



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

I	F	E
T	D	C
V	E	E

TARGET:

- Average: 5 • Good: 7
- Very good: 10 • Excellent: 13

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

demo dime dome dorm drum emir firm form from fume idem mend menu mien mind mine mire mode more morn moue muon norm omen rime demon demur denim dimer femur fermi forum fumed fumer mined miner minor mired moire mound mourn odium rimed rumen deform formed frenum fumier inform merino minder modern monied murine remind fermion mourned uniform informed unformed UNIFORMED

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday January 28

5	21	23	BONUS BALL
34	43	45	20

IRISH LOTTO

Saturday January 28

13	14	22	BONUS BALL
24	25	42	7

EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday January 24

1	5	7	BONUS BALL
17	23	8	

Friday January 27

17	20	28	BONUS BALL
45	48	9	

LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday January 28

8	10	22	BONUS BALL
24	35	47	3

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday January 29

15	40	41	BONUS BALL
49	51	9	

Costa Blanca

weather

TODAY

DENIA	JAVEA
CALPE	ALTEA
BENIDORM	
ALICANTE	
TORREVEJIA	
ORIHUELA	

TOMORROW

DENIA	JAVEA
CALPE	ALTEA
BENIDORM	
ALICANTE	
TORREVEJIA	
ORIHUELA	

SATURDAY

DENIA	JAVEA
CALPE	ALTEA
BENIDORM	
ALICANTE	
TORREVEJIA	
ORIHUELA	

S: Sun C: Clear F: Fog Cl: Cloudy Sh: Showers Sn: Snow Th: Thunder

Alicante

TODAY: MAX 18, MIN 12 - C

Fri	18	11	Sh
Sat	19	14	C
Sun	21	13	C
Mon	20	12	Cl
Tues	21	12	Cl
Wed	17	10	C

Bilbao

TODAY: MAX 16, MIN 9 - SH

Fri	13	7	Sh
Sat	15	10	Sh
Sun	14	8	Sh
Mon	16	9	C
Tues	16	8	Sh
Wed	11	6	Sh

Almeria

TODAY: MAX 18, MIN 11 - SH

Fri	19	10	C
Sat	20	12	C
Sun	22	12	C
Mon	22	12	C
Tues	22	12	Cl
Wed	19	10	Cl

Madrid

TODAY: MAX 11, MIN 6 - SH

Fri	10	4	Sh
Sat	13	8	C
Sun	14	5	Sh
Mon	14	4	Cl
Tues	14	4	C
Wed	12	1	Sh

Barcelona

TODAY: MAX 15, MIN 10 - SH

Fri	13	9	Sh
Sat	14	9	C
Sun	17	9	Sh
Mon	16	7	Cl
Tues	16	9	Cl
Wed	13	7	Sh

Malaga

TODAY: MAX 16, MIN 9 - SH

Fri	19	10	C
Sat	20	12	C
Sun	20	12	Sh
Mon	22	10	C
Tues	21	11	Cl
Wed	17	8	C

Benidorm

TODAY: MAX 17, MIN 11 - C

Fri	18	10	C
Sat	18	13	C
Sun	20	12	C
Mon	19	12	C
Tues	20	12	Cl
Wed	17	9	C

Mallorca

TODAY: MAX 17, MIN 10 - C

Fri	16	10	Sh
Sat	17	11	C
Sun	18	10	Cl
Mon	16	7	C
Tues	17	9	C
Wed	16	8	Sh

Euro Weekly News strives for accuracy, but cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of published forecasts

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.

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

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Crossword

page

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

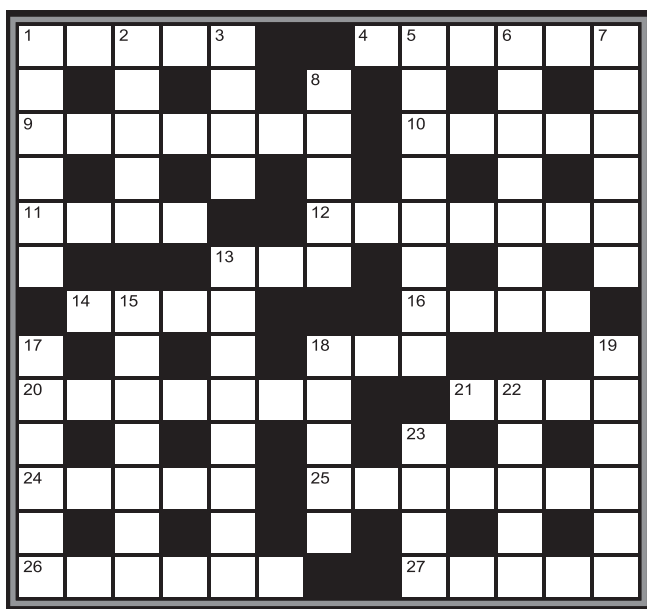
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Cook Delia felt poorly (5)
- 4 Hold up picnic container? (6)
- 9 Glad law was changed for this bird (7)
- 10 Greek deity is in charge of alarm (5)
- 11 Soundly study the plant (4)
- 12 Sister holding quiet girl's hand tool (7)
- 13 Camp bed in the discotheque (3)
- 14 Morning doctor on rounds (4)
- 16 Mets returned a bit of the plant (4)
- 18 Prosecute Johnny Cash's boy (3)
- 20 Till ICI change, it's forbidden (7)
- 21 Support some of your gender (4)
- 24 The summit of the damaged piers (5)
- 25 Holiday garland guaranteed (7)
- 26 Burns out the Spanish engine (6)
- 27 Paper cover on bed

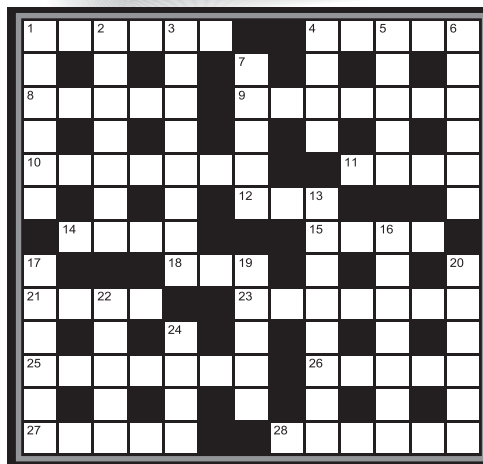
Down

- 1 Sausages, but no starter, makes one furious (6)
- 2 Stop in the small house (5)
- 3 Will, from the rear, looks dowdy (4)
- 5 Value a quiet compliment (8)
- 6 As an act of contrition the writer gets the cane, unfortunately (7)
- 7 Soldiers with rope and log (6)
- 8 Criticise British final (5)
- 13 Trick Greek island firm (8)
- 15 Part of Guatemala is expecting physical discomfort (7)
- 17 Didn't see fog, it's said (6)



- 18 Yet motionless (5)
- 19 Feel bitter but enters anyhow (6)
- 22 Wake up in wondrous excitement (5)
- 23 Tobias Smollett's secret is prejudice (4)

Quick



Across

- 1 Full supply (6)
- 4 Hide from view (5)
- 8 Happen again (5)
- 9 In accordance with fixed order (7)
- 10 Yarns (7)
- 11 Bucket (4)
- 12 Travel on snow (3)
- 14 South American country (4)
- 15 Small cut (4)
- 18 Weep convulsively (3)
- 21 At a distance (4)
- 23 Atrocity (7)
- 25 Invoke admiration (7)
- 26 Similar (5)
- 27 Expect to be true (5)
- 28 Allow (6)

Down

- 1 Examine in detail (6)
- 2 Surround (7)
- 3 End of the line (8)
- 4 Barred room (4)
- 5 Country estate (5)
- 6 Not often (6)
- 7 Meet at a point (5)
- 13 Bring into being (8)
- 16 Part of the skull that encloses the brain (7)
- 17 Bold (6)
- 19 Give help to improve (5)
- 20 Discover (6)
- 22 More than sufficient (5)
- 24 Fixed charges (4)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Peerless, 7 Stair, 8 Artichoke, 9 Ran, 10 Mint, 11 Rapids, 13 Staged, 14 Caesar, 17 Chides, 18 Fast, 20 Rue, 22 Narrative, 23 Enact, 24 Vehement.

Down:

- 1 Psalm, 2 Estonia, 3 Lock, 4 Slogan, 5 Lairs, 6 Grandeur, 7 Seminar, 12 Defiant, 13 Scarlet, 15 Seaside, 16 George, 17 Cedar, 19 Treat, 21 Sake.

QUICK

Across:

- 1/23 Pole star, 3 Cautious, 9 Retreat, 10 Plain, 11 Eerie, 12 Caddie, 14 Supper, 16 Vienna, 19 Paella, 21 Stoic, 24 Trout, 25 Cassock, 26 Randomly, 27 Arms.

Down:

- 1 Perverse, 2 Later, 4 Attack, 5 Tepid, 6 Ovation, 7 Sane, 8 Serene, 13 Pancakes, 15 Platoon, 17 Insist, 18 Cancel, 20 Lotto, 22 Odour.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

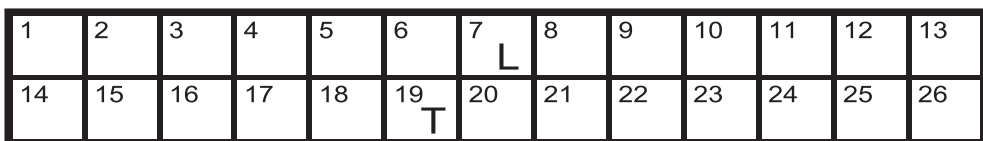
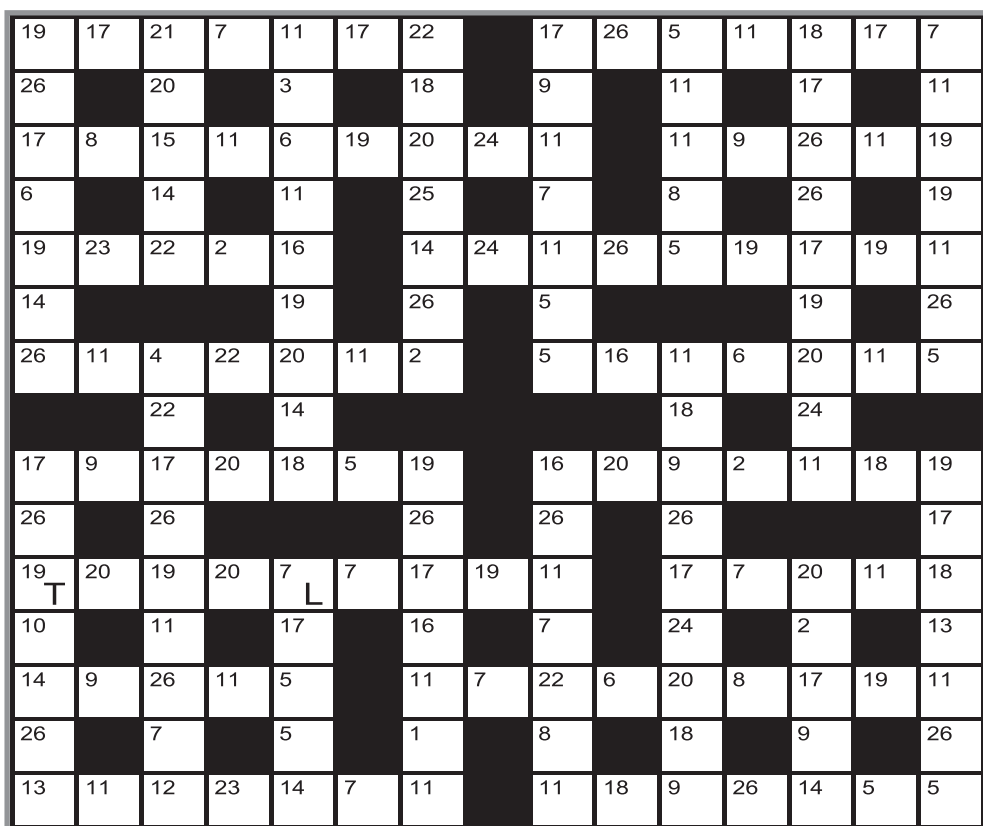
- 1 Loaf, 3 Ache, 8 Apple-tree, 9 Sometimes, 13 Guarantee, 15 Skin, 16 Foca.

Down:

- 1 Left, 2 Abajo, 4 Car, 5 Even, 6 Apretar, 7 Revista, 10 Enero, 11 Eggs, 12 Aula, 14 Ahi.

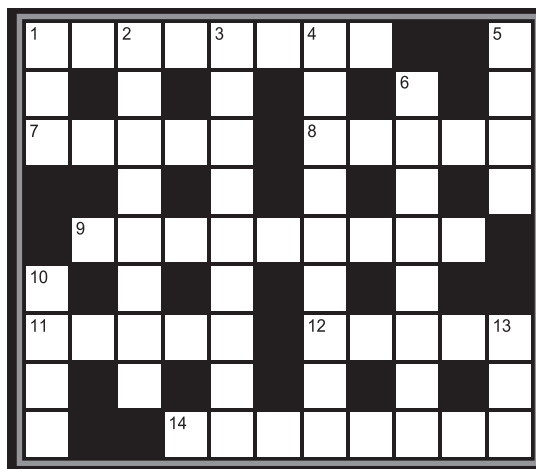
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 7 represents L and 19 represents T, so fill in L every time the figure 7 appears and T every time the figure 19 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Lancha de socorro (8)
- 7 Vestir (5)
- 8 Trozo (pedazo) (5)
- 9 Earthworms (9)
- 11 Journey (5)
- 12 Italia (5)
- 14 Indoloro (8)

Down

- 1 Tapa (de caja) (3)
- 2 Mops (for floors) (8)
- 3 Great grandmother (9)
- 4 Anfibio (9)
- 5 Ciervo (4)
- 6 Delegado (8)
- 10 Grapes (4)
- 13 Sí (3)

CODE BREAKER



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Want to get a weighty issue off your mind?

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

FEELING fit, fabulous and fantastic? No, thought not. Feeling fat, broke and Brex-bewildered instead? Well, be grateful January is over!

January is the month for New Year's resolutions, self-flagellation, weird diets, alcohol bans and shedding the excesses of the Christmas season currently hanging around your waistline. But spoiler alert: fad diets etc don't work and will make you heavier in the long term.

After numerous years of intensive research and applied probabilistic and nutrition technology, I can exclusively reveal that the definitive solution to the combined issues of weight, shape, well-being and fitness is a non-complex combination of eating less and exercising more.

Can I please have a fat fee for this earth-shattering scoop?



WEIGHT PROBLEMS: Fad diets don't work and will make you heavier in the long term.

Moreover, with its miracle weight-loss solutions and ongoing craze for juicing, superfoods and 'clean eating,' the nutrition world is a seemingly endless machine of Trump-like 'post-truths' and 'alternative facts.' Bogus claims about 'chlorophyll oxygenating

the body' or 'chocolate being an octave of sun energy' aren't just irritating, they're dangerous; they supplant useful, evidence-based information. The public are being misled, and that upsets the many good nutritionists out there.

Ever helpful, though, just as

Theresa May has her 12-point Brexit plan, here's my own five-point Weight plan to gauge if you do have an, err, weight problem:

1. If your doctor has to call the zoo to use their weight scales to weigh you.

2. If emergency services have to cut out entire sections of walls in your home, in order to evacuate you to A&E.

3. If your bed comes equipped with a crane and pulley bars.

4. If your photo is being used as the 'before' image in the 'before-and-after' adverts for the latest miracle diet-o-rama.

5. If you've ever been asked to leave an 'all you can eat' buffet because quite simply you've terrified the restaurant staff and patrons who have never seen anyone gorge like that before.

Well, I've made my own belated resolution. For the rest of 2017, I won't even look at any new diets. It's remarkable. I feel better already.

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.

Is there a decision that you need to make?

Sally Trotman

www.sallytrotman.com

Sally Trotman is a qualified Counsellor who works with Astrology, Numerology and the Tarot. Each month she will deliver the forecast as an intuitive tool to aid increased self awareness.

HOW can you learn to love yourself and others more this month? Read your Astrology, Numerology and Tarot Forecast for February and find out how you can make the most of the month ahead...

Astrology: Go with the flow!

Sun in Aquarius : This month the sun is influenced by the airy and visionary sign of Aquarius. Spend time with friends and family this month, talking about your hopes and dreams for the future. Creating a strong network of colleagues, friends and family is vital in order to feel supported and safe. Spend time this month strengthening your interconnectedness with those around you.

Ask for help where you need it to achieve the goals which are most important to you this year. Take action where you can, then let go and flow with where life is taking you. Aquarius is a free spirited and open minded sign. Cultivate these characteristics and discover the benefits of relaxing into the flow of life, trusting in your-

self and the universe to take you exactly to where you need to be.

Get in tune with the moon : The full moon this month on February 11, is in the sunny sign of Leo. What gives you the greatest feeling of confidence? Focus on your strengths this month and aim high!

Leo the lion will give you the energy you need to fulfil your most important goals. This generous and passionate sign is encouraging you to live life to the full and to give thanks for all the abundance in your life at this time. Remain present for every feeling you have now affects your future. Make a commitment to yourself to feel good today. On Sunday February 26 the New Moon in sensitive Pisces gives you the opportunity to become more aware of your deepest truth. Take time out for yourself on this day to reflect on the year so far and follow your heart when considering a new direction this month.

Numerology: Feeling indecisive?

Number two : Is there a decision you need to make? Wise decisions that you make for the good of all will bring you the most peace. When you take a decision based on your own truth, the universe works behind the scenes to ensure that everyone ultimately benefits. If you have an impor-

tant decision to make this month, evaluate all the options, listen to your intuition and when clear, act decisively and with absolute belief that you are following your truth. The number two can indicate a fork in the road, a new perspective or change of direction in some way. Listen to the truth in your own heart and then act decisively knowing that you can trust yourself to make the right choices for you.

The Tarot: Learning to listen

The second card in the the Major Arcana Tarot deck is the High Priestess. This spiritual woman sits on a throne with her foot on the new moon, a cross hanging from her neck. The theme of listening to your own truth continues with the influence of this card this month.

Once you know what is true for you, communicate honestly with those around you. Truth has a vibration that causes others to trust you intuitively. Speak from the heart and focus on the good and positive. Communication is also about listening to others, and be truly present. Practise this kind of listening and your relationships will improve. Be aware of what you say and try not to get involved in gossip. Instead speak from a place of inspiration and honesty and watch your relationships im-

prove beyond measure!

February Special Offer!

Sally Trotman offers personalised Astrology, Numerology and Tarot Consultations via Skype, Facetime and telephone. Sally also offers couples compatibility reports to bring insight into your most significant relationships. Throughout February Sally is offering 30-minute consultations via Skype, Facetime and telephone for just £25. Here is a testimonial from one of her clients: 'Sally, the

compatibility report was so spot on. Seriously you have confirmed so much for me regarding my relationship. You are bang on with what my partner is like, and although you've never met him, it's like you know him. Thank you so much for your help.' Georgie, Tring, UK. Visit Sally's website today and book in! www.sallytrotman.com.

FEBRUARY: Spend time with family and friends this month.



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the destination and with more than 250 excursions to choose from, you really can make the most of your time.

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cotheque, 4D cinema and 1,200 seat cinema with live entertainment. So whether you are on board or on shore, there is always something to do.

It may be two years away but Worldwide Horizons in La Zenia have already taken bookings. Prices start from €12,499 on a full board basis, and the team are on hand to give you more information and the full itinerary

The company, which has been established for more than 15 years, are cruise specialists so customers know their holiday is in safe hands. They



WORLDWIDE HORIZONS: For all your travel needs.

pride themselves on staying ahead of the industry and are continually researching new and exciting cruises for their customers.

They are soon to be visiting the Norwegian Cruise Lines ship in Alicante and owner

Yvonne Hollywood was recently on the NCL Escape launch in Hamburg as well as the Royal Caribbean Harmony ship. They have just returned from Fitur tourism fair in Madrid and are soon to be attending the Cruise Show in

London to find out what is new with river, ocean and luxury cruises. They are also the only accredited agent for Viking River Cruises in Spain.

Worldwide Horizons also has in place the highest level of insurance possible for a travel agency; covered by the Spanish equivalent of ABTA which is the reputable governing body for agencies, recognised in the UK.

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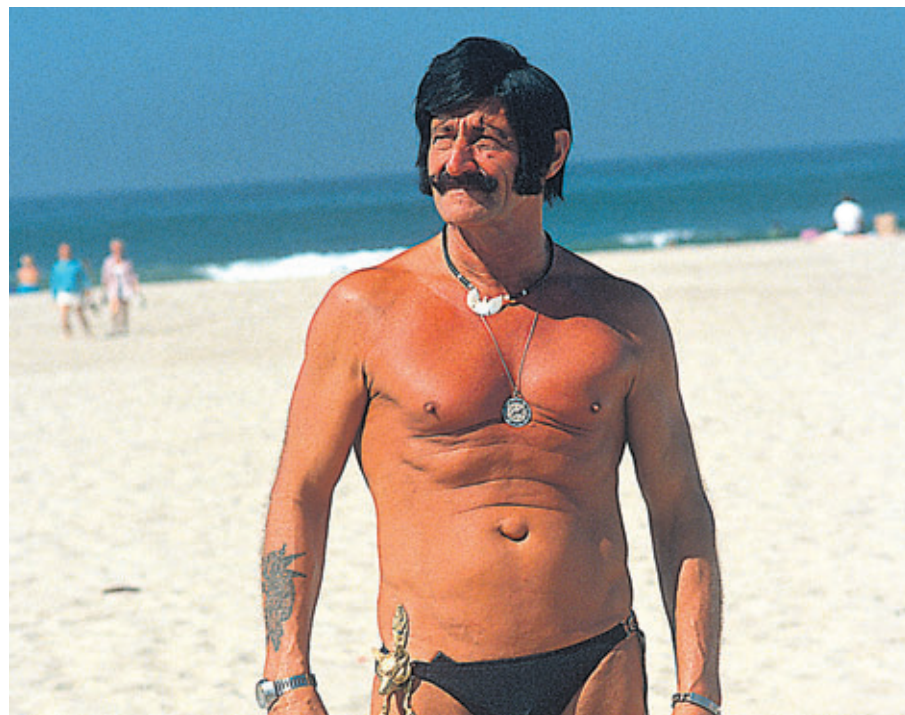
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TO READ MORE

More men are loving fake tan



FAKE TAN: Self-tanning products have seen an increase in usage amongst men.

MORE and more men are turning to the bottle. The bottle of fake tan that is. According to Mintel research, from August 2015-September 2016, the usage of self-tan among Britain's men rose from less than one in 10 (9 per cent) in 2015 to as many as 14 per cent of all Britain's males in 2016.

Figures showed that young men are the biggest fans of faking it and in 2016 almost three in 10 (27 per cent) of men aged from 16-24 used self-tanning products. This was an increase from 16 per cent in 2015.

Tanning salons are also proving popular amongst younger men, with 25 per cent of men aged 18-24 having used a tanning salon in 2016 compared with 21 per cent of women of the same aged group.

But it is not just self-tan which is proving popular among the nation's men.

Products such as pre-tan accelerator,

gradual tanners and oral tanning supplements have also increased.

While self-tan product usage has seen the greatest increase amongst men, Britain's women remain the most likely to use self-tan. Today, 18 per cent of women use self-tan and 19 per cent use gradual tanner.

Roshida Khanom, Senior Beauty and Personal Care Analyst at Mintel said: "The increase in usage of self-tan is growing rapidly amongst the nation's men, driven by the popularity of self-tan among high profile celebrities including Mark Wright, Rylan Clark and even Ed Balls.

"Today's men are reflecting on their image and responsibilities and how to express their masculinity. With younger men focusing on their appearance more, the self-tanning sector could see a boost."

Whilst many of us want a healthy glow

and the safest way to do this is from self-tan products, the Mintel report also said in 2016 there was an increase in the use of SPF products, protecting against the sun's harmful rays.

It also showed adults have a good general knowledge when it comes to regular sun

protection, with 52 per cent agreeing that you should reapply sun protection after being in the sun for 30 minutes.

However, there is a certain lack of understanding about the actual sun care ratings and protecting against UVA and UVB rays.

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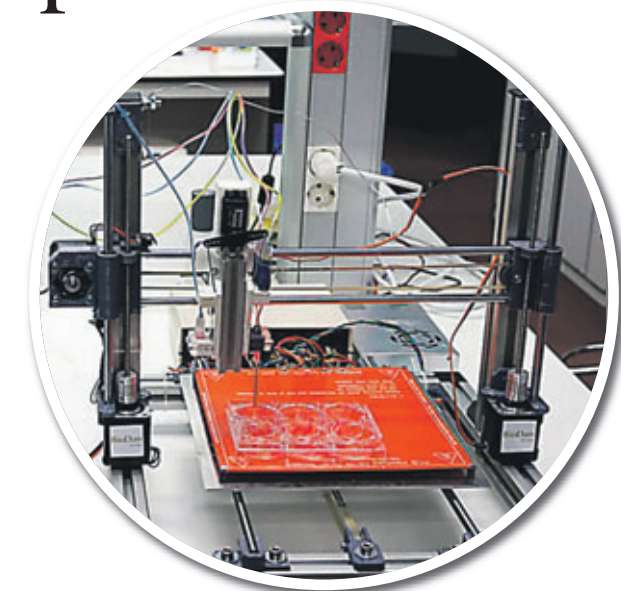
Scientists design a 3D skin bio-printer

A TEAM of Spanish researchers say they have designed a prototype bio-printer that is able to create 3D human skin.

The group, from the Carlos III University of Madrid, worked with other research teams and the University Hospital Gregoria Marañón in Madrid on the project and said they can create “fully functional” skin suitable for use in research, testing cosmetic products and, in future, be able to be transplanted into patients.

It has been developed as a step further to the system using ‘in vitro’ where a small biopsy of a patient can be used to create skin in three weeks. This sort of treatment is already used in Spain to treat burns patients.

The bio-printer replicates the natural structure of the skin, along with a first outer layer, the epidermis, and a



deeper and thicker, dermis.

The printer works on biosafety conditions to avoid contamination and it is currently in the process of seeking approval by different European regulatory bodies to ensure that the skin produced is suitable for use in transplants to patients with burns

3D SKIN: Suitable for use in research, testing cosmetic products.

and other skin problems.

The team hope as technology improves and research continues, that one day they will be able to use 3D bio-printers to produce hearts.



EYEDOCTOR

Dr. Justyna Koszel

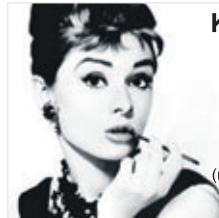
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Could pistachios help improve impotence?

MEN, could pistachios improve your sex life? Yes, according to a study by the University Hospital and Atatürk Research Centre Ankara, Turkey.

Their study, published in the International Journal of Impotence Research, showed that 17 men who added 100 grams of pistachios to their diet for three weeks, perceived significant improvements in sexual function, sexual satisfaction, orgasms, sexual arousal and overall satisfaction.

Pistachio nuts are rich in unsatu-

rated fats and mono-unsaturated fats that help maintain a normal level of blood cholesterol. Pistachio also has a high thiamine content, which contributes to normal cardiac function. These protective properties have encouraged scientists to investigate the effect of pistachios on erectile function as the problem may be related

to heart disease or vascular problems.

Although more research is needed to confirm the results, initial research suggests that eating pistachios may improve circulation to the penis and therefore improve sexual performance of men suffering from erectile dysfunction.

According to studies, more than half of men over age 40 have some degree of erectile dysfunction according to the World Health Organisation.



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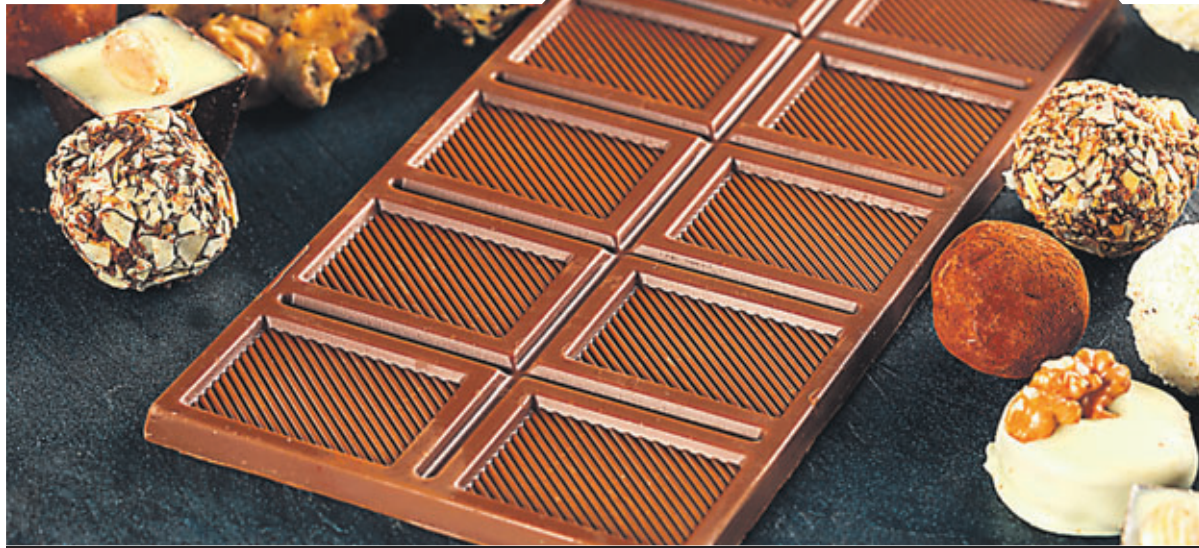
Genes of others affect our health

THE genes of your roommate could affect your health, so choose who you live with wisely.

Scientists say a study has revealed how much another person's genetic traits affect our own lifestyles, particularly those we live with. It has been previously known that other people influence your own behaviour and well-being, but it was not known that there was a genetic basis for this.

The study was carried out at the European Bioinformatic Institute (EMBL-EBI), and looked at social genetic effects between mice in the same cage.

It is hoped studying this sort of social genetic effect will help researchers to learn more about the mechanisms behind how people influence one another and this could also be vital information for doctors in helping treat illnesses.



AMERICAN CHOCOLATE: Tastes distinctively different from the British version.

Vomit tasting chocolate?

IT is a common known fact that American chocolate is not the best in the world.

Tasting distinctively different from the mostly favoured British or Swiss chocolate, most chocolate lovers say the sweet stuff from across the pond does not taste too great, but why

is that? Well some experts claim it is because some brands of American chocolate contains a chemical that is also found in parmesan cheese, rancid butter and vomit.

This is a result of putting the milk through a process called controlled lipolysis.

“ **American chocolate often contains fewer cocoa solids.** ”

This breaks down the fatty acids in the milk and produces butyric acid which is

the chemical that gives vomit its distinctive smell.

American chocolate also often contains fewer cocoa solids than British chocolate. In the UK it must contain at least 20 per cent cocoa to qualify as chocolate, but in the USA this can be as low as 10 per cent.

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Pain in the hip and outer thigh

A common complaint often seen in practice is a pain around the hip. This pain often radiates into the buttocks, groin and through the outside edge of the thigh to the knee. It is often accompanied with the sensation that the knee is instable and lying in bed on the painful side is impossible.

Frequently it is thought that these complaints are caused by wear and tear or bursitis in the hip. Thorough examination shows more than often that a misaligned pelvis is the underlying cause of this problem.

Because the hip joint is part of the pelvis, the hip joint is also twisted in an awkward position to compensate. This often affects the bursa and gets irritated. This change of position in the hip puts the knee in an abnormal position. This creates instability and a lot of people with this complaint drop through the knee without any pain.

The pain on the outside of the leg is caused by too much tension of a muscle on the outside of the leg which is attached to the pelvis and the knee capsule. Because of the position change, the distance between pelvis and knee has



increased and the muscle puts more pressure on the bursa in the hip which makes lying on that side impossible. If the sciatic nerve gets irritated as well, patients complain of pain or pins and needles in the affected leg.

This seemingly straightforward complaint is, in fact, a complex disorder made up of a variety of biomechanical

relationships and resulting aches and pains. An accurate and extensive diagnosis is essential to handle this complaint properly.

Our clinic examines the whole biomechanical chain to get to the cause of the problem. Unfortunately, chiropractic practice in Spain is an unprotected occupation. Anyone can call

themselves a chiropractor. This means that many patients who report having already seen a chiropractor were in fact treated by an unregistered therapist calling himself a chiropractor.

Even if you have had (a bad) experience with a chiropractor, please consider visiting our practice run by Dr. Jason Gast, who is a registered and well-known chiropractor in Spain. He applies his knowledge and experience as a chiropractor with techniques from sports physiotherapy and rehabilitation on a daily basis to successfully treat patients suffering from 'pain in the groin' and numerous other complaints.

This unique approach, which consists of a combination of treatment techniques, is only offered in our practice.

For more information or an appointment please contact:

**Quiropractica Calpe /
Quiropractica Altea
Jason Gast (Doctor in Chiropractic)
Avda. Puerto de Santa Maria 25
Calle Benidorm 1
965 875 917 / 965 841 950**

Work outs at work

STRUGGLING to make time for exercise? Is working late meaning you are missing that trip to the gym? Well work should no longer be an excuse for not working out, as even if you spend most of your day slouched over your desk staring at a computer screen, you can still burn calories and tone up.

So what can you do around the office to help stay a little more active? Try these simple tricks to help shed a few calories:

Step aerobics. Stop using the lift and take the stairs. Climbing two steps at a time will burn 10 per cent more calories. On a break instead of sitting in the staff room, simply step up and down the bottom step for 10 minutes to get the heart beating.

Leg lifts. It is recommended not sit down for more than 30 minutes at a time, but if you have to, leg lifts at your desk can be beneficial to help keep the blood circulating and to help strengthen leg muscles. Simply sit on the edge of your chair with your arms by your sides, and extend one leg out. Flex your foot until your leg is parallel to your hips.

Wall push-ups. Whilst having a natter in the kitchen try some wall push-ups which could help tone your arms. Place



OFFICE EXERCISE: You can still burn calories and tone up.

your hands on the wall and bending from the elbows, push out from the wall and back in again.

Wall sits. A study by the University of Sydney asked a group of workers to increase the amount they stood or moved in a day by 60-90 minutes. At the end of the day people said they felt more energised by moving more, so try some wall sits to get you moving. With

your back against the wall, slide down until your legs are bent at a 90 degree angle.

Shoulder shrugs. You don't even have to leave your desk. To prevent back ache, try shoulder shrugs, which work muscles of the back. Sit upright in a chair, pull your abs in tight and turn the palms of your hands upwards as you feel your shoulders roll backwards.

Ask The
Doctor

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Is it normal for our hearing to worsen as we age?



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

A PROGRESSIVE loss of hearing, due mainly to the loss of elasticity in the structures within the ear related to hearing, can be considered a normal part of the ageing process.

What are the most common causes of hearing loss?

Different causes of hearing loss are possible. The most common is due to sound transmission being affected. Over time, the structures within the ear become more rigid, losing their flexibility which means sound is not perceived correctly. Other possible causes include neurological issues such as damage to nerves related to hearing.

What should we do if we suddenly realise we can't hear as well as we used to?

The first thing to do is to see your GP who will send you as quickly as possible to see a hearing expert. Sometimes it is also useful to visit spe-

cialised hearing centres for a hearing test.

Are there any treatments and/or solutions?

There are various different options to treat this loss. The most common, when needed, is a hearing aid. Surgery is also a possibility.

Will everyone end up having hearing problems as they get older?

Not everyone, although a large percentage of people suffer different degrees, from minor changes to severe loss, as they get older.

Can anything be done to avoid it?

Obviously taking care of our ears, avoiding exposure to excessive acoustic contamination and good hygiene will help avoid premature hearing loss although the loss associated with ageing is mostly unavoidable.

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



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TO READ MORE

Advertising feature

For all Dutch products then look no further than Supermercado Diferente

SUPERMERCADO DIFERENTE is quite literally a supermarket with a difference. Based in Pedreguer this is a wonderful supermarket that has mainly Dutch products and is used by all nationalities including English, Spanish and German.

The owner, Alexandra, has always had her own businesses in Holland and after moving to Spain she saw a gap for a Dutch supermarket and that is when Supermercado Diferente was born. After opening in March 2013 the store continues to grow in terms both of its popularity and its product range.

The store itself is well-designed and carefully laid out leaving plenty of room in each aisle so the products can be seen clearly while leaving room for other shoppers. They also have a freezer section where you can find bitterballen and frikandel, a fresh bakery where they have the very popular speltbrood and pastries, as well as a great selection of cheeses of



WELL-DESIGNED STORE: With plenty of room so the products can be seen clearly.

which Holland are famous for.

Other delights are hagelslag - better known in English as sprinkles, stroopwafel - this is a traditional Dutch biscuit with a

filling, the very popular drop candy (liquorice) as well as fresh produce, magazines and gift ideas.

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with regular weekly deliveries ensuring you never miss out on your favourite groceries and should there be something you are after that is not in stock, then speak with the very friendly staff who speak Dutch and English and will be only too happy to help.

Supermercado Diferente is located at Carrer de la Marroqueria 2, Pedreguer or find them on Facebook.

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An extra special film opportunity

By Linda Hall

FILM Director Paco Soto will hold a casting session for extras in Benitachell on February 11.

Soto, a Local Police officer as well as a director, obtained 14 Goya nominations for his full-length film 'Operaciones especiales.'

He has received a €10,000 grant from Benitachell Town Hall for his next film 'Rural Cops,' a comedy set in the fictional resort of Torretatxell. Filming starts next September.

Production company Cafetico Films, which Soto co-owns with Carol Colomer, is looking for men, women and children of all ages. They also need extras who can drive tractors and farm machinery and others with right-hand drive cars.

Casting will be held on February 11 at Espai Abiar from 9.30am until 2pm and again from 3pm until 7.30pm. Hopefuls unable to attend can send their details with complete name accompanied by a copy of their ID, telephone number and a photograph to castingruralcops@gmail.com.

"We hope Benitachell residents will turn up for the casting session and make this film their



Photo credit: Benitachell town hall

RURAL COPS: Casting on February 11.

own," said councillor Myra van't Hoff, the councillor who heads the town hall's Communications' department.

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Chicago blues party

By Eleanor Hawkins

EXCITING news as on Saturday February 18 CB-Blues.com appreciates and celebrates the fabulous Medicine Man Blues.

The group has been asked to prove their dedication to the blues by giving an up-town Chicago Blues party. The legendary blues band has been performing professionally since 1997 and they are registered members of the Alicante Blues Society.

CBBlues' matinee party will be held at El Cid's Tavern and Inn in the picturesque setting of

Benidoleig. They have secured the private salon room for this event and created a custom Delta Americana food menu with El Cid's chef too.

It's going to be a true

“There is blues enough to choose from depending on how you feel or how you want to feel.”

blue blues experience!

Victor Jordá is the founder, lead guitarist and



MEDICINE MAN: Has been performing since 1997.

singer of the band.

He has a rich 'buttered-toast with honey' voice, delightful in modulation of intonation and his pitch is all warm and fantastic!

"We'll play standards from the classics, tunes that you'll know.

"Chicago blues tunes are what we really enjoy playing, so I'm sure we will all have a great time.

"We can't wait!!!," an-

nounced Victor in a recent conversation.

Victor admits that he is rooted in Chicago blues but he is also a fan of Texas blues, West coast, Delta, Jug Bands, Boogie Woogie and everything associated with the Blues.

"There is blues enough to choose from depending on how you feel or how you want to feel," explains the veteran blues performer.

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If you enjoy the bar and restaurant scene and can write editorials for your customers' establishments, then this is the job for you!

It is a full time position, and you will be required to work some nights and weekends.

Any previous experience in sales and advertising would be a definite advantage.

Applicants must be self-motivated, happy to work alone, and able to keep to deadlines.

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Craft beers are becoming big business in the UK

with Garry Waite

THOSE of you who were born after 1966 can only remember the World Cup of that year from those who continue to reminisce about how England won it (the first and only time!!).

However it is still very close to many people's hearts and prompted the TV series Tina and Bobby, based on the life of the first golden couple of football. It made me smile when Tina was giving birth and Bobby yelled (from a safe distance) "Go on put your back into it!!"

Hardly a calming and caring way to encourage the poor girl in labour - sounded more like what the team manager would shout from the sidelines!!

I NEVER met Booby Moore but I have met, a couple of times, the legend that is Sir Geoff Hurst MBE, the only footballer to have scored a hat trick in a World Cup. The first time was when I was running Tikitano Beach Restaurant on the 'New Golden Mile' just outside of Estepona.

He was dining there with his family at the same time as the, then very popular boy band 'Blue.' Duncan James came over and asked me whether I would approach Sir Geoff and ask him if the boys could have a photo taken with him.

I tend to dissuade any guests from disturbing other guests for autographs or photos, but as Sir Geoff's daughters had already spotted the band I ventured over to ask him if it would be possible.

I think he had already been informed who they were, but he seemed quite astounded they should want a picture taken with him. He didn't seem to realise that nearly 40 years later those that were not even born at the time, consider him a legend!!

MY REVELATION last week that I was given a bottle of Prado Enea Gran Reserva 2009 to try, prompted a local wine shop to offer me a bottle of Gran Reserva 2007 from bodegas Rioja Alta SL from the same style of stables as Muga and Ardanza.

I was told that I may find this one even more exciting. Still with plenty of time left in the bottle, I found that the freshness of the vintage and its relatively young age gave the wine a youngish character that I quite liked, combining developed notes of meat, spices, leather with vanilla and balsam with almost cherry/wild berry -

like aromas.

The palate feels balanced and elegant, with fine-grained and fully resolved tannins and great acidity. Great with beef, game and rich red wine sauces. It is a blend of Tempranillo with 10 per cent Mazuelo aged for four years in well-seasoned American oak barrels.

THIS ASPIRES to be the classic Gran Reserva - polished, silky and elegant with familiar old style Rioja overtones. Not sure which of the two I prefer. I might have to buy myself a couple of bottles to try again. Just like the Enea not a quaffing wine as this comes out at around €39.

HAD LUNCH with a pal the other day at the very popular eatery, Vovem, in Nueva Andalucía, Marbella. Specialising in meats from different parts of the world it is obviously very popular with carnivores.

I have known my friend for many years and when we first met he had his meat well done. When I suggested that he may prefer his meat a little less cooked making it less dry he said he didn't like to see blood in meat. I explained that

there is no blood in meat and that it is purely the colour of the juice. Something I have been telling people for years, unsuccessfully! Now people say 'in that case I don't want to see the juice!' But

for the first time that I can remember, someone else was banging the same drum.

The very charming manageress, Nicoletta, explained to my colleague when once again he said he didn't want any blood, that there is no blood in meat. Good to find somebody that agrees with me!! Still, we have got him from well done to medium rare 12 years on!!

ALSO HAD a very pleasant lunch last week with Marbella Business International at Da Bruno sul Mare in Marbella. This is a monthly occurrence, a gathering of like-

minded folk who enjoy nothing better than a chat, a decent meal and copious amounts of quality grape juice! There is always a guest speaker, some more interesting than others, but always informative.

On this occasion the gathered masses were treated to a tasting of craft beer from an unusual source. Now craft beers are big business in the UK and giving it's support of real ale over the years it's not

surprising that it would become the centre of artisan and craft beers.

But the tasting on Friday came from Danish Brewery Gran de Select, based in Manilva, near Sotogrande, and is the passion of partners, Mads Sorensen and Frederik Avenstrup. Both experienced wine producers, they turned their skills to manufacturing craft beers. Their mission is to demonstrate that beer can offer a gastronomic experience and be much more than just a thirst quencher. The Gran de Select beer, is brewed with inspiration from and using techniques of vinification to obtain a unique, sophisticated beer with personality.

GRAN DE SELECT allows carefully selected ingredients plenty of time to work. This results in a beer with a soul and a fantastic taste that improves with time. The beer carbonates without additives and has a higher pressure in the bottle, which provides a sparkling beer, like Champagne. It is unfiltered, unpasteurised, and has no preservatives, additives or extracts.

ON THAT NOTE I will bid you farewell until next week and should aspiring restaurateurs need some help or advice, please do not hesitate to contact me. A toast to Good Food, Good Wine and Good friends.



Don't quaff it at this price



Unlikely 'fan' bedfellows?



Champagne life style Beer pocket money



AM I the only one who watched the inauguration of Donald Trump, secretly waiting for him to turn around to Obama and utter the immortal words,

“You're Fired!”



THE following beers are at present being produced.

Pilsner

A light-coloured and bubbly beer, suggesting Champagne. An ideal companion for hors d'oeuvres, starters and fish courses. Also ideal as an aperitif. Alc.vol. 6%

Reserva

A strong and tasty beer, ideal for red meat and spicy dishes. Alc.vol. 7.8%

Vintage Cristian

A dark and different beer to round off the meal. Ideal for cheeses and desserts. Alc. vol. 8%.

SERVE and enjoy the same way as wine. Chill the bottles in a wine cooler and serve in wine glasses. Having Champagne corks, the beer should be uncorked in the same festive, ceremonial and cautious manner as Champagne.

BEER pairing in restaurants has fast become one of the most fashionable ways to drink beer with food. The UK has many such restaurants and in Spain Gran de Select is served in Martin Berasategui's restaurant one of the finest in the world.

If any reader would like more information about these beers, send me an e-mail.

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

Advertising feature

Stunning villa for sale!

MODERN luxury villa just three months away from completion located in a tranquil area of Moraira, Paichi. It's a mere six minute drive from the El Portet beach, one of the most stunning beaches on the Costa Blanca.

Set on a 339m² plot the first thing you'll notice is the villa's avant-garde style. Piercing straight lines, white walls and wooden patterns, as well as an imposing stone wall, bring visual delight. This south-facing property will benefit from long hours of exposure to the sun, lighting up all of its ample rooms throughout the day through its grand windows.

The building is two storeys high. On the first floor, a spacious hallway leads directly to the dining room and living room, a fully equipped island kitchen and an independent laundry room. There is a bedroom on the first floor, but it



AVANT-GARDE STYLE: The south-facing villa will benefit from exposure to the sun.



can easily act as a study or library, next to a bathroom and it also has direct access to a 132m² terrace, which can be used to relax next to a modern infinity swimming pool equipped with LED lights.

The second floor holds the remaining three bedrooms. One of them, the master bedroom, has an en suite bathroom and a

semi-covered private terrace. The other two bedrooms share a bathroom as well as access to a separate terrace that's perfect to sunbathe on.

All of the bedrooms have picturesque views of the mountains and are fully equipped with the latest heating technology including floor-heating, Climait glass, aluminium win-

dows, electric curtains, air conditioning and a home automation system.

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Surplus value tax

THE much-maligned Spanish surplus value tax may be on its last legs. Courts across the country are grappling with a variety of angry appeals against the tax, which must be paid when a property is sold, even if it has lost value.

The tax is levied on the increase in the value of the property from acquisition to sale. But thousands of homeowners during the crisis years found they had to pay it even when they sold a property at a loss.

Logically such cases should provide an exception to the rule. But the calculations assume an increase and apply theoretical (read fictitious) percentages to work out a levy that often seems random and borderline malicious to the homeowner. A wave of cases are now pending in regional courts, brought by homeowners who perceive the tax as unconstitutional. The average amount claimed back is between €2,000 and €5,000, although many people are charged in excess of €10,000. In 2012 a Catalan court ruled that paying the tax was not obligatory if

there was a loss in the real value of the property over time. Since then judges across the land have followed suit, leading to a huge backlog of appeals at the regional level as local councils panic over the likely loss of their financial gains.

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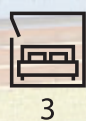
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Advertising feature

Tailor-made heating solutions

GLASS of wine? Check. Good book? Check. Roaring fire...? Summer's a great time in Spain, but so can winter be. A great time to cook all those hearty favourites and snuggle up with your family. And who doesn't love listening to the sound of rain on the roof from the safety of a cosy home?

Keeping warm is key to enjoying the cooler months though. With over 30 years' experience, Chimeneas Calp and Ecopellet Benissa are experts in their field, offering tailor-made heating solutions, and have excellent customer feedback. Their qualified technicians will assess your needs, only recommending the right products for your home or business.

If you're feeling the cold, why not install a log or pellet burner? With striking designs ranging from rustic to modern looks, they make an attractive addition to any space. Providing the warm glow of a fire, they add both atmosphere and warmth to your home. The closed-door design creates a safer alternative to an open fire, and means even the dog can snuggle up closer without the fear of a singed tail! Log burners provide all the benefits of an open fire with



CHIMENEAS CALP: Their qualified technicians will assess your needs.

none of the downsides, while pellet burners, using the latest biomass heating technology, provide an economical and environmentally friendly way to keep the flames alive.

Chimeneas Calp and Ecopellet Benissa don't

just stop at fireplaces though. They are also experts in air conditioning, both sourcing and installing the units themselves. Also providing servicing for existing units, they have been keeping homes in the Marina Alta area warm



for years. Air conditioning, which heats up a space quickly to your exact temperature requirement, is economical to run on a daily basis.

For a limited time, Chimeneas Calp and Ecopellet Benissa are offering 12 months interest free credit on every heater or fireplace. So why not start off 2017 by making this your warmest winter yet and visit Chimeneas Calp in their shop on Calle Conde de Altea, 25, Calpe, or visit www.chimeneascalp.com. Or why not pop into their sister shop, Ecopellet Benissa on Avenida Pais Valencia 241, Benissa, or their website at www.ecopelletbenissa.com.



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Home hacks

FOR anyone fed up with spending hours scrubbing and still not seeing the gleaming results they would like, the following few tricks can help get things cleaner, quicker.

Carpets: to deep clean rugs and carpets in record time, scatter salt over them, spread it out then remove with a brush. Scrub with another brush dampened in warm water and ammonia, then rub with a cloth soaked in a mixture of water and vinegar.

Parquet floors: although lovely to look at, these have the disadvantage of picking up stains quickly. To wash them and add extra shine, add a few drops of lemon juice and fabric conditioner to a bucket of water and use it to mop them.

Sparkling windows: for mark-free windows, swap the paper or cloth you usually use to clean them for a pair of tights or a stocking.

Spotless shower curtain: to avoid nasty mouldy patches on the bottom of shower curtains, wash them at least once per fortnight. First leave to soak for an hour in warm water with soap and bicarbonate of soda. Then put into the washing machine and wash on a cold, spin-free cycle.

Germ-free towels: to remove germs caused by damp conditions from towels and get them nice and fluffy, add vinegar to the drawer of the washing machine.

Growing conditions for the Sun Parasol or Mandevilla

By Graeme Tyrrell

THE wet, wet weather this winter is enough to keep even the most enthusiastic gardener out of the garden. Waterlogged soil is best not walked on if it is for growing plants. The compaction of saturated soil is very damaging as even when it dries out the effects of compression last and cause clods of soil in summer that are difficult for plant roots to penetrate. This doesn't mean no gardening. Indoor gardening is always a possibility.

Tropical species are a very popular form of indoor plant for indoor gardening. They give a different range of plants that cannot be grown in the outdoor Mediterranean garden. If you grow tropical plants in pots they can grace the terrace or balcony in summer and be retired to the indoors in winter or they can be a permanent indoor feature in a bright, warm area of the home.

A favourite that is hardy and fast growing in the right conditions is the impressive glossy leaved trumpet flowered Mandevilla, also called the Sun or Summer Parasol. It originates from tropical Central America where it is a climbing plant. It was named after British explorer and diplomat Henry Mandevilla who first botanically identified it.

A Mandevilla needs plenty of sunlight or it will not flower profusely. It is very cold tender so must be kept in a warm place above 10°C throughout winter. They will thrive in a large container with a good soil mixture and will grow over a metre a year in good conditions and up to seven metres in length on maturity.

It will need a trellis or structure to grow up or



MANDEVILLA: Needs plenty of sunlight or it will not flower profusely.

along to give it support unless you keep it very well pruned in autumn when flowers are less frequent. Pruning is also recommended to encourage multiple stems to spread growth by creating more branching to have a more intensive flower display. Prolific flowering can be further promoted by pinching off the spent flowers and as flowers form mostly on the current year's growth, the pruning is done in a way to encourage this new growth.

If you are moving the container from outdoors for winter hibernation and protection from cold, you can submerge the container in water for at least a few minutes to flush out any ants or other bugs that you

don't want inside. Wash the upper part of the plant also and allow the plant to dry and drain well after soaking before moving inside.

In winter when temperatures drop it is best to reduce watering so the soil mix is just moist as excess water amplifies the cold effect around the roots. Low light intensity in winter usually stops it flowering. This can be true in summer if indoors without sufficient light. The leaves may drop in winter if exposed to cold. If this happens reduce water to just moist until new leaves start to form. If necessary, repot in spring when growth starts due to the roots filling the container. This will help it last for many years more.



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Advertising feature

Going, going, gone...

DÉCOR DENIA are holding their first auction of 2017 on February 23 at 4pm sharp and you will not want to miss out.

After the tremendously successful auction in December where many high-end items were up for grabs including art collections from Picasso, this was one of the best auctions yet with strong bidding from local and international clients and saw over 85 per cent of the lots sold.

The next auction to be held on the premises in Denia promises to have lots more quality pieces including mid-century furniture of teak sideboards, tables and chairs and art from Salvador Dali.

There is also a superb Victorian walnut sewing table, a perfect addition to any collection. Also up for auction will be gold and silver jewellery, clocks, watches, toys, collectibles and curios.

Viewing is strongly recommended but as always the catalogue is available the Monday before auction.

Décor Denia are always seeking good quality consignments and Philip and Mark, who have been in the antiques trade for more than 25 years are at hand to assist and advise.

Décor Denia is easy to find and has plenty of parking.



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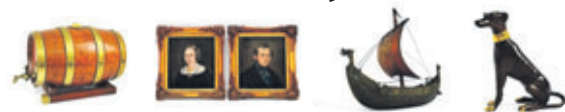
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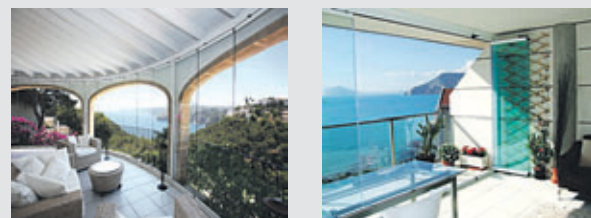
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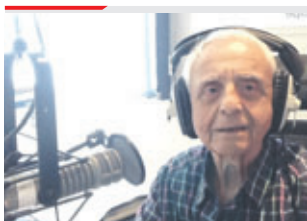


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MANY dogs love jumping over fences, fetching sticks or joining their owner on a long jog, but this is true only as long as they are in good health and in their prime.

Dogs, like their owners, grow old, and then everything becomes more difficult.

Their state of fitness declines, eyes, and ears and often the heart are no longer in top working order.

When this stage is reached it is important for owners not to over-extend their pets and to keep a watchful eye on their condition, just like with people.

Old dogs are no longer as active and would often rather stay at home on their rugs instead of running about wildly.

A dog's effective age depends on the breed. Small and medium-sized dogs grow old more slowly than big dogs. A Great Dane is getting on in years by the time it is six, while a small terrier can get to 10 before this is the case.

The size of the breed is not a reliable indicator on its own. A German sheep dog at the age of 12 is a rarity, whereas for a poodle this is no great age, the bigger dogs age more quickly because their joints and their hearts are too weak to carry the greater weight. Big dogs tend to have a weaker immune system.

Like people, dogs tend to go grey with age. Dogs go grey

first around the muzzle and then over the whole head.

Owners accustomed to taking their dogs to training sessions while they are in their prime need to realise that they may have to give this up at some point, or at least to restrict the dog's activities.

It makes sense to have your vet check the animal over to see whether its joints are still in good condi-

tion and whether the heart is still beating properly.

A dog that has been well exercised from its youth onwards can continue at training longer than another animal that has not been exercised.

Even for older dogs movement remains important, and the longer you are active, the longer you remain fit.

Animals that scarcely

move from their comfortable place near the radiator tend to become overweight and can suffer health problems.

When this happens it makes more sense to go out several times a day with the dog, rather than undertake marathon walks. It is also necessary to take breaks when it becomes obvious that a dog is tiring.

Dogs should also be allowed to rest after feeding. An older dog needs less food, as its hormones and energy levels are very different.

Dog owners need to be watchful of their pets when they begin to age.

Symptoms are often readily visible. Small dogs in particular often have problems with their teeth as they age. If the gums show red, take it to the vet.

Difficulty in urinating and a matted coat are both indications that medical attention might be required.

The main advantage of a senior dog is they are often more obedient and less likely to get up to mischief.



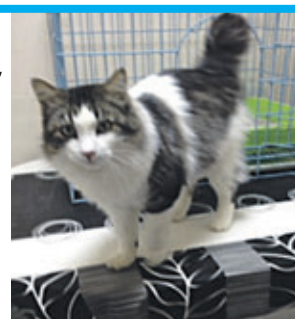
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Pablo likes to soak up the sun

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AFTER their daily run around the campo, there is nothing that Pablo, and his fur family Peggy, Poppy and Bella like more than a snooze. Pablo likes to soak up the sun.

Their owner Jose has lived in Alicante, Spain for many years, and over those years she has acquired and rescued many dogs. At one time she had nine, all cared for at home. Now her fur family are reduced but all very much loved.

Jose has always used her local kennels, which both she and the dogs have loved for the last 14 years.

The kennels are healthy, and well-designed with the help of the local vet. Now the dogs are getting a little older - Peggy is nearly 13 and Poppy is 11 - she is thinking about alternative solutions for pet care when she goes on holiday a couple of times a year.



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Clubband from the Dutch club in Moraira is urgently looking for an experienced **SOLO GUITARIST** who has an affinity with music from the 60's and 70's. Rehearsal space and PA installation is provided. We are also looking for a **KEYBOARD PLAYER**. The band also performs outside the club so if you like to make music and to have fun (no professionals) call Jan Agterberg **693 009 093** or **0031 637 227 352**

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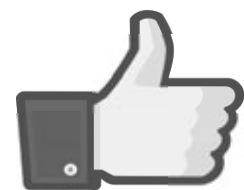
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Clarkson Quote of the Week

“Mercedes CLS55 - “Braking in this car is so brutal it would be less painful to actually hit the tree you were trying to miss.”

Some might say...



Malaga event a triumph

THE fourth annual Retro Malaga event was a huge success, with over 22,000 classic car enthusiasts visiting the Palacio de Ferias in Malaga City.

Perhaps the most striking difference to previous years was the diversity and quality of models on display, with particularly impressive displays, with more than 50 Porsches and 30 Ferraris proving particularly popular.

The congregation of Ferraris was in honour of the 70th anniversary of the Italian manufacturer, with models on display including a 1956 250 GT Speciale, an F40, an F488, a Testarossa, a 550 Maranello, a 360 Modena and a contemporary La Ferrari.

Seat also celebrated its 60th birthday with a cracking display of family vehicles

from the 1960s onwards.

Vehicles from Malaga's Automobile Museum included a stunning 1955 Porsche Speedster, a 1937 Cord Sportman, and a 1939 Lancia Astura.

An extensive classic motorcycle section included a special display of Ducatis built by Spanish firm Mototrans since the 1950s, including a 500 Desmo, a first series 24 hours, a 350 Vento and a 250 Strada, among others.

Outside the main hall, owners of classic cars and other vehicles were able to display their beloved machines, with over 1,000 to whet the appetite.

With record numbers of visitors, Retro Malaga has clearly become a reference point on the calendar of classic car-lovers in southern Spain and beyond.



FERRARIS: Thirty were on display.



DUCATIS: A special display by Mototrans.

Motoring shorts

Smuggled treasure

A CLASSIC Mercedes-Benz considered so valuable it was hidden from the Nazis, has been auctioned in America for over €6 million.

The 540 K Special Roadster is thought to be the last of its kind built before the Second World War.

Produced in Germany from 1936-40 the model was one of the largest cars of its time, spanning 17.5ft. It has a 5.4 litre engine and was ultimately smuggled out of the Soviet Union to the United States.

It was restored by a specialist dealer in Arizona in 2012 and sold by RM Sotheby.

The auctioneer has described an incredible surge in interest in pre-war classic cars. It will bring its classic auction roadshow to Europe in spring.

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DEDUCTIBLE IVA**



€10,195

**RENAULT CLIO, 2013, DIESEL,
DEDUCTIBLE IVA**



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BMW Z3 CONVERTIBLE, 1.8



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MERCEDES A160, 2011, 1.5



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**PEUGEOT 207 SW, ESTATE,
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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Renault Kadjar

COMPACT crossovers have been big sellers in recent years, taking more than 10 per cent of the overall new-car market, and demand shows no sign of abating so there is certainly plenty of room in the sector for the steady flow of new contenders.

Among them is the Renault Kadjar - and lest you wonder, Kadjar is an invented word, blending French words which loosely mean quad and agile!

Launched in the UK just over a year ago, the Kadjar has an 18-model range offering three engines, two gearboxes, four trim levels and two- or four-wheel drive.

The crossover sector is laden with great models including Mazda CX-5, Nissan Qashqai, Ford Kuga, the new Peugeot 3008 and the new SEAT Ateca but though rivalry is acute, the Kadjar holds a few aces. With prices starting at £19,145 (€22,235) it is more spacious, better equipped and cheaper than some opposition models, and is arguably more visually striking.

The popular choice for

many will be the well-kitted mid-range Dynamique Nav models, priced at £22,745 (€26,416) in diesel form. This latter model is the one I tested recently, powered by a 110 hp 1.5 litre diesel engine good for 113 mph and with a 0-60 mph time of 11.9 seconds and with combined fuel economy of 74.3 mpg.

Kadjar is smooth, quiet and has a nimble driving feel, precise steering, and well-tuned suspension giving a near-perfect balance of composed cornering and exceptional ride comfort. The six-speed manual gearbox is slick and precise and for those who want an auto, a CVT version is available.

In the cabin, neat design touches and use of quality materials gives the Kadjar an upmarket appearance and it offers more standard equipment than you usually

get for this price. Features include alloy wheels, auto lights and wipers, front and rear parking sensors, cruise control, seven-inch touchscreen, sat-nav, Bluetooth, roof rails, dual-zone climate controls, lane departure warning and eco driving mode.

It is spacious inside - more occupant and boot space than a Qashqai for instance. With all five seats in use, there is 472 litres of space, boosted to 1,478 litres with the seats folded - and you do get a flat multi-position boot floor. However, cabin stowage spaces are surprisingly minimal.

Kadjar has been around for a comparatively short time, but already made an impact. Its sleek and striking profile, sharp pricing and generous equipment levels give it a distinct edge in its class.

Stats Panel:

Model: Renault Kadjar Dynamique Nav

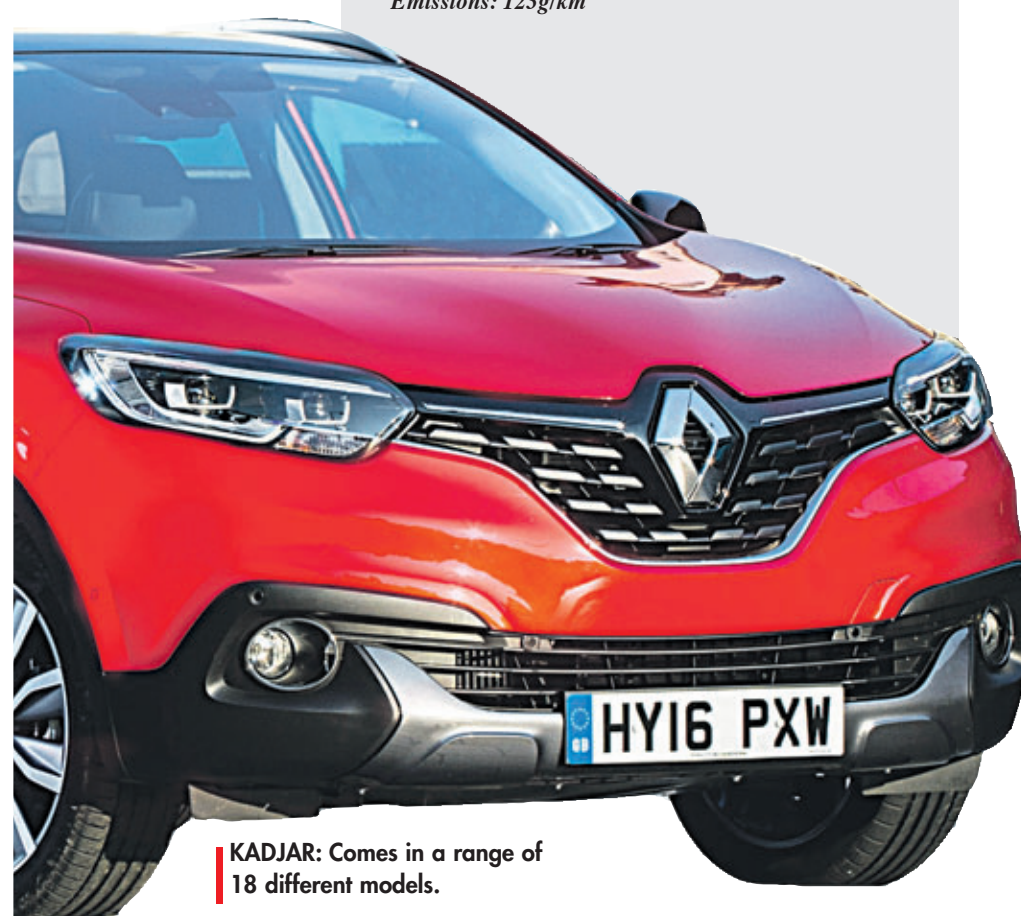
Engine: 1.5 litre diesel

Transmission: 6 speed manual

Performance: 0-60mph 11.9 seconds, top speed 113 mph

Economy: 74.3 mpg combined

Emissions: 123g/km



KADJAR: Comes in a range of 18 different models.

Advertising feature

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The fleet includes many cars from Mercedes to BMW, from hatchbacks to saloons and all are in excellent condition. There is a wide choice and the stock changes continuously due to the high turnover of cars sold. If you are looking for a particular car then Autos Benidorm can help to source it.

All of the cars are on Spanish number plates and are fully serviced making the purchase a trouble-free experience. A one-year guarantee is given on all vehicles sold and should there be anything at all that you need, then just ask one of the team.



AUTOS BENIDORM: Offer exceptional value on second-hand, low mileage cars.

Autos Benidorm can also do a part-exchange for your existing car (terms and conditions apply) and also offers a finance plan making monthly payments if required.

Jac, the owner, has been in the motor industry all his life and recently saw a gap

in the market for importing cars from countries where the car industry is moving constantly, giving us better cars at better prices. With his expert knowledge he offers affordable, well-maintained cars with low mileage and 100 per cent customer satisfaction.

Autos Benidorm are open Monday to Friday from 10am until 6pm and 10am until 2pm on Saturdays. Browse or test drive the many cars on display at Avenida Comunidad Valenciana s/n, 03503 Benidorm or call 695 506 717 or email euroauto@hotmail.nl for more information.

Mustang's 2 out of 5

FORD'S 2017 Mustang won the dubious honour of being the most dangerous car produced by a top manufacturer in at least five years. In Euro NCAP crash testing it scored just two scores out of five, with a terrible 32 per cent rating on child safety. The testing raised eyebrows as safety measures have been steadily improving in recent years.

Ford itself typically scores five out of five with no issues. The difference seems to be that the Mustang was designed with American consumer preferences in mind, rather than European safety regulations.

Seatbelts were criticised for offering little abdominal protection, airbags for not inflating properly, and whiplash protection was also singled out as inadequate. It was the worst result from a top brand since the Jeep Compass scored miserably in 2012 testing.

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TMGS play La Manga

WOW! What a difference a week makes here on the Costas, last Wednesday TMGS couldn't play because of the snow, this week they played in short sleeve shirts at La Manga!

The course was in excellent condition including the super-fast greens. It's curious that this course is not any longer than any of the others TMGS play at, in fact the fairways are more than generously wide and yet on each visit it seems that players fail to score well, therefore the conclusion is it must be the speed and undulating greens that are the reason for this.

An example is a recently retired school teacher managed to just reach double figures in his



DELIGHTED WINNERS: Of the Bronze category.

Stableford round until he reached the 16th on which he managed to make the green in regulation but left him a 35 foot downhill putt.

With the water hazard lingering close to the edge of the green his fellow competitors commented "if this doesn't hit the hole Derek it's going swim-

ming!" Of course it was the only putt he made all day but it was worth four points to him.

Results: NTP's Jim Davidson, Joe Dean, Arne Fagerold and Ian Sutehall. Joe Dean was the only player to make a '2' so the €37 in the pot went to him.

Bronze category results: 3rd J Hillier 19 pts, 2nd L Jernberg 20 pts, 1st D Kirkham 29 pts. Silver category: 3rd M Kennedy 27 pts, 2nd S Sonesen 27 pts, L/H 1st A Kilnes 29 pts. Gold category: 3rd E Sheridan 28 pts, 2nd R Eiken 32 pts, 1st B Watson 34 pts.

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Orba Warblers report



SMILES ALL ROUND: From the successful winners.

THIS week 39 Warblers travelled to Alicante for a stableford competition, a very good turnout for Dave Knight on his last game as captain. This included 10 ladies members which was very nice to see. The course was in surprisingly good condition after the recent bad weather.

Division one was a very close affair with three players all tied on 33pts. Winning on count back was Steve Smith (Hcap 5.0) from Malcolm Monti (Hcap 11.9) who was second and Michael Morley (Hcap 8.8) who was third.

Division two saw an outright winner in Paddy Kenmore (Hcap 22.1) with a top score of the day of 36pts. Second with 34pts was a very happy Susan Harrison (Hcap 24.7) and likewise for Fran Dickin-

son (Hcap 28.9) in third place with 32pts.

The four nearest the pin winners were Vicki Loeber on hole 3, Malcolm Monti on hole 8 and David Corcoran on holes 12 and 17. There were two 'two's' achieved by David Corcoran and Paddy Kenmore both on hole 12.

The football card winner was Paul O'Gorman with Aston Villa. Congratulations to all the winners.

Next week the Warblers are at Levante Villiatana for a stableford competition. The first tee is 9am so please arrive by 8.15am for registration.

To book please contact Michael Taylor on mjt@stylepms.com. Guests are welcome subject to availability and current handicap certificate.

John retains form to win

AFTER the heavy rains of the past few weeks it was a pleasure to see the suna again as Montgo Golf Society played a stableford competition at Oliva Nova, kindly sponsored by Denise Cooper who presented all the winners with lovely handmade plaques to commemorate their achievements.

In first was John Snelling with a creditable 35 points off 10.8. With the CBA coming in at minus two John also enjoyed the only handicap cut of the day, edging him closer to single figures. Second was Stella Fox with 34 points off 18.3, and third was George Braddick with 32 points off 13.8.

Nearest the pins: Sue Burman 16th and Michel Grin 18th, John Day 3rd and 5th.

The next event is a medal competition on February 10 at Oliva Nova. Guests are welcome, subject to availability and a current handicap certificate. Register at www.montgogsociety.net.

Big week for football and Six Nations

Tony Matthews



International Sports

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

Costa de Almería

FOOTBALL:

THE result of Saturday's Chelsea-Arsenal derby at Stamford Bridge could effectively decide the 2017 Premiership.

Defeat for the Gunners, fresh from a 5-0 FA Cup win at Southampton, could end their hopes of winning the title they last won in 2004. But victory for Chelsea (comfortable 5-0 FA Cup victors over Brentford) will set them up for their fifth Premier League success in 12 years and a first for manager Antonio Conte.

If Arsenal win or draw, the chasing teams, Liverpool at Hull, Manchester City v Swansea and Spurs v Middlesbrough, must also gain victories to stand a chance of overhauling Chelsea.

Like Hull and Swansea, Crystal Palace and Sunderland are involved in a relegation bat-

tle, and they meet in a vital 'six-pointer' at Selhurst Park, also on Saturday... manager Sam Allardyce against his former club. Reigning champions Leicester, still in trouble, visit Manchester United 24 hours later.

In the Championship, it's Newcastle v Derby, Brentford v Brighton, Reading v Ipswich and Leeds v Huddersfield.

Leagues 1 and 2 leaders Sheffield United and Doncaster, play Wimbledon and Morecambe respectively, while at the basement it's Cheltenham v Newport.

Celtic, SPL leaders by 22 points and unbeaten in a club record 27 games, visit St Johnstone while Rangers play Ross County.

In La Liga on Saturday Barcelona (2nd/42 points) play Athletic Bilbao, followed on Sunday by Real Madrid (top/46 points and 3-0 winners over Real Sociedad last Sunday) v Celto Vigo who, last week, knocked them out of the Copa del Rey, leaving this week's semi-finals as Barcelona v Atletico Madrid and Celta Vigo v Alaves. The African Cup of Nations final takes place on Sun-

day with Burkina Faso and Cameroon looking strong.

Finally, the transfer window closed on Tuesday.

RUGBY UNION:

This weekend the 2017 RBS Six Nations Rugby Union tournament – without doubt, the world's greatest oval ball competition of all – gets underway.

Scotland and Ireland start with their Saturday afternoon match in Edinburgh. Later in the day England, missing four top players, face France at Twickenham and Italy meet Wales (captained by Alun Wyn Jones) in Rome on Sunday. All matches are live on TV.

OTHER EVENTS:

- There are several 'warm up' friendlies ahead of the Rugby League season which starts a week tonight.

- On Sunday, 72,000 fans will attend the US Super Bowl in Houston's NRG stadium between New England Patriots and Atlanta Falcons.

- Three tennis tournaments begin on Monday in Ecuador (Quito), France (Montpellier) and Bulgaria (Sofia).

- Preston (UK) stages World Grand Prix snooker: February 6-12.

- The Tour of Qatar cycle race starts on Monday.

- Austria hosts the World Biathlon championships: February 8-19.

- The one day cricket internationals this week involve South Africa v Sri Lanka and New Zealand v Australia while the India v Bangladesh Test Match starts on February 12.

- On Saturday, Chris Eubank junior fights Fijian Renold Quilan for the IBO World Super-middleweight title.

GENERAL ROUND-UP:

- Last week's fourth round FA Cup upsets saw Wolves win at Liverpool; Oxford beat Newcastle; Millwall k'od Watford; Fulham ousted Hull; Sutton United stunned Leeds and Lincoln defeated Brighton. Wycombe were beaten 4-3 'late on' by Spurs. The fifth round draw took place on Monday.

- Manchester United, despite a second leg s/f defeat at Hull, will meet Southampton in the FLC final on February 26.

SERENA WILLIAMS:
Wins her 23rd Grand Slam after beating sister Venus.

- Ex-Charlton defender Dave Shipperley has died, aged 64.

- Tottenham can play home PL games at Wembley next season.

- Nigel Clough will follow his father Brian as Nottingham Forest's manager.

- Italian club Palermo have appointed their 11th manager in two seasons.

- Roger Federer (v Rafael Nadal) and Serena Williams (versus sister Venus) won their respective Australian singles finals. It was

Federer's 18th and Serena's 23rd Grand Slam victories in the 'open era.' Serena is one behind Margaret Court's all-time record of 24 titles.

- Jeung-hun Wang won the Doha Golf Classic.

- Lee Westwood and Darren Clarke will captain England and Rest of the World football teams in a charity golf tournament at the Belfrey in June.

- ITV viewers saw Many Clouds, the 2016 Grand National winner, collapse and die last Saturday after victory in the Cheltenham's Cotswold Chase.





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